



28 September 2017

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Council to be held in  
The Chamber, Dungannon at Mid Ulster District Council, Council Offices, Circular  
Road, DUNGANNON, BT71 6DT on Thursday, 28 September 2017 at 19:00 to  
transact the business noted below.

Yours faithfully

Anthony Tohill  
Chief Executive

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## AGENDA

### OPEN BUSINESS

1. Apologies
2. Declarations of Interest
3. Chair's Business

### Matters for Decision

- |   |              |
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| 4. Special Environment Committee minutes of meeting held on 17 August 2017                              | 3 - 14       |
| 5. Council minutes of meeting held on 24 August 2017  | 15 - 24      |
| 6. Planning Committee minutes of meeting held on 5 September 2017                                       | 25 - 44      |
| 7. Policy and Resources Committee minutes of meeting held on 7 September 2017                           | 45 - 50      |
| 8. Environment Committee minutes of meeting held on 12 September 2017                                   | 51 - 66      |
| 9. Development Committee minutes of meeting held on 14 September 2017                                   | 67 - 84      |
| 10. Conference and Seminar report   | 85 - 92      |
| 11. Consideration of requests for civic recognition   | 93 - 98      |
| 12. Social Enterprise NI Awards 2017  | 99 - 102     |
| 13. Border Corridor Local Authorities Report on Brexit  | 103 -<br>152 |
| 14. Council responses to Northern and Southern Health & Social Services Trust 2017/18 Savings Proposals | 153 -<br>154 |

### Matters for Information

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### Notice of Motions

#### 17 Notice of Motion 1

Councillor Wilson to move

"That this council seek an urgent meeting with Translink to discuss their plans for Cookstown Depot in light of their recent closure of the depot at weekends"

**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

18. Council confidential minutes of meeting held on 24 August 2017
19. Planning Committee Confidential minutes of meeting held on 5 September 2017
20. Policy and Resources Committee Confidential minutes of meeting held on 7 September 2017
21. Environment Committee Confidential minutes of meeting held on 12 September 2017
22. Development Committee Confidential minutes of meeting held on 14 September 2017
23. Document for Sealing: Licence regarding Market Square Dungannon
24. Document for Sealing: Provision of Services for the Treatment of Biowaste between Mid Ulster District council and Natural World Products Limited

#### Matters for Information

**Minutes of Meeting of Special Environment Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 17 August 2017 in Council Offices, Burn Road, Cookstown**

<b>Members Present</b>	Councillor McGinley, Chair  Councillors Burton, Cuthbertson, Gillespie, Glasgow, Kearney, B McGuigan, S McGuigan, McNamee, Mulligan, J O'Neill and Totten
<b>Officers in Attendance</b>	Mr Cassells, Director of Environment and Property Mr Kelso, Director of Public Health and Infrastructure Ms McAleer, Corporate Policy & Equality Mr McCreesh, Director of Business & Communities Ms Mezza, Head of Communications Ms Grogan, Committee Services Officer
<b>Others in Attendance</b>	Councillor Bateson, Bell, Cuddy, Doris, McPeake and Wilson  Mr Mark Deeney – NIFRS - Western Area Commander Mr Roy Robinson – Chief Inspector - PSNI Representatives from PSNI and NIFRS

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm

**SE001/17 Apologies**

Councillors Buchanan, McFlynn and M Quinn.  
Representatives from NIEA and NIHE

**SE002/17 Declarations of Interest**

The Chair reminded Members of their responsibility with regard to declarations of Interest.

**SE003/17 Chair's Business**

The Chair, Councillor McGinley welcomed to the Special Meeting elected members and representatives from the NIFRS, PSNI and the Press.

The Chair advised members that after reading certain things within the press, he reminded members of the importance of conducting this meeting in a mature and respectful manner. He said that the meeting tonight would only be discussing matters relative to Mid Ulster Council and nowhere else.

The Chair advised the Committee that a request to hold a Special Environment Committee Meeting was made following the Motion being passed at the Council meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2016 in the aftermath of recent Bonfires on Council Property.

He said that a number of question's had been raised by members within the Sinn Fein party on how to proceed with concerns regarding Bonfire safety and regulation. The Chair advised that Councillor B McGuigan had raised that issue of Bonfire Safety and invited him to address the meeting.

Councillor B McGuigan said that he wanted to thank the Chair for facilitating tonight's special meeting as requested by himself so that a number of issues of concern regarding 'Bonfires' on council property could be addressed. He said that tonight he wanted to concentrate on our responsibilities as elected representatives and as a Council in relation to this issue.

He said that from the outset of tonight's special meeting he wished to remind Councillors of the purpose of the Bonfire Working Group which was set up in response to the following motion which was passed by Council.

The Motion Reads:

*"We welcome that the Minister of the Environment through his Agency the NIEA will bring in appropriate measures which adequately deal with used tyres as the current system does not rigidly control how suppliers do this. That this Council does not clean the remains from Bonfires from any other property that does not belong to the Council. On Council property that is used for bonfires, only suitable materials are used and all other materials such as tyres, rubbish, flags, election posters or effigies of individuals are removed. That this Council seeks to prosecute through its powers anyone who illegally dumps any hazardous materials on public or private lands associated to bonfires".*

He stated that in his correspondence to the Chairperson of the Environment Committee, despite working with all public bodies within the Bonfire Working Group to mitigate the problems associated with a number of these bonfires, illegal practices continue and are having serious detrimental impacts to the quality of life of many residents within our district.

He said that for the Sinn Féin group on this Council, this was totally unacceptable.

The questions and actions that need to be given immediate attention were outlined in the same correspondence addressed to the Chairperson of the Environment Committee, and was included in papers for tonight's meeting.

He stated that during the course of their meeting, his party colleagues would join him in dealing with these and other questions that have arisen since.

Councillor B McGuigan said that at this stage he wished to take the opportunity to commend Council Officers on having provided their paper detailing costs to date which amount to £17,549.37 for a clean-up operation in relation to 12<sup>th</sup> July bonfires which took place on Council property. The costs do not include VAT, Officer time obtaining third party Contractor services, ongoing remedial work such as power washing, hard and soft landscaping repairs to damaged areas as these have generally not been completed.



He said that he would like to begin tonight's discussion by asking the appropriate Council Officers if they have any indications as to what the final costs of the remedial work still needing to be done is expected to cost.

The Chair thanked Councillor B McGuigan for his contribution and advised that as we were still in Chair's Business that we must move on.

Councillor Cuthbertson referred to the article in the local press and advised that he was annoyed to see the local press being made aware of the Special Environment meeting before elected members of Mid Ulster District Council.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated that this wasn't a meeting of the Bonfire Working Group and that this report listed Bonfires which took place within Mid Ulster in July only, he asked Officers why they had consented to this meeting taking place as the next meeting of the Environment Committee was in 17 days time anyway.

The Chair advised that he had made it clear at the beginning of the meeting that no other discussion would take place unless it was regarding the issue of Bonfires and that he was within his right as Chair to call a Special Meeting as it was within the remit of the Standing Orders.

The Director of Public Health & Infrastructure advised Councillor Cuthbertson that the Standing Orders were consulted with and the Chair had the authority to call the Special meeting.

Councillor B McGuigan stated that during the time of the Bonfire Working Group there had been no other bonfires i.e. Halloween or Internment on Council owned land and would be off the same opinion regardless of the occasion throughout the year and this is not just about July bonfires.

The Chair advised that the Director of Public Health & Infrastructure would present his report first and then members would have the opportunity to make any comments or suggestions afterwards.

#### **SE004/17 Mid Ulster Bonfire Issues**

The Director of Public Health & Infrastructure advised that some of the detail within the report was still in draft form.

The Director of Public Health & Infrastructure drew attention to the report previously circulated to update members on the work of the Mid Ulster District Council Bonfire Working Group and the public safety concerns relating to Bonfires held on Council property in the Mid Ulster area.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure recommended that:

- 1) The establishment of a formal Bonfire Inter Agency Working Group formatted within the Mid Ulster Community Planning framework to develop a Short/Medium/Long term Action Plan to address and promote Bonfire Safety
- 2) Engagement with local communities who wish to host bonfires and those who don't wish to host bonfires on Council land to ensure adherence to Good

Practice with Council and other Statutory Agencies to promote public safety at bonfires.

In response to the Chair's query if Councillor B McGuigan was happy with the response, he said that he would be happy to work with groups who want to celebrate with bonfires in a safe, regulated way and that there was a need for proper leadership.

Councillor Cuthbertson said that it was worth noting that the NIFRS advised that the residents of Killymerron Park were not at any immediate risk and in relation to cost, the vast amount of expense was relating to collection of tyres. He felt that the people of Killymerron should be commended as in the past they had an agreement with Officers from the legacy Dungannon Council in working to keep things under control and keep the public safe.

Councillor Cuthbertson felt that the NIEA should have a more active involvement in clearing away any toxic materials including tyres.

He referred to Appendix 1.2 of the report: Scoping Document – July Killymerron, Dungannon hate crime incidents which were advertised in the local press and felt that it would be more beneficial to take advice from the PSNI rather than relying on newspaper reports.

The Chair in making reference to the press, stated that election posters and effigies of members from his party were strategically placed on top of bonfires.

Councillor McNamee enquired if there were any requests for compensation from residents of Killymoon for smoke damage.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that one complaint had been received and one formal complaint made. He stated that the request for compensation had been declined following advice from the Council insurers.

Councillor S McGuigan stated that there were definitely issues at the bonfire at Killymerron as two MP's were called in the early hours by residents. He said that the bonfire was approximately 80 foot high so it was a significant bonfire. He said that residents were concerned about it and were unsure how to address it.

Councillor J O'Neill advised that instead of putting out the fire, fire officers were hosing down houses.

Councillor Cuthbertson strenuously denied the allegation and stated that residents of the area advised him that no properties were hosed down.

Mr Mark Deeney, Fire Service's Western Area Commander rejected an earlier claim by Councillor Cuthbertson that the Fire Service had stated that none of the bonfires in the vicinity provided an imminent risk. He said that there was a legal remit to protect properties from fire but that there wasn't a legal obligation to distinguish a fire, but if a bonfire was out of control that the Fire Service would attend the scene.

Councillor B McGuigan enquired what residents from Killymerron do for insurance, with the Chair advising that there was no concrete information in that regard.

The Chair said that it would be beneficial for Officers to liaise with the NIFRS to see what actual costs were incurred on their part.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated that there was no question that there was sympathy with homeowners and didn't want to see anyone at a loss because of potential damage caused, but he felt that the Council wasn't responsible for all damage done, not just by bonfires but by bombings etc in the town centres down through the years which the Council wasn't responsible for either.

Councillor McNamee again raised that question of compensation stating that there could be potentially more letters coming forward seeking compensation and felt that it was easy for the committee to say that it was nothing to do with us if it was on Council property. He said that there were many houses involved and if the residents decided to take the Council to Court then we would be liable for this and enquired if there was adequate funding in the budget to cover such incidents.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure stated that the Council would be in a position of robust denial of liability and that risk assessment is currently being reviewed.

Councillor B McGuigan stated that the bonfire builders had no right to be on Council owned property as they were there without permission. He said that there were public liability issues and that the Council were at a serious risk if there was a potential claim or injury. He felt that there was a need for this to be recorded on a risk register and when the Council were giving out a grant to anyone within the Council area in terms of any community festival, there was a request for insurance to cover such incidents. He advised that if his party applies to parade down a road there was onus on them to put their names to that because they are responsible for what takes place during that parade.

Councillor B McGuigan said that there was nothing to indicate that an application was made to build a bonfire on Council property. He continued to say that there was no attack on culture regardless of where it's coming from but there's responsibility regarding how it's managed. The bonfire builders have no right to be on Council owned property because no permission had been granted.

The Chair stated that the Risk Register had been noted.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure stated as this was being referenced on the risk register doesn't mean we are condoning them.

The Chair, felt that it would be worthwhile investigating the idea of some form of licensing and insurance method as the Council were not in a position to look at criteria for people using Council property having to provide certain criteria and provide insurance and felt that there was some level of accountability.

Councillor Kearney agreed that licencing would bring in an additional level of safety that would reduce the number of bonfires which were unsafe.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure said that this would be a legislative process and that the Assembly would be required to implement this.

The Chair, felt that the Council should be looking into this as there was some sort of obligation for licencing and accountability.

Councillor Glasgow said that it seemed to him that the Council were looking at setting up a bonfire commission akin to the Parades Commission.

The Chair rejected Councillor Glasgow's comment and stated that he didn't hear anyone comparing the activity and enquired if Councillor Glasgow wasn't in agreement of accountability and safety.

Councillor Glasgow advised that safety was first and foremost but before we put the cart before the horse, there was a need to look at everything involved in this and not bypass the Bonfire Working Group for something else.

The Chair said that he hadn't heard this at all.

Councillor B McGuigan stated that one party decided not to turn up to the Bonfire Working Group.

Councillor J O'Neill said that he found it hard to believe that if a person falls from top of a bonfire, that consideration would be given to paying compensation, he said that this was unbelievable and needs to stop immediately.

The Chair asked Councillor J O'Neill for clarification on his comments on whether he was asking for risk management or a stop altogether.

Councillor J O'Neill advised that he wanted risk management.

Councillor Cuthbertson advised that no matter what Council employees work at, there should be a risk assessment carried out.

Councillor McGuigan said that when some of the community groups couldn't cover the insurance for events, the Council covered these and it may be assumed that this risk would be also covered. He said that he would have concerns around this as he believed that groups automatically think that they are covered by the council. He stated there was a need for this to be differentiated.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that the Council do not provide funding support for Bonfires. He said that if any member wanted further information on funding that this could be discussed at the appropriate committee.

The Director of Environment and Property advised that in the past groups have asked for council property to host events and they had to provide an indemnity insurance.

The Chair stated that if people were looking to use Council properties then insurance would need to be provided by them.

Councillor Kearney advised that the former Minister for Environment, Mark Durkan had previously passed legislation which resulted in 80 tonnes of toxic materials being removed and felt that a licencing system within the Council should be looked at as this would reduce a lot of bonfires taking place.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure highlighted that this would be a legislative process and would require formal legislation to be implemented by the Northern Ireland Assembly.

The Chair advised that this was only for Mid Ulster and would propose that Officers look at criteria for advice and steering which would be brought to the attention of the Bonfire Working Group before being brought to committee.

Councillor Glasgow advised that Parades and Bonfires were totally separate and felt that this Council was going to bite of more than they could chew. He said that Interagencies had a huge role in trying to sort the issues of tyres and toxic materials and wouldn't be supportive of going down this line as this could result in the Council losing their identity in all of this.

Councillor Glasgow felt that it was portrayed tonight that the Bonfire Working Group has lacked leadership in all of this and stated that this wasn't the case and it should be given a chance to proceed without the involvement of Interagencies.

The Chair said that the Bonfire Working Group had attempted to make process but there was a lack of membership from one party and suggested that a process of criteria and accountability be implemented for the Bonfire Working Group.

Councillor B McGuigan said that the Bonfire Working Group was working very well and felt that the one party that didn't get involved should have been there to show leadership.

The Chair felt that answers Questions 2 and 3 have been answered and that a Risk Register be considered and that Officers go through this and bring a report to the October committee meeting.

In response to a query, the Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that there was no automatic air monitoring system in place in the Dungannon area, although there had been one in Cookstown in the past provided by funding from Dept of Environment. He advised that this was removed from service some years ago as the Department felt that it was no longer required and too costly to run.

Councillor S McGuigan said that he was concerned as in the past Environmental Health Officers looked at trying to reduce pollution and if a monitor was within a radius, it should have been looked at.

Councillor Cuthbertson said that if we were going down this route then there was a duty of care for all people of the area and not just for the areas with Bonfires, and he said if this was the case then solid fuels should also be looked at.

The Chair said that this suggestion should be made to the Interagency group.

Councillor Glasgow suggested that the Council investigate financing an air pollution monitor.

The Chair said it may be useful investigating the issue.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised he would refer the request to the Environmental Health Service to provide a report on the matter.

The Chair referred to question 5 and asked members if they had any further comments or questions on what legal responsibilities of public bodies in respect of controlled waste and environmental pollution where Bonfires were located.

Councillor Burton said that when you see how much money was spent on removing tyres she enquired what moves could be made to trace illegally placing tyres on top of bonfires.

The Chair said that it was his understanding that the PSNI were investigating this and invited the Chief Inspector of the PSNI, Mr Roy Robinson to address the meeting.

Chief Inspector Robinson advised the committee that the PSNI try to trace tyres placed on top of bonfires but it proves difficult. He said that following up on one site, an individual was seen taking tyres from the site but that there was no indication when they were placed or who the individual was. He said that in the past he had worked within an area where a Bonfire Working Group invited local garages to get involved to try and help identify the tyres from the garage. He said the tyre suppliers put an identification mark on their used tyres which would identify which garage they came from and if the tyres were not properly disposed of or stolen to put on bonfires, that garage would come and remove the tyres.

The Chair said that he was aware of this initiative and agreed that it was a good idea, but said that he was also concerned about asbestos and wood being dumped by some committees, which should be disposed of in a safe way.

Councillor J O'Neill advised that Ballymena implemented a scheme by putting a number on used tyres, which could be traced back to the tyre suppliers which would be beneficial.

Councillor Cuthbertson said that in his opinion that this was the responsibility of the NIEA and they should be asked to take this on board.

Councillor Burton agreed that the initiative of spraying tyres which have been paid for by the motorist for disposal should be traced back to the tyre supplier.

The Chair advised that there was a fine line between what the Council can do and what other people's responsibilities were.

Councillor S McGuigan said that under the General Power of Competence that this matter should be looked at on the safe disposal of tyres.

The Director of Environment and Property said there was a duty of care outlined by the NIEA and that every time waste was passed on an operator was required to present evidence on how they have disposed of the items and within the eyes of the law, nothing bigger than a bicycle tyre can be disposed of on landfill sites.

Councillor J McNamee raised the issue of some items being placed on bonfires, which effect the good relations within the community. He said that the burning of effigies was having a serious effect on good relations and for a number of years he had reported a number of poster thefts to the PSNI. He enquired what steps were being taken to prevent this. He stated that when the 12<sup>th</sup> of July comes, it's just hate season of everything nationalist on a bonfire. He said that he was concerned about children witnessing that. He also stated that the nationalist communities were looking at Sinn Féin, SDLP posters, Irish Flags with people celebrating people going up in flames, which he found disgusting and said that something needed to be done.

Councillor Cuthbertson said that good relations was being endangered by the actions of the Mid Ulster District Council itself. He said that only for the fact that there was so much shouting in other Council areas that this wouldn't be such a big issue and that bonfires may not have been so big. He stated that if a community feels their traditions were under threat, they go out to do them in a bigger and better way.

Councillor Cuthbertson said that he felt that this Council had a detrimental effect on good relations and within the legacy Council in Dungannon there was an understanding in relation to working with issues that could be confrontational. He felt that this Council had jumped feet first in relation to signage and other silly decisions relating to Council property and that the Council needed to tread very carefully.

The Chair said that he disagreed with Councillor Cuthbertson's sentiments and stated that anything he had heard tonight that there was no attack on culture. He said that discussion was around illegal activity, with posters and effigies and people in this room being burned in terms of their posters. He said that the members present were having a mature, structured discussion in terms of how we can make things respectful for all people.

Councillor Cuthbertson said that everyone was coming across saying that they were concerned about health and safety but that this wasn't the case. He said that it was an attack on unionist working class traditions and stated that if parties came out earlier and removed their election posters that there would be no issues of them being put on top of the bonfires. He continued to say that in the past poppy wreaths were burnt at a bonfire and a poster glorifying the murder of Lee Rigby and an effigy of a Police Landover were also evident.

The Chair, stated that he disagreed that Sinn Féin made an attempt to attack culture and said that this could be further discussed between them both if need be outside of this meeting. He said that his party were not behind the door condemning this and if he knew of a poster of a DUP candidate being placed on top of a bonfire, that he

would say that this was wrong. He said that posters were stolen during the election process and not after it.

Councillor McNamee felt that Councillor Cuthbertson's comments regarding dual language signage was outrageous and stood by his claim that the burning of flags and posters on bonfires were hate crime. He said that it's the same hate crime year after year and that no-one ever seems to be prosecuted. He felt that it sends out a very negative message to young children around a bonfire of people laughing when people are going up in flames. He said when the nationalist community sees this it had a very negative impact on good relations.

In response to a query, Chief Inspector Robinson advised that the PSNI referring to posters and effigies stated that they take hate crime very seriously and regardless of their background, he would want all people to live in the community without the fear of hate crime and intimidation.

Councillor McNamee said that posters are never removed from bonfires and this sends out a wrong message to young people when they witness people laughing and jeering when the nationalist community goes up in flames.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure highlighted that these activities are brought onto Council property illegally and all such incidents should be referred to the PSNI to investigate and action as necessary. He said that the Chief Inspector indicated the need for respect within communities when promoting such cultural events. The Council would continue to support celebrations of culture and diversity through it's various community programmes.

Councillor Cuthbertson asked that facts be based on PSNI reports and not press reports.

The Chair stated that the two recommendations be taken on board.

Councillor Wilson said many people would see this meeting as an attack on the unionist culture and suggested not going with the recommendations tabled here tonight and stated that although we wasn't part of the Environment Committee, he had listened with great interest and suggested engagement with local communities as an alternative way forward. He said that he would be in support of risk management and agreed with the comment regarding the escalation of bonfires in response to Belfast and Londonderry recommendations. He continued to say that he was aware of the situation regarding the flags and Emblems Committee, which was set up and advised that this committee was due to report their findings by the end of the year and that it would be wise to wait and see what the outcome would be.

The Chair again reminded members that this meeting was relative to the Mid Ulster Council areas only and community involvement.

Councillor McNamee rejected Councillor Wilson's claim and stated that he must have been listening to a different conversation as discussions only referred to all bonfires on Council property. He stated that he disagreed that this meeting was an attack on the unionist culture as it was about the risk of bonfires on all Council properties.



Councillor McNamee however did agree with Councillor Wilson on the importance of community engagement.

Councillor Mulligan said that he would have great difficulty in agreeing to the first recommendation, as it would be moving the issue away from this Council and stated that the Bonfire Working Group had only been set up 8 months ago and it would be premature at this stage to involve the Interagencies.

Councillor Glasgow agreed with Councillor Mulligan and felt that the Bonfire Working Group should be given a chance to proceed on their own to try and find a way forward.

Councillors Mulligan and Glasgow both agreed that setting up an Interagency bonfire group would be moving too fast and would be taking away the power from the Council and agreed with Councillor Wilson's recommendation on waiting on the outcome of the findings from the Flags and Emblems Committee.

Proposed by Councillor Mulligan  
Seconded by Councillor Glasgow

That members continue on their work with the Bonfire Working Group and wait until the findings of the Flags and Emblems Committee are made known before inviting the Interagencies to become involved.

Councillor Glasgow felt that the timing of the meeting wasn't appropriate as it was in the middle of the summer season and felt that it was a hammer to the culture within unionism and agreed with Councillor Burton's suggestion of hitting the cause of the tyres being put on bonfires.

Councillor B McGuigan said that he was happy to continue on the work of the Bonfire Working Group and only involve outside agencies like the PSNI, Fire Service and the NIEA as and when required.

It was agreed to proceed with Councillor Mulligan's proposal.

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

- 1) Members continuing on their work with the Bonfire Working Group and wait until the findings of the Flags and Emblems Committee being made known before inviting other agencies ie. PSNI, Fire Service and NIEA to becoming involved.
- 2) Engagement with local communities and the development of an Options Paper for the introduction of an application and licencing process, which should meet certain criteria for building bonfires, with this being done through the Bonfire Working Group and then brought back to committee for consideration.
- 3) Investigate the issue of illegal bonfires being put on the Risk Register and being brought back to committee.

**SE007/17     Duration of Meeting**

The meeting commenced at 7 pm and ended at 8.35 pm.

Chair \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Minutes of Meeting of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 24 August 2017 in the Council Offices, Circular Road, Dungannon**

**Chair:** Councillor Ashton

**Members Present:** Councillors Bateson, Bell, Buchanan, Clarke, Cuddy, Cuthbertson, Doris, Elattar, Forde, Gillespie, Glasgow, Kearney, Mallaghan, McAleer, McEldowney, McFlynn, McGinley, B McGuigan, McKinney, McNamee, McPeake Milne, Molloy, Mullen, Mulligan, J O'Neill, T Quinn, M Quinn, Reid, Robinson, G Shiels, Totten and Wilson

**Officers in Attendance:** Mr Tohill, Chief Executive  
Ms Campbell, Director of Leisure & Outdoor Recreation  
Mr Cassells, Director of Environment and Property  
Mrs Forde, Member Support Officer  
Mr Kelso, Director of Public Health and Infrastructure  
Ms Mezza, Head of Marketing and Communications  
Mr JJ Tohill, Director of Finance

**In Attendance:** Update on Desertcreat (Agenda Item 13)

Mr S Fitzsimmons	Head of Facilities and Assets
Mr M Graham	Senior Responsible Officer
Mr D Rooney	Area Commander (Training)

The meeting commenced at 7pm

**C164/17 Apologies**

Councillors Burton, Gildernew, S McGuigan, McLean and Monteith

**C165/17 Declarations of Interest**

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

**C166/17 Chair's Business**

The Chair, Councillor Ashton reminded everyone of the importance of confidential business making reference to the press coverage on a decision following the July meeting. The Chair emphasised that the Senior Management Team would make announcements on major projects.

The Chair, Councillor Ashton congratulated all students across the district on receipt of their GCSE A Level results.

Councillor Mallaghan advised that in recent months both through the Northern Ireland Local Government Association and ICBAN staff shortages were being highlighted. He stated that young people were often put under pressure to take an academic

route yet there were many jobs for example in the engineering and food industry that Council should be promoting together with the excellent courses run at South West Regional College.

### **Suspension of Standing Orders**

Councillor Wilson requested a suspension of standing orders to raise the issue of the £70m cut in the health budget.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson  
Seconded by Councillor Reid and

**Resolved** That Standing Orders be suspended to discuss the £70m cut in the health budget.

### **C167/17 Health Cuts**

Councillor Wilson expressed grave concern regarding the proposed cuts in the health budget which would see the Northern Trust budget reduced by £14m and the Southern Trust by £6.4m. He emphasised that Northern Ireland had the worst waiting times in the United Kingdom and that by reducing elective care the pressure would continue to grow. The Councillor stated that it was not only morally wrong but that the longer patients had to wait for diagnosis, treatment or care could lead to serious lasting harm. Councillor Wilson emphasised that this was 'real people' being discussed and made reference to the largest part of the health budget being spent on salaries. He made reference to the consultation period of six months and emphasised that the health service was now a postcode lottery. Councillor Wilson in acknowledging the current consultation emphasised that Council had a duty to speak to the Trusts and proposed that Council write to both the Northern and Southern Health and Social Care Trusts seeking an urgent meeting to discuss the issue.

Councillor M Quinn seconded the proposal stating that he had attended the announcement in Craigavon when reports had only been made available immediately prior to the meeting and that there was minimal detail as to how the cuts would be made. He spoke of a sense of fear at the meeting that the National Health Service would collapse, the most vulnerable would pay for it and conditions would be similar to the United States of America.

The Chair, Councillor Ashton emphasised the importance of the issue and stated that two separate meetings may be required. Councillor Reid concurred.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson  
Seconded by Councillor M Quinn and

**Resolved** That Council send letters requesting meetings to discuss proposed Health Cuts to the

- (i) Northern Health and Social Care Trust; and
- (ii) Southern Health and Social Care Trust

**C168/17      Receive and consider minutes of matters transacted in “Open Business” at the Council meeting held on Thursday 27 July 2017**

Councillor Elattar requested an amendment to the minute at C146/17 for paragraph two and requested permission to email the amendment to Democratic Services. The Chair, Councillor Ashton agreed to the request stating that the Minute taker would audio check the proposed amendment. Paragraph two of C146/17 to be amended to read,

*Councillor Elattar drew attention to D142/17 stating that she would like it noted that when Councillor Cuddy asked for a translation of an organisation listed under good relations grants, because he said he didn't understand Irish and therefore didn't understand what the group did, that she had pointed out that the name of the group shouldn't need to be translated, as it had no bearing on what the group did. The Councillor also stated that there were two other groups listed, whose names were in English and although she could read and understand English, the names of the groups still didn't explain to her what they did and that in her opinion, it would be discriminatory to only ask groups using Irish names to explain to Council Members what they do and that Irish language groups should not have to justify to anyone why they choose to use the native language.*

*Councillor Elattar continued stating that in a spirit of openness and mutual respect, something that hasn't been in evidence from most Unionist Councillors on this Council, towards the local Irish language community, she would like to reassure Councillor Cuddy, that the name of the group, Glór na Speríní, means 'Voice of the Sperrins', not Isis as he so disgracefully claimed at the committee meeting. Councillor Elattar said that she was sure the group would be happy for Councillor Cuddy to attend any of their events to see what they do, or to attend their Irish language classes, where they have a mixture of students, including many from the Protestant and unionist community. Councillor Elattar concluded stating that the Irish language is inclusive, for all of to share and enjoy, and that she would like to see unionist Councillors embrace it, or at least show some respect for it and those who speak it.*

Councillor Cuthbertson sought an update in relation to C142/177 regarding the Town Clock at St Anne's Dungannon. In response the Chief Executive stated that as advised at the July meeting of Council, efforts were continuing and the matter would be brought back to the Development Committee in September.

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan  
Seconded by Councillor McPeake and

**Resolved**      That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Thursday 27 July 2017(C139/17 – C152/17 and C163/17), transacted in “Open Business” having been printed and circulated, subject to the foregoing were considered and adopted.

**C169/17      Receive and consider the minutes and recommendations of matters transacted in “Open Business” at the Planning Committee meeting held on Tuesday 1 August 2017**

*Councillor Cuddy declared an interest in application number LA09/2017/0655/F  
Health and Beauty Salon at 48A Milltown Street, Dungannon*

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan  
Seconded by Councillor McKinney and

**Resolved** That the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Tuesday 1 August 2017 (P103/17 – P111/17 and P116/17) transacted in “Open Business”, having been printed and circulated, were considered and adopted.

## **C170/17 Conferences and Seminars**

Approval was sought for the undernoted conferences for the attendance of Members and council officers outlined in the report, the payment of attendance fees and associated costs as incurred.

### **(i) Member Approvals**

- NI Chamber of Commerce Networking Series 2017  
Wednesday 23 August 2017 at North West Regional College,  
Derry/Londonderry – Retrospective approval if required.
- NI Chamber of Commerce Annual Networking & Business Conference  
Tuesday 12 September 2017 at St George’s Market, Belfast
- Northern Ireland Planning Conference – Planning a Sustainable NI  
Tuesday 26 September 2017 at Europa Hotel, Belfast
- NILGA Broadband: Local Needs, Local Solutions  
Wednesday 27 September 2017 9.30am – 1pm, Craigavon
- NILGA Sub Regional Compliance Awareness Sessions
  - *EU General Data Protection Regulations*  
Thursday 21 September 2017 10.30 am – 12.30 pm at Bangor  
Castle  
Thursday 29 September 2017 14.30pm – 16:00 pm at Glenavon  
Hotel, Cookstown
  - *Rural Proofing, The Rural Needs Act (NI)*  
Wednesday 18 October 2017 10.30am – 12.30pm, Silverbirch  
Hotel, Omagh  
Wednesday 25 October 2017 14.30pm – 16.00pm, Lough Neagh  
Discovery Centre
  - *Civil Contingencies for Elected Members – Emergency Planning*  
Thursday 16 November 2017  
Thursday 23 November 2017

- NI Planning Conference 2017: Shaping planning, people & place  
Thursday 16 November 8.30am-1pm, Baby Grand, Belfast
- 7<sup>th</sup> Suicide Prevention Conference  
Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November, Titanic Centre, Belfast

Councillors Elattar and Reid to attend.

(ii) Officer Approval

Conference & Seminar	Date	No of Attendees	Location	Attendance Fees
ICO – GDPR Conference in NI	8 September	1	Templepatrick	yes

Councillor Wilson highlighted that there appeared to be meetings and conferences regarding broadband every month yet still the district was suffering. He asked that as a lead Council on this issue could something be done through SOLACE to promote action as opposed to conferences. In response the Chief Executive stated he would pick up with the Member and assured that there are initiatives being worked out and would be brought to committee in due course which would lead to actions and solutions

Councillor Elattar enquired if staff received suicide awareness training. In response the Chief Executive advised Democratic Services would consider options.

Proposed by Councillor McKinney  
Seconded by Councillor Reid and

**Resolved:** That the attendance of Members and officers, the payment of attendance fees and associated costs as incurred be approved, as required for attending Members and officers.

#### **C171/17 Consideration of Requests for Civic Recognition**

The Chief Executive drew Members attention to the previously circulated report and sought approval for civic recognition requests for those groups and individuals listed in line with Council Receptions Policy.

The Chair, Councillor Ashton advised that she had submitted Dungannon United Youth request and Councillor Anne Forde Magherafelt Sky Blues.

Proposed by Councillor McGinley  
Seconded by Councillor M Quinn and

**Resolved** That approval be given to submitted requests for civic recognition as outlined in the report.

#### **C172/17      Re-Shaping Stroke Services – A Pre Consultation**

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure drew Members attention to the previously circulated report and sought approval for the response as drafted within the report. He reminded Members of the presentation on 1 August 2017 which had focused on the three main areas of care for patients who had had a stroke. The Director sought approval for the response as outlined in the report.

Councillor Wilson stated that the presentation had been interesting but stated that in relation to ambulance services he felt the response should be ‘beefed up’ highlighting the example, if an ambulance is transferring a patient to hospital that there are instances when they have to perhaps bring them to the Royal Victoria in Belfast, bypassing Craigavon Area Hospital and thus an ambulance servicing the Mid Ulster region is unavailable for a longer period. In response, the Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that emergency ambulance provision across the region had been covered and agreed to place more emphasis on it.

Councillor Kearney concurred with Councillor Wilson’s comments.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson  
Seconded by Councillor Kearney and

**Resolved**      That approval be granted to the response to Re-Shaping Stroke Services – A Pre Consultation response with more emphasis placed on the issue of emergency ambulance provision.

#### **C173/17      Sperrins Future Search Conference**

The Chief Executive drew attention to the previously circulated report seeking two Members to attend the Sperrins Future Search Conference scheduled to take place 27-29 September 2017 advising that it would be preferable if Members appointed could attend for the full duration of the event.

Councillor McGinley stated that it was his understanding that Council had a working group in relation to the topic and suggested Members should be appointed from it.

Proposed by Councillor McGinley  
Seconded by Councillor Bell and

**Resolved**      That Councillors Clarke and Mallaghan represent Council at the Sperrins Future Search Conference.

#### **Matters for Information**

#### **C174/17      Consultations notified to Mid Ulster District Council**

**Resolved**      The previously circulated paper on consultations notified to Mid Ulster District Council was noted.

#### **C175/17      Correspondence**



The Chair, Councillor Ashton drew attention to the email received from the Southern Trust and welcomed the response providing assurance in relation to safety of buildings.

**Resolved** The previously circulated paper on correspondence to Council was noted.

## **C176/17 Consideration of Motion**

### **C176.1/17 Councillor Cuthbertson to move**

Councillor Cuthbertson stated that antisocial behaviour in the areas mentioned in the motion, is an issue for all parties represented in the chamber. He highlighted that reports of serious events over the past two weekends connected to this ongoing problem, is a wake-up call to the Council and other statutory agencies. Councillor Cuthbertson outlined a post which had appeared on the PSNI social media site advising that, *“on three occasions in the past week young people have been found unconscious through drink in the area of The Lines and Railway Park. One male youth, who was found on Saturday 12 August, had to be transferred to an Intensive Care Unit with a blood alcohol reading of 366.”* Councillor Cuthbertson advised that to put the reading in context, the legal blood alcohol limit for driving is 80 and that the person is extremely fortunate to be alive. The Councillor highlighted that over the past weekend in separate instances, a teenage girl and another teenage boy were also found passed out and required first aid from members of the public prior to the arrival of emergency services. He stated that whilst there is no definitive evidence that any other substances had been taken by the youths concerned, that what was certain was that large quantities of alcohol had been consumed by each and this is of huge concern. Councillor Cuthbertson stated that he believed that the Council has a duty to take the lead on this issue and to work with others to immediately address this problem before more tragic headlines are made. He stated that everyone would have their own opinion on how and who is responsible for tackling the issue but that he believed that the best place to discuss and begin to address the issue is at a planned meeting with all relevant agencies represented. Councillor Cuthbertson moved the motion.

*“That Mid Ulster District Council act in response to the ongoing anti-social behaviour, the latest incident of which resulted in a teenager being found unconscious in Railway Park, before having to be admitted to The Royal Victoria Hospital. That a meeting is held with all relevant statutory agencies to put in place an action plan to deal with such instances in the Railway Park, Windmill Wood and Mullaghanagh Lane areas of Dungannon.”*

Councillor Reid stated that it was a serious issue but that as Chair of PCSP he felt that it was business that the PCSP were dealing with right across Mid Ulster and advised that there was a special Antisocial Behaviour Sub Group. He stated that the Chair should withdraw the motion as no one person should be identified.

The Chair, Councillor Ashton stated that the motion was valid.

Councillor Mallaghan concurred with Councillor Reid's comments and stated that the motion lacked compassion, was naïve and potentially headline grabbing. He highlighted the example of issues in relation to antisocial behaviour around Halloween in his electoral area where the PCSP had sat down with people and sought solutions. Councillor Mallaghan stated that the Member should look at the terms of reference of the PCSP.

Councillor Buchanan seconded the motion

Councillor Cuthbertson stated that some may consider the PCSP a better platform but emphasised that it was a serious issue especially since Easter and that Council should not sit back and ignore what is going on and although it may not be the direct responsibility of Council the matter required sorted before there was more tragic headlines.

Councillor Reid emphasised that it was a very important issue but that Council was not the platform from which it should be dealt with and stated he would not vote against the motion but neither would he vote for it.

The Chair, Councillor Ashton called for a vote

For	5
Against	22
Abstained	7

The Chair, Councillor Ashton stated that the motion had fallen.

Councillor Cuthbertson in response to the result of the vote stated that it was very disappointing that no-one would take the initiative to get the issue sorted out.

### **Change of Order of Business**

The Chair, Councillor Ashton proposed that the deputation from the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service be heard in open business.

Proposed by Councillor Ashton  
Seconded by Councillor Wilson and

**Resolved** That the deputation from Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service be heard in to open business.

### **C177/17 Update from the NIFRS on Desertcreat**

The Chair, Councillor Ashton welcomed representatives of the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service to the meeting.

Mr Graham, Senior Responsible Officer introduced the team and Mr Fitzsimmons and outlined the progress of the project to date following which Mr Rooney outlined the tactical firefighting facility proposals, the training support building plan and

elevation. Mr Rooney highlighted the next steps which included the commencement of construction together with a timelines leading to occupation in 2021.

The Chair Councillor Ashton thanked the representatives for the presentation and invited questions.

In response to question as to whether the impasse at Stormont would affect the project Mr Fitzsimmons advised that the budget was already in place so the project could progress.

Councillor Mallaghan stated that this was a milestone on a very long journey and he looked forward to seeing the diggers on site stating that former Cookstown Councillors would all acknowledge it was a long hard fought for project.

Councillor Wilson concurred with Councillor Mallaghan stating that it had been a long battle. He asked how many jobs the NIFRS envisaged based at the site. In response Mr Fitzsimmons stated that from a construction point of view it would be 34 full time in phase one with an additional 60 indirect labour jobs. With phase two it was anticipated that there would be approximately 400 constructions jobs with direct and indirect impact on the local economy.

Councillor Wilson stated that it would be his hope that a local firm is successful in attaining the contract.

Councillor Gillespie asked if the facility could be utilised for training for contractors who were required to do underground work in confined spaces. In response Mr Fitzsimmons stated that for the business case for funding the facility had to be for sole use by the NIFRS but perhaps in the future there may be such opportunities.

