

**A**

**Minutes of Meeting of the Development Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 11 June 2015 in the Council Offices, Burn Road, Cookstown**

**Members Present**

Councillor Burton, Chair

Councillors Clarke, Dillon, Forde, McEldowney, McNamee, Molloy, Monteith (7.06pm), C O'Neill, T Quinn, G Shiels and J Shiels

**Officers in Attendance**

Ms Campbell, Director of Culture and Leisure  
Mr McCreesh, Director of Business and Communities  
Mr Browne, Head of Tourism  
Mr Glavin, Head of Leisure  
Mr Hill, Head of Parks  
Ms Linney, Head of Community Services  
Mr McCance, Head of Arts & Culture  
Ms McKeown, Head of Economic Development  
Mrs Forde, Member Support Officer

**Agenda Item 3: Cookstown & District Women's Group**

Mary Hogg, Jean Donaghy and Trevor Benson

**Agenda Item 4: Out & About Community Transport**

Ashley Keane & Gillian Atkinson

The meeting commenced at 7pm

**D99/15 Apologies**

Councillors Ellatar and Wilson

**D100/15 Declaration of Interests**

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

Councillor Burton, McNamee and G Shiels declared an interest in Out and About Community Transport (D102/15).

**D101/15 Cookstown and District Women's Group**

The Chair Councillor Burton welcomed Ms Mary Hogg to the meeting. Ms Hogg delivered a presentation on the Cookstown and District Women's Group making reference to the undernoted:

*Councillor Monteith entered the meeting at 7.06pm*

- Mission statement;
- Aims highlighting that the centre wasn't merely a women's centre but had a strong family ethos;
- Board, Advisors, Staff, tutors and volunteers;
- Highlighted strength and commitment of 59 volunteers who worked 5284 hours in previous year;
- Financial output of £180k per year
- Secured four years of big lottery funding of which two are remaining;
- Creche provided at the centre;
- Outlined portfolio of programmes and outreach links with smaller rural centres eg Loup, Lissan, Ballyronan and TIPSA;
- Cookstown Street Angels Programme;
- Young Offenders Programme;
- New Hope Charity Shop which financially supports the centre;

*Councillor Reid entered the meeting at 7.15pm*

Concluding the presentation Ms Hogg highlighted the financial difficulties the Centre was experiencing due to cuts in funding and how they were continually seeking meetings with the Minister for Department of Social Development but being refused. Ms Hogg advised that due to the criteria of the fund when first established in 2006 that centres in neighbouring towns had access funding of some £80k but they had not. Emphasising that the situation was reaching a critical point in that the centre could close within a three month period, Ms Hogg highlighted the closure would mean the loss of Positive Steps Women's Centre, volunteering opportunities, essential skill and life skills training places, placement for offenders, street angels programme and two years of big lottery funding.

The Chair, Councillor Burton thanked Ms Hogg for the presentation and sought Members questions.

Councillor G Shiels stated that the centre carries out good work and he was saddened that it may close and although it would be of no comfort, many organisations were facing similar circumstances.

Ms Hogg advised that the two years of remaining lottery funding provided 60% of costs so the Centre only required 40% funding and that DSD advice to date had been to search grant tracker online. Ms Hogg further stated that The Centre was ongoing in their quest for funding but the real issue was that they were not able to apply for DSD funding because they were classified as a 'group' and not a 'centre'.

In response to Councillor Dillon's question the Director of Business and Communities stated that the fund is currently administered by DSD and the criteria had been set out in 2006 at which time DSD had been emphatic that it would not be changed. Advising that the organisations within the district which received funding from it were First Steps Women's Group, Dungannon and Magherafelt Women's Group the

Director advised that responsibility for this funding would transfer to council in 2016 and it would then be the decision of the Council as to how it was distributed.

Councillor Dillon stated that by 2016 the Cookstown & District Women's Group could have faced closure and thus it would be too late even if Council did change the criteria.

Ms Hogg advised that the Board were holding out hope and that even small allocations of funding would keep them going until March, but without Early Years funding the crèche would close and that the next few weeks were crucial.

Councillor Reid queried if, in 2016 when the funding came to Council for distribution, the money was divided across the three centres would they still be viable. He stated that it would be a shame if the Cookstown Centre closed and queried if any funding identified within Council could provide a temporary solution.

Ms Hogg advised that the Dungannon and Magherafelt Centres did a tremendous work and that all three had a good relationship with each other but the current difficulty was in how DSD distributed the funding.

The Chair, Councillor Burton asked if it was possible for Council to seek a meeting with the Minister or a Senior Official to establish a way forward and stated that the group itself were making every effort maintain their sustainability.

Ms Hogg stated that the Board was looking at reducing its hours of work and exploring all avenues for funding to keep afloat and that she understood when distribution of funding came to Council there may well be more organisation's seeking it but what they sought most was a fair distribution.

The Director of Business and Communities stated that Council would seek a meeting with the Department and commence working with the Centre to see how they could be assisted in the short term. Emphasising that central government funding was retracting daily the Director stated that more and more groups were suffering, with the hurt felt most within community groups, and that even when the resource are transferred to Council they may be less than what they currently are.

Councillor Reid stated that action needed to be taken as soon as possible due to the summer recess and the short life span which remained for the centre if 'gap funding' was not found.

*Ms Hogg, Ms Donaghy and Mr Benson left the meeting at 7.35pm.*

Resolved      That it be recommended to Council that

- (i)      Council seek a meeting with DSD regarding funding issues concerning Cookstown & District Women's Group; and
- (ii)     Council liaise with Cookstown & District Women's Group to identify possible solutions to financial crisis.

## **D102/15      Out and About Community Transport**

The Chair, Councillor Burton welcomed Ms Ashley Keane to the meeting. Ms Keane delivered a presentation on Out and About Community Transport making reference to the undernoted:

- Organisation formed in 1999 and provides individuals and groups with affordable, accessible transport;
- Now have 6 drivers and 7 vehicles, 14 volunteer drivers and secure parking;
- DRD is core funder for Dial a Lift Scheme;
- Members of Out & About can avail of half fare travel with Smart Pass/Senior Citizen Smart Pass or Half Fare Disability pass within Assisted Rural Transport Scheme provided by DARD;
- Social Car Scheme with volunteer providers only receiving reimbursement for mileage;
- Group hire available with or without driver;
- Working relationship with Cookstown, Dungannon and Magherafelt (CDM) Community Transport;
- Outlined statistics emphasising high usage.

Ms Keane advised that the Rural Transport Fund had been reduced by 33% for the incoming year and they together with CDM had sustained cuts in funding between 25% and 40%, a total of £148k across the district. The initial impact of this would mean potentially 15,000 less 'Dial a Lift' trips. Ms Keane advised that the organisation had reached the stage that it was as lean as it could be and that passenger fares had to be increased. She added that a reduction in services would be the next step due to further budget cuts. Continuing Ms Keane said that she was aware that many organisations were facing difficult times but their members were particularly vulnerable, especially as Translink would also be cutting services. She added that the overall impact would have a ripple effect reflected in for example missed hospital appointments, as many had no other means of transport.

Highlighting that Out and About, together with other community transport networks, throughout Northern Ireland were lobbying MLAs, MPs and the DARD committee. Ms Keane requested the Committee to take urgent action against the cuts.

The Chair, Councillor Burton thanked Ms Keane for the presentation and sought Members questions.

In response to Councillor Dillon's question in relation to funding Ms Keane advised that Smart passes were funded through DARD and that the organisation was reimbursed for transporting Smart card holders. Ms Keane also stated that there was alternative funding in the pipeline but this had not been clarified. She said that Out and About had met with DARD but their funding was for capital projects not for delivery of core services.

Councillor Dillon suggested that Council have a conversation with the DARD Minister to ascertain if help could be made available for rural transport, referring to another transport provider who had increased membership from £5 to £2 per year.

Ms Keane advised that Out and About pricing criteria was somewhat different stating that the annual membership fee was free for smart pass holders and paying members paid £7.50 per trip with the annual membership fee being £12. It was noted that most users were Smart pass or half fare disability pass holders.

Stating that there were differing opinions in relation to welfare reform Councillor Dillon stated that users of the service would be amongst the worst hit and that a balanced way forward needed to be established.

Ms Keane advised that Out and About did not 'means test' but often people did not have anyone at all to bring them places.

In response to a question from the Chair, Councillor Burton Ms Keane clarified that the service did have boundaries and often if they could not take users to their venue, in for example Antrim Hospital, they could take them to the bus station but people were spending nearly a day on a bus for what would be a 40 minute journey. Ms Keane also advised that hospital appointment times were now occurring outside service hours such as Saturdays and Sundays with often cancer patients going for treatment having to travel via a public bus service

Councillor McNamee stated that the DRD Minister had previously indicated that he would apply for more funding and asked if Ms Keane had clarity on the outcome of this. Ms Keane said that there was no clarity on funding as yet but the question remained what would happen if it was not made available.

The Director for Business and Communities advised that with the suggestion to meet with the DARD Minister discussion could also be included with regard to the eligibility of rural transport.

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council that a meeting be sought with Minister for DARD in relation to Rural Transport

*Ms Keane and Ms Atkinson left the meeting at 7.57pm.*

**D103/15      Receive and confirm minutes of the Development Committee meeting held on Thursday 14 May 2015**

Proposed by Councillor J Shiels  
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

**Resolved** That the minutes of the meeting of the Development Committee held on Thursday 14 May 2015 (items D73/15 to D95/15 & D98/15), were considered and signed as accurate and correct.

The Chair, Councillor Burton made reference to the events schedule received by Members and stated that in the former Dungannon Council a weekly schedule was issued each week advising of all Council organised meetings for the incoming week. The Chair, emphasising that it could only operate successfully if all Officers liaised with Democratic Services when scheduling dates stated that it had been a useful tool and recommended that it be introduced.

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council that Democratic Services issue a weekly schedule for Council organised meetings.

### **Matters for Decision**

#### **D104/15 Outdoor Recreation NI request for funding for the continuation of the MountainBikeNI consortium**

The Head of Leisure drew Members attention to the report on a request from Outdoor Recreation NI for funding for the continuation of the MountainBikeNI website and the employment of the Mountain Bike Marketing Officer.

*Councillor G Shields left the meeting at 8pm*

Outlining the costs for 2015/16 the Head of Leisure stated that the cost to Mid Ulster Council for Davagh National Trail and Blessingbourne Regional Trail would be £16,666. He also detailed that the Consortium had the opportunity of drawing down sponsorship from Chain Reaction Cycles of £15k. This would also bring an additional bonus of advertising space bought with big discounts achievable from a multimillion pound business. In relation to the advertising campaigns the Head of Leisure detailed that the cost would be £7,300 in total for an autumn, spring campaign together with a volunteer ranger scheme but emphasised that Council should only participate in those schemes where officers deemed it would be beneficial and value for money.

The Head of Leisure recommended that Council contribute to the consortium and participate in those advertising campaigns deemed to be value for money.

Councillor Clarke stated that he was familiar with Davagh Forest and that there was merit in being part of the consortium but stated Council should always be wary of replication, whereas similar trails in Down were not direct competition trails in neighbouring areas would be.

*Councillor G Shields returned at 8.04pm*

Proposed by Councillor Clarke  
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to the Council that

- (i) Mid Ulster District Council contribute £16,666 to the MountainBikeNI consortium, towards the cost of employing a Mountain Bike Marketing Officer for one year only and that the workings of the consortium be reviewed for the next year. This is subject to all consortium partners agreeing to provide funding at the levels outlined in the report and if not a further report be brought to committee;
- (ii) Mid Ulster District Council agree to continue with the advertising campaigns and volunteer scheme at a cost of £7300 over

2015/16 subject to Officers being satisfied with the value of each campaign.

In response to Councillor Reid's question with regard to the cost of the advertising campaign, the Head of Leisure stated that the buying power of the consortium would be stronger than individual Councils and therefore prove more cost effective but emphasised that if Officers felt the advertising campaign was not value for money Council had the opportunity to opt out.

### **D105/15      Update on Visitor Signage**

The Head of Tourism drew Members attention to the report outlining changes to the Tourism Brown Sign Policy and sought approval for Dungannon Town Visitor signage to progress the upgrade of directional signage on arterial routes to Dungannon town for Hill of The O'Neill and Dungannon Park visitor amenity locations.

The Head of Tourism advised that the policy had been agreed between Transport NI, the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment and Tourism NI stating that it sought to reinforce the roles involved when providing tourist signs on the public road network. He further advised that theatres, arts centre, gardens, garden centres, aires de service, motorhome hire companies and activity tourism centres were included within Tourism NI funding products and their quality graded. He stated that workshops would be held for those private sector tourism businesses to progress brown signage requirements.

Drawing attention to the quotation of costs received from DRD TransportNI for signage regarding Hill of The O'Neill which was £2811.25 the Head of Tourism recommended that

- (i) The implementation of upgraded visitor signage for town centre visitor/parks amenities in Dungannon be progressed at a cost of £2811.25 plus VAT;
- (ii) The tourism sector be notified of changes made to the new tourism brown sign policy and applications be invited from same;
- (iii) A tourism brown sign application for the Seamus Heaney Centre, Bellaghy be investigated and prepared.

Councillor Dillon raised the need for a directional sign at Council Offices in Magherafelt stating that the only sign at the turn off was for Magherafelt Advice Services.

Proposed by Councillor Dillon  
Seconded by Councillor Monteith and

Resolved      That it be recommended to the Council that

- (i) The implementation of upgraded visitor signage for town centre visitor/parks amenities in Dungannon be progressed at a cost of £2811.25 plus VAT;

- (ii) The tourism sector be notified of changes made to the new tourism brown sign policy and applications be invited from same;
- (iii) A tourism brown sign application for the Seamus Heaney Centre, Bellaghy be investigated and prepared.

## **D106/15 Rural Development Programme Update**

The Director of Business and Communities drew attention to the report on the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 advising that it was to update members on the LAG formation process, the status of the programme and to provide details of the available funding opportunities associated with same.

Outlining the key issues, the Director of Business and Communities advised that the Department had issued for comment a draft Animation Service Level Agreement (SLA) to all Councils which will provide funds to cover costs associated with the interim strategy preparation and animation. He stated that the Animation SLA would be between DARD and each Council covering the period 1 May to 30 October 2015 and would have a budget of £50k per Council. He further advised that confirmation had been received from the Department that Council could incur expenditure against the SLA from 1 May 2015, prior to signing date. Advising that there would be a further contract/SLA between the Department and Council to provide administrative support to the LAG for strategy implementation the Director advised that there were no issues with regard to the draft Animation SLA

The Director of Business and Communities recommended that Council approve the SLA for signing advising that Member comments on the draft would be fed back to the DARD prior to the final version being issued and if there was significant change within the scope of the final version it would be brought back to committee.

Proposed by Councillor Reid  
Seconded by Councillor McEldowney and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to the Council that the Service Level Agreement be signed.

The Director of Business and Communities drew attention to the appendices attached to the report advising that the Rural Business Investment Scheme was support for small businesses and was specific to capital support and would be both unique and significant as it would be applicable to businesses up to 50 employees.

Drawing attention to the Draft Rural Tourism Scheme he advised that it would be centrally managed by the Department and there was £10million set aside for tourism projects. Stating that the projects must be strategic and that the timescale for development was June to September 2015 the Director advised that two projects had been identified by officers that should meet with the criteria and sought approval to develop a business plan and appraisal for each at an approximate cost of £6K-£8k per project with the possibility of securing funding in excess of £600k per project. The Director stated that if Council was not successful with either project in this current round of funding there would be an opportunity to reapply to the scheme at a later date or indeed submit the projects to other available sources of funding.

Councillor Clarke commended the Director and Officers for having identified project within the timescales. In response to Councillor Reid's query regarding community representative meetings of the LAG the Director of Business and Communities advised that there was two structures and to date it was only the Board who had met.

Proposed by Councillor Clarke  
Seconded by Councillor T Quinn and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council that permission be granted to the Director of Business and Communities to prepare two projects to business plan/appraisal stage at a cost of £6k to £8k each in readiness to submit funding applications to the Rural Tourism Scheme.

*Councillor C O'Neill left the meeting at 8.16pm*

### **D107/15      Economic Development Report**

The Director of Business and Communities drew attention to the report regarding the Local Economic Development Report and Action Plan 2015-2020 and Irish Central Border Area Network.

The Director of Business and Communities reminded Members of the consultations which had taken place in preparation of the Economic Development Report and Action Plan 2015-2020 and drew attention to the strategic aims under the undernoted themes:

- Enabling Economic Growth;
- Enabling Employability and skills;
- Enabling Town and Village Regeneration; and
- Enabling Infrastructure and Connectivity.

Emphasising that the plan was a route map and a starting point from which to move forward from he sought approval for the final draft of the plan which would allow Officers to progress and submit applications for funding. He further recommended that the plan be formally launched in the near future.

Proposed by Councillor T Quinn  
Seconded by Councillor Dillon and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to the Council that Mid Ulster Council's Local Economic Development Report and Action Plan 2015-2020 be approved and a formal launch organised in the near future.

Councillor Dillon asked if any consideration had been given to appointing a designated officer tasked with sourcing European Funding stating that it was an area where opportunities may have been missed in the past as there was little expertise available to assist groups in drawing down funding which would ease the pressure

on the Council purse. The Director of Business and Communities advised that a proposal would be presented to the party representatives group.

Councillor Reid asked if there would be a good return on the investment of an officer. In response the Director of Business and Communities stated that programme targets, output and outcomes would be identified and managed and reported back. The Director also advised that ERDF support was based around job creation with a target of one job to be created per £1k of funding received, thus there was pressure to deliver.

### **Matters for Information**

#### **D108/15      Leisure Services Progress**

The Chair, Councillor Burton requested that Members note the Leisure Services Progress report outlined in the Directors report.

Proposed by Councillor Forde  
Seconded by Councillor T Quinn and

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

#### **D109/15      Parks Service Progress Reports**

The Chair, Councillor Burton requested that Members note the Park Services Progress report outlined in the Directors report.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

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

Councillor Clarke requested that within the audit of activity areas, that the forest which was approximately 20 years old opposite Davagh Forest be incorporated as an activity area.

The Chair, Councillor Burton sought clarification if an overall audit of forests and activity areas was being carried out. The Head of Parks advised that Outdoor Recreation were carrying out an audit in Magherafelt and Cookstown only as Dungannon had been audited in 2013. Advising that the audit should be completed by end of August the Head of Parks advised that there would be public consultation of which they would be notified.

In relation to loughs Councillor Reid stated that he was aware that Council had a responsibility for some, such as the Black Lough, and highlighted ongoing problems and an associated court case in relation to Roughan Lough where there were difficulties over water rights together with health and safety of jetties. He said that he was aware that the Council's Health and Safety Officer had been involved. Councillor Reid asked if they would be incorporated in the audit.

Councillor Monteith stated that he had expected a report to the meeting with regard to the Black Lough.

The Head of Parks advised that with respect Roughan Lough he was aware that there was a legal challenge regarding its use but stated that it was in private ownership. Regarding Black Lough he advised that there was a local conservation group who were not in favour of an overdevelopment of the site and confirmed that Mid Ulster District Council would be responsible for any repairs.

Councillor Monteith stated that he was very supportive of the conservation group but the lough was an asset to the whole community and other groups would like to use the lough also. Stating that community expectation was immense Councillor Monteith expressed disappointment that there was no report at the June meeting and asked that a desktop exercise be carried out and reported to the July meeting.

The Head of Parks asked if Black Lough was being treated as a special case and in response Councillor Monteith stated that the audit was ongoing in Cookstown and Magherafelt and Dungannon's had been completed in 2013 when Black Lough would not have been included.

The Director of Culture and Leisure stated that some initial work could be undertaken such as a preliminary scoping exercise.

**Resolved** That it be recommended to the Council that a preliminary scoping exercise be carried out in relation to Black Lough.

#### **D110/15 Seamus Heaney Project Update**

The Chair, Councillor Burton requested that Members note the Seamus Heaney Project update outlined in the Directors report.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor J Shiels and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council that Members note the Seamus Heaney Project Update.

#### **D111/15 Culture and Arts Project Report**

The Chair, Councillor Burton requested that Members note the Culture and Arts Project report outlined in the Directors report.

Proposed by Councillor T Quinn  
Seconded by Councillor Molloy and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council that Members note the Culture and Arts Project Report.

### **D112/15      Children's Locality Partnership**

The Chair, Councillor Burton requested that Members note the Children's Locality Partnerships update outlined in the Director's report.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council that Members note the Children's Locality Partnership report.

### **D113/15      Community Development Update (K)**

The Chair, Councillor Burton requested that Members note the Community Development Update report outlined in the Directors report.

Proposed by Councillor Molloy  
Seconded by Councillor Dillon and

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council that Members note the Community Development update report.

### **D114/15      PCSP Update**

The Chair, Councillor Burton requested that Members note the PCSP Update report outlined in the Directors report.

Proposed by Councillor Molloy  
Seconded by Councillor T Quinn and

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council that Members note the PCSP Update report.

### **CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS**

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Dillon and

**Resolved**      That items D115/15 – D120/15 be taken as confidential business.

### **D121/15      Duration of Meeting**

The meeting was called for 7pm and ended at 9.25pm

**CHAIR** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE** \_\_\_\_\_

**B**

**Subject : Good Relations Plan**

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

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To seek approval for the final Good Relations Plan 2015 – 16 for delivery.

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	<p>Approval was given by Committee in March 2015 (Council April) for the submission of a Good Relations Plan 2015-16 to OFMDFM for funding.</p> <p>Council was informed by the Department that due to Government expenditure cuts the level of funding requested was not available. It was advised at this time that an updated Plan would need to be developed as guided by the Community Relations Council for resubmission. An updated Plan was resubmitted to OFMDFM for funding, based on priority 1 and priority 2 actions. Priority 1 actions to commence based on the current funding allocation and priority 2 actions to commence if further funding becomes available as part of the Government Public Expenditure Monitoring Round in June and September.</p>

<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.1	<p>The Good Relations Plan 2015-16 has sought to incorporate existing good practice across the three legacy Councils.</p> <p>The Good Relations Officers will lead on the delivery of the Plan. They will deliver it in partnership with other community and voluntary organisations, schools, and statutory agencies to seek to maximise value for money. They will also seek to deliver part of the Plan directly to maximise Council resource and impact on the ground.</p> <p>The Plan was brought to the Good Relations Working Group on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June for consideration and approval.</p>

<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	<p><b><u>Financial</u></b></p> <p>As per the attached Plan.</p>
4.2	<p><b><u>Human</u></b></p> <p>The Good Relations Officers and Assistant will deliver the Plan</p>

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

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	To seek approval for the final Good Relations Plan 2015 – 16 for delivery.

<b>7</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
7.1	Appendix 1 - Good Relations Plan 2015-16

# District Council Good Relations Transitional Program

## Action Plan

- The information within the **Action Plan** will be made available to other Departments and/or agencies for the purposes of audit, research and meeting statutory obligations.
- This form should be completed in typescript in black ink. All applications must be submitted in 'hard copy', with appropriate signatures and any other information requested.
- Applicants should not delete or include additional columns within the table. Any supporting information should be appended to the Proforma Plan

**Completed forms should be returned to:** The District Council Good Relations Programme  
OFMDFM  
Good Relations Funding and Delivery Branch  
Block E Rm 3.19  
Castle Buildings, Stormont Estate  
Belfast BT4 3SL

You should mark your envelope "District Councils Good Relations Programme Application".

## Introduction

“Good relations across all parts of our community are an essential ingredient of building a prosperous, peaceful and safe society which is enriched by diversity and is welcoming to all. Specifically, tackling the twin blights of sectarianism and racism in addition to other forms of intolerance is essential in shaping a shared and cohesive community that can move forward and collectively face the challenges of an ever-changing world.

Mid Ulster Council Aim is that of Government OFMDFM ‘of a united community, based on equality of opportunity, the desirability of good relations and reconciliation - one which is strengthened by its diversity, where cultural expression is celebrated and embraced and where everyone can live, learn, work and socialise together, free from prejudice, hate and intolerance.’ (Statement from The First Minister and Deputy First Minister Thursday 9 May 2013)

Mid Ulster Council endorses its main funder and lead Government Strategy and Vision of Good Relations ‘*The Together: Building a United Community Strategy*’ which outlines a vision of **“a united community, based on equality of opportunity, the desirability of good relations and reconciliation - one which is strengthened by its diversity, where cultural expression is celebrated and embraced and where everyone can live, learn, work and socialise together, free from prejudice, hate and intolerance.”**

The thematic approach going forward within Mid Ulster Council as led by the Good Relations department will focus on the following priority areas -

- **Our Children And Young People** – To continue to improve attitudes amongst our young people and to build a community where they can play a full role and active role in building Good Relations.
- **Our Shared Community** – To create a community where division does not restrict the life opportunities of individuals and where all areas are open and accessible to everyone.
- **Our Safe Community** – To create a community where everyone feels safe in moving around and where life choices are not inhibited by fears around safety
- **Our Cultural Expression** – To create a community which promotes mutual respect and understanding is strengthened by Diversity, and where cultural expression is celebrated and embraced.
- **Program Actions** – To develop support programs, at both Council and Community level, to increase and improve leadership, capacity, organisation and capital building skills in order to support Good Relations outcomes.

## **Good Relations Action Plan Development**

The action plan following has been developed through the following processes:

1. Good Relation Audits and local analysis completed in the last 3 year period
2. Good Relations Plan 2013 – 2015 and the learning from this as part of the annual reviews.
3. Good practice delivery from the current good relations work on the ground.
4. Community Planning process 2014/15 with specific theme of good relations and engagement
5. Strategic direction and research by Community Relations Council

Note: Sub regional statistical analysis on good relations is difficult to collate, due to the nature of recording and monitoring. Whilst recorded PSNI incidents of sectarianism and racism do exist they are under representative of the qualitative data that is shared through activity on the ground and when working with partner organisations who support in this area.

