



02 December 2019

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Environment Committee to be held in The Chamber, Magherafelt at Mid Ulster District Council, Ballyronan Road, MAGHERAFELT, BT45 6EN on Monday, 02 December 2019 at 19:00 to transact the business noted below.

Yours faithfully

Anthony Tohill
Chief Executive

AGENDA

OPEN BUSINESS

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

Matters for Decision

- | | | |
|-----|---|-----------|
| 5. | DfI Roads Proposals to Mid Ulster District Council - Proposed Loading Bay – Main Street, Castledawson | 3 - 6 |
| 6. | DfI Roads Proposals to Mid Ulster District Council - Proposed Amendments to Limited Waiting - Oldtown Street, Cookstown | 7 - 10 |
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Matters for Information

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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

20. Entertainment Licensing – Greenvale Hotel
21. Application for the Renewal of a Mobile Street Trading Licence
22. Extension of the Age well contract
23. Installation of a Memorial Bench on Council Property
24. Grounds Maintenance Towns and Villages Awards Feedback
25. Off Street Car Park Pay on Foot Pilot Scheme Procurement
26. Tender Report for purchase of Seasonal Planting
27. Tender for collection, processing and recycling of hard plastics

Matters for Information

28. Confidential Minutes of Environment Committee held on 12 November 2019
29. Capital Works Update – Tullyvar Landfill Phase 4 Capping
30. Cemeteries Administration Costs and the Scale of Charges

Report on	DfI Roads Proposals to Mid Ulster District Council - Proposed Loading Bay – Main Street, Castledawson
Date of Meeting	Monday 2 nd December 2019
Reporting Officer	Andrew Cassells, Director of Environment & Property
Contact Officer	Andrew Cassells, Director of Environment & Property

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To seek agreement of Members in relation to proposals from DfI Roads to introduce measures to enhance the safety and development of the transport network with a range of transport proposals.
2.0	Background
2.1	DfI Roads are consulting the Council with proposals to introduce measures designed to improve network safety, sustainability and efficiency to encourage safe and sustainable travel.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>The following outlines the proposal to be brought to the attention of the Environment Committee:</p> <p>Proposed Loading Bay – Main Street, Castledawson</p> <p>DfI Roads are proposing to introduce a Loading Bay, Monday to Saturday, 8.30am to 6.30pm on Main Street, Castledawson.</p> <p>Consultation letter and location map of the aforementioned proposal are attached as appendices to this report.</p>

4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: None
	Human: None
	Risk Management: The introduction of the aforementioned proposal as this location will assist in the management of road safety issues.
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications:
	Rural Needs Implications: The introduction of the aforementioned proposal at this location will assist DfI in the discharge of their statutory duty.
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	That the Environment Committee endorses the proposal submitted by DfI Roads.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 Letter from DfI Roads dated 28 th October 2019; Proposed Loading Bay, Main Street, Castledawson
6.2	Appendix 2 Drawing – Proposed Loading Bay, Main Street, Castledawson



Department for

Infrastructure

An Roinn

Bonneagair

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Tel: 028 8225 4085

28 October 2019

Dear Mr Tohill

PROPOSED LOADING BAY – MAIN STREET, CASTLEDAWSON

DfI Roads is proposing to introduce a loading bay, Monday to Saturday, 8.30am to 6.30pm, on Main Street, Castledawson, as shown on the attached map.

PSNI have been consulted and are in agreement with the proposal.

Please bring this matter to the attention of your council.

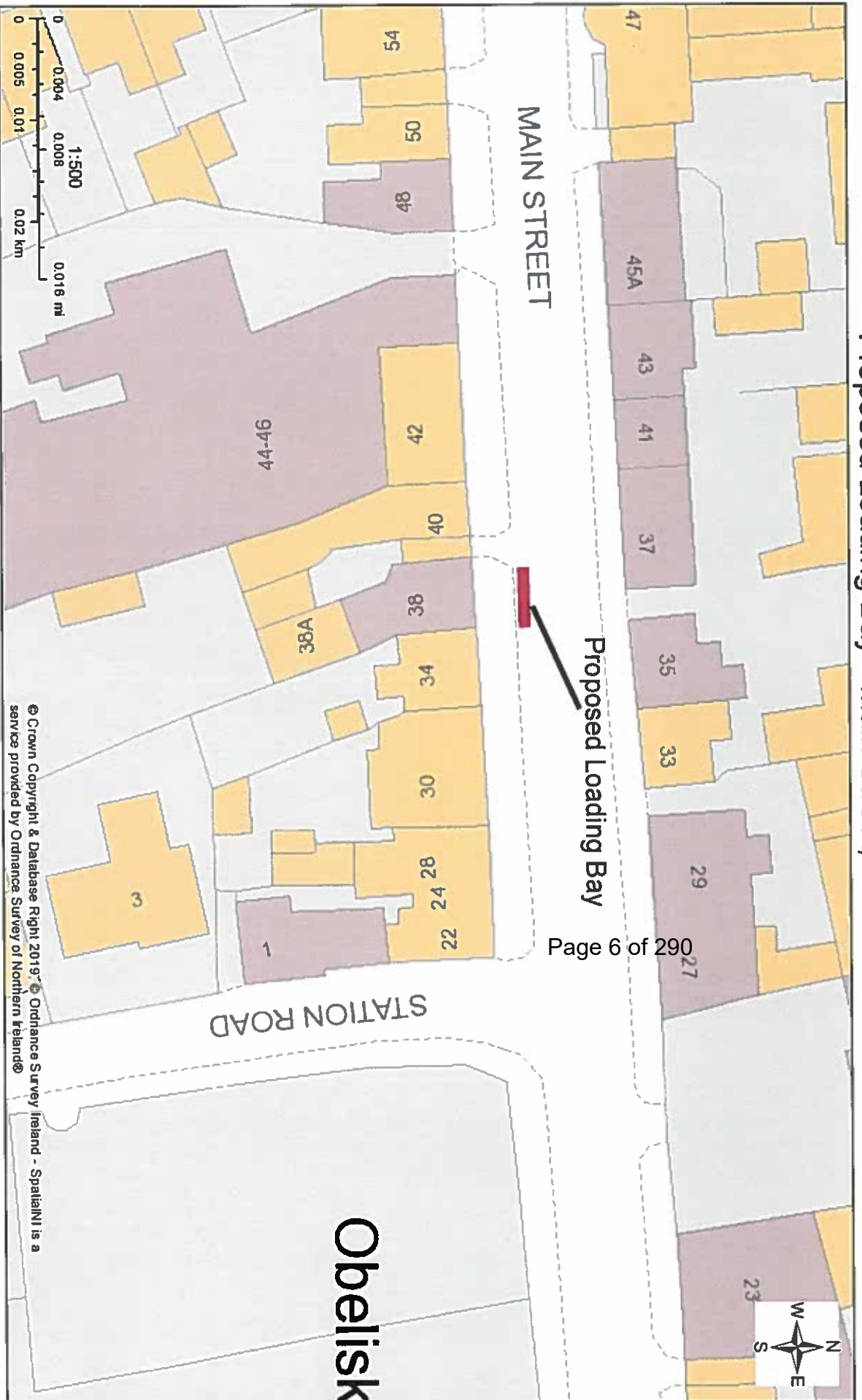
Yours sincerely

Mrs Hazel Burton
Network Development Section

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Proposed Loading Bay - Main Street, Castledawson



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Report on	DfI Roads Proposals to Mid Ulster District Council - Proposed Amendments to Limited Waiting - Oldtown Street, Cookstown
Date of Meeting	Tuesday 2 nd December 2019
Reporting Officer	Andrew Cassells, Director of Environment & Property
Contact Officer	Andrew Cassells, Director of Environment & Property

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To seek the agreement of Members in relation to proposals from DfI Roads to introduce measures to enhance the safety and development of the transport network with a range of transport proposals.
2.0	Background
2.1	DfI Roads are consulting the Council with proposals to introduce measures designed to improve network safety, sustainability and efficiency to encourage safe and sustainable travel.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>The following outlines the proposals to be brought to the attention of the Environment Committee:</p> <p>Proposed Amendments to Limited Waiting - Oldtown Street, Cookstown</p> <p>DfI Roads are proposing to amend the descriptions for two sections of limited waiting legislation on Oldtown Street, Cookstown. The description for a short stretch, which is also contained in another description of limited waiting, will be revoked to remove a duplicate and another stretch will have the length in the description amended from 27 to 36 metres.</p> <p>Consultation letter and location map of aforementioned proposal are attached as appendices to this report.</p>

4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: None
	Human: None
	Risk Management: The introduction of the aforementioned proposals at these locations will assist in the management of road safety issues.
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: The introduction of the aforementioned proposals at these locations will assist DfI in the discharge of their duties in regard to disability.
	Rural Needs Implications:
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	That the Environment Committee endorses the proposals submitted by DfI Roads.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 Letter from DfI Roads dated 6 th November 2019; Proposed Amendments to Limited Waiting - Oldtown Street, Cookstown.
6.2	Appendix 2 Drawing – Proposed Amendments to Limited Waiting - Oldtown Street, Cookstown



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Tel: 028 8225 4085

6 November 2019

Dear Mr Tohill

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO LIMITED WAITING – OLDTOWN STREET,
COOKSTOWN**

DfI Roads is proposing to amend the descriptions for two stretches of limited waiting legislation on Oldtown Street, Cookstown, as shown on the attached map. The description for a short stretch, which is also contained in another description of limited waiting, will be revoked to remove a duplicate and another stretch will have the length in the description amended from 27 to 36 metres.

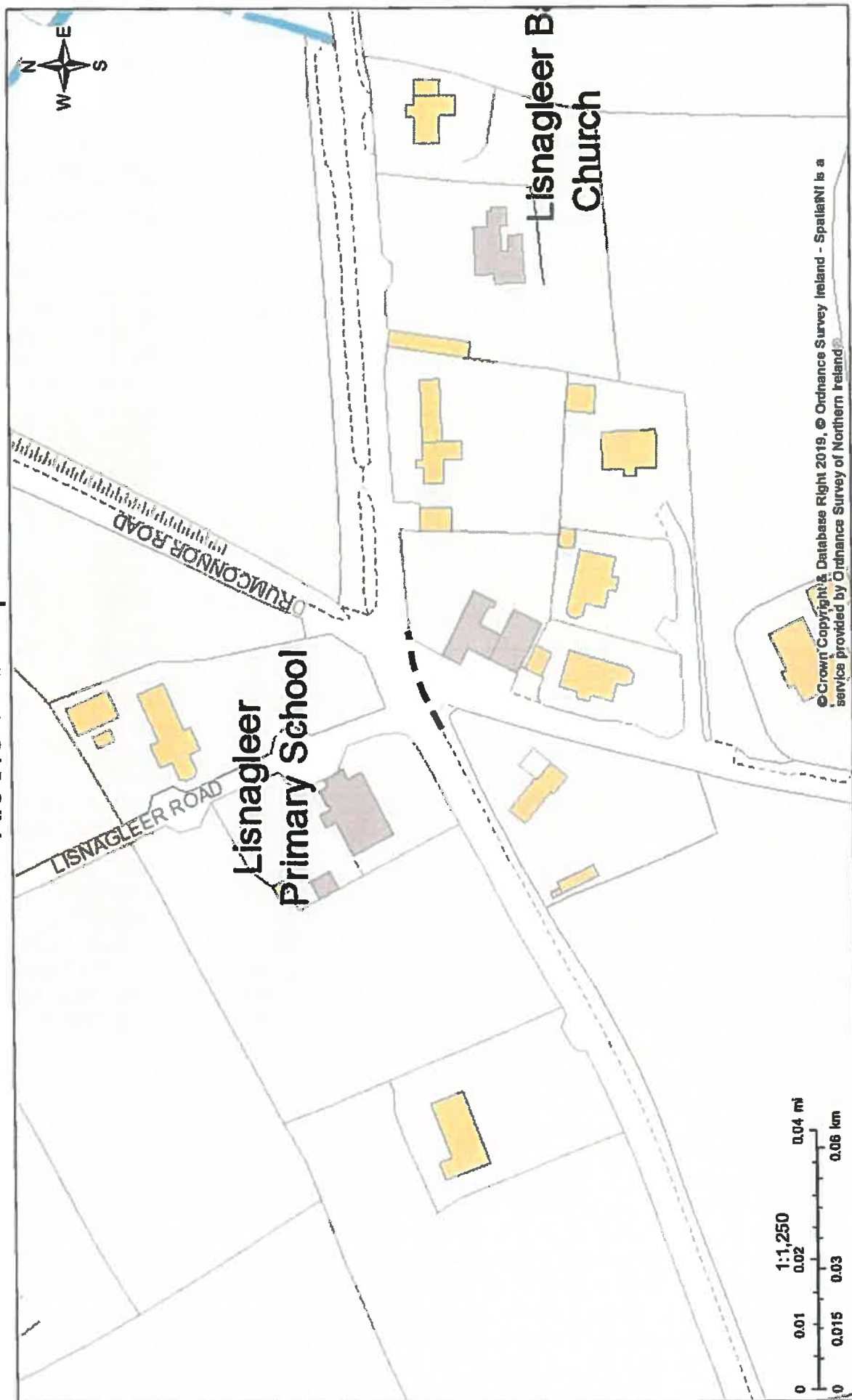
PSNI have been consulted and are in agreement with the proposal.

Please bring this matter to the attention of your council.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Hazel Burton
Network Development Section

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Report on	Response to the DAERA Consultation on the Environment Strategy for Northern Ireland
Date of Meeting	2 December 2019
Reporting Officer	Andrew Cassells, Director of Environment & Property
Contact Officer	Andrew Cassells, Director of Environment & property

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To advise Members on the Department of Agriculture, Environment & Rural Affairs (DAERA) consultation on the Environment Strategy for Northern Ireland and to provide a Mid Ulster District Council response to the consultation.
2.0	Background
2.1	DAERA issued a consultation on 18 September 2019 in relation to an Environment Strategy for Northern Ireland (WMPNI). The consultation open until 5pm on Monday 23 December 2019.
2.2	Appendix 1 encloses a copy of the Public Consultation Document on the Environment Strategy for Northern Ireland whilst Appendix 2 is the Draft Mid Ulster District Council Response.
3.0	Main Report
	Overview
3.1	It is a fundamental premise of a civilised society that everyone should have the right to live in a healthy environment, with access to sufficient and appropriate environmental resources for a healthy life. Northern Ireland's environment is its most important asset and it is crucial to each and every one of us. It is one of the main reasons people from other countries and regions visit, bringing money into the local economy and raising our profile around the world. It affects our economy, our health and well-being, and it facilitates social interaction. Clean air, good quality water and the green and blue spaces, to which we have access, are part of our 'natural capital' - while opportunities for outdoor recreation contribute significantly to our physical and mental wellbeing.
3.2	We are fortunate to have a relatively good environment. However, recent assessments have identified that our environment is under threat and we are faced with the challenge of how to protect our important natural asset, while supporting its sustainable use. We have particular challenges in Northern Ireland, due to the very different characteristics of our

	economy, our geographical location and other factors, such as the continued prevalence of coal and oil as fuels, all of which increase pressures on the environment from agricultural, transport, energy supply and residential sources.
3.3	A Northern Ireland Environment Strategy (“the Environment Strategy”) is required to form the basis for a coherent and effective set of interventions that can deliver real improvements in the quality of the environment and thereby improve the health and well-being of our citizens, create opportunities to develop our economy and play our part in protecting the global environment for many decades to come.
	Why DAERA Are Consulting
3.4	The form and content of any Environment Strategy is a matter for a DAERA Minister and NI Executive. However, in the current absence of Ministers, we wish to obtain as broad view as possible on what a future Environment Strategy might seek to address in order to inform an incoming Minister.
3.5	The purpose of this consultation is to give, the people who will be affected by the decisions taken in the future, an opportunity to express your views on what our environment should look like in the future, what our environmental priorities and objectives should be, and how we should achieve these. DAERA have made some suggestions regarding potential issues to be addressed to encourage debate but that is all they are, suggestions – nothing is set in stone at this stage.
3.6	DAERA have already engaged with a range of stakeholders but we look forward to receiving responses from all sectors, age groups, organisations and individuals. Some of these responses will be from experts in their field and while those will be welcomed, DAERA are just as interested to hear ideas, thoughts and opinions from all walks of life. Every response will be carefully considered and fed into the policymaking process.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: None
	Human: Officer time in reviewing the and drafting the response.
	Risk Management: None at this juncture.
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: Not at this juncture.

	Rural Needs Implications: Not at this juncture.
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are requested to approve to Council the Draft Response (as set out at Appendix 2) of this report to the DAERA Environment Strategy for Northern Ireland
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1: Environment Strategy for Northern Ireland Public Discussion Document.
6.2	Appendix 2: Proposed Mid Ulster District Council response to the DAERA Environment Strategy for Northern Ireland
6.,3	References: The Settlement Health Map (Barton and Grant 2006); Public Health and Landscape, Creating Healthy Places, Landscape Institute Position Statement

Environment Strategy for Northern Ireland

Public Discussion Document



September 2019

A living, working, active landscape valued by everyone.



Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**

www.daera-ni.gov.uk



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IN PEOPLE**

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1. Introduction

It is a fundamental premise of a civilised society that everyone should have the right to live in a healthy environment, with access to sufficient and appropriate environmental resources for a healthy life. Northern Ireland's environment is its most important asset and it is crucial to each and every one of us. It is one of the main reasons people from other countries and regions visit, bringing money into the local economy and raising our profile around the world. It affects our economy, our health and well-being, and it facilitates social interaction. Clean air, good quality water and the green and blue spaces, to which we have access, are part of our 'natural capital' - while opportunities for outdoor recreation contribute significantly to our physical and mental wellbeing. (Natural capital is the world's stock of natural resources, including geology, soils, air, water and all living organisms).

However, the importance of the environment goes far beyond the immediate benefits it can provide. Our environment is a unique asset; sustaining its landscape and biological diversity also makes a small but significant contribution to protecting a much wider global ecosystem which sustains life on earth. We therefore have a responsibility to protect and enhance this asset for the benefit of future generations.

Effective care of the environment provides very real benefits in terms of improving health and wellbeing, promoting economic development and addressing the social problems which result from a poor quality environment. We are fortunate to have a relatively good environment. However, recent assessments have identified that our environment is under threat and we are faced with the challenge of how to protect our important natural asset, while supporting its sustainable use.

We have particular challenges in Northern Ireland, due to the very different characteristics of our economy, our geographical location and other factors, such as the continued prevalence of coal and oil as fuels, all of which increase pressures on the environment from agricultural, transport, energy supply and residential sources. The environmental issues that we need to address are wide-ranging and complex, requiring a joined up approach involving a range of stakeholders, including: other Departments and public sector bodies; the private sector; the community and voluntary sector; and the general public, working together with the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA).

A Northern Ireland Environment Strategy ("the Environment Strategy") is required to form the basis for a coherent and effective set of interventions that can deliver real improvements in the quality of the environment and thereby improve the health and well-being of our citizens, create opportunities to develop our economy and play our part in protecting the global environment for many decades to come.

2. Programme for Government

The draft Programme for Government (PfG) for the 2016 - 2021 Assembly mandate was published in May 2016 and during the current period without an Executive is being taken forward as the Northern Ireland Civil Service (NICS) Outcomes Delivery Plan, which focuses on 12 Outcomes across all functions of government. DAERA is the designated lead department for Outcome 2: ***We live and work sustainably - protecting the environment***, and for 5 of the 6 associated indicators:

- Greenhouse gas emissions;
- % household waste that is reused, recycled or composted;
- Annual mean nitrogen dioxide concentration at monitored urban roadside locations;
- Levels of soluble reactive phosphorus in our rivers and levels of Dissolved Inorganic Nitrogen in our marine waters;
- Biodiversity (% of protected area under favourable management).

The sixth indicator, the percentage of all journeys which are made by walking/cycling/public transport, is led by the Department for Infrastructure. Figs. 1 - 8 show how we are doing with regard to these indicators.

However, the environment is all-encompassing and in good and healthy condition can contribute to many, if not all, of the PfG outcomes.

“Ultimately, health and prosperity depend on our natural environment. Achieving economic growth at the cost of its degradation through over-exploitation or pollution is not sustainable.”
(Draft Programme for Government Framework 2016 - 21, p.19).

At a Departmental level, our vision is: ***A living, working, active landscape valued by everyone***. This is at the centre of everything DAERA does and, ultimately, is what the proposed NI Strategy has to support and deliver.

This vision is supported by 4 strategic outcomes:

- Sustainable agri-food, fisheries, forestry and industrial sectors;
- Clean, healthy environment, benefiting people, nature and the economy;
- Thriving rural economy, contributing to prosperity and wellbeing; and
- Well led, high performing organisation focused on outcomes.

3. Environmental Principles

While we will take a lead from our draft Programme for Government and Departmental strategic outcomes, we must also be mindful that there is a broader environmental agenda to be considered. Currently, we are guided by a set of international environmental principles, such as the precautionary and polluter pays principles, embedded in the EU Treaties. After withdrawal from the European Union we will continue to be guided by environmental principles, set either at UK or devolved level.

The draft Environment (Principles and Governance) Bill was published by the UK Government in December 2018. The draft Bill enshrines environmental principles in domestic law and provides for the establishment of a new independent body (the Office for Environmental Protection (OEP)) to address roles currently undertaken by EU institutions which will cease to apply once we leave the EU. The Bill will also give legal status to the UK Government paper - A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment.

Currently the draft Bill applies only to England and to reserved matters across the UK but DAERA officials are currently working with Defra to retain the option for returning Ministers to extend the Bill's provisions to Northern Ireland. However, no decision has been taken to introduce these provisions here and the inclusion of the relevant clauses simply allows future Ministers to take such a decision if they decide this is appropriate, or to decide on alternative arrangements.

4. An Environment Strategy - why now?

Northern Ireland has never had an all-encompassing environment strategy. There are a number of reasons for the development of such a strategy now:

(a) Environmental Challenges

There are many major environmental challenges facing us, including (but not confined to): the management of waste and the development of a circular economy; waste crime; air quality (due in large part to the proliferation of diesel-engined vehicles on our roads); local environmental quality (litter, dog fouling and dilapidation being the most visible of these issues); biodiversity loss; soil quality etc.

In addition, there are challenges that exist in reconciling agricultural and environmental policy, particularly in areas such as agricultural greenhouse gas emissions, the effect of run-off of nitrogen and phosphorus on water quality and the impact of ammonia emissions on designated sites and priority species - with recent trends going in the wrong direction.

(b) Climate Change

A number of international environmental experts and organisations have stated that we are now in a “climate and environment emergency” and the UN’s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change warned last year that, “...*humankind has less than 12 years to avoid potentially irreversible climate disruption.*”¹ The UK Parliament passed a motion on 1 May calling on the UK Government to declare a climate emergency (as many other public authorities have done). There is now significantly increased public awareness (particularly amongst younger people) and concern about what is happening to our planet through climate change, plastic waste, shale gas extraction, loss of habitats etc. and increased activism as a result.

(c) UK Government 25 Year Plan

In January 2018, UK Government published *A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment* (“the UK Plan”), which laid out the UK Government’s vision (largely for England) for a post-Brexit environment. This is set to be given significant legal status through the provisions of the UK Environment (Principles and Governance) Bill.

(d) Brexit

Brexit will also bring specific challenges for Northern Ireland - for example: what form will agricultural subsidies take after withdrawal; who will monitor environmental performance, and against what standards; what will fisheries policy look like; how will Brexit affect the agri-food sector etc? Uncertainty breeds concern and DAERA is keen to provide reassurance that we will continue to protect and improve the environment after the UK leaves the EU and provide appropriate support to agricultural and business interests.

(e) Knowledge Gaps

There are still significant knowledge gaps with regard to environmental performance here, including a lack of local data in a number of areas. Colleagues in Defra are currently developing additional metrics to support the UK Plan and this also will be an important focus as we develop the Environment Strategy.

¹ [IPCC Special Report \(2018\)](#)

5. How are we doing?

In truth, our environmental performance is something of a mixed bag. Some things we have done well - the success of the carrier bag levy and household recycling rates, for example - while others have been more difficult to achieve, such as reductions in greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs). This section looks at how we are doing in respect of our PfG indicators in a little more detail but, of course, there are many other environmental performance indicators, which are reflected in the [Environmental Statistics Report](#), published annually by DAERA. While we have a good deal of environmental information in the Environmental Statistics Report and other published data, we know there are significant gaps in our understanding of the state of the environment and need to look critically at the available data and consider whether we are measuring the right things and using the appropriate metrics to do so.

Progress on DAERA's PfG Indicators:

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

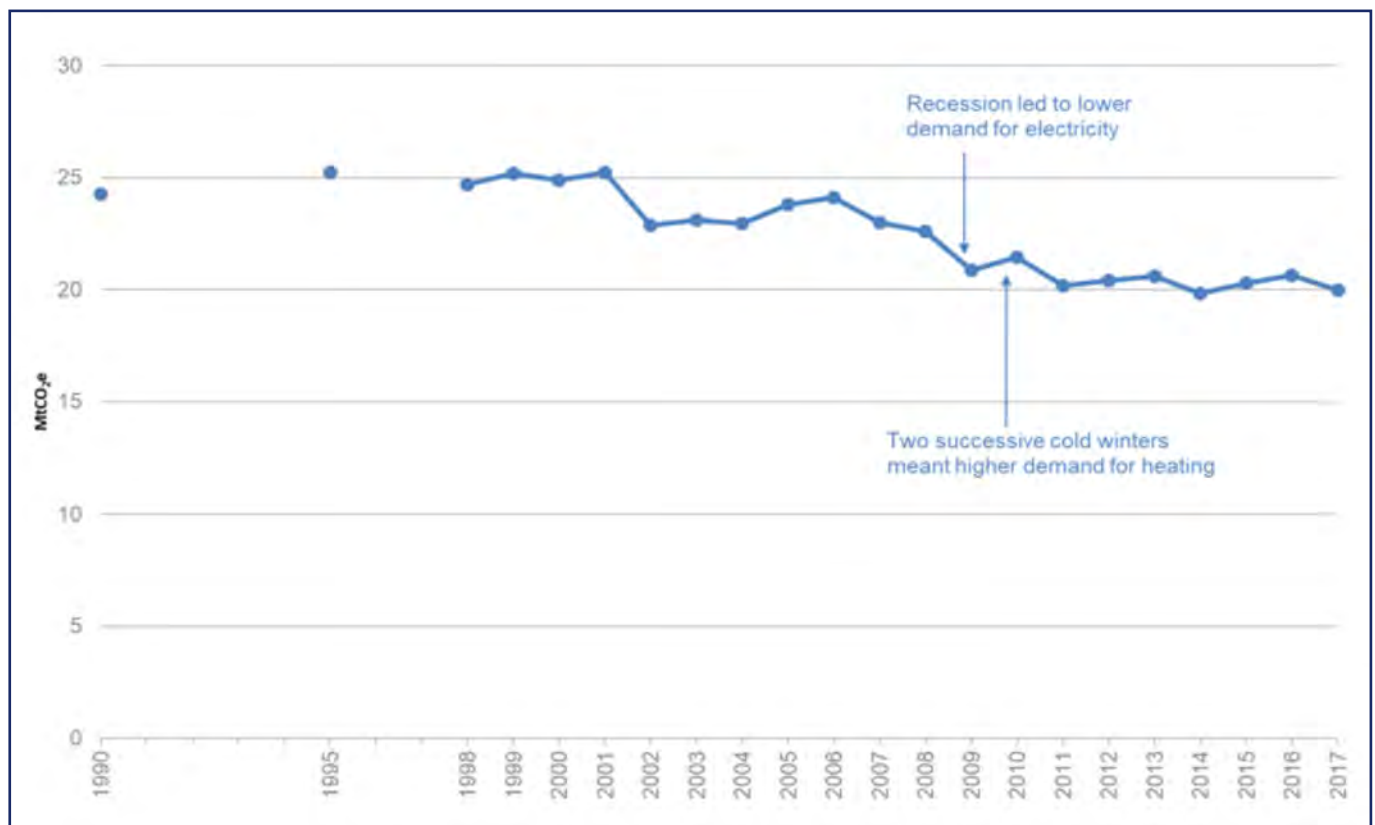


Fig. 1: Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Northern Ireland Greenhouse Gas Emissions 2017, DAERA)

Greenhouse gas emissions figures are based on estimates of emissions (published annually since 1990). These estimates are consistent with the UN's Framework Convention on Climate Change. In 2017, Northern Ireland accounted for 4% of the UK total.

The UK Climate Change Act commits the UK to at least an 80% reduction by 2050 (from 1990 levels).

Our emissions decreased by 17.9% from 24.3 to 20 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent between 1990 and 2017. Emissions come from a range of sources but agriculture, transport and energy supply account for around two thirds of the total.

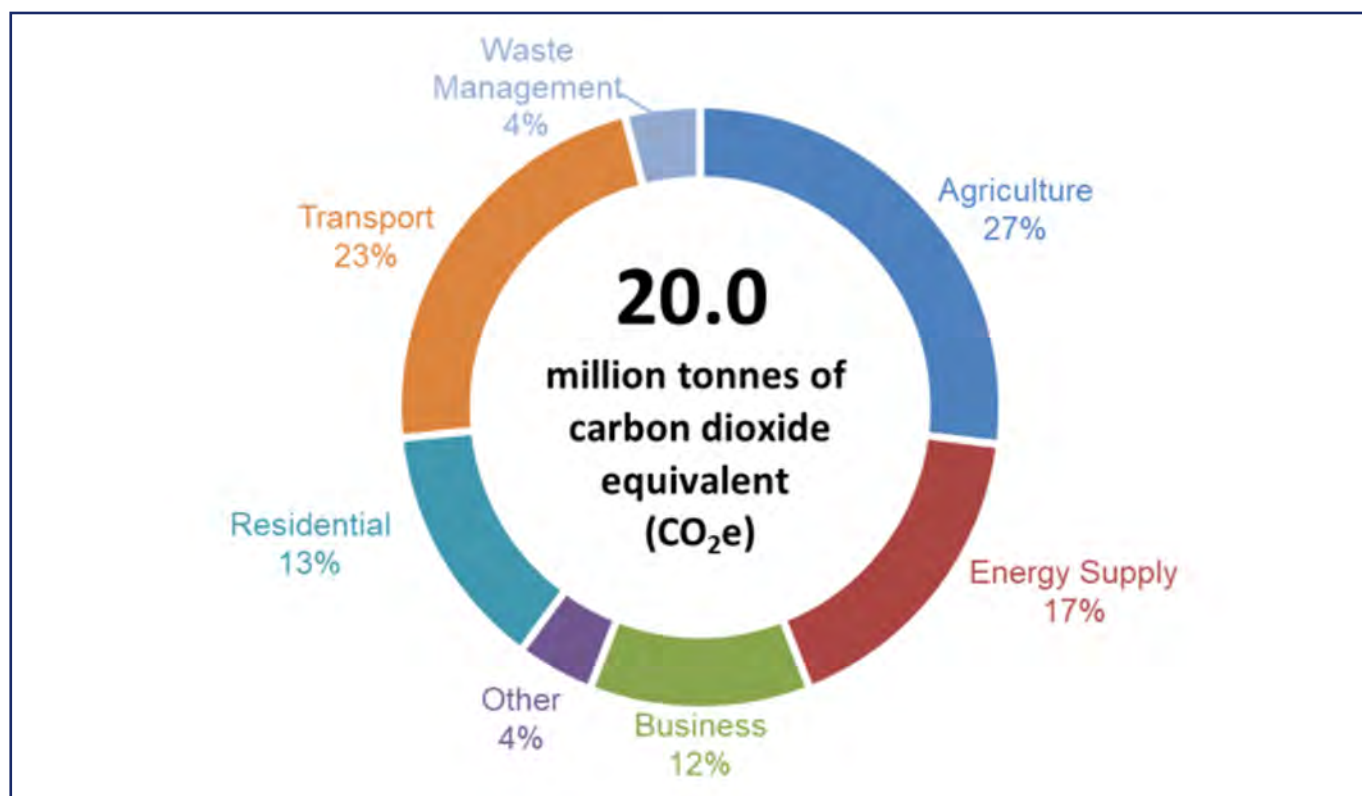


Fig. 2: NI Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Sector (Northern Ireland Greenhouse Gas Emissions 2017, DAERA)

Household Recycling

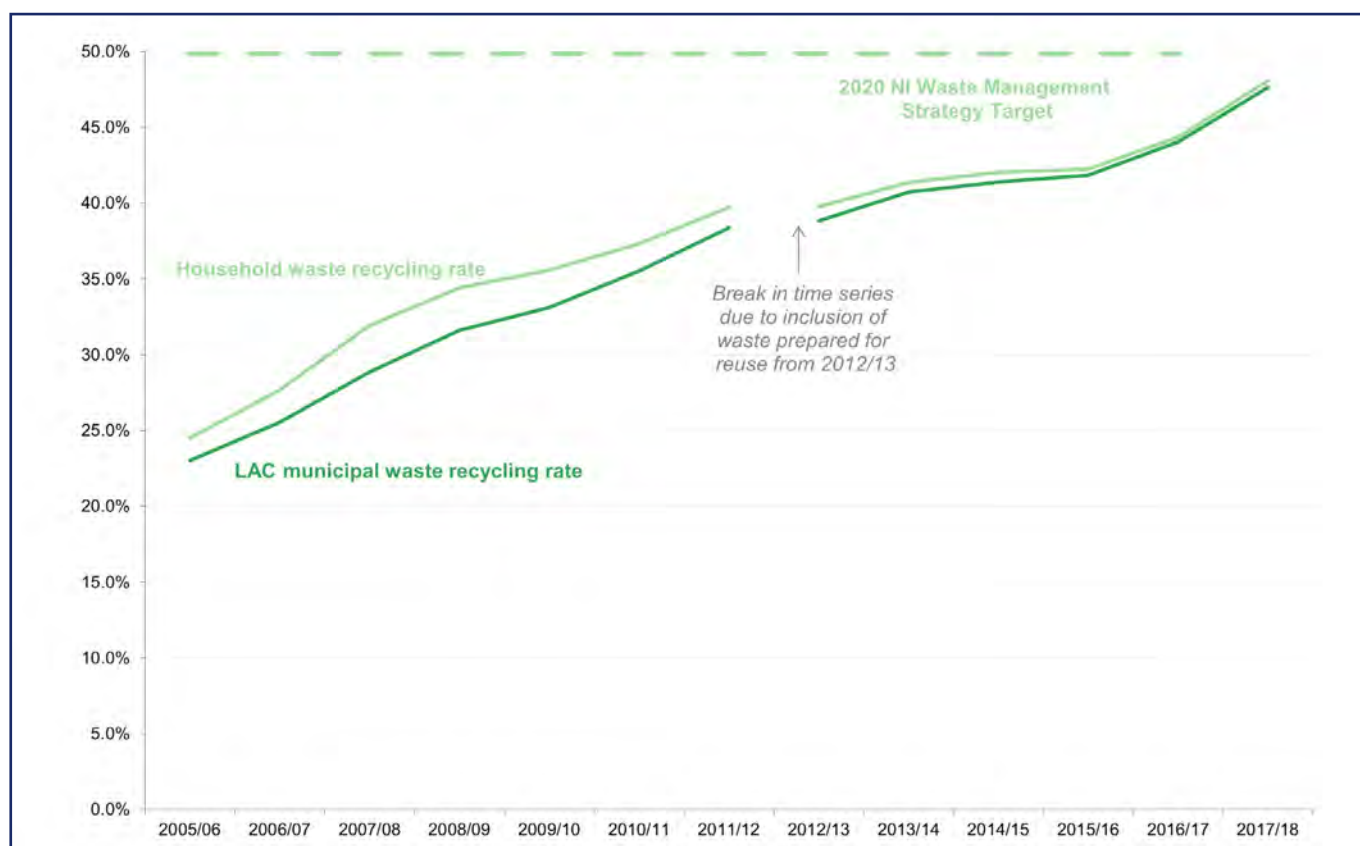


Fig. 3: Household Waste Recycling (NI Environmental Statistics Report 2019)

Reuse, 'dry' recycling (e.g. cardboard, metal, plastic, paper) and composting all contribute to our overall recycling rate. The data includes materials collected for recycling through your recycling bin/boxes and household waste recycling centres.

Recycling is becoming much more common. The household waste recycling rate was 48.1% in 2017/18, an increase from 44.3% the previous year. The tonnage sent for recycling recorded a new high of over 420,000 tonnes.

The baseline year for PfG reporting purposes is 2014/15. This was a 6.0 percentage point increase on the 2014/15 level and, therefore, household waste recycling is considered to have seen a positive change since the baseline year.

Air Quality

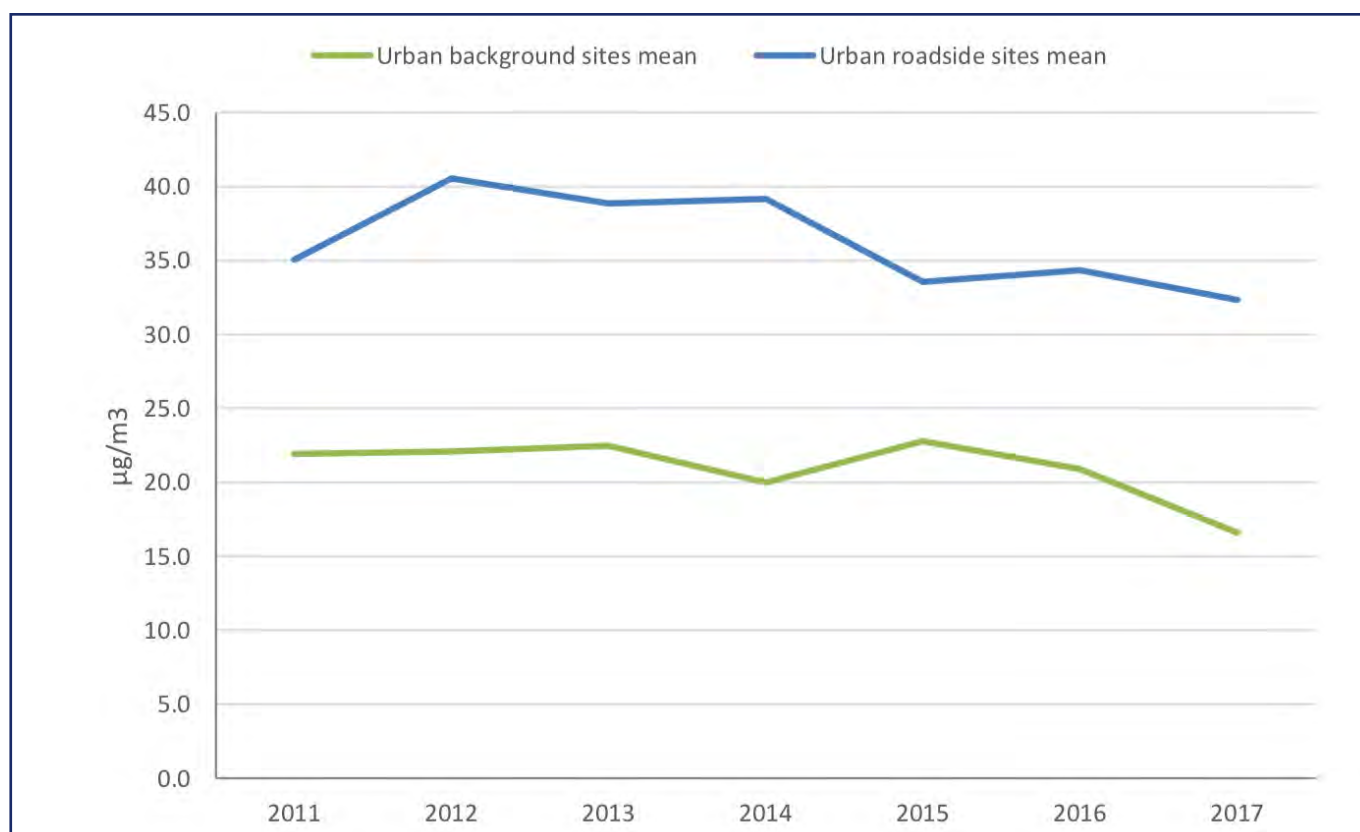


Fig. 4: Annual mean concentration of Nitrogen Dioxide (NI Environmental Statistics Report 2019)

Nitrogen dioxide is an air pollutant produced as a result of road traffic and other fossil fuel combustion processes. It can irritate the lungs and lower resistance to respiratory infections such as influenza. Continued or frequent exposure to adverse concentrations may cause increased incidence of acute respiratory illness in children.

The UK Air Quality Strategy sets objectives for an hourly mean limit of $200\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (which should not be exceeded more than 18 times per year). In addition, there is an annual mean limit of $40\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. The average background figure in urban areas has remained relatively stable over recent years (between 20 and $23\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$). In 2017 the average annual mean concentration of NO_2 was $17\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ across urban background sites.

However roadside levels have been more variable, increasing from $35.1\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (2011) to $40.6\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (2012) before falling to $32.3\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ in 2017.

River and Marine Water Quality

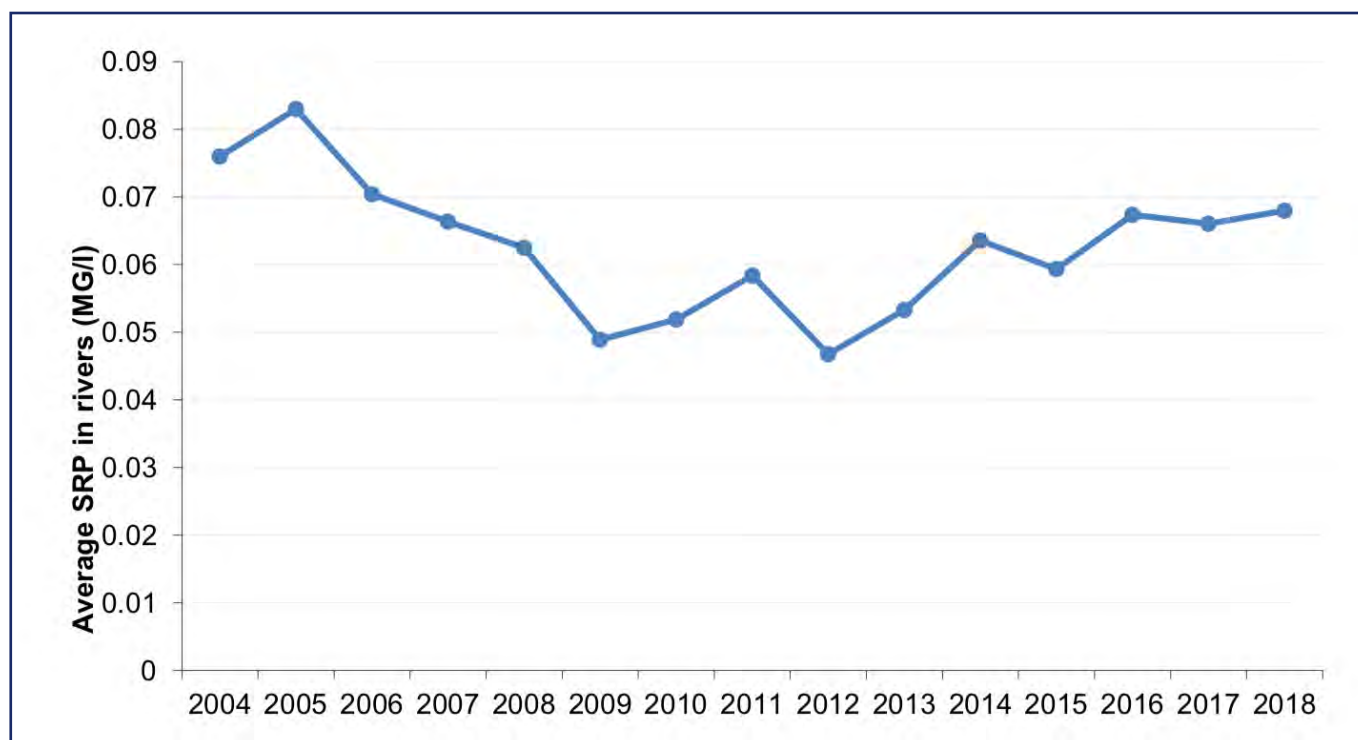


Fig. 5: Soluble Reactive Phosphorus in our rivers (NI Environmental Statistics Report 2019)

Soluble reactive phosphorus (SRP) is a plant nutrient which can lead to rapid growth of algae and other plants in rivers. The impact on the type and abundance of plant species can negatively impact other aspects of water quality (e.g. oxygen levels) and the characteristics of river habitats. These changes can cause undesirable disturbances to populations of water animals, such as invertebrates and fish.

In recent years, levels of soluble reactive phosphorus in the 93 surveillance rivers have increased and it is a cause for concern that there are signs of a sustained upward trend, since the low of 0.047 mg/litre reported in 2012. In 2018 the average concentration was 0.068 mg per litre of water.

SRP in river water is considered unchanged since the baseline year for PfG reporting purposes.

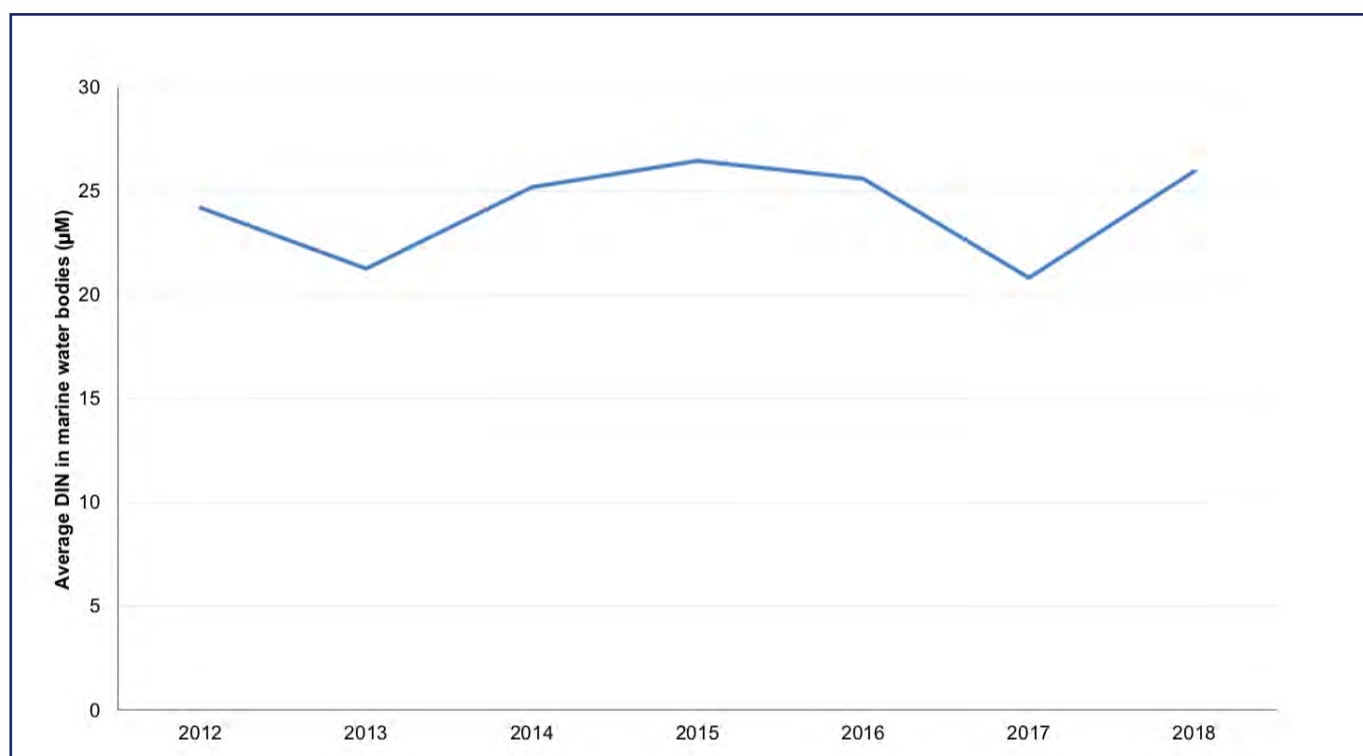


Fig. 6: Levels of Dissolved Inorganic Nitrogen in our marine waters (NI Environmental Statistics Report 2019)

In temperate regions, nutrient concentrations in coastal waters are highest in winter, when agricultural run-off is highest due to increased rainfall, and algal growth is lowest due to lack of light and lower temperatures.

Excessive levels of marine nutrients can lead to a process known as eutrophication. Local effects can include fish kills and the localised smothering of other marine macroalgae and animals.

In Northern Ireland levels of winter DIN have been monitored since 2012. The levels of winter DIN remained relatively stable between 2012 and 2018. In 2018, winter DIN was 0.49 µM less than 2015 levels. DIN is one of the most important elements in determining the status of our coastal and transitional waters (see 'Environmental Quality' figure 14).

There are a number of sources of nutrient enrichment of rivers and marine waters, such as wastewater and septic tanks, but the most significant cause remains the run-off of organic and chemical fertilisers from agricultural land.