The Chair Councillor Ashton thanked the representatives for attending and they withdrew from the meeting at

### **Confidential Business**

Proposed by Councillor McGinley  
Seconded by Councillor J O'Neill and

**Resolved:** That items C178/17 – C181/17 be taken as confidential business.

- (i) Minutes taken as confidential business at the Audit Committee held on 25 July 2017
- (ii) Minutes taken as confidential business at Council Meeting held on Thursday 27 July 2017
- (iii) Minutes taken as confidential business at the Planning Committee held on Tuesday 4 July 2017
- (iv) Banking Services

*The press left the meeting at 7.40pm*

**C182/17      Duration of Meeting**

The meeting was called for 7pm and ended at 7.45 pm

CHAIR \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**Minutes of Meeting of Planning Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Tuesday 5 September 2017 in Council Offices, Ballyronan Road, Magherafelt**

**Members Present**

Councillor Mallaghan, Chair

Councillors Bateson, Bell, Clarke, Cuthbertson, Gildernew, Glasgow, Kearney, McAleer, McEldowney, McKinney, Reid, Robinson, J Shiels

**Officers in Attendance**

Dr Boomer, Planning Manager  
Ms Doyle, Senior Planning Officer  
Mr Marrion, Senior Planning Officer  
Ms McKearney, Senior Planning Officer  
Ms McMullen, Council Solicitor  
Ms Grogan, Committee Services Officer

**Others in Attendance**

**Applicant Speakers**

LA/09/2016/1241/F Charlotte Irwin – Six West Ltd  
LA/09/2015/0452/F Clare McParland – Clyde Shanks  
LA09/2015/1223/F Chris Cassidy – CMI Planners  
LA09/2017/0272/F Hayley Dallas – Ross Planning  
LA09/2017/0576/F Thomas Bell – Clyde Shanks  
Elaine Shaw – Northway  
LA09/2015/1239/F Gemma Jobling – JPE Planning  
Eunan Rafferty – Creagh Concrete  
LA09/2016/0797/F Jason Taggart – Taggart Design  
LA09/2016/0965/O Sheila Curtin – 2 Plan NI

Councillor B McGuigan

The meeting commenced at 7 pm

**P117/17 Apologies**

Councillors McPeake and Mullan.

**P118/17 Declarations of Interest**

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

*Councillor Reid declared an interest in application LA09/2016/1307/F*

*Councillor McKinney declared an interest in application LA/2015/1239/F*

*Councillor McAleer declared an interest in LA/2016/0693/F*

**P119/17 Chair's Business**

The Planning Manager updated the committee on the Development Plan and advised that there was good progress and representation being made and would anticipate being in a position to finalise a paper on the consultations responses for the plan in October. He advised that he would liaise with Democratic Services to arrange a suitable date for all members.

## **Matters for Decision**

### **P120/17      Planning Applications for Determination**

**M/2015/0097/F      Housing Development (40 units) state road and foul water treatment plant at 46 Tullyvar Road, Aughnacloy for Leo Daly**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor Gildernew  
Seconded by Councillor McKinney and

**Resolved:** That planning application M/2015/0097/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**LA09/2015/0353/F      45 bedroom care home for the elderly at 180 – 182 Battery Road, Moortown (renewal of I/2009/0134/F) for Mr Lawrence McGuigan**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor J Shiels  
Seconded by Councillor Bell and

**Resolved:** That planning application LA09/2015/0353/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**LA09/2015/0452/F      Residential development of 65 dwellings, open space, landscaping, upgrade/traffic calming and ancillary site works at Mullaghboy Lane, Magherafelt for Mr J Keatley**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor McKinney  
Seconded by Councillor Kearney and

**Resolved:** That planning application LA09/2015/0452/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**LA09/2015/1223/F      Engineering workshop, welfare building, drainage and service yard in relation to existing company at 21 Farlough Road, Dungannon for Specrum**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor Reid  
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

**Resolved:** That planning application LA09/2015/1223/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**LA09/2016/1136/F Single storey stand-alone coffee shop unit and car parking provision at Oaks Retail Park, Oak Road, Dungannon for MBCC Foods (Ireland) Ltd**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor Gildernew  
Seconded by Councillor Reid and

**Resolved:** That planning application LA09/2016/1136/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**LA09/2016/1241/F Extension of existing quarry at Carmean Quarry, Carmean Lane, Moneymore for Northstone Materials**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor McKinney  
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

**Resolved:** That planning application LA09/2016/1241/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**LA09/2016/1246/F Winning and working of minerals (sand and gravel) with restoration to agricultural lands at land W of 53 Knockalerry Road, Cookstown for Mr Wilbert Patterson**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor Glasgow  
Seconded by Councillor Reid and

Mr Marrion (SPO) referred to addendum and advised that the address on the planning agenda was incorrect (Knockaleery Road) but was correct on the application and was correctly advertised. He advised that the EHO response was to have conditions attached.

**Resolved:** That planning application LA09/2016/1246/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**LA09/2016/1590/F Store for existing moulds and vehicle parts at 15 Cullenfad Road, Dungannon for Mr Ivan McKeown**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor Cuthbertson

Seconded by Councillor Reid and

**Resolved:** That planning application LA09/2016/1590/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**LA09/2016/1624/O Dwelling and garage on a farm at lands to the rear of 215-217 Washingbay Road, Coalisland for B Donnelly**

Mr Marrion (SPO) presented a report on planning application LA09/2016/1624/O advising that it was recommended for refusal.

Proposed by Councillor Gildernew

Seconded by Councillor McKinney and

**Resolved:** That planning application LA09/2016/1624/O be refused on grounds stated in the officer's report.

**LA09/2016/1795/F One and a half storey domestic garage at 31 Tullycall Road, Cookstown for Philip Thom**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor Reid

Seconded by Councillor Bateson and

**Resolved:** That planning application LA09/2016/1795/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**LA09/2017/0118/O Dwelling (amended access detail) between 18 and 20 Brackagh Road, Moneymore for Mr & Mrs P Cassidy**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor Kearney

Seconded by Councillor Reid and

**Resolved:** That planning application LA09/2017/0118/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**LA09/2017/0154/F Dwelling on a farm at 120m SE of 48 Stiloga Road, Eglish, Dungannon for PJ and Mikila McGee**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.



Proposed by Councillor McKinney  
Seconded by Councillor Gildernew and

**Resolved:** That planning application LA09/2017/0154/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**LA09/2017/0180/F New car dealership building, incorporating two new vehicle showrooms, workshop, valet shop sales and administration space; external car parking facilities an associated landscaping works and external car sales provision at lands immediately SE and adjacent to 59 Moy Road, Dungannon for Donnelly Bros**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Mr Marrion (SPO) drew members attention to circulated addendum from Roads Service advising of additional conditions for inclusion.

Proposed by Councillor Reid  
Seconded by Councillor Gildernew and

**Resolved:** That planning application LA09/2017/0180/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**LA09/2017/0231/O Dwelling and garage/store on a farm at 55m NW of 132 Glen Road, Maghera for Mr Jethro Selfridge**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor McKinney  
Seconded by Councillor J Shiels and

**Resolved:** That planning application LA09/2017/0231/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**LA09/2017/0272/F A single wind turbine of up to 2.3 megawatt power output with a maximum overall base blade to tip height of 92.5 metres. Ancillary developments will comprise turbine transformer; turbine hardstand, site entrance with sight line provision; 1 no. electrical control kiosk, construction of new access track; communications antenna; underground electrical cables and communication lines connecting wind turbine to electrical control kiosk; on-site drainage works; temporary site compound; and all ancillary and associated works at Beltonanean Mountain (renewal of I/2012/0211/F) for Graham Bell**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Councillor Glasgow proposed to accept the recommendation of the Case Officer.

Ms Doyle (SPO) went through the report and advised that this application was a renewal (I/2010/0211/F) of a full planning for a single wind turbine of up to 2.3 megawatt power output with a maximum overall base blade to tip height of 92.5 metres. Ancillary developments would comprise turbine transformer; turbine hardstand, site entrance with sight line provision; 1 no. electrical control kiosk, construction of new access track; communications antenna; underground electrical cables and communication lines connecting wind turbine to electrical control kiosk; onsite drainage works; temporary site compound; and all ancillary and associated works at Beltonanean Mountain.

She advised that the site was located in the townland of Beltonanean, 9km north west of Cookstown on Beltonanean Mountain (at 296m elevation) immediately north of Corvanaghan Mountain. In the immediate environs, the site was accessed off Beltonanean Road on rising ground close to old derelict farm buildings and some sheds with some mature trees and hedges. A 60m met mast was already located close to the site of the proposed turbine. The turbine was located on the lower slopes of this upland area which includes Beltonanean Mountain, Corvanaghan, Oughtmore and Evishbrack Mountain. To the north and east beyond lies the main body of the Sperrins AONB and the site lies metres just within that designated landscape. A quarry and associated buildings, plant and machinery was located immediately south of the site on Corvanaghan Road.

Ms Doyle advised that any development than generates energy from renewable resources would be permitted where the proposal and any associated buildings and infrastructure, would not result in any unacceptable adverse impact on the following planning consideration:

- Public safety, human health or residential amenity
- Visual amenity and landscape character
- Biodiversity, nature conservation or built heritage interests
- Local nature resources, such as air quality, water quality/quantity
- Public access to the countryside.

Ms Doyle stated that a third party objection had been received which raised the following concerns and what her views were on the matter:

- 1) **Previous conditions be attached to this permission should permission be granted – a reasonable request should permission be granted.**
- 2) **That the new assessment takes account of the AONB and a cautious approach being adopted – this has already been addressed**
- 3) **That the light at the tip of the turbine having detrimental impact on the Dark Sky status that the area is trying to establish – no other evidence to prove that Dark Sky status would not be achieved should the light be attached to the turbine for safety measures.**

She advised that the statutory agencies including NIEA, Roads Service and Telecommunications/Television/Aircraft Traffic had no concerns in terms of potential impacts and would be happy to recommend planning permission subject to conditions adhered too.

Councillor Bell said that listening to the officer's report and given the sensitivities around the Dark Skies and other similar projects within that area and taking into consideration the slight changes in protocol from the original planning application, he would be requesting that a site meeting be held.

Councillor Clarke agreed with Councillor Bell's sentiments and agreed that there could be issues around the Dark Sky project as what is visible to the naked eye for night photography could be detrimental due to red dots everywhere.

The Planning Manager advised said that he would have no issue with agreeing to a site meeting as this could determine a way forward on new proposals similar to this one coming forward.

Councillor Reid raised the following questions with the Planning Manager:

- i) Was there no site meeting prior to this application.
- ii) Was there any information received
- iii) If the Planning Manager wasn't 100% happy at any point why was approval granted in the first instance

The Planning Manager stated that approval was granted previously, this does not mean we have agree or disagree with that proposal, however it was a matter of fact that an approval was granted and that account must be taken of it in considering this application. He said that if the members decide to visit the site, this may have additional benefits to the consideration of this application, as it could assist in understanding existing policy and the implications of policy changes in a new Local Development Plan.

He said that the report was the view of the Case Officer which was assigned to the planning application which doesn't necessarily mean that it's the view of everyone else within the Planning Department or indeed the Council. In the terms of the Dark Sky project and the impact of safety regarding aircraft, options should be investigated like infra-red lights which could be picked up by the aircraft.

Councillor Glasgow advised that he would be happy to withdraw his proposal in favour of a site meeting being held.

Proposed by Councillor Bell  
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

**Resolved:** That planning application LA09/2017/0272/F be deferred for a site meeting.

**LA09/2017/0322/O Site for 2 infill dwellings and garages 50m NW of 25 Aughagranna Road, Stewartstown for Brian McCuskey**

Mr Marrion (SPO) presented a report on planning application LA09/2017/0322/O advising that it was recommended for refusal.

Councillor Reid referred to the two existing properties and site on the map and asked if all the three properties were passed and sitting back behind, would this be classed as a ribbon development.

Mr Marrion (SPO) advised that as this property had access to the road and are all visually linked, to get access there would need to be a hedge and a view along the road.

Councillor Clarke stated that sometimes that this can't be achieved as a hedge may be hiding a building and enquired if there was another dwelling across the road from the proposed site.

The Planning Manager said that by looking at the aerial photo it looks like a large gap.

Councillor Gildernew stated that not taking the one across the road, the site looks as large as whole field and there was a need to take this into consideration.

Proposed by Councillor McKinney  
Seconded by Councillor Cuthbertson and

**Resolved:** That planning application LA09/2017/0322/O be refused on grounds stated in the officer's report.

**LA09/2017/0336/F Dwelling and detached garage (in substitution for approved LA09/2017/1585/O) at approx. 70m NW of 31 Rhone Road, Moy for Matthew Hughes**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor McAleer  
Seconded by Councillor Gildernew and

**Resolved:** That planning application LA09/2017/0336/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**LA09/2017/0380/O Site for dwelling in a gap site 80m S of 31 Gortnaskey Road, Draperstown for Oonagh Barrett**

Ms Doyle (SPO) presented a report on planning application LA09/2017/0380/O advising that it was recommended for refusal.

Councillor Bell stated that this committee had previously passed gap sites like this one at No. 31. He said that the size of the frontage on the bend and the property to the south of the site that you could fit another 2 houses into the area. He said that he would be sympathetic towards the applicant in this instance and given that other applications similar to this one had been passed, he would propose an office meeting to get clarity.

Proposed by Councillor Bell

Seconded by Councillor Clarke

To defer for an office meeting.

The Planning Manager advised that this application differs from the previous as looking at the map the 2 houses have their own frontage to the road and a separate detached garage is evident creating 3 or more buildings. An office meeting and an Officer's second opinion.

Councillor Cuthbertson recommended refusing the application as he stated that if the applicant or agent were concerned they would have been here tonight to try and convince the committee to overturn the recommendation of refusal.

Proposed by Councillor Cuthbertson  
Seconded by Councillor J Shiels

To refuse the application.

The Chair advised that all members of the committee should have their opinion taken into consideration and if the majority of members were recommending an office meeting then this should be considered.

Councillor McKinney said that he would be happy to second Councillor Bell's proposal of having a site meeting as it would clarify things.

Councillor B McGuigan was in attendance and the Chair invited him to address the committee.

Councillor B McGuigan advised that he had spoken to the Architects this morning and that they agreed that there were issues around this application and would be happy if the committee would be in agreement to defer for an office meeting so this can be an opportunity to discuss a potential way forward or whether this was an appropriate site.

The Planning Manager agreed that this was a fair request and advised that looking at the aerial photo that the gap looks very big compared to the plan behind and would be good to get an accurate view.

Councillor J Shiels said that he would be happy to second Councillor Cuthbertson's recommendation for refusal.

Members voted on Councillor Bell's proposal to defer planning application LA09/2017/0380/O for an office meeting.

For - 11  
Against - 2

Members voted on Councillor Cuthbertson's proposal to refuse planning application LA09/2017/0380/O.

For - 2  
Against - 11

**Resolved:** That planning application planning application LA09/2017/0380/O be deferred for an office meeting.

**LA09/2017/0385/F Retention of existing 14m lattice tower and security compound with new concrete base and transmission cabin at Slieve Gallion, Tullynagee Road, Moneymore for Go Fibre Limited**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor Clarke  
Seconded by Councillor McKinney and

**Resolved:** That planning application LA09/2017/0385/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**LA09/2017/0576/F Clean rainwater harvested attenuation lagoon, culvert (access) and ancillary site works associated with approved and under construction In Vessell Composting Facility at lands approx.. 215m E of 17 Aghnagar Road**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor McKinney  
Seconded by Councillor Reid and

**Resolved:** That planning application LA09/2017/0576/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**LA09/2017/0655/F Health and beauty salon at 48A Milltown Street, Dungannon for Leah Cuddy**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor McKinney  
Seconded by Councillor Reid and

**Resolved:** That planning application LA09/2017/0655/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**LA09/2017/0827/O Dwelling and garage 50m E of 37 Kilrea Road, Portglenone for Richard Lowry**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor Kearney  
Seconded by Councillor Glasgow and

**Resolved:** That planning application LA09/2017/0827/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**LA09/2017/0893/F Domestic shed at 47 Annaghquinn Road, Rock, Dungannon for Kevin McGeehan**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor Bell  
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

**Resolved:** That planning application LA09/2017/0893/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**LA09/2015/1239/F Removal and alteration of conditions 2, 3 and 6 of previous approval H/2007/0546/F in relation to noise and operating hours, at Creagh Industrial Estate, Blackpark Road, for Creagh Concrete Products Ltd**

*Councillor McKinney declared an interest in application LA09/2015/1239/F.*

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Councillor Reid proposed to accept the recommendation of approval.

Ms Doyle (SPO) brought members through the report and advised the description was to amend the proposal for the removal and alteration of conditions 2, 3 and 6 of previous approval H/2007/0546/F relating to noise and operating hours. She advised that 4 local objections had been received to the proposed alteration of opening hours which were previously approved under H/2007/0546/F which were 7.30 am to 7.00 pm Monday to Friday and 7.30 am to 3.00 pm on a Saturday. She said that in effect this permission would permit the operation of building TF1 2½ hours earlier Monday to Saturday and closing 3 hours later Monday to Friday. When the application previously came before the Committee it proposed the alteration to Condition 6 of the earlier permission only to ensure resident's amenity was not adversely affected.

Ms Doyle (SPO) continued to state that after considering all conditions relating to the site which was imposed under application H/2007/0546/F, and to regularise the overall situation relating to building TF1, it seems more appropriate to include conditions 2 and 3 which would read:

- Condition 2: i) Internal noise within the buildings permitted by this permission; and  
ii) External noise levels at 1m from all facades and roofs of the buildings permitted by this permission

Planning Service shall be advised in writing of the date of the noise survey at least 2 weeks prior to the event, to enable Planning Service Officer's or Officers from

Planning Service's consultees to witness the measurements. This is to ensure resident's amenity is not adversely affected.

Condition 3: If the noise levels presented within the report required by condition 2, exceed those levels inputted into the noise prediction model contained within the noise report entitles 'Noise Impact Assessment Report for the Proposed New Buildings on the Creagh Concrete Site November 2007' then further works to reduce noise levels until they do not exceed those levels inputted into the noise prediction model shall be undertaken within a time frame specified by Planning Service. Within one month of the completion of further works, a noise survey shall be completed as per condition 2. This is to ensure resident's amenity is not adversely affected.

She advised that full revised noise reports had been submitted to address this proposal (and other related applications for Creagh). The findings have been accepted by EHO of Mid Ulster Council subject to conditions. The Acoustic Consultant for Creagh had utilised noise modelling software to calculate, present, access and predict the environmental noise from the proposed application on the nearest residential properties. The model conclusions demonstrate that noise levels at the nearest noise sensitive receptors are compliant with BS 4142:2014, based on a number of assumptions, there should be no adverse noise impacts predicted at receiver locations.

The Planning Manager referred to the objection letter from Mr & Mrs Mulholland which had been read out and said that it was important to consider this carefully. He said that the letter claimed wrong doing in that the recommendation to approve was made prior to the formal response of the Environmental Health Officer. However prior to asking for a formal response on the EPIC system, the Head of Development Management had verbally liaised with Environmental Health Officers beforehand. He continued to say that it wasn't normal practice to liaise with Objectors over consultee responses and would be content that the Objectors view that the application should be refused had been considered.

Councillor Glasgow stated that this application had been in the pipeline for a long time and that he had every faith that the Planning Department had considered all the aspects of the case carefully and with that in mind would be also recommending approval of the application.

**Resolved:** That planning application LA09/2015/1239/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**LA09/2016/0693/F Detached shed for winter storage of caravan and general domestic use at 239 Ballygawley Road, Dungannon for Martin McCaul**

*Councillor McAleer declared an interest in item LA09/2016/0693/F.*

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.



Proposed by Councillor Gildernew  
Seconded by Councillor Kearney and

**Resolved:** That planning application LA09/2016/0693/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**LA09/2016/0797/F Retrospective change of use to car sales yard (including front garden changing to hardstanding car display) and tyre/alloy wheels sales at 53 and 53a Ballyronan Road, Magherafelt for Top Gear NI**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

The Chair advised the committee that a request to speak on the application had been received from Mr Taggart who wished to change one of the conditions on the application and invited him to address the committee.

Mr Taggart advised that he was in attendance tonight to try and change the conditions for operating hours for his car dealership business.

The Planning Manager advised in that instance that this would need to be deferred for an office meeting.

Mr Taggart said that he would like to request that the condition on operating hours be enhanced in line with other car dealerships. He advised that the anticipated operating hours would be 8am – 8pm, two evenings a week instead of 8am – 6pm. He said that this would have no impact on residents within the area.

The Planning Manager stated that the conditions was to protect the residents within the area from nuisance in the evening time.

Mr Taggart advised that in the past it was a tyre depot and didn't want to defer the application but rather than move it forward.

Councillor Bell asked if it was possible to approve the condition of having two nights a week only and no more.

The Planning Manager said that he could see issues relating to this as the site was behind residential dwellings and this could cause annoyance, and impact on resident's privacy.

He said that it may be useful for the Case Officer to go through the report and enlighten the committee again.

Ms Doyle (SPO) brought members through the report.

The Planning Manager said that in his view that this was in operation and felt that one month would make no difference to the applicant if the application was differed for one month until clarification had been sought on the proposal.

Proposed by Councillor McKinney  
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

**Resolved:** That planning application LA09/2016/0797/F be deferred for one month until all issues were investigated.

**LA09/2016/0965/O Dwelling and garage at lands between 103 Killymeal Road and 7 Edendork Road, Dungannon for Mr Rodger Jones**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor Gildernew  
Seconded by Councillor Reid and

**Resolved:** That planning application LA09/2016/0965/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**LA09/2016/1300/O New dwelling at site 20m NE of 49 Brough Road and adj to Brough Road Crossroads, Castledawson for Mr Cathal McOscar**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor McEldowney  
Seconded by Councillor Bell and

**Resolved:** That planning application LA09/2016/1300/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

*The Chair advised that item LA09/2016/1307/F would be taken later in the meeting.*

**LA09/2017/0367/O Dwelling at 51 Drum Road, Cookstown for Mr and Mrs Glackin**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor Glasgow  
Seconded by Councillor McKinney and

**Resolved:** That planning application LA09/2017/0367/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

***Meeting recessed at 7.55 pm and recommenced at 8.15 pm.***

**P121/17          Removal of Public Payphone at Cavan Road, Bush, Dungannon**

The Chair referred to Addendum item 12 – Removal of Kiosk at Cavan Road, Bush.

The Planning Manager advised that a response had to be issued to BT and would be advising of the community concerns for its removal. He said that he would be asking the committee for approval for an Officer to formally issue a response.

The Chair advised that the residents of Rock requested that their telephone kiosk remain in the village as a conservation piece and may be worth considering the same in the Bush.

Councillor Cuthbertson advised that within the procedure of the Local Authority it states that if residents request that the telephone kiosk remain, BT haven't the authority to remove it. He said that local residents of Bush would be happy for the kiosk to remain as a centrepiece within the Village, but it may be worth taking into consideration the elderly residents in all of this and the possible use of an operational public payphone.

Councillor Clarke said that he knew of one village phone box which was removed after being hit by a car and it was never reinstated by BT.

The Planning Manager stated that there was a need to develop a process on a way forward on the removal of the phone boxes within our communities and he would suggest compiling a report which would be brought back to committee with a view of setting a system in place.

Councillor Kearney said that in some rural communities a public payphone could be a lifeline to some people when trying to contact the Emergency Services.

**Resolved:** That a response be issued to BT on concerns raised by members on the probable removal of public payphone at Cavan Road, Bush, Dungannon

**LA09/2016/1307/F Construction of motorsport racetrack to include: ancillary buildings (pit garages/hospitality/media centre/press area; medical centre; shower block; crèche; mission hall; and restaurant area & spectator gallery); associated car parking; landscaping; acoustic banking; sound barriers; associated site works; relocated recycling area; internal loop road; and public link road between Dungannon Road and Derry Road with access points on Derry Road (2 No.) and Dungannon Road (1 No.) at Clay Pits, Dungannon Road, Coalisland for Manna Developments**

*Councillor Reid declared an interest in application LA09/2016/1307/F.*

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

The Planning Manager advised that the complex in Coalisland should not be just looked upon as a racetrack as there were more issues to take into consideration for example wildlife, transportation, amenity, public safety etc. He said that from the report it shows how each of the issues were not considered fatal to the application and could be dealt with by negative conditions. Each has been worked through, e.g. conditions relating to a new road and the link around the back of Coalisland. He said that Roads Service had accepted to treat this accordingly as this wasn't a housing development and were happy in principle. There were issues around race days as a lot of people would be coming to Mid Ulster and provision would be needed for parking and busing people to the site, which again was to be dealt with within the conditions.

He advised that the noise was the key potential impact and that noise levels was best controlled by limiting the number of event days and restricting vehicle use on non-event days through condition.

Another key issue related to land stability from possible old mines under the site. A view had been taken that as this was a predominantly open space use and that a risk could be mitigated against through use of pre commencement conditions requiring further investigation and engineering or design proposals to overcome any risks.

The Planning Manager stated that he was unhappy about consultations with GSNi and their response regarding mineshafts within the area, and the lack of evidence to whether they were present and whether they posed a major risk. Although GSNi have raised this concern they wouldn't commit to saying that they would be in favour of refusing the application. Investigations have been carried out by the applicant to see if mineshafts were there but the consultants conclusions had not been accepted.

*Councillor J Shiels left the meeting at 8.25 pm.*

The Planning Manager stated that he had received a phone call from the Department regarding Geological Survey stating that they were unhappy to support the proposal because they did not feel they had sufficient information to assess whether there was a risk from the mineshafts.

He read a letter dated 25<sup>th</sup> August 2017 from Geological Survey section outlining their concerns to the proposal. He said that the letter was conflicting as it said two different things and they had every opportunity to object but wouldn't commit to using the word.

Councillor Cuthbertson enquired if the Department could still call the application in if a decision was made tonight.

The Planning Manager stated that the application could be called in at any time prior to a decision being issued and the Department can serve a directive on the Council not to issue a decision. They also have powers to revoke a decision. However, in

his view there was no duty to notify the Department of the application under the provisions of Department of the Environment Planning (General Development Procedure) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015 Planning (Notification of Applications) Direction 2015, which was read out to the committee.

The Council Solicitor advised that the interpretation of the letter was that the proposal indicated a risk and her preference would be to defer the application until the requested information was issued to the Department. She said that she would err on the side of caution as she didn't want it said that proper procedures weren't adhered to.

The Chair advised the committee that a request to speak on the application had been received and invited Mr Maneely to address the committee.

Mr Maneely said that he wanted to thank the Planning Department for going the extra mile on this application. He said that he wasn't expecting this outcome tonight as approximately eight weeks ago, the same thing had been discussed. He said that the letter read out by the Planning Manager was incorrect as Engineers were sent out to investigate the site which was passed and this was then issued to GSNI which they chose to ignore. He continued to say that there was a duty of care as professionals as this was a 140 acre site. He said that this wasn't a principle problem but an Engineering problem and was aware of mineshafts within the area which the Council built its refuge site on and no fatalities had occurred for over 100 years which should tell you something.

Councillor Reid addressed the meeting and advised earlier that he had declared an interest in the application and when he first seen the proposal, he was very excited as it was a massive thing for the Mid Ulster Area which was brought about by one individual man who decided to invest in his own homeland.

Mr Maneely said that the majority of Coalisland and Edendork were sitting on mineshafts and if there was something suspicious about this, that he wouldn't be happy to proceed if things weren't right, but that he was confident it was and on that basis he would be happy to defer the application until everything was in place as he wanted to see this major investment proceeding.

The Chair said that the committee needed to decide on whether to defer the application until the conditions outlined by GSNI were investigated or proceed with the recommendation of the Officer.

Councillor Clarke said that looking carefully at the start of the letter issued by GSNI where they suggested that they have all the relevant information on mines within the area, then they should be the ones who should be advising on how to get around this obstacle. The GSNI should be in a position to start where the information was on the mines and as there were a lot of complications on this one with little effort to try and resolve the matter.

Councillor Bateson felt that only the logical conditions needed to be established and try and work these off and proposed to proceed with the application otherwise it would remain a mystery.

Councillor Glasgow stated that if GSNi were so against the application then why were they not here tonight as villages weren't supposed to be built on mineshafts in the first instance. He said that he agreed with Councillor Clarke in considering such a huge project, why was the relevant information not provided and would second Councillor Bateson's proposal to agree to the recommendation of approval as outlined tonight.

Councillor Kearney also agreed that if GSNi were so concerned about the application, they would have made an effort to be in attendance tonight to highlight their concerns.

The Planning Manager advised that GSNi were aware that the application was recommended for permission subject to conditions relating to land stability and had waited until now to raise concerns and when he asked them if they wished to formally object to the application they didn't commit to a reaction.

Councillor Bell felt that the Statutory Agencies should be held liable if they were withholding information.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated that the conditions were fairly strong and he would be confident that they would be protected by the Council. He said that last month if this application was approved, then the Department could have called it in and asked if a decision was made tonight, could the Department step in and put the project at risk as this could go on for years.

Councillor Bateson said that the only way to establish the implementation of the conditions would be to eliminate them as this site could remain the same for the next 100 years if not being established now.

Councillor Glasgow stated that the conditions were as tight as he had ever seen before for such huge investment and if the conditions were not adhered to then a lot of money would be lost. He said that he felt that this committee had to make a decision to proceed with this project and make a stand against the Statutory Agency.

Councillor Gildernew said that he would also be happy to accept the recommendation of approval of the application.

Councillor Robinson referred to the Council Solicitor's recommendation of using an err of caution and enquired if this should be taken into consideration by the committee.

Councillor Bateson stated that there was an element of risk on any application and based on the information provided, strict conditions are in place and once an established risk was identified then this can be addressed.

The Planning Manager stated that GSNi haven't formally objected to the application.

The Council Solicitor advised that her problem was that the letter was open to interpretation.

The Planning Manager said that there was a need by the committee to make a decision given the applicant had asked for one, the alternative was therefore to approve with condition or refuse based on lack of information.

The Council Solicitor stated that there was a lot involved but that GSNI have asked for information and would go down the route of deferring the application until all the relevant information was generated, and would still be of the opinion that an err of caution be made.

Proposed by Councillor Bateson  
Seconded by Councillor Glasgow

**Resolved:** That planning application LA09/2016/1307/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

### **Matters for Information**

#### **P122/17 Minutes of Planning Committee held on Tuesday 1 August 2017**

Members noted minutes of Planning Committee held on Tuesday 1 August 2017.

### **Local Government (NI) Act 2014 – Confidential Business**

Proposed by Councillor Clarke  
Seconded by Councillor Robinson 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 P123/17 to P128/17.

#### **Matters for Decision**

P123/17 Receive 3 no. Enforcement Cases

#### **Matters for Information**

P124/17 Confidential Minutes of Planning Committee held on Tuesday 1 August 2017

P125/17 Enforcement Live Caseload

P126/17 Enforcement Cases Opened

P127/17 Enforcement Cases Closed

Councillor McKinney requested that at the next meeting that fresh water be provided.

#### **P128/17 Duration of Meeting**

The meeting was called for 7.00 pm and ended at 9.40 pm.

Chair \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



**Minutes of Meeting of Policy and Resources Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 7 September 2017 in the Council Offices, Burn Road, Cookstown**

**Members Present**

Councillor Molloy, Chair

Councillors Ashton, Buchanan, Cuddy, Doris, Elattar, Forde, Gildernew, Kearney, S McGuigan, McKinney, McLean, McPeake, M Quinn, Totten

**Officers in Attendance**

Mr A Tohill, Chief Executive  
Mr Cassells, Director of Environment and Property  
Mrs Dyson, Head of HR  
Mr Kelso, Director of Public Health and Infrastructure  
Mrs Kerr, Head of Finance  
Mr Moffett, Head of Democratic Services  
Mr O'Hagan, Head of ICT  
Mr JJ Tohill, Director of Finance  
Miss Thompson, Committee Services Officer

The meeting commenced at 7.01 pm.

**PR154/17 Apologies**

Councillor Bateson and Director of Organisational Development.

**PR155/17 Declaration of Interest**

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

**PR156/17 Chair's Business**

The Chair acknowledged the recent death of staff member, Mr Gerry McIntosh who was a Monitoring Officer within Environment and Property Division and conveyed the condolences of the Committee to his family.

**Matters for Decision**

**PR157/17 Corporate Plan 2017-2019**

The Chief Executive presented previously circulated report which provided details on the outcome of the review of Council's Corporate Plan 2015-2019.

Proposed by Councillor McPeake  
Seconded by Councillor M Quinn and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to approve the draft Council Corporate Plan 2017-2019.

**PR158/17 ICT Security Policy**

The Head of ICT presented previously circulated report which sought the approval of an ICT Security Policy for Mid Ulster District Council.

Councillor S McGuigan asked if having more people involved in ICT security makes data and systems more or less secure.

The Head of ICT advised that having security controls and good practices in place as part of this policy helps to mitigate risk.

In response to Councillor Cuddy's question the Head of ICT advised that legacy Councils did have similar policies in place but that it was important for Mid Ulster Council to have one policy going forward.

In response to Councillor Kearney's question the Head of ICT advised that Members would be invited to awareness sessions on ICT policy.

Proposed by Councillor McLean  
Seconded by Councillor Buchanan and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to approve the adoption of ICT Security Policy for Mid Ulster District Council.

**PR159/17 CCTV Policy**

The Head of ICT presented previously circulated report which sought the approval of a CCTV Policy for Mid Ulster District Council.

Councillor Ashton sought clarification on the different timeframes stated within the policy.

The Head of ICT advised that there was a statutory requirement for Council to provide a subject access response such as CCTV images within 40 days. The policy sets out the typical image retention period for footage at 31 days depending on the age and capacity of the equipment installed at each site.

Councillor Ashton asked how Council could respond as there may be some instances when a request is made to view data but images have been deleted.

The Head of ICT advised that Council is under no statutory obligation to keep images for longer than 31 days and that the Council would respond that the data is not held if images had been overwritten.

The Chief Executive advised that when requests are received in a timely fashion then they should be responded to appropriately.

Councillor Gildernew advised of previous instances in Dungannon town centre, one of which was a murder, and that there were never any CCTV images that could be used.

In response to Councillor S McGuigan the Head of ICT advised that systems used would enhance public safety in town centres and help to protect council assets. The Head of ICT advised that resources were not available to provide cover for every inch and that invariably coverage can be missed. The Head of ICT also referred to new CCTV tender being deployed.

Councillor S McGuigan referred to area of anti social behaviour in legacy Dungannon Council and advised that images were unable to be viewed as a camera covering the area had not been in operation for 3 years but that Council had still been paying maintenance on the camera.

Councillor Cuddy asked if individuals can request to view CCTV images or if it is only the Police that can view these images. The Councillor asked if it was known that shop lifters were operating in an area if CCTV images can be accessed quickly. Councillor Cuddy asked if this policy was similar to that of other Councils.

The Head of ICT advised that CCTV policies across the other 10 Councils are broadly similar, he stated that both individuals and Police can request to view CCTV images and that this would be dealt with within ICO guidelines. The Head of ICT advised that if it is brought to attention that shop lifters are operating in an area then tracking may possibly take place dependent on the town centre installations managed by the PCSP Manager.

Proposed by Councillor M Quinn  
Seconded by Councillor Kearney and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to approve the adoption of CCTV Policy for Mid Ulster District Council.

#### **PR160/17 Non-Smoking and Non-Vaping Policy**

The Head of Democratic Services presented previously circulated report which sought the approval of a Non-Smoking and Non-Vaping Policy.

Proposed by Councillor McLean  
Seconded the Councillor McKinney and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to approve the adoption of Non-Smoking and Non-Vaping Policy for Mid Ulster District Council.

## **Matters for Information**

### **PR161/17 Minutes of Policy and Resources Committee held on Thursday 6 July 2017**

Members noted minutes of Policy and Resources Committee held on Thursday 6 July 2017.

### **PR162/17 Interpretation Services at Receptions**

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on the provision of interpretation services requirements at receptions at Council facilities and civic buildings.

### **PR163/17 Member Services**

No issues.

## **Local Government (NI) Act 2014 - Confidential Business**

Proposed by Councillor M Quinn  
Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan 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 PR164/17 to PR172/17.

### **Matters for Decision**

PR164/17 Off Street Car Parking: Debt Write Off  
PR165/17 Capital Programme – Resource Allocation  
PR166/17 Contracts and DAC  
PR167/17 Financial report for four months ended 31 July 2017  
PR168/17 Review of Draft Financial Statements for 2016/17  
PR169/17 Disciplinary Procedure for Mid Ulster District Council  
PR170/17 Staffing Matters

### **Matters for Information**

PR171/17 Confidential Minutes of Policy and Resources Committee held on Thursday 6 July 2017  
PR172/17 Staffing Matters

### **PR173/17 Duration of Meeting**

The meeting was called for 7 pm and ended at 8.13 pm.

CHAIR \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_



**Minutes of Meeting of Environment Committee of Mid Ulster District Council  
held on Tuesday 12 September 2017 in Council Offices, Burn Road, Cookstown**

**Members Present**

Councillor McGinley, Chair

Councillors Buchanan, Burton (7.12 pm), Cuthbertson, Gillespie, Glasgow, Kearney, McFlynn, B McGuigan, S McGuigan, McNamee, Mulligan, O'Neill, M Quinn, Reid, Totten

**Officers in  
Attendance**

Mr Cassells, Director of Environment and Property  
Mr Kelso, Director of Public Health and Infrastructure  
Mr Lowry, Head of Technical Services  
Mr McAdoo, Head of Environmental Services  
Mrs McClements, Head of Environmental Health  
Mr Scullion, Head of Property Services  
Mr Wilkinson, Head of Building Control  
Miss Thompson, Committee Services Officer

The meeting commenced at 7.01 pm

**E199/17      Apologies**

None.

**E200/17      Declarations of Interest**

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

Councillor McFlynn declared an interest in Agewell.

**E201/17      Chair's Business**

The Chair referred to previous discussions regarding Traveller issues and asked for an update in relation to this.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that meetings had taken place with NIHE over the summer months and that a report would be brought to the next committee meeting on this matter.

Councillor Reid referred to anti social behaviour taking place at playing field car park at Knockloughrim and asked if it was possible that the car park could be locked.

The Director of Environment and Property agreed to look into the Councillor's request.

## **Matters for Decision**

### **E202/17      Bus Shelters**

The Head of Technical Services presented previously circulated report which provided update on the application process of bus shelters that have been requested at various locations throughout the District. The Head of Technical Services advised that a meeting was scheduled with Transport NI for tomorrow to discuss bus shelters.

The Chair, Councillor McGinley stated that some of the proposed bus shelters were on the agenda for a long time and that people were becoming frustrated at the process and the lack of progress being made. The Chair asked that the Head of Technical Services stress to Transport NI the unsatisfactory way in which it is dealing with requests for bus shelters.

Councillor Buchanan advised he had requested a bus shelter at Tullyhogue and asked for an update on this.

The Head of Technical Services advised he would come back to the Councillor regarding this request.

Councillor Mulligan referred to request for bus stop at Augher which had been on the agenda for around five years but no progress was being made.

The Head of Technical Services advised that it was hoped a resolution could be achieved for all bus shelters at the meeting scheduled with Transport NI.

Councillor Mulligan advised of bus shelter beside old Clogher School which is damaged and has become rusted and asked that some repair work be carried out on this bus shelter.

The Head of Technical Services referred this repair work to Head of Property Services.

Councillor M Quinn asked if it was possible for Transport NI to advise where bus shelters can be located.

The Head of Technical Services advised this was one of the purposes of tomorrow's meeting with Transport NI and that he would reiterate Member's concerns.

Councillor O'Neill asked for site meetings to be held with Members and Transport NI to discuss siting of bus shelters.

The Head of Technical Services stated that this request would be put forward.

The Chair, Councillor McGinley asked that design of bus shelters also be included in next report coming to committee.

Proposed by Councillor Glasgow



Seconded by Councillor Kearney and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to approve the proposed erection of a bus shelter at Killeenan Road, Cookstown pending completion of stages 6, 7 and 8.

**E203/17 Code of Practice for management of Houses in Multiple Occupation**

The Head of Environmental Health presented previously circulated report which provided Council response to the Department for Communities (Housing Division) in relation to their proposed Code of Practice for management of Houses in Multiple Occupation.

Proposed by Councillor S McGuigan  
Seconded by Councillor Cuthbertson and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to respond to the proposed Code of Practice for management of Houses in Multiple Occupation with commentary as circulated with report.

*Councillor Burton entered the meeting at 7.12 pm.*

**E204/17 The Food Standards Agency's consultation on The Food Hygiene (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2017**

The Head of Environmental Health presented previously circulated report which provided Council response to the Food Standards Agency's Consultation on The Food Hygiene (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2017.

Proposed by Councillor Gillespie  
Seconded by Councillor Mulligan and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to respond to the Food Standards Agency's consultation on The Food Hygiene (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2017 as outlined within report previously circulated.

**E205/17 Consultation Paper – Transposition of the Medium Combustion Plant Directive including the regulation of thermal electricity generators**

The Head of Environmental Health presented previously circulated report which provided Council response to consultation on proposals designed to reduce emissions of harmful air pollutants from medium sized combustion plants and generators in Northern Ireland.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that the Directive may apply to Council plant of 1-5MW from 2029.

Proposed by Councillor B McGuigan

Seconded by Councillor M Quinn and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to respond to the consultation on Transposition of the Medium Combustion Plant Directive including the regulation of thermal electricity generators as outlined within report previously circulated.

**E206/17 Ageing Well proposal**

*Councillors Burton and McFlynn declared an interest in this item.*

The Head of Environmental Health presented previously circulated report which provided update on progress with the Ageing Well Initiative as part of Community Planning and sought approval for the development of a robust tender process for its future delivery.

*Councillor Reid declared an interest in this item.*

The Chair, Councillor McGinley referred to tender specification including outcome based accountability approach, he felt that not all Members may be fully aware of outcome based accountability and that a presentation on this may be useful.