### **Good Relations Program Contact Team:**

#### **Good relations**

**Dungannon Office – Council Offices, Circular Road, Dungannon, BT71 6DT, Tel: 03000132132**

**Cookstown Office - Gortalowry House, 94 Church Street, Cookstown, Tel: 028 867 64714**

**Magherafelt Office – Council Offices, Ballyronan Road, Magherafelt, Tel: 03000132132**

**District Council Good Relations Organisational Integration**  
**Good relations delivery by Department / Service level Unit**

Supporting programme actions not directly funded by OFMDFM

Department / Service Unit	Good Relations Actions	Good relations Outcomes/ Impacts <i>(ref. guidance note )</i>
Leisure Services Sports Development	Cross community summer schemes. Game of 3 halves event	Children from different backgrounds have opportunity to engage in a positive environment Increased use of Leisure Facilities to Ethnic Minorities through target programs
Leisure Services Arts Development	Arts exhibitions themed on Community Relations Arts workshops focusing on imagery and symbolism within NI Theatre space to encourage participation Plays/Dramas representing culture/arts across communities	Providing children and wider community, positive opportunity to engage in and explore CR issues creating greater understanding of GR issues.
Environmental Health	Bonfire scheme Graffiti Removal	Providing local communities the positive opportunity to normalise cultural bonfire activities
Parks Department	Creating shared play areas / Park land	Increased use of local facilities by all sections of the community Events/Open days to promote inclusivity
Council Governance	Shared leadership model (d'Hont) in the governance of Council  Equality S75 and regard for Good Relations  Poverty and TSN Policy	Good Governance model representative and transparent  Linkages to actions from impact assessments to Good Relations Plan and Forum  Addressing poverty and disadvantage, correlation to areas of sectarianism and racism

## Children and Young People.

*Aim: to continue to improve attitudes amongst our young people and to build a community where they can play a full and active role in building good relations.*

*Strategic Outcomes: 1.1 Improving attitudes of children from different backgrounds; 1.2 Young people engaging in bringing the community together.*

Outcome local outcomes identified by GR Audit	Good relations indicators/ measures	Actions /Project to deliver Outcome (ranked in order of priority)	Budget and resources
<b>1.1 Improving attitudes of children from different backgrounds</b> Increased BME engagement	<p>Increased understanding and awareness of migration and cultural diversity in society through engaging young people - at least 1000 students participate annually through Global Workshop style days in Schools</p> <p>Targeted school gain greater understanding of perceived beliefs around stereotypes; and increase understanding and awareness of traditions and culture</p> <p>Reduce levels of racism/sectarianism throughout youth in Mid Ulster by gauging change in perception</p> <p>Engage minority ethnic and cultural bodies through a series of events on migration, diversity, integration and sharing – 3 international diversity events organised and delivered by GR officers</p>	<p>Schools Cultural Programmes: <b>Total</b>  Good Relations Officer to support global awareness and diversity in schools with high numbers of migrant students in: Drumglass High &amp; Dungannon College &amp; 7 Primary Schools  Engage young people from ethnic minority backgrounds through workshops/seminars promoting integration throughout Mid Ulster</p> <p>Good Relations Officer to link global theme to An Carn Schools Programme &amp; Community global event</p> <p>GR Officer to deliver in partnership with migrant groups global celebration days</p> <p>GR Officer to integrate with the Burnavon Cultural Day</p> <p>Integrate global awareness through CWSAN Cookstown/Magherafelt Programme</p> <p>GR Officers to organise and facilitate Honorary Consul Clinics in Dungannon</p> <p>Good Relations Officers to initiate engagement with primary schools and to seek to breakdown stereotypical beliefs.</p>	<p><b>£6000 -Priority 1</b></p> <p>Drumglass High £500  Dungannon College &amp; 7 Primary Schools £3500</p> <p>£500</p> <p>Global Days with Migrant Groups £1500</p> <p>GR Officers</p> <p>GR Officers</p> <p>GR Officers</p> <p>Priority 2  £4500  Link Peace Plan</p>

	<p>Engage 3 honorary consuls clinics supporting migrants</p> <p>Host 6 music workshops for primary and post primary schools across the region promoting traditions and identities</p>	Workshop partners (pending funding): Beyond Skin/CRIS/Gathering Drum/Artsekta)	
<p><b>1.2 Young people engaging in bringing the community together</b></p> <p>Decreasing silent sectarianism</p>	<p>Develop summer scheme programmes for communities in hard to reach areas who have been polarised and disaffected targeting 400 young people</p> <p>Facilitate a region wide primary school programme targeting stereotypical beliefs - 300 children to participate</p> <p>Deliver a tailored primary programme in an area where school children do not come together 80 children to participate</p> <p>Host 3 annual "Speed Date" type events within council and support development of a Mid Ulster Youth Council – 60 young people participating</p> <p>Deliver a programme in partnership to engage young people from different backgrounds in positive community contribution</p>	<p><b>Total</b></p> <p>Good Relations Officers to engage partners and develop and deliver summer camps to bring young people together in shared spaces- Support 6 summer schemes using sport and arts within estates who are defined as areas of weak infrastructure. Host mixed activities by children and young people of inter and intra community backgrounds</p> <p>Good Relations Officers to facilitate a schools programme with Speedwell bringing 6 schools together from different traditions across Mid Ulster 2 primary schools from Magherafelt/Cookstown/Dungannon</p> <p>Good Relations Officers to delivery cross community school engagement through traditional arts and crafts for 4 schools in the Maghera area.</p> <p>Good Relations Officers to develop a programme with ELB Youth improving engagement between youth leaders and civic leadership within a new Mid Ulster Council</p> <p>Initiate increased community volunteering in areas of</p>	<p><b>£22,000</b> Priority 1</p> <p>Soccer School £4000</p> <p>An Carn Cultural Arts programme for schools £2500</p> <p>Speedwell Schools programme £8500</p> <p>Cookstown Sharing Music Tradition Programme £7000</p> <p>GR Officers</p> <p>GR Officers</p> <p>Priority 2</p> <p>Youth Forum (&amp; the Hub Project) £4000</p>

	in new areas/communities	weak infrastructure by working with voluntary and statutory organisations to deliver accredited programs of work for excluded youth by working in partnership with Princes trust and probation board.	Princes Trust £2000 Probation Service £500  Link Peace Plan
--	--------------------------	---	--

## Our Shared Community

*Shared Aim: to create a community where division does not restrict the life opportunities of individuals and where all areas are open and accessible to everyone*

**Strategic Outcomes: 2.1 Increased use of shared space and services;**

**2.2 Shared space accessible to all**

<b>Outcome</b> including local outcomes identified by GR Audit	<b>Good relations indicators/ measures</b>	<b>Actions /Project</b> to deliver Outcome (ranked in order of priority)	<b>Budget and resources</b>
<b>2.1 Increased use of our shared space and services.</b> Increase use of shared space in local areas	<p>Provide Mid Ulster grant aid to embed the concept of communities working together and shared space and services.</p> <p>Increased participation in venues traditionally viewed as single identity Support at least 35 groups in continuing to provide facilities/events which can develop our society in integration by promoting shared</p>	<p><b>Total</b></p> <p>Good Relations Officers to support good relations activities within communities through small programme support and to work with groups in the delivery of this.</p> <p>Good Relations Officer to participate and monitor all projects and guide groups to ensure all TBUC guidelines are adhered to.</p> <p>Good Relations officers to develop and deliver a series of decade of commemoration events in central venues throughout the Mid Ulster District Council area.</p>	<p><b>£66,500 Priority 1</b></p> <p>£40,000 Small GR Grants Programme</p> <p>GR Officers</p> <p>£5,000 GR facilitated Programme to be identified with speakers</p>

	<p>space ethos</p> <p>Guiding principles of HLF/CRC to be within the series of lectures to 1000 participants. 1000 participants through at least 8 lectures/seminars at agreed neutral venues</p> <p>To build relationships between clergy and churches improving civic leadership and promoting and discussing key GR issues and engaging Magherafelt into existing structures</p> <p>Engage Churches &amp; Clergy fora across the Mid Ulster region in events to improve relationships across the region.</p> <p>Support the two main projects delivered within the region by non-governmental organisations STEP and CSWAN covering migrant and traveller rights based programmes across the region</p>		<p>Good Relations officers to work with local community organisations to develop local commemoration programmes to complement the above delivery</p> <p>Good Relations Officers to provide an enabling, facilitating challenge role to developing relationships between clergy &amp; and churches within Magherafelt with a proposal to building in partnership with ICPP &amp; ISE – Development plan in place</p> <p>To host at least 10 annual meetings in Cookstown, Magherafelt &amp; Dungannon for Clergy &amp; Churches Fora to assist in the development and delivery of their annual programme of activities.</p> <p>Provide financial support for migrant worker and traveller based programmes. Good Relations Officers to work alongside the organisations in referrals, development programmes and evaluation</p>	<p>£5000 Community Organisations</p> <p>£6,000 Priority 2 Link Peace Plan</p> <p>Clergy Forums Cookstown/Dungannon £1000 £2000 Priority 2</p> <p>Churches Forum Cookstown/Dungannon £1000 Magherafelt £500 £3000 Priority 2</p> <p>GR Officers</p> <p>BME project Mid Ulster in partnership CWSAN/STEP £10,000</p> <p>Initiatives driven by Council/GR Officers £3000</p> <p>Link Peace Plan</p>
--	--	--	--	--

2.2 Shared space accessible to all.			Total £8,000 Priority1
<p>Reduction in territorial markings</p> <p>Reduction in sectarianism</p>	<p>To support projects &amp; programmes for shared community where there are polarised communities that will not come together in any other location in rural areas</p> <p>Physical increase in numbers attending Good Relations directed activity</p> <p>Improvement in attitudinal belief through evaluation on community feelings on noted centres</p> <p>Reduce community tensions; improve integration and sharing through provision of neutral safe venues and GR activities</p> <p>Establish and facilitate a Good Relations Forum of elected members across Mid Ulster to provide leadership and continuous review of Good Relations</p> <p>Link closely with Equality impact assessment to support with Good Relations issues identified</p>	<p>GR Officer to support and work closely with two venues in a GR programme of activity to bring polarised communities together and build capacity for moving forward.</p> <p>GR Officer to identify and support groups to come together in “Shared” venues in rurally isolated and divided villages throughout Mid Ulster Region and reduce the sense of community exclusion.</p> <p>Build capacity of Good Relations department within new Mid Ulster Council through experiential training allowing best practice models to be viewed and learning to be applied within the new region wide demography.</p> <p>Facilitate a Mid Ulster Good Relations Member Forum of elected Councillor representation from across Mid Ulster with a view to monitoring Good Relations within the region and building capacity to review delivery and be flexible to Good Relations issues that may arise</p> <p>Host one region wide study visit upskilling GR team and members through facilitated workshops based on Best practice Models available including Community Planning Model in Scotland</p>	<p>Shared buildings and programmes - Creive £3000 Rowantree £5000</p> <p>GR Officers</p> <p>Engage with CRC Officer and Member Capacity Building Programme</p> <p>GR Officers</p> <p><b>Priority 2 £10,000</b> Messines Scotland Parliament</p> <p>Peace Plan link</p>

## Our Safe Community;

***Shared Aim: to create a community where everyone feels safe in moving around and where life choices are not inhibited by fears around safety***

***Strategic Outcomes: 3.1 Reduce the prevalence of hate crime and intimidation;  
are safe for all***

***3.2 A community where places and spaces***

<b>Outcome</b> including local outcomes identified by GR Audit	<b>Good relations indicators/ measures</b>	<b>Actions /Project</b> to deliver Outcome (ranked in order of priority)		<b>Budget and resources</b>
<b>3.1 Reduce the prevalence of hate crime and intimidation;</b>  Further decrease levels of hate crime Increase reporting of hate incidents	Develop and deliver a Mid Ulster PR campaign promoting a hate crime app to increase reporting of hate incidents and address racism.  Target 300 hits annually within the App  8 community and partner meetings to address current issues arising  Community/ statutory meetings to react to incidents and alleviate further social tension  Support to resident/community groups to address issues and incidents that would lead to further social upheaval, 12 resident groups support.		<div style="text-align: right;"><b>Total</b></div> To develop the 'Hate crime' app in with new logo and market through schools with anti racism programme To further reduce incidence of hate crime and further enhance reporting.          Good Relations Officers to host discussions with agreed organisations in the co-ordination of increased reporting and initiatives supporting eradication of Hate and Anti – Racism, Sectarianism measures.	<b>£2,000</b>  £1000 Good Relations Officers          Good Relations Officers  Activities £1000  Priority 2 £3000

<p><b>3.2 A community where places and spaces are safe for all;</b></p> <p>Greater use of shared space A reduction in sectarianism Increased awareness of cultural diversity Visible reduction in territorial markings.</p>	<p>Support activity to profile positive celebrations at key contentious times of the year and at bonfire locations</p> <p>Develop promotion of culture and identity building community confidence at sensitive times on an annual basis</p> <p>Deliver cultural programmes working with resident or community groups organising bonfires.</p> <p>Continue community engagement within specific areas in Mid Ulster addressing potential issues of contention specifically at certain times annually</p> <p>An noted increase in engagement and establishment of links with local representatives and communities, including single identity communities</p>		<p style="text-align: right;"><b>Total</b></p> <p>Good Relations officers to pilot an innovative project to support communities in providing local solutions to local problems.</p> <p>Good Relations officers to provide proactive and reactive solutions to issues that arise in contentious situations in estates.</p> <p>Good Relations officer to highlight good practice in other areas of Northern Ireland and facilitate appropriate cultural expression at key times.</p>	<p><b>£5,500 Priority 1</b></p> <p>Good Relations Officers</p> <p>Cultural Festival Activities at key times: Kilronaghan £500 Bellaghy £500 Castledawson £1500 Pomeroy £500 Blackhill £500 Gortallowry £500 Munrush £500 Ratheen £500 Killymeron £500</p> <p>Above to be confirmed pending need and linkages at key time</p>
---	---	--	--	--

## Our Cultural Expression.

***Aim: to create a community which promotes mutual respect and understanding, is strengthened by its diversity, and where cultural expression is celebrated and embraced***

***Strategic Outcomes: 4.1 Increased sense of community belonging;***

***4.2 Cultural diversity is celebrated***

Outcome including local outcomes identified by GR Audit	Good relations indicators/ measures	Actions /Project to deliver Outcome (ranked in order of priority)	Budget and resources
<p><b>4.1 Increased sense of community belonging;</b></p> <p>· Increased awareness of cultural diversity</p> <p>Increased BME participation</p> <p>·</p>	<p>Develop increased levels of participation at community base arts and cultural venues. Support for 12 activities/dramas/performances on an annual basis</p> <p>Develop increased audience attendance at community based arts and cultural venues. 2,000 to attend cultural events hosted annually</p> <p>Develop and deliver pilot projects across the Mid Ulster Region promoting cultural diversity and social cohesion. 1,000 community members to participate</p> <p>Develop and deliver a unique Mid Ulster Social media project based on anti- racism/anti sectarianism. 400 young people through schools to become involved in the project</p>	<p>Good Relations officer to engage arts organisations to deliver bespoke Good Relations drama /theatre aimed at encouraging social integration.</p> <p>Good relations officers to deliver a series of social media workshops highlighting the power of social media and cultural expression within Mid Ulster.</p> <p>Good relations officers to organise and deliver coordinate 5 community based projects promoting cultural diversity in the region.</p>	<p><b>Priority 2 £18,000</b></p> <p>Good Relation officers Link to existing arts programmes and Council events</p> <p>Commissioned GR Events/art with socially isolated groups £4000</p> <p>GR Theatre Castlehill Theatre Group £3000</p> <p>The Clans are Coming £5,000</p> <p>New Dramas/Music in shared space £6000 (Joby Fox End of War, Other)</p> <p>Link Peace Plan</p>

<p>4.2 Cultural Diversity is celebrated; Increased awareness of cultural diversity Cultural diversity acknowledged as positive within the community</p>	<p>A measured increase in community participation at council led events and venues</p> <p>Increase understanding and awareness of traditions and culture through delivery and organising of shared events</p> <p>Increase community cohesion and participation by 1500 attending Cultural parade and activities through town centre formally seen as belonging to one community.</p> <p>Highlight local cultural traditions whilst embedding good relations principles within the events continually building relationships</p> <p>Increased attendance at multi-cultural festivals.</p> <p>An increased sense of mutual respect for diverse traditions and identities</p> <p>Using music, drama, celebration to demonstrate culture and allow the establishment of expression 6 local events annually used to promote attendance of 2,000</p>		<p><b>Total</b></p> <p>Tattoo July celebrations/St Patrick's Day/Burns/Ulster Scots</p> <p>Good relations officers to develop and promote a series of cultural celebration at Council venues highlighting the value of shared space, diversity.(reducing community tension and flag flying at sensitive periods) using the above notes schemes.</p>	<p><b>£30,000 Priority 1</b></p> <p>Pipe Band Competition £2500 Cookstown Ulster Scots/Irish Tradition Moneyneena £3000 St Patrick's Cultural Parade Dungannon £8,000 St Patrick's Day Events £8000 Link to St Patrick's &amp; Ulster Scots Cookstown partner Arts Programme Tattoo Dungannon £1000 Burns Night Celebrations £5000 Carlton Summer School £1500 (partner Arts)</p> <p>Priority 1 Local cultural events e.g. Cultural Christmas expression £1,000</p> <p>Priority 2 £7,000</p>
---	--	--	---	--

## Good Relations Action Plan / Policing Community safety Partnership Complementarity guidance notes: 2015-2016

1. When demonstrating complementarity between PCSP and the GR programme provide detail that clearly explains how these actions support the other plan, that no duplication of activity or funding occurs and how you ensure overlaps of provision do not occur. Clear identification of potential risk of duplication is required.
2. Where local PCSP activity is currently undefined within themes/objectives that are complementary to the GR programme please note unknown at this time.

**PCSP Complementarity –the PCSP Actions for the Mid Ulster Area for 2015-16 are undefined at this time and are to be confirmed.**

<b>Corporate theme/ Organisation/ GR theme</b>	
<b>DCGRP Actions (1) 2015-2016</b>	<b>PCSP Activity (Please illustrate how the PCSP programme complements the District Councils Good Relations Plan. Where there are clear similarities between the GR AP and PCSP Objectives and or actions please indicate what actions will take place to ensure no duplication of funding.)</b>
<b>Children and Young People</b>	<p><b>Co-ordination of engagement:</b> Good Relations and PCSP Action Plans commonly focus on work with groups in the community such as school populations, other young people, targeted geographical communities and neighbourhoods, minority ethnic groupings etc. This leads to the risk of loss of opportunity to maximise impact on themes of shared interest, or lack of co-ordination leading to some groups being engaged with repeatedly at the expense of others. Good Relations actions will be proactively co-ordinated with PCSP activities which are concerned with engagement with schools or youth organisations, community organisations or with minority ethnic cultural bodies and support organisations.</p> <p><b>Joint planning and delivery:</b> Where appropriate, events and activities will be jointly planned and / or delivered to maximise resources and avoid duplication in relation to themes such as tackling activities motivated by hate and / or sectarian attitudes. There will be co-ordination between Summer Camps / Schemes and PCSP-led diversionary activities aimed at young people, where appropriate. Synergy will be promoted and duplication avoided.</p> <p><b>Sharing of information to maximise impact:</b> Information on relevant needs and issues gathered by Good Relations and PCSP staff through the planning and delivery of events and activities will be shared to inform the delivery of the respective action plans. Good Relations and PCSP staff will engage with fora established and supported under their respective areas of work – for example, the Mid Ulster Youth Council, PSNI engagement mechanisms under PCSP etc.</p>
<b>Our Shared Community</b>	<p><b>Co-ordination of engagement:</b> Good Relations actions will be co-ordinated with PCSP activities which are concerned with engagement with local community organisations, churches and clergy and with local organisations providing support to minority ethnic groups or migrants.</p> <p><b>Joint planning and delivery:</b> Where appropriate events and activities will be jointly planned and/or delivered to maximise resources and avoid duplication in relation to themes such as supporting minority ethnic communities and migrants, anti-</p>

	<p>racism and tackling hate crime. Human trafficking awareness is an example of an area for co-ordination and co-operation. Where activities are jointly planned and implemented, it will be clear how they are supported via each Action Plan – PCSP and Good Relations, with respective responsibilities, respective financial contributions where relevant etc. Through its engagement with local community organisations, the PCSP will indirectly support the delivery of the Good Relations action centred on the improved use of community venues by all sections of the community.</p> <p><b>Sharing of information to maximise impact:</b> Information on relevant needs and issues gathered by Good Relations and PCSP staff through the planning and delivery of events and activities will be shared to inform the delivery of the respective Action Plans. Good Relations and PCSP staff will engage with fora established and supported under their respective areas of work – for example, the Mid Ulster Clergy and Churches Forum. In addition, upskilling actions for Good Relations staff will take account of issues which are also of interest to the PCSP and will inform staff so that effectiveness of co-ordination between the Good Relations and PCSP Action Plans for 2015-16 is enhanced.</p>
<b>Our Safe Community</b>	<p><b>Co-ordination of engagement:</b> There will be liaison with PCSP for the delivery of all activities under the ‘Our Safe Community’ objectives. All engagements with community or neighbourhood organisations and other key stakeholders for activities under this objective will be undertaken jointly.</p> <p><b>Joint planning and delivery:</b> A joint approach will be employed for the planning and delivery of the Mid Ulster PR Campaign to address hate crime through the development of an app and other associated activities. PCSP and Good Relations staff will work together with other stakeholders to maintain awareness of issues of joint interest in relation to community safety including in crisis / emergency situations to aid prompt response. This will include joint support to residents / community groups to develop reactionary activities where required to alleviate further tension and upheaval. PCSP and Good Relations staff will work closely to support effective dialogue and response to hard / contentious issues where this is appropriate to the issue at hand – e.g. bonfires, flags, graffiti.</p> <p><b>Sharing of information to maximise impact:</b> Appropriate communication and co-ordination mechanisms will be agreed following the identification of final PCSP actions for 2015-16 but partner meetings, meetings with community / neighbourhood groups and round table discussions have all been identified within the Good Relations action plan as tools to facilitate sharing of information.</p>
<b>Our Cultural Expression</b>	<p><b>Co-ordination of engagement:</b> There will be ongoing liaison with PCSP as outlined above.</p> <p><b>Joint planning and delivery:</b> A joint approach will be employed for the planning and delivery of the Mid Ulster Social Media project under this objective. Good Relations staff will co-ordinate with PCSP staff so that this schools based initiative complements other work under the PCSP Action Plan 2015-16 (specific actions to be determined).</p> <p><b>Sharing of information to maximise impact:</b> In particular, information will be shared to ensure the successful and co-ordinated delivery of the planned Social Media project through a good practice approach which draws on Good Relations and PCSP expertise to deliver anti-racism and anti-sectarianism messages and responses.</p>

C

<b>Subject</b>	Picnic in the Park
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Michael Browne / Nigel Hill
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Sharon Arbuthnot

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To update members on the Picnic in the Park, an event to celebrate the re-opening of Dungannon Park on Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2015 (Bank holiday weekend).

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	The Dungannon Park site has been used in the past to run major events that have attracted large numbers of people. The Dungannon Park is strategically positioned to run events such as concerts and family days that could attract visitors. In addition to this the idyllic & picturesque setting makes it a very attractive site for a family day out, both for local residents and visitors from outside the Mid Ulster District Council area.
2.2	The main objective for the 2015 Picnic in the Park event, is to use this event as a platform to showcase the recent refurbishments within the Park to the public, and subsequently lead to increased visits from residents and visitors to the park. In addition this event will further enhance the reputation of Mid Ulster District Council by building relations with the local and wider community.
2.3	It is anticipated that Dungannon Park arena is an open-air venue with the capacity seated/standing for 5,000 to 10,000.
2.4	This will be a free family event starting at 12 noon and finishing at 7pm on Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> August. The event will consist of children's workshops, family performances, music, live bands and Professional Kite Performer's being the unique selling point.

<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.1	This event will be designed to appeal to both a local audience as well as a wider NI/ROI audience and will showcase Dungannon Park and its recent renovations.
3.2	Build upon a portfolio of events that will increase visitors to the area and increase the reputation of Mid Ulster District Council as an area that delivers high quality events.

<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	<p><b><u>Financial</u></b></p> <p>Officers across both Departments have identified key activities and have identified key costs associated with the project delivery to ensure a high quality attractive event. It is envisaged that the total event with associated marketing can be delivered at a cost of £25,000, which has been budgeted for in 2015/16.</p> <p><b><u>Human</u></b></p> <p>A staffing commitment will be required to oversee delivery of this event from a number of departments including Parks, Economic Development and Tourism.</p>
4.4	<p><b><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u></b></p> <p><b><u>N/A</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Other</u></b></p> <p>N/A</p>

<b>5</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
5.1	Through a Northern Ireland wide marketing campaign it is envisaged that this event will attract visitors to Dungannon Park and increase visitors to the district.

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	Permission is sought from Council to support the delivery of the proposed Picnic in the Park event being suggested for 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2015 in Dungannon Park.

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

**D**



<b>Subject</b>	<b>Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020</b>
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	<b>Adrian McCreesh / Fiona McKeown</b>
<b>Contact Officer</b>	<b>Fiona McKeown / Eamon Gallogly</b>

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To update members on the LAG formation process and status of the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020.

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	The LAG for Mid Ulster has submitted its application to DARD for formal appointment as the Local Action Group for the District. The applications have been scored and it is envisaged that confirmation of appointment (subject to achieving a 65% threshold) will issue from DARD, along with a final animation Service Level Agreement to Council to assist the LAG with strategy preparation, by the end of June- subject to any final revisions to the SLA being received.
2.2	The LAG Board has now agreed its Articles of Association and also agreed on a name – Mid Ulster Rural Development Partnership. Clarification has been sought from Companies House to ensure there are no restrictions within the title. Thereafter papers for company incorporation will be forwarded to Companies House.
2.3	As reported within the June papers, the Department is still currently addressing comments received from the European Commission on the RDP Programme submission. In anticipation of programme sign off, work on preparing the local rural strategy for Mid Ulster is continuing.

<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.1	3 local engagement events have been organised to provide the opportunity for rural dwellers to discuss priorities for the new Local Rural Strategy currently being developed by the LAG. This forms part of the consultation and engagement process to be used by the LAG for strategy development

	<p>which will also draw on the findings from the Community Planning and Economic Development consultations which have already taken place.</p> <p>The dates and venues are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June - Quinn's Corner, Ballygawley Rd, Dungannon</li> <li>• Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July - Tullylagan Country House Hotel, Cookstown</li> <li>• Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July - Walsh's Hotel, Maghera</li> </ul> <p>Detail of these events were circulated to all members in advance.</p>
3.2	<p>In relation to strategy development, DARD has indicated that the appointment of consultants is not an eligible cost. The use of consultancy/facilitation, independent from Council, is however considered as an integral part of strategy development to ensure that needs and priorities identified through consultation is done in an objective manner.</p> <p>Members are reminded that consultancy, in relation to strategy development, is specifically referred to within DARD's own RDP submission document to the EU.</p> <p>Discussion on this issue is ongoing with the Department.</p>

<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	<p><b><u>Financial</u></b> NA –</p> <p><b><u>Human</u></b> NA –</p>
4.2	<p><b><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u></b> NA</p>
4.3	<p><b><u>Other</u></b></p>
4.4	

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

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	<p>That in relation to LAG strategy development, Council approve the use of independent facilitation to assist the LAG with consultation engagement and identification of priorities for its local rural strategy. Facilitator costs will be reimbursed from the animation SLA budget from DARD.</p> <p>This is subject to DARD acceptance of the use of facilitators as an eligible cost within the scope of the animation SLA.</p>

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

**E**

**Subject: Town Centre Update Report**

**Reporting Officer: Fiona McKeown, Head of Economic Development**

**Contact Officers: Davina McCartney, Mary McCullagh, Paul McCreedy**

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	<p>To provide members with an update on progress on the Mid Ulster Town Centre Action Plan 2015/16</p> <p>To request permission from members to tender for a Digital Marketing / E-Commerce Programme for town centre businesses as included in the Mid Ulster Town Centre Action Plan 2015/16</p> <p>To provide members with an update on the annual Summer event to be held in Dungannon town centre on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August 2015.</p> <p>To receive Final Evaluation Report on Cookstown Continental Market held from 8-10 May 2015</p>

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	<p>The Mid Ulster Town Centre Action Plan 2015/16 was approved by Council in May 2015.</p> <p>Work is progressing on the following projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marketing and Promotion</li> <li>• Provision of digital / e-commerce support to town centre businesses in the five town centres of Cookstown, Dungannon, Magherafelt, Coalisland and Maghera</li> <li>• Shop Improvement Scheme</li> <li>• Town Centre events</li> </ul>

<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.1	<p><b>Marketing and Promotion</b></p> <p>Officers are currently working with the Head of Communications and Marketing to develop a marketing strategy that will identify opportunities for an integrated approach towards events and advertising campaigns in 2015-16.</p>
3.2	<p><b>Digital Marketing / E-commerce Programme</b></p> <p>Digital technology is integral to the development of the local economy and officers</p>

	are currently developing tender documents to appoint a company to deliver digital marketing / e-commerce support to circ. 40 town centre businesses across the five town centres. The programme will provide comprehensive bespoke individual mentoring to participants including business clinics that will be open to all businesses in each of the town centres. A budget of £60k (ex VAT) has been agreed previously by Council to deliver this programme. A short programme outline is contained on Appendix 1.
3.3	<p><b>Town Centre Shop Improvement Scheme</b></p> <p>Officers are currently seeking quotations to appoint a Chartered Architect to assist in the delivery of a Shop Improvement Scheme for the five town centres. The scheme will offer discretionary grants of up to 50% eligible costs, capped at £10,000 per property for external and/or internal improvements and repairs. It is envisaged the scheme will be open for applications in August/September 2015. A budget of circa £210k (ex VAT) has been allocated for capital works/grant aid.</p>
3.4	<p><b>Summer Event in Dungannon Town Centre</b></p> <p>The Mid Ulster Town Centre Action Plan 2015/16 includes the delivery of an annual Summer Event in Dungannon in August 2015.</p> <p>In 2014, the Gannonball Run Soapbox event was cancelled due to public realm construction works in the town centre. With the new town centre layout it is no longer possible to organise the event during the daytime without closing Market Square and causing disruption to local businesses. Moreover, the organising committee have carried out consultation with stakeholders and traders and have concluded that the event has run its course and should be replaced with a new, fresh event that can be held during the daytime with minimum disruption to traders. Following engagement with the Dungannon Traders Association it is now planned to hold a busking / music event called '<i>Battle of the Buskers</i>' on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August 2015 from 12noon to 5.00pm aimed at attracting additional footfall and spend in town centre shops. The idea for a busking event has been developed by officers, traders and other key stakeholders following a previous event in 2013. The 'Battle of the Buskers' event has the full endorsement of the local Traders Association who are providing £1,000 of financial support.</p> <p>It is anticipated that 25 pitches will be located around the town centre where buskers will perform and compete for prizes sponsored by Dungannon Traders Association, Dungannon Regeneration Partnership and Dungannon Enterprise Centre. Each busker will be given the opportunity to perform on stage in the new civic space in upper Market Square. Musical groups/choirs will be invited to take part and the event will be augmented by family fun street entertainment. Local bars will also be encouraged to provide music entertainment into the evening thus retaining footfall and adding value to the overall event.</p>
3.5	<p><b>Cookstown Continental Market 2015</b></p> <p>To receive Final Evaluation Report on Cookstown Continental Market held on 8-10 May 2015 (Appendix 2).</p>

<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	<p><b><u>Financial</u></b></p> <p>Within existing budgets.</p>

	<p><u><i>Battle of the Buskers Event, Dungannon</i></u></p> <p>A provision of £6,000 funding has been included in Council's Town Centre budget to organise a summer event in Dungannon in August 2015. Dungannon Traders Association have made a financial commitment of £1,000 towards the event.</p>
4.2	<p><b><u>Human</u></b></p> <p>Existing staff time.</p>
4.3	<p><b><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u></b></p> <p>Specialist professional support is required to deliver a digital marketing / e-commerce programme for town centre businesses across the five town centres.</p>
	<p><b><u>Other</u></b></p>
4.4	N/A

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

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	<p>That members note progress is being made regarding the Mid Ulster Town Centre Action Plan 2015/16.</p> <p>That members provide approval to place a public tender advertisement in the press to recruit a suitably qualified organisation to deliver a digital / e-commerce programme to town centre businesses in the 5 towns in Mid Ulster.</p> <p>That members note details of the 'Battle of the Buskers' Summer event in Dungannon town centre in August 2015.</p> <p>That members note Final Evaluation Report on Cookstown Continental Market held from 8-10 May 2015.</p>

<b>7</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
7.1	Appendix 1 - Programme Summary re Digital / E-Commerce Support Programme to be delivered in 5 towns in Mid Ulster
7.2	Appendix 2 – Final Evaluation Report on Cookstown Continental Market 2015

## **Mid Ulster Digital/E-commerce Programme for Town Centre Businesses**

### **Background**

Mid Ulster District Council's Corporate Plan states that 'Council will work with its partners to create, build, deliver and sustain activities that matter to the district within the framework of its themes and corporate priorities. A key priority is to 'Maximise opportunities to create and grow district wide business and investment'

This theme has been reinforced through the Masterplans/Frameworks which have been developed for the principal towns of Cookstown, Dungannon & Magherafelt and the smaller towns of Coalisland and Maghera. The recently produced Mid Ulster Local Economic Development Report and Action Plan (2015-2020) has set out as one of its key priorities 'Enabling Town and Village Regeneration', with a key indicative action of 'Digital/E-commerce Initiative' for Town Centre Businesses'. Council's Town Centre Action Plan (2015/2016) addresses four key areas. Under Business Support/Attracting Investment a key action is to 'Develop and deliver a business support programme for up to 40 retail/service businesses across the five town centres by 31 March 2016'.

