



11 June 2024

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Environment Committee to be held in The Chamber, Cookstown at Mid Ulster District Council, Council Offices, Burn Road, COOKSTOWN, BT80 8DT on Tuesday, 11 June 2024 at 19:00 to transact the business noted below.

Yours faithfully

Adrian McCreesh
Chief Executive

AGENDA

OPEN BUSINESS

1. Notice of Recording
This meeting will be webcast for live and subsequent broadcast on the Council's You Tube site [Live Broadcast Link](#)
2. Apologies
3. 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.
4. Chair's Business

Matters for Decision

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| 5. Bus Shelters Update | 3 - 20 |
| 6. Rethinking Our Resources Consultation Response | 21 - 126 |
| 7. Chewing Gum Task Force Grant Scheme Funding | 127 - 128 |
| 8. Festive Lighting Replacement - Delegated Authority request | 129 - 130 |

Matters for Information

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| 9. Minutes of Environment Committee held on 14 May 2024 | 131 - 140 |
| 10. Environment Directorate Departmental Plan 2024/25 | 141 - 186 |
| 11. Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations (NI) 2024 | 187 - 206 |
| 12. Building Control Workload | 207 - 212 |
| 13. Entertainment Licensing Applications | 213 - 226 |

- | | | |
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| 14. | Dual Language Signage Surveys | 227 - 250 |
| 15. | Dual Language Signage Requests | 251 - 270 |

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

16. McKinney Hall Entertainment Licence Renewal
17. Contracts for the Receipt and Processing of Kerbside Collected Mixed Dry Recyclable (Blue Bin) Waste
18. Procurement Frameworks for the Supply of Refuse/Recycling Products

Matters for Information

19. Confidential Minutes of Environment Committee held on 14 May 2024
20. Capital Framework – ICT Contracts Update
21. Capital Framework – IST Contracts Update
22. Maghera Regeneration Programme Update

Report on	Bus Shelters Update
Date of Meeting	11 th June 2024
Reporting Officer	Paddy Conlon – Head of Technical Services
Contact Officer	Anne Mac Airt – Capital Development Officer

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update Members on the current bus shelter status.
2.0	Background
2.1	Council is empowered under the Local Government Miscellaneous Provisions (NI) Order 1985, with the consent of the department to erect and maintain on any road within the district of the council, shelters for the protection from the weather or persons waiting to enter public service vehicles. Bus shelters are erected following local representations. They are provided, particularly for those who must use public services who may have to stand out in the inclement weather.
2.2	Following the bus shelter collaborative workshop held in March 2020, the bus shelter process was discussed and agreed at the Council meeting held on the 27 th March 2020. Members are advised in a monthly report of progress made on the various applications that have been lodged with the department.
2.3	Due to the Covid-19 pandemic progress has been delayed with unavailability of staff and priority of workloads within the various departments involved in dealing with the shelter installation. MUDC / DfI Roads have met (through "Microsoft Teams") to discuss a selection of these projects and will continue to carry out similar meetings to progress shelter applications.
2.4	Members to note current Procedural guide approved by Council March 2021 (see appendix 1).
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The following information headings will be covered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New applications received in the past month (see 3.2) • Progress on stages 2-4 application process (see 3.3) • Request for Council to move from stage 5 (see 3.4)

- Progress update on stages 6-9 (see 3.5)
- Neighbour Notification summary and detailed analysis (see 3.6)
- Projects recommended for approval (3.7)
- Projects recommended for rejection (3.8)
- Projects recommended for withdrawal (see 3.9)
- Shelters passed to Property Services for installation (3.10)
- Progress update on stages 10-11 (see 3.11)
- Update on statutory response times in relation to agreement on time related responses for application (see 3.12)
- Other issues (see 3.13)

3.2 **New Applications received in the past month – 0Nr:**

3.3 **Progress on stages 2-4 of the application process – see table 3 in Appendix 2.**

3.4 **Requests for Council to move from stage 5 of the application process – 1Nr applications to move from stage 5.**

3.4.1

Bus Shelter Application	DEA	Numbers Confirmed
Ref. 2024-004 – Ardboe Parish Hall Carpark.	Torrent	25Nr Translink.

3.5 **Progress update on stages 6-9 – Update on applications below have been discussed with a view to getting approval:**

3.5.1

Reference	DEA	Bus Shelter Location	Notes
2023-014	Clogher Valley	Ballagh Road Layby, Clogher	Further consideration required in line with Council policy and funding.
2023-004	Clogher Valley	Moore Street, Aughnacloy	Currently being discussed with applicant.
2023-017	Moyola	Hillhead Road, Castledawson	Further consideration required in line with Council policy and funding.
2023-018	Carntogher	Crew Road, Maghera	Currently being discussed with applicant.
2016-003	Torrent	Magheracastle / Mountjoy Road, Brocagh	Applicant engaging with landowner.
2023-011	Torrent	Pomeroy Road, Donaghmore	Applicant engaging with objector.
2024-005	Clogher Valley	Fintona Road, Clogher	Submitted as a new application, status is maintenance upgrade. Passed to Property Services for installation.
2024-002	Torrent	Millview Manor, Coalisland Road	Go out for Nearest Neighbour Notification.
2024-006	Moyola	McErleans Villas, Ballynease Road, Bellaghy	Go out for Nearest Neighbour Notification.

3.5.8

3.5.9

3.6

Summary of Neighbour Notifications - 1Nr Neighbour notification

3.6.1

- **Ref. 2019-002 Farlough Road, Derryvale (Table 5, Appendix 2 – ref. 6)**

Shelter Location	Derryvale, Farlough Road, Newmills
Bus Shelter Requested	28/06/2019
Date Request Validated	28/06/2019
Survey Issued	16/04/2024
Survey Returned By	30/04/2024
Survey Letters Issued (No.)	3
Survey Letters Returned	3
Replies in Favour	2
Replies not in Favour	1
No response	0
Valid Returns	3
Percentage that have objections	33%

In accordance with the Bus Shelter Procedural guide, at least 51% of the addresses surveyed must have no objections to the shelter. NOTE; for the purposes of assessment where 51% (rounded to the nearest whole number) of property addresses that respond indicate that they are not in favour of the erection of a shelter, then the results of the survey will be forwarded to the Environment Committee for information confirming that the shelter will not be approved or erected. The bus shelter at Farlough Road, Derryvale is **recommended to be installed** subject to members discussion.

3.7

Projects recommended for Approval; - 1Nr application is recommended for approval this month:

3.7.1

Reference	DEA	Bus Shelter Location
2019-002	Torrent	Farlough Road, Derryvale

3.8

Projects recommended for rejection; - 0Nr application is recommended for rejection this month:

3.9

Projects noted below are recommended for withdrawal – 0Nr application is being recommended for withdrawal:

3.10

Shelters passed to Property Services for installation:

An audit review of existing bus shelter applications is currently being undertaken by Officer to progress, close or withdraw outstanding applications.

Members to Note the following shelters as listed below have obtained the necessary approvals but are still awaiting legal owner consent before being sent to Property Services for installation.

	Bus Shelter Reference and Location	DEA	Notes
3.10.1	Ref. 2021-003 Reenaderry Road, Coalisland	Torrent	Subject to Landowner agreement.
3.10.2	Ref. 2021-002 Coagh Road, Stewartstown	Torrent	Landowner confirmation requested to progress or withdraw application.
3.10.3	Ref. 2019-008 Eglish View, Ballinderry	Torrent	Landowner has refused permission for bus shelter to be located on new footway recently installed by DFI Roads. Applicant looking at new location.
3.10.4	Ref. 2016-017 Innishrush Village, Clady	Moyola	Applicant to determine landowner and if feasible.
<p>Members to Note the following Bus shelters as listed below have obtained the necessary approvals and been passed over to Property Services for installation and these are currently being programmed for installation within their current workload. Members seeking information on installation dates etc should direct their queries to Property Services.</p>			
	Reference	DEA	Bus Shelter Location
3.10.5	2024-003	Carntogher	Lavey Chapel Carpark.
3.10.6	2024-005	Clogher Valley	Fintona Road, Clogher
3.10.7	2022-005	Magherafelt	Churchtown, Lissan
3.11	<p>Progress update on stages 10-11 –4nr shelter installed since date of last meeting.</p>		
	Reference	DEA	Bus Shelter Location
3.11.1	2023-006	Torrent	Lineside, Coalisland
3.11.2	2023-012	Torrent	Fr Peter Campbell Park, Annagher Road, Coalisland
3.11.3	2016-009	Torrent	St. John’s Kingsisland Primary School
3.11.4	2020-006	Torrent	St Colman’s Park, Moortown
3.12	<p>Progress on response times – Agreed response times within 30 days with statutory agencies.</p>		
	Statutory Agencies	Number requests sent	Reply <30 Days
	Translink	0	0
	Education Authority	1	1

	DfI Roads	1	1	0
	NIHE	0	0	0
3.13	<p>Interagency Meeting: Statutory update meeting to be held 13 June 2024, with DFI Roads, EA, NIHE, and Translink to discuss new Bus shelter locations, response times and any issues.</p> <p>Other issues: None</p>			
4.0	Other Considerations			
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications			
	Financial: Within budget for Technical Services and Property services to action provision / installation costs within their budget.			
	Human: N/A			
	Risk Management: Non-delivery will have adverse impact of users of public transport.			
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments			
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/A			
	Rural Needs Implications: N/A			
5.0	Recommendation(s)			
5.1	Members to note the content of the report on the progress made on bus shelters within the district.			
5.2	Bus shelter application listed to move from stage 5, under 3.4, is recommended for approval:			
5.2.1	1Nr – 3.4.1 – Ardboe Parish Hall Carpark.			
5.3	Bus shelter application listed under 3.7 is recommended for approval to installation this month:			
5.3.1	1Nr - 3.7.1 – Farlough Road, Derryvale.			
6.0	Documents Attached & References			
6.1	Appendix 1 – March 2021 - Procedural guide			
6.2	Appendix 2 – Progress table with comments			
6.3	Appendix 3 – Progress Table Summary			

Procedural Guide on the Provision of Bus Shelters



1.0 Bus Shelters – Mid Ulster District Council

Council is empowered under the Local Government Miscellaneous Provisions (NI) Order 1985, with the consent of the Department for Infrastructure (DfI) to erect and maintain on any road within the district of the council, shelters for the protection from the weather or persons waiting to enter public service vehicles. Bus shelters are erected following local representations. They are provided, particularly for those who have to use public services who may have to stand out in the inclement weather.

1.1 PROCEDURAL STATEMENT

Council will erect a bus shelter where there is shown to be a need, providing the location does not present a safety or nuisance problem and adequate funding is available. Relocation of bus shelters should only take place as a result of either road alignment or the bus companies relocating their bus stops. All other cases of relocation should be resisted as long as there is an identified need for the shelter. Any relocation as a result of retail business / property owner request will only be considered if an alternative suitable location (distance restrictions will be considered) can be accommodated AND the retail business / property owner covers all associated costs for relocated shelter.

If there is any reported anti-social behaviour over a 12 month period at the location of a new/existing shelter the shelter location will be reviewed by Council with an option to remove the shelter and make good the existing surfaces.

1.2 CRITERIA FOR THE ERECTION OF A BUS SHELTER

1. Usage must be a minimum of 6 passengers over a period of a day and applications will be considered on a first come, first served basis, with Translink NI / Education Authority confirming this information. Less than 6 passengers will only be considered by a Council/DEA approval process.
2. The location must be at a recognised bus stop.
3. Following validation, the Council will canvass, by post, all property addresses within 50m frontage to the bus stop (25m either side) on the erection of the shelter, including the type of shelter.
4. At least 51% of the addresses surveyed must have no objections to the shelter.