The Head of Environmental Health advised that the Ageing Well initiative would be driven by the impacts being made in the community with a focus on the quality of engagement.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that a presentation on outcome based accountability could be brought when a further report comes to committee on the proposed delivery of the initiative.

Councillor Burton stated that the Agewell initiative had been a success for Council and that it was assisting vulnerable people in the community and making a positive impact on people's lives. Councillor Burton felt that service providers can often prepare a good tender but that the reality can be very different and asked how Council can ensure it will get the best service.

The Head of Environmental Health advised that the purpose of the proposal to procure external expertise was to ensure that Council gets the outcome it wants.

Councillor Burton asked if someone from outside Mid Ulster can submit a tender.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that Council would have to follow procurement processes in relation to the tender.

Councillor McFlynn advised that she sat on Agewell Partnership and was aware of the excellent work being done in the community by the Partnership. The Councillor referred to the ageing population within Mid Ulster and the need for this type of service to continue.

Proposed by Councillor McFlynn  
Seconded by Councillor Reid and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to note the Community Planning Ageing Well Framework and approve the procurement of external expertise to support the tender process for delivery of the Framework.

**E207/17 The Licensing (NI) Order 1996 – Renewal of Liquor Licences**

The Head of Building Control presented previously circulated report which advised of the Council's role in relation to the renewal of licences to sell alcohol from or on certain premises in accordance with the Licensing (NI) Order 1996.

Councillor Cuthbertson asked if PSNI would be taking the same approach with Liquor Licences as it had with Entertainment Licences.

The Head of Building Control advised that PSNI would reply directly to the Courts in respect of Liquor Licences. With regard to Entertainment Licences, it was advised that correspondence had been received from PSNI stating that it would be continuing with its generic response to object to premises seeking licences after 1 am. In addition, PSNI have stated that it does not see the merit in discussing individual cases and would not be attending committee meetings on this basis.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that legal opinion states that unless specific objections are received then Council cannot take account of generic objections.

The Chair, Councillor McGinley stated that the response from PSNI was unacceptable and that Council should still continue to write to PSNI on each application for licence after 1am.

*Councillor O'Neill declared an interest in The Central Bar, Coalisland listed within report - renewal applications received.*

Councillor Reid also felt that there would be a need for discussion with PSNI regarding some applications.

Councillor Kearney asked if PSNI issue a similar response to applications made in other Council areas.

The Head of Building Control advised that other Councils do not receive a similar blanket response.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Reid and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to agree the procedure as noted below for renewal of Liquor Licences:  
All applications received will have an acknowledgement letter returned to the applicant's solicitor with the following additions:

- a) Where there is a reasonable expectation that an entertainment licence may be in force (eg. public house, hotel) comment will be provided that such a licence is/ is not in force
- b) Where the premises are shops/ off licences a generic letter of no objection to the renewal will be returned
- c) Where it is known that legal/ enforcement action has been taken against a particular premises for relevant offences by the Council (such as noise nuisance, or entertainment licensing matters for example) brief details of this will be provided
- d) Where the premises is no longer in operation or business has been discontinued, comment on this will be provided.

## **E208/17      Street Naming and Property Numbering**

Members considered previously circulated report regarding the naming of new residential housing developments within Mid Ulster as follows –

Site off Maloon Manor, Cookstown

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Glasgow and

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council to name development off Maloon Manor, Cookstown as Maloon Crescent.

Site off Bush Road, Dungannon

Councillor Cuthbertson proposed the name Hillview Lane as there were another two developments with the name “Lisnaclin” nearby.

Councillor S McGuigan seconded Councillor Cuthbertson’s proposal.

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council to name development off Bush Road, Dungannon as Hillview Lane.

Site off Ballyheifer Road, Magherafelt

Proposed by Councillor B McGuigan  
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council to name development off Ballyheifer Road, Magherafelt as Bracken Bawn.

## **E209/17      Dual Language Signage Survey**

The Head of Building Control presented previously circulated report which advised on the result of a survey undertaken of all applicable residents on the street/road in response to a Dual Language Signage Nameplate request.

Councillor McNamee proposed the recommendation to erect Dual Language Nameplates in Irish at Beaghmore Road, Cookstown and asked how many requests were in progress.

The Head of Building Control advised that approximately twenty preliminary enquiries had been made with three formal requests being made as listed in report later on agenda and a further two requests in progress.

Councillor Cuthbertson referred to report and queried the statement contained therein that there were no financial implications to the erection of Dual Language Signage.

The Head of Building Control advised that the erection of Dual Language Signage was within financial resources.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated he did not believe the erection of Dual Language Signage was value for money for all the residents of Mid Ulster and proposed that residents along the street/road where it is has been requested to erect this signage should contribute to the cost of same and that failing this Council should not proceed.

Councillor S McGuigan seconded Councillor McNamee's proposal.

Councillor Buchanan seconded Councillor Cuthbertson's proposal.

Members voted on Councillor Cuthbertson's proposal – That residents along street/road where Dual Language Signage is to be erected should contribute to cost of same -

For – 3

Against – 10

Abstained – 3

Councillor Cuthbertson requested a recorded vote on his proposal –

For – 3 (Councillors Buchanan, Burton and Cuthbertson)

Against – 10 (Councillors Gillespie, Kearney, McFlynn, McGinley, B McGuigan, S McGuigan, McNamee, O'Neill, M Quinn, Totten)

Abstained – 3 (Councillors Glasgow, Mulligan and Reid)

The Chair declared Councillor McNamee's proposal carried.

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to approve the erection of Dual Language Nameplates in Irish at Beaghmore Road, Cookstown (as per appendix to report) in accordance with the Street Naming and Dual Language Signage – Section 6.0: Dual Language Signage Nameplates Policy as previously adopted.

**E210/17 Northern Ireland Landfill Allowance Scheme (NILAS) transfer**

The Head of Environmental Services presented previously circulated report which provided update on Council's NILAS performance during the 2016/17 scheme year and sought approval to transfer surplus allowances to a neighbouring Council.

Councillor Reid asked if the transfer of allowance would reflect badly on Council in future.

The Director of Environment and Property advised that the proposed surplus transfer would bear no reflection as Mid Ulster Council comfortably met its target for this year and indeed is already landfilling less BLACMW than the 2020 target. As Fermanagh and Omagh Council did not quite meet its target for this year there was no difficulty in making a transfer of allowance.

Proposed by Councillor S McGuigan  
Seconded by Councillor Mulligan and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to approve the transfer of 380 tonnes of surplus NILAS allowances from Mid Ulster District Council to Omagh and Fermanagh District Council under the terms of the existing NILAS transfer agreement.

#### **E211/17 2017 RHS Britain in Bloom Awards Presentation**

The Head of Property Services presented previously circulated report which sought approval for a Council Member and Council Officer to attend the 2017 RHS Britain in Bloom Awards Presentation in Venue Cymru, Llandudno on 27 October 2017.

Councillor S McGuigan proposed Councillor Gillespie attend the awards presentation as he had proposed Donaghmore's entry in the Britain in Bloom competition and lived closest to Donaghmore.

Councillor McFlynn seconded Councillor S McGuigan's proposal.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated he had attended the awards presentation last year as Chair of Environment Committee and that it had been an excellent occasion. The Councillor asked was it not normal practice for the Chair or Vice Chair of the committee to attend such an event.

Councillor Burton also felt it was normal practice for the Chair or Vice Chair to attend awards presentations. The Councillor wished both Castlecaulfield and Donaghmore well with their competition entries and asked that a message of appreciation be conveyed to officers and operational staff involved with Donaghmore and Castlecaulfield for the work they put in in making these villages look so well. Councillor Burton referred to monetary contribution made last year by Council towards cost of representatives from Castlecaulfield Horticultural Society attending Britain in Bloom awards presentation and requested that similar contribution be made to Castlecaulfield and Donaghmore Horticultural Societies for their attendance at this year's awards presentations. The Councillor felt that this was a small contribution for Council to make in order to encourage both societies for the future.

The Chair, Councillor McGinley advised that although there may be precedent that the Chair has attended awards presentations in the past there was no protocol in place and any member of the committee could be nominated. He concurred with Councillor Burton's comments in relation to delivering a message of appreciation to staff involved with preparing Castlecaulfield and Donaghmore villages for their respective competitions.

The Director of Environment and Property advised that as a precedent had been set last year it was not unreasonable for Council to make a contribution towards cost of travel to awards presentations for the two societies.

Councillor Reid asked that if other groups come on board in the future if they would also receive similar contributions.

The Chair, Councillor McGinley advised that a group would have to win an award in the first instance and that a financial contribution could then be considered.

Proposed by Councillor Burton  
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council that –
- (I) Councillor Gillespie and Council Officer (to be determined) attend the RHS Britain in Bloom Awards Presentation taking place at Venue Cymru, Llandudno on 27 October 2017.
  - (II) Financial contribution of £500 be made towards cost of Members of Castlecaulfield and Donaghmore Horticultural Societies attending their awards presentations.

## **E212/17      Property Services Landfill Communities Fund Proposals**

The Head of Property Services presented previously circulated report which sought approval for a number of Council led applications to the Landfill Communities Fund.

The Head of Property Services advised of additional application related to repairs to Lough Fea walkway at a cost of £16,000 bringing the total cost of projects to £242,000.

Councillor Cuthbertson that an up to date report in relation to treatment of noxious weeds and invasive species on council property be brought to future committee.

Councillor Glasgow highlighted that some areas of walkway at Lough Fea had collapsed during recent heavy rains. The Councillor also advised that the steps at the car park at Lough Fea required weeding.

Councillor McFlynn referred to Maghera Walled Garden and requests made in relation to opening the Garden on Sundays and longer opening hours during the summer months.

The Director of Environment and Property advised that his department were also in receipt of a number of enquiries related to the opening hours of Maghera Walled

Garden and stated that a review of the opening hours at this site would be carried out with a report being brought back to committee on future proposals.

Councillor Reid referred to the steps and area at the top of Market Square, Dungannon which was covered with weeds during the summer months. The Councillor stated it was obvious that no spraying had been done at this location and asked if there was a reason for this.

The Head of Property Services advised that Transport NI were responsible for weed spraying at this location. He stated that Transport NI did a weed spray in June however this was too late, it was advised that Council had undertaken three weed sprays over the summer months.

The Director of Environment and Property stated that Council would engage further with Transport NI in relation to this matter for next year.

Councillor Mulligan stated that the projects listed all related to principal towns and felt that a further project would be to improve the gateway from Fermanagh to the Mid Ulster District at Fivemiletown.

The Director of Environment and Property advised that there was set criteria in relation to Landfill monies in which a project should be no further than a ten mile radius from a landfill site. The Director advised that Fivemiletown would be outside of the set radius, however he stated he would seek clarification on this.

Councillor Mulligan referred to the now closed landfill site which was located in Fivemiletown and asked if this would be a case for further consideration.

The Director of Environment and Property stated he appreciated that Fivemiletown was located at a gateway and that improvements could be considered. It was also highlighted that gateway signage was a development matter.

Councillor Burton stated she would support Councillor Mulligan's comments and also referred to the landfill site which is now closed at Fivemiletown but which would have been a blight on the community at one stage.

Councillor Burton spoke in relation to walkway at Round Lake, Fivemiletown and asked how often the area is checked for litter and bins emptied.

The Head of Property Services advised that the Councillor's query would be passed to Parks Department as this was their area of responsibility.

Councillor Mulligan referred to trees planted along Main Street, Aughnacloy and the need for these to be pruned and root problems dealt with.

The Head of Property Services advised that this matter would be investigated.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Reid and



**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to approve the applications to the Landfill Communities Fund to deliver the projects outlined within the report and including additional project related to walkway repairs at Lough Fea at a cost of £16,000. Total cost of projects £242,000.

## **E213/17      Update on Administration of Burials and Cemetery Operations**

The Head of Property Services presented previously circulated report which provided update on the administration of burials and Council's operational cemeteries and sought approval on matters relating to future Cemetery operations and Memorial Safety.

In response to the Chair's questions the Head of Property Services advised that the current focus of part b of the recommendation was directed at operational cemeteries. He stated that inspection of all graveyards had been completed but that legal advice and cross referencing was required on what graveyards Council was responsible for. It was advised that a report would come back to committee in due course.

The Chair, Councillor McGinley stated there was a need to ensure maintenance and safety at graveyards under Council responsibility. The Chair also stated he was uncomfortable with the last sentence in the recommendation which read –

*“Were no response is obtained Council to proceed with repairs and seek cost recovery if grave is reopened at a future date.”*

Councillor Glasgow stated he also felt uncomfortable with this sentence and referred to maintenance of old graveyards.

The Head of Property Services advised that there were approximately thirty old burial grounds in the District and that maintenance was limited to grass cutting and boundary repairs.

Councillor Kearney felt that Council may be adding to the grief of a family by seeking costs for maintenance at a sensitive time.

Councillor Burton referred to Aghaloo graveyard and that burials still take place at this site. The Councillor advised there were issues in relation to access and maintenance at this graveyard.

The Head of Property Services noted the issues raised by Councillor Burton and stated that a number of burial grounds are very old.

The Director of Environment and Property advised that Council are seeking clarification on maintenance of old graveyards.

Councillor Reid advised that there had not been a problem with vandalism of graves in the District in the past and that future layout of cemeteries needed to be considered carefully. Councillor Reid also referred to anti social behaviour at Cottagequinn cemetery car park and asked if the gate at this cemetery could be locked.

The Head of Property Services advised he would follow up in relation to locking of gate at Cottagequinn cemetery.

The Head of Environment and Property suggested that the last sentence of part b of the recommendation be amended to read –

*b. Memorial Safety:*

*“Following safety memorial safety inspections make contact with the grave owner at their last known address, informing them that their memorial has been found to be unsafe and asking them to carry out the necessary repair works to make the memorial permanently safe within a two month time frame.”*

Councillor Reid advised that where old memorials have become unsafe in the graveyard at the Church he attends they are laid flat and this incurs no cost.

Councillor S McGuigan asked if the recommendation would carry any weight if the last sentence was removed.

The Director of Environment and Property advised that the recommendation would still put the onus on the grave owner to make necessary repairs within a two month timeframe.

Proposed by Councillor Kearney  
Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to approve:

a. Burial Provision/Future Layouts:

Develop an options paper to consider the future burial provision in the cemeteries, and burial layouts in more detail, including the continue practice of religious division in any future development of the cemeteries.

b. Memorial Safety:

Following safety memorial safety inspections make contact with the grave owner at their last known address, informing them that their memorial has been found to be unsafe and asking them to carry out the necessary repair works to make the memorial permanently safe within a two month time frame.

**E214/17 Transport NI proposals to Mid Ulster Council – Proposed Provision of a Disabled Persons’ Parking Bay – Dungannon Street, Moy**

**E215/17      Transport NI proposals to Mid Ulster Council – Proposed Provision of a Disabled Persons’ Parking Bay – Victoria Way, Dungannon**

Members considered previously circulated reports which sought agreement in relation to proposals from Transport NI with regard to proposed provision of a Disabled Persons’ Parking Bay at Dungannon Street, Moy and Victoria Way, Dungannon.

Proposed by Councillor Cuthbertson  
Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan and

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council to endorse the proposals submitted by Transport NI in relation to proposed provision of a Disabled Persons’ Parking Bay at Dungannon Street, Moy and Victoria Way, Dungannon.

**Matters for Information**

**E216/17      Minutes of Environment Committee held on Monday 3 July 2017**

Members noted minutes of Environment Committee held on Monday 3 July 2017.

**E217/17      Correspondence from Department for Infrastructure**

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update in relation to correspondence sent from Council to the Divisional Roads Manager of Transport NI regarding concerns raised at previous committee meeting.

*Councillor Glasgow left the meeting at 8.32 pm.*

**E218/17      Off Street Car Parking; Quarter 1 2017/2018**

The Director of Environment and Property presented previously circulated report which provided update on the current position in relation to the Agency Agreement with Department for Infrastructure for Quarter 1 of the 2017/2018 financial year.

Members noted the content of the report.

In response to Councillor Cuthbertson’s question regarding access issues at Perry Street car park the Director of Environment and Property advised that the handover process with Transport NI was still to be completed for this car park but he would follow up on the Councillor’s query.

**E219/17      Energy Management Update – Display Energy Certificates (DEC’s)**

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on Energy Management Certification for eligible properties owned by Mid Ulster District Council.

In response to Councillor S McGuigan's question the Head of Property Services advised that the readings on the certification were based on historic energy consumption and that variations could be caused by a late fuel delivery in one year which is then consumed in the next year.

**E220/17      Maghera Walled Garden Green Flag Award**

Members noted previously circulated report which advised of success of Maghera Walled Garden at the Green Flag Awards.

**E221/17      Tullyvar Joint Committee Update**

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on the business of Tullyvar Joint Committee.

**E222/17      Northern Ireland Waste Compositional Analysis**

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on the NI Waste Compositional Analysis project.

**E223/17      Northern Ireland Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste Management (LACMW) Report for January to March 2017**

Members noted presented previously circulated report which provided update in relation to recycling and landfill diversion targets as outlined in the NIEA Northern Ireland Local Authority Waste Management Statistics Report for the (quarter three) period of January to March 2017.

**E224/17      E-Waste Recycling Week/Competition**

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on the E-Waste Recycling Week Competition held in July 2017.

**E225/17      Building Control Workload**

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on the workload analysis for Building Control.

**E226/17      Entertainment Licensing Applications**

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on Entertainment Licensing Applications across the Mid Ulster District.

**E227/17      Dual Language Signage Request**

Members noted previously circulated report which advised of requests for Dual Language Signage to undertake the survey of all applicable residents on the streets/roads in question.

## **E228/17      Drinking Water Quality Report for Northern Ireland 2016**

Members noted previously circulated report which advised of the Drinking Water Quality Report for Northern Ireland 2016 (Mid Ulster Council area).

## **E229/17      Mid Ulster Allotments Gathering**

Members noted previously circulated report which advised of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Allotments Gathering to take place on 14 September 2017 at Nunnery Hill Community Garden in Dungannon Park.

## **Local Government (NI) Act 2014 - Confidential Business**

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Burton 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 E230/17 to E233/17.

### **Matters for Decision**

- E230/17      Tender for Tullyvar Landfill Site – Phase 3 Capping Works
- E231/17      Dungannon Leisure Centre Repairs – ICT Appointment

### **Matters for Information**

- E232/17      Confidential Minutes of Environment Committee held on Monday 3 July 2017
- E233/17      Capital Projects Update

## **E234/17      Duration of Meeting**

The meeting was called for 7.00 pm and ended at 8.42 pm.

CHAIR \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_



**Minutes of Meeting of the Development Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 14 September 2017 in the Council Offices, Burn Road, Cookstown**

**Members Present**

Councillor Wilson, Chair

Councillors Cuddy, Doris, Forde, McAleer, McEldowney, McFlynn, McNamee, Milne, Molloy, Monteith (7.11 pm), G Shiels

**Officers in Attendance**

Ms Campbell, Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation  
Mr McCreesh, Director of Business and Communities  
Mr Browne, Head of Tourism  
Mr Glavin, Head of 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  
Ms Grogan, Committee Services Officer

**Others in Attendance**

**Agenda Item 4 – Moneymore Heritage Trust**  
Representatives from Moneymore Heritage Trust  
Mr Robert Colvin  
Mr Robert Riddell  
Mr Robert Kelly

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm.

The Chair, Councillor Wilson advised the committee that he had been contacted regarding an issue, which was raised at the Environment Committee and wanted members to note that anything raised or decided at a committee meeting must not be discussed with anyone outside the Council Chamber until approved by Council. He asked members to be cautious as he hadn't been aware of the incident until he was contacted about the matter.

**D163/17      Apologies**

Councillors Burton.

**D164/17      Declaration of Interests**

Councillors Wilson declared an interest in the Enterprise Centre.  
Councillor Cuddy declared an interest in the Enterprise Centre.  
Councillor Doris declared an interest in the Enterprise Centre.

**D165/17      Chairs business**

The Chair, advised that he was happy to agree to a request from Councillor G Shiels asking if he could address the Committee regarding the Notice of Motion which he brought to the Council meeting on 27 July 2017.

Councillor G Shiels thanked the Chair for letting him address the meeting regarding the Notice of Motion which he brought to the Council meeting addressing his concerns about the proposal from the Department of Infrastructure threatening the future of Mid Ulster's Rural Community Transport Partnership.

He said that following on from the Community Transport Driver situation that it emerged that the Community Transport Partnerships were informed that the public consultation on this would take place shortly but consultation on operator licensing was also taking place at the same time. This means that the drivers would be expected to have their D1 licences by January 2018, but also that the organisation would need to have an Operator's Licence as well. They have been told that they are "operating illegally" at the moment. While the organisations would be able to get Operator Licences this could have an impact on the funding.

Councillor G Shiels asked that the Council Chair convene a meeting with the local groups and responsible Government Department to resolve this.

The Chair updated that this had been raised at Council and was being progressed.

#### **D166/17      Moneymore Heritage Trust**

The Chair welcomed representatives from Moneymore Heritage Trust to the meeting and invited them to make their presentation.

Mr Colvin advised that the village of Moneymore has needed a plan for some years now, to take it forward as a village and community. This need has become more apparent in recent months. There is increased concern that heavy traffic has had a negative effect on business that would typically use the High Street as a location for their operations. There is much anecdotal evidence to suggest that traffic volumes have indeed increased substantially, adding impetus and acceleration to the demise of the village centre and the quality of village life. The Board of Moneymore Heritage Trust (MHT) decided to carry out a robust traffic survey of traffic.

Moneymore Heritage Trust is a registered charity managed by a cross community board of volunteers. It owns the Manor House and is currently developing allotments as part of a wider programme for the gardens to the rear of that iconic property. Moneymore Heritage Trust seeks to preserve the heritage and history of the village and is mindful of its role in assisting in re-generation and promotion of the village and its surroundings.

Mr Colvin asked that the following recommendations be considered by the committee:

- That Mid Ulster Council include a by-pass for Moneymore as part of its Development Strategy;



- That traffic and parking solutions are essential to regenerate Moneymore, and therefore a review of traffic management through the village is urgently required;
- That a suitable safe means of crossing the road be provided on High Street without imposing additional street furniture;
- That Mid Ulster Council set up an Air Quality Station to monitor traffic pollutants including Particulate Matter (PM) pollution, and monitor noise pollution;
- That a structural study be implemented to measure traffic related vibration and possible links to structural cracking.

The Chair, thanked Mr Colvin for his presentation and advised that a number of issues have been raised, but would say that Moneymore was not a forgotten village within the Community Plan and asked members for comments.

Councillor G Shiels said that he was sold on the idea of a bypass, as there was a lot more traffic passing through Moneymore compared to years ago. He said that the bridge entering Moneymore from the Cookstown side was becoming dilapidated with all the heavy traffic and would like the Council to be aware of the heritage linked to Moneymore village.

Councillor McAleer enquired if Transport NI had any input into trying to ease traffic congestion in Moneymore village like implementing a pedestrian crossing and looking at ways to decrease long term parking.

Mr Colvin said that the group hadn't approached Transport NI as they were a community group and hoped that the Council would try and make a case for the village. He said getting a parking space along High Street posed a particular problem for those wishing to visit local shops, as parking spaces are taken up primarily by all day parkers who leave their car there and travel on to other destinations. He indicated that one local shop had to close down as a direct result of losing passing trade as customers had no-where to park. He did however, point out that Council will be aware of a parcel of land currently available in Moneymore and added that the Trust would encourage Council to consider purchasing this for a car park.

The Chair, advised that the Planning Manager was drawing up a strategy for Moneymore village and stated that the figures highlighted by Moneymore Heritage Trust would be very beneficial. He said that in the past, Cookstown Council tried numerous times to get a pedestrian crossing implemented in the village but that some were not in favour of this.

Councillor Molloy thanked Mr Colvin for his presentation and advised that this situation was similar to his own village of the Moy as there was a high volume of traffic and all day parking, which deters passing through traffic from stopping in the village. He said that traffic coming from the Magherafelt bypass gets to Moneymore more quickly and cause congestion. He said that he would like the Council to investigate options for a bypass, long term parking, parking restrictions and a pedestrian crossing in the village.

*Councillor McFlynn declared an interest in Moneymore Heritage Trust.*

Councillor McFlynn said that Moneymore had a lot of heritage attached to it and it wasn't pleasant to see how the high volume of traffic was having such a detrimental impact on the village. She advised that a meeting was held with the Minister for Infrastructure, Mr Chris Hassard, in which he advised that Moneymore wasn't a priority which was very discouraging. She stated that the problem with traffic congestion was getting more prominent and from around 3.30 pm, when schoolchildren are coming home from school and trying to cross the road.

Councillor McFlynn advised that Patsy McGlone and herself had met with representatives from Transport NI to try and find a solution to the problem, but nothing was resolved. She said that she would hope that the Council would find a way of helping Moneymore Heritage Trust find a solution with the help of Transport NI.

Councillor Cuddy said that Moneymore Heritage Trust had produced a good comprehensive document and felt that this was how things were triggered to make progress. He said that he also was at the meeting with Minister Hazzard and that unfortunately Moneymore wasn't even on their radar. He said that the new Council had incorporated a new corridor length ranging from Swatragh to Fivemiletown which was fed by the A29 and it was up to them to try and get the A29 infrastructure improved on this stretch of road. He continued to say that it was also up to the Council to get behind the residents of Moneymore in encouraging traffic away from the village by way of lobbying MLA's and other representatives.

Councillor McNamee advised that it would only be a matter of time before Moneymore would be dealt with, but only after Cookstown and Dungannon as they were the priorities. He said that Cookstown was in dire need of a bypass as the traffic congestion was dreadful. He said that he also agreed that Moneymore needed traffic restrictions in place.

Councillor G Shiels advised that at the time Magherafelt was successful in securing funding for their bypass, it was because the project wasn't as expensive as the others which were larger schemes and turned down. He said as this scheme wouldn't result in a huge expenditure, it should be investigated along with Cookstown as it also was a line on the map.

The Chair thanked the representatives from Moneymore Heritage Trust for attending the meeting, but advised that when some members met with the Minister last year, he was perfectly blunt that Moneymore wasn't being considered for a bypass. He also said that shopkeepers and some residents were totally opposed to a pedestrian crossing or traffic island in the village as they say it would cause problems, but that Moneymore would be fed into the Community Plan and that the Council would try and help anyway they could.

The representatives from Moneymore Heritage Trust left the meeting at 7.25 pm.

The Chair, advised that Moneymore wasn't an easy fix as it wasn't built in the first instance to cater for high volumes of traffic all those years ago.

He also said that there were concerns regarding parking in Cookstown where motorists parked all day as parking restrictions signs were removed during the public realm scheme and now that they have been erected again, no legislation can be approved as the assembly was not up and running to enforce this, but it was worth noting that legislation was brought in by Dungannon without the endorsement of the Assembly.

Councillor Monteith entered the meeting at 7.11 pm.

## **Matters for Decision**

### **D167/17      Maghera Leisure Centre Development Proposals**

The Head of Leisure drew attention to the previously circulated report to update Members on proposals for improvement works to Maghera Leisure Centre and to seek permission to proceed to Tender Exercise.

Proposed by Councillor McEldowney  
Seconded by Councillor Forde and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council that permission be granted to proceed to Tender Exercise for the works to Maghera Leisure Centre. That a request be made to Policy and Resources Committee for the release of the funds to undertake these works.

Councillor McNamee referred to the salaries of Swimming Instructors and the difference in pay between Instructors in Cookstown and Dungannon.

The Head of Leisure Services advised that over the next 18 months there would be a Leisure review which would look into these matters.

The Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation said that with Greenvale coming back on board and differences in the other areas, the review would be considering Terms and Conditions. Future recommendations would be brought through Policy & Resources Committee.

The Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation in response to Councillor Cuddy's query about staff at Greenvale Leisure Centre advised that they had transferred to Council on their existing Terms and Conditions in accordance with TUPE legislation.

The Chair advised that it would be more sensible to wait until the review takes place.

### **D168/17      Sports Representatives and Schools Sports Facilities Grants**

The Head of Leisure drew attention to the previously circulated report to present to Members the proposed Sports Grant allocations for the range of Sports Representative Grants – Team and Individuals and to gain permission to seek applications for the Schools Facilities Grant.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee

Seconded by Councillor Cuddy and

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

- 1) Sports Representative Grants totalling £4,150 be agreed
- 2) £20,000 being transferred from Sports Capital Grants to Sports Representatives Grants to allow this rolling programme to continue to the end of this financial year
- 3) £40,000 which has been accrued from last year an £10,000 from the 2017/18 be Sports Capital Grants Budget be allocated to the Schools Sports Facilities Grant and this be opened again on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2017 with a budget of £50,000.

**D169/17 Sports Development Small Grant (with Sport NI Every Body Active Programme)**

The Head of Community Development drew attention to the previously circulated report to agree an update Sports Development Small Grant following an additional offer of funding from Sport NI.

Proposed by Councillor Forde  
Seconded by Councillor McAleer and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council to approve an update Sports Development Small Grant in partnership with Sport NI Every Body Active programme and updated Sports Development Small Grants criteria and application and maximum grant award.

**D170/17 Motorsport Task Force**

The Head of Parks drew attention to the previously circulated report to consider request from the Motorsport Taskforce to Mid Ulster District Council for a financial contribution towards commissioning of a Motorsport Economic Impact Report for Northern Ireland.

Councillor Monteith enquired how this would fit in with the grants system and asked if other sporting agencies coming through i.e. GAA and Soccer would also be in a position to seek funding.

The Director of Business and Communities advised that this was only a NI Taskforce Study.

The Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation advised that it would be up to members to decide who would be in a position to receive funding.

Councillor Cuddy said that he agreed with Councillor Monteith as this would leave it open for other sporting agencies to seek the same and this needed to be taken into consideration and further investigations carried out before committing.

Councillor Monteith said that if a community group were seeking £1,000 and didn't have the necessary criteria then they would not be in a position to be shortlisted for funding and felt that this wasn't right.

Councillor Molloy agreed and stated that if schools and community groups had to follow procedures, then there was an onus on this Council to make sure that every application follows the same criteria and he said that he found it difficult to see how this money was going to benefit Mid Ulster.

Councillor Cuddy said that when the Motorsport Taskforce decide to buy into Mid Ulster then the Council can consider funding opportunities as it was important to point out that nothing ever comes back to this area from them.

The Chair said that there was a need to look at the criteria as Cookstown 100 and Bush Road Races never benefitted considering that these were very big events. He said that it may be an idea to see who was on the Taskforce and said that he took on board members concerns.

Proposed by Councillor Molloy  
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council that this matter be investigated further and brought back to the next Committee.

#### **D171/17      Cookstown Christmas Lights Switch On**

The Head of Tourism drew attention to the previously circulated report to provide Members with an update on Cookstown Christmas Lights Switch On.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor McAleer and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council that Members approve the alternative date for Cookstown Christmas Lights Switch On to 6.30 pm Friday 24 November 2017.

#### **D172/17      Davagh Forest/Dark Skies Observatory**

The Head of Tourism drew attention to the previously circulated report to update the Council and seek approval for additional developments for the Davagh Forest/Dark Skies Observatory.

Proposed by Councillor Molloy  
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

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

- 1) Additional funding from the Landfill Communities Fund of up to £245k to engage Design & Build Interpretative element at no extra cost to the

Council which will enhance the Davagh Forest project and specifically the visitor experience within the building.

- 2) Update both the business plan and the economic appraisal to reflect the current status of project and funding opportunities at a cost of £4,200 from within existing budgets.
- 3) To engage original ICT Team Teague & Sally to contract manage the Interpretative elements and associated works of the build which was not included in their original fee submission. Fees will be % basis as per their original tender submission.

Councillor McNamee advised the committee that Councillor Clarke would be taking part in the Lesser Spotted Journeys programme on UTV on Monday 18 September promoting the Dark Skies Initiative.

### **D173/17      Economic Development Report**

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

- 1) Christmas Off Street Car Parking Charges – Dungannon & Magherafelt
- 2) Renewable Engine Partnership Agreement
- 3) NI Business Start Programme
- 4) PLATO Eastern & Border Region (EBR) Proposal
- 5) Local Full Fibre Networks Programme
- 6) Mid Ulster Skills Forum Minutes
- 7) Former High School Site, Maghera
- 8) Research Study into Mid Ulster's Engineering Sector
- 9) Rural Development Programme (RDP) Business Plans Programme
- 10) Cookstown & Magherafelt Town Centre Brand Refresh
- 11) Cookstown Summer Festival
- 12) Mid Ulster Village Spruce Up Scheme
- 13) Village Renewal Project
- 14) A6 Randalstown – Castledawson Dualling Scheme Meet the Buyer/Employability Event
- 15) Cookstown Town Centre Forum and Magherafelt Town Centre Forum Minutes
- 16) Killymoon Post Office, Cookstown
- 17) St Anne's Clock, Dungannon

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Molloy and

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

#### **1) Christmas Off Street Car Parking Charges – Dungannon & Magherafelt**

The temporary reduced Christmas car parking tariff for the first 3 hours of 10 pence in all Off Street Pay & Display Car Parks in Dungannon and

Magherafelt from Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2017 to Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2018 (6 week period) at a cost of £23,400.

Proposed Councillor G Shiels  
Seconded Councillor Molloy and

**Resolved:** Approved

**2) Renewable Engine Partnership Agreement**

The Council to sign the Renewable Engine Partnership Agreement.

Agreed.

**3) NI Business Start Programme (NIBSP)**

- **Service Level Agreement for new CRM**  
The Council to sign the NI Business Start Programme Service Level Agreement for the Customer Relationship Management System
- **New Business Start Programme**  
Note progress

Agreed

**4) PLATO EBR (Eastern and Border Region) Proposal**

Contribution of up to £15,000 towards the costs of the delivery of the Plato Programme over the next 12 months.

Agreed.

**5) Local Full Fibre Networks Programme**

Submission of two funding applications to the LFFN Programme. The first Programme is Council's application to create full fibre networks at business parks in Cookstown, Dungannon/Coalisland and Maghera. Secondly, approval for Council to form part of the Regional Gigabit Vouchers bid, being spearheaded by Belfast City Council.

Agreed.

**6) Mid Ulster Skills Forum**

Members to note Minutes of Mid Ulster Skills Forum, dated 25 April 2017.

Agreed.

**7) Former High School Site, Maghera**

Members to note progress.

Agreed.

**8) Research Study into Mid Ulster's Engineering Sector**

Members to note progress, including need to commission a comprehensive Research Study into Mid Ulster's Engineering Sector with an anticipated budget of up to £28,000 (including expenses and excluding Vat).

Agreed.

**9) RDP Business Plans Programme**

Members to note progress, including the need to draw up a Select List of consultants to prepare Business Plans to support Rural Development Programme applicants, with an anticipated budget of £10,000 (including expenses and excluding Vat) assigned for this work.

Agreed.

**10) Cookstown & Magherafelt Town Centre Branch Refresh**

Members to note progress.

Agreed.

**11) Cookstown Summer Carnival**

Members to note Evaluation Report on Cookstown Summer Carnival.

Agreed.

**12) Mid Ulster Village Spruce Up Scheme**

Members to note progress for Mid Ulster Village Spruce Up Scheme.

Agreed.

**13) Village Renewal Project**

Members to note progress.

Agreed.

**14) A6 Randalstown – Castledawson Dualling Scheme Meet the Buyer/Employability Event**

Members to note details of Meet the Buyer/Employability Event on 26 September 2017 from 10am to 1pm in The Elk, Toome.

Agreed.

**15) Cookstown Town Centre Forum and Magherafelt Town Centre Forum Minutes**

Members to note Minutes of Cookstown Town Centre Forum held on 3 May 2017 and Magherafelt Town Centre Forum held on 15 May 2017.

Councillor McNamee advised that Cookstown Town Centre Forum had raised the issue of market rights for Saturday trading in Cookstown and said that they would like the opportunity for Cookstown DEA Councillors and Officers to meet Mr Orr to explore the opportunity of attaining same.

**16) Killymoon Street Post Office, Cookstown**



Members to note receipt of letter from Post Office advising of modernisation of services at Killymoon Street Post Office branch.

**17) St Anne's Clock, Dungannon**

Members to note there is no Council programme to support retrospectively funding repairs to St Anne's Clock, Dungannon and are happy to take guidance from Members on the matter.

Councillor Monteith referred to Items of Heritage which was similar to St Anne's Clock project and said that it was agreed by Council that a scheme would come forward on a small contribution of £500 being made available for heritage sites. He said that a small amount of funding could go a long way and would propose that next month this be investigated to see if a grant scheme could be scooped out.

The Head of Economic Development circulated to members a timeline of Minute records from Dungannon and South Tyrone Borough Council re: St Anne's Clock Dungannon.

The Chair said that he wanted to thank Officers on their persistence in achieving a paper trail on the timeline of St Anne's Clock.

Councillor Cuddy stated that in the time of Dungannon Council it was agreed that maintenance would be provided for the Old Fivemiletown Clock by them.

The Chair said that to date, Mid Ulster District Council had offered to assist, St Anne's Church to make a funding application to the Heritage Lottery Fund, but that the Church had declined. The Chair said that it was up to members to decide if a financial contribution was to be made or make a commitment to try and help the Church get funding elsewhere, or go with Councillor Monteith's proposal of Council investigating the provision of financial assistance through the establishment of a Heritage small grants scheme.

The Chair advised that St Anne's Church Clock is now fixed and paid for by St. Anne's Church.

Councillor McNamee said that he supported Councillor Monteith's proposal and would be happy to second it.

Councillor Cuddy enquired about Edendork Car Boot Sale which was raised last month and asked if there was any update on getting a prominent site for the car boot sale in Dungannon town centre to trade and draw people into the town as thousands of people attend Granville Farmer's Mart and also Tesco Farmer's Mart and felt that the town centre would benefit from something similar.

The Head of Economic Development advised that investigations were ongoing with the Public Health and Infrastructure section.

The Chair agreed with Councillor Cuddy and advised that the Council would be very keen to progress this.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith  
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council that approval be given to investigating a small grant scheme for Items of Heritage.

Councillor Cuddy asked if it would be possible to have a policy in place for next month and suggested as a good will gesture the Council make a financial contribution towards St. Anne's towards the fixing of the clock as it wasn't a huge amount of money.

Councillor McAleer suggested that funding could be allocated through the Chairman's budget.

Councillor Wilson agreed that he would be supportive of the idea of a contribution through the Chair's budget and to follow through with the application and investigation of the Policy.

#### **D174/17 ESF Phase 1 Performance (2015-2017) and New ESF Phase 2 Match Funding Requests (2018-2022)**

The Head of Economic Development drew attention to the previously circulated report to consider current ESF Phase 1 Performance (2015-17) and financially supporting a number of new match funding requests under ESF Phase 2 (2018-22).

The Chair said that this was a very comprehensive report and was very impressed with the work which had been put into this.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Forde and

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

- 1) Members noting current progress on current ESF Phase 1 Performance (2015-17)
- 2) The undernoted match funding requests under ESF Phase 2 (2018-22) for Mid Ulster District:

#### **SUSE+**

A financial contribution of £40,000 per annum to SWC for the period 2018-2022.

#### **Exploring Enterprise 4 Programme**

A financial contribution of £9,452 per annum to Enterprise NI for the period 2018-2022.

### **Up for Work Programme**

A financial contribution of £9,512 per annum to Network Personnel for the period 2018-2022.

### **Job Match Programme**

A financial contribution of £10,332 per annum to Network Personnel for the period 2018-2022.

- 3) Not approving the match funding requests under ESF Phase 2 (2018-22) for the Community Family Support Programme and Workforce IV Programme for the reasons outlined in this report.

Councillor Doris advised that she was disappointed about match funding not being available to the NOW Group as they were carrying out good, productive work, with good recommendations from Belfast City Council and asked if this could be deferred until the next meeting.

The Head of Economic Development stated that this couldn't be deferred as the ESF funding call already opened and would close again before the next meeting and as such groups which have approached Council need to be advised if they were successful or not, to be able to note this in their project application form.

Councillor Doris felt that it was important to try and help the NOW Group as they wanted to extend their outreach to Mid Ulster.

The Chair requested that a Celebration event be organised to mark the success of the ESF suite programmes which Mid Ulster Council had financially supported over the last few years.

Proposed by Councillor McFlynn  
Seconded by Councillor Cuddy and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council to proceed with the recommendation of not providing match funding to the NOW Group and Community Family Support Programme as outlined in the report. Further recommended that a Celebration Event be organised to mark the success of the ESF suite of programmes.

### **D175/17 Mid Ulster Rural Development Partnership**

The Head of Economic Development drew attention to the previously circulated report to update Members on progress with the interim rural development strategy for Mid Ulster.