### **Programme Outline and Outputs**

Digital technology is integral to the development of the local economy. Economists predict that by 2025 as much as £1 in every £5 is likely to be spent online. The three legacy Councils have provided varying degrees of support to businesses within their Town Centres, to provide them with the necessary support to embrace digital marketing and new technologies.

Mid Ulster Digital/E-commerce Programme aims to support, town centre retail/service businesses, to develop online marketing skills and to embrace digital technologies. The following outputs are anticipated:

- ❖ Participation of up to 40 retail/service businesses from the five town centres in Mid Ulster
- ❖ Up to 40 baseline audits conducted
- ❖ Up to 40 Action Plans developed
- ❖ Up to 2 days of bespoke 1-2-1 mentoring, per business
- ❖ Delivery of 5 business clinics, one in each of the five towns, open to all retail/service businesses, to gain information on core digital areas
- ❖ Delivery of a finale event for all participants

### **Budget**

Total budget for the programme is £60,000 (ex VAT) which is provided for within Council's existing Town Centre budget for 2015/16.



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

# COOKSTOWN CONTINENTIAL MARKET

8-10 MAY 2015



## FINAL EVALUATION REPORT BY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UNIT

June 2015

## **1.0 Introduction**

Mid Ulster District Council, in partnership with Cookstown Town Centre Forum, hosted an International Continental Market from Friday 8 May – Sunday 10 May 2015 along William Street, Cookstown. This is the second year Marketplace Europe (organisers) have included Cookstown as the first destination on their Spring Tour to Northern Ireland. This year a full road closure was in place from 9.00pm on Thursday 7 May to 10.30pm on Sunday 10 May 2015, to meet health and safety requirements as large visitor numbers were expected. The event is organised by Council's Economic Development Unit and delivered in partnership with a range of statutory bodies, other Council departments, Cookstown Chamber of Commerce etc.

## **2.0 Background**

The planning and delivery of Cookstown Continental Market emanated from Cookstown Town Centre Masterplan, launched in 2012, which included extensive consultation with local stakeholders, including local businesses. The Masterplan identifies a number of priority themes and actions to take forward over the course of the next 10 years, including two key initiatives; (1) to reinvigorate the town markets by attracting a Continental Market and (2) to effectively deliver Strategic Events in Cookstown Town Centre.

## **3.0 Feedback from Cookstown Continental Market 2014**

Last year, Cookstown hosted the Continental Market for the first time from 9-11 May 2014, attracting 20,000 people over a three day period. The Market was located on William Street, with road closures in place during the day on Saturday and Sunday.

A number of recommendations were made following the delivery of Cookstown Continental Market 2014. These included;

- ❖ Re-siting the Continental Market stalls from the parking bays to the vicinity of the central reservation on William Street, to reduce pedestrian congestion on footpaths.
- ❖ Provision of seating and tables within the Continental Market area.
- ❖ Provision of toilets within the Continental Market area.
- ❖ Enact a road closure on William Street for the duration of the event for health and safety reasons as a result of the high number of visitor numbers expected to attend.

## **4.0 Pre Event Planning of Continental Market 2015**

### **4.1 Continental Market**

The Continental Market is part of Marketplace Europe's Spring Tour of Northern Ireland. Council officers work closely with the providers 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 international traders to participate in their Spring Tour to Northern Ireland. The Continental Market stalls were erected backing on to the central

reservation along William Street which left the footpaths free of pedestrian congestion. Due to the relocation of the stalls a road closure was required from 9pm on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May to 10.30pm on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2015.

#### **4.2 Local Market Traders**

Over the three days of the Continental Market, the normal Saturday traders had the opportunity to trade also along James Street, Cookstown. The owner of Cookstown's market rights released these to Council for the three day period. Letters were distributed to market traders via the market owner and Council's Environmental Health team advising of the change in regulations during the Continental Market weekend. Those traders expressing an interest in trading during the market were issued with trading licenses by Environmental Health for the three day period and were allocated spaces within the parking bays along James Street.

#### **4.3 Marketing & Promotion**

The marketing & promotion campaign was delivered over a three week period commencing 20 April 2015. A variety of marketing channels were implemented:-

- ❖ Billboards - Two week cycle, delivered at three locations, namely Chapel Street Cookstown, Thomas Street Dungannon & Cookstown Road, Moneymore
- ❖ 8,000 leaflets distributed across Mid Ulster District Council area to Primary School children and Council facilities
- ❖ Radio Advert on Q106 which included 42 advertising promotions from 4-10 May 2015
- ❖ 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 4 May 2015 respectively. Business were encouraged to offer special promotions to attract customers into their businesses.
- ❖ Local Press Advertising was conducted over a three week period commencing 20 April 2015
- ❖ Regional Press Advertising was conducted in the Belfast Telegraph (Friday 1 May 2015) and Newsletter and Irish News (Tuesday 5 May 2015)
- ❖ Social Media channels of facebook and twitter. Regular posts were conducted and a competition was run via social media channels with the opportunity of winning £50 vouchers to spend at the market
- ❖ Ongoing promotion through Mid Ulster District Council Website
- ❖ Large Promotional Feature using Light box at Burnavon Theatre

#### **4.4 Continental Market Competition**

A competition was run to heighten the profile of the market through social media and the local radio station Q106. The competition via social media provided people with the chance of winning one of twenty £50 vouchers to spend at the market.

#### **4.5 Educational Tours**

The three Primary Schools located within Cookstown Town were approached and offered an educational tour of the market on Friday 8 May 2015. Two of the local Primary Schools availed, namely Cookstown Primary School and Phoenix Integrated Primary School. Holy Trinity Primary School were unavailable to avail of a tour as the School was closed.



#### **4.6 Street Entertainment**

To add to the ambiance of the Continental Market a variety of street entertainment was delivered over the three day period at various periods. This included the Afrikan Warriors, face painters, caricature artist, cartoon characters, stilt walkers and a variety of musicians. The street entertainment and live music undoubtedly added to the visitor experience and created a great day out for all the family to enjoy.

### **5.0 Continental Market 2015 Achievements**

- ❖ 20,000 visitors estimated attendance at Cookstown Continental Market.
- ❖ 45 traders within the Continental Market area
- ❖ 25 local market traders over the three day period
- ❖ 3 Educational Tours, involving 86 Primary School children
- ❖ Reach of 40,000+ through social media campaign
- ❖ Vouchers to the value of £1,100 won through competitions
- ❖ Variety of street entertainment and live music provided over three days
- ❖ International Market Traders expenditure of £15,200 in Cookstown town centre over the three days

Economic benefit to local area:

International Traders Expenditure Items	Spend
Accommodation	£7,600
Subsistence	£5,700
Refuelling Vehicles	£1,900
<b>Total International Traders Expenditure</b>	<b>£15,200</b>

## 6.0 Feedback/Evaluation of Continental Market

### 6.1 Feedback from Public Survey

A Survey Monkey questionnaire (Annex 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.

53 people completed the questionnaire.

The feedback from the general public has been very positive. Some of the many positive comments received:-

*'What a beautiful day, I was down town today, sun shining, dry & musicians playing & people out supporting our visitors! Gr8 to see the feedback from last year was actioned...road closed for the whole weekend, stalls in the middle of it & plenty of seating areas! So much better for easy flow around the stalls! So well done to everyone involved! Hope tomorrow is as good in every way!'*

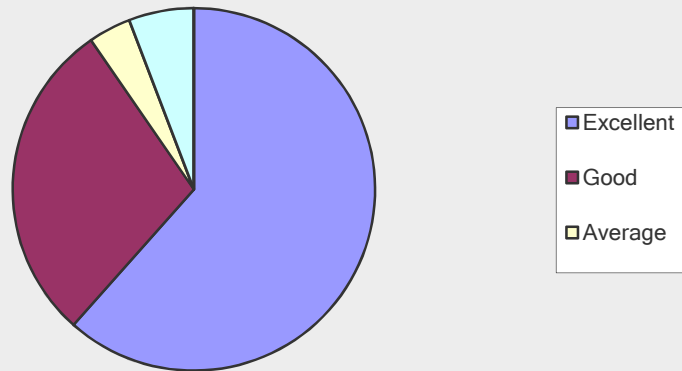
*'A massive thank you to all involved for the vouchers for the continental market it was fabulous and we got some delightful things!'*

*'Just a quick 'thank you' for all the work that so clearly went into the Continental Market. In just two years it has become a great local event for us all – civic leadership, diversity, inclusion, good relations, culture/the arts, economic activity and town centre regeneration all rolled into one. Others talk about this stuff ... Mid-Ulster delivers it. Keep it going. And thank you/your colleagues for it.'*

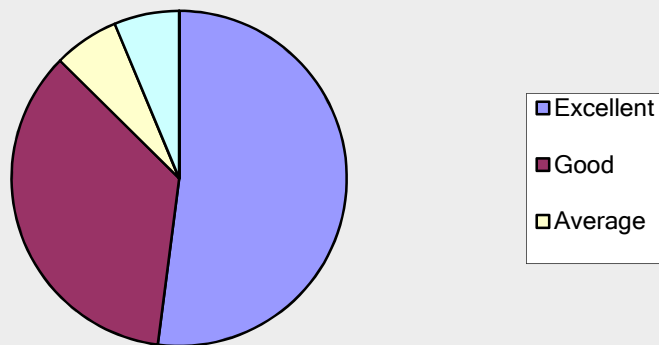
A sample of responses are depicted in the following pie charts:-



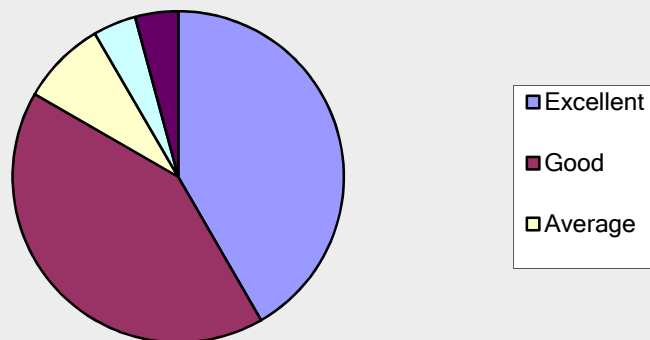
**How would you rate the location/layout of the Continental Market?**

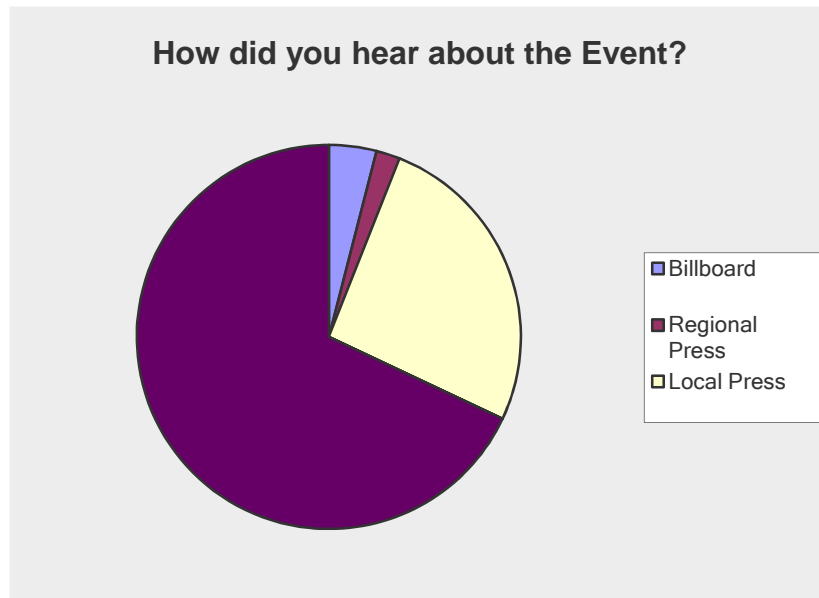


**How would you rate the atmosphere in Cookstown Town Centre during the Continental Market?**



**How would you rate the street entertainment provided during the Continental Market?**





Other key statistics recorded include:-

- ❖ The majority of people who responded came from within a 20 mile radius of Cookstown Town but people travelled from as far away as Belfast and Dublin.
- ❖ Saturday was the most popular day for visiting the market with 53.8% of respondents, followed by Sunday recording 30.8%.
- ❖ 46.2% of people spent 1-2hrs in Cookstown, 30.8% spent 2-3hrs in Cookstown
- ❖ 80.4% thought the market operating times were appropriate
- ❖ 71.2% visited local businesses while at the market
- ❖ 55.8% visited the local market traders located on James Street
- ❖ 90.4% stated they would return to Cookstown to shop

## 6.2 Feedback from Town Centre Businesses

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

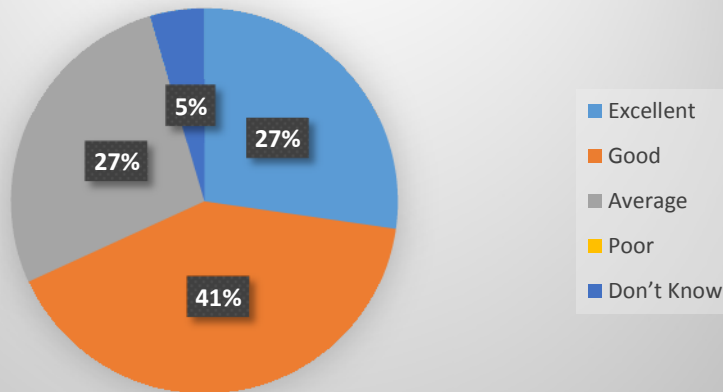
22 businesses completed and returned the Evaluation Form. The feedback from businesses is mixed. A representative sample of comments include;

*'Moving the market to the central reservation helped immensely as local businesses could be seen by new potential customers'*

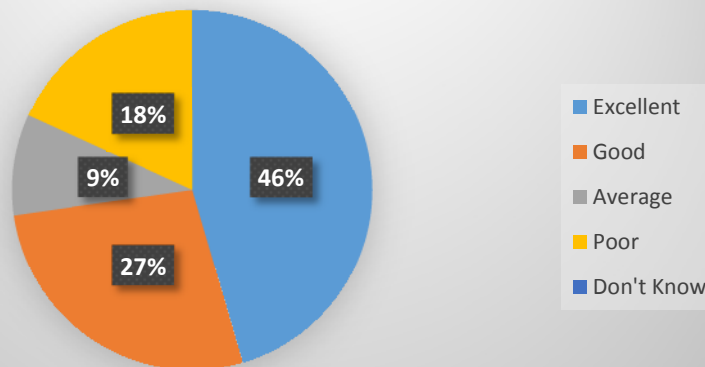
*'It was well run and laid out, we just didn't find a lot of visitors in the lower part of the Main Street'*

*'From a business point of view, we feel that the continental market only detracts customers from entering the town, and this is reflected in our sales. Over Thursday, Friday and Saturday trade decreased by 30% compared to an average week'.*

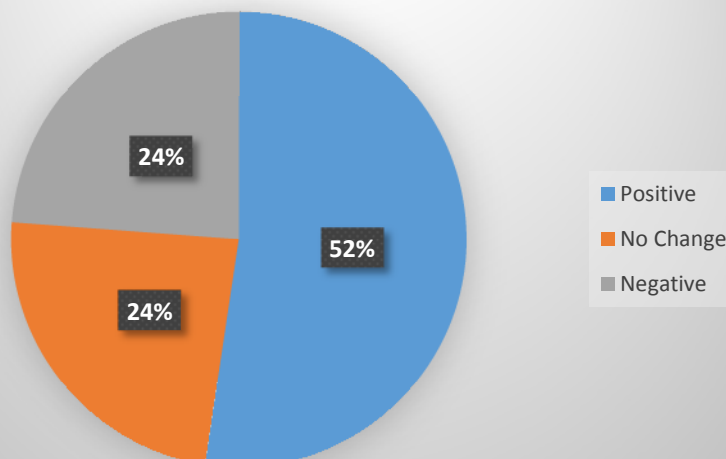
### How would you rate the Continental Market?

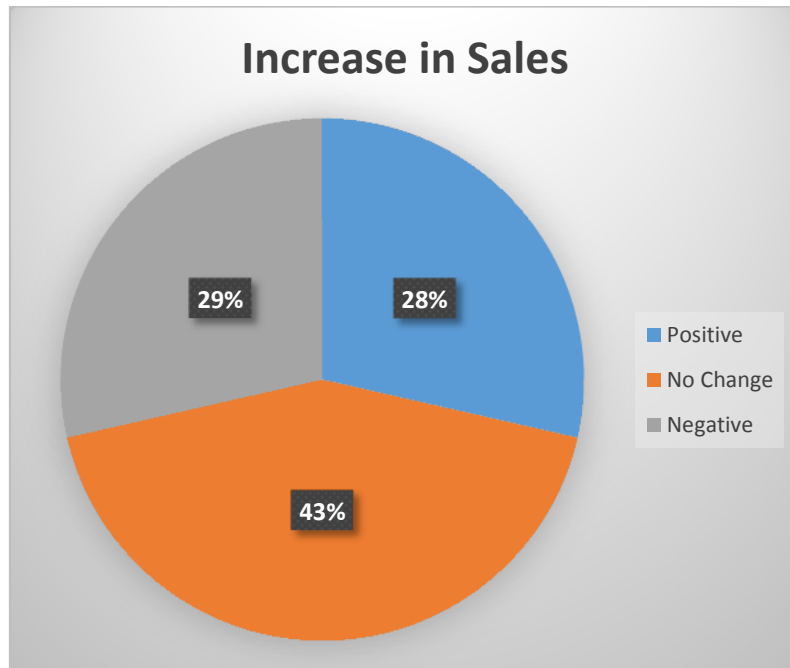


### How would you rate the location/layout of the market?



### Increase in Footfall





Other key statistics recorded include:

- ❖ 68% rated the Atmosphere in the Town as Excellent/Good
- ❖ 52% rated the Street Entertainment as Excellent/Good
- ❖ 40% operated extended opening hours throughout the market
- ❖ 59% felt Cookstown town benefitted from the event

### 6.3 Feedback from Market Place Europe

Managing Director, Allan Hartwell stated:-

*'The market went extremely well despite the weather although traders were a little down on last year but that may be a result of their being more traders.'*

*We definitely would like to come back later in the year and again in 2016.'*

### 6.4 Feedback from Educational Tours

The two Schools which participated in the Educational Tours - Phoenix Integrated Primary School and Cookstown Primary School enjoyed them immensely. Feedback has stated that the tour guide from Market Place Europe was excellent and the stall holders, were very generous with both their time and their food samples. The tours were delivered over the right period of time and were well pitched for the age groups.

### 6.4 Street Entertainment

A variety of Street Entertainment was delivered over the three day period, culminating on the Sunday afternoon. The entertainment was well received as per the feedback under item 6.1. Unfortunately the full line up as per Annex 3 could not be delivered due to the adverse weather conditions on the Sunday which resulted in Cookstown Folk Club and Caroline Creggan School of Dance having to cancel their performances.

## **7.0 Survey Recommendations**

Should the Continental Market return to Cookstown the following recommendations have been submitted through public and business feedback and subsequent evaluation process;

### **Public Feedback/Recommendations**

- ❖ Continental Market opening hours extended on the Saturday evening
- ❖ Continental Market extended to 4-5 days
- ❖ Inclusion of a beer tent
- ❖ More Arts & Crafts stalls
- ❖ Advertising of local shops promotions in advance of the market
- ❖ More Street Entertainment
- ❖ Relocate to James Street or Car Park
- ❖ Involve local bars
- ❖ Additional parking

### **Town Centre Businesses Feedback/Recommendations**

- ❖ Closure of road detracted people coming into town, especially the regular or general customer
- ❖ Local traders have a downturn in business during the event
- ❖ Town Centre events often result in a financial loss to the local trader
- ❖ Extend market to Molesworth Street to include more town centre businesses
- ❖ Relocate event to another location, as location disturbing to Main Street businesses
- ❖ No road closures
- ❖ A greater variety of stalls
- ❖ More activity on James Street
- ❖ Event delivered in July/August might be better suited as success is determined by the weather
- ❖ More parking made available
- ❖ The event is not delivered next year

## ***ANNEX 1 – PUBLIC QUESTIONNAIRE***

### **EVALUATION OF COOKSTOWN CONTINENTAL MARKET**

**FRIDAY 8 – SUNDAY 10 MAY 2015**

From 8-10 May 2015 Cookstown hosted the Continental Market, which formed part of Market Place Europe's Spring Tour.

This was one of the Mid Ulster District Council's signature events for 2015, delivered in conjunction with Cookstown Town Centre Forum. 45 international traders were joined by local stall holders for the three 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 Street Entertainment provided during the Continental Market?
- ☐ Excellent
  - ☐ Good
  - ☐ Average
  - ☐ Poor
  - ☐ Don't Know
7. How would you rate the Marketing/Promotion of the Event?
- ☐ Excellent
  - ☐ Good
  - ☐ Average
  - ☐ Poor
  - ☐ Don't Know
8. How did you hear about the event?
- ☐ Billboard
  - ☐ Regional Press
  - ☐ Local Press
  - ☐ Radio
  - ☐ Facebook/Twitter
  - ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
9. Where did you travel from to attend the Market?
- \_\_\_\_\_
10. Which day(s) did you visit the market?
- ☐ Friday 8 May
  - ☐ Saturday 9 May
  - ☐ Sunday 10 May
11. Did you visit the market during the extended opening hours on
- ☐ Friday 8 May      18.00-20.00
  - ☐ Saturday 7 May    18:00-19:00

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

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

13. Did you feel the operating hours were sufficient Friday 9.00-20:00, Saturday 9.00-18:00, Sunday 1.00-18.00?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If No, please comment

---

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

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

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

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

16. Would you return to shop in Cookstown?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

17. 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?

## ANNEX 2 – TOWN CENTRE BUSINESS QUESTIONNAIRE

### COOKSTOWN CONTINENTAL MARKET COOKSTOWN TOWN CENTRE FRIDAY 8 – SUNDAY 10 MAY 2015

#### 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 Friday 8 May – Sunday 10 May 2015?  
(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/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, Cookstown Town Strategy Manager,  
Mid Ulster District Council, Cookstown Office, Burn Road, Cookstown BT80  
8DT by **Friday 5 June 2015.**

**ANNEX 3 – LIST OF STREET ENTERTAINMENT AND LIVE MUSIC AT  
COOKSTOWN CONTINENTAL MARKET 2015**

	<b>Details</b>	<b>Times</b>
<b>Friday</b>	Stilt walkers x 2	4.00 - 6.00
	Dave Martin	4.30-6.30
	Flying Fiddlers	4.30-6.30
<b>Saturday</b>	Saxophonist	12.00 - 2.00
	Buskers	1.00 - 3.00
	Jazz Band	2.00 - 4.00
	Singing Chefs (x3)	1.00 - 3.00
	Face Painters (4 hrs per day )	12.00 -4.00
	Caricature Artist	2.00 - 4.00
	Georgian Lady (Stilt walker)	1.00 - 3.00
	Berty Bounder (Stilt walker)	1.00 - 3.00
<b>Sunday</b>	Juggling Chef & Carnival Clown (Stilt walkers)	2.00 - 4.00
		2.30- 3.00
	Afrikan Warriors	4.00-4.30
	Face Painters (4 hrs per day )	1.00 - 5.00
	Punch and Judy 3 Shows	1.00 - 4.00
	Hype Band	1.00 - 2.30
	Caroline Creggan Dance Show	2.30 - 3.00
	Music	3.00 - 4.00
	Compere	12.00 -5.30
	Caroline Creggan Dance Show	4.30- 5.00
	Hub Choir	5.00-5.30

**F**

<b>Subject</b>	<p>1) Regional Start Initiative</p> <p>2) Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment (DETI) Telecoms Strategy Consultation 2015</p> <p>3) Cessation of Department of Education Funding for Business Education Partnerships</p>
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Fiona McKeown, Head of Economic Development

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

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	<p><b>Regional Start Initiative (RSI)</b></p> <p>All 11 Councils agreed to the rolling forward of the Regional Start Initiative Contract by Invest NI to October 2015. As such, Councils are required to repay from the Transferring Functions Budget Invest NI costs relating to the continued delivery of the Programme until 22 October 2015.</p>
2.2	<p><b>Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment (DETI) Telecoms Strategy Consultation 2015-2017</b></p> <p>DETI has launched a new Telecoms Strategy Consultation document entitled 'Continuing to Connect'. The consultation document asks for comments on how telecommunications can be further advanced in Northern Ireland by government. It is set against the context of significant budgetary pressures on the NI Executive. Government intervention must address market failure and be additional to investment from the private sector. The proposals cover a two year period from 2015-2017. During this period, there may be a Comprehensive Spending Review and departmental restructuring. The proposals will be reviewed if these impact on telecoms. The closing date for submitting consultation responses is 31 July 2015.</p>
2.3	<p><b>Cessation of Department of Education Funding for Business Education Partnerships</b></p> <p>Members will recall at an earlier Committee meeting it was agreed to write to the Minister for Education, Mr John O'Dowd MLA, to request the Department of Education reconsider its decision to cease funding for Business Education Partnerships. A letter of response was received from the Minister for Education dated 23 June 2015.</p>

3	Key Issues												
3.1	<p><b>Regional Start Initiative (RSI)</b></p> <p>From 1 April 2015, the RSI Contract is being managed by Invest NI on behalf of the 11 Councils until the end of the Service Level Agreement period on 22 October 2015. During this time, Invest NI have agreed to issue Councils with regular Update Reports on programme performance towards the targets set for October 2015, on a regional and sub-regional level. The full NI Report (as at 11 June 2015) on all RSI delivery areas for the period 1 April – 11 June 2015 is attached at Appendix 1.</p> <p>Mid Ulster’s performance is summarised below and is currently on a par with all other areas.</p> <table><tr><td></td><td><b>Target for Mid Ulster</b> <i>(by Oct 2015)</i></td><td><b>Achieved</b></td><td><b>% towards target</b></td></tr><tr><td>Business Plan Approvals</td><td>219</td><td>65</td><td>30%</td></tr><tr><td>Jobs promoted</td><td>135</td><td>43</td><td>32%</td></tr></table> <p><b>Work on Delivery of Future Regional Start Initiative Support Programme</b> In April 2015, Belfast City Council (working on behalf of all 11 Councils) commissioned EKOS Consulting to conduct an Economic Appraisal to determine the requirements and inform the costs for future start up provision. Belfast City Council has circulated EKOS’s draft Economic Appraisal on 15 June 2015 and a meeting held with representatives of the 11 Councils on 19 June 2015 to discuss the proposals and costs outlined.</p> <p>This will then be used to inform the development, indicative costs and delivery structures of a future Programme and also assist with an ERDF Application to DETI / Invest NI for funding from the Growth and Jobs Programme towards supplementary elements of the Programme. Members will receive a further update on this when the Appraisal has been finalised.</p>		<b>Target for Mid Ulster</b> <i>(by Oct 2015)</i>	<b>Achieved</b>	<b>% towards target</b>	Business Plan Approvals	219	65	30%	Jobs promoted	135	43	32%
	<b>Target for Mid Ulster</b> <i>(by Oct 2015)</i>	<b>Achieved</b>	<b>% towards target</b>										
Business Plan Approvals	219	65	30%										
Jobs promoted	135	43	32%										
3.2	<p><b>Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment (DETI) Telecoms Strategy Consultation 2015-2017</b></p> <p>DETI is currently consulting on their new Telecommunications Strategy for Northern Ireland 2015-2017 (Appendix 2). It is proposed that Officers prepare a draft consultation response and issue to Members to review/comment in advance of submitting the final response to DETI by 31 July 2015.</p>												
3.3	<p><b>Cessation of Department of Education Funding for Business Education Partnerships</b></p> <p>A response was received from the Minister of Education on 23 June 2015, indicating that the Executive’s Budget has been reduced by the Westminster Government by £1.5bn over the last five years. As a direct result of this reduction there is significantly reduced money to spend on frontline services such as education. The Minister indicates that he has taken every action possible to protect education funding and those frontline services within the Department of Education’s remit. However, it is simply impossible to protect</p>												

	everything, hence his decision to end the funding for the Business Education Partnerships. The Minister's full response is attached on Appendix 3.
<b>4</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>  <b>4.1 Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment (DETI) Telecoms Strategy Consultation 2015-2017</b>  It is anticipated that some professional technical assistance will be required to prepare a detailed Consultation Response to DETI's Telecoms Strategy 2015-2017. Provision of such technical support can be paid for from Council's Local Economic Development Budget for 2015/16.

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

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	To note progress to date on the Regional Start Initiative.
6.2	To seek Members approval for Council Officers to prepare a draft consultation response to DETI's Telecoms Strategy 2015-2017 and issue to Members to review/comment in advance of submitting the final response to DETI by 31 July 2015.
6.3	To note response from Minister of Education regarding cessation of funding to Business Education Partnerships.

