Report on	The Heart of Ancient Ulster Landscape Partnership Scheme
	(HoAULP) – Update on Community Consultations
Date of Meeting	7 June 2018
Reporting Officer	Michael Browne
Contact Officer	Mary McKeown

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 inform Council of community consultations for the Heart of Ancient Ulster Landscape Partnership Scheme.
2.0	Background
2.1	The purpose of this report is to provide an update on The Heart of Ancient Ulster Landscape Partnership Scheme to May 2018.
2.2	The Heart of Ancient Ulster Landscape Partnership Scheme (HoAULP) is currently developing a Landscape Character Area Plan (LCAP): a fully-budgeted five year programme which forms the core of the Round 2 application to be submitted to Heritage Lottery in November 2018.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The LP first met in February 2018 and received two sessions of Good Governance training delivered by Michael Kelly, Rural Development Council. Membership of the Landscape Partnership Board was formalised in March 2018 and a Chair and Vice-chair nominated for the remainder of the development phase. The board consists of the following members:
3.2	Chair Vice-Chair Vice-Chair Member Mary T Conway, Omagh Forum for Rural Associations

Member Bert Wilson, Councillor FODC
Member Sean Clarke, Councillor FODC
Member Cathal Mallaghan, Councillor MUDC

Member Cathy Smith, NIEA

Member Prof Mark Bailey, Armagh Observatory, retired

- 3.3 Due to capacity issues representatives from Historic Environment Division (CfC), Forestry Service and DAERA will not sit on the board. However, they will continue to provide guidance to the Project Development Officer and assist with developing the Round 2 application to HLF.
- 3.4 The Project Development Officer, Moira O'Rourke, returned to work 23/04/2018 after a three month absence due to a car accident.
- 3.5 Community consultations were held during January early February in the following locations:-
 - Pomeroy
 - Broughderg
 - An Creggan
 - Galbally
 - Carrickmore
 - Greencastle

Due to inclement weather conditions the final consultation was held at Sixmilecross in April 2018. A presentation was also given to Camowen Farmers Ltd in January 2018. The consultations were well attended with a total of 163 participants.

- Project 'Expression of Interest' forms, whereby groups provide an outline of heritage projects they wish to be included within the Landscape Character Area Plan and to be undertaken during the Delivery Phase (2019-2023), were distributed at the consultations and also made available online via FODC and MUDC websites, social media and community websites. The submission date of 23rd March was extended to 27th April due to the rescheduling issues with the Sixmilecross consultation. A total of 50 Expression of Interest forms were received, ranging from trails, publications, exhibitions, school projects, biodiversity, vernacular cottage restoration, WWI, industrial heritage, archaeology, and bog restoration. The EOIs have been preliminary assessed according to HLF's Nine Core Heritage Values and will be presented to the LP board at the June meeting for consideration.
- 3.7 Invitation to tender for two audits were issued in April 2018:
 - Skills Development Plan
 - Access and Signage

Dr William Burke was the preferred candidate for the Skills Development Audit and has commenced works. Due to a lack of interest and one late submission, the Access and Signage audit was re-issued in April; JM Consulting is the preferred candidate and has commenced works. A Built Heritage Audit is being completed in-house by the Project Development Officer which results a savings within the overall budget.

3.8 Both the LP and Grantee boards met jointly on 15th May 2018 and were presented with an update by the Project Development Officer (PDO).

This was followed by:-

an overview of the function and structure of Landscape Partnership Schemes

	• critical timeline for both Development (2017-2018) and Delivery phase (2019-
	2024)budget allocation
	 final evaluation 10 year maintenance plan post-delivery phase
3.9	The PDO updated the board on the EOI submissions, and provided insight on the heritage needs and issues facing HoAULP landscape as provided by a survey of community Heritage Interest conducted between December 2017 and April 2018.
3.10	The board was informed that overall the project is six months behind; three months due to HLF issues with start dates and three months with PDO being on sick leave. As a result of this both FODC and MUDC have set aside financial assistance to provide an external consultant to assist the PDO in developing the LCAP and ensuring that it is submitted by 14th November 2018.
3.11	Four officers representing both councils were present: Michael Brown and Tony McCance (MUDC), Kieran McCrory, Ian Davidson and George Bradshaw (all FODC). Both the Development Officer, Moira O'Rourke, and Project Administrator, Gail Lees, were also present.
3.12	Dates and location of future LP board meetings (June - October 2018) were agreed. The board was also informed that a Fam Trip to the Heart of the Glens Landscape Partnership Scheme (based in Armoy) is scheduled for 6th June 2018.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
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