*The Chair, Councillor Wilson declared an interest in Rural Development Partnership  
Councillor McAleer declared an interest in Rural Development Partnership  
Councillor McElowney declared an interest in Rural Development Partnership*

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Molloy

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council that approval be granted to Council letters of offers to projects approved under the LAGs Rural Services Scheme, and the following process as outlined below:

- 1) Letter of offer from Council to be drafted following receipt from the project promoter of a signed accepted copy of the LAG's offer of funding;
- 2) Key tasks and targets to be aligned with those outlined within the LAG's letter of offer
- 3) Members to be notified in Committee Papers of all letters of offer issued to Rural Services applicants;
- 4) Progress against issued letters of offer to be included within the RDP update report to the Committee.
- 5) With all the job creation through this programme, this should be showcased to show their success.

#### **D176/17      Capital Community Discretionary Grant**

The Head of Community Development drew attention to the previously circulated report to seek guidance on a proposed Capital Discretionary Grant for Mid Ulster Council.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith  
Seconded by Councillor McAleer and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council that approval to the Capital Discretionary Grant for Mid Ulster Council, pending agreement from Policy and Resources on a finalised budget.

#### **D177/17      Community Development**

The Head of Community Development drew attention to the previously circulated report to:

*Councillor Wilson declared an interest in the Youth Service.*

- 1) Seek Committee approval for Good Relations and Community Festivals Rolling Grant Award recommendations
- 2) Agree Peace IV Local Action Planning Partnership recommendations
- 3) Agree operational delivery of advice provision across Mid Ulster
- 4) Consider a request for support for the UK Government Syrian Refugee Programme and associated awareness training
- 5) Update on Community Development

Councillor Monteith enquired how much Neighbourhood Renewal was contributing to the Dungannon area as it was a partnership between two areas and asked for a breakdown to be provided to the next meeting.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith  
Seconded by Councillor Cuddy and

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

- 1) Grant Award recommendations under the Community Festivals and Good Relations grants as per Appendix 1
- 2) Peace IV Partnership recommendations; Peace partner proposals for EA Youth, STEP, COSTA/CWSAN, Speedwell  
Peace Cross Border Heritage to go out to tender  
Peace Post Primary Schools Project to go to tender
- 3) £1000 towards the UK Syrian Refugee Programme; breakdown £250 towards storage of basic provisions and up to £750 for awareness training
- 4) Request for flexible local advice delivery, in line with agreed targets and outcomes as per original Agreement, to meet the increasing demand across geographical areas and advice provision communication
- 5) Note the Community Development update report
- 6) Breakdown of how much Neighbourhood Renewal is contributing towards Dungannon be provided to the next meeting.

**D178/17 Partnership with Disability Sport NI on provision of a Disability Sports Hub based at Mid Ulster Sports Arena, Cookstown**

The Head of Leisure drew attention to the previously circulated report to seek permission to proceed with the partnership based on an agreed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and Development Plan.

Councillor Monteith said that it would be worth considering that the Council liaise with Community Groups to see what Disabled Groups and Sporting Clubs need to do to get involved and having a scoring matrix to measure funding.

The Head of Leisure advised that this could be introduced through Sports Development.

Proposed by Councillor Montieth  
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council to approve the proposed MoU and Development Plan to allow the partnership to proceed.

**Matters for Information**

**D179/17 Minutes of Development Committee held on Wednesday 5 July 2017**

Members noted minutes of Development Committee held on Wednesday 5 July 2017.

#### **D180/17      Parks Service Progress**

Members noted previously circulated report which provided an update on the progress being made regarding activities and associated to Parks Services and highlight events or consultations that will be occurring in the future.

#### **D181/17      Culture & Arts Progress Report**

Members noted previously circulated report which provided an update on the progress being made across Culture & Arts Services and to highlight events that have taken place during the previous quarter. The report also highlights specific events and activities within Culture & Arts Services that is currently being developed by the officer team and which will take place in the future.

#### **D182/17      Attendance Figures at recent Events and provide an update on Autumn Events**

Members noted previously circulated report which provided attendance figures for recent Events and provide an update on Autumn Events.

#### **D183/17      NISRA Tourism Statistics 2016**

Members noted previously circulated report which provided to update members on Tourism NI summary Local Government District (LGD) report that contains key data (e.g. overnight trips, nights and spend, reason to visit and origin of visitors) for all 11 LGDs (based on 2012-2016 Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA data) including Mid Ulster. TNI has also produced 11 LGD Fact Cards based on 2012-2016 data released by the (NISRA) on the LGDS.

#### **D184/17      Working Groups Reporting to Development Committee**

Members noted previously circulated report to provide members with a list of the current working groups associated with and reporting through the Development Committee.

Councillor Monteith enquired about Working Groups being set up as a task and finish programme. He said that some Working Groups were going on for five years and felt that these should be classed as Sub Committees under the terms set out by the Council.

The Director of Business and Communities advised that in some cases there was no distinction between Working Groups and Sub Committees. He said that Good Relations delivers the Good Relations programme, Peace is the same, Tourism had a four year action plan in place, not sure on Skills Forum as it's chaired by the private sector and the Ancient Heart of Ulster was set up for 18 months to get an application set up.

Councillor Monteith stressed that a Working Group had a start and finish date and this only ceases when the task is complete. He said that Good Relations wasn't a

Working Group as it was a body of this Council and was off the opinion that the Working Groups were Sub Committees as they didn't adhered to task and finish dates.

Councillor Monteith asked that a report on distinctions between Working Groups and what they represented be brought back to committee.

The Director of Business and Communities said that he would be happy to take this on board and would be brought to Policy & Resources Committee first before coming to this committee.

**Resolved:** That a report be brought to Committee on the distinctions between the Working Groups and what they represent.

### **Local Government (NI) 2014 – Confidential Business**

Proposed by Councillor Cuddy  
Seconded by Councillor Molloy 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 D184/17.

#### **Matters for Information**

D185/17 Confidential Minutes of Development Committee held on  
Wednesday 5 July 2017

### **D186/17 Duration of Meeting**

The meeting commenced at 7 pm and concluded at 8.30 pm.

CHAIR

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DATE

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<b>Report on</b>	Conferences & Seminar – September 2017
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	P Moffett, Head of Democratic Services
<b>Contact Officer</b>	E Forde, Member Support Officer

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	Provide an update on seminars and conferences received. To seek approval for attendance and the payment of registration/ attendance fees and associated costs, as incurred.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	Costs associated will be set against 2017-18 member Conference and Seminar allocations.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
	The following seminar/ conference sessions are presented for consideration of representation from Mid Ulster Council.
3.1	<b>Approval for Consideration of Attendance by Members</b>
3.1.1	<b>NILGA Community Planning &amp; Wellbeing Event</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wednesday 13 September 2017 10.00 am – 12.30 pm at Corrick House, Clogher (Retrospective approval for Members in attendance)</li> <li>Cost no fee, travel and subsistence Cllr S McGuigan</li> </ul>
3.1.2	<b>NI Energy Forum 2017</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tuesday 17 October 2017 9.00am – 4.30pm at Stormont Hotel, Belfast</li> <li>Cost £235+VAT, travel and subsistence</li> </ul>
3.1.3	<b>Adult Learning Conference 2017</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thursday 26th October (9.30am – 4.00pm) at NICVA 61 Duncairn Gardens, Belfast BT15 2GB</li> <li>Cost no fee, travel and subsistence</li> </ul>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>

<b>4.1</b>	<b><u>Financial &amp; Human Resources Implications</u></b>  Financial:  Human:
<b>4.2</b>	<b><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></b>
<b>4.3</b>	<b><u>Risk Management Implications</u></b>
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	Approval for attendance at the conferences/ seminars by members and council officers as required.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
<b>6.1</b>	Appendix A      Conferences & Seminar Details



## Community Planning and Wellbeing Event

13th September 2017, Corrick House, Clogher, 10.00am—12.30pm

Time		Speaker
9.30am	Registration, Tea and Coffee	
10.00am – 10.10am	Session introduction objectives, programme outline	Alderman Robert Gibson Chair—Regional Community Planning and Wellbeing Working Group
10.10am – 10.40am	Performance Accountability in Reality	Janis Scallon NISRA PFG Analytics—The Executive Office
10.40am - 11.10am	PfG Delivery Planning—Links to Community Planning Priorities	Richard O’Flaherty Social Inclusion Policy Division Department for Communities
11.10am - 11.40am	The Story So Far - Fermanagh & Omagh District Council	Kim McLaughlin
11.40am – 12.10pm	Developing Impact Practice	Aongus O’Keefe Inspiring Impact
12.10pm - 12.30pm	General Q&A/discussion - issues and experiences	
12.30pm – 1.00pm	Lunch	

This is a **FREE** event open to all Elected Members and Officers with an interest in Community Planning. We would ask attendees to advise us in advance of their attendance by R.S.V.P to this invitation. Those interested in attending should contact Kelsey McQuaid at the NILGA office by emailing [k.mcquaid@nilga.org](mailto:k.mcquaid@nilga.org), by Friday 1st September 2017.

### ***NILGA - the voice of local government***

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Fiona Douglas  
Regional Policy & Development Officer  
Northern Ireland Local Government Association (NILGA)  
Bradford Court  
Upper Galwally  
Castlereagh  
BT8 6RB

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## Northern Ireland's major annual energy conference...



Tuesday 17th October 2017 • Stormont Hotel, Belfast

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Pinsent Masons



# Conference programme

0900

## Energy policy and future outlook

Chairman: Ian McCarlie, Partner, Pinsent Masons LLP

An effective regulatory framework for energy in Northern Ireland  
Senior representative, Utility Regulator

Investing in Northern Ireland's electric future  
Nicholas Tarrant, Managing Director, NIE Networks

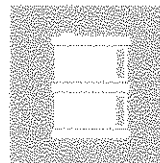
The future outlook for UK-EU energy cooperation post-Brexit  
Georgina Wright, European Programme Co-ordinator, Chatham House

Future of energy markets: Renewables and Brexit  
Richard Murphy, Head of Energy & Natural Resources Northern Ireland  
Pinsent Masons LLP

Questions & answers / Panel discussion

1030

Morning coffee / networking break



1100

## Future energy investment

Global gas developments and their impact on the Irish market  
Howard Rogers, Chairman, Natural Gas Programme, Oxford Institute for Energy Studies

The forgotten fuel? Making energy efficiency a priority  
Fiona Kinsman, Legal Officer, DG Energy, European Commission

Investing in energy infrastructure: North/South interconnector  
Fintan Slye, Chief Executive, EirGrid

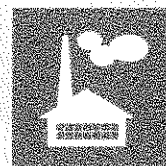
The future role of natural gas in the energy mix  
Michael McKinstry, Chief Executive, Phoenix Natural Gas

Energy storage and its role in energy markets  
Ian Luney, President, AES UK & Ireland

Questions & answers / Panel discussion

1300

Conference lunch / networking break



1400

## Energy markets outlook

The Winter Package and implications for the electricity sector  
Dr Fergal McNamara, Head of DSO Unit, EURELECTRIC

The impact of Brexit on the Irish energy sector  
Dr Muireann Lynch, Research Fellow, Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI)

Community energy: Shared ownership of renewable energy projects  
Laura Nicolson, Shared Ownership Manager, Local Energy Scotland

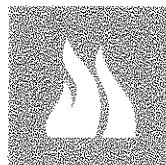
Outlook for solar energy in Northern Ireland  
David Maguire, Chairman, Irish Solar Energy Association

Future of onshore wind in Northern Ireland  
Meabh Cormacain, Manager, Northern Ireland Renewables Industry Group

Questions & answers / Panel discussion

1630

Conference close followed by drinks reception



# Registration form

I wish to:

- ☐ Attend the Northern Ireland Energy Forum 2017  
£235 + VAT @ 20% = £282  
Fee includes documentation, lunch and other refreshments served during the conference and is payable in advance. Fee does not include accommodation or travel.
- ☐ Receive details of **sponsorship** opportunities at the Forum
- ☐ Receive details of **exhibition** opportunities at the Forum

## Personal details

Name (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Dr): \_\_\_\_\_

Job title: \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email:

## Payment options

- ☐ I enclose a cheque for £\_\_\_\_\_ Payable to 'bmf Business Services'.
- ☐ Please invoice me
- ☐ Please debit my Visa / Mastercard / AMEX

Card number

[illegible]

Name of card holder

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Security code: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry date: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please provide card billing address if different from company address)

### Acknowledgement of registration

Confirmation of registration will be sent to all delegates, following receipt of registration details. If you have not received your acknowledgement seven days prior to the start of the conference, please contact Michelle Davidson at [\(registration@agendaNI.com\)](mailto:agendaNI (registration@agendaNI.com)) to confirm your booking.

## Terms and conditions

\*For those unable to attend, a substitute participant may be sent at any time for no additional charge. Alternatively for cancellations received in writing, by fax or email, the following charges will apply:

- \* More than 14 days before the conference: 25% fee
- \* Less than 14 days before the conference: 100% fee
- \* Failure to attend: 100% fee.

## How to register

-  By telephone  
+44 (0)28 9261 9933
  By fax  
+44 (0)28 9261 9951

 Online  
[www.agendaNi.com/events](http://www.agendaNi.com/events)
 Scan QR code

 By email  
[registration@agendaNi.com](mailto:registration@agendaNi.com)



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## Who should attend?

The Annual Northern Ireland Energy Forum is the major annual conference for the Northern Ireland energy sector and is a not-to-be-missed event for all those working within, or interacting with, the energy industry in Northern Ireland, including:

- Energy policy-makers
- Regulatory authorities
- Government departments / agencies
- Energy sector executives
- Renewable energy developers
- Technical and environmental advisors
- Project developers
- Planning consultants and advisors
- Legal and financial professionals
- Energy consultants
- Local government officers and elected representatives
- Energy academics and researchers
- NGOs / voluntary / community sector

## Benefits of attending

Delegates attending the Northern Ireland Energy Forum will:

- ✓ Gain an in-depth understanding of the issues facing the Northern Ireland energy sector
- ✓ Understand the latest energy policy developments
- ✓ Have an opportunity to meet senior representatives from organisations across the sector
- ✓ Hear updates on local energy projects
- ✓ Consider electricity and gas market outlooks
- ✓ Examine energy policy in the European Union and GB contexts

### Conference accommodation



The Northern Ireland Energy Forum takes place in the Stormont Hotel, which is conveniently located opposite Parliament Buildings and within easy reach of Belfast city centre and the George Best Belfast City Airport. Delegates attending the conference can avail of a special rate of £80 single or £100 double, bed and breakfast.

To book, contact reservations at the hotel directly on: +44 (0) 28 9065 1066.  
[www.hastingshotels.com/stormont-hotel](http://www.hastingshotels.com/stormont-hotel)

## N.I. IMPACT FORUM CONFERENCE

### SETTING THE AGENDA FOR ADULT LEARNING IN N. IRELAND

NICVA 26TH OCTOBER 2017

#### AGENDA

- |       |  |
|-------|--|
| 09.30 | Registration - coffee  |
| 10.00 | Welcome - agenda - desired outcomes  |
| 10.10 | Explanation of Impact Forum and wider UK project - introduction of State of the Nation Report on Adult Learning  |
| 10.30 | Plenary Speaker - Stephen Evans, CEO Learning & Work Institute<br><i>Setting the Agenda - the impact of adult learning and what a lifelong learning approach could offer</i> |
| 10.50 | Table discussion<br>Feedback   |
| 11.40 | BREAK  |
| 11.50 | Advocacy in Action - input from Niamh O'Reilly, CEO AONTAS, with a response from LWI   |
| 12.20 | Thinking Local - Council Community Plans<br>Inputs from Kim Walsh, Belfast City Council and Kim Weir, Fermanagh & Omagh Council  |
| 13.00 | At tables prep Qs for afternoon session  |
| 13.20 | LUNCH  |
| 14.00 | Learner Stories  |
| 14.10 | Political Panel - opening statements and then Q&A  |
| 15.15 | Where Next?  |
| 15.30 | CLOSE  |

## N.I. IMPACT FORUM CONFERENCE

### SETTING THE AGENDA FOR ADULT LEARNING IN N. IRELAND

**NICVA 26TH OCTOBER 2017**

#### REGISTRATION FORM

Name	
Organisation	
Email	

Any dietary or other needs?...

---

Please return this form to [colin.neilands@communitus.co.uk](mailto:colin.neilands@communitus.co.uk) **by Friday 20th October.**



<b>Report on</b>	Consideration of Requests for Civic Recognition – September 2017
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	P Moffett, Head of Democratic Services
<b>Contact Officer</b>	E Forde, Member Support Officer

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To consider approval of request(s) for civic recognition from members, in line with council Receptions Policy.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	The Receptions Policy was reviewed and subsequently agreed at the December 2016 council meeting. All requests for civic recognition are to be now forwarded to Democratic Services to appear on a report for presentation to council for consideration and approval.
2.2	The policy confirms 3 categories of reception offered by the Council:  (1) Civic Receptions (2) Chair and Deputy Chair Reception (3) Civic Awards
2.3	Appendix A to this report details those request(s) received for notification to and approval by council. The request(s) have been categorised in line with established conditions/ criteria required to be met to receive a Civic Reception, Chair & Deputy Chair Reception or Civic Award.
2.4	Following the July 2017 Council meeting a working group was formed to review the current receptions policy.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	Implementation of the Receptions Policy facilitates the Council in acknowledging the achievements of organisations and persons from the district, as put forward by members.
3.2	Civic Recognition requests received from members since the last meeting of council have been categorised, details of which are set out within appendix A to this report.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b><u>Financial &amp; Human Resources Implications</u></b>  Financial: Not Applicable

	Human: Not Applicable
<b>4.2</b>	<b><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></b>
<b>4.3</b>	<b><u>Risk Management Implications</u></b>
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	That consideration be given to approving request(s) for civic recognition.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
6.1	Appendix A Submitted Requests

## August 2017 - Requests for Civic Recognition Submitted: For Approval

### Category: Civic Reception

Proposed Recipient	Achievement	Submitted by	Condition/Criteria Met	Recipient Previously Acknowledged
Tyrone GAA under 17s	All Ireland Under 17 Football competition	Cllr J O'Neill Cllr Mallaghan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Won competitions at All Ireland level</li> </ul>	<b>For:</b> N/A  <b>Date:</b> N/A
Castlecaulfield Horticultural Society	Winner of Communities in Bloom International Challenge	Cllr Burton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Won competition at an International Level</li> </ul>	<b>For:</b> Britain in Bloom  <b>Date:</b> 1.2.17

### Category: Civic Award

Proposed Recipient	Achievement	Submitted by	Condition/Criteria Met	Recipient Previously Acknowledged
Sean Cavanagh	Ulster GAA Lifetime Career Award	Cllr M Quinn Cllr Mullen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Won competition at a provincial level</li> </ul>	<b>For:</b> N/A  <b>Date:</b> N/A
Padraig Hampsey	Ulster GAA All Star	Cllr Doris	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Won competition at a provincial level</li> </ul>	<b>For:</b> N/A  <b>Date:</b> N/A
Mark Wilson	Won the Irish Bowling Association Singles Competition – qualifying to play in British Isles Competition	Cllr Wilson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Won competition at a provincial level</li> </ul>	<b>For:</b> N/A  <b>Date:</b> N/A
Molly Curran	Irish U15 Gils Pentathlon Champion Ulster Schools Shot Putt Champion NI & Ulster U15 Girls Pentathlon Champion	Cllr McAlee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Won competition at All Ireland Level</li> </ul>	<b>For:</b> NI & Ulster Under 13s Pentathlon  <b>Date:</b> April 2017
Rebecca Hamilton	British Champion Junior Drum Major	Cllr Buchanan Cllr Wilson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arts &amp; Music won competition at UK level</li> </ul>	<b>For:</b> N/A  <b>Date:</b> N/A

Abigail Wenlock	European Champion, RSPBANI ,Junior Drum Major	Cllr Wilson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arts &amp; Music won competition at European level</li> </ul>	<b>For:</b> UK Championship Junior (1 <sup>st</sup> ) <b>Date:</b> 7 November 2016
Alicia Dickson	Senior Drum Major RSPBANI British & UK Champion	Cllr Wilson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arts &amp; Music won competition at UK level</li> </ul>	<b>For:</b> UK Championship - (1 <sup>st</sup> ) <b>Date:</b> 7 November 2016

### Category: Chair & Deputy Chair Reception

Proposed Recipient	Achievement	Submitted by	Condition/Criteria Met	Recipient Previously Acknowledged
None			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>	

### Other: Letter from Council Chair

Where it is deemed that conditions/criteria have not been met for a civic reception, civic award or chair & deputy chair reception a letter from the Council Chair is recommended. This may also be in instances where recipients have previously received a reception or award for the same or similar achievement.

Proposed Recipient	Achievement	Submitted by
Abigail Rafferty	<i>Playing for Ireland Basket Ball team and receiving first Cap</i>	Cllr Mullen
Moneymore Ladies GAA football team	Derry County League Intermediate Derry Championship	Cllr McFlynn
Danielle Hamilton	Drummer with Inverary & District Pipe Band Winners of the World, European , British & Scottish Champion RSPBA competitions	Cllr Wilson

Clonoe Senior Ladies	Tyrone County Football Championship	Cllr Doris
Kevin Barry's, Derrylaughan	County Tyrone League Division 2	Cllr Doris
Naomh Colmcille	County Tyrone Championship	Cllr Doris
Benjamin Neville	Representing Northern Ireland at the GR7 Championship in Motorcross	Cllr Wilson

End.



<b>Report on</b>	1) Social Enterprise NI Awards 2017
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Adrian McCreesh, Director of Business & Communities
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Fiona McKeown, Head of Economic Development

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To inform Members that Mid Ulster District Council has been "shortlisted" in the Social Enterprise NI Awards 2017 and request approval for Members and Officers to attend the Gala Awards Evening on 27 October 2017.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	<p><b>Social Enterprise NI Awards 2017</b></p> <p>In June 2017, Social Enterprise NI (SENI) issued their annual call for nominations to the 11 categories of the Social Enterprise NI Awards 2017.</p> <p>Following the strong performance and outputs of Mid Ulster District Council's Social Enterprise Programme in 2016, Council submitted a nomination for this Programme to one of the twelve categories, entitled '<b>Local Council of the Year</b>'.</p>

<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	<p><b>Social Enterprise NI Awards 2017</b></p> <p>Mid Ulster District Council has been informed that our Application has been shortlisted and the Council has been invited to attend the Awards evening as follows:</p> <p><b>Date:</b> Friday 27 October 2017  <b>Time:</b> 6.30pm Drinks Reception and 7.30pm Dinner &amp; Awards  <b>Venue:</b> Stormont Hotel</p> <p>Cost for Individuals is £90; table of 10 is £850 (see attached Appendix 1 for further information).</p> <p>It is proposed that the Council Chair and/or Deputy Chair shall attend to represent the Council. They shall be accompanied by an officer if required and two representatives from the Workspace Group, Council's Programme delivery partners for the Social Enterprise Programme.</p>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
4.1	<p><u>Financial Implications</u></p> <p><b>Social Enterprise NI Awards 2017</b>  Cost for Individuals is £90; a table of 10 costs £850 (see attached Appendix 1 for further information); budget will be made available from Council's economic development budget.</p> <p><u>Human Resources Implications</u>  N/A</p>
<b>4.2</b>	<b><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></b> N/A
<b>4.3</b>	<b><u>Risk Management Implications</u></b> N/A
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	<p>It is recommended that the Council Chair and/or Deputy Chair shall attend to represent the Council. They shall be accompanied by an officer if required and two representatives from the Workspace Group, Council's programme delivery partners. Event costs to be funded by Council's economic development budget, ie, £90 p/head for Individuals and £850 for a table of 10 people.</p>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
6.1	<p>Appendix 1: Social Enterprise NI 2017 Awards Booking Form</p>



## APPENDIX 1

### SOCIAL ENTERPRISE NI – GALA AWARDS 2017



**Friday 27 October 2017**  
**Stormont Hotel, Belfast**

6.30 pm - Drinks Reception  
 7.00 pm - Dinner & Awards

#SocEntNIAwards17

## Social Enterprise NI - Gala Awards 2017

### BOOKING FORM

**Member Rates**

**Individual - £70**

**Table of 10 - £650**

**Non Member Rate**

**Individual - £90**

**Table of 10 - £850**

The Gala Awards are open to anyone that wants to come along and support the sector, you do not have to have applied for an Award

Refunds will be not given for cancellations within two weeks of the event

<b>Organisation</b>	
<b>Contact Name</b>	
<b>Contact Number</b>	
<b>Contact Email</b>	

Are you a Social Enterprise NI Member?

YES

☐

NO

☐

<b>No of places</b>			
<b>Name of Attendee (s)</b>			
<b>1</b>		<b>6</b>	
<b>2</b>		<b>7</b>	
<b>3</b>		<b>8</b>	
<b>4</b>		<b>9</b>	
<b>5</b>		<b>10</b>	

Method of Payment (please tick)	
<b>BACs</b>	
<b>Credit/Debit Card</b>	
<b>Cheque (payable to Social Enterprise NI)</b>	

*To pay by credit/debit card, please ring 028 9046 1810. All methods of payment will receive an invoice/receipt*

Terms and Conditions	
<b>Hotel Accommodation</b>	Please book directly with Stormont Hotel on 028 9065 1066 The special function rate is £85BB – Single and £110BB – Double or Twin. Rooms must be booked by 29 Sept to avail of this rate quoting SENI Awards

<b>Cancellations</b>	Cancellation of bookings must be in writing/email TWO WEEKS or more before the event for a 50% discount. For cancellations, received less than the notice period, we cannot give a refund.
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*Please return form to [amanda@socialenterpriseni.org](mailto:amanda@socialenterpriseni.org)*

<b>Report on</b>	Border Corridor Local Authorities Report on Brexit
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Chief Executive
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Chief Executive

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	The purpose of this report is to seek Members approval for Councillor and Officer representation at the launch of the Border Corridor Local Authorities report on Brexit in Brussels on 11 October 2017.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	Members will recall that the Local Authorities along the border corridor commissioned a report on the risks, opportunities and issues to consider for the area as a result of the UK decision to withdraw from the EU.
2.2	The initial findings of the study were presented at an event in May 2017 in Lough Erne and a delegation from the border corridor Local Authorities presented the findings to a Seanad Special Select Committee on 7 June 2017.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	The initial, summary report has now been augmented with the details provided in presentations given at Lough Erne and is ready for publication. The consensus view across the border corridor Local Authorities is that that report should be launched in Brussels during EU Open Days week. This would gain publicity for the work undertaken and help ensure that due consideration is given to the border area during negotiations on Brexit. The intention is to present the key findings to a range of stakeholders including EU Officials, MEP's and members of Michel Barnier's negotiating team.
3.2	The report is included at Appendix A for Members consideration and it is recommended that one or two councillors attend the launch event on 11 October 2017 along with the Chief Executive or Director.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b><u>Financial &amp; Human Resources Implications</u></b>  Financial: £300 per person for an overnight stay, £100 for a same day return.  Human:

<b>4.3</b>	<p><b><u>Risk Management Implications</u></b></p> <p>Brexit is listed as a risk on Council's Corporate Risk Register (ref MUDC22) with the control measure being the participation of Council in the border corridor working group. Attendance at this event in Brussels will assist in mitigating the risk.</p>
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	Members approval is sought for one or two Councillors and the Chief Executive or Director to attend the launch event in Brussels as outlined above.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
6.1	Appendix 1 – Brexit and the Border Corridor

# Brexit AND THE Border Corridor

on the Island of Ireland:  
Risks, Opportunities and  
Issues to Consider



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## Acknowledgements

The authors would like to thank the attendees at a local government workshop in Cookstown, February 2017, and those who participated in a conference to discuss the initial research findings at the Lough Erne Resort, Enniskillen, May 2017. The respective Chief Executives of the Border Corridor Local Authority areas, Liam Hannaway, Marie Ward, and Jonathan McGilly of Newry, Mourne & Down District Council and Pamela Arthurs of East Border Region Ltd deserve particular thanks for their input. For additional assistance with data we would like to thank the relevant statisticians in Department for the Economy, Central Statistics Office and Department of Justice, Enterprise and Investment and likewise Aidan Gough of InterTradeIreland, for sharing the insights of research into tariff and local border trade.

# Foreword

## Preface Border Corridor Study. August 2017

We, the eleven Local Authorities who comprise the Ireland/N Ireland Border Corridor welcome the opportunity to present our joint research on the Risks, Opportunities and Issues to consider as a result of Brexit.

There is no doubt that the Ireland/N Ireland Border area will be most impacted by Brexit. Potentially the border will have an EU/Non EU international frontier right through its middle. This will present particular challenges which must be anticipated and dealt with.

As the Brexit negotiations continue the Border Corridor Local Authorities, elected members and officials, are committed to lobby and advocate for the needs of our region on an ongoing basis. These needs must continue to be reflected at the highest levels in government, in Ireland, N Ireland, London and Brussels.

We anticipate that joint work between the Border Corridor Local Authorities will consolidate over the next few years as clarity emerges on the actual shape of Brexit .

We would welcome any comments which people may have in response to this report. These responses should be sent to [admin@eastborderregion.com](mailto:admin@eastborderregion.com)



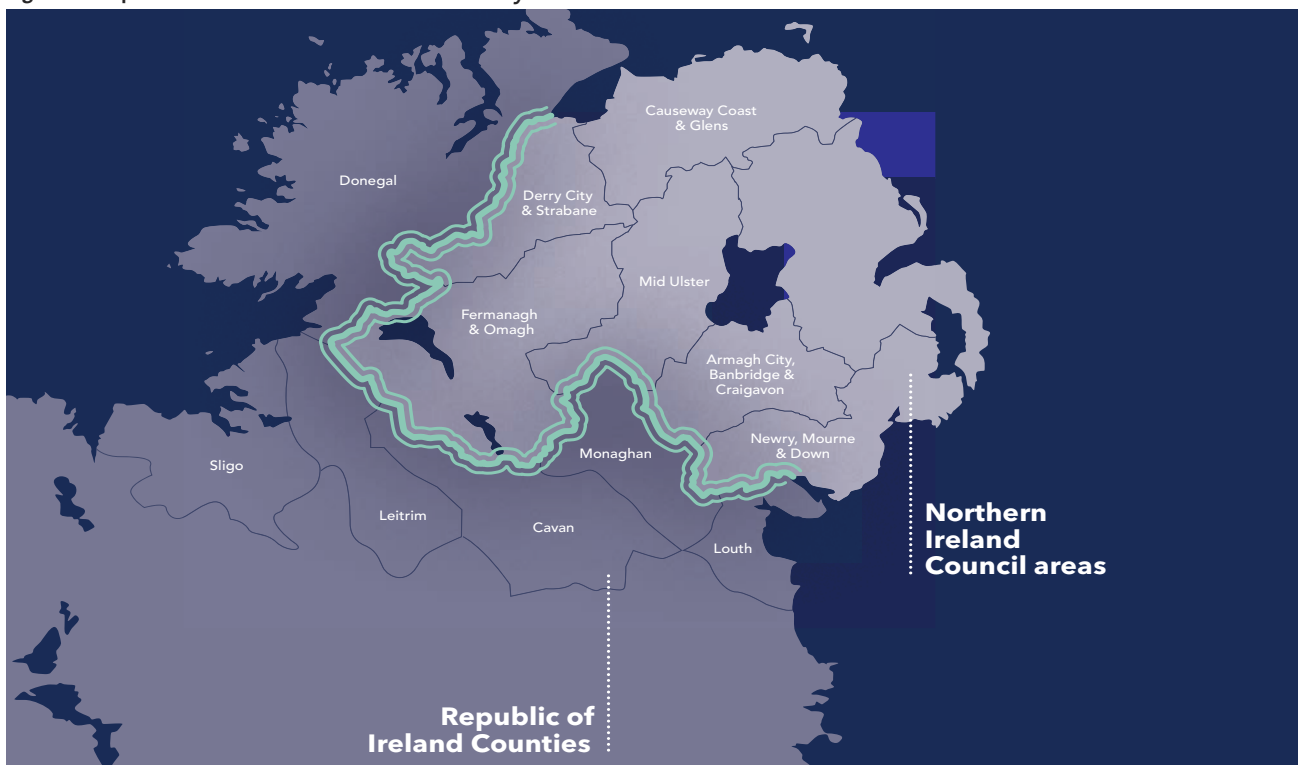
# 1. Background to the report

Following the result of the June 2016 United Kingdom [UK] referendum to exit the EU there has been extensive discussions across the island of Ireland and beyond as to the impacts of this decision.

The Irish border and the region around it have been at the centre of this discussion. Following the referendum the Local Authorities from the Ireland/N Ireland Border Corridor (see Figure 1), led by Newry, Mourne and Down District Council, appointed the Ulster University Economic Policy Centre [UUEPC] to undertake research into the potential impacts of the Brexit decision on cross border region. East Border Region facilitated the research and the coordination

between the individual Local Authorities along the border corridor as shown in Figure 1. A second complementary report on the potential impact of Brexit was completed for the North West City Region in Feb 2017 which includes more detailed focus on the North West. Reference endnote - Initial Analysis of the Challenges and Opportunities of Brexit for the Derry City & Strabane and Donegal County Council areas – The North West City Region, UUEPC, Feb 2017.

**Figure 1: Map of the Border Corridor and Local Authority areas**



**Source: Newry, Mourne & Down District Council**

The UUEPC have completed the data collection and analysis, consultations (to identify likely areas of impact) and some provisional estimates of future employment in the Border Corridor for this report. The initial forecasts are based upon the existing economic profile of the region and the likely risks and opportunities for its economy given the future position of the region along an external border between the EU and an ex-member state (the UK). The research also recognises the current extent of

integration across the Corridor in many areas of social and economic life, such as trade, daily commuting for both public services and work, and cross-border shopping and tourism. The report concludes with some considerations as to what actions might be taken by the Local Authorities and other government and non-government stakeholders to ensure that any opportunities arising from Brexit might be grasped as well as minimising negative impacts which could arise from changes to trade and other policy areas.



## 2. Introduction: Brexit and the story so far

### 2.1 Brexit

**The shockwaves of the result of the UK's referendum on EU membership continue to be felt and debated.<sup>1</sup>**

However, the timetable<sup>2</sup> has now been established. Article 50 was triggered on 29 March 2017 and 'divorce negotiations' between the UK government and the European Commission opened on 19 June 2017. Unless there are any dramatic U-turns, changes of heart or extensions to the timetable, Brexit will take place by the end of March 2019.

However, the narrowness of the UK vote to leave and the fact that a majority (56%) in Northern Ireland (NI) voted to remain ensure that the politics of Brexit will be troublesome for negotiators. The Remain vote had a majority in 11 of the 18 NI parliamentary constituencies. Of the 8 constituencies along the northern part of the Border Corridor only one (Upper Bann) voted to leave with many of the others returning large Remain votes (for example 2:1 in South Down).<sup>3</sup>

There is a recognition among all parties to the Brexit negotiations that one item on the agenda has a particular consequence for the island of Ireland: the future nature of the Irish border. The public recognition of this by the two chief UK and EU negotiators has followed months of lobbying and persuading by political parties in NI and the Irish government and others in local government. In NI, the special conditions due to the border, cross-border commuting, the need for a secure energy supply, the continuation of EU funding (estimated to be worth £3.5bn up to 2020) and the exposure of the agri-food sector were all laid out in the August 2016 letter from the then First and Deputy First Ministers to the UK Prime Minister.<sup>4</sup> Although the Executive has since collapsed and, at this time, remains absent from the

discussions, a 'Brexit unit' is present in the Executive Office to present the NI case to Whitehall and also to work with the Irish government and officials through the North/South Ministerial Council (NSMC), on any cross-border matters.<sup>5</sup>

The Southern side of the Border Corridor has also featured strongly in the statements and publications issued by the Irish government since its initial Brexit contingency plan, issued immediately after the referendum.<sup>6</sup> Regional Brexit events have also allowed local people to feed into the Irish government's approach. This approach to date has had three strands: Irish/EU, British/Irish and North/South. Although the negotiations do raise questions about how best the Republic of Ireland can position itself for a post-Brexit world, the issue of the border and the integration, in terms of people and trade, with the UK generally means that the government is likely to favour as close a UK/EU future relationship as possible.<sup>7</sup>

In the UK matters have become more complicated due to recent political events.<sup>8</sup> The UK election resulted in a minority Conservative government and raised fresh questions about the shape of Brexit. Before the election the exit door desired by the UK government seemed to be clearer and involved leaving the Customs Union, taking control of immigration policy and rejecting the jurisdiction of the European Court of Justice.<sup>9</sup> Analysis of GB voters suggested that they were 'hard on the outside but rather softer in the middle', meaning that any trade-off between free trade and freedom of movement of people would be difficult to sell, especially to the government's supporters.<sup>10</sup>

Since the election the UK government has begun to publish a series of proposals, including some on the Irish border, which seem to confirm the exit door but are unclear on the path afterwards. However, there remains uncertainty about what sort of Brexit will have a parliamentary majority, how long any transitional arrangements after June 2019 will be, and whether the current UK government will serve throughout the entire period of negotiations.<sup>11</sup> On the European side, while the unity of member states will be sorely tested by the negotiations, the Article 50

process with its fixed timeline allows EU negotiators to make the UK an offer, first on the shape of the divorce and then on the future relationship.<sup>12</sup>

Some of the post-Brexit options are detailed in Figure 2, which shows the various associations and memberships which currently bind European countries together. It may be that one of these or perhaps an entirely new 'association' will become part of the solution.

Figure 2: Various membership arrangements across European countries

## Europe's Ties That Bind

The U.K.'s plan to leave the European Union has focused attention on long-standing pacts that govern trade, immigration and the common currency

### European Union

28-nation single market of free trade and shared regulation; includes "free movement" of goods, services, capital and people

### Euro Zone

19 countries using the euro currency

### European Economic Area

Provides access to single market in exchange for payments; has "emergency brake" on free movement of people

### European Free Trade Association

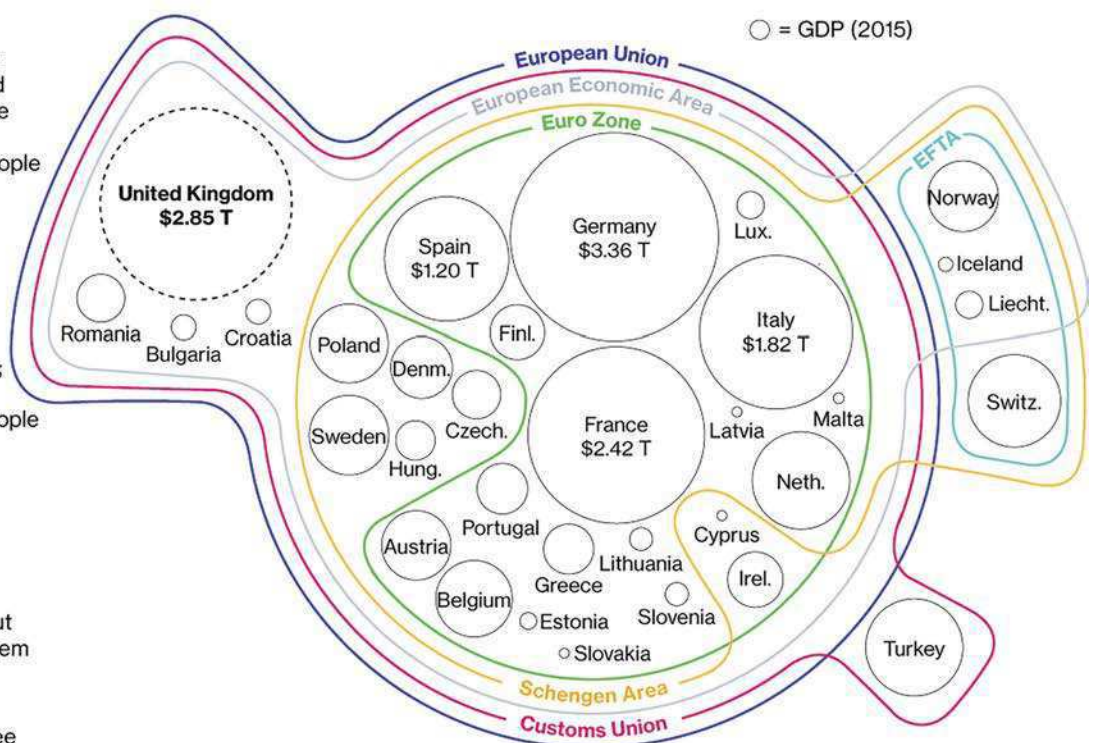
Free-trade zone and network of agreements with other countries

### Customs Union

Circulates goods without duties, has uniform system for handling imports

### Schengen Area

26-country passport-free travel zone



Bloomberg Graphics

Source: <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-06-22/u-k-should-consider-efta-deal-to-kick-start-post-brexit-trade>


















## 2.2 The (economic) story so far

One thing that the story so far should have taught observers is that it will be difficult to accurately predict the medium to long term impacts of Brexit.

