



13 February 2020

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Development Committee to be held in The Chamber, Magherafelt at Mid Ulster District Council, Ballyronan Road, MAGHERAFELT, BT45 6EN on Thursday, 13 February 2020 at 19:00 to transact the business noted below.

Yours faithfully

Anthony Tohill
Chief Executive

AGENDA

OPEN BUSINESS

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

Matters for Decision

- | | | |
|----|---|-----------|
| 5. | Draft response to Foras na Gaeilge consultation document – Strategic Direction for Foras na Gaeilge 2020-2025 | 3 - 72 |
| 6. | Heart of Ancient Ulster Landscape Partnership Update | 73 - 76 |
| 7. | Economic Development Report – OBFD | 77 - 114 |
| 8. | Community Development Report | 115 - 182 |
| 9. | Leisure and Outdoor Recreation Service Level Agreements 2020/21 | 183 - 186 |

Matters for Information

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| 10 | Minutes of Development Committee held on 16 January 2020 | 187 - 196 |
| 11 | Mid Ulster District Tourism Development Group | 197 - 208 |
| 12 | Economic Development Report – OBFI | 209 - 222 |

Items restricted in accordance with Section 42, Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014. The public will be asked to withdraw from the meeting at this point.

Matters for Decision

13. Review of Culture & Arts Facility Hire Charges
14. Development of business plan and branding review at Hill of The O'Neill & Ranfurly House Arts and Visitor Centre
15. Regional Minority Languages Bursary Programme 2020/21 and Irish Language Activity Funding Programme 2020/21
16. Provision of Seasonal Security Guarding Services at Dungannon Park and Additional Sites as Required

Matters for Information

17. Confidential Minutes of Development Committee held on 16 January 2020
18. Dark Sky Observatory Davagh - Brand Update
19. Seamus Heaney HomePlace International Linkages Update
20. Procurement of a Contractor to deliver the Mid Ulster Gearing for Growth Programme

Report on	Draft response to Foras na Gaeilge consultation document – Strategic Direction for Foras na Gaeilge 2020-2025
Date of Meeting	Thursday 13 th February 2020
Reporting Officer	Tony McCance, Head of Culture & Arts
Contact Officer	Déaglán O Doibhlin, Irish Language Development Officer

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To seek Council approval to issue the attached submission (appendix 2) to Foras na Gaeilge in response to the Public Consultation on the Strategic Direction for Foras na Gaeilge 2020-2025 (Draft document).
2.0	Background
2.1	On 18 th December 2019, Foras na Gaeilge issued a request to Council seeking its opinions on the consultation document – A Strategic Direction for Foras na Gaeilge 2020-2025 (Draft).
2.2	A copy of the Consultation document - A Strategic Direction for Foras na Gaeilge 2020-2025 (Draft) is attached as Appendix 1
2.3	The proposed draft submission to be issued on behalf of Mid Ulster District Council in response to the consultation on the Strategic Direction for Foras na Gaeilge 2020-2025 (Draft) is attached as Appendix 2
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Foras na Gaeilge, is the body responsible for the promotion of the Irish language throughout the whole island of Ireland.
3.2	<p>The functions of Foras na Gaeilge include:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The promotion of the Irish language • Facilitating and encouraging the use of the Irish Language in speech and writing in public and private life in the South and, in the context of Part III of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, in Northern Ireland where there is appropriate demand; • advising both administrations, public bodies and other groups in the private and voluntary sectors; • undertaking supportive projects, and grant-aiding bodies and groups as considered necessary;

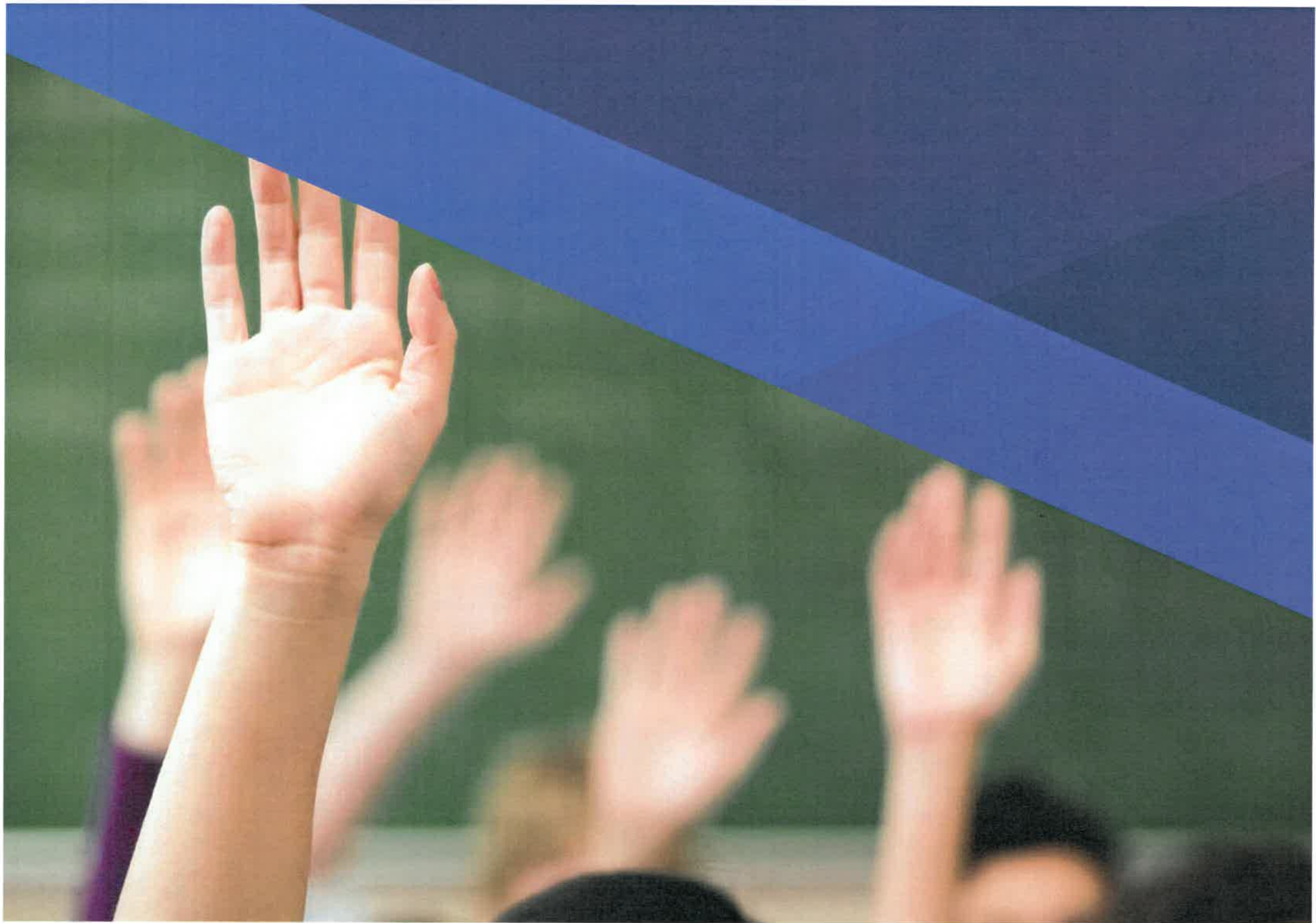
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• undertaking research, promotional campaigns, and public and media relations;• developing terminology and dictionaries;• supporting Irish-medium education and the teaching of Irish.		
3.3	Responses are to be issued to:- <table><tr><td>Response Co-ordinator Foras na Gaeilge 2-4 Sráid na Banríona Béal Feirste, BT1 6ED</td><td>Response Co-ordinator Foras na Gaeilge 63-66 Sráid Amiens Baile Átha Cliath 1</td></tr></table>	Response Co-ordinator Foras na Gaeilge 2-4 Sráid na Banríona Béal Feirste, BT1 6ED	Response Co-ordinator Foras na Gaeilge 63-66 Sráid Amiens Baile Átha Cliath 1
Response Co-ordinator Foras na Gaeilge 2-4 Sráid na Banríona Béal Feirste, BT1 6ED	Response Co-ordinator Foras na Gaeilge 63-66 Sráid Amiens Baile Átha Cliath 1		
4.0	Other Considerations		
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications		
	Financial: N/A		
	Human: N/A		
	Risk Management: Key areas for further consideration by Foras na Gaeilge have been included in the draft response to the consultation (see appendix 2)		
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments		
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: Key areas for further consideration by Foras na Gaeilge including the need for appropriate resources and geographical spread of Irish language support by Foras na Gaeilge has been included in the draft response (see appendix 2)		
	Rural Needs Implications: Key areas for further consideration by Foras na Gaeilge, including the value of the wider family circle and support opportunities for local communities in developing and promoting the language, has been included in the draft response to the consultation (see appendix 2)		
5.0	Recommendation(s)		
5.1	It is recommended that the attached draft response to the Strategic Direction for Foras na Gaeilge 2020-2025 (Draft), is approved and submitted to Foras na Gaeilge on behalf of Mid Ulster District Council		
6.0	Documents Attached & References		
6.1	Appendix 1 - A Strategic Direction for Foras na Gaeilge 2020-2025 (Draft)		
6.2	Appendix 2 – Mid Ulster District Council proposed response		

Treo Straitéiseach
d'Fhoras na Gaeilge
2020–2025

A Strategic Direction
for Foras na Gaeilge
2020–2025

Is í ár dteanga féin í.
It's our language.

 Foras na Gaeilge



Treo Straitéiseach
d'Fhoras na Gaeilge
2020–2025

A Strategic Direction
for Foras na Gaeilge
2020–2025

Is í ár dteanga féin í.
It's our language.



1

Cumas Teanga
Language Ability

2

Úsáid Teanga
Language Use

3

Tacaíocht
Support

Clár

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Sligeach
SLIGO

Béal Feirste
BELFAST

Gaillimh
GALWAY

Leitir Ceanainn
LETTERKENNY

Cill Airne
KILLARNEY

Réamhrá

Is linne ar fad an Ghaeilge. Tá sí timpeall orainn an t-am ar fad san iliomad slite – i logainmneacha, i sloinnte, i bhfocail agus i bhfrásaí Béarla fiú.

➤ **Tá dearcadh an-dearfach ag an bpobal faoin teanga.**

Tá dearcadh dearfach ag 67% den phobal ó dheas agus 45% den phobal o thuaidh i leith na Gaeilge agus na daoine a léirigh tuairim ina taobh bhí mórán sa dá dhlíne i bhfabhar an teanga a mhúineadh do pháistí.

➤ **Tá tóir ar an nGaeilge.**

Chuirfeadh duine as gach ceathrar páiste go bunscoil lán-Ghaeilge dá mbeadh ceann in aice láimhe.

➤ **Tá aitheantas oifigiúil bainte amach ag pobal Ghaeilge lasmuigh den Ghaeltacht den chéad uair riamh.**

➤ **Cuireann Foras na Gaeilge tacaíocht lárnach ar fáil don teanga ar bhonn uile-olleáin.**

Mar shampla, roghnaíomar eagraíochtaí le tabhairt faoi ghnéithe áirithe den teanga – déanann Conradh na Gaeilge obair feasachta faoin nGaeilge agus cuireann Gael Linn deiseanna úsáide ar fáil do dhaoine óga, mar shampla.

Introduction

Irish belongs to us all. It is around us all the time in so many ways – in place-names, in surnames, even in English language words and phrases.

➤ **The public have a very positive view of the language.**

67% of the public in the south and 47% of the public in the north have a positive view of the Irish language and there was a majority in both jurisdictions in favour of teaching the language to children among those who expressed an opinion.

➤ **The Irish language is in demand.**

One in four would send a child to an Irish-medium primary school if there was one nearby.

➤ **Irish language communities outside of the Gaeltacht have recently gained official recognition for the first time ever.**

➤ **Foras na Gaeilge provides central support for the language on an all-island basis.**

For example, we chose organisations to undertake certain aspects of the language – for example, Conradh na Gaeilge promotes awareness of Irish and Gael Linn provides opportunities for young people to use the language.

DRÉACHT

Ó bhí 1999 ann tá Foras na Gaeilge ceaptha ar bhonn uile-oileáin mar an eagraíocht lárnach le tacaíocht a thabhairt don teanga agus dóibh siúd atá ag obair ar a son. Táimid faoi scáth na Roinne Cultúir, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta ó dheas agus na Roinne Pobal ó thuaidh. Bhí buiséad c.€17m againn in 2018.

Mar a luadh thuas tá dearcadh dearfach ag 67% den phobal ó dheas agus 45% den phobal ó thuaidh i leith na Gaeilge¹ agus as na daoine a léirigh tuairim ina taobh bhí mórán sa dá dhlíse i bhfabhar an teanga a mhúineadh do pháistí.² Thairis sin tá líofacht bhunúsach sa Ghaeilge ag 57% den phobal ó dheas agus 14% ó thuaidh. Ceann de na dúshláin a aithnítear leis an teanga a chur chun cinn nach bhfuil an leibhéal úsáide ag teacht go díreach leis an leibhéal cumais, ach fós féin labhraíonn 13% den phobal í go laethúil nó go seachtainiúil ó dheas agus 2% go laethúil nó go seachtainiúil ó thuaidh ach labhraíonn 32% den phobal ó dheas agus 12% den phobal ó thuaidh Gaeilge am éigin.³

Ceann de na rudaí is mó a léiríonn tiomantas an phobail don teanga ar fud an oileáin ná an fhorbairt ar earnáil na gaelscolaíochta le 35 bliain anuas. In 1972 ní raibh ach 11 bunscoil agus 5 iar-bhunscoil lán-Ghaeilge ann; in 2017 bhí 180 bunscoil agus 50 iar-bhunscoil ann agus bíonn an leibhéal éilimh ar an ngaeiloideachais i gcónaí chun tosaigh go mór ar an soláthar.⁴ Mar shampla, chuir beagnach ceathrú na bhfreagróirí (23%) i bPoblacht na hÉireann in iúl go smaoineoidís ar pháiste a chur go bunscoil lán-Ghaeilge nó go ndéanfaidís amhlaidh dá mbeadh gaelscoil in aice baile.⁵

DRAFT

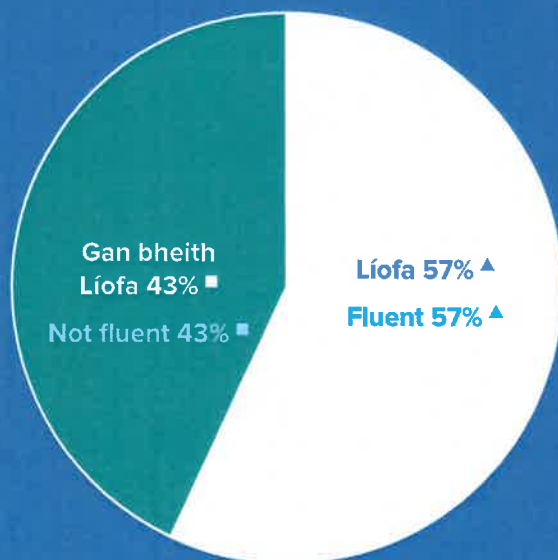
Since 1999 Foras na Gaeilge has been designated on an all-island basis as the central organisation to support the language and those working for it. Our Sponsoring Departments are the Department of Culture, Heritage and Gaeltacht and the Department for Communities in Northern Ireland. Our budget was approximately €17m in 2018.

As previously mentioned, 67% of the public in the south and 45% of the public in the north have a positive attitude to the Irish language¹ and among those who expressed an opinion on the issue there was a majority in both jurisdictions in favour of teaching the language to children.² As well as that, 57% of the public in the south and 14% in the north have a basic fluency in Irish. One of the challenges recognised in promoting the language is that the level of use does not correspond with the level of ability, but still 13% of the public speak it daily or weekly in the south and 2% daily or weekly in the north, but 32% of the public in the south and 12% of the public in the north speak some Irish.³

One of the developments that best demonstrates the commitment of the public to the language throughout the island is the development of Irish-medium education in the last thirty five years. In 1972 there were only eleven Irish-medium primary schools and five Irish-medium secondary schools; in 2017 there were 180 Irish-medium primary schools and fifty Irish-medium post primary schools and the level of demand for Irish-medium education is always well ahead of supply.⁴ For example, nearly a quarter of the respondents (23%) in the republic of Ireland said they would think of sending a child to an Irish-medium primary school or would do so if there was an Irish-medium school nearby.⁵

Poblacht na hÉireann

Republic of Ireland



▲ roinnt abairtí simplí 24%;
codanna de chomhráití 19%;
an chuid is mó de chomhráití 11%;
cumas cainteora dúchais 3%

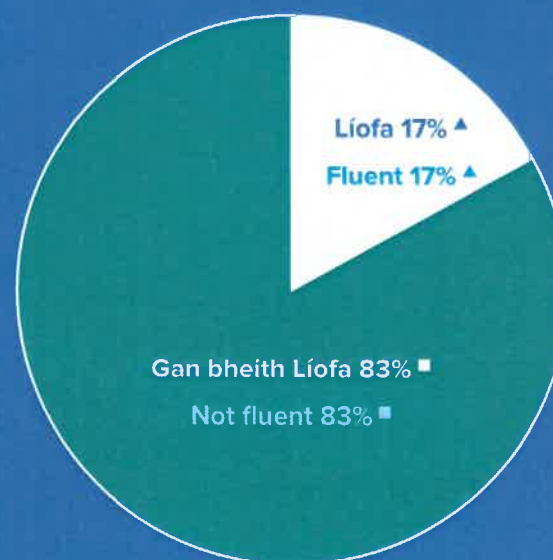
■ gan aon Ghaeilge 19%;
gan ach corrfocal 24%

▲ some simple sentences 24%;
parts of conversations 19%;
most of conversations 11%;
native speaker ability 3%

■ has no Irish 19%;
only the odd word 24%

Tuaisceart Éireann

Northern Ireland



▲ roinnt abairtí simplí 9%;
codanna de chomhráití 5%;
an chuid is mó de chomhráití 3%;
cumas cainteora dúchais 2%

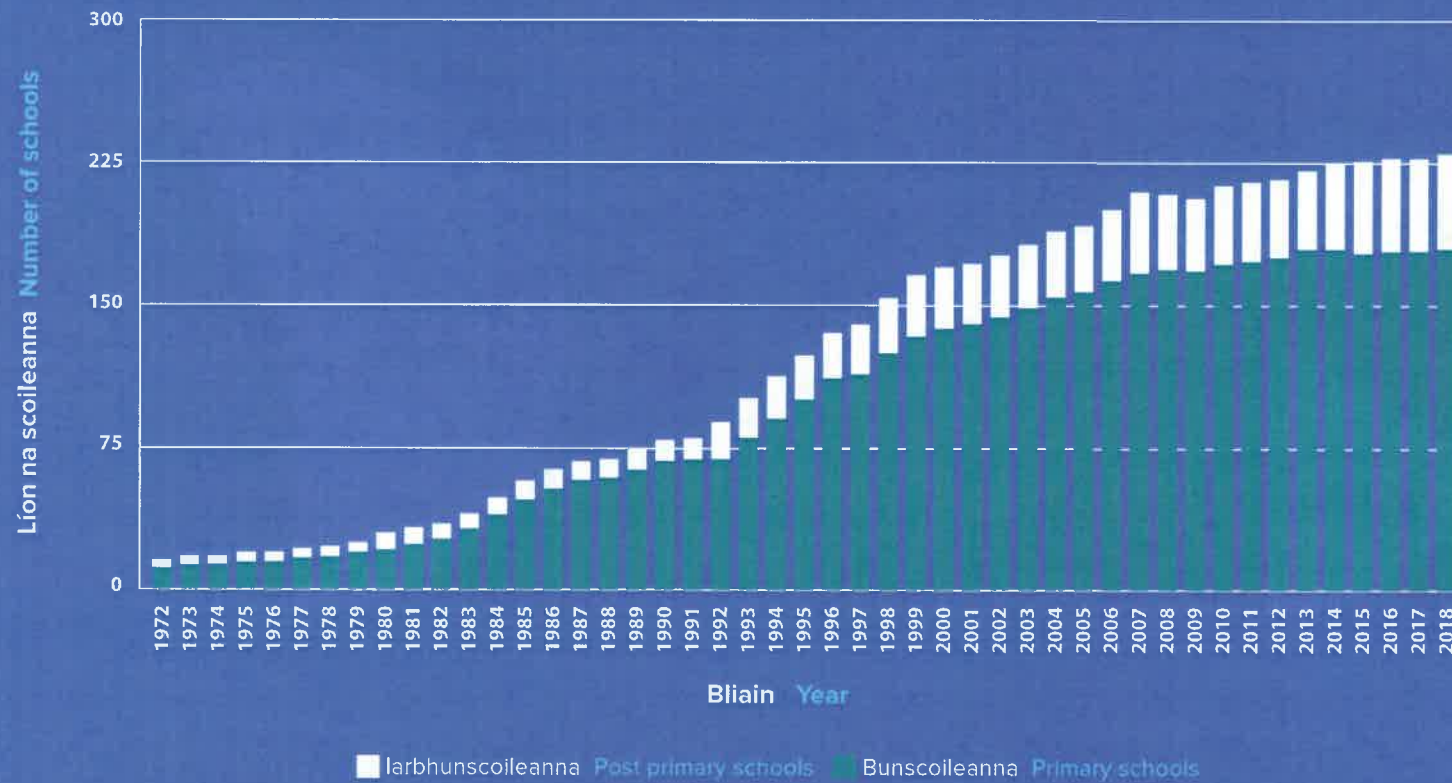
■ gan aon Ghaeilge 69%;
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■ has no Irish 69%;
only the odd word 14%

Fás ar an nGaelscolaíocht lasmuigh den Ghaeltacht ar fud an oileáin 1972–2018

Growth of Irish-medium education outside the Gaeltacht throughout the island 1972–2018



Athbheochan Teanga agus Aisiompú Teanga

Ó thosaigh Athbheochan na Gaeilge sa naoú haois déag tá dul chun cinn á dhéanamh ag an teanga. Tá dhá phróiseas teanga ar siúl ag an am céanna: tá iarracht ar bun an Ghaeilge a chosaint agus a fhorbairt mar theanga phobail sa Gaeltacht, agus tá iarracht ar bun an teanga a athbheochan mar theanga phobail lasmuigh den Gaeltacht.

Athbheochan Teanga ó dheas

Tugadh aitheantas speisialta don Ghaeilge i mBunreacht 1922 agus bhí polasaí teanga á chur i gcrích go príomha trí ról lárnach a bheith ag an nGaeilge sa chóras oideachais.⁶ Beartaíodh ról ar leith a thabhairt don státchóras tríd an státseirbhís i gcur chun cinn na teanga; go dtí 1975 bhí tuiscint ar an nGaeilge riachtanach le haghaidh post sa státseirbhís⁷ agus go dtí 2013 thugtaí marcanna breise d'iarrthóirí a rinne scrúduithe iontrála na Státseirbhíse trí mheán na Gaeilge. Tugadh faoi 'phleanáil stádais' don teanga féin freisin leis an teanga a chur in oiriúint don saol nua-aimseartha tríd na canúintí éagsúla a 'chaighdeánú' aghaidh a thabhairt ar na malartuithe litrithe agus dúshláin chló agus nuathearmaíochta sa teanga.⁸

In 2003 achtaíodh *Acht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla*. Ba iad an dá phríomhghné san Acht: 1) plean teanga nó 'scéim' a léireodh an leibhéal seirbhíse a d'fhéadfadh an pobal a bheith ag súil leis a bheith aontaithe idir an eagrais poiblí agus an Roinn a bhí freagrach as an nGaeltacht agus an nGaeilge; agus 2) oifig an Choimisinéara a bhunú le monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar fheidhmiú an Achta, cur i bhfeidhm an Achta a mhaoirsiú agus plé le gearáin a dhéantar faoin Acht.⁹ Bhí gné na scéimeanna den Acht ina cnámh spairne agus faoin am ar éirigh an chéad Choimisinéir Teanga as an bpost in 2013, deich mbliana ó ceapadh an tAcht, ní raibh an Coimisinéir féin muiníneach as na scéimeanna mar an bealach is fearr le cur le méid agus caighdeán na seirbhíse atá ar fáil trí Ghaeilge.¹⁰ Fógraíodh athbhreithniú ar Acht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla in 2011 ach níor leasaíodh ó shin é.

Language Revival and Language Reversal

Since the revival of the Irish language began in the nineteenth century the language has made progress. Two language processes are taking place at the same time: there is an attempt to protect and develop Irish as a community language in the Gaeltacht, and there is an attempt to revive the language as a community language outside of the Gaeltacht.

Language Revival in the south

The Irish language was given special recognition in the 1922 constitution and a language policy was implemented primarily through Irish having a central role in the education system.⁶ It was intended that a particular role be given to the state system through the civil service in the promotion of the language; until 1975 an understanding of Irish was needed for a job in the civil service⁷ and until 2013 extra marks were given to applicants who did their civil service entrance exams through the medium of Irish. What sociolinguists call 'status planning' was carried out as well for the language itself to adapt the language to the modern world by 'standardising' the dialects, tackling variant spellings and printing challenges and developing modern terminology in the language.⁸

In 2003 the *Official Languages Act* was enacted. The two main aspects of the act were: (1) a language plan or 'scheme' which would demonstrate the level of service the public could expect to be agreed between the public body and the department which was responsible for the Gaeltacht and the Irish Language; and (2) the establishment of the office of the commissioner to carry out monitoring on the operation of the act, to supervise the implementation of the act and to deal with complaints made about the act.⁹ The schemes aspect of the act was a source of contention and by the time the first language commissioner resigned from the post in 2013, ten years after the act was introduced, the commissioner himself was not confident that schemes were the best way to increase the amount and standard of

Aisiompú Teanga – an Ghaeltacht

Maidir leis an bpróiseas leis an teanga a chaomhnú mar theanga phobail sa Ghaeltacht, tugadh aitheantas reachtúil do na Gaeltachtaí mar cheantair ar leith nuair a leag Coimisiún na Gaeltachta teorainneacha na nGaeltachtaí síos in 1926 agus nuair a bunaíodh Údarás na Gaeltachta in 1979 le dualgais eacnamaíocha agus cultúrtha ina leith. Ó bunaíodh Roinn na Gaeltachta sa bhliain 1956 bhí cúram na Gaeltachta – móide cúram na Gaeilge i gcoitinne – luaite le haireacht nó mar chuid d'aireacht ag leibhéal an Rialtais.

Le fiche bliain anuas, ba é bunú Coimisiún na Gaeltachta in 2000 an príomhléiriú ar thiomantas ar leith do chás na Gaeltachta. D'fhoilsigh an Coimisiún tuarascáil dhá bhliain ina dhiaidh sin, agus tá a rian le sonrú ar ar tharla ina dhiaidh sin, go háirithe ar Ráiteas an Rialtais (2006) agus ar Straitéis 20 Bliain na Gaeilge 2010–30.

Thug an *Staidéar Cuimsitheach Teangeolaíoch ar Úsáid na Gaeilge sa Ghaeltacht* (2007) léargas ar ghéarchéim na Gaeilge mar theanga phobail sa Ghaeltacht. In 2015 mhaígh nuashonrú¹¹ ar an staidéar sin a bhí coimisiúnaithe ag Údarás na Gaeltachta go raibh cúrsaí teanga sa Ghaeltacht imithe in olcas tuilleadh.

Cuireadh bonnlíne d'fhianaise shocheacnamaíoch ar fáil do na ceantair Ghaeltachta i 2018¹² agus d'fhoilsigh an Roinn Cultúir, Oidhreacht agus Gaeltachta *Plean Gníomhaíochta 2018–22* bunaithe ar an *Straitéis 20 Bliain* an bhliain chéanna¹³ ina raibh gníomhartha sonracha luaite chun leas na Gaeltachta agus na Gaeilge araon.

services available through Irish.¹⁰ A review of the Official Languages Act was announced in 2011 but it has not been amended to date.

Language reversal – the Gaeltacht

As for the process to safeguard the language as a community language in the Gaeltacht, legislative protection was given to the Gaeltacht areas when the Gaeltacht Commission set out the boundaries of the Gaeltacht in 1926 and when Údarás na Gaeltachta was set up in 1979 with an economic and cultural remit. Since the Department of the Gaeltacht was established in 1956 the responsibility for the Gaeltacht – as well as responsibility for the Irish language in general – has been associated with a ministry or as part of a ministry at government level.

In the past twenty years, the foremost manifestation of a particular commitment to the Gaeltacht was the establishment of the Gaeltacht Commission in 2000. The commission published a report two years later which can be seen to have influenced subsequent developments, particularly the Government Statement on the Irish Language (2006) and the 20 Year Strategy for the Irish Language 2010–30.

The *Comprehensive Linguistic Study on the Use of Irish in the Gaeltacht* (2007) gave an insight into the crisis for the Irish language as a community language in the Gaeltacht. In 2015 an update¹¹ on that study was commissioned by Údarás na Gaeltachta and claimed that language matters in the Gaeltacht had further disimproved.

A baseline of socioeconomic evidence was provided for the Gaeltacht areas in 2018¹² and the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht published an Action Plan 2018–22 the same year based on the *20 Year Strategy* of the same year¹³ in which specific actions were detailed which would benefit both the Gaeltacht and the Irish language generally.



Aisiompú & Athbheochan

Rinneadh nuashonrú ar an dá phróiseas – an tAisompú agus an Athbheochan Teanga in 2006 nuair a seoladh Ráiteas an Rialtais i leith na Gaeilge agus tá sé suntasach gur aidhm ‘dátheangachais’ a bhí á lua seachas an Ghaeilge a athréimniú agus a chur in áit an Bhéarla mar phríomhtheanga go praiticiúil.¹⁴ Déantar dearmad go minic cé chomh neamhghnách is atá sé do shochaí a bheith gan níos má ná teanga amháin in úsáid inti; sin an gnás in an-chuid tíortha eile san Eoraip, mar shampla.

Is é aidhm pholasaí an Rialtais i leith na Gaeilge ná úsáid agus eolas ar an nGaeilge a mhéadú mar theanga phobail ar bhonn céimiúil.

Is aidhm ar leith de chuid an Rialtais í a chinntiú go bhfuil an oiread saoránach agus is féidir dátheangach i nGaeilge agus i mBéarla.

‘Not to learn Irish is to miss the opportunity of understanding what life in this country has meant and could mean in a better future. It is to cut oneself off from ways of being at home. If we regard self-understanding, mutual understanding, imaginative enhancements, cultural diversity and a tolerant political atmosphere as desirable attainment, we should remember that a knowledge of the Irish language is an essential element in their realisation.’

Seamus Heaney

Bhí gnéithe d’Acht na Gaeltachta 2012 a rinne iarracht freastal ar idir aisiompú agus athbheochan teanga ar bhonn córasach; leag sé amach córas le ceantair Ghaeltachta a rangú ar bhonn teangeolaíoch agus chuir sé bonn faoin bpleanáil teanga ar bhonn áitiúil sna Gaeltachtaí. D’aithin sé freisin tionchar na mbailte ‘seirbhíse’ a mbíonn na Gaeltachtaí ag brath orthu maidir le seirbhísí áirithe agus chruthaigh sé féidearthachtaí do cheantair lasmuigh den Ghaeltacht stádas oifigiúil teangeolaíoch a bhaint amach mar ‘líonraí’ Gaeilge. Bhain gnéithe den Acht le forfheidhmiú na

Reversal & revival

An update was provided on the two processes, language reversal and revival, in 2006 when the *Government Statement on the Irish Language* was launched and it is significant that ‘bilingualism’ is the aim cited rather than replacing English with Irish as the most predominantly used language.¹⁴ It is often forgotten how unusual it is for a society to have just one language used in it; multilingualism is the norm in most other European countries.

The objective of Government policy in relation to Irish is to increase on an incremental basis the use and knowledge of Irish as a community language.

Specifically, the Government aim is to ensure that as many citizens as possible are bilingual in both Irish and English.

There were aspects of the Gaeltacht Act 2012 which attempted to cater to both language reversal and revival on a systematic basis; it set out a system for classifying the Gaeltacht regions on a linguistic basis and underpinned language planning on a local basis in the Gaeltacht regions. It also recognised the influence of the ‘service’ towns on which the Gaeltacht areas depend for certain services and it created possibilities for areas outside the Gaeltacht to achieve official linguistic status as Irish language ‘networks’. Aspects of the Act were thus concerned with the

Straitéise 20 Bliain más ea ar bhealach a phós an dá phróiseas – an Athbheochan agus an tAisiompú – ar a chéile den chéad uair riamh.

Le tamall de bhlianta anuas, más ea, anuas ar na réimsí oibre a bhí á gcomhlíonadh ag Foras na Gaeilge ó bunaíodh é in 1999, tá saindualgais nua á dtiomnú de réir a chéile dó atá ceannródaíoch agus samhlaíoch, agus a luíonn go maith lenar gcuid oibre. Sampla maith amháin de sin, ceann de na ceantair a roghnaíodh mar Líonra Gaeilge lasmuigh den Ghaeltacht, Cluain Dolcáin. Bhí Foras na Gaeilge ag tabhairt tacaíochta don phobal sin tríd an Scéim Phobail Gaeilge (SPG) ó 2005.

Ar ndóigh, tá pobail eile fós ann a bhféadfaí níos mó aird a thabhairt orthu amach anseo – iad siúd a bhfuil bá acu leis an teanga ach nár thapaigh deis go fóill plean teanga a fhorbairt dá bpobal: pobail nach bhfuil deiseanna á gcur ar fáil iontu an Ghaeilge a fhoghlaim nó í a chleachtadh agus a fheabhsú. Tá daoine mar seo ann i gcéin agus i gcógar – tá na Gaeil scaipthe go fairsing agus déantar staidéar ar an nGaeilge dá réir go neamhfhoirmeálta agus go foirmeálta.¹⁵

Comhthéacs staire an Tuaiscirt

Nuair a bunaíodh Tuaisceart Éireann mar stát ar leith i 1921 bhí pobail labhartha Gaeilge fós ann agus mhair cainteoirí dúchais sa chiall seo go dtí deireadh na seascaidí. Mar a chonaiceamar cheana, léirigh an suirbhé a d'fhoilsigh an ITES go raibh líofacht sa Ghaeilge de shaghas éigin ag 17% de Thuaisceart Éireann. Sa lá atá inniu ann is iad is cóngaraí do na pobail sin na daoine a tógadh le Gaeilge ag tuismitheoirí/caomhnóirí nár tógadh iadsan le Gaeilge de ghnáth, is é sin gur dhaoine iad na tuismitheoirí/caomhnóirí sin a d'fhoghlaim an teanga mar dhara teanga. Tá na teaghlaigh sin san áireamh i bpobal labhartha na Gaeilge i dTuaisceart Éireann sa lá atá inniu ann chomh maith le daltaí atá ag fáil oideachais trí mheán na Gaeilge ag an mbun agus iar-bhun-leibhéal i scoileanna lán-Ghaeilge.¹⁶ Mar an gcéanna leis an scéal ó dheas, tá an teanga ag brath ar an gcóras

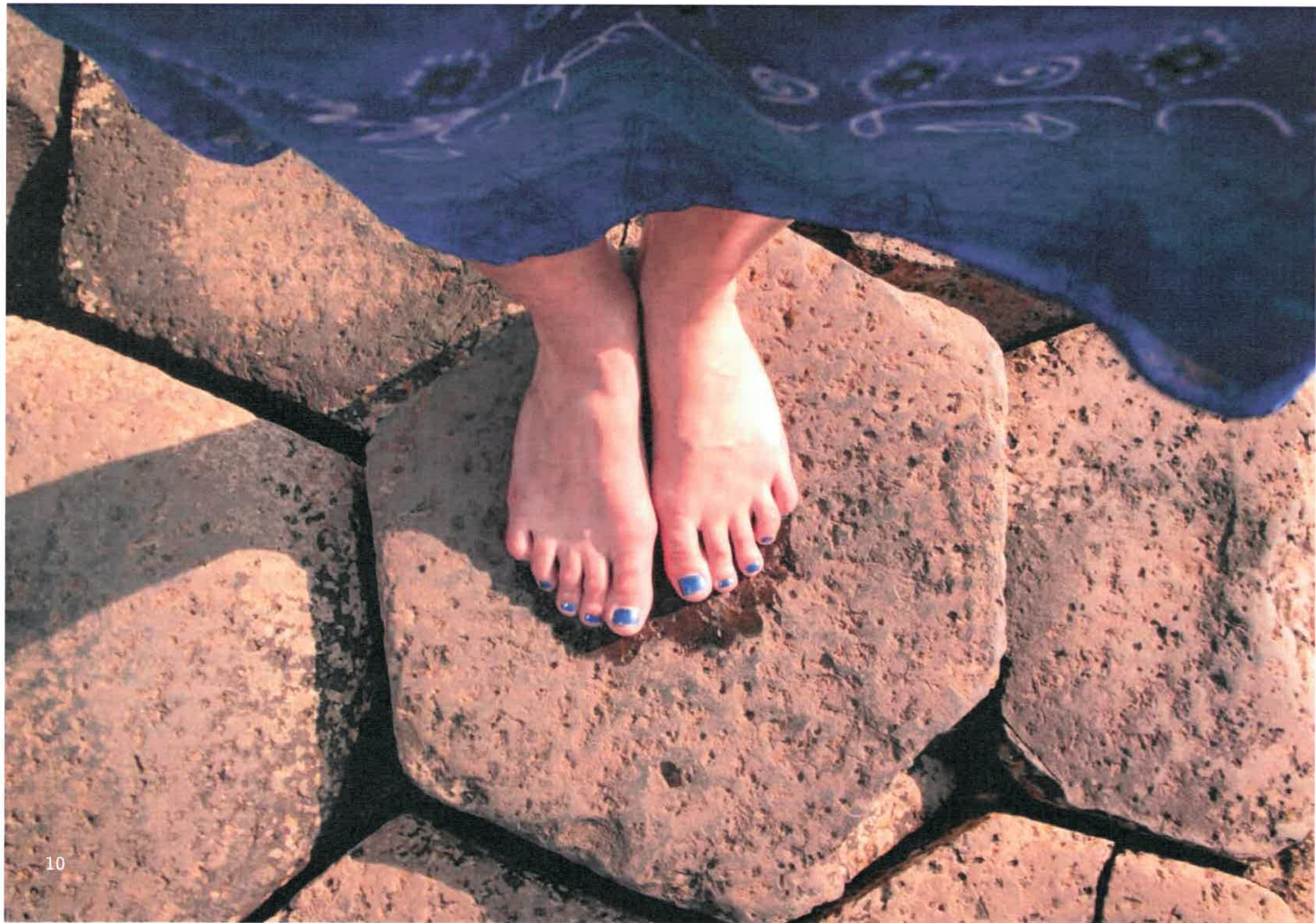
implementation of the *20 Year Strategy* in a way which addressed both processes, the revival and the reversal, jointly for the first time.

In recent years Foras na Gaeilge in addition to the responsibilities envisaged for us at our establishment in 1999 has undertaken further, specialised, pioneering and imaginative responsibilities which complement and develop them. To give one example, one of the areas chosen as an Irish language network outside of the Gaeltacht, is Clondalkin in Co. Dublin. Foras na Gaeilge had been giving support to that community through the Irish Language Communities Scheme since 2005.

Of course, there are still other communities to which more attention could be paid in the future, those who are sympathetic to the language but which have not yet taken the opportunity to develop a language plan, communities in which opportunities are not made available to learn Irish or practice and improve it. There are people like this near and far. Those interested in Irish are spread widely and Irish is studied internationally both formally and informally.¹⁵

Historical Context of Northern Ireland

When Northern Ireland was established in 1921 it still had some Irish-speaking communities and native Irish speakers in this sense survived until the start of the twenty first century. Today the closest thing to those communities are those reared with Irish by parents/guardians who were not themselves reared with Irish usually, that is to say that the parents/guardians are people who learned the language as a second language. These families are included in the Irish speaking community in Northern Ireland today as well as pupils who are receiving their education through the medium of Irish at primary and secondary level in Irish-medium schools.¹⁶ As we have seen already, the survey published by the ESRI shows that 17% of the public in Northern Ireland have some sort of fluency in Irish. Similar to the south, the language is dependent on the education system for the



oideachais sa chuid is mó de le pobal cainteoirí a chruthú agus cé nach raibh cur chun cinn na Gaeilge ina thosaíocht ag an stát ó thuaidh tugadh tacaíocht oifigiúil do mhúineadh na teanga nó lean sí mar bhí bonn faoina leithéid roimh 1921.¹⁷ I réimsí eile, murab ionann agus an stát ó dheas, bhí an stát frith-Ghaeilge. Níor cuireadh tacaíocht stáit ar fáil do na healaíona Gaeilge go dtí na 1900í agus bhí cosc ar chraoltóireacht trí mheán na Gaeilge go dtí 1982. Ach sa bhliain 1989 bunaíodh eagraíocht le maoiniú ón stát – An tIontaobhas Ultach – leis an teanga a chur chun cinn sa phobal uile, is é sin le rá le freagrachtaí freisin maidir le freastal ar phobail nár phobail Chaitliceacha iad. Sa bhliain 2001 ghlac Rialtas na Breataine le forálacha de chuid na Cairte Eorpaí do Theangacha Réigiúnach nó Mionlaigh Neamhfhorleathana agus d'aithin sé sin go raibh dualgais áirithe orthu i leith na teanga. Nuair a rinneadh Comhaontú Aoine an Chéasta / Bhéal Feirste sa bhliain 1998, bhí ceisteanna teanga, cultúir agus comhionannais mar chuid lárnach sa phlé agus cuireadh bonn seasmhach, stát-urraithe faoin ngaeoideachas i dTuaisceart Éireann nuair a bunaíodh Chomhairle na Gaelscolaíochta agus Iontaobhas na Gaelscolaíochta.¹⁸ Arís, ba léiriú é sin ar a lárnaí is atá an córas gaeoideachais d'fhorbairt na Gaeilge i dTuaisceart Éireann. De bharr an Chomhaontaithe freisin, bunaíodh An Foras Teanga ina raibh Foras na Gaeilge mar chuid de leis an nGaeilge a chur chun cinn ar bhonn uile-oileáin. Bhí dhá chuid san áisíneacht sin, Foras na Gaeilge agus Tha Boord o Ulstèr Scotch atá freagrach as cur chun cinn na hUltaise.