<b>7</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
	Appendix 1: 'Regional Start Initiative Dashboard' May 2015  Appendix 2 – DETI's Telecommunications Strategy Consultation 2015-2017  Appendix 3 – Response from Minister of Education regarding cessation of funding to Business Education Partnerships

REGIONAL START INITIATIVE DASHBOARD  
MAY 2015

County	SIA BPA Targets April 2015 to Oct 2015	Actual BPA's Delivered	Balance of BPA's against SIA Target	BPA's % Achieved against SIA Target	NBA & MEET LOO Acceptances	Target Jobs Promoted/April 2015 to Oct 2015	Jobs Promoted	Balance of Jobs Promoted Against SIA Target	% Achieved Jobs Promoted against SIA Target
Antrim & Newtownabbey	84	25	59	30%	2	50	16	34	32%
Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon	172	96	116	33%	11	105	39	66	37%
Belfast	335	186	249	26%	69	205	79	126	39%
Causeway Coast & Glens	130	17	93	28%	14	80	28	52	35%
Derry & Strabane	146	34	112	23%	43	90	97	53	42%
Fermanagh & Omagh	177	95	122	31%	6	110	36	74	33%
Lisburn & Castlereagh	93	26	67	28%	2	55	17	38	30%
Mid & East Antrim	89	28	61	31%	3	55	18	37	33%
Mid Ulster	219	65	154	30%	9	135	48	92	32%
Newry, Mourne & Down	162	50	112	31%	5	100	39	67	33%
North Down & Ards	93	21	72	23%	0	55	15	42	23%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1700</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>1207</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>1040</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>680</b>	<b>35%</b>



---

## **Consultation**

---

# **Continuing to Connect Telecoms 2015-2017 Consultation May 2015**

---

## INTRODUCTION

This document is to present how telecommunications can be further advanced in Northern Ireland by Government. It is set against the background that telecommunications in the UK is fully privatised and independently regulated. Telecommunications policy is a reserved matter with responsibility primarily resting at Westminster.

It is set against the context of significant budgetary pressures on the Northern Ireland Executive. Government intervention must address market failure and be additional to investment from the private sector.

The proposals cover a two year period from 2015 to 2017. During this period, there may be a Comprehensive Spending Review and departmental restructuring. The proposals will be reviewed if these impact on telecoms.

## POLICY CONTEXT

The telecommunications market in Northern Ireland, as in the rest of the UK, is fully privatised and independently regulated on a national basis by the Office of Communications (Ofcom).

Telecommunications is a reserved matter meaning that it has not been devolved to the Northern Ireland Executive but is controlled centrally by the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) in London.

Under the Communications Act 2003, the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment has been given limited powers to intervene where there is evidence of market failure but this has to be undertaken with caution in order to avoid distortion of the market and comply with European regulations.

## STRATEGIC CONTEXT

The **Digital Agenda for Europe<sup>1</sup> (DAE)** aims to help Europe's citizens and businesses to get the most out of digital technologies. The DAE targets broadband speeds of 30Mbps or above (aka Superfast or Next Generation Access) for all European Union citizens, with half of households subscribing to connections of 100Mbps or higher (Ultrafast) by 2020.

---

<sup>1</sup> Digital Agenda for Europe homepage <http://ec.europa.eu.digital-agenda/>

The **UK Government** has stated its commitment<sup>2</sup> to continue to invest in broadband that will result in extending superfast broadband to 95% of premises by 2017 and to explore with the industry how to expand coverage further using more innovative fixed, wireless and mobile broadband solutions to reach at least 99% of premises across the UK by 2018<sup>3</sup>.

It also recognises the need to plan ahead to make sure that our digital communications infrastructure meets the needs of users in the UK and maintains a competitive edge to retain and attract business<sup>3</sup>.

The **Northern Ireland Executive's Economic Strategy** recognises that, to underpin economic growth, Northern Ireland needs a modern and sustainable economic infrastructure. It also recognises the need to build on NI's existing strengths, including our status as one of the first UK regions to deliver extensive next generation broadband services.

A key aim of the **Executive's Regional Development Strategy** is to implement a balanced approach to telecommunications infrastructure that will provide a competitive advantage.

The **Programme for Government 2011 -2015** sets growing a sustainable economy and investing in the future as a priority and states that this means 'enhanced economic infrastructure'. The continued development of Northern Ireland's telecoms infrastructure is also relevant to other Programme for Government targets which aim to improve the quality and cost effectiveness of public services in terms of access and the range of contact channels available, including better quality and consistent online services.

The **Economic Pact** between the Northern Ireland Executive and the UK Government acknowledges the need to build on Northern Ireland's strong communications infrastructure in boosting the Northern Ireland economy.

## CURRENT MARKET ASSESSMENT

### Broadband

The telecommunication industry is continuing to spend in Northern Ireland but, given the economics of network deployment, private sector led investment generally tends to be focused in lower cost urban and suburban areas. This means the extent of the services available, and the number of service providers offering these services, tends to be greatest in areas of higher population density.

---

<sup>2</sup> Connectivity, Content and Consumers – Britain's digital platform for growth (DCMS, July 2013)

<sup>3</sup> Digital Communications Infrastructure Strategy –Consultation August 2014

There is some limited private sector led investment outside these areas, particularly by service providers using fixed wireless technology. However, in light of the critical role that broadband deployment and adoption can serve in the process of enabling economic growth across the region, DETI has intervened to balance private sector investment trends with the Next Generation Broadband Project and the more recent Northern Ireland Broadband Improvement Project [covered later], which have both served to provide improved broadband technologies and infrastructure into more rural areas.

Eight in ten households in Northern Ireland (80%) have taken up an internet connection in the first quarter of 2014, coming close to the UK average of 82%.

In terms of the take-up of superfast broadband services (defined by Ofcom as 30Mbps+), Northern Ireland exceeds the UK average, with penetration of 22% of premises.

<b>Fixed access broadband take-up</b>	<b>Take-up of fixed broadband, % of residential premises</b>	<b>Take-up of superfast broadband, % of premises</b>
<b>England</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>22%</b>
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>16%</b>
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>70%</b>	<b>22%</b>
<b>Wales</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>13%</b>
<b>Total UK</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>21%</b>

Source: Ofcom UK Communications Infrastructure Report: December 2014

Over four in ten households in Northern Ireland have a tablet computer. Among the UK nations, tablet take-up is highest here and in Wales having increased by 16 percentage points over the past year to 45%. Rural areas of Northern Ireland saw the most dramatic rise from 19% in Quarter 1 of 2013 to 52% in Quarter 1 of 2014<sup>4</sup>

<sup>4</sup> Communications Market Report (Ofcom -August 2014)

## Mobile

Significant investment by mobile phone companies is delivering better 3G coverage for consumers in Northern Ireland. EE and Three have improved their shared network, which has seen 3G population coverage reach 95%. O2 and Vodafone are committed to making improvements to their shared network to deliver similar levels of coverage.

As part of the 4G spectrum auction in early 2013, O2 Telefonica is obliged to provide indoor mobile broadband reception to at least 98% of the UK population by end 2017. O2 has committed to achieving this in Northern Ireland by 2015. A 4G network which meets this requirement is likely to cover more than 99% of the UK population when outdoors.

In addition to the UK-wide coverage obligation, the Regulator requires the same operator to provide indoor service to at least 95% of the population of each of the UK nations. Outdoor coverage for the network meeting this obligation is likely to be around 97% of the population of each nation, and Northern Ireland will have similar levels of other parts of the UK.

Service providers are currently upgrading their existing 2G and 3G networks with a view to increasing coverage.

98.9% of Northern Ireland premises currently have 2G mobile coverage from at least one operator.<sup>5</sup>

99% of Northern Ireland premises currently have 3G mobile coverage from at least one operator.<sup>4</sup>

79.2% of Northern Ireland premises currently have 4G mobile coverage from at least one operator<sup>4</sup>.

## GOVERNMENT INVESTMENT

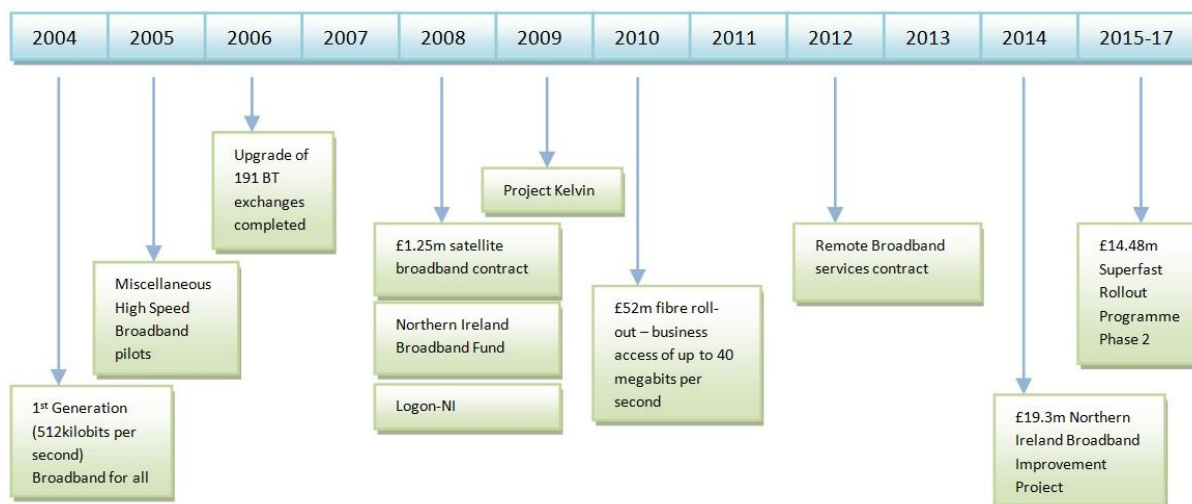
### Broadband

Since 2004, DETI has developed and delivered a number of important infrastructure projects, drawing on funding from the EU, UK Government and Northern Ireland Executive sources. By the end of 2015, some £64m of public investment will have been made in broadband.

---

<sup>5</sup> Communications Market Report (Ofcom: August 2014)

## HISTORY OF NI GOVERNMENT INVESTMENT



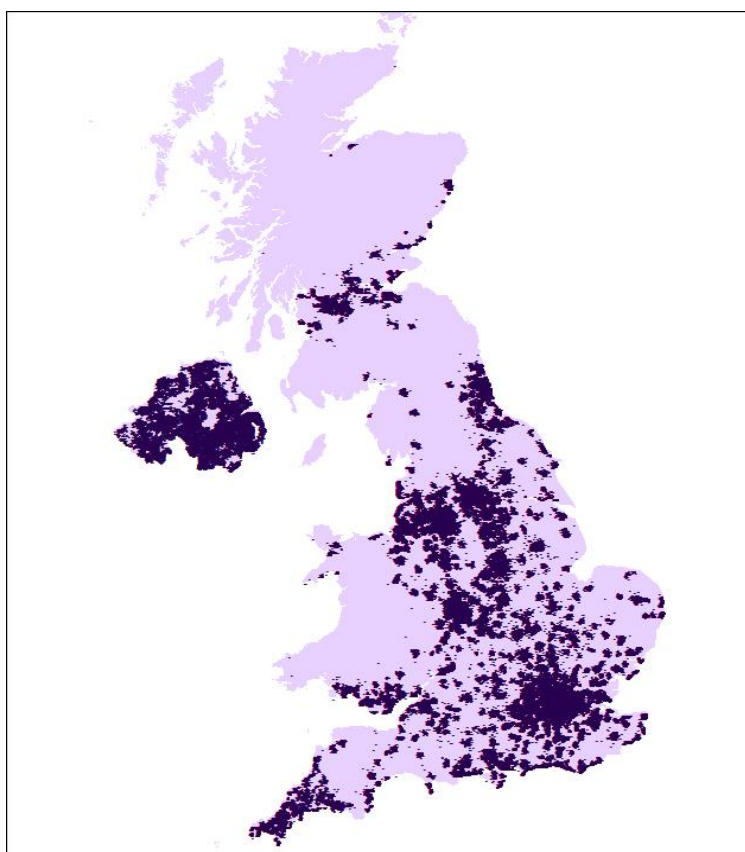
**Project Kelvin** established a direct international link between the North West and North America.

**Next Generation Broadband Project** has helped deliver access to higher speed broadband services to at least 85% of businesses across Northern Ireland.

Fibre deployment has been completed to 1,265 cabinets and when added to BT's own investment, some 2480 cabinets allow around 89% of telephone lines in Northern Ireland to be connected to a fibre enabled cabinet.

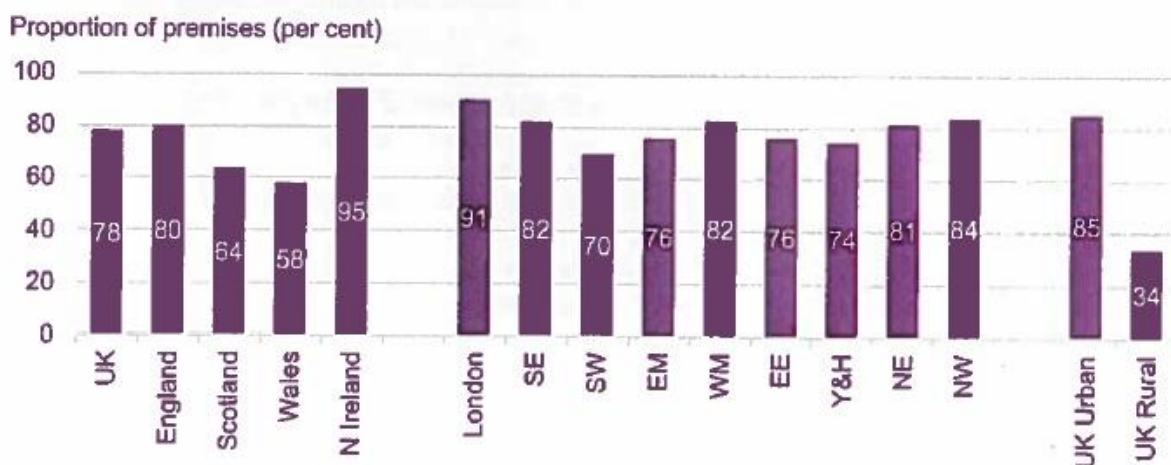
**Remote Broadband Service** contract promoted satellite broadband services to domestic consumers and business premises. **Northern Ireland Broadband Fund** supported 8 projects which resulted in the roll out of fixed wireless services across rural Northern Ireland and the completion of a number of technology trials to explore potential broadband solutions in rural areas.

## POSTCODES WHERE NGA NETWORKS ARE AVAILABLE



The map (Source: Ofcom) shows the postcodes where Next Generation Access (30Mbps) networks are available. Throughout most of the UK, superfast broadband roll out is largely concentrated in urban areas, where it is cheaper to deploy new infrastructure because of population density, the impact of public sector interventions to extend NGA availability in Northern Ireland is clearly visible.

**Figure 5.4 Proportion of premises able to receive NGA broadband services**



Sources: Ofcom/BT Openreach/Kcom, June 2014 data

The **Northern Ireland Broadband Improvement Project** will further extend broadband coverage. It is expected to provide access to standard 2Mbps broadband to 96% of premises and superfast broadband to at least 85% of premises by 2015. More choice and improved speeds will be brought to at least 45,000 premises.

The UK Government is making further funding available to extend superfast broadband across the UK. Under the Superfast Rollout programme, Northern Ireland has an indicative allocation of £7.24m and DETI is seeking to match this amount resulting in a potential total of £14.48m. This may be further supplemented with a supplier contribution. If a further intervention presents value for money, this will provide further or improved broadband coverage across Northern Ireland.

## Mobile

In comparison to broadband, the mobile coverage has been more problematic in Northern Ireland. Issues such as reliability, customer experience and inadvertent roaming have continued to feature as unwelcome and constant areas of complaint. The Mobile market has been in a process of rationalisation and consolidation. A number of operators have chosen to share infrastructure, which has helped reduce operating costs. A number of operators have also been successful in the outcome of the auction for 4G spectrum.

The UK Government is implementing the **Mobile Infrastructure Project (MIP)** across the UK to improve basic voice and data services. Northern Ireland will benefit in that around 72 provisional mast sites have been identified to address those 'not spot' areas where no mobile coverage is available and from which improved services will be delivered by 2015. The industry has indicated that this project, while aimed at basic services, allows it the opportunity to upgrade 3G/4G services where possible.

In addition, the UK Government has agreed with the four mobile networks that they improve mobile coverage across the UK. It will bring a further £5bn in investment from the four operators and result in cutting total 'not-spots' where there is currently no mobile coverage by two-thirds. This will support the Government's existing £150m MIP project to take mobile coverage to the areas of the UK that have no coverage at all.

## FUTURE DEMAND

The online activity of citizens in Northern Ireland will continue to grow, and the requirement for higher bandwidth intense services will increase. This will be even more challenging given the multiple use of these services within individual households.

We need to ensure that our telecommunications infrastructure continues to offer a competitive advantage, both in terms of our businesses being able to compete

successfully in external markets and in promoting Northern Ireland as an attractive inward investment location. With this in mind, DETI is conducting an audit of broadband services to business parks that it has identified.

Businesses will require higher bandwidth services with many sectors, such as ICT digital, financial/legal services and manufacturing, needing to share or store large volumes of data. Usage and availability of cloud based software services is increasing, with more businesses using ICT to share/store data and information within their business and also between the business and customers/consumers.

Fast mobile data is becoming essential for businesses in Northern Ireland. The availability of fast mobile broadband will allow businesses to be more confident about implementing ICT for use by remote workers, enabling them to be more productive and efficient.

Mobile services are vital from a tourism perspective. Social media is transforming the travel industry in terms of visitor behaviour and will have a major impact on how the hospitality and tourism sector will compete effectively in the future. It is already happening – 52% of Facebook users have said that their friends' photos have influenced their holiday choice; 41% of consumers write reviews about their travel experiences; and 24% of UK consumers share their experiences via social media while on holiday and a further 49% when they return home.

Northern Ireland can be rightly proud of what has been achieved. The infrastructure that has been put in place contributes to us having a world class facility that attracts foreign investment. However, we must not fall into the trap of becoming complacent. We are well aware that not every area is well served and particularly deep rural areas continue to experience difficulties in coverage, speeds and reliability

The market is fast moving. As we move into the hard to reach rural areas, technological advances are helping us to improve broadband access and to meet the ever increasing needs of technologically advanced customers.

It is estimated that the availability and take-up of faster broadband speeds will add around £17 billion to the UK's annual Gross Value Added by 2024<sup>6</sup>.

## PROPOSALS

Working within the budgetary pressures we face and in line with the strategic and policy context outlined earlier, DETI will work to ensure that Northern Ireland remains at the forefront of the development and deployment of telecoms infrastructure.

---

<sup>6</sup> UK Broadband Impact Study (SQW -November 2013)

### Improve infrastructure

- DETI will continue to liaise with DCMS to ensure that Northern Ireland benefits from any future funding from the UK Government to extend the roll-out of superfast broadband to rural areas and the support to business through super connected cities.
- We will specifically work to complete the broadband Superfast Rollout Programme Phase II and secure around £14.48m public funding on a value for money basis.
- DETI will assess if further intervention is required in mobile infrastructure once the industry investment and the UK Government project have completed.
- DETI will continue to explore other sources of funding to help Northern Ireland achieve the goals of the Digital Agenda for Europe initiative by 2020.
- We will continue to work with the telecommunications regulator Ofcom and other statutory bodies to ensure that the regulatory environment within which telecoms infrastructure development takes place is sustainable.
- We will continue to work to ensure that the development of telecoms infrastructure is balanced across Northern Ireland, capable of supporting effective and efficient public services and contributing to economic growth.
- We will consider the outcome of the audit of broadband services to identified business parks.

### Educate and Inform

- We will engage with business partners and the community to explore how we ensure that Northern Ireland is fully exploiting the benefits of our telecoms infrastructure.

## CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

- Q. What role has DETI in ensuring our telecommunications is the best in the UK and Europe?
- Q. How should Government target its support to the telecommunications market, given the existing budgetary pressures?
- Q. Is there a need to better inform and educate people on broadband and mobile options and their use?

## HOW TO RESPOND TO THIS CONSULTATION

Responses to this consultation should reach DETI on or before 5.00pm on Friday 31st July 2015 and should be sent to:

telecomspolicyunit@detini.gov.uk

or by post to:

Telecoms Branch  
Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment  
Netherleigh  
Massey Avenue  
BELFAST  
BT4 2JP

All responses should include the name and postal address of the respondent.

If you require access to this Statutory Consultation document in a different format – eg Braille, disk, audio cassette, larger font – or in a minority ethnic language please contact the Department on 028 9052 9308 and appropriate arrangements will be made as soon as possible.

## Confidentiality & Data Protection

Your response may be made public by DETI and placed on the DETI website as part of the consultation process. If you do not want all or part of your response or name made public, please state this clearly in the response by marking your response as 'CONFIDENTIAL'. Any confidentiality disclaimer that may be generated by your organisation's IT system or included as a general statement in your fax cover sheet will be taken to apply only to information in your response for which confidentiality has been specifically requested.

Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal information, may be subject to publication or disclosure in accordance with the access to information regimes (these are primarily the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA)). If you want other information that you provide to be treated as confidential, please be aware that, under the FOIA, there is a statutory Code of Practice with which public authorities must comply and which deals, amongst other things, with obligations of confidence.

In view of this, it would be helpful if you could explain to us why you regard the information you have provided as confidential. If we receive a request for disclosure of the information we will take full account of your explanation, but we cannot give an assurance that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded as binding on the Department.

FROM THE MINISTER/ÓN AIRE



APPENDIX 3

AN ROINN

Oideachais

Department of  
Education

MANNYSTRIE O

Lear

[www.denl.gov.uk](http://www.denl.gov.uk)

received

25 JUN 2015

Chief Executive

COR 1389/2015

Councillor Linda Dillon  
Chair  
Mid Ulster District Council  
Dungannon Office  
Circular Road  
DUNGANNON  
BT71 6DT

Tel: 9127 9306

Fax: 9127 9779

Dialling codes: 028 from north of Ireland  
048 from south of Ireland

23 June 2015

*Linda a chra*

Thank you for your letter of 11 June, regarding my decision to cease funding for the Business Education Partnerships (BEPs).

As you are aware, the Executive's Budget has been reduced by the Westminster Government by £1.5bn over the last five years. As a direct result of this reduction, there is significantly reduced money to spend on frontline services such as education. I have taken every action possible to protect education funding and those frontline services within the Department of Education's (DE's) remit. However, it is simply impossible to protect everything, hence my decision to end the funding for the BEPs. My decision is final meaning that funding for the BEPs will not be re-introduced in 2015/16 and there are currently no plans to re-introduce funding in the future.

I very much appreciate that for many schools and young people involved with the BEPs, the decision that it should cease has come as an unwelcome shock but it is an illustration of the very difficult financial climate that we are now facing. In no way are any of the programmes that have been cut or reduced in 2015/16 not important, not doing good work or not making a positive impact on the lives of individuals and communities. However, as Minister I have had to provide stability to the education budget and the education service moving forward, therefore, maintaining all core services at current levels was simply not deliverable.

Although Departmental funding has ceased, this does not mean that the Dungannon and Cookstown BEP could not continue to source external funding for some of their programmes.

DE continues to fund organisations such as Sentinus, Young Enterprise, School Employer Connections and Charter Work Experience to give pupils here the opportunity to develop employability and enterprise skills.

I am also confident that schools will be able to utilise their resources going forward to ensure that the needs of their pupils are met and enhanced in preparing for the world of work and/or future study.

I trust this outlines DE's position.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'JOHN O'DOWD', written in a cursive style.

**JOHN O'DOWD MLA**  
**Minister for Education**

**G**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Lough Neagh Partnership – Core funding</b>
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	<b>Michael Browne</b>

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To receive a request from the Lough Neagh Partnership to Mid Ulster District Council for core funding for 2015/16.
1.2	To review the operational plan for delivery of the destination management plan and a work plan for the Lough Neagh Partnership.

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	Over the past eleven years, Lough Neagh Partnership has carried out successful co-ordination, promotion and development work on Lough Neagh, including a major £3.8 million Rural Development Programme and the more recent Lough Neagh Co-operation Programme implemented in partnership with the Council's and Local Action Groups around the Lough's Shores.
2.2	The Partnership is also currently working up a major new £3 million Heritage Lottery Landscape proposal for the Lough and is already discussing possible joint projects, which could be developed with Councils.
2.3	Over the years, the Lough Neagh Partnership has received core funding from the seven councils around Lough for these core co-ordination and marketing roles. They have worked in partnership with local Councils to attract significant additional investment, jointly developed major infrastructure projects, organised significant events, improved safety and navigation, liaised with Government Departments to ensure the conservation of the Lough's unique environment, promoted the Lough as a significant tourism destination and lobbied government bodies to take more a more strategic and integrated role in addressing the real needs of the Lough.
2.4	Under the new Council structure, five Councils are now have an interest in the development of the Lough. Of these five, three Councils (Mid Ulster, Armagh/ Banbridge/Craigavon and Antrim/Newtownabbey) have a major part of the shoreline whilst the remaining two (Mid/East Antrim and Lisburn/Castlereagh) have smaller but important portions.
2.5	Previously Cookstown, Dungannon and Magherafelt Council's all funded the Lough Neagh Partnership £5k for core costs and £6.5k for the delivery of the destinations management plan. Cookstown, Dungannon and

	Magherafelt Councils had all budgeted for the core funding and for the delivery of the destination management plan for 2015/16 (Total budgeted £11,500 x 3 = £34,500).
2.6	The Lough Neagh Partnership Ltd is a company limited by guarantee with Directors from local authorities, community sector, business sector and special interest groups. Lough Neagh Partnership has a part-time manager and a marketing officer funded by councils and up to end of March 2015 by DCAL. It also has two temporary staff working on the development of a large Heritage Lottery funded Landscape Partnership. The Heritage Lottery staff members are scheduled to finish at end of July 2015.

<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.1	Funding is therefore requested for staff, development & delivery of programmes and office costs associated with the new structure and it's more robust and integrated role.
3.2	<p>Funding requests to each of the five new Councils, which are pro rata based in accordance with the approximate amount of shoreline and / or activity hubs are outlined below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mid Ulster Council £25,000.</li> <li>• Antrim/Newtownabbey £25,000</li> <li>• Armagh/Banbridge/Craigavon £25,000</li> <li>• Lisburn/Castlereagh £10,000.</li> <li>• Mid/East Antrim £10,000</li> </ul>
3.3	As part of this funding the Lough Neagh Partnership will offer Mid Ulster District Council continued coordination and marketing of activities around Lough Neagh and its Waterways.
3.4	Lough Neagh Partnership will also continue to develop Lough Neagh as a Tourism Destination.
3.5	The Lough Neagh Partnership will continue to identify and apply for funding to the region.

<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	<p><b><u>Financial</u></b></p> <p>£25,000 which has been identified in the 2015/16 budget.</p>

<u>4.2</u>	<b><u>Human</u></b> <u>N/A</u>
<u>4.3</u>	<b><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u></b> <u>N/A</u>
<u>4.4</u>	<b><u>Other</u></b> <u>N/A</u>

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

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	Recommend Mid Ulster District Council fund Lough Neagh Partnership £25k as requested and subject to funding being secured from all 5 Lough Neagh Council's.
6.2	Recommend that the Lough Neagh Partnership submit a quarterly update to Mid Ulster District Council

<b>7</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
7.2	Appendix 1. Lough Neagh Partnership Work Plan 2015/16

## Appendix 1.

### Lough Neagh Partnership Work Plan 2015/16

Integrated Management Structure			
Current Position: DARD Minister has confirmed that a firm of consultants will be appointed to develop a Trust model for Lough Neagh. This will involve Councils and Government Departments.			
Targets	Target date	Measurable Outputs	Measurable Outcomes
Target is to get agreement on Trust model and resources required for implementation. Responsibility for this now lies with DARD and the Inter Departmental Working Group	April 2016	<b>Appointment of consultants with DFP for approval</b> Consultants appointed Trust Model developed and agreed with all stakeholders including Councils Lough Neagh Trust operational	Fully operation strategic and operational Lough Neagh Trust complete with resources, strategy and Action Plan.
Lough Neagh Cycle Trail			
Current position: A comprehensive review of the Cycle Trail was carried out in 2012/13 and 46 damaged or missing signs were replaced. The Cycle Trail signage will be kept under review.			
1. The target for 2015/16 is to keep the cycle trail signage under review and replace signage as required.  2. A secondary target is to clarify position with Antrim Newtownabbey Council re small section where signage may need to be addressed. 3. Market LN Cycle Trail	Throughout year	Lough Neagh Cycle Trail signage reviewed and upgraded where necessary.	Lough Neagh Cycle Trail will be recognised as a valuable tourism and recreational asset for the Lough Neagh Destination.

## Lough Neagh Tourism Destination Management Plan

Current Position: LN Destination Management Plan (DMP) has been developed with four main themes: Product Development, Branding and Marketing, Skills Development Of Tourism Providers and Partnerships and Networks.

DMP will be implemented as funding becomes available. The HLF funded Landscape Partnership will make a substantial contribution towards implementing the Destination Management Plan.

The Digital Skills programme will increase the digital skills of local businesses.