Just after the referendum, the Nobel laureate, Paul Krugman, argued that the threats of a UK recession were overblown, even though he believed that 'economists have very good reasons to believe that Brexit will do bad things in the long run'.<sup>13</sup> Others have taken the Treasury and various forecasters to task for their modelling techniques and assumptions, although it is fair to say that this criticism has, in turn, been attacked.<sup>14</sup> Above all, the economic debate before the referendum and the accompanying forecasts has done little to persuade the general public that these tools and the expertise that goes with them have got any better since the financial crisis.<sup>15</sup>

What we now know is that the period after the referendum did not see either the UK or EU economies entering recession. Instead, as Table 1 shows, most of the economic indicators have remained positive since June 2016. The immediate decision by the Bank of England to increase levels of quantitative easing and lower interest rates, alongside the signals that, for the time being, the Treasury was partially abandoning austerity (saying that the UK budget would not be balanced by 2020) were critical factors in supporting what became a consumer-driven rally in the second half of 2016. By November, however, the growth in retail sales had peaked and begun to decline, perhaps as a result of price inflation beginning to pass through.

**Table 1: Economic indicators for the UK and NI since the Referendum result**

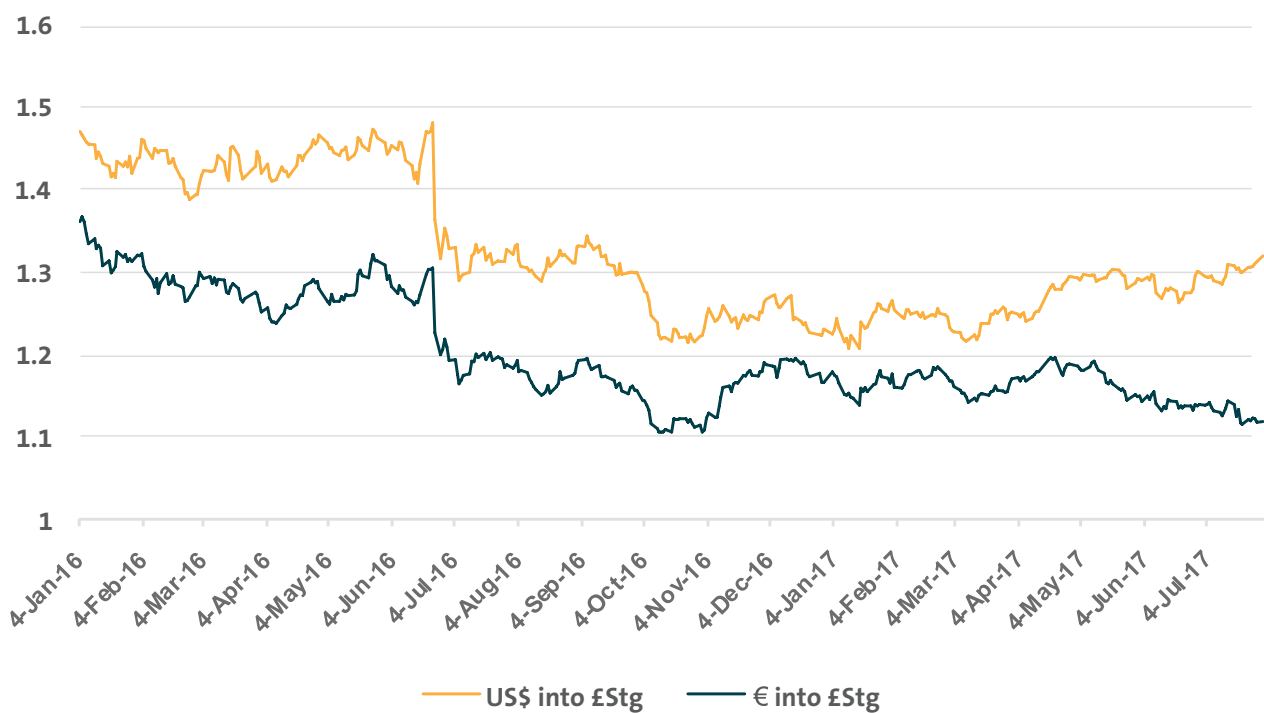
Indicators March/April 2017	Change since Brexit vote
FTSE 100	
Sterling into USD	
Sterling into Euro	 
UK Retail sales (Jun vs. Mar 17)	
UK Consumer confidence (Jun vs. Apr 17)	
Economic Surprise Index (Jun vs. Mar 17)	
UK Claimant unemployment (Jun vs. Feb 17)	
UK New car sales (YoY to Mar 17)	
NI PMI: Output/Business activity (Jun vs. Nov)	
NI PMI: New business (Jun vs. Nov)	 
NI PMI: Backlogs (Jun vs. Nov)	
NI PMI: Employment (Jun vs. Nov)	
NI PMI: Input costs (Jun vs. Nov)	
NI PMI: Price charged (Jun vs. Nov)	
NI PMI: New export business (Jun vs. Nov)	

Sources: FTSE 100: London Stock Exchange (27/04/2017); Exchange rate: Bank of England (24/04/2017); Retail sales: ONS; Consumer confidence: GfK; Economic Surprise Index: Ulster Bank on behalf of Bloomberg; Claimant Unemployment: ONS; New car sales: SMMT; NI PMI: Ulster Bank.

Linked to the growing inflationary pressures, the immediate and dramatic drop in Sterling against the US Dollar and Euro has been the most striking alteration since the referendum. This had an immediate impact in the Border Corridor, which operates a dual currency zone in many places.

Although Sterling has not reached parity with the Euro, which almost happened in late 2008, the weakness against the US Dollar has reached thirty-year lows. The depreciation in Sterling may be good news for exporters in NI or the UK as a whole but the evidence of increasing exports is patchy.

Figure 3: Sterling vs Dollar and Euro, Jan. 2016 - July 2017

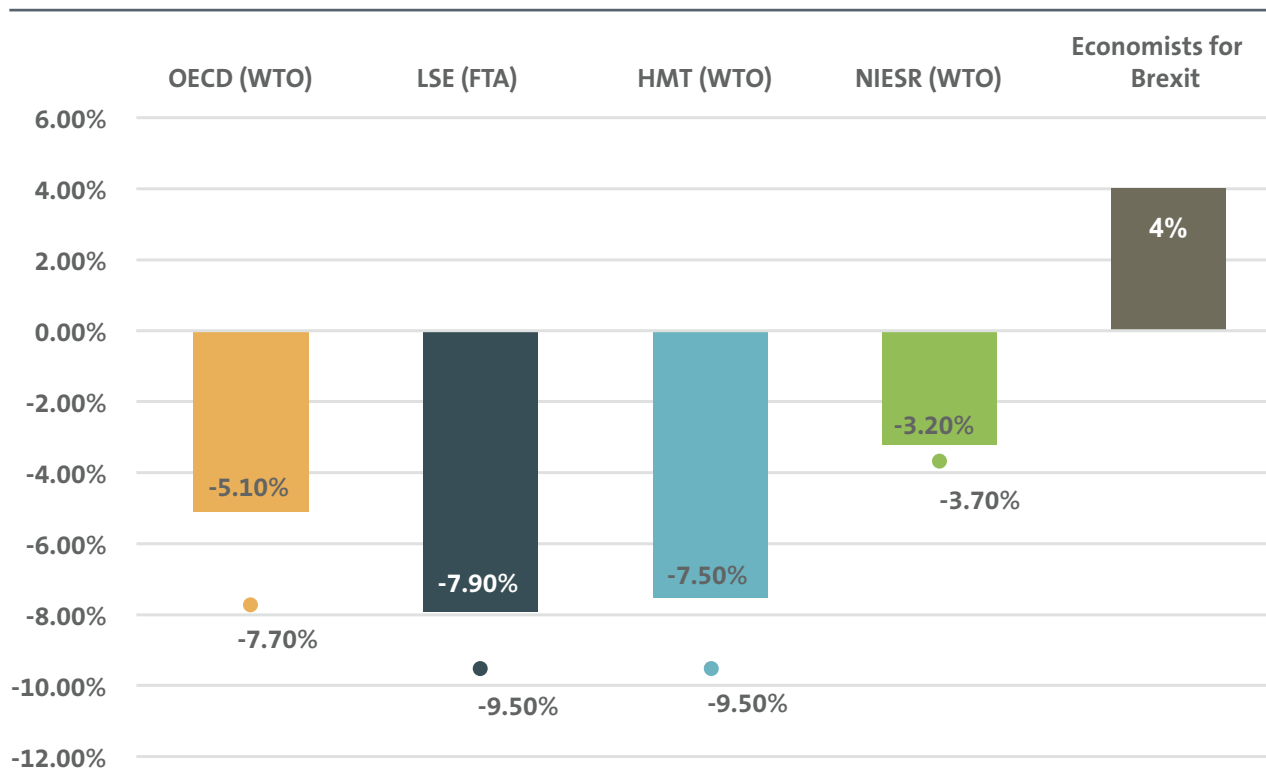


Source: Bank of England

Despite the continuation of consumer-led growth after the referendum and the potential advantages for the UK economy from a Sterling devaluation the consensus among most economists remains that the long-term impact on trade, investment and skills of Brexit will be negative for both the UK economy and the EU's. Figure 4 shows that most assessments,

based on the UK leaving the Customs Union, would lead to the economy shrinking between 3% and 8%. A rare exception to this trend are those economists favouring Brexit who believe that less regulations, the ability to negotiate new trade deals and the potential for further FDI coming to the UK could lead to a 4% addition to GDP.

Figure 4: Central and Lower Forecasts of % change in UK's GDP in the long run



Source: M. Ebell & J. Warren, 'The long term economic impact of leaving the EU', National Economic Institute Review, May 2016, p.154.

The impact of Brexit on the Republic of Ireland has been similarly negative.<sup>16</sup> In the run up to the UK referendum on EU membership was raised there were estimates that Ireland could be the worst affected EU member state. One initial assessment referred to a potential fall in GDP of between 0.8% and 2.6% below baseline by 2030.<sup>17</sup> Research from the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI) has supported this initial estimate as a result of Ireland's close trade, investment, energy and migration integration with the UK, even allowing for gains in Foreign Direct Investment. The ESRI forecast that, if the UK were to adopt WTO rules for future trade, then Ireland's GDP would be 3.8% lower after 10 years. This is largely due to a fall of 30% in trade with the UK, representing a decline of 4% in total trade, twice the average for the EU as a whole.<sup>18</sup> Further research has provided sectoral detail of these potential losses, given exposure to UK trade in the Food & Drink, Pharmachem, Traditional Manufacturing and Materials Manufacturing sectors.<sup>19</sup> The agri-food sector has come in for particular attention and Bord Bia have recently developed a Brexit Barometer, essentially a risk analysis tool for exporting firms in the sector.<sup>20</sup>

Despite this negativity the economy in the Republic of Ireland currently remains a vibrant one. Forecasts for growth in 2017 and 2018 in Table 2 below show this strength, with most above 3% in both years. Indeed, much of the economic narrative in Ireland concerns potential over-heating in Dublin, with a resultant rental and house price bubble, rising employment numbers (to over 2 million in work with all 11 sectors adding people) and concerns only around recent falls in manufacturing and services output.<sup>21</sup> The Border Area however, has never performed economically to the same extent as the rest of the country and pre Brexit still lags behind economically. The negative impacts of Brexit are thus likely to be felt strongly in the southern border counties.

Table 2: GDP Forecasts for the Republic of Ireland for 2017 and 2018

	Date	2017	2018
IMF	Oct. 2016	3.2%	3.1%
European Commission	Nov. 2016	3.4%	3.3%
OECD	Nov. 2016	3.2%	2.3%
ESRI	Mar. 2017	3.8%	3.6%
Central Bank of Ireland	Apr. 2017	3.5%	3.2%
Department of Finance	Apr. 2017	4.3%	3.7%

Source: Department of Finance, Monthly Economic Bulletin April 2017

The potential economic impact of Brexit on Northern Ireland has not had as much research. A paper for the Assembly's Committee on Enterprise, Trade and Investment and research commissioned by the Department for Enterprise, Trade and Investment from Oxford Economics came to a similar range of reductions of 2.8%-3% by 2030, 1% lower in both cases below the reduction in GDP expected for the UK.<sup>22</sup> Other research, from the Nevin Economic Research Institute, has identified sectors at risk from Brexit and then the consequences for NI of the UK leaving the Single Market and the Customs Union.<sup>23</sup>

The problem for the Northern Ireland economy is that while it continues to grow, indeed faster than many believed it would in 2016, growth is much less than

needed for a step-change in performance. The forecasts in Table 3 show that the modest growth is set to continue, although there is significant uncertainty around the potential upsides associated with the recent £1 billion pledged as part of the DUP/Tory deal (resulting from the post 2017 election Conservative and DUP alliance in the UK) and the downsides associated with a slowdown in consumer spending.

**Table 3: GDP/GVA Forecasts for Northern Ireland for 2017 and 2018**

	Date	2017	2018
IMF	Oct. 2016	3.2%	3.1%
UUEPC	June 2017	1.1%	1.2%
Danske Bank	June 2017	1.2%	1.0%
PwC	Mar. 2017	1.2%	0.9%

Source: Department of Finance, Monthly Economic Bulletin April 2017

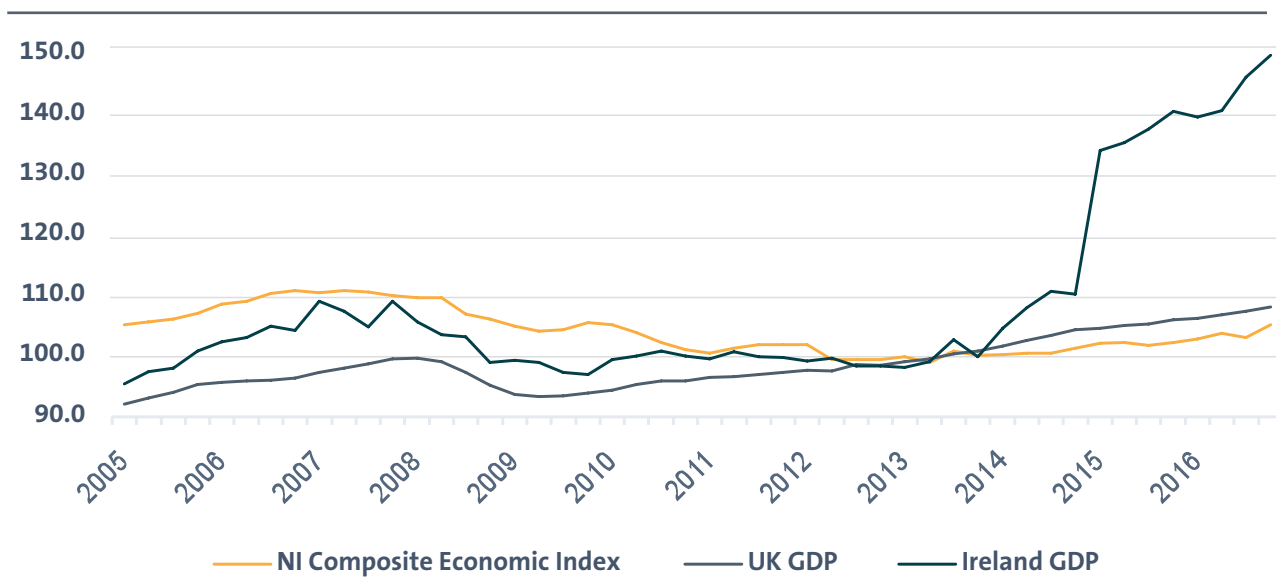
## 2.3 Conclusions

Although the longer term forecasts have a consensus about the negative economic impact of Brexit, Figure 5 below shows how current economic performance of Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland is better than expected, even if the two economies are showing quite different trajectories.

Given the growth in the UK economy, at least until recent months, and the fact that the forecasting expertise of economists did not convince (perhaps due to past sins), a majority of UK voters in the

referendum chose to vote Leave. Certainly, the consensus around negative economic implications, even if they were believed, was not enough to produce a Remain majority.<sup>24</sup>

Figure 5: Comparison of NICEI<sup>25</sup> with GDP for UK and Republic of Ireland, Q1 2008-Q4 2016 (2013=100)



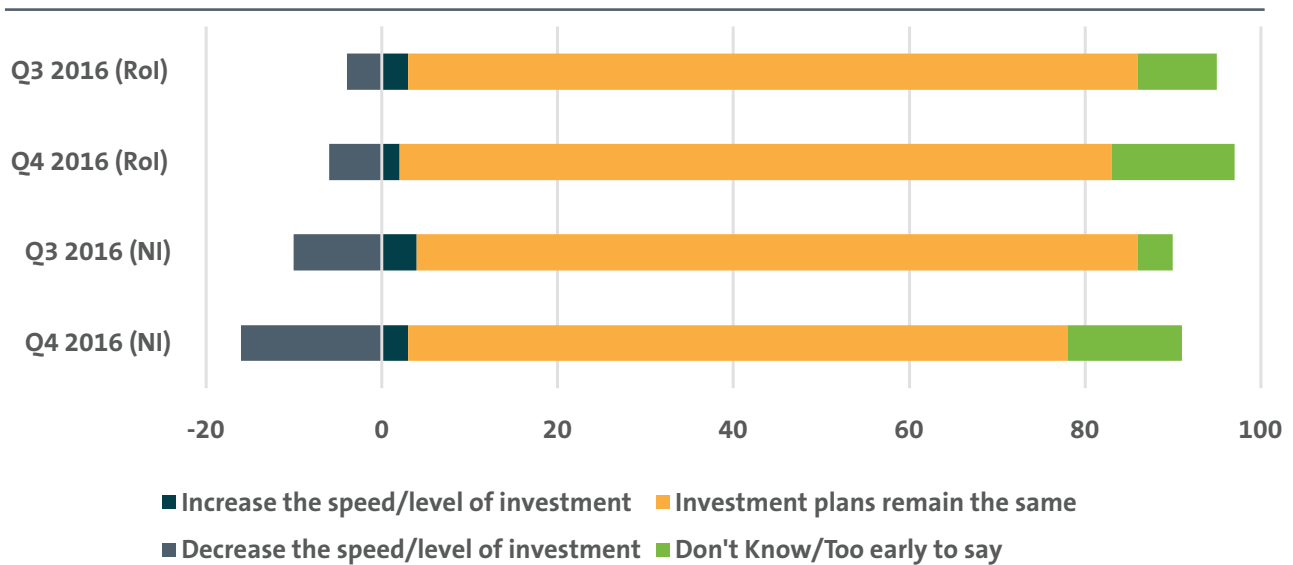
Source: NICEI, Q4 2016 release (Apr. 2017)

Many businesses have felt differently about Brexit from the outset, perhaps due to their dislike of the uncertainty surrounding the subject and the future. According to the largest survey of businesses across the island, InterTradeIreland's Business Monitor, **less than 1 in 20 firms have made any plans to deal with Brexit**. There has been a slight shift in business sentiment around investment plans for the next 12 months. Most firms, as shown in Figure 6, will

continue with their current plans. However, there is now a growing number between Q3 2016 and Q4 who are either unsure or are planning to reduce the level or speed of these investments. This may be a sign of how wider uncertainty can begin to impact on hopes for job creation or business expansion, something which the Bank of England has been arguing for some time.



Figure 6: Given the referendum result how will your investment plans for the next 12 months change?



Source: InterTradeIreland Business Monitor, Q4 2016

The uncertainty around Brexit is unlikely to disappear in the short term as the negotiations begin in earnest. The importance of inputting regional or sub-regional concerns and particularities into the general process, either via, Dublin, London or Brussels, will also

continue and any opportunities to do this should be grasped by Local Authorities in the Border Corridor. This will be important if the Northern Ireland Executive is not restored in the short term.



### 3. An Economic Profile of the Border Corridor

Issues of data complementarity make it difficult to present a unified profile of the Border Corridor in this report. However, we are able to detail the population, labour market and enterprise features of the Corridor, in order to draw some general conclusions on the economy of the region.

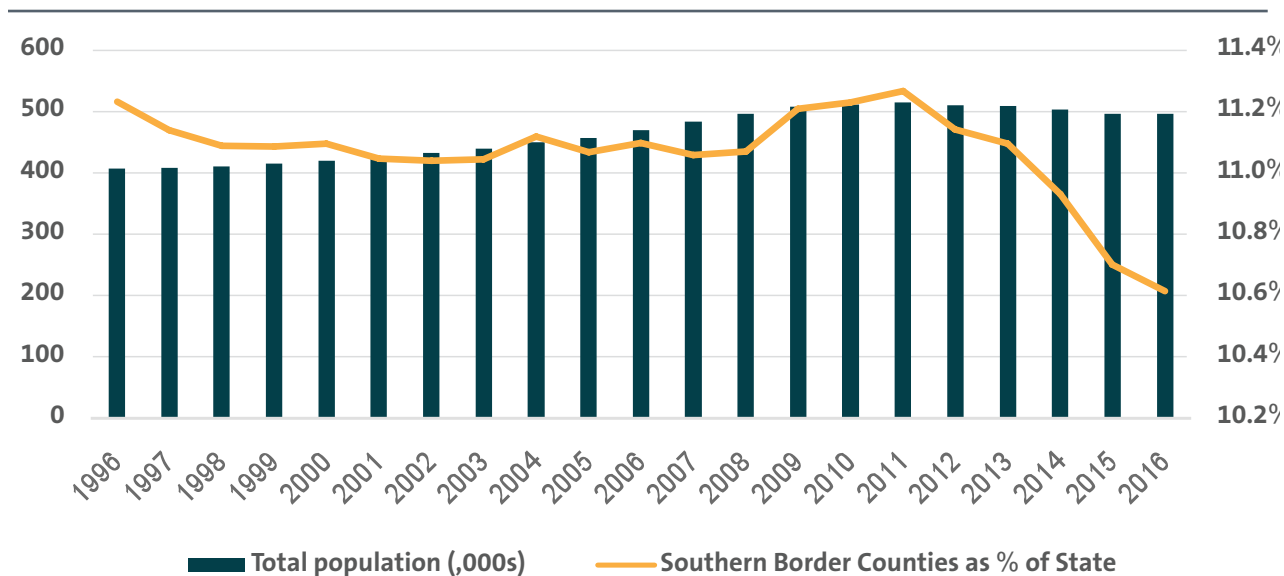
### 3.1 Population

The Border Region stretches from Newry through Monaghan to Derry/Londonderry the second largest city in NI and is recognised as the sub-regional economic driver for NI within the Regional Development Strategy for NI.

However, the increase is mostly centred in the NI Local Authority areas as the 2016 Census returns show that the Southern Border Counties added on just over 8,000 people and County Donegal actually showed a fall in population due to out-migration. Figures 7 and 8 show how the share of total population in the two

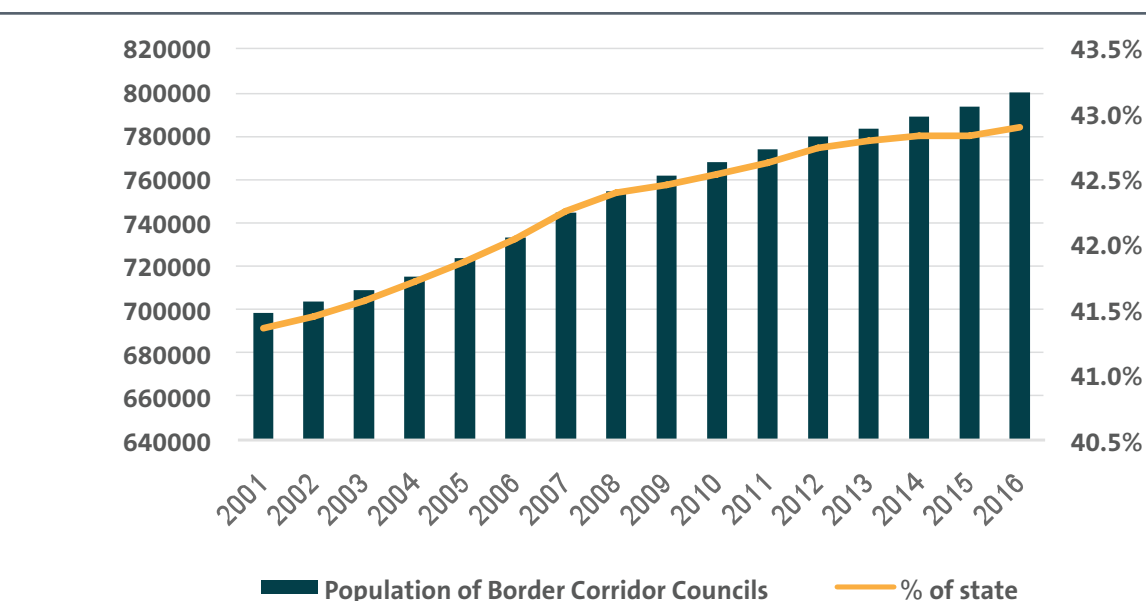
parts of the Corridor is going in different directions – gently increasing on the Northern side and decreasing, quite sharply, on the Southern side. The population may be aging, in line with the island as a whole, but it remains a relatively young one **with 35% of the combined total under the age of 30 years.**

Figure 7: Population of Southern Border Counties, 1996-2016



Source: CSO and UUEPC estimates

Figure 8: Population of NI Border Corridor Local Authority areas, 2001-2016



Source: CSO and UUEPC estimates

### 3.2 Labour market

The employment rates (67% and 68%) are very similar for the areas on both sides of the border.

Employment is dominated by five key sectors - retail, health, manufacturing, education and agriculture – which account for around 60% of the total share. In the Southern Border Counties manufacturing and construction have shed jobs in the last 15 years. This has not happened for manufacturing north of the border where agriculture has been the main employment shedder. **Unemployment rates in the Border Corridor have traditionally been higher than**

**the state averages and this remains the case today.**

That said the fall in unemployment rates since late 2012 has been mirrored in the border region. Another feature to note is that labour participation rates have long been lower in the Corridor than in other parts of the island. How much of this is due to a lack of employment opportunities, in particular for females, is a matter for future research.

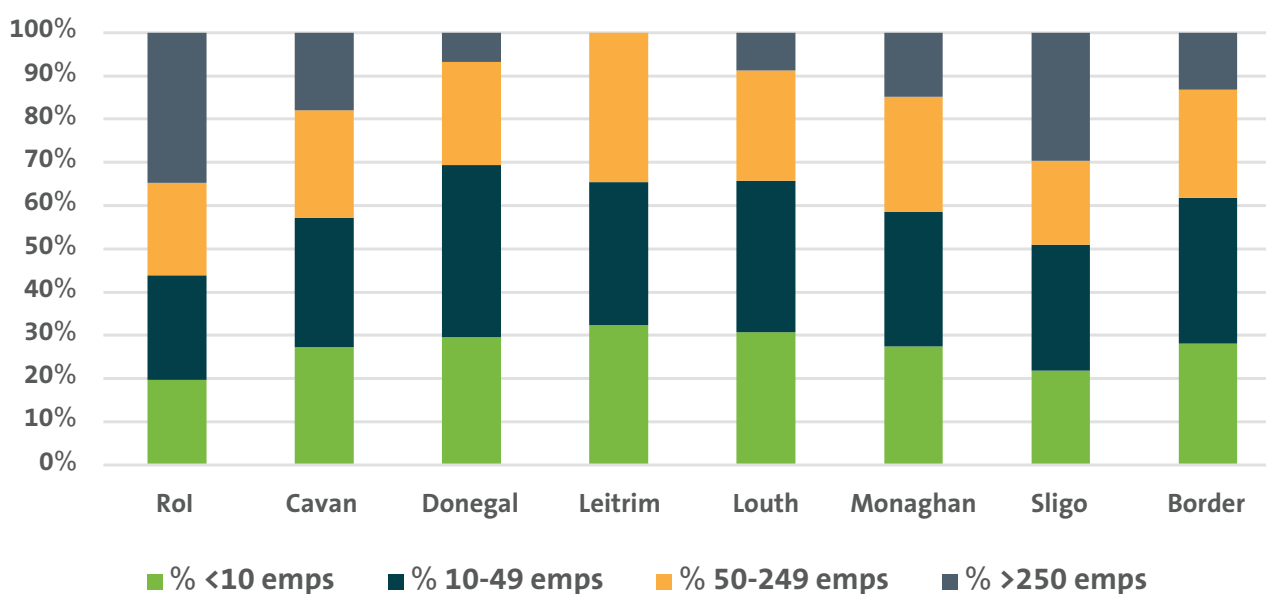
### 3.3 Business demography

The data for the two parts of the Border Corridor are not directly comparable as the NI data includes agriculture as a sector but the Republic of Ireland does not.

If we use the sectoral shares from the Local Authority areas north of the border as a proxy for the Corridor as a whole then there may be around **87,000 businesses in the region, 40% of which are in the agriculture sector. Of the other 60%, or 52,217 firms, the highest shares are in retail, hospitality/accommodation, manufacturing and construction.** The data excludes the self-employed where agriculture and construction are particularly strong. In terms of size the profile of

the businesses are quite similar to the shares of micros, small, medium and large businesses. However, as Figure 9 shows, those businesses employing more than 50 staff in the Southern Border Counties account for only 38% of total employment as opposed to 55% in the Republic of Ireland as a whole. Smaller businesses are particularly important employers in Counties Donegal, Leitrim and Louth.

Figure 9: Shares of employment by firm size in businesses in the Southern Border Corridor Counties, 2014



Source: CSO and UUEPC estimates

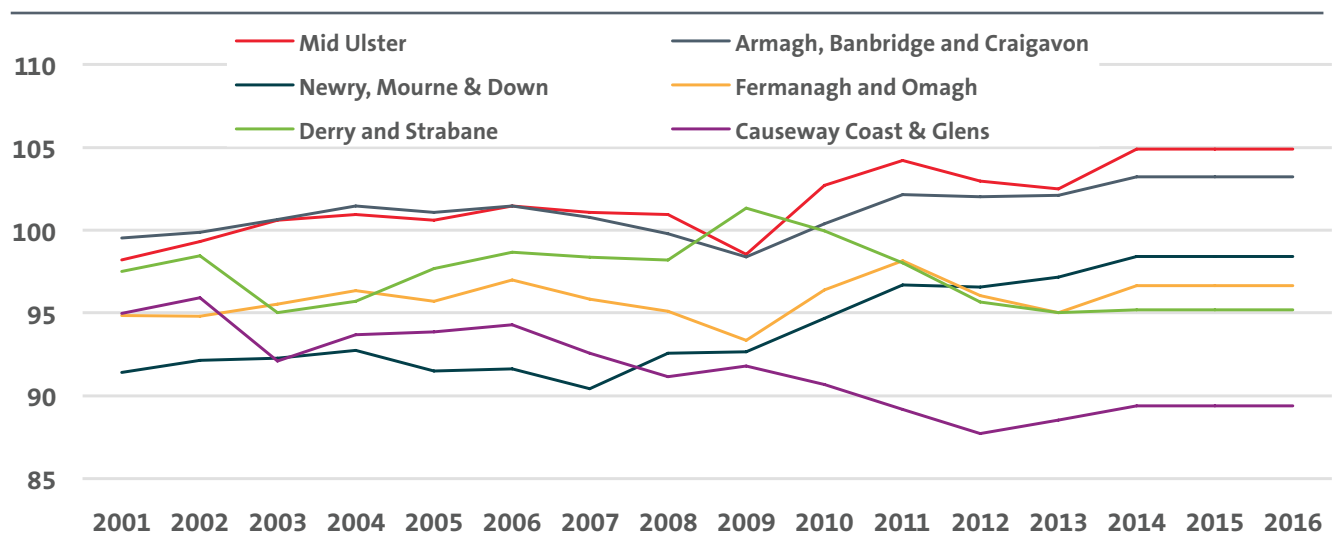
### 3.4 Productivity

Figures 10 and 11 show the GVA per capita figures for the Local Authority areas across the Border Corridor (aggregated as the Border region in the Central Statistics Office data).

In the case of **Northern Ireland two Local Authorities, Mid Ulster and Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon, have productivity levels in most years that out-perform the NI average**, itself a lagging performer when compared to the UK or the Republic of Ireland.

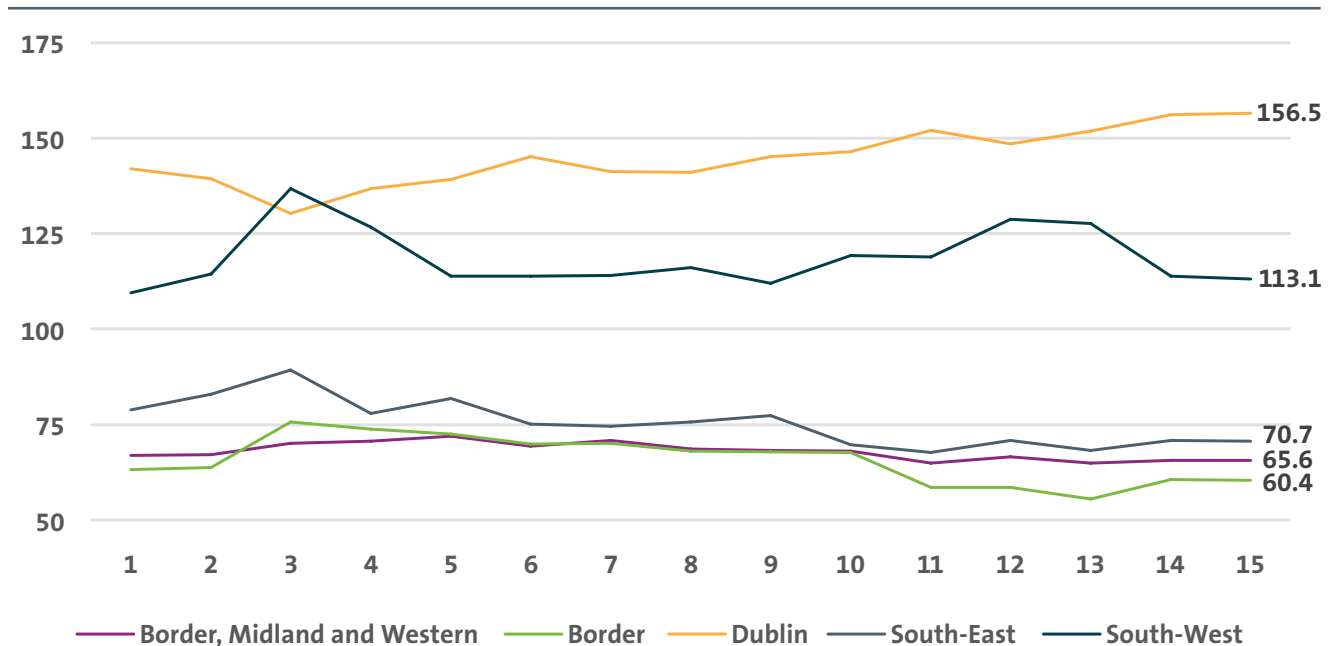
The Southern Border region has not only lagged the national productivity figures and those for Dublin and the South West, but also other poor performers, such as the South East.

Figure 10: Indices of GVA per capita in the NI Border Corridor Council areas, 2001-2016 (NI = 100)



Source: NISRA and UUEPC estimates

Figure 11: Indices of GVA per capita in the Southern Border Corridor Counties, 2001-2016 (RoI = 100)



Source: CSO and UUEPC estimates

### 3.5 Conclusions

This brief profile of the Border Corridor region supports earlier and more detailed research by John Bradley and Michael Best which referred to ‘bypassed places’.<sup>26</sup>

This brief profile of the Border Corridor region supports earlier and more detailed research by John Bradley and Michael Best which referred to ‘bypassed places’. They found good examples of successful businesses which were developing and selling differentiated products or services to markets across the island and beyond. Indeed parts of the region have higher levels of entrepreneurship, at least than other parts of Northern Ireland.<sup>27</sup> However there are too few of these firms and, **outside the areas along the Belfast-Dublin Corridor and those Local Authority areas in the middle of NI, the productivity rates tell a worrying story.**

The problems identified by Bradley and Best in 2012 have not been resolved since. Consultations for this paper would suggest that they are the very regional weaknesses and vulnerabilities that Brexit might well turn a spotlight upon.<sup>28</sup> The Bradley and Best report argued for a **greater regional focus in policy-making in both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland based more upon the local realities than either a desire to market an area or to deliver national agendas at a local level.**<sup>29</sup> Any strategy developed which purports to address the risks posed or opportunities offered by Brexit for the Border Corridor would do well to take the advice from Bradley and Best to rethink regional policy across the island from the bottom up.

## 4. Areas for consideration for the Border Corridor

Figure 12 shows the areas within the Border Corridor which will be impacted by Brexit.

This section of the report will deal with each of the areas in turn with a particular focus on trade, agri-food and fisheries, movement of people and

inward investment – and will offer some considerations about the challenges and opportunities which might arise.

Figure 12: Potential areas of impact from Brexit



Source: UUEPC

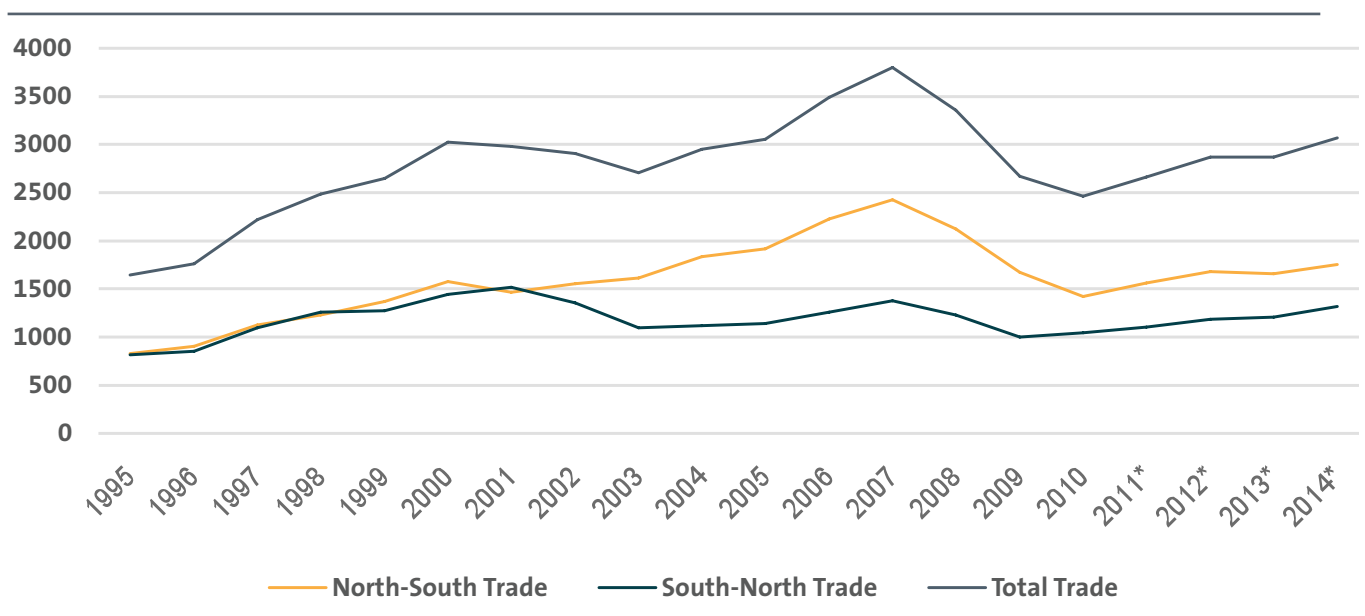
## 4.1 Trade: Cross-border trade and exports off the island

### Cross-Border Trade

Figure 13 shows how total cross-border trade in goods amounts to just over €3 billion. This figure reflects four years of recent growth in both directions after the recession of 2008 wiped off almost a quarter of the trade's value. More recent data, released by the HMRC for Q1 2017, shows a continuing recovery in the value of cross-border goods trade, currently driven by demand from Northern Ireland for goods from the Republic of Ireland.<sup>30</sup> Cross-border trade is of much more aggregate importance to the NI economy than

to that of the Republic of Ireland, where it is a small part of exports to the UK (worth €34 billion in 2016).<sup>31</sup> The cross-border goods trade accounts for less than 2% of Ireland's total exports (or less than 1% of GNP), while the combined cross-border sales of goods and services from NI accounts for approximately 10% of its GVA. While cross-border trade is much more important to small firms in the Republic of Ireland – around a sixth of small firm exports – this also pales beside the share in NI: two thirds of external sales by smaller businesses.

Figure 13: Cross-border trade in goods, 1995-2014



Source: InterTradeIreland

Analysis from the Irish government has found that three goods sectors – **Food & Live Animals, Manufactured Goods (eg: timber, paper or rubber goods) and Minerals (building material and metals)** – are the sectors most exposed to any changes in trade with the UK.<sup>32</sup> These three broad sectors account for around 40% of Ireland/UK trade but command a higher share of cross-border trade: 54% of Ireland's cross-border sales and 57% of NI's.<sup>33</sup> Therefore particular sectors – we will return to agri-food in the next section – and the regions where these are concentrated – will be more exposed to any trade shocks arising from Brexit. These exposures need to be taken into account in any consideration of the trade issue.