Tá an tacaíocht a thug Foras na Gaeilge tar éis bheith an-tábhachtach d'fhorbairt na Gaeilge ó thuaidh. Tá tacaíocht leanúnach tugtha don dá Chultúrlann, mar shampla, i mBéal Feirste agus i nDoire agus éascaíodh gníomhaíocht teanga ag leibhéal an phobail ó thuaidh go mór tríd an Scéim Phobail Gaeilge agus tríd an Scéim Raidió Pobail. An fhorbairt is déanaí ná an t-aitheantas mar 'Líonraí Gaeilge' atá bainte amach ag grúpaí i dTuaisceart Éireann.

most part to create a community of speakers and although the promotion of the Irish language was not a priority of the state in the north official support was provided for the teaching of the language or it was allowed continue as it has been in place before 1921.¹⁷ In other areas, unlike the southern state, the state actively opposed Irish. For example, there was a ban on broadcasting through the medium of Irish until 1982. In 1989 however, an organisation was established with funding from the state, the ULTACH trust, to promote the language across the entire community, that is to say, with responsibilities also for catering to non-Catholic communities. In the year 2001 the United Kingdom government accepted provisions of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages and thereby recognised certain duties towards the language. When the Belfast Agreement was made in the year 1998, language, culture and equality questions were central in the discussion and Irish-medium education in Northern Ireland was put on a firm state-sponsored basis when Comhairle na Gaelscolaíochta (the Council for Irish-Medium Education) and Iontaobhas na Gaelscolaíochta (the Irish-Medium Education Trust) were established. Again, this demonstrated how central Irish-medium education is to the development of Irish in Northern Ireland. Also because of the Agreement the Language Body was established. There were two parts to that Body: Foras na Gaeilge – which promotes Irish on an all-island basis, and The Ulster Scots Agency, which is responsible for the promotion of Ulster Scots.

The support which Foras na Gaeilge has provided has been very important for the development of the Irish language in Northern Ireland. Continuous support has been given to the two cultúrlanna, for example, in Belfast and Derry, and language activity was greatly facilitated at community level, specially through the Irish Language Communities scheme and through the Community Radio Scheme. The latest development is the official recognition achieved by groups in Northern Ireland as Irish language networks.

DRÉACHT

Is é an dúshlán sna blianta amach romhainn le linn thréimhse an Phlean seo, tógáil ar na forbairtí seo agus tionscnaimh eile fós a thabhairt chun cinn le coinneáil bord ar bord leis an éileamh ar an nGaeilge agus an spéis inti.

Comhthéacs Pleanála

Is é comhthéacs an Phlean seo na dualgais éagsúla phleanála uile-oileáin atá ar Fhoras na Gaeilge i leith na Comhairle Aireachta Thuaidh Theas (CATT) – is é sin Phlean Corparáideach trí bliana agus Phlean Gnó bliantúil a réiteach le bheith faofa ag an CATT – agus Straitéis 20 Bliain don Ghaeilge ó dheas agus an Dréachtstraitéis le Forbairt na Gaeilge a Fheabhsú agus a Chosaint ó thuaidh.

Cur Chuige Comhpháirtíochta

De thoradh ar chinneadh den Chomhairle Aireachta Thuaidh Theas 10 Iúil 2013, roghnaigh Foras na Gaeilge na sé cheanneagraíocht a ghlacadh freagracht as sé mhór-réimse oibre.

Ceanneagraíocht	Mór-réimse Oibre
Gaeloideachas	Gaeloideachas/tumoideachas agus réamhscolaíocht lán-Ghaeilge
Gael Linn	Oideachas in earnáil an Bhéarla agus d'aoisigh, agus deiseanna úsáide do dhaltai scoile
Glór na nGael	Forbairt pobail agus eacnamaíochta
Oireachtas na Gaeilge	Deiseanna a thacaíonn le húsáid na Gaeilge agus le bunú gréasán do dhaoine fásta
Conradh na Gaeilge	Ardú feasachta, cosaint teanga agus ionadaíocht (thar ceann na teanga le húdaráis stáit)
Cumann na bhFiann	Forbairt delseanna úsáide Gaeilge agus gréasán do dhaoine óga

DRAFT

The challenge in coming years during the period of this document is to build on these developments and to bring additional initiatives to the fore to match the demand for Irish and the interest in it.

Planning Context

The context for this document is the various all-island planning responsibilities of Foras na Gaeilge to the North South Ministerial Council (NSMC) – that is to prepare a three year corporate plan and an annual business plan for approval by NSMC – and the 20 Year Strategy for Irish in the south and the Draft Strategy to Improve the Development and Protection of Irish in the north.

The Partnership Approach

Following a decision by the North South Ministerial Council on 10 July 2013, Foras na Gaeilge selected the six Lead Organisations that would take responsibility for six major areas of work.

Lead Organisation	General Area of Work
Gaeloideachas	Irish medium education/Immersion Education and Irish Medium Preschool Education
Gael Linn	Education in the English language sector and adult education, and opportunities for use for school pupils
Glór na nGael	Community & economic development
Oireachtas na Gaeilge	Opportunities which support the Use of Irish and establishing networks for adults
Conradh na Gaeilge	Raising awareness, language protection and representation (on behalf of the language with state authorities)
Cumann na bhFiann	The development of opportunities for the use of Irish and networks for young people

DRÉACHT

Mar chuid de chinneadh na Comhairle Aireachta Thuaidh Theas, bunaíodh dhá fhóram – Fóram Comhpháirtíochta agus Fóram Forbartha Teanga.

Bíonn ceannasaithe na gCeanneagraíochtaí thuasluaite ar an bhFóram Comhpháirtíochta mar aon le Cathaoirleach an Fhórait Forbartha Teanga agus dhá ionadaí ó Fhoras na Gaeilge.

Tá an Fóram Forbartha Teanga ionadaíoch ar shainghrúpaí áitiúla teanga atá á maoiniú ag Foras na Gaeilge ag leibhéal an phobail. Is dlúthchuid é an Fóram Forbartha Teanga den chur chuige comhpháirtíochta, an struchtúr foirmiúil idir na Ceanneagraíochtaí agus Foras na Gaeilge.

Na Príomh-Chinntidil sa Phlean

Tá na príomh-chinntidil sa Phlean – **Cumas** agus **Úsáid** – bunaithe ar choincheapa pleanála teanga agus faoi réir na ndualgas pleanála uile-oileáin a luadh cheana.

Freastalaítear ar ghnéithe eile faoi **Thacaíocht**, ag aithint na ndúshlán ar leith a bhaineann le cur chun cinn na teanga, ina measc go bhfuil an Ghaeilge á cur chun cinn i gcomhthéacs mórtheanga domhanda.

DRAFT

In accordance with the North South Ministerial Committee decision, two forums have also been established – a Partnership Forum and a Language Development Forum.

The Partnership Forum consists of the heads of the Lead Organisations, the Chairperson of the Language Development Forum and two representatives from Foras na Gaeilge.

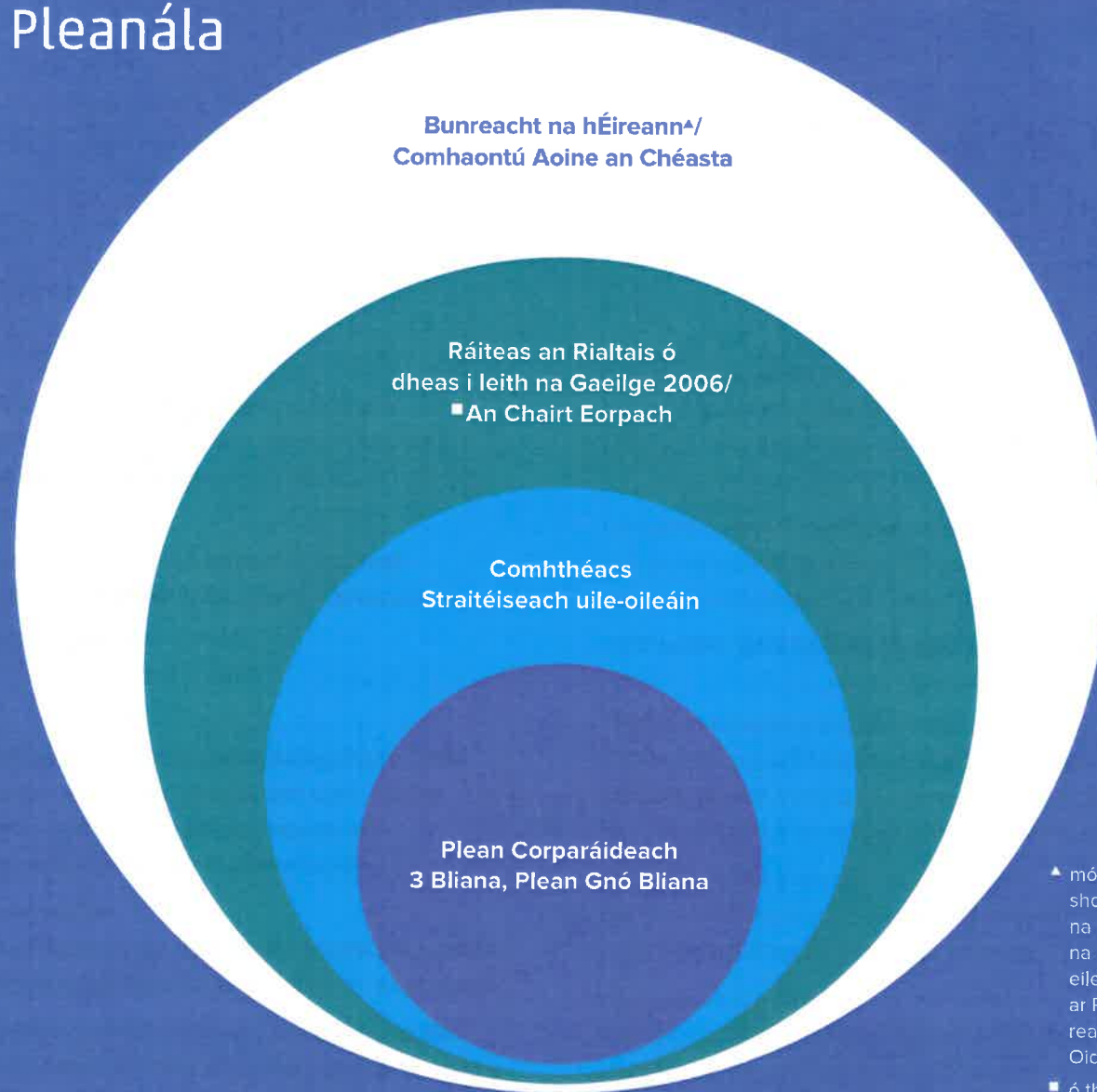
The Language Development Forum is representative of local language interest groups funded by Foras na Gaeilge at community level and is an integral part of the partnership approach, the formal structure between the Lead Organisations and Foras na Gaeilge.

The Main Headlines in the Strategic Direction

The main headlines in the Strategic Direction – **Ability** and **Use** – are based on language planning concepts and subject to the all island planning responsibilities already mentioned.

Other aspects are catered for under **Support**, recognising the particular challenges of promoting the language, including the fact that Irish is being promoted in the context of being ‘in contact’ (linguistically speaking) with a major world language.

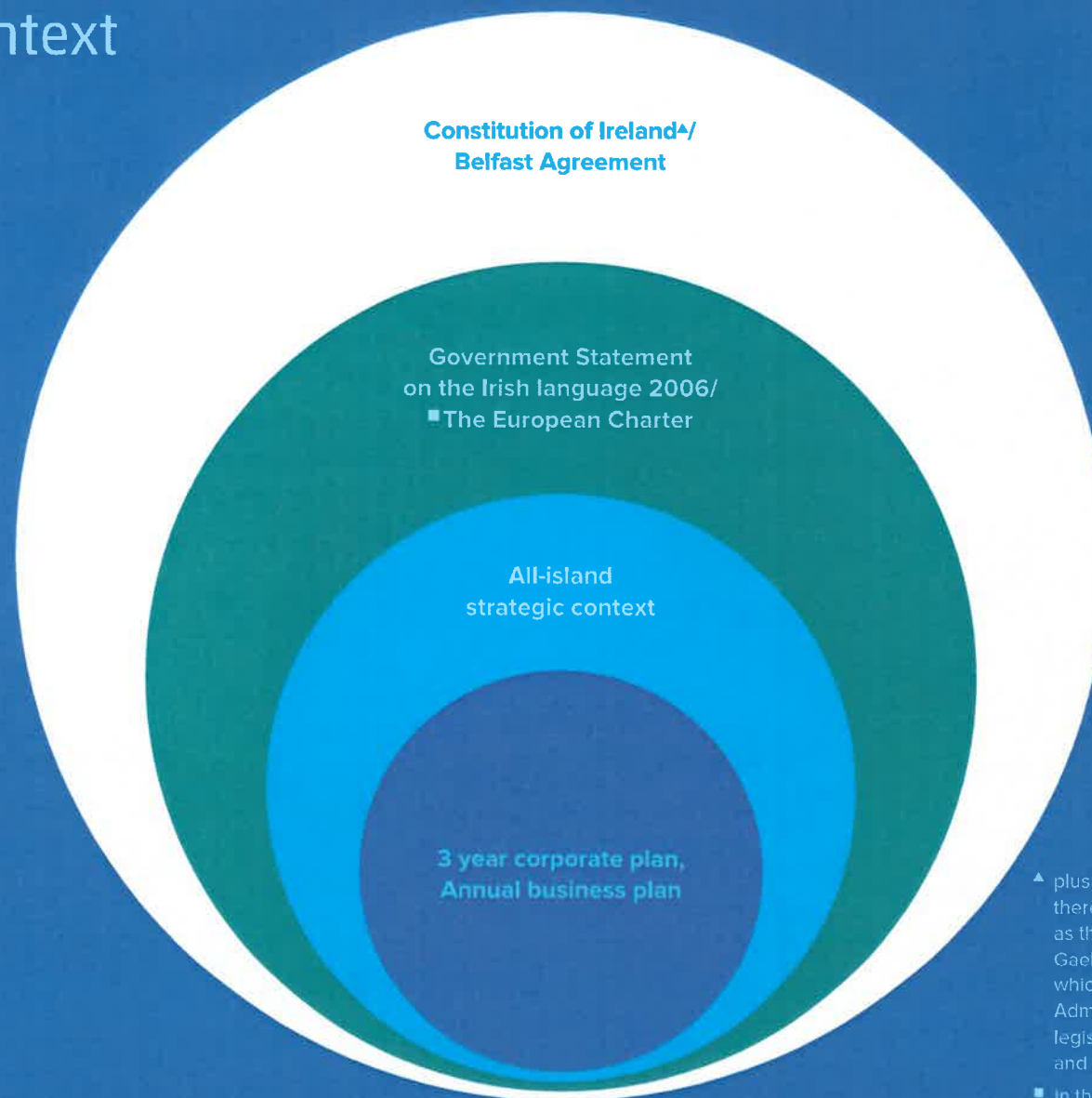
Comhthéacs Pleanála



▲ móide reachtaíocht ó dheas a bhfuil gné shoiléir teanga ag roinnt léi ar nós Acht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla 2003, Acht na Gaeltachta 2012, agus reachtaíocht eile a d'eascair as an Athbhreithniú ar Riarachán Poiblí ó thuaidh agus reachtaíocht freisin ar nós na nAchtanna Oideachais agus Leasuithe orthu.

■ ó thuaidh

Planning Context



▲ plus legislation in the south in which there is a strong language element such as the Official Languages Act 2003, the Gaeltacht Act 2012, and other legislation which arose from the Review of Public Administration in the north and also legislation such as the Education Acts and Amendments to them.

■ in the north

Trí Théama Leanúnacha

Comhairle, Comhoibriú & Comhordú

‘Tá ríméad orainn an plan straitéiseach seo a roinnt leis an bpobal agus béim ar leith a chur ar na trí théama seo atá lárnach dá chur i gcrích.’

Seán Ó Coinn, Príomhfheidhmeannach

Comhairle

Tá ról comhairleach ag Foras na Gaeilge maidir le ceist na Gaeilge sa dá dhlínse.*

- Cumarsáid leis and dá lucht riaracháin (sa dá dhlínse) i dtaca le pleanáil teanga;
- Teagmháil leis na Ranna Oideachais go háirithe;
- Teagmháil le heagrais ábhartha eile leis an nGaeilge a chur chun cinn.

- * ‘comhairle a thabhairt don dá lucht riaracháin, do chomhlachtaí poiblí agus do ghrúpaí eile san earnáil phríobháideach agus dheonach’ Acht um Chomhaontú na Breataine/na hÉireann, 1999 <http://www.achtanna.ie/ga.act.1999.00011.html> agus The North/South Cooperation (Implementation Bodies) (Northern Ireland) Order 1999 <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukSI/1999/859/made>

Comhordú

Tá Foras na Gaeilge tiomanta d’athbhreithniú leanúnach a dhéanamh ar an eagraíocht le deimhniú go bhfuilimid éifeachtach

- Athbhreithniú rialta a dhéanamh ar an eagraíocht (ar a laghad athbhreithniú foirmeálta amháin le linn tréimhse an phlean áirithe seo);
- eolas faoi ról agus freagrachtaí Fhoras na Gaeilge a roinnt le páirtithe cuí.

Comhoibriú

Tá Foras na Gaeilge tiomanta don comhoibriú

- Le grúpaí pobail atá gníomhach ar son na teanga;
- Leis na Ranna Coimircíochta agus páirtithe eile ar ardleibhéal;
- Leis na ceanneagraíochtaí agus grúpaí eile a chabhraíonn leis an gCur Chuige Comhpháirtíochta a chur i gcrích;
- Le páirtithe leasmhara eile le taighde agus tionscailm eile a thacóidh leis an nGaeilge.

Three Constant Themes

Consultation, Cooperation & Coordination

'We are delighted to share our Strategic Direction with the community and place a particular emphasis on these three themes which are central to their fulfilment.'

Seán Ó Coinn, chief executive

Consultation

Foras na Gaeilge has an advisory role on the question of the Irish language in both jurisdictions*

- › Communication with both administrations (in both jurisdictions) on language planning;
- › Contact with the education departments in particular;
- › Contact with the other relevant bodies to promote Irish.

- 'advise both administrations, public bodies and other groups in the private and voluntary sectors' The British/Irish Agreement Act, 1999 <http://www.aachtanna.ie/framed/1999.act.001.00.frameset.html> and The North/South Cooperation (Implementation Bodies) (Northern Ireland) Order 1999 <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukSI/1999/859/made>

Coordination

Foras na Gaeilge is committed to carry out continuous review of the organisation to ensure that we are effective

- › Carry out regular review of the organisation (at least one formal review during the period of this particular Strategic Direction);
- › Share information on the role and responsibilities of Foras na Gaeilge with appropriate parties.

Cooperation

Foras na Gaeilge is committed to cooperation

- › With community groups active for the language;
- › With the sponsor department and other parties at a high level;
- › With the lead organisations and other who help carry out the partnership approach;
- › With other interested parties with research and other initiatives which will support Irish.

1



Cumas Teanga

Oideachas

Bíonn idir ghnéithe cumais, stádais agus úsáide ag roinnt le cúrsaí oideachais i dtéarmaí na pleanála teanga. Aithníonn Foras na Gaeilge gur le leas na Gaeilge cur chuige comhtháite sa dá dhlínse sna córais oideachais maidir leis an nGaeloideachas. Is mian le Foras na Gaeilge a ról comhairleoireachta a fhorbairt leis an gcomhoibriú a dhaingniú agus an dea-chleachtas a roinnt. Tacóidh sé sin le forbairt an ghaeloideachais ar fud an oileáin, le foghlaim na Gaeilge i scoileanna mheán-Bhéarla, agus le húsáid na Gaeilge labhartha agus léite sa scoil agus lasmuigh den seomra ranga, trí raon de thionscnaimh chuí, agus trí straitéis léitheoireachta.

Language Ability

Education

In language planning terms there are ability, status and use aspects to education. Foras na Gaeilge recognises that an integrated approach in the education systems in both jurisdictions toward Irish-medium education is beneficial to the language. Foras na Gaeilge wishes to develop its advisory role in order to strengthen cooperation and share best practice. We will support the development of Irish-medium education throughout the island, the learning of Irish in English medium schools, and the use of spoken, written and read Irish inside and outside the classroom, through a range of appropriate initiatives, and through a reading strategy.

Pleanáil chomhlánach don Ghaeilge sna córais oideachais

- tógáil ar na scéimeanna atá againn trí chur le líon na bpobal a thacódh leis an oideachas trí Ghaeilge. De réir mar atá méadú ag teacht ar líon na ngaelscoileanna agus líon na ndaltaí sa chóras gaeiloideachais tá méadú ag teacht ar an éileamh le haghaidh seirbhísí réamhscolaíochta, meánscoile agus tríú leibhéal. Aithnítear go forleathan an gá le cur le deiseanna úsáide Gaeilge do dhaltaí gaeilscoile, sa scoil agus taobh amuigh di.
- tógáil ar na scéimeanna atá againn chun tacú le múineadh na Gaeilge i scoileanna nach í an Ghaeilge teanga na scoile. Cabhróidh tionscnaimh ar nós Gaelbhratach, mar shampla, agus pleananna na Roinne Oideachais & Scileanna (ROS) ábhar amháin a mhúineadh trí Ghaeilge sa chóras oideachais ó dheas chun sin a bhaint amach. Sna 5 bliana romhainn cuirfidh Foras na Gaeilge béim ar leith ar Oiliúint Tosaigh Bun-Mhúinteoirí ó dheas agus muid ag cur i gcrích an róil chomhairligh reachtúil atá againn.
- tógáil ar an ról comhairleach atá againn ó thuaidh chun cur chuige comhordaithe a stiúradh le líon na n-iarbhunscoileanna a bhfuil an Ghaeilge ar fáil iontu mar ábhar ardleibhéil a mhéadú, agus líon na scoláirí ardleibhéil a mhéadú. Ó thuaidh tá laghdú suntasach i ndiaidh teacht ar líon na scoileanna ina bhfuil an Ghaeilge á múineadh. Tá gá le straitéis chomhordaithe i gcomhar leis an Roinn Oideachais agus an Roinn Pobal, agus leis na ceanneagraíochtaí cuí (Conradh na Gaeilge agus Gael Linn) chun haghaidh a thabhairt ar an gceist seo.

Complementary planning for Irish in the education systems

- build on the schemes we have by adding to the number of communities which support education through Irish. As the number of Irish-medium schools and the number of pupils in the Irish-medium education system increase the demand for preschool, secondary school and third level services is increasing. The need to increase opportunities to use Irish for Irish-medium schools, within the school and outside, is widely recognised.
- build on the schemes we have to support the teaching of Irish in schools where Irish is not the language of the school. Initiatives such as Gaelbhratach, for example, and the plans of the Department of Education & Skills (DES) to teach one subject through Irish will help achieve this. In the next five years Foras na Gaeilge will utilise our advisory role to emphasise the importance of initial teacher training.
- build on the advisory role we have in Northern Ireland to direct a concerted effort to increase the number of post primary schools in which Irish is available as an A-level subject, and to increase the number of A-level students. In the north there has been a significant decrease in the number of schools in which Irish is taught. A coordinated strategy involving the Department of Education, the Department for Communities and the appropriate lead organisations (Conradh na Gaeilge and Gael Linn) is required to address this issue.



Oideachas trí Ghaeilge

1 Pleanáil agus comhairle le haghaidh tuilleadh soláthair gaeiloideachais

Tá athruithe suntasacha curtha i bhfeidhm sa dá dhlínse le blianta beaga anuas, sa dóigh a bhfreagraítear don éileamh ón phobal ar sholáthar gaeiloideachais. Tá fianaise ann le fada go bhfuil géarghá leis seo. Léiríonn suirbhéanna atá déanta go bhfuil 23% den phobal ó dheas ar lorg gaeiloideachais dá bpáistí, ach faoi láthair níl áiteanna ar fáil ach le haghaidh c.5%. Tá eagrais ar leith aitheanta le dul i ngleic leis na deacrachtaí a bhaineann le bunú soláthar nua gaeiloideachais, thar ceann an phobail:

Ó Dheas: tá an eagraíocht Gaeiloideachas aitheanta mar ceanneagraíocht maoinithe ag Foras na Gaeilge, agus tá an Foras Pátrúnachta maoinithe ag an Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna mar phátrún le haghaidh gaeiloideachais;

Ó Thuaidh: tá Comhairle na Gaelscolaíochta (ar a bhfuil ionadaíocht ag Foras na Gaeilge ar a bord stiúrtha) mar eagrais reachtúil agus maoinithe ag an Roinn Oideachais.

- comhairle a chur ar na húdaráis chuí chun freastal ar an éileamh ar an ngaeiloideachas, agus a bheith ag obair i gcomhar le páirtithe leasmhara eile i réimse an ghaeiloideachais thuaidh agus theas.

Irish-medium education

1 Planning and advice for further Irish-medium education provision

In recent years significant changes have been implemented in both jurisdictions, in responding to public demand for Irish-medium education. The demand is long-established and well attested to. Surveys carried out show that 23% of the public in the south want Irish-medium education for their children, but at present places are available only for around 5%. A range of bodies has been established to address the challenge of Irish-medium education provision:

In the south: Gaeiloideachas is the organisation recognised as the lead organisation funded by Foras na Gaeilge, and An Foras Pátrúnachta (the Patronage Foundation) is funded by the Department of Education and Skills as a patron for Irish-medium education;

In the north: Comhairle na Gaelscolaíochta (on whose board Foras na Gaeilge has representation) is the statutory body funded by the Department of Education.

- advise the appropriate authorities to deal with the demand for Irish-medium education, and to work in conjunction with other interested parties in the area of Irish-medium education north and south.

2 Tionchar a imirt agus tacú le pleanáil chomhtháite don Ghaeilge sna córais oideachais trasna na 4 leibhéal.

Aithníonn Foras na Gaeilge an éifeachtúlacht a bhaineann le soláthar oideachais a chur ar fáil ar bhonn pleanáilte leanúnach comhtháite.

- an phleanáil chomhtháite (ó réamhscolaíocht go hoideachas tríú leibhéal) a dheimhniú leis na heagraíochtaí agus na húdaráis chúí, ag cur san áireamh go bhfuil leibhéal ard éillmh ar oideachas trí mheán na Gaeilge.

Múineadh na Gaeilge i scoileanna nach í an Ghaeilge an meán teagaisc

Aithníonn ROS i dtuairiscí éagsúla dá gcuid gur féidir cur go mór le caighdeán mhúineadh na Gaeilge sa chóras bunscolaíochta. Aithnítear go forleathan gurb é caighdeán mhúineadh na Gaeilge ag leibhéal na bunscoile an bac is mó ar chumasú daoine óga i mórfhobal na tíre ó dheas sa Ghaeilge.

- tacú le hiarrachtaí ROS, an Chomhairle Mhúinteoireachta agus páirtithe leasmhara eile dul i ngleic leis an cheist seo ar bhealach straitéiseach córasach.



2 Exert an influence on and support cohesive planning for Irish in the education systems in the four levels.

Foras na Gaeilge recognises the efficacy of education provision in a planned, continuous and cohesive basis.

- ensure integrated planning (from preschool to third level education) with the appropriate organisations and authorities, taking into account the high level of demand for education through the medium of Irish.

Teaching of Irish in schools where Irish is not the teaching medium

The Department of Education and Skills recognises in several of their reports that the standard of teaching of Irish could be greatly improved in the primary school system. It is widely recognised that the standard of teaching of Irish at primary school level is the greatest barrier to enabling young people in Irish.

- support efforts of the DES, the Teaching Council and other interested parties in tackling this question in a systematic and strategic way.

Foclóireacht & téarmaíocht

1 Pleanáil leanúnach, fhadtéarmach d'fhoclóireacht na Gaeilge

Tá bonn curtha faoi mhórtionscadal náisiúnta foclóireachta agus faoi obair na foclóireachta i gcoitinne. Ní mór cur chuige straitéiseach fadtéarmacha a leanúint le cúrsaí foclóireachta de réir an dea-chleachtais is fearr. Mar chuspóir straitéiseach beidh Foras na Gaeilge ag iarraidh sainscileanna foclóireachta a fhorbairt agus tógáil ar an gcomhpháirtíocht leis an tríú leibhéal sa réimse oibre seo.

- › bonn seasta a chur faoi obair na foclóireachta san fhadtéarma trí straitéis foclóireachta a aontú leis na húdaráis chuí, agus an straitéis sin a chur i gcrích le go gcuimseofaí idir chothabháil tograí atá bunaithe cheana agus fhorbairt tionscadal nua de réir riachtanais na teanga. Tá foclóir Gaeilge-Gaeilge agus foclóir Gaeilge-Béarla san áireamh anseo.



Foclóireacht & téarmaíocht

1 Continuous, long-term planning for Irish language lexicography

A major national lexicography project has been established and along with it lexicography work in general set on a firm footing. However, a strategic long-term approach must be followed in lexicography in accordance with best practice. As a strategic objective Foras na Gaeilge shall seek to develop lexicographical skills and build on partnerships with the third level in this area of work.

- › put lexicographical work on a permanent basis in the long-term by agreeing a lexicography strategy with the appropriate authorities, and implement that strategy including both the maintenance of existing projects and the development of new projects in accordance with the needs of the language. An Irish-Irish dictionary and an Irish-English dictionary are included in this.

2 Comhtháthú ar obair i Réimse na Pleanála Stádais

Aithníonn Foras na Gaeilge stair agus comhthéacs na dtionscadal éagsúil atá ar bun i réimsí gaolmhara a bhaineann le ‘pleanáil stádais’ – obair théarmaíochta, obair foclóireachta agus obair chaighdeánaithe, tobar sain-acmhainní foirne oile a dheimhniú ina measc.

- leanúint de chur chuige comhtháite, trí straitéis aontaithe foclóireachta a fhorbairt a chuidseoidh riachtanais úsáideoirí agus foghlaimoirí, agus a chuidseoidh forbairt corpais agus forbairt ghairmiúil foirne.

3 Saibhriú na Foclóireachta

Aithníonn Foras na Gaeilge an saibhreas atá i gcaint na ndaoine agus gur cóir cúram ar leith a dhéanamh de tharraingt ar an saibhreas sin in obair na foclóireachta.

- aitheantas ar leith a thabhairt do shaibhreas teanga na Gaeltachta in obair na foclóireachta a aithníonn gur teanga bheo ilghnéitheach í an Ghaeilge.

2 Integration of work in the area of status planning

Foras na Gaeilge recognises the history and context of the different projects underway in areas related to ‘status planning’: terminology work, lexicography work and standardisation work, including the need to ensure a pool of specialist trained staff.

- continue with an integrated approach by developing an agreed lexicography strategy which will encompass user and learner needs, corpus development and professional staff development.

3 Lexicographical enrichment

Foras na Gaeilge recognises the richness of everyday speech and that particular care must be taken to draw on that richness in the work of lexicography.

- give particular recognition to the richness of language in the Gaeltacht in lexicography work, which recognises that Irish is a living multifaceted language.



An Teaghlach

Is é is brí leis an ‘teaghlach’ anseo an comthéacs baile ina bhforbraíonn an leanbh scileanna teanga. Cuimsíonn sé an raon leathan ó thuismitheoirí/cúramóirí leis an nGaeilge mar chéad teanga acu ó dhúchas go thuismitheoirí/caomhnóirí nach bhfuil ach beagán Gaeilge acu, agus gach saghas socruithe idir eatarthu.

1 Soiléire faoi na gnéithe den obair sa réimse seo agus na dreamanna freagracha

Aithníonn Foras na Gaeilge gur obair dhúshlánach, ilghnéitheach í tacú le teaghlaigh a leanaí a thógáil le Gaeilge, agus a dheimhniú go bhfuil na seirbhísí cuí ar fáil dóibh. Aithnímid, mar sin féin, an tábhacht a bhaineann le haistriú teanga ó ghlúin go glúin i gcás na Gaeilge, sa Ghaeltacht agus sa chuid eile den oileán.

- › soiléire bheith ann i measc an phobail, trí fheachtais feasachta aontaithe dírithe ar theaghlaigh, maidir leis na gnéithe iomadúla oibre atá sa réimse seo. I measc na ngnéithe sin tá grúpaí cothaithe linbh; an réamhscoolaíocht; cúram lae trí Ghaeilge; grúpaí le tacú le thuismitheoirí/caomhnóirí ar easpa/bheagán Gaeilge a roghnaíonn leanaí a chur ar ghaelscoileanna; agus ‘clárú’ le haghaidh ócáidí agus gníomhaíochtaí seach-scoile trí Ghaeilge, srl.

The Family

The ‘family’ here refers to the home environment in which the child develops language skills. It includes a wide range of parents/guardians from those who have Irish as a first language to those who only have a little Irish, and everything in between.

1 Clarity about aspects of work in this area and those responsible

Foras na Gaeilge recognises that supporting families raising children through Irish, and ensuring that the appropriate services are available to them, is challenging, multifaceted work. We recognise, however, the importance of language transmission from generation to generation in the case of Irish, in the Gaeltacht and in the rest of the island.

- › clarity among the public, through agreed awareness campaigns aimed at families on the many aspects of work in this area. Among these are child feeding groups; preschool education; day care through Irish; groups to support parents/guardians with no/little Irish who chose to send children to Irish-medium education; and ‘sign up’ for extra curricular events and activities through Irish, etc.

- › béal a chur ar thacú le tuismitheoirí/caomhnóirí an Ghaeilge a úsáid trí thacú le cur chuige straitéiseach ina leith i gcomhar le páirtithe leasmhara. Beidh roinnt príomhthionscadal i gceist sa réimse seo freisin – Scéim Teanga Tí; agus cur chuige straitéiseach córasach i leith bunú ionaid cúraim leanaí.

2 Comhairle maidir le tacaíochtaí eile le húsáid na Gaeilge a chumasú agus a chothú

Tá ról comhairleach reachtúil ag Foras na Gaeilge maidir le cur chun cinn na Gaeilge i gcoitinne agus tá idir chúraimí feasachta agus forbartha ar leith luaite leis na ceanneagraíochtaí, a thacódh le húsáid na Gaeilge a chumasú agus a chothú i gcomhthéacs an teaghlaigh.

- › ról comhairle agus comhordaithe a imirt lena dheimhniú go mbeidh soiléire ann do theaghlaigh faoi na cearta atá acu seirbhísí mar seo a éileamh, agus cá bhfaighidh siad na seirbhísí sin. Tríd an ról comhairleach reachtúil atá ag Foras na Gaeilge, beimid ag iarraidh tógáil ar an gcomhoibriú atá ann idir Ranna Rialtais, Foras na Gaeilge, agus páirtithe leasmhara eile san earnáil.

- › focus on supporting parents/guardians using Irish by working strategically in conjunction with interested parties. There will also be a number of principal projects in this area, the Home Language Scheme, and a systematic, strategic approach to the establishment of a childcare centre.

2 Advice on other supports to enable and foster the use of Irish

Foras na Gaeilge has a legislative advisory role in the promotion of Irish in general and particular responsibilities in the areas of awareness and development are assigned to the lead organisations, which would support enabling the use of Irish and foster it in the context of the family.

- › play an advisory and coordinating role to ensure that there will be clarity for families about their entitlement to seek such services, and where to find these services. Through the statutory advisory role which Foras na Gaeilge has, we will seek to build on the existing cooperation government departments, Foras na Gaeilge and other interested parties in the sector.



2



Úsáid Teanga

Forbairt ag leibhéal an phobail & pleanáil teanga

- 1 Comhairle a chur ar na rialtais, ar pháirtithe leasmhara agus ar an bpobal le go mbunófaí agus go bhforbrófaí lár-ionaid Ghaeilge

Aithníonn Foras na Gaeilge an tábhacht atá le lár-ionaid chun ‘spásanna sábháilte’ a chur ar fáil do dhaoine le húsáid a bhaint as a gcuid Gaeilge, chun deiseanna úsáide a chur ar fáil don phobal, agus mar eiseamláir fheiceálach ar shaibhreas na teanga. Aithnítear fosta an gá le tacú le forbairt na n-ionad (i) i mbailte móra; (ii) i gceantair ina bhfuil Lónra aitheanta go hoifigiúil agus; (iii) i gceantair ina bhfuil Baile Seirbhíse Gaeltachta. Chuige seo beifear ag tógáil ar an infreastruchtúr fisiciúil nó eile atá ann cheana - clubanna agus áiseanna spóirt agus/nó cultúrtha eile a bheadh oiriúnach (faoi réir an Chreata Náisiúnta Pleanála <http://npf.ie/ga/> ó dheas agus a chómhaithe ó thuaidh).

Language Use

Development at Community Level & Language Planning

- 1 Advise the two governments, interested parties and the public in order to establish and develop Irish language centres

Foras na Gaeilge recognises the importance of such centres as ‘safe spaces’ in which people can use whatever Irish they have, to provide opportunities for the public generally to use the language and as a visible exemplar of the richness of the language. The need to support the development of the centres is also recognised (i) in large towns; (ii) in areas in which there is an officially recognised Network and; (iii) in areas in which there is a Gaeltacht Service Town. To this end already existing physical or other infrastructure will be leveraged – clubs and sports and/or cultural facilities which would be suitable (subject to the National Planning Framework <http://npf.ie/ga/> in the south and its equivalent in the north).

- › tacú le forbairt ionad i gceantair a bhfuil an Ghaeilge á forbairt iontu mar theanga phobail, agus an coincheap a chur in oiriúint agus a shíothlú síos go dtí ceantair pobail níos lú. Beidh na hionaid seo inbhuanaithe agus eiseamláireach maidir le forbairt gréasáin úsáide, deiseanna úsáide agus eispéireas ar an nGaeilge. Léireoidh siad an dóigh le cultúr na Gaeilge a bhuanú sa phobal, agus cuirfear tacaíocht ar fáil dóibh mar chuid de phleanáil chomhtháite teanga sa cheantar.

2 Tacaíocht straitéiseach a chur ar fháil don fhorbairt ag leibhéal an phobail

Aithníonn Foras na Gaeilge an comhoibriú atá ann cheana ag leibhéal an phobail idir chomhpháirtithe éagsúla: le hÚdarás na Gaeltachta, le ceanneagraíochtaí agus le heagraíochtaí rialtais. Tá sé tábhachtach go mbeidh pleananna teanga á gcur le chéile don phobal áitiúil, a chuimsíonn gach gné de chur chun cinn na Gaeilge. Tá sé tábhachtach, mar an gcéanna, go mbeidh na pleananna teanga sin ag leibhéal an phobail comhtháite ar bhealach a sheachnaíonn dúbláil, agus a mhéadaíonn na torthaí fadtéarmacha don teanga ag an leibhéal áitiúil.

- › pleananna teanga comhtháite ag leibhéal an phobail áitiúil a bheith ag gach deontáí faoi scéimeanna Fhoras an Gaeilge, leis an ngaol idir na comhpháirtithe ábhartha a láidriú, d'fhonn an cur chuige comhtháite a fheabhsú.

- › support the development of centres in areas in which Irish is developing as a community language, and adapt the concept and filter it down to smaller community areas. These centres will be sustainable and exemplary in terms of developing networks of language users, creating opportunities for using Irish and providing an experience of the language. They will show how to embed the culture of Irish in a community, and will be supported as part of the integrated language planning for the area.

2 Provide strategic support for development at community level

Foras na Gaeilge recognises the existing cooperation at community level between various partners: Údarás na Gaeltachta, lead organisations and government organisations. It is important that language plans are drawn up for local community and that they encompass all aspects of the promotion of Irish. It is important also that these language plans at the community level are integrated in a way which avoids duplication and which adds to the long-term impact for the language at the local level.

- › all grantees under Foras na Gaeilge schemes to have integrated language plans at local community level to strengthen the relationship between the relevant partners and increase cooperation.



Comhtháthú na Gaeilge sa saol laethúil

Deiseanna le Gaeilge a úsáid

1 Tógáil ar ghréasáin shóisialta atá ann cheana chun cur le húsáid na Gaeilge

Is den éifeacht é tógáil ar gréasáin shóisialta atá ann cheana le cur le húsáid na Gaeilge. Aithníonn Foras na Gaeilge go bhfuil sé tábhachtach gréasáin shóisialta úra a thógáil agus a bhuanú.

- leas a bhaint as gréasáin shóisialta sa mhórphobal – laistigh agus lasmuigh de ghrúpaí Gaeilge. Is mian linn tacú le forbairt gréasáin shóisialta i réimsí éagsúla, mar shampla an spórt, ógchlubanna; daltaí reatha agus iardhaltaí scoileanna mheán-Bhéarla agus gaelscoileanna; mic léinn tríú leibhéal, ‘pop-up Gaeltacht’, grúpaí óige agus slamsaíochta agus sóisialta de gach saghas. Beimid ag díriú ar dtacaíochta i dtreo struchtúir bhuna seachas ócáidí aonuaire.



Integration of Irish into daily life

Opportunities to use Irish

1 Build on existing social networks to increase the use of Irish

Building on existing social networks is the most efficient way to increase the use of Irish. Foras na Gaeilge also recognises that it is important to build and sustain new social networks.

- utilise social networks in the general population – both within and outside of Irish language groups. We wish to support the development of social networks in various areas, for example sport, youth clubs, current and past pupils of English medium and Irish-medium schools; third level students, ‘pop-up Gaeltacht’, youth and entertainment and social groups of all kinds. We will be focusing our support on permanent structures rather than one-off events.

2 Obair i gcomhpháirt le páirtithe eile le deiseanna teicneolaíochta a thapú

Tá an-tábhacht leis an teicneolaíocht a thacódh leis an obair sa réimse seo. Leis an leas is fearr a bhaint as ár gcuid acmhainní ní mór comhoibriú agus freagrachtaí soiléire a bheith ann faoi obair sa réimse seo, idir Foras na Gaeilge agus na páirtithe leasmhara éagsúla.