NOTE - for the purposes of assessment where 51% (rounded to the nearest whole number) of property addresses that respond indicate that they are not in favour of the erection of a shelter, then the results of the survey will be forwarded to the Environment Committee for information confirming that the shelter will not be approved or erected.)

Appendix 1

5. There should be no Department for Infrastructure Roads objections on traffic grounds.
6. There must be sufficient budgetary provision available to provide the bus shelter.
7. All Survey results that do not meet the essential criteria to be reported to Council for consideration.
8. Once refused a request may not be considered for a further 12 month period from the original decision by Council.
9. Form TS/BSRF/01 to be completed and signed off by Head of Service.
10. Bus Shelter request to be approved by Environment Committee.

1.3 DESIGN OF BUS SHELTER

The Council endeavour to provide good quality, comfortable bus shelters purchased through the Procurement Department. Where appropriate they will endeavour to have bus shelters erected free of charge, other than services by Adshel.

1. All shelters within 30mph speed limits will have shelter in accordance with **Example A**, (as below).
2. All shelters outside 30mph speed limits will have shelter in accordance with **Example B**, (as below).

Council will consider in conservation areas the erection of shelters above this standard, but the cost of such shelters excluding erection and servicing costs shall not exceed £3000.00.



Example A, within
30mph speed limits,
Glazed shelter.



Example B, outside
30mph speed limits,
painted metal shelter.

1.4 REPLACEMENT OF BUS SHELTERS

Any defective shelters that require replacement as part of their life span to be replaced using location criteria and shelter design Examples A or B as noted above as part of the maintenance of the Council Estate .

1.5 PROVISION OF BUS SHELTERS – PROCESS

Stage 1: Send application form to person requesting Erection of Shelter.

Stage 2: Acknowledge receipt of request (in writing) – standard letter sent.

Stage 3: Carry out preliminary visit to investigate suitability of site.

Stage 4: Contact Translink / SELB / Private approved Coach Companies to confirm viability of erecting bus shelter i.e. recognised "Bus Stop", number and age of children, bus routes etc. 1st organisation to respond with numbers meeting the criteria i.e. 6 or more then proceed to next stage.

Note – shelters only provided at locations where it is confirmed a minimum of six people await / board buses.

Organisational Name	Contact Name	Contact Number	

Stage 5: Report to Environment Committee to seek Council approval/instruction.

Stage 6: Identify landowner e.g. Housing Executive, local farmer, etc. and obtain their written consent for erection of bus shelter and consult with adjoining properties (contact local Councillor and arrange site meeting if necessary). Elected members to be notified by email when letters are to be issued to neighbours for information purposes.

Stage 7: Send letters (with location maps) for approval/comments to DfI (Roads) / Water Service, PSNI, BT and NIE (arrange follow-up site meetings if necessary).

Stage 8: Sign and return DFI (Roads), Article 66, Consent/Schedule at least six days prior to erection of bus shelter.

Stage 9: Erect bus shelter – Example A or Example B (see 1.3).

Stage 10: Send request to GIS officer to have new asset plotted, and add to shelter register which is to be forwarded to Procurement Department, for insurance cover. Information to include erection/ maintenance/ ownership/ risk assessments / inspection regime / legal agreements between Council and the relevant landowners.

Stage 11: Report back to Council.



Date

Our Ref: MUDC/TS/BS/

The Occupier

Address 1

Address 2

Postcode

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Application for Provision of Bus Shelter at [Enter Location]

Mid Ulster District Council have received an application to erect a bus shelter at the above location and as noted in attached map (see Appendix 1).

The Council's Procedural Guide on the Provision of Bus Shelters outlines that validated applications are subject to neighbour notification. Those who meet the following criteria are eligible to register their preference on this matter:

- All property addresses within 50m frontage to the bus stop (25m either side) on the erection of the shelter, including the type of shelter

Our records indicate that this address is within 50m criteria and therefore subject to neighbour notification.

If approved Council would install Bus Shelter type **[Enter Bus Shelter Example A or B]** as detailed in Appendix 2.

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% (majority) of respondents must be in favour of the proposal.

Please read carefully the statements on the survey form attached. Tick your preferred option in the appropriate box, print your name and address and sign the document. The completed survey form(s) should be returned to this office by either:

- a. returning in Self Addressed Envelope provided, or
- b. emailing to Technicalservices@midulstercouncil.org

Forms received after **[Enter Day and Date]** will not be considered.

Thank you for your time completing this survey.

If you have any queries on the above, please contact (Officer Name) in the Cookstown Office by email at (,,,,,,,) or by telephone on 03000 132 132 Ext: 24400.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Raymond Lowry', enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

Raymond Lowry
Head of Technical Services

Encs.

Cc DEA Councillors



PROVISION OF BUS SHELTER – SURVEY FORM

1. **I HAVE NO OBJECTIONS** to have a Bus Shelter erected at **[Enter Location]**

2. **I DO NOT WISH** to have a Bus Shelter erected at **[Enter Location]**

If you have ticked this box please give reason for objection

Reason for Objection:

Name: _____
(CAPITALS)

Address: _____

Signature: _____

The Results of this survey will be available to view on the MUDC website www.midulstercouncil.org under Council Meetings but should you wish to receive written correspondence detailing the outcome of the survey please tick this box.

Data Protection

In accordance with Data Protection Legislation, Mid Ulster District Council has a duty to protect any data we hold. The information you provide on this survey form will be used for the purposes of processing your survey and will not be shared to any third party unless law or regulation compels such a disclosure. Information will be retained in accordance with the Council's Retention and Disposal Policy.

Appendix 1

[Insert Map of proposed Bus Shelter location]

Appendix 2

BUS SHELTER TYPE

See below Example A - within 30mph speed limits, glazed shelter.



See below Example B - outside 30mph speed limits, painted metal shelter.



Table 1 – Applications awaiting formal application to be submitted (2 NR)				
No	Location	Stage	Status / Comment	Progress status
1	Royal School, Dungannon 2024-001	1	Awaiting completed application form	Private applicant - to be discussed with the Board of Governors.
2	Annaghmore Road, Clonoe 2021-001	1	Awaiting completed application form	Application form to be submitted.
Table 2 – New applications received since last Committee (0 NR)				
Table 3 – STAGES 2-4 (2 NR)				
1	Cloverhill, Moy 2021-004	3	Signed Application received	17.11.23 - applicant contacted for decision on progressing application or withdrawing. To be discussed further.
2	The Mills, Coalisland 2021-007	4	Signed Application received	DFI Roads visit 29/08/23, issue with current housing development entrance. Sightlines to be adjusted before shelter could be considered. Within DFI Roads budget for 24/25.
Table 4 – STAGES 5-8 (12 NR)				
No	Location	Stage	Status / Comment	Progress status
1	Magheracastle Road / Mountjoy Road, Brocagh 2016-003	7	Pending withdrawal notification from applicant as proposed site on wrong side of the road for pick-up	08.12.23 - Application to be progressed. Translink confirmed 8nr passengers. Site visit took place 12.03.24, possibility of bus shelter directly opposite entrance to Magheracastle Avenue but would require permission of landowner. Applicant engaging with landowner.
2	Moore Street, Aughnacloy 2023-004	6	Signed Application received	Site visit 09/06/2023, user numbers requested, response, EA confirmed 20nr users. Re location following Sept Env committee meeting. Objection received to new location outside No.91. Alternative location identified, applicant engaging with landowners.
3	Pomeroy Road, Donaghmore 2023-011	6	Signed Application received	Site meeting arranged with applicant for 29/09/2023. Translink do not use this stop, EA confirmed 27nr passengers. Gone out for nearest neighbour notifications. Objection received. Applicants engaging with objector.
4	Findermore Road, Clogher 2023-014	6	Signed Application received	Site meeting arranged with applicant for 02/10/2023. Translink confirmed 12nr passengers. 07/11/23 met with DFI onsite and Councillors (14/11/23) to discuss layby and widening. Topographical survey carried out and sketch of widening of layby sent to Translink and DFI for discussion / approval. Separate paper to be taken to Env. Committee for approval following DFI / Translink approval.
5	Crew Road, Maghera 2023-018	7	Signed Application received	EA confirmed 25nr passengers. Approval at January's Committee to move from Stage 5. Nearest Neighbour returned 16th Feb. Objection received owing to planning permission so new location identified following site visit with applicant and DFI Roads. Applicant engaging with residents.
6	Hillhead Road, Castledawson 2023-017	6	Application received	07.11.23 - site meeting took place to look at location. Translink confirmed 12nr passengers. To be discussed with DFI and Translink. Further site visit 11th January. All possibilities discussed. Current pick-up location would require footpath linkage to bus shelter. Discussions underway with DFI Roads. Nearest neighbour not impacted. Separate paper to be brought to Env. Committee.
7	Reenaderry Road, Clonoe 2021-003	6	Final Landowner agreement	Landowner objected to first location so new location identified on opposite side of the road. Parents currently use car park of shop / bar to wait with children until bus arrives. Translink confirmed 20nr passengers. Applicant engaging with landowner.
8	Innishrush Village 2016-017	6	Awaiting landowner Consent - NIHE	Translink confirmed 15nr passengers. Applicant to find out who owns The Coach housing development and follow up with owner.
9	Derryfubble Road, Benburb 2022-004	6	NIHE Site. Requires Legal agreement	Site visit held with DFI Roads. Valuation from NIHE received for MUDC approval. Translink confirmed 40nr passengers. Applicant engaging with residents.
10	Millview Manor, Coalisland Road 2024-002	6	Signed Application received	Site visit carried out. Translink confirmed 10+nr passengers. Approval to move from Stage 5 - May's Committee. Site visit - DFI Roads approved location of existing bus stop but stipulated a glazed full-sized bus shelter would be necessary to ensure sightlines maintained. Go out for Nearest Neighbour.
11	McErleans Villas, Ballynease Road, Bellaghy 2024-006	6	Signed Application received	Site visit 15.04.24. Translink confirmed 10nr passengers. Approval to move from Stage 5 - May's Committee. Go out to Nearest Neighbour and consult with DFI Roads.
12	Ardboe Hall 2024-004	5	Signed Application received.	Site visit carried out 22.03.24. Translink confirmed 25nr passengers. Approval to move from stage 5 at June's Env. Committee.
Table 5 - STAGE 9 (6 NR)				
No	Location	Stage	Status / Comment	Progress status
1	Coagh Road, Stewartstown 2021-002	9	Landowner has declined to offer land for Bus shelter. Final confirmation required.	Awaiting confirmation from landowner. User numbers requested for refresh.
2	Eglis View, Ballinderry 2019-008	9	Application pending identification to suitable new location.	New footway installed. Applicant hoping to look at new location.
3	Lavey Chapel Car Park, Gulladuff 2024-003	9	All confirmed	Removal of 2 old bus shelters and replaced with a new bus shelter. Site visit carried out 26.03.24. Translink confirmed 10+ passengers picked up at this stop. Approved to move stage 5 at April Committee. No Nearest Neighbour impacted, request in May's report for approval to install. Passed to Property Services for installation.
4	Churchtown Road, Lissan 2022-005	9	Replacement of existing shelter	08.12.23 - application to be progressed. Confirmed 10nr passengers. Residents living in house No.5 confirmed verbally 20/02/24 they approve of bus shelter going along fence but expressed concern about blocking of light entering their kitchen. Bus shelter on order with Property Services for installation.
5	Fintona Road, Clogher 2024-005	9	All confirmed	Site visit carried out 12.04.24. Translink confirmed 5nr and EA 12nr passengers. Approval to move from Stage 5 - May's Committee - replacing existing bus shelter with new bus shelter. Not a new application as replacing existing bus shelter - maintenance upgrade so sent onto Property Services to order and install.
6	Farlough Road, Derryvale 2019-002	9	All confirmed	Site visit on 27.03.24 with DFI Roads and a glazed cantilever bus shelter has been approved at Designated Bus Stop. Nearest Neighbour due 30 April 24. 1 objection, 2 no objection. Put forward for recommendation to install in June's Committee report.
Table 6 – Stage 10-11 - Bus Shelters Installed (12 NR)				

No	Location	Stage	Status / Comment	Progress status
1	William Street / Beatrice Villas, Bellaghy 2022-001	10	All confirmed	Installed January 2024.
2	Ballyronan Road, Magherafelt 2022-006	10	All confirmed	Installed February 2024.
3	Dungannon Road, Cabragh 2023-005	10	All confirmed	Installed February 2024.
4	Moydamlaght Road, Draperstown 2023-001	10	All confirmed	Installed February 2024.
5	Moygashel Park, Dungannon 2023-013	10	All confirmed	Installed March 2024.
6	Church Street, Cookstown 2020-002	10	All confirmed	Installed March 2024.
7	Knockmany Road, Augher 2023-015	10	All confirmed	Installed April 2024.
8	Primrose Hill, Clogher 2022-009	10	All confirmed	Installed April 2024.
9	Annagher Road, Coalisland 2023-012	9	All confirmed	Installed May 2024.
10	Lineside, Coalisland 2023-006	9	All confirmed	Installed May 2024.
11	St Colmans Park, Moortown 2020-006	8	All confirmed	Installed May 2024.
12	Kingsisland Primary School 2016-009	9	All confirmed	Installed May 2024.