Consultations for this report with a range of firms across different sectors have found that **businesses and employees based in the Border Corridor tend to be more concerned about Brexit than you find elsewhere.** One reason for this, supported by economic research, is that proximity to a border leads

to greater levels of trade with the neighbouring country or region than might be found the further away from the border you travel.<sup>34</sup> Although we lack good sub-regional trade data for the island of Ireland, the InterTradeIreland Business Monitor survey has found that firms in the border area are much more likely to be involved in cross border trade – 23% across the island of Ireland compared to 30% in the South & West of NI and 29% in the Southern Border Counties. **Firms in the Border Corridor also sell much more of their output on a cross-border basis compared to firms elsewhere who are involved in that trade, perhaps a third as much again.**<sup>35</sup> For example, figures from Invest NI data for their client firms in the South, West and North West regions (those closest to the border) shows that the Republic of Ireland is a key market for these companies, where they sell more than 8% of their total turnover. The recent UK Government paper on the Irish border recognises that those Local Authority areas closer to the border had a higher propensity to export.<sup>37</sup>

### Exports off the island

As noted above the UK market is of great importance to the Republic of Ireland. In 2014 18% of services exports and 14% of goods went to the UK (including NI). In the same year the share of exports from the Southern Border Counties going to the UK was as high as 33%, almost twice the national average. Exports from NI are even more concentrated on the market most of risk of being impacted by Brexit: the EU. In 2014 58% of NI's total exports went to the EU, 22% going to member states other than Ireland.

### Issues & Actions to consider by Border Corridor

#### Local Authorities

##### Short term: Currency

- In the immediate future the consultations with businesses point to the main issue being how to deal with the currency fluctuation referred to above. A recent note from UBS suggests that while Sterling will recover some ground against an over-valued US Dollar it will remain around the same value against the Euro.<sup>39</sup>
- This has led to talk of a Stabilisation Fund for Irish exporters to the UK<sup>40</sup> but, in the meantime, the promotion by Local Authorities of available currency and cash management advisory and online trading and exporting supports to businesses will be critical. This will equally apply to retailers and tourism operators, given a limited ability to pass through the costs of a weaker pound to consumers.

##### Medium term: Risk analysis and planning

- When discussion turns to mitigating business and trade risks in the face of Brexit a key to this will be to better understand the extent to which some sectors – and not just agri-food – are most exposed to tariffs. Recent research from InterTradeIreland on the impact of the application of WTO tariffs on cross-border trade contains the startling fact that while only 6-7% of products have tariffs of 15% and higher, they account of for shares of 19% of South-to-North goods trade and 33% of North-to-South.<sup>41</sup>
- The sectoral analysis needs to be quickly followed by further work at firm level on the exposure to risk

from trade shocks for different types of businesses (indigenous v multinational and small v medium or large). Consultations with firms in the Border Corridor suggest that larger firms, with experienced management teams, are much further along in planning for Brexit. Other firms, with more of their turnover exposed to risk, may need assistance.

- Much of the understandings of these sectoral and firm-level dependencies are likely to be completed at the state level, both North and South. Local Authorities in the Border Corridor should ensure that the regional angle and indeed any additional exposure to risk continue to be considered in this work.

##### Long term: Diversification

- As the market destination figures show, both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland continue to be dependent on a small number of markets. Part of this is due to geography and history – thus the British Isles remains the key market for most businesses located there. And, as a later section suggests, access to this market is still important in FDI location decisions.
- The movement towards greater diversification of trade will need all government bodies, including local government with their economic development competencies, to be working together to ensure business can receive the correct assistance at each step along an export pathway that might be about to get more tricky to navigate.
- Diversification – both of markets and, equally importantly of the export base beyond a small number of firms – takes a significant amount of time but can be done. The share of Ireland's exports to the UK has fallen from 50% in 1973 to around 30% now, while, in the case of NI, HMRC data suggests that twenty years ago 70% of exports went to EU member states and this is now closer to 55%. In both cases nearby markets remain of crucial importance for goods and most services, but North America and other markets are becoming more important. The trends suggest trade diversification is possible but slow.



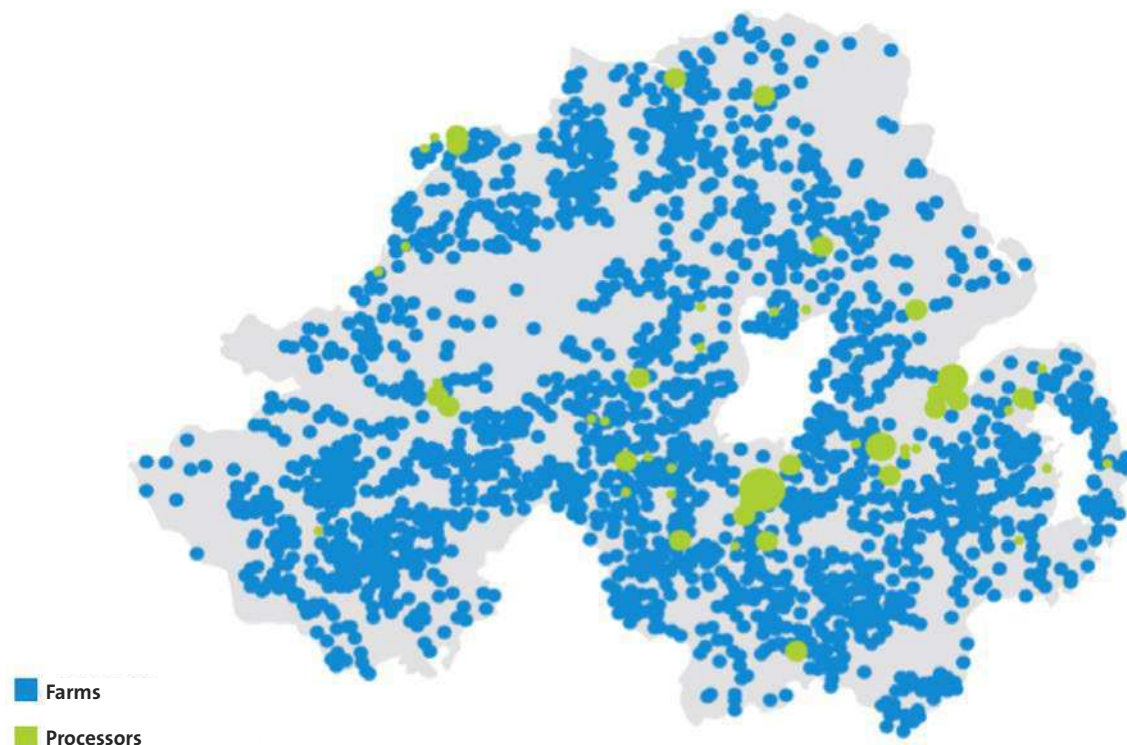
## 4.2 Agri-Food Sector: Exposure to Risk?

The agri-food sector is unique within the wider Brexit debate due to the importance not only of Ireland/UK trade in agri-food goods, but also the integrated nature of the supply chain on the island of Ireland to deliver these exportable goods, the risks of high tariffs in the case of WTO rules applying, and the contribution of CAP to farm incomes in NI.

The industry is an important employer across NI and the Republic of Ireland, involving 19,000 direct employees and 25,000 family farms north of the border and 52,000 and 140,000 the respective numbers in the South. There is also a regional concentration to consider for the purpose of this report. In the Republic of Ireland 15% of all Food & Drink processors are based in the Border region, where these make up 16% of all manufacturing businesses (second only to the South East for their share). 'Other

Foods' (ie: bakeries, small food producers, etc) make up most of the businesses but 11% are dairy processors and 20% meat producers, both slightly higher than the national averages. Figure 14, taken from a recent Northern Ireland Food and Drink Association report, shows a similar concentration of farms to the south and west of NI and processors in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon and Mid Ulster Local Authority areas.

Figure 14: Concentrations of agri-food employment in Northern Ireland, 2012

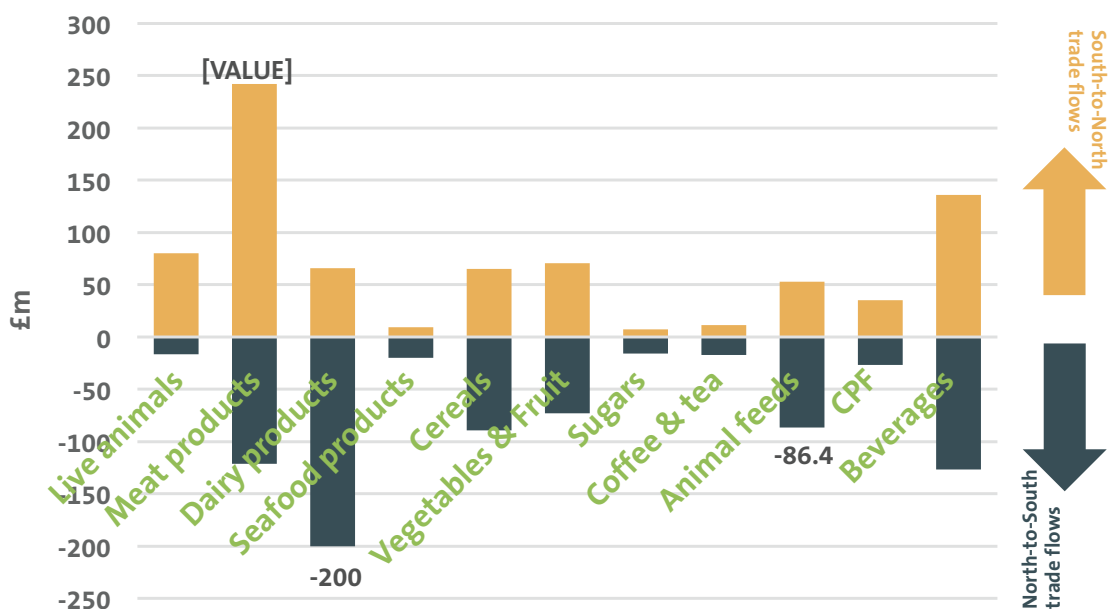


Source: NIFDA, Brexit: Challenges and Opportunities for Northern Ireland Food & Drink (Nov. 2016)

The agri-food industry is a sector characterised by low margins, high levels of intra-firm competition and is perhaps the most integrated on an all-island basis. As one witness to a House of Lords Committee put it: 'Many agri-food businesses are structured and operate on a cross-border basis.'<sup>43</sup> In the medium term this may offer further opportunities to further integrate all-island supply chains, if competition rules allow. Already, for example, the Irish-owned firms currently control 60% of NI's dairy processing capacity. Although the supply chains flow in both directions across the

border, Figure 15 shows how dairy products and animal feeds are traded from North to South and meat products in the opposite direction. These flows are important not only for the large firms which account for much of the value of meat and dairy processing but also for smaller producers, closer to the border. Recent research from the Centre for Cross Border Studies found that the cross-border sales were destined for places outside the border region, suggesting that the area is rather a centre of production than consumption.<sup>44</sup>

Figure 15: Cross-border flows of agri-food products, 2016

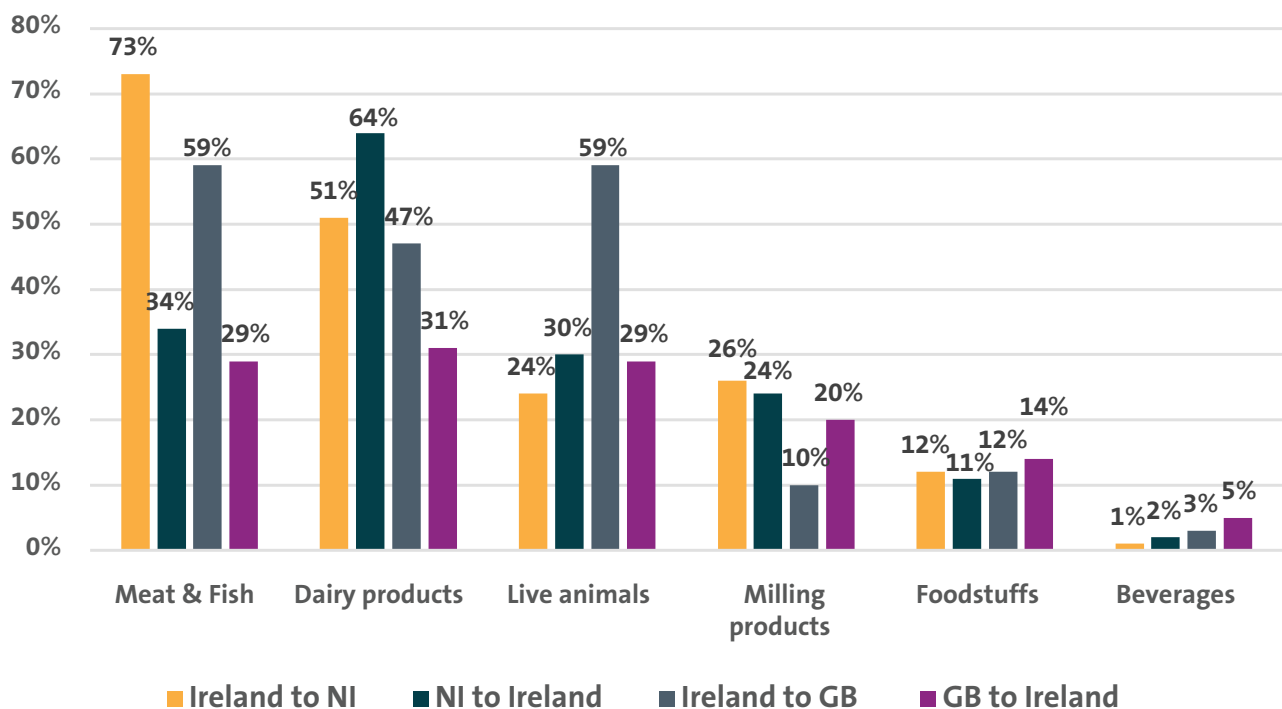


Source: HMRC Regional Trade Statistics

Turning to tariffs under WTO rules, these vary greatly from product to product depending on whether they are imposed by weight of the good being traded or at the product level. Figure 16 shows the effective tariffs that would be levied on agri-food products given the current patterns of cross-border and Ireland/GB trade

if the WTO rules were adopted by the UK on exiting the Customs Union. One estimate of the cost of additional paper associated with tariffs, at the level of the individual border crossing is in the range of €20 to €80.<sup>45</sup>

Figure 16: Sector level effective tariffs on agri-food products by trade direction



Source: ESRI research for InterTradeIreland

Research for InterTradeIreland by the ESRI offers some estimates of the impact of WTO tariffs and non-tariff barriers on cross-border trade:

- Tariffs only would see cross-border trade fall in value by 9%;
- With the addition of non-tariff barriers it would decrease by 16%; and
- With the addition of an effective devaluation of 10% in Sterling, the fall would be 17%, although some sectors would see trade in a North to South direction increase – notably machinery, chemicals and beverages.

However, for agri-food products generally the decline in trade value would range from 3% for live animals to 52% for dairy products. **Given the importance of dairy products to NI's exports to the Republic of Ireland, more than half (56%) of the overall fall in cross-border trade would come from the declining sales of milk and cream products.**<sup>46</sup>

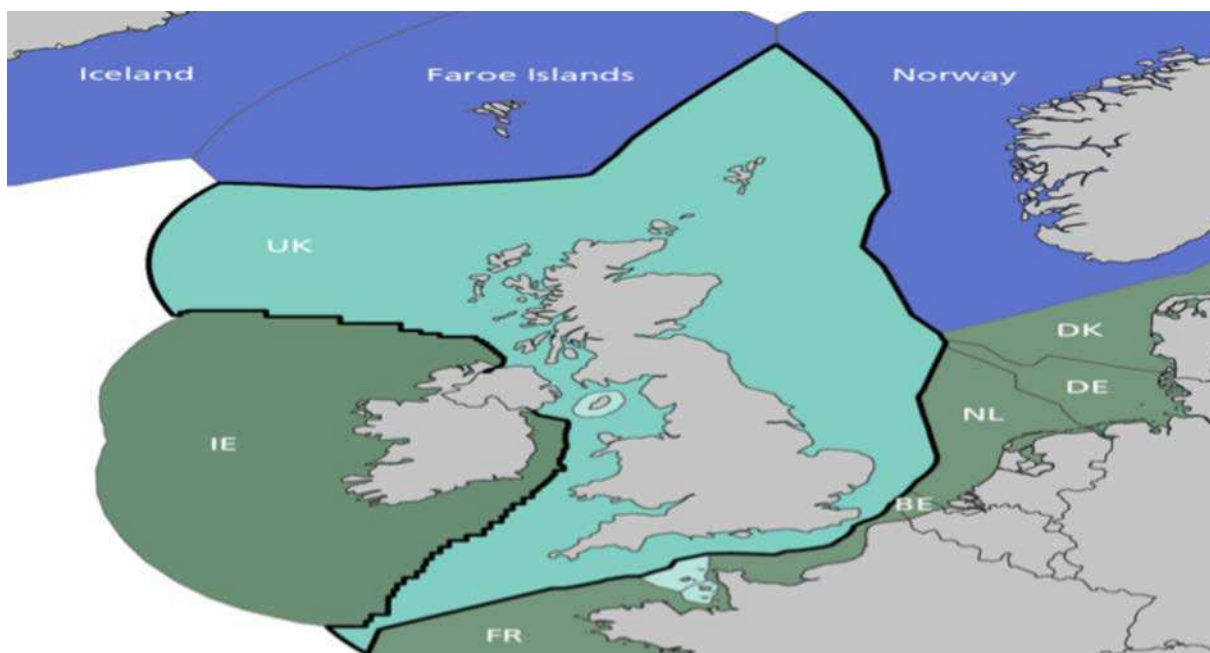
The agri-food sector will also be thinking of changes post-Brexit to the Common Agriculture Policy (CAP). **Between 2014 and 2020 €2.3 billion will be given as CAP Direct Payments to farmers and a further €251 million will be spent on other rural development and fisheries supports.** It is promised that this will not change suddenly, given that the contribution to farm incomes in NI is significant. Figures from DAERA show that farm incomes in 2016 stood at £244 million, while payments to NI from CAP in the same year amounted to £276 million. This suggests that many farmers, due to prices and costs, were actually losing money in 2016 and only kept afloat by Single Farm Payments. And not just in 2016 as DAERA estimates that the payments mounted to an average of 103% of farm incomes in NI in 2014/15. Sub-regional figures for CAP receipts in 2015 show that there were more than 23,000 recipients in Local Authority areas along the border who received £180 million in direct payments (approximately 70% of the NI total) and a further £51 million in rural development funding.<sup>48</sup>

### Fisheries

The question of the fisheries forms a separate issue and one that affects two Local Authority areas in particular: Newry, Mourne and Down where 7% of UK landings and 6% of the UK value (worth more than €100 million) take place and County Donegal where 65% of Irish landings and 40% of value happens. Currently the Common Fisheries Policy, first signed in 1983 and most recently updated in 2013, is agreed by EU member states on total allowable catches and quotas. The UK fishing industry has long criticised the centrally agreed quotas and Minister Michael Gove has recently opened the debate about what Britain will do about access to its waters after Brexit.<sup>49</sup> Given that a third of Irish landings are taken from British waters (two thirds in the case of mackerel), the risks from any uncertainty are clear.

There are models for new agreements post-Brexit, notably the EU's current agreement with Norway.<sup>50</sup> Here, agreement has been reached on total allowable catches of shared fish stocks (to manage resources), the division of these between the two parties and mutual access to fishing grounds. The map in Figure 17 shows how mutual access to the UK and Irish Exclusive Economic Zones will be critical in the wake of Brexit. How far this will be possible to satisfy both the fishing industry and the seafood processing industry in both NI and the Republic of Ireland (and indeed differing interests between the North West and South West) remains open to question.

Figure 17: Map of the UK, Irish and Nordic Exclusive Economic Zones



Source: House of Lords European Union Committee, Brexit: Fisheries.

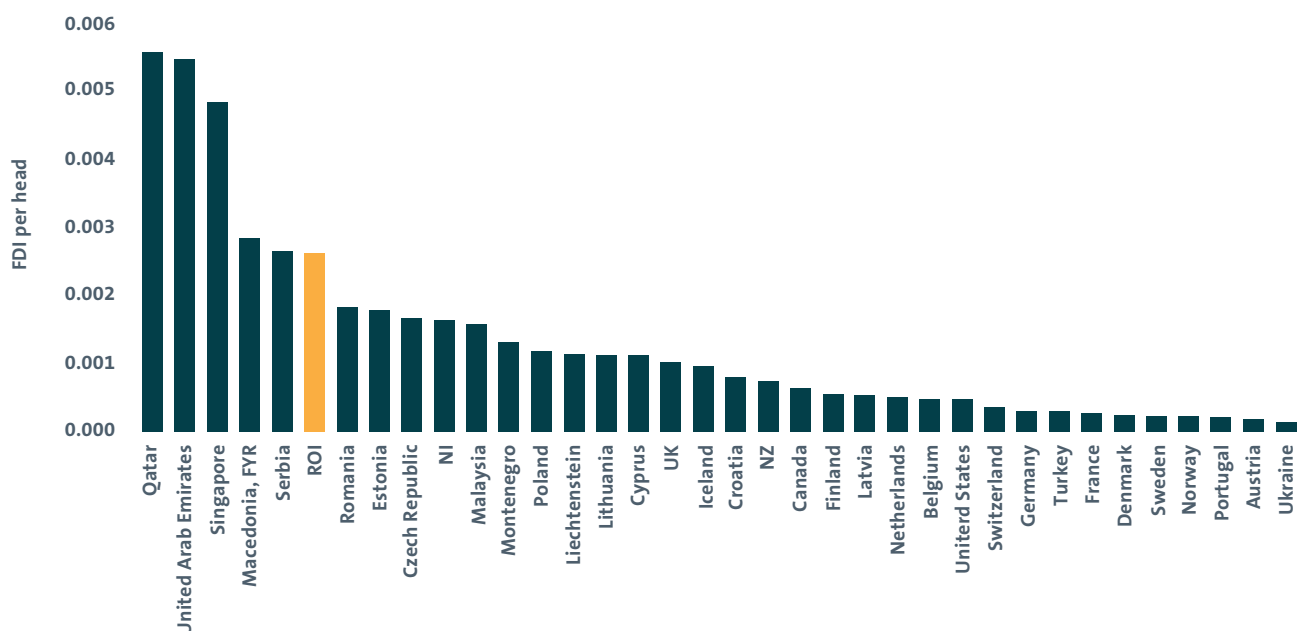
### Issues & Actions to consider by Border Corridor Local Authorities

- **Currency:** As noted above for cross-border trade the volatility of the exchange rate and the general depreciation of Sterling against the Euro calls for the promotion of better currency management by businesses and individuals as part of wider economic development supports. This is especially the case for this sector given both the higher engagement in cross-border business but also the low margins involved which make food and drinks businesses, currently in particular in the Southern Border Counties, susceptible to exchange rate swings.
- **Cooperation and clustering:** The agri-food sector is already highly integrated in terms of cross-border and all-island supply chains. Indeed, there is talk of further advances in this, perhaps in the shape of mergers between Irish and British food businesses. However, there are also opportunities for greater all-island cooperation in the sector, to support those smaller and medium size firms which make up the bulk of agri-food businesses. Proposals identified in an InterTradeIreland report could form the basis of new cooperative initiatives, starting first in the border corridor.<sup>51</sup>
- **Continuation of CAP:** At present the debate is on the replacement of the current CAP by a new UK Agricultural Policy. However, agricultural policy is a devolved matter and the NI Assembly and DAERA are responsible for the implementation of CAP within Northern Ireland, which has allowed for some flexibility in this area. **The continuation of this regional flexibility will be critical given both the importance of direct payments to farmers in the border corridor but also the need to retain a policy coherence and alignment with the Republic of Ireland in light of the co-dependencies in the agri-food area.**
- **Concentration and special arrangements:** The extent of the regional concentration of employment, single farm payments, cross-border market focus and reliance on migrant labour does raise the need to debate whether a special arrangement or deal is necessary for the agri-food sector. Gathering further information on the importance of the sector to the border corridor should remain a joint priority of Local Authorities there.

### 4.3 Foreign Direct Investment: What will drive future location decisions?

Foreign Direct Investment in the recent past has proved to be a key economic driver for both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. Figure 18, shows that both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland are among the top 10 countries or regions for FDI invested per head of population. A possible explanation for this may be the lower rate of corporation tax in Ireland and access to both the UK and the EU single market enjoyed by both parts of the island.

Figure 18: Average total FDI per head of population for selected countries around the world, 2010-2015



Source: FDI Intelligence, World Bank & UUEPC analysis

At a regional level performance data from Invest NI, at a local authority district level, shows that since 2012/13 the border Local Authority areas have seen the creation of 3,900 jobs (30% of the NI total) by foreign owned firms. Engineering, ICT, FinTech, food production and business services firms contributed the majority of the job creations.

Over the 5 years these areas have received a total of £320m worth of foreign investment (not including a major investment by one firm) with a majority of this investment coming from America (52%), followed by the Republic of Ireland (19%), other EU countries (13%), non-EU countries (9%) and finally the rest of the UK (7%).

In the Southern Border Counties foreign owned firms have added over 2,000 jobs (an increase of 20%) from 2010 to 2015, bringing their employment levels back to the 2006 peak of 11,800 jobs. Figure 19 shows that, relative to the Republic of Ireland as a whole, FDI employment growth has been lower in the Southern Border Counties. Much of this difference can be attributed to local losses of manufacturing employment (15% of total jobs) between 2006 and

2010, as a result of both the global financial crisis and a broader sectoral shift. These losses have been offset by gains in the service sectors (43% increase between 2010 and 2015) with the **most jobs gained in the internationally traded service sector**. This change in the sectoral make-up is also resulting in a continuing shift away from the UK market to a more global market place.

Figure 19: FDI employment change index (2006=100) in Republic of Ireland and Border Counties, 2006-2015



Source: Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation, Annual Employment Survey (2015)

Although FDI job creation in the Southern Border Counties has not been at the same relative level as the Republic of Ireland in the past decade there is an expectation that there will continue to be a reliance on this source of growth well into the future. Brexit places the wider locational choices made by firms under the microscope, as many international firms currently see the UK and the Republic of Ireland as being similar places to locate. Recent research by the

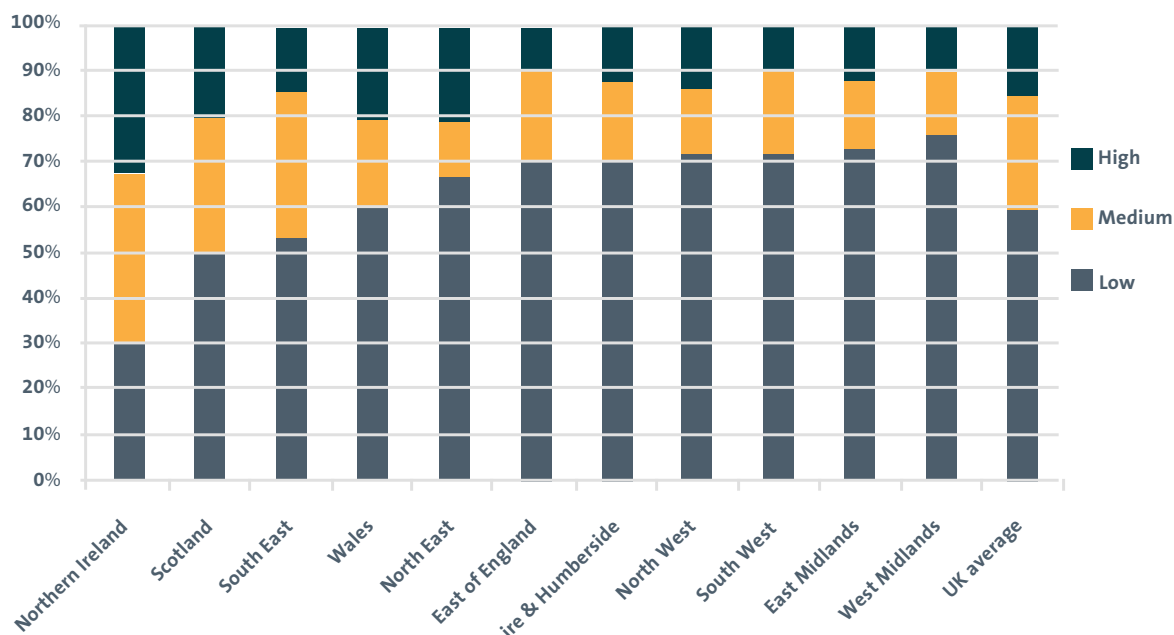
ESRI identified a lower corporation tax rate as one key to attracting FDI, but also found that other locational factors are also taken into account before investments are made, including local market size, access to the European single market and low production costs. **Indeed, non-EU investors appear to value access to the European single market as much as a low corporate tax level, whereas EU (including UK) investors value low costs more than anything else.**<sup>52</sup>



In Northern Ireland, future FDI locational decisions are likely to be influenced by the proposed implementation of a reduced corporate tax rate (to 12.5%) and the outcome of the Brexit negotiations on the future nature of the Irish border and wider access to EU markets. Current foreign-owned businesses located in NI cite the skill levels of the resident population and the ready availability of employees as key. Indeed, recent research has found that the

majority of the FDI firms located in the border Local Authority areas are there due to the supply of workers (25%) and the availability of suitable infrastructure (21%). With regard to access to the EU markets, findings from research, shown in Figure 20, highlight the risk to current FDI in NI, with as much as 70% of this at risk if membership of the single market changes.

**Figure 20: Risks to UK regional FDI job creation if the UK doesn't join the EU single market**



Source: Wavteq, The impact of Brexit on FDI into the UK (July 2016)

The figures above suggest that, while relatively more FDI has located in other parts of the island than in the border corridor, these investments are still important in terms of the 6,000 jobs created in the last five years. The uncertainty about future FDI levels, due to the recent election of President Trump in the USA and the Brexit decision, mean that a continuation of even this level of employment growth should not be taken for granted. The ESRI research suggests that, in light of Brexit, the Republic of Ireland may become a more attractive investment proposition than the UK, especially for service sector firms seeking access to the Single Market regardless of corporate tax level parity. On the other hand, access to the large UK market from NI will also continue to be a factor in location decisions. **Indeed the potential for Local Authorities in the border corridor to benefit from greater cooperation around locational decisions may offer an opportunity.**

#### Issues & Actions to consider by Border Corridor Local Authorities

- In Northern Ireland the border Local Authority areas may need to engage in the debate over whether the

lowering of the corporation tax rate should be made soon or not at all, due to the UK government's decision to cut their rate over the coming years (from 20% in 2017 to 17% in 2020). Given locational decisions noted above the continuing uncertainty and any loss in advantage may make NI a less attractive proposition.

- Given the motivations of investors the Local Authorities across the border corridor need to ensure the area remains a competitive one, with delivery in improvements to infrastructure (wireless internet, etc.), skill levels and transport connectivity vital to Community Plans and Local Economic and Community Plans.
- Both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland border areas need to have policy certainty surrounding access to markets (UK and EU single market).
- Are there opportunities to influence decisions on the FDI both border areas want to attract, eg: with possible incentives to attract firms wanting to grow the R&D base in the area by encouraging engagement between Higher Education/Further Education institutions and firms.



## 4.4 Movement of people: Both an internal and external issue

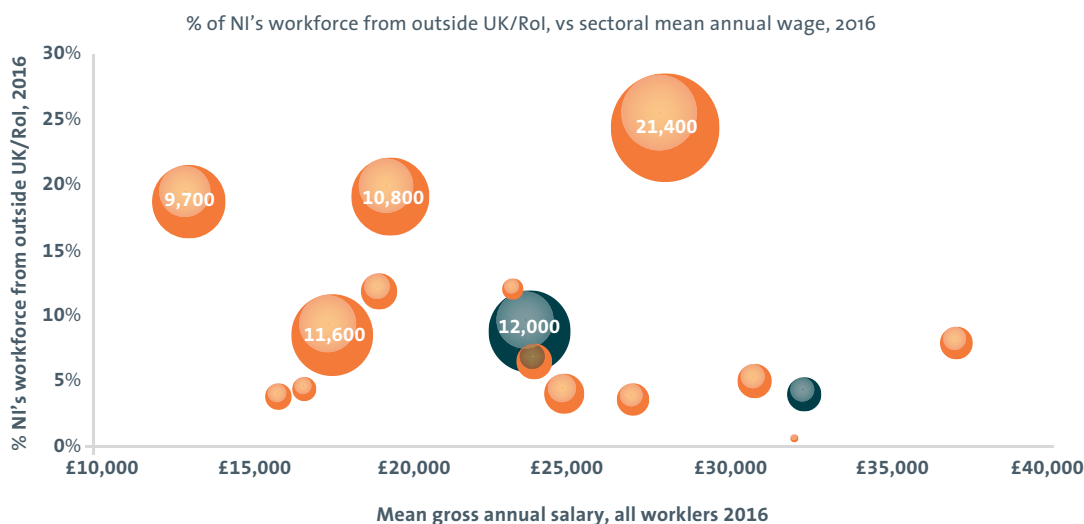
Immigration proved to be a central part of the Brexit debate, with many voters using it as one of their main reasons for voting leave.

According to a survey of 12,300 voters conducted on the day of the EU referendum (24th June 2016), one-third (33%) of people voted leave based on their thoughts towards immigration and the desire for control by the UK over its 'own borders'.<sup>53</sup> In Northern Ireland the link between immigration and a Leave vote may have been less strong than in England and Wales. A quarter (24%) who 'strongly disagree' that 'immigration has been good for Northern Ireland's economy and society' still voted to remain.<sup>54</sup> This makes the movement of people a key part of the Brexit debate and subsequent negotiations. However, on the island of Ireland it is complicated by the Common Travel Area where Irish and UK citizens can travel in a border-free zone and enjoy the same rights throughout the area. Maintaining this status quo is a central aim of the UK and Irish governments.

The figures show the importance of immigration to both parts of the island. Since 2002 over 153,000 overseas nationals have made applications in NI for the registration of National Insurance numbers. Over

72,400 (or 47% of the NI total) of these applications have come from overseas nationals based in the border Local Authority areas. The vast majority (around 70%) of the applications were made by EU nationals from outside the British Isles, the rest were from non-EU nationals. Across NI it is evident that some sectors are more reliant on migrants than others. Figure 21 shows that the Manufacturing and Admin & support services sectors are the most reliant on migrant labour with EU and non-EU migrant workers making up to as much as 25% of the total workforce. The importance of manufacturing might explain why almost 43,000 (or 58%) of the applications from the border Local Authority areas have come from Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon and Mid Ulster Local Authority areas, where a high level of manufacturing jobs are available. Figure 21 also shows that two of the three largest employing sectors in NI (Health and Retail) have 10% of their workforce made up of those from outside the UK and Ireland.

Figure 21: % of foreign nationals employed by sector, Average sector wages & Size of sector in Northern Ireland, 2016

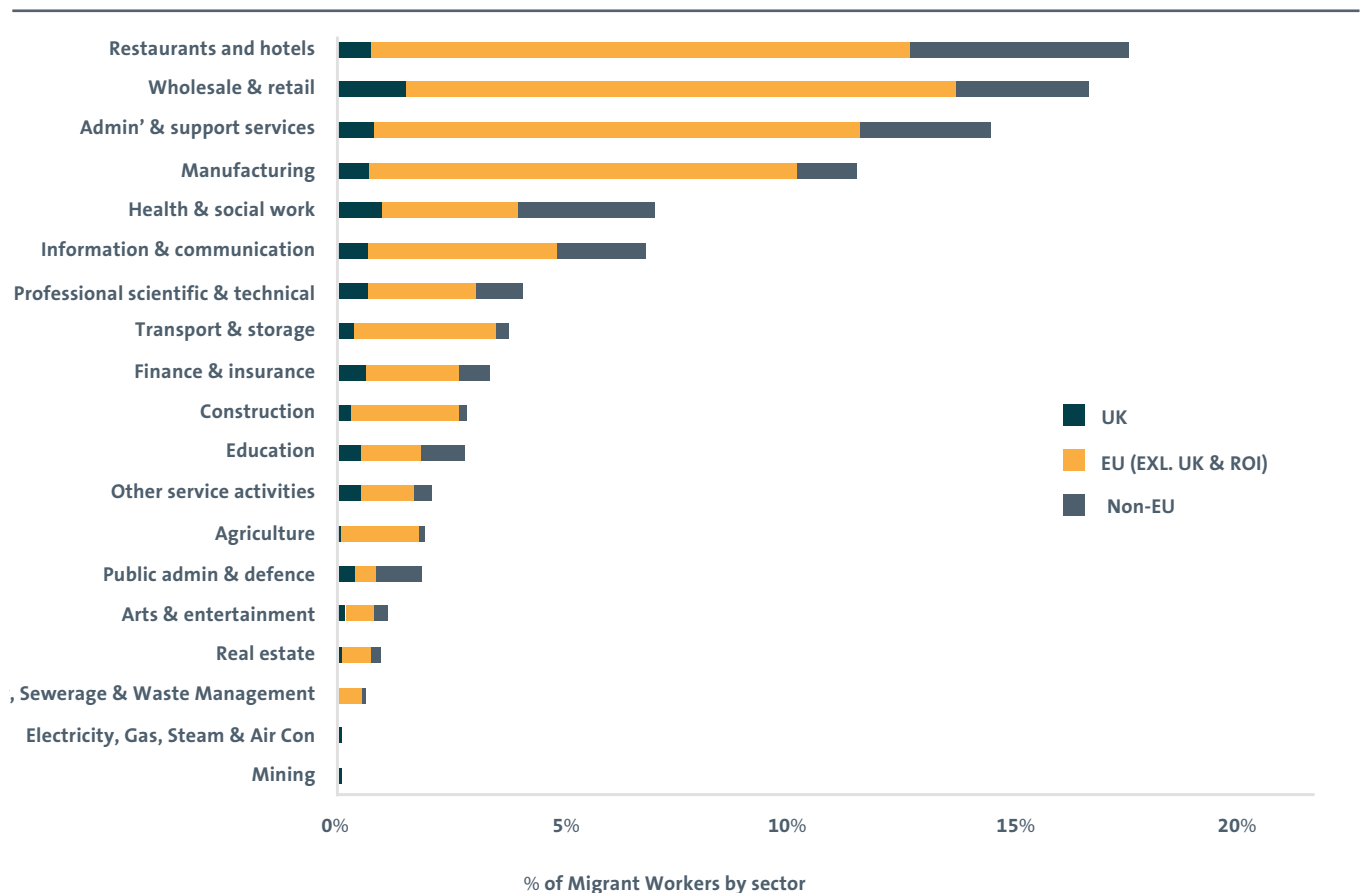


Source: Labour Force Survey. Note: Dark blue bubbles represent public sectors

In the Republic of Ireland since 2002 there has been over 1.6m applications for PPSN by foreign nationals. Only 15% of the total applicants are UK nationals, the rest being made up of other EU and non-EU nationals. In the border counties as many as 250,000 PPSN applications were filed by non-Irish residents between 2002 and 2015, 12% of the allocations being to UK-born citizens. This number is equivalent to 18% of the Southern Border Counties' total population. As in NI,

some sectors in the Republic of Ireland are more reliant on migrant workers than others. They are, however, quite different sectors. Figure 22 shows that the Restaurants and Hotels and the Wholesale & Retail sectors are most reliant on migrant workers, with as much as 18% of the workforce being from outside the Republic of Ireland. With regard to UK nationals only in healthcare and retail are more than 1% of the sector's employees from the UK.