- tacú le forbairt deiseanna ar an infreastruchtúr teicneolaíochta atá ann cheana, i gcomhar le páirtithe leasmhara, le leas a bhaint as na meáin shóisialta le deiseanna gréasánaithe agus sóisialta a chraobhscaoileadh.

3 Tógáil ar ghréasáin sainspéise agus sainghrúpaí ag tráthanna éagsúla saoil

- tógáil ar scéim i leith grúpaí sainspéise le líon na ngrúpaí reatha, siúlóide, rothaíochta srl a mhéadú. Aithníonn Foras na Gaeilge go múnlaíonn cúinsí saoil an duine na deiseanna sóisialaithe a bhíonn acu agus gur minic gur cúinsí eile seachas cúinsí na teanga is cúis le daoine bheith ag casadh ar a chéile go sóisialta. Aithníodh sainróil sa réimse seo nuair a bunaíodh an Cur Chuige Comhpháirtíochta agus nuair a sainíodh feidhmeanna ar leith sa réimse seo do ceanneagraíochtaí áirithe.
- tosaíocht a dhéanamh de thacaí le haghaidh gréasáin shóisialta, gréasáin sainspéise, agus deiseanna úsáide a fhorbairt i réimsí óige (m.sh. óige agus amharclannaíocht), mic léinn, daoine dífhostaithe, daoine fásta, teaghlaigh, daoine atá éirithe as an obair, srl.

2 Work in partnership with other parties to take advantage of opportunities presented by technology

Technology which would support the work in this area is very important. Cooperation in this area of work between Foras na Gaeilge and the various interested parties with clearly defined responsibilities will make the best use of our resources.

- support the development of opportunities using the existing technology infrastructure, in conjunction with interested parties, in order to use social media to publicise networking and socialising opportunities.

3 Build on the special interest networks and the specialist groups at different life stages

- build on a scheme for special interest groups to increase the number of current walking, cycling etc. groups. Foras na Gaeilge recognises that a person's life circumstances shape their socialisation opportunities and that there are often other factors apart from language which cause people to meet each other socially. Particular roles in this area were recognised when the Partnership Approach was established and specific functions in this area were assigned to particular lead organisations.
- prioritise supports for social networks, special interest groups, and for developing opportunities to use the language among younger people (e.g. young people and theatre), students, unemployed people, adults, families, those who have retired, etc.

4 Léiriú gur cuid lárnach de chultúr na hÉireann iad an Ghaeilge féin agus na healaíona trí Ghaeilge

Aithníonn Foras na Gaeilge an tábhacht a bhaineann leis na healaíona, na healaíona dúchasacha san áireamh, agus gur chóir go mbeidís ar chlár gach eagraíochta agus scéim chultúrtha eile. Táimid tiomanta don obair sa réimse seo i gcomhpháirt leis na mórpháirtithe leasmhara eile.

- tacú le straitéis chuimsitheach a fhorbairt agus a fheidhmiú i leith na n-ealaíon Gaeilge teanga-bhunaithe, i gcomhar le páirtithe leasmhara a chinnteoidh go mbeidh teacht ag an bpobal ar na healaíona trí Ghaeilge ar bhonn uile-oileáin, go réigiúnach agus ag leibhéal an phobail áitiúil, agus go n-úsáidfí na deiseanna forleathana ag leibhéal an phobail sna líonraí agus sna BSGanna agus sna LPTanna leis na healaíona trí Ghaeilge a chur chun cinn, beag beann ar éagothroime eacnamaíochta nó míbhuntáistí.

5 An Ghaeilge a bheith in úsáid i gcúrsaí eacnamaíochta

Aithníonn Foras na Gaeilge an gá le caitheamh leis an nGaeilge mar ghnáththeanga chumarsáide i raon leathan comhthéacsanna, an comhthéacs gnó agus eacnamaíochta ina measc. Aithnímid go bhfuil buntáiste le tairiscint ag an teanga sna réimsí seo, gur cuid den gheilleagar sa dá dhlíne iad pobal na Gaeilge, agus go dtiocfaidh buntáiste ar leith ón nasc idir pobal na Gaeilge i gcoitinne agus an nGaeltacht.

- tacú le forbairt ar an Q-Mharc agus le gnólachtaí áitiúla fostaíocht a chur ar fáil do dhaoine óga le Gaeilge sna pobail éagsúla a bhfuil an Ghaeilge á forbairt iontu.

4 Show that the Irish language and the arts through Irish are a central part of Irish culture

Foras na Gaeilge recognises the importance of the arts, particularly the indigenous arts, and that they should be integral to all organisations and other cultural schemes. We are dedicated to working in partnership with the other major interested parties in this arena.

- support the development and implementation of a comprehensive strategy for language-based arts through Irish, in conjunction with interested parties to ensure that the public have access to the arts through Irish on an all-island basis, regionally and at local community level and that the extensive opportunities at community level in the networks, the Gaeltacht service towns and the language planning networks are taken to promote Irish irrespective of economic inequality or disadvantage.

5 Use Irish in economic contexts

Foras na Gaeilge recognises the need to treat Irish as a language for everyday communication in a broad range of contexts, including business and economic contexts. We recognise that the language offers a certain advantage in these areas, that the Irish language community forms part of the economy in both jurisdictions, and that a particular advantage can derive from the relationship between the Irish language community generally and the Gaeltacht.

- support the development of Q-Mharc and local businesses which employ young Irish speakers in the various communities in which Irish is being promoted.

Cur le húsáid na meán trí chéile

Tríd an tacaíocht a chuirtear ar fáil don chraoltóireacht agus do na meáin shóisialta, tá Foras na Gaeilge ag iarraidh a dheimhniú go mbaintear leas as na meáin nua leis an nGaeilge a chur chun cinn i réimsí éagsúla, úsáid ar na meáin shóisialta trí Ghaeilge san áireamh.

- tuilleadh deiseanna a fhiosrú agus a ghlacadh le leas níos fearr a bhaint as na meáin nua, go háirithe na meáin shóisialta, i gcur chun cinn na Gaeilge agus in obair na bpáirtithe leasmhara.

6 An Ghaeilge a bheith in úsáid níos minice i saol na meán Béarla

- tacaí a fhorbairt d'úsáid na Gaeilge sna meáin Bhéarla idir chlóite agus chraolta, go háirithe sna pobail a bhfuil an Ghaeilge á forbairt iontu mar theanga phobail.

Increase the use of media generally

Through supporting broadcasting and social media Foras na Gaeilge seeks to ensure that new media are used to promote Irish in various areas, including use on social media through Irish.

- Explore further and take advantage of additional opportunities to make better use of new media, especially social media, to promote Irish and work with interested parties.

6 To increase the frequency of the use of Irish in English-language media

- develop supports for the use of Irish in English language media, both print and broadcast, especially in communities in which Irish is developing as a community language.



7 Cur le líon na ndaoine a éisteann le stáisiúin raidió pobail Ghaeilge, agus a gcuireann na stáisiúin phobail oiliúint orthu.

Aithníonn Foras na Gaeilge an obair luachmhar atá déanta in earnáil an raidió pobail leis an maoiniú ón **Scéim Raidió Pobal**. Chomh maith leis an tseirbhís chraoltóireachta féin, cuirtear an-bhéim ar ghné na hoiliúna, agus is mór an chabhair iad le dlús a chur le pobal trí sheirbhísí raidió lán-Ghaeilge a chur ar fáil, trí imeachtaí a phoibliú agus tallann agus cultúr áitiúil an phobail a cheiliúradh.

- tógáil ar an obair sin agus forbairt a dhéanamh ar ról na stáisiún i measc an phobail, agus ar líon na ndaoine a éisteann leis na stáisiún phobail Ghaeilge.

8 Na meáin scríofa Ghaeilge a fhorbairt

Aithníonn Foras na Gaeilge an obair luachmhar atá déanta in earnáil na meán scríofa leis an maoiniú ón **Scéim Irisí agus Nuachta**. Chomh maith leis an tseirbhís nuachta agus soláthar ábhar léitheoireachta don phobal, cuireann na meáin scríofa Ghaeilge ardán do scríbhneoirí Gaeilge a gceird a fhorbairt agus taithí a fháil.

- leanúint den fhorbairt atá déanta ar na meáin scríofa Ghaeilge trí thaighde a dhéanamh ar mhianta léitheoirí agus ar mhianta an phobail i gcoitinne agus tacaíochtaí a chur ar fáil dá réir.

7 Increase the number of people who listen to Irish language community radio stations, and the numbers trained by them.

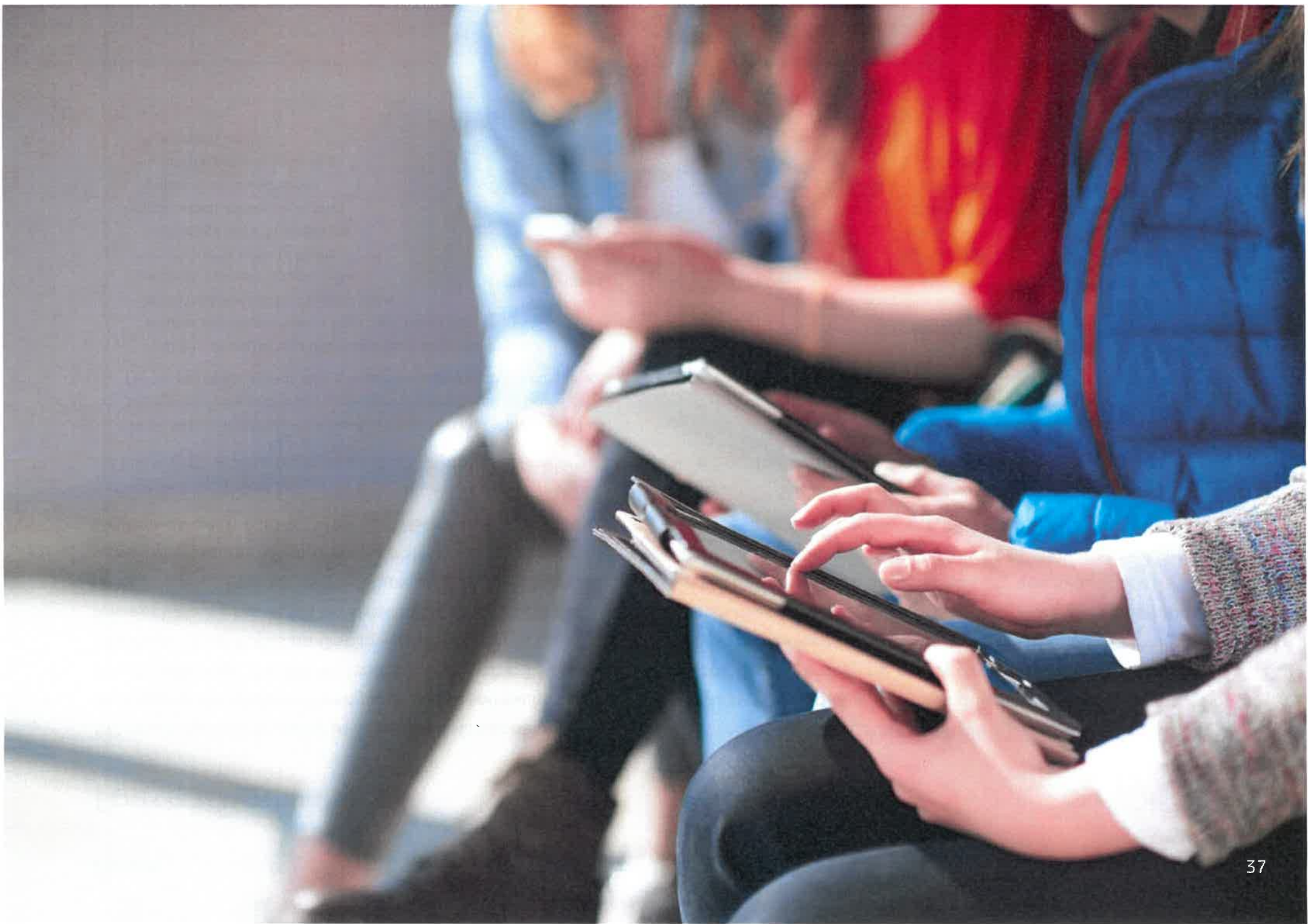
Foras na Gaeilge recognises the valuable work done in the community radio sector with funding from the **Community Radio Scheme**. As well as the broadcast service itself, much emphasis is put on the training aspect, which all goes to increase community cohesion by providing Irish-medium radio services, publicising activities and celebrating local community talent and culture.

- build on existing work and develop the stations' role in their communities, and increase the number of people listening to Irish language community stations.

8 Develop the Irish language written media

Foras na Gaeilge recognises the valuable work done in the written media sector through its funding of the sector. As well as the news service and the provision of reading material to the community, the Irish language written media provide a platform for Irish language writers to develop their craft and gain experience.

- continue developing written media in Irish by carrying out research about readers' wishes and on the wishes of the general public and providing supports accordingly.



Foilseacháin

Aithnítear go bhfuil tábhacht ar leith le foilseacháin i dteanga do shealbhú na teanga, don léitheoireacht, don litearthacht agus d'úsáid na teanga go sóisialta. Tá ról tábhachtach ag Foras na Gaeilge lena dheimhniú go bhfuil foilseacháin á gcur ar fáil do shiollabais na gaelscolaíochta thuaidh agus theas ag leibhéal bunscoile agus meánscoile, agus lena dheimhniú go bhfuil ábhair léitheoireachta a oireann do gach cuid de phobal na Gaeilge á gcur ar fáil.

1 Nósanna léitheoireachta a chothú agus a bhuanú

Tá an tábhacht a bhaineann leis an réimse seo mar ghné d'úsáid na teanga is féidir a bhuanú trí eispéireas dearfach agus saibhir a chur ar fáil ag aois luath, laistigh den chóras oideachais agus lasmuigh de.

- **tacú leis an aidhm seo trí thosaíocht a dhéanamh d'ábhar léitheoireachta le haghaidh páistí óga, páistí iar-bhunscoile, déagóirí agus aosaigh óga inár scéimeanna maoinithe. Is mian le Foras na Gaeilge iad a fhorbairt go leanúnach, trí bhéim ar leith a chur ar ardchaighdeán na bhfoilseachán agus ar a n-ilghnéitheacht.**



Publications

It is recognised that publications in a language are of particular importance for the acquisition of that language, for reading, for literacy and for the use of the language socially. Foras na Gaeilge has an important role in ensuring that publications are made available for Irish-medium education syllabuses north and south at primary and secondary school level, and ensuring the availability of reading material appropriate to all parts of the Irish language community.

1 Encourage and sustain reading habits

Publications are of great importance to language acquisition, to reading, to literacy and to the use of the language socially. They are particularly important as an aspect of language use which can be sustained by providing a positive and rich experience at an early age, both within the education system and outside of it.

- **support this aim by prioritising in our funding schemes reading material for young children, post primary school children, teenagers and young adults. Foras na Gaeilge wishes to continually develop publications by placing a particular emphasis on the high standard and diversity of publications.**

2 Straitéis Chomhtháite a fhorbairt le nósanna léitheoireachta a chothú agus a bhuanú trí eispéireas luath a chur ar fáil

- › straitéis chomhtháite léitheoireachta a fhorbairt le gach gné den léitheoireachta i nGaeilge a chur chun cinn, a chuimseoidh údair, scríobh, foilsiú, tacú le hearnáil na foilsitheoireachta, dáileachán, poiblíú agus margaíocht.
- › cur leis an obair sa réimse seo trí thionscnaimh eile a tharraingeodh rannpháirtíocht an phobail, agus a dheimhneodh seasmhacht na foilsitheoireachta Gaeilge go fadtéarmach.

3 Soláthar cuimsitheach seánraí éagsúla

- › éagsúlacht agus saibhreas a dheimhniú sa réimse seo trí phleanáil chomhtháite i réimse na scríbhneoireachta agus na foilsitheoireachta, le nós na léitheoireachta a bhuanú agus soláthar cuimsitheach ábhair a chinntiú.
- › athbheithniú a dhéanamh ar an gcur chuige maidir le soláthar ábhair do na siollabais oideachais, i gcomhar le páirtithe eile le cur chuige comhtháite a dheimhniú.

4 Breis Ábhair do Pháistí

Tá tábhacht ar leith le hábhar a chur ar fáil don óige. Tá an-dul chun cinn déanta maidir le hábhar i nGaeilge a chur ar fáil do pháistí: seoidleabhair chlóite, ríomhleabhair, closleabhair agus foilseacháin eile de chuid an Ghúim agus an Áisaonaid.

- › deiseanna eile a fhiosrú agus a ghlacadh le breis ábhair d'ardchaighdeán a chur ar fáil don óige.

2 Develop an integrated strategy to foster and sustain reading habits by providing early experiences

- › develop an integrated strategy to promote all aspects of reading in Irish, including authors, writing, publishing, support for the publishing sector, distribution, publicity and marketing.
- › progress work in this area through other initiatives which would encourage community participation, and ensure the long-term sustainability of Irish language publishing.

3 Comprehensive provision of various genres

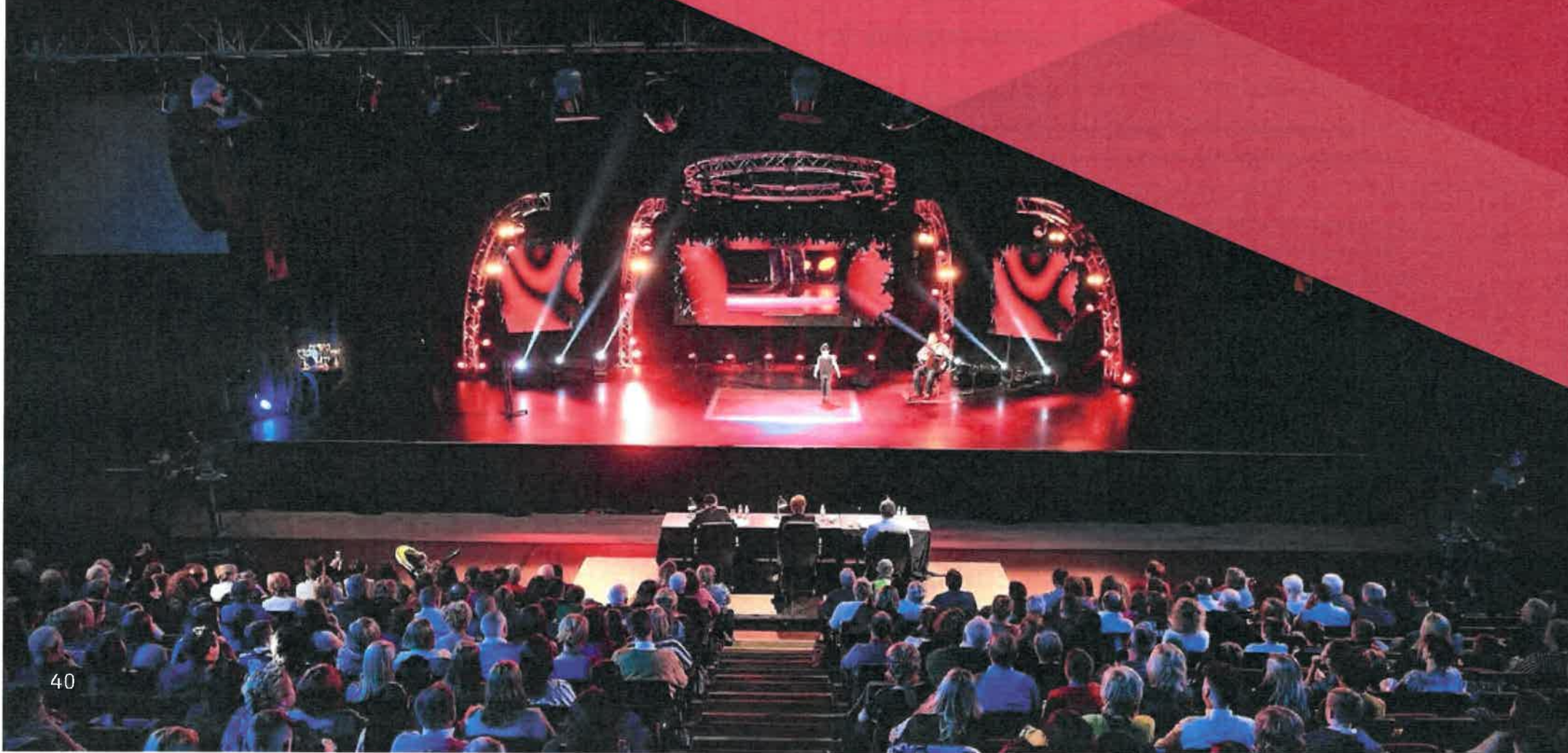
- › ensure a wide variety of categories and high standards in this area through integrated planning in writing and publishing, to sustain the habit of reading and ensure a comprehensive range of reading material.
- › review the provision of material for educational syllabuses in conjunction with other parties in order to ensure an integrated approach.

4 Additional materials for children

It is particularly important to provide materials for young people. Great progress has been made in the provision of material in Irish for children: superb printed books, e-books, audio books and other publications of An Gúm and the Áisaonad.

- › Identify and explore further opportunities to provide extra material of a high standard for young readers.

3



Tacaíocht

Feasacht

1 Feasacht faoin nGaeilge a ardú

Aithnítear an tábhacht le cúrsaí feasachta, i dtaca le buntáistí an dátheangachais, deiseanna úsáide, cearta teanga srl. Thairis sin, tá tábhacht le cúrsaí feasachta i dtaca leis an teanga féin agus ar gach a mbaineann lena saíocht – an stair, an litríocht, an amhránaíocht, an saibhreas cumarsáide agus intleachtúil a léiríonn an teanga féin agus na healaíona Gaeilge éagsúla.

- feasacht agus eolas faoin teanga a chraobhscaoileadh, agus a léiriú gur le gach duine í. Aithníonn Foras na Gaeilge gur tasc ar leith é díriú ar an gcuid sin den phobal nach n-úsáideann an Ghaeilge maidir le feasacht, agus gur gá tógáil ar an obair a rinneadh ar Straitéisí Gaeilge sa dá dhlínse.
- feasacht ar an nGaeilge bheith mar chéad chéim, mar 'chuireadh isteach' sa teanga agus i gcultúr na Gaeilge dóibh siúd nár úsáid an méid Gaeilge atá acu mórán go dtí seo.

Support

Awareness

1 Raise awareness about Irish

Awareness of the Irish language is important, in relation to the advantages of bilingualism, opportunities for use, language rights etc. But an awareness of the language itself as a language – an awareness of its heritage: its history, literature, singing, communicative and intellectual riches as exemplified by the language and the various Irish language arts.

- broadcast awareness and knowledge about the language, and demonstrate that it belongs to everyone. In terms of raising awareness of language Foras na Gaeilge recognises a particular need to focus on that section of the public which does not use Irish and to build on the work carried out on Irish language strategies in both jurisdictions.
- making awareness of Irish a first step, as an 'invitation' to the language and to the culture of Irish for those who have not previously used whatever Irish they may have.

2 Cur le próifil na Gaeilge thar lear

Aithníonn Foras na Gaeilge an dualgas atá orainn feidhmiú mar fhoinsé iontaofa eolais faoin teanga do dhaoine thar lear agus deiseanna a chur ar fáil dóibh dul i ngleic leis an teanga níos doimhne nuair is mian leo.

- › obair i gcomhpháirt leis na rialtais agus i gcomhpháirt le páirtithe leasmhara eile atá gníomhach sa réimse seo le leas a bhaint as gréasáin atá ann cheana féin chun an Ghaeilge a chur chun cinn thar lear dóibh agus le feidhmiú mar mhalartán dea-chleachtais agus eolais. San áireamh anseo tá gréasáin shóisialta, cultúrtha, spóirt, taidhleoireachta agus polaiteolaíola, teagmhálacha le grúpaí ionadaíocha ar na hÉireannaigh thar lear, grúpaí sainspéise Gaeilge agus neamh-Ghaeilge srl.

2 Increase the profile of Irish abroad

Foras na Gaeilge recognises our responsibility to be a trusted source of information about the language for people abroad and to provide opportunities to them to engage with the language at a deeper level whenever they might wish to do so.

- › work in partnership with the governments and other interested parties active in this area to use existing networks to promote the Irish language abroad and to act as an exchange mechanism for information and best practices. This includes social, cultural, sport, diplomatic and political networks, contacts with groups representing the Irish abroad, Irish language and non-Irish language specific interest groups etc.





Tionscnaimh leathana

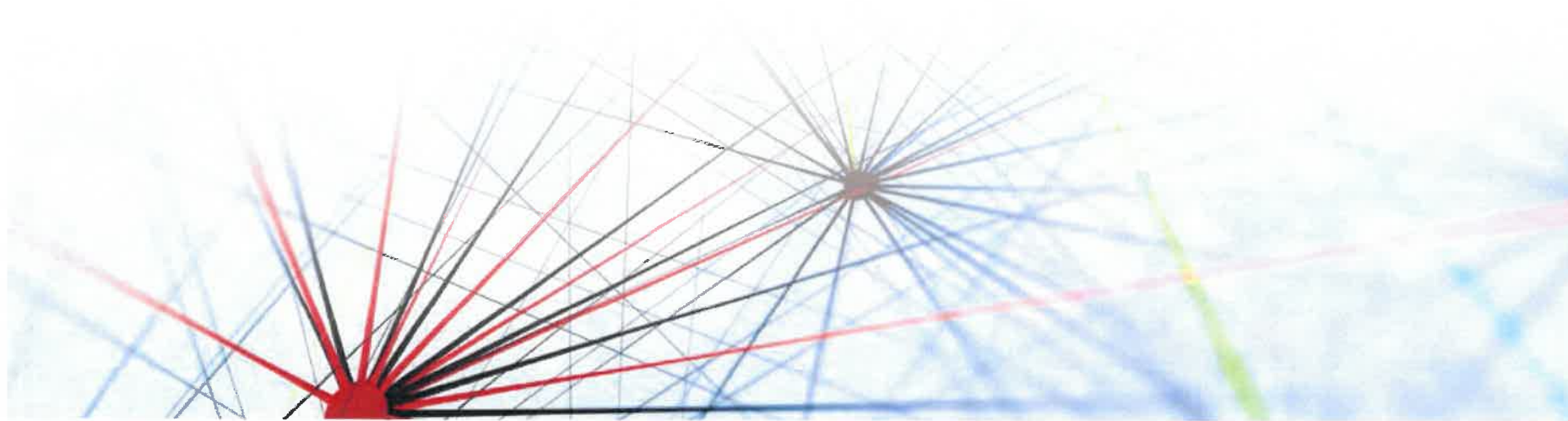
Tionscnaimh leathana a phleanáil ó thaobh amscála de

Tagraíodh cheana do na Trí Théama Leanúnacha inar aithníomar réimsí leathana a bheidh ina dtosaíochtaí ag Foras na Gaeilge sna blianta beaga amach romhainn, mar atá: **Comhairle**, **Comhoibriú** agus **Comhordú**. Chomh maith leosan, aithnímid go mbeidh sé le leas na Gaeilge béim a chur ar théamaí ar leith agus ar shaincheisteanna eile a ghearrann trasna ar réimsí éagsúla oibre.

Broad initiatives

Planning broad initiatives in terms of timescale

Three constant themes have already been referred to, in which we recognised broad priority areas for Foras na Gaeilge in the immediate years ahead: **Consultation**, **Cooperation** and **Coordination**. As well as these, we recognise that it would be advantageous to the Irish language to place an emphasis on particular themes and other specific questions which cut across different fields of work.



1 Tionscnaimh leathana – cruthaitheacht

Aithníonn Foras na Gaeilge an tábhacht le tionscnaimh nó ‘téamaí’ móra a bheith mar fhócas uaireanta. Le sampla a lua:

Clúdaíonn an coincheap ‘normalú’ ceann de an spriocanna agus na luachanna is tábhachtaí don eagraíocht: gur linne ar fad an teanga agus gur chóir a húsáid a leathnú amach i réimsí agus i gcomhthéacsanna nua an t-am ar fad. Tá machnamh á dhéanamh ar shuaitheantas nó comharthaíocht nó brandáil uillíoch éigin (ar nós An Fáinne nó comhartha eile) le húsáid a spreagadh i gcomhthéacsanna laethúla agus an leibhéal ard cumais atá i measc an phobail a iompú ina úsáid.

- **spás agus acmhainní a chur i leataobh san eagraíocht agus go seachtrach don mhachnamh ar thionscnaimh leathana, le plé a dhéanamh ar an luach atá leo agus ar bhealaí le hiad a aithint agus a dtionchar a thomhas. Tá obair den chineál seo luaite sa Chur Chuige Comhpháirtíochta go háirithe trí ionchur an Fhóraithe Fhorbartha Teanga.**

2 Tionscnaimh leathana – raon ama

Bionn tábhacht le tionscnaimh a d’éileodh amscála níos faide ná an timthriall pleanála & forfheidhmithe atá luaite le Foras na Gaeilge sa Mheamram Airgeadais (3 bliana). Mar shampla, gné na Gaeilge de na comórthaí éagsúla stáit a bheidh ann le linn thréimhse na straitéise seo nó gnéithe d’fhorfheidhmiú straitéisí eile le raon ama níos faide (Éire 2040, forbairt tuaithe, fostaíocht, mar shampla).

- **an deis a thapú chuige seo, pleanáil lasmuigh de na gnáth-timthriallacha pleanála gnó.**

1 Broad initiatives – creativity

Foras na Gaeilge recognises the importance of major initiatives or themes to act as a focus sometimes. For example,

the concept of ‘normalisation’ describes one of the goals and the most important values for the organisation: that the language belongs to all of us and that its use should be widened in new areas and contexts all the time. Consideration has been given to some universal badge or signage or branding, such as the Fáinne or another sign, to increase use in daily contexts and convert the high level of ability among the public to use of the language.

- **put aside space and resources within the organisation and externally for consideration of broad projects, to discuss their value and ways to acknowledge them and measure their influence. Work of this kind is mentioned in the Partnership Approach especially through the input of the Language Development Forum.**

2 Broad initiatives – time range

Initiatives which would require a longer timescale than the planning & implementation cycle which are assigned to Foras na Gaeilge in the financial memorandum (three years) are important. For example, the Irish language aspect of the various state commemorations which will occur during the period of this strategy or aspects of the implementation of other strategies with a longer time range (Éire 2040, rural development, employment, for example).

- **take these opportunities to plan outside the normal cycles of business planning.**

1972

11 bunscoil agus 5 iar-bhunscoil

11 primary schools and 5 all-Irish post-primary schools

2017

180 bunscoil agus 50 iar-bhunscoil

180 primary schools and 50 post-primary schools



Tagairtí

- 1 'go mór i bhfách' nó 'cineál i bhfách' – 'strongly in favour' nó 'somewhat in favour'. (ESRI 2015)
- 2 As na daoine a léirigh tuairim, bhí 87% ina fhabhar ó dheas agus 52% ó thuaidh. 6% agus 8% faoi seach nár léirigh tuairim. (ESRI 2015)
- 3 ESRI: 2015, Tábla 6.3
- 4 Tá planáil fhoirmeáita don éileamh iarrtha ar an Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna le dul i ngleic leis an éileamh: <https://tuairisc.ie/diultaithe-ag-mchugh-do-phlean-naisiunta-do-mhuineadh-na-gaeilge-agus-do-dheontas-abhar-oidi/>
- 5 ESRI 2015, Tábla 7.1
- 6 'The maintenance of more or less stable rates of bilingualism since 1970 is due more to the capacity of the schools to produce competent bilinguals rather than the capacity of the bilingual community to reproduce itself.' Ó Riagáin (1997, 274)
- 7 Ciorclán 43/75 agus leasaithe/curtha leis an gCiorclán 30/90
- 8 Féach Ó Riagáin (1997, 15). Foilsíodh baillíúchán de na moltaí caighdeánaithe agus litrithe in *An Caighdeán Oifigiúil* i 1958 agus bunaíodh an Coiste Téarmaíochta i 1968
- 9 Tá cur síos níos iomláine ar fheidhmeanna an Choimisinéara Teanga ar fáil anseo: <https://www.coimisineir.ie/feidhmeanna-an-choimisineara-teanga?lang=GA>
- 10 Tá ráiteas éirí as an Choimisinéara, Seán Ó Cuirreáin, ráiteas a thug sé os comhair an Chomhchoiste um Fhormhaoirsiú ar an tSeirbhís Phoiblí agus Achainíochta de chuid Thithe an Oireachtais, ar fáil anseo: <https://www.coimisineir.ie/userfiles/files/NotaicainteAnCoimisineirTeanga04122013.pdf>

References

- 1 'go mór i bhfách' or 'cineál i bhfách' – 'strongly in favour' or 'somewhat in favour'. (ESRI 2015)
- 2 Out of those who expressed an opinion, 87% where in favour in the south and 52% in the north. 6% and 8% respectively that did not express an opinion. (ESRI 2015)
- 3 ESRI: 2015, Table 6.3
- 4 Formal planning for the demand has been requested of the Department of Education and Skills to tackle the demand: <https://tuairisc.ie/diultaithe-ag-mchugh-do-phlean-naisiunta-do-mhuineadh-na-gaeilge-agus-do-dheontas-abhar-oidi/>
- 5 ESRI 2015, Table 7.1
- 6 'The maintenance of more or less stable rates of bilingualism since 1970 is due more to the capacity of the schools to produce competent bilinguals rather than the capacity of the bilingual community to reproduce itself.' Ó Riagáin (1997, 274)
- 7 Circular 43/75 and amendments/added to the Circular 30/90
- 8 See Ó Riagáin (1997, 15). A collection of the standardisation and spelling recommendations was published in *An Caighdeán Oifigiúil* (The Official Standard) in 1958 and the Terminology Committee was established in 1968
- 9 A fuller description of the functions of the Language Commissioner is available here: <https://www.coimisineir.ie/feidhmeanna-an-choimisineara-teanga?lang=EN>
- 10 The resignation statement of Commissioner Seán Ó Cuirreáin, which he gave before the Joint Committee on Public Service Oversight and Petitions of the Houses of the Oireachtas, available here: <https://www.coimisineir.ie/userfiles/files/NotaicainteAnCoimisineirTeanga04122013.pdf>

- 11 Conchúr Ó Giollagáin & Martin Charlton Nuashonrú ar an Staidéar Cuimsitheach Teangeolaíoch ar úsáid na Gaeilge sa Ghaeltacht 2006-2011 (Údarás na Gaeltachta 2015). http://www.udaras.ie/media/pdf/002910_Udaras_Nuashonr%C3%BA_FULL_report_A4_FA.pdf a bhí ina nuashonraú ar an gcáipéis seo: Conchúr Ó Giollagáin, Seosamh Mac Donnacha et al Staidéar Cuimsitheach Teangeolaíoch ar Úsáid na Gaeilge sa Ghaeltacht (2007) <http://www.udaras.ie/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/Staid%C3%A9ar-Cuimsitheach-Teangeola%C3%ADoch-ar-%C3%9As%C3%A1id-na-Gaeilge-sa-Ghaeltacht.pdf>
- 12 An tIonad Breathnaithe um Thaighde Uille-Éireann in Ollscoil Mhá Nuad Próifil Shochreacnamaíoch de na Seacht gCeantar Gaeltachta in Éirinn (Samhain 2018), staidéar a choimisiúnaigh an Seanadóir Pádraig Ó Céide le cómhaoiniú ón gComhairle um Thaighde in Éirinn. http://senatorpadraigocoidigh.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/GaeltachtAreaProfileIrish_Online.pdf [Leagan Béarla anseo: http://senatorpadraigocoidigh.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/GaeltachtAreaProfileEnglish_Online.pdf]
- 13 <https://www.chg.gov.ie/ga/gaeltacht/20-year-strategy-for-the-irish-language-2010-2030/action-plan-2018-2022/>
- 14 Deir Ó Riagáin (1997, 269) gurb in an aidhm a bhí riamh le polasaithe an Stáit, dáiríre, ó na 1920í agus 1930í
- 15 Maidir leis an taobh foirmeálta de, sa bhllain acadúil thug an Roinn Cultúir, Oidhreacht agus Gaeltachta tacaíocht do 43 institiúid tríú leibhéal in 12 tír ar leith a raibh clár léinn sa Ghaeilge iontu. <https://www.chg.gov.ie/app/uploads/2016/08/link-list-of-grants-approved-for-foreign-universities-for-period-2016-17-2018-19.pdf>
- 16 Aodán Mac Póilín *The Irish language in education in Northern Ireland* (dara eagrán), Mercator, 2004, lgh 2–3
- 17 Helen Ó Murchú *More facts about Irish* BÁC, 2008, lch 309
- 18 Ó Murchú, lch 313

- 11 Conchúr Ó Giollagáin & Martin Charlton Nuashonrú ar an Staidéar Cuimsitheach Teangeolaíoch ar úsáid na Gaeilge sa Ghaeltacht 2006-2011 (Údarás na Gaeltachta 2015). http://www.udaras.ie/media/pdf/002910_Udaras_Nuashonr%C3%BA_FULL_report_A4_FA.pdf which was an update to this document: Conchúr Ó Giollagáin, Seosamh Mac Donnacha et al Staidéar Cuimsitheach Teangeolaíoch ar Úsáid na Gaeilge sa Ghaeltacht (2007) <http://www.udaras.ie/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/Staid%C3%A9ar-Cuimsitheach-Teangeola%C3%ADoch-ar-%C3%9As%C3%A1id-na-Gaeilge-sa-Ghaeltacht.pdf>
- 12 All-Island Research Observatory in Maynooth University Profile of the Seven Gaeltacht Areas in Ireland (November 2018), a study commissioned by Senator Pádraig Ó Céide with joint funding from the Irish Research Council. http://senatorpadraigocoidigh.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/GaeltachtAreaProfileIrish_Online.pdf (English version here: http://senatorpadraigocoidigh.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/GaeltachtAreaProfileEnglish_Online.pdf)
- 13 <https://www.chg.gov.ie/ga/gaeltacht/20-year-strategy-for-the-irish-language-2010-2030/action-plan-2018-2022/>
- 14 Ó Riagáin (1997, 269) says that this was really the state's aim from the 1920s and 1930s
- 15 As for the formal side of it, in the academic year the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht gave support to 43 third level institutions in 12 separate countries in which there was an Irish language study programme. <https://www.chg.gov.ie/app/uploads/2016/08/link-list-of-grants-approved-for-foreign-universities-for-period-2016-17-2018-19.pdf>
- 16 Aodán Mac Póilín, *the Irish language in education in Northern Ireland* (second edition), Mercator, 2004, pages 2–3
- 17 Helen Ó Murchú *More facts about Irish* BÁC, 2008, p. 309
- 18 Ó Murchú, p. 313

Admhálacha

Sliocht le Seamus Heaney ar leathanach 8 le caointhead Ghael Linn agus eastát Seamus Heaney.

Grianghraf de Ghaelbhratach ar leathanach 21 le caointhead Ghael Linn.

Grianghraf den Oireachtas ar leathanach 40 le caointhead Oireachtas na Gaeilge.

Is le caointhead ó Fháilte Éireann a úsáidtear na grianghraif ar leathanaigh 7 agus 10.

Acknowledgements

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Foras na Gaeilge



Consultation Document

**A Strategic Direction for Foras na Gaeilge
2020 - 2025**

Foras na Gaeilge

www.forasnagaeilge.ie

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1. Introduction
2. Explaining the policy
3. Examining Details and Research available
4. Impact Assessment
5. Other Options, Mitigation & Policy Decision
6. Seeking Your Views
7. Formal Consultation, Decision and Publishing Results

Part 1 Introduction

Objective of the Consultation

The aim of this consultation document is to seek opinions on the draft of *A Strategic Direction for Foras na Gaeilge 2020 – 2025* which includes the organisations major objectives for that period.

It should be noted that this consultation document is available to read as a draft document on the Foras na Gaeilge website: www.forasnagaeilge.ie.

This consultation document provides a background for people whose opinions are sought on the document and the use to be made of it. +

Foras na Gaeilge would like to receive views from as many people as possible during this consultation. To help with this consultation process, the following gives a short account of material included in the *Strategic Direction*. It also contains questions below which Foras na Gaeilge would like to be answered.

Responding to the consultation

Completed questionnaires can be sent by e-mail or in the post to the Responses Coordinator below. We must receive your response by [~~24 December 2019~~] **31 January 2020**. Your response will be acknowledged within 2 working days (by e-mail or 5 days in the case of hard copy) to certify that your questionnaire was received. If you are answering as an agreed representative of an organisation or group, this can be mentioned.

Please give the following details:

Name: Mid Ulster District Council

Contact details: 03000 132 132

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Confidentiality and Freedom of Information

Foras na Gaeilge will publish a summary of the responses after the close of the consultation process and may publish them in their entirety. If you prefer your responses to be treated in confidence, please tell us, detailing your reasons. However, even if you ask that your responses to be treated confidentially, Foras na Gaeilge may decide to publish your response, or the Information Commissioner may request that your response be published in its entirety or a part thereof. It will be assumed that any automatic disclaimer generated by your computing system does not apply to your answer, except for information for which confidentiality was specifically requested.

If we are requested to disclose responses under the Code of Practice for Freedom of Information to the North/South Implementation Bodies and Tourism Ireland, we will consider any requests for confidentiality. We cannot, however, give any guarantees regarding confidentiality under freedom of information.

We will deal appropriately with personal details you provide in accordance with legislation on data protection.

To get more information on the confidentiality of responses, please contact the Information Commissioner's Office or visit the website at: nó www.oic.ie nó ico.org.uk.

Timetable

In December 2019 the deadline was extended to **31 January 2020**.

Equality of Opportunity

This section gives the background to the creation and the objective of this document.

In accordance with Article 75 of the *Northern Ireland Act* 1998, Foras na Gaeilge must, in the discharge of its functions, pay due regard to equality of opportunity:

- between people of different religious belief, political opinion, race, age, marital status or sexual orientation;
- between men and women generally;
- between those who have a disability and those who do not;
- between those who have dependents and those who do not.

In addition, without prejudice to the above obligations, Foras na Gaeilge must give regard to the desirability of promoting good relations between people of differing religious belief, political opinion, or racial group.