Table 7 – Applications to be Withdrawn/ Reviewed (13 NR)

No	Location	Stage	Status / Comment	Progress status
1	Mourne Avenue, Coalisland 2023-010	6	Signed Application received	Site meeting held with applicant on site 13/09/2023. 2nr confirmed from Translink. DFI approved location. Gone out for nearest neighbour notifications - 8 objections received.
2	Platers Hill, Church View, Coalisland 2023-007	6	Application received	Meeting held on site with applicant 13/09/2023. 6nr passengers confirmed from Translink. DFI have approved location 03/10/2023. Gone out for nearest neighbour notifications, 2 replies / 2 objections received. Withdraw.
3	Brough Road, Castledawson 2018-001	4	Signed Application received	Translink 20 nr passengers, EA do not use this route. Bus route has changed since first proposal. Request to withdraw this application as new location identified.
4	Mourne Crescent, Coalisland 2023-008	7	Application received	Meeting held on site with applicant on site 13/09/2023. 6nr passengers confirmed from Translink. DFI approved location 03/10/2023. Gone out for nearest neighbour notifications, 1 objection / 1 no objection received. Reject - no nearest neighbour in favour.
5	Newtownkelly, Coalisland 2023-016	5	Signed Application received	Site meeting took place 03/11/2023. Translink confirmed 20+nr passengers, EA do not use route. Request to progress to Stage 5. DFI did not approve owing to lack of footpath and room for bus shelter and objections raised from NNN.
6	Glendavagh Road, Crilly, Aughnacloy - 2016-013	6	Completed Application form received	Awaiting confirmation from applicant to see if proposed shelter is still required in this location. Reminder to be sent. 07.12.23 - Upon follow-up Cllr Burton approved to withdraw application.
7	Tirkane Road, Maghera 2016-019	3	Signed Application received	Site visit held, site identified for shelter. Translink do not use this stop. Awaiting EA response - tbc if bus shelter still required. Ring original applicant to see if still required. 07.12.23 - Anne spoke with Gabhan (original applicant) and he is speaking with Cllr McGuigan - to confirm. 13.12.23 - Cllr McGuigan confirmed to withdraw application.
8	Kinrush Road/Battery Road Junction, Moortown 2016-008	6	Original site limited space, alternative site to be confirmed	Original location deemed not acceptable although alternative location has now been identified and progress to install shelter to programmed. 07.12.23 - Anne followed up with Ronan McGinley. 13.12.23 - Cllr McAleer confirmed to withdraw application.
9	Cullion Road, Desertmartin 2022-011	6	Signed Application received	User numbers requested from Translink and EA. Confirmed 6nr passengers from Translink. 07.12.23 - Anne rang Fiona - applicant to see if shelter still required. 13.12.23 - site visit required. Passed Dec.22 to move from stage 5. Anne did a further check on passenger numbers and only 4 currently picking up - move application for rejection.
10	Altglushan / Reclaim Road, Galbally 2023-009	6	Signed Application received	Site meeting arranged with applicant 30/09/2023. Translink do not use this stop, EA confirmed 8nr passengers. Gone out for nearest neighbour notifications. No response. Further site visit from DFI - not viable - recommended for rejection.
11	Annaghmore Road, Cookstown 2022-008	8	Signed Application Form	Site meeting held 21/09/2022. Confirmed 12 nr passenger numbers. 08.12.23 - Bus shelter proposed is on opposite side of road from direction of travel. Site visit took place 12.03.24 - DFI approved bus shelter at foot of lane way - to be 3m from roadside edge. Shared laneway has one objector. Applicant happy to withdraw application.
12	Goland Road/ Armaghlughey Road, Ballygawley - 2016-015	6	Site and user numbers confirmed	Anne messaged applicant in January to determine progress of the application - awaiting direction. EA pick up at laneways and not enough applicants to warrant a bus shelter. Translink don't pick up in the area. Applicant happy to withdraw application - reported in May's Committee.
13	Tullyhogue Village 2016-021	6	Residents declined original location as will promote anti-social behaviour. Limited options for alternative sites that suit bus pick-ups.	No suitable site currently available within the village - 07.12.23 - Anne messaged applicant. Application to be revisited. 09.02.24 - site visit carried out, few possible locations identified. Carry out NNN. Objection received. Engaging external stakeholders. DFI Roads and Translink do not approve bus stop at location. Recommended for withdrawal, applicant in agreement and can be revised after 12months.

Appendix 3 – Progress Table Summary, June 2024

TABLE	DESCRIPTION	NUMBERS
Table 1.	Applications awaiting formal application to be submitted	2Nr
Table 2.	New applications received from Last Committee Meeting	0Nr
Table 3.	Stages 2-4, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stage 2, Acknowledge receipt of request • Stage 3, Site Visit • Stage 4, Contact Translink/EA for user numbers 	2Nr
Table 4.	Stages 5-8, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stage 5, Report to Committee for approval • Stage 6, Identify landowner and Nearest Neighbour issued • Stage 7, Send letters for approval to DFI etc • Stage 8, Article 66 to be issued to DFI Roads 	12Nr
Table 5.	Stage 9, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awaiting Installation of Bus Shelter 	6Nr
Table 6.	Stages 10/11, Installed shelters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stage10, Send to GIS officer • Stage 11, Report to Council 	12Nr

Report on	Rethinking Our Resources Consultation Response
Date of Meeting	11th June 2024
Reporting Officer	Mark McAdoo, Assistant Director - Environmental Services
Contact Officer	Mark McAdoo, Assistant Director – Environmental Services

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To seek approval to submit a response to the DAERA consultation on Rethinking our Resources: Measure for Climate Action and a Circular Economy in Northern Ireland.
2.0	Background
2.1	The Climate Change Act (NI) 2022 incorporates several actions for the decarbonisation of the waste sector and in particular sets out a clear requirement of achieving at least 70% of waste recycled by 2030. In addition to this requirement, amendments made in 2020 to the Waste and Contaminated Land (NI) Order 1997 (WCLO) introduced new municipal recycling targets - for households and businesses who produce waste similar to households. The WCLO requires NI to achieve a 65% recycling rate for municipal waste by 2035 and a 10% cap on the amount of waste going to landfill by the same year.
2.2	DAERA is now seeking views on how Northern Ireland can take steps towards improving the quality and quantity of household and non-household municipal recycling, how to improve reductions in food waste, how to cut landfill rates and how to get businesses on board to increase recycling rates. The aim of this consultation is to bring forward new policy options for the DAERA Minister and questions focus on issues such as how new measures might best be implemented, considering views on practicality, economic barriers and how the future of recycling in Northern Ireland might look.
2.3	An abridged version of the consultation is provided as an appendix and a full copy of the document is available via the below link: Rethinking Our Resources - Measures for Climate Action and a Circular Economy in NI (daera-ni.gov.uk)
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The consultation was launched on 7th March with a closing date of 30th May 2024. However following representations from the local government sector DAERA agreed to extend the deadline for responses by a further four week period to 27th June 2024.

<p>3.2</p> <p>3.3</p> <p>3.4</p> <p>3.5</p>	<p>The consultation document is split into 10 parts (with 26 proposals) as detailed below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Introduction</i> 2. <i>A call to action</i> 3. <i>Support for change, building on success and our legislative framework</i> 4. <i>Policy rationale</i> 5. <i>Funding</i> 6. <i>Stakeholder engagement</i> 7. <i>Audience</i> 8. <i>Part 1 - Proposals 1 to 12 - to improve commonality in Collections from Households</i> 9. <i>Part 2 - Proposals 13 to 26 - to improve recycling of Non-Household Municipal Waste</i> 10. <i>Responding to the Consultation</i> <p>Each individual proposal seeks a response through a series of questions (over 100 in total) and a detailed response has been prepared to each as provided in the appendix.</p> <p>Whilst most of the proposals would have an impact on local Councils to some degree here are three in particular which, if implemented, would have a major impact on the waste management service/operations of Mid Ulster District Council; as listed below:</p> <p><i>Proposal 1:</i> <i>To restrict the residual waste capacity for households in Northern Ireland to a maximum of 90 litres per week, delivered either via a 180 litre wheeled bin collected fortnightly or a 240 litre wheeled bin collected every three weeks. Councils would decide on the most appropriate methodology for their own circumstances.</i></p> <p><i>Proposal 5:</i> <i>The default position for collection of dry recyclables from households is in four separate streams.</i></p> <p><i>Proposal 10:</i> <i>Revisions to household food waste collections to increase capture rates and improve the diversion of food waste from disposal should be introduced, ensuring all householders, including those living in flats, can recycle more and in time have access to separate, weekly food waste recycling collections.</i></p> <p>The above proposals do not align with the current “three bin” commingled service provided by Mid Ulster District Council and there would be major cost/implications in implementing the separate collections model proposed by DAERA. We have therefore prepared a supplementary response to our main consultation response to further detail our concerns and provide evidence based arguments in relation to our current system performance. One of the main points in our response is that we contend DAERA should set the recycling targets to be achieved but let individual Councils decide on how best to achieve the targets i.e. they should not be mandating particular collection systems.</p>
<p>4.0</p>	<p>Other Considerations</p>
<p>4.1</p>	<p>Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications</p>

	<p>Financial: The costs of system change are as detailed in the consultation response provided.</p>
	<p>Human: The implications for employees are as detailed in the consultation response provided.</p>
	<p>Risk Management: There are risks, reputational and potentially monetary, in not achieving recycling targets.</p>
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	<p>Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/A</p>
	<p>Rural Needs Implications: N/A</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are requested to note the content of this report and to approve the submission of the consultation response to DAERA as outlined by the deadline on 27th June 2024.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 – Rethinking our Waste Consultation document (abridged version)
6.2	Appendix 2 – Rethinking our Waste MUDC Consultation response (Annex A)
6.3	Appendix 3 – Rethinking our Waste MUDC Supplementary response (Annex 1)



Rethinking Our Resources:

Measures for Climate Action
and a Circular Economy in NI

Abridged version

March 2024



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

www.daera-ni.gov.uk

*Sustainability at the heart of a living,
working, active landscape
valued by everyone.*

This document is also available on the DAERA website at:

<https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/consultations/rethinking-our-resources-measures-climate-action-and-circular-economy-ni-consultation>

On request, we can arrange to provide other formats of the documents above, such as:

- Paper Copy
- Large Print
- Braille
- Other Languages

To request an alternative format, please contact us:

Resources and Waste Strategy Team
Environmental Resources Policy Division
Department of Agriculture, Environment & Rural Affairs
Jubilee House
111 Ballykelly Road
Ballykelly
BT49 9HP

Email: wastepolicyteam@daera-ni.gov.uk

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Ministerial Foreword

Our landmark Climate Change (NI) Act 2022 has set the direction and ambition for environmental protection and tackling the ever-increasing impacts of the climate crisis we now face. We are committed to achieving Net Zero by 2050. It is now imperative that all the people of Northern Ireland come together and actively contribute to reaching this crucial goal.