A Marketing Plan is delivered throughout the year by the LNP Marketing Officer. Main elements include:

- Destination website
- Destination Social media
- Destination E-news (stakeholder & consumer)
- Destination PR
- Destination content development

NITB strategy outlines that destinations should develop Experiential Tourism products. Potential projects for Lough Neagh include

1. Heaney Country Experience
2. Lough Neagh food experience (based on Lough Neagh eel)
3. The O'Neills
4. World War II heritage

Targets	Target date	Measurable Outputs	Measurable Outcomes
1. Delivery of Digital Business Skills programme to 10 tourism/hospitality/recreational businesses within MUDC area.	Oct/Nov 2015	Programme delivered	<p>10 tourism/hospitality/recreational businesses within MUDC will be equipped to grow their businesses through</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing online presence and becoming more competitive.</li> <li>• Finding and engaging with new customers</li> <li>• Increasing their customer base</li> <li>• Widening their geographical reach</li> <li>• Accessing new markets</li> <li>• Improving sales and profits</li> </ul>

Targets	Target date	Measurable Outputs	Measurable Outcomes
2. Continuous marketing programme including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Seasonal Events guide – 2 per year</li> <li>b. press releases – 6 per year</li> <li>c. Stakeholder newsletter</li> <li>d. Social media posts</li> <li>e. Destination competitions – 1 per year</li> </ul>	Dec 2015 Christmas & summer Quarterly Weekly April/May 2015	Marketing Programme delivered throughout year <b>Digital guide issued</b> <b>PR published</b> <b>E-newsletter issued</b> Visitors engaged (+10%) Sharable content collected (photography)	Increased profile for Lough Neagh leading to greater tourism numbers
3. Development of Lough Neagh Food programme	Throughout year April 2016	Project developed, funding identified & partners sourced	Lough Neagh will have a recognised food programme leading to enhanced economic opportunities.
4. Development of River to Lough Festival at Toome and Luminaria at Ballyronan	28 <sup>th</sup> & 29 <sup>th</sup> Aug 2015	<b>NITB Sponsorship obtained.</b> Events delivered at Toome, Ballyronan (and Portglenone).	Lough Neagh recognised as a venue for food related events.
5.			

# Heritage Lottery Lough Neagh Landscape Partnership

Current Position: Lough Neagh Partnership has secured the Development Phase of the Heritage Lottery Landscape Partnership bid and a sum of £2.58 million has been set aside for the implementation phase. A Development Manager (Gerry Darby) & an Administrator (Chie McGuckin) has been appointed to carry out this task. A Landscape Partnership Management Committee has been appointed.

The final submission to HLF is due by end July 2015. A list of projects has been drawn up for each Council area. The grant value of projects within MUDC is £798,000. Major projects include the restoration of peatland and wet grasslands in south Lough Neagh, Traad Point Nature Reserve, archaeological and access work at Ardboe Cross, visitor centre at Lough Neagh Cooperative and heritage signage.





## Environmental Co-ordination

Current Position: LNP has applied to NIEA for funding for the preliminary work for the development of Special Protection Area (SPA) Plan which would

1. Engage with the main partners who are involved in the management of the water and shoreline within the Lough Neagh SPA and ASSI area
2. Set up a stakeholder forum to collate existing information, survey shoreline habitats and investigate and record the changes to shoreline
3. Draw up maps and report showing damage and changes and make recommendations that are compliant with the protection of specific SPA and ASSI citations.
4. Investigate other potential EU funding sources including Pillar 2 of the Rural Development Programme

Targets	Target date	Measurable Outputs	Measurable Outcomes
<p><i>Subject to funding from NIEA</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Engage with all partners, including Councils biodiversity officers</li> <li>2. Set up stakeholder forum.</li> <li>3. Complete mapping exercise and compile report.</li> <li>4. Investigate other EU funding sources and partners and if appropriate, submit application.</li> </ol>	<p>Dec 2015</p> <p>Dec 2015</p> <p>March 2016</p> <p>Feb 2016</p>	<p>All management partners engaged</p> <p>Stakeholder forum established</p> <p>Mapping Exercise completed SPA Report compiled</p> <p>EU funding sources identified. Funding application developed</p>	<p>Preliminary work for the SPA Management Plan will contribute to the aim of producing an overall SPA (and SAC and ASSI) management plan for the Lough. This will provide an integrated approach for future management and will ensure that EU Directives are adhered to.</p>

## Recreational Development and Cultural Tourism

Current Position: The following studies have been completed:

1. Feasibility of dredging mouths of Upper Bann and Blackwater rivers. These studies are with DCAL and are on hold pending the setting up of the LN Trust.
2. Strategy for cultural heritage collation. This is on hold pending outcome of the setting up of the LN Trust but elements of this strategy will be delivered through the Landscape Partnership and through the new Rural Development Programme.
3. Assessing the current and potential outdoor recreation facilities and opportunities around Lough Neagh - Outdoor Recreation NI. Parts of this will be delivered by the Landscape Partnership and the new Rural Development Programme.

Targets	Target date	Measurable Outputs	Measurable Outcomes
<p>LNP target is to implement elements of the Cultural Heritage Strategy and the Outdoor Recreation Assessment as funding permits</p> <p>Secondary target is to assist local groups to implement parts of above strategies through the new RDP</p>	Throughout year	<p>Number of projects delivered</p> <p>Number of groups assisted</p>	Will lead to enhanced recreational and cultural heritage facilities.

### Liaison with new District Councils

LNP will liaise throughout the year with the 5 new District Council and will proactively engage with Councils in the development of their Community Plans.

Engage with MUDC on development of Community Plan	Throughout year	Role of LNP within MUDC Community Plan clearly defined	Needs of Lough Neagh clearly defined in Community Plan.
---	-----------------	--	---

## LN Signature project

Current Position: LNP has developed proposals for a signature project in LN area (Traad Point Nature Reserve) which would consist of a major living arts/ tourism/ environmental sculpture and a critical analysis has been carried out as part of the Traad Feasibility Study. This was generally positive. Discussions have taken place with ARTS Council NI and NITB but the project on hold due to lack of funding. The proposed LN Trust would be asked to progress this project.

### UK and Ireland Lakes Network Annual Conference

Lough Neagh Partnership has been instrumental in developing the UK and Ireland Lakes Network and attended the 2014/15 Conference in Wales

Attend 2015/16 UK and Ireland Lakes Network Annual Conference.	Date not set yet	Attendance at conference ( Venue not set yet)	Ensures co-operation with other similar lakes and projects
--	------------------	---	--

**H**

**Subject: The Clans Awaken 2016**

**Reporting Officer: Tony McCance, Michael Browne**

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To seek Council decision regarding the delivery of a joint Culture & Leisure and Business & Communities organised Council festival of activity to take place between 17 <sup>th</sup> June and 25 <sup>th</sup> June 2016 under the working title of The Clans Awaken 2016. It is intended that this proposed festival will coincide with the Official opening of the Tullaghoge Fort development and the 400 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Hugh O'Neill, the last chieftain to be inaugurated at Tullaghoge Fort 3 <sup>rd</sup> Baron of Dungannon and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Earl of Tyrone
<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	2016 commemorates the 400 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Hugh (The Great) O'Neill the last of the great Irish Chieftains to be inaugurated at Tullaghoge Fort, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Baron of Dungannon and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Earl of Tyrone. Over the last 15 month period, officers from the former legacy Councils of Cookstown and Dungannon have been liaising closely with members of the Ancient Clan O'Neill and the O'Neill Country Historical Society to mark this unique occasion with the creation of what has the potential to be an annual Mid Ulster District Council led festival of celebration of all the great clans, hence the working title, <i>The Clans Awaken</i> .
2.2	The proposed programme of activity attached highlights the broad and varied range of events and activities that have been identified to date and which will form the basis of what will be designed and promoted as being a cross community festival that celebrates both Irish and Ulster Scots Clans across the new Mid Ulster Region.
<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.1	The concept of a region wide "Clans Festival" arose following consultation with the various stakeholder groups that engaged with officers from the legacy Council's of Dungannon and Cookstown. These stakeholder groups have substantive interest and involvement in both the history and development of Tullaghoge Fort, Cookstown and The Hill of The O'Neill, Dungannon,
3.2	It is acknowledged that the 400 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passing of Hugh O'Neill is an anniversary of such significance that it warrants recognition. It is appropriate therefore that the event should take the form of a Clans festival designed to unite the wider community, a festival celebrating the

	heritage, history and culture of the region, celebrating our home grown talent, our sporting prowess centered around our key Council facilities and designed to promote an appreciation, understanding and awareness of our O'Neill heritage offering in the form of the history of Tullaghoge Fort and The Hill of the O'Neill and Ranfurly House.
3.3	The festival will be designed to appeal to both a domestic audience as well as an international audience and to be delivered on an annual basis as a key Mid Ulster District Council event
3.4	Long term planning for this scale of a festival is crucial, hence the need for Council decision 12 months in advance of the proposed dates of the festival.

<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	<p><b><u>Financial</u></b></p> <p>Officers across both Departments have identified key activities and have identified costs associated with the projects delivery. It is envisaged that the total festival can be delivered at a cost of £50, 000. While every opportunity will be explored to identify potential external funding sources, Officers have identified the following internal sources for the delivery of the nine day event (subject to budget allocations and budget approvals for 2016/17 financial year).</p> <p>Good Relations            £20,000  Culture &amp; Arts            £15,000  Events and Tourism    £15,000</p>
4.2	<p><b><u>Human</u></b></p> <p>A Staffing commitment will be required to programme and oversee delivery of key aspects of the nine day programme. This will form part of the work programme of staff across Good relations, Culture and Arts and Events and Tourism within the 2016/17 financial year</p>
4.3	<p><b><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u></b></p> <p>None identified or envisaged being required at this stage</p>
4.4	<p><b><u>Other</u></b></p> <p>None identified at this stage</p>

<b>5</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
5.1	Need to be mindful of potential for competing events and festivals to be delivered by external organisations and groups over that period in 2016.

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	Permission is sought from Council to support the delivery of the proposed Clans Awaken event in 2016 and to approve the required budget allocations for 2016/17 as identified in section 4.1 above

<b>7</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
7.1	Appendix 1 - Proposed programme of activity identified to date by Officer team under the working title "The Clans Awaken 2016"

# The Clans Awaken 2016

## Mid Ulster Council

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Reception Official Opening of Festival

Hill Walking event in Sperrins  
In the Footsteps of O'Neill

Tour of Battle of Yellow Ford site, Armagh

Raft Race/Family Day Ballyronan Marina

Schools Educational Tours Tullaghoge Fort  
Ranfurly/Hill of O'Neill

Summer Solstice Event Beaghmore—Music  
of the Ages

Talk by - Dr John McGurk &  
Dr John McCavitt, Ranfurly /Hill of O'Neill

Guided Bus Tour to Tullaghoge Fort

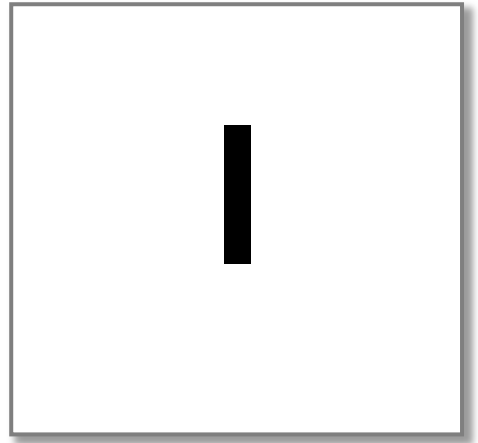
Guided Bus Tour of Ranfurly Hill of  
O'Neill

Music Performance at St Patrick's,  
Dungannon

The Clan Games (MUSA)

Closing Event at Tullaghoge Fort

<u>Frid 17th June</u>	<u>Sat 18th June</u>	<u>Sun 19th June</u>	<u>Mon 20th June</u>	<u>Tues 21st June</u>
Reception and Official Opening at Ranfurly House Arts & Visi- tor Centre	Hill Walking event in Sperrins—In the Footsteps of O'Neill	Raft Race / Boat Race at Ballyronan / Family Day / Eels & Reels	Schools Educational Tours Tullaghoge Fort Ranfurly/Hill of O'Neill	<i>Mid Summer Solstice World Music Day</i>  Schools Educational Tours Tullaghoge Fort / Ranfurly/Hill of the O'Neill  Summer solstice event at Beaghmore including Music of the Ages to celebrate World Culture Day
	Afternoon -Tour of Battle of Yellow Ford site, Armagh			
<u>Wed 22nd June</u>	<u>Thur 23rd June</u>	<u>Fri 24th June</u>	<u>Sat 25th June</u>	
Schools Educational Tours Tullaghoge Fort Ranfurly/Hill of the O'Neill	Schools Educational Tours Tullaghoge Fort / Ranfurly/Hill of the O'Neill	School Educational Tours Tullaghoge Fort / Ranfurly/Hill of the O'Neill	Street entertainment during day in main towns  The Clan Games Mid Ulster Sports Arena clubs/Clans compete for a newly commissioned <i>Aodh Mór Ó Néill</i> Trophy  Mid Ulster Sports Arena Family Fun Day (incorporate in)  Closing event Tullaghoge Fort, Music, re-enactments, banquet, living history	
Talk - Dr John McGurk and Dr John McCavitt, Ranfurly/Hill of O'Neill	Guided Bus Tour to Tullaghoge Fort  Guided Bus Tour of Ranfurly Hill of O'Neill  Music Performance at St Patricks Dungannon			



<b>Subject</b>	<b>Ballysaggart Lough, Dungannon</b>
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	<b>Nigel Hill</b>

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	Update on development proposals for Ballysaggart Lough.

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
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 are undertaken by the Ballysaggart Environment Group (BEG) whose mission is to <i>'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'</i>. 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 (Appendix 1 &amp; 2). The Chief Executive and Director of Culture and Leisure for Mid Ulster District Council attended a meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2015 with a representative of the</p>

	<p>Ballysaggart Environment Group, further understand the groups concerns and aspirations for the Lough.</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 BACA and BEG groupings will be under taken to base line a sustainable community lead approach in partnership with the Mid Ulster District Council.</p>
--	--

<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.1	Prior to the transfer of water recreation facilities to Mid Ulster District Council, Outdoor Recreation Northern Ireland (ORNI) carried out an audit of the site on behalf of DCAL. The report identified a number of areas for improvement in relation to visitor experience and facilities along with suggested potential for future recreational and educational development proposals (appendix 3).
3.2	Initial improvements identified in the ORNI report are being acted upon within existing maintenance and repair resources of the council and this will include upgraded furniture and signage, litter and Dog foul bins, fencing and lifesaving equipment. The site is visited by council staff weekly to carryout grounds maintenance and litter control.
3.3	Visitor access to the site is predominately by car, even though the Lough is a short distance from the town boundary. Fundamental consideration towards access improvements must include options linking the amenity to local communities by footpath and cycle way trails. The adjacent B45 Eglish Road is a busy traffic route to the bypass and therefore presents a barrier to pedestrian visitors.
3.4	Water quality is a concern. Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) is a chemical procedure for determining how fast biological organisms use up oxygen in a body of water. It is used in water quality management and assessment, ecology and environmental science. BOD is not an accurate quantitative test, although it could be considered as an indication of the quality of a water source. Tests conducted on the Ballysaggart Lough indicated an “extremely high” BOD score. Future management of the Lough will continue to monitor and address these issues in partnership with other statutory agencies.
3.5	Managing water access points to provide for water based recreation could have potential negative effects on the natural environment and landscape quality. Activity itself may cause disturbance to native species and associated dredging programmes may disturb aquatic species. Encouraging water related activity and tourism has the potential to increase the risk of invasive species entering the Lough. Such negative

	impacts must receive due consideration in any management plan for new developments and an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) should be part of an integrated management plan. It is important that Ballysaggart Lough and similar sites are well managed to minimise impact and any proposed future development is sustainable. The potential development of the site will depend significantly on the balance between recreational use and environmental protection, given the venues recognised importance for migratory wildfowl and habitat. However these conflicting aspects can coexist as part of a management plan.
3.6	Funding will be crucial. Identification of potential core and complimentary funding streams in partnership with community and environmental groups must be identified to achieve progress. ORNI will assist Council to source potential funds.

<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	<p><b><u>Financial</u></b></p> <p>Existing budgets can absorb initial expenditure as identified in relation to physical infrastructure £5,000 (furniture, bins and signage). Future development will require ring fenced capital resources for match funded projects.</p>
4.2	<p><b><u>Human</u></b></p> <p>Existing resources adequate.</p>
4.3	<p><b><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u></b></p> <p>The creation of a management plan can be undertaken by ORNI under present SLA agreement.</p>
4.4	<p><b><u>Other</u></b></p> <p>N/A</p>

<b>5</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
5.1	Coordination of community input through the creation of Ballysaggart Project Steering Group, facilitated by the Council and ORNI.

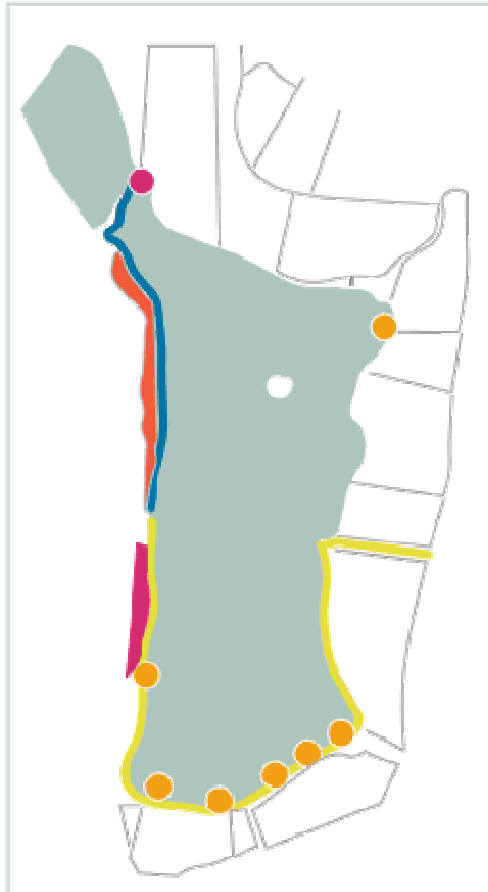
<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	Completion of initial improvements to visitor facilities and signage.
6.2	Establishment of Ballysaggart Project Steering Group.







6.3	Creation of Ballysaggart Lough Management Plan.
-----	---

<b>7</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
7.1	Appendix 1 WWT Report
7.2	Appendix 2 Development Opportunities (BEG)
7.3	Appendix 3 DCAL Audit

## Appendix 1 - WWT Report on the Lough

In 2005 the **BEG** commissioned the WWT to produce an extensive report on the state of the Lough. Everything from birds, plant life and the water quality was tested. The map below shows some of the points that raised most concern.



-  Proposed new walkway
-  Existing walkway
-  Unidentified inflow pipes
-  Outflow
-  Unidentified Land
-  Carpark

### Main Causes for concern

1. Pollution from household waste
  - phosphorous and suspended solids in all samples
  - high level of nitrate from the inlet pipe in SW corner
  - high levels of phenanthrene
  - presence of blue-green algae
  - shift away from pollution sensitive species of invertebrates as recorded in 1970
2. Neglect of water controls

3. Intensive birdfeeding (with bread)
4. Litter
5. Slurry spreading upstream from the Lough
6. Poor road drainage seeping into the lough
7. Erosion of the island
8. Lack of strategic plan for the lough
9. Conflict between education and recreation

## Recommendations

A range of options exist to improve the overall nature conservation of the Lough. The WWT recommended the following:

1. Invite landowners to join the group and work together to promote common interests
2. Reduce the source of nutrient input - reducing the risk to flora, fauna and human life
3. Promote and encourage good farming practice, reducing nutrient run-off. This will improve overall water quality.
4. Monitor vegetation and invertebrates by surveying in July/August on an annual basis. This will allow better management procedures
5. Stocking of fish should be **strongly discouraged**
6. Continue the existing management of aquatic vegetation
7. Create a dedicated bird feeding area
8. Fence off some areas of the island - reducing damage by wildfowl
9. Remove litter daily
10. Create a pond dipping platform - safe access for kids and parents
11. Produce a management plan

## For the marsh area (above the Lough)

1. Encourage no drainage
2. No cutting or grazing
3. Plant areas of scrub on perimeter to encourage nesting and reduce disturbance
4. Remove scrub from within marsh area - protecting the habitat
5. Contact Dog Warden if dog fouling occurs

## Conclusion

In conclusion the Wetlands Advisory Service said:

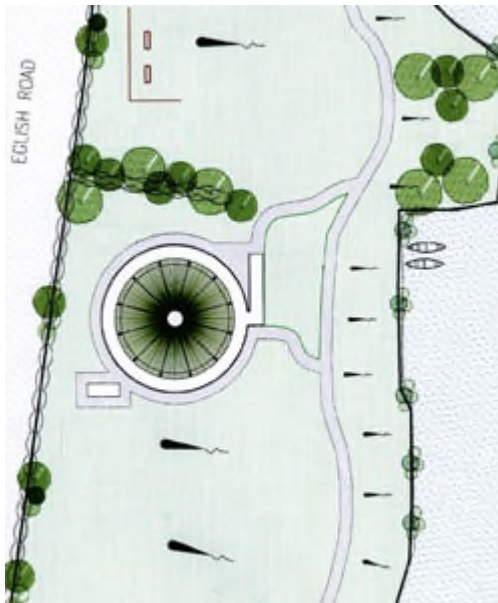
*“... the Ballysaggart (black) Lough currently supports a good diversity of aquatic, marginal and emergent plants... and important numbers of breeding and wintering birds. However it is clear that the Lough is experiencing potential water quality problems. It is essential that the sources are identified and addressed... in order to maintain and enhance the important biodiversity present in and around the Lough.”*

## Appendix 2 - Our Future Vision

We recently received the plans for our new proposed centre. Based on the Eastern shore close to the car park the centre has the potential to be the focus of all our activities in the future. From nursing injured birds, talks & lectures on flora and fauna, exhibitions and events the centre could become an invaluable resource to the whole community. This centre and our vision for it can only progress with the support and goodwill of the entire community.



How the centre will look on completion.



The proposed new centre viewed from above. The existing path will be extended and all trees and shrubs will remain in place.

### Functions of the resource centre

The resource centre proposed for Ballysaggart lough will be all of the following:

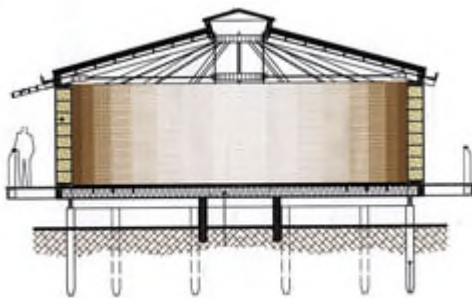
- Firstly and most importantly it will be enticing to the casual visitor;
- An educational facility for schools, wetland managers, farmers and others who are seeking a deeper understanding of wetland habitats;
- A depository of wetland information and knowledge;
- A facility for furthering wetland research;

- The start of a walking trail around the Ballysaggart lough;
- A meeting place for wetland organisation and the community group.

Developing and enhancing the resource centre on the lough shore will provide opportunities for social gain. Focus should centre on providing quality, appropriately located and well managed facilities. A concentration of people and activity could lead to habitat, species or landscape disturbance. Regular monitoring is essential to ensure that the natural, built and landscape resource is adequately conserved and maintained.

The resource/ educational facility will offer the following facilities:

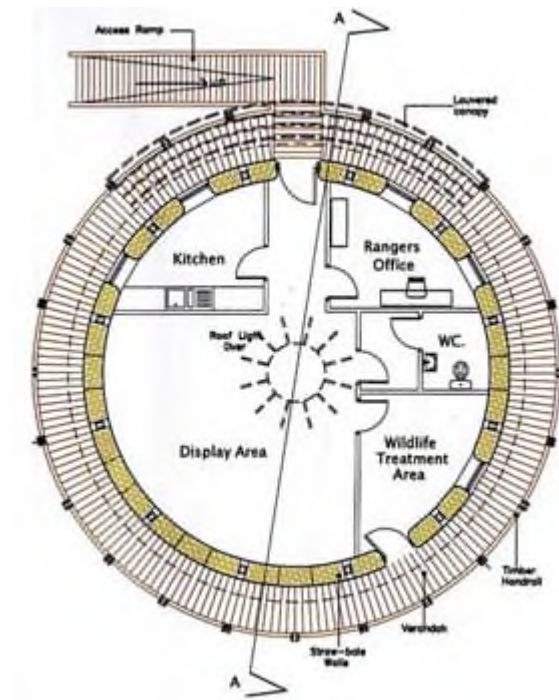
- Information boards - Pictures - Birds - Flora/fauna of the area;
- An Educational facility for schools and others interested in the area;
- Bird feeding station - Containment of the feeding areas would reduce the trampling and damage to other lake edge habitats;
- Bird hide;
- Animal sanctuary / wild life sanctuary - holding centre for injured wildlife
- Butterfly garden;
- Pond dipping platform: safe area to allow children and adults to gain easy access to the water;
- Fishing platforms;
- Recycling facilities for Paper, cardboard, glass and plastic bags.



Raised from the ground, the centre will have very little 'impact' on the actual land and will use environmentally friendly materials. Straw bales will be the main building material, light will enter the building through the atrium, making this a very low maintenance cost effective building.

### **Development of surrounding area**

Plant Scrubs - Plant areas of sympathetically placed scrub around the margins of the marsh as this would reduce any disturbance and provide habitat for reed bunting and warblers. However it has been suggested that the scrubs should be removed from within the marsh areas as this would help to retain the habitat requirement of the marsh plants, as the growth of scrub will lead to the drying out of the marsh. Trees sympathetic to the area, which will not impact on the visiting species of bird to the site.



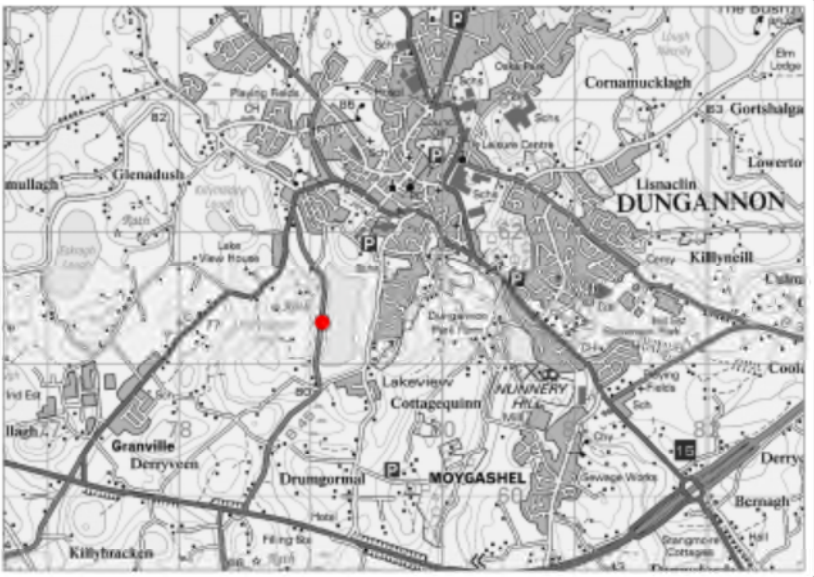
The centre will have a main conference/education room, treatment centre for injured birds, kitchen, toilets and warden's office. The raised viewing platform will have a timber hand rail and can be accessed by the disability ramp.

Appendix 3 – DCAL Audit

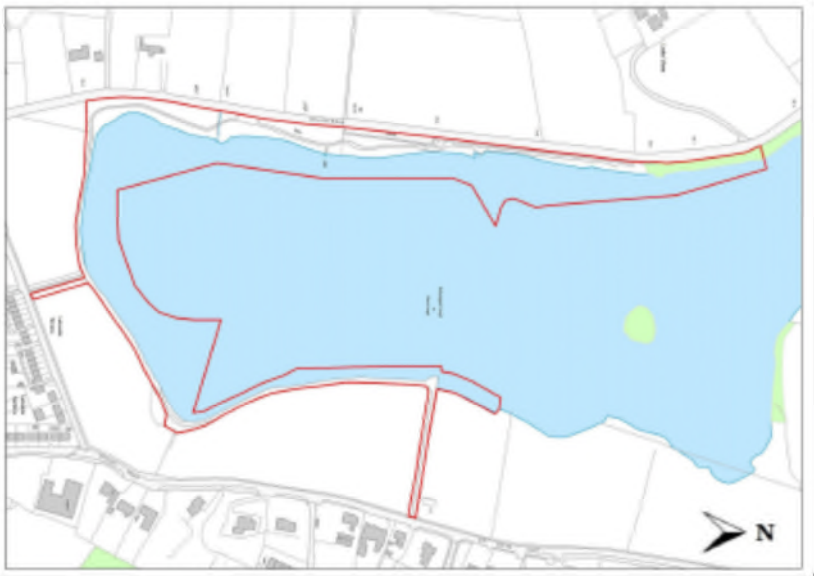
3.2 Ballysaggart Lough

Site ID	2	Water Recreation Site	Ballysaggart Lough
Grid Reference	H790613	Nearest Town	Dungannon
Region	Eastern Region, Armagh		
Contact	Jim Martin Tel: 02838300111 Ext: 33148		
Status	Leased+Owned Section		

1:15 000 Map



Site Boundary



### Type of Access

- Fishing stand ☐  
Fixed Jetty ☒  
Slipway ☐  
Canoe Steps ☐  
Informal River Bank Access ☐

### Facilities

- Car Park ☒ Bin ☒  
Toilets ☐ Fully Fenced ☒  
Cafe ☐ BBQ Facility ☐  
Picnic Tables ☒

### Signage

- Interpretation Panel ☐  
Information Panel ☐  
Deep Water Warning ☐  
Road Signs to Site ☐  
Signage on Path ☐  
Site Name ☐

### Type of recreation

- Fishing ☒  
Canoeing ☐  
Walking ☒

Comments

Cycling

### Site Accessibility

Site Accessibility

Grade 3 - due to the path being constructed with a layer of loose gravel and the presence of a ramp of over 6 degrees to access the trail from the car park (Facilities Photo 1).

### Life Ring

Life Ring:

Present

Condition of Life Ring:

Good

Comments:

6+ life rings along the walk. Some are dirty and could be cleaned (Facilities Photo 4).

### Comments

Signage is required at this site in the form of site name, road signage, information and interpretation panels. The jetty is in poor condition - it is constructed of concrete and the end is broken off, requiring attention (Facilities Photo 3).