Foras na Gaeilge is fully committed to complying with the legislative requirements of article 75 of the *Northern Ireland Act* 1998.

Under article 49A of the *Disability Discrimination Act* 1995 (DDA 1995) (as amended by the *Disability Discrimination (Northern Ireland) Order 2006*), Foras na Gaeilge is required, in carrying out its functions, to pay due regard to the need to:

- promote positive attitudes regarding people with disabilities; and

- encourage people with disabilities to participate in public life ('the disability duties').

Current Situation

Foras na Gaeilge does not currently have any document relating to a period longer than three years. Even with the consultation process in place with input from the public included, an official role is not recognized under the Financial Memorandum, as previously stated.

Pre-consultation with stakeholders

Prior to this consultation process, Foras na Gaeilge consulted with a limited range of stakeholders involved in the partnership approach to obtain their views on some of the key objectives developed in this draft of *A Strategic Direction for Foras na Gaeilge 2020 – 2025*.

Part 2. Policy Explanation

In accordance with the legislation and arrangements under which Foras na Gaeilge was established certain planning requirements have been identified. The Language Body's Financial Memorandum sets out the need for an annual business plan and a corporate plan covering a three year period. In addition to specific objectives and actions, budgets are quoted for the period to which both documents relate and both plans must be approved by the North / South Ministerial Council to be applicable.

More long-term planning was undertaken initially to lead Foras na Gaeilge's strategic development, with particular emphasis on corporate and internal affairs (staffing increase, divisional departments and so on) but the period of that plan came to an end in 2011. Due to uncertainty about various external factors in both jurisdictions, planning for a period of longer than three years has not yet been undertaken.

The Board of Foras na Gaeilge recognized that there would be particular value in developing a Strategic Direction for the organization which would reflect the organisation's ambition and commitment to the language. It was understood that it would not possible to determine a budget for longer than three years but at the same time it was understood that it was not worth choosing a long period for the *Strategic Direction* as it would not reflect the sense of urgency of some of the actions to be undertaken. A five year period was chosen as the term for the plan, **from 2020 to 2025**.

While it is a Strategic Direction for Foras na Gaeilge as an organization, the organization needs to be responsive to the needs of the language itself and therefore internal issues are not primarily discussed in the document. For over a year, an internal consultation process has taken place in Foras na Gaeilge at staff and Board level, under the direction of the Development Committee, a Board committee. It was recognized from the outset that it was

important to obtain views from a wider range of people who would have opinions on the needs of the language in the years ahead. A high level consultation on the major objectives has already been explored with a number of the Foras stakeholders but this is now a public consultation on a broader basis.

The aforementioned planning considerations will not change after this process but feedback will be systematically received from the public on Foras na Gaeilge's priorities and major objectives in a way that will help us to plan in a better and more open way.

Foras na Gaeilge are also hopeful that a cycle of feedback and communication will be created with the public as a result.

3. Examining Details and Research available

The material here in *A Strategic Direction for Foras na Gaeilge 2020 – 2025* is based on an internal consultation process at staff and Board level undertaken within Foras na Gaeilge for over a year.

It should be noted that this consultation document is available to read as a draft document on the Foras na Gaeilge website: www.forasnagaeilge.ie.

3 major areas of work have been identified: **Language Ability; Language Use; and Support.**

Under each of these more specific areas of work are detailed:

Language Ability

- Education
- Lexicography & terminology
- The family

Language Use

- Development at community level & language planning
- Integration of Irish into daily life
- Publications

Support

- Awareness
- Broad initiatives

Of course this is a wide consultation not directed on a particular Foras na Gaeilge funding

scheme and for this reason one should look at the draft copy of *A Strategic Direction for Foras na Gaeilge 2020 – 2025* where the research and planning background is laid out and additional details are displayed regarding the priorities recognised by Foras na Gaeilge for the time ahead. The draft is available on Foras na Gaeilge's website: www.forasnagaeilge.ie.

4. Impact Assessment

Category Section 75: Religious Belief

No known issues included.

Category Section 75: Political Opinion

No known issues included.

Category Section 75: Race Group

No known issues included.

Category Section 75: Age

No known issues included.

Category Section 75: Marital Status

No known issues included.

Category Section 75: Sexual Orientation

No known issues included.

Category Section 75: Men & Women in General

No known issues included.

Category Section 75: Disability

No known issues included.

Category Section 75: Dependents

No known issues included.

Summary

It is not expected that there will be any negative effect included in the draft for *A Strategic Direction for Foras na Gaeilge 2020 – 2025* on any of the groups under Alt 75 which would require mitigating or other policies. Of course if detailed recommendations emerge as a result of this consultation process, they will be dealt with as required.

5. Other Options, Mitigation & Policy Decision

As aforementioned this is a consultation process on *A Strategic Direction for Foras na Gaeilge 2020 – 2025* a conscious decision was made by the organisation to address context and timetable planning which made it difficult for the organisation to attract input from the public into the organisation's planning process in its broadest sense.

The draft of *A Strategic Direction for Foras na Gaeilge 2020 – 2025* and the consultation process itself is an attempt to listen to the public and to take their suggestions on board accordingly and to create an eventful conversation with the public in a way that has not taken place previously.

This will of course be taking place without affecting the organisations requirements in relation to any amendment or significant suggestion in a particular area of work that may arise later and the appropriate process regarding any amendment or suggestion of its sort will always be adhered to.

6. Seeking Your Views

We are seeking your views on the draft *A Strategic Direction for Foras na Gaeilge 2020 – 2025* and on the consultation process surrounding it. It is recommended that the draft document itself be viewed when creating responses (in PDF format on www.forasnagaeilge.ie/nuacht/comhairliuchan)

C 1. Are you in favour of / opposed to such a document? Explain your reason please:

In general Mid Ulster District Council would be supportive of a document that provides strategic direction for Foras na Gaeilge over the next five year period. A five year overview allows for a more strategic approach than a three year plan and a more focused approach than a twenty year plan.

C 2. Do you have suggestions for improvements that you would make to the new approach mentioned or any aspect of it? List below please:

With regard to facilitating increased usage of the language, priority should be given to programmes which support families seeking to use Irish in the context of and with the aim of developing communities of speakers. In this context some prioritisation of objectives would be beneficial to ensure resources are targeted at the most effective language revitalisation methods. For example, *supporting the language overseas* or *measures to raise the profile of the language* would in the view of Mid Ulster District Council be considered a lower priority.

C 3. Regarding the major area **Language Ability** and the titles below – *Education; Lexicography & terminology; and The family* – do you have suggestions regarding the allocation of material or about specific aspects of it? Explain your recommendations please:

While education has a very important role to play in the creation of new generations of Irish speakers, it cannot be solely relied upon to create sustainable communities of native speakers in which intergenerational transmission of the language happens naturally. “Family” should therefore receive priority in resourcing.

Page 9 of the draft strategic document states that “similar to the South, the [Irish] Language is dependent on the education system, for the most part, to create a community of speakers”. However, unlike the South, the evidence would suggest that communities of speakers are developing, for the most part, as a result of the success and further development of Irish Language medium education and the ongoing work of projects and programmes delivered by the support provided by proactive Local Authorities and Irish Language Development Officers on the ground. Statistical analysis of the impact on Irish taught in English medium schools, as a result of the development of Irish Medium schools, would be advantageous. Within the Mid Ulster District Council area it would appear that as the Irish Language Medium School sector develops, there is a marked and noticeable increase in Irish Language speakers, as one would expect, however what is noticeable and concerning from an education point of view is that the opportunities for those to learn Irish through the English medium school system is in decline. Page 20 of the report highlights that there is a significant decrease in the number of schools in which Irish is taught. This issue needs to be addressed otherwise the opportunity for a young person to learn Irish and/or attain fluency in Irish, will eventually be confined to only those that attend an Irish medium School.

In addition, with regard to the promotion of the language in the English medium sector in the North, there is strong and growing demand (evidenced by Mid Ulster District Council’s ‘Irish in the Primary School’ programme) from schools for assistance with the promotion of the Irish language. Indeed the draft strategy identifies that the greatest barrier to enabling young people to learn Irish is the lack of and the standard of Irish taught in our primary school system. It is therefore proposed that the former DENI Primary Languages Programme or similar should be reintroduced to the primary sector to provide children with access to the language, at the appropriate standard and with the appropriate resources allocated. In the long term teacher training for the English medium sector should focus on language skills in order to address the obvious need in this sector. With regard to the secondary education sector support for the language is often weak, and Irish as a subject is no longer available in a number of areas. Intervention is necessary to counteract this worrying downward trend.

C 4. Regarding the major area **Language Use** and the titles below – Development at community level & language planning – do you have other suggestions regarding how the subject matter is allocated or about specific aspects of it? Explain your recommendations please:

Mid Ulster District Council would propose that greater strategic coordination across the growing network of language centres/family support centres would be beneficial, allowing the speedy adoption of best practice across the sector, for example support for Irish language youth programmes and family-based community support projects.

C 5. Regarding the major area **Support** and the titles below – *Awareness*; and *Broad initiatives* – do you have other suggestions regarding how the subject matter is allocated or about specific aspects of it? Explain your recommendations please:

With regard to the substantive and growing section of the community with an interest in learning the language but with low levels of ability, support should be offered to ensure a good geographical spread of classes and courses and to ensure that the teaching of the language is of a high standard regardless of where it is taught and who is directly engaged.

We welcome any additional information and statements that you feel may facilitate us. Please send completed copies of the Consultation Document if possible or other responses before **31 January 2020** to:

Response Co-ordinator

Foras na Gaeilge

2-4 Sráid na Banríona

Béal Feirste, BT1 6ED

Teil +44 2890 890970

Email: comhairliuchan@forasnagaeilge.ie

N.B. Please provide contact details.

Response Co-ordinator

Foras na Gaeilge

63-66 Sráid Amiens

Baile Átha Cliath 1

Teil +353 1 639 8400

7. Formal Consultation, Decision and Publishing Results

This formal consultation process will begin in **October 2019** and will end on 31 January 2020. A summary of the responses will be published on the Foras na Gaeilge website early in 2020, when the Board of Foras na Gaeilge will assess the feedback and their impact on the draft document.

Report on	Heart of Ancient Ulster Landscape Partnership Update
Date of Meeting	Thursday 13 th February 2020
Reporting Officer	Michael Browne
Contact Officer	Michael Browne

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update the Council on the Heart of Ancient Ulster Landscape Partnership project and to recommend a proposal to submit a stage 1 development application to Heritage Lottery Funding.
2.0	Background
2.1	The members will recall that Mid Ulster District Council in partnership with Fermanagh and Omagh Council submitted a full stage 2 application to the Heritage Lottery Fund Land Landscape Partnership fund in December 2018 for, which regrettably was unsuccessful and was reported to the Development Committee at the June 2019 meeting.
2.2	At that time it was reported to the Committee that the Council had received correspondence from the Heritage Lottery informing the Council that the application submitting in December 2018 had been unsuccessful due to a reduction and an over subscription to the HLF Landscape Partnership funding. After a series of feedback meetings with officers from the Heritage Lottery Fund and both Councils, the HLF encouraged the Council officers to review the previous application and consider submitting a new stage 1 development application to Heritage Lottery Fund, as they felt the initial application displayed quality outputs and projects that would achieve the criteria within the new current funding streams.
2.3	It was agreed that the officers would investigate the possibility of submitting a new application for a development stage grant and during the second half of 2019 the Council officers have been reviewing the previous application and the projects and programmes contained with the original application with a view to forming a new application to HLF.

3.0	Main Report
3.1	The application process has changed from the previous HLF Landscape Partnership Scheme which the Council applied to in December 2018. The Heritage Lottery Fund now have a series of bands of funding which organisations can apply, please see list below.
3.2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. grants of £3,000 to £10,000 2. grants of £10,000 to £100,000 3. grants of £100,000 to £250,000 4. grants of £250,000 to £5million 5. Heritage Horizon Awards: grants of £5m and over
3.3	Given the previous HLF Landscape Partnership application was for £2 million the officers are proposing to focus on the 4 th band of funding, as listed above. (grants of £250,000 to £5million)
3.4	Fermanagh & Omagh have agreed to be the lead Council and propose to assign staff to specifically work up the stage 1 development grant application and associated documents. A potential total cost of £6,000 has been identified to prepare the application and supplementary documentation, which the officers recommend to split between the two Councils.
3.5	<p>The upcoming dates to submit applications to the HLF are listed below. The officers would propose submitting the stage 1 development application before the 1st June 2020 window.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2nd March 2020, 12 noon to receive a decision by the end of June 2020 • 1st June 2020, 12 noon to receive a decision by the end of September 2020 • 1st September 2020, 12 noon to receive a decision by the end of December 2020
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	<p>Financial:</p> <p>£3,000 contribution to Fermanagh and Omagh towards the preparation and submission of the stage 1 development HLF grant application. Within existing Tourism budget.</p>
	Human: None
	Risk Management: none

4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: none
	Rural Needs Implications: none
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	It is recommended that the Council contribute a maximum of £3,000 to Fermanagh and Omagh Council towards the preparation and submitting a stage 1 development application to Heritage Lottery Fund.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	N/A

Report on	Economic Development Report – OBFD 1) Business Improvement District Feasibility Study (Final) 2) Renewal of Membership with NI Chamber of Commerce
Date of Meeting	13 th February 2020
Reporting Officer	Fiona McKeown, Head of Economic Development

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To provide Members with an update on key activities as detailed above.
2.0	Background
2.1	<p>Business Improvement District Feasibility Study (Final) A Business Improvement District (BID) is a collaborative partnership between a local Council and local businesses to provide a sustainable funding mechanism that will improve and manage a clearly defined commercial area. It is based on a mandatory levy on all defined ratepayers within the defined area following a majority vote and is established for up to five years for a prescribed set of services additional to those already provided by the local Council.</p>
2.2	<p>Renewal of Membership with NI Chamber of Commerce The NI Chamber of Commerce and Industry has a business network with a membership circ. 1,200 businesses representing over 100,000 employees. Mid Ulster District Council has been a member for the last three years.</p>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>Business Improvement District Feasibility Study (Final) Northern Ireland BIDs was appointed by Council in June 2018 to carry out a feasibility study for the five town centres in the Mid Ulster Council area (Coalisland, Cookstown, Dungannon, Maghera and Magherafelt). The study provided a comprehensive assessment of the potential for developing a BID in each of the five towns and concluded with a recommendation on whether it is a viable proposition for each.</p> <p>The initial draft of the BIDs Feasibility Study was presented to the Development Committee in September 2019 for approval. However, a decision was deferred until further engagement had taken place with Dungannon Regeneration</p>

	<p>Partnership on the appropriateness of BIDs in Dungannon, especially given their intentions to submit a separate proposal to Mid Ulster Council and Department for Communities to seek funding to deliver a pilot scheme to address the high levels of vacancy and dereliction in the town.</p> <p>In the intervening period, Mid Ulster Council and Department for Communities have considered Dungannon Regeneration Partnership's proposal and agreed to provide funding towards a 3 year pilot programme to help reduce the number of vacant and derelict premises in Dungannon town centre. As a result, Dungannon Regeneration Partnership has advised Council it would wish to defer any decision on a potential BIDs scheme in Dungannon until after the evaluation of this 3 year pilot programme.</p> <p>The final version of the BIDs Feasibility Study (Executive Summary) for Mid Ulster's 5 towns (on Appendix 1) is enclosed with a recommendation that Mid Ulster Council do not pursue a BID in any of its 5 towns at this juncture.</p>
3.2	<p>Renewal of Membership with NI Chamber of Commerce</p> <p>Membership renewal is now due (Appendix 2) for the period 1 January – 31 December 2020 at a cost of £2,500+Vat. The benefits for the Council are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chamber has a global network, links into UK Chamber & its business membership of circ. 1200 businesses • Actively represents members' interests at the highest political level • Provides a quarterly magazine of current business affairs • Monthly newsletter update on what's happening in business in NI • Organises monthly business events throughout NI
	Other Considerations
4.1	<p>Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications</p> <p>Financial:</p> <p>NI Chamber of Commerce Membership Renewal costs (for period 1 Jan-31 Dec 2020) is £2,500+Vat, provision made from within economic development budget.</p> <p>Human: Officer time</p> <p>Risk Management: n/a</p>
4.2	<p>Screening & Impact Assessments</p> <p>Equality & Good Relations Implications: n/a</p> <p>Rural Needs Implications: n/a</p>

5.0	Recommendation(s)
	It is recommended that Members;
5.1	Business Improvement District Feasibility Study <u>Approve</u> the Mid Ulster 5 Towns BIDS Feasibility Study (Executive Summary) recommending that Council do not pursue BIDs in any of its 5 towns at this juncture.
5.2	Renewal of Membership with NI Chamber of Commerce <u>Approve</u> Corporate Membership of NI Chamber of Commerce costing £2,500+Vat for the period of 1 January to 31 December 2020.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	Appendix 1 - Mid Ulster 5 Towns BIDS Feasibility Study (Executive Summary) (Final) Appendix 2 – NI Chamber of Commerce – Membership Renewal Invoice (Jan-Dec 2020)

Appendix 1

Mid Ulster 5 Towns BIDS Feasibility Study Executive Summary (FINAL VERSION)

**NI BIDs
May 2019**

**Presented to MUDC Development Committee
Feb 2020**

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SECTION ONE: INTRODUCTION TO BIDS

In August 2018, NI BIDs was commissioned by Mid Ulster District Council to assess the feasibility of developing Business Improvement Districts (BID) in the five towns of Cookstown, Magherafelt, Dungannon, Coalisland and Maghera.

Introduction to BIDS

Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) in the UK came into being after approximately 20 years of voluntary partnership arrangements in 2004 with The Business Improvements Districts (England) Regulations supporting the formation of BIDs to manage places. The legislation came into effect in Northern Ireland in 2013/14. Today, there are over 300 BIDs in the UK; eight of these are currently in operation in Northern Ireland.

Voluntary partnership arrangements have had a great deal of success but ultimately suffer from the lack of sustainable and guaranteed income, issues of 'freeloading' and the inability to raise enough finance to deliver expectations and guarantee delivery of longer term plans due to the unpredictable nature of voluntary financial arrangements.

BID FAQ's

A BID is a formal mechanism, which allows dedicated funds to be collected for the delivery of an agreed business plan. Whilst BIDs are not a new phenomenon, they are still relatively new to Northern Ireland. The Northern Ireland BID legislation was introduced in 2013/14- – The Business Improvement Districts Act (Northern Ireland) 2013, The Business Improvement Districts (General) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014 and The Business Improvement Districts (Miscellaneous) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014. There are also BIDs operating in the Republic of Ireland in Sligo, Dundalk, Dublin and Dunlaoghaire.

What are BIDs?

An arrangement whereby businesses get together, decide what additional improvements they want to make, how they're going to manage and deliver those improvements and understand what it will cost them. This all goes into a business plan which is voted on by all those who would have to pay. The BID can last for a maximum of 5 years and must be able to demonstrate how it has benefited businesses that have funded it.

Have BIDs been supported elsewhere in the UK?

The first UK legislation came in December 2004 and there have already been over 300 successful ballots including 100+ renewals. These BIDs involve over 100,000 businesses and will bring in over £150 million (including additional income) of new finance to develop their locations over the next 5 years.

What might a BID deliver?

BIDs can deliver any projects or services that are agreed by the relevant businesses and are an addition to statutory services delivered by the Public Sector. In most cases they focus on marketing and promotion activities, increasing safety and security for

business and customers and better transport and access arrangements as well as business support. The important thing is that BIDs are in the main addressing operational matters and that actual projects and services will be determined as a result of detailed consultation with all the business in the BID area.

Why is a BID needed?

A BID is a mechanism which allows businesses to control a sum of money to manage and deliver projects which they believe will improve the trading environment for them. It should ultimately increase trade and drive down costs for those businesses that are paying for the improvements.

Who can develop a BID?

A BID can be proposed by any business ratepayer, property owner, local authority or partnership with an interest in the BID Area.

How will the BID be managed?

BIDs should be controlled and managed by local businesses that are paying the levy. The majority of BIDs are delivered through Companies Limited by Guarantee with Directors elected from the BID levy payers. The organisation delivering the BID will be responsible for the delivery of the BID projects and services and directly responsible to all its business membership through an elected board.

Who pays for a BID?

Once projects and services have been agreed by businesses, costs are detailed in the BID business plan. The cost to each business is worked out on a pro-rata basis. This is called the 'BID Levy'. A formal vote then takes place on the agreed projects and services. Subject to the 25% minimum turn-out and if the majority vote YES, then ALL eligible businesses within the BID area HAVE to pay. The BID Levy is normally paid by the occupiers of a property. In addition BIDs can draw in other voluntary funding, e.g. from property owners, voluntary contributors, sponsorship and the public sectors.

How does an area become a BID?

Normally a 'BID Task Group' is set up which is responsible for putting together a detailed business plan setting out the projects it aims to deliver on behalf of the business in the area. This is based upon a detailed consultation process with businesses. The business plan will include the projects, cost, delivery guarantees, performance indicators and the management structure. A confidential postal vote is then held of all the businesses that would pay the BID Levy. To become a BID, there must be a 25% minimum turnout and a majority of those that vote must be in favour by number and rateable value. A successful BID then has a mandate for a maximum of 5 years after which it needs to ballot businesses again with a new business plan.

Does this mean the local Council will stop delivering services?

BID money can only carry out projects and services which are ADDITIONAL to those that public agencies have to provide. Prior to the BID Business Plan being produced the current services being delivered by all public agencies, including the Local Council and PSNI, are benchmarked. These agencies have to continue to deliver that level of service for the period of the BID. The BID company can agree to provide additional resources to deliver a higher level of service over the benchmarked level if businesses want this.

How is the BID monitored?

Like any good business plan, specific key performance indicators (KPI's) are set and performance is monitored against the KPI's by the BID board. As businesses contribute the funding to achieve those specific KPI's set out in the prospectus the BID Company will be required to monitor and inform its members of progress on a regular basis.

How can a BID Model benefit a location?

In general, the BID Model can bring a number of high level benefits which include:

- Drives Business performance up
- Business costs are driven down
- Increases the capital value of assets
- Gives businesses more control and accountability
- Allows for proper business planning over the 5 year period
- Deliver achievable projects
- Consolidates a realistic, sustainable funding package
- Derives maximum value from existing services through the SLA process
- Eliminates the freeloading effect which have jeopardized projects in the past

NI BIDS DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

A full BID development programme will take typically between 12 to 18 months, depending on the maturity of any partnership, existing work and business engagement. Our recommended approach, used successfully in a 100+ locations is set out below, highlighting the key tasks in 3 distinct phases. The Feasibility Studies are a key part of the Foundation Phase.

FOUNDATION PHASE	DEVELOPMENT PHASE	CAMPAIGN PHASE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnership & Plans Review • Develop Database & Information System • Feasibility Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial Analysis • Boundary Analysis • Levy Analysis • Business Engagement • Public Sector Role • Regulatory Adherence • Resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Support • Research/Consultation • Public Sector Role <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Levy Payer • Baseline Agreements • Operating Agreement • Ballot Holder • Committee/Approval Processes • Staff & Board Development • Organisational Model • Voluntary Contributions • Financial Projections • Business Proposal/Business Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ballot Arrangements • Marketing & Communications Campaign • Tracking/Polling/Response • BID Implementation & Launch •

SECTION TWO: SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

Financial Analysis

A key part of the development of any BID is knowing what is 'on the ground', the type of business, the rateable value, the geographical and sector spread. If a BID is to be developed, this information will form the basis of a comprehensive market research and consultation exercise, the development of the business proposals, the balloting and the legal and financial framework upon which the BID is determined and operated.

NI BIDs consequently regards this part of the study as key and we have used the following data and methods to ensure accuracy.

- The NAV list was formally obtained for the study from LPS. It should be noted that this list ultimately forms the legal basis of any BID levy charge.
- The NAV list was checked and cross referenced through a foot survey.

The financial analysis has been derived from the Non-Domestic Ratings List data provided by Land & Property Services (LPS) in August 2018 and subject to an official Data Sharing Agreement signed by all parties with access to the data. The information held on this database should only be used for the development of the BID proposals. This is the basis for establishing the financial viability of a BID. The data was compiled and fully analysed in a detailed report for each town. A summary of the total rateable value, the total number of businesses and the number of different business sectors is given below.

Town	Total Rateable Value	Total Number of Businesses
Cookstown	£6,430,300	401
Dungannon	£5,207,300	456
Magherafelt	£4,362,110	392
Maghera	£1,202,340	146
Coalisland	£885,950	135

Potential BID Levy Raised

It is standard practice to apply a figure of between 1 -2% to the total rateable value. Most BIDs in NI have used 1.5% with the 8th BID Coleraine choosing to go with 2%. The highest percentage applied to the BID levy in the UK is Rugby BID which is in its third 5 year term voted to raise the percentage on the BID levy to 6%.

A summary of the potential levy amounts for each town is given in the table below.

Levy Rate	Cookstown	Dungannon	Magherafelt	Maghera	Coalisland
1%	£ 64,303	£52,073	£43,784.10	£12,023.40	£8,859.50
1.5%	£ 96,454.50	£78,109.5	£65,676.15	£18,035.10	£13,289.25
2%	£ 128,606	£104,146	£87,568.20	£24,046.80	£17,719

A full breakdown of the financial analysis is available in the individual location reports and is subject to the guidelines set out in the Data Sharing Agreement signed with Land and Property Services in August 2018.

SECTION THREE: SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF ENGAGEMENT AND CONSULTATION PROCESS

Engagement and consultation with businesses, and key public and private stakeholder organisations within the proposed BID area was carried out in the period August 2018 – February 2019. This included a variety of consultation methods including the following:

- Consultation with key stakeholders to understand the strategic context within which a BID would be positioned level. We are looking to build a picture of strategic priorities, development opportunities that might be realised within the 5-year BID period and current funding framework. This is important at this stage as a BID should complement and demonstrate added value to what is currently being delivered.
- Business surveys - An online survey was distributed to all businesses held on the current town centre databases. Council officers also completed a number by hand. At the feasibility stage the purpose of the surveys is to enable a stronger understanding of the broad priorities for businesses and to identify whether the projects identified by local businesses could be delivered using the BID mechanism.
- Workshops with Town Centre Forums and open business workshops. The purpose of these workshops was to introduce and explain the BID process, look at best practice and the impact/benefits of BIDs elsewhere, discuss the emerging issues from the survey analysis and consider the financial analysis.
- Case Studies – We also examined a number of relevant BIDs similar in scope, size and aspiration to the five towns.

The consultee list for each of the five towns is set out in the individual reports and is summarised below:

Magherafelt Town Centre

It is vital that a BID feasibility is considered within the context of other major economic development and inward investment and infrastructural improvements for the town as set out in the overarching strategic context. It is also important to understand the existing partnerships and key agencies with a remit in the town centre.

A number of key regeneration projects identified in the **Magherafelt Town Centre Masterplan**, such as the public realm scheme, road infrastructural investment such as the bypass and shopfront improvements has contributed to the vibrancy and vitality of the town centre. The Masterplan also highlighted the potential for a Town Centre BID.

A **Town Centre Positioning Study** took account of the Magherafelt Town Centre Masterplan and, following wide engagement with key stakeholders a Positioning Statement was agreed for the town centre to guide and stimulate development and regeneration initiatives.

Magherafelt should continue to develop its role as a market town with a unique, distinctive retail and leisure offer, focusing on eclectic, independent brands (particularly ladies fashion), a quality food and drink and a diverse evening and night time economy, much of this encapsulated in the original town centre brand. Working in a true partnership, it will attract and develop a local audience as well as targeting a wider visitor market using its distinctive heritage, cultural and literary connections. This further consolidated by a capitalising on the great outdoors offer nearby.

The Positioning Study research identified some further opportunities for the Town Centre including:

- Further develop the public realm to add colour, vibrancy, light & social spaces.
- Potential to develop market town designation with food festivals & farmers markets.
- Seamus Heaney HomePlace & outdoor attractions drive visitors and should be packaged/ promoted perhaps as a shopping/cultural offer day trips.
- Further developing the early & night time economy. Strive for Purple Flag award.
- Develop annual events calendar to support propositions.
- Develop an App/Town Centre Loyalty Scheme.
- Develop a social media campaign using local people – personalities, bloggers, school gate style.
- More visible Interpretation of brand in Town Centre & approach routes.

The **Economic and Regeneration Strategy “Our Plan for Growth” 2015-2020** reflects the aim, vision and objectives of the **Council’s Corporate Plan 2018 – 2023 and Community Plan 2017-2030** and sets out the strategic context for the development of a BID. The plan will “enable economic growth, sectoral diversification, employability and skills, town and village regeneration and infrastructure and connectivity throughout the Mid Ulster district”.

This strategy highlights the importance of the manufacturing base, the emerging tourism potential and the distinctive multi-functional town centres to the economy of the region.

The Plan to grow Tourism up to 2021 also firmly sets a context for the development of a potential BID for Magherafelt. The plan sets out three key tourism strands which have potential to expand the tourism offer in Mid Ulster – the links to Seamus Heaney, Outdoor Activities and Archaeological sites, the History and Heritage of the island of Ireland, Northern Ireland and the area itself. The plan defines ambitious targets for growth – to grow the visitor economy to £50m by 2021.

Business Survey

The key findings are:

- 27% of respondents were Independents, 9% Multiples.
- 81% of respondents are responsible for paying the business rates directly and consequently would be eligible to vote if included in the BID area.
- 80% of respondents had been operating for more than 10 Years.
- 13% of respondents said that their turnover had increased over the past year and 67% said it had remained the same.
- 27% reported a marketing spend of over £5,000 per annum.
- Asked 'How would you rate the current marketing of the town Centre', 40% of respondents said it was good. Over 46% said it was poor or very poor.
- 47% are a member of a Business Association such as Chamber of Commerce or Federation of Small Businesses and 67% of these rated this membership as satisfactory or successful.
- The following were seen as the key priorities by respondents with percentages indicating the number supporting for these initiatives:
 - Promoting the Town Centre's independent businesses – 100%
 - CCTV – 100%
 - Enhanced street cleansing including removal of chewing gum and graffiti – 100%
 - Improve paving, greenery and street furniture – 100%
 - Improve appearance of empty shops – 93%
 - New seasonal events to create an all year calendar – 93%
 - More events for families and children – 93%
 - Access into and around town – 93%
 - More independent businesses – 93%
 - Better internet and IT connectivity – 93%

Workshops

A series of workshops were facilitated as part of the Feasibility Study process with Magherafelt Town Centre Forum and an open workshop for all local businesses within the identified BID area between November 2018 and February 2019.

The purpose of these workshops was to introduce and explain the BID process, look at best practice and the impact/benefits of BIDs elsewhere, discuss the key emerging issues raised as a result of the surveys and look at the initial financial analysis.

While it would be unrealistic to expect an overwhelming consensus of business opinion at this early stage of the process, we do look for a small nucleus of local businesses who understand the BID concept and are supportive of the idea of moving to full development phase. Our experience has shown that this could lay the foundation for a future BID.

There was, in general, a sound understanding of the BID concept, the role of businesses and the timescales for delivery. Members were aware of BIDs in other parts of NI, the potential benefits for the town and its role in the wider regeneration process. Following a detailed presentation and a question and answer session on the legislative process, timescales for delivery of a BID to ballot and other management and governance issues, there was a productive discussion around some of the issues, summarised below.

- Magherafelt is a heavily retail dominated BID by both number and rateable value (55%), with an even balance across other sectors.
- There is a good balance of independent and multiple retailers in the top 10 ratepayers, which would optimise success at ballot.
- The BID presented a great opportunity to position and promote the town utilising the Town Centre brand.
- A BID would provide the funds to commission a sustained promotional campaign to promote the town as an independent retail destination.
- Initiatives to build customer loyalty i.e. digital loyalty cards (eg Enniskillen BID).
- A dedicated Social Media Strategy would be an important element.
- There was a great interest in the BID examples, which were chosen to illustrate how a BID can unlock the tourism potential and drive more visitors, capitalising on the tourism assets close to the town such as Seamus Heaney HomePlace.
- A BID should optimise opportunities to reduce Business Costs through collective buying – very important to the independent sector.
- A BID could be an important driver to grow existing events.
- The BID would need to be positioned alongside the Town Centre Forum and Chamber of Commerce and the roles of each carefully defined. The Ballymena BID example provided a good solution with the Chamber there leading on business support and networking events.
- The BID could address environmental issues not part of the Public Realm Scheme such as alleys and walkways and provide more colour and vibrancy through enhanced floral displays, street art etc.
- Additional interpretative signage and orientation maps.
- The BID as a vehicle to improve communication and engagement with local businesses and other stakeholders.

Dungannon Town Centre

It is vital that a BID feasibility is considered within the context of other major economic development and inward investment and infrastructural improvements for the city as set out in the overarching strategic context. It is also important to understand the existing partnerships and key agencies with a remit in the town centre.

The Dungannon Town Centre BID Feasibility Study has been facilitated by the Regeneration Manager who has responsibility for working with the local businesses and key stakeholders to develop the Town Centre. There is a Regeneration

Partnership made up of key public and private sector holders, which is supported by the Council.

A Town Centre Positioning Study took account of the Dungannon Town Centre Masterplan and, following wide engagement with key stakeholders, a Positioning Statement was agreed for the town centre to guide and stimulate development and regeneration initiatives.

“Dungannon will be reinvented and rejuvenated as one of Northern Ireland’s key entrepreneurial, historic market towns. All stakeholders will work in partnership to reinvigorate the town’s retail offer by highlighting key retail strengths (branded fashion, local food and knowledgeable service), identifying gaps in the current provision and reconfiguring vacant/derelict properties/sites, stimulate investment in the town’s infrastructure and unique character areas, indoor and outdoor markets and the provision of new dedicated town centre space for creative startups and ambitiously package and promote its history and industrial heritage, Ranfurly House and Hill of the O’Neill to a new visitor target market.”

The Positioning Study research identified some further opportunities for the Town Centre including:

- Market Square could become a focal point for events/markets/café culture.
- The celebration of diversity through festivals of music & food.
- Exploiting the existing entrepreneurial spirit with more creative industries.
- Exploiting the local food.
- Acting as a fashion hub as collectively, in the area, there is a strong representation of international brands.
- It has major historical significance with the Flight of the Earls, Hill of the O’Neills, Ranfurly which should be capitalised on to create a more distinct and cohesive proposition.

The Economic and Regeneration Strategy “Our Plan for Growth” 2015-2020 reflects the aim, vision and objectives of the **Council’s Corporate Plan 2018 – 2023 and Community Plan 2017-2030** and sets out the strategic context for the development of a BID. The plan will “enable economic growth, sectoral diversification, employability and skills, town and village regeneration and infrastructure and connectivity throughout the Mid Ulster district”.

This strategy highlights the importance of the manufacturing base, the emerging tourism potential and the distinctive multi-functional town centres to the economy of the region.

The Plan to grow Tourism up to 2021 also firmly sets a context for the development of a BID for Dungannon. The plan outlines three key tourism strands, which have potential to expand the tourism offer in Mid Ulster – the links to Seamus Heaney, Outdoor Activities and Archaeological sites, the History and Heritage of the island of Ireland, Northern Ireland and the area itself. The plan defines ambitious targets for growth – to grow the visitor economy to £50m by 2021.

Business Survey

The key findings for Dungannon are:

- 23% of respondents were Independents, 15% Multiples.
- 79% of respondents are responsible for paying the business rates directly and consequently would be eligible to vote if included in the BID area.
- 79% of respondents had been operating for more than 10 Years.
- 46% of respondents said that their turnover had increased over the past year and 31% said it had remained the same.
- 29% reported a marketing spend of over £5,000 per annum.
- Asked 'How would you rate the current marketing of the town Centre', 14% of respondents said it was good. Over 64% said it was poor or very poor.
- 33% are a member of a Business Association such as Chamber of Commerce or Federation of Small Businesses and 67% of these rated this membership as satisfactory or successful.
- The following were seen as the key priorities by respondents with percentages indicating the number supporting for these initiatives:
 - Raising the profile of the Town centre – 100%
 - Promoting the Town Centre's independent businesses – 100%
 - Attracting quality new businesses to the Town centre – 100%
 - Access into and around town – 100%
 - Increase the number of car parking spaces – 100%
 - Enhanced street cleansing including removal of chewing gum and graffiti – 100%
 - More independent businesses – 100%
 - Attract creative businesses – 100%
 - Business crime reduction initiatives – 93%
 - Developing a cohesive marketing strategy – 93%
 - Helping existing businesses expand – 93%
 - New seasonal events to create an all year calendar – 93%
 - More events for families and children – 93%
 - Car parking discount scheme – 93%
 - Improve appearance of empty shops – 93%
 - Building / façade lighting – 93%
 - Attract major employers – 93%

Workshops

A series of workshops were held with Dungannon Regeneration Partnership and an open workshop for all local businesses within the identified BID area was facilitated as part of the Feasibility Study process from January to February 2019. The purpose of these workshops was to introduce and explain the BID process, look at best practice and the impact/benefits of BIDs elsewhere, discuss the emerging issues as a result of the Business Survey and consider the initial financial analysis. An experienced BID Development Manager who had successfully taken Belfast Linen Quarter to ballot in

2018 gave a presentation and answered questions on his experiences of the BID development process.

While it would be unrealistic to expect an overwhelming consensus at this early stage of the process, we do look for a small nucleus of local businesses who understand the BID concept and are supportive of the idea of moving to full development phase. Our experience has shown that this could lay the foundation for a successful future BID.

In Dungannon, there was a very high turnout to the BID workshops and a good response to the online survey, indicating a degree of interest in the BID concept as a regeneration tool. 73% of those surveyed indicated that they had a sound understanding of the BID concept, the potential benefits, the role of businesses and the timescales for delivery. Members were aware of BIDs in other parts of NI, the potential benefits for the town and its role in the wider regeneration process. Following a detailed presentation and a question and answer session on the legislative process, timescales for delivery of a BID to ballot and other management and governance issues, there was a productive discussion around some of the issues, summarised below.

- Dungannon has an unusual make-up for a town centre location as retail only makes up 36% of the total levy.
- There is a higher than average level of vacant premises (14%) which will require a different emphasis for the BID and a focus for the BID development process and Business Plan as it will have to incorporate the needs of property owner rate payers. This was a key discussion issue, particularly in the Town Centre Forum and was highlighted in the case study examples. There was a desire to look at a substantial capital investment programme to address this key issue and build on the considerable research and investment to date by the Regeneration Partnership and key stakeholders.
- 6 out of the top 10 ratepayers by ratable value are public sector. This balance must be reflected in the BID initiatives.
- The workshops verified the results of the survey analysis. There was consensus amongst the businesses on the key issues to be addressed. Many issues scored 100% in the survey which is unusual at this early stage of the process.
- Marketing and Promotion of the town was a critical priority.
- Attracting all types of new businesses to the town centre. including new independents, commercial and creative industries. An investment marketing campaign would seem to be a good solution.
- Access and parking issues were discussed frequently.
- Enhanced street cleansing including removal of chewing gum and graffiti came up exceptionally high which suggests there is strong desire to re-instate civic pride and a sense of place.
- The BID could provide a mechanism to promote the interesting history and heritage of the town, maximising the asset of Ranfurly House to attract more day trippers and visitors.

- Collective procurement was also a priority issues for the BID to address. There was a high interest and discussion on how this worked in practice at the business workshop. There was a recognition that this would sit well with the initiatives to attract new investment and deal with the vacancy and dereliction issues.
- There was a recognition that any future BID would require the businesses to work closely with other stakeholders and use the BID levy effectively to support other funding programmes and regeneration projects.

Cookstown Town Centre

It is vital that a BID feasibility is considered within the context of other major economic development and inward investment and infrastructural improvements for the city as set out in the overarching strategic context. It is also important to understand the existing partnerships and key agencies with a remit in the town centre.

The Cookstown Town Centre BID Feasibility Study has been facilitated by the Regeneration Manager who has responsibility for working with the local businesses and key stakeholders to develop the Town Centre. There is a Town Centre Forum made up of key public and private sector holders, which is supported by the Council.

A Town Centre Positioning Study took account of the Cookstown Town Centre Masterplan and, following wide engagement with key stakeholders, a Positioning Statement was agreed for the town centre to guide and stimulate development and regeneration initiatives.

“Refreshing a successful, yet plateauing, brand, Cookstown should further develop its role as a multi-functional market town at the heart of Mid Ulster, renowned for its mile of shopping, attractive, safe environment and lively day and night time economy. The town should also aspire to become an outdoor hub for the wider destination, capitalising on the tourism potential of Davagh Forest, Lough Neagh and The Sperrins. The town will utilise its strong retail offer, build on its hospitality and welcome, people, food & drink and accommodation. Being healthy, happy and hopeful should be part of an overall ‘lifestyle’ offer to both locals and visitors alike.”

The Positioning Study research identified some further opportunities for the Town Centre including:

- Build on the Public Realm work by creating green & social Spaces, deliver events such as a Mardi Gras Type Festival, Family Fun Days etc.
- Exploit the local food culture to provide a USP.
- Cookstown is a Historical Market Town and needs to make more of this asset
- The outdoor lifestyle concept needs to be developed particularly with its proximity to the Dark Skies & Davagh Forest. Potential to create a visitor hub.
- Burnavon could function even better as a Town Centre Hub.

- Further, Develop Early & Night Time Economy.
- Maximise the asset that is the Christmas Lighting – the most spectacular in NI.

The Economic and Regeneration Strategy “Our Plan for Growth” 2015-2020 reflects the aim, vision and objectives of the **Council’s Corporate Plan 2018 – 2023 and Community Plan 2017-2030** and sets out the strategic context for the development of a BID. The plan will “enable economic growth, sectoral diversification, employability and skills, town and village regeneration and infrastructure and connectivity throughout the Mid Ulster district”.

This strategy highlights the importance of the manufacturing base, the emerging tourism potential and the distinctive multi-functional town centres to the economy of the region.

The Plan to grow Tourism up to 2021 also firmly sets a context should the development of a BID be considered in Cookstown. The plan sets out three key tourism strands, which have potential to expand the tourism offer in Mid Ulster – the links to Seamus Heaney, Outdoor Activities and Archaeological sites, the History and Heritage of the island of Ireland, Northern Ireland and the area itself.