Our current linear economy, where we **take, make, use and waste**, means that [92.1% or 33.6 million tonnes](#) of material is not cycled back into the economy in NI. While some of these materials are used for buildings and infrastructure which last for a long time, unfortunately, most of these precious resources end up as waste rather than being reused, refurbished, re-manufactured or recycled.

We need to change this.

Reducing the amount of waste we generate, the amount we send to landfill together with managing our resources more sustainably by increasing the quality and quantity of our recycling will allow a move to more closed-loop, local recycling systems. This move will not only have benefits in the reduction of greenhouse gases from the waste sector but will also provide significant economic benefits to NI, helping drive a transition to a low carbon, Circular Economy and aligning with the NI Executive's over-arching draft Green Growth Strategy.

My vision for Northern Ireland is a strong, green economy which values its resources and actively closes the loop by putting as many of those resources back into the system as possible.

We have made great strides in dealing with our waste and reducing our reliance on landfill in Northern Ireland over the past two decades. We have achieved 50% household recycling by 2020 and reduced the quantity of municipal waste to landfill by three quarters since 2007.

We now need to go further.

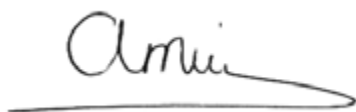
I fully recognise the importance of recycling as part of tackling our waste problem, which is why I proposed the amendment to the Climate Change Act, laying down a requirement for at least 70% of waste to be recycled by 2030. This consultation is an important step in delivering on that ambition.

This means not only making improvements to the way we recycle at home, but also looking at how we manage our resources at work, at school or in other settings. Recycling is the right thing

to do and shouldn't be difficult. With that in mind, I am proposing, through this consultation, to introduce recycling to those organisations and businesses that produce waste which is similar in nature to that produced by households and propose to implement collection systems which mirror those in households to make dealing with our recycling easy and consistent no matter where we are in NI or what we are doing.

This consultation seeks responses to twenty-six proposals focused on household recycling and 'non-household municipal' recycling or business recycling. Parts of this document are complex and technical; it is therefore not necessary for every respondent to answer every question. Please only answer the questions you feel are relevant to you, your business, or your organisation.

Responses to this consultation will be used, along with expert advice and evidence, to develop new policy and legislation with the goal of improving resource and waste management in Northern Ireland, aiding the transition to a low carbon, Circular Economy and tackling climate change.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Muir', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Andrew Muir MLA

Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs.

Executive Summary

The Climate Change Act incorporates several actions for the decarbonisation of the waste sector and in particular sets out a clear requirement of achieving at least **70% of waste recycled by 2030**. In addition to this requirement, amendments made in 2020 to the Waste and Contaminated Land (NI) Order 1997 (WCLO) introduced new municipal recycling targets - for households and businesses who produce waste like households. The WCLO requires NI to **achieve a 65% recycling rate for municipal waste by 2035 and a 10% cap on the amount of waste going to landfill** by the same year.

Reducing the amount of waste we send to landfill and managing our resources more sustainably, by increasing the quality and quantity of our recycling will allow a move to more closed-loop, local recycling systems. This move will not only have benefits in the reduction of greenhouse gases from the waste sector but will also provide significant economic benefits to NI, helping drive a transition to a low carbon, Circular Economy and aligning with the NI Executive's overarching Green Growth Strategy.

In June 2020, a discussion document 'Future Recycling & Separate Collection of Waste of a Household Nature in Northern Ireland' was consulted on to inform options for the way forward. A summary of responses was published in 2021 and an overview of short-, medium- and long-term options to improve recycling was published in September 2022. In the interim period, between the publication of the Discussion Document and the launch of this consultation, ongoing and fruitful engagement with stakeholders provided useful feedback used to help inform the development of the proposals in this document.

We have made great strides in dealing with our waste and reducing our reliance on landfill in Northern Ireland over the past two decades. We have achieved 50% recycling by 2020 and reduced the quantity of municipal waste to landfill by three quarters since 2007. However, there is no greater challenge facing us today than climate change, and there is an urgent need to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions across all sectors including waste. Increasing our recycling and reducing landfill can contribute to this and the proposals in this consultation can assist in achieving this.

This abridge version of the consultation is sets out the proposals to improve commonality in collections from households and Non-Household Municipal premises.

DAERA would now like to hear your views on how Northern Ireland can take steps towards improving the quality and quantity of household and non-household municipal recycling, how to improve reductions in food waste, how to cut landfill rates and how to get businesses on board to increase recycling rates. The aim of this consultation is to bring forward new policy options for an incoming Minister and questions focus on issues such as how new measures might best

be implemented, considering views on practicality, economic barriers and how the future of recycling in Northern Ireland might look.

You can find a copy of the questions associated with this consultation at Annex A. It is **not** essential for everyone to answer every question, rather, we would prefer you to **only** answer the questions you feel are relevant to you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of.

We are encouraging everyone to respond to this consultation through our Citizen Space website as this makes analysing the responses and any future decision making more consistent and provides better data outputs. However, if you cannot respond using the website and would like to submit your response using a different format, please contact wastepolicyteam@daera-ni.gov.uk to discuss this.

For more information on responding to this consultation and a link to the Citizen Space website please see Section 10 of this document.

We look forward to hearing your views on these important issues.

1. Introduction

The Department for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) is consulting on how the future of our resources and recycling in Northern Ireland (NI) might look. We want to improve the quality and quantity of household and non-household municipal recycling, reduce food waste, decrease the amount of waste we send to landfill and help enhance the services offered to households and businesses.

Resource and waste management has a key role to play in helping to tackle climate change and the transition to a low carbon, Circular Economy. We have ambition for change and key targets to meet, set out in legislation. We believe that the proposals set out in this consultation will help empower the waste sector to lead the way for other sectors through innovation and change, tackling emissions and improving our resource efficiency.

Previous engagement with stakeholders in 2020 provided positive responses to options that could change the way we manage our resources. Engagement with stakeholders has been ongoing since then, and in this formal consultation we are seeking to build on and further improve NI's successful track record on recycling over the last 20 years.

This consultation builds on our previous successes and addresses how changes to help futureproof the waste and resources sector can help us achieve the necessary reductions. The document has nine parts:

1. A call to action;
2. Support for Change, Building on Success and our Legislative Framework;
3. Policy Rationale;
4. Funding;
5. Stakeholder Engagement;
6. Audience;
7. Proposals to Improve Commonality in Collections from Households;
8. Proposals to Improve Recycling of Non-Household Municipal Waste; and
9. Responding to the Consultation.

The aim of this consultation is to gather your views on the proposals so that we can make changes in a practical, cost effective and environmentally sustainable way.

2. Part 1: Proposals to Improve Commonality in Collections from Households

In this consultation, 12 proposals are presented to seek views on improvements to collections from households, with an intention to improve commonality, drive up recycling rates and improve the quality of materials collected. These proposals are set out in sections 2.2 to 2.12.

2.1 Economic Impact Assessment/Regulatory Impact Assessment

Through our engagement with all eleven councils, extensive modelling has been carried out on household waste and recycling to help support these proposals. As a result, an economic impact assessment been produced to inform policy development.

The three options outlined in the [Regulatory Impact Assessment](#) (RIA)¹ were consolidated from a long list of scenarios. The underlying assumptions were tested with Councils and the top ranking, in terms of cost savings and performance, have been written up as part of the RIA. These options were considered in the Discussion Document and are based on the potential impact on recycling rate, reduced landfill tax, greenhouse gas avoidance, as well as giving indicative capital, operational and transition kerbside recycling and waste collection costs for NI overall.

Table 1 below summarises the net costs and savings of each scenario. All results are shown with constant prices and, where relevant, applying an annual discount rate of 3.5% per year². The analysis follows the Aqua book principles throughout³.

Following analysis of responses to Discussion Document and supporting analysis in the Impact Assessment the options on which we are now consulting include:

- Restriction to residual waste capacity in household collections.
- Enhancements to household recycling capacity; and
- The development of a set of minimum service standards for local councils on delivering household recycling collections.

¹ Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA).

² HM Treasury, 2018, The Green Book: central government guidance on appraisal and evaluation.

³ HM Treasury, 2015, The Aqua Book: guidance on producing quality analysis for government.

Summary of impacts of considered policy options (discounted, against baseline) Costs (+) savings (-)	Option 1 HH: Restricted or 3 weekly residual, multi-stream recycling and separate food NHM: DMR + separate food waste + separate glass	Option 2 HH: 3 weekly residual, multi-stream recycling and mixed food and garden waste NHM: DMR + separate food waste + separate glass	Option 3 HH: 3 weekly residual, two-stream recycling and separate food NHM: DMR + separate food waste + separate glass
Municipal recycling rate achievable	74% ** (61% HH, 84% NHM)	74% ** (62% HH, 84% NHM)	72% ** (57% HH, 84% NHM)
Additional LAs net waste management costs(+)/savings(-) from changes in dry recycling and food waste collections for all HHs	£60-80m: £76-101m capital and transition costs, -£16-21m savings on ongoing costs (one year) *	£49m: £66m capital and transition costs, -£17m savings on ongoing costs (one year)*	£72m: £75m capital and transition costs, -£3m savings on ongoing costs (one year)*
Net waste management costs (+)/savings(-) to NHM businesses under increased recycling collections	-£13.5m	-£13.5m	-£13.5m
Monetised benefit of avoided carbon emissions ⁴	-£82-87m	-£84m	-£81m
Reduction in government landfill tax receipts (benefits to municipal)	£40-41m	£38m	£43m

Key: * Cumulative savings would be seen over the life span of a vehicle (assumed 7 years) in options 1 and 2 that could offset the capital and transition costs. ** Contamination removed. + Costs. -Savings.

Table 1: Summary of impacts of considered policy options (discounted, against baseline).

⁴ HM Treasury, 2021, Valuation of greenhouse gas emissions: for policy appraisal and evaluation - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk).

2.2 Restriction of Residual Waste Capacity in Household Collections

Proposal 1: To restrict the residual waste capacity for households in Northern Ireland to a maximum of 90 litres per week, delivered either via a 180 litre wheeled bin collected fortnightly or a 240 litre wheeled bin collected every three weeks. Councils would decide on the most appropriate methodology for their own circumstances.

Around 55% of what people put in their residual waste bins is potentially recyclable material. A [waste composition analysis](#) of kerbside collected household waste conducted in 2017, suggests that although there is separate kerbside food waste collection provided by Councils to all households, just under 25% of the residual waste bin is food waste. Just over 15% of our residual waste is paper and cardboard and 7% is glass.

These figures indicate the real opportunities to further reduce waste to landfill and increase recycling in Northern Ireland.

These figures indicate the real opportunities to further reduce waste to landfill and increase recycling in Northern Ireland. We are now consulting on restricting residual waste capacity in household collections. Councils across the UK (including in NI) who have already implemented restrictions on residual waste have typically achieved this through lower frequency collections or by reducing the volume of the residual waste container. [Research shows](#) that where a well communicated, high quality complementary recycling service is provided, restrictions to residual waste can deliver overall financial savings to the council, increase the capture of key, quality recyclable materials, and promote upward movement of resources within the waste hierarchy whilst maintaining high levels of public satisfaction.

Most councils in the UK that have already restricted residual waste capacity have done so by reducing the frequency of collections, shown in Table 2, as this does not require a wholesale purchase and distribution of replacement, smaller containers (and potentially the retrieval of spent containers) where wheeled bins are in operation.