Photo of Site 1



Photo of Site 2



Photo of Facilities 1



Photo of Facilities 2



Photo of Facilities 3



Photo of Facilities 4



## Overview

A well maintained site with a walking path, picnic facilities and benches around the Lough. Some metal benches and picnic tables require maintenance (Site Photos 1 & 2 and Facilities Photo 2).

The site is accessible from the lay by at B45 or from the other side of the Lough from the residential area. The site is currently known as a wildlife refuge, with a keen interest in the form of Ballysaggart Environmental Group. There is some scope for water based recreation development in the form of canoeing and angling facilities, this would need to be given careful consideration given the Lough's value for wildlife and within the wider community. Opportunities to link the Lough with other key recreation sites close by such as Windmill Wood and Dungannon Park to develop a community path network, should be investigated.

**J**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Brocagh &amp; District Regeneration Group</b>
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	<b>Nigel Hill</b>

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	Consideration of request from Brocagh & District Regeneration Group to have legal costs associated to lease agreement paid by Council.

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	Dungannon and South Tyrone Borough Council entered into a fifteen year lease agreement with Brocagh & District Regeneration Group for lands at Castlebay for the development of children's play facilities. A play scheme has been completed on site as planned.

<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.1	The community group has been presented with legal costs of £750.00 + VAT in relation to solicitor's advice and services associated to the transfer of land to Council.
3.2	The community Group did not request agreement from Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough Council to cover their legal costs at the time of negotiations.
3.3	The lease agreement is based on a nominal rental value.
3.4	The project at Brocagh would not have been possible without the assistance of the community group and the availability of the land at Castlebay.

<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	<p><b><u>Financial</u></b></p> <p>Expenditure of £750.00 +Vat (plus outlay if any) to cover the legal costs of community Group.</p>
4.2	<p><b><u>Human</u></b></p> <p>Existing resources adequate.</p>

4.3	<b><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u></b>
	N/A
4.4	<b><u>Other</u></b>
	N/A

<b>5</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
5.1	Community play partnership lease agreements based on nominal rental value should permit for inclusive legal costs incurred by the group to be covered by Council.

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	That legal fees to the value of £750.00 +Vat (plus outlay if any) be paid by Council as requested by Brocagh & District Regeneration Group.

<b>7</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
7.1	Appendix 1 - Letter of request from Brocagh & District Regeneration Group.  Appendix 2 – Invoice for legal fees incurred by Brocagh & District Regeneration Group

**Brocagh & District Regeneration Group (BADGER)**

Castlebay Centre, 187a Mountjoy Road, Coalisland, Co. Tyrone, BT71 5DY

Telephone: 028 87738729

19<sup>th</sup> June 2015

**Nigel Hill  
Dungannon Park  
Moy Road  
Dungannon  
BT70 6BT**

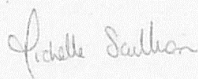
Dear Sir

**Re: Lease for play facilities at 187a Mountjoy Road, Brocagh, Dungannon**

We formally request payment to cover legal fees associated with transfer and lease of lands at Castlebay Centre, 187a Mountjoy Road, Brocagh, Dungannon for play facilities in sum of £750.00 + VAT as per the attached bill.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully



**Michelle Scullion**  
Committee Member

## APPENDIX 2

Telephone: (028) 796 32030  
Fax: (028) 796 33633

No:.....

Brocagh & District Regeneration Group

Tax Point Date

Castlebay Centre, 187a Mountjoy Road, Coalisland

.....

**Dr. to BERNADETTE MULHOLLAND, B.A., Solicitor**  
**37 KING STREET, MAGHERAFELT, CO. DERRY, BT45 6AR**

**VAT REG NUMBER: 654 0221 71**

### PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

DATE 18/6/15	RE: Lease	OUTLAY		Professional Charges		V.A.T.		
						Rate%	AMOUNT	
C2726	Professional fee in connection with all work done in relation to Lease			£750	00			
	Plus VAT					20%	£150	00
	Signed..... Bernadette Mulholland							
	<b>Professional Services</b>	£750	00					
	<b>VAT</b>	£150	00					
	<b>Total</b>	£900	00					

**K**

<b>Subject</b>	Ballyronan Marina and Battery Harbour
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Nigel Hill, Head of Parks

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	Approval to seek public tenders for the necessary works to comply with Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulation (NI) 2009 at Ballyronan Marina and Battery Harbour.

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	Northern Ireland Water conducted a survey of Ballyronan Marina in 2014. The findings of their report indicated a number of contraventions to the current legislation, which will require significant remedial works to be carried out by the council. Estimated cost £30,000
2.2	The initial inspection was carried out in June 2013. Cookstown Council plumbing contractor (Barahaven) completed some works before going in to liquidation. These works did not satisfy the requirements of Northern Ireland Water (NI Water). Subsequently Robert Greer Plumbing Services were contracted and liaised with NI Water in relation to the necessary works. Proposals made by Greer's to NI Water were not adequate to meet the regulations. It was clear that this work would have to be undertaken by a specialist company and the consultancy services of Denzyl and Dinsmore were procured to progress the scheme. The inspection and subsequent report provided by Denzyl and Dinsmore has now been forwarded to NI Water for their approval. On receipt of this approval the services of a competent/specialist contractor will be tendered in order to comply with the requirements of the legislation.

<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.1	Ballyronan Marina and Battery Harbour water management systems to mooring jetty's and caravan service pillars fail to comply with current Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations (NI) 2009.
3.2	Northern Ireland Water have given formal notice for contraventions that require to be rectified, failure to comply would be an infringement of the legislation and would lead to the closure of the identified facilities, mooring jetties and caravan park.
3.3	Immediate action is required to satisfy Northern Ireland Water that Council are responding to the issues raised in a time frame that is acceptable, whilst maintaining a service on both sites.
3.4	There is no public health concern associated to the identified contraventions.
3.5	Council have no feasible alternative but to carry out the necessary works as not to comply would render current arrangements for jetty services redundant. This would have a negative impact on the quality of service available to users at

	Ballyronan and Battery Harbour.
--	---------------------------------

<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	<p><b><u>Financial</u></b></p> <p>Estimated cost of works £30,000. This expenditure will impact significantly on the annual maintenance budget allocations for Ballyronan and Battery Harbour. Efficiencies will be identified in the current budget to compensate for the additional expense.</p>
4.2	<p><b><u>Human</u></b></p> <p>External contractor will be appointed to carry out the works.</p>
4.3	<p><b><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u></b></p> <p>Professional Mechanical Engineering Services will be consulted in relation to production of specifications and execution of tendered works in compliance with current legislation.</p>
4.4	<p><b><u>Other</u></b> - N/A</p>

<b>5</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
5.1	<p>Mid Ulster District Council will liaise closely with Northern Ireland Water to limit the level of disruption caused to regular users and visiting public associated of the necessary works. This may result in the programme of works being delayed until after the peak summer season, subject to Northern Ireland Water approval.</p>

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	<p>To seek tenders and to appoint a suitably qualified company/contractor to carry out the prescribed works as per the specification in accordance with the requirements of Water Supply (Fittings) Regulation (NI) 2009. Works to be completed at both Ballyronan marina and Battery Harbour. Estimated value of contract £30,000</p>

<b>7</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
7.1	<p>Appendix - Northern Ireland Water letter of notification and Report, Ballyronan Marina</p>

Northern Ireland Water  
Water Regulations Team  
PO Box 1026  
Belfast  
BT1 9DJ  
Tel: 08457440088  
Fax:  
www.niwater.com



**APPENDIX 1**

Cookstown District Council  
66 Burn Road  
Cookstown  
Co Tyrone  
BT80 8DT

Your Ref:

Our Ref: 17032

Date: 25th June 2013

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Ballyronan Marina & Caravan Park,  
Ballyronan, Magherafelt, Co Londonderry,  
BT45 6BP

**The Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009 –  
Statutory Inspection of Premises at**

I refer to the Water Regulations inspection carried out on 19th June 2013 at the above premises.

This inspection has shown that your installation does not comply with the requirements of The Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009.

I have enclosed a copy of the contravention report on your plumbing system. This report indicates individual appliances or fittings that, by their method of installation, do not comply with the requirements of the Water Regulations. You must therefore make arrangements to rectify these faults and **contact myself** by the date(s) shown on the report or alternatively if I am not contactable please email me at [WaterRegulations@niwater.com](mailto:WaterRegulations@niwater.com)

***You have a legal obligation to comply with the requirements of The Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009.***

***Failure to rectify these contraventions could lead to legal action or disconnection of your water supply.***

Thank you for your continuing co-operation in this matter.

Yours sincerely

Nigel Rosborough

Mob:078 25 88 26 94

**Contraventions**

Insp No./Item	Fitting	Area & Location	Date Raised	Work Due	Work Completed	Status	Risk	Waste
001/001	Pipework (No. = 1)	Tap at Caravan Park Internal						
	<b>Contravention/Notes</b>	Defective Tap	14/06/2013	06/08/2013		Active	3	Y
	<b>Rectification/Notes</b>	Repair Leak						
001/002	Pipework (No. = 1)	Jetty 1,2&3 Internal/External						
	<b>Contravention/Notes</b>	Insufficient Backflow Prevention for Category 5 Contamination Risk	14/06/2013	06/08/2013		Active	5	N
	<b>Rectification/Notes</b>	Provide backflow protection to meet fluid category risk. (Whole-site and Zone Protection).						

---

**Contraventions**

Insp No./Item	Fitting	Area & Location	Date Raised	Work Due	Work Completed	Status	Risk	Waste
001/003	Pipework (No. = 1)	New Standpipes upper car park area External						
	<b>Contravention/Notes</b>	No stop valve, double check valve or drain valve	14/06/2013	06/08/2013		Active	3	N
	<b>Rectification/Notes</b>	install stop valve, double check valve and drain valve on incoming supply						
	<b>Contravention/Notes</b>	Pipe work not Insulated	14/06/2013	06/08/2013		Active	3	N
	<b>Rectification/Notes</b>	Insulate pipework in accordance with byelaws						

**Contraventions**

Insp No./Item	Fitting	Area & Location	Date Raised	Work Due	Work Completed	Status	Risk	Waste
001/004	Hose Union Taps (No. = 1)	Boat Yard External						
	<b>Contravention/Notes</b>	No stop valve, double check valve or drain valve	14/06/2013	06/08/2013		Active	3	N
	<b>Rectification/Notes</b>	Install stop valve, double check valve and drain valve on incoming supply (some of the fittings may be installed).						
	<b>Contravention/Notes</b>	Pipe work not insulated	14/06/2013	06/08/2013		Active	3	N
	<b>Rectification/Notes</b>	Insulate pipework in accordance with byelaws						
	<b>Contravention/Notes</b>	Pipework not secured	14/06/2013	06/08/2013		Active	3	N
	<b>Rectification/Notes</b>	Secure pipework to BS6700						

Water Regulations Inspection Report

Inspection Programme: 17032

**APPENDIX 2**

Premises: BT45 6BP Ballyronan Marina & Caravan Park,  
Ballyronan Marina & Caravan Park, Ballyronan, Magherafelt, Co Londonderry,  
BT45 6BP

---

## Recommendations

No recommendations exist for this Inspection Programme

### Comments/Issues

No comments/issues exist for this Inspection Programme

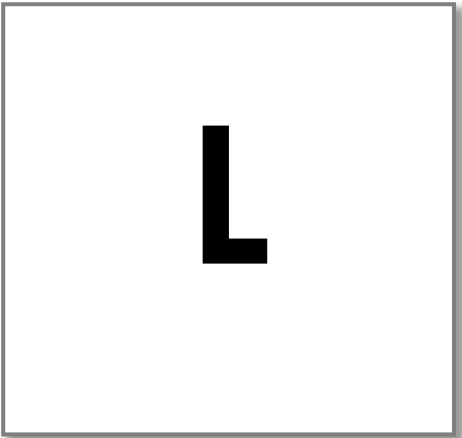
## Water Regulations Inspection Report

**Premises:** BT45 6BP Ballyronan Marina & Caravan Park  
Ballyronan Marina & Caravan Park,  
Ballyronan,  
Magherafelt,  
Co Londonderry,  
BT45 6BP

**Inspection Programme:** 17032

**Inspection Schedule at:** 25/06/2013

**Inspector(s):** Nigel Rosborough



**Subject:** Social Investment Fund Capital Build Programme for Moneymore Recreation Centre Update Report

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

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To update Members on the progress of the Social Investment Fund Capital Build Programme (SIF) for Moneymore Recreation Centre and to seek approval for CWSAN to use the same consultants for both sets of works.

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	This Report is a follow up to a previous report to Council when agreement was received for match funding to be included in Moneymore Recreation Centre's budget for the below works.
2.2	Cookstown Western Shores Area Network (CWSAN) is the lead partner in the distribution of this funding in the Mid Ulster District Council (MUDC) area and have received a Letter of Offer from SIF as such.
2.3	The projects in this District are:  Project 1: Upgrading works to Moneymore Recreation Centre and Broughderg Community Centre.  Project 2: Upgrading works to Orange Halls.
2.4	CWSAN will procure the design teams who will write the specifications along with MUDC and others to tender the works under a contractual Agreement with MUDC with regards to Project 1 only (this is subject to ratification by OFMDFM).
2.5	MUDC, Central Procurement Directorate (CPD), Strategic Investment Board (SIB), OFMDFM, CWSAN and the design teams will put together the specifications for the works.
2.6	The procurement of the construction contractors will be carried out by MUDC for Moneymore Recreation Centre.
2.7	MUDC will manage the contractors carrying out the works on Moneymore Recreation Centre.

<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.1	The Central Procurement Directorate (CPD) will oversee procurement and are presently validating the costings on Project 1.
3.2	CWSAN are seeking permission to use the same design consultants for both sets of works in Project 1 however due to the nature of the works it is anticipated that different contractors will be used to carry out the construction works.

<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	<b><u>Financial</u></b>  N/A
4.2	<b><u>Human</u></b>  N/A
4.3	<b><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u></b>  N/A
4.4	<b><u>Other</u></b>  N/A

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

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	Members are asked to agree that the Broughderg project be included in the Terms of Reference to be issued by CWSAN for procurement of the design team for Project 1 subject to CPD approval of this approach.

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

**M**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Tourism Activities – Mid Ulster Hidden Heritage</b>
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	<b>Michael Browne</b>
<b>Contact Officer</b>	<b>Mary McKeown</b>

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To report on and inform Council on the Hidden Heritage Programme to be delivered in the Mid Ulster District.

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	As part of the Councils existing activities over the years various different programmes were delivered to attract visitors to the district. This included Cookstown District Council's Hidden Heritage programme.
2.2	This year the Hidden Heritage event has been expanded to be inclusive of the new Mid Ulster District Council area, which will offer the visitor a wider and more enjoyable experience.

<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.1	To deliver a series of tours that will discover Mid Ulster District Council's Hidden Heritage, under the theme of built heritage and discovering the houses behind the legends.
3.2	To create a series of events that attracts visitors into our district to explore its natural outdoors and living history.
3.3	To tell the history of Mid Ulster's Hidden Heritage will by using characters from a by-gone age in a new series of tours.
3.4	To provide four coach tours, organised by Mid Ulster District Council that will offer the opportunity for locals and visitors alike to experience some of the region's most historic landmarks, stretching back to the times of the ancient kings of Ulster to life in an early 19 <sup>th</sup> century residence.

3.5	The first tour (18 <sup>th</sup> July) will showcase the historic Hill of the O'Neill, a highland rampart above the town of Dungannon which has been one of the most strategically important sites in the history of Ireland. Stronghold of the famous O'Neill dynasty, its view of all nine counties of Ulster enabled its occupants to command the surrounding area. At least two castles are thought to have been built on the site, as well as a grand manor house and a fortified town.
3.6	<p>The second tour (25<sup>th</sup> July) will visit Lissan House, home of the Staples family for 300 years, which shot to fame in 2003 when it reached the national final of the BBC's Restoration programme. Visitors will be taken on an unique journey through the house and the estate in the company of some characters from the past who shaped the development of the 300 acre estate.</p> <p>The third tour (15<sup>th</sup> August) will see actors bringing history to life on a tour of Killymoon Castle, when after being destroyed by fire in 1801, Colonel William Stewart built a new more imposing castle, designed by John Nash, the famous London architect.</p> <p>The final tour (22<sup>nd</sup> August) in the series is to Bellaghy Bawn, a guided tour that will reveal the history of the 'Plantation Fort' which was built in 1618 by the Vintneris Company of London and was substantially renovated in 1780s by Bishop Harvey, Earl of Bristol. It remained a family residence until 1981 and is now a visitor centre, displaying exhibits on the history of the area dating as far back to early Mesolithic man.</p>

<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	<p><b><u>Financial</u></b> The cost to run four Hidden Heritage events in Mid Ulster over July and August will be £5k.</p> <p>This event will be met within the existing tourism budget.</p>
4.2	<p><b><u>Human</u></b> A tourism staffing commitment will be required to programme and oversee delivery of the four Hidden Heritage tours.</p>
4.3	<p><b><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u></b> N/A</p>
4.4	<p><b><u>Other</u></b> N/A</p>

<b>5</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
5.1	<p>The tours take place on the following dates:</p> <p>Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July, Hill Of The O'Neill  Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> July, Lissan House  Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August, Killymoon Castle  Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> August, Bellaghy Bawn</p>
5.2	All tours cost £8 per person. Bookings can made through the Cookstown Visitor Information. Bus service will also be available.

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	Information for Council

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

**N**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Tourism Activities – Sperrintrek</b>
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	<b>Michael Browne</b>
<b>Contact Officer</b>	<b>Mary McKeown</b>

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To report on and inform Council on the Sperrintrek Hill Walking Festival to be delivered in the Mid Ulster District

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	As part of the Councils existing activities over the years various different programmes were delivered to attract visitors to the district. This included Cookstown District Council's Sperrins Hillwalking festival.
2.2	This year both the Hidden Heritage event and the Walking Festival have been expanded to be inclusive of the new Mid Ulster District Council area, which will offer the visitor a wider and more enjoyable experience.
2.3	The programme has now expanded to offer the visitor the option of an overnight package in the district. This will generate a greater economic benefit for the region and encourage more spend. The event will attract a mixed demographic and will be promoted throughout Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.
2.4	Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> September – Discover Knockmany Forest the first state forest in Northern Ireland, walkers will pass Knockmany Chambered Grave which stands on the top of Knockmany Hill located in the Clogher Valley, the 8km guided walk is graded as moderate taking you through the forest and countryside. In the evening the visitor can avail of an overnight stay in our local accommodation in preparation for the next morning's hill walk in the Sperrins.
2.5	Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> September – Lough Fea/Slieve Gallion and Iniscarn Forest  On the day there will be three walks which are graded easy, moderate and difficult they are the Lough Fea Dander (Green - 2.5 miles), Mobuy Wood Walk (Amber - 5miles) and Slieve Gallion Challenge (Red 12.5 miles). All walkers will leave from Lough Fea.

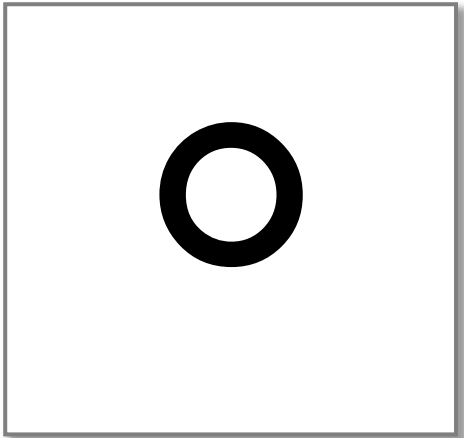
<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.1	Sperrintrek will create annual hill walking events organised by Mid Ulster Council in association with the Mid-Ulster Walking Club, with challenging walks throughout the weekend this event is the perfect opportunity to explore the Sperrin's and Mid Ulster's countryside.
3.2	On Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> September visitors will get the opportunity or take an idyllic stroll in the Clogher Valley.
3.3	On Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> September in association with Mid Ulster Walking Club step out in Lough Fea explore Slieve Gallion by choosing between three graded walks which suits all capabilities and explore the new Sperrin Gateway walks.

<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	<p><b><u>Financial</u></b> The cost to run the Sperrintrek Hill Walking Festival in Mid Ulster will be £2k.</p> <p>This event will be met within the existing tourism budget.</p>
4.2	<p><b><u>Human</u></b> A tourism staffing commitment will be required to programme and oversee delivery of the SperrinTrek Hillwalking Festival.</p>
4.3	<p><b><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u></b> N/A</p>
4.4	<p><b><u>Other</u></b> N/A</p>

<b>5</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
5.1	<p>The tours take place on the following dates:</p> <p>Sperrintrek Hill Walking Festival 26<sup>th</sup> &amp; 27<sup>th</sup> September</p>
5.2	The Sperrintrek has its own dedicated website and facebook page with online bookings available through <a href="http://www.sperrintrekkers.com">www.sperrintrekkers.com</a> , cost per walk is £8 per person.

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	Information for Council

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



<b>Subject</b>	<b>Culture and Arts Progress Report</b>
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	<b>Tony McCance, Head of Culture and Arts</b>

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To update Members of the progress being made in Culture and Arts Services and highlight events that will be occurring in the future.

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

<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.1	Full details of key elements of Culture and Arts Service provision in the last month is included at Appendix 1.

<b>4</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
4.1	<b><u>Financial</u></b>  N/A
4.2	<b><u>Human Resources</u></b>  N/A
4.3	<b><u>Assets and Other Implications</u></b>  N/A

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

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

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

## **APPENDIX 1 - Burnavon Arts & Culture Centre**

### **Events**

#### **Cookstown Comedy Festival**

Cookstown Comedy Festival was delivered over 3 days in the Burnavon (in conjunction with Tourism Service) with a headline act every night. Again the Comedy Festival was a great success and provided an opportunity for local comedians to support well established comedy acts such as Ardal O'Hanlon and Patrick Kielty. Family entertainment was provided from 1pm – 4pm at the Burnavon on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> which included street entertainment, puppetry and magic shows.

#### **Auditorium Performances**

13 performances were held in the auditorium (76% average occupancy rate)

Lissan Primary School Showcase  
Country Music Showtime  
Rapunzel  
David O'Doherty Has Checked Everything  
Ardal O'Hanlon  
Patrick Kielty – Help  
Toy Story – Holy Trinity Primary (x 4 shows)  
Let's Dance – Caroline Creggan Dance School (x 2 shows)  
Nathan Carter

#### **Studio Performances Reassembled, Slightly Askew – 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> May**

An interactive performance, "Reassembled, Slightly Askew" is an autobiographical, audio-based artwork about Shannon Yee's experience of falling critically ill with a rare brain infection and her journey of rehabilitation with an acquired brain injury.

Individually, audience members were admitted into a hospital bed and using eye masks and headphones experience being **Reassembled...** after illness.

Using cutting edge audio technology audience member experience Yee's descent into coma, her brain surgeries, her early days of rehabilitation in hospital and her re-integration into the world with a hidden disability.

This was a unique performance which was highly acclaimed by audience participating.

#### **Conference / Meetings / Classes**

The Studio, Exhibition Area and Auditorium continue to be used for conferences, meeting and classes (10 in total held between the period 25<sup>th</sup> May – 20<sup>th</sup> June).

## **Support Services (weekly activities)**

The following weekly sessions continue to be delivered as part of the Burnavon and its associated outreach programme (supported by Culture & Arts Development programmes).

- South West College
- Cookstown Folk Club
- Burnavon Writers
- Superstars Club Musical Theatre Group
- Traditional Music in Schools Projects (delivered in local primary schools)
- Léigh Leat – Reading Group (Cookstown Library)
- Reading Group – Irish Language – Institute of Irish Leadership Pomeroy
- Diploma (discussions ongoing with University about delivery of programme in September 2015).

(these activities will cease during the summer months and recommence in September).

## **Exhibitions / Visual Arts**

### **“Belonging” Exhibition – end of June**

“Belonging” is a project that showcases the individual stories of migrants in Northern Ireland through personal items, photographs and stories. The exhibition has proved very popular with visitors to the facility.

## **Ranfurly House Arts & Visitor Centre**

### **Footfall**

The footfall for Ranfurly House from 21<sup>st</sup> May to 9<sup>th</sup> June was 3,620 of which there were 5 pre booked tours / 3 coaches and 110 walk in enquiries for tours during this period.

### **Classes/Workshops**

The majority of the 8 week art courses are due to end this month. Feedback from the Tutor of the 6 week course in Mobile Photography Advanced Editing & Manipulation, which ended this week, stated that she enjoyed working with the participants and they had been really enthusiastic about the course. She was planning on delivering certificates and having a prize for the best photograph and the best edited photograph. She also praised the facilities & reception staff for their assistance.

### **Events in the Square Box in June**

Traditional Music with Jigs & Heels promoted by Brantry Bard Sessions Group 13<sup>th</sup> June.

SELB Music Service Summer Recital Concert – Hire Event 24<sup>th</sup> June

## **Disability Stakeholders Arts Programme**

Classes are underway in the following centres during June:

Sperrinview Special School - Mosaics with Hazel Busby & Textiles with Nicola Birnie.  
Willowbank Community Resource Centre – Pottery with Ciara Campbell  
Dungannon Hospice – Floral Art with Sinead Goodwin  
Ardnaskea Sheltered Accommodation, Coalisland – Reminiscence with Gwen Stevenson  
The Gateway Club – Dance with Sheena Kelly  
Parkanaur College will conclude their 6 week dance project with Sheena Kelly at end of June.

Dungannon Dance Inclusive Group will have an informal sharing at 8pm on 23<sup>rd</sup> June in Ranfurly House. An invitation has been extended to all members of the arts & disability stakeholder's group and family & friends to attend. This will give the dance group the opportunity to showcase what they have been doing throughout the year to date.

## **Dungannon History Forum**

History Forum members held their monthly meeting in Ranfurly House on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June. This month, Aidan Fee will deliver a talk on The Life and Times of 'Orange Joe' Greer in Ranfurly House.

Siobhan O'Neill from the Ancient Clan of O'Neill was in attendance at the meeting and she talked about The Clans Awaken 2016 schedule of events. The History Forum will meet again in September.

The History Forum members agreed to a charge of £3 per person being levied at the monthly history talks held in Ranfurly House. This charge will apply from September 2015.

## **Dungannon Arts Forum**

The Dungannon Arts Forum will hold a literary weekend in Ranfurly House from 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> June. Events to include a poetry evening, children's story telling, open mic night and a special outdoor performance.

## **Exhibitions**

Cookstown Artist, Briege Conway is currently exhibiting her work in Ranfurly House from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> June.

## **Venue Events Guide**

The specification for design & print of the events guide for both the Burnavon Theatre and The Hill of The O'Neill & Ranfurly House Arts & Visitor Centre for September-December 2015 & January-March 2016 has been sent to 11 print & design companies. Expressions of Interest to be received by 17<sup>th</sup> June. Assessment of submissions will take place in the Burnavon on 23<sup>rd</sup> June.

## **Education**

The Education Programme of Events for 2015-16 at The Hill of The O'Neill & Ranfurly House Arts & Visitor Centre has been sent to all schools and colleges in the Mid Ulster District Council area and several bookings have been taken by the Reception staff in Ranfurly House.

## **Tullaghoge Fort Development**

Archaeologists continue to be onsite in preparation of site develop works. Recently Archaeologists have found decorated pottery which could be over 7,000 years old as well as flint artefacts which hint at ancient human habitation on the site.

Following the finds Minister of the Environment Mark H. Durkan visited the site on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June with officials from DoE Historic Monuments Division to discuss the archaeology with the Chair and Officers of Mid Ulster District Council and other invited guests.

## **Re-imaging Communities**

Work continues on both re-imaging projects.  
Progress to date:

### **PARKVIEW**

- Land Transfer from NIHE to MUDC finalised
- Technical Approval given for artwork
- Access to land granted
- Artwork completed – ready for installation
- Foundations in on 17.6.15, artwork installed on 23.6.15
- Launch event on 25.6.15 – invitations out and plans ongoing

### **LOUP**

- Technical approval papers submitted – awaiting final decision
- Land Transfer in progress
- Artwork completed – ready for installation
- Installation and launch dates pending

## **July Concert Celebrations**

The annual July Concert Celebrations will be held in the Burnavon on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July.

## **Traditional Music Summer School**

Recruitment for the annual “Traditional Music Summer School” is ongoing. This is an extension of the programme delivered in schools within the former Cookstown District. Tutor Donald Canavan will deliver classes in tin whistle, mandolin and guitar.

## **Seal Spraoui**

Preparations are ongoing for the annual summer school to be held in the Burnavon in July.

## **Sperrinview**

Sperrinview Special School will celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in September and work produced through the arts & disability stakeholders' programme will be showcased at this event, which is taking place in Ranfurly House on Friday 25 September.

## **Equality Impact Assessment – Irish Language Policy**

The consultation process is currently underway and will close in September. Staff and Councillors have been requested to provide feedback on the draft policy.

## **Seamus Heaney Centre**

Arts & Culture and Educational Staff have now visited twenty schools and colleges as part of a comprehensive engagement programme on the Seamus Heaney Project. Schools and colleges are in the main from the immediate catchment areas of Bellaghy, Castledawson, Magherafelt, Portglenone and Maghera. Each school has also been contacted by letter and will be sent updates on the progress of the centre and the proposed pre-opening education programme at regular intervals.

**P**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Community Development Section Update</b>
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	<b>Claire Linney, Head of Community Development</b>

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To update on progress relating to the Community Development Section.