The plan defines ambitious targets for growth – to grow the visitor economy to £50m by 2021.

Business Survey

The key findings are:

- 63% of respondents were Independents, 6% Multiples.
- 81% of respondents are responsible for paying the business rates directly and consequently would be eligible to vote if included in the BID area.
- 63% of respondents had been operating for more than 10 Years.
- 7% of respondents said that their turnover had increased over the past year and 53% said it had remained the same.
- 7% reported a marketing spend of over £5,000 per annum.
- Asked ‘How would you rate the current marketing of the town Centre’, Over 56% of respondents said it was good. 19% said it was poor or very poor.
- 40% are a member of a Business Association such as Chamber of Commerce or Federation of Small Businesses and 83% of these rated this membership as satisfactory or successful.

The following were seen as the key priorities by respondents with percentages indicating the number supporting for these initiatives:

▪ Raising the profile of the town	92%
▪ Attracting new Independent Businesses	92%
▪ Attracting Creative Industries	92%
▪ Collective Procurement	92%
▪ Business Crime Reduction	90%
▪ Developing a Cohesive Marketing Strategy	86%
▪ Greater Lobbying and Influence	85%

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| ▪ Improving internet / IT | 80% |
| ▪ Car parking/access | 80% |

Workshops

A series of workshops were held with Cookstown Town Centre Forum and an open workshop for all local businesses within the identified BID area were facilitated as part of the Feasibility Study process during the period January to February 2019.

The purpose of these workshops was to introduce and explain the BID process, look at best practice and the impact/benefits of BIDs elsewhere, discuss the emerging issues from the survey analysis and consider the financial analysis.

While it would be unrealistic to expect an overwhelming consensus at this early stage of the process, we do look for a small nucleus of local businesses who understand the BID concept and are supportive of the idea of moving to full development phase. Our experience has shown that this lays the foundation for a successful future BID.

There was, in general, a sound understanding of the BID concept, the role of businesses and the timescales for delivery. Members were aware of BIDs in other parts of NI, the potential benefits for the town and its role in the wider regeneration process. Following a detailed presentation and a question and answer session on the legislative process, timescales for delivery of a BID to ballot and other management and governance issues, there was a productive discussion around some of the issues, summarised below.

- Cookstown is a very heavily retail dominated BID by both number and rateable value (64%) with relatively low representation from other sectors. This will provide the focus for the BID development process and Business Plan.
- There is a high representation of multiple retailers in the top 10 ratepayers by rateable value, with the independent businesses more dominant by number. This balance must be reflected in the BID initiatives.
- The BID presented a great opportunity to position and promote the town utilising the Town Centre brand.
- The BID could provide a mechanism for town centre businesses to capitalise on a new outdoor activity visitor market currently visiting Davagh Forest and the Sperrins.
- The workshops verified the results of the survey analysis which identified raising the profile of the town sustainable marketing campaign, attracting new Independent Businesses and collective procurement as the priority issues for the BID to address. Also, interestingly, attracting new creative industries was key, perhaps reflecting the desire to attract a new visitor market.
- Vacancy levels within the proposed BID area are around 9%, which is below the NI average. It was raised as an issue at consultation and reflected in the desire to attract new independent retail and creative industries. An investment marketing campaign would seem to be a good solution rather than capital investment, which would take up a significant budget.

- Business Crime Reduction was also raised as an important issue yet the relatively low crime figures do not support this concern. There is perhaps more of an issue with perception. This should be explored more fully at development stage.
- Access and car parking featured highly but are extremely expensive to deliver. It would be important to consider this against other priorities for the BID Levy budget.
- Businesses welcomed a key role of a BID to provide a vehicle for local businesses to communicate and have a collective voice and influence in the future of the town.

Coalisland Town Centre

It is vital that a BID feasibility is considered within the context of other major economic development and inward investment and infrastructural improvements for the city as set out in the overarching strategic context. It is also important to understand the existing partnerships and key agencies with a remit in the town centre.

The Coalisland Town Centre BID Feasibility Study has been facilitated by the Regeneration Manager who has responsibility for working with the local businesses and key stakeholders to develop the Town Centre. There is a Town Centre Forum made up of key public and private sector holders, which is supported by the Council.

The vision for Coalisland in the Coalisland Development Framework was that ***“by 2030 Coalisland has built on its success as an attractive and unique service centre. The area around the Cornmill has been transformed by high quality public realm improvements to form the heart of the town centre. It is multi-functional, high quality place for people to meet, live, local events to take place and providing a diverse range of independent retail and recreational uses. The canal as a resource is maximised and the former clay pits are developed for a range of uses that integrate with and compliment the Town Centre.”***

Opportunities for Coalisland highlighted in the framework included:

- To redevelop vacant and under used sites
- Potential to create a vibrant heart to the town centre
- To exploit some of the existing surrounding assets such as the clay pits, canal corridor
- Marketing and promotion of the town to increase the attraction of tourists

The Economic and Regeneration Strategy “Our Plan for Growth” 2015-2020 reflects the aim, vision and objectives of the **Council’s Corporate Plan 2018 – 2023 and Community Plan 2017-2030** and sets out the strategic context for the development of a BID. The plan will “enable economic growth, sectoral diversification, employability and skills, town and village regeneration and infrastructure and connectivity throughout the Mid Ulster district”.

This strategy highlights the importance of the manufacturing base, the emerging tourism potential and the distinctive multi-functional town centres to the economy of the region.

The Plan to grow Tourism up to 2021 also firmly sets a context for the development of a BID for Coalisland. The plan sets out three key tourism strands, which have potential to expand the tourism offer in Mid Ulster – the links to Seamus Heaney, Outdoor Activities and Archaeological sites, the History and Heritage of the island of Ireland, Northern Ireland and the area itself.

The plan defines ambitious targets for growth – to grow the visitor economy to £50m by 2021.

Business Survey

The key findings are:

- 67% of respondents were Independents, none were multiples.
- 100% of respondents are responsible for paying the business rates directly and consequently would be eligible to vote if included in the BID area.
- 67% of respondents had been operating for more than 10 Years.
- 17% of respondents said that their turnover had increased over the past year and 33% said it had remained the same.
- 17% reported a marketing spend of over £5,000 pa.
- Asked 'How would you rate the current marketing of the town Centre', none of respondents said it was good. 100% said it was poor or very poor.
- None of the respondents are a member of a Business Association such as Chamber of Commerce or Federation of Small Businesses.
- The following were seen as the key priorities by respondents with percentages indicating the number supporting for these initiatives:
 - Raising the profile of the town centre – 100%
 - Developing a cohesive marketing strategy – 100%
 - Promoting the town centre's independent businesses – 100%
 - More festival and culture events – 100%
 - More Christmas activities and attractions – 100%
 - New seasonal events to create an all year round calendar – 100%
 - More events for families and children – 100%
 - More business events – 100%
 - Access into and around town – 100%
 - Increase the number of car parking spaces – 100%
 - Better signage into town for vehicles – 100%
 - Better wayfinding signage and maps in town for pedestrians – 100%
 - CCTV – 100%
 - Enhanced street cleansing including removal of chewing gum and graffiti – 100%

- Improve appearance of empty shops – 100%
- Improve paving, greenery and street furniture – 100%
- Building / façade lighting – 100%
- More independent businesses – 100%
- Attract professional services – 100%
- Business incubation and acceleration initiatives – 100%
- Business crime reduction initiatives – 100%
- Better internet and IT connectivity – 100%
- Collective procurement schemes to reduce business costs – 100%
- Better business to business communication – 100%
- Better business to business trading opportunities – 100%
- Appropriate training e.g. IT, Personnel, customer service – 100%
- More business networking opportunities – 100%
- Provision of business data and intelligence – 100%

Maghera Town Centre

It is vital that a BID feasibility is considered within the context of other major economic development and inward investment and infrastructural improvements for the city as set out in the overarching strategic context. It is also important to understand the existing partnerships and key agencies with a remit in the town centre.

The Maghera Town Centre BID Feasibility Study has been facilitated by the Regeneration Manager who has responsibility for working with the local businesses and key stakeholders to develop the Town Centre. There is a Town Centre Forum made up of key public and private sector holders, which is supported by the Council.

In the “physical development framework and action plan for Maghera for 2017 – 2030”, the vision for Maghera was that it “will be a vibrant, welcoming place where people work in partnership to create a thriving town reflecting its unique culture and heritage”.

The outcomes from the action plan included:

- Maghera will be positioned as an important heritage/historical/medieval destination town.
- Maghera will use its heritage and historical assets and resources to contribute to the wider visitor offer including Seamus Heaney HomePlace, Outdoor Recreation and Heritage.
- Maghera will provide a welcoming, aesthetically pleasing, accessible and functioning streetscape.
- Maghera will be a good place to do business or to operate business from.
- Maghera will be a place people want to visit and when they do for the first time will want to return.
- Maghera will be known as a community which respects its natural and built assets, maintains them and adds value to them.

- Maghera will be easily accessible for people who want or require to stop in it and efficient to go through for people for which it is a location on an onward journey.

The Economic and Regeneration Strategy “Our Plan for Growth” 2015-2020 reflects the aim, vision and objectives of the **Council’s Corporate Plan 2018 – 2023 and Community Plan 2017-2030** and sets out the strategic context for the development of a BID. The plan will “enable economic growth, sectoral diversification, employability and skills, town and village regeneration and infrastructure and connectivity throughout the Mid Ulster district”.

This strategy highlights the importance of the manufacturing base, the emerging tourism potential and the distinctive multi-functional town centres to the economy of the region.

The Plan to grow Tourism up to 2021 also firmly sets a context for the development of a BID for Maghera. The plan sets out three key tourism strands, which have potential to expand the tourism offer in Mid Ulster – the links to Seamus Heaney, Outdoor Activities and Archaeological sites, the History and Heritage of the island of Ireland, Northern Ireland and the area itself.

The plan defines ambitious targets for growth – to grow the visitor economy to £50m by 2021.

Business Survey

The key findings are:

- 23% of respondents were Independents, 8% Multiples.
- 93% of respondents are responsible for paying the business rates directly and consequently would be eligible to vote if included in the BID area.
- 57% of respondents had been operating for more than 10 Years.
- 57% of respondents said that their turnover had increased over the past year and 29% said it had remained the same.
- 7% reported a marketing spend of over £5,000 pa.
- Asked ‘How would you rate the current marketing of the town Centre’, none of respondents said it was good. Over 92% said it was poor or very poor.
- 29% are a member of a Business Association such as Chamber of Commerce or Federation of Small Businesses and 67% of these rated this membership as satisfactory or successful.
- The following were seen as the key priorities by respondents with percentages indicating the number supporting for these initiatives:
 - Promoting the Town Centre’s independent businesses – 100%
 - Attracting quality new businesses to the Town Centre – 100%
 - Increase the number of car parking spaces – 100%
 - Enhanced street cleansing including removal of chewing gum and graffiti – 100%
 - Business crime reduction initiatives – 100%

- Better internet & IT connectivity – 100%
- Better business to business trading opportunities – 100%

SECTION FOUR: RECOMMENDATIONS, ASSESSMENT OF RESOURCES AND PROPOSED TIMETABLE FOR FULL BID DEVELOPMENT

Critical Success Factors

Utilising the experience of developing all 8 BIDs in Northern Ireland and over 105 BIDs across the UK, Europe and further afield, we have applied a number of critical success factors for successful BID development which has been applied to each of the five towns in this Feasibility Study.

- Robust engagement with potential levy payers from the outset in designing a BID.
- Take advantages of natural geographic connections and common issues.
- Concentrate benefits in a defined area and don't attempt to spread benefits over too wide a geography.
- Listening to business and sharing examples of success elsewhere.
- Having key influencers as BID Champions and advocates.
- Developing projects that make and demonstrable difference, quickly.
- Align business feedback with clear project objectives.
- Aligning the levy percentage or structure to raise adequate funds to deliver the projects.
- Levy investment contributions must be seen to be fair and equitable.
- Demonstrate added value by leveraging additional investment.
- Work with a manageable number of businesses where priorities have alignment and convergence.
- Communicate concisely and clearly always demonstrating benefits and value

Dungannon Town Centre

Based on the financial land analysis and consultations for each of the five town centres, and the review of the Critical Success Factors as set out above, it would seem that Dungannon may be the most appropriate town (of the five towns being appraised) for the development of a BID. However, that said, if any future BID was to be developed it must have the buy-in from all relevant stakeholders in the town and not duplicate any other actions being progressed in the town.

In terms of guiding principles in determining recommendations, the key test is the ability of the BID proposals to make a tangible impact in a given area with the amount of money available. Too big or disjointed an area or too many sectors to contend with may mean that it is difficult to show impact particularly of physical/ground based works. In general, terms it is better to start small, under promise and over deliver.

Having made a comprehensive assessment of the current situation, we would highlight some key elements, which have informed our recommendations for Dungannon Town Centre.

- **The research and consultation process shows clear areas of both consensus and concerns that need to be considered.**

- **The recommended geographical boundary and sectoral make up will allow for a co-ordinated and focused approach. However, this requires more consideration once a task group is formed.**
- **The revenue generated from the BID levy will deliver a meaningful impact on the issues raised in the consultation process and will allow real and tangible improvements to be made.**
- **We recommend an independent, not for profit company should manage the BID**
- **There is evidence of a nucleus of businesses representatives in the town that could form a business led Task Group to lead any future to BID development stage, should the town decide to proceed.**

Preliminary Project Areas

The preliminary market research and consultation indicates that there is good consensus in terms of the types of issues that are important, across the sectors. It is recommended that the BID Business Plan focuses on 2-3 priorities in the first 5 year term, rather than spreading the budget too finely and risk not being able to demonstrate impact and commercial benefit. The priority areas are:

- 1. Initiatives which address long term vacancy and dereliction, bringing them back into productive use. This will require a combination of capital investment and investment marketing projects. This will require significant funding, therefore the role of the BID and the allocation of the BID levy will have to be carefully considered.**
- 2. Marketing & Promotion projects which combine traditional marketing with digital marketing with a focus on building customer loyalty and raising civic pride. Shop local programmes and loyalty cards can be particularly effective.**
- 3. Reducing Business Costs through collective buying initiatives**

A BID is an ideal vehicle to assist businesses to communicate effectively, have more influence on the future direction of the town centre and lobby for change

In Dungannon if a BID was considered appropriate, then sensitivity would be required with regards to any existing arrangements that other organisations may have such as the Regeneration Partnership and Trader's Association. This is not only to co-ordinate, assimilate and add value to existing work effectively but also to avoid any duplication and controversy which in business planning and campaigning terms will have a negative effect. Where people are already paying fees, it will be important to work out a structure, which is beneficial to all and where businesses are not burdened with separate bills.

BID Funding Projections

Going forward a future BID would formally contain 456 business rated units

(hereditaments) with a total Rateable Value of £5,207,300m.

It is our opinion based on the consultation and financial analysis that the working assumption should be a 2% levy, which would raise approximately £104,146 per annum and £520,730 over the 5 year BID term. This would allow sufficient resources to develop and implement projects as well as the ability to provide a tangible difference.

Voluntary Contributions & Fee Income

Please note that most BIDs aim to, and succeed in, generating 20% in voluntary contributions/fee income annually in addition to the BID levy. The 'rule of thumb' is to try and aspire to cover all running costs (averaging 20% at present).

BID Delivery Model

The key elements in considering a delivery organisation is the confidence and credibility it will generate amongst the voting organisations. Even if the projects appeal most businesses will also seek real 'control' and 'independence' for the set up as a price for a positive vote.

This has been reflected in almost all the successful BIDs so far with a not for profit 'company limited by guarantee' the favoured option. The Board of this company would normally be elected at least annually from the BID levy payers.

In any BID set up 'form should follow function' so beyond the key consideration that it should be a legal entity in its own right directly accountable to BID levy payers, it is not crucial that the exact structure be settled on now but that it is revisited during the development stage.

Indicative Timetable for BID Development

The development of a BID is likely to take at least 12 months. The timetable overleaf sets out the key milestones if the decision was taken to pursue the development of a BID.

Phase	Key Milestones	Estimated Date
Foundation Phase		
	Complete Feasibility Study	Month 0
	Secure Resources for Development & Campaign Phase	Month 1
	Agree Preliminary Study Area	Month 2
	Agree Preliminary Ballot Date	Month 3
Development Phase		
	Project Support in Place	Month 4
	Set Up BID Task Group	Month 5
	Complete Detailed Consultation	Month 6
	Agree Initial Project Lists & Costs	Month 7
	Agree Baseline Statements	Month 7
	Agree Delivery Model	Month 7
	Agree Operating Agreement	Month 8
	Agree Final BID Area	Month 9
	Agree Business Plan	Month 9
Campaign Phase		
	Agree Formal Ballot Process	Month 9
	Agree Champions, Campaign Methods & Material	Month 9
	Campaign Period	Month 10
	Formal Ballot Notification	Month 10
	Formal Ballot (42 days/Postal)	Month 11/12

Resources Assessment

Detailed below is our estimation of the resources and relevant costs for the development of the BID.

The costs set out above may on initial inspection seem high but have to be considered against the fact that if the BID is successful it could generate £520,000 over five years which would be considered a good return.

Item	Detail	Cost
Project Staff	*BID Staff member to help deliver Development & Campaign work on the ground	£30,000
Office Costs	IT, Stationery, Postage	£2,500
Marketing & Communication	Business Engagement, Online and Printed Collateral, Business Plan	£5,000
Legal & Financial	Ballot Costs	£2,500
Consultancy Support	Specialist Advice, Template Documents, Negotiations, Regulatory Adherence	£10,000
Total		£35,000

* Staff Member is based on a full time 37.5 hour working week. This staff member can be appointed in a number of ways – either directly by the Council or other organisation such as Town Centre Management body or formally employed by the supporting consultancy firm in order that they are seen as an ‘independent broker’ and the project is not seen as ‘council driven’.

Funding BID Development and Campaign Phases

It is usual for Councils to make a full or part contribution to the costs of developing a BID. Some locations ‘second’ appropriate staff. Many provide office & administration costs in-kind. This means there is a substantial reduction in the development finance required. It is also important to point out at this stage however, that the BID development process is not a ‘bolt on’ activity to a current role. The demands of the process are high, with skilled and experienced people needed to carry through a wide set of roles and activities. A crucial element is the individual face-to-face discussions with potential levy payers which are time consuming but, in our experience, essential.

Next Steps

If the decision was made to go down the BID route and pursue the Development and Campaign Phase, then the following key steps will be required in the immediate short term:

1. **Formal decision taken to proceed to Development and Campaign Phases.**
2. **Secure necessary resources for next phases through public and private sectors including costs for dedicated staff support and a project fund.**
3. **The creation of a BIDs Task Group with business members and the public agencies (no more than 15) who are able to commit 1 hour per week in time over the next 12 months. The BID Task Group members should ideally be potential levy payers and be representative of the preliminary BID area in terms of sector and numbers.**

A full Development Plan including legal protocol and timescales is included in the Dungannon Town Centre detailed report, should the town wish to pursue a BID.

NB: Since NI BIDs completed the Mid Ulster BIDs Feasibility Study, another Vacancy/Dereliction Project is being progressed by Dungannon Regeneration Partnership to tackle the high levels of vacant and derelict premises in Dungannon over the next 3 years. This project is funded by Mid Ulster District Council, Dungannon Enterprise Centre and Dungannon Traders Association with a pending gap-funding request with Department for Communities for consideration. Dungannon Regeneration Partnership has clearly articulated its views to Council that (subject to funding), it believes a Vacancy/Dereliction Project should be undertaken first and when complete, a review take place at that juncture on the appropriateness of developing a BID for Dungannon.

Magherafelt Town Centre

Based on the financial analysis and consultations and the review of the Critical Success Factors as set out above, it is recommended that a BID for Magherafelt Town Centre is viable, however, given the relatively low levels of engagement from the business community at this stage, the decision on whether to proceed to full BID development should be reviewed at a later date and with further consultation and engagement with the local business community.

Preliminary Project Areas

The preliminary market research and consultation indicates that there is good consensus in terms of the types of issues that are important, across the sectors.

1. **Marketing & Promotion, building on the Magherafelt Brand including digital and social media platforms.**
2. **Environmental Improvements to enhance the Public Realm and periphery areas of the town.**

- 3. Reducing Business Costs.**
- 4. Business Support & Advocacy.**

Sensitivity would be required with regards to any existing organisations, such as the Chamber and Town Centre Forum. This is not only to co-ordinate, assimilate and add value to existing work effectively but also to avoid any duplication and controversy which in business planning and campaigning terms will have a negative effect. Where people are already paying fees, it will be important to work out a structure which is beneficial to all and where businesses are not burdened with separate bills.

BID Funding Projections

The BID Feasibility Study has identified a potential BID with over 392 business rated units (hereditaments) with a total Rateable Value of £4,362,110.

It is our opinion based on the consultation and financial analysis that the working assumption should be a 2% levy, which would raise approximately £87,000 per annum and £437,841 over the 5 year BID term. This would allow sufficient resources to develop and implement projects, and demonstrate impact and make a tangible difference.

Cookstown Town Centre

Based on the financial analysis and consultations and the review of the Critical Success Factors as set out above, it is recommended that a BID for Cookstown Town Centre is viable, but that given the issues surrounding the identification of the BID Boundary and the relatively low levels of engagement from the business community at this stage, the decision on whether to proceed to full BID development should be reviewed at a later date with further consultation and engagement with the local business community.

Preliminary Project Areas

The preliminary market research and consultation indicates that there is good consensus in terms of the types of issues that are important, across the sectors. The priority areas are:

- 1. Retail led marketing & promotional campaign, building on the Cookstown Brand and focusing on the quality of the retail offer and the balance of independent and national outlets**
- 2. Integrated digital and social media platforms and feasibility of a digitally based customer loyalty card**
- 3. Investment marketing campaign to attract new independent and creative businesses to locate in the town centre**
- 4. Reducing Business Costs through collective buying initiatives**
- 5. Collective Business Support & Advocacy**

Sensitivity would be required with regards to any existing organisations, such as the Chamber and Town Centre Forum. This is not only to co-ordinate, assimilate and add value to existing work effectively but also to avoid any duplication and controversy which in business planning and campaigning terms will have a negative effect. Where people are already paying fees, it will be important to work out a structure which is beneficial to all and where businesses are not burdened with separate bills.

BID Funding Projections

Going forward the BID would formally contain 401 business rated units (hereditaments) with a total Rateable Value of £6,430,300m.

It is our opinion based on the consultation and financial analysis that the working assumption should be a 2% levy which would raise approximately £128,606 per annum and £643,030 over the 5 year BID term. This would allow sufficient resources to develop and implement projects as well as the ability to provide a tangible difference.

Maghera Town Centre

Based on the financial analysis and consultations and the review of the Critical Success Factors as set out above, it is recommended that a BID for Maghera Town Centre is not viable, given the financial analysis which clearly shows that the amount generated from the BID levy would not have a significant impact on the regeneration of the town centre, when assessed against the costs of operating a BID. It is recommended that further intensive work is required to enhance the level of business engagement and alternative avenues to generate additional income are investigated.

In coming to this conclusion, we have set out an alternative route that allows for the level of business engagement and other work which will assist Maghera develop to its full potential.

The following work programme would allow for Council to engage more widely with local businesses and develop a collaborative framework to work together on agreed projects to develop the town centre.

Lead	Details	Timescales
Mid Ulster Council	Town Centre Forum works with Regeneration Manager to develop a Business Engagement Strategy	Months 1-3
Town Centre Forum	Implement Business Engagement Strategy including 1 to 1, sector based workshops & regular networking events	Months 4-11
	Develop comprehensive contact and relationship management business database	

	Identify business issues and develop preliminary project ideas to address these	
	Identify best practice projects and associated locations	
	Develop senior contacts with public agencies	
Mid Ulster Council / Town Centre Forum	Agree vehicle, protocol and funding avenues for future collaborative projects including an informal contribution based model	Months 12

Detailed below is our estimation of the resources and relevant costs for this development of the BID.

Item	Detail	Cost
Business Engagement facilitation	1.5 days per week	Existing Regeneration Manager Salary
Office & Administration	IT, Stationery, Postage	£1,000
Engagement & Communication Collateral	Market Research, Promotional & Engagement Material, Business Planning	£5,000
Total		£6,000

Coalisland Town Centre

Based on the financial analysis and consultations and the review of the Critical Success Factors as set out above, it is recommended that, similar to Maghera Town Centre, a BID for Coalisland Town Centre is not viable, given the financial analysis which clearly shows that the amount generated from the BID levy would not have a significant impact on the regeneration of the town centre, when assessed against the costs of operating a BID. Furthermore the Town Centre Forum is still very new. It is recommended that further intensive work is required to enhance the level of business engagement and alternative avenues to generate additional income are investigated.

In coming to this conclusion, we have set out an alternative route that allows for the level of business engagement and other work which will assist Coalisland develop to its full potential.

The following work programme would allow for Council to engage more widely with local businesses and develop a collaborative framework to work together on agreed projects to develop the town centre.

Lead	Details	Timescales
Mid Ulster Council	Town Centre Forum works with Regeneration Officer Manager to develop a Business Engagement Strategy	Months 1-3
Town Centre Forum	Implement Business Engagement Strategy including 1 to 1, sector based workshops & regular networking events	Months 4-11
	Develop comprehensive contact and relationship management business database	
	Identify business issues and develop preliminary project ideas to address these	
	Identify best practice projects and associated locations	
	Develop senior contacts with public agencies	Months 12
Mid Ulster Council / Town Centre Forum	Agree vehicle, protocol and funding avenues for future collaborative projects including an informal contribution based model	

Detailed below is our estimation of the resources and relevant costs for this development of the BID.

Item	Detail	Cost
Business Engagement facilitation	1.5 days per week	Existing Regeneration Manager Salary
Office & Administration	IT, Stationery, Postage	£1,000
Engagement & Communication Collateral	Market Research, Promotional & Engagement Material, Business Planning	£5,000
Total		£6,000

Mid Ulster District Council
Magherafelt Office
Ballyronan Road
Magherafelt
BT45 6EN

Account Number	ORG2016821151
Date	01/01/2020
Invoice Number	INV2019252897
PO Number:	

INVOICE

Transaction Date	Charge Reason	Charge Details	Membership	Net
01/01/2020	Membership		Corporate	£2,500.00

Terms & Conditions - 30 days from Invoice Date

Pay by Electronic Transfer:
Danske Bank
Account No: 11136488
Sort Code: 95-01-21

Pay by Debit/Credit Card Tel: 028 90244113

Total Net	£2,500.00
VAT	£500.00
Total Gross	£3,000.00

Communications
Partner



Chamber Patrons

graffon
recruitment



Investec
Wealth & Investment



CATERPILLAR



Danske Bank



DSV



Agnew Leasing



Communications
Partner



Chamber Patrons



Report on	Community Development Report
Date of Meeting	13 th February 2020
Reporting Officer	Claire Linney, Head of Community Development
Contact Officer	Philip Clarke Community Support, Oliver Morgan Good Relations & Peace Michael McCrory PCSP

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To agree the rolling grant awards - Good Relations and Local Community Festivals
1.2	To agree the Community Support Plan 2022 – 2021
1.3	To agree the Good Relations Plan 2020 – 2021
1.4	To note the update on Community Development.
2.0	Background
2.1	Community Grants – Council annually delivers two rolling community grants programmes; Good Relations and Local Community Festivals.
2.2	Council annually supports groups across a number of areas; general development support, grants, project delivery and capacity building.
2.3	Council annually delivers a good relations plan under the NI Executive office Together Building a United Community principles. In 2019 Council agreed a 3 year plan to 2022 with annual reviews.
2.4	Community Development Update - An update is provided on the following areas: Community Support – Grants, Support, Village Planning, Community Centres, DFC Neighbourhood Renewal Peace IV and Good Relations PCSP
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Rolling Community Grants - Good Relations: 1 application recommended for award totalling £960. Community Local Festivals: 5 applications recommended for awards totalling £3,460. Please refer to Appendix 1.

3.2	To agree the Community Support Plan 2022 – 2021. Please refer to Appendix 2.		
3.3	To agree the Good Relations Plan 2020 – 2021. Committee previously agreed a 3 year plan in 2019 with an annual review. Please refer to Appendix 3.		
3.4	Community Development Update		
	<u>Community Support</u> The Community Development team is finalizing grant claims for 2019 – 2020.		
	Support has commenced to groups on next grant allocation for the 2020 -2021 financial year. Grants open on 10 th February and will close 16 th March. All groups have to contact an officer to get support with the grants process and application. Grant information clinics will be held on the following dates and locations. The National Lottery Community Fund will also attend to update on funding opportunities.		
	Cookstown Office,	Tuesday 11th Feb	7-9 pm
	Dungannon Office,	Wednesday 12th Feb	7-9 pm
	Magherafelt Office,	Thursday 13th Feb	7-9 pm
	Promotion of the grant clinics will be via public notice in the local press, email to the Council Community & Voluntary Sector database and through the Council website/social media.		
	Meetings are continuing with members in DEAs to provide an update on village plans. Dates are being scheduled to suit member’s diary.		
	Neighbourhood Renewal: DFC projects for 2018 – 2019 are continuing to deliver. The Gortgonis project remains in development.		
	<u>Peace and Good Relations</u> Good Relations Action Plan 2018 – 2019 – All projects are moving to completion and monitoring stage.		
	Peace IV delivery is ongoing – All projects and grants are delivering to target and timescale.		
	The proposed timeline for Peace Shared Space Capital projects is commencing the contract in April and on site in May and completing end September 2020.		
	<u>PCSP</u> PCSP plan 2019 – 2020 is ongoing, with projects completing and being monitored. The new PCSP Plan is currently being developed with the Policing and Community Partnership and will come to a future meeting for information once it has been agreed.		
	Please see a copy of the PCSP minutes for information, refer to Appendix 4.		

4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p><u>Financial & Human Resources Implications</u></p> <p>Community Grants awards – Good Relations (£960), Community Festivals (£3,460).</p> <p><u>Professional Support</u></p> <p>None.</p>
4.2	<p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>None</p>
4.3	<p><u>Risk Management Implications</u></p> <p>None</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	To agree the rolling grant awards - Good Relations and Local Community Festivals.
5.2	To agree the Community Support Plan 2020 – 2021.
5.3	To agree the Good Relations Plan 2020 – 2021.
5.4	To note the update on Community Development.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 Good Relations and Local Community Festivals
6.2	Appendix 2 Community Support Plan 2020 - 2021
6.3	Appendix 3 Good Relations Plan 2020 – 2021
6.4	Appendix 4 PCSP Minutes

Appendix 1

Good Relations – February 2020

No.	Organisation Name	Organisation Aim	Title Of Event/project	Band	Requested	Awarded
1	South Tyrone Men's Shed	Community	2020 Challenges Reaching Out!	3	£1200	£960
						£960

Community Local Festivals – February 2020

No.	Organisation Name	Organisation Aim	Title Of Event/project	Band	Request	Award
1	Dergina Accordion Band	Cultural	Leap Year Night of Fun	7	£780	£320
2	St Mary's Church Youth Choir	Cultural	Night of Hope	4	£1,200	£840
3	The Belle of Mid Ulster Association	Community	Inspirational Women	5	£1,020	£620
4	Augharan Pipe Band	Cultural	Community Concert	7	£1,260	£510
5	Dungannon Choral Society	Cultural	85th Anniversary	1	£3,300	£1,200
						£3,460

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



Community Development Community Support Plan

2020 – 2023



Contents

1. Introduction

2. Community Support Themes:

2.1 Community Area Planning/Regeneration

2.2 Community Social Engagement - Grant Aid

2.3 Community Capacity Building

2.4 Community Reducing Poverty & Social Exclusion

2.5 Community Led Service Delivery

3. Complementary programmes:

3.1 Good Relations

3.2 Community Safety

3.3 Neighbourhood Renewal

4. Budget and Staffing

1. Introduction

Community Development in Mid Ulster District Council covers Community Support, Advice, Good Relations, Peace, Neighbourhood Renewal and Policing and Community Safety. The Section also has a responsibility for the coordination of Community Planning for the Council corporate.

The District includes all of Mid Ulster main towns Dungannon, Cookstown and Magherafelt and runs from Fivemiletown to Swatragh.



The aims and Objectives of Community Development are in line with the Mid Ulster Community Plan and Mid Ulster District Council Corporate Plan:

Mid Ulster Community Plan

The following are key strategic outcomes for Mid Ulster Community Plan –

1. We are a safer community
2. We have a greater value and respect for diversity
3. We have stronger communities with less disadvantage and poverty

Mid Ulster District Council Corporate Plan

Building a United Community

Delivering strong local communities

Community Development Aims

To build social capital in our communities across Mid Ulster – to support our community groups deliver local community engagement events and activities.

To develop community led regeneration – to support communities to co-design local projects and schemes that will be of maximum benefit to their area and wider communities; education, health, recreation and employment.

To develop the capacity of Group – to support with good governance and levels of government processes.

To develop equality in our communities –to support communities address poverty and equality through breaking down myths, barriers and creating a lobbying/ advocacy voice for greater investment.

To develop resilient and sustainable communities – to support the groups in seeking to become more sustainable through social economy, service delivery and other innovative solutions.

Community Development is responsible for the following functions:

Community Support

Provides capacity building and funding to the community and voluntary sector across Mid Ulster. The Council's grant aid programme include community venues, community development strategic support, community development small grant, festivals and events. This is part funded and delivered with the Department for Communities. In addition to the Council's grants programme, the Section provides support and guidance to groups on identifying other sources of funding for the community and voluntary sector.

The Community Development Support also supports local communities plan through village planning for the development of their local areas and supports with the delivery of these plans. Advice provision is provided under Contract and is part funded by the Department for Communities. DFC also provides partner funding for part community development capacity building support and local festivals.

Community Support Functions

The community support section is specifically responsible for the following;

- Community Support through delivery of grants.

- Community support through group development.
- Community village planning and delivery.
- Provision of General Advice Services across Mid Ulster in partnership with the Department for Communities
- Facilitation of Neighbourhood Renewal delivery in Coalisland and Dungannon in partnership with Department for Communities

Neighbourhood Renewal

Council works in partnership with the Department for Communities to address areas poverty and deprivation in our areas with the highest levels of disadvantage within Mid Ulster: Dungannon West and Coalisland. This is part funded and delivered with the Department for Communities.

Good Relations

Delivery is as per “Together Building a United Community Strategy”. This is part funded and delivered with the NI Executive Department. The key principles are creating shared space, developing good relations between children and young people and developing cultural expression between our communities.

Policing & Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) – Community Safety

Working towards making Mid Ulster community safer by focusing on the policing and community safety issues that matter most. The PCSP consists of Councillors, Independent Members, bodies designated by the NI Assembly, and locally designated bodies. The PCSP will consult, develop and agree local action plans that will be delivered through partnership working and based on local needs. PCSP will consult and engage with communities on issues of local concerns and develop solutions in partnership to tackle crime, fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. The PCSP also monitors the performance of the Police against the Policing Plan. The Partnership is funded by the Department of Justice (DoJ), and the NI Policing Board (NIPB), through the Joint Committee.

Annual plans are available for Good Relations, and PCSP.

Community Development Objectives & Targets

2020 - 2021	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Development Village Planning 	50 village plans supported in delivery
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Social Engagement under community grants – 14 grants 	<p>Over 800 groups supported</p> <p>Over £1million distributed to groups across the District</p> <p>Management of community building in Dungannon Garners Hall</p> <p>Council facilitates community venues through a community grant</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community capacity building 	Engaging and support over 1400 registered community groups across the District
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General Advice Services 	General advice delivery across Mid Ulster
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neighbourhood Renewal facilitated through a partnership approach 	<p>Over 10 projects managed with DFC in Dungannon West and Coalisland</p> <p>Capital funding secured bi annually for investment in areas</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivery of PCSP across the District 	PCSP plan delivered through partnership approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivery of Good Relations across the District 	Good Relations Plan delivered across the District over 12 programmes with a number of projects in each area, alongside grants
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peace IV delivery 	<p>10 programmes commenced in Peace</p> <p>Peace grants x 3 phases delivered</p> <p>Total budget £3.36mn</p> <p>Shared Space funding – Connecting Pomeroy £5.1million investment</p>

2. Themes

2.1 Community Development Area Planning

As part of the Mid Ulster Community Plan and process, 50 local village plans have been developed through a facilitated approach with local communities. Each plan belongs to the local village/settlement and is led and delivered by local groups.

The Plans include local actions relating to need and opportunity within local villages including social, environmental and economic.

As part of the community planning village plan process, Council's Regeneration Team has delivered a social project in each area between £40,000 - £250,000 through a co-design process. The next stage of development will be economic regeneration projects through a village clustering process to address dereliction.

Meetings are held annually with the consortium of groups in the villages to keep the plans active. Support is provided as required/requested by the Community Development Team and particularly to access grants and funding support.

A number of the larger villages have developed community forums to bring together all the community groups together on a regular basis. These are supported by the Community Development officers to attend as required.

The Community Development team works in partnership with the NIHE Supporting Communities team who work with resident groups in their estates. Council partners in undertaking regular estate site visits with a range of partners (NIHE, community, DFI, PSNI, Council) to ensure areas are in a good state of repair and local estate issues are taken on board.

Community development also provides support to thematic groups including; disability, women, carers, migrant & BME, LGBT, youth and older people. The Community Development Team facilitates the Mid Ulster Disability Forum and works closely with the disability groups in the area. It also works closely with environmental

groups and allotment groups. The PCSP team facilitates older people engagement events across the District annually. The Good Relations team works closely with the migrant & BME groups, lgbt groups and youth groups. It works in partnership with the EA Youth to facilitate the Mid Ulster Youth Forum.

As part of community planning it is recognised that other partners also deliver on community development. Council Community Development meets the Social Health and Social Care Trusts Community Development on a regular basis to ensure linkages; the Trust Community Development teams focus on support for groups leading on health and wellbeing and excluded groups.

2.2 Community Development Social Engagement – Grants

Council Community Support provides over £1mn in investment in local communities partnering community groups in delivery of a range of community development activities. These range from community festivals/events to sporting activity to arts and culture and general community engagement. The delivery of the grants provides an average return on investment to Council of a 1:7 ratio. It also supports thousands of volunteer time in local communities. The key outcome of the delivery is the provision of community led events and activities that engage local communities and people.

There is a total of 14 grant themes with a budget in the region of £1.08mn. A system applies with regard to grant allocation where groups can apply for a number of grants per grant theme e.g. sports, community, events, general. Please refer below to the grant themes and detail of grant and criteria.

Sustainability

Some grants area available on a 3 year cycle to allow the groups to plan ahead. This is for grants that have similar provision each year and will be based on annual monitoring with an officer to allow for development. This is based on an annual review and development (officer review each year and update to Committee) and budget.

- Strategic Arts and Culture
- Strategic Community Development

- Strategic Sports
- Strategic Events
- Venues

Grant Criteria: Category 1

Strategic Arts & Culture Grant

To support strategic arts and culture organisations that play a key role across the Mid Ulster District Council area in the development and delivery of arts & culture activity through the delivery of their own programmes utilising their own dedicated arts & culture performance spaces. The service must:

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

Strategic Community Development Grant

To support strategic community development organisations that provide for the Mid Ulster area. Groups delivering to the same area should submit a partner application to avoid duplication.

1. Level of Community Support Activity
2. Level of benefit – number of beneficiaries
3. Targeting of deprivation and social need
4. Quality and level of provision
5. Level of geographic coverage
6. Value for Money

Arts, Culture, Heritage & Community Small Grant

To support local communities deliver a range of local arts, culture, heritage, community projects for their local area.

1. Arts, Cultural, Heritage, Community activity and participation
2. Contribution to arts, culture, heritage, community development in the area

3. Increase and widen participation, addressing social inclusion and diversity
4. Contribution to volunteering and volunteer development

Community Venue Grant

To support local communities to make available their premises and community centres for the use of the wider community. Venues applying to the grant must be used for a minimum 80% community development activities.

1. Beneficiaries (number of beneficiaries and groups)
2. Level of community usage per week
3. Level of community provision – number of rooms and size etc.
4. Shared space usage
5. Value for Money – contribution of grant to overall costs

The venue must be open greater than 10 hours per week and the grant can be used for community development projects at 20% of the funding allocation.

Grant Criteria: Category 2

Strategic Events Grant

To support a number of strategic events that are providing for the whole of Mid Ulster District and are of a significant nature to bring people to the area and to promote the area at a regional level.

1. Social, Regeneration and Economic Return
2. Event Development
3. Promotion of Mid Ulster
4. Event Management Experience
5. Level of promotion of good relations and Inclusion
6. Value for Money

Note events with a target audience under 1000 people or events that are not receiving regional tourism attendance and coverage would be a local community festival event.

Community Local Festival Grant

To support local communities deliver a local festival in their area bringing people from across the area together.

1. Level of Community Benefit and Participation (number of days, activities)
2. Number of beneficiaries (local and neighbouring areas)

3. Promotion of Good Relations and Social Inclusion
4. Festival Development

Good Relations Grant

To support local communities deliver on good relations in line with the Government Together Building United Communities Strategy.

1. Contribution to the Good Relations TBUC themes : Our Shared Community, Safe Community, Cultural Expression through increased use of shared spaces and services
2. Contribution to Core Good Relations, addressing sectarianism, racism and prejudice through provision of increased shared space
3. Level of Community Benefit and Participation in existing shared space through increased activity
4. Targeting of Social Inclusion and deprivation through access to shared space and improved access to activities/events.

Grant Criteria: Category 3

Sports Representative Individual and Team Competitive Grant

To support Individuals who have been selected by their governing body to participate in a representative team or individual sport at provincial, national, all Ireland or international level, with eligible costs (accommodation, travel, food), to a maximum of a £250 grant may be available. Applicants must be resident within the Mid Ulster District Council area for a period of 6 months prior to the period of the grant application.

To assist recognised Sports NI sports clubs (affiliated to their governing body of sport) who are travelling to compete in a recognised (by Governing body) representative (of District/County) sporting competition. A grant for eligible costs (travel, accommodation, food) to a maximum of £500 may be available. The team must have qualified in a recognised competition by the governing body of this sport, and must be representing the District / County. The event/competition must take place outside of NI.