**Figure 22: Foreign nationals employed by sector in Republic of Ireland, 2015**



Source: CSO

### Movement across the border

There has been considerable debate surrounding the numbers of people that currently travel across the border in either direction on a daily basis. A report by NISRA and the CSO based on the 2011 Censuses suggests that a total of 14,800 people travel daily between the two jurisdictions for work or study. According the Census returns, 6,500 travel from Northern Ireland to the Republic of Ireland and 8,300 travel in the opposite direction. In contrast, two reports, from 2009 and 2010 use surveys of employers on both sides of the border to estimate the number of their staff who cross the border to their workplace. The 2009 report, for the European Commission on cross-border mobility across Europe, found that 17,000 commuted cross-border to work in the Republic of Ireland and 12,000 to do the same in NI. A

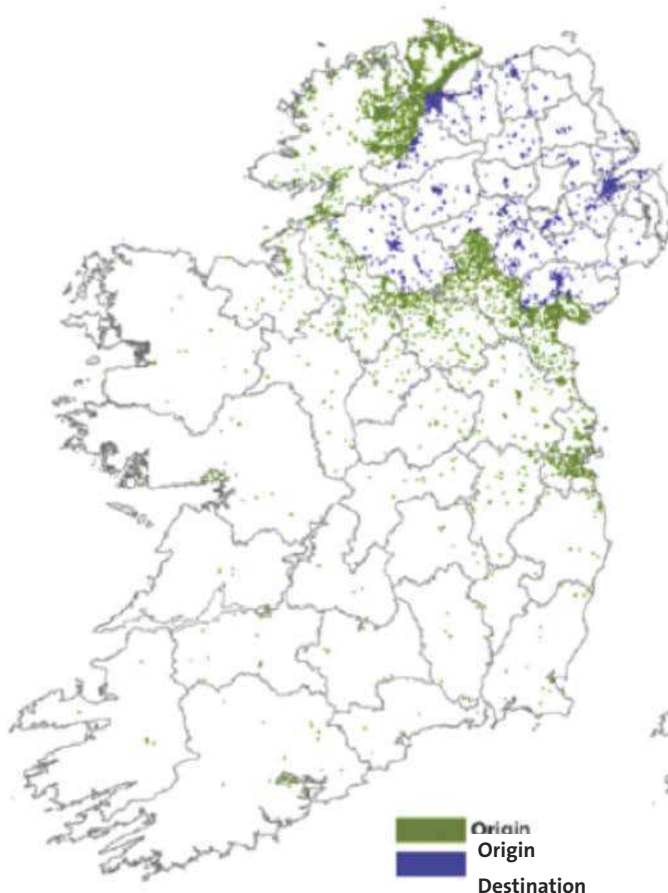
2010 report by the Centre for Cross Border Studies found similar numbers, of between 23,000 and 30,000 in total.<sup>55</sup>

Figure 23 illustrates the origin and the destination of commuters from both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. An interesting trend appears, **with the majority of those commuting from Northern Ireland to the Republic located along the Belfast-Dublin corridor, while the majority of those that commute in the opposite direction live in the North-West region.**

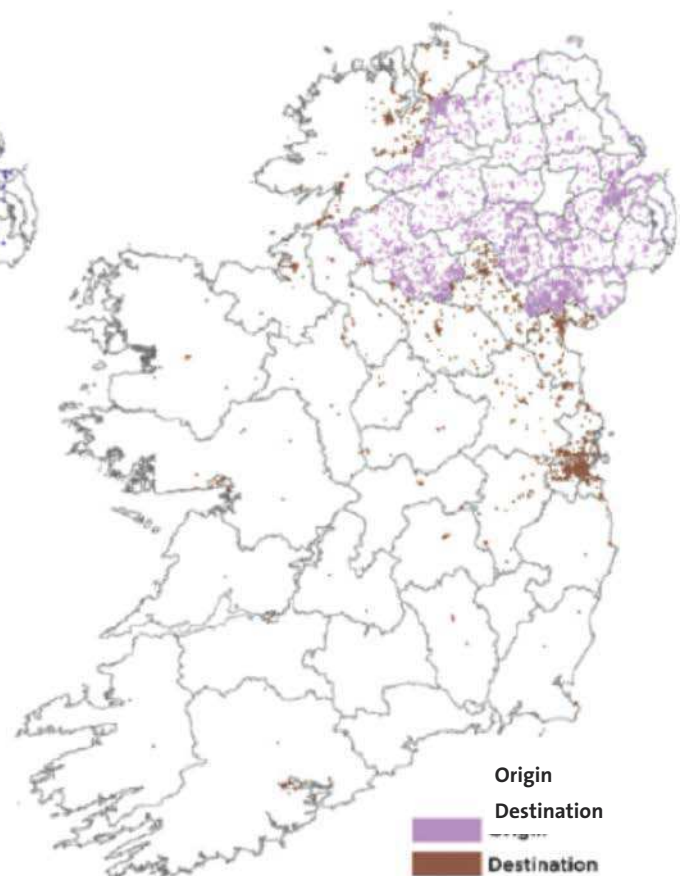
CSO Census 2016 (Sept. 2017) results for cross border commuting from RoI to NI confirm this pattern with 61% of all RoI to NI cross border workers and students travelling to Derry/Tyrone.

Figure 23: Cross border commuting flows, 2011

Cross-border commuters from Ireland to work or study in Northern Ireland



Cross-border commuters from Northern Ireland to work or study in Ireland



Source: All-Island Research Observatory using Census 2011 data

Data for 2015, shown in Table 4 and using ten Department of Infrastructure traffic counters from locations on or near the border, suggests that there are **94,480 daily border crossings**.<sup>56</sup> Corresponding traffic flow data collected from the Transport Infrastructure for Ireland suggests a similar number of daily, estimated at an average of 93,300 in 2016.<sup>57</sup> By way of comparison, the Westlink in Belfast had

95,810 vehicles using it daily in 2015, similar to the volumes crossing the border at the ten counters where data is collected. It is important to note that 3 of the 10 counters in Derry/Strabane/Donegal border account for 58% of all traffic evidencing the connected nature of the North West City Region while the largest volume of traffic is on the Dublin/Newry crossing at 23% of the total.

**Table 4: Annual Average Daily Traffic flows (AADT), Northern Ireland Border Roads, 2015**

	AADT 2015	% of total
A1 Dublin Rd, Newry	21,960	23%
Cullyhanna - A29 Jntn	860	1%
Monaghan Rd, Middletown	3,770	4%
Buncrana Rd, Bridgend	19,600	21%
Culmore Road, Heathfield, Derry	17,550	19%
Strabane Lifford at Bridge	17,030	18%
Derrylin/Aghalane Rd at Bridge	3,560	4%
Aughnacloy – Emyvale N2/A5 Road	5,721	4%
Clones Road, B533	4,400	5%
Pettigo Rd, Kesh	2,370	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>94,480</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: Department of Finance, Monthly Economic Bulletin April 2017

With regard to freight movements the Transport Infrastructure for Ireland data provides an estimate of approximately 6,500 HGVs (7% of all vehicles) crossing the border daily. **The routes with the highest shares of vehicles being HGVs are the N2 between the border and Emyvale, Co. Monaghan (12%) and the N52 between Butlers Bridge, Co. Fermanagh, and Clones, Co. Monaghan (11%). One possible explanation of these higher shares is the transport of agri-food produce, quarry products or engineering goods from the mid-border region.**

#### **Issues & Actions to consider by Border Corridor Local Authorities**

- Maintaining the Common Travel Area is a priority for both the British and Irish government in order to facilitate the flow of people to work, study or use services across the border as well as between the two islands. Given the intensity of these movements in the border corridor, a focus on the continuation of the CTA will be critical.
- The ageing population and the importance of skilled employees for the businesses, healthcare and educational institutions in the border region mean that policies which support movement of people will not only be essential for the continued growth of some sectors but also for the population vitality of the Local Authority areas.

## 4.5 EU funding: Is there a case for continued or new funds?

€3.5bn is allocated to Northern Ireland programmes from the European Union from 2014-2020. Over 70% of this will go on CAP payments showing the importance of that fund.

Those programmes with a cross-border element (Interreg VA and Peace IV) will make €469m available up to 2020. NI Border Local Authority areas also benefit from EU money allocated by NI Government departments on a regional basis (e.g. c. £238m in CAP and Rural Development funding in 2015 alone). In the last twenty years European Union monies have contributed significantly to the development and modernisation of the Border Corridor.

### Issues & Actions to consider by Border Corridor Local Authorities

- A priority must be dealing with uncertainty over the continuation of current funding programmes after Brexit – Chancellor Hammond's August 2016 statement presents a first step as does the recent UK government proposal on the continuation of Peace funding, but questions remain over the longer-term future of other EU funding.
- Need to discuss and decide what the long-term goals should be for both cross-border funding programmes and those targeted at reconciliation. Should these continue on the existing tripartite basis (EU/UK/Ireland)?
- Need to support any opportunities for a non-EU-member state to access schemes such as Horizon 2020 and Erasmus post-Brexit?
- Local Authorities should examine in conjunction with relevant agencies the options for Border Corridor funding post Brexit.

## 4.6 Tourism: Crucial sector with more to be achieved

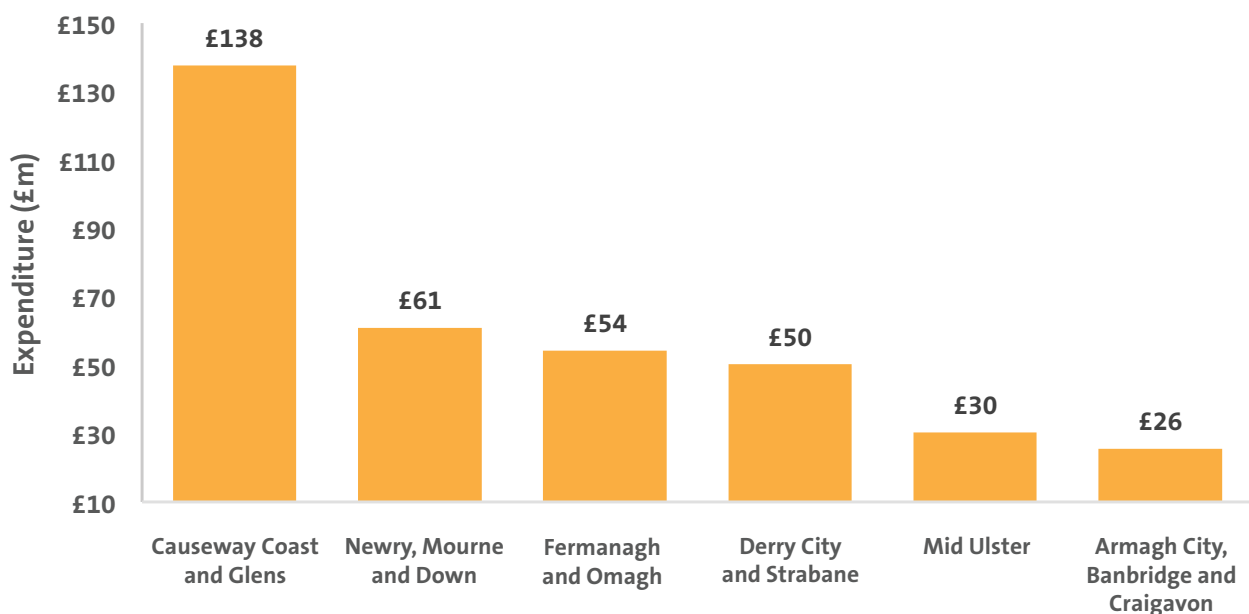
The tourism industry in the NI border region has become an increasingly important one. It made up approximately 8% of total employment in 2015 in the Local Authority areas, with nearly a quarter of all staff Non-EU citizens.

Tourism is now similar in size to the Construction industry (8.5% of total) in terms of share of employment in the NI border area.

Tourism expenditure in 2016 for the NI border Local Authority areas was £359m, around 42% of the NI total and up from £329m the previous year. More than 38% of the £359m was spent in Causeway Coast & Glens and another 17% in Newry, Mourne & Down.

Indeed, Causeway Coast & Glens is the star performer with 14% of total visitors to attractions within NI going there, no doubt to the Giant's Causeway, Carrick-a-Rede and the area's golf courses. The fall in the value of Sterling, alongside strong promotion of the areas, are the likeliest explanations of increased tourism in the Local Authority areas, although the devaluation should not be relied upon in the long term.

Figure 24: Tourism Expenditure by NI Border Local Authoritys, 2016

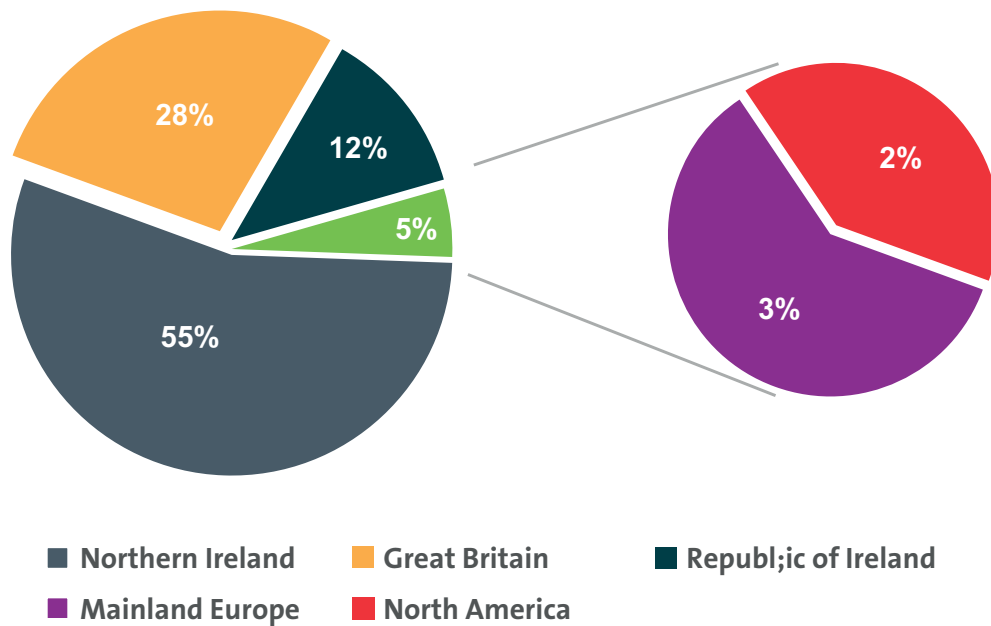


Source: NISRA

However, while Figure 24 shows promise for tourism in the border Local Authority areas of NI and a 9% growth in expenditure in 2016 from 2015, there is still an over reliance on 'home market' visitors from the rest of NI/UK. Figure 25 shows that these visitors make up a total of 79% of the visitors to the area,

compared to 69% of Belfast's total visitors. The NI border Local Authority areas attract only 5% of their total visitors from the wider EU, while Belfast attracts around 12%, showing that the EU market remains an underdeveloped one, in regard to tourism opportunities.

Figure 25: Origin of Visitors to NI Border Local Authority areas, 2015

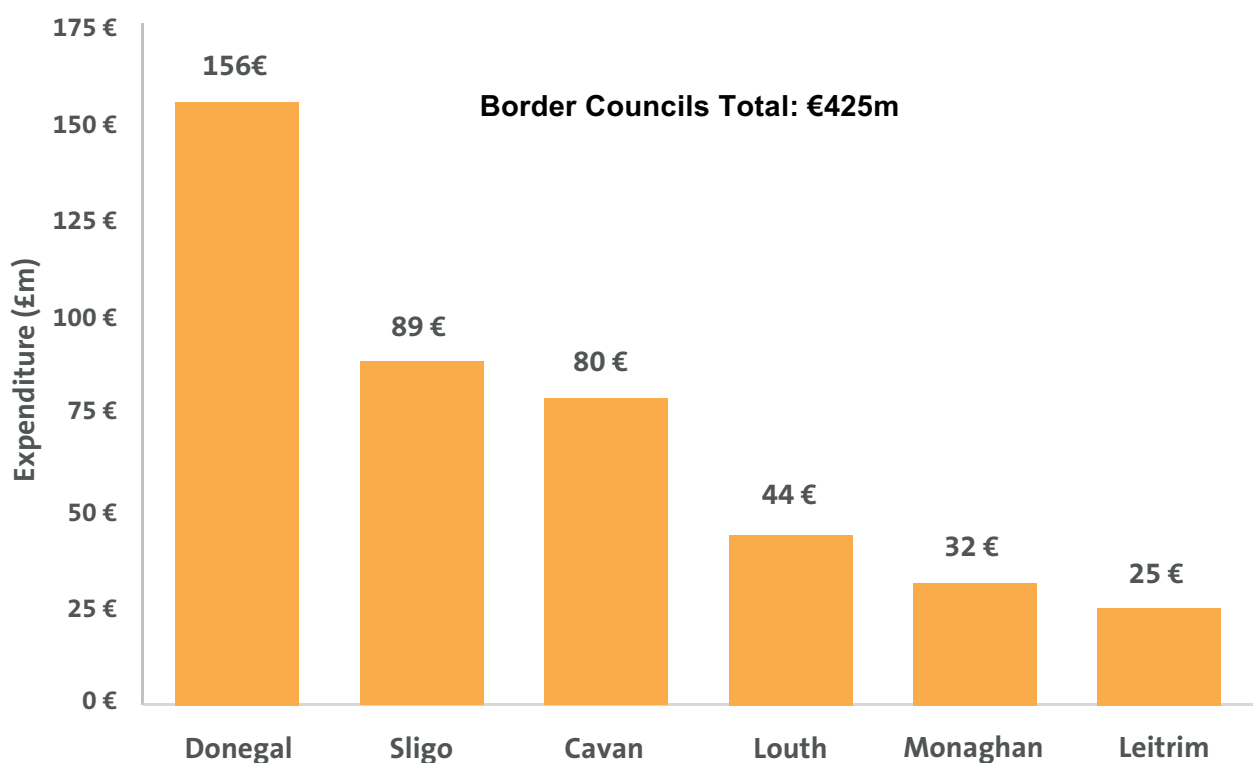


Source: NISRA

Tourism is equally important for the border Local Authority areas in the Republic of Ireland with employment being 10% of their total (2 p.p. higher than NI border Local Authority areas). Expenditure in 2015 was €425.8m, as seen in Figure 26, around twice

the amount spent in the NI border Local Authority areas. In addition, the border Local Authority areas in the Republic of Ireland received around 1.8m visitors in 2015, 400,000 more than the equivalent Local Authority areas in NI in the same year.

Figure 26: Tourism Expenditure by Rol Border Local Authority area, 2015

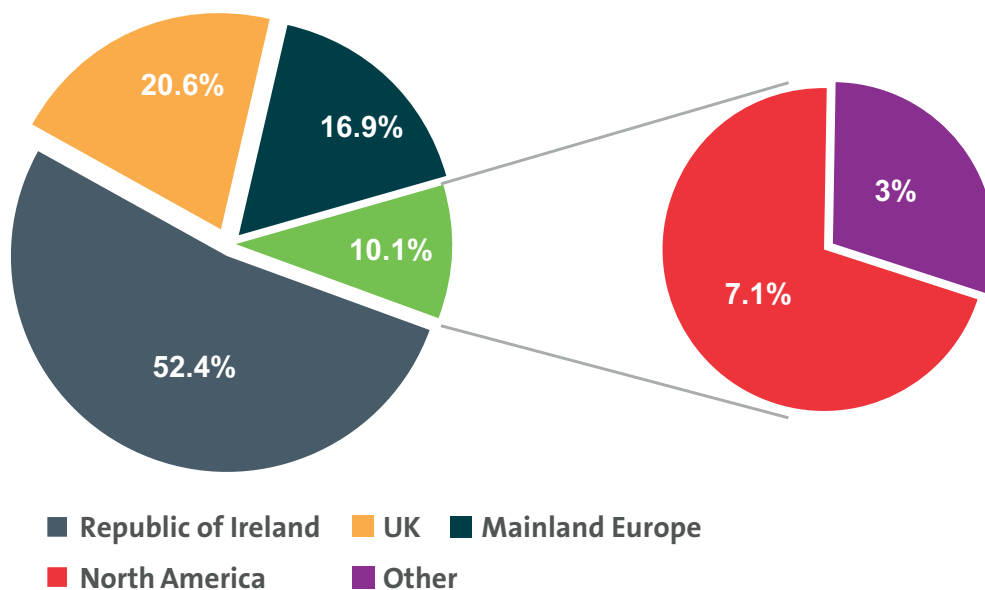


Source: Bord Fáilte

Unlike the NI border Local Authorities the Republic of Ireland border counties are less reliant on the UK for tourism. However, they are still heavily reliant on 'home' visitors with 52% of total visits in 2015 coming from within the Republic of Ireland. This tourism is often due to visits to family and/or friends. A widening of the tourist pool is the aim, especially given that

Donegal has three of the most recommended tourist attractions in the Republic of Ireland (Glenveagh, Slieve Liag cliffs and Malin Head). Mainland Europe is becoming a key market for visitors, similar to the NI border Local Authority areas, as it currently accounts for 17% of total visitors.

**Figure 27: Origin of Visitors to Rol Border Local Authority areas, 2015**



Source: Bord Fáilte

In general the figures for both the NI border Local Authority areas and the Republic of Ireland border counties reflect a feeling of a strong sector with potential to grow the industry further. Indeed, for many of the Community Plans and Local Economic Development Plans, there is an ambition to make tourism a sectoral leader/driver for the Local Authority area.

#### Issues & Actions to consider by Border Corridor Local Authorities

- Recent NI tourism expenditure data for 2016 shows a marked increase from 2015 (+16%), partly helped by the depreciation in Sterling following the Brexit vote. However, it should be noted that this advantage may be short-lived and risks to tourism numbers from any future appreciation of Sterling need to be guarded against.
- One market that could be further exploited, even without the effect of Brexit, is mainland Europe. The figures show that the border corridor relies heavily on visitors from the Republic of Ireland and the wider UK. Building further cooperation between Local Authorities on a cross-border basis, in tandem with efforts by Tourism Ireland to attract European visitors to the island of Ireland, should be deepened further.
- There is a need to further exploit linkages between the tourist attractions (the closeness of Donegal and Causeway Coast being an obvious example) and combined packaging of successful events (e.g. festivals, sports events, etc).
- A key issue for the tourism industry in the border corridor is the relative free movement of people across the border which exists currently. Given that many tourists use the ports and airports (Dublin and Belfast) for entry to the region, the maintenance of the Common Travel Area and flexibility of visitor visas is essential to ensure the sector's current progress.
- The ongoing debate and potential outcome of the decision on Air Passenger Duty in Northern Ireland could potentially affect tourism numbers given the importance of access to the area. So, a well-managed relationship with Dublin airport and the improvement of transport infrastructure could further mitigate any risks posed by Brexit.
- A Bilateral agreement with the EU 27 is essential in order to presser the Open Skies Agreement which the UK currently experiences as an EU member.



## 4.6 Conclusions: Border Management

...a 'hard' border is a real possibility, a 'frictionless' border is almost an oxymoron.<sup>58</sup>

Management of the Irish border has never entirely reduced it to merely a line on the map but the disappearance of customs posts – there to manage the movement of goods – and security checkpoints have taken much of the friction from it.<sup>59</sup> One estimate is that 180 roads cross the border but that 35-40 of these roads wind back and forth 'with the frontier lying in the middle and a crossing point every mile'.<sup>60</sup> The successful contributions of cross-border cooperation and interactions may also have eroded the 'border in the mind' in the recent past.<sup>61</sup> **The importance of cross-border trade to small firms, the integration of the agri-food industry and other sectors – for example accountancy firms in the border region estimate that 30% of their staff and 50% of their clients straddle the border – and the frequency of movements of people, have all been partly assisted by the form of border management in recent years.**

One contribution to good border management has been the creation of a long tradition of cross-border cooperation across the region between business bodies, higher education institutions, those working in the health services and efforts by community and voluntary groups to facilitate cross-border reconciliation. An Irish government minister recently urged Local Authorities in the border region to strengthen their existing bilateral or multi-lateral cross-border arrangements.<sup>62</sup> The new partnership arrangements in the North West City Region have been highlighted as a step in the right direction for other Local Authorities to follow. This is similar to the

Memorandum of Understanding between Newry, Mourne and Down District Council and Louth County Council which was signed in ?? The joint approach taken by the Local Authorities across the entire border corridor behind this research is a further step in this direction and will support them in engaging with local citizens and bringing their views to the negotiations process.

It has been suggested that the current absence of the NI Executive may be due, at least in part, to the political instability that Brexit is causing.<sup>63</sup> When it is re-established the Executive, alongside the local authorities along the border corridor, should work to develop and propose creative solutions for future border management. Solving many of the issues raised above will depend how the impact of Brexit on the Irish border can be managed. This will particularly be the case where there are currently strong cross-border, British/Irish and UK/EU flows and interactions. For example, several consultations on logistics and supply chains for this report – carried out with hauliers, ports management, freight forwarders, retailers and current and former customs officials – reveal a complex web of engagements which the current border management have facilitated. The success of any future regime for the management of the Irish border will be judged not only on how well it answers the political and economic dilemmas caused to the border region by Brexit, but also how far it allows the current level of co-dependencies which exist across Council areas to continue unhindered.

## 5. Possible outcomes: Employment Forecasts to 2026

This section details the UUEPC forecasts for employment growth in the Border Corridor out to 2026.

The forecasts are based upon the UUEPC's modelling of longer term outcomes for each of the Local Authority areas in the corridor. This local economic modelling and provision of local government forecasts has been developed by the Centre to assist in the devolution of some economic development powers within Northern Ireland. The report also uses the provisional UUEPC forecasts from its preliminary Irish model to outline some forecasts for the six Southern

Border Counties. By providing Local Authorities in NI with a range of economic data (on demographics, labour market, GVA and employment by sector, etc), the UUEPC aims to assist in the identification of the best economic policies for local places and needs, as well as developing the capacity to test out the outcomes and indicators for the new Community Planning processes.

### 5.1 Baseline & Lower Scenarios

The forecasts are based on the baseline and lower (or worst case) scenarios from the UUEPC's summer 2017 outlook, released in July 2017.<sup>64</sup> Both scenarios assume that Brexit will occur, the difference between the two scenarios being a varying degree of the severity of its impact. The baseline scenario further assumes that future trends will be largely based upon the current economic environment, for example stable consumer spending. This scenario is underpinned by assumptions that the UK economy, as result of Brexit, will experience a slowing of business investment, falling levels of FDI in coming years and inward migration capped at 185,000 per annum. **The baseline scenario sees Northern Ireland showing little convergence in growth to the UK average, and adding an additional 28,800 jobs by 2026.**

The **second scenario**, known as the lower scenario, assumes a damaging and poorly coordinated Brexit. This scenario assumes that the negotiated deal between the UK and the EU member states will be a

'hard' Brexit, with the UK exiting the Single Market and the EU Customs Union. In addition, unlike the baseline scenario, the lower scenario also assumes that consumer confidence will fall and that, in particular in Northern Ireland, squeezed incomes will cause a consumer spending slowdown. **In this scenario the UUEPC forecast that Northern Ireland will fall further behind the UK average and lose 8,100 jobs by 2026.**

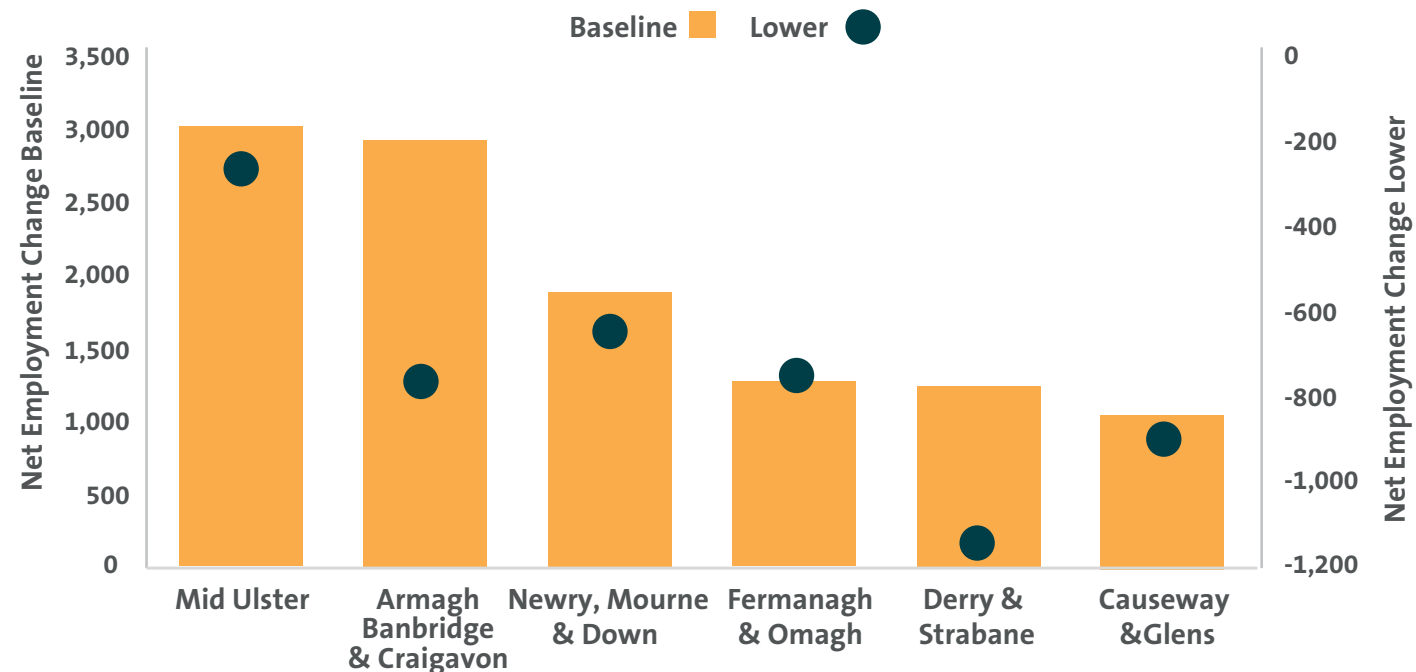
The UUEPC's outlook refers to a 'wider range of outcomes' and high levels of uncertainty, given the political shocks from 2016 highlighted by the result of the recent UK general election. In addition, the greatest level of uncertainty exists around not only the shape of the UK's exit from the EU but also the nature, good or bad, of future trading arrangements with other international partners. The highly integrated nature of the Irish economy with the UK ensures that these levels of uncertainty around economic futures exist right across the island.

## 5.2 Northern Ireland Border Local Authorities

Figure 28 shows the expected change in employment in both the baseline and lower scenarios to 2026 for each of the Local Authority areas located along the border in Northern Ireland. In the baseline scenario the Local Authority areas are expected to gain a combined total of 11,500 jobs, which would make up 40% of the total net employment change in Northern Ireland. **However, in the lower scenario the border Local Authorities could expect to lose 4,400 jobs by 2026 around 55% of the total loss in employment change to Northern Ireland.** The relative gains and losses are indicative of the concentration of the potential impact of Brexit in this area.

The growth in employment, on the baseline scenario, in the combined Local Authority areas would mark a percentage change of 3%. **The highest percentage changes come in the big job gainers – Mid Ulster (4.7%) and Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon (3.4%) – while Causeway Coast (2.1%), Derry City & Strabane (2%) and Fermanagh & Omagh (2.5%) are all well below the average growth.** In the lower scenario every Local Authority area is expected to lose jobs, a combined percentage change of -1.9%. A similar pattern by Local Authority area repeats itself – in terms of the extent of jobs losses – **with over one quarter of the job losses within NI attributed to Brexit will be within the Derry Strabane Council area highlighting the magnitude of the challenge facing the North West City Region.**

Figure 28: Northern Ireland Border Local Authority Baseline & Lower Employment Forecasts to 2026



Source: Provisional UUEPC analysis

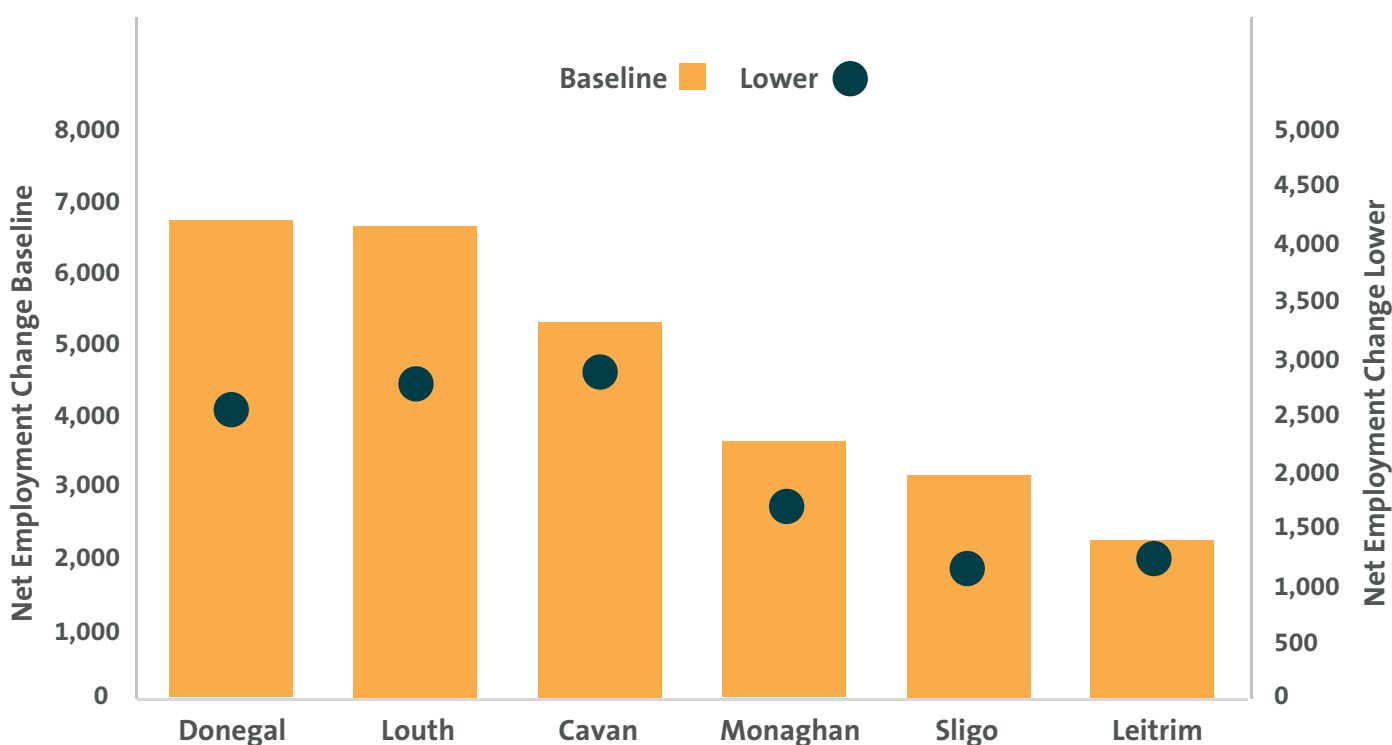
### 5.3 County Council areas in the Southern Border Corridor

Figure 29 shows the expected change in employment numbers in the Local Authority areas of the Southern Border Counties when the baseline and lower scenarios are applied to 2026. This has been done by the UUEPC modelling the potential impacts of Brexit on the Irish economy, in areas such as trade, in order to gauge baseline and lower scenarios. The estimates are based on a range of independent forecasts for the Republic of Ireland and using the sectoral composition of employment in the 2011 Census and current trends in order to create profiles for the State, Regions and Counties. These estimates are very experimental and are under constant review. Again, the picture is one of a region particularly exposed to Brexit, especially a mismanaged one.

In the baseline scenario depicted in Figure 30 the border Local Authorities are expected to generate an

additional 27,900 jobs by 2026, around 10% of the overall employment change expected for the whole of the Republic of Ireland. This is the equivalent of a percentage change of 13.5%, slightly behind the 14.1% employment growth for the Republic of Ireland as a whole. **Some of the highest percentage changes are likely to be found in the smallest counties – Leitrim (16.9%), Cavan (17.1%) and Monaghan (14%) – while those in the North West – Sligo (11.4%) and Donegal (11.4%) – are expected to grow but not as much as elsewhere.** In the lower scenario the Local Authority areas gain around 12,400 jobs by 2026, a percentage change of 6.2%, less than half the level for the Republic of Ireland generally (13.6%). As Figure 29 shows each individual Local Authority area will add on jobs, even under a ‘hard’ Brexit, but at much lower levels in some places – Donegal (4.6%), Sligo (4.3%) and Louth (5.8%) – than nationally.

Figure 29: Republic of Ireland Counties Baseline & Lower Employment Forecasts to 2026



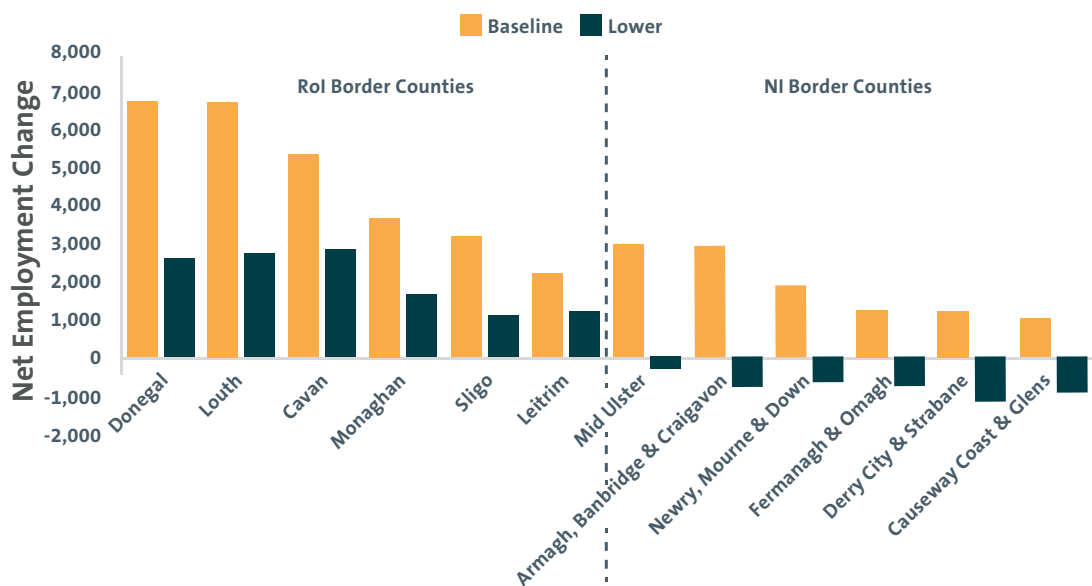
Source: Provisional UUEPC analysis

## 5.4 Comparisons across the Border Corridor

When making comparisons across the Border Corridor, as can be seen in Figure 30, the stronger economic performance can be found – in both scenarios – in the Southern Border Counties. This reflects the relative

short and medium term economic forecasts for Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland, where the latter is expected to grow perhaps more than twice as fast as the former, even under Brexit.

Figure 30: Republic of Ireland Counties Baseline & Lower Employment Forecasts to 2026



Source: Provisional UUEPC analysis

## 5.5 Conclusions

As noted in the title to this section these forecasts present the possible outcomes for overall changes in employment in the Border Corridor over the next decade. Given that the forecasts include possible impacts of Brexit they are hedged with uncertainty as it is not yet possible to know the final shape of the UK exit, how this will be managed by all involved and what arrangements will then be put into place. However, the forecasts do provide some clear patterns for policy makers when thinking about potential futures for the Border Corridor:

- The rate of employment growth in both parts of the Corridor is likely to fall below the average percentage change in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.
- There are exceptions to this within some Local Authority areas in Northern Ireland – for example Mid Ulster and Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon

– and in some smaller counties south of the border – Leitrim and Cavan.

- The lower scenario, while still showing positive growth in the Southern Border Counties, will produce growth there well behind the national average. The same gap exists in Northern Ireland, where all Local Authority areas will lose jobs under this scenario, but is not as large.

This suggests that the outcomes do not herald a convergence for the Border Corridor with the other parts of either the Republic of Ireland or Northern Ireland, in terms of employment growth. **Thus, measures for mitigating the impact of Brexit, either in terms of sectoral exposures, trade impacts or infrastructural deficits, will be particularly important to this region if it is not to fall further behind.**

## 6. Final Thoughts and Conclusions

There is a high level of agreement between the European Commission (and Council of Ministers), the UK Government and the Irish Government on what will form the programme of work around the Irish border in the Brexit negotiations.

**These can be summarised as the following:**

- Ensuring that nothing is done to undermine the goals of peace and reconciliation contained in the Good Friday/Belfast Agreement.
- Maintaining the Common Travel Area [CTA] between the UK and Ireland (in conformity with EU rules).
- Avoiding a return to a hard border – stress laid on need to be flexible and imaginative in devising solutions.

Of course for the UK to leave the EU Customs Union, introduce a new system of controls around movement of people, and hope for a ‘frictionless’ Irish border will require more than technological solutions. Political imagination, flexibility and will are all going to be needed to develop a new form of border management that is not ‘hard’.

Consultations for this report have identified the avoidance of an economic border (on the transit of goods in particular) and the protection of the Good Friday/Belfast Agreement (especially around aspects of peace and reconciliation, and citizenship rights) as the key ‘asks’ for the Border Corridor in any Brexit talks. The UK Government’s proposals for Ireland/NI

contain plenty of ideas on EU funding, customs arrangements and regulations in the agri-food sector, which may contribute to any future management of the Irish border. However, it remains to be seen whether the proposals in the UK Government paper are regarded as putting a ‘Trojan Horse’ into the negotiations or something that will form the basis of future solutions.

There are many cautionary tales which warn against complacency and sticking to the old routine ways of thinking in the face of shocks and changes. This warning is relevant now when grappling with the dilemmas and challenges raised by Brexit. Mitigating risks and/or taking opportunities will, by necessity, mean defending some of what is currently in place (eg: funding streams). However, it may mean that how some things are done will also have to change. The Border Corridor, with its peripheral position on the island, already lags behind other regions so breaking with past patterns is necessary. New policy thinking, new methods of cooperation and partnership – between Local Authorities and with central Governments – will be essential for border management to work in the wake of Brexit.

## 6.1 Conclusions

**Despite the fact that the Irish Border Corridor has received significant amounts of EU and other funding since the 1990s, it continues to lag behind national or regional averages in areas such as productivity and household incomes.**

Forecasts for employment growth in the region out to 2026 mean that this outcome is likely, at best, to continue for the Corridor all things remaining equal. Given the current levels of cross-border co-dependency across the Local Authority areas, a poorly managed Brexit could mean economic outcomes where the region falls further behind. Thus the need not only for measures to mitigate against any negative impacts of Brexit, but also for the creation of solutions that ensure that future border management is actually as seamless as possible.