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	<p>An update is provided on the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Support – Grants, Community Support</li> <li>• PCSP</li> <li>• DSD Neighbourhood Renewal</li> <li>• Community Planning (facilitation for Council)</li> </ul> <p>Other areas as per individual reports.</p>

<b>3</b>	<b>Update</b>
3.1	<p>Community Support The Community Grant Letters of Offer have been issued.</p> <p>Officers are continuing to support communities with village planning and funding as requested.</p>
3.2	<p>PCSP The interim transitional plan is currently being delivered. The PCSP Partnership is constituted as of the 25<sup>th</sup> June. Induction events for PCSP members (Council, Voluntary and Designated members) are being delivered by the Policing Board on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> June.</p> <p>The Letter of Offer is still outstanding and cannot be issued until the Joint Committee of the Policing Board and DoJ receive finalised expenditure budgets.</p>
3.3	<p>Neighbourhood Renewal Ongoing arrangements are taking place for the Pride of Place Awards. The judging panel will visit the projects on the 4<sup>th</sup> September.</p> <p>The statistical analysis for a Disadvantage and Poverty Programme for Mid Ulster is currently being complete and will then be presented to Members for discussion.</p>
3.5	<p>Community Planning The event with the statutory agencies on 4<sup>th</sup> June was very successful with 22 organisations represented. At the event organisations suggested that follow up meetings be arranged on a thematic basis to consider the key priorities for Mid Ulster; these are to be arranged for September/October.</p> <p>The DoE has confirmed that they plan to have the Community Planning Guidance to Councils at the beginning of July. The Partners Order is anticipated after the summer as further information has been requested by the Committee. All partners have</p>

	committed to participate in a voluntary basis until the Order is in place.
<b>4</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
4.1	<b><u>Financial</u></b>  None.
4.2	<b><u>Human resources</u></b>  None
<b>5</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
5.1	None
<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	To note the update on Community Development as outlined above. .
<b>7</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
7.1	None

**Q**

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>The EARLs Project</b>
<b>Reporting Officers</b>	<b>Claire Linney, Head of Community Development</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Catherine Fox, Earls Project Manager</b>

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To update Members on the EARLs Project Peace Events.

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	The legacy Council of Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough Council successfully received Peace III Shared Space funding of £7,372, 893, in partnership with STEP, to deliver three shared space schemes across Dungannon town.
2.2	The schemes include: An events space at Hill of The O'Neill, a linear pathway around Dungannon town and a new community building at Railway Park/Beechvalley.
2.3	As part of the Letter of Offer, Mid Ulster District Council has to provide two – three key events on locations along the developed linear pathway and event space at Hill of the O'Neill. Themes for the events are to include; Culture, Heritage, Lifestyle, Diversity and Environment.

<b>3</b>	<b>Update</b>
3.1	<p>The three events that will be delivered as per Letter of Offer, which have been agreed by the funders, SEUPB, are as detailed below:</p> <p>The Hill of The O'Neill Event Space – A celebration of local music talent on Hill of The O'Neill, on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2015, incorporating a showcase of local talent, with headline performance by Dungannon native Tony Watkins.</p> <p>The Linear Pathway – Development of an environmental and heritage learning activity resource; including, trail maps and information points to encourage local communities to use the Path and link to Council open recreational spaces.</p> <p>Railway Park – A celebration of music at Railway Park, on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2015, incorporating headline artists with support by local musicians.</p> <p>All the events are aimed at promoting the Earl's project and the developments at key locations along the Path.</p> <p>Project celebration to profile the completion of the Project, on 23<sup>rd</sup> September at Ranfurly House.</p>

<b>4</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
4.1	<p><b><u>Financial</u></b></p> <p>All of the events and activities are 100% funded under Peace III as per the Letter of Offer. The total allocation to all events, and marketing and promotion of the Project is £100,000.</p>
4.2	<p><b><u>Human resources</u></b></p> <p>None.</p>

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

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	None

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

**R**

**Subject:** Leisure Services Progress Report

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

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

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

<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.1	<p>Full details of key elements of Leisure Service provision in the last month is included in Appendix 1. A summary of key highlights is provided below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Felix Triathlon.</b> A total of 51 competitors took place in the inaugural event of the Felix Triathlon Super Sprint Series. The event took place in Dungannon Leisure Centre pool and the surrounding roads. The 2nd event in the series took place on the 20th June.</li> <li>• <b>MUSA Family Fun Day.</b> The Annual MUSA Family Fun Day took place on Saturday 27th June from 1-4pm. There was a wide range of activities and attractions for all the family as well as organised games in Soccer, GAA, Cage Sports and Boccia.</li> <li>• <b>Evolve Fitness, Cookstown Leisure Centre.</b> During the months of June and July the Little Ray of Sunshine Promotion is offered whereby members get 2 months free on all cash memberships taken out and 1 month free on all direct debit memberships.</li> <li>• <b>Dungannon Leisure Centre Primary School Gala.</b> On 3rd June the swimming teachers organised a hugely successful gala for all the local schools who had participated in lessons this term.</li> <li>• <b>Meadowbank Sports Arena.</b> On Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June the Active Communities Multi Skills coach ran a Primary Schools Fit 4 Life Fun Day. Over 330 children attended from local schools.</li> </ul> <p>A range of events and activities will be provided in Leisure Service across Mid Ulster in future months. A summary is included in Appendices 2 and 3.</p>

<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	<b><u>Financial</u></b>  N/A
4.2	<b><u>Human</u></b>  N/A
4.3	<b><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u></b>  N/A
4.4	<b><u>Other</u></b>  N/A

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

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

<b>7</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
7.1	Appendix 1 – Key elements of Leisure Service provision in the last month.
7.2	Appendix 2 – Future events and activities to be provided in Leisure Services.
7.3	Appendix 3 – Leisure Services Summer Programme

## **Appendix 1 – Key Elements of Leisure Service Provision in the last month**

### **Sports Development**

#### **Primary School Gala**

A very successful Primary School Gala took place in Dungannon Leisure Centre. Eight schools attended with 80+ children taking part in a range of swimming events. The overall competition was won by St Johns Primary School Moy. Children were delighted to receive their winning medals from Chairperson, Cllr Linda Dillon.

#### **Felix Triathlon**

A total of 51 competitors took place in the inaugural event of the Felix Triathlon Super Sprint Series. The event took place in Dungannon Leisure Centre pool and the surrounding roads. The 2nd event in the series took place on the 20th June.

#### **School Swimming**

Currently 36 pre-booked 30 minute sessions of school swimming are taking place. This accounts for 1,065 children from 18th May – 19th June. The School Swimming Programme recommences in September 2015.

#### **Mid Ulster Sports Arena (MUSA)**

MUSA can report another very busy month with use of the facilities for team bookings, schools events and casual users. The Mid Ulster Pipe Band Championships on 6 June attracted an estimated 4,000 people to MUSA. Event organisers congratulated the management and staff on the excellent facilities and customer service on the day.

During June 2015 the following events took place at MUSA as well as block bookings and casual bookings

Mid Ulster Pipe Band Competition	4,000
Ulster Colleges Ladies Tournament	300
Ulster Colleges Football Blitzes	500
IFA Centre of Excellence	150
Centre of Excellence Festival Day	300
Acorn Athletics Couch to 5K Programmes twice weekly	100
Park Run every Saturday morning at 9.30am	60
Northern Trust Regional Sports Day for those with a disability	100

Usage of the Trim Trail by walkers and runners continues to increase especially with the recent good weather

#### **Street League**

The competition continued throughout June 2015 with two games each evening – one at Fairhill and one at MUSA. The final remains on course to be played on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2015.

## Pitch Maintenance

Pitch Maintenance at MUSA has commenced with verti draining and sand dressing carried out by W M Landscapes at the beginning of June. Pitch 2 closed at the end of June for six to eight weeks to allow directing seeding and goal mouth repairs.

Pitches at Beechway and Moneymore remain closed with Fairhill pitches to close at the beginning of July and work will be carried out and complete before the start of the soccer season in the middle of August.

## MUSA Park Run

Park Run recently celebrated their second birthday; they currently have around 150 registered runners with 60 competitors every Saturday. This event is staffed entirely by volunteers.

## Active Communities

The Mid Ulster District Council Active Communities team continues to perform exceptionally well and on target to achieve all its Key Performance Indicators. This continues to be a major participation programme with 1,678 people taking part in the programme and over 170 hours of physical activity delivered during the month of June.

Please see the table below for a complete breakdown:

Indicator	ALL
1. Total number of full time equivalent coaches/leaders employed	7
2. Total number of participants	1678
3. Number of participants that are female	950
3a. % of participants that are female	55.5
4. Number of participants that have a disability	459
4a. % of participants that have a disability	22.12
5. Number of participants that are older people	560
5a. % of participants that are older people	21.92
6. Total No. of coaching hours	173.83

A replacement for Ruth Bell (Active Communities Football Coach) has been recruited; he will start at the beginning of July.

## MUSA Family Fun Day

The Annual MUSA Family Fun Day took place on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June from 1-4pm. There was a wide range of activities and attractions for all the family as well as organised games in Soccer, GAA, Cage Sports and Boccia.

The day has been advertised in the local press, social media and leaflets delivered to all the schools. All activities on offer will be free.

### **IFA Masters Football Tournament**

This IFA organised event took place on 3<sup>rd</sup> June on the synthetic pitches at MUSA with almost 20 teams, both male and female from across Northern Ireland taking part. The chairperson of the Mid Ulster Council was in attendance at this event for over 35s was the first of its kind in the region and attracted past international players. The event was a great success and it is planned to host a similar event next year.

### **Lafarge Health & Physical Activity Event**

On Thursday 11 June MUSA Strength & Conditioning Coach Stefan Kerr delivered a comprehensive presentation to the staff of Lafarge. Stefan outlined the importance of physical activity and demonstrated simple exercises that the employees could undertake each day that would improve their health & wellbeing. The event was very well received from the large number of employees in attendance.

### **Cookstown Wheelie Active Sports Club**

A new Programme that has been very successful is the Cookstown Wheelie Active Sports Club which is a New Multi-Skills and Sports Club which is open to boys and girls aged 5 years + with a physical disability. Following 6 weeks of coaching from Active Communities Coach Kathleen Brogan, more than 16 people with physical disabilities from across the Mid Ulster area took part each week. The programme ended on Mon 15<sup>th</sup> June with a festival of games in wheelchair rugby, basketball and football. Participants learnt wheelchair skills such as how to control and manoeuvre their sports chairs.

### **Leisure Facility Based Activities**

#### **Cookstown Leisure Centre**

#### **Cookstown Leisure Centre Drop In Classes and Courses**

The Drop-In Classes below are offered to the general public and also to Total Evolve Members as part of their membership package. The classes are continually under an internal review to monitor usage and to amend and update the programme on offer.

<b>CLASSES</b>	<b>NUMBERS</b>
CIRCUITS	37
BOXERCISE	24
SPIN & KETTLE BELLS	28
KETTLE BELLS	32
SPINNING	91
ZUMBA	49
LIFT & SCULPT	22

SPIN & TONE	17
AQUA FIT	19
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>319</b>

Currently three 06.30am early morning classes are offered to coincide with earlier Fitness Suite and Pool openings. Each class offers a range of styles and intensities to suit users from the beginner to the more advanced. The summer programme of classes will be downscaled; those which are still performing well will be offered over the summer months.

Enrolment based courses are also available for Hatha Yoga, Jive Dance and Recreational Gymnastics.

The previously reported courses are still active as listed below:

<b>Course Title</b>	<b>No. Courses</b>	<b>Total Users Per current courses</b>
Ashtanga Yoga	2	15
Jive Dance	1	8
Recreational Gymnastics.	2	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>53</b>

## **Gymnastics**

Gymnastics has now concluded at the Leisure Centre, switching to Moneymore Recreation Centre over the next six weeks.

## **Cookstown Swimming Club**

Cookstown Swimming Club have just won Division Two of the "Provincial Town League", and next season will move up to Division One with the top clubs in Ulster.

## **Evolve Fitness Suite**

During the month of May a fitness challenge was held to help keep members motivated and focused on a specific exercise goal. The exercise bike was selected as the piece of equipment and this is because traditionally May is the month that the first of the major Grand Tours of the cycling world takes place – The Giro d'Italia. Two levels were offered to ensure that everyone was capable of taking part and it was themed on a local aspect naming it "Cycle the Lough". Level 1 was 180km in duration which equates to 1 entire lap of Lough Neagh and Level 2 was 280km. Members had their distances recorded on each visit over the 4 weeks of May and those that completed the challenge were rewarded with a £15 sportswear voucher for the Intersport Superstore in Cookstown.

During the months of June and July the Little Ray of Sunshine Promotion is offered whereby members get 2 months free on all cash memberships taken out and 1 month free on all direct debit memberships. Also during July and August another members challenge takes place, evolve FITNESS Triathlon Challenge with two levels to ensure that everyone is capable of taking part. The Beginners Level will see members Row 20km, Cycle 30km and Run 10km. the Advanced

level will see members Row 50km, Cycle 60km and Run 30km. Members will have their distances recorded on each visit over the 6 weeks and those that complete the challenge will be rewarded with a £15 sportswear voucher for the Intersport Superstore in Cookstown.

## **Moneymore Recreation Centre**

### **Events/Activities**

The local schools programme has now finished for the summer, but will resume in September with planned “Recreational Gymnastics” to be on offer during the first term. Over the school terms all schools supported the range of activities on offer. The programmes were supported with the Council’s partnership “Active Communities programme” which provided complimentary coaches from “MUSA” for a range of sporting disciplines e.g. multi – skills, gymnastics, soccer, basketball and gymnastics.

Two new courses of gymnastics for children aged 6-12 yrs olds are now running for 6 weeks on Thursday 4.30-5.30pm and 5.30-6.30pm, instructor Joe Lagan. Both courses are fully booked with 40 children attending, and a further 10 on a waiting list.

The following classes are still continuing to take place at Moneymore over May and into June. However the classes will cease over the summer months:

### **Pilates Fitness Classes**

A Pilates class has continued at Moneymore Recreation Centre during May and June 2015. The class takes place on Monday’s 6.15pm-7.15pm, at a cost of £27.00 for the 6 weeks. On average five people have been attending each class, and have found them beneficial and enjoyable. The facility is limited to the actual numbers that can participate in these types of class to 8/10 candidates.

### **Yoga**

The 5 week Yoga class (external hirer) at Moneymore Recreation Centre continues.

### **Kettle Bells**

The Kettle Bells programme continues at Moneymore Recreation Centre. The numbers attending were 10 people.

### **Outdoor MUGA (Tennis Courts)**

The Outdoor Tennis Courts and Basketball/Football area continues to be popular with the local community. The recent period of good weather has seen a noticeable increase in the use of the tennis courts and Playpark. Last year the area proved very popular with adults and children playing tennis and basketball during the day and in the evening.

## **Outdoor Soccer Pitch**

The current soccer season has now ended at Moneymore. The Council have recently accommodated a gospel mission on the pitch for two weeks from Sunday 19th April to Sunday 3rd May 2015.30pm. The organiser erected a large marquee on the field.

## **Dungannon Leisure Centre**

### **Fitness Classes/Courses**

A comprehensive range of classes caters for customers of all fitness levels. These all fall under the 'Fitness Worx' umbrella and include -Spinning, Circuit Training, Step Aerobics, Yoga, Pilates, Cardio Box, Totally Toned, The Ultimate Worx and Run DLC, a new class that we have started to cater for the demand created by our successful 'Couch To 5K' programme. The Teen Fit programme aimed for 13 -15 year olds has been extended for July and August to encourage young people to partake in fitness activities.

### **In-House Clubs**

Dungannon Leisure Centre continues to provide a home to many local clubs in the area including: 50+, Special Olympics, Fit4U, Tyrone Towers Basketball Club, Dungannon Amateur Swimming Club, Dungannon Sub-Aqua Club, Ren Bu Kan Judo Club, Cobra Kai Karate Club, Dungannon Ju-Jitsu Club, Tae Kwon Do Club, Dungannon Gymnastics Club and the ever popular Monday Night ladies Swimming Club.

### **Events**

The following events took place during the month of June:

#### **Sperrinview Swimming Gala on 2<sup>nd</sup> June**

The local Special School with the help of our staff organised a very successful Gala for several Special Schools from Armagh, Newry and Cookstown among others.

#### **Primary School Gala on 3<sup>rd</sup> June**

The swimming teachers organised a hugely successful gala for all the local schools who had participated in lessons this term.

#### **Christy Moore Concert on 12<sup>th</sup> June**

The Leisure Centre hosted the ever popular Christy Moore. Over 700 attended this concert and very positive feedback was received from Aiken Promotions and Christy Moore about the venue, staff and our stewarding of the event.

## **Disability Sports N.I. Swimming Gala on 14<sup>th</sup> June**

The Centre hosted another very well attended event in the pool organised by Disability Sports N.I.

## **Felix Super Sprint Triathlon Series (Race 2) on 20<sup>th</sup> June**

The second race in the three race series took place on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June at Dungannon Leisure Centre. A limited number of entries were still available for this event on the day. The shorter distance suited the complete beginner and yet still test the seasoned veteran.

## **School of Aquatics.**

From 28<sup>th</sup> May until the 7<sup>th</sup> June, there were 468 spaces available for people to book swimming lessons for the term of 8<sup>th</sup> June to 11<sup>th</sup> July. During this period 412 places filled. This was the final five week block before the popular summer swimming programme commences. The summer programme caters for adults and children in group based lessons or 1-1's.

In addition, during this month, the school of aquatics had 20 children who came through our swimming programme and successfully passed Dungannon Swimming Clubs swim test on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> June. Both parents and children were delighted and praised the centre's swimming staff and lesson structures. Regarding rookie lifesaving 19 rookies completed skills and activities which earned them certificates and awards ranging from bronze to gold.

## **Outdoor Leisure Facilities**

### **Davagh Forest Trail**

May Updated Figures for Davagh Forest Trails:

#### **Climbing Wall (Rock & Go)**

<b>Davagh Forest Trails</b>	<b>Car park</b>	<b>Trails</b>	<b>Pump Track</b>	<b>Running Trails Total</b>
April to June 2013	6,933	6,307	N/A	6,307
July to Sep 2013	5,453	6,385	256*	12,692
Oct to Dec 2013	4,019	5,148	2,425	17,840
Jan to Mar 2014	3,788	4,130	1,646	21,970
April to June 2014	5,942	5,101	2,383	27,071
July to Sept 2014	5,378	5,162	2,464	32,233
Oct to Dec 2014	5,020	3,754	1,553	35,987
Jan to March	4,675	3,577	1,283	39,564
Total	41,208	39,564	15,010	

The climbing wall has been out during June, where it was deployed very successfully on two occasions as follows:

Venue	Date	Numbers
MeadowBank Sports Arena – Straw Festival	6 <sup>th</sup> June 2015	Approximately 500 children put through the wall over a 4 hour period
St Peters Primary School - Moortown	13 <sup>th</sup> June 2015	Approximately 400 children put through the wall over a 4 hour period

The climbing wall staff have received positive feedback from visiting public and other Council Officers during the visit. The climbing wall location had to be switched to the inside arena at short notice due to high winds but the facility was able to accommodate the wall and access by the vehicle was not a problem.

Climbing Walls Bookings	
McCloskey International (Family Fun Day)	20 <sup>th</sup> June 2015
Mid Ulster Sports Arena	27 <sup>th</sup> June 2015
Lough Neagh Rescue	26 <sup>th</sup> July 2015

The additional equipment to cater for younger children using the wall and potential school use has now arrived. A request by one of our instructors to purchase full body safety harness for the smaller children, is currently being investigated. These were used by the instructor during a visit to an outdoor pursuits site at Bushmills.

### **Fairhill Play Park/Bowling Pavillion**

All facilities at the Fairhill are now in operation, the final clean of the tennis court has taken place and is ready for hire. The annual tennis camp took place on 29<sup>th</sup> June, however a change of times has had to take place due to local schools closing later for summer holidays. The camps will now take place in the afternoons with two sessions:

- 3:30pm to 5:30pm for 7yrs to 10yrs
- 6:30pm to 8:30pm for 11yrs to 14yrs

Currently the courses have 26 children enroled, with 34 space still available. It is hoped that a planned leaflet drop to schools this week will assist in filling spaces on both courses.

### **Cookstown and Fairhill Bowling Clubs**

Minor issues with both clubs seemed to have been resolved, although recent comments by an individual club member has warranted another meeting with both club chairpersons.

## **Gortgonis Fitness Centre**

Summer opening hours came into effect from next 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2015 the fitness suite will be open from 9.00am – 1.00pm Tuesday, 1.00pm – 3.00pm Wednesday and 9.00 – 1.00pm Thursday. The facility remains popular with 208 users availing of the service in the first two weeks of June.

## **Meadowbank Sports Arena**

Meadowbank Sports Arena was well used during June, particularly facilitating special events/bookings. Some of the notable bookings are as follows:

### **Acorn Athletic Club**

The Acorns Athletic Club “Couch 2 5K” Programme continued throughout June on Monday and Wednesday evenings. The programme has continued to exceed our wildest expectations with an average of 300/350 participants each evening.

### **Ulster Rugby**

Ulster Rugby continue to base one of their Regional Youth Squads at the Arena and used the facilities six times during the month (with an average of 80 participants at each session). The facility continues to be used by Magherafelt Sky Blues FC, including a Fun Day on 14<sup>th</sup> June (with around 300 participants).

### **School Sports Days**

The Arena facilitated the following school sports days during the month: County Derry Schools Regional Athletics Championships (130); Woods PS Sports Day (200); Magherafelt High School Soccer Tournament (100); Holy Family PS Senior Sports Day (220) and Junior Sports Day (280); Kilronan School Sports Day (200). The following schools had “fun days” at the Arena during June: Knockloughrim Campus (150), Magherafelt High School (twice – 100 each visit), St. Mary’s GS (twice – 200 & 300), Holy Family PS (75), and Gael Scoil (50).

### **Straw Festival**

The Arena was very busy on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June hosting the highly successful Annual Straw Festival. There was over 1,500 visitors.

### **Sperrin Harriers**

On Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June Sperrin Harriers ran a “Stunners and Runners” Road Race event. The race had 350 lady competitors taking part. It was an incredible achievement for the Sperrin Harriers to attract 350 female runners to their event, and this was a likely spin-off from the very popular Couch 2 5K Programme (organised by Acorns Athletic Club).

## **Youth Fun Night**

During the month the Arena hosted the First Presbyterian Youth Fun Night (150); Moyola Park FC U18's V Derry U18's on the 3G Pitch; and facilitated 11 parties.

## **Fit 4 Life Fun Day**

On Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June the Active Communities Multi Skills coach ran a Primary Schools Fit 4 Life Fun Day. Over 330 children attended from the following schools: New row PS, St. John's PS Swatragh, Anahorish PS, Spires IPS, St. Mary's PS Bellaghy, Crossroads PS, Castledawson PS, Woods PS, Desertmartin PS, and St. Trea's PS. Ulster rugby coaches were present as well as the Golf Professional, Tony Mulholland.

## **Maghera Leisure Centre**

Like Meadowbank SA Maghera Leisure Centre remained well used during May. The following items are of particular note:

### **School Trips**

During the month the centre hosted 8 school trips and 25 Birthday parties. It also facilitated a visit to the Pirates Soft Play Area, organised by the Angel Wishes Charity Group for a local family.

### **Birthday Parties**

During June the centre hosted 25 birthday parties/group visits to the Pirates Soft Play Area; a new Tae-Kwan-Do class commenced; it hosted the Causeway Rural & Urban Network's conference on "Self Harm & Alcohol on 18<sup>th</sup> June; and ran a well-attended week of Boot Camps from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> June. The centre also received bookings for school sports days at Boyne Row Soccer Pitch from Castledawson PS and New Row PS.

## **Tobermore Golf Centre**

The Golf Centre remained well used during June. The following items are of particular note:

### **Get into Golf**

The Ladies "Get Into Golf" Class finished during the month. The course was well-attended and a positive spin-off from the course has been that many of the ladies are now visiting the Golf centre on their own.

## **Short Game Course and Children's Academy Club**

Currently the centre also runs a Short Game Course and Children's Friday Academy Club which has an average of 20+ children taking part.

## **Appendix 2 - Future events and activities to be provided in Leisure Services**

### **Events at Davagh Forest Trails**

Event	Organisation/Club	Date
Davagh Enduro	Michael Regan	27 <sup>th</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup> June 2015
16 mile OBrien Challenge	Sperrin Harriers and David Obrien	25 <sup>th</sup> July 2015
Volunteer Evening	MUDC and MBNI	28 <sup>th</sup> July 7-9pm
Motor Rally	Magherafelt Motor Club	Provisional date of 21 <sup>st</sup> Nov 2015

### **MUSA**

MUSA and Sports Development staff are involved in the organising and delivery of the following events:

- Street League – 1 June to 4 July 2015 (24 teams)
- Lough Neagh Triathlon - 15 August
- Ulster Rugby Underage Training Weekend – 3 and 4 July
- Molesworth Presbyterian Church Summer Bible Club and Soccer Coaching
- The Zacchaeus Project (Soccer Camp with Liverpool Coaches)
- IFA Soccer Camp
- Lough Neagh Triathlon - 15 August
- It is hoped that Mid Ulster Sports Arena will host a round of the NI Cross Country Championships 2015/16.

### **Dungannon Leisure Centre**

#### **Summer Scheme**

Preparations are progressing well for 'Summer Scheme 2015' from 20<sup>th</sup> July to 21<sup>st</sup> August, Monday to Friday from 9.45am to 12.15 for 8-11 years. Summer Scheme activities include Basketball, Table Tennis, Swimming, Football, art & craft Badminton and much more.

Felix Triathlon Super Sprints Series is taking place on the 22<sup>nd</sup> Aug.

#### **Classes**

Teen Blast is a new exercise class for 13-15 year olds, starting on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July the class will run for five weeks Monday and Wednesday from 2.00pm-3.00pm. This exercise class is designed to help and inspire teens to enjoy fitness at all levels.

## **Tobermore Golf Centre**

Dates of upcoming activities.

30th June – 2nd July – Junior Golf Camp, 09.45 – 12.45

Beginning Tuesday 21st July: Beginners Course, 6-weeks, 7 – 9 pm

Beginning Thursday 23rd July: Short-Game, 6-weeks, 7 – 9 pm

28th July – 30th July: Junior Golf Camp, 09.45 – 12.45

11th August – 13th August: Junior Golf Camp, 09.45 – 12.45

25th August – 27th August: Junior Golf Camp, 09.45 – 12.45

Beginning Thursday 3rd September: Improvers Course, 6 weeks, 7 – 9 pm

## **Summer Programme**

Please see Appendix 3 for details on Leisure Services Summer Programme.

## **Rock n Go Climbing Wall**

Bookings are currently being taken via XN software at Moneymore Recreation Centre with bookings taking place starting in early June:

- St. Mary's P.S. (Fun Day)
- Lough Neagh Rescue

**NB. Other up-coming events have already been highlighted in last month's Report.**

[midulstercouncil.org](http://midulstercouncil.org)

Mid Ulster Summer Activities Programme

# Hello Summer!

27th June - 31st August 2015



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

# Welcome to the Mid-Ulster District Council Sport, Leisure, Culture and Arts Summer Programme for 2015

Inside you will find a variety of activities and coaching opportunities for young people throughout the district during the Summer Holidays. All activities will be led by fully qualified staff that will ensure that participants have a fun, stimulating and enjoyable experience in a safe, structured environment.

Bookings are on a first come, first served basis, therefore any postal/email bookings cannot be guaranteed.

\*Please check the location for enrolment for each camp.