	2009/10 - number of UK LA's	2021/22 - number of UK LA's
Weekly residual collections	245	158
Fortnightly residual collections	219	219
Three or four weekly residual collections	0	32

Table 2: Frequency of residual waste collections operated by UK local authorities in 2009-10 and 2021/22. Source WRAP.

WRAP's [2020 Recycling Tracker survey](#) found that there is a strong correlation with good recycling performance and restricted residual capacity. Almost three quarters (74%) of those with a 3-4 weekly collection of residual waste use a food waste recycling service, as do 62% of those with an effective residual waste capacity of 90L or less per week. Many councils have enhanced their recycling collections at the same time as the restriction to residual waste is implemented.

Currently in NI, most councils collect the equivalent of 120 litres of residual waste per week (normally 240 litre wheeled bins collected fortnightly). Average residual waste capacity provided by Councils in Wales, the highest performing recycling nation in the UK, shows that households have less than 100 litres per week for residual waste⁵. Four factors, are expected to further reduce the residual waste presented for collection by households across NI namely; pEPR; DRS; and clear and consistent communication and engagement with people.

The Core Set

We are consulting on a comprehensive “core” set of recyclable materials to be collected from all households across all council areas in NI, which will mean that people have fewer materials to dispose of in their residual waste - key to growing the Circular Economy. The benefits of a core set are standardised communications to people and businesses/ organisations; opportunities for higher recycling and lower contamination rates; environmental benefits; and economic benefits to NI.

Proposal 6 in the Discussion Document set out that all Councils in NI should be required to restrict capacity for residual waste from households to help divert more materials from disposal and into the recyclable waste streams. The overall response was extremely positive, with 88% of those who answered agreeing that residual waste capacity should be restricted. Most respondents also believed the restriction of residual capacity should be accompanied by enhanced recycling services.

2.3 Options to Ensure Consistency in the Range of Dry Recyclables Collected from Households

Proposal 2: To require local Councils to collect a core set of dry recyclables from households to help avoid confusion and improve consistency and the quality of recyclable material.

DAERA considers it is now time to implement changes so that the same range, or “core set,” of materials is collected for recycling from every household in NI. Ensuring a common set of materials will help avoid confusion, enable harmonious communications to be promoted, improve consistency and quality in recycling which in turn supports more local reprocessing of material and the transition to circularity.

Proposal 9 in the [Discussion Document](#) set out that the core set of materials should be glass bottles and containers, paper and card, plastic bottles, plastic pots, tubs and trays, and steel and aluminium tins and cans. Respondents demonstrated a strong belief that those materials should be included in the core set but phased in over time.

⁵ Swansea Council provides [60 litres per week](#).

Given the strong support shown in responses to the 2020 discussion document DAERA proposes to legislate that local authorities in NI be required to collect a ‘core set’ of dry recyclable materials from the kerbside of all households, including flats. This core set shall include the materials set out in Table 3.

Material type	Examples of items by material type
Glass bottles and containers	Drinks bottles, condiment bottles, jars etc. and their metal lids, which can easily be extracted.
Paper and card	Newspaper, cardboard packaging, writing paper etc.
Plastics	Bottles including drinks bottles, detergent, shampoo and cleaning products containers, and plastic pots, tubs and trays etc., plus cartons (such as Tetrapak®) which are treated as plastics in recycling collections, due to the plastic layer in the laminate.
Metal packaging	Aluminium cans, foil, aerosol and aluminium tubes such as those used for tomato purée, steel cans/ tins and aerosols.

Table 3: Materials to be included in the core set for household recycling collections.

Table 4 shows that in 2021/22, most councils in NI are already collecting the majority of these materials at the kerbside.

Material	Aerosols	Cartons	Card	Foil	Glass	Metal lids	Metals (cans/ tins)	Mixed plastic film (all)	Paper	Plastics: bottles, pots, tubs & trays
Percentage of households provided with recycling collections of certain materials										
2021/22	100%	100%	97%	93%	75%	65%	100%	0%	100%	100%

Table 4: Households in NI receive collections for recyclable material in 2021-22. Source: WRAP.

Recognising that there may need to be some changes to kerbside collection services, we would expect all councils to be able to provide a kerbside collection of the core dry recyclables within two years (24 months) of notification of a statutory requirement by which time implementation is expected to be complete.

In the [Discussion Document](#), there was agreement that the core set of materials collected at the kerbside should be regularly reviewed and possibly expanded, provided certain conditions are met.

The range of materials would only be added to the core set when supported by evidence that materials can reasonably be collected for recycling and can reasonably be recycled. By this, we mean that there is capacity locally in NI, GB and Ireland or if necessary, further afield into Europe, that it can technically be recycled and that the cost of reprocessing is not prohibitive.

2.3.1 Flexible Plastic Packaging (Plastic Films)

Proposal 3: That additional materials are added to the core set over time when feasible, with flexible plastic packaging set to be collected from households by the end of the financial year 2026/2027

The UK nations have previously consulted on the introduction of films and flexible packaging to kerbside recycling collections by 1st April 2027 in all nations as part of the pEPR scheme, (published in the [consultation response](#) March 2022). This obligation will be set in forthcoming regulations which will be applicable in NI, with the cost being met by packaging producers.

The core set would be reviewed at this juncture and flexible plastic packaging added. Flexible plastic packaging is defined as “plastic film and plastic packaging which is not rigid”. On this basis all local councils should provide a kerbside collection service of flexible plastic packaging as soon as possible and no later than two years (24 months) of notification of a statutory requirement to collect. We are also consulting on the circumstances which may delay implementation of changes to collections.

2.4 Enhancements to Improve Commonality in Recycling Services - Options for Collections from Households

Proposal 4: To highlight NI’s unique legislation on the quality of dry recyclable materials, the proposed term QualiTEE should be adopted to describe the exceptions to collecting dry recyclable materials separately.

[Research](#) on glass and [plastic](#) recycling⁶ shows that greater separation of materials increases the likelihood of these resources being used in closed-loop recycling processes which significantly enhances the environmental and economic benefits. Furthermore, WRAP’s analysis of [WDF](#) shows that separately collected paper and card is much less likely to be exported beyond the EU for reprocessing but retained closer to its point of production, as also evidenced in 2020 by the [Confederation of Paper Industries](#). This provides vital raw materials for businesses, creates green jobs and infrastructure improvements and supports change by businesses to meet the ambitious 70% recycling requirement set out in the [Climate Change Act](#).

Shorter material supply chains, end destination visibility and reporting, and higher quality outputs are all conducive to the emerging requirements of producers and these will only become more of a priority as pEPR evolves. The [existing legislation](#) asserts that to achieve the high-quality recycling necessary for a Circular Economy and ensure we can reprocess as much of it as

⁶ See also [A closed-loop system for recycled plastic bottles saves materials and CO2](#) • [Plastics Europe](#).

locally as is possible, the core recyclable waste streams must be collected separately from each other. The exceptions to this default position are where separate collection is not **Technically feasible**, would entail disproportionate **Economic costs**, or would not deliver the best **Environmental outcome** with the threshold set at meeting just one of these requirements for an exemption to be applicable.

Amendments to the WCLO sets out that any exceptions to the default separate collection position must produce recyclables of a **comparable Quality**. This is unique to NI. No other devolved administration in the UK has material quality enshrined in legislation. As a combined concept, DAERA is interested in your views on naming these exceptions **QualiTEE**, with the notion of comparable quality being fundamental to this new test whilst retaining the technical, economic and environmental aspects of the assessment.

With the legislation set out as it is, Councils that already operate fully separate collections would not need to conduct a QualiTEE assessment.

2.5 Establishing the Default Position on Dry Recyclable Collections

Proposal 5: The default position for collection of dry recyclables from households is in four separate streams.

DAERA would like your view on whether all councils should be required to introduce a 'multi-stream' collection of the core materials in the dry recycling stream to comply with the separate collection legislation. .

'Multi-stream' here means the separate collection of, as a minimum, (i) paper/card, (ii) plastics, (iii) metals, and (iv) glass at the kerbside, in appropriate containers **which need not be a separate container for each material**. Innovation in collection systems means that new containers have been developed to minimise the number of recycling containers that people use and the footprint that they occupy for households. Examples include 240l bins with inserts for the separate streams or stacker boxes. Please note that Proposal 9 outlines a proposed exemption for separate collection of metals and plastics, where we also are seeking your views.

2.6 Justifying Why Collections of Dry Recyclables Cannot Be Separated, While Ensuring Quality and Environmental Benefits

Proposal 6: Standardised written assessments are prepared by councils where two or more dry recyclables are mixed during the collection process, evidencing why separate collections are not practicable and that Commingled recycling delivers recyclable material of comparable quality.

There is an existing requirement in [The Waste Regulations \(Northern Ireland\) 2011](#)⁷, in Section 18 part (2) on local councils, *when collecting waste paper, metal, plastic or glass [to] take all such measures to ensure separate collection of that waste as are available to it*. At present

⁷ Which was amended by the [2020 Regulations](#).

however, there is no standardised template, nor a legislative requirement for waste collectors to assess TEEP compliance, nor to provide details in a written document. The Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) is responsible for ensuring compliance with the duties set out in The Waste Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2011.

DAERA wants to ensure that written assessments are consistent and avoid unnecessary financial and resource burdens on Councils and NIEA. The aim is to improve the consistency of written assessments and the circumstances in which the exceptions apply as well as making them easier and less time consuming to complete. Where collection circumstances change, we would expect written assessments to be reviewed.

2.7 Details on the Exceptions to the Separate Collection of Dry Recyclables (QualiTEE) for Household Recycling

Proposal 7: A set of conditions should be set out that define comparable quality, best environmental outcome, technical feasibility and disproportionate economic cost-“QualiTEE”. Where conditions are met, an exception may apply, and two or more recyclable waste streams may be collected together from households.

Proposal 7a: Similar guidance on MRF sampling, to that used in England and Wales, should be introduced in NI to ensure that the quality of input and outputs for MRFs can be quantified.

There are clear trends for a requirement for higher quality secondary materials in the global market such. To reduce NI's reliance on overseas markets and to maximise the capture of high-quality recyclables to grow the NI Circular Economy further, the highest value possible must be extracted from these materials. In order to achieve this the materials need to be of the highest quality.

DAERA wishes to see materials reprocessed as close to their place of production and collection as possible. The details of where there may be exceptions to the separate collections of dry recyclables (QualiTEE) are included in legislation and are set out below.

Disproportionate Economic Costs

This refers to separate collection which does not cause excessive costs in comparison with the holistic cost of collecting and sorting of a co-collected recyclable streams, taking into account the cost of dealing with contamination and the added recyclate value likely to be observed for separately collection fractions.

Financial impacts could be evaluated in wider economic terms, where we seek your views.

The economic impact assessment linked to this consultation has incorporated real life values provided by councils and calculated average costs (see Annex C), categorised according to

principal recycling collection methodology. A similar meticulous modelling approach could be used to compare the costs of different types of collections and determined on a per household basis, or at an individual council level.

To determine and quantify, we need to understand from stakeholders what they consider a reasonable cost differential to be, and this may differ according to their context.

Technically Feasible

By **technically feasible** we mean that the separate collection may be implemented through a system which has been proven to function in practice. Some factors may present technical issues in the short term, for instance depot space or availability of suitable containers. These issues could be resolved however through investment and time, in which case the factor is then economic. Where this is the case, consideration of factors in economic terms should be addressed in the relevant economic section of the written assessment, rather than technical.

Examples where local circumstances mean that it is not technically feasible to have separate collection could include, but are not limited to factors such as:

- Storage of containers at premises, outside of individual dwellings.