Sports Small Grant (Every Body Active)

To support recognised Sports NI sports clubs (affiliated to their governing body of sport) to develop and promote their sports and recreation provision within their club and to seek to increase participation through a range of activity including the Every Body Active Programme target groups; Women & Girls, People with Disabilities and Areas of Social Need complementing general Sports Development.

1. Level of sports activity and beneficiaries
2. Level of benefit targeting of Women & Girls, People with Disabilities & Areas of Social Need
3. Contributes to promoting fitness and wellbeing and sports development
4. Other general activity provided to the community to engage and increase participation

Sports Capital Grant

To support local sports clubs/groups develop their sporting facilities and provision through capital and equipment funding support. Eligibility:

1. The fund is for not for profit constituted sports groups with the primary objective of providing sports for the Mid Ulster District.
2. All statutory consents and public procurement is in place.
3. Actual project cost quotations are provided with the application.
4. A maximum contribution of £5,000 is available per project, with a minimum match contribution of 50% (e.g. if seeking £5000 it must be a minimum £10,000 project).
5. For sports capital items or a one off piece of equipment of a value greater than £1000.
6. Groups can only apply to this grant once every 2 years.

The Sports Capital Grant is to provide a significant benefit to the local community: Sports Development– supporting the development and enhancement of sports and sports groups across Mid Ulster.

Sports Wellbeing /Provision– increasing the number of beneficiaries of sport, and contributing to the physical fitness and wellbeing of people across the District.

Social Need/Social Inclusion – targeting those most vulnerable.

Sustainability – supporting the long term sustainability of sporting facilities & groups.

Council Corporate Plan – contributing to the Council's Corporate Objectives.

Strategic Sports Development Grant

To support Governing Bodies that play a key strategic role across the MUDC area in developing their affiliated Clubs. It aims to provide Grant Aid to those Governing Bodies that provide direct support to Clubs across the area in increasing participation rates and improving playing standards through the employment of a Sports Coach. The service must:

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

Grant Criteria: Category 4

Capital Discretionary Grant

To recognise that there are times when a modest amount of capital investment in our community can create the potential for a much larger project to happen. In such circumstances Council could potentially be a discretionary funder of last resort to allow projects to happen and maximise investment to our areas and communities. Any contribution would be a small percentage towards a much larger project.

Criteria:

Capital funding – Council will consider providing financial support for capital projects, which are defined as projects which will provide benefit to the community for a period in excess of five years, examples of which may include a new building or refurbishment/renovation of an existing building. It will not provide support for

acquisition of land, buildings or other assets such as equipment other than fixed plant for example permanently installed elevators/lifts.

The project funded must be in community ownership (satisfactory evidence of legal title or an appropriate long term lease will be required).

Not for Profit - Funding will only be considered for not for profit constituted community and voluntary groups which are involved in progressing a major community capital project which will provide significant benefit to the community within the Mid Ulster District Council area -Groups/organisations must be able to demonstrate that the majority of project beneficiaries (>80%) live within the Mid Ulster District Council area.

Community Benefit – A Project Plan must be in place to show community need and benefit and to avoid any potential issues of duplication.

Funder of Last Resort - The majority of funding at least 70% should be in place and that all funding avenues have been exhausted. Evidence of this will be required.

Statutory Requirements - The project must be at a state of readiness 6 months after letter of offer; with planning permission, land acquisition or lease agreement (if required), and other statutory permissions in place along with accurate costings.

Mid Ulster District Council Corporate Aims – The project must clearly demonstrate how it is achieving on Council corporate aims and objectives.

The project is a minimum value of £300,000, with Council funding to a maximum contribution of £50,000.

The Project must complete within 18 months of letter of offer; phased delivery and invoicing of expenditure can be accommodated.

A Group can only submit one call per project for this Capital Discretionary funding Support and a submission will only be considered by a Group once every 3 years.

Groups/Organisations would be required to formally present to a Special Development Committee of Council.

Festive Lights Fund (award as per village settlement population – reference Area Plan Settlement report)

Direct provision of festive lighting will be provided in the main towns of Dungannon, Cookstown, Magherafelt, Coalisland and Maghera.

A grant programme (revenue and capital funding) will be delivered across the remaining settlements under the following criteria -

- I. The grant will be revenue (small items of capital applicable) and will support the supply, installations, maintenance, running cost of providing festive lights and any associated switch-on/launch event. The lights will be in a predominant village location visible to the wider community.
- II. The village settlements and populations will be as per the Mid Ulster Development Plan 2020 - 2030. The grant allocation will be based on village settlement size and range from £1,250 - £3,000:
Up to £3,000 settlements greater than 1000
Up to £2,000 settlements greater than 500
Up to £1,500 all other listed village settlements
Up to £1,250 all other listed smaller settlements
- III. Technical support will be available to groups and communities from Council Technical Unit.
- IV. The grant can only be issued to one group per area and the main overall development/regeneration/Chamber group will be given priority.
- V. All grant aid will be paid retrospectively to those successful applicants who submit appropriate paid invoices to Council as vouched expenditure.
- VI. Provision, installation and insurance, liability of lighting and any activity will be the responsibility of the Group applying.
- ix. Small settlements listed in the Area Plan that are not classified as villages will be considered for inclusion within the fund; if they have previously provided festive lights in their area.
- x. Letters will be issued to the main Development Group within the designated

settlement with an offer of funding.

Schools' Sports Facilities Access Grants

To bridge the gap until the district Sports Facilities Strategy is available and delivered. It is specifically targeted at clubs which use, or plan to use, schools' sports facilities or at schools which aim to offer access to their sports facilities outside curriculum times.

To Increase access to underutilised school sports synthetic pitch facilities

To contribute to the cost of opening up and maintaining schools' sports facilities, thereby encouraging ongoing usage

To Increase local people's access to training and competitive play opportunities

To enhance access to team sports activities which are under-resourced or underrepresented

The maximum amount available under each strand will be £5,000 per club or school, dependent on level of usage. Up to £4,500 maximum grant for use of school sports facilities which have not previously been available for community use, up to an additional £500 grant on a pro rata basis.

Eligibility

Be a club using, or planning to use, school owned, synthetic pitch, sports facilities; or be a school which plans to provide access to such sports facilities by external clubs (see note below)

Be a constituted and not for profit sports club (although see Note b, below) or school

Be located in the Mid Ulster District Council area

For sports clubs: be participating in a sport recognised by Sport NI. A minimum of 80% of members must be resident in the MUDC area

Not have received any capital funding from Council in the 2018/19 year

Be able to demonstrate difficulty in accessing other suitable sports facilities

Not have benefited in the 2018/19 year from Council's: Sports Strategic Development Grant or Sports Capital Grant

Be able to demonstrate difficulty in accessing other suitable sports facilities

Incur actual documented costs in utilising/providing a schools' sports facility, or, able to provide documentary evidence of voluntary work or maintenance costs involved in maintaining the facility.

Grants Process

1. Application and criteria set through Committee and Council.
2. Public advertisement for all grants.
3. Applications will be online or if required a hard copy can be requested.
4. There will be points of contact for queries on each grant area.
5. Applications will be submitted on line or returned to one central office which will then oversee the allocation to relevant teams for administration.
6. Eligibility will be confirmed upon receipt of applications, with 2 days' notice for ensuring all documentation is in place, telephone and email notification recorded.
7. Grants that meet eligibility will proceed to assessment to be carried out by officer teams, all declarations of interest are monitored.
8. Grants will be presented to Committee for consideration and approval, all declarations of interest are monitored.
9. Grants will be presented to Council for ratification.
10. Letters of Offer (standard template) will be issued to all groups.
11. Claims will be received as previous and verification undertaken.
12. Report to Council on investment of grant funding and groups supported.
13. Publicity of Council must be received for grant support in line with the LOO.
14. Advance payments will be provided, 50% up to £1500 and 25% up to £10,000.

Grant Eligibility Conditions

1. Groups applying for a grant must be a not for profit constituted community or voluntary organisation with an annual AGM, individuals can apply to the sports representative grant only.
2. Funding cannot be allocated for a project or venue where an existing SLA exists with Council for a project, building or facility.
3. Groups will only be able to apply for a grant as per the categories, this is to maximise the funding allocation to as many groups as possible.
4. The same project cannot be split across different grant categories.

5. Statutory and 'for profit' organisations, activities and recipients (incl. activities that receive statutory core provision are not eligible for grant).
6. Regional groups/organisations are not eligible to apply.
7. Applications that are not completed accurately and in full will not be considered.
8. Religious or political activity cannot be funded under any grant.
9. All applicants must present a project that will take place within the MUDC area (except Sports Representative Grant as detailed within this section).
10. Applicants must present a project that will be delivered between 1st April - 31st March each year.
11. Evidence of good governance; including annual AGM, Group bank account, financial management practice, insurances, etc. will be required.
12. Successful applicants will draw down grants retrospectively based on vouched expenditure, with procurement adhered to. Advance payments will be 50% up to £1500 and 25% up to £10,000 with final verification of all expenditure.
13. Group recipients should not have a membership charge for its users accessing its community provision greater than £250.
14. Group recipients should have no element of profit gain to any member or individual of its Committee.

The following items are not eligible for funding:

Hospitality greater than 20% of the grant threshold	Bad debt, loans, bank charges, deficits or arrears in payments of any organisation	Flags or bunting Alcohol	Groups or activities that discriminate against any section of the community
Activities, equipment or events that duplicate what already exist or that are covered by other funding	Salaries are available for strategic sports grants only (up to 50% of grant award)	Retrospective funding applications	Residential courses or training greater than 20% of funding sought
Celebrity appearances	Sports kits	Gifts or donations	Reclaimable VAT or other costs

2.3 Community Development Capacity Building

Council compiles and delivers a monthly newsletter to all its 1400 community groups on its community database. The newsletter provides all the information on grant sources available at that period, Council events and activities for the period and quarterly a specific newssheet on governance, health and wellbeing, poverty support.

Governance support – A quarterly update fact sheet is promoted in the community development newsletter stating good governance support and contacts and promotion of training via NICVA.

It also where possible seeks to promote networking among groups and shared learning to encourage greater linkages and maximisation of resources, and where possible partnerships for funding.

Capacity building support is delivered to groups across the District through one to one guidance and advice; holding regular training/awareness sessions on grants and completion of applications; managing events etc. These are delivered as required or referrals to other partner delivery.

Council through its strategic support grant provides some small amounts of funding to the strategic support networks operating across Mid Ulster including:

Rural Support Networks (Costa and CWSAN) £8000

Mid Ulster Volunteer Centre (including venue) £8000

Mid Ulster Women's Groups x 2 £8000

Disability Group £4000 and facilitation of the Mid Ulster Disability Forum

Council partners with EA Youth in the facilitation of the Mid Ulster Youth Forum

Council partners with Ageing well in the support to engage older people.

Council is currently engaging with LGBT with regard to engagement in Mid Ulster.

Community Development Reducing Poverty and Social Exclusion

There is no 'one solution' in terms of a community-led approach that is best placed to tackle poverty. There are a wide range of community-led approaches and poverty-related outcomes vary across and within approaches in terms of scale, nature and timing. It also must be noted that they have a limited approach and impact. It can only be locally based solutions based alongside government poverty intervention.

Supporting local communities to identify issues impacting on poverty in local communities and then lobbying for change, co designing programmes or self-delivery. . Community-led activities more commonly deliver poverty-related outcomes around 'pockets' and 'prospects' than 'prevention'.

Facilitation of the Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership; partnering with DFC to deliver a number of programmes and capital investment to seek to reduce poverty and deprivation in the areas of Dungannon and Coalisland. The programme is in the region of £500,000 alongside capital investment of approx. £500,000 every 2-3 years. Engagement also allows for targeting of mainstream provision to the areas. Community partnership and engagement in delivery of the programme is important.

Support is provided to the main poverty charities seeking to alleviate the symptoms of poverty, including facilitating three local networks to allow them to share practice, issues and maximise resources. Their approach also allows for small pilot projects to be undertaken to influence strategic thinking.

Council in partnership with DFC delivers general advice services across Mid Ulster. It currently works alongside Mid Ulster Advice Services – Step in delivery or advice provision and tribunal representation. The aim is to ensure people are maximising the benefits they are entitled to and maximising their income.

Council through community planning has developed a draft Mid Ulster Poverty Plan, which will be delivered through a community planning process including community

engagement and delivery which will be supported through a community development approach.

2.4 Community Led Service Delivery

Council Social economy support programme is delivered under Economic Development. It is managed in partnership with the Local Enterprise Agencies. It seeks to work with social economy providers to support their development to allow for more sustainable solutions to meet the aims and objectives of their group. It also seeks to support their delivery in government services at a local level.

Good practice models of delivery of the social economy section include: Mid Ulster Advice Service and STEP, Aging Well, Council strategic community arts partners – Bardic, Craic, An Carn, Brantry, Glasgowbury and The Hub Cookstown. As part of Council economic development plan deliver if regularly holds training sessions on the completion of tenders and procurement processes including for social enterprises.

Community Development facilitates the Community Planning Vibrant and Safe Communities working group. It also supports with the community voice and community engagement to the Community Plan. It helps facilitate the community convention held bi-annually on the progress of community planning in Mid Ulster and community involvement. It also works to ensure the voice of the community sector is referenced in all of the working groups through the strategic community support structures.

4. Budget and Staffing

The following table provides the staff complement for the Community Development Section;

Staffing	No. of Staff
Manager	1
Officers	3
Assistant	1
Administration	1.5

Budget

Estimated budget - annually	£
Community Grants, Incl sports and arts and culture spend (£80,000 from DFC towards festivals and community support)	£1.08mn pa
Community Development General – officers	£200,000 pa
Advice (£165,000 from DFC towards advice provision)	£226,000 pa
Neighbourhood Renewal- core (programme costs Dept Communities)	£40,000 pa

Delivery Programme Partners:

Neighbourhood Renewal & Community Capacity and Advice DFC

Funding Partners:

DFC



DISTRICT COUNCIL GOOD RELATIONS PROGRAMME 2020/21 ACTION PLAN

Mid Ulster District Council

Chief Executive Officer: Anthony Tohill



1.1 Programme information

Number of programmes	12
Name/role/contact details of all staff responsible for programme management	<p>Oliver Morgan GRM 50% management Oliver.morgan@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 24605</p> <p>Officer 1 Sean McElhatton GRO Sean.mcelhatton@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 22507</p> <p>Officer 2 Sean Henry GRO Sean.henry@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 23703</p> <p>Officer 3 Paula Kelly GRO Paula.kelly@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 24605</p> <p>Officer 4 Louise Hall Good Relations Assistant Louise.Hall@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 24608</p>

1.2 Financial information

Name/contact details for staff responsible for financial management of programme	<p>Oliver Morgan GRM 50% management (Principal Contact) Oliver.morgan@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 24605</p> <p>Albert Hogg Finance Manager (Alternative Contact) Albert.hogg@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 23306</p>
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	100%	75%
Total cost	£414,000	£310,500
Total programme costs	£228,000	£171,000
Total staff costs	£186,000	£139,500

Section 2

2.01 PROGRAMME NAME			2.02 CODE	
Children & Young People Diversity Programme			MUC01	
2.02 KEY WORDS	DIVERSE CULTURE TRADITION YOUTH			
2.03 Contact details for programme staff	Oliver Morgan E: oliver.morgan@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 24605 Paula Kelly E: paula.kelly@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 24604			
2.04 Total budgeted cost of programme (100%)	£12,000			
2.05 Total target no. of participants	Direct	150	Indirect	150
2.06 Budgeted unit cost of programme	£80			
2.07 Targeted participant background analysis	As per population estimate 60% Catholic, 30% Protestant, 10% BME/Other 50% Female 50% Male			
2.08 Name and post code of Programme HQ	Location	MUDC	Postcode	BT71 6DT
2.09 Names and post codes for main areas of programme impact	Location	Dungannon	Postcode	BT71 6LJ/6LS/4AA/4NW
	Location	Cookstown	Postcode	BT80 8PQ/8QB
	Location	Magherafelt	Postcode	BT45 6AX/5DB/6HQ
2.1 Programme plan – what difference do we want to make?				
2.11 T:BUC Key Priority	Our Children & Young People			
2.12 T:BUC Outcome	Improved attitudes between children and young people from different backgrounds			
2.13 Project Level Outcome – This should relate to the Survey Question on the TEO outcomes spreadsheet.	An increase in the number of participants who have a greater understanding of diversity.			
	An increase in the number of wider school community who have a greater understanding of diversity.			
2.14 Additional Project level Outcomes (optional)				

<p>2.15 Link to good relations audit</p> <p>*Page reference on GR Audit</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Segregation in terms of education, housing and sport across the district results in limited opportunities for young people from different traditions to interact outside of school. Misconceptions, stereotyping and misunderstanding of others from different backgrounds forms at an early stage. *Pg 6 • Good practice exists to date on the positive role of schools based activity in facilitating diverse discussions in schools on cultural diversity partnership between schools and relationship building between young people. *Pg 7 • The need for a greater understanding between people from different traditions and cultures was the most frequently identified in the online GR survey, with 84% of respondents reporting that this was a top priority for the Mid Ulster area. *Pg 3 • 78% of respondents reported a need for greater engagement between people of different backgrounds. Schools based work was acknowledged in the survey findings as an excellent example of good practice that facilitates such engagement. *Pg 3 • Throughout the community planning and Peace IV consultation the importance of young people from different communities coming together to share and learn about other young people from a different community was identified as a high priority. *Pg 7 • School resources are not available to fund GR activity within school budgets. *Pg 6
<p>2.16 Complementarity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivering Social Change (DSC) Shared Education Signature Projects.
<p>2.17 Programme summary information 2020/21</p>	<p>The following outcomes have been delivered upon within this programme in the year 2020/21:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The percentage of children who believe they have a greater understanding of diversity • The percentage of young people who have or would not have experienced other traditional cultures • The percentage of wider school community who have a greater understanding of diversity. <p>GR officers have been working with schools across the District for a number of years and in 2020/21 it is planned to deliver programmes specific for each of the school sectors post primary and primary.</p> <p>Project - £7,000 The aim will be to engage small primary schools to provide an insight into cultural diversity of the region. Target focus will be the year 10/11 looking at the transfer from individual primary schools to large post primary and the magnitude of diversity on range at large campuses. Facilitators will deliver workshops based on different cultures and complete with a showcase event engaging the smaller primary school participants to jointly engage in these celebration of culture events at larger diverse post primary venues.</p>

	<p>GR officers will work with both primary and post primary schools to develop tailored diversity programmes to suit each school and partner schools.</p> <p>Up to 3 programmes will be delivered with schools across our main towns, focusing on post primary schools that have diverse migrant and ethnic cultures of students and then linking primary schools where possible. Schools will be mainly in the urban towns Dungannon, Cookstown and Magherafelt. Other schools with growing number of migrant children will also be linked to the programme. A range of project action will be delivered within 6-8 schools to promote and support diversity, including:</p> <p>A number of sessions across the schools with a targeted number of children and young people including migrant children. A number of workshops delivered across the programmes (different number of workshops per programme depending upon need re numbers engaging).</p> <p>Activities delivered will include diversity around us, diversity of culture and expression, our changing environment.</p> <p>The targeted outcome for 20/21 would be to achieve a higher rate of positive outcomes in relation to raised awareness of the richness of cultural diversity across post primary and primary schools in the Mid Ulster district council area and deliver upon an increased number of children who believe would have a greater understanding of diversity within the Mid Ulster District Council area</p> <p>Project - £5,000 Linking with PTA's and other school bodies – pre-school, primary and post primary to host programmes that can break down historic perceptions of schools within communities and develop and foster a new relationship between schools and community associations on a cross community basis. Proposal to partner schools across the region through their PTA's and therefore link them into cross community work.</p>
<p>2.18 Potential to progress programme in 2021/22</p>	<p>In 2021 the programme is being further developed to provide for diversity awareness in the wider school network including PTA's. Engaging PTA's further and the school in the community is important in terms of bringing the awareness and learning of children and young people wider than the school environment.</p> <p>Planned celebratory event to highlight and raise awareness of culture across the region engaging young people within their own communities. Parallel programmes which will continue to infuse culture e.g. International Peace Day, St Patricks Day Events, Mid Ulster Carnival Parades and other such events.</p>

2.01 PROGRAMME NAME			2.02 CODE		
Children and Young People Youth Diversity and Engagement Programme			MUC02		
2.02 KEY WORDS		DIVERSE YOUTH			
2.03 Contact details for programme staff		Oliver Morgan E: oliver.morgan@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 24605 Sean Henry E: sean.henry@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 23703			
2.04 Total budgeted cost of programme (100%)		£8,000			
2.05 Total target no. of participants		Direct	250	Indirect	416
2.06 Budgeted unit cost of programme		£32			
2.07 Targeted participant background analysis		As per population estimate 60% Catholic, 30% Protestant, 10% BME/Other 50% Female 50% Male			
2.08 Name and post code of Programme HQ		Location	MUDC	Postcode	BT71 6DT
2.09 Names and post codes for main areas of programme impact		Location	Dungannon	Postcode	BT68/69/70/71/75/76/77/78
		Location	Cookstown	Postcode	BT70/79/80
		Location	Magherafelt	Postcode	BT41/44/45/46/51
2.1 Programme plan – what difference do we want to make?					
2.11 T:BUC Key Priority		Our Children & Young People			
2.12 T:BUC Outcome		Young people engaged in bringing the community together.			
2.13 Project Level Outcome – This should relate to the Survey Question on the TEO outcomes spreadsheet.		An increase in the percentage of young people who regularly socialise or play sport with people from a different religious community			

2.14 Additional Project level Outcomes (optional)	
2.15 Link to good relations audit *Page reference on GR Audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Segregation in terms of education, housing and sport across the district results in limited opportunities for children and young people from different traditions to interact. *Pg 6 • Misconceptions, stereotyping and misunderstanding of others from different backgrounds forms at an early stage. *Pg 6 • The need for a greater understanding between people from different traditions and cultures was the most frequently identified in the online GR survey, with 84% of respondents reporting that this was a top priority for the Mid Ulster area. *Pg 3 • The need for greater engagement between people of different backgrounds was the second most frequently identified in the online GR survey, with 78% of respondents reporting that this was a top priority for the Mid Ulster area. Arts, sports based activities, intervention work with disengaged young people and the engagement of young people in community based activities was identified in the survey as examples of good practice that facilitate positive cross community youth engagement. *Pg 3 • Throughout the community planning and Peace IV consultation the importance of children and young people from different communities coming together to share and learn about other children and young people from a different community was identified as a high priority.
2.16 Complementarity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MUDC Peace IV programme Engaging youth, Shared Space Youth Sports Engagement Programme, Engaging through the Arts programme, Rural Communities programme. • DSC Shared Education Signature Projects. • Peace IV Collaboration through Sharing in Education Project (CASE). • Mid Ulster District Council Arts & Culture and sports programmes.
2.17 Programme summary information 2020/21	<p>Original programmes in 2019/20 delivered outcomes as noted below through programmes of activity that were developed as new initiatives:</p> <p>An increase in a number of people in our areas engaged in shared activity through arts, drama or sport.</p> <p>GR officers will work in communities to engage young people and bring them together through arts, drama, music, sports and civic leadership focused activities.</p>

	<p>Project –Engage the bespoke sports cross community engagement programme Budget £8,000 (Peace Players Executive Office tailored cross community programme). A project that will deliver across the region target 16 young people aged 16 – 24 yrs to participate in a training leadership course based on utilising sport to target segregation and sectarianism in detached and unattached youth across Mid Ulster.</p> <p>The programme will involve upskilling 16 young people to return to their areas and through voluntary sport sessions to reduce feelings of isolation and segregation. The programme will include a teacher training and capacity building component. The sessions will be designed to closely align with the academic curriculum for Personal Development and Mutual Understanding (PDMU) and aim to support the schools in exploration of these themes.</p> <p>The young people will then delivery to 4 partnerships (5 week programme on integrated good relations thro sport games, conversations and team building activities) between 8 classes (primary 6 & 7) in 8 primary schools (3/4 controlled and 3/4 maintained), 2 in each of the 3 main regional towns in the Mid-Ulster Council area: Cookstown, Dungannon and Magherafelt plus 2 more. Based on an average class size of 25, this will mean the project will work with at least 200 Catholic and Protestant children. In addition the project will seek build the capacity of 8 teachers, two from each of the partner schools/classes. Based on the assumption that each direct project beneficiary will have a positive influence on 2 other people, the project will have a positive impact on an additional 416 indirect beneficiaries.</p>
	<p>Increase the number of community and voluntary access within youth organisations to avail of the use of sport to target social issues such as isolation, sectarianism and racial issues.</p>

2.01 PROGRAMME NAME		2.02 CODE
Children and Young People MU Post Primary Schools Cross Community Programme (quotation)		MUC03
2.02 KEY WORDS	DIVERSE SHARED YOUTH	
2.03 Contact details for programme staff	Oliver Morgan E: oliver.morgan@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 24605 Sean Henry E: sean.henry@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 23703	

2.04 Total budgeted cost of programme (100%)	£25,000			
2.05 Total target no. of participants	Direct	250	Indirect	400
2.06 Budgeted unit cost of programme	£100			
2.07 Targeted participant background analysis	As per population estimate 60% Catholic, 30% Protestant, 10% BME/Other 50% Female 50% Male			
2.08 Name and post code of Programme HQ	Location	MUDC	Postcode	BT71 6DT
2.09 Names and post codes for main areas of programme impact	Location	Dungannon		BT71 4AA, BT70 2LY, BT71 6LJ, BT71 4NW, BT70 3HE, BT71 6EG, BT71 6DS, BT69 6DX, BT75 0SB, BT71 6LS
	Location	Cookstown		BT80 8PQ, BT80 8QB
	Location	Magherafelt		BT45 6AF, BT45 7AF, BT45 6HQ, BT46 5BN, BT45 6NR, BT45 6AX
2.1 Programme plan – what difference do we want to make?				
2.11 T:BUC Key Priority	Our Children and Young People			
2.12 T:BUC Outcome	Improved attitudes between children and young people from different backgrounds			
2.13 Project Level Outcome – This should relate to the Survey Question on the TEO outcomes spreadsheet.	An increase in the number of participants who are more favourable towards people from the Catholic community. An increase in the number of participants who are more favourable towards people from the Protestant Community.			
2.14 Additional Project level Outcomes (optional)	An increase in the number of participants who are more favourable towards people from a different background.			
2.15 Link to good relations audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Segregation in terms of education, housing and sport across the district results in limited opportunities for children and young people from different traditions to interact outside of school. *Pg 6 Misconceptions, stereotyping and misunderstanding of others from different backgrounds forms at an early stage. *Pg 6 			
*Page reference on GR Audit				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teachers are uncomfortable / lack the skills to facilitate discussion on contentious issues. Good practice exists to date on the positive role of schools based activity in facilitating partnership between schools and relationship building between children and young people. *Pg 7 The need for greater engagement between people of different backgrounds was the second most frequently identified in the online GR survey, with 78% of respondents reporting that this was a top priority for the Mid Ulster area. Schools based work was acknowledged in the survey findings as an excellent example of good practice that facilitates such engagement. *Pg 3 Throughout the community planning and Peace IV consultation the importance of children and young people from different communities coming together to share and learn about other children and young people from a different community was identified as a high priority. There are a number of post primary schools (16) across the District that are mainly segregated (exception of 2 integrated schools and 2 special needs schools). A pilot peace programme identified the need for such a programme in post primary schools.
2.16 Complementarity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peace IV Primary School Good Relations Programme DSC Shared Education Signature Projects Peace IV Collaboration through Sharing in Education Project (CASE)
2.17 Programme summary information 2020/21	<p>Outcomes to improve upon:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in number of participants who feel more comfortable socialising or working with people from another community background An increase in a number of people in our areas engaged in shared activity through arts, drama or sport. <p>Project - £20,000 - Delivery of a cross community engagement programme offering it to all post primary schools through a partnering approach. The medium for cross school partnership working will be youth development, mentoring and leadership skills. There will be 2 sessions per partner school which will allow young people to come together and develop engagement and friendships. Programme will lead to continued dialogue on agreed subjects affecting young people.</p> <p>Up to 16 schools participating in cross community programme (all schools offered the programme)</p> <p>Partnership schools</p>

	<p>2 workshops per school using interactive engagement with young people through development, mentoring, leadership skills as a common medium for engagement</p> <p>Minimum 10-15 young people participating per school (up to 150 young people)</p> <p>Year Group to be identified, proposed year 8/9</p> <p>Project - £5,000 School/Youth Resilience Development - A pilot project with a targeted approach to issues impacting young people in terms of resilience and overall wellbeing and mental health. The project will bring young people from across diverse schools together to explore some of the issues impacting on young people and approaches that can be used to address these; particularly as a legacy of the Troubles.</p> <p>Minimum 50 young people participating across schools (total number of schools 5-6 and 10 young people per school)</p>
2.18 Potential to progress programme in 2021/22	<p>P1 - Issue based workshops with partnership approach in school campuses student lead.</p> <p>Having monitored year 2 of the programme the programme may upscale/downscale based on the outcomes delivered upon from those schools who participate in year 1 and year 2. This will allow for widespread participation.</p> <p>P2 – Pilot programme and evaluations will determine the direction of year 2.</p>

2.01 PROGRAMME NAME		2.02 CODE	
Children and Young People MU Cross Community Youth Programme PARTNER PROJECT PROMOTER EA YOUTH		MUC04	
2.02 KEY WORDS	DIVERSE YOUTH SHARED		
2.03 Contact details for programme staff	Oliver Morgan	E: oliver.morgan@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 24605	
	Sean McElhatton	E: sean.mcelhatton@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 22507	

2.04 Total budgeted cost of programme (100%)	£25,000			
2.05 Total target no. of participants	Direct	250 children aged 7-11yrs 30 young people aged 16-24yrs	Indirect	400
2.06 Budgeted unit cost of programme	£90			
2.07 Targeted participant background analysis	As per population estimate 60% Catholic, 30% Protestant, 10% BME/Other 50% Female 50% Male			
2.08 Name and post code of Programme HQ	Location	MUDC	Postcode	BT71 6DT
2.09 Names and post codes for main areas of programme impact	Location	Dungannon		BT68/69/70/71/75/76/77/78
	Location	Cookstown		BT70/79/80
	Location	Magherafelt		BT41/44/45/46/51
2.1 Programme plan – what difference do we want to make?				
2.11 T:BUC Key Priority	Our Children and Young People			
2.12 T:BUC Outcome	Improved attitudes between children and young people from different backgrounds			
2.13 Project Level Outcome – This should relate to the Survey Question on the TEO outcomes spreadsheet.	An increase in the number of participants who are more favourable towards people from the Catholic community. An increase in the number of participants who are more favourable towards people from the Protestant Community.			
2.14 Additional Project level Outcomes (optional)	An increase in the number of participants who are more favourable towards people from an ethnic minority background.			
2.15 Link to good relations audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Segregation in terms of education, housing and sport across the district results in limited opportunities for children and young people from different traditions to interact outside of school. *Pg 6 Misconceptions, stereotyping and misunderstanding of others from different backgrounds forms at an early stage. *Pg 6 Teachers are uncomfortable / lack the skills to facilitate discussion on contentious issues 			
*Page reference on GR Audit				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good practice exists to date on the positive role of schools based activity in facilitating partnership between schools and relationship building between children and young people. *Pg 7 • Parental influence can be a barrier to sustaining the learning from schools based programmes and there is a need to involve and engage with parents and the wider community to reinforce the good work delivered through schools. *Pg 7 • The need for greater engagement between people of different backgrounds was the second most frequently identified in the online GR survey, with 78% of respondents reporting that this was a top priority for the Mid Ulster area. Schools based work was acknowledged in the survey findings as an excellent example of good practice that facilitates such engagement. *Pg 3 • Throughout the community planning and Peace IV consultation the importance of children and young people from different communities coming together to share and learn about other children and young people from a different community was identified as a high priority. • There are 103 primary schools across the District and a need for sustained activity to target new schools. • School resources are not available to fund GR activity within school budgets. • A primary schools survey in 2016 showed 98% of schools were keen to engage in GR / Peace IV.
2.16 Complementarity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peace IV Primary School Good Relations Programme • DSC Shared Education Signature Projects • Peace IV Collaboration through Sharing in Education Project (CASE)
2.17 Programme summary information 2020/21	<p>Project - £18,000 - The Program aims to support primary schools to come together on cross community basis to explore key topics of diversity and good relations. Also to allow teachers to meet exchange ideas and knowledge. This Programme will also look at developing a network between schools to deliver joint collaboration between teachers allowing sustainable future joint development. Programme will explore identities of the two main communities but also explore commonalities that can develop real and continuing relationships for the wider school perspective.</p> <p>Process</p> <p>There are 105 primary schools in the Mid Ulster District, 80 plus of these schools have been involved in various EA and Council run projects, the programme will endeavour to attract schools <i>that have not</i> been involved in previous programs.</p>

The process will take the form of an Expression of Interest (EOI), where we will gauge the interest of the schools and feed into our overall delivery, selection will have an agreed criteria.
The major outcome achieved to date within this programme which has been successful for a number of years is as follows:

Program

Phase 1	Recruit the schools through an EOI process linking with GRO's to target list of urban and rural PS that have not been involved in programs before. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20 primary schools will participate, working in pairs (partnerships of 1 controlled / 1 maintained) 20 – 30 pupils on average per school (P6 & P7 together)
Phase 2	Partner/cluster PS and commence workshops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial planning workshop will be facilitated with schools
Phase 3	Continue delivery of workshops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children will come together for up to 4 joint workshops (delivery in a shared space) looking at – understanding identity, understanding each other, prejudice, stereotyping, flags, emblems & symbols, relationship building Board of Governors and parent engagement initiatives will be facilitated, encouraging involvement in the programme Teacher engagement and capacity building 40 teachers and resource support pack for continuous delivery support
Phase 4	Post Evaluation with participants of Program in line with Good Relations guidelines. *Celebratory events involving the wider school community
List of Schools	The schools will be identified with the council's Good Relations Officers.

The aim of this project will be to see the following percentage responses:

- % Increase in school partnering diversity in schools – through joint activity programs
- % Increase awareness of integration of young people.

	<p>Project - £7,000 - The Youth voice Forum works to empower young people to participate actively in society to improve their own lives by representing and advocating their needs and interests and those of their organisations. In the current uncertain political and social context that affects young people, they can be powerful catalysts for positive change and contributors of innovative solutions.</p> <p>To overcome the challenges faced by young people, the project will create-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Greater youth participation 2. Stronger youth organisations 3. Increased youth autonomy and inclusion. <p>This specific project will create a Mid Ulster based regional youth forum. The forum will consist of 24 young persons aged 16 years to 21 years. The project will reflect the Mid Ulster region with youth representatives from across the Mid Ulster region. The project level outcome being an 'improvement in attitudes between children & young people from different backgrounds.'</p>
2.18 Potential to progress programme in 2021/22	<p>On review on 2020/21 and programme being successful through monitoring an additional cohort of 20 schools will be engaged who have not previously taken part in the programme.</p> <p>Ongoing engagement with structure formed in 2020/21 with the potential to train further young people to participate within civic leadership. Assistance in developing further democratic engagement with EA Youth as Youth Council participation is based on a 2 year model.</p>

2.01 PROGRAMME NAME	2.02 CODE
Shared Community Good Relations Small Grant Programme	MUC05
2.02 KEY WORDS	DIVERSE SHARED
2.03 Contact details for programme staff	Oliver Morgan E: oliver.morgan@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 24605 Louise Hall and Officers
2.04 Total budgeted cost of programme (100%)	£45,000 (up to £1200 per group with 30 approx. per group participating x 40-50 groups)

2.05 Total target no. of participants	Direct	1,500	Indirect	3,000
2.06 Budgeted unit cost of programme	£30			
2.07 Targeted participant background analysis	As per population estimate 60% Catholic, 30% Protestant, 10% BME/Other 50% Female 50% Male			
2.08 Name and post code of Programme HQ	Location	MUDC	Postcode	BT71 6DT
2.09 Names and post codes for main areas of programme impact	Location	Dungannon		BT68/69/70/71/75/76/77/78
	Location	Cookstown		BT70/79/80
	Location	Magherafelt		BT41/44/45/46/51
	Location			
2.1 Programme plan – what difference do we want to make?				
2.11 T:BUC Key Priority	Our Shared Community			
2.12 T:BUC Outcome	Increased use of shared space & services			
2.13 Project Level Outcome – This should relate to the Survey Question on the TEO outcomes spreadsheet.	An increase in percentage of people who consider the area they live as welcoming to all communities.			
2.14 Additional Project level Outcomes (optional)				
2.15 Link to good relations audit *Page reference on GR Audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Segregation in terms of education, housing and sport across the district results in limited opportunities for people from different traditions to interact. *Pg 12 The online survey generated the following findings; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 78% of respondents reported that the need for greater engagement between people of different backgrounds was a top priority for the Mid Ulster area *Pg 3 47% of respondents reported that shared space was a top priority for the Mid Ulster area *Pg 3 Communities continue to operate single identity activities rather than reach out to wider and neighbouring communities and there is a need to develop a greater number of shared spaces within areas / local communities where people can come together. *Pg 12 			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a need to further develop and sustain existing shared spaces through the resourcing of activities / events that will encourage increased and sustained use of existing shared spaces. *Pg 12 • Resourcing for shared community based activities and events is important for engaging grass roots organisations in the development and delivery of good relations projects. *Pg 12 • There is a need to overcome perceptions of shared space and ensure that spaces are welcoming, accessible and visited by all sections of the community. *Pg 12 • Demand for small grants is high and in 2017/18 76 small grants applications were received. *Pg 13 • Community organisations value the opportunity to apply for small level funding to run events / activities that enable shared activities between all members of the community. *Pg 13
2.16 Complementarity	Peace IV programmes – e.g. shared Space Youth Sports Engagement programme, Shared Space Arts and Events Programme, Shared Space Small Capital Grants Programme and Shared Space Capital Programme in 12 areas.
2.17 Programme summary information 2020/21	<p>The grant programme has been running consistently for a number of years and was redeveloped in 18/19 to increase the use of programmes that could further enhance more shared space within Mid Ulster District Council area through activities and outcomes as noted below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % increase in community attitudes and perception of using and accessing shared activities in spaces. • % increase in communities seeking funding and participation in good relations. <p>A small grants programme will be managed by Mid Ulster District Council Programme will encourage community groups to come together to deliver good relations activities and shared space development.</p> <p>Approx. 40 - 50 small grants will be awarded to community organisations for shared space activity delivered between April 2020 and March 2021 A maximum grant up to £1,200 will be available Contribution towards strategic events grants programme to support range of good relations criteria re. outreach for diversity and engagement of communities across the District see cultural expression.</p> <p>GR officers to continually engage with strategic partner projects and in partnership with the strategic community events grant with groups seeking to deliver events in partnership with good relations to develop diversity in cross community outreach and or migrant and new communities.</p>

2.18 Potential to progress programme in 2021/22	<p>Increased support for shared communities and space</p> <p>Potential to downscale number of grants with a larger award achievable for those community groups who can provide active space for shared space activity. GR programme to look at much more tiered response in grant award actively benefiting those groups who can deliver on the outcomes required. Improving on the outcome of % increase in community attitudes and perception of using and accessing shared activities in spaces.</p>
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2.01 PROGRAMME NAME	2.02 CODE			
Shared Community Shared History and Decade of Anniversaries Programme	MUC06			
2.02 KEY WORDS	SHARED CULTURE DIVERSE			
2.03 Contact details for programme staff	Oliver Morgan E: oliver.morgan@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 24605 Paula Kelly E: paula.kelly@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 24604			
2.04 Total budgeted cost of programme (100%)	£25,000			
2.05 Total target no. of participants	Direct	360	Indirect	1000
2.06 Budgeted unit cost of programme	£70			
2.07 Targeted participant background analysis	As per population estimate 60% Catholic, 30% Protestant, 10% BME/Other 50% Female 50% Male			
2.08 Name and post code of Programme HQ	Location	MUDC	Postcode	BT71 6DT
2.09 Names and post codes for main areas of programme impact	Location	Mid Ulster Wide		
	Location	Dungannon		BT68/69/70/71/75/76/77/78
	Location	Cookstown		BT70/79/80
	Location	Magherafelt		BT41/44/45/46/51
2.1 Programme plan – what difference do we want to make?				
2.11 T:BUC Key Priority	Our Shared Community			

2.12 T:BUC Outcome	Increased use of shared space and services
2.13 Project Level Outcome – This should relate to the Survey Question on the TEO outcomes spreadsheet.	An increase in percentage of people who consider the area they live as welcoming to all communities.
2.14 Additional Project level Outcomes (optional)	
2.15 Link to good relations audit *Page reference on GR Audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Segregation in terms of education, housing and sport across the district results in limited opportunities for people from different traditions to interact. *Pg 12 • The online survey generated the following findings; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 84% of respondents reported a need for a greater understanding between people from different traditions and cultures. *Pg 3 ○ 78% of respondents reported that the need for greater engagement between people of different backgrounds was a top priority for the Mid Ulster area. *Pg 3 ○ 47% of respondents reported that shared space was a top priority for the Mid Ulster area. *Pg 3 • The decade of Anniversaries activity to date has helped to educate and raise understanding of our shared history. This activity has also raised interest in the decade of anniversaries. • It is reported that increased awareness and understanding has contributed to a 'softening of attitudes' towards people and organisations from different community backgrounds.
2.16 Complementarity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peace IV programmes – e.g. Cross Border Shared Heritage Prog. Decade of Anniversaries Prog. • Mid Ulster District Council Arts & Culture programmes
2.17 Programme summary information 2020/21	<p>The Decade of Anniversaries grant programme and series of lectures has been delivered for a number of years. The grant programme increased understanding of our shared history within Mid Ulster District Council area through activities and outcomes as noted below:</p> <p>% increase in the number of participants engaging in ethical commemorations around Decade of Anniversaries</p> <p>% increase in communities seeking funding and participation in good relations.</p>

	<p>GR Officers will work with local communities interested in acknowledging the Decade of Anniversaries through the Community Relations Council / Heritage Lottery Fund principles of shared understanding of our history in shared locations.</p> <p>A budget of £2,000 grant support will be available for programmes of activity up to £20,000 to be matched 50% by the delivery group. The 50/50 funding model works well and builds capacity within community groups that apply.</p> <p>A Decade of Anniversaries lecture series will be delivered across the District – 4-5 lectures across the District linking historians £5,000 15 community based activities delivered 4-5 lectures delivered across the District</p>
2.18 Potential to progress programme in 2021/22	<p>Increased Commemorative series</p> <p>Delivery of a bespoke DoA programme to secondary schools across Mid Ulster.</p>

2.01 PROGRAMME NAME			2.02 CODE	
Shared Community Shared Spaces			MUC07	
2.02 KEY WORDS	RURAL SHARED			
2.03 Contact details for programme staff	Oliver Morgan E: oliver.morgan@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 24605 Sean Henry E: sean.henry@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 23703			
2.04 Total budgeted cost of programme (100%)	£8,000			
2.05 Total target no. of participants	Direct	100	Indirect	200
2.06 Budgeted unit cost of programme	£80			
2.07 Targeted participant background analysis	As per population estimate 60% Catholic, 30% Protestant, 10% BME/Other 50% Female 50% Male			

2.08 Name and post code of Programme HQ	Location	MUDC	Postcode	BT71 6DT
2.09 Names and post codes for main areas of programme impact	Location	Mid Ulster Wide		
	Location	Dungannon		BT68/69/70/71/75/76/77/78
	Location	Cookstown		BT70/79/80
	Location	Magherafelt		BT41/44/45/46/51
2.1 Programme plan – what difference do we want to make?				
2.11 T:BUC Key Priority	Our Shared Community			
2.12 T:BUC Outcome	Increased use of shared space and services			
2.13 Project Level Outcome – This should relate to the Survey Question on the TEO outcomes spreadsheet.	An increase in percentage of people who consider the area they live in as welcoming to all communities.			
2.14 Additional Project level Outcomes (optional)				
2.15 Link to good relations audit *Page reference on GR Audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Segregation in terms of education, housing and sport across the district results in limited opportunities for people from different traditions to interact. *Pg 12 • The online survey generated the following findings; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 84% of respondents reported a need for greater understanding between people from different traditions and cultures. *Pg 3 ○ 78% of respondents reported that the need for greater engagement between people of different backgrounds was a top priority for the Mid Ulster area. *Pg 3 ○ 47% of respondents reported that shared space was a top priority for the Mid Ulster area *Pg 3 • There is a recognition of the good practice work that has been developed in creating shared spaces across the district, in Mid Ulster. *Pg 11 • There is a need to further develop and sustain existing shared spaces through the resourcing of activities / events that will encourage increased and sustained use of existing shared spaces. *Pg 11 • There is significant strategic shared space work proposed in Pomeroy, through a Peace IV Regional Shared Space Project. 			