Biodiversity

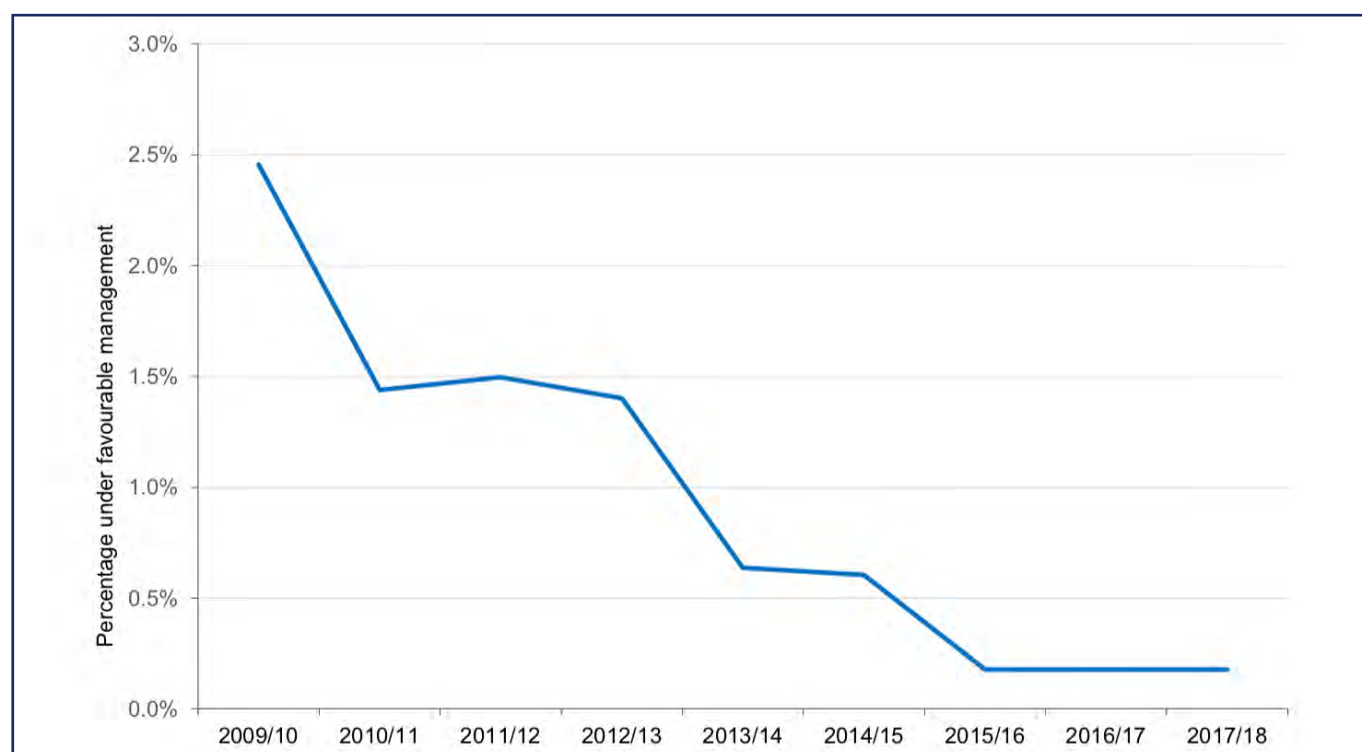


Fig. 7: Biodiversity - % of protected terrestrial area under favourable management
(NI Environmental Statistics Report 2019)

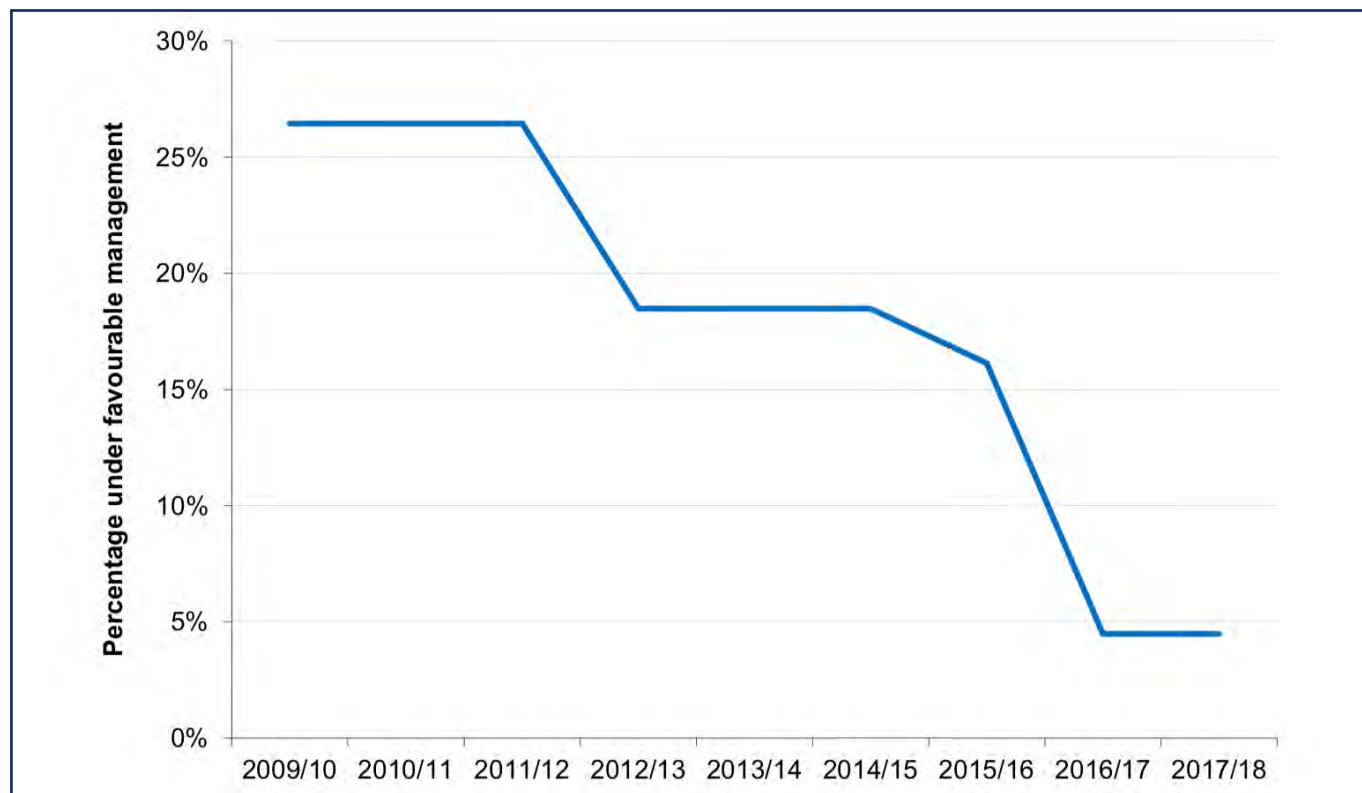


Fig. 8: Biodiversity - % of protected marine area under favourable management
(NI Environmental Statistics Report 2019)

Protected areas represent the very best of our natural landscapes, biodiversity and geodiversity, forming the cornerstone of nature conservation by supporting plants, animals and habitats that are rare or unique.

The designation of protected sites is largely complete and so the focus is now on improving their overall condition towards “favourable conservation status” (FCS). FCS is achieved through interventions deemed necessary to support the recovery of sites’ special features.

The total terrestrial protected area increased from 1,384km² (2009/10) to 1,489km² (2017/18). The proportion of these areas under favourable management however has shown a decreasing trend since 2009/10. In 2017/18 the proportion under favourable management was 0.18% (the same as for the baseline year, 2015/16).

The total marine protected area increased from 269km² (2009/10) to 2,566km² (2017/18). The proportion of these areas under favourable management however has also shown a decreasing trend since 2009/10. In 2017/18 the proportion under favourable management was 4.48% (11.64 percentage points lower than the baseline year, 2015/16).

The Department has now entered a phase where the necessary management measures will be identified and introduced for both terrestrial and marine protected areas, and the focus between 2018 and 2022 will be on bringing the protected area network into favourable management - via a set of specific management plans. The trend should be improving from 2018 onwards.

6. Our approach

Under normal circumstances, at the outset of this project officials would have taken our policy direction from the Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs and, working with a range of internal and external stakeholders, produced specific policy proposals that would then be consulted upon in the traditional manner.

The form and content of any Environment Strategy is a matter for a DAERA Minister and a NI Executive. However, in the current absence of Ministers, we wish to obtain as broad a view as possible on what a future Environment Strategy might seek to address in order to inform an incoming Minister. This is the approach DAERA is taking, researching the available evidence and seeking the views of internal and external stakeholders to assist future Ministers to take the relevant decisions.

The purpose of this document is to give you, the people who will be affected by the decisions taken in the future, an opportunity to express your views on what our environment should look like in the future, what our environmental priorities and objectives should be, and how we should

achieve these. We have made some suggestions regarding potential issues to be addressed to encourage debate but that is all they are, suggestions - nothing is set in stone at this stage.

We have already engaged with a wide range of stakeholders through a preparatory event on 7 May 2019 - a selection of comments/questions raised on the day and responses to group exercises is provided at Annex A for your information - but we want input from the widest possible range of respondents. We look forward to receiving responses from all sectors, age groups, organisations and individuals. Some of these responses will be from experts in their field and while those will be welcomed, we are just as interested to hear ideas, thoughts and opinions from all walks of life. Every response will be carefully considered and fed into the policymaking process.

7. Strategy Scope

Given the all-encompassing nature of “the environment”, it is clear that a new Environment Strategy cannot be developed in isolation. Looking at the bigger picture, across the Northern Ireland policy landscape there already exist a number of high-level, Executive-endorsed strategies that affect the environment and/or are influenced by it. Examples include the: Sustainable Development Strategy; Public Health Strategy; draft Industrial Strategy; Economic Strategy; Regional Development Strategy.

Annex B shows illustratively a range of existing strategies that are endorsed by the NI Executive and a range of existing DAERA strategies with the proposed Environment Strategy in between (neither range is exhaustive). The question is should the Environment Strategy sit amongst: the Executive-endorsed strategies; the DAERA strategies; or between these two groups? The environment is so important to our future prosperity and health and wellbeing that it is our view that the new Environment Strategy must sit in that upper tier with at least equivalent status and influence.

Regardless of the agreed status of the Environment Strategy there is a need to ensure that all relevant strategies across the remit of DAERA and other departments are considered to ensure a joined up approach to enhance, for example, the compatibility of future agricultural and environmental policies.

Q1: Do you agree that the Environment Strategy should sit alongside existing Executive-endorsed strategies, such as the Sustainable Development, Public Health and Economic Strategies?

Of course, the environment doesn't recognise borders and for that reason much of the legislation, agreements and guiding principles applying to our environment and its protection are established on an EU or international basis. While the precise impact of EU withdrawal on our environmental legislation may not yet be clear, it is anticipated that the UK will continue to deliver against its international agreements, as much of the legislation emanating from the EU is in fact the outworking of commitments to those international agreements, and because the UK Government has committed to enhancing environmental protection, citing the opportunity afforded by the repatriation of substantial environmental policy areas. Linking the Environment Strategy to appropriate international standards, such as the UN Sustainable Development Goals, may also be desirable.

For a high-level environment strategy to be meaningful it is essential that it is ambitious in terms of its breadth and depth. It is as pointless to propose highly ambitious outcomes in a very narrow range of activities as it is to propose unchallenging outcomes over a broad range of topics. The net result in either case is uninspiring and misses the opportunity to address the important issues that will make a significant difference to our economic, social and environmental success in the future. It is our aim, through the new Environment Strategy, to focus on ambitious outcomes for the big environmental issues facing us that will make a difference to the lives and wellbeing of this and future generations.

The Environment Strategy will build on the valuable work that has been, and continues to be, done across a wide range of relevant policy areas. Some of the strategy will be about identifying what we have achieved, where we are now, and what strategic initiatives are already in place and how these can be enhanced through new approaches to the issues we face going forward.

At the very least, the key environmental areas that will be covered will be:

- **Climate Change (mitigation and adaptation)**

Mitigation refers to addressing the root cause of climate change by reducing or preventing greenhouse gas emissions through, for example, using new technology, improving energy efficiency, or modifying business and consumer behaviour.

Adaptation, on the other hand, means anticipating the impacts of climate change and taking appropriate action to:

- (a) prevent or minimise the damage they can cause; or
- (b) take advantage of opportunities that may arise.

Examples include: using water resources more efficiently; building flood defences; and developing climate-resilient grasses and crops.

- **Natural Environment and Landscapes**

The natural environment essentially includes everything that is not man-made, from biodiversity (all living things) to geological features such as mountains, caves and cliffs. It also refers to ecosystems, which can be defined as: *“a community of living organisms in conjunction with the non-living components of their environment, interacting as a system”*. Landscape is an area, perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors. Every landscape forms the setting for the lives of local people, and the quality of those landscapes can affect everyone’s lives.

- **Resource Efficiency**

Usually defined as: *“using the Earth’s limited resources in a sustainable manner while minimising impacts on the environment”*, there are potentially significant environmental, economic and social benefits to be obtained from following this approach. A key element in efforts to achieve resource efficiency is the appropriate application of the ‘waste hierarchy’, focusing first and foremost on the prevention of waste and only then applying the next best alternatives in order of potential damage to the environment, with the most damaging, disposal, as very much a last resort. Complementing efforts to achieve resource efficiency is the development of a circular economy, to ensure that the value of resources is maintained in the economy for as long as possible and waste is minimised as a result.

- **Marine Environment**

Northern Ireland’s marine area is 6,855km² and represents approximately one third of our natural environment. The coast, and the seas around it, include highly productive and biologically diverse ecosystems, with features which serve as critical natural defences against storms, floods and erosion. This area supports tourism, recreation, aquaculture, fisheries, industry, commercial harbours and quays, as well as being used for power generation and the disposal of effluents from waste water treatment. DAERA has consulted on a draft Marine Plan for NI that will seek to provide a framework for the balanced and sustainable development of these activities.

- **Environmental Quality (Air, Water and Neighbourhood)**

Environmental quality can be thought of as a set of properties or characteristics of the environment as they impinge on human beings and other organisms. For the purposes of this exercise, we are talking about a range of specific policy areas, including air, water and neighbourhood environmental quality. Neighbourhood environmental quality includes issues such as litter and dog fouling but also the quality of the built environment - dilapidation and neglect, for example.

- **Fisheries (Inland and Sea) and Aquaculture**

Fisheries is a very broad policy area that includes inland, inshore and sea fishing, along with aquaculture, the farming of aquatic organisms such as fish, crustaceans, molluscs and aquatic plants. Inshore and sea fishing, and aquaculture are largely commercial activities, important to the economy, while inland fishing activities are generally for sport or recreation, but also economically important. DAERA also has an important role in the conservation and protection of fish stocks.

- **Built environment**

The term 'built environment' refers to aspects of our surroundings that are built by humans - i.e. distinguished from the natural environment. It includes not only buildings, but the human-made spaces between buildings, such as parks, and the infrastructure that supports human activity such as transportation networks, utilities networks, flood defences, telecommunications etc. It includes heritage buildings and monuments and encompasses policy areas such as planning, housing and regeneration.

Q2: Do you agree that these broad environmental areas are appropriate for the Environment Strategy?

If "No", what alternatives would you like to see included?

8. Strategic Themes

As previously mentioned, it is intended that the strategy will cover all of the traditional environmental policy areas but we are keen to present them through a number of themes that will properly highlight the importance of the environment, not just in terms of its intrinsic value but also to a wide range of social and economic issues to which it brings significant benefits.

At this stage the Department has developed 4 potential themes, which overlap to some extent:

- **Environmental Engagement;**
- **Environmental Prosperity;**
- **Environmental Efficiency; and**
- **Environmental Quality.**

Q3: As described below, do you agree that these are appropriate strategic themes for the Environment Strategy?

If “No”, what alternative or additional themes/issues would you like to see in the strategy?

Environmental Engagement -

We are an integral part of nature, and reliant on nature to sustain life. We can positively impact nature as we engage with it, protecting, maintaining and enhancing a clean and healthy environment as we live, work and play. However we can cause harm to the environment, and this negative engagement is increasingly causing impacts to health, well-being and future sustainability.

Engagement or connection with the environment occurs on a number of levels and we are keen to identify these interactions and analyse how they can be best managed to maximise benefit to the environment, the public and business/industry. Environmental interactions include: how the public connects with the environment; how the public engages with DAERA; the impact of business and industry on the environment; how DAERA engages with business and industry; how we in DAERA work with other departments to support the protection and enhancement of the environment; how the various parts of DAERA work together; and our relationship with district councils. All of these are, of course, two-way engagements.

This theme also encompasses issues such as:

- education;
- general public awareness;
- the use of technology; and
- DAERA’s Knowledge Advisory Service.

It is a well-worn cliché that children are our future but it isn’t any less true for that. To their great credit, many younger people around the world are leading the way with their understanding of, and desire to protect, the environment. Programmes such as the international Eco-Schools initiative, which is part-funded by the department, have undoubtedly contributed to this positive attitude. 100% of Northern Ireland’s primary and secondary level schools participate in this scheme - the first region in the world to achieve this feat. The similar Eco-Campus programme is also now gaining traction at tertiary level, with a growing presence in further and higher education establishments. In developing the Environment Strategy we hope to offer continued support to existing initiatives but also to explore other ways in which environmental issues can be further integrated into the educational system.

However, having a focus on initiatives within the educational system and/or aimed at young people doesn't mean we can ignore those in older generations. It is important to raise awareness of global, national and local environmental issues across all age groups as part of a behavioural science approach to achieving change across all parts of society. It is clear though that more work is needed in this area, both in terms of raising awareness of the relevant issues and identifying what motivates individuals and groups to take care of their environment.

Existing initiatives such as the Live Here, Love Here campaign and Best Kept Awards have played, and continue to play, an important role in engendering a sense of civic pride in communities and modifying attitudes and behaviours towards the environment, particularly at a local level. These and many other initiatives have received significant support from the department through its Environment Fund (and previous schemes), using funds raised through the carrier bag levy to promote and enhance the environment.

Q4: Do you have any comments on what specific issues should be included under a proposed Environmental Engagement strategic theme?

Environmental Prosperity -

There is ample research evidence that most people see the natural environment as having intrinsic value - i.e. it has value in itself as opposed to what it can provide in terms of resources etc. However, research also shows that this intrinsic value alone is not sufficient to stop environmental damage being caused by human hands. Often, a much more effective argument for environmental protection and enhancement is the instrumental or economic value of the environment - i.e. what it can provide or what further value can be gained from it.

A clean and healthy environment is hugely important to the economy in many ways - for example:

- one of our largest industries, tourism, generated a spend of £939m in the local economy in 2017-18 and supports around 60,000 full and part-time jobs². Not all of that spend can be attributed directly to the environment but it is a major factor in people deciding to spend time here, whether they are from here, the Republic of Ireland, Britain or further afield;
- the agri-food sector is of huge importance to the economy, far more so than in other parts of the UK, with agriculture contributing £644m to Gross Value Added figures in 2017 and food and drinks processing £827m³. There is a tremendously close, some would say symbiotic, relationship between the environment and the agri-food sector, each with the potential to significantly impact the other (both positively and negatively). The challenge, of course, is to ensure that both thrive without detriment to the other. The future strategic direction of agricultural and fisheries policy will be a significant factor to be taken into account when developing the Environment Strategy, and vice versa;

² [Northern Ireland Tourism Statistics April 2017 - March 2018 \(NISRA\)](#)

³ [Northern Ireland Agri-Food Sector: Key Statistics July 2018 \(DAERA\)](#)

- the Green Economy is a term which means different things to different people but here we are talking about the economic opportunities afforded by the environment and the need to address environmental challenges, often in innovative ways. Renewable energy, eco-tourism, energy efficiency, recycling etc. are just some of the areas creating opportunities and challenges as we seek to improve our environmental performance and sustainability;
- those choosing to pursue leisure activities on land, water or, indeed, in the air are heavily influenced by the state of our environment. These include such activities as: angling; cycling; walking; climbing; watersports; paragliding and many more. There are direct economic benefits from such activities (although there are potential costs too, in terms of environmental damage etc.) but also indirect economic benefits through, for example, increased levels of health and wellbeing, potentially leading to reduced healthcare costs.

Much of this proposed theme can be captured under the umbrella of ecosystem services, where the ecosystem provides a benefit (or benefits) just by existing in a clean and healthy state. In addition to those already mentioned above, other common examples of these ecosystem services include: carbon capture in soils and trees; healthy fish stocks; water filtration; and agricultural activities such as pollination and natural pest control. Nature is very good at providing these services but many ecosystems are incredibly finely balanced and, as a result, can be very easily disrupted.

Associated with ecosystem services is the concept of “natural capital”, our natural assets including forests, rivers, land, air, minerals and oceans. The value of our natural capital has traditionally been understated but the idea of placing a more accurate economic value on our natural resources is gaining traction and now features prominently in the UK Environmental Accounts although it is not yet possible to easily disaggregate the relevant local figures. While progress has been made, integrating a natural capital approach into the policy making process is still very much in its infancy and there remains a need to improve the available data. This is an area where we might harness the growing power of Artificial Intelligence (AI), opening up sustainable economic and environmental development opportunities built on a solid knowledge foundation.

Q5: Do you have any comments on what specific issues should be included under a proposed Environmental Prosperity strategic theme?

Environmental Efficiency -

There are a number of closely related 'big picture' issues to be considered under this theme. These include:

Climate Change - there is significant acceptance of the desirability of shifting towards a low-carbon economy but perhaps less consensus about how we should go about it.

Climate change is, of course, a global issue, requiring action at a number of levels. The Paris Agreement, signed by 195 countries and the EU in December 2015, required signatories to reduce GHG emissions to limit global temperature rise to 2°C and pursue efforts towards a limit of 1.5°C. The European Union (EU) has a target of reducing GHG emissions from 1990 levels by 20% by 2020 and 40% by 2030. The Climate Change Act 2008 established a target of reducing UK GHG emissions by 80% from 1990 levels by 2050 and locally, the NI Executive, in its PfG (2011-15), has a target of continuing to work towards a GHG emissions reduction of at least 35% on 1990 levels by 2025.

There are particular challenges facing us in this regard as a result of the make-up of our economy, our geographical position and our reliance on fossil fuels, creating pressures from the agricultural, transport and energy supply sectors in particular. This is clearly reflected in the relative reductions in greenhouse gas emissions across the UK, where we fall well behind England and Scotland but compare with Wales.

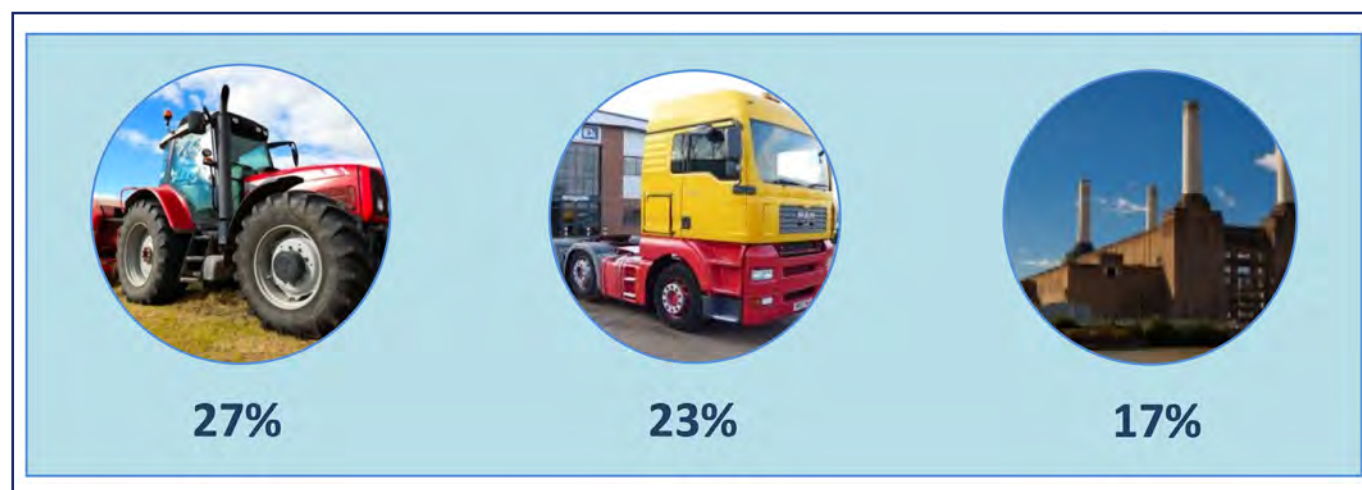


Fig. 9: Main sectoral contributors to NI Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Northern Ireland Greenhouse Gas Emissions 2017, DAERA)

Although not formally part of the recent UK Committee on Climate Change report, *Net Zero: The UK's contribution to stopping global warming*⁴, Northern Ireland will have a contribution to make to overall UK targets. Importantly, Northern Ireland will also have a key leadership role in demonstrating to the rest of the world what is possible.

⁴ [Net Zero: The UK's contribution to stopping global warming \(CCC, 2019\)](#)

Of course, climate change is not just about the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions. There is also a need to address the issue of adapting to the impacts of climate change and, to this end, DAERA is currently developing the 2nd Northern Ireland Climate Change Adaptation Programme, setting out its strategic direction and objectives and establishing a range of adaptation actions for the next five years.

Resource Efficiency - is commonly defined as: *“Using the Earth’s limited resources in a sustainable manner while minimising impacts on the environment”*. This is something that applies across all sectors and touches on the remits of other departments - energy, planning, built environment etc.

We depend on natural resources, such as metals, minerals, fuel, water, land, clean air and biodiversity to survive. All of these things, and more, keep our economy functioning. Increasing resource efficiency brings economic opportunities and boosts competitiveness, thereby helping to secure growth and jobs. Continuing our current pattern of resource use is not an option⁵ and maintaining a focus on the Waste Hierarchy as a key policy driver is essential to maintain progress on our journey towards minimising waste.



Fig. 10: The Waste Hierarchy (NI Waste Management Strategy 2013)

We need to continue to seek ways to improve management of resource stocks, reduce inputs, improve logistics, optimise production processes, change consumption patterns, and minimise waste throughout what is often referred to as the “value chain”.

⁵ [Delivering Resource Efficiency - Northern Ireland Waste Management Strategy](#)

Circular Economy - supporting the shift to a low carbon economy and improved resource efficiency is the development of what is described in the EU action plan for the circular economy⁶ as a system “...where the value of products, materials, and resources is maintained in the economy for as long as possible, and the generation of waste is minimised...”.

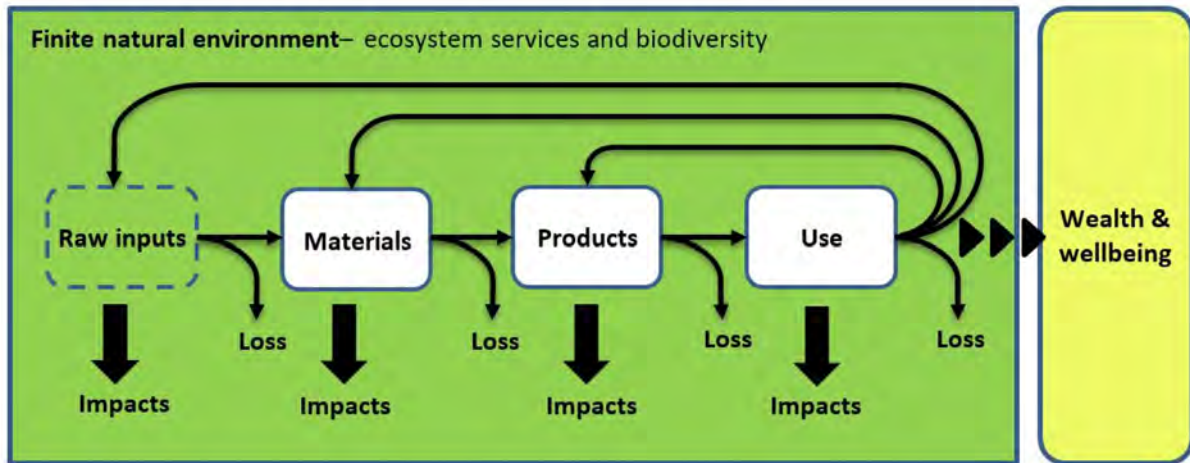


Fig. 11: Resource efficiency and the circular economy (Van Ewijk 2018)

Figure 11, above, contains six important elements that are common to both resource efficiency and the circular economy.

- *Raw inputs* into the economy. These usually include raw materials and may also include land and water.
- *Wealth or wellbeing* are the results of the exploitation of natural resources, often measured through economic output metrics.
- *Environmental impacts* range from toxic air emissions and water pollution to forest degradation and climate change.
- *Finite natural environment* describes ecosystems and their limited capacity to deliver their services under increasing pressures.
- *Inefficiencies (losses)* occur between raw inputs and economic outputs across the value chain and lead to waste.
- *Loops* between inputs and outputs reflect circulation of materials back into the value chain or, for some organic materials, back to their origin instead of being lost as waste⁷.

Although the concepts of resource efficiency and the circular economy are in many ways similar they are not the same and, like all concepts are open to a degree of interpretation. There are very real challenges for policymakers with regard to unintended consequences and the potential trade-off between environmental, social and economic outcomes.

⁶ [Closing the Loop - An EU action plan for the circular economy](#)

⁷ Van Ewijk, S. 2018. Resource efficiency and the circular economy: Concepts, economic benefits, barriers, and policies

Sustainable Production and Consumption can be defined as: production and use of products and services in a manner that is socially beneficial, economically viable and environmentally benign over their whole life cycle.

This aligns with the UN Sustainable Development Goals published in September 2015⁸, particularly Goal 12: *Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns*. Although the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals and their 169 associated targets are a global initiative, there is a recognition that they need to be progressed at a local level, generally referred to as “localising the SDGs”.

This goal is very much at the heart of the **Environmental Efficiency** theme and what we, in DAERA, are striving to achieve through policy interventions in respect of: resource efficiency; the circular economy; producer responsibility; food waste; waste management; climate action; agricultural subsidies; recycling; efficient farming; fisheries; procurement etc. but of course other departments have their parts to play too.

Q6: Do you have any comments on what specific issues should be included under a proposed Environmental Efficiency strategic theme?

Environmental Quality -

This theme represents probably the most tangible aspects of the environment for most people, particularly those that can be measured and compared. While many aspects of environmental quality have a long term or cumulative effect, others have a more immediate impact on health and wellbeing, environmental justice and economic prosperity. That does not, however, mean that they are always easily visible or simple to deal with.

DAERA's annual Environmental Statistics Report⁹ provides a wealth of data across a range of policy areas, under the headings: demographics and public opinion; air and climate; water; marine; land; biodiversity; built heritage; and waste. There is a vast array of data contained within this report but the department recognises that additional metrics may need to be developed to appropriately monitor environmental performance in light of the final content of the Environment Strategy.

Some of the specific environmental quality issues that we would expect the strategy to cover include:

Air Quality - the main air quality issues prevalent are:

- Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂), which is produced as a result of road traffic and other combustion processes, and is known to irritate lungs and lower resistance to respiratory infections.

⁸ [Resolution 70/1 of the United Nations General Assembly: Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#)

⁹ [Northern Ireland Environmental Statistics Report 2019 \(DAERA\)](#)

- Particulate Matter (e.g. PM₁₀), again largely produced by road transport and other combustion processes, these fine particles can be carried into the lungs where they can cause inflammation and may also carry surface-absorbed carcinogenic compounds.
- Ammonia, which arises mainly from agricultural practices (although other sources include transport, commercial and domestic combustion and industrial processes), as an air pollutant impacts on human health mainly by contributing to the formation of particulate matter but also significantly affects biodiversity through deposition.

The Department aims to issue a draft Clean Air Strategy for public discussion later this year. The draft Strategy will examine the causes and impacts of air pollution in NI and put forward policy proposals for consideration by stakeholders. This will help to inform the Department's development of air quality policy going forward.

Environmental Noise - one of the environmental issues most commonly complained about, local statistics are published annually under the headings of: domestic; commercial and leisure; industrial; noise in the street; construction, demolition or road works; and transport. In 2016/17 over 12,000 separate complaints were made across these categories, with around 80% of these relating to domestic noise.

Biodiversity - this includes the full range of life on Earth - all species of plants and animals and the complex ecosystems of which they are part.

The benefits that we derive from biodiversity are critical to our survival and cannot be over-stated. We depend on biodiversity for the very basics of life - clean air, water, shelter and food, which together support our health and well-being. A healthy natural environment with a wide range of biodiversity is the source of a vast array of products we use on a daily basis and provides employment to those involved in their development and production. People are part of that system, benefiting from it as well as influencing how it functions.¹⁰

The range of pressures negatively affecting biodiversity is wide and includes: change and intensification in land use resulting in habitat loss, fragmentation and degradation; land, woodland and water management practices, such as over/under grazing and land drainage; air and water pollution, such as nutrient enrichment; disturbance; invasive species; the growing impacts of climate change; development; and lack of recognition of the value of nature, all of which are the products of human actions (or inaction).

Although the focus of biodiversity actions is often on protected species and habitats, it is not just the rare or endangered that need to be protected and enhanced - it's all of the natural world, from the commonplace to the critically endangered. The designation and management of

¹⁰ [Valuing Nature: A Biodiversity Strategy for Northern Ireland to 2020](#)

protected sites is a key tool in our efforts to halt biodiversity loss on land and sea but so too are broader initiatives in respect of the natural environment.

Land Quality - Land use, for agriculture, industry, leisure, transport and residential purposes is central to each of our daily lives. In a relatively small area with many competing priorities, great care must be taken to ensure we get the balance right, allowing our people to prosper socially and economically, while at the same time preserving and enhancing our environment. As previously stated, these are not separate issues - they are intertwined and interdependent.

How we use our land can have a significant impact on greenhouse gas emissions but also provides us with the natural means to store carbon through, for example, healthy peatlands and forestry.

Land quality doesn't just suffer through legitimate uses. There are, unfortunately, too many who still see our beautiful land as simply an opportunity for economic gain, through fly-tipping, illegal landfilling, fuel laundering and other nefarious polluting activities. High profile, large scale cases like the illegal dumping at Mobuoy make the headlines but there are many other smaller scale incidents that have significant negative impacts on the environment and local communities that are not so widely reported.

Water Quality - fresh water is essential for all life - humans, animals, and plant life cannot survive without it. We use water to drink, prepare food, help with sanitation, and for agricultural and industrial purposes. However, water is a finite natural resource that needs to be respected and used efficiently, with a minimum of waste.

The aquatic environment, freshwater and marine, are key ecosystems in themselves and are also a hugely important and valuable resource for recreation, leisure and tourism as well as providing an important source of food through fishing and aquaculture activities.

The key legislative instruments in this area (although there are others) are the Water Framework Directive (WFD) and the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD), which introduced a holistic approach to the management of water quality, and require the protection and improvement of all aspects of the water environment including rivers, lakes, estuaries, marine and coastal waters and groundwater. In basic terms the Directives require EU Member States to try to ensure that all inland and coastal waters reach at least 'good status' and our seas meet 'good environmental status'.

The most significant water quality issue militating against achievement of these requirements at the moment is nutrient enrichment, the main cause of which is run-off from agricultural land. As the graphics on page 27¹¹ show, significant progress is required if we are to achieve 'good' / 'good environmental' status as required by the WFD":

¹¹ [Northern Ireland Environmental Statistics Report 2019 \(DAERA\)](#)

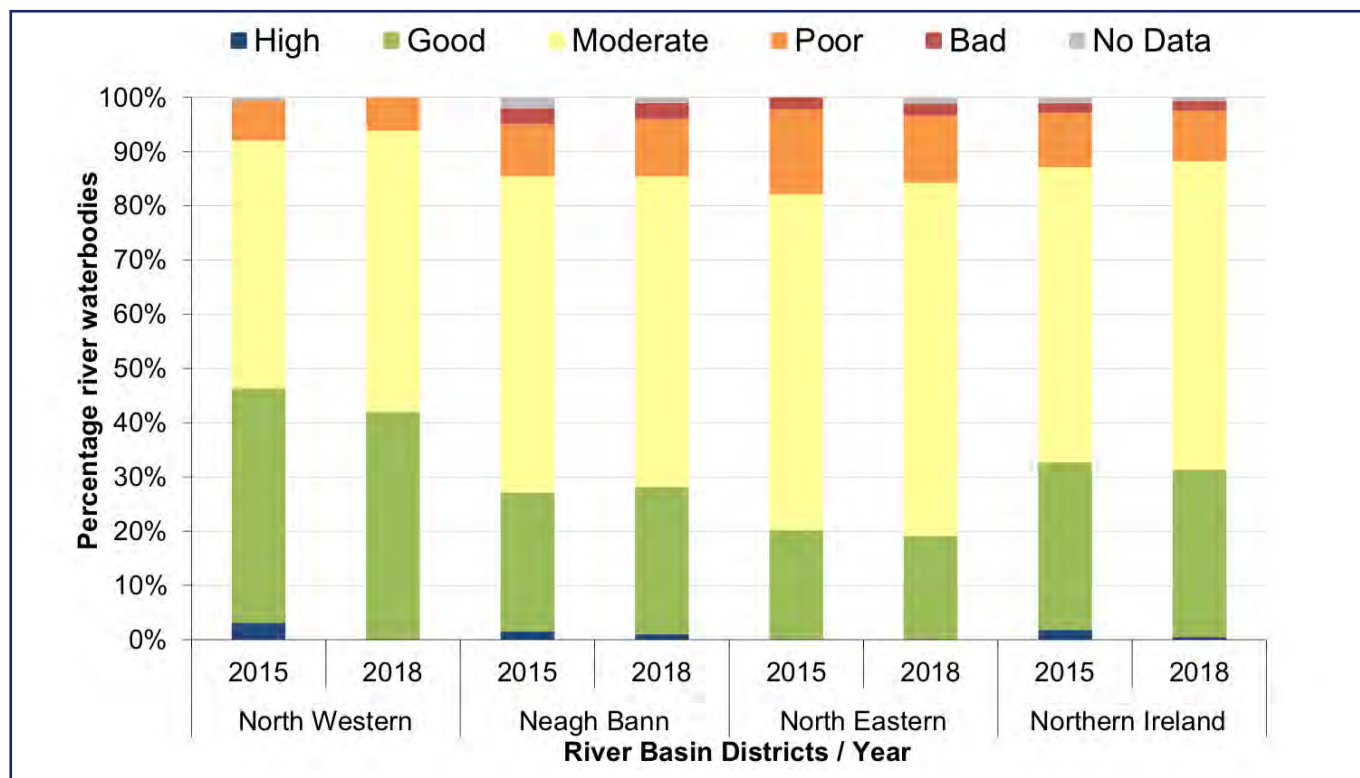


Fig. 12: Rivers - Water Framework Directive (WFD) overall classification (% river waterbodies), 2015 and 2018

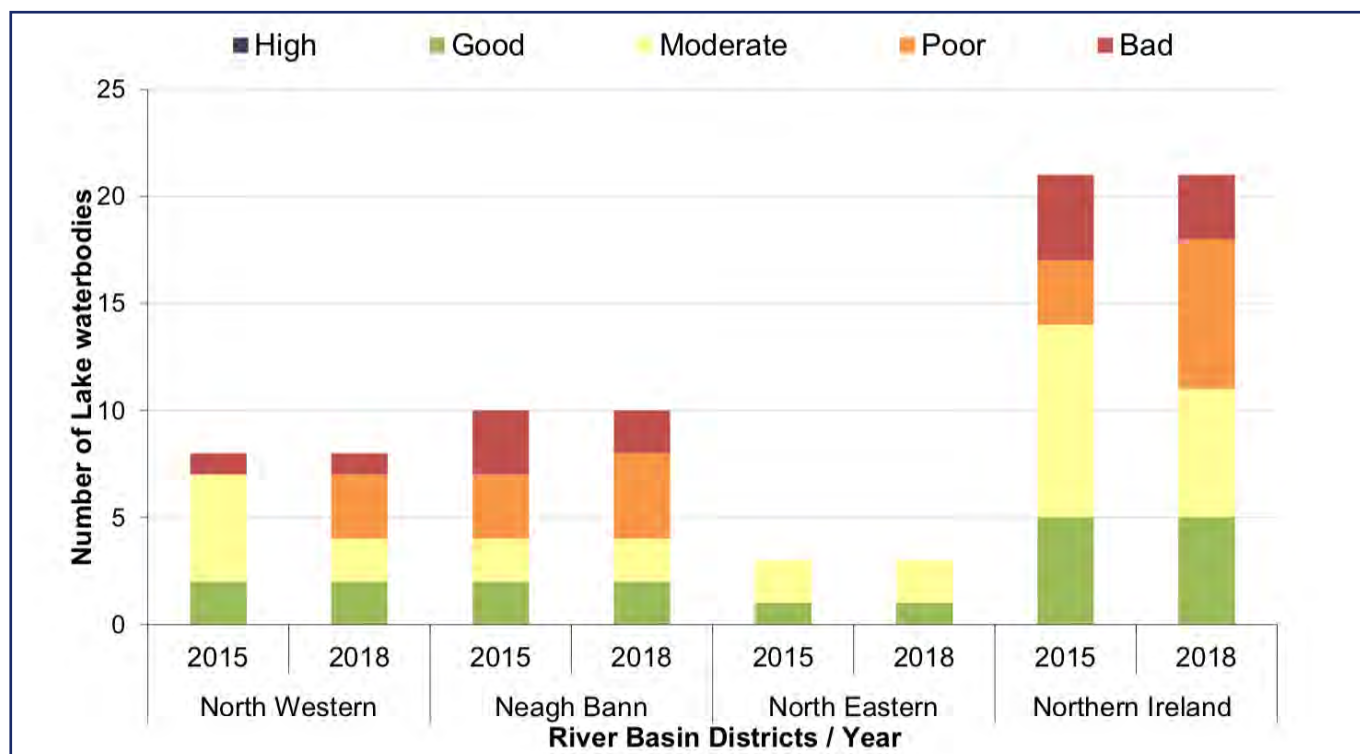


Fig. 13: Lake Water Framework Directive status, 2015 and 2018

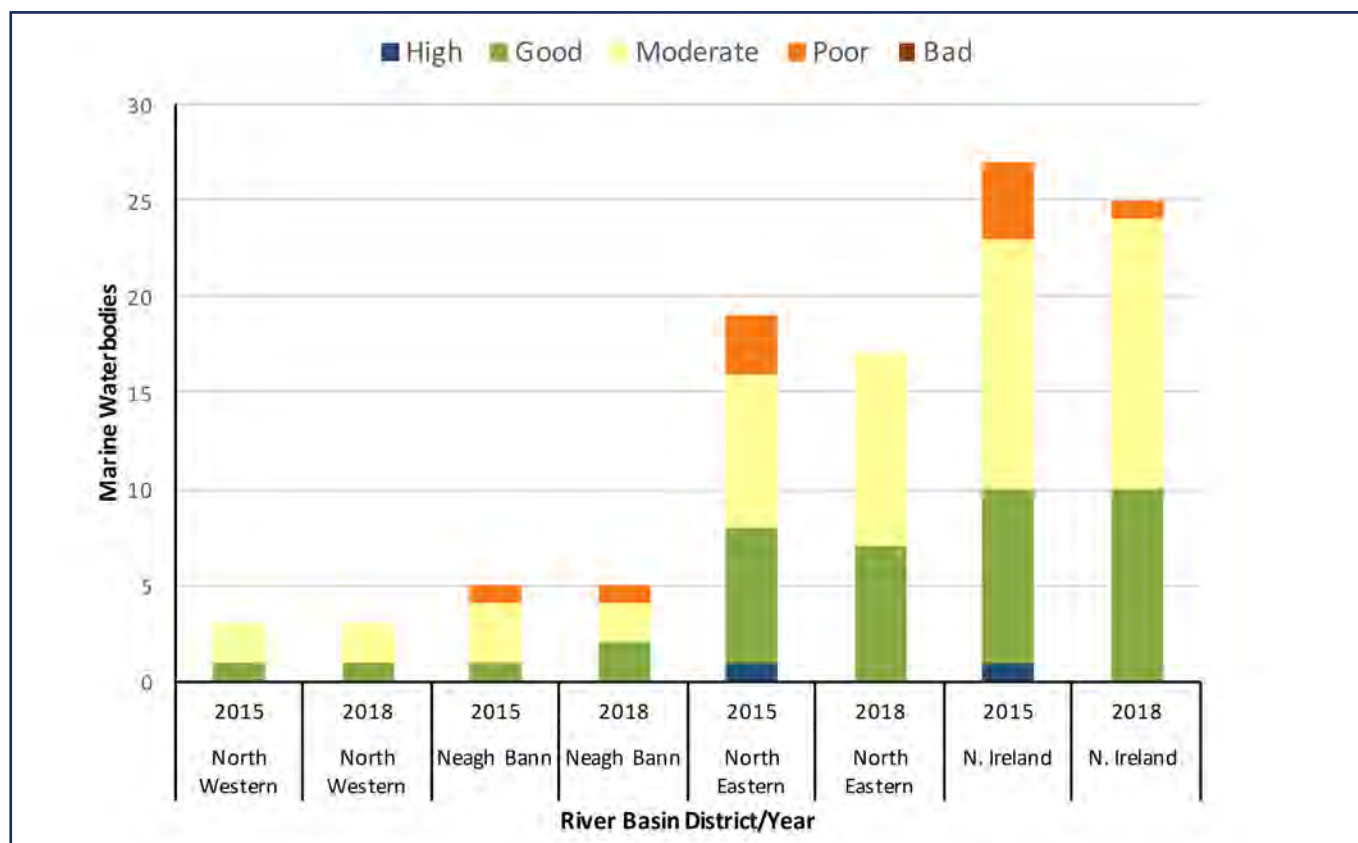


Fig. 14: Marine - Water Framework Directive overall status in transitional and coastal waters (number of marine water bodies), 2015 and 2018

Neighbourhood Quality - covers a wide range of local environmental issues, including: litter; dog-fouling; environmental noise; dilapidation (including our historic built environment); graffiti; and fly-posting, which can contribute to a loss of amenity for local residents and visitors, and a range of social and economic problems, such as increased anti-social behaviour, reduced trade and tourism, and health issues.

For example, dilapidated or unsightly buildings or structures can ruin the general appearance of the area in which they are located. A business whose property adjoins such a building can suffer a loss of trade due to the deterioration of the amenity of the area. Property owners can also suffer due to decreasing property values and mental and physical health effects. Dilapidated buildings also have consequences in terms of people's perceptions of an area. The maintenance of attractive and successful places in which people are happy to live, work and visit is therefore very important and should help to move Northern Ireland towards greater economic, social and environmental prosperity.

Litter (much of it single-use plastic) and dog-fouling are often the local environmental quality issues most visible to members of the public. However, these are not simply aesthetic issues - there are obvious human health implications from dog fouling and, to a lesser extent from litter pollution (e.g. increased vermin activity). However, litter pollution also impacts negatively on the natural

These local environmental quality issues are largely regulated and enforced by our district councils, with the support of DAERA, other departments and a range of partner organisations. While traditional regulation and enforcement is undoubtedly important, we, and the local councils who are in the frontline of efforts to improve local environmental quality, recognise the fact that behaviour change requires a range of interventions that include “softer” approaches, including education and awareness-raising.

Q7: Do you have any comments on what specific issues should be included under a proposed Environmental Quality strategic theme?

9. Environmental Governance

Running through all of these themes is the concept of environmental governance - in other words, how we manage protection and enhancement of the environment.

This is an issue that has generated a long-running debate here, which has focused to a large extent on whether we should have an independent environmental protection agency. While there is support for an independent agency, responses to the most recent discussion document on environmental governance¹⁴ indicated a widely held view amongst stakeholders that the focus should be on environmental outcomes rather than simply changing delivery structures. It follows that the development of an environment strategy is one of the ways in which we are seeking to achieve this. There are many strongly held views on the pros and cons of such a step and it may be that the issue of governance structures will need to be considered again once the potential impacts of Brexit become clearer.

However, the concept of environmental governance encompasses a great deal more than structural issues and includes:

- a strategic vision for the environment;
- the development of appropriate policy;
- implementation of that policy;
- better regulation;
- personnel issues (training, development, motivation etc.);
- the environmental justice agenda;
- knowledge management and communication.

¹⁴ [Discussion Document on Environmental Governance in Northern Ireland - Synopsis of Responses](#)

The Department has made progress in several of these areas, for example:

- (a) ***Regulatory Transformation Programme***, the overall vision of which is to deliver a 21st century regulatory system that is risk-based, will deliver better environmental outcomes, will continue to deliver more efficient and effective customer service, and will help responsible businesses and citizens operate effectively within environmental limits;
- (b) ***Environmental Better Regulation Act***, which enables the Department to make regulations relating to the protection and improvement of the environment with the secondary objective of reducing the regulatory burden on those carrying out regulated activities (where that is consistent with protecting and improving the environment), and streamlining and consolidation of the powers of entry and associated powers that are contained within numerous pieces of environmental legislation; and
- (c) ***DAERA Knowledge Advisory Service (KAS)***, which brought together the existing advisory functions provided by the College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise (CAFRE) and the Department's Countryside Management Unit to support the holistic development of farm and food businesses, where economic and environmental performance are inextricably linked.

Brexit has also brought other governance issues to the fore, such as the potential need for:

- (a) enhanced North/South environmental protection arrangements; and
- (b) some form of independent environmental oversight body when we leave the EU. On the latter, the UK Government plans to establish an Office for Environmental Protection (OEP), which is intended to have statutory roles in respect of monitoring, reporting and adjudicating on the environmental performance of public bodies. The proposed OEP will be separate from, and perform a different role than, the Environment Agency in England. Should a future Minister decide that the functions of the OEP should extend to Northern Ireland, it would not replace any of NIEA's duties or responsibilities.

Of particular relevance to the Environment Strategy are the proposals that:

- (a) the OEP's duties should include monitoring and reporting on the UK Government's progress against its 25-year plan for the environment; and
- (b) that the UK Government's 25 year plan for the environment should be given a statutory footing.

In both cases it will be for a future DAERA Minister to decide if similar provisions should apply here.

Q8: What do you see as the main environmental governance priorities for Northern Ireland?

10. Draft Outcomes

We are keen to ensure that the Environment Strategy should focus firmly on the environmental outcomes that we want, and need, to achieve. As previously stated, it is not our intention to be in any way prescriptive about what these outcomes should be but initial discussions with internal and external stakeholders suggested that it would be helpful to provide some sort of indication of what these might look like.

We have chosen 6 potential draft outcomes which are intended to cover a range of key high-level environmental issues and these are presented in graphic format in Annex C, along with relevant Programme for Government outcomes and the department's vision of: ***A living, working, active landscape valued by everyone***. We don't have to have 6 outcomes - it can be more, it can be less. What is important is that we have a clear view about what these outcomes should be, and why.

The 6 suggested draft outcomes are:

- We achieve zero waste and a well-developed circular economy;
- Everyone can access and is connected to a healthy environment;
- We have reduced greenhouse gas emissions and improved climate resilience;
- Biodiversity loss halted, ecosystems in a healthy state, and well managed landscapes;
- We achieve sustainable consumption and production on land and sea;
- We have excellent air, water, land and neighbourhood quality.

Q9: Do you agree that these are appropriate draft outcomes for the Environment Strategy?

If "No", what alternative or additional outcomes would you like to see?

11. What's the Big Idea?

An all-encompassing Environment Strategy for Northern Ireland is a big deal - it will potentially sit alongside existing high-level strategies endorsed by the NI Executive and will set the tone for environmental protection and improvement for decades to come.

As preparations continue to leave the EU, the development of this Strategy provides us all with the opportunity to shape environmental engagement, prosperity, efficiency and quality for our future generations.

Big strategies need big ideas and this document is your opportunity to suggest what those big ideas should be. We are placing no restrictions on those ideas at this stage - it might be that not all of them will be feasible but we are committed to considering them all in the context of an open and inclusive discussion on the future of our environment.

All of the inputs we receive will be carefully considered and analysed and developed into firm policy proposals to be consulted on under the direction of a future Minister.

Q10: What are your big ideas for the future protection and enhancement of the environment?

Q11: Do you have any other comments or contributions?

12. How to Respond

This engagement exercise uses the Citizen Space Hub, accessible via the relevant page on the [DAERA website](#), as the primary means of response, in order to make it as accessible as possible.