Note that the following issues are not considered by DAERA as within the scope of 'technically feasible' for the separate collection of recyclable materials:

- People or historical preferences; and
- Rurality - this should be considered in terms of the comparable quality, economic or environmental factors where relevant.

Best Environmental Outcome

To make the case that separate collection of recyclables does not deliver the **best environmental outcome** compared to the collection of recyclable waste streams together, evidence could include a variety of sources, on which we seek your views.

Various sources of [information](#) demonstrate that greater separation of materials promotes closed-loop recycling processes, which significantly increases the overall environmental benefits gained. Producers who, through pEPR, will be funding a higher proportion of collection and reprocessing costs of packaging material, and with packaging recycling targets to attain, will require evidence that the recycling of packaging material is optimised. Evidence factors should be provided, to demonstrate the difference in environmental outcomes from mixed collections versus separate. Standard default values and data with clearly referenced sources would be provided by DAERA.

Comparable Quality

It is proposed that two of the evidence factors outlined above are used to determine whether collecting paper, metal, plastic, or glass together results in output from those operations which is of comparable quality to that achieved through separate collection. Standard default values and data with clearly referenced sources could be provided by DAERA in conjunction with Industry. The factors could be comparable quantities (+/-2%) of each material stream sent for closed loop recycling; and comparable quantities (+/- 5%) of each material stream sent for open loop recycling.

2.8 Establishing Common Service Standards to Ensure Recycling Quality

Proposal 8: The quality of recyclate for reprocessing is important and needs to be improved through changes to collections and clear measures should be set to describe quality.

The co-mingled collection of some materials may result in environmental benefits similar to those observed for separate collection of the four recyclable streams (Proposal 5). Potential costs and technical feasibility notwithstanding, views are sought on material streams that could be co-collected and effectively still generate output material for recycling of a quality comparable with separate collection. Four options are set out for consideration.

Expanding the core set of materials collected for recycling will make more secondary material available for local reprocessors. This expansion cannot be to the detriment of recyclate quality. More restrictive export markets for dry recyclables in recent years have highlighted the need to improve the quality of recyclable materials collected to ensure access to suitable outlets. Higher quality secondary materials enables more closed-loop recycling, as part of our transition to a more Circular Economy.

2.9 Other Forms of Partially Separate Collections of Recycling

Proposal 9: Commingled collection of plastics and metals should be exempt from requirements to collect these materials as separate fractions.

Most UK Local Authorities that operate multi-stream recycling collections mix the metal and plastic streams in one compartment on the collection vehicle. These materials can be sold to reprocessors as one commodity or can be separated at a depot/transfer station or at a MRF. Co-mingled collection of plastics and metals in this manner is accepted by reprocessors as not having a significant impact on the quality of output material.

DAERA proposes to allow an exemption from the regulations where only plastic and metal is co-collected.

2.10 Food and Garden Waste Collections from Households

Proposal 10: Revisions to household food waste collections to increase capture rates and improve the diversion of food waste from disposal should be introduced, ensuring all householders, including those living in flats, can recycle more and in time have access to separate, weekly food waste recycling collections.

Annual waste statistics indicate that a significant amount of food and garden waste from households continues to end up in landfill, despite a comprehensive organics collection service being in place to approximately 98% of households in NI. This percentage is based on council's data supplied to WRAP.

If collected separately from residual waste, food and garden waste can be sent for in-vessel composting (IVC) or anaerobic digestion (AD). When treated at an AD plant, food waste breaks down in a controlled way and the methane can be converted into gas (biomethane) that can be fed into the national gas grid, used to generate electricity and/or heat, or used as a vehicle fuel. IVC can be used to treat food and garden waste mixtures where the organic matter breaks down into a material suitable for use as a soil conditioner. DAERA regards the move to AD for the treatment of separately collected food waste as an integral part to the greening of NI's energy infrastructure.

Improvements to food and garden waste collections and the diversion of more of this type of waste from landfill represents one of the biggest opportunities for decarbonising the waste sector and contributing to NI's net zero by 2050 target.

Currently, all councils in NI offer a collection of food and garden waste separately from residual waste. [UK research](#) shows that collecting food waste mixed with garden waste fortnightly can lead to lower yields compared to a weekly separate food waste collection when accounting for comparable residual waste collection systems and comparable levels of deprivation.

Where food and garden waste are collected separately, it is not necessary for garden waste to be treated at an IVC plant and in most cases, it is treated via Open Windrow Composting, a lower cost form⁸ of treatment compared to IVC. DAERA is keen to build upon the existing infrastructure and well-established consumer behaviours for dealing with food and other organic wastes from households.

A key challenge for many NI councils is the range of pre-existing long-term contracts that may preclude a change in the short term to separate food waste collections. Taking account of these factors and the current starting point, DAERA is keen to hear views on a range of scenarios for separate food waste and other organic waste collections. Further waste composition analysis is being undertaken to check total quantities and capture rates of food waste.

8 WRAP's Gate Fee survey does not collate prices for OWC which remain relatively stable at £25-£30 per tonne as quoted in letsrecycle.com

2.11 Mechanisms to Ensure Recycling is Undertaken Correctly by Households

Proposal 11: Through collaboration with Councils, we will set out proportionate and robust guidelines for compliance and enforcement that enable Councils to enhance their waste and recycling services.

Most of us want to do the right thing when we recycle. Even with greater consistency of what can and cannot be recycled, sometimes people will make mistakes. Feedback on when wrong items have been placed in containers is vital to improve the quality of recycling and to reduce contamination. Effective communication with people when they're not recycling correctly will ultimately lead to more interventions from, and potentially more resource requirements for, Councils. Therefore, DAERA wishes to understand more on what appropriate enforcement mechanisms might look like.

Through dialogue with DAERA, Councils have highlighted potential challenges with [current regulations](#) and sought further clarification concerning how proportionate and robust enforcement can support them with service improvements. We are proposing to amend these regulations to set out clear circumstances in which councils can take action against people who continually fail to recycle correctly.

2.12 Tools to Expand the Opportunities to Recycle More Materials with the Aim of Standardising Services

Proposal 12: Non-Statutory Guidance will be provided to councils to expand the opportunities to recycle more materials and to embed best practice in existing services.

DAERA wishes to provide Councils with a framework on good practice for collections from kerbside and communal dwellings, HWRCs and bring sites as Statutory rules and Non-Statutory Guidance. It is intended that the Non-Statutory Guidance would cover a broad range of waste streams which may include hazardous waste, textiles, batteries, Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE), cooking and engine oils and AHPs (absorbent hygiene products such as nappies and incontinence pads).

3. Part 2: Proposals to Improve Recycling of Non-Household Municipal Waste

3.1 Municipal Waste - the New Definition

Municipal waste is defined as waste from households and waste from other sources, such as retail, administration, education, health services, accommodation and food services, and other services and activities, which is similar in nature and composition to waste from households. .

3.2 Non-Household Municipal Recycling

Proposal 13: The scope of the revised definition of municipal waste would include mixed waste and separately collected waste from other sources, where such waste is similar in nature and composition to waste from households. Specifically, wastes from production, agriculture, forestry, fishing, septic tanks and sewage network and treatment, including sewage sludge, end-of-life vehicles or waste generated by construction and demolition activities, are excluded.

Although many businesses already recycle a lot of their waste, there are a large proportion of organisations (hereafter, NHM sector) that have the potential to significantly increase the quality and quantity of recycling by utilising recycling collection services, as found in the [Municipal Recycling Potential in NI](#) report.

To grow the Circular Economy, it will be necessary to increase the collection for recycling of dry recyclables and food waste from the NHM sector. In the absence of reliable NHM sector data, WRAP carried out extensive research in 2019 to estimate the quantity of NHM sector waste in NI. WRAP have updated the key data findings from the report, which are highlighted in the box below.

Updated data gathered by WRAP on the [Municipal Recycling Potential in NI](#) report

- A wide range of private and public sector organisations were identified as generating municipal waste. Within the proposed definition of NHM obligated organisations are various sectors and we are focusing on the sectors producing waste most similar in nature to that produced by households. The sectors in focus are Hospitality, Retail & Wholesale, Transport & Storage, Food Manufacturing, Education, Healthcare (not including clinical waste), Offices and other services (cinemas, libraries, sports centres, tourist information, etc).
- Indicative assumptions suggests 57,920 businesses appear to be generating waste as defined. Around 767,044 tonnes of waste is estimated to be generated each year from the obligated NHM sectors.
- From these 767,044 tonnes, it is estimated that 341,529 tonnes could be collected as dry material recyclates (including glass), c.176,898 tonnes represent total food waste available for recycling with an estimated 124,308 tonnes of non-recyclable materials.
- While some large businesses are already collecting a significant proportion of their waste for recycling, the majority of small business are either recycling small quantities of waste or none at all, with a calculated average NHM recycling rate of 40.6% across all NHM sectors.
- We are also aware that some small businesses take home their waste for recycling or waste disposal, which contravenes [Duty of Care requirements](#) that apply to businesses.

3.3 Options to Increase the Amount of Recycling from the Wider NHM Sector

Proposal 14: Businesses and the wider non-household municipal (NHM) sector will be required to segregate from residual waste a core set of dry recyclables, to improve recycling behaviour and activity and ensure consistency between what people can recycle at home, at school and at work.

Alongside the separate collection of food waste from all businesses, DAERA is proposing that all organisations that generate municipal waste be required to segregate a core set of dry recyclables from residual waste for collection. This core set of dry recyclables will include glass, paper and card, metals, and plastics as set out for household dry recycling. It mirrors that which we propose to collect from households, ensuring commonality between what people can recycle at home, at school and at work.

[Responses to the Discussion Document](#) found that 95% of respondents agreed that all organisations that produce municipal waste should be required to segregate dry recyclable material from residual waste so that it can be collected and recycled. 64% of respondents to the Discussion Document indicated that it should be practicable for businesses to segregate waste for recycling in all circumstances.

Additional responses showed that 89% of respondents agreed with the proposal for the core set of materials collected at the kerbside to be regularly reviewed and possibly expanded, provided certain conditions are met.⁹

3.4 Flexible Plastic Packaging Recycling from Businesses and the NHM Sector

Proposal 15: Subject to the costs being covered by packaging EPR (pEPR) and confirmation that the material can reasonably be collected for recycling, additional materials will be added to the core set over time, with businesses and NHM producing premises to be required by legislation to segregate flexible plastic packaging for recycling no later than March 31st 2027.

Changes for business and NHM sectors are required as a result of agreed and emerging EPR policies for packaging materials. The addition of new materials to the core set of recyclables should only be made when supported by evidence which demonstrates that the material can reasonably be collected for recycling and can reasonably be recycled.

For flexible plastic packaging to be added to the core set of recyclables, the costs of collection and sorting will need to be covered by producer payments under pEPR, which is required from 31st March 2027. We are seeking views on timelines, practical solutions, and barriers to segregating flexible plastic packaging from residual waste for recycling from business and NHM sectors. Flexible plastic packaging, more commonly known as plastic film, refers to the lightweight material used mostly in food packaging to extend the life of fresh food products, reducing food waste.

3.5 Non-Household Municipal Waste - Food Waste Collections

Proposal 16: The Food Waste Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 will be revised to require all NHM premises which generate food waste, to be required to segregate food waste from their residual waste for recycling. An additional two years to implement such changes will be granted for small and micro sized businesses.

In the Discussion Document, DAERA sought views on a range of proposals designed to increase recycling in the NHM sector. This included a proposal to review [The Food Waste Regulations \(Northern Ireland\) 2015](#) to ensure obligated businesses segregate food waste for separate collection. The proposal also sought views on extending the Regulations to all

⁹ No respondents disagreed with the proposal, 1 respondent was not sure and 5 respondents didn't not answer this question. Thus in total, across all respondents to the question, 98% answered "yes".

business categories, not just food businesses. [88% of respondents](#) agreed that The Food Waste Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 should be reviewed to ensure that obligated businesses segregate their food waste for collection. Currently, the Regulations only place an obligation on food businesses producing more than 5kg of food waste per week to present it for separate collection. DAERA is now proposing that the Regulations be extended to include all businesses, regardless of size and amount of food waste generated.