2.16 Complementarity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peace IV programmes – e.g. Shared Space Small Capital Grants Programme and Shared Space Capital Programme in 6 areas (Draperstown, Moneymore, Aughnacloy, Castledawson, Donaghmore, Moy). • TBUC Shared Education Campuses Programme - Moy Regional Controlled Primary School and St John's Primary School, Moy are one of 5 campuses which have been selected to proceed. • Peace IV Shared Space Project Pomeroy – strategic regional shared space project in Pomeroy engaging wide number of facilities and community.
2.17 Programme summary information 2020/21	<p>Outcomes to improve upon:</p> <p>An increase in the number of participants who feel more comfortable using shared spaces and services traditionally associated with people from another community background.</p> <p>GR officers will work with projects that have developed over recent years as strategic shared spaces to continue to encourage shared civic spaces across Mid Ulster.</p> <p>Shared space project – a pilot project to increase access to all members of the community to participate in programmes that will open up venues and areas of MU historically known as single identity or areas of conflict between communities. Utilisation of promotional items raising the awareness of Together Building a United Community and therefore engaging hard to reach communities</p> <p>GR Officers will work with Council Arts and Culture venues to seek to ensure they are open and shared for all the community, cultural expression theme</p> <p>This complements the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increased number of shared spaces ○ Engagement in shared space programme of activity at key facilities.
2.18 Potential to progress programme in 2021/22	<p>Increased no of participants engaging in defined GR in developing shared space.</p> <p>2021/22 will see this programme fully delivered through the PEACE IV programme and outcomes will compliment the desired MUDC good relations plan outcomes</p>

2.01 PROGRAMME NAME			2.02 CODE	
Shared Community Clergy and Churches Leadership and Engagement			MUC08	
2.02 KEY WORDS	SHARED DIVERSE			
2.03 Contact details for programme staff	Oliver Morgan E: oliver.morgan@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 24605 Sean McElhatton E: sean.mcelhatton@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 22507			
2.04 Total budgeted cost of programme (100%)	£5,000			
2.05 Total target no. of participants	Direct	100	Indirect	300
2.06 Budgeted unit cost of programme	£50			
2.07 Targeted participant background analysis	As per population estimate 60% Catholic, 30% Protestant, 10% BME/Other 50% Female 50% Male			
2.08 Name and post code of Programme HQ	Location	MUDC	Postcode	BT71 6DT
2.09 Names and post codes for main areas of programme impact	Location	Mid Ulster Wide		
	Location	Dungannon		BT68/69/70/71/75/76/77/78
	Location	Cookstown		BT70/79/80
	Location	Magherafelt		BT41/44/45/46/51
2.1 Programme plan – what difference do we want to make?				
2.11 T:BUC Key Priority	Our Shared Community			
2.12 T:BUC Outcome	Increased use of shared space and services			
2.13 Project Level Outcome – This should relate to the Survey Question on the TEO outcomes spreadsheet.	An increase in percentage of people who consider the area they live as welcoming to all communities.			
2.14 Additional Project level Outcomes (optional)				

<p>2.15 Link to good relations audit</p> <p>*Page reference on GR Audit</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Segregation in terms of education, housing and sport across the district results in limited opportunities for people from different traditions to interact. *Pg 12 • Community consultation highlighted the very positive impact that cross community engagement amongst Church leaders has in the District. The leadership shown by Church leaders was reported to be essential in promoting good practice in terms of showing respect for diversity. *Pg 15 • Good relations funding has facilitated Church leaders to build working relationships which would not have happened without GR funding. The work of the Clergy has focused upon social issues and brought the clergy in closer contact with organisations addressing social needs cross the District. Clergy have also engaged in researching good practice in other areas with respect to the role of the Church in meeting social needs. *Pg 15 • Church Forums in Cookstown and Dungannon have demonstrated good practice in terms of bringing lay people from different Churches together for an annual programme of activities. Representatives from the Church Forums report that opportunities for shared Church activities would not occur without GR funding. *Pg 15 • Church Forum activity has helped to facilitate better understanding between different faiths. Joint working has helped to build relationships. *Pg 15
<p>2.16 Complementarity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peace IV programmes – e.g. Shared Space Small Capital Grants Programme and Shared Space Capital Programme in 6 areas • Mid Ulster District Council Arts & Culture programmes
<p>2.17 Programme summary information 2020/21</p>	<p>The Clergy and Churches fora continue to deliver faith based activities and events across Mid Ulster.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater level of church leadership and lay participation across the district on difficult issues for people in our society. <p>GR officers maintain close contact with;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mid Ulster Clergy Together Forum – in the development of a programme of activities addressing diversity, respect for culture, social inclusion and anti-poverty. Activities will involve Forum focused activities, engagement activities with local schools and engagement in wider community GR activities / events. • Cookstown Churches Forum – in the development of an annual programme of talks, visits and events that address enhanced understanding and collective awareness of local issues, between lay people from different Church traditions.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dungannon Churches Area Forum - in the development of an annual programme of talks, visits and events that address enhanced understanding and collective awareness of local issues, between lay people from different Church traditions. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mid Ulster Clergy Clusters - £1,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of a programme of activities focused upon anti-poverty and related social issues • Minimum of 10 meetings / visits between Clergy over 12 months • Engagement of Clergy with a minimum of 6 other GR events – Mid Ulster in Harmony, International Peace Day, Christmas Choral events, Poverty based events annual programme of activity • Mid Ulster in Harmony & International Peace Day /Choral events) 2. Churches Forum Cookstown - £2,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of a programme of activities over 12 months • Minimum of 10 meetings / events over 12 months engaging Church Forum members and the wider community. 3. Churches Forum Dungannon £2,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum of 10 meetings / events over 12 months engaging Church Forum members and the wider community. Engagement with Clergy Forum and engagement in wider community events
<p>2.18 Potential to progress programme in 2021/22</p>	<p>Monitoring and evaluation of participation numbers will dictate the direction of the fora in 2021/22</p>

2.01 PROGRAMME NAME		2.02 CODE	
Our Safe Community Responding to Local Community Issues		MUC09	
2.02 KEY WORDS	YOUTH SAFE		
2.03 Contact details for programme staff	Oliver Morgan E: oliver.morgan@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 24605 Sean Henry E: sean.henry@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 23703		
2.04 Total budgeted cost of programme (100%)	Zero – work with PCSP		
2.05 Total target no. of participants	Direct	50	Indirect 100
2.06 Budgeted unit cost of programme	£0		
2.07 Targeted participant background analysis	As per population estimate 60% Catholic, 30% Protestant, 10% BME/Other 50% Female 50% Male		
2.08 Name and post code of Programme HQ	Location	MUDC	Postcode BT71 6DT
2.09 Names and post codes for main areas of programme impact	Location	Dungannon	BT68/69/70/71/75/76/77/78
	Location	Cookstown	BT70/79/80
	Location	Magherafelt	BT41/44/45/46/51
2.1 Programme plan – what difference do we want to make?			
2.11 T:BUC Key Priority	Our Safe Community		
2.12 T:BUC Outcome	A community where places and spaces are safe for all.		
2.13 Project Level Outcome – This should relate to the Survey Question on the TEO outcomes spreadsheet.	An increase in the percentage of participants who see town centres as safe and welcoming places for people from all walks of life.		
2.14 Additional Project level Outcomes (optional)			

<p>2.15 Link to good relations audit</p> <p>*Page reference on GR Audit</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The online survey generated the following findings; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - silent sectarianism / racism was the third most reported issue, with 60% of respondents reporting that this was a priority issue for Mid Ulster *Pg 3 - safe communities was the fourth most reported issue with 59% of respondents reporting that this was a priority issue for Mid Ulster *Pg 3 - territorial markings were reported as an issue by 43% of respondents *Pg 3 - hate related incidents was reported by 38% of respondents as an important issue for the area *Pg 3 • Segregation within communities was reported as having a negative impact on the promotion of safe communities within Mid Ulster. *Pg 18 • Other contributing factors that were reported in the survey and during consultation were; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - lack of shared spaces /a lack of trust and respect between communities /crime and anti-social behaviour in communities /flags, emblems and bonfires /drug and alcohol misuse *Pg 19 - poverty and deprivation *Pg 19 • GR work in respect to shared spaces, children and young people and cultural expression all contribute to the promotion of safe communities. *Pg 20 • The work of the PCSP is pivotal to the creation of safe communities. It is considered that GR and PCSP potentially compete for the delivery of safe communities' initiatives. *Pg 19
<p>2.16 Complementarity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peace IV programmes • Shared Education • Neighbourhood Renewal • Police and Community Safety
<p>2.17 Programme summary information 2020/21</p>	<p>Outcomes to improve upon:</p> <p>Increase in the number of people who feel a sense of belonging to their neighbourhood and the wider area</p> <p>GR officers will support PCSP regarding issues identified in local communities along with our partners (recorded instances, members, PCSP, PSNI, NIHE, Probation Board, and Youth justice Agency etc.) to provide a multi-agency approach to keep spaces and communities safe and accessible and open to all.</p> <p>The activities will be both proactive and reactive in nature. Where there are known yearly issues arising then a proactive approach will be taken with local people to seek to avoid issues reoccurring. In some areas this</p>

	<p>has been ongoing for up to 3 years since a previous instance and this can be at key times of the year and others that arise throughout the year. PCSP will identify key areas and projects with GR support.</p> <p>GR officers will work alongside Council's sports development staff to support young people particularly during summer months and link diversionary programmes into areas and communities with Council sports development e.g. MUSA Cookstown, Dungannon, Magherafelt, Maghera, Coalisland.</p> <p>6 reactionary support activities working in a multi-agency approach.</p> <p>6 proactive initiatives working within a multi-agency approach.</p>
2.18 Potential to progress programme in 2021/22	<p>More targeted intervention programmes increased inter-agency approach to respond to local community issues.</p> <p>Engagement with PCSP on a more periodical basis to determine areas of need in relation to heightened spots of inter/intra community tensions.</p>

2.01 PROGRAMME NAME	2.02 CODE			
Our Safe Community Enabling Good Relations and Safe Communities	MUC10			
2.02 KEY WORDS	POVERTY SOCIAL INCLUSION			
2.03 Contact details for programme staff	Oliver Morgan E: oliver.morgan@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 24605 Sean McElhatton E: sean.mcelhatton@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 22507			
2.04 Total budgeted cost of programme (100%)	£12,000			
2.05 Total target no. of participants	Direct	500	Indirect	1000
2.06 Budgeted unit cost of programme	£24			
2.07 Targeted participant background analysis	As per population estimate 60% Catholic, 30% Protestant, 10% BME/Other 50% Female 50% Male			

2.08 Name and post code of Programme HQ	Location	MUDC	Postcode	BT71 6DT
2.09 Names and post codes for main areas of programme impact	Location	Dungannon	Postcode	BT68/69/70/71/75/76/77/78
	Location	Cookstown	Postcode	BT70/79/80
	Location	Magherafelt	Postcode	BT41/44/45/46/51
2.1 Programme plan – what difference do we want to make?				
2.11 T:BUC Key Priority	Our Safe Community			
2.12 T:BUC Outcome	A community where places and spaces are safe for all.			
2.13 Project Level Outcome – This should relate to the Survey Question on the TEO outcomes spreadsheet.	An increase in the percentage of participants who see town centres as safe and welcoming places for people from all walks of life.			
2.14 Additional Project level Outcomes (optional)				
2.15 Link to good relations audit *Page reference on GR Audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The online survey generated the following findings; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - silent sectarianism / racism was the third most reported issue, with 60% of respondents reporting that this was a priority issue for Mid Ulster *Pg 3 - safe communities was the fourth most reported issue with 59% of respondents reporting that this was a priority issue for Mid Ulster *Pg 3 - territorial markings were reported as an issue by 43% of respondents *Pg 3 - hate related incidents was reported by 38% of respondents as an important issue for the area *Pg 3 • Segregation within communities was reported as having a negative impact on the promotion of safe communities within Mid Ulster. *Pg 18 • Other contributing factors that were reported in the survey and during consultation were; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - lack of shared spaces /a lack of trust and respect between communities /crime and anti-social behaviour in communities *Pg 19 - poverty and deprivation *Pg 19 • GR work in respect to shared spaces, children and young people and cultural expression all contribute to the promotion of safe communities. *Pg 20 • Poverty and areas of poverty have been impacted due to the Troubles. There are studies and evidence to highlight the greater need of areas of poverty to engage in good relations. *Pg 17 			

2.16 Complementarity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peace IV programmes • Neighbourhood Renewal • Police and Community Safety
2.17 Programme summary information 2020/21	<p>Outcomes to improve upon:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in the number of people who feel a sense of belonging to their neighbourhood and the wider area • Increase the number of people who can access anti-poverty charities across Mid Ulster <p>GR Officers will work collectively with local charities – St Vincent de Paul, Vineyard Church, Antioch Centre, Lighthouse, Maghera Foodbank, - coming together in a joint approach to address social issues including poverty and supporting people in isolated areas and estates. This joint working will build on the work that has been done to date with charities supporting people in crisis and need. The work of charities reaches out to all communities and GR will support and help to break down perceptions that charities are single identity through supporting outward engagement.</p> <p>Support for 5 poverty related / capacity initiatives of local charities working together to address poverty and social needs in Mid Ulster – St Vincent de Paul across the Mid Ulster region including delivery partners in developing intervention strategies and programs to target urgent need x 3 £6,000, Vineyard Church £4,000 across the Mid Ulster region, Maghera Link £2,000</p> <p>Syrian refugee inclusion programme – In partnership with the charities and the voluntary sector GR officers will seek to engage & integrate Syrian refugees to Mid Ulster.</p>
2.18 Potential to progress programme in 2021/22	It is expected that this anti-poverty project will be up-scaled due to the problems being encountered with Universal Credit and PIP's. GR Officers to develop a localised network of anti-poverty support.

2.01 PROGRAMME NAME	2.02 CODE
Our Cultural Expression Celebrating Cultural Diversity of Ulster Scots and Irish	MUC11
2.02 KEY WORDS	CULTURE DIVERSE MUSIC

2.03 Contact details for programme staff	Oliver Morgan E: oliver.morgan@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 24605 Paula Kelly E: paula.kelly@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 24604			
2.04 Total budgeted cost of programme (100%)	£30,000			
2.05 Total target no. of participants	Direct	3,000	Indirect	2,000
2.06 Budgeted unit cost of programme	£10			
2.07 Targeted participant background analysis	As per population estimate 60% Catholic, 30% Protestant, 10% BME/Other 50% Female 50% Male			
2.08 Name and post code of Programme HQ	Location	MUDC	Postcode	BT71 6DT
2.09 Names and post codes for main areas of programme impact	Location	Dungannon		BT68/69/70/71/75/76/77/78
	Location	Cookstown		BT70/79/80
	Location	Magherafelt		BT41/44/45/46/51
2.1 Programme plan – what difference do we want to make?				
2.11 T:BUC Key Priority	Our Cultural Expression			
2.12 T:BUC Outcome	Cultural diversity is celebrated			
2.13 Project Level Outcome – This should relate to the Survey Question on the TEO outcomes spreadsheet.	An increase in the percentage who think that the culture and traditions of the Catholic Community add to the richness and diversity of Northern Ireland. An increase in the percentage who think that the culture and traditions of the Protestant Community add to the richness and diversity of Northern Ireland.			
2.14 Additional Project level Outcomes (optional)				
2.15 Link to good relations audit	Respondents to the online survey referenced the following good practice in respect to promoting / celebrating diversity, cultural expression and inclusion; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools programmes Cultural celebration events across the District e.g. pipe band events, St. Patrick celebrations, 12th July celebration, Hub Summer carnival that seek to bring people together and share cultural expression 			
*Page reference on GR Audit				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council workshops - exploring diversity, cultural heritage • Multi-cultural events and celebrations that bring the community together • Council run events / festivals • Local community based activities • Culture nights • Arts based social activities – music, song, dance • The work of Mid Ulster Clergy Forum <p>(Mid Ulster Good Relations Audit 5.1.2) *Pg 24</p> <p>Online survey results within the local Good Relations Audit show that respondents rated the need for a greater understanding between people from different traditions and cultures and the need for greater engagement between people of different backgrounds as the most important Good Relations priorities in Mid Ulster.</p> <p>Indicative activities respondents would like to see included in a new Good Relations Plan include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural events / activities that celebrate tradition and culture, and bring all people together • Cultural diversity workshops • Cultural integration support • Arts and sports activities • Schools based activity <p>(Mid Ulster Good Relations Audit 5.1.3) *Pg 26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Throughout the community planning and Peace IV consultation the importance of children and young people from different communities coming together to share and learn about other children and young people from a different community was identified as a high priority.
2.16 Complementarity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peace IV programmes • Mid Ulster District Council Arts & Culture programmes

2.17 Programme summary information 2020/21

Outcomes to improve upon:

- Increase in the number of people who believe they have a greater appreciation and increased understanding of their own culture and our shared traditions.
- Increased belief that culture can play a vital part in continuing to support communities in collaborating together.

Reaching out to the wider community through engagement in cultural activities / events including the following (match and partner culture & arts in all activities below)

- £8,000 - budget and linking with cross border Heritage and cross border literary programme.. Linking Clans of O'Neill and SHHP respectively – engaging 100 people.
- £5,000 - Ulster Scots cultural promotion as led by the Ulster Scots Network– 50% partnership with Arts and Culture including language classes, events, conference and Ulster Scots nights.
- £3,000 - Irish (TUS, Seachtain Na Gaeilge) – engaging diversity in Irish language and links with diversity including Presbyterian Church and its origins -.
- £5,000 - Pipe Band Championships (Cookstown) – engaging people from diverse communities and promoting piping tradition
- £3,000 - International Cultural events showing the rich diversity of culture in Mid Ulster and infusing into traditional cultural events
- £6000 – Cultural Music in Schools programme. Partnering Canavan School of Music has been working with primary schools in the Cookstown area since 2007 and more recently has extended into the Magherafelt and a smaller number of schools in the Dungannon area, teaching children traditional music skills (guitar, tin whistle, banjo, mandolin and flute). Irish and folk in schools programme (including the International Day of Peace & youth Initiative)

Multiple organisations linked to cultural events from the piping and comhaltas traditions have come together, facilitating collective performances at community and Council public events. Delivery of the following projects;

- O'Neill projects x 2 linked to heritage weekends

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ulster Scots language and cultural expression programme in partnership with the Ulster Scots Network to include Burns Night/ Ulster Scots appreciation evenings • Irish (TUS/Seachtain Na Gaeilge) outreach programme across Mid Ulster and activities to engage more diverse groups • Annual Pipe Band Championships event in Cookstown, in partnership with RPBANI - 2,000 people attending • Global influences in residents now living across the mid ulster region has lead to the promotion and development of a series of cultural events allowing for wider cultural diversity. • Traditional Music in Schools This programme will work with 30 schools teaching traditional music skills and will fund 2 Youth Cultural International day of Peace events. <p>Good Relations officers to engage with the Arts and Culture regarding delivery of the arts and culture strategy to seek to support cultural expression and diversity across the District.</p>
2.18 Potential to progress programme in 2021/22	<p>Downscale Ulster Scots and Irish Language programmes to a more targeted audience.</p> <p>Increase a wider sense of awareness of the rich cultural diversity within Mid Ulster.</p>

2.01 PROGRAMME NAME	2.02 CODE			
Our Cultural Expression Supporting BME Communities	MUC12			
2.02 KEY WORDS	DIVERSE SOCIAL INCLUSION CULTURE			
2.03 Contact details for programme staff	Oliver Morgan E: oliver.morgan@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 24605 Paula Kelly E: paula.kelly@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 24604			
2.04 Total budgeted cost of programme (100%)	£33,000			
2.05 Total target no. of participants	Direct	500	Indirect	2000
2.06 Budgeted unit cost of programme	£66.00			

2.07 Targeted participant background analysis	As per population estimate 60% Catholic, 30% Protestant, 10% BME/Other 50% Female 50% Male		
2.08 Name and post code of Programme HQ	Location	MUDC	Postcode BT71 6DT
2.09 Names and post codes for main areas of programme impact		Dungannon	BT68/69/70/71/75/76/77/78
		Cookstown	BT70/79/80
		Magherafelt	BT41/44/45/46/51
2.1 Programme plan – what difference do we want to make?			
2.11 T:BUC Key Priority	Our Cultural Expression		
2.12 T:BUC Outcome	Increased sense of community belonging		
2.13 Project Level Outcome – This should relate to the Survey Question on the TEO outcomes spreadsheet.	An increase in the percentage of participants who feel a sense of belonging to their neighbourhood.		
2.14 Additional Project level Outcomes (optional)	An increase in the percentage of participants who feel a sense of belonging to Northern Ireland as a whole.		
2.15 Link to good relations audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 84% of respondents to the online survey reported a need for greater understanding between people from different traditions and cultures. This was the top priority identified by most respondents to the survey. *Pg 3 Survey respondents identified the following good practice initiatives that have facilitated cultural expression; *Pg 24 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools programmes Council workshops - exploring diversity, cultural heritage Multi-cultural events and celebrations that bring the community together Culture expression of all communities Arts based social activities – music, song, dance There is evidence of good practice working in respect to engagement of the ethnic minority community in Mid Ulster. *Pg 26 Good Relations funding has facilitated the development and enhancement of cultural events and activities. *Pg 26 		
2.16 Complementarity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peace IV programmes 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mid Ulster District Council Arts & Culture programmes
2.17 Programme summary information 2020/21	<p>Outcomes to improve upon:</p> <p>% increase in targeted work within Section 75 groupings allowing further engagement of marginalised groups within Mid Ulster</p> <p>Good relations Officers will build on the good work delivered to date through STEP, an Tearmann (Traveller Support Group) and the local migrant community groups (East Timorese Community Association, Lithuanian Folk Group, and The Polish Association), working in partnership to support inclusion and integration of migrants, BME communities and travellers across Mid Ulster. Good Relations Officers continue to liaise with honorary consuls to develop actions and projects that can contribute to good integration at a local level.</p> <p>Project £10,000 BME support</p> <p>The Good Relations Officer will work with partners (STEP and An Tearmann) in the development of programmes and activities to assist in the support for migrants, BME communities and travellers across Mid Ulster to promote and encourage respect for diversity, culture and integration.</p> <p>Project £6,000 Engaging diverse and new communities</p> <p>Develop a series of support programmes that will provide direct support to a number of migrant groups and refugees and asylum seekers now situated within Mid Ulster. Engagement with Honorary Consuls and agencies to engage diverse communities.</p> <p>GR Officers will support the development of community associations / community groups engaging migrant communities within Mid Ulster, to include continuing to work with the Polish Group in Mid Ulster, Local Association of East Timorese, and Syrian refugees.</p> <p>Good relations will work with diverse migrant groups and children and young people to engage in a range of cultural events to bring a diverse element to these across our District throughout the year – engagement with Council and cultural development artists such as ArtsEkta, IGAGU, Gathering Drum, Beyond Skin.</p>

	<p>The project will include support to migrant groups including East Timorese to manage Brexit, including linkages to Embassies and develop linkages and capacity re advocacy (e.g. groups such as TAIS).</p> <p>Project - £17,000 Support Section 75 groups to participate in an active life within Mid Ulster GR officers will work with a series of marginalised groups including LGBT+, disability groups and women's groups to encourage more inclusion and equality. Engage partner organisations within these sectors to deliver meaningful programmes that can change attitudes toward the more marginalised within our society.</p> <p>Development of a programme of activities with STEP that engages migrants and BME communities and An Tearmann which will engage the travelling community. Good Relations working groups supporting diversity across Mid Ulster.</p> <p>Engage young people in cultural diversity events to bring a new diverse culture experiences</p>
<p>2.18 Potential to progress programme in 2021/22</p>	<p>P1 - Sustain contact with ~STEP/An Tearmann to provide direct rights based support to BME communities and travellers.</p> <p>P2 – Upscale the project to increase events, seminars, public meetings to support further integration across the district.</p> <p>P3 – Upscale the project to target wider audiences to events.</p>

**Minutes of the meeting of Mid Ulster Policing and Community Safety Partnership held
in Council Chamber, Dungannon on Wednesday 18 September 2019 at 6.00pm**

Present:

Councillor Derek McKinney (Chair), Councillor Frances Burton,
Councillor Clement Cuthbertson, Councillor Anne Forde,
Councillor Christine McFlynn, Councillor Brian McGuigan,
Councillor Seán McPeake

Fiona Crawford, Mark Farquhar, Ursula Marshall, Martina
Watson

Inspector Andy Archibald (PSNI), Superintendent Mike Baird,
Michael Dallat (NIHE), Michelle Grant (PBNI), Sergeant Beverley
Knipe (PSNI), Emer Molloy (EA), Inspector Danny Walsh (PSNI),
Jeff Young (PSNI)

Apologies:

Councillor John McNamee, Liam Duggan (Vice Chair), Michael
McCorry (PCSP Manager), Shauna McCloskey (PCSP Officer),
Martina McCullagh (PCSP Assistant)

In Attendance:

Celene O'Neill (PCSP Officer), Annette McGahan (PCSP Officer)

The Meeting commenced at 6.05pm.

PCSP126/19 WELCOME

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and apologised for the slight delay in starting due to photographs being taken of the awards won by Mid Ulster PCSP at the inaugural Community Safety Awards ceremony earlier this year.

The Chair also commented that he had been at PCSP training earlier that day and it was recommended that PCSP Members address each other by first names during meetings and not use titles. Mid Ulster PCSP would adopt this approach going forward.

PCSP127/19 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Members were reminded of their obligation in relation to declarations of interest.

No declarations of interest were declared.

**PCSP128/19 MINUTES OF POLICING & COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP
MEETING HELD ON 13 MARCH 2019**

The Minutes of Mid Ulster Policing and Community Safety Partnership meeting held on Wednesday 13 March 2019 were approved and signed.

Proposed: Councillor Brian McGuigan

Seconded: Councillor Anne Forde

PCSP129/19 MATTERS ARISING

No matters arising.

PCSP130/19 DISCUSSION ON TERM OF OFFICE FOR PCSP VICE CHAIR

PCSP Officer advised that as new Independent Members will be appointed over the coming months, the existing Vice Chair may remain in position until until the new PCSP is fully reconstituted. This was agreed.

Proposed: Ursula Marshall
Seconded: Councillor Seán McPeake

PCSP131/19 MID ULSTER HOMELESSNESS LOCAL AREA GROUP –TO NOMINATE A PCSP MEMBER TO ATTEND MEETINGS OF THIS GROUP

PCSP Officer and Michael Dallat updated the meeting re above and it was proposed and agreed that Fiona Crawford would represent the PCSP on this group.

Proposed: Councillor Frances Burton
Seconded: Councillor Seán McPeake

PCSP132/19 EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR MEMBERS' CONSIDERATION

Two proposals were tabled for consideration.

- New Driver Safety Ambassador Community Interest Company
- Start360 – Live and Learn 360

PCSP Officer gave a summary description on the two proposed projects and what they entailed.

In relation to the New Driver Safety Ambassador Community Interest Company, she stated that this project would be in addition to the road safety projects already funded by PCSP. After discussion, it was agreed to invite a representative from the New Driver Safety Ambassador Community Interest Company to the next PCSP meeting to give more detail on the project content, selection of schools, age group, who can attend and how it will be delivered.

Proposed: Councillor Clement Cuthbertson
Seconded: Councillor Frances Burton

In relation to the Start360 project, Live and Learn 360, which will focus on anti-social behaviour often fuelled by substance misuse, Members raised concerns regarding the selection of an individual provider as there may be other organisations that could deliver this project. PCSP Officer explained the process for bringing an 'Expression of Interest' to the PCSP but advised the project could be put out to quotation/tender if required. It was also noted that the project could not progress without police input, approval of content and support. Members pointed out that time is of the essence if the project was to be delivered within this financial year and raised concern regarding the

financial implications of delay. It was agreed that further discussions would take place with Start 360 and the project could proceed subject to the PSNI's approval and support.

Proposed: Councillor Christine McFlynn
Seconded: Councillor Seán McPeake

PCSP133/19 THEMATIC GROUP UPDATES

Anti-Social Behaviour Forum Update

The PCSP Officer provided the following update:

Cookstown Summer PCSP Youth Engagement Programme, 15 participants aged 13 to 18 years took part in this project which was delivered by PCSP, PSNI and EA Youth Service. The programme also included a trip to Hydebank Wood Young Offenders Centre.

A Member referred to loud cars causing problems in Cookstown. Inspector Walsh said that there are ongoing checks carried out by PSNI/DVA and that he is unaware of any recent issues in relation to boy/girl racers, exhaust noise, low suspensions etc. He further stated that the car owners are mostly young people who take great pride in their vehicles. There were no recent complaints in the Fairhill area following a two-year PCSP/PSNI campaign to address anti-social driving.

The Chair mentioned that there was a problem with fireworks in Moneymore the previous week. Inspector Walsh said that the offenders had been dealt with and Inspector Archibald updated that the offenders informed police they had nothing to do and nowhere to go.

The Chair noted that he was aware of a few recent complaints in relation to ASB in the Fairhill area. Inspector Walsh said that he was willing to meet with the complainant to discuss these issues.

Night-Time Economy Sub Group Update

The PCSP Officer provided the following update;

- Youth Alcohol Awareness Programme: Courses continue to be delivered as required. Numbers are down so the message is getting through to young people that there is a zero tolerance approach to dinking at teenage discos. Cookstown Club Angels continue to be present at the teenage discos in Lanyon Hall on Friday nights and outside Time Bar and Venue on Saturday nights. They are still keen to recruit new volunteers.
- Contact will be made with night club/large bar owners to offer the 'Counter Measures' training course at a suitable time for them to release staff for training.
- No incidents/complaints to note with exception of one individual as noted above.

Vulnerable Persons' Sub Group Update

PCSP Officer provided the following update in absence of designated officer.

- Promotion and awareness raising of RAPID Bins continues across Mid Ulster.
- Internet Safety, Positive Relationships and Drugs & Alcohol schools programmes to be delivered in Quarters 3 and 4.

PCSP134/19 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Michelle Grant (PBNI) advised that PBNI has a new corporate plan which is available on request and that there will be feedback in October.

PCSP135/19 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next PCSP meeting will be held on Wednesday 11 December 2019 in the Conference Room, Magherafelt Council Offices at 3.00 pm.

The meeting ended at 6.42 pm.

All members were present for the duration of the meeting.

Report on	Leisure and Outdoor Recreation Service Level Agreements 2020/21
Date of Meeting	Thursday 13 th February 2020
Reporting Officer	Nigel Hill
Contact Officer	Nigel Hill

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To agree proposals on Service Level Agreements (SLAs) for the financial year 2020/21 only.
2.0	Background
2.1	<p>In the Financial Year 2019/20 the following SLAs have been in place within Leisure Services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fivemiletown College Youth and Community Dept. for provision of leisure services programmes including swimming activities in Fivemiletown College Youth Annexe, Fivemiletown. Cost: £50,000 per annum on completion of pre-agreed Performance Indicators • Workspace, Draperstown for provision of leisure service programmes in Backrow Recreation Centre, Draperstown. Cost: £10,000 on completion of pre-agreed Performance Indicators. Workspace also pay Council £10,000 for lease of land that the Backrow Recreation Centre is built on.
2.2	<p>In the Financial Year 2019/20 the following SLAs have been in place between community groups and the Parks Service for agreed maintenance, services and activity programmes based on agreed performance indicators.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Battery Harbour Management Company, Battery Harbour £9,925. • Muintor na Mointeach Ltd, Washingbay Wetlands Park £1,126 • Pomeroy Community Projects, Pomeroy Forest, £6,500 • TABBDA, Ballyronan Marina £6,000. • Kildress Community projects, Killucan Picnic Area, £3,365. • Traad Wildlife & Conservation Club, Traad Point £2,000 • Broughderg Area Development Association (BADA) for provision of a caretaking/maintenance service at Davagh Forest MBT Trailhead. Cost: £6,000 per annum on completion of pre-agreed Performance Indicators.

3.0	Main Report
3.1	Fivemiletown College Youth and Community Dept. The SLA is due for renewal in April 2020. It is proposed that the current £50,000 SLA be extended for 2020/21 on the same terms as they have met all their agreed Performance Indicators in 2019/20.
3.2	Workspace has also asked that Council continue with the SLA at the current cost of £10,000. It is proposed that the SLA be extended for 2020/21 on the same terms as Workspace have met all their agreed Performance Indicators in 2019/20.
3.3	Broughderg Area Development Association (BADA) have satisfactorily met all their Performance Indicators in 2019/20. It is proposed that the current £6,000 SLA is continued as previously agreed for 2020/21 subject to review based on any subsequent additional operational requirements associated to the Dark Sky Park and Observatory at Davagh.
3.4	Battery Harbour Management Company have met the agreed performance indicators for 2019/20 in relation to the inspection and maintenance requirements at Battery Harbour. It is proposed to continue on the basis of the current arrangement for 2020/21 with an agreed annual Service Level Agreement payment of £9,925.
3.5	Muintor na Mointeach Ltd, have met the agreed performance indicators for 2019/20 in relation to the inspection and maintenance requirements at Washingbay Wetlands Park. It is proposed to extend the current Service Level Agreement to cover additional costs associated to the provision and servicing of visitor toilets by the community group. Muintor na Mointach have agreed to open the community building to facilitate the need for public access to ablution facilities. It is proposed to increase the annual SLA payment by £2,000 for 2020/21 to an agreed annual Service Level Agreement payment of £3,126.
3.6	Pomeroy Community Projects, have met the agreed performance indicators for 2019/20 in relation to the inspection and maintenance requirements at Pomeroy Forest. It is proposed to continue on the basis of the current arrangement for 2020/21 with an agreed annual Service Level Agreement payment of £6,500.
3.7	Traad, Ballyronan and Ballyinderry Development Association, (TABBDA) have met the agreed performance indicators for 2019/20 in relation to the delivery of services required at Ballyronan Marina. It is proposed to continue on the basis of the current arrangement for 2020/21 with an agreed annual Service Level Agreement payment of £6,000.
3.8	Kildress Community Projects, have met the agreed performance indicators for 2019/20 in relation to the inspection and maintenance requirements at Killucan Picnic Area. It is proposed to continue on the basis of the current arrangement for 2020/21 with an agreed annual Service Level Agreement payment of £3,365.
3.9	Traad Wildlife & Conservation Club (TWCC) have met the agreed performance indicators for 2019/20 in relation to the inspection and maintenance requirements

	at Traad Point. It is proposed to continue on the basis of the current arrangement for 2020/21 with an agreed annual Service Level Agreement payment of £2,000.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: All SLA payments are contained within existing budgets and there is provision within the 2020/21 Leisure and Parks budgets subject to agreement of the 2020/21 rates.
	Human: N/A
	Risk Management: In line with Council policy and procedures
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: In line with Council policy and procedures
	Rural Needs Implications: In line with Council policy and procedures
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are asked to note the content of the report with agreement for the proposal to extend the scope of Muintor na Mointeach Ltd current Service Level Agreement and associated payment increase of £2,000 per annum.
5.2	Members are asked to agree proposals on Leisure and Outdoor Recreation SLAs for the 2020/21 financial year only.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	None

**Minutes of Meeting of the Development Committee of Mid Ulster District
Council held on Thursday 16 January 2020 in the Council Offices, Burn Road,
Cookstown**

Members Present	Councillor Wilson, Chair Councillors Ashton, Clarke, Corry, Cuddy, Elattar, Kerr, McNamee, Milne, Molloy, Monteith
Officers in Attendance	Mrs Campbell, Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation Mr McCreesh, Director of Business and Communities Mr Browne, Head of Tourism Mr Hill, Head of Parks Ms Linney, Head of Community Development Mr McCance, Head of Culture and Arts Ms McKeown, Head of Economic Development Miss Thompson, Democratic Services Officer
Others in Attendance	Agenda Item 4 – Social Enterprise NI Mr Arthurs and Ms Johnston

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm.

D001/20 Apologies

Councillors Black, Burton, Doris, Hughes and Kearney.

The Chair, Councillor Wilson extended the committee's sympathies to Councillor Black on the recent death of his grandmother. The Chair also sent the best wishes of the committee to Councillor Burton who is ill.

D002/20 Declaration of Interests

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

Councillor Kerr declared an interest in Coalisland Fianna.

D003/20 Chair's Business

None.

D004/20 Deputation – Social Enterprise NI

The Chair, Councillor Wilson welcomed representatives from Social Enterprise NI and invited them to make their presentation.

Mr Arthurs outlined the mission and vision of Social Enterprise NI and provided an update on their activity to date. Ms Johnston set out the economic contribution of

Social Enterprise, the Social Enterprise business sector share, how Social Enterprise can help in the community and the barriers and enablers to their success.

Councillor Cuddy referred to the social enterprise sector and that statistics show this sector has doubled in the last 5 years and asked how this increase has come about.

Ms Johnston stated that social enterprise has become more popular in recent years and that there are a number of businesses that may previously have been a charity or are a charity with a trading arm who have felt that the best way for them to succeed is to have a business which is supporting social need.

Councillor Cuddy asked if it was felt this sector would continue to increase.

Ms Johnston stated she believed that the social enterprise sector would continue to increase and that Social Enterprise NI would like to conduct bi-annual surveys in this regard.

Councillor Kerr referred to Coalisland Credit Union which has won Credit Union of the year for the second year running and stated that this Credit Union does go above and beyond in the community.

Ms Johnston agreed with Councillor Kerr and stated that Coalisland Credit Union does have some unique ideas which Social Enterprise NI are keen to work with them on. Ms Johnston stated that Social Enterprise NI want to expand their work into more rural areas and that they would welcome referrals through Council.

Mr Arthurs advised that a business referred through Council would get one year free membership with Social Enterprise NI.

Councillor Corry asked how many businesses in Mid Ulster were registered with Social Enterprise NI.

Ms Johnston advised that most of their membership was in the larger towns and cities and that there were approximately half a dozen businesses in Mid Ulster that are registered with Social Enterprise NI.

Mr Arthurs advised of the Social Enterprise NI conference taking place on 5 March and stated that two free spaces were being offered to each Council. Mr Arthurs stated that the details of the conference would be forwarded to Council.

The Chair, Councillor Wilson thanked Mr Arthurs and Ms Johnston for their attendance and presentation following which the representatives withdrew from the meeting.

The Chair, Councillor Wilson stated that Social Enterprise NI seemed to be a good organisation and that Council should provide assistance where possible.

Matters for Decision

D005/20 Economic Development for Decision

The Head of Economic Development presented previously circulated report which provided an update on key activities as detailed below -

- **Prince's Trust Proposal 2020/21**

Councillor Ashton suggested that in addition to the recommendation, that Council provide the contact details of local enterprise centres to the Prince's Trust.

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council –
- (I) To decline the request from the Prince's Trust, as the Economic Development budget is already committed for next year 2020/21, with priority being placed on funding Council's five new business programmes and the district wide Town & Village Business Spruce Up Scheme.
 - (II) To provide the Prince's Trust with contact details of local enterprise centres.

- **Orchardville Proposal 2020/21**

In response to question from Councillor Kerr, he was advised that Orchardville do not currently have a presence in Mid Ulster.