However, you may download a response template from the DAERA consultation website and reply by e-mail or hard copy respectively to:

esni@daera-ni.gov.uk

or

Neighbourhood Environment Quality Branch
Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
Regulatory and Natural Resources Policy Division
2nd Floor, Klondyke Building
1 Cromac Avenue
Gasworks Business Park
Belfast
BT7 2JA

Early responses are encouraged but all responses should arrive no later than **5pm** on **23 December 2019**. Before you submit your responses please read the “Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Confidentiality of Consultation Responses” section below, which gives guidance on the legal position. If you require any further information, contact Lisa Frazer on 028 9056 9497.

Freedom of Information Act 2000

- Confidentiality of Consultations

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This means that information provided by you in response to the consultation is unlikely to be treated as confidential, except in very particular circumstances.

The Lord Chancellor's Code of Practice on the Freedom of Information Act provides that:

- the Department should only accept information from third parties in confidence if it is necessary to obtain that information in connection with the exercise of any of the Department's functions and it would not otherwise be provided;
- the Department should not agree to hold information received from third parties 'in confidence' which is not confidential in nature;
- acceptance by the Department of confidentiality provisions must be for good reasons, capable of being justified to the Information Commissioner.

For further information about confidentiality of responses, please contact the Information Commissioner's Office:

Tel: (028) 9027 8757

Email: ni@ico.org.uk

Website: <https://ico.org.uk/>

Annex A - Comments and feedback from stakeholder event on 7 May 2019

Will an independent environment agency be needed to ensure delivery and to bring us up to date with other countries?

How do we move to become food secure as an island rather than our current insecurity?

Why has there been so little local work identifying and assessing our local ecosystems services. A programme of research developing examples across a number of farmed landscapes to assess public good and benefits should be delivered.

How can we meet Call4Nature call "... to encourage the transition to sustainable agricultural practices?"

How will the strategy seek to balance the impacts of big manufacturers on the environment alongside the focus on agri-food production?

EFS funding helps in high nature value farming areas. Could future schemes consider a package for supporting the landscape? Delivering landscape character gains.

Why has the Countryside Survey, a series of repeat eco land use surveys for Northern Ireland going back to the 1980s not been repeated? Excellent baseline data allowing for Gov. to assess environmental change following/reflecting policy change wasted.

Don't we just need to stop tiptoeing around the core issues and mandate ways of living and working that everyone now knows are essential to ensure a sustainable future - from building control standards for zero carbon builds to targets for renewables?

Will a behaviour insights /social science team be a gold investment?...to help target messaging, feedback from communities etc.

Will new environmental performance standards for the built environment be included in the strategy? This will be essential.

How do we ensure the environment can effectively compete with education and health for investment?

We need to sell the combined economic, social and environmental benefits of new sustainable ways of living - and be smarter at facilitating the transition by stakeholder groups.

The UK is set to miss its target for Good Environmental Status for the seas by 2020 (MSDF). More of the same will only deliver the same result. How will the new strategy reverse this trend for the marine?

Will there be enough funding to gather the evidence necessary to underpin the development of sound environmental strategies and to monitor the outcomes in a robust way? Research budgets have been slashed - an evidence programme is essential.

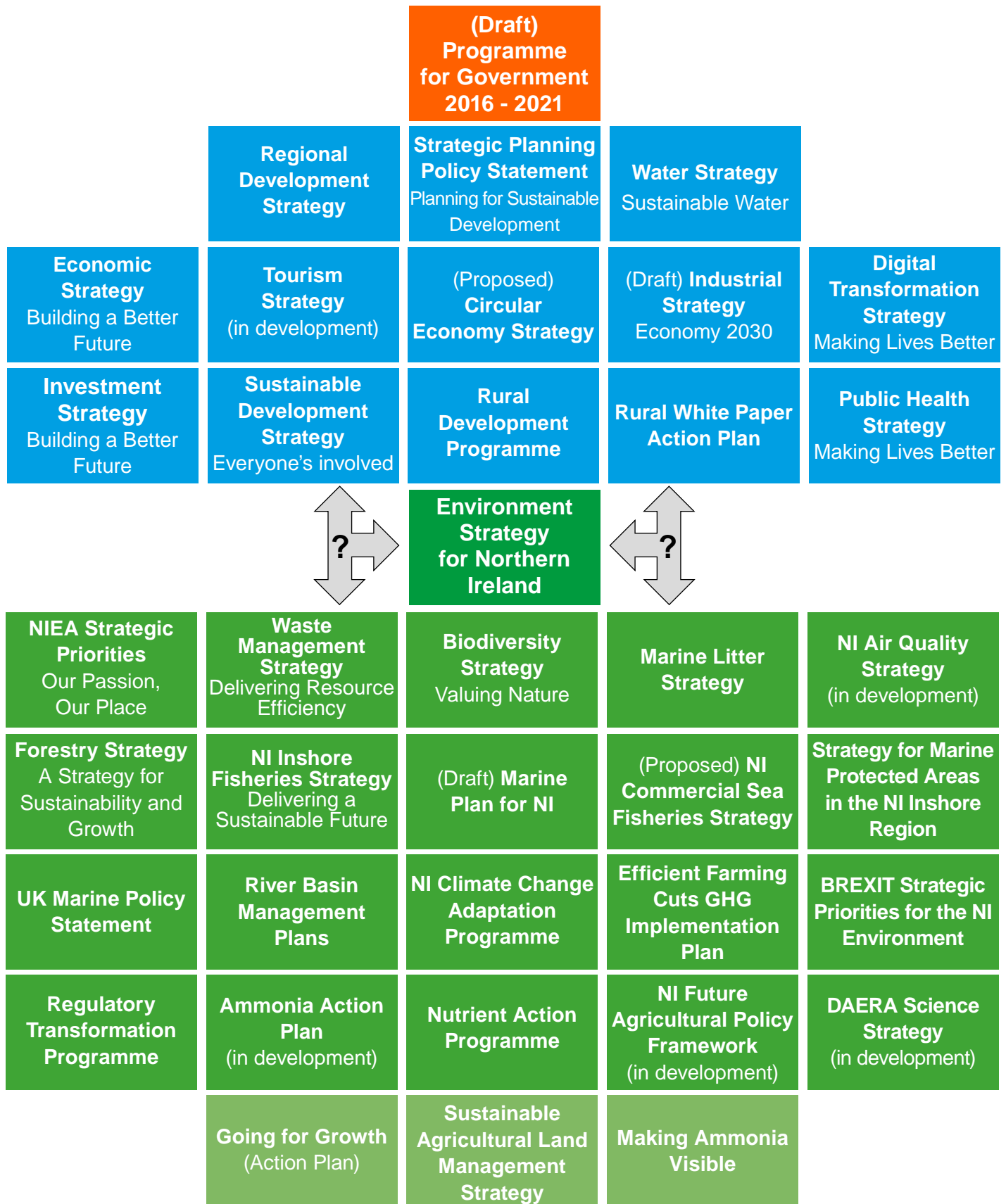
How do we improve our living, working, active landscape?

- Clear policy direction with clear objectives, targets and standards and transition funding for change process.
- Need to set out problems and solutions. Propositions for solutions.
- Managed access to the land and sea environment.
- A land use and marine integrated strategy.
- Holistic approach to environmental Issues.
- Measurable and legislative long term targets.
- Empowering people to make individual changes.
- Subsidies.
- More sustainable agricultural practices using resources required.
- Partnership working opportunities between multiple stakeholders across shared interests in particular natural assets.
- Go for top 5 - 10 hitters - 80:20 principle.
- GDP traditional measures of wealth generation and job creation lead. Wellbeing and environment measures required to encourage new thinking.

What are the main obstacles & how do we overcome them?

- Current political understanding of environment.
- Capacity issue.
- Need level playing field.
- No Assembly.
- Weak environmental governance.
- Brexit uncertainty.
- Lack of/prioritisation of resources.
- Focused on growth rather than sustainability.
- The want to change and the opportunity for making those changes.
- More support to local government in terms of environmental information.
- Behavioural change across the board.
- Business reflects consumer behaviour.

Annex B - Other strategies relevant to a possible Environment Strategy



Annex C - PfG Outcomes mapped against possible Environment Strategy themes/outcomes and DAERA vision



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Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**

www.daera-ni.gov.uk



**INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE**

Environment Strategy for Northern Ireland

Public Discussion Document

Stakeholder Response Template



September 2019

A living, working, active landscape valued by everyone.



Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**

www.dasera-ni.gov.uk



**INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE**

How to Respond

This template replicates the questions posed in the online survey on the Environment Strategy for Northern Ireland Public Discussion Document found at: <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/consultations/esni-public-discussion-document>.

However, while the online survey includes additional information to assist respondents, the full text of the consultation can only be found on the Department's website by following the link above or by contacting us to request a hard copy. It is recommended that you should read the full consultation document before completing your response, whether you choose to use this template or the Citizen Space Hub.

If you wish to use this template for your response, please reply by e-mail or hard copy respectively to:

esni@daera-ni.gov.uk

or

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ABOUT YOU

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Please note that the text boxes used throughout this template will expand to accommodate your response – there is no character limit.

Q1: Do you agree that the Environment Strategy should sit alongside existing Executive-endorsd strategies, such as the Sustainable Development, Public Health and Economic Strategies?

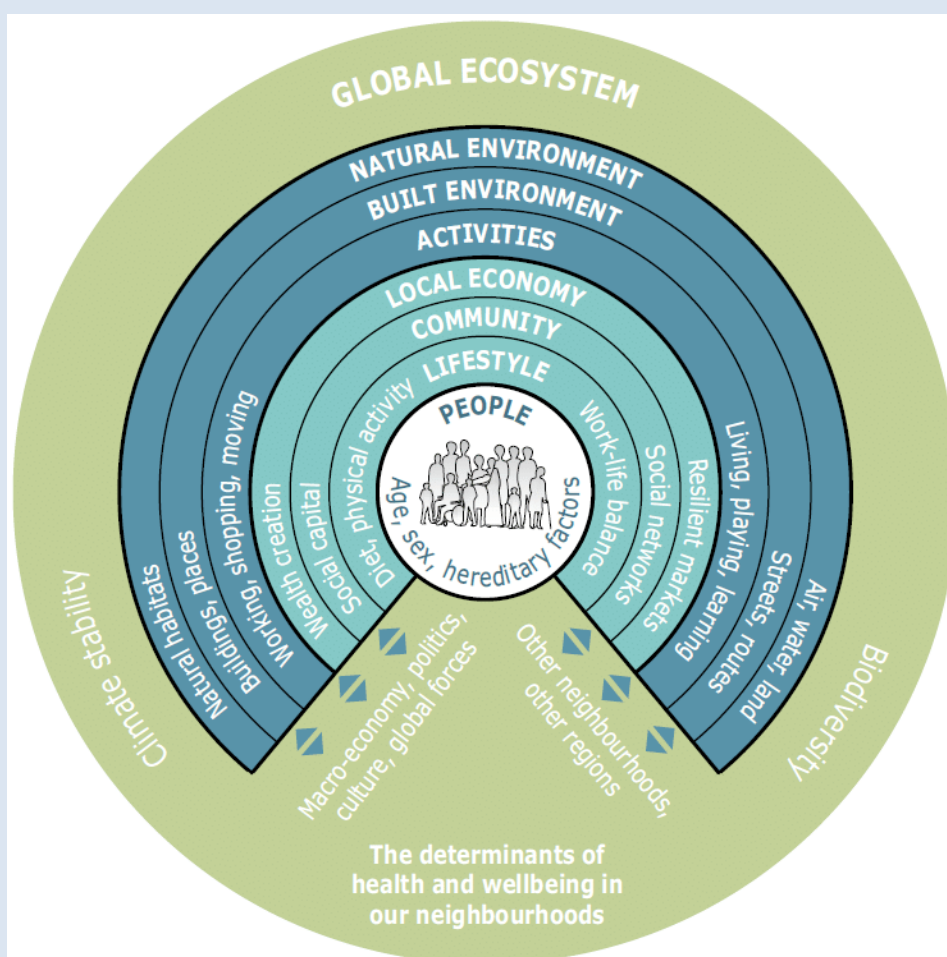
Yes ☒

No ☐

Comments

Mid Ulster District Council (MUDC) believes that the importance of the Environment Strategy should be at the very least, on par with other Executive endorsed Strategies.

The importance of the environment is best summarized in the diagram below entitled *The Determinants of health and well-being* and is we believe, the context upon which the entire proposed Environment Strategy should be based.



Source: Barton and Grant, University of the West of England, 2006 (Origins in the *Bruntland Report* and in the work being undertaken by the World Health Organisation).

Our environment, which is essential to future prosperity and well-being, has never been under more pressure: biodiversity is in decline, air and water quality remains poor and there is a global climate emergency which is impacting upon all areas of life.

Effective delivery of an ambitious long-term Environment Strategy will help reverse the decline and then, critically, should set Northern Ireland on a new path of renewal and environmental regeneration.

Before commenting further on the content of this Discussion Document, Mid Ulster District Council believes that any future Environment Strategy for Northern Ireland must be based on the following principles. The Strategy must:

- Have statutory footing and binding targets that are clear, measurable, ambitious and in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Effective environmental governance is essential for any framework of environmental policy; a strategy that is not backed up in law with effective enforcement mechanisms is essentially no more than a wish list.
- Have clear lines of accountability. All government Departments and public bodies should be included in the design not just of the strategy but the crucial actions that need to be clearly set out within it; and should have a pro-active duty to implement it and be held accountable for the impacts of decisions taken.
- Be independently monitored with clear mechanisms to hold government to account.
- Be matched by appropriate and significant additional direct investment to enrich our environment and land/sea resource and a commitment that future public payments are directed towards delivering public benefits.

In addition, we believe it is fundamental to the future of Northern Ireland that:

- An Environment Bill for Northern Ireland is enacted to give the Environment Strategy a binding, legal footing. Failure to do so will mean the document will lack ‘teeth’ and remain largely ineffective along with a host of other strategies such as the NI Sustainable Development Strategy and the NI Biodiversity Strategy. It could be argued for example that if our Sustainable Development Strategy had been backed up by legislation, our environment would not be in as bad condition. Without legislation the state of our environment will continue to diminish.
- An Independent Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is established. Northern Ireland remains the only part of these islands without an EPA. We need an EPA to ensure independent and robust monitoring and appropriate mechanisms to hold government to account.

Q2: Do you agree that these broad environmental areas are appropriate for the Environment Strategy?

Yes ☒

No ☒

If "No", what alternatives would you like to see included?

Review of Planning legislation and in particular 'Permitted Development Rights' and retrospective planning permission. Government needs to tackle the issue of unintentional or deliberate misuse of permitted development rights in the countryside. Clarification needs to be provided as to when the use of PDR is allowed and when a planning application is required. If the issue of PDR continues to be interpreted incorrectly, consideration should be given to changing what is currently allowed. Government also needs to tackle the issue of development without planning permission and the extremely high success level of retrospective permission.

Under Built Environment there is reference to 'heritage buildings and monuments'. Given the nature of the NI landscape and the historical intertwining of natural and historic environment, there should be more attention on the historic environment including archaeology. For this Strategy to succeed it requires a partnership approach across Government, and is particularly relevant to the Historic Environment Division.

Other Comments

While we agree with the broad environmental areas listed, we would like to make the following additional comments:

- We agree with the assertion that environmental issues do not respect borders and believe that the island of Ireland and its surrounding seas represent a single biogeographic unit with shared land and sea borders. Therefore to effectively address these issues we must do so on an all-island basis which will require on-going and close cross-border cooperation at a departmental, local authority and community level.
- We note that the sentence on P15 stating '*Linking the Environment Strategy to appropriate international standards, such as the UN Sustainable Development Goals, may also be desirable*'. For Mid Ulster District Council, the linking of the Strategy to the SDGs should be mandatory not optional. The UK government has signed up to delivering the SDGs and Northern Ireland is required to contribute to the UK reporting process. As we believe all future NI Departmental Strategies and Policies (including Programmes for Government) must help deliver on our commitment to implement the SDGs, a SDG Implementation plan for NI with specific indicators must be developed. By using the SDG model, it should be easier to progress/implement the Environment Strategy in the absence of a NI Executive, as it does not require a new approach/departure from previously agreed Government policy. Also, if framed around the SDGs, the Environment strategy could be used as an SDG reporting mechanism.
- While agreeing with the statement that '*For a high-level environment strategy to be meaningful it is essential that it is ambitious in terms of its breadth and depth*' We would argue however that for the Strategy to be meaningful it must have:
 - **Legally-binding environmental objectives** for wildlife, water, air and natural assets, each with a delivery strategy, timeline and milestones;
 - **Green investment** ensuring public and private money supports greener towns, countryside and seas;

- **Accountability across government and the private sector** applying the polluters pays principle and ensuring government and businesses are held to account for their environmental record.
- Similarly, we agree that the Strategy must contain ambitious goals/targets. To ensure this is the case and in order to make a real difference each objective must:
 - Have SMART goals and targets to ensure they are measurable and time bound with clear milestones;
 - New and avoid being merely repeats of existing commitments already made in other policy or agreements that we are currently failing on;
 - Be 'world leading' if we are to meet the ambition set out on P21 that, *Northern Ireland will also have a key leadership role in demonstrating to the rest of the world what is possible.*
- If the Strategy is to 'make a difference to the lives and wellbeing of this and future generations' it will need to remain a 'living' document in that it must be able to respond to new and emerging environmental challenges.

Q3: Do you agree that these are appropriate strategic themes for the Environment Strategy?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If "No", what alternative or additional themes/issues would you like to see in the strategy?

Other Comments

Q4: Do you have any comments on what specific issues should be included under a proposed Environmental Engagement strategic theme?

Changing the attitude of society to the environment is crucial to the long-term prosperity of Northern Ireland. Research has shown that outdoor and environmental education has multiple benefits for children. Schools can be seen as drivers of sustainability at the heart of their communities, promoting a culture of 'learning together'. Engaging adults in

informal lifelong learning using the outdoors also brings a range of benefits. Environmental education has been shown to:

- Improve academic performance across the curriculum including numeracy, literacy and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) activities
- Encourage children to transfer and apply skills learned in the classroom, and lets them gain skills to tackle future environmental issues facing Northern Ireland
- Increase equality of opportunity for children from all backgrounds
- Bring inherent health and wellbeing benefits to children and adults

It is crucial therefore that a joint Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, and Department of Education 'Environmental Education Strategy' is developed for Northern Ireland, which promotes an expectation of outdoor learning and fieldwork both within the curriculum and through lifelong learning.

We believe the issues, target groups and proposals listed under this theme can be categorised as achieving Behavioural Change in relation to our interaction with the environment. Behaviour change at all levels, in government, in business and in individual decisions and actions, is critical to the success of all the significant changes required to protect and, where needed, restore our environment for current and future generations.

As such this theme could include measures such as:

- Establishing a behaviour change knowledge resource in NI to:
 - Summarise/ disseminate research appropriate for use by government/ eNGOs
 - Support effective and consistent organisational communications with the public
 - Drive public behaviour change in line with necessary changes to business models.
- Carry out local research to ensure suitability of findings elsewhere for NI culture and norms.
- Engage the public, including young people, when deciding on the priorities for which behaviours need to change.
- Increase opportunities for councils to promote environmental behavioural change beyond traditional areas such as waste and recycling
- Encourage and support experimentation to test innovative behaviour change approaches.
- Grow opportunities for young people to take action on the environment and nurture and encourage the next generation of environmentally responsible citizens
- Engage in in-house behaviour change campaigns and support expansion across government departments where success is proven. Expect the same approach from recipients of departmental funding.
- Introduce an environmental 'engagement index' to act as a baseline measure to determine future progress.
- Consideration should be given to communication techniques, and particularly the usability of the DAERA website and/or exploration of alternative online channels

- Behavioural change for 'business' is crucial; DAERA should review current mechanisms for engaging with business, including Prosperity Agreements
- DAERA should adhere to best practice with regards to Open Government principles, including Open Data, when engaging with the public

Finally, it is worth noting that the key behavioural change that has helped fund many existing environmental initiatives has been the introduction of Plastic Bag Levy legislation.

Q5: Do you have any comments on what specific issues should be included under a proposed Environmental Prosperity strategic theme?

Mid Ulster District Council agrees with the statement (P19) that *'There is a tremendously close, some would say symbiotic, relationship between the environment and the agri-food sector, each with the potential to significantly impact the other'*. We must ensure therefore that environmental and agricultural policies are not developed in isolation from each other and with often competing visions. Failure to integrate policies can result in major long-term negative implications for the environment, which has been the case following implementation of the Going for Growth Strategy which saw a drive to expand the agri-sector in Northern Ireland in order to grow sales by 60% without due regard to the environmental implications. We therefore endorse the recommendations of the 2019 Food, Farming & Countryside Commission Report *Lay of the Land* (Northern Ireland Inquiry) which outlines the need for a 'transformation in our food and farming system in order to respond to the climate emergency and restore biodiversity, improve the public's health and wellbeing in all communities and develop Northern Ireland's distinctive pattern of farming to play its full part in responding to these challenges, supporting and revitalising rural communities'.

Development of a Land Use Strategy for Northern Ireland which enables landowners, individuals and communities to make the best use of our land and landscapes in a way that is beneficial to nature and the climate, should therefore be a key outcome of the Strategy. Unlike the rest of the UK, the land use, land-use change and forestry sector is a net carbon source rather than a net sink. Forest coverage is around 40% lower in Northern Ireland than the UK as a whole. A Land Use Strategy could rectify this, and facilitate a more strategic approach to land management which could help alleviate land use conflicts and ensure that land continues to provide goods and services to society while minimising adverse impacts on the natural resource (land) base.

We believe, the environment and the economy can deliver prosperity for society, hand-in-hand. Northern Ireland's available natural and cultural resources represent what we have 'in the bank', in terms of nature and what the environment delivers for society. We need to protect that long-term investment, ensuring that society 'lives off the interest' rather than eating in to, and depleting, our irreplaceable 'Natural Capital'. The Environment Strategy must ensure the development of policies that explicitly recognises the relationship of environment and prosperity, by producing a Natural Capital Index for Northern Ireland.

Other comments

- The document notes the importance of the environment and heritage for tourism. As well as the huge potential for eco-tourism using our unique natural heritage, NI

needs an overarching Sustainable Tourism Strategy which respects and protects our valuable natural heritage and is based on a 'high value' tourism model rather than 'high volume' which is the status quo at present;

- A 'Green New Deal' must be included in the Strategy; Government should revisit the detailed proposals for a Green New Deal which eNGOs have previously submitted; as with other actions, cross-Government partnership will be essential;
- There are obvious opportunities for economic regeneration in the built environment; there are many historic buildings lying vacant or languishing in the 'Heritage at Risk NI' list which should be prioritised for restoration; these could be repurposed for community and economic benefit.

Q6: Do you have any comments on what specific issues should be included under a proposed Environmental Efficiency strategic theme?

Climate Change Mid Ulster District Council believes that if we are to have '*a key leadership role in demonstrating to the rest of the world what is possible*', we must first address the main issues in relation to climate action in which we lag well behind:

- A Climate Emergency must be declared across all of Northern Ireland
- Given the urgency of the situation and with countries around the world committing to taking action, it is unacceptable there is no specific climate change legislation in Northern Ireland. Legislation for climate change in NI would allow specific policies to be developed to meet emissions targets and enable society adapt our environment to the risks. NI Climate Change Legislation should include:
 - Reduction targets in line with UK legislation and other UK jurisdictions including a target date to achieve net zero carbon emissions;
 - Interim targets and carbon budgets (over five-year periods);
 - Creation of a NI Committee on Climate Change (similar to UK Committee);
 - A National Climate Change Mitigation Plan inclusive of all sectors and tiers of government, with appropriate targets, actions and reporting;
 - A statutory duty on local authorities to develop climate change mitigation and adaptation plans
 - Amendments to planning policy to allow local authorities to set much higher local energy efficiency standards for permitted developments
- Climate Change Adaptation urgently needs to expand, with more attention on reaching the sectors which will be most affected; in particular
 - more focus on local government and its role in driving forward climate action at local level;
 - more focus on and investment in green and blue infrastructure solutions to climate change within the public realm
 - development of a reporting mechanism to assess and monitor progress

Resource Efficiency & Circular Economy The Northern Ireland economy needs to move away from the largely linear system on which it is currently based and its reliance upon our finite resources. We believe the Strategy needs to:

- Tackle the consumption issue (which is ethical as well as environmental) and works towards a circular economy for Northern Ireland;

- Ensure a holistic approach to the circular economy, including smart regulation, market-based instruments, research and innovation, incentives, measures of performance, and information exchange;
- Build Northern Ireland's clean green image as an attractor for inward investment, recognising the economic and tourism potential inherent in our natural and cultural heritage – which demonstrates that Northern Ireland remains committed to delivering our targets for emissions, waste, recycling, and energy efficiency.

Improving the efficiency of resource use and ensuring that waste is valued as a resource rather than an end product, can contribute to reduce dependency on importing raw materials and help the transition to more sustainable material management and to a circular economy model.

Sound and efficient waste management systems are an essential building block of a circular economy. In Northern Ireland there is growing understanding and ambition to work towards creating a prosperous circular economy, creating opportunity for sustainable consumption and production, including increased economic activity and job creation.

This Environment Strategy must enable citizens and economic activity to prosper through clear and action-led commitment. This includes following up on cross-departmental recommendations made for increasing circular economy activity within and by government both directly and through policy development.

Furthermore, the Strategy must ensure NI's circular economy policies align with objectives of the EU Circular Economy Package and so will help to provide:

- Waste prevention and resource efficiency overall
- Effective management of plastics
- Creation of economic opportunities along the supply chain
- Adequate provision to monitor and evaluate impact and benefits
- Improved citizen awareness and commitment through behavioural change interventions and effective communication
- Reduction of marine littering

Develop and implement policies that work across all government departments to promote the development of a circular economy and realise the economic benefits and opportunities this can provide.

Q7: Do you have any comments on what specific issues should be included under a proposed Environmental Quality strategic theme?

We would broadly agree with the issues proposed under the Environmental Quality strategic theme. However as previously stated, the Strategy must contain ambitious goals/ targets for these issues. To ensure this is the case and in order to make a real difference each issue (Air, Water Quality, Biodiversity etc.) must be:

- Accompanied by SMART goals and targets to ensure they were measurable and time bound with clear milestones.

- 'New' and avoid being merely repeats of existing commitments/targets already made in other policy or agreements that we are currently failing on. We have for example failed to meet our target of halting biodiversity by the previously agreed date of 2010, 2015 and we are well on our way to failing to meet our 2020 target. Therefore, merely identifying a further date without ambitious and enforceable compulsory targets is likely to achieve the same poor results.
- 'World leading' if we are to meet the ambition set out on P21 that, *Northern Ireland will also have a key leadership role in demonstrating to the rest of the world what is possible.*

Some additional specific comments on this section

- While P25/26 rightly states that *'designation and management of our protected sites is a key tool in our efforts to halt biodiversity loss on land and sea'* it needs to be acknowledged that to date resources/ effort have primarily been directed towards designation rather than management, as evidenced by the poor condition of our designated sites.
- Promoting and facilitating the transfer of unused public land for community and environmental benefit
- Forest coverage is around 40% lower in Northern Ireland than the UK as a whole. A Tree and Hedgerow Strategy should be developed to increase tree cover and hedgerows in a strategic manner, in such a way to alleviate flood risk, improve environmental quality and benefit wildlife by providing ecological corridors.
- Although the document rightly identifies agricultural run-off as the main cause of poor water quality, the issue of mis-connections and cumulative impact of pollution from defective septic tanks also need addressed within the strategy.
- While referencing the issue of dilapidated and unsightly buildings and structures, the strategy should also ensure we do more to protect and maximise the return from our architectural heritage.
- Given the level of the litter problem in our urban areas and wider countryside, it is inexplicable that 'we do not yet have a litter strategy'.
- An additional area worthy of inclusion in the Environment Strategy is light pollution. It is a growing problem, given the diminishing number of 'dark skies'. As well as the impact on nocturnal animals, there is are other issues relating to the energy costs of lighting the countryside - roads, floodlit houses etc.

Q8: What do you see as the main environmental governance priorities for Northern Ireland?

We note the statement on P30 that *'While there is support for an independent agency, responses to the most recent discussion document on environmental governance indicated a widely held view amongst stakeholders that the focus should be on environmental outcomes rather than simply changing delivery structures'*. We would however contend that multiple independent reviews of Environmental Governance in NI over the last twenty years concluded that an independent EPA should be introduced here as a matter of urgency. The most recent Report: [Northern Ireland: Challenges and opportunities for post-Brexit environmental governance](#), concluded that the region is lagging behind the rest of the UK, experiencing 'the relegation of environmental concerns down the list of political imperatives'. The Report goes on *'Common issues include the lack of an independent*

environmental agency, the absence of an environmental audit committee in the NI Assembly, and the lack of a specific environmental tribunal or at least environmental experts within the judiciary and prosecution services.' It also highlights the need for:

- A separate environment commissioner to be appointed who can participate in a UK-wide environmental watchdog.
- Common UK environmental frameworks to be created which must be sufficiently flexible to accommodate continued cooperation between Northern Ireland and Ireland on a North/South basis under the umbrella of the Good Friday/Belfast Agreement.

We are deeply concerned about the risk of environmental governance in Northern Ireland being further weakened once we leave the EU and no longer have the oversight and enforcement of the EU institutions. Ideally, we would want to see a new governance body co-owned and co-designed by the four countries of the UK that would have jurisdiction in all four countries.

Given the lack of alternative options for Northern Ireland, the only practical approach is for the OEP to be extended to cover Northern Ireland. However, we believe that this should be done on the basis that the OEP will apply to NI *until* a Minister is in place, when they can then decide whether to continue with this arrangement or present alternative proposals for Northern Ireland. Waiting until *after* a Minister is in place risks leaving Northern Ireland with significantly weaker environmental governance when we leave the EU.

The situation will be even more urgent if we leave the EU without a deal and there is no transition period. The UK Government is developing some interim arrangements for England that would apply until the OEP is set-up but there are currently no plans for these to apply to Northern Ireland.

DAERA should either request that these interim arrangements apply to Northern Ireland as well or develop alternative interim arrangements for NI. We believe that relying only on current arrangements (i.e. civil society applying for judicial reviews) will not be sufficient to provide adequately strong environmental governance for Northern Ireland after Brexit.

Regardless of what measures are put in place to replace the EU governance structures, we believe there is still a need for an independent EPA in Northern Ireland.

Q9: Do you agree that these are appropriate draft outcomes for the Environment Strategy?

Yes ☒

No ☒

If "No", what alternative or additional outcomes would you like to see?

Additional outcomes could be:

- To significantly reduce/ halt wildlife and environmental crime.

- A minimum requirement set for outdoor education time for every child.

Other Comments

We are generally content with the 6 Draft Outcomes listed, however, the Strategy must set deadlines for these to be achieved otherwise they will remain an open-ended wish list. As previously stated objectives, targets and outcomes should be legally binding and underpinned by shorter-term targets, with appropriate resources and indicators to measure progress.

Q10: What are your big ideas for the future protection and enhancement of the environment?

Listed below are a number of 'big ideas' proposed by Mid Ulster District Council and others who attended a cross-sectoral workshop held by Northern Ireland Environment Link and NICVA on the Environment Strategy document. Please note these ideas are in addition to our call for the proposed Environment Strategy to have a legislative footing and the need for an independent EPA as outlined in response to Question 1. These additional ideas are not listed in order of preference and are all worthy of consideration:

- A Climate Change Act for NI with: Reduction Targets in line with UK legislation and other UK jurisdictions; Interim targets and carbon budgets (over five year periods); Creation of a NI Committee on Climate Change (similar to UK Committee on CC).
- All future NI Departmental Strategies and Policies (including Programmes for Government) must help deliver on our commitment to implementation of the UN SDGs with: A SDG Implementation plan for NI with specific indicators; Compulsory incorporation of the SDGs into the local council community plans; Appointment of SD champions in each government department; and the Executive Office responsible for the implementation of and reporting on the (SDGs) to ensure the integration of SDGs into government policy across all government departments.
- Creation of a NI Well-Being of Future Generations Act based on the Welsh example to improve our social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being along with the appointment of 'Future Generations Commissioner' to make sure public bodies are working towards well-being goals and produce an annual report.
- Creation of a Northern Ireland 'Environment Hub' which would provide a shared space for environmental NGOs which would enable more effective use of environment grant funding and more collaborative working in the sector. The site could double up as a public-facing environmental education centre, showcasing best practise in sustainable design and construction, among other functions. The 'hub' could be located on an ex-military base, landfill site or place of cultural or historical significance.
- Creation of a Citizens Assembly on Climate Change / NI Environmental Citizens Advisory panel to improve levels of citizen information, engagement and participation in the

design of environmental policies and strategies that affect NI. There could also be the option of future development into a cross-border environmental citizens advisory panel tasked with exploring an island-wide environment response as the protection and management of the environment on the island of Ireland, from our rivers, seas, air, waste and wildlife, requires cross-border collaboration and affects all citizens.

- Creation of a 'Nature Recovery Network' – A nationwide map for nature - a spatial plan that identifies and creates the corridors and areas of habitat wildlife needs to move in order to recover. It will connect wild places and provide space for wildlife to recover and thrive. To do so will mean putting space for nature at the heart of our farming and planning systems.
- Sustainable Agri-Food Sector Support: the document acknowledges the importance of agriculture for our environment and that how we farm can have positive and negative effects but this concept is not developed further. In order to help farmers combat climate change and restore nature in our countryside, farming subsidies should provide an incentive for farmers to farm in a way that helps protect the environment and support the objectives of the Strategy. This should be progressed through a 'Public Money for Public Goods' approach. We believe that the entire Strategy needs to be matched by appropriate and significant additional direct investment to enrich our environment and land/sea resource and a commitment that future public payments are directed towards delivering public benefit.
- That an Independent Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is established. Northern Ireland remains the only part of these islands without an EPA. We need an EPA to ensure independent and robust monitoring and appropriate mechanisms to hold government to account.

Q11: Do you have any other comments or contributions?

We would like to see the inclusion of measures/ targets to reduce wildlife and environmental crime.

Report on	Review of Waste Collection Service Policy
Date of Meeting	02 December 2019
Reporting Officer	Mark McAdoo, Head of Environmental Services
Contact Officers	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	X

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update members on a review of the Waste Collection policy and to seek approval to carry out a consultation exercise on a revised policy.
2.0	Background
2.1	The existing Refuse and Recycling Collection policy was approved in November 2014.
2.2	Several changes have been made to service delivery since that time for various reasons such as the outcome of the Pay, Grading and Harmonisation exercise completed in 2017.
2.3	It is therefore now proposed to consolidate these changes, along with some further amendments, in an updated/revised policy to be renamed the Waste Collection Policy.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	A copy of the revised Waste Collection Policy Service Policy is included as an appendix.
3.2	<p>The revised/updated policy includes a number of previously agreed service changes including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a common start time of 7:30 am for refuse collection across the district • the introduction of a charge for the provision of bulky household collections • the application of full commercial rates for waste collection/disposal from schools • introduction of a pre-payment system for the disposal of commercial waste and; • revised opening hours for Recycling Centres

3.3	<p>The revised policy also includes new sections/provisions including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • introduction of an annual service charge for the emptying of a second brown bin (which it is only anticipated will be requested by a small number of households) • arrangements for the collection of fly-tipped waste • the provision of litter bins • the provision of hook lift and skip containers
3.4	A key aspect of the Waste Collection Policy are the arrangements for the collection of wheeled bins from private or unadopted roads and laneways (as detailed in point 7.5.6)
3.5	This does not represent a change to the existing policy however this aspect of service delivery has not been applied consistently across the Mid Ulster District due to legacy arrangements (some of which may have been put in place at the request of members).
3.6	An analysis of where refuse is collected from private or unadopted roads and laneways has been carried out and it has been found that this is happening at a significant number in the Magherafelt area, a few in the Cookstown area and none in the Dungannon area. To replicate the current position in Magherafelt in Dungannon would not be at all feasible due to the high level of additional resources (vehicles and staff) that would be required.
3.7	The consistent application of the policy to all affected private or unadopted roads and laneways throughout the district will therefore mean some householders having to start to bring their wheeled bins to the end of their road or laneway for collection. Assisted lift provisions (as per the policy) will, of course, continue to apply for eligible householders.
3.8	The consistent application of this policy will also improve health and safety as this will stop a considerable amount of reversing by refuse collection vehicles at or up laneways.
3.9	Should it be determined following assessment that the accumulation and collection of a large number of wheeled bins at the end of a particular road or laneway would actually pose a greater health and safety risk e.g. by blocking a junction then this will be reviewed
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: Minimal impact
	Human: No staffing implications
	Risk Management: As noted in 3.8 the application of the revised policy will improve health and safety

4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: The policy has been subjected to equality screening (copy attached)
	Rural Needs Implications: The policy has been subjected to a rural needs impact assessment (copy attached)
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are asked to note the contents of the Waste Collection Policy and to approve an eight week consultation period on the revised policy commencing in January 2020.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Waste Collection Service Policy
6.2	Equality Screening Report
6.3	Rural Needs Impact Assessment

Waste Collection Service Policy

Document Control			
Policy Owner	Head of Environmental Services		
Policy Author	Head of Environmental Services		
Version	Version 2		
Consultation	Senior Management Team Trade Unions	Yes / No Yes / No	
Equality Screened	Yes	Date	01/11/19
Equality Impact Assessment	N/A	Date	
Good Relations	N/A		
Approved By	Environment Committee	Date	
Adopted By	Council	Date	
Review Date		By Whom	
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1.0 POLICY SUMMARY

- 1.1 This policy outlines how Mid Ulster District Council in meeting increasing recycling and landfill diversion targets will ensure that the collection of waste is managed in the most efficient and effective manner possible with householders taking joint ownership and responsibility for the management of their waste.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This policy is in place in order to provide a framework for the provision of an effective and efficient waste collection service within the Mid Ulster District. This policy details the arrangements for collection of residual and recyclable waste from both domestic and commercial properties (where a service is requested).

3.0 POLICY AIM & OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 **Policy Aim:** To provide an effective and efficient waste collection service.

3.2 **Policy Objectives:**

- To provide a high quality service for the collection of waste which is compliant with Health and Safety and Waste Management legislation
- To increase the amount of waste recycled and diverted from landfill
- To ensure suitable facilities are available for the collection of waste

4.0 POLICY SCOPE

- 4.1 This policy relates primarily to the collection of residual and recyclable waste at the kerbside from both domestic and commercial properties as well as the collection of abandoned vehicles, bulky and fly-tipped waste across the district. It also extends to the provision of Recycling Centre facilities, litter bins and hooklift/skip containers for the collection of waste in specified circumstances.

5.0 LINKAGE TO CORPORATE PLAN

- 5.1 In respect of Mid Ulster District Council's Corporate Plan 2015-2019, this policy contributes toward the general delivery of Corporate Theme 3 – *Sustaining our Environment* and Priority 3.6 *Reducing our dependency on landfill by increasing recycling, reusing and recovering energy from Council collected waste*.

6.0 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 6.1 Responsibility for delivery of this policy rests within Environmental Services cascading down through the various roles from the Head of Service to Service Managers and Supervisory levels to all front line operational employees.

7.0 KERBSIDE COLLECTION SERVICE

Under the Waste and Contaminated Land Order (NI) 1997 the Council is required to arrange for the collection of household waste in its district (and commercial waste on request). In doing so the Council requires occupiers to place the waste for collection in wheeled bins of a kind and number specified.

7.1 Colour of wheeled bins

- 7.1.1 Black Bins - to be used for the separation, storage and collection of non-recyclable waste
- 7.1.2 Blue Bin - to be used for the separation, storage and collection of dry recyclables i.e. paper, cardboard, cans, plastics, glass etc.
- 7.1.3 Brown Bin – to be used for the separation, storage and collection of “biowaste” i.e. garden and food waste.

7.2 Number and size of bins per household

- 7.2.1 The Council will only collect one 240 litre (or 120/180 litre*) black bin per household per fortnight (*see section 7.7 for Exceptional Circumstances*).
- 7.2.2 The Council will collect up to a maximum of two 240 litre blue bins per household per fortnight. The householder shall purchase the additional container.
- 7.2.3 The Council will collect only one 240 litre brown bin per fortnight. Where householders wish to have a second brown bin emptied this service can be provided where capacity exists on the collection round and the householder purchases an extra container and pays an additional service charge of £100 per year (which will be payable in advance and non refundable).
- 7.2.4 The Council reserves the right to decrease of residual waste capacity and/or increase recyclable waste capacity for householders as is necessary to meet future legislative waste management targets.

Note*: A smaller bin size of 120 or 180 litres is available for households with less waste requirements or space restriction.

7.3 Frequency of collections

- 7.3.1 The Council will collect one black bin of non-recyclable waste on a fortnightly basis
- 7.3.2 The Council will collect one/two blue bins of dry recyclables on a fortnightly basis
- 7.3.3 The Council will collect one brown bin of biowaste on a fortnightly basis.

7.4 Purchase of bins and replacement bins

- 7.4.1 The Council provides, at a charge, wheeled bin refuse containers for domestic properties and spare parts for same which can be purchased from Environmental Services (see appendix 1 for current scale of charges)
- 7.4.3 Where a container is lost or damaged by the occupier, such that it is not serviceable by the Council, it shall be the responsibility of the occupier or owner to provide a container for collection. The occupier can purchase a replacement container from the Council and must do so before the service will be resumed.
- 7.4.5 If a container is damaged by the Council's workforce or on the mechanisms of the collection vehicle, the Council will replace same free of charge. Occupiers will be responsible for bin replacement as a result of normal "wear and tear".
- 7.4.4 All wheeled bins provided free of charge by the Council shall relate to the premises and should be left by the occupier on moving.

7.5 Wheeled bin collection arrangements

- 7.5.1 All waste presented for collection by the Council, must be contained within an approved wheeled bin. Container lids should be closed shut.
- 7.5.2 Only bins which are in a sound condition will be collected by the Council.
- 7.5.3 Overfull or excessively heavy bins will not be collected by the Council.
- 7.5.4 No side refuse (i.e. waste not placed in the relevant bin) or additional waste will be collected except in very exceptional circumstances e.g. following a period of adverse weather conditions when it has not been possible to provide a service. Any additional waste ought either to be stored by the householder until the next relevant collection day or taken to one of the Recycling Centres provided by Council for recycling/disposal.
- 7.5.5 Householders shall be required to place each bin for emptying by **7:30am** on the day of collection at a suitable collection point i.e. at the edge of, or at the entrance or laneway to the premises, at a point significant to the public road, or at such other places as may be determined by the Council (see Section 7.8 for Assisted Lift Support).
- 7.5.6 The Council's refuse collection vehicles will generally not travel on private laneways/roads or laneways/roads which have not been adopted by TNI unless it is deemed this is a safer method of providing a collection service i.e. where collecting on the public road would pose a health and safety risk. However, the Council will collect waste in and around developments where roadways are under construction and a tarmacked base-coat laid and where safe, easy access and adequate turning space is provided, and it is reasonably assumed that TNI will adopt such roadways. Such roadways must be capable

of carrying heavy goods vehicles and will be assessed by the Head of Environmental Services or his/her representative.

- 7.5.7 Where an occupier of any premises fails to comply with the Council's policy requirements relating to the storage and collection of waste, the Council shall not collect waste from those premises and the occupiers will be obliged to ensure disposal of such waste in a manner acceptable.
- 7.5.8 The Council will collect waste from areas which are constituted and recognised as being major industrial estates, however, the Council will not travel onto private or unadopted roads/laneways to service single or home-based business units (subject to provisions of 7.5.6). However where it is deemed safe to do so the Council will consider servicing commercial or educational properties i.e. on private land in return for payment of a collection service charge (in addition to the relevant commercial waste container rates) which will be assessed on the basis of time and resources required,
- 7.5.9 The Council shall ensure that their employees behave in a courteous and orderly manner at all times and will create the minimum possible disturbance when visiting each occupier's premises.

7.6 Contaminated wheeled bins

- 7.6.1 The occupier shall not place or cause to be placed in wheeled bins any substance or items which would endanger the safety of the Council's operators, agents, equipment or the public
- 7.6.2 The Council shall allow for the collection and disposal of all contents of the wheeled bin, with the exception of industrial wastes e.g. builders rubble, infectious clinical waste and hazardous wastes e.g. asbestos
- 7.6.3 Bin contents will be subject to regular inspection/checking by Council staff.
- 7.6.4 Recycling (blue or brown) bins found to contain incorrect materials will not be emptied, as this could contaminate the full collection load. A label/tag will be placed on the bin to advise householders of the discrepancy. Further occurrences will be followed up with a house call by Council staff and/or a notification letter that the recycling bin(s) will not be emptied at the property until the contents are properly segregated and presented.
- 7.6.5 Residual (black) bins found to contain recyclable material may not be emptied. Householders will receive a label/tag on their bin advising of the materials that could be recycled and this will be supported by a leaflet on recycling and/or a house call to advise them of the discrepancy.
- 7.6.6 Households who continue to ignore the recycling requirements and advice of Council will not be permitted to continue to avail of the waste collection services as this will impact on the recycling activities of other residents.

7.7 Exceptions for additional bin provision

- 7.7.1 The Council recognises that there are groups of people (Section 75) within the District who may have additional needs and will consider applications for an additional 240 litre black bin or the use of a larger 360 litre black bin in the following circumstances:
- 7.7.2 A family or household size of **more than eight**, permanently residing at the property (in which circumstances payment must be made for the purchase of the additional or larger bin).
- 7.7.3 Households with particular requirements, having an impact on the production of waste, i.e. people with disabilities; medical conditions; carer responsibilities etc. (in which circumstances an additional or larger bin will be provided on a loan basis for an initial period of 36 months).
- 7.7.4 An application must be made on the approved form to Environmental Services, giving details of the particular circumstances e.g. family size or conditions
- 7.7.6 A decision on the application will take into consideration the current level of recycling and potential improvements which could be realistically made by the householder following inspection by a Recycling Officer. An application for additional bin capacity will only be granted (even if the application criteria are met) if maximum use is being made of the recycling collection services. The householder will be encouraged to avail of additional recycling capacity i.e. a second blue bin in the first instance.
- 7.7.7 The Council will grant or refuse the application based on the information provided by the applicant and the Recycling Officer. The applicant may appeal the decision through the Council's Appeal Process.
- 7.7.8 The Council reserves the right to remove or restrict the number of bins if circumstances of the household change or if the recycling service is not being used.
- 7.7.9 The Council will review existing approvals on a 24 month review cycle (or 36 months for those based on disabilities/medical conditions).

7.8 Assisted lift support arrangements

- 7.8.1 If an occupier is deemed by the Council to be unfit to comply with the requirements at 7.5.5 by reason of disability, evidenced by a GP or

medical/care professional and where there is no other person in the household or carer capable of meeting the requirement the Council shall make arrangements to collect the wheeled container at the occupier's premises.

7.8.2 A Council Officer may visit the individual to conduct both a site and needs analysis so as to ensure that the service is only delivered to those entitled to this service in a fair and equitable manner.

7.8.3 An indemnity may be required from the householder should the Council have to drive its vehicle/s on private property. The householder will be required to sign appropriate documentation.

7.8.4 An application form is available from Environmental Services on request.

7.8.5 The Council will review existing approvals on a 36 month review cycle.

7.9 Collection of waste from commercial premises

7.9.1 The foregoing provision for domestic properties (excluding 7.7 and 7.8) shall also apply to commercial premises subject to the below requirements.

7.9.2 Commercial premises must provide appropriately sized wheeled bin containers for the collection of their waste. Commercial sized containers may be purchased from Environmental Services (see appendix 1 for scale of charges)

7.9.3 Commercial premises may request the Council to provide a collection service, by paying the appropriate collection/disposal charge applicable to container size (see appendix 1 for current scale of charges) six months in advance. Full payment terms and conditions of service will be made available on enquiry.

7.9.4 The Council shall not be involved in the collection of commercial food waste. Details of alternative private sector operators which can provide this service can be made available on request from Environmental Services.

7.9.5 In accordance with the discretionary provisions of The Waste and Duty of Care Regulations (NI) 2013 the Council shall apply the same level of charges applied to commercial premises for the collection and disposal of waste from educational establishments in the district.

7.9.6 No charge shall apply for the collection and disposal of waste from premises occupied by a charity and wholly or mainly used for charitable purposes or from places of worship.

8.0 BULKY HOUSEHOLD WASTE COLLECTIONS

- 8.1 The Council provides a dedicated service for the collection of bulky household waste items subject to payment of a service charge (see appendix 1 for details of current charge).
- 8.2 Three items will be collected per visit including fridges, freezers, washing machines, cookers, beds, chairs, three piece suites and mattresses (mattresses must be covered in plastic for health and safety reasons).
- 8.3 The Council will not collect certain types of items including builders rubble, demolition materials, farm waste and garden waste or any item generally considered to be fixtures and fittings of a property i.e. those which would not be removed on vacating the property e.g. bathroom/kitchen units, fireplace etc
- 8.4 All requests for this service **must** be made in writing, either directly to Environmental Services (with payment) or by submitting an online payment/form via the Council website.
- 8.5 Items must be presented at the kerbside/front edge of the property for collection as employees are not permitted to enter houses, garages or sheds to collect same. Council will make the collection within 14 days of receipt of payment.

9.0 COLLECTION OF ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLES

Under the Pollution Control & Local Government (NI) Order 1978, the Council is permitted to collect and dispose of abandoned motor vehicles. The procedures are as follows:-

- 9.1 Council will require notification from the local PSNI requesting disposal of the said vehicle.
- 9.2 Council's Supervising Officer investigates, placing seven day notice on vehicle. Upon expiry of seven days, the vehicle is photographed and arrangements made for collection and disposal.
- 9.3 Special arrangements will be made in terms of urgent removal i.e. burned out vehicles etc.