DAERA proposes to provide any newly obligated businesses with a notification of at least two years for the statutory requirement to segregate their food waste for recycling and are consulting on whether micro-firms and small firms should be exempt from such requirement or phased into the requirements a further two years later, providing them with four years to implement the required changes. Alternatively, the quantity of food waste produced by a business could be used to determine if the Regulations apply and we are also seeking views on this approach.

Anaerobic Digestion as the Preferred Method of Food Waste Treatment

Proposal 17: For separately collected food waste from businesses and the wider NHM sector, anaerobic digestion is our preferred method of treatment.

If collected separately from residual waste, food waste can be sent for in-vessel composting (IVC) or anaerobic digestion (AD) as described in section 2.10. As food waste will be collected separately from businesses and the wider NHM sector, we propose that AD is the preferred good practice treatment for food waste from the NHM sector. Your views on this proposal are welcomed.

3.6 Justifying Why Collections of Dry Recyclables from Businesses and the NHM Sector Cannot be Separated While Ensuring Good Quality and Positive Environmental Outcomes

Proposal 18: Recyclables produced by businesses and the NHM sector should be collected separately from residual waste, and separately from each other, unless comparable quality is achieved through commingled collection of materials beyond plastics and metals only, and separate collection is not technically feasible, incurs disproportionate economic costs or does not deliver the best environmental outcome; or if a permitted exemption to this requirement is set out in legislation.

Requirements set out on separate collections for household waste in The Waste (Circular Economy) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2020 apply equally to carriers of controlled waste¹⁰ as they apply to district Councils as set out in section 20 of [The Waste Regulations \(Northern Ireland\) 2011](#).

¹⁰ Controlled waste includes NHM waste, but is a broader term encompassing agricultural waste and construction and demolition wastes, for example.

As we [set out in our proposals for household recycling](#), to achieve the high-quality recycling necessary for a Circular Economy and to ensure we can reprocess as much of it as locally as possible, the core set of dry recyclables must be collected separately from each other, except where comparable quality is achieved through co-mingled collection of materials beyond plastics and metals only and separate collection is not technically feasible, would entail disproportionate economic costs or does not deliver the best environmental outcome.

3.7 Details on the Exceptions to the Separate Collection of Dry Recyclables (QualiTEE) from Businesses and the NHM Sector

Proposal 19: Proposals on conditions where an exception may apply, and two or more recyclable waste streams may be collected together from businesses and the wider NHM sector, which would be required two years following a requirement in legislation to collect NHM recycling separately. In the interim, waste carriers would be encouraged to have regard to the principle of QualiTEE.

As set out for household recycling collections in sections 2.8 and 2.8, DAERA wishes to see materials reprocessed as close to their place of production and collection as possible. The details of where there may be exceptions to the separate collections of dry recyclables (QualiTEE) are included in The Waste (Circular Economy) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2020, which amends the Waste Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2011, are set out below:

Disproportionate Economic Costs

Disproportionate economic costs refer to separate collection which does not cause excessive costs in comparison with the holistic cost of collecting and sorting of a co-collected recyclable streams, taking into account the cost of dealing with contamination and the added recyclate value likely to be observed for separately collected fractions.

DAERA considers that while it is up to an individual NHM obligated organisation to decide if economic cost differences between separate or mixed recycling collection schemes are disproportionately higher, this should not result in some NHM organisations paying unnecessary additional costs. This is particularly pertinent in the case of NHM organisations that are hard to reach, or that generate waste in such small quantities that collections may be uneconomic for waste carriers to operate services.

Councils have a duty to offer services to NHM organisations that request waste and recycling collections (article 2 of the Waste and Contaminated Land (NI) Order 1997). Where Councils are requested to provide separate collections of recycling to NHM organisations that are costly to operate, we would be interested to hear your views on the economic impacts of separate recycling collections. We need to understand from stakeholders what contextual factors will create disproportionate economic costs to operate separate collections.

The contextual factors for consideration are distance of an organisation from other NHM obligated organisations is more than 3 miles, quantity of all core recyclable materials is less than 3 kg per week - roughly equivalent to average yields for an individual household; and use of survival sacks¹¹ to be collected alongside residual waste.

Where the contextual factors indicate that the distance to travel and/ or the quantity of recycling is very low, we would be pleased to hear your opinions on whether the requirement for separate, or any, recycling collections could be waived, and councils could direct organisations to alternative facilities.

Expanding the breadth of materials collected for recycling will make more secondary material available for reprocessors. Yet just as pressing is the need to improve the quality of recyclate collected for reprocessing, ensuring that contamination levels from non-target or non-recyclables materials are reduced, and where possible, eliminated.

It is DAERA's aim to maximise the capture of recyclables, improve the quality of what is collected, and ideally process them back in the local economy. When considering significant environmental benefit and [comparable quality](#), the use of the resulting recyclate collected i.e., entering closed or open-loop recycling, process loss and contamination levels should be ideally considered as evidence factors. However, information on these factors is **not** currently required to be gathered for NHM recycling, although plans [for future UK-wide digital waste tracking](#) set out to address this. Therefore, waste carriers are encouraged to consider the broader principles of environmental benefit and comparable quality when determining collection systems for NHM recycling.

Technically Feasible

A range of circumstances are included and excluded by DAERA as [Technically Feasible](#). Some factors may present technical issues in the short term, for instance depot space or availability of suitable containers.

Note that the following issues are not considered by DAERA within the scope of 'technically feasible' for the separate collection of waste:

- NHM sector or collector preferences; and
- Rurality - this should be considered in terms of the quality or environmental factors where relevant.

As data on two of the four QualiTEE factors are not yet available, we propose that for the first two years of implementation of requirements for separate collections of NHM recycling, that waste carriers have regard to the principle of QualiTEE. It is proposed that waste carriers would conduct QualiTEE assessments after this two-year period if they wished to collect two or more recyclable materials mixed.

¹¹ A survival sack is often brightly coloured and easy to pull out from other materials at a MRF or other facility. It will contain materials targeted for collection that are exceptions from the normal collected set.

3.8 Written assessments from Waste Collectors for Recycling Collected from Businesses and the NHM Sector.

Proposal 20: Written assessments should be completed by waste collectors that co-collect dry recyclables from NHM premises, evidencing why separate collections are not practicable and that commingled collection delivers recyclable materials of comparable quality to those collected as separate fractions. Collectors must ensure that where they deviate from a standardised template, their output information attains the same evidential threshold. Regular reviews of such assessments should be undertaken to ensure that they remain accurate and up to date.

At present however, there is no standardised template, nor a legislative requirement for waste collectors to assess **QualiTEE** compliance and provide details in a written document. NIEA is responsible for enforcing compliance with the duties set out in [The Waste Regulations \(Northern Ireland\) 2011](#). DAERA wants to ensure that written assessments for the NHM sector are consistent and avoid unnecessary burden on waste collectors and the NIEA. Additional guidance could also be provided on what criteria may be included in the written assessments based on the regulations.

To provide guidance to waste collectors on the type of assessment required, we have provided a template for a written assessment in Appendix 3 of the main document, which waste collectors could adapt where appropriate. We anticipate that this template could include default values provided by DAERA, for example on greenhouse gas emissions, to allow standardised calculations to be made.

Collectors can choose to use the provided template written assessment or choose to use an adapted version; however, they must ensure an appropriate level of evidence-based detail is provided, to justify why dry recyclable streams cannot be separately collected.

Where collection circumstances change, which may be more commonplace for recycling collections from businesses, written assessments should be regularly reviewed. Waste collectors should also complete one version of the written assessment form for each set of premises for which they intend to rely on one of the exceptions (comparable quality, technical feasibility and best available environmental outcome), to set out why the exception applies.

3.9 Establishing NHM Service Standards to Improve Recycling Collections

Proposal 21: To introduce, or where existing, improve NHM recycling collections.

In the Discussion Document, [63% of respondents](#) indicated mixed dry recycling, separate food waste recycling and separate glass collection as their preferred option (as opposed to 7% in favour of mixed dry recycling, separate food waste recycling, no glass recycling). In addition, 23% of respondents favoured options that were not neatly described, with some suggesting fully mixed collections of dry materials or a combination of no glass, separate glass, or a commingled collection.

Positive responses to options in the Discussion Document, warrant your further views, namely:

(i) mixed dry recycling and separate food waste

This option would require all businesses and public sector organisations to separate the following streams from residual waste: a) food waste; and b) dry mixed recycling comprising plastics, paper & card and cans.

It was estimated this could deliver a recycling rate of over 70% for the NHM sector as calculated in the [Regulatory Impact Assessment](#) (Annex C).

(ii) mixed dry recycling, separate glass, and separate food waste

In this option, all businesses and organisations would be required to collect separately from residual waste: a) food waste; b) dry mixed recycling comprising plastics, paper & card and cans; with c) glass collected as a separate fraction where this material is generated in quantities above the capacity of a 120 L wheeled bin per week¹².

It was estimated that this option could deliver a four-percentage point uplift in recycling performance where glass is required to be collected separately from residual waste and other dry recycling streams, but in all other respects is unchanged from option (i).

3.10 Reducing Barriers to Recycling for Non-Household Municipal Waste Sector

Proposal 22: We will continue to review and investigate options to reduce costs for businesses and NHM premises where possible to maximise their recycling behaviour and activity.

DAERA recognises the challenges faced by some businesses and the barriers that exist to achieving higher recycling rates, particularly for small and micro-firms. We want to improve access to recycling, reduce the costs for businesses as far as is feasible and remove or reduce these barriers. Such barriers might include:

- financial constraints;
- binding contractual terms preventing changes to a service, in that contracts are usually a minimum of 1 year in length and changes are not usually possible;
- space for segregation of waste, particularly at smaller premises;
- lower levels of staff engagement and knowledge to segregate waste; and
- limits to services offered by waste contractors.

¹² The maximum weight of material that can be accommodated in [one manufacturer's example](#) of a 120l wheeled bin is 48 kg. The bulk density, [estimated by WRAP](#), of uncompacted glass in a box is 276kg/m³. Thus, the weight of uncompacted glass in a 120l bin would be approximately 33kg. With the weight of an empty bin at 8kg, we feel that 120l provides appropriate containment for glass than can be safely handled and well within the quoted tolerance of 48kg.

There may also be additional barriers to recycling faced by businesses in rural locations, businesses based in homes and non-domestic premises. Understanding legislative changes and requirements can also be more difficult for some types of businesses.

In the [Discussion Document](#), DAERA sought views on options to maximise business recycling whilst alleviating the cost burden on businesses where possible. DAERA has hosted a series of workshops with local councils, waste sorters, collectors and reprocessors, trade bodies and business support organisations to outline potential changes to waste collections.

We would like to hear views on the type(s) of business support that would be most useful for obligated businesses, public bodies, and other organisations to ensure they understand their obligations and enable them to recycle more of their waste.

A key learning point from responses to the Discussion Document was a call for more information on recycling in workplace or NHM settings. Whilst DAERA recognises the challenges that exist, there are opportunities through networks that can be used to disseminate information on planned future reforms to waste collection services. DAERA will continue to engage with these networks and explore dissemination routes with stakeholders.

3.11 Arrangements for Micro Firms or Small Firms

Proposal 23: Businesses and the NHM sector will be provided with a minimum two-year notification of a statutory requirement to collect dry recyclables as separate streams, segregated from residual waste, with a further phasing of such legislative requirements for small and micro businesses producing NHM waste.

