Report on	Recycling Collaborative Change Capital Funding
Date of Meeting	14 <sup>th</sup> January 2020
Reporting Officer	Mark McAdoo, Head of Environmental Services
Contact Officer	Mark McAdoo, Head of Environmental Services

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update members on the outcome of a capital funding project/application submitted to DAERA under the Recycling Collaborative Change Programme.
2.0	Background
2.1	In June the Environmental Policy Division of DAERA announced the launch of a £23M capital programme over the period of 2019/20 to 2021/22 to provide financial assistance to local councils to improve recycling services and infrastructure.
	The aim of this programme is to support the draft Programme for Government, in particular Outcome 2 "to live and work sustainably - protecting the environment".
	The programme will use capital investment to improve the quality of recyclates, increase recycling and bring about behavioural change. The programme will also support initiatives to reduce waste, reuse materials and prepare materials for reuse. This programme is part of a range of other activities to support the draft Programme for Government Outcomes and to promote a circular economy.
	The programme will seek to contribute quality recyclate materials to the market and economy to allow for the development of opportunities for the local circular economy. The programme is about being effective in realising the value of these materials for the benefit of the environment, society and the economy and not simply about the efficient management of waste.
	The approval of this programme by central government is a recognition of the positive outputs realised in the last decade through close collaborative and partnership working between central and local government and other stakeholders.

3.0	Main Report
3.1	The Household Waste Recycling Collaborative Change Programme will assist local councils to transform kerbside recycling and Household Recycling Centre (HRC) infrastructure and services. The programme will emphasise quality of recycling, as well as increasing the quantity of recyclates collected, in order to ideally realise the economic potential of recycling to the economy. The programme will ensure that there is a stronger linkage between waste management and the economy as opposed to the historical emphasis on solely meeting EU waste recycling targets.
3.2	The objectives for the Programme are:
	<ul> <li>To transform local council household waste recycling services in readiness for delivering a circular economy for Northern Ireland between 2020 - 2030;</li> <li>To improve the quality of household waste recycling collected by local councils to a standard allowing wide market access;</li> <li>To increase the quantity of household waste recycling collected by local councils and reduce the reliance on landfill;</li> <li>To raise awareness of, and encourage best practice in, recycling and change the perception of waste to one of a valuable resource.</li> </ul>
3.3	A summary of the Programme targets are:
	<ul> <li>To collect 8,000 additional tonnes of post-consumer paper, plastics and glass from kerbside collections to standards suitable for use by UK and EU reprocessors in the first year following the programme completion (these three materials are being used as indicator materials)</li> <li>To increase the 'waste from household' recycling rate to at least 50% for the calendar year 2020</li> <li>To capture an additional 27,454 tonnes of source segregated material per year for recycling and re-use from HRC/CAs for the first year following the programme completion</li> </ul>
3.4	The guidance provided for the programme stated that it would "operate on a rolling first come first served basis". Officers considered in detail potential projects and, on 5 <sup>h</sup> August 2019, submitted a detailed application to fund an extension and refurbishment of Magherafelt Recycling Centre. It is proposed to redevelop the existing facility (incorporating the 0.8 acre plot of land to be purchased adjacent to the site as shown on attached map) to provide a bespoke state of the art Recycling Centre which will increase both the quantity and quality of recyclable materials by:
	<ul> <li>Providing increased and better material separation and storage on site of recyclables through the transition to RORO containers and compactors.</li> <li>Incorporating reuse on site for the first time and building partnerships with local charities and community groups to increase the opportunities for reuse</li> <li>Reducing the overall environmental impact of the site through reduced vehicle movements, better waste containment and the reduction of litter</li> <li>Improving the health and safety of the site for users and staff by separating Council and service vehicles from the public and improving traffic flows</li> </ul>

- Enhancing the customers recycling experience on site through the introduction of split levels and more accessible fit for purpose containers and compactors including automatic wheeled bin lifters.
   Improving customer awareness through better communications and signage
   A letter of offer for £894,997 funding was received from DAERA on 29<sup>th</sup> November with a Funding Agreement Memorandum of Understanding (see copies attached).
- 4.0 Other Considerations

# 4.1 | Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications

## **Funding**

3.5

When combined with funding obtained for communications (£5,000 for plastics and £7,288 for food waste) this letter of offer brings the total of amount of funding secured for waste management by Mid Ulster Council in 2019/20 to £907,285. The total amount of funding successfully applied for since 2015 is £1,365,838. The Councils Draft Capital programme has identified some £290,000 to support this funding application.

#### Human:

Significant officer time in the preparation and submission of funding application

## Risk Management:

Project risks have been identified and detailed in the funding application forms

## 4.2 | Screening & Impact Assessments

Equality & Good Relations Implications:

None

Rural Needs Implications:

None

#### 5.0 | Recommendation(s)

5.1 Members are asked to note the contents of this report and to endorse the delivery of a (funded) capital project to extend and refurbish Magherafelt Recycling Centre.

## 6.0 Documents Attached & References

- 6.1 | Recycling Collaborative Change Funding Letter of Offer from DAERA
- 6.2 Recycling Collaborative Change Funding Agreement (MoU) with DAERA
- 6.3 Site layout drawing showing proposed extension/refurbishment works to Magherafelt Recycling Centre