### Mitigation

The Community Plans and Local Economic Development Plans across the Local Authority areas in the Border Corridor include a range of proposals and actions to address some of the structural weaknesses in the region and mitigate against any negative impacts of Brexit. Key actions in this regard might include:

- Investment in upgrading transport infrastructure such as the A5, N4, N16 (Sligo/Enniskillen), Southern Relief Road (around Newry), the Enniskillen Bypass, N14 Letterkenny to Lifford, A2 – Buncrana Road (Derry-Letterkenny) Cross-Border Economic Corridor.. Continued access for Northern Ireland to TEN-T (Trans European Transport Network) funding will be important in this regard.
- The evidence shows that the impact of Brexit will fall disproportionately on the Border Region and within that on a number of sectors such as indigenous SMEs which are predominant along the Border corridor. As demonstrated GVA and GDP per capita within the Border Region is already significantly below the averages for both NI and RoI and thus there is a clear need for a Brexit transition assistance programme along the lines of a Territorial Co-operation programme to support these regions in adapting to the challenges and opportunities that the UK's exit from the EU will bring to this region.
- Investment in business support to ensure that many more small and medium-sized businesses are able to prepare for Brexit, including getting advice on tariffs and new customs arrangements if these come into place.

- Continuation of EU funding to ensure not only that peace and reconciliation projects funded by the Peace programme continue, but so too cross-border cooperation (through Interreg), research collaboration (in Horizon 2020 and successor programmes) and student mobility activities (Erasmus).

Recognition of the unique circumstances of the Border Corridor, with its distinctive cross-border flows, in the new Irish Government National Planning Framework would also provide the restart to regional policy identified as necessary for the Border Corridor by Bradley and Best in 2012.

### Border Management

All of those consulted for this report referred to the need for the management of the Irish border to remain as close as possible to its current position given the practical issues and political sensitivities around it. In other words, the free movement of goods, services, people and investment should be the goal. The EU has certainly been flexible and imaginative when it has established arrangements for the management of other borders, though none of the examples cited (the former divided Germany, Cyprus or Croatia/Bosnia and Herzegovina) are exactly the same as that between a current member state and part of a former member state sharing the same island.

The simplest solutions suggested in the Border Corridor and elsewhere when it comes to future management of the Irish border are either that the UK remains a member of the Customs Union on a permanent basis or does so on a transitional basis until a new Free Trade Agreement is signed with the EU. In both cases there would be no new customs border with the imposition of tariffs and non-tariff barriers. If neither proves to be the case then a combination of two possible solutions may be necessary to prevent a 'hard' border returning to the region:

- The continuation of the current operation of the Common Travel Area in full, which would allow not only the daily cross-border commuting and access to services to continue unhindered, but also would uphold the rights of UK and Irish citizens, supported by the Good Friday / Belfast Agreement. Including other EU nationals (33% of the approximate 120,000 non-UK nationals in NI in 2011) under the CTA arrangements should also be explored to facilitate movement of people.
- The development of a new economic zone within which the free movement of goods and services would continue as now. The application of exemptions for trade by certain sizes of businesses and the introduction of quotas for certain sectors that are highly integrated (eg: agri-food) are ideas that might form the basis of such a zone. The details – its geography, and whether it covers some or all sectors, some or all sizes of firms, goods and services locally traded or those part of internationally traded supply chains – are not worked out. Nor are questions about how it would be monitored and by whom. However, agreement around such an arrangement is likely to be essential for smooth border management.

Cooperation by the twelve Local Authorities across the Border Corridor initiated this report and facilitated the authors from the UUEPC to gather evidence and then share the results. This cooperation has ensured that voices, debates and suggestions from within the region are heard across the island. Continuing this cooperation and the conversations around risks and opportunities associated with Brexit will be essential in order to develop solutions to the issues raised in this report and then to successfully implement these for the better development of the region.



# Notes

- 1: For details on the Brexit vote see John Garry, John Coakley & Brendan O'Leary 'Northern Ireland: Understanding the Brexit vote and what it means for border talks', 17 April 2017 <http://ukandeu.ac.uk/northern-ireland-understanding-the-brexit-vote-and-its-implications-for-the-border/> ; Matthew Goodwin & Oliver Heath, 'Brexit vote explained: poverty, low skills and lack of opportunities', 31 Aug. 2016 <https://www.jrf.org.uk/report/brexit-vote-explained-poverty-low-skills-and-lack-of-opportunities>
- 2: See the evidence of Professor Michael Dougan and Dr Stephanie Reynolds to the NI Affairs Committee, November 2016.
- 3: Figures from the BBC website.
- 4: For this letter see <https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/execoffice/Letter%20to%20PM%20from%20FM%20%26%20dFM.pdf>. A brief reply mentions energy and the land border; see <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-37610633>.
- 5: David Phinnemore, 'Northern Ireland and Brexit: struggling and divided over what next', The UK in a Changing EU project blog, 15 Nov. 2016; <http://ukandeu.ac.uk/northern-ireland-and-brexit-struggling-and-divided-over-what-next-2/>.
- 6: For the details see [http://www.merriestreet.ie/en/News-Room/News/Contingency\\_Framework\\_Summary.pdf](http://www.merriestreet.ie/en/News-Room/News/Contingency_Framework_Summary.pdf).
- 7: For more see Department of the Taoiseach, Ireland and the negotiations on the UK's withdrawal from the EU: The Government's approach (May 2017).
- 8: Anand Menon and Brigid Fowler, 'Hard or soft? The politics of Brexit', NIESR Review, no. 238 (Nov. 2016).
- 9: Janan Ganesh, 'Theresa May is decisive over Brexit but we choose not to listen', FT, 10 Jan. 2017.
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- 11: 'How to turn a chaotic election result into a better Brexit', The Economist, 17 June 2017.
- 12: Simon Usherwood, 'The EU position', in UK and Europe, The EU Referendum: One Year On, 25 June 2017.
- 13: Paul Krugman, 'The macroeconomics of Brexit: Motivated reasoning?', The Conscience of a Liberal blog, 30 June 2016, <http://krugman.blogs.nytimes.com/2016/06/30/the-macroeconomics-of-brexit-motivated-reasoning/?module=BlogPost-ReadMore&version=Blog%20Main&action=Click&contentCollection=Opinion&pgtype=Blogs&region=Body#more-39827>. Most forecasters continued to say that the UK economy would not enter recession in 2016 with the average of the 21 forecasts received in September 2016 being 1.8%.
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- 15: For a useful analysis of this debate see Diane Coyle, 'What scented candles say to an economist', New York Times Sunday Review, 7 Nov. 2015.
- 16: Department of Finance, UK EU Exit: An exposure analysis of sectors of the Irish economy (October 2016).
- 17: Bertelsman Stiftung / ifo, 'Brexit: Potential economic consequences if the UK leaves the EU', Policy Brief, 2015/05 (May 2015).
- 18: See Alan Barrett et al, 'Scoping the possible economic implications of Brexit on Ireland, research series no. 48 (2015); Adele Bergin et al, 'Modelling the medium to long term potential macroeconomic impact of Brexit on Ireland', WP No 548 (November 2016); Martina Lawless and Edgar Morgenroth, 'Product and sector level impact of a Hard Brexit across the EU', WP no. 550 (November 2016).
- 19: Department of Finance, UK EU Exit: An exposure analysis of sectors of the Irish economy (October 2016).
- 20: See Bord Bia, Brexit Barometer (June 2017); estimates of a 7% fall in agri-food exports can be found in Teagasc, Brexit: Potential Implications for the Irish Agri-Food Sector (April 2016)
- 21: Department of Finance, Monthly Economic Bulletin April 2017, May 2017.
- 22: For the Assembly Committee paper by Dr Lesley Budd see <http://crossborder.ie/site2015/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/2015-03-22-brexit-ceti-specialist-advisor.pdf> (March 2015); the DETI report was Oxford Economics, 'The economic implications of a UK exit from the EU for Northern Ireland: A briefing paper (February 2016).
- 23: Paul MacFlynn, 'The economic implications of Brexit for Northern Ireland', NERI WP 35 (April 2016); 'Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland and the EU Customs Union', NERI WP 47 (August 2017). For interest from Brussels see Breugel, 'The impact of Brexit on Northern Ireland: a first look' (December 2016).
- 24: Menon and Fowler, 'Politics of Brexit', R7 which notes that 69% of Leave voters felt that 'there probably isn't much in it either way' on the economic question.
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- 26: See John Bradley and Michael Best, Cross-Border Economic Renewal: Rethinking Regional Policy in Ireland (Mar. 2012); Bradley & Best, 'Bypassed Places? The post-Belfast Agreement Border region economy', Journal of Cross-Border Studies, 6 (2012), 45-58.
- 27: Mid Ulster, Fermanagh and Omagh and Newry, Mourne and Down have been among the best performers in terms of entrepreneurship activity among Council areas in NI; see M. Hart, K. Bonner, J. Levie and L. Heery, GEM UK 2015 Report: Belfast (2016).
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# Notes

- 31: For more on these UK-Ireland links see <http://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-biun/biun/>.
- 32: Mike Fahy, Gavin Murphy et al, 'Brexit: The trade exposures of sectors of the Irish Economy in a European context', June 2017.
- 33: Calculations from InterTradelreland, Potential impact of WTO tariffs on cross-border trade (June 2017), Table 1.
- 34: D. Mtko, P. George, T. Stroyan and T. Maria, 'Cross-Border Cooperation in Southeastern Europe: The Enterprises point of view', University of Thessaly, Department of Planning, Discussion Paper, 9:2 (2003).
- 35: These figures are compiled from an analysis of characteristics of exporting firms from the InterTradelreland Business Monitor for Q1 2013 – Q3 2015 and the finding supports earlier research: Stephen Roper, 'Cross-Border and Local Cooperation on the island of Ireland: An economic perspective' ERSAs papers, June 2005.
- 36: The Invest NI figures come from their regional briefings published in 2015 and dealing with 2014 data.
- 37: Department for Exiting the EU [DEXEU], Northern Ireland and Ireland Position Paper: Additional Data Paper – NI Trade Data (Aug. 2017), p.7.
- 38: These figures come from the BESES data released by NISRA. Using HMRC the shares are similar: EU trade has a share of 55% of good exports from NI, 35% of this figure going to the Republic of Ireland; see Breugel, 'Impact of Brexit on NI'.
- 39: UBS, House View, 22 June 2017.
- 40: See IBEC, 'Measures to address the immediate economic implications of Brexit', 24 Mar. 2017.
- 41: InterTradelreland, Potential impact of WTO tariffs on cross-border trade, Table 3.
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- 43: DAERA Permanent Secretary, Noel Lavery to the House of Lords Committee, quoted in House of Lords European Union Committee report, Brexit: Agriculture, 3 May 2017, p. 29.
- 44: Centre for Cross Border Studies, A study of cross-border flows within the agri-food sector: A snapshot of four border counties, 17 Feb. 2016.
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- 46: These figures are taken from InterTradelreland, Potential impact of WTO tariffs on cross-border trade, Tables 4 and 6.
- 47: DAERA, Farm Incomes 2014/15 (2016).
- 48: The dataset can be found at <http://data.nicva.org/dataset/common-agricultural-policy-cap-payments>.
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- 50: For more see House of Lords European Union Committee report, Brexit: Fisheries, 17 Dec. 2016.
- 51: InterTradelreland, Agri-Food: A study for cross-border cooperation (2011).
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- 54: Garry, Coakley & O'Leary 'Northern Ireland: Understanding the Brexit vote'.
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- 56: Department for Infrastructure, Traffic and Travel Information, 2015 (2016).
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- 58: Quotation from Katy Hayward, LSE Brexit blog, 10 July 2017, at <http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/brexit/2017/07/10/a-hard-irish-border-is-possible-a-frictionless-one-is-an-oxymoron/>
- 59: For more on border management see Katy Hayward, Milena Komorova & Michael Buttazoni, 'Brexit and the Border: Managing the UK/Ireland Impact' (2016), at [http://pure.qub.ac.uk/portal/files/123024606/Brexit\\_and\\_the\\_UK\\_Ireland\\_Border\\_Discussion\\_Paper.pdf](http://pure.qub.ac.uk/portal/files/123024606/Brexit_and_the_UK_Ireland_Border_Discussion_Paper.pdf).
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- 61: Cathy Gormley-Heenan & Arthur Aughey, 'Northern Ireland and Brexit: Three effects on "the border in the mind"', British Journal of Politics and International Relations, 19:3 (2017), 497-511 (500-1).
- 62: Minister Joe McHugh TD, Letterkenny 22 May 2017 speaking to the All-Island Sectoral Dialogue on Brexit: The North West and wider Border Region.
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- 65: Extracts from the various statements on the Irish border can be found in DEXEU, Northern Ireland and Ireland Position Paper, pp.26-7.
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Armagh City  
Banbridge  
& Craigavon  
Borough Council



Derry City & Strabane  
District Council  
Comhairle  
Chathair Dhoire &  
Cheantair an tSrátha Báin  
Derry City & Strabane  
District Council



Comhairle Contae  
Dhún na nGall  
Donegal County Council



EAST  
BORDER  
REGION



Fermanagh & Omagh  
District Council  
Comhairle Ceantair  
Fhear Manach agus na hÓmaí



Comhairle Chontae Liatroma  
Leitrim County Council



Comhairle Contae Lú  
Louth County Council



Comhairle Ceantair  
Lár Uladh  
Mid Ulster  
District Council



Comhairle Ceantair  
an Iúir, Mhúrn agus an Dúin  
Newry, Mourne and Down  
District Council





## Contact information

TBC

<b>Report on</b>	Council responses to Southern and Northern Health & Social Services Trust 2017/18 Savings Proposals
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Mark Kelso, Director of Public Health & Infrastructure
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Ann McAleer, Corporate Policy & Equality Officer

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To update members on the development of consultation responses on behalf of Mid Ulster District Council to the Proposed Savings Plans for 2017/18 put forward by the Southern and Northern Health Trusts .
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	The Southern and Northern Health and Social Care Trusts are currently consulting on Savings Plans as part of the Department of Health's aim to save £70m before the end of the financial year 2017-18.
2.2.	It was agreed that members would be given an opportunity to reflect on the proposals put forward and present a structured response on behalf of Council .
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	The proposed savings plans have emanated from the Department of Health's indication of financial pressures within the health service. Both the Southern and Northern Health and Social Care Trusts have developed and are consulting on proposed Savings Plans for 2017 / 2018.
3.2	On a review of the savings plans and consultation documentation the Northern Health and Social Care Trust is aiming to achieve a saving of £13 million, while the Southern Health and Social Care Trust is aiming to save £6.4 million over the period.
3.3	Examination of the proposed cost cutting exercises show that the Northern Health and Social Care Trust's cuts are likely to have an impact directly upon patients and services. Their proposals have been broken down as Savings of Low Impact (£6.320m) and those of Major and/or Controversial Impact (£6.680m). Whereas within the Southern Trust the Savings of Low Impact are identified as £6.325m and those identified as Major and/or Controversial Savings of Impact total £75k.
3.4	Each Health and Social Care Trust is carrying out a 6 week consultation from 24 August-5 October 2017. This reduced consultation period from the standard 12 week period has

3.5	<p>been rationalised on the basis that the proposed cuts are not being made on a permanent basis but only within year 2017-18 (the end of the financial year).</p> <p>Council had previously requested that Members be given an opportunity to meet with senior representatives of both the Northern Health &amp; Social Care Trust and the Southern Health and Social Care Trusts. These meetings were scheduled for the morning of Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September in Cookstown and an opportunity should be taken to reflect on the matters discussed at same, to finalise the Council's response to both Proposed Savings Plans and the potential impact on Mid Ulster District.</p>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<p><b><u>Financial &amp; Human Resources Implications</u></b></p> <p>Financial: N/A</p> <p>Human: N/A</p>
<b>4.2</b>	<p><b><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></b></p> <p>N/A</p>
<b>4.3</b>	<p><b><u>Risk Management Implications</u></b></p> <p>N/A</p>
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	It is recommended that members reflect on the consultations and the out workings of the meetings with representatives of the Health & Social Services Trusts to assist in the finalisation of Councils response to the proposed savings plans.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
6.1	Not applicable.

<b>Report on</b>	Consultations notified to Mid Ulster District Council
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Philip Moffett, Head of Democratic Services
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Ann McAleer, Corporate Policy and Equality Officer

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To update members on the consultations notified to Mid Ulster District Council for comment, since the last meeting of Council.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	Council is a consultee for many government departments, statutory agencies and other bodies, and as such receives consultation documentation inviting commentary on a wide range of issues which may be pertinent to council services and/or the District.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	Documentation relating to the aforementioned consultations can be accessed via the links provided in the table provided in Appendix A.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b><u>Financial &amp; Human Resources Implications</u></b>  Financial: N/A  Human: N/A
<b>4.2</b>	<b><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></b>  Not Applicable
<b>4.3</b>	<b><u>Risk Management Implications</u></b>  Not Applicable
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	Members review and note consultations notified to Mid Ulster District Council.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>

	Appendix A: Details of Current Consultations
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## Appendix A: Details of Current Consultations

Organisation	Consultation Title	Issue	Closing Date	Response Currently Being Developed
Northern Health and Social Care Trust	<b>2017/2018 Financial Planning - Savings Plan</b>	Trusts have been tasked by the Department of Health (DoH) with developing draft savings plans to deliver their share of a total of £70m of savings in 2017/18.	5 October 2017	Yes- A response is being developed
	Link to Consultation	<a href="http://www.northerntrust.hscni.net/about/2981.htm">http://www.northerntrust.hscni.net/about/2981.htm</a>		
Organisation	Consultation Title	Issue	Closing Date	Response Currently Being Developed
Southern Health and Social Care Trust	<b>2017/2018 Financial Planning - Savings Plan</b>	Trusts have been tasked by the Department of Health (DoH) with developing draft savings plans to deliver their share of a total of £70m of savings in 2017/18.	5 October 2017	Yes- A response is being developed
	Link to Consultation	<a href="http://www.southerntrust.hscni.net/about/consultations.htm">http://www.southerntrust.hscni.net/about/consultations.htm</a>		
Organisation	Consultation Title	Issue	Closing Date	Response Currently Being Developed
Office of Rail and Road (ORR)	<b>The Railways Infrastructure (Access, Management and Licensing of Railway Undertakings) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016</b>	This is a consultation on draft guidance for the NI Regulations and proposed changes to our existing economic enforcement policy. New guidance and changes to our enforcement policy are required to reflect the NI Regulations and as such primarily affect stakeholders in Northern Ireland and users of the cross-border railway only.	29 September 2017	
	Link to Consultation	<a href="http://orr.gov.uk/rail/consultations/open-consultations/consultation-on-orr-economic-enforcement-policy-to-reflect-northern-ireland-regulations">http://orr.gov.uk/rail/consultations/open-consultations/consultation-on-orr-economic-enforcement-policy-to-reflect-northern-ireland-regulations</a>		
Organisation	Consultation Title	Issue	Closing Date	Response Currently Being Developed
Boundary Commission for NI	<b>2018 Review of Parliamentary</b>	Boundary Commission for NI consulted on Provisional	2 October 2017	

	<b>Constituencies Secondary Consultation</b>	Proposals for 12 weeks, which included four public hearings. The responses have been collated all and this triggers the start of a 4 week secondary consultation period. Council has also been asked to display a poster publicising the secondary consultation period so as to make the responses and the transcripts accessible to as many people as possible and to encourage them to participate.		
	Link to Consultation	<a href="https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/boundary-commission-ni/09954738/">https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/boundary-commission-ni/09954738/</a>		
<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Consultation Title</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Closing Date</b>	<b>Response Currently Being Developed</b>
<b>Department of Health</b>	<b>Consultation on Regulations to Restrict the Age of Sale for Nicotine Inhaling Products for Over 18s</b>	The Nicotine Inhaling Products (Age of Sale and Proxy Purchasing) Regulations prohibit both the sale of NIPs (including e-cigs) to under eighteens and the purchase of these products on behalf of a minor. The legislation also exempts the sale of NIPs which are licensed as medicines, where they have been prescribed to a child or where the medicine is indicated for use by children. The regulations will be enforced by Council.	27 October 2017	
	Link to Consultation	<a href="https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/consultations">https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/consultations</a>		
<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Consultation Title</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Closing Date</b>	<b>Response Currently Being Developed</b>
<b>Department for Communities</b>	<b>Abolition of Class 2 National Insurance Contributions</b>	The Department is currently consulting upon the EQIA carried out on the Abolition of Class 2 National Insurance Contributions. The benefits impacted upon by the proposed new arrangements include; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>contributory Employment and Support Allowance;</li> </ul>	3 November 2017	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maternity Allowance;</li> <li>• Bereavement Support Payment;</li> <li>• State Pension; and</li> <li>• in certain cases, contribution-based Jobseeker's Allowance.</li> </ul>		
	Link to Consultation	<a href="https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/consultations">https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/consultations</a>		
Organisation	Consultation Title	Issue	Closing Date	Response Currently Being Developed
Education Authority	Audit of Inequalities and Equality Action Plan	The Education Authority (EA) is preparing to develop an Audit of Inequalities and associated Equality Action Plan. As part of the engagement phase the EA want to hear from organisations as we prepare the documents.	30 November 2017	
	Link to Consultation	N/A. However there is a consultative event 10.30am on Wednesday 8th November 2017 in Belfast Office, Academy Street, Belfast, BT1 2NQ.		



<b>Report on</b>	Correspondence to Council – September 2017
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	P Moffett, Head of Democratic Services
<b>Contact Officer</b>	P Moffett, Head of Democratic Services

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>				
1.1	Provide an update on correspondence received for attention of Council.				
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>				
2.1	This paper makes reference to correspondence received to be brought to the attention of Council. Items are referred to in 3.0 below.				
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>				
3.1	<b>Correspondence from BT – Notification of Consultation to Remove Payphone</b>				
3.1.1	<p>BT has corresponded with Council to give notification of its intention to remove a payphone. The letter is attached as Appendix A and refers to a payphone at Cavan Road Junction Bush Road, Dungannon, BT71 6EZ</p> <p>BT is undertaking a 90 consultation seeking representations from interested parties. Ofcom guidance on the process identifies the Council as a consultee. A notice has been placed at the Payphone by BT advising the public to submit any views to the Council within 42 days of the notice placed. Following commentary has been received by council to date</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Organisation</th><th>Comments Received</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Bush Community Culture Group</td><td> <p>We the residents of Bush, would like our Council to use the Local Veto role as set out in BT procedure for removing telephone kiosks. For your information, we have already this text as an email to BT.</p> <p><i>"I am writing to you in my role as secretary of the Bush Community Cultural Group. This group represents the residents of the village and surrounding rural area. The Group would like to take this opportunity to put on record their total objection to the proposal to remove our telephone kiosk. As indicated this is a rural community with many elderly residents. This kiosk could prove a life saver in an emergency 999 incident. We are keen to see this kiosk painted and maintained. Perhaps then following a "spruce up" more people will use it. The traditional red kiosk is part of the history and culture of our village &amp; we would like to see it retained for future generations. We have responded to the Planning Committee of Mid Ulster District Council regarding this issue also".</i></p> </td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Organisation	Comments Received	Bush Community Culture Group	<p>We the residents of Bush, would like our Council to use the Local Veto role as set out in BT procedure for removing telephone kiosks. For your information, we have already this text as an email to BT.</p> <p><i>"I am writing to you in my role as secretary of the Bush Community Cultural Group. This group represents the residents of the village and surrounding rural area. The Group would like to take this opportunity to put on record their total objection to the proposal to remove our telephone kiosk. As indicated this is a rural community with many elderly residents. This kiosk could prove a life saver in an emergency 999 incident. We are keen to see this kiosk painted and maintained. Perhaps then following a "spruce up" more people will use it. The traditional red kiosk is part of the history and culture of our village &amp; we would like to see it retained for future generations. We have responded to the Planning Committee of Mid Ulster District Council regarding this issue also".</i></p>
Organisation	Comments Received				
Bush Community Culture Group	<p>We the residents of Bush, would like our Council to use the Local Veto role as set out in BT procedure for removing telephone kiosks. For your information, we have already this text as an email to BT.</p> <p><i>"I am writing to you in my role as secretary of the Bush Community Cultural Group. This group represents the residents of the village and surrounding rural area. The Group would like to take this opportunity to put on record their total objection to the proposal to remove our telephone kiosk. As indicated this is a rural community with many elderly residents. This kiosk could prove a life saver in an emergency 999 incident. We are keen to see this kiosk painted and maintained. Perhaps then following a "spruce up" more people will use it. The traditional red kiosk is part of the history and culture of our village &amp; we would like to see it retained for future generations. We have responded to the Planning Committee of Mid Ulster District Council regarding this issue also".</i></p>				

	Cllr Ashton	On behalf of the residents of the Bush I would like to object to BT proposal to remove the phone box relating to 02887752241.  This phone box is a feature in the village and rather than removing it I would welcome BT to make investment in the phone box to tidy it up. I will be making representation to BT as well.
	Cllr Cuthbertson	I wish that this kiosk be retained within the village of Bush and council should make representations on this approach
3.2	That the Council considers writing to BT within 90 days to object, setting out their reasons. Ofcom guidance on this process states that if this is done BT cannot remove the call box and is known as the 'local veto'.	
	<b>Correspondence from NILGA – Minibus Licencing</b>	
	At the July meeting of Council members carried a motion concerning the proposed changes to minibus licensing arrangements and their impact on the wider community;  <i>“That this council considers the current crisis threatening the future of Mid Ulster’s Rural Community Transport Partnerships, and shall make representations to the Permanent Secretary or the Minister for Infrastructure, whichever is applicable, citing our opposition to elements of the proposed changes to minibus driver licensing and opposing the unworkable timetable. And extend the Northern Trust enhanced dial a lift service to the Southern Trust Area”</i>	
	It was further agreed to write to NILGA to seek support for a campaign from all councils to oppose some of the proposed changes being put forward by the Department. Appendix B is correspondence received from NILGA	
	<b>Correspondence from Department for Infrastructure – Minibus Licencing</b>	
3.3	In reference to the above appendix B(i) is correspondence from the Permanent Secretary to the Dept for Infrastructure on Minibus Licencing arrangements	
3.4	<b>Correspondence from Department of Health – Safety of Buildings</b>	
	At the July meeting of Council it was agreed to correspond with the Department of Health to seek assurances on the safety of buildings within the Southern Health & Social Services Trust following the Grenfell Tower Tragedy in London. Appendix C is correspondence from the Department.	
	<b>Correspondence from St James House (Media Group) – 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the RAF</b>	
3.5	Email correspondence on arrangements to mark the 100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Royal Air Force (RAF) is attached as appendix D.	
3.5	<b>Correspondence on Receipt of Books of Condolence from Mid Ulster</b>	
	Correspondence from respective Mayors on provision of Books of Condolence from Mid Ulster district.	

<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b><u>Financial &amp; Human Resources Implications</u></b> Financial: Not applicable Human: Not applicable
<b>4.2</b>	<b><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></b> Not applicable
<b>4.3</b>	<b><u>Risk Management Implications</u></b> Not applicable
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	That Council notes and consider, as necessary, the correspondence received.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
	Appendix A Letter from BT on payphone at Cavan Road junction Bush Road, Dungannon Appendix B NILGA Appendix B(i) Department for Infrastructure Appendix C Department of Health Appendix D St James's House (media group) Appendix E Receipt of Books of Condolence







Planning Department  
Mid Ulster Council  
Dungannon Office  
Circular Road  
Dungannon  
BT71 6DT

17th August 2017

**TIME SENSITIVE DOCUMENT – REPLY REQUIRED**

Our reference: - JB-02887752241

Dear Sir or Madam,

**REMOVAL OF PUBLIC PAYPHONE:**

I am writing to advise you that BT are proposing to permanently remove the kiosk at Cavan Road Junction Bush Road , Dungannon. BT71 6EZ. After an assessment of the area and the need for a payphone at this location we discovered that the payphone has received very low or no use during the past twelve months. We are proposing to permanently cease service at this site.

Our obligation to provide a Universal Service will be maintained, as there are other kiosks within the vicinity.

Before we can remove a kiosk we have an obligation to consult with relevant public bodies on the proposed removal. As part of the consultation process it is a requirement that the Council reply in writing to BT within 90-days giving their comments or any objections received from the local community. Further information on the consultation process can be found at:

[http://stakeholders.ofcom.org.uk/binaries/consultations/uso/statement/removing\\_callboxes.pdf](http://stakeholders.ofcom.org.uk/binaries/consultations/uso/statement/removing_callboxes.pdf)

If you do not reply, it will be taken that the council and interested parties have no objection to the permanent removal of this payphone.

A notice of our proposal is being displayed in the kiosk and a copy is enclosed with this letter for your information.

If you require any further information or have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me via email at [btpcf@bt.com](mailto:btpcf@bt.com)

Yours faithfully

Jim Blanch

BT Payphones - Commercial Field Officer

Date of this notice



# IMPORTANT NOTICE

**Public Telephone Kiosk  
02887752241**

**BT is proposing to remove  
this kiosk.**

The nearest alternative payphone can be found at:  
**Edendork Road  
Dungannon  
BT71 6LF**

If you have any comments about this, please contact  
the planning department at  
**Mid Ulster Council**  
within 42 days from  
the date of this notice, quoting the  
telephone number of this payphone

**BT Payphones**  
**Email address: [btpcfo@bt.com](mailto:btpcfo@bt.com)**

**Postal address:**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Floor Monument Telephone Exchange 11-13 Great Tower Street London EC3R 5AQ**  
British Telecommunications plc. Registered office 81 Newgate Street, London. EC1A 7AJ  
Registered in England No. 1800000

Councillor Kim Ashton  
Mid Ulster District Council  
Dungannon Office  
Circular Road  
Dungannon  
BT71 6DT

29<sup>th</sup> August 2017

Dear Cllr Ashton,

Thank you very much for your letter containing the Council's Notice of Motion in regard to Minibus Licensing Arrangements specifically and Rural Community Transport more widely.

This important matter will be raised formally within the next All Council Executive Meeting of NILGA, which takes place on Friday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, in the Hilton Conference Centre, Templepatrick.

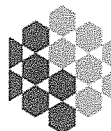
With thanks for your communication.

Yours sincerely,



---

Derek McCallan  
Chief Executive



**From the Permanent Secretary  
Peter May**

Cllr Kim Ashton  
Mid Ulster District Council  
Burn Road  
Cookstown  
BT80 8DT

Room 701  
Clarence Court  
10-18 Adelaide Street  
BELFAST  
BT2 8GB  
Telephone: (028) 9054 1175  
Email: [peter.may@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk](mailto:peter.may@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk)

Our Ref: COR-1193-2017  
31 August 2017

*Dear Kim*

Thank you for your letter dated 3 August expressing concern about the potential impact of proposed new minibus driving guidance on community transport services in your area and requesting a meeting with officials to discuss. As your correspondence would normally be passed to the Minister, and given the Department does not currently have a Minister in post, I am replying to you on behalf of the Department.

The relevant existing legislation is the Motor Vehicles Driving Licenses (NI) Regulations 1996. Previous guidance on driver licensing requirements for those driving a minibus had been published and was available through NI Direct until March 2017. However, in reviewing our interpretation of the legislation and reflecting DSO advice on what is a complex area, it became increasingly clear that the guidance was no longer sustainable.

To address this, the Department has been engaging in a process of pre-consultation with key stakeholders with the aim of developing revised guidance for consideration by an incoming Minister. The Department aims to issue the revised guidance for public consultation in the coming weeks with a view to it coming into effect from 1 January 2018.

As part of the ongoing consultation process, we would be happy to meet with Mid Ulster councillors to discuss the revised guidance and to better understand the potential impact on services in your district. The team responsible for preparing the guidance will be in touch to arrange a meeting.

In relation to the extension of the Dial a Lift funding to the Southern Trust area, when the applications for funding were received by the Social Investment Fund (SIF), each zone established a Steering Group, independent of Government, to select ten priority projects to receive funding.

Whilst the SIF Northern Zone identified this type of project as a priority, the SIF Southern Zone did not.

The Executive Office have confirmed that there are no plans to extend Social Investment Funding or for a further Social Investment Funding programme. The Department confirmed this position to the CDM Board following the issue being raised at their Annual General Meeting.

I hope this addresses the queries you raise in your letter

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter May', written in a cursive style.

**PETER MAY**

**From the Permanent Secretary  
and HSC Chief Executive**



Department of  
**Health**

An Roinn Sláinte

Mánnystrie O Poustie

[www.health-ni.gov.uk](http://www.health-ni.gov.uk)

Castle Buildings  
Stormont Estate  
BELFAST  
BT4 3SQ

Tel: 028 90 520559

Fax: 028 90 520573

Email:

[richard.pengelly@health-ni.gov.uk](mailto:richard.pengelly@health-ni.gov.uk)

Our Ref: RP1337  
SCORR-0297-2017

Date: 29 August 2017

Kim Ashton  
Mid Ulster District Council

Via email

[kim.ashton@midulstercouncil.org](mailto:kim.ashton@midulstercouncil.org)

Dear Ms Ashton

Thank you for your letter of 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2017. I note the concern expressed by the Council members regarding the response of the Southern Health and Social Care Trust on assurances to the public on the safety of its buildings.

Following the Grenfell Tragedy and, in line with a request from the Cabinet Office in London, a central approach to enquiries regarding fire safety was adopted, thus a separate public statement was not made by SHSCT.

In terms of substantive action, since the Tragedy all HSC Trusts have undertaken inspections of buildings over two storeys in height with overnight accommodation. These inspections have confirmed that there are no buildings within the Southern HSC Trust with an ACM cladding installation similar to that installed at Grenfell Tower.

Furthermore, all HSC organisations have provided assurance to the Department that fire safety procedures are fully embedded within their organisations including having robust fire evacuation plans for their facilities and that staff have been and are undertaking the necessary fire safety training. All HSC facilities also have robust fire safety systems in place for the protection of patients and staff.

I trust this clarifies matters.

Yours sincerely

**RICHARD PENGELLY**

**From:** Lindsay Krushner [<mailto:lindsay.krushner@stjames.org>]  
**Sent:** 19 September 2017 12:52  
**To:** Chief Executive <[Chief.Executive@midulstercouncil.org](mailto:Chief.Executive@midulstercouncil.org)>  
**Subject:** RAF100 Celebrations

Dear Anthony,

Following on from our earlier telephone conversation, I will try and give you a brief flavour and overview of what the MOD, Government and Palace have planned to commemorate and celebrate the RAF's 100 Birthday taking place next year.

As I mentioned, I work for a company called St James's House. We are a media communications and events company based in London and have worked with the Queen on her last two major public celebrations namely her Jubilee and her 90th Birthday at Windsor.

Everything is being kept a little bit on the down low at the moment until the end of this month when the official public and press launch commences. However, what is planned is a huge celebration with many events. These include a Buckingham Palace garden party, a huge 4-day celebration in July next year which will include a fly past down The Mall saluted by the Royal family, a thanksgiving service at Westminster Abbey and this will be followed by a full parade. Many of these events will be attended and hosted by Her Majesty. This is to be an official state celebration with the full pomp and ceremony - and around 250,000 spectators are expected to watch the proceedings on huge designated screens in the London Royal Parks.

We have been again asked to co-ordinate the only official form of media being created to support and honour this event in the form of a commemorative album. This is to be around 400 pages in depth and a full sized, beautifully produced, art-house, coffee table style publication with the foreword being written by HRH The Duke of Cambridge.

We have an editorial board here at St James's House who dictate to us who they would like to see within the pages of this book and as such they have asked me to contact Mid-Ulster District Council. They are looking to partner with organisations from around the country that would want to show their support and thanks to the RAF. To this end our Editorial Team would like to collaborate with you on an in-depth feature - which we would shoulder the entire burden of producing. This article would follow the ethos of RAF100 in looking at the history of your area, the now and most importantly what we can expect from the future within your area. You will of course have full editorial control and own the copyright to the completed feature for your own personal marketing use.

The print run of this publication is currently 60,000 although it will also be available in digital format, serialised within the Mail on Sunday and will be offered as a free reader gift to their entire readership - this is currently around 1.5 million. This commemorative album is a private gift from Her Majesty and will be made available to every VIP attendee at each of these events - which will undoubtedly be the who's who of the aviation world. Other recipients include Government Officials, CEO's of the world's leading organisations and Heads of State amongst many other invited dignitaries.

There is lots else happening including an event at the RAF Museum in London which is currently going through a major refurb in preparation for this fantastic year of celebration and it's within their brand-new exhibition that we will officially be launching this publication to the worlds press. As an

official Patron of this book, you would of course be invited to come along and join us at this event with around 500 invited guests.

The cost of being involved in this project is a one of cost of £10,000 for a single page portfolio and £19,000 for a double page portfolio. However, what is most important to the board on this particular campaign is that we have the right partners included within the pages of this book – so if it is a celebration that you believe Mid Ulster District Council should be supporting but have financial restraints – I can certainly address that to the Board for their consideration.

I'm so sorry for the long-winded email – there is so much information to pass along and I appreciate you taking the time to engage with me on this. If you have a spare moment take a look at the newly launched RAF100 website <https://www.raf.mod.uk/raf100/>

I look forward to hearing from you with your thoughts/questions.

Kind regards

Lindsay

---

**Lindsay Krushner**  
Head of Partnerships

**St James's House**  
298 Regents Park Road | London | N3 2SZ  
020 8371 4030 | [lindsay.krushner@stjames.org](mailto:lindsay.krushner@stjames.org) | [www.stjames.org](http://www.stjames.org)

Follow us on Twitter: @Media\_SJH



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TOWN HALL, MANCHESTER

29 August 2017

Councillor Trevor Wilson  
Mid Ulster District Council  
Cookstown Office  
Burn Road  
Cookstown  
BT80 8DT

Dear Councillor Wilson

As Lord Mayor of the City of Manchester, I want to thank you and the people of Mid Ulster for the condolence book received following the terror attack at Manchester Arena. It truly helped to know that the people of Manchester were in your thoughts during these difficult days and we appreciate your friendship and concern.

These acts of terror seek to divide us by undermining our core values which include respect and tolerance but the people of Manchester have responded with courage, incredible togetherness and resolve. There is no doubt in my mind that Manchester will recover from this terrible tragedy and emerge a more resilient and cohesive city.

Yours sincerely

Councillor Eddy Newman  
Lord Mayor



THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE LORD MAYOR

ALDERMAN DR ANDREW PARMLEY

THE MANSION HOUSE, LONDON EC4N 8BH

TELEPHONE 020-7626 2500

Councillor Kim Ashton  
Dungannon Office  
Circular Road  
Dungannon  
BT71 6DT

8<sup>th</sup> September 2017

*Dear Councillor Ashton,*

On behalf of the City of London, I write to express my most sincere gratitude for your letter dated 4<sup>th</sup> of August in which you offered your condolences to the people of London after the terrorist on London Bridge and in Borough Market.

These callous attacks run directly counter to our nation's values of freedom, bravery and democracy. I am extremely heartened by the many messages of solidarity from the people of Mid Ulster and am most grateful to them for holding the victims of the attack in their thoughts.

*Yours sincerely,  
Andrew Parmley*

**The Rt Hon The Lord Mayor  
Alderman Dr Andrew Parmley**



The Royal Borough  
of Kensington and Chelsea

From: Councillor Marie-Therese Rossi  
Mayor

11<sup>th</sup> September, 2017

Dear Mr Ashton

Thank you so much for your letter following the dreadful fire at Grenfell Tower. It was enormously kind of you to have opened a Book of Condolence and it was very moving to read the heartfelt words in the entries made by so many people. As people look back on this tragedy over the decades to come, your Book and the many letters I have received from across the nation, and across the world, will stand as a reminder of the deep sense of shock and sadness felt by so many.

I know that there are all too many in your community who have experienced much suffering over the years, and will know more than most the pain we here now feel.

Grenfell is a devastating tragedy on an unprecedented scale and the only reports that bring any comfort are of the wonderful and immediate responses by so many different organisations and individuals.

The local community has shown immense strength, compassion and resolve in doing everything possible to help the survivors and the friends and families of those who died. The Emergency Services, hospital staff, charities, and this Council's own specialist teams have been working tirelessly to help all those affected.

Officers and Members from Councils across London and beyond were swift to come forward with offers of help, but our staff remain in the thick of it and we now embark on the immense tasks that will follow in the coming months and years. There will be a full investigation into the causes of the fire and why it spread so quickly, to make sure nothing like this can ever happen again anywhere in the country.

2.

In remembering those who lost their lives and those who were close to them we will do all we possibly can to work with the Red Cross and the Government to make sure the survivors of Grenfell Tower are treated with respect and dignity, and that they receive all the help they need.

I will do all I can to ensure that your kind messages are made known as widely as possible to people here in the Royal Borough. Much strength comes from knowing that so many across the country share our grief.

*Marie-Thérèse Rossi*

Councillor Marie-Thérèse Rossi

Mayor

The Chair of Mid Ulster District Council  
Councillor Kim Ashton