10.0 COLLECTION OF FLY TIPPED WASTE

- 10.1 The Council has agreed protocol arrangements in place with the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) in respect of the collection of fly tipped waste (details are provided in a copy of the protocol included at appendix 2)

11.0 RECYCLING CENTRES

11.1 The Council currently provides eleven Recycling Centres (civic amenity sites) for the collection of household waste; at the following locations in Mid Ulster:

- Ballymacombs, Ballymacombs Road, Bellaghy
- Castledawson, Moyola Road, Castledawson
- Coalisland, Derry Road, Coalisland
- Cookstown, Molesworth Road, Cookstown
- Draperstown, Industrial Estate, Magherafelt Road, Draperstown
- Drumcoo, Coalisland Road, Dungannon
- Fivemiletown, Screeby Road, Fivemiletown
- Maghera, Industrial Estate, Station Road, Maghera
- Magherafelt, Ballyronan Road, Magherafelt
- Moneymore, Moneyhaw Road, Moneymore
- Tullyvar, Tullyvar Road, Aughnacloy

11.2 The opening hours of the sites are determined by their annual waste tonnage/throughput in accordance with the following four banded tiers:

- Tier A: more than 3,000 tonnes per annum
- Tier B: 2-3,000 tonnes per annum
- Tier C: 1-2,000 tonnes per annum
- Tier D: less than 1,000 tonnes per annum

11.3 The current allocation of sites to the individual tiers are as follows:

- Tier A: Cookstown, Drumcoo, Magherafelt
- Tier B: Coalisland, Moneymore
- Tier C: Maghera, Castledawson, Draperstown
- Tier D: Fivemiletown, Tullyvar, Ballymacombs

11.4 The current opening hours for each site tier are shown in the table below:

Tier	Winter (Oct to March)	Days	Summer (April to Sept)	Days
A	09:00-18:00	Mon-Sat	08:30-17:30	Mon, Fri & Sat
			08:30-19:30	Tue, Wed & Thu
B	08:30-17:30	Mon-Sat	08:30-17:30	Mon, Wed, Fri & Sat
			08:30-19:30	Tue & Thu
C	08:30-17:30	Mon-Sat	08:30-17:30	Mon-Sat
D	09:00-17:00	Mon-Sat*	09:00-17:00	Mon-Sat*

**Closure Days: Tullyvar Monday, Fivemiletown Tuesday, Ballymacombs Saturday*

- 11.5 Commercial and industrial waste is only accepted for disposal at Cookstown, Drumcoo and Magherafelt Recycling Centres i.e. Tier A sites where a charge is payable based on the weight and type of waste (see appendix for current scale of charges).
- 11.6 The Council operates a pre-payment (card swipe) system for the disposal of commercial waste and cash payments for same are not acceptable on site.
- 11.7. No charge will apply for *household* waste which is brought to the site by a commercial operator. However in such instances the commercial operator must provide a Waste Transfer Note or signed declaration clearly showing the contact name and address of the property from which the household waste arose for verification purposes. In the absence of suitable evidence a disposal charge will be applied.
- 11.8 Should an operator bring commercial waste for disposal to a Tier B, C or D site they will be redirected to the nearest Tier A site. However the following waste from a commercial operator may be accepted for recycling free of charge:
- Clean/dry cardboard
 - Scrap metal
 - Textiles
 - Lead acid batteries
 - Plastic/glass bottles
 - Cooking oil
 - Small electrical appliances and fluorescent tubes (not fridges/freezers)
- 11.9 The following waste types are not accepted at any site:
- Clinical waste
 - Asbestos
 - Tyres
- 11.10 All waste must be pre-sorted for recycling/disposal prior to acceptance at the sites and Council staff may refuse to accept waste if it has not been appropriately segregated.
- 11.11 Scavenging of waste i.e. the removal of items from the site is strictly prohibited.

12.0 PROVISION OF LITTER BINS

The Council has a legal duty under the Litter (NI) Order 1994 to keep Council owned land and public highways clear of litter and waste as far as practicable. The Council has no legal duty to provide litter bins, but the provision of suitably located bins is seen as providing a key role in meeting the duty to keep land and roads clear of litter.

- 12.1 The Council will provide pole mounted or free standing bins for the deposit of litter in town/village centres and other designated locations e.g. lay-bys.
- 12.2 The Council will not provide specific dog fouling bins, however all litter bins will be clearly identified, where possible, as being suitable for this purpose.
- 12.3 The Council will not install litter bins on private land or areas falling under the responsibility of other public bodies including schools and bus stations. Litter bins will not be provided within private housing developments and in the case of public housing, only at locations near to the estate entrance.
- 12.4 Litter bins will generally only be provided within settlement boundaries as defined by speed limit signage save in exceptional circumstances e.g. on footpaths forming part of a designated/recognized walking route, at the discretion of the Head of Environmental Services or his representative.
- 12.5 Where a request for the erection of a litter bin is received the location will be assessed for existing provision and if an existing litter bin is present within a proximity of 50 metres the Council reserves the right not to erect a bin.
- 12.6 The suitability of the location will also be considered to determine if the location is deemed to be unsuitable for reasons of safety such as posing a risk to pedestrians or installation difficulties due to surface conditions.
- 12.7 Free-standing bins will be positioned out of the main line of travel or grouped with other existing street furniture, so that they do not present a collision hazard for people with sight loss, or reduce the usable width of the footway for people using wheelchairs, people with prams/buggies, mobility aids or guide dogs. Likewise post mounted litter bins will not protrude into circulation space.
- 12.8 The Council will monitor litter bins for misuse in terms of the disposal of commercial waste. Where those responsible can be identified, a warning will be issued and where persistent abuse occurs, the litter bin may be removed.

- 12.9 Only those bins purchased and installed by the Council will be maintained and emptied by it. Bins will be emptied on a frequency to prevent them overflowing. This will be based on their location and related to intensity of use. The frequency will vary according to the time of year and for special events. Monitoring will ensure that these frequencies are sufficient. All bins will be maintained to a standard that is fit for purpose and that does not present a hazard to the public.

13.0 PROVISION OF HOOK LIFT AND SKIP CONTAINERS

- 13.1 The Council owns a range of hook lift and skip containers of various sizes which are utilized for waste collection across its network of Recycling Centres.
- 13.2 The Council does not offer a service for the hire of hook lift or skip containers.
- 13.3 Hooklift and skip containers will only be provided for public use (outside of Recycling Centres) to support community clean-ups e.g. Big Spring Clean events which have been officially registered/notified and where there is a designated community point of contact to address any difficulties e.g. disposal of unauthorized waste.
- 13.4 The provision of containers to individual housing estates will only be made where it is clearly demonstrated that these are for collection of waste from the clean-up of public/open space and not from households (where it is considered the bulky waste collection service as detailed in section 6.6 is adequate). Any such provision will be at the discretion of the Head of Environmental Services and will be limited to one occasion per year.
- 13.5 The provision of containers will be made to support the clean-up of waste/litter arising from public events where requests for same have been submitted, in writing, at least two weeks prior to the event date. Such requests will only be agreed where it is determined that the provision of wheeled bins and/or refuse sacks would be an inadequate or unsuitable alternative.
- 13.6 The provision of a bespoke recycling trailer for the collection of dry recyclables is also available for public events and may be offered as an alternative to, or in conjunction with, the provision of hook lift and skip containers for general waste.
- 13.7 The provision of containers will not extend to any private or commercial events i.e. where no element of public space clean-up is involved.

14.0 IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

14.1 Equality Screening & Impact

The policy has been subjected to equality screening in accordance with the Council's screening process. The outcome of the screening was this policy has only minor impact on equality of opportunity and shall not be subject to EQIA.

14.2 Rural Needs Impact

The policy has been subjected to a rural needs impact assessment which outlines the mitigation measures in place to address the rural need identified.

14.3 Staff & Financial Resources

No issues have been identified which would significantly impact on the Council's resources and delivery of its business as a result of this policy being implemented other than the normal budgeted revenue and payroll expenditure.

15.0 SUPPORT AND ADVICE

15.1 The Council will publicise its services in accessible formats. Information on waste collection/recycling services is available through leaflet, by telephone/textphone, via website, Bin Ovation App and in alternative formats and minority languages to meet the needs of those who are not fluent in English.

15.2 Recycling Officers are available within the Council for direct support to suit a range of needs. For those not fluent in English, an interpreting service can be provided upon request. For persons with a hearing disability, a 'signed' service can be made available upon request.

16.0 COMMUNICATION

16.1 Environmental Services is responsible for the communication and delivery of this policy. Advice and guidance on the implementation of this policy should be sought from the Head of Environmental Services.

17 MONITORING & REVIEW ARRANGEMENTS

17.1 Implementation of this policy will be monitored and a formal review undertaken 24 months from its effective date.

17.2 Any amendments to the policy will be equally proofed in accordance with Equality Scheme commitments.

APPENDIX



Introduction

Mid Ulster District Council has a statutory duty to screen its policies, procedures, practices/decisions. This Policy Screening Form and Report assists Council Departments to consider the likely equality and good relations impacts of the aforementioned, if any, placed upon our ratepayers, citizens, service users, staff and visitors to the district.

Section 1 – Policy scoping

This asks the Policy Author to provide details on the policy, procedure, practice and/or decision being screened and what available evidence you have gathered to help make an assessment of the likely impact on equality of opportunity and good relations. Reference to policy within this document refers to either of the aforementioned (policy, procedure, practice, and/ or decision).

Section 2 – Screening questions

This asks about the extent of the likely impact of the policy on groups of people within each of the Section 75 categories. Details of the groups consulted and the level of assessment of the likely impact. This includes consideration of multiple identity and issues.

Section 3 – Screening decision

This guides the Council to reach a screening decision as to whether or not there is a need to carry out an equality impact assessment (EQIA), or introduce measures to mitigate the likely impact, or the introduction of an alternative policy to better promote equality of opportunity.

Section 4 – Monitoring

This provides guidance to the Council on monitoring for adverse impact and broader monitoring.

Section 5 – Approval and authorisation

This verifies the Council's approval of a screening decision by a senior manager responsible for the policy.

Appendix A Screening Process

Section 1 Policy Scoping & Information

The first stage of the screening process involves scoping the policy under consideration which sets the context and confirms the aims and objectives for the policy being screened. Scoping the policy helps to identify constraints as well as opportunities and will help the policy author to work through the screening process on a step by step basis.

1. Policy Name		
Waste Collection Policy		
2. Is this an existing, revised or a new policy?		
This is a revised policy		
3. What is it trying to achieve? (aims/outcomes)		
<p>The aim of the Waste Collection Policy is to provide an effective and efficient waste management service to all households within the Mid Ulster District.</p> <p>Mid Ulster Council, in meeting increasing recycling and landfill diversion targets wishes to ensure that the collection of waste is managed in the most efficient manner possible with householders taking joint responsibility for the management of their waste. This policy sets out the parameters in which the Council and public must share ownership so as to meet National and European legislative targets.</p> <p>The policy details the arrangements for collection of residual and recyclable waste from both domestic and commercial properties.</p>		
4. Are there any Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit from the intended policy?	Yes	X
	No	
Special provisions are contained within the policy to assist those with a disability and households with a large number of occupants.		
6. Who initiated or wrote the policy?		
Mark McAdoo, Head of Environmental Services		
7. Who owns and who implements the policy?		
Mark McAdoo, Head of Environmental Services		

Implementation factors

		Yes	No
Are there any factors which could contribute to/ detract from intended aim/ outcome of the policy?		Yes	
• If yes, are they financial?			No
• If yes, are they legislative?			Yes
• If yes, Please specify	Financial: Legislative: Existing and proposed statutory targets for recycling and diversion of waste from landfill		
• Other, Please specify			

Stakeholders

The internal and external (actual or potential) that the policy will be impacted upon

	Yes	No
Staff	Yes	
Service Users	Yes	
Other public sector organisations	No	
Voluntary/community/ trade unions	Yes	
Other, please specify	N/A	

Others policies with a bearing on this policy

Policies	Owners
Customer Service and Complaints Policy	

Available evidence

Information and available evidence (qualitative and quantitative) gathered to inform the policy under each of the Section 75 groups as identified within the Northern Ireland Act 1998 included a review of NISRA 2011 Census data, Mid Ulster Community Plan (2017-2020) and Joint Waste Management Plan (2016-2020).

Section 75 category	Details of evidence/information																																								
Religious belief	<p>63.77% of the population in Mid Ulster were brought up in the Catholic religion and 33.46% belong or were brought up in a Protestant and Other Christian (including Christian related) religion. Other religions comprised 690 (0.5%) and None 3,153 (2.28%) of the population (Source: 2011 Census).</p> <table><tr><th>Religion or Religion brought up in</th><th>No.</th><th>%</th></tr><tr><td>Catholic</td><td>88,375</td><td>63.77</td></tr><tr><td>Protestant and Other Christian (including Christian related)</td><td>46,372</td><td>33.46</td></tr><tr><td>Other religions</td><td>690</td><td>0.5</td></tr><tr><td>None</td><td>3,153</td><td>2.28</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>138,590</td><td>100</td></tr></table>	Religion or Religion brought up in	No.	%	Catholic	88,375	63.77	Protestant and Other Christian (including Christian related)	46,372	33.46	Other religions	690	0.5	None	3,153	2.28	Total	138,590	100																						
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Total	138,590	100																																							
Political opinion	<p>Political party representation can be used as an approximate barometer of political opinion of people within Mid Ulster council area. The table below shows the results from the May 2019 local government/council elections - percentage 1st preference vote share for each political party and current representation (seats) on Council. (Source: Electoral Office):</p> <table><tr><th>Party</th><th>Votes</th><th>Percentage</th><th>Council Seats</th></tr><tr><td>SF</td><td>23,553</td><td>39.8%</td><td>17</td></tr><tr><td>DUP</td><td>13,700</td><td>23.2%</td><td>9</td></tr><tr><td>SDLP</td><td>8,512</td><td>14.4%</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td>UUP</td><td>8,021</td><td>13.6%</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>Independent</td><td>3,422</td><td>5.8%</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>Aontu*</td><td>846</td><td>1.4%</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>Alliance</td><td>729</td><td>1.2%</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>TUV</td><td>230</td><td>0.4%</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Workers’ Party</td><td>95</td><td>0.2%</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>*A councillor who was elected as a representative of the SDLP resigned from that party and aligned with Aontu shortly after the 2019 local government elections</p>	Party	Votes	Percentage	Council Seats	SF	23,553	39.8%	17	DUP	13,700	23.2%	9	SDLP	8,512	14.4%	5	UUP	8,021	13.6%	6	Independent	3,422	5.8%	2	Aontu*	846	1.4%	1	Alliance	729	1.2%		TUV	230	0.4%		Workers’ Party	95	0.2%	
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Workers’ Party	95	0.2%																																							
Racial group	<p>According to the 2011 Census the overwhelming majority of the population 136,485 (98.48%) were classified as ‘white’. Within this total will be migrant communities, such as Polish, Lithuanian and so forth. Statistics indicate that the number of people in Mid Ulster Local Government District (LGD) born outside Northern Ireland is:</p>																																								

	Place of Birth		No.
	Great Britain		4,053
	Republic of Ireland		2,250
	EU Countries (Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia)		6,795
	Other		2,280
	<p>The minority ethnic language profile within the area can serve as a possible indicator of the Black & Minority Ethnic (BME) community profile within the district. The composition of language groups in Mid Ulster LGD area is also noted from the 2011 census by NISRA as:</p>		
	Main Languages of residents in Mid Ulster Council area		No.
	English		125,715
	Polish		2,008
	Lithuanian		2,039
	Portuguese		903
	Irish (Gaelic)		404
	Slovak		477
	Russian		297
	Latvia		261
	Hungarian		117
	Chinese		64
	Tagalog/Filipino		38
	Malaysian		33
	Other		922
Age	The age profile of Mid Ulster Local Government District area as at 2015 (Source, NISRA)		
		Mid Ulster	Northern Ireland
	Total Population	144,002	1,851,621
	0-15 years	33,123	385,200
	16-39 years	47,646	583,116
	40-64 years	43,621	591,481
	65+ years	19,612	291,824
	Population Change % (2005-2015)	15.3%	7.2%

Marital status	The below table sets out the marital status profile for Mid Ulster District Council area as extracted from results of the 2011 Census							
					Mid Ulster		Northern Ireland	
					No.	%	No	%
	Single (never married or never registered a same sex civil partnership) (Aged 16+)				38,353	35.97	517,393	36.14
	Married (Aged 16+)				54,192	50.82	680,831	47.56
	In a registered same sex civil partnership (Aged 16+)				62	0.06	1,243	0.09
	Separated (but is still legally married or still legally in a same sex civil partnership) (Aged 16+)				3,369	3.16	56,911	3.98
	Divorced or formerly in a same sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved (Aged 16+)				4,139	3.88	78,074	5.45
	Widowed or surviving partner from a same sex civil partnership (Aged 16+)				6,523	6.12	97,088	6.78
Sexual orientation	No specific statistics are available from the 2011 government census for this Category and there are therefore no official statistics available in relation to persons of different sexual orientation. However, the Integrated Household Survey would include between 3% and 4% would be either gay, lesbian and/or bisexual. However, due to the nature of 'disclosure' in this area, umbrella organisations often state that the figure may be closer to 10%.							
	Region	Heterosexual / Straight	Gay/ Lesbian	Bisexual	Gay/ Lesbian/ Bisexual	Other	Don't know /refuse	No response
	England	92.54%	1.10%	0.51%	1.61%	0.33%	4.07%	1.45%
	Wales	93.93%	1.04%	0.48%	1.52%	0.45%	2.99%	1.11%
	Scotland	94.65%	0.82%	0.33%	1.14%	0.26%	2.59%	1.37%
	N Ireland	93.00%	0.64%	0.96%	1.60%	0.26%	3.98%	1.17%
	Total	92.80%	1.06%	0.51%	1.57%	0.32%	3.89%	1.42%
	Research also conducted by the HM Treasury shows that between 5%-7% of the UK population identify themselves as gay, lesbian, bisexual or 'trans' (transsexual, transgendered and transvestite) (LGBT).							

Men & women generally	<p>The gender profile of Mid Ulster LGD is detailed as;</p> <table><tr><th></th><th colspan="2">Mid Ulster</th><th colspan="2">Northern Ireland</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>No.</th><th>%</th><th>No.</th><th>%</th></tr><tr><td>Male</td><td>69,362</td><td>50.05</td><td>887,323</td><td>49.00</td></tr><tr><td>Female</td><td>69,228</td><td>49.95</td><td>923,540</td><td>51.00</td></tr></table>		Mid Ulster		Northern Ireland			No.	%	No.	%	Male	69,362	50.05	887,323	49.00	Female	69,228	49.95	923,540	51.00					
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	No.	%	No.	%																						
Male	69,362	50.05	887,323	49.00																						
Female	69,228	49.95	923,540	51.00																						
Disability	<p>According to the 2011 NISRA census statistics 19.39% of people had a long-term health problem or disability that limited their day-to-day activities whilst 80.43% of people within the district stated their general health was either good or very good</p> <table><tr><th></th><th colspan="2">Mid Ulster</th><th colspan="2">Northern Ireland</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>No.</th><th>%</th><th>No.</th><th>%</th></tr><tr><td>Disability / long term health</td><td>26,870</td><td>19.39</td><td>374,646</td><td>20.69</td></tr><tr><td>No disability / long term health problem</td><td>111,720</td><td>80.61</td><td>1,436,217</td><td>79.31</td></tr></table> <p>In Northern Ireland the profile of persons with a disability has been reported by Disability Action as;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• More than 1 in 5 or 21% of the population have a disability• 1 in 7 people have some form of hearing loss• 5,000 persons use sign language - British Sign Language and/or Irish Sign Language• There are 57,000 blind persons or persons with significant impairment• 52,000 persons with learning difficulties		Mid Ulster		Northern Ireland			No.	%	No.	%	Disability / long term health	26,870	19.39	374,646	20.69	No disability / long term health problem	111,720	80.61	1,436,217	79.31					
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Disability / long term health	26,870	19.39	374,646	20.69																						
No disability / long term health problem	111,720	80.61	1,436,217	79.31																						
Dependants	<p>Persons with dependents may be people who have personal responsibility for the care of a child (or children), a person with a disability, and/ or a dependent older person. The below table provides a summary with respect Mid Ulster LGD.</p> <table><tr><th></th><th colspan="2">Mid Ulster</th><th colspan="2">Northern Ireland</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>No.</th><th>%</th><th>No.</th><th>%</th></tr><tr><td>Households with dependent children</td><td>18,626</td><td>38.99</td><td>238,094</td><td>33.86</td></tr><tr><td>Lone parent households with dependents</td><td>3,485</td><td>7.30</td><td>63,921</td><td>9.09</td></tr><tr><td>People providing unpaid care</td><td>12,821</td><td>10.69</td><td>231,980</td><td>11.82</td></tr></table> <p>Of the households in Mid Ulster Local Government District with dependent children, they can be summarised as;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 7,407 families in households have 1 dependent child• 6,394 families in households with two dependent children• 5,014 families in households with three dependent children <p>There are 37,306 dependent children within families.</p>		Mid Ulster		Northern Ireland			No.	%	No.	%	Households with dependent children	18,626	38.99	238,094	33.86	Lone parent households with dependents	3,485	7.30	63,921	9.09	People providing unpaid care	12,821	10.69	231,980	11.82
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Needs, experiences and priorities

Taking into account the information referred to above, what are the different needs, experiences and priorities of each of the following categories, in relation to the particular policy/decision? Specify details for each of the Section 75 categories

Section 75 category	Details of needs/experiences/priorities
Religious belief	None
Political opinion	None
Racial group	Residents who do not speak English will require some assistance in understanding how the service operates
Age	Some older people may need assistance to understand policy/changes to policy or with collection arrangements
Marital status	None
Sexual orientation	None
Men and women generally	None
Disability	People with disabilities may require assistance with the collection of their wheeled bins and/or may generate additional waste due to certain medical conditions
Dependants	Households with a large number of dependants will generate additional household waste for collection

Section 2 – Screening Questions

In making a decision as to carry out an Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA), the Council should consider its answers to the questions 1- 3 detailed below.

If the Council's conclusion is **none** in respect of all of the Section 75 equality of opportunity categories, then the Council may decide to screen the policy out. If a

policy is 'screened out' as having no relevance to equality of opportunity, the Council should give details of the reasons for the decision taken.

If the Council's conclusion is **major** in respect of one or more of the Section 75 equality of opportunity, then consideration should be given to subjecting the policy to the equality impact assessment procedure.

If the Council's conclusion is **minor** in respect of one or more of the Section 75 equality categories, then consideration should still be given to proceeding with an equality impact assessment, or to:

- measures to mitigate the adverse impact; or
- the introduction of an alternative policy to better promote equality of opportunity.

In favour of a 'major' impact

- a) The policy is significant in terms of its strategic importance;
- b) Potential equality impacts are unknown, because, for example, there is insufficient data upon which to make an assessment or because they are complex, and it would be appropriate to conduct an equality impact assessment in order to better assess them;
- c) Potential equality impacts are likely to be adverse or are likely to be experienced disproportionately by groups of people including those who are marginalised or disadvantaged;
- d) Further assessment offers a valuable way to examine the evidence and develop recommendations in respect of a policy about which there are concerns amongst affected individuals and representative groups, for example in respect of multiple identities;
- e) The policy is likely to be challenged by way of judicial review;
- f) The policy is significant in terms of expenditure.

In favour of 'minor' impact

- a) The policy is not unlawfully discriminatory and any residual potential impacts on people are judged to be negligible;
- b) The policy, or certain proposals within it, are potentially unlawfully discriminatory, but this possibility can readily and easily be eliminated by making appropriate changes to the policy or by adopting appropriate mitigating measures;
- c) Any asymmetrical equality impacts caused by the policy are intentional because they are specifically designed to promote equality of opportunity for particular groups of disadvantaged people;
- d) By amending the policy there are better opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity.

In favour of none

- a) The policy has no relevance to equality of opportunity.
- b) The policy is purely technical in nature and will have no bearing in terms of its likely impact on equality of opportunity for people within the equality categories.

Screening questions

1. What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy, for each of the Section 75 equality categories (minor/ major/ none)		
Section 75 category	Details of policy impact	Level of impact? minor/major/none
Religious belief	None	None
Political opinion	None	None
Racial group	Residents who do not have English as a first language will require some assistance in understanding how the service operates	Minor
Age	Some older people may require additional assistance to help them understand the policy/changes to policy or with collection	Minor
Marital status	None	None
Sexual orientation	None	None

Men and women generally	None	None
Disability	<p>People with disabilities may require assistance with the collection of their wheeled bins and/or may generate additional waste due to medical conditions.</p> <p>People with certain disabilities may need information in other formats.</p>	Minor
Dependants	Households with a large number of dependants will generate additional household waste for collection	Minor

2. Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity for people within Section 75 equality categories? (Yes/ No)		
Section 75 category	If Yes , provide details	If No , provide reasons
Religious belief		Policy is not relevant
Political opinion		Policy is not relevant
Racial group	Service guide communication materials translated into seven languages: Lithuanian, Russian, Bulgarian, Polish, Slovak, Tetum and Portuguese. Information can be provided in other languages or on request if necessary.	
Age	Additional assistance can be provided on request	

Marital status		Policy is not relevant
Sexual orientation		Policy is not relevant
Men and women generally		Policy is not relevant
Disability	<p>An assisted lift (back door) refuse collection service is available for householders who are deemed unfit to bring their wheeled bins to the kerbside for collection.</p> <p>A second or larger residual waste bin will be collected from households with particular requirements having an impact on the production of waste, i.e. people with disabilities or medical conditions (an additional or larger bin will be provided on a loan basis for an initial period of 24 months).</p> <p>Information can be provided in other formats on request.</p>	
Dependants	<p>A second or larger residual waste bin will be collected from a household size of more than eight, permanently residing at the property (in which circumstances payment must be made for the purchase of the additional or larger bin).</p>	

3. Are there opportunities without prejudice, to the equality of opportunity duty, to better promote good relations between Section 75 equality categories, through tackling prejudice and/ or promoting understanding? (Yes/ No)

	No	X
	Yes	
If yes, please detail the opportunities below:		

If yes is concluded to Question 3, then the policy will be referred to the Council's Good Relations Working Group for consideration. The Group will consider the potential opportunities and assess if and how the overall impact of a decision/policy can better promote good relations.

Additional Considerations - Multiple identity

Generally speaking, people can fall into more than one Section 75 category. Taking this into consideration, are there any potential impacts of the policy/decision on people with multiple identities? (*For example; disabled minority ethnic people; disabled women; young Protestant men; and young lesbians, gay and bisexual people*).

Older people with disabilities are a group who may be most impacted and require assistance.

Provide details of data on the impact of the policy on people with multiple identities. Specify relevant Section 75 categories concerned.

Older people with disabilities would make up the sizeable proportion of the total number of households in the district (currently 325 No.) which are in receipt of an assisted (back door) refuse collection service.

Section 3 – Screening Decision

In light of answers provided to the questions within Section 3 select one of the following with regards the policy:

		Select One
1	Shall not be subject to an EQIA - <i>with no mitigating measures required</i>	
2	Shall not be subject to an EQIA - <i>mitigating measures/ alternative policies introduced</i>	X
3	Shall be subject to an EQIA	

If 1 or 2 above (i.e. not to be subject to an EQIA) please provide details of reasons why.

This policy has only minor impact on equality of opportunity.

If 2 above (i.e. not to subject to an EQIA) in what ways can adverse impacts attaching to the policy be mitigated or an alternative policy be introduced.

Suitable mitigation measures in the form of additional service provision are contained within the policy. Special provision is made for people with disabilities, older people, those who do not have a good understanding of English and for households with a large number of dependants. The policy will be monitored and adjustments considered if other issues arise.

If 3 above (i.e. shall be subject to an EQIA), please provide details of the reasons.

Mitigation

When it is concluded that the likely impact is 'minor' and an equality impact assessment is not to be conducted, you may consider mitigation to lessen the severity of any equality impact, or the introduction of an alternative policy to better promote equality of opportunity.

Can the policy/decision be amended or changed or an alternative policy introduced to better promote equality of opportunity?
--

If so, give the reasons to support your decision, together with the proposed changes/amendments or alternative policy:

See above – mitigation measures already implemented and in place
--

Timetabling and prioritising N/A

If the policy has been screened in for equality impact assessment, please answer the below to determine its priority for timetabling the equality impact assessment.

- **On a scale of 1-3 (1 being lowest priority and 3 being highest), assess the policy in terms of its priority for equality impact assessment.**

Priority criterion	Rating (1-3)
Effect on equality of opportunity	
Social need	
Effect on people's daily lives	
Relevance to a Council's functions	

Note: The Total Rating Score should be used to prioritise the policy in rank order with other policies screened in for equality impact assessment. This list of priorities will assist the Council in timetabling. Details of the Council's Equality Impact Assessment Timetable should be included in the Screening Reports.

- **Is the policy affected by timetables established by other relevant public authorities?**

Yes	
No	

Section 5 – Monitoring

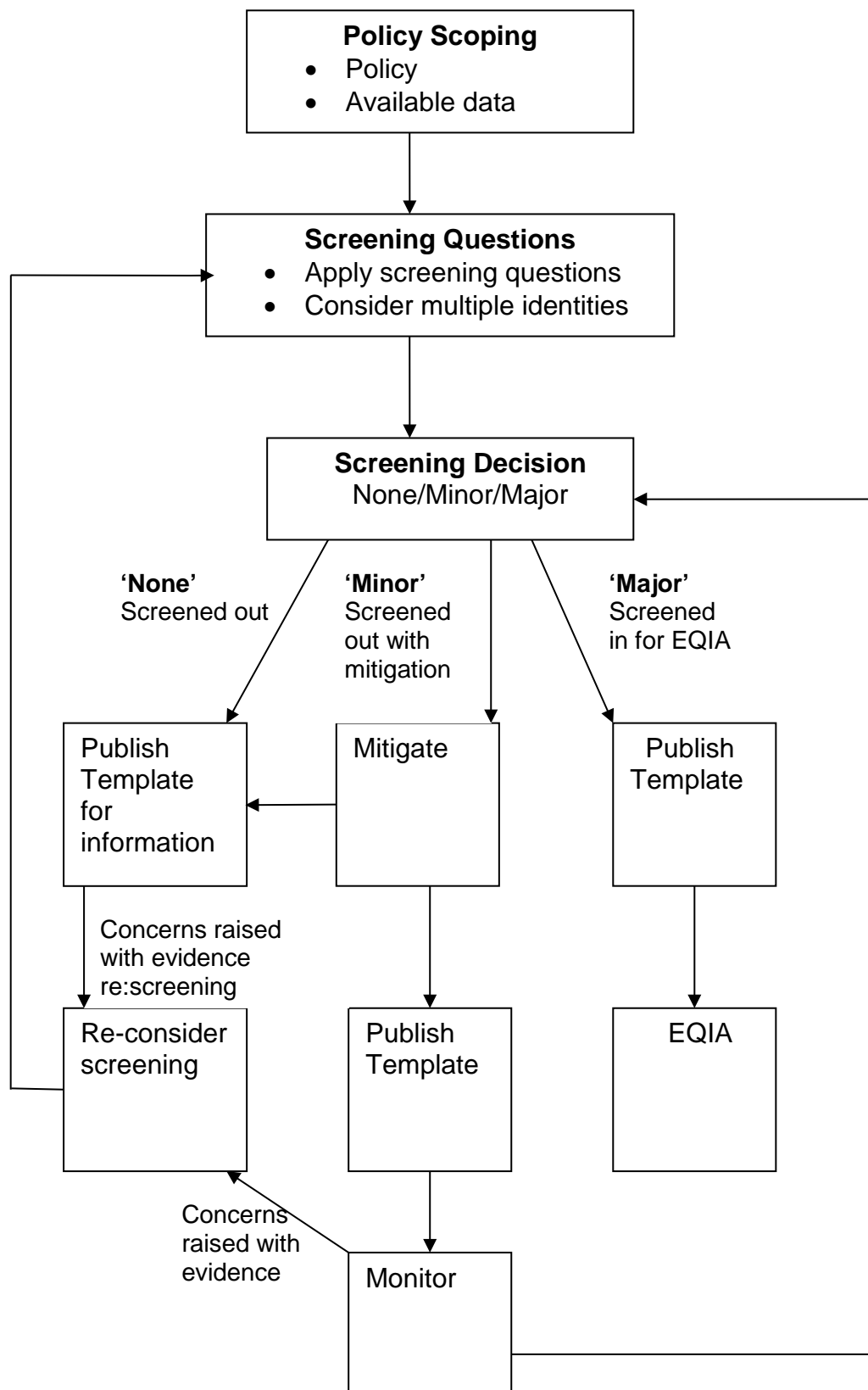
Effective monitoring will help identify any future adverse impact arising from the policy which may lead the Council to conduct an equality impact assessment, as well as help with future planning and policy development. Please detail proposed monitoring arrangements below:

The policy will be reviewed again within 24 months of the effective adoption date. Complaints/feedback will be analysed and uptake of mitigation measures monitored to inform the future review of policy.

Section 6 – Approval and authorisation

Screened by:	Position/ Job Title	Date
Mark McAdoo	Head of Environmental Services	01/11/19
Approved by:	Position/ Job Title	Date

Note: A copy of the Screening Template, for each policy screened should be ‘signed off’ and approved by a senior manager responsible for the policy; made easily accessible on the council website as soon as possible following completion and be available on request.



Rural Needs Impact Assessment (RNIA)

SECTION 1 - Defining the activity subject to Section 1(1) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016

1A. Name of Public Authority.

Mid Ulster District Council

1B. Please provide a short title which describes the activity being undertaken by the Public Authority that is subject to Section 1(1) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016.

Waste collection from all households in the Mid Ulster District.

1C. Please indicate which category the activity specified in Section 1B above relates to.

Developing a	Policy <input type="checkbox"/>	Strategy <input type="checkbox"/>	Plan <input type="checkbox"/>
Adopting a	Policy <input type="checkbox"/>	Strategy <input type="checkbox"/>	Plan <input type="checkbox"/>
Implementing a	Policy <input type="checkbox"/>	Strategy <input type="checkbox"/>	Plan <input type="checkbox"/>
Revising a	Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Strategy <input type="checkbox"/>	Plan <input type="checkbox"/>
Designing a Public Service	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Delivering a Public Service	<input type="checkbox"/>		

1D. Please provide the official title (if any) of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service document or initiative relating to the category indicated in Section 1C above.

Mid Ulster District Council Waste Collection Policy

1E. Please provide details of the aims and/or objectives of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service.

The aim of the Waste Collection Policy is to provide an effective and efficient refuse and recycling collection service to all households within the Mid Ulster District as well as non-household properties where requested.

1F. What definition of 'rural' is the Public Authority using in respect of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service?

Population Settlements of less than 5,000 (Default definition).

☒

Other Definition (Provide details and the rationale below).

☐

A definition of 'rural' is not applicable.

☐

Details of alternative definition of 'rural' used.

Rationale for using alternative definition of 'rural'.

Reasons why a definition of 'rural' is not applicable.

SECTION 2 - Understanding the impact of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service

2A. Is the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service likely to impact on people in rural areas?

Yes ☒ No ☐ If the response is **NO** GO TO Section **2E**.

2B. Please explain how the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to impact on people in rural areas.

The Council provides the same basic waste service to all householders throughout the district i.e. a collection every two weeks of residual waste, recyclable waste and organic waste (on alternating weeks).

2C. If the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to impact on people in rural areas differently from people in urban areas, please explain how it is likely to impact on people in rural areas differently.

Households which are located on/up private laneways i.e. which are not adopted (and are primarily located in rural areas) are required to bring their wheeled bins to the end of the laneway for collection.

Households in rural areas are also more likely to be affected by missed collections as a result of adverse weather conditions.

Some households in rural areas have their refuse collected by One Armed Vehicles (OAVs) which requires the householder to present the bin with the handles facing away from the road (which is the opposite position to householders in urban areas).

2D. Please indicate which of the following rural policy areas the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to primarily impact on.

Rural Businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rural Tourism	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rural Housing	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jobs or Employment in Rural Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Education or Training in Rural Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Broadband or Mobile Communications in Rural Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transport Services or Infrastructure in Rural Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health or Social Care Services in Rural Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poverty in Rural Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Deprivation in Rural Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rural Crime or Community Safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rural Development	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agri-Environment	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (Please state)	<input type="text"/>

If the response to Section 2A was YES GO TO Section 3A.

2E. Please explain why the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is NOT likely to impact on people in rural areas.

N/A

SECTION 3 - Identifying the Social and Economic Needs of Persons in Rural Areas

3A. Has the Public Authority taken steps to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas that are relevant to the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service?

Yes ☒ No ☐ If the response is **NO** GO TO Section **3E**.

3B. Please indicate which of the following methods or information sources were used by the Public Authority to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas.

Consultation with Rural Stakeholders	<input type="checkbox"/>	Published Statistics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Consultation with Other Organisations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Research Papers	<input type="checkbox"/>
Surveys or Questionnaires	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other Publications	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Methods or Information Sources (include details in Question 3C below).			<input type="checkbox"/>

3C. Please provide details of the methods and information sources used to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas including relevant dates, names of organisations, titles of publications, website references, details of surveys or consultations undertaken etc.

Policy discussed with and reviewed by representative of Rural Community Network (CRN)

NISRA – Classification and Delineation of Settlements (March 2015)

Mid Ulster Local Development Plan 2030 – Draft Plan Strategy

Mid Ulster Community Plan

NI Census data 2011

WRAP Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) Review 2018

WRAP NI Waste Compositional Study 2018

3D. Please provide details of the social and economic needs of people in rural areas which have been identified by the Public Authority?

The default definition of “rural” used is those settlements with a population of 5,000 or less together with the open countryside. Therefore, everywhere in Mid Ulster outside of the settlements of Dungannon, Cookstown, Magherafelt and Coalisland is classed as being rural. This means that Mid Ulster is a predominantly rural district with approximately 70% of residents being classed as rural dwellers. This figure is put into perspective when we consider that the most urban district in Northern Ireland has a rural population amounting to just over 0.43% of the total population.

Research has revealed that in Mid Ulster just over 10% of the population rely on receiving some element of care. There are also certain parts of the rural area which are in social and economic decline caused by a falling and ageing population and reduced housing levels.

If the response to Section 3A was **YES** GO TO Section 4A.

3E. Please explain why no steps were taken by the Public Authority to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas?

N/A

SECTION 4 - Considering the Social and Economic Needs of Persons in Rural Areas

4A. Please provide details of the issues considered in relation to the social and economic needs of people in rural areas.

People living in rural areas receive the same service as urban dwellers i.e. a collection every two weeks of residual waste, recyclable waste and organic waste (on alternating weeks).

However households which are located on/up private laneways i.e. which are not adopted (and are primarily located in rural areas) are required to bring their wheeled bins to the end of the laneway for collection. This may disproportionately affect rural householders who may be more likely not to have neighbors to assist with bringing their bins to the point of collection.

Households in some rural areas may also be more likely to consist of larger families and therefore generate additional waste.

Households in rural areas are also more likely to be inconvenienced by missed collections as a result of adverse weather conditions. Also some households in rural areas have their refuse collected by One Armed Vehicles (OAVs) which requires the householder to present the bin with the handles facing away from the road (which is the opposite position to householders in urban areas).

The outcome of a Northern Ireland wide Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) Review completed by the Waste Resources Action Programme (WRAP) in 2018 included a high level spatial analysis of the distribution/provision of all sites across the country using a methodology based on drive times for residents to their nearest site. An “optimised” model was subsequently produced which suggested that the residents of Mid Ulster would still be adequately served with three less sites (identified as Ballymacombs, Coalisland and Clogher) operating across the district i.e. nine instead of twelve Recycling Centres

SECTION 5 - Influencing the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service

5A. Has the development, adoption, implementation or revising of the Policy, Strategy or Plan, or the design or delivery of the Public Service, been influenced by the rural needs identified?

Yes ☒ No ☐ If the response is **NO** GO TO Section **5C**.

5B. Please explain how the development, adoption, implementation or revising of the Policy, Strategy or Plan, or the design or delivery of the Public Service, has been influenced by the rural needs identified.

As stated households which are located on/up private laneways i.e. not adopted (which are primarily located in rural areas) are required to bring their wheeled bins to the end of the laneway for collection. However where householders are deemed medically unfit to meet this requirement special arrangements are in place to provide assisted (back door) collections whereby smaller/narrower vehicles access the laneways and collect the bin at the property. There are currently around 325 approved assisted collections in place across the district.

As some households in rural areas are more likely to consist of larger families and therefore generate additional waste such households may apply for the collection of a second or larger residual waste bin. There are currently approximately 200 approved second bin collections in place throughout the district. Labels are placed on the second bins to assist with identification.

The lists of approved assisted collections and second bins are reviewed every 2 to 3 years.

Some households in rural areas now have their refuse collected by One Armed Vehicles (OAVs) which requires the householder to present the bin with the handles facing away from the road (which is the opposite position to householders in towns and villages). Where this is necessary householders are advised directly by a label being placed on their bin.

In the unlikely event of missed bins of adverse weather conditions not being “caught up” within the same week arrangements will be made for the collection of additional side waste during the next collection cycle.

If the response to Section **5A** was **YES** GO TO Section **6A**.

5C. Please explain why the development, adoption, implementation or revising of the Policy, Strategy or Plan, or the design or the delivery of the Public Service, has NOT been influenced by the rural needs identified.


N/A

SECTION 6 - Documenting and Recording

6A. Please tick below to confirm that the RNIA Template will be retained by the Public Authority and relevant information on the Section 1 activity compiled in accordance with paragraph 6.7 of the guidance.

I confirm that the RNIA Template will be retained and relevant information compiled.

☒

Rural Needs Impact Assessment undertaken by:	Mark McAdoo
Position:	Head of Environmental Services
Directorate:	Environment and Property Directorate
Signature:	
Date:	01/11/19
Rural Needs Impact Assessment approved by:	
Position:	
Directorate:	
Signature:	
Date:	

Report on	Funding request for the Live Here Love Here programme to be supported by Mid Ulster Council for 2020/21
Date of Meeting	2 nd December 2019
Reporting Officer	Fiona McClements

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update elected Members on a request received for Mid Ulster Council to continue to support the Live Here Love Here (LHLH) programme which works in conjunction with Keep NI Beautiful, Coca Cola, McDonalds, NIHE and other participating Councils.
2.0	Background
2.1	Live Here Love Here is a positive, people powered campaign focused on improving the local environment and building a sense of pride in our local communities. The Live Here Love Here programme consists of four main elements, a regional and local media campaign , a volunteering support programme, a small grants scheme and community awards. The correspondence at Appendix 1 outlines the achievements that involvement in the programme have reached.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	There have been a number of regional initiatives put in place through the Live Here Love Here programme including media coverage through TV and radio. Billboards with the Mid Ulster message relating to dog fouling and litter have been in place. Through the media campaign public awareness of the campaign has increased and the programme across NI has engaged 130,000 volunteers in 2019 so far.
3.2	Statistics included within the correspondence at Appendix 1 also refers to the downward trend in the Litter Pollution Index indicating improvements in street cleanliness standards and reduced presence of dog fouling.
3.3	The programme has in place community awards which recognise volunteers across Mid Ulster for their community and environmental work. 50% of the annual funding fee of £21,000 is returned into Mid Ulster through the small grants programme with additional monies received from the commercial partners. Positive feedback was received from the community groups regarding the Live Here Love Here programme.

4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: £21,000 with £10,500 coming back into to the community through the small grants programme.
	Human: N/a
	Risk Management: N/a
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/a
	Rural Needs Implications: N/a
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	That Members continue to support the Live Here Love Here programme for 2020/21 at a cost to Council of £21,000 with £10,500 coming back into to the community through the small grants programme.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 – Correspondence received by Chief Executive
6.2	Appendix 2 – Live Here Love Here information card



Anthony Tohill
CEO
Mid Ulster District Council
Burn Road,
Cookstown
BT80 8DT

11th November 2019

Dear Anthony,

RE: LIVE HERE LOVE HERE

I hope this finds you well.

As you know, Mid Ulster District Council is a long-term supporter of this growing initiative to build civic pride, and for that I am very grateful. **Live Here Love Here** consists of four main elements: **a media campaign, a volunteering support programme, a small grants scheme and community awards**. It is building a movement of enthusiastic local people who volunteer their time and expertise to promote Civic Pride, particularly by tackling littering, dilapidation of buildings and improvement of green space.

The campaign has achieved significant results to date:

- Public awareness of the Live Here Love Here Campaign has grown from 13% in 2013 to 29% in 2019.
- The programme engaged 130,000 volunteers in 2019, far in excess of the 50,000 target for the Civic Pride programme and the numbers continue to grow
- Create a downward trend in the Litter Pollution Index (Result: July – September 2019 Cleaner Neighbourhood survey results show 14% of streets failed to meet cleanliness standards across NI, a 6% reduction from the last report. Presence of dog fouling has dropped from 10% to 6% during July – September 2019 Cleaner Neighbourhood survey across NI.

I have enclosed a Live Here Love Here Impact Card so that you can see the results of the work that we have been engaging in across Northern Ireland and in Mid Ulster District Council area. Furthermore, the media campaign has been instrumental in helping achieve these incremental gains using bespoke billboards in supporting council areas, television and radio advertising and increasingly, social media to reach specific audiences.

Since 2018, the Live Here Love Here campaign has gained print media coverage valued at £77,795 within Mid Ulster District Council. Through partnership working and ‘one voice’ messaging across a strong variety of media channels such as TV,

social media and billboards, we are building strong relationships with the public as we develop the kind of place we want to live.

The **Live Here Love Here Community Awards** have now become a firm favourite in the event calendar and have been a huge success in recognising the value of volunteering. Mid Ulster has won 5 awards already with Neil Hyndman, Brénainn Brunton, St Columba's PS Straw, Screen Eco-Schools, Vicky Seviour-Crockett and Castlecaulfield Horticultural Society. Plans are underway for the next Live Here Love Here Community Awards and we are delighted to tell you that Jim Lawless, one of the world's leading motivational speakers and a pioneer in the fields of change and performance shift, is the keynote speaker for the ceremony in 2020.

Feedback from Community Groups on the Live Here Love Here programme has also been overwhelmingly positive. 66 of the 164 projects funded in 2018/19 completed a feedback survey on the Live Here Love Here programme. Summarised below are some of the headline results:

- 99% of respondents strongly agreed or agreed that their project had benefitted the local community in terms of 'providing a cleaner/more attractive environment'.
- 97% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that their project had benefitted the local community in terms of instilling a sense of civic pride
- 91% of respondents felt that being part of their project had improved their mental and/or physical wellbeing.

These are impressive results from our many Live Here Love Here initiatives and we are in the process of planning how we can build upon this as we approach 2020. To that end, I am writing to ask you to continue the Live Here Love Here programme in the Mid Ulster area for the financial year 2020/21. This requires the same annual budget of £21,000 as previously. **Note that half (£10,500) of the Council's funding goes straight back into supporting groups in the Council area through the small grants programme.**

The momentum is here and now for **Live Here Love Here** and I would welcome your ongoing support. Without your Council's support the campaign simply cannot succeed.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely



Ian Humphreys
Chief Executive Officer

Live Here Love Here: NI Wide Impact in 2019

By working together we are inspiring a movement of people changing behaviours and creating a positive future for us all. Thank you for your continued support!



130,128
volunteers

271 metric tonnes of rubbish collected equivalent to approximately...



44,820
litter bags collected

22

Ulsterbuses



**Adopt®
A Spot**

188 groups supported by the Adopt A Spot programme

1,504

hours of volunteer time (each group carries out 4 clean ups a year)



£65,800

financial support for Adopt A Spot groups across Northern Ireland



Media Campaign

Through partnership working and 'one voice' messaging across a strong variety of media channels such as TV, social media and billboards, we can build strong relationships with the public as we develop the kind of place we want to live.

In 2018, we introduced an unforgettable irate, magenta puppet – disgusted by all things litter and not afraid to tell you so! The character delivers memorable messages and appeals to all age ranges, raising awareness and driving the behaviour change we all need in our communities.



**LIVE
HERE
LOVE
HERE**



Belfast City Council



Coca-Cola HBC Ireland & Northern Ireland



Live Here Love Here: Volunteer impact in your area

Small Grants Scheme

The Small Grants Scheme has had overwhelmingly positive environmental and educational impacts as well as benefitting the health and wellbeing of volunteers.



448
applications
received in 2019
across Northern
Ireland

"We were delighted to have been awarded funding through this scheme. Gardening is a real passion of our community group and to be able to enhance our precious community garden with the addition of bird boxes and spring bulbs has been invaluable. The pleasure of seeing our efforts spring up through the ground & flourish has really given us a sense of achievement & pride in our area. This initial financial assistance has brought us together and made us realise the importance of working together to the benefit of the community and our own mental health."

Kilcronaghan Community Association



From 2014-2019:

140 applications
received in
Mid Ulster

£98,920
amount requested

£38,700
amount awarded



55
projects
funded



£8,100
Added value: additional
funding by partners



1,734
volunteer hours in 2018
(based on 14 completed
projects)



Hosted by Live Here Love Here Ambassador and TV Presenter Joe Mahon, the Community Awards are an opportunity to thank and celebrate environmental heroes who have demonstrated consistent hard work, instilling civic pride and tackling environmental issues in their local community. Volunteers are celebrated through a number of categories, including a bespoke council Litter Heroes Award, awarded to those who have shown a dedication to the environment.

"Winning the Mid Ulster Litter Hero award was incredible. It was such an honour to be recognised for things that have become part of my everyday life, and it spurred me on to keep going and encourage others to get involved in their communities."

*Vicky Seviour Crockett (below, second left),
Winner of Mid Ulster Litter Heroes Award 2019*



5

award
winners
from Mid
Ulster
since 2017



www.liveherelovehere.org

enquiries@liveherelovehere.org



@liveherelovehere



@isupportlhlh



@livehere.lovehere

Report on	Air Quality Meeting October 2019
Date of Meeting	2 nd December 2019
Reporting Officer	Fiona McClements

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	This report provides a further update on the ongoing work in relation to Air Quality across the Mid Ulster District Council area and outlines proposed actions within the current Council Action Plan as a result of a recent meeting with elected Members and representatives from other relevant departments and organisations.
2.0	Background
2.1	Mid Ulster District Council currently has three Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA's) and an Air Quality Action Plan was drawn up in 2017 in order to help address air quality issues in these areas and in the District as a whole. A meeting was recently held on 25th October to review the plan, and identify further actions that the Council can take to help meet air quality objectives. Representatives from DfI Roads were in attendance at the meeting, along with representatives from other Council departments and elected Members. It is envisaged that these meetings will take place twice a year with various external agencies invited to attend at different times.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	During the Air Quality meeting a presentation was given regarding the current air quality situation in the District (see Appendix 1).
3.2	<p>A review of the current action plan was undertaken, and a discussion took place with a view to exploring additional points that could be taken at a very local level which may help alleviate some of the poorer air quality conditions being experienced in two of the sites, at Charlemont Street, Moy and Newell Road Dungannon.</p> <p>The Actions that were proposed following the meeting can be summarised as follows:</p> <p>Traffic Management Charlemont Street, Moy</p>
3.3	<p>Yellow box junction recently added</p> <p>Action: Review air quality at this location to see if yellow box leads to any air quality improvement.</p>

3.4	Can any changes be made re signals for Right turn at certain times of the day? Action: Roads Service to consider whether changes to light phasing could be made at certain times.
3.5	Can signage be erected to encourage idling traffic to turn off their engines at this location? Action: Planning to consider whether such signage can be erected.
3.6	Can countdown to green light signal be added to lights at this location? Action: Environmental Health to write to relevant minister requesting trial of countdown lighting at this location.
Residential Improvement - Newell Road, Dungannon	
3.7	Has planning permission for housing on waste land to rear of houses on Newell Road expired? Action: Planning to check re current status of these plans.
3.8	Mature trees that overhang Newell Road. Can these be cut back to allow greater dispersion of NO2 fumes from traffic. Action: Environmental Health to write to landowner requesting trees be cut back.
Alternative Transport - General Air Quality - Promotion of walking	
3.9	To encourage walking in the District and ensure that planning proposals within these areas and linked areas have minimum width pavements to support both walking and safe cycling. Planning consider this in applications. Consistent with area plan.
3.10	Ensure all developments within urban areas, town and villages have safe walking and cycling linkages to ensure pedestrian and cycling routes away from main traffic routes. Consideration should be given to urban areas, towns and villages, in AQMAs and near to urban schools. Action: Planning to consider this in applications. Consistent with area plan.
3.11	Discussion regarding return bus scheme in Kerry. Parents able to accompany children on bus to school. Bus returns along same route enabling parents to return home. Could something similar be set up in Mid Ulster? Action: Further details of Kerry scheme to be sought. Initial contact to be made with Translink by Environmental Health to explore further.
3.12	Further Bike to Work scheme in Mid Ulster District Council. Can further encouragement be given to staff to cycle to work by providing showering, changing, clothes storage at more locations? Action: Environmental Health to explore this possibility.
3.13	Promotion of scheme to reduce car idling at hotspots such as local schools during drop off and pick up times at the school. Could be facilitated by posters or potentially by 'Roads Service Active Transport Initiative'. Action: Environmental Health to co-ordinate details of such a scheme.