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to decline the Orchardville funding request as Council's budget to fund projects of this nature is already committed to supporting a number of other local ESF projects until 2022, which assist individuals to re-engage with the labour market. It is further recommended that Orchardville be directed to:
- i. Make an application to Council's new Social Enterprise Programme when it opens to applications in Spring 2020 to seek assistance to help their organisation investigate other avenues of funding and methods whereby the company could become more self-sustaining.
 - ii. Liaise with the Project Lead on Mid Ulster's Community Planning Health & Wellbeing Group with a view to making representation to this Group about their work.

- **Irish Central Border Area Network**

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Cuddy and

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to approve the release of the 2nd (and final) 50% payment of £6,250 for 2019/20 to ICBAN.

D006/20 Community Development Report

The Head of Community Development presented previously circulated report and provided an update on the following:

- **Rolling Grants Awards – Good Relations and Local Community Festivals**

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Molloy and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the Rolling Grant Awards – Good Relations (£2,700) and Local Community Festivals (£2275) as per grant recommendations at Appendix 1 of report.

- **Community Development**

Members noted the Community Development update.

- **Community Planning Social Housing Working Group**

Members noted update on the Community Planning Social Housing Working Group.

D007/20 Seachtain na Gaeilge 2020

The Head of Culture and Arts presented previously circulated report which sought approval to issue a call for Expressions of Interest from interested groups and individuals seeking to deliver activities and projects designed to encourage and promote use of the Irish Language as part of Seachtain na Gaeilge 2020.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Milne and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the call for Expressions of Interest to be issued inviting submissions from interested groups and individuals seeking to deliver activities and projects designed to encourage and promote use of the Irish Language as part of Seachtain na Gaeilge 2020.

D008/20 Lough Neagh Rescue – Service Level Agreement

The Head of Tourism presented previously circulated report which sought agreement for a Service Level Agreement between Council and Lough Neagh Rescue covering the period April 2019 to March 2020.

Councillor Kerr suggested that Lough Neagh Rescue be invited to provide presentation to Committee.

The Chair, Councillor Wilson advised that Lough Neagh Rescue had recently made a presentation to the Development Committee.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Milne and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the Service Level Agreement between Council and Lough Neagh Rescue for the period April 2019 to March 2020 and that Council provides funding of £6,000.

D009/20 Recommendations on allocation of Schools' Sports Facilities Access Grants (Re-advertised)

The Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation presented previously circulated report which advised on the advertised Schools' Sports Facilities Access Grants.

Proposed by Councillor Molloy
Seconded by Councillor Ashton and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to agree the Schools' Sports Facilities Access Grants as set out at appendix to report.

D010/20 Sports Representative Grants

The Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation presented previously circulated report which sought approval for proposed Sports Representative Grants.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Milne and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to agree Sports Representative Grants as set out at appendix to report.

Matters for Information

D011/20 Minutes of Development Committee held on 4 December 2019

Members noted Minutes of Development Committee held on 4 December 2019.

Councillor Kerr asked if there was an update on the Cappagh issues.

The Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation stated that there had been a meeting before Christmas and from this there was a commitment to meet with Forest Service and Water Service. The Director advised that officers have met with Forest Service and the meeting with Water Service has been arranged, the Director further advised that officers will also need to meet with colleagues from Fermanagh and Omagh District Council as part of the forest is in their area.

Councillor Corry referred to the workshop on domestic violence and asked if there was a date for this to be held.

The Director of Business and Communities stated that the event would be organised but a date had yet to be confirmed.

The Chair, Councillor Wilson suggested that dates for the workshop be brought to the January Council meeting.

Councillor Cuddy referred to the recent meeting in relation to Castlehill and that following this meeting it had been agreed that some broad concept proposals would be brought forward. The Councillor stated that there was no paper on the matter this month and asked for an update.

The Head of Culture and Arts advised that officers were working on a paper and it was hoped that this would be ready for next month's committee meeting.

Councillor Monteith stated it was disappointing that there was no paper this month and that it was important to build on the momentum of the previous meeting. Councillor Monteith felt that a meeting with Water Service would also be beneficial.

Councillor Cuddy agreed with Councillor Monteith's comments.

D012/20 Economic Development For Information

The Chair, Councillor Wilson declared an interest in the launch of Mid Ulster's new suite of Business Programmes.

Members noted previously circulated report which provided an update on matters related to Caledon Regeneration Partnership, NI Apprenticeship Week and the launch of Mid Ulster's new suite of Business Programmes.

The Head of Economic Development advised that further to the report the launch of the new suite of business programmes may have to be delayed to a later date.

In respect of Caledon Regeneration Partnership Wool Store Project Councillor Ashton asked when the Capital Discretionary Grants would close and when this project could move forward.

The Director of Business and Communities advised that the application from Caledon Regeneration Partnership had been received and is pending the estimate process. The Director advised that the three grants available for 2019/20 have been allocated and the process has commenced for this year and that Caledon Regeneration Partnership would seem to be the most advanced recipient for the 2020/21 allocation.

D013/20 Halloween and Christmas Events Overview 2019

Members noted previously circulated report which provided an update on the successful Halloween and Christmas events delivered throughout October to December across the District.

The Chair, Councillor Wilson commended staff on the recent events held. Councillor Wilson stated that the Chair of Council, Councillor Kearney had also asked him to pass on his thanks to staff for the organisation of the events.

Councillor Cuddy agreed that any of the events he had attended were very good and asked if it was possible to get an idea on how much Council spent on each event compared to the number of people that attended.

The Head of Tourism advised that this is something officers look at after an event, he stated that some events are easier to gauge than others and that counters and cctv are used. The Head of Tourism stated that the formula to calculate was simple enough however it did need to be used with caution.

The Chair, Councillor Wilson stated that numbers can become skewed and used the Burnavon as an example in which someone coming in to use the toilet in the building is counted as a visitor.

Councillor Kerr referred to the suggestion of the Christmas Light Switch On in Coalisland being moved from a Sunday to a Friday night and that officers should engage with businesses and the community in the town on their opinion on this before coming to a decision.

The Head of Tourism advised that officers are engaging with businesses and communities in Coalisland at the moment in relation to the Christmas Lights Switch On.

The Director of Business and Communities stated that officers appreciated the positive comments of Members and advised that Council organises twelve civic events per year for a total cost of £120,000 which he felt represented good value for money. The Director advised that officers would like to improve on the events year on year but that this tends to increase the overall cost of the event. It was advised that officers will try to find monies within existing budgets this year but that additional monies may be required in future years.

Councillor Monteith stated that he had also received good feedback from those attending recent Council events and asked if Council had spoken with businesses within towns to get a feeling on what their experiences have been over the Christmas period. Councillor Monteith felt it is incumbent on Council to engage with these businesses.

The Director of Business and Communities stated that town centre forums would be able to engage with businesses and provide a report back.

Councillor Milne referred to the amount of organisation which goes into events and that, particularly in rural areas, a lot of voluntary work is needed. Councillor Milne commended this voluntary work.

The Chair, Councillor Wilson concurred with Councillor Milne's remarks and stated that some events do rely on a lot of goodwill and that everyone who gives of their time should be congratulated.

D014/20 Report on Tourism Groups Mid Ulster - 2020

Members noted previously circulated report which advised of progress made through the tourism teams work at trade shows and exhibitions in 2019.

Councillor Cuddy stated that the tourism team does do a lot of good work but that the tourism industry was something this Council needed to work on and that more momentum was needed in this area. Councillor Cuddy referred to Northern Ireland Tourism Board annual figures and that Council should measure itself against these and seek a 5% annual year on year improvement.

The Chair, Councillor Wilson suggested that as Councillor Cuddy was on the Tourism Group that he bring his suggestion forward through this forum.

Councillor Milne left the meeting at 7.37 pm.

Councillor Kerr asked if there was going to be a more localised effort in relation to tourism.

The Head of Tourism referred to the 'Embrace the Giant Spirit' brand being promoted by Northern Ireland Tourism and that officers are currently looking at putting together three experiences within the Mid Ulster area under this brand, namely – Sheepdogs at Work, Stars and Stones at Davagh and Seamus Heaney HomePlace. The Head of Tourism advised that officers will market the experiences as much as possible and that tourists will be able to build experiences into an itinerary.

Councillor Clarke referred to the proposed motorsport track in Coalisland which would have been a game changer for tourism in the area but that now looked as if it would not come to fruition.

Councillor Kerr stated that more investment should have been made in Coalisland Canal.

Local Government (NI) Act 2014 – Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor Monteith
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

Resolved In accordance with Section 42, Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014 that Members of the public be asked to withdraw from the meeting whilst Members consider items D015/20 to D022/20.

Matters for Decision

D015/20	Faber & Faber Licencing Agreement
D016/20	Caravan Tariffs 2020/2021
D017/20	Tariffs and opening hours for the Dark Sky Park & Observatory 2020 / 2021
D018/20	Catering Contract Davagh Dark Skies Park

Matters for Information

D019/20 Confidential Minutes of Development Committee held on 4
December 2019
D020/20 Update on Seamus Heaney HomePlace Open Ground
Project
D021/20 Maghera High School Site
D022/20 Women's Aid

D023/20 Duration of Meeting

The meeting commenced at 7 pm and concluded at 7.55 pm.

CHAIR _____

DATE _____

Report on	Mid Ulster District Tourism Development Group
Date of Meeting	13 th February 2020
Reporting Officer	Michael Browne
Contact Officer	Allison O'Keefe

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To present Minutes of Tourism Development Group meeting held on 20 November 2019.
2.0	Background
2.1	<p>Tourism Development Group (TDG) was established to create a working forum between Council and private sector businesses. The TDG will assist with policy development and support the implementation of Council's Tourism Strategy and associated work in order to create economic growth, increase visitor numbers and create employment.</p> <p>The group meet on a bi-monthly basis and as per the agreed Terms of Reference all business will be reported to Council through the Development Committee.</p>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The ratified minutes of the most recent meeting of the Tourism Development Group dated 20 November 2019 are attached as Appendix 1 with Officers Cluster Reports, presented at the meeting, attached as Appendix 2.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p><u>Financial & Human Resources Implications</u></p> <p>Financial: NA</p> <p>Human: NA</p>
4.2	<p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>NA</p>



4.3	<u>Risk Management Implications</u> NA
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	NA
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	Appendix 1 – Minutes of Tourism Development Group Meeting dated 20 November 2019. Appendix 2 – Tourism Cluster Reports

MID ULSTER TOURISM DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Wednesday 20 November 2019 at 10.00am in
Ranfurly House Arts & Visitor Centre, Dungannon

Present

Cllr Walter Cuddy	Mid Ulster District Council
Cllr Sean Clarke	Mid Ulster District Council
Cllr Francis Burton	Mid Ulster District Council
Cllr Niamh Doris	Mid Ulster District Council
Norman Bell	Visitor Attractions (Chair)
Dermot Friel	Vintners Representative
Hugh McCloy	Tourism Services
Terry McCory	Craft Sector
Kieran Bradley / Cathy O'Neill	Hotel Sector
Hazel McDermott	Bed & Breakfast / Guesthouse
Mary Gervin	Events Sector
Damian Robinson	Coach Operators
Tanya Purvis	Education & Skills Sector

In Attendance

Joanne Robinson	Hill of The O'Neill & Ranfurly House
Mary McGee	Mid Ulster District Council
Charmain Bell	Mid Ulster District Council
Genevieve Bell	Mid Ulster District Council
Graeme Major	Mid Ulster District Council
Sharon Arbuthnot	Mid Ulster District Council
Martha Beattie	Mid Ulster District Council
Allison O'Keefe	Mid Ulster District Council

Apologies

Cllr Martin Kearney	Mid Ulster District Council
Simon Wiggins	Education & Skills Sector
Michael Browne	Mid Ulster District Council
Mary McKeown	Mid Ulster District Council

	DISCUSSION	ACTIONS
1.	Welcome New Members Chair thanked members for their support over the previous year and welcomed new representatives to the Board.	

	the Tour Guide training. G Bell informed that the training could accommodate a maximum of 16 people.	Tour Guide Training Course in South West College.
5.2.3	<p><u><i>US Grants Homestead</i></u></p> <p>Brack Tours brought 2 tour operators to the site in order to scope putting Us Grants on itineraries for future visits. Dalriada Kingdom Tours have also requested to visit the site.</p> <p>G Bell reported that following Ulster Scots £30,000 funding in 2017, to revamp visitor interpretation and audio equipment, monitoring of visitor numbers has been recorded much higher than anticipated.</p> <p>G Bell added that work is progressing with Tourism NI on a US Presidential Trail from Bellaghy through Mid Ulster to Omagh.</p> <p>Cllr W Cuddy referred to the General Grant National Memorial, New York and requested that an invitation to visit the Homestead be issued on behalf of the Chair. M Beattie stated that contact has been made previously.</p>	
5.2.4	<p><u><i>Strong Man Games</i></u></p> <p>Cllr N Doris requested that officers explore hosting Strong Man Games in Mid Ulster.</p>	M Beattie to contact the General Grant National Memorial to extend an invitation to visit US Grant Homestead and report response at next meeting.
5.2.5	<p><u><i>175th Anniversary of Irish Famine</i></u></p> <p>D Friel stated that he was looking to run an event to mark the 175th Anniversary of the Irish Famine in connection with Donegal. He added that he is currently working with Maghera local historical group. Cllr W Cuddy suggested linking with Tourism Ireland as most of the West of Ireland was affected. He added that there are many great stories locally to share from that period. G Bell commented that one of the Hidden Heritage Tours could focus on the anniversary.</p>	G Bell to bring details of the event to the next meeting.
5.3	Hoteliers Cluster	
5.3.1	<p><u><i>Armchair Fam</i></u></p> <p>C Bell reminded members of the benefits of Armchair Fams in upskilling frontline and supervisory level staff. It provides staff with product knowledge of the region and assists in promoting tourism in mid ulster. Members were informed that officers will deliver a fam at any hotel premises on request.</p>	

<p>5.3.2</p>	<p><u><i>Northern Ireland Hotels Federation (NIHF)</i></u> NIHF launch their training programmes. The first to be held on 29/01/20 is Hotel Costing Workshop. Discussion around VAT, rates relief took place, with K Bradley informing that rates have been slightly reduced for smaller rooms which has helped. C Bell commented that NIHF do have the subject of VAT on their agenda, however, Brexit was holding things up.</p> <p>Cllr W Cuddy asked how many bed spaces there are in Mid Ulster. G Major agreed to circulate figures, however, it was raised that the figures do not include Air B&B. D Friel stated that the TDG should lobby Invest NI to support private sector investment through financial assistance.</p> <p>M McGee advised that having discussed NISRA stats and method of collation at past meetings, the figures are not indicative of the area due to under-reporting. She commented that when speaking to tour operators they are unable to get occupancy and rates from accommodation providers. Cllr S Clarke added that DAERA's RDP Programme 2014-20 ends and will no longer support tourism businesses as they feel this if the role of Invest NI.</p> <p>Chair requested that funding issues be put on the agenda for the next meeting.</p>	<p>G Major to circulate the number of bed spaces in Mid Ulster.</p> <p>Chair requested that Funding be put on the agenda for the next meeting.</p>
<p>A6.</p>	<p>District Wide Monitoring Results G Major reported that overall VIC enquiry figures are down due to more visitors using the internet to research. He noted that Magherafelt figures had increased due to the footfall at SHHP and Dungannon had reduced due to the electronic eye being out of operation.</p> <p>Cllr W Cuddy requested that officers bring reports of other officers unable to attend.</p> <p>G Major reported that TNI have a draft proposal for a new 5 tier structure which would allow businesses to have a lower level information point on their premises subject to TNI approval. He proposed Friel's Bar & Restaurant and Walsh's Hotel.</p> <p>Following a discussion about brown signage, G Bell stated that Transport NI have a very strict policy which was revised back in 2014 and won't be reviewed again until 2024. C Doherty added that signage is not seen as a marketing tool only traffic management. G Bell gave a</p>	<p>Chair requested that Signage be put on the agenda for the next meeting.</p>

	<p>brief description of the process to apply for brown signage and informed that Transport NI make the final decision on how many signs and the cost. Members raised that the TDG could be used to lobby and change the system. Chair asked that signage is placed on the agenda for the next meeting.</p>	
7.	<p>Mid Ulster Skills Forum M McGee gave a brief background to the Mid Ulster Skills Forum and invited nominations for a representative from the TDG to sit on the forum.</p> <p>Proposed by K Bradley Seconded by D Friel</p> <p>That C O'Neill would represent TDG and feedback to the forum</p>	
8.	<p>Tourism Ireland Update C Doherty, Stakeholder Liaison Manager, was welcomed to the meeting at 12.45pm and gave a brief presentation on the Tourism Ireland, their activities and his role within the organisation looking after all NI business.</p> <p>Members commented on how pleased they were to see TIL branching out to other destinations. The group discussed world recognised icons and opportunities, such as, Game of Thrones. C Doherty encouraged trade to engage with TIL social media and digital content. He added that TIL brought a publicity fam to Glenshane Country Farm Experience in Mid Ulster.</p>	
9.	<p>Industry Update Chair asked members around the room to give a brief update on their business.</p>	
10.	<p>AOB <u>Key Dates</u> 15.01.20 – TDG Meeting Rosehill House 26.02.20 – Great Days Out</p> <p>M McGee invited members, in particular, new ones to host a meeting at their business.</p>	<p>A O'Keefe to forward date for Great Days Out to trade.</p>

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT GROUP – CLUSTER REPORT

1. HOTEL CLUSTER

The Hotel Cluster meeting took place on Wednesday 16th October in Cookstown Council Offices, followed by a joint cluster meeting. Guest speaker Andrew Horne from Invest NI Tourism Team, explained the way in which the Invest NI Tourism Team works and how they collaborate with Tourism NI and Northern Ireland Hotel Federation, and what mechanisms they have to support the development of hotels within NI.

Discussion took place around the possible Invest NI funding programmes, such as Selective Financial Assistance, Tourism Development Scheme, Skills Growth, and the eligibility requirements for each. Invest NI are currently developing a Hospitality Collaborative Growth Cluster Programme, with Janice Gault, Chief Executive of the Northern Ireland Hotels Federation. Once established it will co-ordinate all activity looking at sharing of information, knowledge & programmes. There will also be some groups set up to help deliver the objectives of the network.

Corporate Packages are continuing to be developed within the sector, and engagement is on-going with the local companies. Officers met with Maria Curran the project officer from MEGA (Manufacturing and Engineering, Growth & Advancement) Invest NI Collaborative Growth Programme on the 29th October, to strengthen communication with the local engineering companies.

An armchair FAM was delivered to 10 members of staff in Walsh's Hotel, Maghera on Monday 9th September. It proved to be beneficial to Walsh's, who have since been issued with a copy of the presentation for supervisory staff to use to induct new/seasonal/part-time staff. Armchair fams will continue to be delivered as and when requested by the trade.

It was suggested to invite Colin Neill, CEO of Hospitality Ulster to attend the next cluster meeting, scheduled for January 2020. Date will be dependent on the availability of Colin Neill.

2. ARCHAEOLOGY, HISTORY & HERITAGE CLUSTER

Four *Hidden Heritage tours* are organised annually across the District to encourage locals and visitors to explore heritage sites on their doorstep which often go unnoticed. 3 tours departed from The Burnavon and 1 from Dungannon Park. The cost to attend the tours was £10 per person, which included the coach, tour guide, entry into the attraction (if applicable) and refreshments.

Four Hidden Heritage tours review 2019:

- **The 3 Sisters Tour: Killymoon Castle, Lissan House and Springhill**, Friday 14th May. 40 people took part in this tour.
- **Summer Solstice, Beaghmore Stone Circles**, Friday 21st June. Over 100 people attended this event

- **The Georgian Village of Caledon and US Grant Homestead**, Saturday 6th July. 37 people took part in this tour.
- **The Eel Fishery in Toome and Seamus Heaney HomePlace**, Friday 13th September. 38 people took part in this tour.

Overall feedback on the 4 tours for 2019 was excellent from all participants. These hidden heritage trips continue to prove very successful year on year. Tourist Development Officers have now begun to work on itineraries for 2020 with preparations already in place to organise a tour in May 2020 to mark the 75th anniversary of VE Day.

OCN Level 2 Training in Tour Guiding has now finished in North Regional College, Magherafelt. 16 tourism businesses within the District completed the course. The qualification is designed to provide the learner with the skills in the Travel and Tourism industry to enable them to develop a tour commentary and lead groups on a guided tour. Unfortunately, Dungannon did not get the same response but it is envisaged to run the same course in South West College in the New Year as a few further business have expressed an interest.

A group of *US Tour Operators* who specialise in the North American markets (USA & Canada) visited US Grant Homestead on Tuesday 24th September. The operators were welcomed on site by MUDC Chairperson Martin Kearney. Ted Sharkey guided the group around the Homestead and living history provided by Craic Theatre brought the site to life. This fam trip to the site proved to be very successful amongst the operators and since this visit Cara Travel Group have booked in a group of University students to visit HomePlace and US Grant Homestead in January 2020. This is a huge boost for the site and MUDC.

The *Learning Journey* took place on 26 September 2019. 21 tourism trade members and staff travelled to Causey Farm, Navan and Virginia Park Lodge, Virginia. The Learning Journey proved to be very successful and provided an excellent opportunity for networking, sharing tips and ideas. Feedback was very positive from all who attended.

The Tourism Manager travelled to the *Stone Mountain Highland Games, Atlanta, Georgia*. Celebrating its 47th year, the Stone Mountain Highland Games is a consumer show that takes place annually in Stone Mountain Park. The show attracted up to 80,000 individuals of Scots and Scots-Irish descent, which ran over a two-day weekend cultural festival featuring music, entertainment, educational and sporting events. MUDC participated on the Tourism Ireland stand along with Tourism NI and promoted the US Presidential trail, which includes US Grants Presidential Homestead.

National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF), known as the Heritage Lottery Fund until the end of January, has published its five-year Strategic Funding Framework (2019-24) which includes its new funding programme, which is currently open for applications. Over the next five years, NLHF plans to distribute more than £1 billion. A UK central pot will be available representing 20% of overall budget. NLHF will have in the region of £5.5m per year in NI to support projects.

6 new objectives of the new 5-year funding framework 2019-24

1. Continue to bring heritage into better condition

2. Inspire people to value heritage more
3. Ensure that heritage is inclusive
4. Giving support to organisations
5. Clearly demonstrating encouraging heritage to thrive
6. Take steps to grow heritage's economic contribution

NLHF's grant portfolio now open:

- National Lottery Grants for Heritage - an open programme for any type of heritage project from £3,000–£5million
- Heritage funding campaigns designed to fulfil strategic needs or funding gaps. The first two campaigns will launch in 2019, focusing on helping:
 - organisations build their capacity and organisational resilience
 - to build digital capabilities
- Joint funds to deliver strategic initiatives in partnership with other organisations, such as the Future Parks Accelerator partnership with the National Trust
- Social investments such as impact funds and loans
- Two rounds of major grants of over £5m in 2020–21 and 2022–23

Applications will be considered from:

- Non-profits and partnerships led by non-profit organisations for grants of £3,000 to £5 million.
- Private owners of heritage for grants of up to £100,000.
- Partnerships led by commercial organisations (for the purposes of achieving economic growth) for grants of £250,000 to £5 million.

Applications can be made at any time for grants of between £3,000 and £100,000. Decisions will be made within eight weeks.

Applications for grants exceeding £100,000 have quarterly deadlines. **The 2019 deadlines 5 March, 28 May, 20 August and 19 November 2019.**

Details on other new funding areas will be provided later in 2019.

Three concluding messages about the changes:-

1. Simplified portfolio
2. Streamlined decision making – greater devolved decision making
3. More scope for greater innovation, imagination and leadership

3. SEAMUS HEANEY CLUSTER

Invest NI Collaborative Growth

This programme is concluding with final report pending. The group will then have to decide on progressing to a Phase 2 application with invest NI.

Trade Shows

A least 5 of the members are planning to attend *ITOA (Irish Incoming Tour Operators)* event on 13 November in Belfast, to promote experiences to incoming operators.

World Travel Market, Embrace A Giant Spirit

Seamus Heaney HomePlace and Glenshane Sheepdogs all feature as experiences within the new TNI brand and have travelled to WTM to promote the region at this event. Joined by Eimear from Lough Neagh tours, the J&K Coaches team and River Bann Boats.

Heaney Film released on social media and receiving great traction to date. Took in HomePlace and cluster members as part of a journey through the district. As of Friday 15th November 7,500 views and 89 shares on Facebook alone.

Darina Allen Visit

Cluster members have hosted Darina Allen in the region, she stayed in Ballyscullion Park, visited Lough Neagh Eel fishery, Bakehouse NI and Seamus Heaney HomePlace as part of her stay. MUDC also hosted a networking event at Ballyscullion Park where food producers from across Mid Ulster showcased their produce and networked with fellow producers.

Member Updates

The group all gave an update on their own business to date and this is very positive with Tour Operators fams scheduled from WTM and ITOA, Visit Britain fam and TIL publicity team fam.

Report on	<p>Economic Development Report – OBFi</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mid Ulster Skills Forum Update 2. Mid Ulster Skills Forum – OECD Workshop 3. Cookstown Bypass Scheme Minutes 7.1.20 4. Chinese Consul General's Visit to Mid Ulster 5. Cypriot Business Delegation Study Visit to Mid Ulster 6. US Consul General's Visit to Mid Ulster 7. Christmas Trade in Mid Ulster Towns
Date of Meeting	13 th February 2020
Reporting Officer	Fiona McKeown, Head of Economic Development

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update Members on the undernoted matters.
2.0	Background
2.1	<p>Mid Ulster Skills Forum Update</p> <p>The Mid Ulster Skills Forum identified a number of priority actions contained within the Mid Ulster Skills Report and Action Plan 2018-2021 for delivery in the current financial year. These included a potential Collaborative Growth Project focussed on the challenge facing local employers in relation to engaging with school career teachers and pupils and a Careers Attractiveness Initiative focused on Mid Ulster's key priority sectors.</p>
2.2	<p>Mid Ulster Skills Forum – OECD Workshop</p> <p>In October 2019, the Department for the Economy (DfE), in conjunction with the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), held events in Belfast and L'Derry aimed at opening up the discussion on how we best develop Northern Ireland's strategic direction for skills for the next decade, building on the current Skills Strategy, 'Success through Skills -Transforming Futures'. Over 150 participants attended these events, which provided a valuable insight into the views of stakeholders in Northern Ireland. Recognising that Mid Ulster has been involved in some pioneering work to address skills issues locally, DfE and the OECD team requested an opportunity to meet with members of the Mid Ulster Skills Forum and MEGA Network to present and test out some of the recommendations from their research and engagement.</p>

2.3	<p>Cookstown Bypass Scheme Minutes 7.1.20</p> <p>Councillors and Council officers met with the Department for Infrastructure regarding the Cookstown Bypass Scheme on 7th January 2020. Minutes and action points from the meeting are attached on Appendix 1.</p>
2.4	<p>Chinese Consul General's Visit to Mid Ulster</p> <p>The Chinese Consul General Madame Zhang visited Mid Ulster on Tuesday 21 January 2020. The purpose of the visit was to learn more about the area in terms of business, education and heritage. Photographs from the visit are enclosed on Appendix 2.</p>
2.5	<p>Cypriot Business Delegation Study Visit to Mid Ulster</p> <p>A delegation of 'Into Business' delivery partners from Northern Cyprus visited Council on Thursday 23 January 2020. The visit was organised by the Northern Ireland Co-operation Overseas Innovative, Entrepreneurship Project. The purpose of the visit was 'Experience Sharing' introducing examples of strategic economic development initiatives and programmes delivered by Mid Ulster District Council to the Business Delivery Partners, who can then replicate this knowledge and experience into similar type initiatives in their own regions of Northern Cyprus. Photographs from the visit are enclosed on Appendix 3.</p>
2.6	<p>US Consul General's Visit to Mid Ulster</p> <p>Following a recent appearance by Ms. Elizabeth Kennedy Trudeau, U.S. Consulate General Belfast on the BBC, where Ms Kennedy Trudeau noted the role poetry can play in offering insight into a country and a place, and expressed admiration for Seamus Heaney- SHHP was prompted to issue a letter of invitation for her to visit Bellaghy.</p> <p>In accepting Council's invitation, the Consul General's office also expressed an interest in using the opportunity to visit a business in Mid Ulster which had US connections. The Council made contact with representatives from Emerson's (Cookstown) who agreed to host the business visit. Photographs from the visit are enclosed on Appendix 4.</p>
2.7	<p>Christmas Trade in Mid Ulster Towns</p> <p>Following a request at January 2020 Development Committee meeting for an update from businesses in our main towns on what their experiences had been over the Christmas period, contact was made with traders serving on the 5 respective Town Centre Forums in Cookstown, Magherafelt, Maghera and Coalisland and Dungannon Traders Association.</p>

3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p data-bbox="228 293 703 331">Mid Ulster Skills Forum Update</p> <p data-bbox="228 369 804 407">(i) <u>Collaborative Growth Programme</u></p> <p data-bbox="228 407 1398 1066">As previously reported, Council officers identified an opportunity to apply for funding under Invest NI's Collaborative Growth Programme to undertake a Phase 1 Scoping study to engage and collaborate with local employers, schools and 13-18 year olds in a co-design of the future 'industry/education engagement' products and services. In doing so, the outputs from such a co-design process would take into account the existing landscape, the opportunity to ensure engagement/careers advice, placement, recruitment processes etc. are brought in line with the 'Generation Z' requirements (the current name for the cohort born from the mid-1990s). Such a collaborative approach would also help inform existing government services such as NI's 'Connect to Success' and perhaps enable all stakeholders to stream line engagement and ensure information is provided in real time, perhaps exploring options for alternative technological solutions/products. An application led by Henry Bros. on behalf of the collaborative network (which includes TES Group, McAvoy Group, Specialist Joinery Fittings and Edge Innovate) has been successful and the company is in receipt of a letter of offer for £20k from Invest NI to appoint a facilitator to undertake the scoping study. If the Phase 1 Scoping Study produces a positive outcome, this may then open up further opportunities for further funding.</p> <p data-bbox="228 1104 778 1142">(ii) <u>Careers Attractiveness Initiative</u></p> <p data-bbox="228 1142 1377 1435">This project is aimed at enhancing the image and attractiveness of Mid Ulster's key priority sectors and strengthening linkages between local industry and education. The project will create and provide inspirational storyboards and bite size videos showcasing six key sectors (Manufacturing & Engineering; Food and Agri-Food; Construction; Retail; IT; and Hospitality) to career teachers and year 10 children in all post primary schools within the Council area. These resources will detail career opportunities and pathways, interesting developments, potential earnings, skills, attributes and qualifications needed to gain entry.</p> <p data-bbox="228 1473 1386 1581">Following a Council procurement process, a consortium led by Giraffe Associates and including Conor Diver Design and BlueSky Video Marketing have been appointed to deliver the project in 2019/20.</p>
3.2	<p data-bbox="228 1653 882 1691">Mid Ulster Skills Forum – OECD Workshop</p> <p data-bbox="228 1691 1394 1984">In October 2019, the Department for the Economy (DfE), in conjunction with the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), held events in Belfast and L'Derry aimed at opening up the discussion on how we best develop Northern Ireland's strategic direction for skills for the next decade. Recognising that Mid Ulster has been involved in some pioneering work to address skills issues locally, DfE and the OECD team requested an opportunity to meet with members of the Mid Ulster Skills Forum and MEGA Network to present and test out some of the recommendations from their research and engagement.</p>

Council officers organised a Mid Ulster Stakeholder workshop which was facilitated by OECD on Thursday 23rd January 2020 in Ranfurly House Arts and Visitor Centre, Dungannon, with 30 representatives from the Mid Ulster Skills Forum and MEGA Network in attendance. Similar events were held in Belfast (22nd January) and L'Derry (23rd January). The workshop provided a fantastic opportunity for local stakeholders in Mid Ulster to shape and influence the future skills agenda for Northern Ireland by discussing a series of potential recommendations that OECD have identified under the following four priority policy areas:-

1. Reducing skills imbalances
2. Creating a culture of lifelong learning
3. Transforming workplaces and the business environment to make better use of skills
4. Strengthening the governance of skills policies

The session proved to be very successful and brought a new perspective to the discussions around a future Skills Strategy for Northern Ireland.

Comments from Department for the Economy and OECD following event;

"Thanks for organising the Skills Forum meeting yesterday in Dungannon, I know the OECD found it a really useful session with lots of feedback from the participants." **Michael Gould, Department for the Economy**

"Thank you for the great event in Dungannon yesterday. It definitely was a success from our perspective; great discussions, engaged stakeholders, and many interesting ideas were presented." **Bart Staats, OECD Centre for Skills – National Skills Strategy**



3.3 Cookstown Bypass Scheme Minutes 7.1.20

A productive meeting was held with officials from the Department of Infrastructure on 7 January 2020 by way of updating Council Members and Officers on the Cookstown Bypass Scheme. A number of progressive actions were documented and agreed by all in attendance before the meeting concluded. A copy of the minutes and agreed actions are enclosed on **Appendix 1**.

3.4	<p>Chinese Consul General's Visit to Mid Ulster</p> <p>The visit involved a meet and greet with the Chairperson, Chief Executive and Director of Business and Communities at Council's Magherafelt Office.</p> <p>Following this, a visit to Rainey Endowed School allowed Madame Zhang to learn about the Rainey's links with the Bilingual Kindergarten in Hangzhou, China. This is an innovative project, creating a bilingual nursery school where children learn in a bilingual context from a young age.</p> <p>The Consul General then visited SDC Trailers where the Chief Executive Officer delivered a presentation about the company's growth from a small start-up in 1979 to its current status as UK and Ireland's largest semi-trailer manufacturer producing over 8,000 trailers per annum. SDC is part of the CIMC Group; a global player within the container, trailer and tanker industries, with annual sales of 110,000 vehicles. Before leaving, Madame Zhang was given a factory tour.</p> <p>A visit to Seamus Heaney HomePlace for lunch and a tour of the exhibition concluded the visit.</p> <p>The Chinese Consulate expressed her thanks to Council for organising the visit, which they found very informative. They are keen to develop links with Mid Ulster and Officers will work to explore potential opportunities over the coming months.</p> <p>Photographs of the visit are enclosed on Appendix 2.</p> <p>Cypriot Business Delegation Study Visit to Mid Ulster</p> <p>3.5 The study visit to the Council Offices, Magherafelt on Thursday 23rd January 2020 was part of a schedule of 'Experience Sharing Visits' across Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland by the 'Into Business' delivery partners / organisations accompanied by Brian Murray (NICO).</p> <p>Following a welcome address by the Chairperson, the Director of Business and Communities delivered a presentation providing an overview of strategic initiatives and programmes delivered by the Council's Economic Development Section. A Q&A opportunity took place allowing the participants to exchange views and share their experiences.</p> <p>The delegation expressed their thanks and appreciation for the warm welcome received and for the exchange of learning, knowledge and information, which they found particularly relevant and useful. The Director of Business & Communities reiterated Council's willingness to share its experience and knowledge in any area deemed beneficial to the group.</p> <p>Photographs of the visit are enclosed on Appendix 3.</p>
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3.6	<p>US Consul General's Visit to Mid Ulster</p> <p>Elizabeth Kennedy Trudeau, U.S. Consul General in Belfast, visited Seamus Heaney HomePlace Bellaghy on Friday 10 January 2020. Ms. Trudeau was welcomed to HomePlace by the Chair of Mid Ulster District Council, Councillor Martin Kearney, before experiencing the award winning Man and Boy Exhibition. Also, welcoming Ms Kennedy Trudeau was Director of Business and Communities and the Manager of Seamus Heaney HomePlace. Following the visit to the exhibition, the delegation had lunch in the HomePlace Café.</p> <p>Ms. Kennedy Trudeau described SHPP as a 'superb facility' and described the staff as an 'exceptional team'.</p> <p>In the afternoon's visit to Emerson (Cookstown), Mrs Kennedy Trudeau met senior managers and was given a presentation on the company by Paschal Doran (Plant Manager) and Liz Kearns (HR Manager), outlining its development over the past 22 years and it's future plans. This was followed by a tour of the factory.</p> <p>Mrs Kennedy Trudeau was very impressed with the visit and the senior representatives she met and before departing she extended her appreciation for the hospitality provided during the visit.</p> <p>Photographs of the visits are enclosed on Appendix 4.</p>
3.7	<p>Christmas Trade in Mid Ulster Towns</p> <p>Feedback from retail members on each of the Town Centre Forums/Traders Association indicates that across the five main towns in Mid Ulster, trade was slightly down from 2018. Retailers acknowledged that trade has been decreasing on a yearly basis over the past 5 - 10 years. There was a general consensus that footfall was down, however, those businesses that have an online presence stated that online sales were increasing on a yearly basis. Many traders added that the last few shopping days before Christmas (21-24 December 2019) as being very busy, however, these sales did not offset poor performances experienced in the first three weeks of December. Retailers introduced discounts and sales in early December to encourage people to purchase gifts locally, where these normally wouldn't be introduced until the New Year sales began. Christmas sales are only a snapshot of one shopping season and traders have many challenges to face throughout the year, just to keep their doors open for business.</p> <p>Cognisance should be taken that the overall UK retail trading conditions for the month of December 2019 have stated that we are now in the 13th consecutive month of overall decline, retail footfall is down by 2.6%, decline is 'undeniably strong evidence that retailers can no longer rely on Christmas trading'.</p>

4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: N/A
	<u>Careers Attractiveness Initiative</u> Cost of project is £18,791.00 excluding Vat. Funds available in economic development budget in 2019/20.
	Human: Officer Time
	Risk Management:
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/A
	Rural Needs Implications: N/A
5.0	Recommendation(s)
	It is recommended that Members;
5.1	Mid Ulster Skills Forum Note update.
5.2	Mid Ulster Skills Forum – OECD Workshop Note update on Mid Ulster Skills Forum OECD Workshop.
5.3	Cookstown Bypass Scheme Minutes 7.1.20 Note minutes of the meeting held on 7 th January 2020 with the Department for Infrastructure regarding the Cookstown Bypass Scheme
5.4	Chinese Consul General's Visit to Mid Ulster Note details of Chinese Consul General's Visit to Mid Ulster on 21 January 2020.
5.5	Cypriot Business Delegation Study Visit to Mid Ulster Note details of Cypriot Business Delegation Study to Mid Ulster on 23 January 2020.
5.6	US Consul General's Visit to Mid Ulster Note details of US Consul General's visit to Mid Ulster on 10 January 2020.
5.7	Christmas Trade in Mid Ulster Towns Note update.

6.0	Documents Attached & References
	<p>Appendix 1 – Minutes of Meeting re Cookstown Bypass Scheme with Department for Infrastructure on 7.1.20</p> <p>Appendix 2 - Photos of Chinese Consul General's Visit to Mid Ulster on 21.1.20</p> <p>Appendix 3 - Photos of Cypriot Business Delegation Study Visit to Mid Ulster on 23.1.20</p> <p>Appendix 4 – Photos of US Consul General's visit to Mid Ulster on 10.1.20</p>

Appendix 1

Cookstown Bypass Meeting with MUDC and Department for Infrastructure Tuesday 7th January 2020 at 10am MUDC Cookstown Office

Attendance

David McKinley	Department for Infrastructure
Gordon Noble	Department for Infrastructure
Eamon Lynch	WSP
Cllr John McNamee	Mid Ulster District Council
Cllr Kerri Hughes	Mid Ulster District Council
Cllr Trevor Wilson	Mid Ulster District Council
Adrian McCreesh	Mid Ulster District Council
Fiona McKeown	Mid Ulster District Council
Martina Totten	Mid Ulster District Council

Gordon Noble provided a summary update on the Cookstown Bypass scheme.

- Preferred route announced by DfI for the scheme in 2016.
- Due to the time that then lapsed much of baselining work was out of date and needed updating, along with a review of the preferred route.
- Preferred route announcement anticipated for spring 2020.
- Scheme has funding secured until end of March 2020.
- By end of 2020 hoping to have Draft Vesting Order, Draft Direction Order and Environmental Impact Assessment. However, funding has not been confirmed for the 2020/21 financial period.
- £900K spent on scheme in 2019/20. The same amount would be required for 2020/21

Agreed Actions

1. MUDC Elected Members to request a meeting with the DfI Permanent Secretary.
2. DfI representatives to arrange a meeting with Killymoon Golf Club representatives.
3. Follow up meeting to be arranged with Cookstown DEA Elected Members, DfI representatives and Council officers in April or May 2020. DfI to inform Council officers of most suitable date.
4. DfI to forward available dates in February 2020 to meet with Dungannon DEA Elected Members and Council officers to discuss Dungannon bypass.

Appendix 2

Madame Zhang, Chinese Consul General Visits Mid Ulster

21 January 2020



Madame Zhang pictured with the Council Chairman, Cllr Martin Kearney at Mid Ulster Council Offices, Magherafelt.

Madame Zhang with Mark McCullagh, Principal, Rainey Endowed School.



Madame Zhang pictured with Enda Cushman, Chief Executive Officer, SDC Trailers and Council Chairman, Cllr Martin Kearney



Factory Tour
of SDC
Trailers



Seamus Heaney
HomePlace

Appendix 3

Cypriot Business Delegation Study Visit to Mid Ulster

23 January 2020



Cllr Martin Kearney, greeting
'Into Business' Delivery
Partners from Cyprus to Mid
Ulster District Council offices,
Magherafelt



Cypriot 'Into Business' Delivery Partners & NICO representative Brian Murray, along with Cllr Martin Kearney, Chairman of Mid Ulster District Council, Adrian McCreesh, Director of Business & Communities, Paul McCreedy and Pauline Gallagher (Economic Development staff)



Cypriot 'Into Business' Delivery Partners and NICO representative Brian Murray, listening attentively to the Mid Ulster Economic Development presentation.

Appendix 4

Elizabeth Kennedy Trudeau, American Consul General Visits Mid Ulster

10 January 2020

Visit to Heaney HomePlace



Elizabeth Kennedy Trudeau pictured with Cllr Martin Kearney (Council Chair)

Business Visit to Emerson (Cookstown)



US Consul General, Elizabeth Kennedy Trudeau pictured with Emerson staff, Cllr Martin Kearney (Council Chair) and Adrian McCreesh (Council Director)