Facilities included in this booklet are:

### Cultural venues:

- Burnavon Arts and Cultural Centre, Cookstown
- Ranfurly House and Hill of the O'Neills, Dungannon
- The Bridewell, Magherafelt

### Leisure Centres:

- Cookstown Leisure Centre, Cookstown
- Dungannon Leisure Centre, Dungannon
- Greenvale Leisure Centre, Magherafelt
- Maghera Leisure Centre, Maghera

### Sports facilities:

- Meadowbank Sports Arena, Magherafelt
- Mid-Ulster Sports Arena, Cookstown
- Moneymore Recreation Centre, Moneymore
- Tobermore Golf Centre, Tobermore



**limited  
places**  
**book  
early!**

# Summer Activities Programme: 2015 Appendix 3

date 27th June  
 activity **Family Fun Day**  
 venue Mid Ulster Sports Arena  
 time 1pm - 4pm  
 age group All ages  
 cost Free



date 29th June - 3rd July  
 activity **Fairhill Tennis Camp**  
 venue Fairhill Tennis  
 time 3.30pm - 5.30pm (7 -10 Years)  
 6.30pm - 8.30pm (11-14 Years)  
 age group 7 - 14 Years  
 cost £20.00



date 29th June - 3rd July  
 activity **National Pool Lifeguard Qualification (Intensive Course)**  
 venue Dungannon Leisure Centre  
 time 8am - 4pm  
 age group 16+ Years  
 cost £210.00



date 30th June - 2nd July  
 activity **Junior Golf Camp PGA Tuition**  
 venue Tobermore Golf Centre  
 time 09.45am - 12.45pm  
 age group 7+  
 cost £40.00 (coach ratio 1:7)



# Summer Activities Programme: 2015 Appendix 3

date July - August  
 activity **Adult Activity Fitness Classes**  
 venue Dungannon Leisure Centre  
 time Information on times available at Dungannon Leisure Centre  
 age group 16 + Years  
 cost Prices available by contacting reception at Dungannon Leisure Centre



date 1st July - 28th August  
 activity **Summer Schemes**  
 venue Maghera Leisure Centre  
 time **Sessions:** 10am - 12.30pm  
 1.30pm - 4pm  
 12.30 - 1.30pm  
 (Supervised Lunchtimes)  
 age group 5 - 14 Years  
 cost 1st child: £2.55 per session  
 2nd child: £1.90 per session  
 10 sessions: £12.75



date 1st July - 3rd July  
 activity **Tennis Camp**  
 venue Meadowbank Sports Arena  
 time 2pm - 3pm/3pm - 4.30pm  
 age group 5 - 10/10 - 17 Years  
 cost £7.50



date 1st July - 28th August  
 activity **Summer Schemes**  
 venue Meadowbank Sports Arena  
 time 10am - 12.30pm  
 age group 7 - 14 Years  
 cost 1st child: £2.55 per session  
 2nd child: £1.90 per session  
 10 sessions: £12.75



# Summer Activities Programme: 2015 Appendix 3

date 8th July  
 activity **Rounders Camp**  
 venue Meadowbank Sports Arena  
 time 2pm - 4pm  
 age group 7 - 14 Years  
 cost £5.00



date 6th July - 9th July  
 activity **Canoeing**  
 venue Ballyronan Marina  
 time 10.30am - 1.00pm  
 age group 11 - 16 Years  
 cost £20.00 for Camp



date 6th July - 9th July  
 activity **Multi Sports**  
 venue Mid Ulster Sports Arena  
 time 10.00am - 1.00pm  
 age group 7 - 12 Years  
 cost £10.00 for camp or  
 £3.00 per day



date 6th July - 21st August  
 activity **Swimming Academy**  
 (Intensive 5 Day swimming programme x 6 weeks)  
 venue Cookstown Leisure Centre  
 time A range of morning and afternoon classes  
 age group 4 Years plus offering levels 1 to 8  
 cost £18.75



# Summer Activities Programme: 2015 Appendix 3

date 6th July -11th July  
 activity **RLSS National Pool Lifeguard Qualification (Intensive Course)**  
 venue Cookstown Leisure Centre  
 time 9am to 5.30pm  
 age group 16 Years plus  
 cost £210.00



date 7th July -9th July  
 activity **Tennis Camp**  
 venue Moneymore Recreation Centre  
 time 10.00am - 12.00noon  
 age group 6 - 12 Years  
 cost £5.00 for camp or £2.00 per day



date 14th July - 17th July  
 activity **Cage Sports in the Community**  
 venue 14th July, Gortalowry Park  
 15th July, Black hill  
 16th July, Parkview - Pomeroy  
 17th July, Mid Ulster Sports Arena  
 time 11.00 - 2.00pm  
 age group 7 - 12 Years  
 cost Free



date 15th July - 17th July  
 activity **Soccer Camp**  
 venue Meadowbank Sports Arena  
 time 2pm - 4pm  
 age group 7 - 14 Years  
 cost £15.00



# Summer Activities Programme: 2015 Appendix 3

date 18th & 25th July  
& 1st & 8th August  
activity **Sailing**  
venue Ballyronan Marina  
time 10.30am - 1.00pm  
age group 11 - 16 Years  
cost £20.00 for Camp



date 20th July  
activity **Multi-sports Camp**  
venue Meadowbank Sports Arena  
time 2pm - 3pm  
age group 7 - 14 Years  
cost £2.55



date 20th July  
activity **Junior Netball Camp**  
venue Mid Ulster Sports Arena  
time 10am - 3pm  
age group 7 - 12 Years  
cost £10.00



date 20th July - 22nd July  
activity **Soccer Camp**  
venue Maghera Leisure Centre  
time 2pm - 4pm  
age group 7 - 14 Years  
cost £15.00



# Summer Activities Programme: 2015 Appendix 3

date 20th July - 25th July  
 activity **Rookie Lifeguard Programme**  
 (intensive course,  
 level yet to be verified)  
 venue Cookstown Leisure Centre  
 time 9am -1pm  
 age group Pre-requisite Rookie Gold  
 cost £37.50



date 20th July - 24th July  
 & 27th July - 31st July  
 activity **Summer Scheme**  
 venue Moneymore Recreation Centre  
 time 10am - 1pm  
 age group Boys and girls aged 6 - 14 Years  
 cost £10.00 per week  
 or £2.75 per day



date 20th July - 14th August  
 activity **Summer Scheme**  
 venue Cookstown Leisure Centre  
 time 10.30am - 1pm  
 1.30pm - 4pm  
 age group 5 - 11 Years  
 cost £2.65 per day  
 or £9.45 weekly  
 "5" session pass

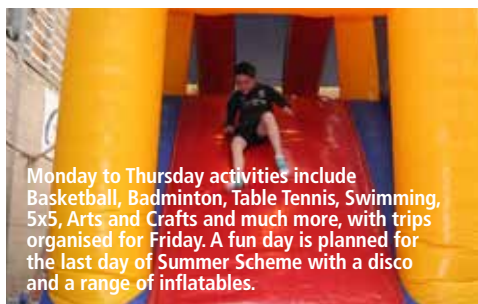


## Booking Centres and further information

For information on any of the events in this programme please contact the facilities listed on the back cover or visit [www.midulstercouncil.org](http://www.midulstercouncil.org) for more information and updates.

# Summer Activities Programme: 2015 Appendix 3

date 20th July - 21st August  
 activity **Summer Scheme**  
 venue Dungannon Leisure Centre  
 time 9.45am - 12.15pm  
 age group 8 - 11 Years  
 cost £3.00 per day  
 £10.00 per week



date 20th July - 26th August  
 activity **Teen Blast Summer Fitness**  
 venue Dungannon Leisure Centre  
 time 2pm - 3pm  
 age group 13 - 15 Years  
 cost £3.00 per session



date 21st July  
 activity **Senior Netball Camp**  
 venue Mid Ulster Sports Arena  
 time 10am - 3pm  
 age group 13 - 16 Years  
 cost £10.00



date 24th July - 21st August  
 activity **Rookie Lifeguarding Programme**  
 with current and past rookies  
 renewing their lifesaving skills on a  
 weekly basis  
 venue Dungannon Leisure Centre  
 time 4.30pm + 5.15pm  
 age group Boys and girls aged 8+ Years.  
 (must have attained level 8 in swimming)  
 cost £30.00 5 week course



# Summer Activities Programme: 2015 Appendix 3

date 20th July - 24th July  
& 27th July - 31st July  
activity **Summer Scheme**  
venue Moneymore Recreation Centre  
time 10.00am - 1.00pm  
age group 6 - 14 Years  
cost £10.00 per week  
or £2.75 per day



date 20th July, 4th, 11th, 18th  
and 25th August  
activity **Adult Disability  
Summer Camp**  
venue Meadowbank Sports Arena  
time 11am - 12 Noon  
age group Adults  
cost £1.25



date 20th July - 21st August  
activity **Swimming programme**  
The programme will include week long intensive classes, classes that will run for one day per week for five weeks; one to ones and one to two's catering for non-swimmers and swimmers with a range of abilities.  
venue Dungannon Leisure Centre  
time Information on times available at Dungannon Leisure Centre  
age group starts from 4 Years & 6 Months  
cost Prices available by contacting reception at Dungannon Leisure Centre



# Summer Activities Programme: 2015 Appendix 3

date 21st July - for 6 weeks  
 activity **Beginners Course**  
**PGA Tuition**  
 venue Tobermore Golf Centre  
 time 7pm - 9 pm  
 age group Adults  
 cost £34.00



date 23rd July - for 6 weeks  
 activity **Short-Game**  
**Improvers Course**  
**PGA Tuition**  
 venue Tobermore Golf Centre  
 time 7pm - 9 pm  
 age group Adult  
 cost £34.00



date 27th July - 28th July  
 activity **Table Tennis Camp**  
 venue Maghera Leisure Centre  
 time 12pm - 1pm  
 age group 7 - 14 Years  
 cost £5.00



date 27th July - 28th July  
 activity **Table Tennis Camp**  
 venue Meadowbank Sports Arena  
 time 10am - 11am  
 age group 7 - 14 Years  
 cost £5.00



# Summer Activities Programme: 2015 Appendix 3

date 27th July - 30th July  
 activity **Gaelic Games Camp**  
 venue Mid Ulster Sports Arena  
 time 10.00am - 1.00pm  
 age group 7 - 12 Years  
 cost £10.00 for camp  
 or £3.00 per day



date 27th July - 31st July  
 activity **National Pool Lifeguard Qualification (Intensive Course)**  
 venue Dungannon Leisure Centre  
 time 8am - 4pm  
 age group 16 + Years  
 cost £210.00



date 27th July  
 activity **Dungannon Park Angling School**  
 venue Dungannon Park  
 time 10am - 2pm  
 age group 11 Years +  
 cost £25  
 (family group discounts available)



date 28th July - 30th July  
 activity **Junior Golf Camp PGA Tuition**  
 venue Tobermore Golf Centre  
 time 09.45am - 12.45pm  
 age group 7+ (Coach ratio 1:7)  
 cost £40.00



# Summer Activities Programme: 2015 Appendix 3

date 29th July - 31st July  
 activity **Gaelic Games Camp**  
 venue Meadowbank Sports Arena  
 time 2pm - 4pm  
 age group 7-14 Years  
 cost £15.00



date 31st July  
 (every Friday until 28 August)  
 activity **Disability Friday Club Juniors**  
 venue Mid Ulster Sports Arena  
 time 1.00pm - 2.30pm  
 age group 6 - 12 Years  
 cost £5.00 for camp  
 or £2.00 per day



date 31st July  
 (every Friday until 28 August )  
 activity **Disability Friday Club Seniors**  
 venue Mid Ulster Sports Arena  
 time 11.00am - 12.30pm  
 age group 13 Years +  
 cost £5.00 for camp  
 or £2.00 per day



date 3rd August - 5th August  
 activity **HSE First Aid at Work  
 3 Day Course**  
 venue Dungannon Leisure Centre  
 time 8am - 4pm  
 age group 16 + Years  
 cost £70.00 (Introductory offer)



# Summer Activities Programme: 2015 Appendix 3

date 3rd August - 6th August  
 activity **Hockey Camp**  
 venue Meadowbank Sports Arena  
 time 2pm - 4pm  
 age group 7 - 14 Years  
 cost £15.00



date 3rd August - 6th Aug  
 activity **Tennis Camp**  
 venue Mid Ulster Sports Arena  
 time 2.00pm - 4.00pm  
 age group 8-12 Years  
 cost £10.00 for camp



date 3rd August - 8th August  
 activity **R.L.S.S. Survive & Save Course**  
 venue Cookstown Leisure Centre  
 time 9am - 1.30pm  
 age group 12 - 16 Years  
 cost £75.00



date 3rd August - 7th August  
 activity **Gaelic Games Camp**  
 venue Moneymore Recreation Centre  
 time 2.00pm - 4.00pm  
 age group 6 - 14 Years  
 cost £8.00 for camp or £2.00 per day



# Summer Activities Programme: 2015 Appendix 3

date 3rd August - 7th August  
 activity **Athletics Star Track 3rd**  
 venue Meadowbank Sports Arena  
 time 10am - 1pm  
 age group 5 - 15 Years  
 cost £30.00



date 4th August - 5th August  
 activity **Badminton Camp**  
 venue Maghera Leisure Centre  
 time 12noon - 1pm  
 age group 7 - 14 Years  
 cost £5.00



date 4th August - 5th August  
 activity **Badminton Camp**  
 venue Meadowbank Sports Arena  
 time 2pm - 3pm  
 age group 7 - 14 Years  
 cost £5.00



date 5th August - 6th August  
 activity **Rugby Camp**  
 venue Meadowbank Sports Arena  
 time 2pm - 4pm  
 age group 7 - 14 Years  
 cost £10.00



# Summer Activities Programme: 2015 Appendix 3

date 10th August - 14th August  
 activity **IFA Soccer Camp**  
 venue Mid Ulster Sports Arena  
 time 10.00am - 1.00pm  
 age group 5 - 14 Years  
 cost £35.00  
 (discounts available online)



date 10th August - 14th August  
 activity **Multi Sports**  
 venue Moneymore Recreation Centre  
 time 10.00am - 1.00pm  
 age group 6 - 14 Years  
 cost £8.00 for camp  
 or £2.00 per day



date 10th August - 15th August  
 activity **National Pool Lifeguard Qualification (Intensive Course)**  
 venue Cookstown Leisure Centre  
 time 9.00am - 5.30pm  
 age group 16 Years +  
 cost £210.00



date 11th August - 13th August  
 activity **Junior Golf Camp  
PGA Tuition**  
 venue Tobermore Golf Centre  
 time 09.45am - 12.45pm  
 age group 7+ Years (Coach ratio 1:7)  
 cost £40.00



# Summer Activities Programme: 2015 Appendix 3

date 11th August - 13th August  
 activity **Soccer Camp**  
 venue Maghera Leisure Centre  
 time 2pm - 4pm  
 age group 7 - 14 Years  
 cost £15.00



date 17th August - 20th August  
 activity **Athletics**  
 venue Mid Ulster Sports Arena  
 time 2pm - 5pm  
 age group 7 - 12 Years  
 cost £10.00 for camp  
 or £3.00 per day



date 17th August - 21st August  
 activity **Soccer Camp**  
 venue Moneymore Recreation Centre  
 time 10am - 1pm  
 age group Boys and girls aged 6 - 14 Years  
 cost £8.00 for camp  
 or £2.00 per day



date 17th August - 21st August  
 activity **Rookie Lifeguard Programme**  
 (intensive course, level yet to be verified)  
 venue Cookstown Leisure Centre  
 time 9am - 11am  
 age group 8 - 12 Years  
 cost £37.50



**enrolment:**  
 27th June  
 2015  
 from 9.00am

# Summer Activities Programme: 2015 Appendix 3

date 18th August - 20th August  
 activity **Tennis Camp**  
 venue Meadowbank Sports Arena  
 time 2pm - 3pm/3pm - 4.30pm  
 age group 5 - 10 years/10 - 17 years  
 cost £7.50



date 24th August - 27th August  
 activity **Girls Soccer Camp**  
 venue Mid Ulster Sports Arena  
 time 10.00am - 1.00pm  
 age group 6 - 12 Years  
 cost £10.00 for camp  
 or £3.00 per day



date 25th August - 27th August  
 activity **Golf Camp Tuition  
Boys & Girls**  
 venue Tobermore Golf Centre  
 time 9.45am - 12.45pm  
 age group 7 + Years (Coach ratio 1:7)  
 cost £40.00



date 25th August - 27th August  
 activity **Soccer Camp**  
 venue Meadowbank Sports Arena  
 time 2pm - 4pm  
 age group 7 - 14 Years  
 cost £15.00



## Summer Activities Programme: 2015 Appendix 3

date 26th August - 27th August  
 activity **Basketball Camp**  
 venue Maghera Leisure Centre  
 time 2pm - 4pm  
 age group 7 - 15 Years  
 cost £10.00



date 29th August 2015  
 activity **Autumn Swim Enrolment**  
 venue Cookstown Leisure Centre  
 time 6pm  
 age group  
 cost



date 3rd September (6 weeks)  
 activity **Long Game Improvers Course  
PGA Tuition**  
 venue Tobermore Golf Centre  
 time 7pm - 9 pm  
 age group Adult  
 cost £34.00



date May - October  
 activity **Friday Club**  
 venue Tobermore Golf Centre  
 time 5pm - 6.30pm  
 age group 7 - 14 Years  
 cost £2.55



## Summer Activities Programme: 2015 Appendix 3

date 27th July  
 activity **Seed-beed Cuff Making**  
 venue Burnavon, Cookstown  
 time 10am - 4pm  
 age group 16 years +  
 cost £20 - includes materials and equipment



date 2nd July  
 activity **12th July Celebrations: Mini Tattoo**  
 venue Hill of The O'Neill at Ranfurly House Arts & Visitor Centre  
 time 7.30pm  
 age group All ages  
 cost Free



date 3rd July - 29th July  
 activity **Art Exhibition 'Snapshot' by North Armagh Artists Collective (NAAC)**  
 venue Exhibition Space, Ranfurly House  
 time During normal opening hours  
 age group All ages  
 cost Free



date 6th - 10th July  
 activity **Seal Spraoi - Irish Language Summer School**  
 venue Burnavon, Cookstown  
 time 10am - 2.30pm  
 age group 4 - 11 years (primary)  
 cost £30 per child



## Summer Activities Programme: 2015 Appendix 3

date 24th July  
 activity **Outdoor Concert: Tony Watkins & Band 'Rocking All Over The Hill'**  
 venue Hill of The O'Neill at Ranfurly  
 time House Arts & Visitor Centre  
 age group  
 cost



date 27th - 31st July  
 activity **Sutemos Dance Summer School 2015**  
 venue Ranfurly House  
 time 10am - 4pm  
 age group 12 - 24 years  
 cost Free - Booking essential via Ranfurly House



date 1st August  
 activity **Children's Candle Making Workshop**  
 venue Ranfurly House  
 time 10.30am - 12.30pm  
 age group 7+  
 cost £8



**limited  
 places**

**book  
 early!**

## Summer Activities Programme: 2015 Appendix 3

date 1st August - 27th August  
 activity **Art Exhibition, 'Elements of Choice' by Anja Nohlen**  
 venue Exhibition Space, Ranfurly House  
 time During normal opening hours  
 age group All ages  
 cost Free



date 3rd - 7th August  
 activity **Ballet Ireland Summer Ballet Workshops**  
 venue Burnavon, Cookstown  
 time 10.30am - 12.30pm  
 and 2pm - 4pm daily  
 age group 6+ (with or without dance training)  
 cost £35



date 7th August  
 activity **Hill of The O'Neill Heritage Park Butterflies, Bugs and Bumblebees**  
 venue Hill of The O'Neill,  
 Ranfurly House  
 time 1.30pm, 2.30pm & 3.30pm  
 age group All ages  
 cost Free



date 17th August  
 activity **Saturday Kids Drama Club**  
 venue Ranfurly House  
 time 10am - 1pm  
 age group Year 6 - Year 10  
 cost £55



## Summer Activities Programme: 2015 Appendix 3

date	22nd August
activity	<b>Tiffany Glass Taster Class</b>
venue	Ranfurly House
time	10.30am - 12.30pm
age group	16 +
cost	£20



### Booking Centres and further information

For information on any of the events in this programme please contact the facilities listed on the back cover or visit [www.midulstercouncil.org](http://www.midulstercouncil.org) for more information and updates.

# Booking Centres and further information

For information on any of the events in this programme please contact the facilities below.

Further information can be obtained by contacting staff at:

**Mid Ulster Sports Arena** Cookstown

T: 028 8676 7135

**Cookstown Leisure Centre** Cookstown

T: 028 8676 3853

**Dungannon Leisure Centre** Dungannon

T: 028 8772 0370

**Greenvale Leisure Centre** Magherafelt

T: 028 7963 2796

**Maghera Leisure Centre** Maghera

T: 028 7954 7400

**Tobermore Golf Centre** Tobermore

T: 028 7964 5406

**Moneymore Recreation Centre** Magherafelt

T: 028 8674 7974

**Burnavon Arts and Cultural Centre** Cookstown

T: 028 8676 9949

**Ranfurly House and Hill of the O'Neill** Dungannon

T: 028 8772 8600

**The Bridewell** Magherafelt

T: 028 7963 1510

or visit [www.midulstercouncil.org](http://www.midulstercouncil.org) for more information and updates.



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

**S**

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

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

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

<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.1	<p><b>Drum Manor Forest Park Play Project</b> The formal handover of the play facility at Drum Manor Forest has been completed. The council holds a twenty year lease for the play area and marks the continuation of ongoing projects with Forest Service NI and Mid Ulster District Council to improve the quality and accessibility of recreational facilities at popular visitor destinations.</p>
3.2	<p><b>Park Lake Angling Summer School 27<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> July</b> Celebrating its ninth year, the school continues to attract a full complement of children between the ages of 11 and 16years old for the week long Fly Angling School under the guidance of professional instructors.</p>
3.3	<p><b>Northern Ireland Play Day Event 5<sup>th</sup> August</b> Mid Ulster District Council will host a play Day event in Dungannon Park on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> August, in conjunction with Play Board NI. Play is fundamental and vital to children, encouraging physical, and social development. By hosting the event Mid Ulster District Council affirming its support as part of a province recognition for the child's right to play.</p>
3.4	<p><b>Lough Neagh Triathlon – 15<sup>th</sup> August</b> Hi Elbow Triathlon club will host the event from Ballyrona Marina. Event launch took place on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May. This year the event is part of the National Series and is set to attract up to 450 competitors.</p>

3.5	<b>Ballyronan Festival of Lights and Water Lu-Marina 28<sup>th</sup> August</b> This year it is being rebranded as ‘Lu-Marina’ and is organised through a committee of local stakeholders, Lough Neagh Partnership, TABBDA and representatives from Ballyronan Boat Club and Lough Neagh Rescue
3.6	<b>Lap the Lough 30<sup>th</sup> August</b> Lap the Lough is an event that starts in Peatlands Park and riders do an entire lap of the lough. Ballyronan is used as one of the competitor stop off points for this event.
3.7	<b>Picnic in the Park 31<sup>st</sup> August</b> Annual Family Fun Day held in Dungannon Park, music, Funfair and Childrens workshops. This year’s event will include the official opening of the new visitor facilities in Dungannon Park. Event scheduled to run 2pm to 6pm.

<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	<b><u>Financial</u></b> Where applicable events supported from existing revenue budget allocations
4.2	<b><u>Human</u></b> Where applicable events supported from existing staff budget allocations
4.3	<b><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u></b> N/A
4.4	<b><u>Other</u></b> N/A

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

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	Members are asked to note for information purposes the activities and events being delivered by the Parks Service

<b>7</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
7.1	Appendix 1 – Update Appendix 2 – Upcoming Events Appendix 3 – Play Board Event Invitation and information.

## **Appendix 1 – Update**

### **Ballyronan Marina claims International Blue Flag Award**

Ballyronan Marina is one of only two marina's in Northern Ireland to hold the Blue Flag award. Ballyronan on Lough Neagh has once again received a coveted Blue Flag award for outstanding facilities and environmental management. The marina, which has held the award for a number of years, is one of only a handful of locations on the Island of Ireland to receive the award. The Blue Flag designation is more widely known as beach award, and 8 beaches in Northern Ireland received the flags at an event in Portstewart on the 20<sup>th</sup> May.

A Blue flag means excellence, a Blue Flag marina provides the highest standard of facilities for visitors, and has strong environmental credentials to protect the local and wider environment. The awards are renewed annually and in 2014 Ballyronan was given the seal of approval by an international inspection team.

### **Dungannon Park Capital Works Project**

Major capital works to develop improved camping and visitor facilities at Dungannon Park are advancing on schedule with the caravan park 80% complete, buildings and site works 40% and 25% complete respectively. The project when completed will enhance visitor facilities with increased capacity for touring caravans (additional 12 sites) and a new ablution block, improved retail offering and catering space and will include staff office accommodation. Council are aiming to receive handover by end of July and arrange for the official opening event over the weekend of 22<sup>nd</sup>- 23<sup>rd</sup> August.

### **Events**

#### **Canoe Course 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> July**

Sports Development funded programme for 11-16 year olds. Council provide access to canoes, paddles, wet suits, buoyancy jackets and changing facility in boat yard. Ballyronan staff assist with the delivery of the event.

#### **Sailing Course 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> July & 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> August**

Sports Development funded programme for 11-16 year olds. Council provide access to wet suits, buoyancy jackets and changing facility in boat yard. Ballyronan staff assist with the requirements of the event. Ballyronan Boat club provide lasers dinghies.

#### **Ballyronan Annual Vintage Motor Club Show – 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in July**

The Vintage Club use Ballyronan Marina for their annual event, which has become a very popular annual family event in the calendar.

#### **Lough Neagh Triathlon – 15<sup>th</sup> August**

Hi Elbow Triathlon club. Host the event from Ballyrona Marina. Event launch took place on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May.

#### **Ballyronan Festival of Lights and Water Lu-Marina 28<sup>th</sup> August**

Held over 2 days, Friday and Sat of the bank holiday weekend in August. This year it is being rebranded as 'Lu-Marina' and is to be held on the 28<sup>th</sup> August (this includes firework display, outdoor movie and hopefully the return of the raft race). The event is organised through a committee of local stakeholders, Lough Neagh Partnership, TABBDA and representatives from Ballyronan Boat Club and Lough Neagh Rescue

### **Lap the Lough 30<sup>th</sup> August**

Lap the Lough is an event that starts in Peatlands Park and riders do an entire lap of the lough stopping in at various locations for water, food and comfort breaks. Ballyronan is used as one of the stop off points for this event.

<b>Appendix 2 - Upcoming Events</b>			
<b>CURRENT PUBLIC EVENTS SCHEDULE MAY – AUGUST 2015</b>			
<b>Date</b>	<b>Event Details</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Contact</b>
27.5.15	Cage Football 6-9	Eastvale	Ivan Wilson
30.5.15	Walk in the Park in aid of Diabetes 11am – 1pm	Dungannon Park	Anne Armstrong
30.5.15	Cricket – weather permitting	Dungannon Park	RSD and cricket club
30.5.15	Fishing Competition	Dungannon Park	Willie Maguinness
31.5.15	Festival Of Praise	Nunnery Hill	Don Atridge
1.6.15	Scouts – outdoor activity event	Dungannon Park	Derek Farmer
1.6.15	Cricket – weather permitting	Dungannon Park	RSD
2.6.15	BBQ	Dungannon Park	Newmills Guides
6.6.15	Cricket – weather permitting	Dungannon Park	Cricket club
6.6.15	BBQ – Child Evangelism 5.30 – 9.30pm	Dungannon Park	Ruth Clark
6.6.15	Charity Sponsored Walk	Dungannon Park	Laghey Primary School
7.6.15	Cricket –weather permitting	Dungannon Park	Cricket Club
8.6.15	Orienteering	Dungannon Park	Conor Fadian
12.6.15	Crown Buildings Fun Day – BBQ	Dungannon Park	Julia Davidson
12.6.15 & 13.6.15	International Fly Fishing Championships NIFFA	Dungannon Park	Willie Maguinness
14.6.15	Band Convoy (hire of council stage)	Granville Mart	Sporting Hearts
15.6.15	Orienteering	Dungannon Park	Conor Fadian
20.6.15	Cricket – weather permitting	Dungannon Park	Cricket Club
20.6.15	Charity Fun Day	Dungannon Park	McCloskey International
22.6.15	Orienteering	Dungannon Park	Conor Fadian
28.6.15	Fun Day	Windmill Wood	CLCCRA
29.6.15	Orienteering	Dungannon Park	Conor Fadian
5.7.15	Sunday Worship 7-9pm	Dungannon Park bandstand	Lifeboat Fellowship
12.7.15	Sunday Worship 7-9pm	Dungannon Park bandstand	Lifeboat Fellowship
18.7.15	Cricket – weather permitting	Dungannon Park	Cricket Club
19.7.15	Sunday Worship 7-9pm	Dungannon Park bandstand	Lifeboat Fellowship
25.6.15	Vintage Rally	Dungannon Park	CLCCRA
26.7.15	Sunday Worship 7-9pm	Dungannon Park bandstand	Lifeboat Fellowship
27 -31 July	Summer Angling School	Dungannon Park	Mid Ulster Council

02.8.15	Sunday Worship 7-9pm	Dungannon Park bandstand	Lifeboat Fellowship
4.8.15	Stride or Stroll 5.30 – 9.00pm	Dungannon Park	Action Cancer
9.8.15	Sunday Worship 7-9pm	Dungannon Park bandstand	Lifeboat Fellowship
16.8.15	Sunday Worship 7-9pm	Dungannon Park bandstand	Lifeboat Fellowship
31 <sup>st</sup> Aug	Dungannon Park official Opening Event for New Building/Campsite Amenity	Dungannon Park	Mid Ulster Council



## APPENDIX 3



Mr Nigel Hill  
nigel.hill@midulstercouncil.org

18 June 2015

Dear Mr Hill,

**RE: Host a Playday on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> August 2015 - Mid Ulster District Council**

I am writing to you on behalf of PlayBoard NI the lead organisation for children and young people's play in Northern Ireland regarding Playday 2015. Playday traditionally falls on the first Wednesday of August each year and is celebrated within many communities across Northern Ireland, Scotland, England and Wales.

Playday is now in its twenty eighth year and we are keen to encourage all of our Councils to join in by hosting at least one celebration. A Playday celebration does not have to be complicated or expensive – at its simplest it requires a selection of loose play parts and an opportunity for children and young people to come together to choose how they want to play for play's sake.

The theme of this year's Playday is simply **"Play more ..."**

PlayBoard will be hosting its own Playday celebration at Alexandra Park, Belfast supported by the Belfast City Council Park Grant Scheme. Even at this early stage the event has attracted considerable interest through the Eventbrite platform, highlighting the level of interest amongst the public for Playday events.

As you know, play is fundamental and vital to children and childhood. Play enables children to be healthier in their physical, social, cognitive and emotional development. Play is about fun, uncertainty, challenge, flexibility, all of which is central to children's enjoyment and their desire to continue to play.

By hosting a Playday in the Mid Ulster District Council area, you will be affirming your support for the child's right to play and importantly be providing an opportunity for local children to come together through play. For more information on Playday and how to register your event please visit [www.playday.org](http://www.playday.org).

Finally, we are keen to promote all Playday events which are taking place across

**PlayBoard NI**

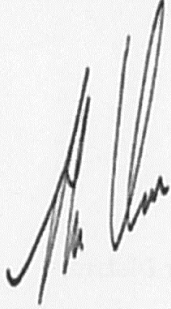
7 Crescent Gardens, BELFAST, BT7 1NS Northern Ireland  
Tel: 028 90803380 - Fax: 028 90803381 - Web: [www.playboard.org](http://www.playboard.org)  
Company Limited by Guarantee No. NI30225 - Inland Revenue Charity Number XR86639



### APPENDIX 3

Northern Ireland, therefore should Mid Ulster District Council decide to or is hosting an event, please forward on the detail to PlayBoard and we will be happy to promote it. We want to ensure Playday 2015 is as successful in Northern Ireland as it is in the other regions across the UK – with your help we can achieve it!

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan Herron', written in a cursive style.

Alan Herron  
Director of Service Delivery & Development