4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: N/a
	Human: N/a
	Risk Management: N/a
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/a
	Rural Needs Implications: N/a
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	It is recommended that the additional action points from the meeting outlined above and in Appendix 2 be adopted and incorporated into the Council Air Quality Action Plan.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 – Air Quality In the Mid Ulster District Presentation.
6.2	Appendix 2 – Action Points From Air Quality Meeting of 25th October 2019.

Air Quality In the Mid Ulster District



Comhairle Ceantair
Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster
District Council



Air Quality Mid Ulster



Comhairle Ceantair
Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster
District Council

Air quality in the UK is generally good, and getting better. However more needs to be done, especially in the cities, to reduce the harmful effects of air pollution. Air pollution has negative impacts on human health and the natural environment. Air pollution has declined significantly over recent decades through measures to reduce pollution from transport, industrial and domestic sources.

Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) provides the framework within which air quality is managed by Northern Ireland's local authorities. The LAQM process places an obligation on all local authorities to regularly review and assess air quality in their areas, and to determine whether air quality objectives are likely to be achieved. Where exceedances are considered likely, the local authority must declare an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) and prepare an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) setting out the measures it intends to put in place improve air quality in its District so that these objectives are achieved.



Mid Ulster District District Council, and the former Cookstown, Dungannon and Magherafelt Councils have submitted Annual Air Quality Reports since 2002.

These reports looked at a number of pollutants listed under European Directives and examined whether or not air quality objectives were likely to be met in each of the three districts.

Surveys were undertaken, and data was obtained regarding a number of different elements in the district including housing types, industry, agriculture, road traffic volumes, and other transportation alternatives within the district,

The University of South West England was then commissioned to undertake modelling to predict the likelihood of air quality objectives being exceeded in the district.



Air Quality Objectives

Pollutant	Air Quality Objective		Date to be achieved by
	Concentration	Measured as	
Benzene	16.25 µg/m ³	Running annual mean	31.12.2003
	3.25 µg/m ³	Running annual mean	31.12.2010
1,3-butadiene	2.25 µg/m ³	Running annual mean	31.12.2003
Carbon monoxide	10 mg/m ³	Running 8-hour mean	31.12.2003
Lead	0.50 µg/m ³	Annual mean	31.12.2004
	0.25 µg/m ³	Annual mean	31.12.2008
Nitrogen dioxide	200 µg/m ³ not to be exceeded more than 18 times a year	1-hour mean	31.12.2005
	40 µg/m ³	Annual mean	31.12.2005
Particulate matter (PM ₁₀) (gravimetric)	50 µg/m ³ , not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year	24-hour mean	31.12.2004
	40 µg/m ³	Annual mean	31.12.2004
Sulphur dioxide	350 µg/m ³ , not to be exceeded more than 24 times a year	1-hour mean	31.12.2004
	125 µg/m ³ , not to be exceeded more than 3 times a year	24-hour mean	31.12.2004
	266 µg/m ³ , not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year	15-minute mean	31.12.2005



After the initial assessment it was determined that air quality objectives for four of these seven pollutants would be comfortably met within each of the three Districts. However it was felt that further examination would need to be undertaken for the remaining three pollutants.

These pollutants were Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂), Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂) and PM10.

Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂)



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Mid Ulster
District Council

Nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), is emitted from combustion processes.

Main sources include power generation, industrial combustion and road transport.

Road transport is now the largest single UK source of NO_x, accounting for almost one third of UK emissions.



Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂)



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District Council

Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂): an acid gas formed when fuels containing Sulphur impurities are burned.

The largest UK source is currently power generation.

Other important sources include industry, commercial fuel use, and residential fuel use in some areas.



Particulate Matter (PM10)



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District Council

The main source is combustion, e.g. vehicles, domestic burning and power stations.

Other man-made sources include quarrying and mining, industrial processes and tyre and brake wear.





Following this for a number of years the levels of SO₂ and PM10 were monitored at areas identified as 'worst case situations' in each of the districts. These areas were chosen due to the relatively high number of solid fuel burning properties near by the monitoring sites.

After several years of monitoring it was found that all the areas chosen were well within the air quality objectives and were extremely unlikely to exceed the objectives in the future. As a result monitoring was discontinued for these two pollutants. The only remaining pollutant that is routinely monitored in the Mid Ulster District is Nitrogen dioxide (NO₂).

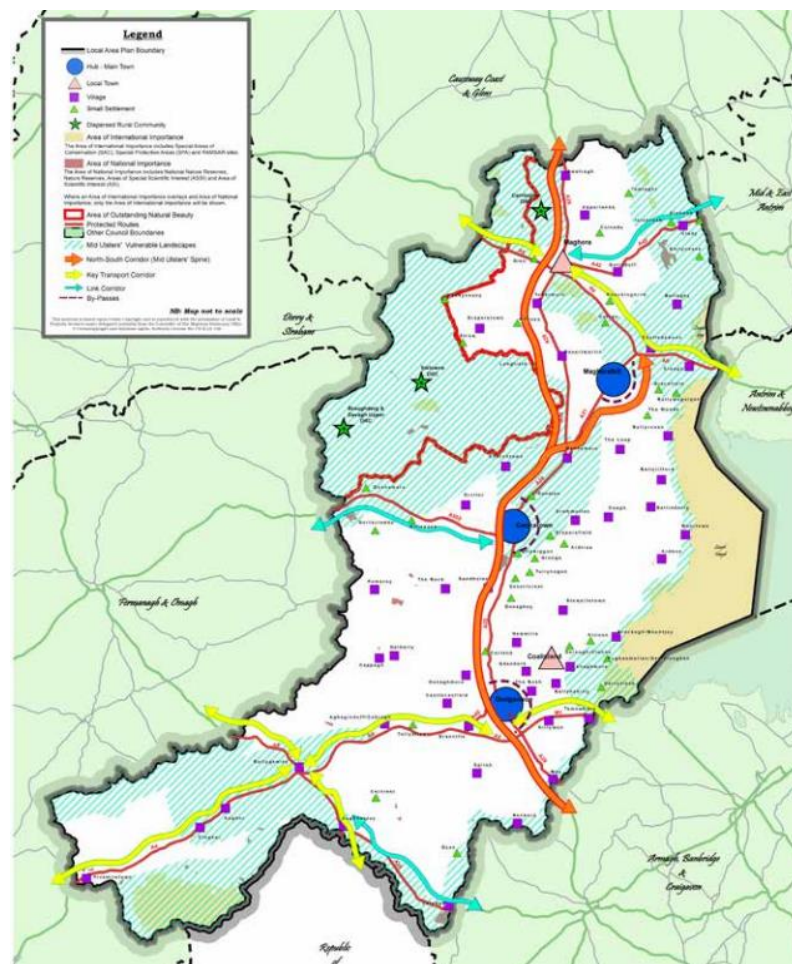
Air Quality Monitoring In Mid Ulster



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District Council

Air Quality monitoring has been carried out for Nitrogen Dioxide (NO_2) in Magherafelt, Cookstown and Dungannon since the initial reports were submitted in 2002. Monitoring is also undertaken in the villages of Moneymore and the Moy.

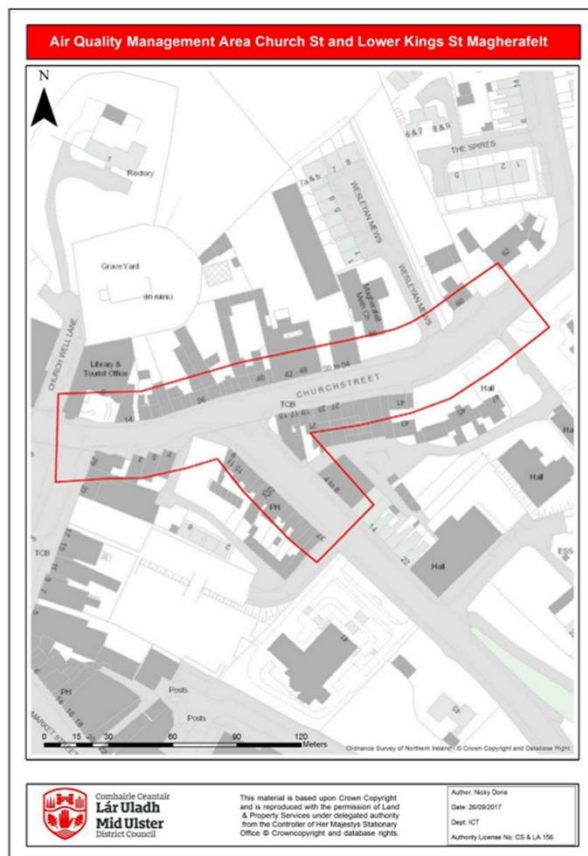
NO_2 is associated with road traffic and unsurprisingly the monitoring has taken place on congested traffic routes in the District. Mid Ulster District Council currently has three AQMA's within the District.



Air Quality Management Areas In Mid Ulster



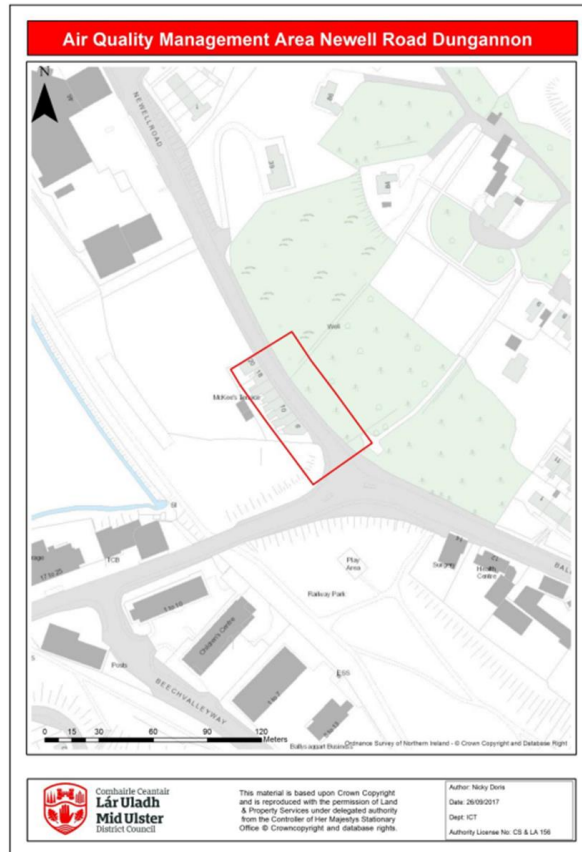
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District Council



Air Quality Management Areas In Mid Ulster

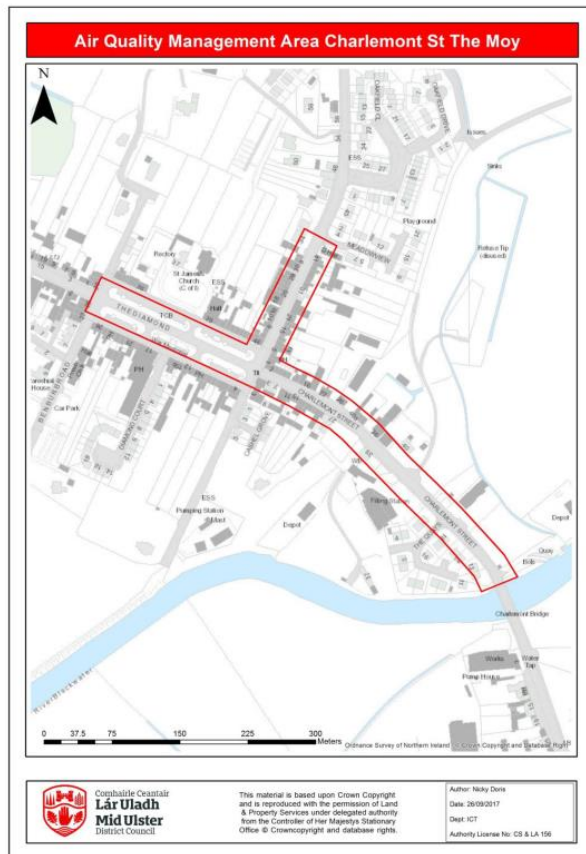


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Air Quality Management Areas In Mid Ulster



Results of NO2 Monitoring In Mid Ulster

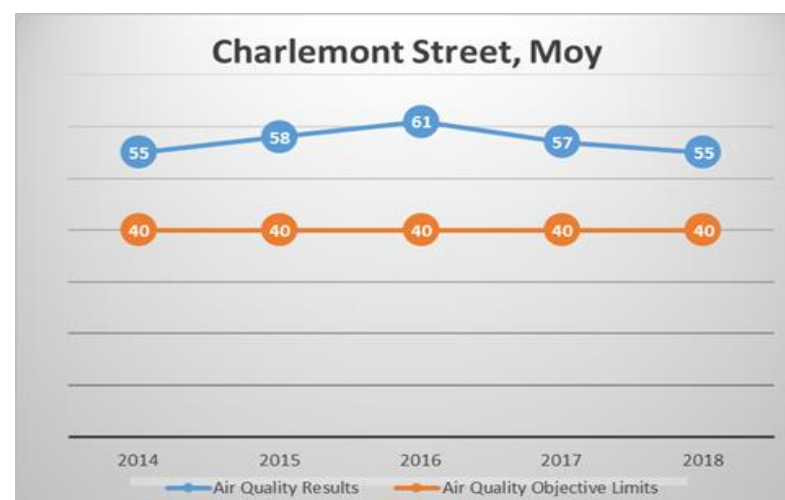
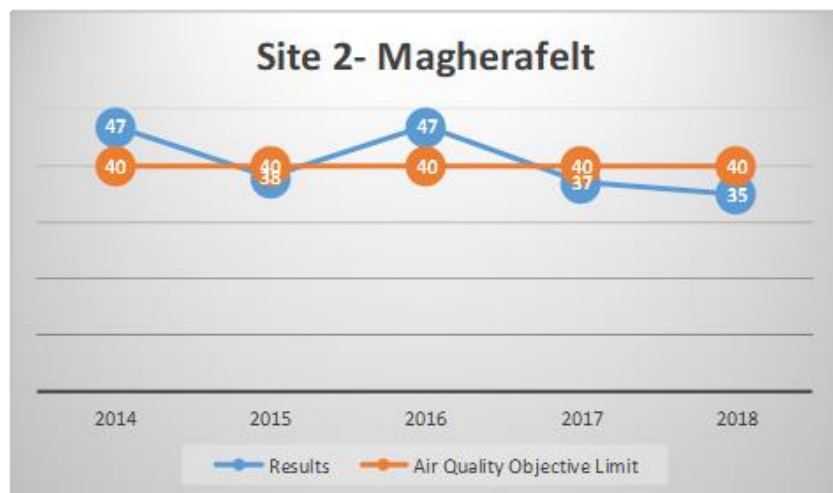


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Site ID	Location	Site Type	Within AQMA?	Triplicate or Co-located Tube	2018 Annual Mean Concentration ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) - Bias Adjustment factor = 0.93 & 0.76 ^b
M2	22 Church Street	Roadside	Y	Triplicate	35
M9	12 Church Street	Roadside	Y	Triplicate	30
M10	30 Church Street	Roadside	Y	Triplicate	35
M11	11 King Street	Roadside	Y	Triplicate	24
M13	60 Church Street	Roadside	Y	Triplicate	23
M23	35 Church Street	Roadside	Y	Triplicate	33
D1	Ardgannon	Urban Background	N	N	12
D2	Newell Rd	Roadside	Y	Triplicate	50
D3	Charlemont St	Roadside	Y	Triplicate	55
D4	Killyman St	Roadside	N	Triplicate	26
D5	The Quays	Urban Background	N	Triplicate	9
D6	Dunclose Way	Urban Background	N	N	8
C1	Lawford St	Kerbside	N	N	35
C2	William St	Roadside	N	N	25
C3	James St	Kerbside	N	N	31
C4	Church St	Roadside	N	N	26
C5	Killymoon St	Kerbside	N	N	30
C8	Smith St	Kerbside	N	N	26
C10	Stonard St	Kerbside	N	N	37
C11	Conyngham St	Kerbside	N	N	17

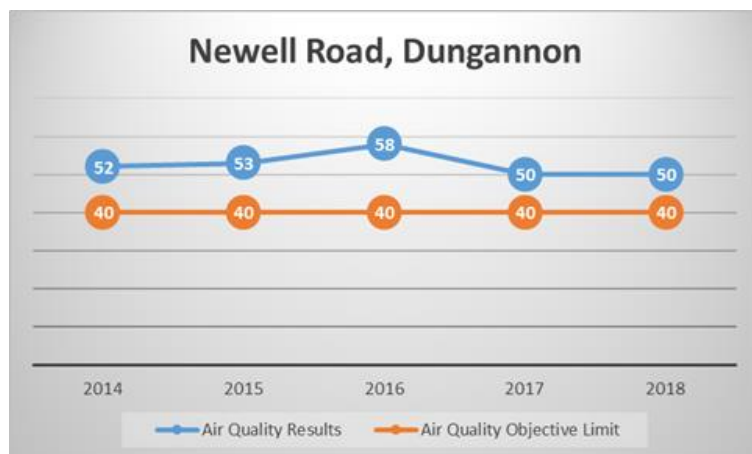


Trends in Results

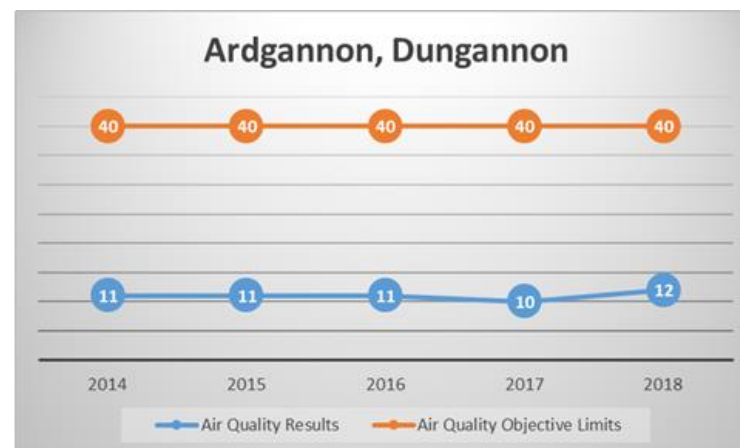




Newell Road, Dungannon



Ardgannon, Dungannon



What Next ?



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The Action Plan that has been produced by Mid Ulster District Council outlines the actions that the Council will deliver between 2017-2023 in order to reduce concentrations of air pollutants and exposure to air pollution; thereby positively impacting on the health and quality of life of residents and visitors to the Mid Ulster District Council area.

It has been developed in recognition of the legal requirement on the local authority to work towards Air Quality Strategy (AQS) objectives under Part III of the Environment Order (NI) 2002 and relevant regulations made under that part and to meet the requirements of the Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) statutory process. This Plan will be reviewed biennially, at the latest and progress on measures set out within this Plan

Questions ???



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Action Points From Air Quality Meeting of 25th October 2019

Present: Conor Breslin Environmental health (MUDC); Cllr Barry Montieth (MUDC); Tracey Bratton Dfi Roads;
Sinead McAvoy Development Plan & Enforcement (MUDC); Michael McGibbon Development Plan & Enforcement (MUDC), Leah McCann Communications (MUDC)

Objective/ Area	Suggested Improvement	Action to be taken
Traffic management Charlemont Street, Moy	Yellow box junction recently added.	Environmental Health to check No2 results to monitor any air quality improvement compared to last year's results in period to next meeting.
Traffic management Charlemont Street, Moy	Can any changes be made re signals for Right turn at certain times of the day?	Roads Service to consider whether changes to light phasing could be made at certain times.
Traffic management Charlemont Street, Moy	Can signage be erected to encourage idling traffic to turn off their engines at this location?	Planning to consider whether such signage can be erected.
Traffic management Charlemont Street, Moy	Can countdown to green light signal be added to lights at this location?	Environmental Health to write to relevant minister requesting trial of countdown lighting at this location.

Residential Improvement Newell Road, Dungannon	Has planning permission for housing on waste land to rear of houses on Newell Road expired?	Planning to check re current status of these plans.
Residential Improvement Newell Road, Dungannon	Mature trees that overhang Newell Road. Can these be cut back to allow greater dispersion of NO2 fumes from traffic.	Environmental Health to write to landowner requesting trees be cut back.
Alternative Transport General Air Quality- Promotion of walking	With regard to encouraging walking in the District ensure that planning proposals within these areas and linked areas have minimum width pavements to support both walking and safe cycling.	Planning consider this in applications. Consistent with area plan.
Alternative Transport General Air Quality- Promotion of walking.	Ensure all developments within urban areas, town and villages have safe walking and cycling linkages to ensure pedestrian and cycling routes away from main traffic routes. Consideration should be given to urban areas, towns and villages, in AQMAs and near to urban schools.	Planning consider this in applications. Consistent with area plan.
Alternative Transport	Discussion regarding return bus scheme in Kerry. Parents able to	Further details of Kerry scheme to be obtained. Env Health to write to

General Air Quality- Increasing use of Public Transport	accompany children on bus to school. Bus returns along same route enabling parents to return home. Could something similar be set up in Mid Ulster?	Translink exploring possibility of establishing similar.
Alternative Transport General Air Quality- promotion of cycling	Further to Bike to Work scheme in Mid Ulster District Council. Can further encouragement be given to staff to cycle to work by providing showering, changing, clothes storage at more locations?	Environmental Health To explore this possibility.
Traffic management General Air Quality- Car Emissions	Promotion of scheme to reduce car idling at hotspots such as local schools during drop off and pick up times at the school. Could be facilitated by posters or potentially by 'Roads Service Active Transport Initiative'.	Env Health to co-ordinate details of such a scheme.

Report on	Street Naming and Property Numbering
Date of Meeting	2 nd December 2019
Reporting Officer	William Wilkinson

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	For Members to consider the naming of new streets within residential Housing Developments within Mid-Ulster.
2.0	Background
2.1	In accordance with the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) NI Order 1995 – Article 11 the Council is tasked with the responsibility of approving Street Naming and Numbering of buildings erected thereon.
2.2	The Policy for Street Naming and Numbering, as adopted (see Appendix 1) forms the basis for considering proposals for the street naming of new developments.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>The Building Control Department have received requests for the naming of streets within proposed residential development as follows:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">I. Site off Sixtowns Road, Straw, Draperstown</p> <p>An application had been submitted by M Glass for the naming of a new street within a proposed residential development off Sixtowns Roads, Straw, Draperstown, which was considered by the Environment Committee on 8th October 2019. Following comments from Members in relation to the names proposed for the new street/road, correspondence was subsequently forwarded to the developer requesting further proposals to be submitted. The developer has now submitted the following options for consideration (see Appendix 2).</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> 1. Stranahinch 2. St Columba's Park 3. Whitewater Park </p> <p>As the options submitted are linked to the locality in each case, it is considered that each option demonstrates compliance with the policy as adopted.</p>

4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: None
	Human: None
	Risk Management: None
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: None
	Rural Needs Implications: No
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	<p>It is recommended that consideration is given to the approval of the following proposals for the Street Naming of each street within a new residential development within Mid Ulster.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">I. Site off Sixtowns Road, Straw, Draperstown</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> Either Stranahinch Or St Columba's Park Or Whitewater Park </p>
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 - Policy for Street Naming and Numbering
6.2	Appendix 2 - Pro-forma containing revised street naming proposals, location map and site layout plan for new street off Sixtowns Road, Straw, Draperstown

Policy on Street Naming and Numbering

Document Control			
Policy Owner	Director of Public Health & Infrastructure		
Policy Author	Director of Public Health & Infrastructure		
Version	Version 1		
Consultation	Senior Management Team	Yes / No	
	Trade Unions	Yes / No	
Equality Screened by	Principal Building Control Officer	Date	20/02/2019
Equality Impact Assessment	N/A	Date	
Good Relations	N/A		
Approved By	Environment Committee	Date	12/03/2019
Adopted By	Council	Date	28/03/2019
Review Date		By Whom	
Circulation	Councillors, Staff		
Document Linkages			

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2.0	Policy Aim & Objectives	
3.0	Policy Scope	
4.0	Linkage to Corporate Plan	
5.0	Naming of new Streets	
6.0	Renaming Existing Streets	
7.0	Roles & Responsibilities	
8.0	Impact Assessments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equality Screening & Rural Needs Impact • Staff & Financial Resources 	
9.0	Support & Advice	
10.0	Communication	
11.0	Monitoring & Review Arrangements	

Appendices	Description	Page Number
A	Article 11 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (NI) Order 1995	
B	Naming of New Streets and Housing Developments: <i>Procedure</i>	
C	Renaming Existing Streets: <i>Procedures</i>	

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Mid Ulster District Council resolved that a policy and associated procedures be developed to guide the Council in accordance with the provisions of Article 11 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1995("the 1995 Order"), referenced in Appendix A to this policy, on;

- (i) Naming of New Streets and Housing Developments;
- (ii) Renaming and Re-numbering existing streets

2.0 Policy Aim & Objectives

2.1 **Policy Aim:** To ensure the naming of New Streets and Housing Developments is delivered in a fair, equitable and consistent manner.

2.2 Policy Objectives:

- To facilitate Mid Ulster District Council in meeting its statutory obligations with regard to local government Street Naming requirements
- To confirm the mechanism and process by which Mid Ulster District Council will name new streets and housing developments
- To provide residents with a process whereby they may request the renaming of their street
- To ensure street names are reflective of localities within which they are being proposed and engagement of all affected residents of streets where requests have been received to rename

3.0 Policy Scope and Legislative Framework

3.1 This policy relates specifically to the naming of New Streets/ Housing Developments and processing requests for the erection of nameplates expressing the name of the street in a language other than English. The statutory basis for this policy is contained within Article 11 of the 1995 Order.

- 3.2 This legislation empowers Council to authorise the naming of streets within its respective District. The 1995 Order provides for street naming, street numbering and the provision of street signs. It also provides the Council with a discretionary power to erect dual language street signs or second nameplates in a language other than English via Section 1a and 1b. A copy of the relevant statute is included in Appendix A.

Interpretation and Definitions

- 3.3 For purposes of this Policy the following interpretation/ definitions apply as set out within the 1995 Order:

- Nameplate - defined as a means of 'signifying a name in writing'
- Street - defined as 'any road, square, court, alley, passage or lane'.

4.0 Linkage to Corporate Plan

- 4.1 Referring to Mid Ulster District Council's Corporate Plan 2015-2019, this policy contributes toward the delivery of Corporate Theme 1 *Delivering for Our People*.

5.0 Naming of New Streets

- 5.1 Proposals for new Street names linked to traditional place names will be favorably considered and that if such a place name is traditionally in a language other than English, that name may also be considered as the name by which that place may be known. The procedure that will apply in relation to proposal under this [policy] is contained in Appendix [B]. Building names are not controlled by statute and do not form part of this Policy.
- 5.2 Criteria - General

To maintain the heritage and identity of the area administered by Mid Ulster District Council in naming a new Street and/ or Housing Development the following criteria shall be adhered to. The name chosen shall;

1. Reflect the local townland name, or a local geographical/ topographical, social or historical feature.
2. The name shall not use the townland name within which the street and/ or the housing development is situated. The townland name shall still form part of the postal address.

3. The name should not mark any historical or political event or any individual or family, living or deceased.
4. The prefix of the name can only be the same as an existing Street or Road name prefix in the locality if it is accessed from that street or road.
5. To avoid confusion over addresses the name should not sound similar to an existing Street or Road name in that District Electoral Area.
6. The erected nameplate shall express the name in English; and may express that name in any other language other than English in accordance with Article 11 of the 1995 Order.
7. Although not prescriptive or exhaustive the running order/hierarchy for Street naming should follow an easily understood pattern, for example:
 - Road–Street–Avenue–Mews–Drive–Lane–Close–Alley

6.0 Renaming and Renumbering Existing Streets

- 6.1 Provision shall be made for the renaming and renumbering of existing Streets within the Mid Ulster District Council area, where instances as noted in 7.2 below require that that this be undertaken to maintain a consistent approach to street naming. The 1995 Order empowers Council to authorise Street names within the area they administer. The procedure that will apply in relation to a proposal under this policy is contained in Appendix C.

6.2 Criteria - General

The renaming or renumbering of an existing street shall normally only be considered;

- To remove similar or the same street name in the immediate locality
- Where a street name has been 'lost'
- To correct an incorrectly spelt name
- If emergency services have reported problems in identifying and locating the street
- If postal services or other statutory agencies has reported problems in identifying and locating the street
- Where a request has been received by the Council and signed by not less than 50% of the occupiers of a street to which a change is being sought. This would be based on 1 occupier per premises on the relevant street

7.0 Roles and Responsibilities

- 7.1 **Director of Public Health and Infrastructure:** shall have responsibility for implementation of this policy by Mid Ulster District Council, through the Building Control Service.
- 7.2 **Building Control Service:** shall be responsible for implementing arrangements to administer; (i) requests to name New Streets and Housing Developments and (ii) requests to rename existing Streets.
- 8.0 Impact Assessments**
- 8.1.1 Equality Screening & Impact**
- 8.1.1 This policy has been subject to equality screening in accordance with the Council's equality scheme screening process. It has been 'screened out' for an Equality Impact Assessment.
- 8.2 Rural Needs Impact**
- 8.2.1 This policy has been subjected to a rural needs impact assessment and thus can demonstrate regard to rural needs when delivering this public service.
- 8.3 Staff & Financial Resources**
- 8.3.1 No issues have been identified which will impact on the delivery of Council business as a result of this policy being implemented. Valid requests for determination will be brought to attention of Committee.
- 9.0 Support and Advice**
- 9.1 Advice and guidance on the implementation of this should be sought from the Head of Building Control
- 10.0 Communication**
- 10.1 The Building Control Service within the Public Health & Infrastructure Department of Council is responsible for the communication, delivery and adherence to this policy
- 11.0 Monitoring and Review Arrangements**

- 11.1 Implementation of this policy will be routinely monitored and a formal review undertaken 24 months from its effective commencement date.

Appendix A
Article 11, Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern
Ireland) Order 1995

Street names and numbering of buildings

Powers of councils in relation to street names and numbering of buildings

11.—(1) A council may erect at or near each end, corner or entrance of any street in its district a nameplate showing the name of the street; and a nameplate erected under this paragraph—

- (a) shall express the name of the street in English; and
- (b) may express that name in any other language

(2) A council may, immediately adjacent to a nameplate erected under paragraph (1) which expresses the name of a street in English only, erect a second nameplate expressing the name of the street in a language other than English.

(3) Neither this Article nor anything done by a council thereunder authorises or requires the use of the name of a street expressed in a language other than English as, or as part of—

- (a) the address of any person; or
- (b) the description of any land; for

the purposes of any statutory provision.

(4) In deciding whether and, if so, how to exercise its powers under paragraph (1)(b) or (2) in relation to any street, a council shall have regard to any views on the matter expressed by the occupiers of premises in that street.

(5) Any person who—

- (a) obscures, pulls down or defaces any nameplate erected under paragraph (1) or (2);
- (b) erects in any street any nameplate showing as the name of the street a name different from that in any nameplate erected in the street under paragraph (1) or (2); or
- (c) erects in any street any nameplate purporting to show the name of the street, without the authorisation of the council for the district in which the street is situated,

shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 2 on the standard scale.

(6) Where a council has exercised its powers under paragraph (1) in relation to any street, the occupier of each house or other building in that street shall ensure that that house or building is at all times marked with such number as the council may approve for the purposes of this Article.

(7) Where a person fails to comply with paragraph (6) the council may serve on him a notice requiring him to comply with that paragraph within 7 days from the date of service of the notice.

(8) A person who fails to comply with a notice served on him under paragraph (7) shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 2 on the standard scale.

(9) Where a person fails to comply with a notice served on him under paragraph (7) in respect of any house or other building, the council may itself do anything which he has failed to do and may recover from that person summarily as a civil debt any expenses thereby reasonably incurred by it.

(10) In this Article—
“nameplate” includes any means of signifying a name in writing; “street” includes any road, square, court, alley, passage or lane.

(11) The power of a council to erect a nameplate under paragraph (1) or (2) includes power—

- (a) to erect it on any building or in such other manner as the council thinks fit; and
- (b) to cause it to be erected by any person authorised in that behalf by the council.

(12) The following statutory provisions shall cease to have effect, namely—

- (a) sections 64 and 65 of the Towns Improvement Clauses Act 1847^{F6};
- (b) in section 38 of the Towns Improvement (Ireland) Act 1854^{F7} the words “naming the streets and numbering the houses and also so much thereof as relates to”;
- (c) section 21 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1907^{F8};
- (d) section 19 of the Public Health and Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act (Northern Ireland) 1949^{F9}; and
- (e) so much of any local Act as relates to the naming of streets or the numbering of houses or buildings;

Appendix B

Naming of New Streets and Housing Developments: *Procedure*

1. Developers should submit an application for a new Street/ Development naming to the Council's Building Control service within the Public Health and Infrastructure Department ("the Department") before any promotional activity on the sale of properties commences.
2. The applicant should recommend at least 2 but no more than 3 names per street for consideration, outlining how they consider the proposed names comply with the criteria referred to within Section 5.2 above
3. If the Department determines that the name(s) does not conform to the criteria within 5.2 of this Policy, the developer/applicant will be informed of this and asked to submit an alternative name(s) and/or written representations as to why they disagree. When the Council receives an alternative name(s) and the Council Officer deems that it meets the criteria then it will be recommended to the Council's Environment Committee for consideration.
4. If the developer/applicant is not in agreement with the Department's evaluation they can make written representations which will be considered at the next available meeting of the Environment Committee.
5. The developer/ applicant will be informed of the approved name following approval of the Environment Committee minutes at the next available Council meeting of Mid Ulster District Council
6. Should the Committee not accept any of the presented options the applicant/ developer will be informed of the Council's decision
7. If following the non-acceptance of a proposed name the applicant/ developer does not resubmit an alternative name to the Council within 8 weeks of the date of the decision letter, the Council may identify a name and notify the applicant/ developer of their intention to approve that name. The Council shall allow four weeks to elapse from the date of the notification of the name before presenting it to the next available Environment Committee
8. If a street name has been approved by the Council it shall not be considered for change within 6 months from the date of approval, unless in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders.
9. Names shall be shown on nameplates which will include the townland where relevant and erected in line with current Guidance.
10. New buildings will be allocated numbers consecutively with odd numbers to the right hand side and even numbers to the left hand side.

Appendix C

Renaming Existing Street Name: Procedures

This procedure provides guidelines for the procedure for renaming of existing street/road names which the 1995 Order empowers councils to authorise. The following procedure for canvassing the views of occupiers and the criteria to be applied in deciding whether to rename a street with an alternative in English shall be:

1. Upon receipt of a petition, signed by not less than 50% of the householders (based on one resident per household over the age of 18) of the street/road ("a Petition") the Council will consider a survey of the street/road in relation to the desired name change and reason for same.
2. The proposed name must meet the criteria set down in this policy for the naming of New Streets, as detailed within 5.2 of this policy.
3. If the Department considers the new name meets the criteria, approval to undertake the survey will be sought from the Environment Committee.
4. The Council will survey, by post, to the occupier(s) of each of the properties listed on the Electoral Register and one survey per established business as appears on the Non-Domestic Valuation List of that street/road or the part of a street/road affected at that time; seeking their views on the request to change the name. The survey shall be carried out by the Council's Building Control service.
5. Replies will be by way of a supplied self-addressed envelope and must be returned by the date specified in the correspondence giving notification of the survey and reason for same . Only replies received from registered occupiers by that date will be considered
6. The outcome of the survey will be presented to the Environment Committee and only where all occupiers (100 %) in the affected street agree with the proposed name change, will a recommendation be presented to approve the change.
7. Where a request is not approved any further request will not be considered until the expiry of a 12 month period from the date of the Environment Committee meeting where the outcome of the survey was considered.
8. Where a Petition to have an existing street renamed is not approved then the occupiers will be notified of this.
9. Where a new nameplate is erected. The decision to remove an existing nameplate will be made by Property Services, where deemed necessary to do so.

10. Historical nameplates may remain in place where they are fitted to an existing wall (or dwelling), where they will not affect directional issues. This shall be at the discretion of Property Services.
11. Where the Department receives a request from the emergency services, mail delivery services or other statutory bodies who have difficulty locating the street to rename it. They shall inform residents as noted above and consider to survey and rename the street upon the agreement of all households on that street. Such requests shall be notified to and approval sought from Environment Committee and outcome of survey reported to same.

MID ULSTER DISTRICT COUNCIL

New Street Name Proposals

Applicants Name & Address: MICHAEL GLASS, 22 RANAGHAN ROAD,
MAGHERA.
Description: HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AT STRAW,
DRAPERSTOWN.
Ref: F/2019/1149/MAS



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Appendix 2

Mid Ulster District Council

15/07/2019

Building Control Department
(Magherafelt Office)

	Proposed Street Name	Linkage to Locality	Reason for Choice
Option 1	STRANAHINCH.	ISLAND IN LOW LAND ALONG THE RIVER. (VERY SUITABLE FOR THIS SITE).	It is a minor place name in this area.
Option 2	ST COLUMBAS PARK	NAME LINKED WITH CHURCH X PRIMARY SCHOOL	TO CONTINUE WITH THE TRADITIONAL PLACE NAME
Option 3	WHITE WATER PARK	NAME LINKED TO NEARBY RIVER.	WHITE WATER RIVER RUNS ALONGSIDE THE DEVELOPMENT.

* Please avoid the use of apostrophes, hyphens, full stops and commas.

Please note that street naming proposals should be in accordance with Mid Ulster Council Policy (Attached)

Signed *Michael Glass*.....

Dated ...6-11-2019.....

Site adjacent to 82 Sixtowns Road and approx 30m SE
of Nos. 2-10 Whitewater Court, Draperstown.

PROJECT NO: 720
SCALE: 1:1250@A4
DATE: OCT 16
DRAWING NO: P101
DRAWN BY: ph

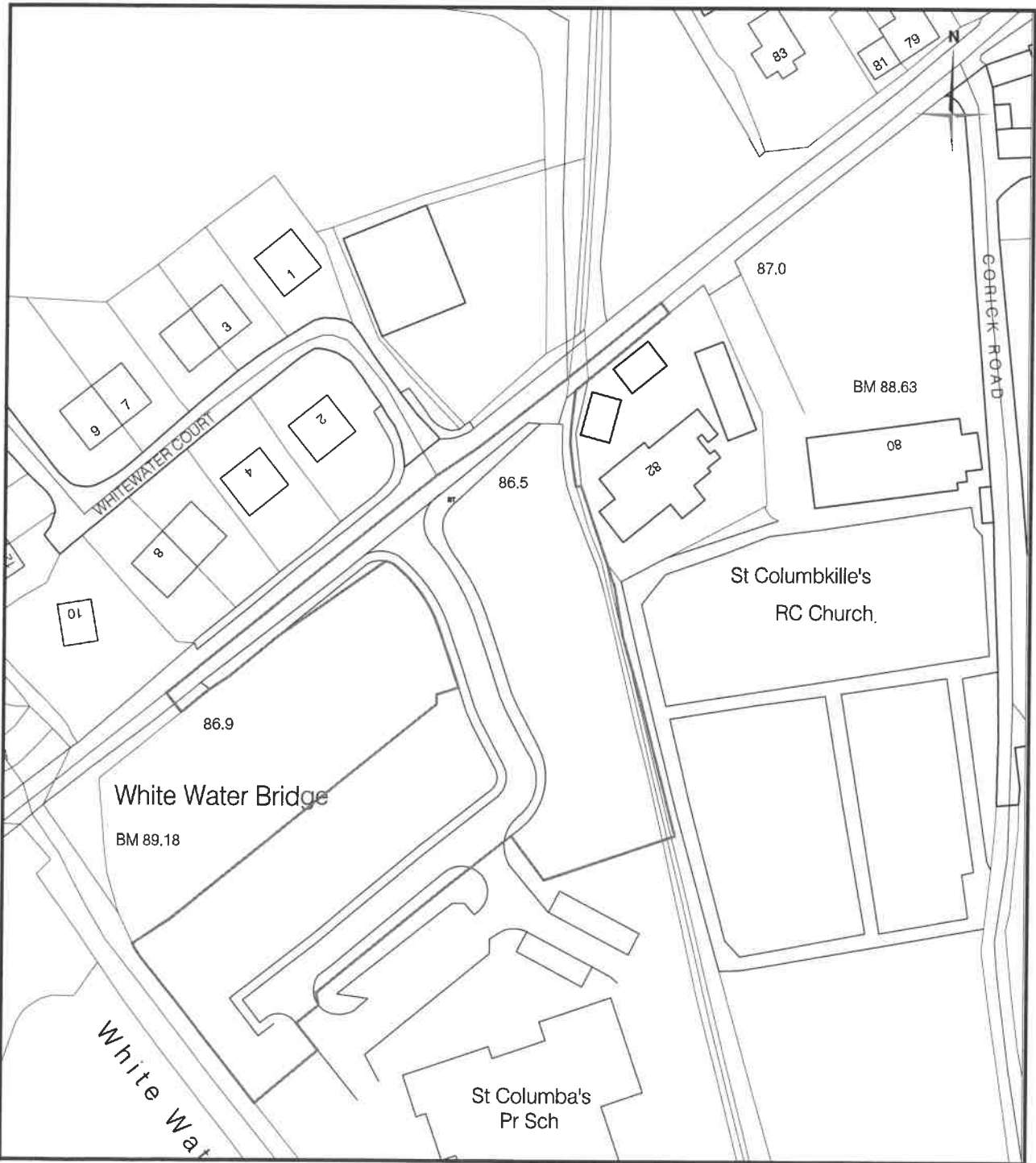


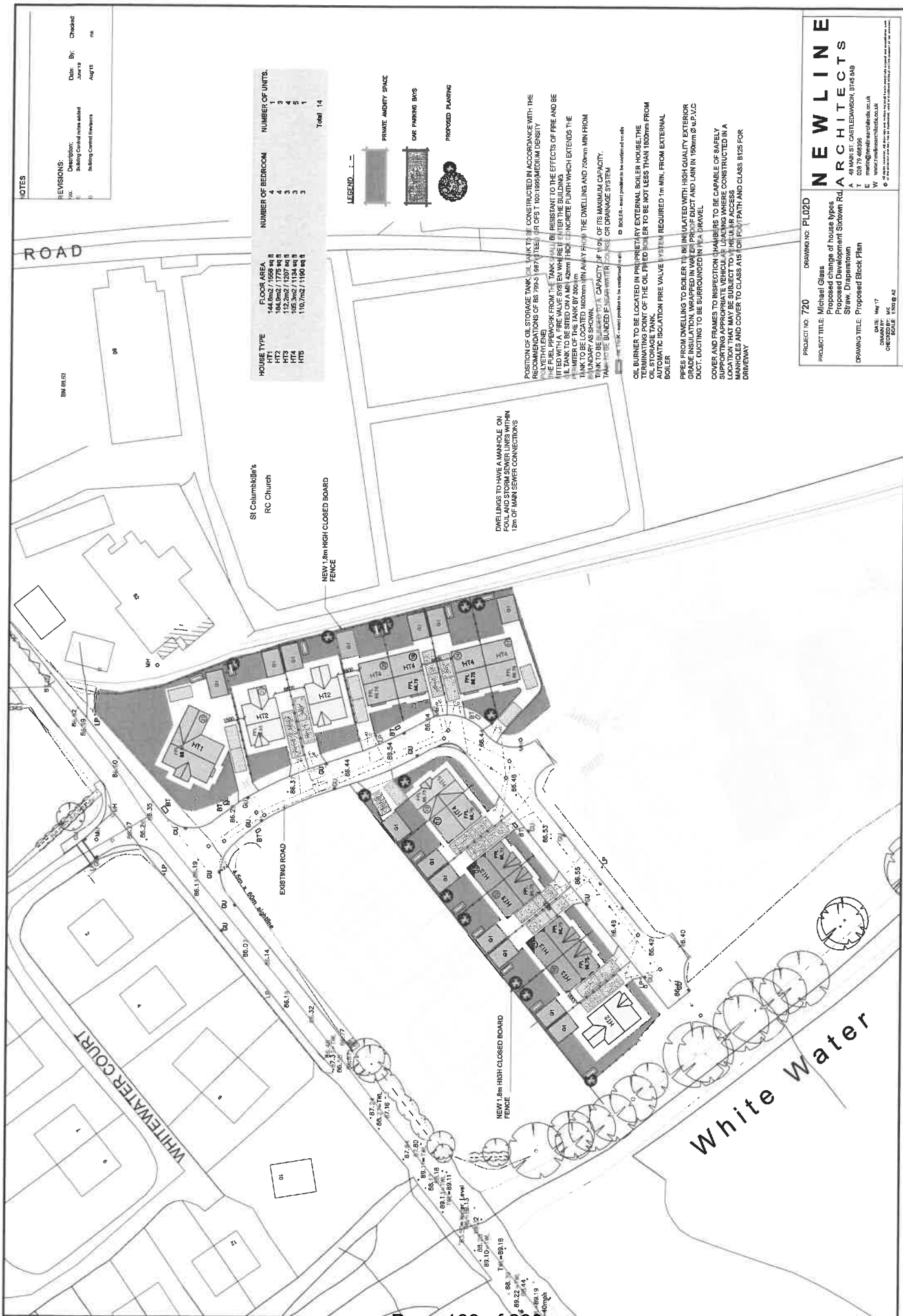
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REVISIONS:
No: Description: Date: By:





**Minutes of Meeting of Environment Committee of Mid Ulster District Council
held on Tuesday 12 November 2019 in Council Offices, Burn Road, Cookstown**

Members Present	Councillor Buchanan, Chair Councillors Burton (7.12 pm), Cuthbertson, Glasgow, Graham, McAleer, McFlynn, McGinley, B McGuigan, S McGuigan, McNamee, Milne, O'Neill, Totten, Wilson
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, Democratic Services Officer
Others in Attendance	Agenda Item 4 – Department for Infrastructure Roads Ms Bratton, Network Development Engineer Mr Bratton, Network Maintenance Section Engineer (North) Mr Hackett, Network Maintenance Section Engineer (South) Mr McMurray, Network Maintenance Manager

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm

E253/19 Deputation – Department for Infrastructure Roads

The Chair, Councillor Buchanan welcomed representatives from Department for Infrastructure Roads – Western Division and invited them to present the Local Transport and Safety Measures, Bridges and Street Lighting Draft Programme 2020-2022 including the Works Programme Update for Autumn 2019.

Members were advised that the Draft Programme contained proposed schemes generated by requests for improvements from the public, public representatives and schemes identified within Department for Infrastructure Roads. All the proposed schemes have been assessed in accordance with current procedures and are considered to be high priority and represent good value for money. The assessment procedure takes into account a number of factors including cost, traffic volumes and collisions.

The capacity to deliver schemes within the programme is dictated by availability of funding and that based on current funding levels it will only be possible to deliver a small number of the schemes over the 2020-2022 period. Members were assured that the Division will continue to bid for additional funding and plan ahead by developing schemes in terms of design and land acquisition to ensure that it is well placed to utilise additional funding should it become available.

Members were advised of planned works programme update for autumn 2019 as well as strategic roads projects that affect the area.

Councillor Burton entered the meeting at 7.12 pm during presentation of the above report.

Councillor McNamee requested that a meeting be held between DfI Roads and Cookstown DEA Members in respect of Cookstown bypass. The Councillor referred to previous discussions held with Killymoon Golf Club and that there was a need for them to reposition two of the holes on the golf course to accommodate the bypass. Councillor McNamee stated that the golf club have concerns and the meeting would be important to ensure all that can be done is done and that he had previously requested a meeting through the Development Committee.

Mr McMurray stated that plans for Cookstown bypass fall into the Regional Transport Plan and that there would be a consultation phase in respect of Cookstown bypass. Mr McMurray stated he would raise the issue but that he was unsure whether DfI officers would want to leave such a meeting with Members until the consultation phase or have it sooner.

Councillor McGinley thanked the representatives for their presentation and work on the ground over the year. Councillor McGinley referred to the widening of the carriageway at Broagh and asked what distance of carriageway would be involved.

Ms Bratton advised that the scheme may need to be delivered in stages but it would be hoped that the carriageway would be widened to the football field.

Councillor Milne thanked officers for their co-operation over the years and referred to footbridge across A6 at Broagh, Castledawson. Councillor Milne stated that the footbridge was in the countryside and that there was no lighting on the footbridge or in the surrounding area. The Councillor stated that he had been told there was no policy for lighting of a footbridge but requested that the issue be raised with a view to providing lighting at this location.

Councillor Milne also referred to gully jetting and that this needs to take place on a regular basis. The Councillor spoke of the recent heavy rain and that some areas were now flooded.

Mr McMurray stated that he took the point in relation to provision of street lighting at that footbridge and would raise the matter with his colleagues. In relation to gully jetting Mr McMurray advised that urban gullies used to be cleared twice a year and rural gullies once a year but that due to a lack of funding it was now only possible to clear urban gullies once a year. Mr McMurray stated that DfI have their own gully cleaning vehicle and that a contractor is available but highlighted that there was a lot of work to be done and it was difficult to keep ahead.

Councillor Milne stated that prevention was better than cure and that upkeep of gullies would save money in the long run.

Mr McMurray stated he did not disagree with the Councillor's comments and he would like to be in a position to proactively clean gullies.

Councillor Wilson thanked officers for their help during the year and referred to proposed road widening on A29 close to former brick works and that there was an illegal entrance close to this location which may affect these works. Councillor Wilson stated that he had raised this issue on a number of occasions.

Councillor Wilson also referred to illuminous advertising signs and asked what DfI Roads policy was in relation to such signage.

Mr McMurray stated he was not aware of the entrance Councillor Wilson was referring to but was happy to speak to him about it. In relation to illuminous signage Mr McMurray stated that DfI Roads would be opposed to such signage as it is a distraction for roads users.

Councillor Burton thanked local officers for their assistance over the year. Councillor Burton referred to corner on Rehaghy/Benburb Road which has been flooded for the last three weeks, the Councillor stated that the flood reaches from one side of the road to the other and is on a dangerous bend in the road. Councillor Burton also mentioned a broken culvert on bridge on Tullybleety Road and that she would like to see some progress on this as she had raised the matter on a number of occasions. Councillor Burton referred to large number of potholes on roadway in housing development situated behind Derek Loane Motors in Aughnacloy and that she had been advised that there had been no remedial works done to the roadway in this development for a number of years.

In response to question from Councillor Glasgow Mr McMurray stated that the incoming budget for bridges was not yet known.

Councillor Glasgow referred to the amount of money spent on the Ballynargan Road and that if priority was given to the delivery of bridge repairs at Ardtrea that the money for resurfacing could have been saved as traffic was using Ballynargan Road to avoid the bridge.

In response to question from Councillor Glasgow Mr McMurray stated that the policy in relation to pot holes continued to be the same.

Councillor Glasgow also referred to grass cutting for the coming year.

Mr McMurray stated that officers did not yet know what budget they would have for grass cutting for the next year.

Councillor Cuthbertson referred to the A29 Route Strategy in Dungannon and asked if works were complete and if it was felt they had been successful. Councillor Cuthbertson also stated he was pleased to see a further study being undertaken to identify a suitable location for Park and Ride at Stangmore as he had highlighted this issue in the past. Councillor Cuthbertson also asked if DfI Roads were holding fast to their policy in relation to Protected Routes.

Mr McMurray stated that DfI were holding fast in relation to Protected Routes but that he was aware that planning can set aside the objections of DfI as they were only consultees.

Ms Bratton stated that there may be a couple of additional schemes in relation to the A29 Route Strategy but that it was felt that the work completed to date had helped to improve delays.

Councillor McFlynn thanked the local DfI Roads team for their assistance over the year, she continued that she felt the DEA meetings were important and should continue and that tonight's report was a huge commitment within restrictions.

Councillor McFlynn referred to roundabout and footbridge at Castledawson at which there is no lighting and that she had received a number of concerns in relation to this.

Mr McMurray stated that he would get back to the Councillor on the matter.

Councillor McAleer stated she appreciated the input of DfI officers and referred to the A5 Western Transport Corridor and that the report states that Phase 1A of the project could commence in 2020. Councillor McAleer asked when the phase between Ballygawley and Omagh was likely to commence.

Mr McMurray stated that there would be a public inquiry in relation to the scheme before any works commenced and it would depend on the outcome of this inquiry when works would begin.

The Chair thanked DfI Roads representatives for their attendance following which they withdrew from the meeting.

E254/19 Apologies

None.

E255/19 Declarations of Interest

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

Councillor S McGuigan declared an interest in Villages Programme Capital Project - IST Appointment (Killeshill).

E256/19 Chair's Business

None.

Matters for Decision

E257/19 Street Naming and Property Numbering

The Head of Building Control presented previously circulated report regarding the naming of new residential housing developments within Mid Ulster.

Site off Sixtowns Road, Straw, Draperstown

Councillor B McGuigan asked that the naming of this development be deferred for a further month as name proposals from the local historical society had been submitted since the papers for the meeting were issued. The Councillor stated that the developer had been advised of the proposals and was content with what had been put forward.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to defer the naming of development off Sixtowns Road, Straw, Draperstown for one month to allow further name options to be put forward.

Site off Mountjoy Road, Coalisland

Proposed by Councillor O'Neill
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to name development off Mountjoy Road, Coalisland as Killcoole.

Site off Ardean Close, Cookstown

Proposed by Councillor McGinley
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to name development off Ardean Close, Cookstown as Tobin Drive.

E258/19 Dual Language Signage Survey – Golf View

Members considered previously circulated report which outlined the result of survey undertaken on all applicable residents in response to Dual Language Signage Nameplate request.

Councillor McNamee stated that as the result of the survey did not meet with policy he proposed that Council should not proceed with the erection of Dual Language Nameplates in Irish at Golf View, Cookstown at this time and that a further request for Dual Language signage could be considered following the expiry of 12 months from the date of this meeting.

Councillor S McGuigan seconded Councillor McNamee's proposal.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to note the result of the survey for the application of Dual Language Nameplates in Irish at Golf View, Cookstown and that a further request could be considered following the expiry of 12 months from the date of this meeting.

E259/19 Liquor Licensing Laws in Northern Ireland Consultation Document

The Head of Building Control presented previously circulated report which considered a draft response to the Department for Communities consultation on '*The views of current liquor licensing laws in Northern Ireland.*'

Councillor McNamee stated he was happy enough with the content of the response as long as the opinion of the hospitality sector and vinters was also taken into consideration.

The Head of Building Control stated that the hospitality sector and vinters are included as consultees to this consultation.

Councillor Glasgow referred to opening hours at Easter and that Council's response states it is in favour of extending the licensing hours at this time. Councillor Glasgow stated he would have concerns with this response and that he could not support the extension of licensing hours into Good Friday.

Councillor McNamee stated that current licensing hours at Easter are very restrictive for bars and restaurants.

The Chair, Councillor Buchanan felt that some reverence should be shown to Good Friday.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated that bars and restaurants can open at almost any other time and asked if businesses had lobbied that opening hours at Easter needed to change.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor McGinley and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to agree the content of the draft response as outlined at appendix 2 to report and forward response to the Department for Communities.

E260/19 Extension of the Service Level Agreements relating to Health and Wellbeing services with Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council

The Head of Environmental Health presented previously circulated report which sought approval for the Service Level Agreements (SLA) with Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Council for the provision of Health Inequalities and Tobacco Control work for 2019/20.

Councillor Cuthbertson asked if there was a Council policy or if there were designated places at Council buildings for staff who smoked.

The Head of Environmental Health stated that there were legacy arrangements in place for smokers but that she would check where the designated areas are at Council buildings.

Proposed by Councillor S McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council –
- I. To continue with the Service Level Agreement for Health Inequalities with Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council.
 - II. To agree to the Service Level Agreement for Tobacco Control with Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council.

E261/19 Affordable Warmth Scheme Approval for 2019-2024

The Head of Environmental Health presented previously circulated report which provided update on the Affordable Warmth Scheme and sought approval for Service Level Agreement to carry out this work.

Proposed by Councillor Cuthbertson
Seconded by Councillor McAleer and

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to note the changes to the Affordable Warmth Scheme as outlined in report and approve the Service Level Agreement between Mid Ulster District Council and the Department for Communities in respect of the Scheme.

E262/19 Graffiti

The Head of Environmental Health presented previously circulated report which provided update on the number of graffiti complaints received and actions taken to date in 2019.

In response to question from Councillor O'Neill the Head of Environmental Health advised that if graffiti is offensive Council will try to get consent from the owner of the surface for Council to proceed with the removal of the graffiti. The officer advised that it has not always been possible to determine ownership and gain consents however offensive graffiti has still been removed by Council.

Councillor McGinley stated it is important to get a quick response for the removal of offensive graffiti and proposed that Council continue with the approach outlined in report in respect of offensive graffiti.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure asked if Council should also remove non offensive graffiti in the areas outlined.

Councillor Burton stated that graffiti is a blight and if Council can remove graffiti it should. Councillor Burton referred to Youth Justice Scheme in which assistance can be provided for activities such as graffiti removal.

The Head of Environmental Health advised that this was not something Environmental Health had been involved with previously.

Councillor McFlynn stated she had previously contacted Youth Justice and been able to avail of their assistance for schemes.

Councillor McGinley stated that whilst it would be good for Council to become involved with Youth Justice schemes and there was opportunity to explore this further he felt that the removal of offensive graffiti needed a quick response and that the involvement of vulnerable people with this task may not be appropriate and that Council should continue with its approach as outlined in report.

Proposed by Councillor Burton
Seconded by Councillor McGinley and

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council –
- I. To approve the continuation of the informal approach for offensive graffiti either reported to or identified by Environmental Health staff in the Mid Ulster Council area.
 - II. To explore the possibility of working with Youth Justice in respect of removal of non offensive graffiti.

E263/19 Mid Ulster Fairtrade

The Head of Technical Services presented previously circulated report which sought approval to progress Mid Ulster District Council's application for Fairtrade status.

Councillor McNamee proposed that the Chair and Vice Chair of the Environment Committee sit on the Fairtrade Steering Group year on year.

Councillor Wilson seconded Councillor McNamee's proposal.

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council that the Chair and Vice Chair of the Environment Committee sit on the Fairtrade Steering Group and that this practice continue year on year. Invitations will be circulated for the first meeting of the Mid Ulster District Council Fairtrade Steering Group.

E264/19 Bus Shelters

The Head of Technical Services presented previously circulated report which provided update on the progress of Bus Shelter applications throughout the District and amendments to the current Mid Ulster Bus Shelter policy/procedure to streamline the current Bus Shelter process.

Councillor McGinley referred to bus shelter for Stewartstown which seemed to be being held up due to Translink budget constraints. Councillor McGinley asked if this bus shelter would ever proceed any further.

The Head of Technical Services stated he would check on the status of the bus shelter for Stewartstown and if it is not going to be progressed by Translink then consideration can be given to erecting the shelter through the property services department of Council.

Councillor McGinley referred to the differing types of bus shelters used in urban/rural locations and felt that the green bus shelters in rural areas were outdated.

The Head of Technical Services advised that Members previously chose the type of bus shelters that would be erected, those being, green bus shelters in rural locations and clear plastic in urban areas.

Councillor McGinley asked if the decision previously taken in relation to the type of bus shelter to be erected had been rural proofed.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that the rural proofing of the previous decision could be checked and updated bus shelter designs could be brought back to the committee if it was felt necessary.

Councillor Milne referred to accident in 2008 at Castledawson roundabout in which Caoimhe Kerr was killed exiting a bus at the roundabout. Councillor Milne stated that the family would like to have a memorial situated at this location and that he had been in contact with TransportNI in this regard. The Councillor advised that TransportNI responded that they did not have an issue with a memorial being placed but that it was up to the Council to take a decision on the matter.

The Director of Environment and Property advised that TransportNI erected the bus shelters at this location and not Council.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure stated that officers would investigate the matter to ascertain who the property belonged to in relation to having a memorial placed.

In response to question from Councillor McAleer the Head of Technical Services advised that a bus shelter could only be considered if there were six people or more waiting at a bus stop.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure referred to the number of bus shelters being requested close to new housing developments and that, going forward, consideration should be given to factoring the provision of a bus shelter into the design of new developments.

Members were in agreement with the Director's comments and felt that this should be reflected to the Planning department for their consideration.

Proposed by Councillor Milne
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council –
- I. To approve the additional applications for Bus Shelters as noted in Section 3.10 of report and at Appendix 1 Table 1.
 - II. That the applications for Bus Shelters as noted at Appendix 1 Table 5 be withdrawn.
 - III. To adopt the revised arrangements for provision of Bus Shelters at existing bus stop locations in accordance with DfI Consultation as noted at 3.8 and 3.9 of report and Appendix 1 of Bus Stop Design Guide and approve the revised procedural guide for this purpose (Appendix 4 of report).

- IV. That the planning department be advised of conversation in relation to the future design of new developments and the incorporation of a bus shelter into such designs.

E265/19 Cemetery Administration and Management Update

The Head of Property Services presented previously circulated report which provided update on the administration of burials and sought approval for Council's draft policy on Cemetery Management Policy incorporating Rules, Regulations and Memorial Safety.

Councillor B McGuigan referred to complaints in relation to grass cutting at Kilcronaghan, Ballinascreen and St Lurach's historic burial grounds. The Councillor stated that these places attract visitors during the summer and that they looked untidy, Councillor B McGuigan stated that the standard of grass cutting needed to be given consideration going forward.

Councillor Wilson stated that there were sensitivities with regards to burials and cemeteries but that Council needed to take a firm line and there should be no grey areas. In relation to allowing dogs within cemeteries Councillor Wilson felt that this will be difficult for officers to police, Councillor Wilson also stated that people are often unaware of the situation regarding unauthorised memorials.

Councillor McGinley referred to the specific reference to Non-Christian burials within the policy and asked why this was being highlighted.

The Head of Property Services referred to the changing demographic of society and that previously there had been no reference to Non-Christian burials within policy.

Councillor McGinley stated he felt the term "Non-Christian" burial gives the wrong impression.

Councillor Cuthbertson asked what a Non Christian burial involved.

The Director of Environment and Property stated he took on board the comments in relation to the term Non-Christian. The Director advised that there have been requests for Humanist services and burials for other faiths which involved being buried facing a different orientation or being buried before sunset on the same day.

Councillor McNamee stated he would like to see plans for the future development of Cabin Wood as a cemetery, that consideration should be given to the planting that has already taken place at Cabin Wood and the impact a bypass may have at this location.

Councillor Burton stated she agreed with the comments raised by Councillor B McGuigan and that she had also received complaints in relation to grass cutting at burial ground at Carnteel. Councillor Burton stated that the contractor does not lift grass at this site and asked if this could be added to the tender.

The Head of Property Services stated that this is an option which can be considered but that the tender comes down to affordability. The officer also stated that the level

of work undertaken at historic burial grounds is proportionate to the level of use at these sites.

Councillor McGinley proposed that the Cemetery Management Policy be approved subject to ensuring that the policy for Mid Ulster is in line with similar policies for other Councils.

Councillor B McGuigan seconded Councillor McGinley's proposal.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the Cemetery Management Policy incorporating Rules, Regulations and Memorial Safety by way of the Policy and Resources Committee subject to ensuring that the policy for Mid Ulster is in line with similar policies for other Councils.

E266/19 Response to the DAERA Consultation on the Waste Management Plan for Northern Ireland

The Director of Environment and Property presented previously circulated report which outlined Council's response to the consultation from DAERA on the Waste Management Plan for Northern Ireland.

Councillor McGinley stated that in the past the operating hours of recycling centres had been changed and he had received comments that the times were not convenient in that the centres did not open until 9am which did not suit people on their way to work. Councillor McGinley asked that a report be brought back to Committee as to whether the changes to the opening hours had been effective and met objectives.

Councillor Wilson stated that he had also received comments that the closing times of recycling centres did not meet need as the centres were closed before business premises closed.

Proposed by Councillor McGinley
Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council –
I. To approve the draft response to DAERA consultation on the Waste Management Plan for Northern Ireland as set out at Appendix 3 of report.
II. That a report be brought back to Environment Committee in relation to the changes made to operating hours of recycling centres.

E267/19 DfI Roads Proposal – Proposed Limited Waiting – Main Street, Donaghmore

Members considered previously circulated report which sought agreement in relation to proposal from Department for Infrastructure Roads with regard to limited waiting at Main Street, Donaghmore.

Proposed by Councillor Cuthbertson
Seconded by Councillor O'Neill and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to endorse the proposal submitted by Department for Infrastructure Roads in relation to proposed limited waiting at Main Street, Donaghmore.

E268/19 DfI Roads Proposal – Proposed Removal of a Disabled Persons' Parking Bay at Moykeeran Drive, Draperstown

Members considered previously circulated report which sought agreement in relation to proposal from Department for Infrastructure Roads with regard to the proposed removal of a Disabled Persons' Parking Bay at Moykeeran Drive, Draperstown.

Proposed by Councillor Cuthbertson
Seconded by Councillor O'Neill and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to endorse the proposal submitted by Department for Infrastructure Roads in relation to proposed removal of a Disabled Persons' Parking Bay at Moykeeran Drive, Draperstown.

E269/19 DfI Roads Proposal – Proposed 40mph Speed Limit on Pound Road, Magherafelt

Members considered previously circulated report which sought agreement in relation to proposal from Department for Infrastructure Roads with regard to proposed 40mph speed limit on Pound Road, Magherafelt.

Proposed by Councillor Cuthbertson
Seconded by Councillor O'Neill and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to endorse the proposal submitted by Department for Infrastructure Roads in relation to proposed 40mph speed limit on Pound Road, Magherafelt.

E270/19 DfI Roads Proposal – Proposed No Waiting at Any Time at Union Place, Cookstown

Members considered previously circulated report which sought agreement in relation to proposal from Department for Infrastructure Roads with regard to proposed No Waiting at Any Time at Union Place, Cookstown.

Proposed by Councillor Cuthbertson
Seconded by Councillor O'Neill and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to endorse the proposal submitted by Department for Infrastructure Roads in relation to proposed No Waiting at Any Time at Union Place, Cookstown.

Matters for Information

E271/19 Minutes of Environment Committee held on 8 October 2019

Members noted minutes of Environment Committee held on 8 October 2019. Councillor McGinley referred to previous discussion in relation to provision of water bottles to staff and asked if there was an update on this matter.

The Director of Environment and Property advised that following last month's meeting this matter was discussed with Marketing and Communications and it was agreed that the provision of water bottles to staff will be tied in with Christmas events.

E272/19 Building Control Workload

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

E273/19 Entertainment Licences

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

E274/19 Dual Language Signage Requests

Members noted previously circulated report which advised of requests for Dual Language Signage from residents on streets/roads in the District.

E275/19 Dual Language Signage Surveys

Members noted previously circulated report which advised on the results of surveys undertaken on all applicable residents on the streets/roads in response to Dual Language Signage nameplate requests. Where more than 51% of occupiers that respond indicate that they are in favour of the erection of Dual Language Signage, nameplates will be erected. Where less than 51% of occupiers that responded indicate that they were not in favour of the erection of a Dual Language street nameplate, then the Dual Language nameplate will not be approved or erected.

E276/19 Mid Ulster Biodiversity Update

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on recent activities promoting community participation and enhancing the local biodiversity resource from April to September 2019.

E277/19 Recycling Education and Environmental Awareness Activities

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on the Recycling for Schools Education programme and other Environmental Awareness initiatives carried out since the start of the 2019 calendar year.

E278/19 Recycle Week 2019 'Be Plastic Fantastic' Recycling Campaign

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on Recycle Week 2019 and 'Be Plastic Fantastic' recycling campaign.

E279/19 Tullyvar Joint Committee Update

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

E280/19 Refuse Collection Route Optimisation

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on the next phase of the refuse collection route optimisation project.

Councillor Glasgow referred to the maps provided within the report which he felt were unclear and asked that a list of the roads affected by the changes be circulated to Members. The Councillor also expressed concern that the use of the one armed refuse collection vehicles will cause problems.

The Director of Environment and Property stated that a one armed vehicle had been in use in the Magherafelt area for a number of years and that other Councils use similar systems in rural areas. The Director stated that the use of the one armed vehicle is a tried and tested system which works well and has the added benefit in that there are no operatives required at the back of the vehicle.

The Head of Environmental Services confirmed that four one armed refuse collection vehicles had already been purchased and stated it was planned to use the vehicles and the new routes from next week.

The Director of Environment and Property stated there would be no change in service delivery.

Councillor Glasgow expressed concern at residents having to take bins across busy roads and if assisted bin lifts would continue.

The Director of Environment and Property stated that when the list of roads was provided to Members it would become clearer. The Director also confirmed that assisted bin lifts would continue as normal.

E281/19 Northern Ireland Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste Management (LACMW) Statistics Report for April to June 2019

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on Council's performance in relation to recycling and landfill diversion targets as outlined in the NIEA Northern Ireland Local Authority Waste Management Statistics Report for Quarter 1 of 2019/20 from April to June 2019.

The Chair, Councillor Buchanan highlighted that Mid Ulster Council achieved the highest recycling rate of the eleven Councils along with the lowest utilisation of landfill allowance.

Members reflected that these achievements were testament not only to Council's commitment but that of Mid Ulster residents.

E282/19 Update Report on Old Burial Grounds Maintenance Agreement

Members noted previously circulated report which provided an update on the maintenance agreement for eight Old Burial Grounds in Mid Ulster District Council with the Church representatives that appear to exercise control over the sites in question.

Councillor Cuthbertson referred to the graveyards mentioned earlier in which there had been complaints in relation to grass cutting, the Councillor stated that he wanted to include the graveyard at Clogher Cathedral as he had also received complaints in relation to the standard of work at this graveyard this year compared to the previous year and that cut grass was not being lifted.

Councillor Burton stated that officers needed to follow up on these complaints.

The Head of Property Services stated that the Members comments were noted and would be followed up.

Councillor McAleer stated that she welcomed the agreement but that there appeared to be a pattern of grass not being lifted at old graveyards and that the grass at Errgial Keerogue graveyard was also not lifted when cut.

Councillor Glasgow stated that he recognised that the terrain of some old graveyards may be difficult for grass to be lifted when cut but that officers should ensure that a cut is not missed at these graveyards as the longer the grass is left the more difficult it becomes to manage.

Councillor McGinley referred to Old Cross graveyard at Ardboe and ongoing correspondence in relation to retaining wall at the graveyard and asked for an update on this matter. Councillor McGinley also referred to post box and signs at entrance to the Old Cross graveyard and stated that he did not feel this looked right. Councillor McGinley requested that a meeting be set up with statutory bodies (Royal Mail and DfI) to explore how this matter could be rectified.

The Director of Environment and Property stated that a report would be prepared for the Policy and Resources Committee in relation to the retaining wall at the Old Cross graveyard as a land transfer to Council will be required.

The Director of Environment and Property referred to old burial grounds which had previously transferred to Council and that there was some concern that these graveyards were not being strictly managed within the 1992 Burial Regulations. The Director advised that officers were undertaking work as to how activity at the old burial grounds can be brought into line with Council's active burial grounds.

Councillors Cuthbertson and Wilson left the meeting at 8.50 pm.

Local Government (NI) Act 2014 - Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Milne 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 E283/19 to E290/19.

Matters for Decision

E283/19 Application for the variation of a Street Trading Licence
E284/19 Villages Programme Capital Project – IST Appointment
E285/19 Villages Programme Capital Project – IST Award
E286/19 Closure of Clogher Recycling Centre
E287/19 Contract for processing of kerbside commingled recyclables

Matters for Information

E288/19 Confidential Minutes of Environment Committee held on 8 October 2019
E289/19 Capital Projects Update
E290/19 Off Street Car Parking; Quarter 2 2019/2020

E291/19 Duration of Meeting

The meeting was called for 7.00 pm and ended at 9.13 pm.

CHAIR _____

DATE _____

Report on	Environmental Services - Christmas Working Arrangements
Date of Meeting	2 nd December 2019
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	X

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To inform members of the working arrangements in respect of refuse/recycling collection and operation of Recycling Centres during the Christmas and New Year holiday period.
2.0	Background
2.1	Last year following discussion and agreement with the trade unions exactly the same working arrangements were implemented, for the first time, across the Mid Ulster District over the Christmas and New Year period in respect of refuse and recycling collections.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	During the forthcoming festive period 25 th December (Christmas Day) falls on a Wednesday. Therefore all refuse/recycling collections due to take place that day will be carried out instead on Saturday 21 st December. Collections due on Thursday 26 th December (Boxing Day) will take place the following Saturday on 28 th December. Collections due on Wednesday 1 st January 2020 (New Year's Day) will be carried out on Saturday 4th January.
3.2	All householders affected by these changes (approximately 25,000) will be made directly aware of these arrangements via a "hanger" which will be attached to their wheeled bin during week commencing 16 th December (copy attached). These arrangements have also been advertised in the recently distributed Council Insight magazine (copy attached) and will appear on the Council website and Bin Ovation App nearer the time.
3.3	In relation to our eleven Recycling Centres it is planned that all sites will shut at 3:30 pm on Tuesday 24 th December (Christmas Eve) and reopen as normal on the morning of Friday 27 th December. The sites will close again at 3:30 pm on Tuesday 31 st December (New Year's Eve) and reopen on Thursday 2nd January 2020.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: The three Saturdays on which a service will be provided will be treated as "substitute" Public Holidays with additional payments as per with national conditions.

	Human: In addition to enhanced payment employees are entitled to appropriate TOIL
	Risk Management: None
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: Common arrangements apply across the district.
	Rural Needs Implications: None
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are asked to note the working arrangements as outlined in this report.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Copy of bin hanger detailing Christmas and New Year refuse collection arrangements
6.2	Extract from Council Insight magazine



Bin Collection Information

There will be no bin collections
on **Wednesday 25 December** and
Thursday 26 December 2019.

Bins due to be collected on 25 December will be
collected instead on Saturday 21 December 2019.

Bins due to be collected on 26 December will be
collected instead on Saturday 28 December 2019.

The will be no bin collections
on **Wednesday 1 January 2020**.

Bins due to be collected on Wednesday 1 January will
be collected instead on Saturday 4 January 2020.

**Please remember to leave your bins
at the kerb by 7.30am.**



Comhairle Ceantair
Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster
District Council



Plastics

Recycle your plastic bottles, pots,
tubs and trays in your **blue bin**.



Clean plastics only - please rinse
and dry before recycling!

www.midulstercouncil.org/recycling



Do You Recycle Your Plastics? We do!

Our Recycling Heroes are back and this time their fight is against plastics!

In Mid Ulster we recycled over 1,500 tonnes of plastic bottles and containers in our blue bins in 2018/19. However, an alarming 10.6% of our black bin waste is still made up of plastic bottles and containers that could have been recycled in the blue bin.

So while the recycling heroes in Mid Ulster are doing a great job, with 88% of us recycling our plastic bottles and 75% recycling other plastic packaging, we can still do more to be plastic fantastic!

Plastic recycling at a glance!

We say **yes** to:

- ✓ Plastic drinks bottles
- ✓ Yoghurt pots
- ✓ Plastic tubs
- ✓ Plastic meat & fruit trays
- ✓ Plastic shampoo bottles

But **no** to:

- ✗ Plastic bags
- ✗ Plastic wrapping
- ✗ Toothpaste tubes
- ✗ Polystyrene packaging
- ✗ Crisp packets

For a full list of the plastics we say yes and no to in Mid Ulster see www.midulstercouncil.org/plastics. **Look out for our new plastics recycling video in cinemas near you this festive season.**

If in doubt, just ask.

Contact us at recycling@midulstercouncil.org with your questions, download the Bin-ovation app to have recycling and waste information on your phone or visit www.midulstercouncil.org/recycling.



Holiday Bin Collections



Holiday	Bins will be collected on:
Christmas Day Wednesday 25 December	Saturday 21 December
Boxing Day Thursday 26 December	Saturday 28 December
New Year's Day Wednesday 1 January	Saturday 4 January

Full details of holiday arrangements for bin collections and recycling centres, as well as Council offices, arts and leisure venues can be found on our website www.midulstercouncil.org/holidayarrangements

Report on	European Week for Waste Reduction 2019
Date of Meeting	2 December 2019
Reporting Officer	Mark McAdoo, Head of Environmental Services
Contact Officers	Recycling Officers

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update members on European Week for Waste Reduction (EWWR) 2019 activities
2.0	Background
2.1	European Week for Waste Reduction (EWWR) is an annual waste reduction initiative promoted across all of Europe.
2.2	Each country that registers to take part requests Action Developers to submit their actions that will encourage individuals, communities, schools and businesses to reduce the waste that we produce during EWWR. EWWR took place from 16 th – 24 th November and the theme were 'Change your ways, reduce your waste.'
2.3	Mid Ulster Council's Recycling Team registered as an Action Developer and promoted EWWR to schools and the wider community. Actions had to be registered in advance of EWWR, by 8 November. 75 actions were registered in Northern Ireland with Mid Ulster registering 8. EWWR have a map of actions taken across Europe.
2.4	As members will be aware, Environmental Services is continuing its focus on increasing our Council dry recycling rate, i.e. maximising usage of the blue bin scheme, reducing 'missed capture' (the blue bin material still being placed in the black bin) and reducing contamination. Thus, Council utilised the opportunity provided by EWWR to raise awareness of the #BePlasticFantastic campaign, to call on residents to take action to reduce plastics usage where possible and to increase recycling of plastics that are used – making use of their indoor recycling bag.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	EWWR Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch press release and photo with Environment Committee Chair (Appendix 1) • News item on Council website • Promotion on social media before and during EWWR and ongoing #BePlasticFantastic social media promotion • Using EWWR as opportunity to promote dedicated plastics page on Council website https://www.midulstercouncil.org/plastics • Email to all schools calling on them to take action during EWWR

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EWWR and plastics focused recycling education with schools and community groups • Ongoing NI Water delivery of #Refillution talks/water bus visits to schools in November 19
3.2	<p>Ongoing promotion of #BePlasticFantastic:</p> <p>As members will be aware, the Environmental Services Recycling Team applied for and were successful in securing £5000 from the WRAP/DAERA Plastics Recycling Communications Fund. Part of this funding has been used to cover the cost of production for a second 'Recycling Hero' video for use on social media and in cinemas.</p>
3.3	<p>This video features a family of 'Recycling Heroes' continuing the 'fight against plastics'. The video aims to demonstrate a number of key points / actions that can be taken to increase recycling:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Showing the indoor recycling bag ALONGSIDE the black waste bin in a kitchen setting – to show that recycling should be just as prominent • Showing that plastic pots, tubs and trays (PTTs) from the kitchen should be recycled in just the same way that we recycle common items such as milk cartons. The video features a milk carton, meat tray (black) and plastic fruit punnet (clear) being recycled. • Showing recycling of plastics from the bathroom as research has shown that these are often forgotten.
3.4	<p>Showing of the video in the three Mid Ulster cinemas (Dungannon, Cookstown and Maghera) will commence 22 November and will continue until 5 December. This has been timed to coincide with one of the biggest film releases of the year. Following release of the video in cinemas, it will be used on Council social media channels.</p>
3.5	<p>The video can be viewed at: https://vimeo.com/371633437</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: None
	Human: None
	Risk Management: None
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: None.
	Rural Needs Implications: None
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are asked to note the contents of this report.

6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	European Week for Waste Reduction 2019 Launch press release and photo

8 November 2019

Change your ways, Reduce your waste – Be Plastic Fantastic this European Week of Waste Reduction!

Mid Ulster District Council is urging residents to Be Plastic Fantastic by changing their ways and reducing their waste this European Week of Waste Reduction (EWWR) which takes place from 16th – 24th November.

EWWR is the perfect opportunity to challenge everyday actions and habits to reduce the waste we produce and increase our recycling.

The Council is calling on the district's recycling heroes to use EWWR to Be Plastic Fantastic and take actions to help reduce the 10% of our black bin waste made up of plastic items that could have been recycled in the blue bin. If it is a plastic bottle, pot, tub or tray it can be recycled in your blue bin!

Don't forget to recycle from all around the house – especially the bathroom where we use cleaning bottles, hand soap bottles and toiletry bottles!

Just ensure all items are clean, dry and loose before disposing of them in the blue bin.

Actions we can all take to help reduce the amount of plastic waste we generate include:

On the go -

- Stop using disposable coffee cups - carry a reusable cup for your take-away coffees.
- Fill your reusable water bottle from home before you set off for the day, this saves you money too.
- Stop using cling film or sandwich bags for packed lunches – put your sandwiches in a reusable tub.
- Getting hot food on the go? Avoid polystyrene trays that have to go in the black bin – bring your own tupperware.
- Say no to disposable plastic cutlery or disposable cups.

At the shops:

- Pass on the plastic straws – these have to be disposed of in the black bin. Purchase paper straws that can be composted in the brown bin or a reusable metal straw.
- Choose loose fruit and veg where possible.
- Choose products with less packaging or recyclable packaging.
- Don't forget your reusable shopping bag.

In the bathroom:

- Next time you throw your old plastic toothbrush into the black bin, buy a wooden compostable replacement.
- Replace shampoo bottles and hand soap bottles with plastic packaging free shampoo and soap bars.
- Replace plastic stemmed cotton buds with compostable paper stemmed ones.

Chair of the Council's Environment Committee, Councillor Wilbert Buchanan is supporting EWWR's call for action. He said, "EWWR reminds us how easily we can fall into habits that produce unnecessary waste. We can all take steps to tackle this and one of the most straightforward actions we can take is to ensure no recyclable plastics end up in our black bins. I would call on all the district's recycling heroes to continue their great work and make full use of their indoor recycling bags and blue bins to #BePlasticFantastic this EWWR and throughout the whole year."

For more information on plastics recycling in Mid Ulster, including the plastics we say 'yes please' and 'no thanks' to, go to: www.midulstercouncil.org/plastics

We really want to hear what you are doing to #BePlasticFantastic this EWWR – email the Recycling Team at Mid Ulster District Council: recycling@midulstercouncil.org or for more information call us on 03000 132 132.

Tell us about your plastic waste reducing actions and help inspire others to do the same!

ENDS

For more information contact Mairead McNally, Mid Ulster District Council, E: mairead.mcnally@midulstercouncil.org or tel: 03000 132 132 Mob: 07816339825



Report on	Noise Complaint Statistics for Northern Ireland 2017/2018
Date of Meeting	2 nd December 2019
Reporting Officer	Fiona McClements

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	The purpose of this report is to inform Members of the number and nature of noise complaints received each year by district councils across Northern Ireland. The Regulatory and Natural Resources Policy Division of the DAERA has compiled a report on noise complaint statistics for Northern Ireland 2017/2018 which has now been released. The statistics for 2018/19 are expected early 2020. The report is compiled from data supplied by district councils. The report analyses noise complaints received by all 11 councils between 1 April 2017 and 31 March 2018.
1.2	During this period 11,766 noise complaints were received in Northern Ireland. This was a 2.8% decrease in the total number of complaints received compared to the previous year. There has been a 7.2% increase in the number of notices served. (607 served in 2017/18 and 566 served in 2016/17). There were two prosecutions for the 2017/18 year, compared to one prosecution in 2016/17 and 2015/16 and five in 2014/15. The information in the report is an important indicator of the increasing public awareness of noise issues and the effectiveness of current noise controls. The report also allows councils to compare their noise statistics to those of neighbouring districts, to examine trends and to consider initiatives implemented by other district councils that have proved effective in increasing noise awareness or reducing noise.
2.0	Background
2.1	Articles 63 and 65 of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 (CNEA) give district councils the power to deal with noise from premises, including land, which they consider is prejudicial to health or amounts to a statutory nuisance. These powers apply not only to existing noise, but also where noise is expected to occur or reoccur. There is no fixed level of noise which constitutes a statutory nuisance. Individual circumstances differ and each case is judged on its merits.
2.2	In deciding whether or not a noise is sufficient to amount to a statutory nuisance, the authorised officer of the district council has to consider the reaction of the average, reasonable person to the nuisance, taking account not only of its volume, but factors such as when and how often the noise occurs and the duration of the occurrence. Where a council is satisfied that a nuisance exists, articles 63 and 65 require the district council to serve an Abatement Notice. The notice may require

	the noise to be stopped altogether or limited to certain times of the day. A notice must be served on the person responsible for the noise or if this person cannot be located, the owner or occupier of the premises. A person on whom an abatement notice is served has the right to appeal it within 21 days of being served.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	There were 11,766 noise complaints received in Northern Ireland in 2017/18. Of these complaints 6778 were received by Belfast. The Mid Ulster District received 383 noise complaints which is the second lowest figure with only Fermanagh & Omagh receiving less with 297. In general the more densely populated areas tend to receive the greatest amount of complaints.
3.2	There is an overall 2.8% decrease in the total number of complaints received compared to the previous year. There was a decrease in the numbers of noise complaint received by Mid Ulster from 438 complaints to 383. This represents a decrease of 13% in noise complaints received in the Mid Ulster District.
3.3	Mid Ulster Council had the largest number of industrial noise complaints with 26 out of a NI wide total of 144. This accounts for 18% of all industrial complaints received. This reflects the prevalence of manufacturing industry in the District. Complaints of this nature can be some of the most complex to investigate and difficult to resolve of all noise complaints.
3.4	Mid Ulster also has the most complaints regarding wind farms with a total of 7 complaints received. Animal noise was the most complained of type of noise in the district with 196 complaints received. This amounts to 51% of all complaints received. This is largely due to barking dog complaints. Interestingly despite this the volume of complaints received Mid Ulster ranked only 9 th among the district councils. Early intervention by dog enforcement officers and the promotion of barker breaker collars may account for the relatively low amount of complaints.
3.5	There were 3 Noise Abatement Notices served in the District during this year making it the joint 4 th in terms of notices served. When factored into the amount of notices served per 100 noise complaints the Mid Ulster total of 0.78 is the 4 th highest level of notice served.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: None
	Human: None
	Risk Management: None

4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: None
	Rural Needs Implications: None
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members to note of the main points regarding noise complaints highlighted in this report. A copy of the DAERA report (attached at Appendix 1) will be made available to the public via the Council website.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 – Noise Complaint Statistics for Northern Ireland 2017/2018.



Noise Complaint Statistics for Northern Ireland

2017 - 2018

A living, working, active landscape valued by everyone.



Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**

www.daera-ni.gov.uk



**INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE**

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Introduction

The purpose of this report is to inform central government, district councils, the general public and any other interested parties as to the number and nature of noise complaints received each year by district councils across Northern Ireland. The Regulatory and Natural Resources Policy Division of the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs has compiled this report from data supplied by district councils, the organisations that are legally empowered to deal with the vast majority of noise complaints.

This report analyses noise complaints received by all 11 councils between 1 April 2017 and 31 March 2018. During this period 11,766 noise complaints were received in Northern Ireland. This is a 2.8% decrease in the total number of complaints received compared to the previous year. There has been a 7.2% increase in the number of notices served this year (607 served in 2017/18 and 566 served in 2016/17). There were two prosecutions for the 2017/18 year, compared to one prosecution in 2016/17 and 2015/16 and five in 2014/15.

The information in this report is an important indicator of the increasing public awareness of noise issues and the effectiveness of current noise controls. The statistics provided by district councils enable the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs to target policy development, such as through the application of the powers in the Noise Act 1996 following the introduction of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 in April 2012.

This report also allows councils to compare their noise statistics to those of neighbouring districts, to examine trends and to consider initiatives implemented by other district councils that have proved effective in increasing noise awareness or reducing noise.

Noise

Noise is commonly defined as ‘sound which is undesired by the recipient’. Noise can be any sound that is intrusive, disturbing or annoying. It can be one of the most pervasive pollutants and is capable of causing annoyance, stress, sleep disturbance and other serious conditions. The likelihood of individuals complaining to their council about noise depends on the degree of disturbance and the individual’s awareness of the noise control service provided by the council.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) states that noise can seriously harm human health and interfere with people’s daily activities at school, at work and during leisure time. Depending on the level of noise and its duration, the main health risks identified by the WHO include pain and hearing fatigue, impaired hearing, altered behaviour (such as aggression or feelings of helplessness), interference in speech and communication, sleep disturbance, cardiovascular effects, reduced academic and professional performance and altered hormonal responses (including increased stress hormone levels, altered metabolism and weakened immune system). A report published by the WHO and European Commission JRC in 2011¹ found that 1 in 3 individuals is annoyed during the daytime and 1 in 5 has experienced disturbed sleep at night because of traffic noise.

Given the potential adverse impacts on health, it is important that instances of noise pollution are taken seriously and fully addressed. The most common complaints relating to excessive noise suffered in Northern Ireland include lack of sleep, inability to relax and interruption to conversations or television programmes.

¹ Burden of Disease from Environmental Noise – Quantification of healthy life years lost in Europe. World Health Organisation Regional Office for Europe and European Commission JRC. 2011. Accessed 17 August 2011. Available at <http://www.euro.who.int/en/what-we-publish/abstracts/burden-of-disease-from-environmental-noise.-quantification-of-healthy-life-years-lost-in-europe>

Noise Complaints

Councils receive a wide variety of noise complaints which are categorised as follows:

- **Domestic;**
- **Commercial and leisure;**
- **Industrial;**
- **Noise in the street;**
- **Construction, demolition or road works; and**
- **Transport**

These categories have been further sub-divided; details can be found in Table 1.

What can be done?

Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (Northern Ireland) 2011

Articles 63 and 65 of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 (CNEA) give district councils the power to deal with noise from premises, including land, which they consider is prejudicial to health or amounts to a statutory nuisance. These powers apply not only to existing noise, but also where noise is expected to occur or reoccur. There is no fixed level of noise which constitutes a statutory nuisance. Individual circumstances differ and each case is judged on its merits. In deciding whether or not a noise is sufficient to amount to a statutory nuisance, the authorised officer of the district council has to consider the reaction of the average, reasonable person to the nuisance, taking account not only of its volume, but factors such as when and how often the noise occurs and the duration of the occurrence.

Where a council is satisfied that a nuisance exists, articles 63 and 65 require the district council to serve an Abatement Notice. The notice may require the noise to be stopped altogether or limited to certain times of the day. A notice must be served on the person responsible for the noise or if this person cannot be located, the owner or occupier of the premises. A person on whom an abatement notice is served has the right to appeal it within 21 days of being served.

The CNEA also introduced new powers for district councils to designate all or part of their district as an alarm notification area. In such areas the occupier or owner of any premises (residential or non-residential, occupied or vacant) that are fitted with an audible intruder alarm must nominate a key-holder for those premises and provide the district council with contact details. The key-holder is contacted by the council to silence an alarm that is sounding. Failure to nominate a key-holder is an offence and an individual found guilty is liable on summary conviction to a fine of £1000. Under this legislation, an authorised officer of a district council can enter premises (including land), without force, in order to silence an audible intruder alarm that:

1. has been sounding continuously for more than twenty minutes or intermittently for more than 1 hour;
2. is likely to give persons living or working in the vicinity reasonable cause for annoyance; and
3. if the premises are in an alarm notification area, reasonable steps have been taken to get the nominated key-holder to silence the alarm².

Once on the premises, an authorised officer can take whatever steps are necessary to silence the alarm³. This might include, for example, disabling the externally mounted alarm, but would not include picking a lock to enter. However, if requested by a district council, a lay magistrate can issue a warrant authorising the use of force by an authorised officer to enter premises where certain conditions are satisfied. Before issuing a warrant a lay magistrate must be satisfied that the conditions outlined above have been met, and that a district council cannot gain entry without the use of force⁴.

² Article 56 of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (Northern Ireland) 2011

³ Article 58 of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (Northern Ireland) 2011

⁴ Article 57 of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (Northern Ireland) 2011

Noise Act 1996

The Noise Act 1996 allows council officers to issue warning and fixed penalty notices and, in certain circumstances, to seize noise making equipment from premises emitting noise during night hours (from 11pm to 7am). These powers apply to premises including dwellings, those with an exhibition or entertainment licence, premises with a licence to sell intoxicating liquor (including an occasional licence) or where meals or refreshments are supplied for consumption on or off the premises, or premises occupied by a registered club.

Key findings

Complaints

- 11,766 noise complaints received in Northern Ireland in 2017/18.
- 2.8% decrease in the total number of complaints received compared to the previous year.

Figure 1 shows the number of complaints in each council area per 1000 people, based on mid 2017 population estimates. Noise complaints occur more often in urban areas where there are large numbers of people who may be bothered by the noise. As expected the greatest number of complaints occur in Belfast (19.9 complaints per 1000 people) and the fewest complaints per 1000 of population occur in Newry, Mourne and Down District Council (2.5 per 1000 persons).

Notices

- 7.2% increase in the total number of notices served by district councils.
- A total of 607 notices were served in 2017/18. 80 notices were served under CNEA. Similar numbers of notices have been served under the CNEA over the last four years (67 in 2016/17, 65 in 2015/16, 67 in 2014/15, and 69 in 2013/14).

Details of noise notices served by district councils are contained in Table 2.

72 of the 80 notices served this year under the CNEA related to noise from domestic premises. 55 of these notices were served in response to loud music, televisions or parties and 15 were served in relation to animal noise. The high number of complaints relating to music/televisions/parties may be due to the time of day (evening/night) when individuals are most likely to be watching television loudly or having a party, coinciding with the period when unintended recipients are likely to be most offended by noise.

Table 2 illustrates the numbers of all notices served by district councils in Northern Ireland under the CNEA and the Noise Act 1996 per 100 complaints received. Councils serving the greatest number of notices per 100 complaints in 2017/18 were Belfast (8.5) and Ards and North Down (1.5).

Of the 11,766 complaints received, 5.2% (607 notices) resulted in notices being served and there were two prosecutions. This may indicate that council officers are very effective at resolving complaints informally without serving a notice, or that once the issue is drawn to the attention of the noise-maker, they rectify the problem quickly.



Analysis by noise source

Analysis of the data reveals that domestic noise accounted for 80.5% of all complaints this year, followed by complaints relating to commerce and leisure (8.2%), noise in the street (4.2%) and construction noise (2.8%). Figure 3 contains a breakdown of the figures but the tables below give a snapshot comparison of some of this year's statistics compared to last year's.

Domestic		
	2016/2017	2017/2018
Loud music, television and parties	43%	46%
Animal noise	38%	36%
Other neighbourhood noise	16%	15%

Commercial and Leisure		
	2016/2017	2017/2018
Entertainment premises	48%	44%
Security alarms	21%	21%
Other Shops and Offices	10%	9%
Other	11%	12%
Sport and leisure	7%	12%

Industrial		
	2016/2017	2017/2018
Industry, manufacturing and workshops	57%	51%
Agriculture	25%	22%
Wind Turbine (Individual)	16%	20%
Wind Farm	2%	7%

Noise in the Street		
	2016/2017	2017/2018
Other	53%	40%
Loudspeakers	4%	5%
Antisocial behaviour	16%	14%
Road Works	12%	20%
Street performance/ public address	11%	15%

Transport		
	2016/2017	2017/2018
Road vehicles	49%	42%
Railways	5%	8%
Delivery vehicles	13%	16%
Vehicle horn/revving engine/exhausts	25%	24%

The CNEA enables district councils to designate all or part of their district as an alarm notification area and enter premises with or without force to silence an alarm. No councils have designated alarm notification areas since this legislation came into operation. In 2017/18 Belfast City Council used the powers to silence alarms on nine occasions: eight without force and on one occasion with force pursuant to a Magistrate's warrant. Ards and North Down Borough Council used the powers to silence an alarm on one occasion without force.

Analysis since 2003/04

The total number of noise complaints in Northern Ireland in 2017/18 are 40% greater than the total number of noise complaints in Northern Ireland in 2003/04.

Noise complaints rose each year between 2003/04 and 2006/07 when they reached 11,923 complaints. Since 2006/07 the highest number of complaints received was for the 2011/12 year when they reached 12,193. The lowest number since 2006/07 was in 2015/16 when a dip to 10,754 occurred (figure 2).

Full details of the annual changes by sector are illustrated in Figure 4. This demonstrates that the proportion of noise complaints attributable to each category varies little year on year. Domestic noise complaints far outweigh all the other sources and, in general, since 2003/04 the commercial and leisure sector is the second largest category. Figures 5 to 10 show the changes in numbers of noise complaints across the various categories over the past 15 years.

Domestic			
	2016/2017	2017/2018	% Change
Number of complaints	9,720	9,467	2.6% decrease

Levels of domestic noise complaints increased notably between 2003/04 and 2006/07. In 2003/04 6879 complaints were received. This rose to 10393 in 2011/12 when complaints relating to domestic noise reached their peak.

Commercial and Leisure			
	2016/2017	2017/2018	% Change
Number of complaints	945	970	2.6% increase

Complaint numbers peaked in 2012/13 when 1124 were received.

Industrial			
	2016/2017	2017/2018	% Change
Number of complaints	281	282	0.4% increase

Industrial noise complaints are now 50% greater than they were in 2003/04 when 187 were received.

Noise in the Street			
	2016/2017	2017/2018	% Change
Number of complaints	538	495	8.0% decrease

Complaints relating to noise in the street have decreased for the second successive year. In relation to 2003/04, complaints in this category are 156% greater for 2017/18.

Construction			
	2016/2017	2017/2018	% Change
Number of complaints	380	328	13.7% decrease

Construction noise complaints rose almost 86% between 2003/04 and 2007/08 and subsequently fell until 2010/2011, possibly due to the decline in construction and property development following the economic downturn. 2017/18 saw a 67% increase in construction/ demolition noise complaints in comparison to 2010/2011 (Figure 9).

Transport			
	2016/2017	2017/2018	% Change
Number of complaints	241	224	7.1% decrease

Transport noise complaints make up only 1.9% of complaints this year and figures 3 and 8 provide a breakdown of the number of complaints by type of transport. Road vehicles are the predominant source of noise complaints in this category (42%). The number of complaints in relation to road noise has varied notably since 2003/04.

Council initiatives to increase awareness and aid enforcement

Mid and East Antrim Borough Council introduced a Noise App in 2016/17 which has continued to be used during 2017/18. Once downloaded to a smartphone, the App allows individuals affected by neighbour noise to record noise experienced and submit it to the Environmental Health Department of the Council. The App replaces traditional log sheets used to record complaints and gives officers an audio recording of incidents which enables officers to identify more serious incidents and provides an indication of intensity, loudness and duration. There are safeguards built into the App which enables verification of the recording authenticity and prevents misuse of the App. The App has resulted in noise complaints being investigated more quickly. In addition, Mid and East Antrim Borough Council launched a Green Dog Walkers scheme that included exhibitions and information sessions on learning behavioural techniques to help reduce dog barking.

Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council have been working with the PSNI to patrol student residential areas of the Borough. There were 24 planned patrols in 2017/18. Patrols focus on issues including antisocial behaviour, noise nuisance, drinking in public places and personal and property safety. This initiative also included attending student induction days with PSNI at University of Ulster Coleraine.

Conclusion

Neighbourhood noise problems can arise from many quarters. The lack of consideration for the rights of others is a contributory factor in many of these problems. The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs considers that increasing education on noise prevention is one way of tackling the problem and is keen for the councils to continue their efforts to raise noise issues on local agendas.

Noise Complaint Figures & Tables



Table 1**Total noise complaints received
by district council 2017-18**

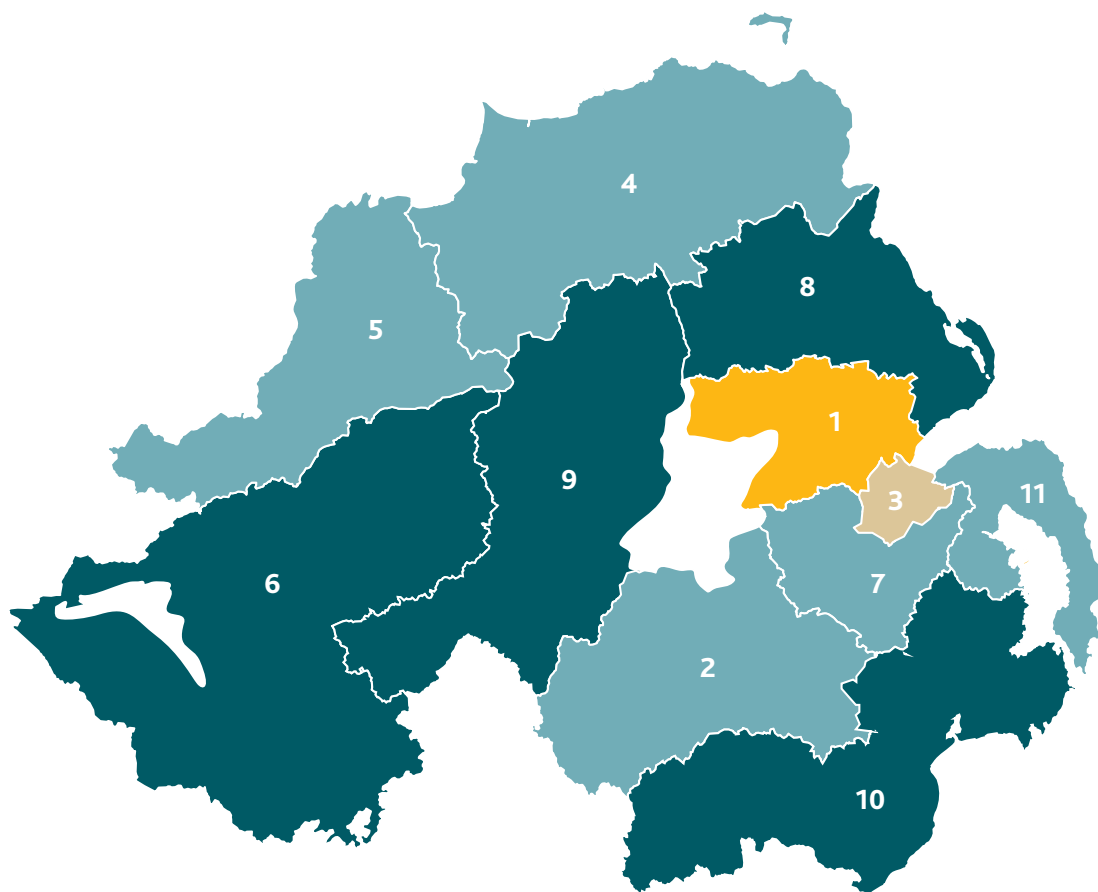
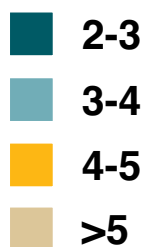
COUNCIL	Category of Source															
	Industrial				Commercial & Leisure							Domestic				
	Industry Manufacturing Workshops	Agricultural	Wind Turbine (Individual)	Wind Farm	Entertainment Premises	Sports & Leisure	Petrol Stations/Car Wash	Hot Food Bars Restaurants	Other Shops & Offices	Security Alarms	Other	DIY	Music Televisions Parties	Animal Noise	House Alarms	Other Neighbour Noise
Antrim & Newtownabbey	22	2	6	2	3	10	0	0	3	4	34	8	119	289	7	87
Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon	9	11	12	0	1	25	1	2	0	2	4	7	143	409	6	52
Belfast	2	0	0	0	366	49	4	3	68	163	51	49	3,648	813	147	899
Causeway Coast & Glens	12	5	6	4	5	0	0	1	0	8	11	1	62	313	10	17
Derry & Strabane	18	2	2	2	26	3	0	6	1	3	5	4	77	239	11	52
Fermanagh & Omagh	8	7	7	2	5	1	2	0	3	4	3	1	41	120	0	51
Lisburn & Castlereagh	9	9	2	0	4	8	2	1	0	4	0	3	80	283	2	58
Mid & East Antrim	10	4	4	1	5	6	0	0	4	4	1	8	60	216	5	49
Mid Ulster	26	11	3	7	2	3	1	0	1	4	1	2	54	196	1	34
Newry, Mourne & Down	22	4	13	0	4	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	19	242	4	43
Ards & North Down	6	6	2	2	3	8	0	2	3	9	6	2	62	319	5	38
TOTAL	144	61	57	20	424	115	10	16	83	206	116	85	4,365	3,439	198	1,380
	282				970							9467				

Table 1**Total noise complaints received
by district council 2017-18 continued**

COUNCIL	Category of Source																Total
	Construction	Transport							Noise in the Street								
	Construction Sites/Demolition Works Road Works	Road Vehicles	Railways	Civil Aircraft	Military Aircraft	Delivery Vehicles	Vehicle Alarms	Vehicle horns/revving engines/noisy exhausts	Loudspeakers	Road Works	Ice Cream Van Chimes	Street Traders	Street Performance Public Address	Children Playing	Antisocial Behaviour	Other	
Antrim & Newtownabbey	30	3	0	1	0	2	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	3	4	644
Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon	23	10	0	0	0	3	0	10	0	0	4	0	1	2	20	7	764
Belfast	150	33	16	0	3	15	7	9	3	52	1	0	61	0	18	148	6,778
Causeway Coast & Glens	13	2	0	0	0	0	0	11	2	1	0	0	2	0	6	0	492
Derry & Strabane	0	4	0	0	0	2	0	6	9	35	2	0	0	1	6	16	532
Fermanagh & Omagh	19	4	0	0	0	2	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	1	8	3	297
Lisburn & Castlereagh	20	3	1	0	0	4	1	4	3	8	0	1	5	2	0	0	517
Mid & East Antrim	5	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	4	3	1	0	1	2	4	400
Mid Ulster	17	3	0	0	0	1	0	6	1	0	0	0	0	1	8	0	383
Newry, Mourne & Down	21	29	0	1	0	4	10	0	3	0	0	1	1	2	0	14	441
Ards & North Down	30	2	0	0	0	2	0	1	3	0	0	1	4	1	0	1	518
TOTAL	328	94	17	2	3	36	18	54	25	101	11	4	74	12	71	197	1,1766
	328	224							495								

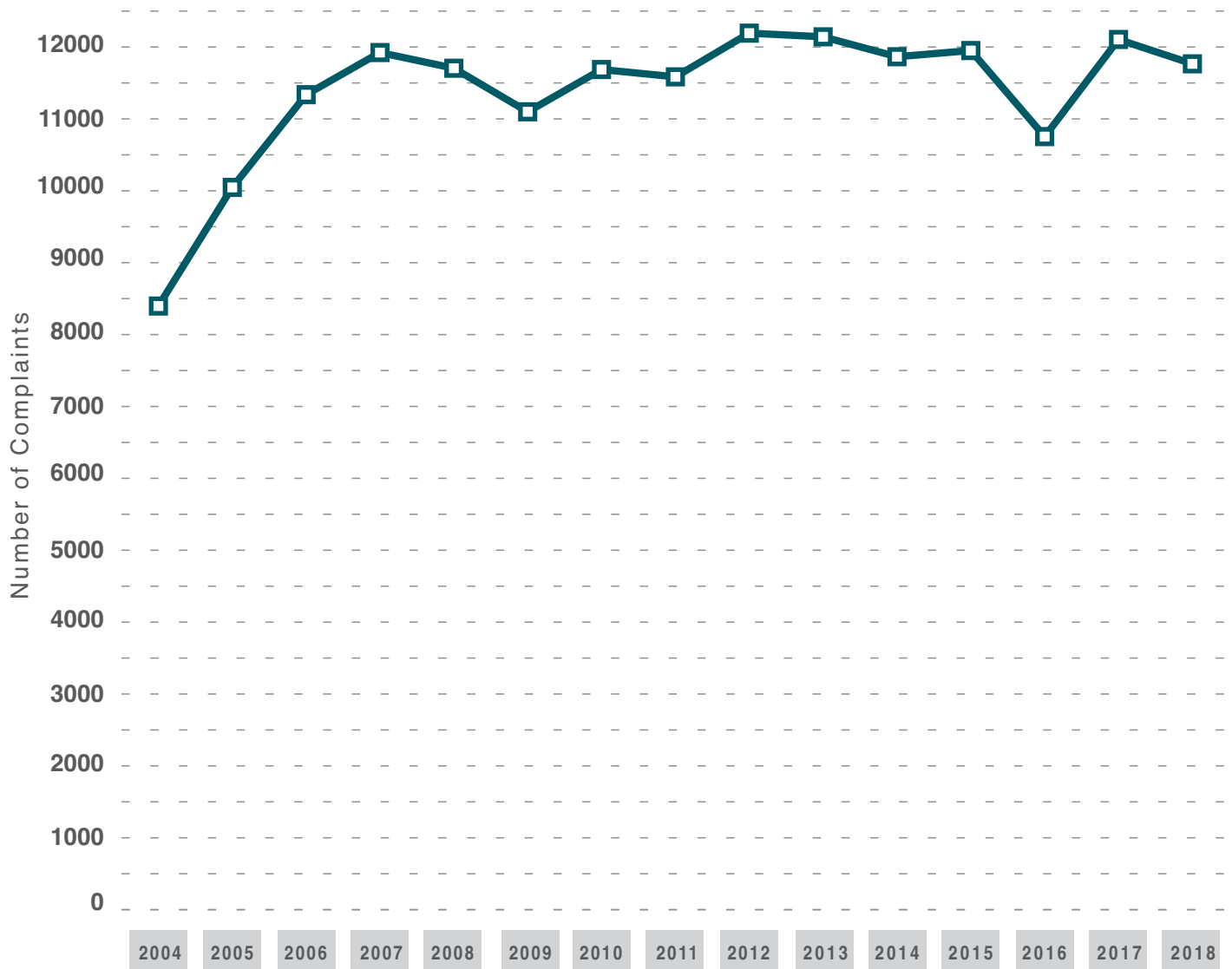
Table 2**Notices served per 100 complaints received 2017-18**

COUNCIL	Number notices served (CNEA & NA)	Number of notices per 100 complaints
Antrim & Newtownabbey	0	0.00
Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon	11	1.44
Belfast	576	8.50
Causeway Coast & Glens	3	0.61
Derry & Strabane	0	0.00
Fermanagh & Omagh	1	0.34
Lisburn & Castlereagh	2	0.39
Mid & East Antrim	0	0.00
Mid Ulster	3	0.78
Newry, Mourne & Down	3	0.68
Ards & North Down	8	1.54
TOTAL	607	5.16

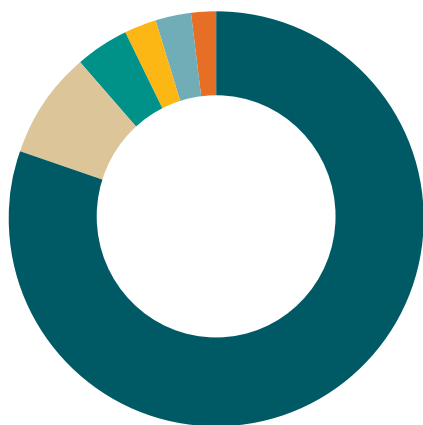
Figure 1**Noise complaints per 1000 head of population 2017-18**

- 1 Antrim & Newtownabbey
- 2 Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon
- 3 Belfast
- 4 Causeway Coast & Glens
- 5 Derry & Strabane

- 6 Fermanagh & Omagh
- 7 Lisburn & Castlereagh
- 8 Mid & East Antrim
- 9 Mid Ulster
- 10 Newry, Mourne & Down
- 11 Ards & North Down

Figure 2**Total number of Complaints
2004 - 2018**

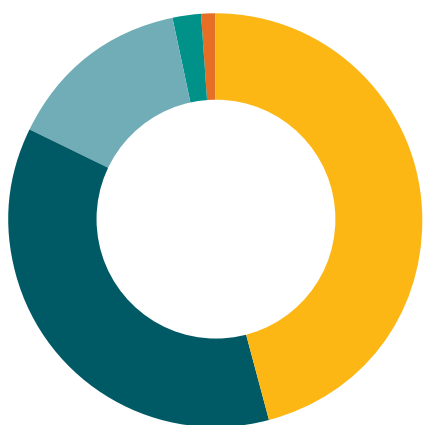
Total No. Complaints	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
	8,397	10,047	11,337	11,923	11,705	11,099	11,687	11,585	12,193	12,142	11,865	11,951	10,754	12,105	11,766

Figure 3**Noise complaints by category 2017-18****Total Noise Complaints**

Domestic	80.46%
Commercial & Leisure	8.24%
Noise in Street	4.21%
Industrial	2.40%
Construction	2.79%
Transport	1.90%

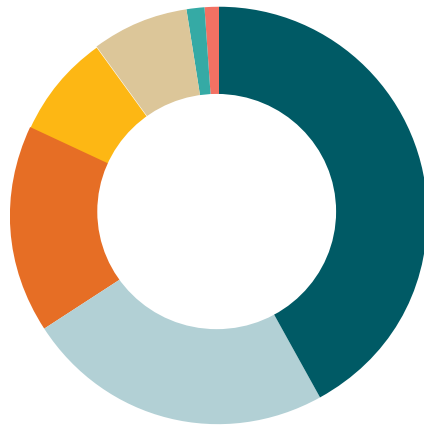
**Industrial Complaints**

Industry Manufacturing Workshops	51.06%
Agricultural	21.63%
Wind Turbine (Individual)	20.21%
Wind Farm	7.09%

**Domestic Complaints**

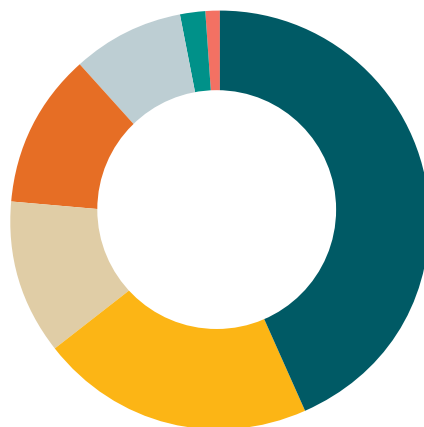
Music Televisions Parties	46.11%
Animal Noise	36.3%
Other Neighbour Noise	14.58%
House Alarms	2.09%
DIY	0.90%

Transport Complaints



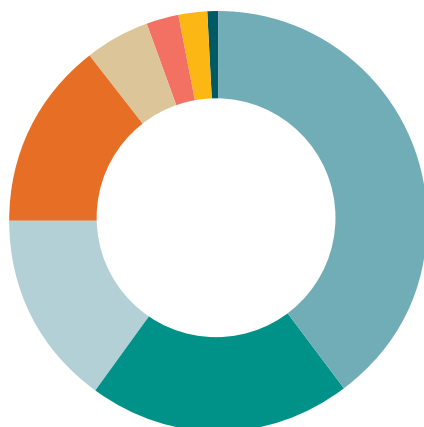
● Road Vehicles	41.96%
● Vehicle horns/revving engines/noisy exhaust	24.11%
● Vehicle Alarms	16.07%
● Delivery Vehicles	8.04%
● Railways	7.59%
● Military Aircraft	1.34%
● Civil Aircraft	0.89%

Commercial and Leisure Complaints

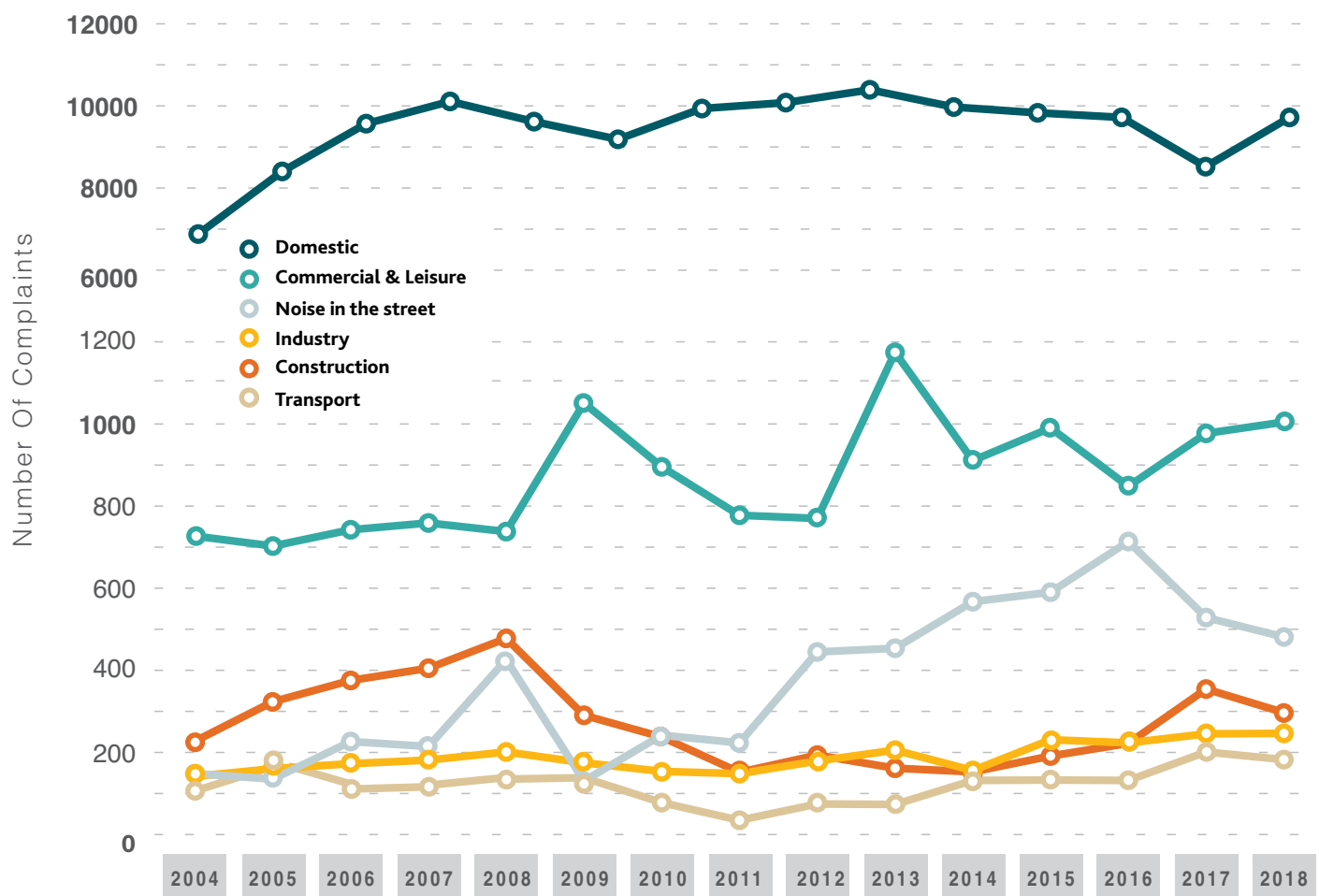


● Entertainment Premises	43.71%
● Security Alarms	21.24%
● Other	11.96%
● Sports & Leisure	11.86%
● Other Shops & Offices	8.56%
● Hot Food Bars Restaurants	1.65%
● Petrol Stations Car Wash	1.03%

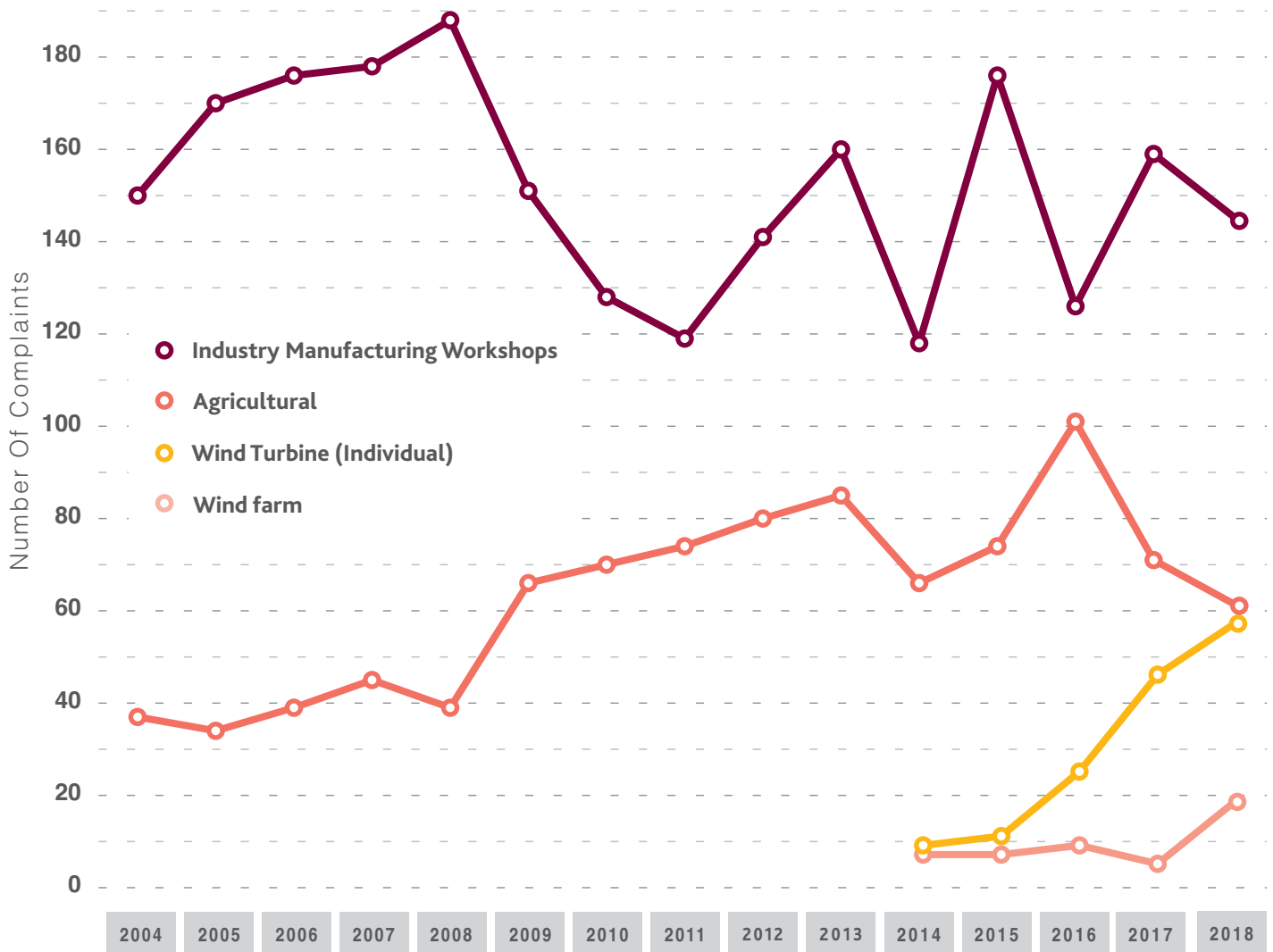
Noise in the Street Complaints



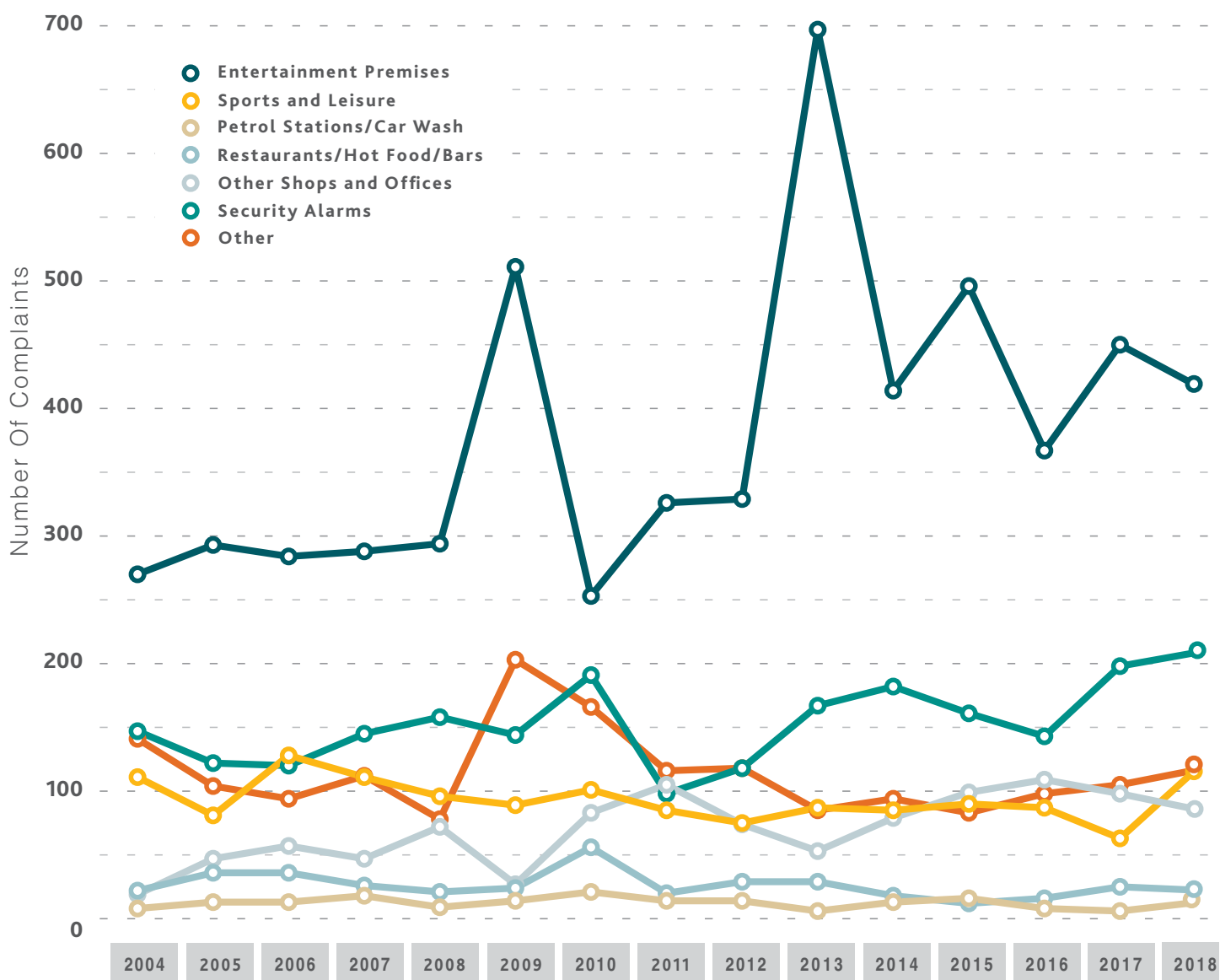
● Other	39.80%
● Road Works	20.40%
● Street Performance Public Address	14.95%
● Antisocial Behaviour	14.34%
● Loudspeakers	5.05%
● Children Playing	2.42%
● Ice Cream Van Chimes	2.22%
● Street Traders	0.81%

Figure 4**Total noise complaints comparison by category**
2004-2018

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Industry	187	204	215	223	241	217	198	193	221	245	200	268	261	281	282
Commercial & Leisure	718	696	732	747	728	1,012	871	764	757	1,124	885	957	828	945	970
Domestic	6,879	8,405	9,568	10,110	9,618	9,187	9,937	10,081	10,393	9,973	9,832	9,721	8,521	9,720	9,467
Construction	265	352	399	426	492	322	274	196	234	205	197	232	260	380	328
Transport	155	209	159	164	181	184	129	90	126	125	178	179	178	241	224
Noise in Street	193	181	264	253	445	177	278	261	462	470	573	594	706	538	495

Figure 5**Industrial noise complaints comparison
2004-2018**

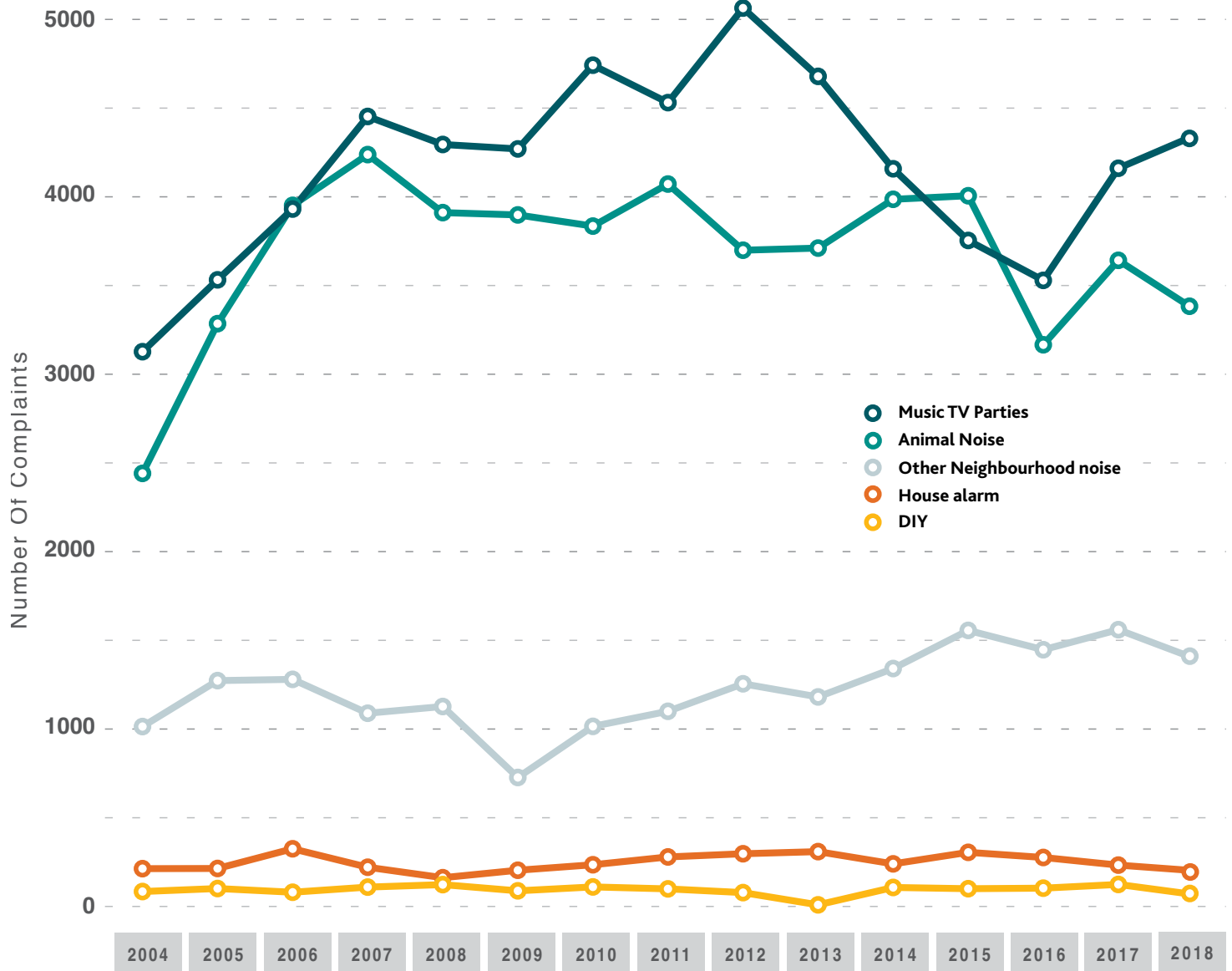
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Industry Manufacturing Workshops	150	170	176	178	188	151	128	119	141	160	118	176	126	159	144
Agricultural	37	34	39	45	39	66	70	74	80	85	66	74	101	71	61
Wind Turbine (Individual)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	11	25	46	57
Wind Farm	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	9	5	20

Figure 6**Commercial and leisure noise complaints comparison**
2004-2018

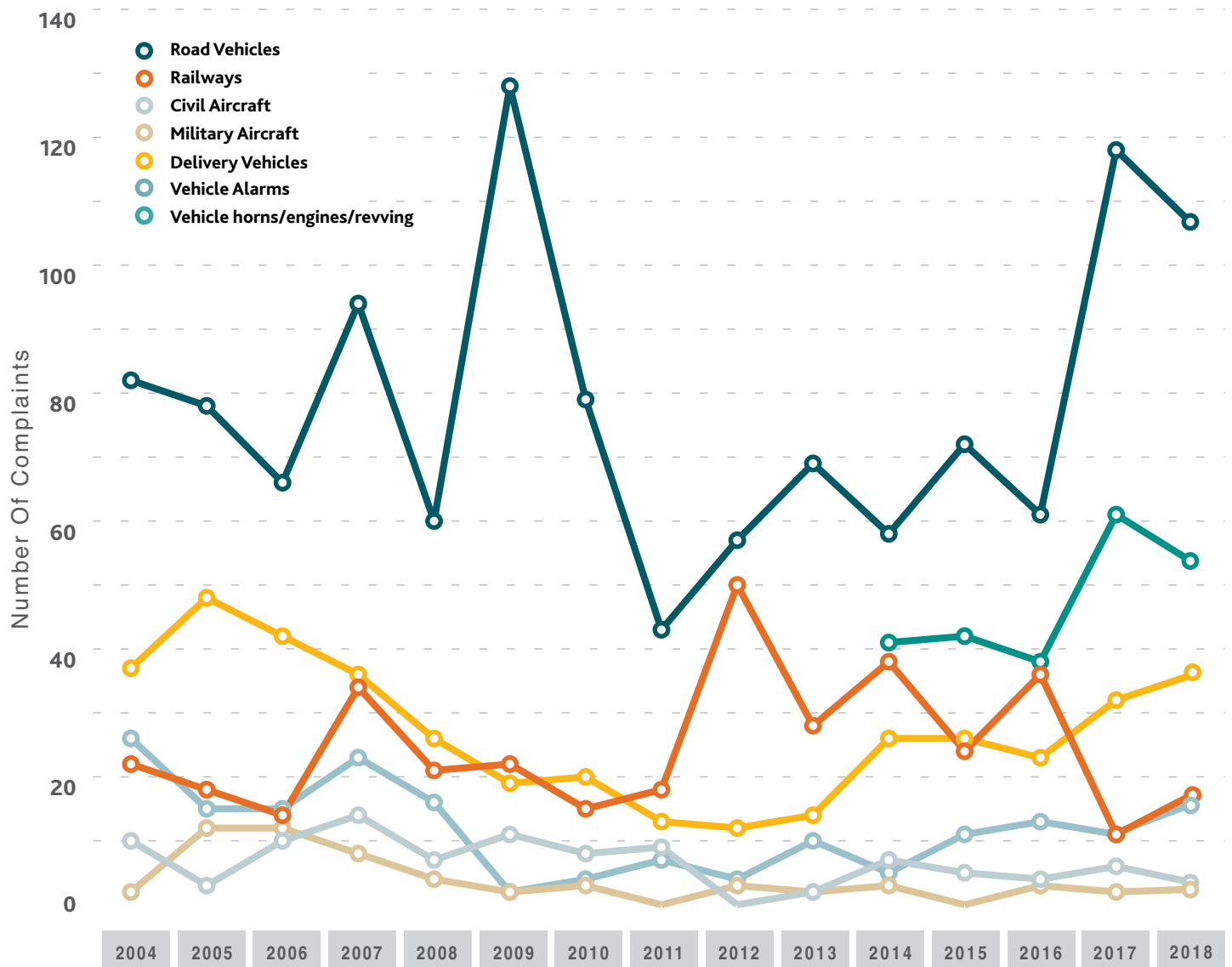
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Entertainment Premises	270	293	284	288	294	511	253	326	329	697	414	496	367	450	424
Sports & Leisure	111	81	128	111	96	89	101	85	75	87	85	90	87	63	115
Petrol Stations Car Wash	8	13	13	18	9	14	21	14	14	6	13	16	8	6	10
Restaurants Hot Food Bars	22	36	36	26	21	24	56	20	29	29	18	12	16	25	16
Other Shops & Offices	19	47	57	47	72	27	83	105	74	53	79	99	109	98	83
Security Alarms	147	122	120	145	158	144	191	98	118	167	182	161	143	198	206
Other	141	104	94	112	78	203	166	116	118	85	94	83	98	105	116

Figure 7**Domestic noise complaints comparison**

2004-2018



	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
DIY	84	101	80	109	123	88	110	99	78	9	107	100	103	124	85
Music TV Parties	3,127	3,532	3,931	4,453	4,295	4,270	4,742	4,531	5,064	4,679	4,158	3,754	3,529	4,161	4,365
Animal Noise	2,441	3,285	3,952	4,238	3,911	3,898	3,835	4,072	3,699	3,711	3,986	4,006	3,166	3,642	3,439
House Alarms	213	214	325	221	162	204	235	279	297	309	240	305	276	233	198
Other Neighbour Noise	1,014	1,273	1,280	1,089	1,127	727	1,015	1,100	1,255	1,181	1,341	1,556	1,447	1,560	1,380

Figure 8**Transport noise complaints comparison**
2004-2018

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Road Vehicles	82	78	66	94	60	128	79	43	57	69	58	72	61	118	94
Railways	22	18	14	34	21	22	15	18	50	28	38	24	36	11	17
Civil Aircraft	10	3	10	14	7	11	8	9	0	2	7	5	4	6	2
Military Aircraft	2	12	12	8	4	2	3	0	3	2	3	0	3	2	3
Delivery Vehicles	37	48	42	36	26	19	20	13	12	14	26	26	23	32	36
Vehicle Alarms	26	15	15	23	16	2	4	7	4	10	5	11	13	11	18
Vehicle Horns/ Engines/Revving	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	41	42	38	61	54

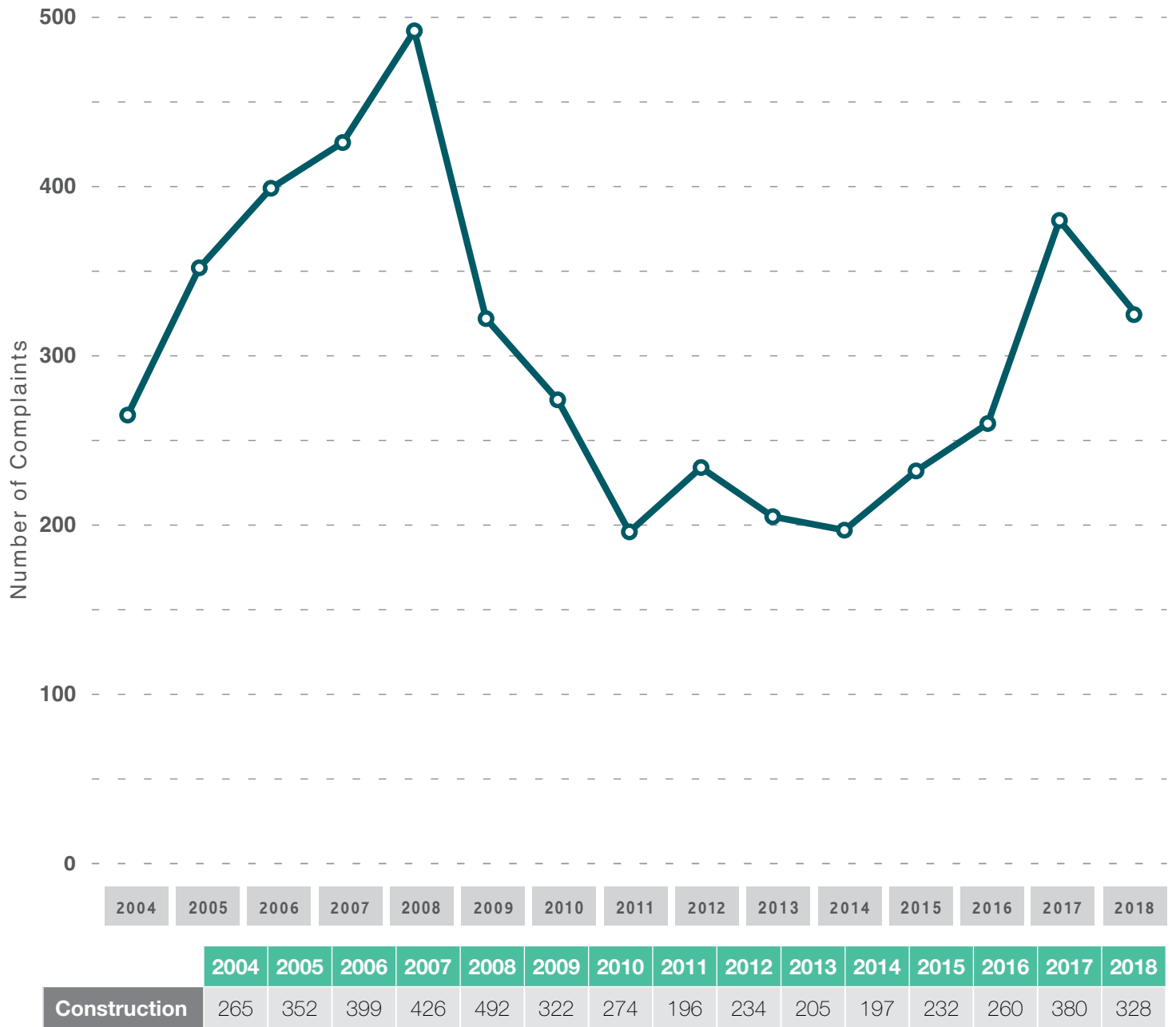
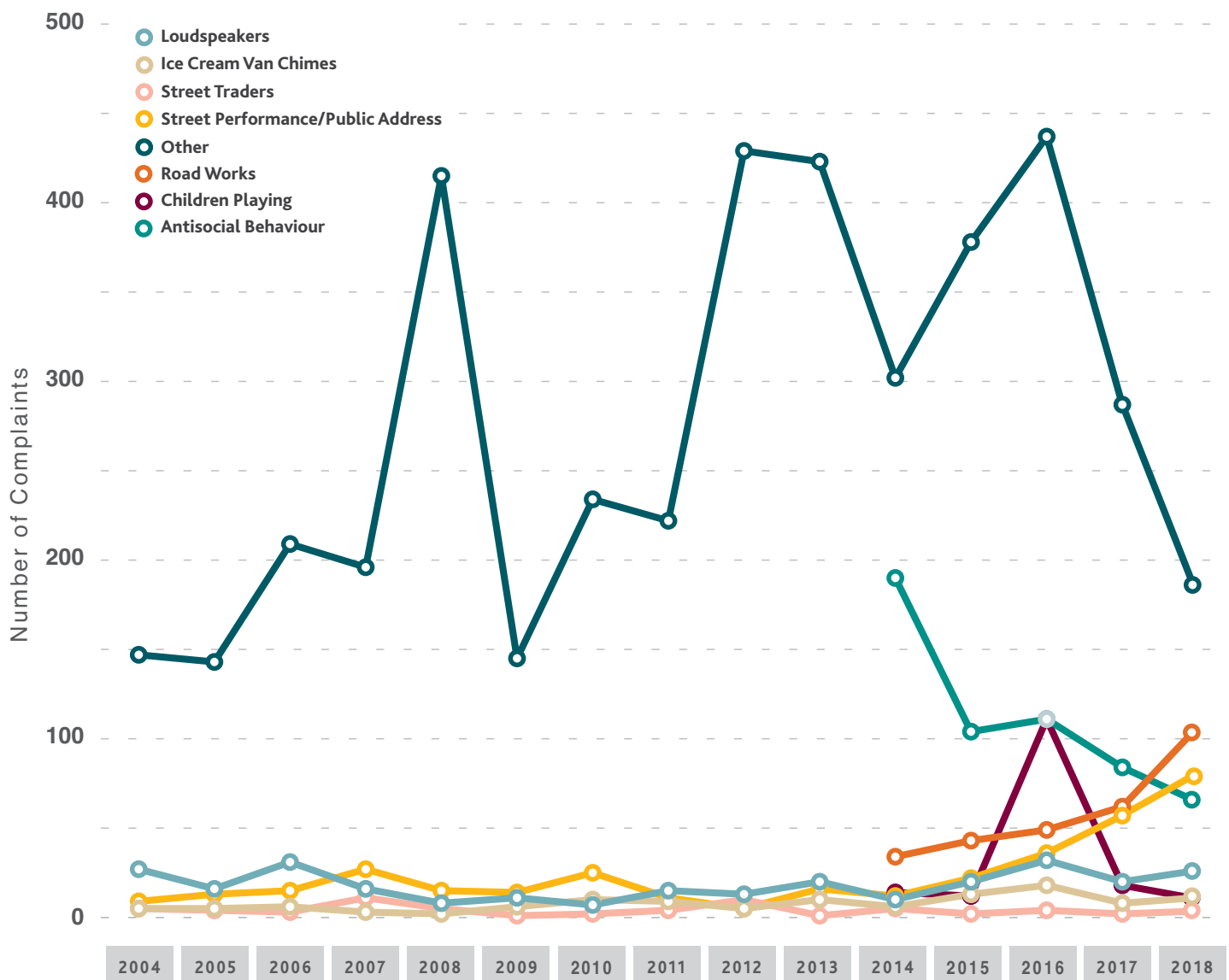
Figure 9**Construction noise complaints comparison**
2004-2018

Figure 10**Noise in the street complaints comparison**
2004-2018

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Loudspeakers	27	16	31	16	8	11	7	15	13	20	10	20	32	20	25
Ice Cream Van Chimes	5	5	6	3	2	6	10	9	5	10	6	13	49	8	11
Street Traders	5	4	3	11	5	1	2	4	10	1	5	2	18	2	4
Street Performance/Public Address	9	13	15	27	15	14	25	11	5	16	12	22	4	57	74
Other	147	143	209	196	415	145	234	222	429	423	302	378	36	287	197
Road Works	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	34	43	19	62	101
Children Playing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	12	111	18	12
Antisocial Behaviour	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	190	104	437	84	71

Noise Complaint Statistics for Northern Ireland

2 0 1 7 - 2 0 1 8

Further information on noise matters in general, or the content of this report can be obtained from the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs at the following address:

Air and Environmental Quality Unit

Regulatory and Natural Resources Policy Division
Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
2nd Floor Klondyke Building
Cromac Avenue
Gasworks Business Park
Lower Malone
Belfast
BT7 2JA

Tel: 028 9056 9543

E-mail: aeqteam@daera-ni.gov.uk

www.daera-ni.gov.uk / www.noiseni.co.uk

ISBN: 978-1-83887-036-2



Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**

www.daera-ni.gov.uk



**INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE**

Report on	Building Control Workload
Date of Meeting	2 nd December 2019
Reporting Officer	William Wilkinson

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

1.0	Purpose of Report		
1.1	To provide Members with an update on the workload analysis for Building Control across Mid-Ulster District Council.		
2.0	Background		
2.1	<p>Building Control applications are received in three different forms:-</p> <p>a Full Applications - submitted with detailed working drawings.</p> <p>b Building Notices - minor work not usually requiring detailed plans, e.g. provision of insulation to roof space, etc.</p> <p>c Regularisation Applications – where work has been carried out without an approval, an application must be submitted for retrospective approval.</p>		
3.0	Main Report		
3.1	Workload Analysis	November 2019	Accumulative 2019/20
	Total number of Applications	141	1320
	Full plans applications received	54	541
	Building Notices applications received	73	630
	Regularisation applications received	14	149
	Estimated value of works submitted	£23,291,499	£135,593,337
	Number of inspections carried out by Building Control Officers	746	6600

	Commencements	174	1485
	Domestic Dwellings	69	488
	Domestic alterations and Extensions	84	843
	Non-Domestic work	21	154
	Completions	139	1210
	Domestic Dwellings	56	489
	Domestic alterations and Extensions	75	639
	Non-Domestic work	8	82
	Property Certificates Received	151	1413
4.0	Other Considerations		
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications		
	Financial: Within Current Resources		
	Human: Within Current Resources		
	Risk Management: None		
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments		
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: None		
	Rural Needs Implications: None		
5.0	Recommendation(s)		
5.1	Members are requested to note the content of this report.		
6.0	Documents Attached & References		
6.1	Appendix 1 - List of significant applications received by Building Control.		

Significant Developments November 2019

Applicant	Location of Development	Details of Development	Estimated value of development
FP McCann Development	Oaklands, Dungannon.	Erection of 21no. Dwellings (Ave Floor Area 140m2) B.C. fee - £4,545	£1,675,130
Chieftain Trailers Ltd	Farlough Glen Dungannon.	Erection of an Industrial Unit (Floor Area 1330m2) B.C. fee - £4,190	£750,000
Valor Homes Ltd	Foxfield Park, Magherafelt.	Erection of 9no. Dwellings (Ave Floor Area 120m2) B.C. fee - £2,440	£685,800
J Lennon	16 Sandholes Road, Cookstown.	Erection of Office/Workshop (Floor Area 1008m2) B.C. fee - £3,450	£601,808
S Brown & Son Ltd	Carryview, Coagh.	Erection of 7no. Dwellings (Ave Floor Area 128m2) B.C. fee - £1,862	£567,690

Appendix 1

M Thom	Coolmount Drive, Cookstown.	Erection of 6no. Dwellings (Ave Floor Area 100m2) B.C. fee - £1,495	£381,000
Galbally Youth & Community Association	36 Lurgylea Road, Dungannon.	Internal Alterations B.C. fee - £2,340	£380,000
Mid Ulster Hospital	59 Hospital Road, Magherafelt.	Refurbishment of 2 nd Floor Administration Block B.C. fee - £2,330	£377,870

Report on	Entertainment Licensing Applications
Date of Meeting	2 nd December 2019
Reporting Officer	William Wilkinson

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update Members on Entertainment Licensing applications across Mid Ulster District Council.
2.0	Background
2.1	The Council has responsibility for licensing places of entertainment in accordance with The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (NI) Order 1985.
2.2	Entertainment Licensing applications are received on a continued basis across the District.
2.3	Statutory consultations are carried out with PSNI and NIFRS for each Entertainment Licence application (grant or renewal) submitted.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	As previously agreed a list of applications for all grant/renewal of Entertainment Licences in Mid Ulster District Council is attached (see Appendix 1). The number of applications received on a monthly basis will vary depending on the date of expiry of the current licence.
3.2	<p>Each application is accompanied by the following documentation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 A current Fire Risk Assessment detailing the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) means of escape from premises (b) management responsibilities for day to day safety aspects (c) details of review on an annual basis <p>The fire risk assessment submitted is audited by the inspecting officer.</p> 2 Electrical certification is required for the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) General electrical installation (b) Emergency lighting system (c) Fire alarm system

	<p>3 Details of current public liability insurance for premises</p> <p>4 Copy of public advertisement in local press</p>
3.3	Following the application for the Grant/Renewal of an Entertainment Licence being submitted and validated, an inspection is carried out to ensure that the premises are in compliance with all relevant guidance and legislation.
3.4	<p>Areas which would be inspected are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Means of escape from the venue i.e. Final Exit Doors and Easy Opening Devices are satisfactory and escape routes are free from obstruction etc. 2. All floor, wall, and ceiling coverings are in compliance and in good condition 3. All firefighting equipment are correctly positioned and serviced as required 4. The general condition of the premises is satisfactory 5. All management documentation is in place
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: Within Current Resources
	Human: Within Current Resources
	Risk Management: None
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: None
	Rural Needs Implications: None
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are requested to note the content of this report.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 – Schedule of applications received for the Grant/Renewal of Entertainment Licences.
6.2	Appendix 2 – Schedule of Entertainment Licence applications which have been granted/renewed.

Appendix 1

Schedule of applications received for the Grant/Renewal of Entertainment Licences in November 2019

Name of Applicant	Name of Premises	Address of Premises	Type of Licence	Days and Hours proposed	Max No of Patrons
E Cassidy	Gormley's Bar	3 Church Street Ballygawley	Annual	Monday to Saturday From: 11.30 To: 01.30 Sunday From: 12.00 To: 24.00	80
D Hamilton	Ton's Place Daly's Bar	65 Irish Street Dungannon	Annual	Monday To Saturday From: 11.30 To: 01.00 Sunday From: 12.00 To: 24.00	50

Name of Applicant	Name of Premises	Address of Premises	Type of Licence	Days and Hours proposed	Max No of Patrons
V Daly	The Ryandale	16-18 The Square Moy	Annual	Monday To Saturday From: 11.00 To: 01.00 Sunday From: 12.30 To: 24.00	1034
D Jardine	The Gas Works	7-13 Perry Street Dungannon	Annual	Monday To Thursday From: 11.00 To: 01.00 Friday and Saturday From: 11.00 To: 01.30 Sunday From: 12.00 To: 01.00	430

Name of Applicant	Name of Premises	Address of Premises	Type of Licence	Days and Hours proposed	Max No of Patrons
C Eastwood	The Rusty Keg	64-66 Main Street Pomeroy	Annual	Monday To Saturday From: 11.30 To: 01.00 Sunday From: 12.30 To: 24.00	200
B Ruddy	Rock St Patricks GAC Community Hub	5-29 Tullydonnell Road Dungannon	14 Unspecified Days	Monday To Sunday From: 09.00 To: 01.00	570
F Brunt	St John's Parish Halls	Murley Road Fivemiletown	14 Unspecified Days	Monday to Sunday From: 09.30 To: 23.00	570

Appendix 2

Schedule of applications issued for the Grant/Renewal of Entertainment Licences in November 2019

Name of Applicant	Name of Premises	Address of Premises	Type of Licence	Days and Hours Granted
M Devlin	The Marina Centre	135a Shore Road, Magherafelt	Annual	Monday To Sunday From: 09.00 To: 01.30
O Mulligan	Mulligans Club @ INF	33 Chapel Street, Cookstown	Annual	Monday To Thursday From: 12.00 To: 23.00 Friday & Saturday From: 12.00 To: 01.00 Sunday From: 12.00 To: 24.00
M Carolan	CRAIC Theatre	Dungannon Road, Coalisland	Annual	Monday To Sunday From: 09.00 To: 22.00

Name of Applicant	Name of Premises	Address of Premises	Type of Licence	Days and Hours Granted
U Corr	Ma Quinns	65 James Street, Cookstown	Annual	Monday To Saturday From: 11.30 To: 01.00 Sunday From: 12.30 To: 24.00
C Rafferty	Killymoon Golf Club	200 Killymoon Road, Cookstown	Annual	Monday To Friday From: 18.00 To: 23.00 Saturday From: 14.00 To: 24.00 Sunday From: 14.00 To: 23.00
A Donaldson	Cookstown Hockey Club	48 Molesworth Street, Cookstown	Annual	Monday To Sunday From: 13.00 To: 01.00

Name of Applicant	Name of Premises	Address of Premises	Type of Licence	Days and Hours Granted
J Conway	The Belfast House	3 Orritor Street, Cookstown	Annual	Monday to Saturday From: 11.30 To: 01.00 Sunday From: 12.00 To: 24.00
A Campbell	Derrytresk GAC	100 Annaghmore Road, Coalisland	Annual	Monday to Thursday From: 18.00 To: 23.00 Friday From: 16.00 To: 24.00 Saturday From: 12.00 To: 24.00 Sunday From: 12.00 To: 22.30

Name of Applicant	Name of Premises	Address of Premises	Type of Licence	Days and Hours Granted
B Cleary	The Ceili House	48 Main Street, Coalisland	Annual	Monday To Saturday From: 11.30 To: 01.30 From: 12.30 To: 01.00
J Lamont	Cookstown Royal British Legion Club Ltd	19 Burn Road, Cookstown	Annual	Monday To Thursday & Sunday From: 11.30 To: 23.00 Friday & Saturday From: 11.30 To: 01.00
B Morris	Glenavon House Hotel	52 Drum Road, Cookstown	Annual	Monday to Saturday From: 11.00 To: 01.00 Sunday From: 12.00 To: 01.00

Name of Applicant	Name of Premises	Address of Premises	Type of Licence	Days and Hours Granted
P Toner	The Thatch Bar	19 Molesworth Street, Cookstown	Annual	Monday To Saturday From: 11.30 To: 01.00 Sunday From: 12.30 To: 24.00
I Thom	Braeside Bar	221 Orritor Road Cookstown	Annual	Monday to Sunday From: 11.00 To: 01.30
N J Downey	Downey's Jubilee Bar	124 Main Street Fivemiletown	Annual	Monday To Thursday From: 11.30 To: 23.00 Friday & Saturday From: 11.30 To: 01.00 Sunday From: 12.30 To: 22.30

Name of Applicant	Name of Premises	Address of Premises	Type of Licence	Days and Hours Granted
S Devlin	Sit and Sip Bar Lounge	28 Littlebridge Road, Moneymore	Annual	<p>Monday to Thursday From: 13.00 To: 22.30</p> <p>Friday & Saturday From: 12.00 To: 01.30</p> <p>Sunday From: 12.00 To: 24.00</p>
B Heron	Evergreen Social Club	27 Moss Road, Cookstown	Annual	<p>Monday To Saturday From: 20.00 To: 23.30</p> <p>Sunday From: 20.00 To: 22.30</p>

Name of Applicant	Name of Premises	Address of Premises	Type of Licence	Days and Hours Granted
P Mullan	Mullan's Bar	52a William Street, Cookstown	Annual	Monday to Friday From: 11.30 To: 23.30 Saturday From: 11.30 To: 01.00 Sunday From: 12.00 To: 24.00
R Forbes	The Bridge Bar	86 Ballinderry Bridge Road, Coagh	Annual	Monday To Thursday From: 11.30 To: 24.00 Saturday From: 11.30 To: 01.00 From: 12.00 To: 23.30

Name of Applicant	Name of Premises	Address of Premises	Type of Licence	Days and Hours Granted
S Hughes	Fall's Bar	6a Reenaderry Road, Coalisland	Annual	Monday To Saturday From: 11.30 To: 01.30 Sunday From: 12.00 To: 24.00
J Faloon	Dungannon Swifts Football Club	Far Circular Road, Dungannon	Annual	Monday To Tuesday From: 19.00 To: 23.00 Wednesday & Thursday From: 16.00 To: 23.00 Friday & Saturday From: 12.00 To: 01.00 Sunday From: 12.00 To: 22.00
B O'Hanlon	Todds Leap Activity Centre	30 Todds Leap Road, Ballygawley	Annual	Monday to Sunday From: 08.00 To: 23.30

Name of Applicant	Name of Premises	Address of Premises	Type of Licence	Days and Hours Granted
C Forbes	Elite Gaming	1 Cemetery Road, Cookstown	Annual	Monday to Saturday From: 12.00 To: 23.00 Sunday From: 14.00 To: 23.00
B Stanford	Dungannon Rugby Football Club	36 Moy Road, Dungannon	Annual	Monday To Saturday From: 11.00 To: 23.00 Sunday From: 11.00 To: 23.00
A Trotter	Dungannon Presbyterian Church Halls	53a Scotch Street, Dungannon	14 Unspecified Days	Monday To Saturday From: 09.00 To: 24.00

Name of Applicant	Name of Premises	Address of Premises	Type of Licence	Days and Hours Granted
J McGuckin	St Patrick GFC	111a Ballyneil Road, Moneymore	Annual	Monday to Saturday From: 11.30 To: 01.00 Sunday From: 12.30 To: 24.00
G Williamson	The Valley Hotel	60 Main Street, Fivemiletown	Annual	Monday To Saturday From: 11.30 To: 01.30 Sunday From: 12.30 To: 01.00

Report on	Dual Language Signage Requests
Date of Meeting	2 nd December 2019
Reporting Officer	William Wilkinson

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To advise Members of requests for Dual Language Signage from residents on the streets/roads in question.
2.0	Background
2.1	In accordance with the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) NI Order 1995 – Article 11 the Council is tasked with the responsibility to erect dual language signs or second nameplates, adjacent to the nameplate in English.
2.2	The Policy for Dual Language Nameplate Signage – as adopted (see Appendix 1) forms the basis for considering requests expressing the name in a language other than English, to both existing and new streets.
2.3	In accordance with the Policy as adopted, the Environment Committee will be informed of requests which have been validated and are proceeding to survey.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The Building Control Service within the Public Health and Infrastructure Directorate have received valid letters signed by occupiers of the street in each case requesting signage to be erected in a second language being “Irish” in each case adjacent to the nameplate in English as follows:- 1. Bernagh Gardens, Dungannon (see Appendix 2) 2. Coalisland Road, Dungannon (see Appendix 3)
3.2	The occupiers signing the requests in each case have been confirmed as residents of their particular street which has been evidenced by their listing on the current Electoral Register as required in accordance with the Policy as adopted (see Appendix 1).
3.3	The requests which have been validated are proceeding to survey and are currently being processed on a date received basis.

4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: Within Current Resources
	Human: Within Current Resources
	Risk Management: None
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: None
	Rural Needs Implications: None
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	That Members note the content of this report
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 – The Policy for Dual Language Nameplate Signage
6.2	Appendix 2 – Letter received from a resident of Bernagh Gardens, Dungannon
6.3	Appendix 3 – Letter received from a resident of Coalisland Road, Dungannon

Policy on Dual Language Nameplate Signage

Document Control			
Policy Owner	Director of Public Health & Infrastructure		
Policy Author	Director of Public Health & Infrastructure		
Version	Version 1		
Consultation	Senior Management Team	Yes / No	
	Trade Unions	Yes / No	
Equality Screened by	Principal Building Control Officer	Date	20/02/2019
Equality Impact Assessment	N/A	Date	
Good Relations	N/A		
Approved By	Environment Committee	Date	12/03/2019
Adopted By	Council	Date	28/03/2019
Review Date		By Whom	
Circulation	Councillors, Staff		
Document Linkages			

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5.0	Dual Language Signage Nameplates	
6.0	Roles & Responsibilities	
7.0	Impact Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equality Screening & Impact • Staff & Financial Resources 	
8.0	Support & Advice	
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1.0 **Introduction**

1.1 Mid Ulster District Council resolved that a policy and associated procedures be developed to guide the Council in accordance with the provisions of Article 11 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1995("the 1995 Order"), referenced in Appendix A to this policy, on;

- (i) Erection of dual language Street signage

2.0 **Policy Aim & Objectives**

2.1 **Policy Aim:** To ensure that requests for the erection of dual language nameplate signage for existing streets are delivered in a fair, equitable and consistent manner.

2.2 **Policy Objectives:**

- To facilitate Mid Ulster District Council in meeting its statutory obligations with regard to local government Street Signage requirements.
- To lay out and facilitate a process whereby residents may request that their street be named in any other language other than English.
- To facilitate a process that considers requests from residents to have their street sign displayed in their chosen language as well as in English.

3.0 **Policy Scope and Legislative Framework**

3.1 This policy relates specifically to the naming of the erection of nameplates expressing the name of the street in a language other than English. The statutory basis for this policy is contained within Article 11 of the 1995 Order.

3.2 This legislation empowers Council to authorise the naming of streets within its respective District. It also provides the Council with a discretionary power to erect dual language street signs or second nameplates in a language other than English via Section 1a and 1b. A copy of the relevant statute is included in Appendix A.

3.3 For purposes of this Policy, the following interpretation/ definitions apply as set out within the 1995 Order:

- Nameplate - defined as a means of 'signifying a name in writing'
- Street - defined as 'any road, square, court, alley, passage or lane'.

4.0 Linkage to Corporate Plan

- 4.1 Referring to Mid Ulster District Council's Corporate Plan 2015-2019, this policy contributes toward the delivery of Corporate Theme 1 *Delivering for Our People*.

5.0 Dual Language Signage Nameplates

- 5.1 The Council will apply this policy when considering applications for dual language signage expressing the name of the street in a language other than English, to both existing and new streets.
- 5.2 The 1995 Order gives the Council a discretionary power to erect dual language signs or second nameplates, adjacent to the nameplate in English. In exercising this discretionary power, the Council must have regard to any views on the matter expressed by the occupiers of premises in that street.
- 5.3 Criteria - General

The Council in making arrangements and providing opportunities for dual language signage within street naming shall;

1. Have regard to any views on the matter expressed by occupiers of the street.
2. For the purposes of the policy, surveys will be issued to all occupiers (the age of 18 or over) of each dwelling where any person resides in a dwelling, including a house, flat, maisonette or house in multiple occupancy and which is numbered directly off the adjoining street, hereafter referred to as 'property'. Only the views of the occupiers aged 18 or over for each property that is occupied and listed on the Electoral Register at the date of survey will be considered.
3. In relation to properties, the 'occupier' will include the owner and family members or tenants as listed on the current Electoral / Rates Register as residing at that address or tenants in actual possession of the premises, but not employees within such premises at the date of the survey.
4. The naming of the street in a language other than English does not authorise or require its use as, or part of, the address of any person or the description of the land for the purpose of any statutory provision; e.g., Building Control applications.

- 5.4 The provision of dual language Street Names will normally only be considered in the following circumstances:
- In the case of existing streets, where the Council has been petitioned and/or consulted with the occupiers of premises in that street and other persons it deems appropriate, in accordance with these arrangements.
- 5.5 Where an applicant does not have English as their first language, information in relation to this policy can be provided in an alternative language. Applications can be accepted in alternative languages if required by the applicant. Please see Appendix D for details.
- 5.6 Applications for Dual Language Signage will be processed in accordance with the Procedure as outlined in Appendix B
- 6.0 Roles and Responsibilities**
- 6.1 **Director of Public Health and Infrastructure:** shall have responsibility for implementation of this policy by Mid Ulster District Council, through the Building Control Service.
- 6.2 **Building Control Service:** shall be responsible for implementing arrangements to administer requests to have an existing name of a Street erected in a language other than English;
- 7.0 IMPACT ASSESSMENTS**
- 7.1 Equality Screening & Impact**
- 7.1.1 This policy has been subject to equality screening in accordance with the Council's equality scheme screening process. It has been 'screened out' for an Equality Impact Assessment.
- 7.2 Rural Needs Impact**
- 7.2.1 This policy has been subjected to a rural needs impact assessment and thus can demonstrate regard to rural needs when delivering this public service.
- 7.3 Staff & Financial Resources**
- 7.3.1 No issues have been identified which will impact on the delivery of Council business as a result of this policy being implemented.
- 8.0 Support and Advice**
- 8.1 Advice and guidance on the implementation of this should be sought from the Head of Building Control

9.0 Communication

- 9.1 The Building Control Service within the Public Health & Infrastructure Department of Council is responsible for the communication, delivery and adherence to this policy

10.0 Monitoring and Review Arrangements

- 10.1 Implementation of this policy will be routinely monitored and a formal review undertaken 24 months from its effective commencement date.

Appendix A
Article 11, Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern
Ireland) Order 1995

Street names and numbering of buildings

Powers of councils in relation to street names and numbering of buildings

11.—(1) A council may erect at or near each end, corner or entrance of any street in its district a nameplate showing the name of the street; and a nameplate erected under this paragraph—

- (a) shall express the name of the street in English; and
- (b) may express that name in any other language

(2) A council may, immediately adjacent to a nameplate erected under paragraph (1) which expresses the name of a street in English only, erect a second nameplate expressing the name of the street in a language other than English.

(3) Neither this Article nor anything done by a council thereunder authorises or requires the use of the name of a street expressed in a language other than English as, or as part of—

- (a) the address of any person; or
- (b) the description of any land; for

the purposes of any statutory provision.

(4) In deciding whether and, if so, how to exercise its powers under paragraph (1)(b) or (2) in relation to any street, a council shall have regard to any views on the matter expressed by the occupiers of premises in that street.

(5) Any person who—

- (a) obscures, pulls down or defaces any nameplate erected under paragraph (1) or (2);
- (b) erects in any street any nameplate showing as the name of the street a name different from that in any nameplate erected in the street under paragraph (1) or (2); or
- (c) erects in any street any nameplate purporting to show the name of the street, without the authorisation of the council for the district in which the street is situated,

shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 2 on the standard scale.

(6) Where a council has exercised its powers under paragraph (1) in relation to any street, the occupier of each house or other building in that street shall ensure that that house or building is at all times marked with such number as the council may approve for the purposes of this Article.

(7) Where a person fails to comply with paragraph (6) the council may serve on him a notice requiring him to comply with that paragraph within 7 days from the date of service of the notice.

(8) A person who fails to comply with a notice served on him under paragraph (7) shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 2 on the standard scale.

(9) Where a person fails to comply with a notice served on him under paragraph (7) in respect of any house or other building, the council may itself do anything which he has failed to do and may recover from that person summarily as a civil debt any expenses thereby reasonably incurred by it.

(10) In this Article—
“nameplate” includes any means of signifying a name in writing; “street” includes any road, square, court, alley, passage or lane.

(11) The power of a council to erect a nameplate under paragraph (1) or (2) includes power—

- (a) to erect it on any building or in such other manner as the council thinks fit; and
- (b) to cause it to be erected by any person authorised in that behalf by the council.

(12) The following statutory provisions shall cease to have effect, namely—

- (a) sections 64 and 65 of the Towns Improvement Clauses Act 1847^{F6};
- (b) in section 38 of the Towns Improvement (Ireland) Act 1854^{F7} the words “naming the streets and numbering the houses and also so much thereof as relates to”;
- (c) section 21 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1907^{F8};
- (d) section 19 of the Public Health and Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act (Northern Ireland) 1949^{F9}; and
- (e) so much of any local Act as relates to the naming of streets or the numbering of houses or buildings

Appendix B

Dual Language Signage Nameplates: *Procedure*

In deciding whether it should exercise its discretionary powers in relation to erection of dual language nameplates under Article 11 of the 1995 Order, the Council shall only do so after having regard to the views of occupiers of premises which has its frontage immediately adjoining that street.

The procedure for seeking and assessing the views of occupiers and criteria to be applied in deciding whether to erect a dual language nameplate in a language other than English is;

1. A valid letter, signed by an occupier of the street must be made to Council to enable this matter to be considered. Requests should be made to the Building Control Service within the Public Health and Infrastructure Department. A letter of request shall be valid if; it is from an occupier who appears on the Electoral Register as maintained by the Electoral Office for NI; the applicant's address is referenced on the letter and; the individual's name is clearly stated and the letter has been signed by the petitioner (who must be an occupier of premises on the street). A letter may be received by email but it must be attached as a file and signed. The Council shall not accept a request made within the body of an email.
2. The Environment Committee will receive notification of submitted requests by way of valid letters as referenced at 1, above. A letter will be deemed to be valid where it is submitted by a minimum of one householder on that street. The Environment Committee will be informed of requests which have been validated and are proceeding to survey.
3. Following validation, the Council will canvass, by post, each occupier within a household as listed on the Electoral Register; seeking their views on the request to erect a dual-language street nameplate. Each household will receive a letter accompanied by survey forms based on the number of occupiers listed on the Electoral Register. The requisite number of survey forms for individuals registered at that address will be forwarded to each household (See Appendix E)
4. The occupiers will be advised of the date by which completed surveys must be returned. Incomplete or illegible survey returns will not be counted. Completed surveys which has been signed and name printed as required, must be returned in the self- addressed envelopes provided for that purpose. Only replies received by the specified date shall be considered.
5. For purposes of assessment where 51 % (rounded to nearest whole number) of occupiers that respond indicate that they are in favour of the erection of a dual language street nameplate, then the results of the survey will be forwarded to the Environment Committee for information confirming that the dual language nameplate will be erected

6. For purposes of assessment where 51 % (rounded to nearest whole number) of occupiers that respond indicate that they are not in favour of the erection of a dual-language street nameplate, then the results of the survey will be forwarded to the Environment Committee for information confirming that the dual language nameplate will not be approved or erected
7. In specific circumstances a report may be brought to the Environment Committee to determine an application where there are particular issues requiring the Members consideration
8. If the request is refused by those households surveyed, further requests will not be considered until the expiry of 12 months from the date at which the Environment Committee refuses it.
9. Where a request for Irish Language signage, the Irish Language Section within Department of Culture and Arts and/or an approved translator will provide the translation of the street name. Any other language shall be obtained from an approved translation service the cost of which will be notified to the Environment Committee when receiving the report on the outcome of the survey. The second language will not be used to express the name of the street for statutory purposes.
10. The layout, font and size of lettering of the second language shall be in accordance with that as shown in Appendix C.
11. Following the Council's decision with regards to the request on Dual Language Signage for a particular street/road, the outcome will be published on the Council Website. Where requested, written confirmation of the decision will be forwarded to relevant households.
12. Where agreed, a new dual language nameplate will be erected at the start and finish of the street or road in question and at such points along it as required e.g. at other road junctions, in accordance with any operational requirements as determined by the Property Services Team.

Appendix C Name Plate Layout

AGREED: 11th September 2018 Environment Committee
23rd September 2018 Full Council

Mono-Lingual New Road / Street Signage

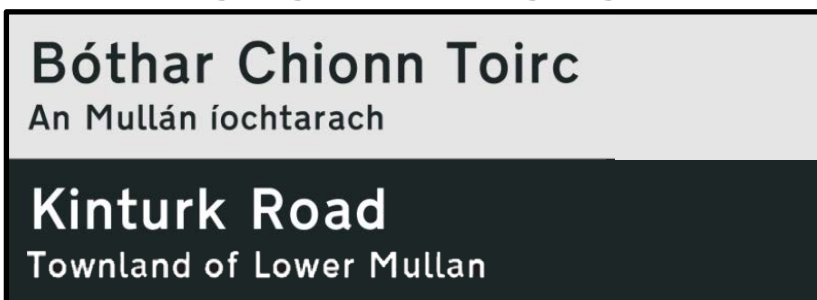


Example signage

Specification

- Name Plate Dimensions: 200mm x length to suit road name
- Background Colour: White
- Font & Colour: Transport Medium; Black
- Road Name font size: Upper case; 70mm Lower case; 50mm
- Townland font size: Upper case; 30mm Lower case; 22mm
- Text Justification: Left hand

Dual Language Street Signage



Example signage

Specification

- Name Plate Dimensions: 460mm x length to suit road name
- Background Colour: Dark Grey Value; C:77 M:63 Y:64 K:69
Light Grey Value; C:0 M:0 Y:0 K:10
- Font Type: Transport Medium
- Font Colour: Dark Grey Value; C:77 M:63 Y:64 K:69
Standard White
- Road Name font size: Upper case; 63mm Lower case; 50mm
- Townland font size: Upper case; 40mm Lower case; 30mm
- Text Justification: Left hand

Appendix D- Accessibility Statement

The information included in this policy can be made available in alternative formats, such as audio, braille, easy read or large print and may be provided in alternative languages, upon request. Please contact Mid Ulster District Council's Corporate Policy & Equality Officer on 03000 132 132 Ex 24612 or via ann.mcaleer@midulstercouncil.org



Comhairle Ceantair
Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster
District Council

Appendix E

18 February 2019

Our Ref:- «Ref»

The Occupier
50 Ballyronan Road
Townparks of Magherafelt
Magherafelt
BT45 6EN

Ref: Application for Dual Language signs at Name of Street/Development

Dear Sir/Madam

Mid Ulster District Council have received an application to erect street nameplates in ??? in addition to the current name for the street as indicated above.

The Council's Policy on Street Naming & Dual Language Signage outlines that individuals who meet the following criteria are eligible to register their preference on this matter:

A person who resides on the street in question and appears on the Electoral Register as maintained by the Electoral Office for Northern Ireland.

Our records would indicate that you meet the above criteria.

In accordance with these arrangements I would be grateful if you would complete the attached survey form and indicate your preference in this matter. The completed survey form should be returned to these offices in the addressed envelope provided by **Tuesday 19 March 2019**. *Survey forms received after this date will not be considered.*

On completion of this survey Council will provide a determination on this request on the basis of the majority preference as submitted. For approval to be considered, at least 51% of respondents must be in favour of the proposal (i.e. street nameplates being erected in ???, in addition to English for Name of Street/Development).

If you have any queries on the above please contact Willie Wilkinson in the Magherafelt Office by either:

Tel: 03000 132 132 (Ext 22208)

Email: willie.wilkinson@midulstercouncil.org

Yours faithfully

W Wilkinson
Head of Building Control

Enc

Cookstown Office
Bun Buid
Cookstown
BT82 8DT

Dungannon Office
Lincfield Road
Dungannon
BT17 6LJ

Magherafelt Office
Ballyronan Road
Magherafelt
BT45 6EN

Telephone 03000 132 132
info@midulstercouncil.org
www.midulstercouncil.org



Comhairle Ceannair
Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster
District Council

19 February 2019

Our Ref:- MUDL0078

The Occupier (1)
50 Ballyronan Road
Townparks of Magherafelt
Magherafelt
BT45 6EN

Ref: Application for Dual Language signs at Name of Street/Development

Dear Sir/Madam

Please read the following statements below carefully. Tick your preferred option in the appropriate box, print your name and address and sign the document. Then return this letter which has your reply in the addressed envelope provided by 19 March 2019.

Thank you for your time completing this survey.

Yours faithfully

W Wilkinson

Head of Building Control

Options

1. I WISH to have a Dual Language nameplate erected at Name of Street/Development, the additional language being ???

☐

2. I DO NOT WISH to have a Dual Language nameplate erected at Name of Street/Development, the additional language being ???

☐

Print Name: _____

Address: _____

Signature: _____

The results of this survey will be available to view on www.midulstercouncil.org but should you wish to receive written correspondence detailing the outcome of the survey please tick this box.

☐

Appendix 2

For attention of;

Mr Willie Wilkinson

Mid Ulster District Council

Circular Road

Dungannon

Willie, a chara,

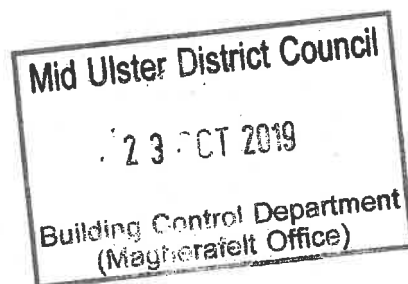
I welcome the recently introduced Irish Language policy of Comhairle Ceantair Lár Uladh. I am interested in surveying my street to ascertain demand for bilingual street signage.

Is Ainm dom / My name is;

Seoladh / Address;

BERNAGH gardens
Dungannon BT71 4AP

Is mise, le meas



Appendix 3

For attention of;

Mr Willie Wilkinson

Mid Ulster District Council

Circular Road

Dungannon

Willie, a chara,

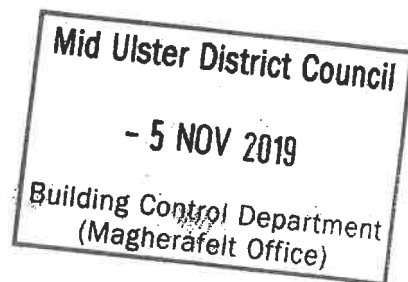
I welcome the recently introduced Irish Language policy of Comhairle Ceantair Lár Uladh. I am interested in surveying my street to ascertain demand for bilingual street signage.

Is Ainm dom / My name is;

Seoladh / Address;

COALISLAND ROAD
DUNGANNON
BT71 6EP

Is mise, le meas



Report on	Dual Language Signage Surveys
Date of Meeting	2 nd December 2019
Reporting Officer	William Wilkinson

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To advise Members on the result of surveys undertaken on all applicable residents on the streets/roads in response to Dual Language Signage Nameplate requests.
2.0	Background
2.1	In accordance with the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) NI Order 1995 – Article 11 the Council is tasked with the responsibility to erect dual language signs or second nameplates, adjacent to the nameplate in English.
2.2	The Policy for Street Naming and Dual Language Signage – Section 6.0, as adopted (see Appendix 1) forms the basis for considering requests expressing the name in a language other than English, to both existing and new streets.
2.3	In accordance with the Policy as adopted, all occupiers as listed on the Electoral Register residing on the streets/roads as noted below were canvassed, by post seeking their views on the request to erect dual-language street nameplates in the Irish Language as requested in each case.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>The Building Control Service within the Public Health and Infrastructure Directorate issued occupiers of the undernoted streets, correspondence seeking their views on the request to erect a dual-language street nameplate.</p> <p>Completed surveys were received by the return date and the outcome is as follows in each case:</p>

3.2

Name of Street	Annaghmore Road, Dungannon
Language Requested	Irish
Date Request Validated	25/06/2019
Survey Request Reported to Environment Committee	10/09/2019
Surveys Issued	08/10/2019
Surveys returned by	05/11/2019
Survey Letters Issued	136
Survey Letters Returned	37
Replies in Favour	37
Replies not in Favour	0
Invalid	0
Valid Returns	37
Percentage in Favour	100%

In accordance with the Dual Language Signage Nameplates Policy, where more than 51% of the completed replies returned by occupiers indicate that they are in favour of the erection of a dual language street nameplate, it is confirmed that the dual language nameplates at Annaghmore Road, Cookstown will be erected.

3.3

Name of Street	Tullydraw Road, Dungannon
Language Requested	Irish
Date Request Validated	17/07/2019
Survey Request Reported to Environment Committee	10/09/2019
Surveys Issued	08/10/2019
Surveys returned by	05/11/2019
Survey Letters Issued	128
Survey Letters Returned	65
Replies in Favour	48
Replies not in Favour	14
Invalid	3
Valid Returns	62
Percentage in Favour	77%

In accordance with the Dual Language Signage Nameplates Policy, where more than 51% of the completed replies returned by occupiers indicate that they are in favour of the erection of a dual language street nameplate, it is confirmed that the dual language nameplates at Tullydraw Road, Dungannon will be erected.

3.4

Name of Street	Annaghmore Road, Coalisland
Language Requested	Irish
Date Request Validated	17/07/2019
Survey Request Reported to Environment Committee	10/09/2019
Surveys Issued	08/10/2019
Surveys returned by	05/11/2019
Survey Letters Issued	86
Survey Letters Returned	42
Replies in Favour	41
Replies not in Favour	0
Invalid	1
Valid Returns	41
Percentage in Favour	100%

In accordance with the Dual Language Signage Nameplates Policy, where more than 51% of the completed replies returned by occupiers indicate that they are in favour of the erection of a dual language street nameplate, it is confirmed that the dual language nameplates at Annaghmore Road, Coalisland will be erected.

3.5

Name of Street	Coole Road, Coalisland
Language Requested	Irish
Date Request Validated	17/07/2019
Survey Request Approved by Environment Committee	10/09/2019
Surveys Issued	08/10/2019
Surveys returned by	05/11/2019
Survey Letters Issued	178
Survey Letters Returned	58
Replies in Favour	55
Replies not in Favour	0
Invalid	3
Valid Returns	55
Percentage in Favour	100%

In accordance with the Dual Language Signage Nameplates Policy, where more than 51% of the completed replies returned by occupiers indicate that they are in favour of the erection of a dual language street nameplate, it is confirmed that the dual language nameplates at Coole Road, Coalisland will be erected.

3.6

Name of Street	Drummurrer Lane, Coalisland
Language Requested	Irish
Date Request Validated	17/07/2019
Survey Request Reported to Environment Committee	10/09/2019
Surveys Issued	08/10/2019
Surveys returned by	05/11/2019
Survey Letters Issued	151
Survey Letters Returned	60
Replies in Favour	55
Replies not in Favour	0
Invalid	5
Valid Returns	55
Percentage in Favour	100%

In accordance with the Dual Language Signage Nameplates Policy, where more than 51% of the completed replies returned by occupiers indicate that they are in favour of the erection of a dual language street nameplate, it is confirmed that the dual language nameplates at Drummurrer Lane, Coalisland will be erected.

3.7

Name of Street	Claremount Drive, Coalisland
Language Requested	Irish
Date Request Validated	17/07/2019
Survey Request Reported to Environment Committee	10/09/2019
Surveys Issued	08/10/2019
Surveys returned by	05/11/2019
Survey Letters Issued	45
Survey Letters Returned	16
Replies in Favour	13
Replies not in Favour	1
Invalid	2
Valid Returns	14
Percentage in Favour	93%

In accordance with the Dual Language Signage Nameplates Policy, where more than 51% of the completed replies returned by occupiers indicate that they are in favour of the erection of a dual language street nameplate, it is confirmed that the dual language nameplates at Claremount Drive, Coalisland will be erected.

4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: Within Current Resources
	Human: Within Current Resources
	Risk Management: None
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: None
	Rural Needs Implications: None
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	That Members note the results of the surveys for application of Dual Language Nameplates in Irish for the streets/roads as detailed below.
5.2	Where more than 51 % of occupiers that respond indicated that they were in favour of the erection of a dual language signage, nameplates will be erected. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Annaghmore Road, Cookstown 2 Tullydraw Road, Dungannon 3 Annaghmore Road, Coalisland 4 Coole Road, Coalisland 5 Drummurrer Lane, Coalisland 6 Claremount Drive, Coalisland
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 – Street Naming and Dual Language Signage – Section 6.0 : Dual Language Signage Nameplates Policy
6.2	Appendix 2 – Dual Language Nameplate Translation for each street/road

Policy on Dual Language Nameplate Signage

Document Control			
Policy Owner	Director of Public Health & Infrastructure		
Policy Author	Director of Public Health & Infrastructure		
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6.0	Roles & Responsibilities	
7.0	Impact Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equality Screening & Impact • Staff & Financial Resources 	
8.0	Support & Advice	
9.0	Communication	
10.0	Monitoring & Review Arrangements	

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1.0 **Introduction**

- 1.1 Mid Ulster District Council resolved that a policy and associated procedures be developed to guide the Council in accordance with the provisions of Article 11 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1995("the 1995 Order"), referenced in Appendix A to this policy, on;

- (i) Erection of dual language Street signage

2.0 **Policy Aim & Objectives**

- 2.1 **Policy Aim:** To ensure that requests for the erection of dual language nameplate signage for existing streets are delivered in a fair, equitable and consistent manner.

2.2 **Policy Objectives:**

- To facilitate Mid Ulster District Council in meeting its statutory obligations with regard to local government Street Signage requirements.
- To lay out and facilitate a process whereby residents may request that their street be named in any other language other than English.
- To facilitate a process that considers requests from residents to have their street sign displayed in their chosen language as well as in English.

3.0 **Policy Scope and Legislative Framework**

- 3.1 This policy relates specifically to the naming of the erection of nameplates expressing the name of the street in a language other than English. The statutory basis for this policy is contained within Article 11 of the 1995 Order.
- 3.2 This legislation empowers Council to authorise the naming of streets within its respective District. It also provides the Council with a discretionary power to erect dual language street signs or second nameplates in a language other than English via Section 1a and 1b. A copy of the relevant statute is included in Appendix A.
- 3.3 For purposes of this Policy, the following interpretation/ definitions apply as set out within the 1995 Order:

- Nameplate - defined as a means of 'signifying a name in writing'
- Street - defined as 'any road, square, court, alley, passage or lane'.

4.0 Linkage to Corporate Plan

- 4.1 Referring to Mid Ulster District Council's Corporate Plan 2015-2019, this policy contributes toward the delivery of Corporate Theme 1 *Delivering for Our People*.

5.0 Dual Language Signage Nameplates

- 5.1 The Council will apply this policy when considering applications for dual language signage expressing the name of the street in a language other than English, to both existing and new streets.
- 5.2 The 1995 Order gives the Council a discretionary power to erect dual language signs or second nameplates, adjacent to the nameplate in English. In exercising this discretionary power, the Council must have regard to any views on the matter expressed by the occupiers of premises in that street.
- 5.3 Criteria - General

The Council in making arrangements and providing opportunities for dual language signage within street naming shall;

1. Have regard to any views on the matter expressed by occupiers of the street.
2. For the purposes of the policy, surveys will be issued to all occupiers (the age of 18 or over) of each dwelling where any person resides in a dwelling, including a house, flat, maisonette or house in multiple occupancy and which is numbered directly off the adjoining street, hereafter referred to as 'property'. Only the views of the occupiers aged 18 or over for each property that is occupied and listed on the Electoral Register at the date of survey will be considered.
3. In relation to properties, the 'occupier' will include the owner and family members or tenants as listed on the current Electoral / Rates Register as residing at that address or tenants in actual possession of the premises, but not employees within such premises at the date of the survey.
4. The naming of the street in a language other than English does not authorise or require its use as, or part of, the address of any person or the description of the land for the purpose of any statutory provision; e.g., Building Control applications.

- 5.4 The provision of dual language Street Names will normally only be considered in the following circumstances:
- In the case of existing streets, where the Council has been petitioned and/or consulted with the occupiers of premises in that street and other persons it deems appropriate, in accordance with these arrangements.
- 5.5 Where an applicant does not have English as their first language, information in relation to this policy can be provided in an alternative language. Applications can be accepted in alternative languages if required by the applicant. Please see Appendix D for details.
- 5.6 Applications for Dual Language Signage will be processed in accordance with the Procedure as outlined in Appendix B
- 6.0 Roles and Responsibilities**
- 6.1 **Director of Public Health and Infrastructure:** shall have responsibility for implementation of this policy by Mid Ulster District Council, through the Building Control Service.
- 6.2 **Building Control Service:** shall be responsible for implementing arrangements to administer requests to have an existing name of a Street erected in a language other than English;
- 7.0 IMPACT ASSESSMENTS**
- 7.1 **Equality Screening & Impact**
- 7.1.1 This policy has been subject to equality screening in accordance with the Council's equality scheme screening process. It has been 'screened out' for an Equality Impact Assessment.
- 7.2 **Rural Needs Impact**
- 7.2.1 This policy has been subjected to a rural needs impact assessment and thus can demonstrate regard to rural needs when delivering this public service.
- 7.3 **Staff & Financial Resources**
- 7.3.1 No issues have been identified which will impact on the delivery of Council business as a result of this policy being implemented.
- 8.0 Support and Advice**
- 8.1 Advice and guidance on the implementation of this should be sought from the Head of Building Control

9.0 Communication

- 9.1 The Building Control Service within the Public Health & Infrastructure Department of Council is responsible for the communication, delivery and adherence to this policy

10.0 Monitoring and Review Arrangements

- 10.1 Implementation of this policy will be routinely monitored and a formal review undertaken 24 months from its effective commencement date.

Appendix A
Article 11, Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1995

Street names and numbering of buildings

Powers of councils in relation to street names and numbering of buildings

11.—(1) A council may erect at or near each end, corner or entrance of any street in its district a nameplate showing the name of the street; and a nameplate erected under this paragraph—

- (a) shall express the name of the street in English; and
- (b) may express that name in any other language

(2) A council may, immediately adjacent to a nameplate erected under paragraph (1) which expresses the name of a street in English only, erect a second nameplate expressing the name of the street in a language other than English.

(3) Neither this Article nor anything done by a council thereunder authorises or requires the use of the name of a street expressed in a language other than English as, or as part of—

- (a) the address of any person; or
- (b) the description of any land; for

the purposes of any statutory provision.

(4) In deciding whether and, if so, how to exercise its powers under paragraph (1)(b) or (2) in relation to any street, a council shall have regard to any views on the matter expressed by the occupiers of premises in that street.

(5) Any person who—

- (a) obscures, pulls down or defaces any nameplate erected under paragraph (1) or (2);
- (b) erects in any street any nameplate showing as the name of the street a name different from that in any nameplate erected in the street under paragraph (1) or (2); or
- (c) erects in any street any nameplate purporting to show the name of the street, without the authorisation of the council for the district in which the street is situated,

shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 2 on the standard scale.

(6) Where a council has exercised its powers under paragraph (1) in relation to any street, the occupier of each house or other building in that street shall ensure that that house or building is at all times marked with such number as the council may approve for the purposes of this Article.

(7) Where a person fails to comply with paragraph (6) the council may serve on him a notice requiring him to comply with that paragraph within 7 days from the date of service of the notice.

(8) A person who fails to comply with a notice served on him under paragraph (7) shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 2 on the standard scale.

(9) Where a person fails to comply with a notice served on him under paragraph (7) in respect of any house or other building, the council may itself do anything which he has failed to do and may recover from that person summarily as a civil debt any expenses thereby reasonably incurred by it.

(10) In this Article—
“nameplate” includes any means of signifying a name in writing; “street” includes any road, square, court, alley, passage or lane.

(11) The power of a council to erect a nameplate under paragraph (1) or (2) includes power—

- (a) to erect it on any building or in such other manner as the council thinks fit; and
- (b) to cause it to be erected by any person authorised in that behalf by the council.

(12) The following statutory provisions shall cease to have effect, namely—

- (a) sections 64 and 65 of the Towns Improvement Clauses Act 1847^{F6};
- (b) in section 38 of the Towns Improvement (Ireland) Act 1854^{F7} the words “naming the streets and numbering the houses and also so much thereof as relates to”;
- (c) section 21 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1907^{F8};
- (d) section 19 of the Public Health and Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act (Northern Ireland) 1949^{F9}; and
- (e) so much of any local Act as relates to the naming of streets or the numbering of houses or buildings

Appendix B

Dual Language Signage Nameplates: *Procedure*

In deciding whether it should exercise its discretionary powers in relation to erection of dual language nameplates under Article 11 of the 1995 Order, the Council shall only do so after having regard to the views of occupiers of premises which has its frontage immediately adjoining that street.

The procedure for seeking and assessing the views of occupiers and criteria to be applied in deciding whether to erect a dual language nameplate in a language other than English is;

1. A valid letter, signed by an occupier of the street must be made to Council to enable this matter to be considered. Requests should be made to the Building Control Service within the Public Health and Infrastructure Department. A letter of request shall be valid if; it is from an occupier who appears on the Electoral Register as maintained by the Electoral Office for NI; the applicant's address is referenced on the letter and; the individual's name is clearly stated and the letter has been signed by the petitioner (who must be an occupier of premises on the street). A letter may be received by email but it must be attached as a file and signed. The Council shall not accept a request made within the body of an email.
2. The Environment Committee will receive notification of submitted requests by way of valid letters as referenced at 1, above. A letter will be deemed to be valid where it is submitted by a minimum of one householder on that street. The Environment Committee will be informed of requests which have been validated and are proceeding to survey.
3. Following validation, the Council will canvass, by post, each occupier within a household as listed on the Electoral Register; seeking their views on the request to erect a dual-language street nameplate. Each household will receive a letter accompanied by survey forms based on the number of occupiers listed on the Electoral Register. The requisite number of survey forms for individuals registered at that address will be forwarded to each household (See Appendix E)
4. The occupiers will be advised of the date by which completed surveys must be returned. Incomplete or illegible survey returns will not be counted. Completed surveys which has been signed and name printed as required, must be returned in the self- addressed envelopes provided for that purpose. Only replies received by the specified date shall be considered.
5. For purposes of assessment where 51 % (rounded to nearest whole number) of occupiers that respond indicate that they are in favour of the erection of a dual language street nameplate, then the results of the survey will be forwarded to the Environment Committee for information confirming that the dual language nameplate will be erected

6. For purposes of assessment where 51 % (rounded to nearest whole number) of occupiers that respond indicate that they are not in favour of the erection of a dual-language street nameplate, then the results of the survey will be forwarded to the Environment Committee for information confirming that the dual language nameplate will not be approved or erected
7. In specific circumstances a report may be brought to the Environment Committee to determine an application where there are particular issues requiring the Members consideration
8. If the request is refused by those households surveyed, further requests will not be considered until the expiry of 12 months from the date at which the Environment Committee refuses it.
9. Where a request for Irish Language signage, the Irish Language Section within Department of Culture and Arts and/or an approved translator will provide the translation of the street name. Any other language shall be obtained from an approved translation service the cost of which will be notified to the Environment Committee when receiving the report on the outcome of the survey. The second language will not be used to express the name of the street for statutory purposes.
10. The layout, font and size of lettering of the second language shall be in accordance with that as shown in Appendix C.
11. Following the Council's decision with regards to the request on Dual Language Signage for a particular street/road, the outcome will be published on the Council Website. Where requested, written confirmation of the decision will be forwarded to relevant households.
12. Where agreed, a new dual language nameplate will be erected at the start and finish of the street or road in question and at such points along it as required e.g. at other road junctions, in accordance with any operational requirements as determined by the Property Services Team.

Appendix C Name Plate Layout

AGREED: 11th September 2018 Environment Committee
23rd September 2018 Full Council

Mono-Lingual New Road / Street Signage

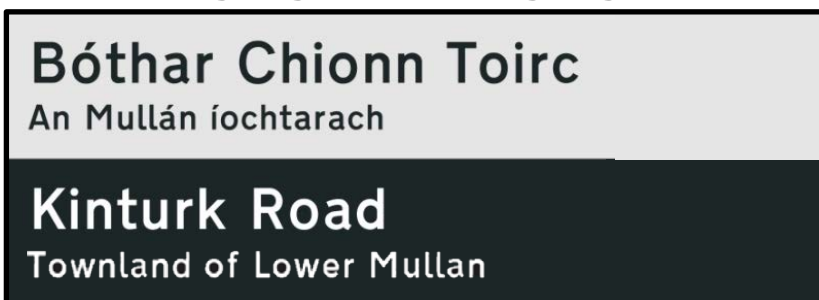


Example signage

Specification

- Name Plate Dimensions: 200mm x length to suit road name
- Background Colour: White
- Font & Colour: Transport Medium; Black
- Road Name font size: Upper case; 70mm Lower case; 50mm
- Townland font size: Upper case; 30mm Lower case; 22mm
- Text Justification: Left hand

Dual Language Street Signage



Example signage

Specification

- Name Plate Dimensions: 460mm x length to suit road name
- Background Colour: Dark Grey Value; C:77 M:63 Y:64 K:69
Light Grey Value; C:0 M:0 Y:0 K:10
- Font Type: Transport Medium
- Font Colour: Dark Grey Value; C:77 M:63 Y:64 K:69
Standard White
- Road Name font size: Upper case; 63mm Lower case; 50mm
- Townland font size: Upper case; 40mm Lower case; 30mm
- Text Justification: Left hand

Appendix D- Accessibility Statement

The information included in this policy can be made available in alternative formats, such as audio, braille, easy read or large print and may be provided in alternative languages, upon request. Please contact Mid Ulster District Council's Corporate Policy & Equality Officer on 03000 132 132 Ex 24612 or via ann.mcaleer@midulstercouncil.org



Comhairle Ceantair
Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster
District Council

Appendix E

18 February 2019

Our Ref:- «Ref»

The Occupier
50 Ballyronan Road
Townparks of Magherafelt
Magherafelt
BT45 6EN

Ref: Application for Dual Language signs at Name of Street/Development

Dear Sir/Madam

Mid Ulster District Council have received an application to erect street nameplates in ??? in addition to the current name for the street as indicated above.

The Council's Policy on Street Naming & Dual Language Signage outlines that individuals who meet the following criteria are eligible to register their preference on this matter:

A person who resides on the street in question and appears on the Electoral Register as maintained by the Electoral Office for Northern Ireland.

Our records would indicate that you meet the above criteria.

In accordance with these arrangements I would be grateful if you would complete the attached survey form and indicate your preference in this matter. The completed survey form should be returned to these offices in the addressed envelope provided by **Tuesday 19 March 2019**. *Survey forms received after this date will not be considered.*

On completion of this survey Council will provide a determination on this request on the basis of the majority preference as submitted. For approval to be considered, at least 51% of respondents must be in favour of the proposal (i.e. street nameplates being erected in ???, in addition to English for Name of Street/Development).

If you have any queries on the above please contact Willie Wilkinson in the Magherafelt Office by either:

Tel: 03000 132 132 (Ext 22208)

Email: willie.wilkinson@midulstercouncil.org

Yours faithfully

W Wilkinson
Head of Building Control

Enc

Cookstown Office
Bun Buidé
Cookstown
BT80 8DT

Dungannon Office
Lincfield Road
Dungannon
BT17 6LJ

Magherafelt Office
Ballyronan Road
Magherafelt
BT45 6EN

Telephone 03000 132 132
info@midulstercouncil.org
www.midulstercouncil.org



Comhairle Ceannair
Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster
District Council

19 February 2019

Our Ref:- MUDL0078

The Occupier (1)
50 Ballyronan Road
Townparks of Magherafelt
Magherafelt
BT45 6EN

Ref: Application for Dual Language signs at Name of Street/Development

Dear Sir/Madam

Please read the following statements below carefully. Tick your preferred option in the appropriate box, print your name and address and sign the document. Then return this letter which has your reply in the addressed envelope provided by 19 March 2019.

Thank you for your time completing this survey.

Yours faithfully

W Wilkinson
Head of Building Control

Options

1. I WISH to have a Dual Language nameplate erected at Name of Street/Development, the additional language being ???

☐

2. I DO NOT WISH to have a Dual Language nameplate erected at Name of Street/Development, the additional language being ???

☐

Print Name: _____

Address: _____

Signature: _____

The results of this survey will be available to view on www.midulstercouncil.org but should you wish to receive written correspondence detailing the outcome of the survey please tick this box.

☐

Appendix 2

Dual Language Nameplates

	Current Name	Irish Translation
Road	Annaghmore Road (Cookstown)	Bóthar Eanach Mór
Townlands	Cluntoe (Quin) Anneeter Beg	Cluain Tó (Ó Coinne) Eanach Íochtarach Beag

	Current Name	Irish Translation
Road	Tullydraw Road	Bóthar Thulach Idir Dhá Ráth
Townlands	Thornhill Glebe Mullaghmore Tullydraw	Gléib Chnoc na Sceiche An Mullach Mór Tulach Idir Dhá Ráth

	Current Name	Irish Translation
Road	Annaghmore Road (Coalisland)	Bóthar Eanach Mór
Townlands	Annaghmore Derrytresk	Eanach Mór Doire Treasc

	Current Name	Irish Translation
Road	Coole Road	Bóthar na Cúile
Townlands	Aughamullan Aughrimderg	Achadh Uí Mhaoláin Achadh Droma Dheirg

	Current Name	Irish Translation
Road	Drummurrer Lane	Bóithrín Dhroim Oirir
Townlands	Meenagh Drummurrer Cloghog	An Mhíneach Droim Oirir An Chlochóg

	Current Name	Irish Translation
Road	Claremount Drive	Céide Chnoc an Chláir
Townland	Killeen	An Cillín