Recognising that greater barriers may exist for small firms and micro firms with further barriers to recycling potentially faced by those businesses operating in rural locations, businesses based in homes and non-domestic premises, we wish to receive views on options which could exempt micro or small firms from the changes or provide them with additional time to prepare. We wish to receive your views on these two options: **Option 1** Micro and small firms/producers of NHM waste should be exempt from the requirement and **Option 2** where micro and small firms/producers are phased into the proposed recycling commonality requirements.

We are also consulting on the barriers to waste collectors' abilities to collect the required dry recyclable streams from all of the NHM sector, including from small and micro firms, in the time frame proposed.

3.12 Waste Franchising / Zoning: To Review Collection Zoning and Franchising for Businesses and NHM Premises

Proposal 24 - to review collection zoning and franchising to reduce costs to businesses and NHM premises.

Franchising or zoning of waste or recycling collection services could be used as an approach to alleviate cost on businesses, where partnerships or local councils would collect waste from businesses and other similar organisations in particular areas of a defined geographic area (e.g., town), through an awarded contract.

DAERA proposes to continue to explore options to potentially reduce the cost burden for NHM waste producers and are seeking further views on waste zoning/franchising and collaborative procurement options. We continue to develop these and other cost reduction options consulted on previously.

In the Discussion Document, we asked for views on regional procurement of services to enable economies of scale and potentially reduce charges levied on businesses. [75% of respondents](#) said that regional procurement would be very likely or likely to reduce charges levied on businesses.

If a franchising/zoning scheme were to be introduced, we are interested in your views on the recyclable streams that should be included under a potential franchising/zoning scheme available for NHM.

Similarly, opinions are sought for the types of zoning, the sizes of zones and/or collaborative procurement options.

As part of the consultation on franchising and zoning, we wish to know what the roles of stakeholders could be. We see the stakeholder groups as being DAERA, NIEA, BIDs, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), waste producers, Councils, and trade bodies, although there may be other groups too.

3.13 Options to Provide NHM Waste Bring Sites and/or Access to Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) for Businesses and the Wider NHM Sector

Proposal 25: To establish commercial waste bring sites and/or to increase the access to HWRCs for businesses, public bodies, and other organisations to encourage more recycling and better waste management.

As well as dedicated collections from business or NHM premises, extending the range of facilities where waste or recyclables could be taken for disposal or recycling could help small or micro firms to recycle more, whilst increasing convenience, reducing costs and any space

issues. Such facilities could be developed for small firms to deposit high quality recyclables or could be attached to other waste management facilities such as HWRCs.

By allowing smaller businesses access to HWRCs, councils may be able to limit the operational challenges of providing collections to smaller businesses. Good practice information can be found in [“drop-off” guide](#). The opportunity to implement charges is in line with existing legislation and waste classifications as detailed in [The Controlled Waste and Duty of Care Regulations \(NI\) 2013](#).

The Department would also like to receive views on the viability of commercial waste bring sites, to facilitate an increase in recycling for businesses and the NHM sector. We are seeking to explore the types of barriers regarding the creation and operation of commercial waste bring sites, such as lack of suitable location(s), access restrictions and risks of misuse of sites or contamination of recycling.

3.14 Non-Household Municipal Waste - Compliance & Enforcement

Proposal 26: Amendments will be made to Article 5 of The Waste and Contaminated Land (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 to ensure compliance with the post-consultation requirements to segregate a core set of dry recyclables and food waste by obligated businesses and the wider NHM sector.

We propose to extend Article 5 of The [Waste and Contaminated Land \(Northern Ireland\) Order 1997](#) to ensure compliance with the requirements that will be set out subsequent to this consultation, to segregate a core set of dry recyclables and food waste by obligated businesses, public bodies, and other organisations. The Article relates to the Duty of Care of waste producers and requires DAERA, following consultation, to prepare and issue a code of practice. We are seeking your views on this. We are also interested in opinions on the appropriate level of penalty for non-compliance. By comparison, the fixed penalty on a waste carrier or producer for not supplying documents is currently set at £300.

4. Responding to the Consultation

4.1 Responses

You can find a copy of the questions associated with this consultation at Annex A. It is **not** essential for everyone to answer every question, rather, we would prefer you to **only** answer the questions you feel are relevant to you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of.

You can respond to this consultation online by accessing the consultation at the following link:

<https://consultations2.nidirect.gov.uk/daera/rethinking-our-resources>.



We are encouraging everyone to respond to this consultation through our Citizen Space website as this makes analysing the responses and any future decision making more consistent and provides better data outputs.

Written responses should be sent by email to: wastepolicyteam@daera-ni.gov.uk

Or to postal address: Resources & Waste Strategy Team,
Environmental Resources Policy Division,
Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs,
Jubilee House,
111 Ballykelly Road,
Ballykelly, Limavady,
BT49 9HP

When responding, please state whether you are doing so as an individual or representing the views of an organisation. If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please make it clear who the organisation represents, and where applicable, how the views of its members were assembled.

4.2 Closing Date

Responses should be submitted by **5pm on Thursday 30th May 2024**.

4.3 Confidentiality

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 gives the public a right of access to any information held by a public authority, the Department in this case. This includes information provided in response to this consultation.

The Department will publish a synopsis of responses to the consultation. This will include a list of names of organisations that responded but not personal names, addresses or other contact details.

The Department cannot automatically consider information supplied to it in response to a consultation, to be confidential. However, it does have a responsibility to decide whether any information provided by you in response to a consultation, including information about your identity, should be made public or treated as confidential. If you do not wish information about your identity to be made public, please include an explanation in your response. Please be aware that confidentiality cannot be guaranteed. Please note, if your computer automatically includes a confidentiality disclaimer, it won't count as a confidentiality request.

Should you respond in an individual capacity the Department will process your personal data in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. This means that your personal information will not be disclosed to third parties should you request confidentiality.

For further information about confidentiality of responses please contact the Information Commissioners Office (see its website at [Information Commissioner's Office \(ICO\)](#)).

Resources and Waste Strategy Team
Environmental Resources Policy Division
Department of Agriculture, Environment & Rural Affairs
Jubilee House
111 Ballykelly Road
Ballykelly
BT49 9HP

Email: wastepolicyteam@daera-ni.gov.uk

Annex A – Questions posed via Citizen Space for consultation.

GENERAL

1. What is your name?

Mark McAdoo

2. What is your email address?

mark.mcadoo@midulstercouncil.org

3. Are you responding to this consultation representing an organisation you work or volunteer for?

Yes. Skip to Question 5.

No

4. You selected “no” to Question 3. This means that you are responding to the consultation as an individual householder/member of public. If this statement does not describe how you wish to respond, please amend your answer to Question 3. If you are happy to proceed, please select Yes. If you select No, the survey process will end.

Yes. I am responding as a householder/member of public. Please proceed to Proposal 1.

No

5. Which category best represents you from the list below?

Category	Please Select
Trade Body (Waste Sector)	
Local Council	✓
Local Council Sector Body	
Waste Management Company (Collectors, Sorters, Infrastructure Operators of Treatment Facilities for various streams)	
Reprocessors (End Destination)	
Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO)	
Businesses and Non-Household Municipal (NHM) producing organisations	
Trade Body (representing business sectors)	
Other	

If applicable, please state the name of the organisation you are responding on behalf of.

Mid Ulster District Council

Part 1: Proposals to improve commonality in recycling from households

Proposal 1: To restrict the residual waste capacity for households in Northern Ireland to a maximum of 90 litres per week, delivered either via a 180-litre wheeled bin collected fortnightly or a 240 litre wheeled bin collected every three weeks. Councils would decide on the most appropriate methodology for their own circumstances.

- Do you agree with the proposal to restrict the capacity of residual waste for average households to a maximum of 90 litres per week? Some households may require additional containment or alternative arrangements. See question 6.
 - Yes -agree.
 - No
 - If no, your response should include clear evidence as why residual waste capacity should not be restricted. Evidence with justification to extend timescales should be provided, if appropriate.
 - Unsure

MUDC agrees that a restriction on residual waste is necessary to achieve higher recycling levels of 65%-70% if these are to be achieved on an individual Council basis. However if the higher municipal waste recycling targets are to be achieved collectively by Councils and businesses and the wider NHM sector then this may not be necessary. MUDC has achieved an average HH recycling rate of 58.25% over the past four years which is higher than the HH 57% rate required in option 3 of the policy options presented (and close to the 61% and 62% required in conjunction with NHM rates for option 1 and 2 respectively). It is therefore possible that MUDC could achieve the HH rates identified in all policy options without residual waste restrictions but with marginal increases in mixed dry recycling and biowaste kerbside collections and/or increased Recycling Centre performance. See further information provided in Annex 1.

- Some Councils may not be able to restrict the capacity of residual waste by the date proposed (within 24 months of notification of a statutory requirement). In this table we set out some circumstances which may delay changes to residual waste restriction. Please complete the table, providing evidence with justification as to why timescales should be extended, as appropriate.

Not all rows need to be completed. Please use N/A where not applicable.	
Contracts for residual waste treatment	
Procurement processes for new containers	
Manufacturing capacity for new containers	
Projects outcomes from residual waste reduction action	✓
Cost burdens	
Ability to resource & mobilise within the required timescale	✓
Other – please describe Route optimisation project required	

3. If the proposal to restrict the capacity of residual waste for households is adopted, what is your preference for how this should be delivered? If other, please provide an explanation in the box below.

180 litre capacity bins collected fortnightly.

240 litre capacity bins collected three weekly.

Other

Unsure

If you responded other, please set out your reasons, with clear evidence in the box below.

4. Do you agree that forms of restricted capacity for residual waste collections should apply to all households, including those dwellings such as flats and houses in multiple occupation where citizens share a communal bin?

Yes

No

Unsure

If you disagree with this proposal, please provide the reason for your response below. Your response should include clear evidence, relating to collection of residual waste from communal settings, such as residual waste yields per dwelling per year and learnings or project outcomes from action to reduce residual waste in communal settings.

5. Do you agree that restricted capacity for residual waste collections should be rolled out across NI simultaneously (or as near as possible) to assist local councils with communicating the changes to households?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

If you disagree with this proposal, please provide the reason for your response below. Your response should include clear evidence as to why a staggered roll out is preferable.

6. Do you agree that households who demonstrate that they meet the following criteria could be provided with more than the maximum of 90 litres per household per week?

	Yes agree	No disagree		Unsure
Household comprises more than 6 residents	✓	If selected, please define the number of citizens in a household where exclusions should apply, with evidence to justify your response.	8 or more (as per existing MUDC policy)	
Households where citizens have medical conditions which produce additional waste, such as produce to manage incontinence	✓	If selected, please provide evidence to justify your response.	As per MUDC policy	
Households where there are more than two children using disposable nappies		If selected, please provide evidence to justify your response.		✓
All households in the collection subsequent to the Christmas break, where presentation of a restricted amount of side waste is acceptable.		✓	Side waste not allowed under MUDC policy	
Other (Please detail). If selected, please provide evidence to justify your response.				

Proposal 2: To require local Councils to collect a core set of dry recyclables from households to help avoid confusion and improve consistency and the quality of recyclable material.

1. Do you agree that the core set of materials comprising dry recycling collections by councils should comprise as the list below, as a minimum?

	Agree. All items listed in the row should be included	Disagree. All items listed in the row should not be included. Please state which ones and why.	Unsure
Paper and card, including newspaper, cardboard packaging, writing paper etc.	✓		
Glass bottles and jars – including drinks bottles, condiment bottles, jars, etc. and their metal lids	✓		
Metal packaging: aluminium cans, foil and aerosols, and steel cans [and aerosols], aluminium tubes	✓		
Plastic: bottles including drinks bottles, detergent/ shampoo/ cleaning products; pots, tubs, and trays; plus cartons (such as Tetrapak®)	✓		

2. Do you agree with our proposal that will require the kerbside collection of the core set of dry recyclables within 24 months of notification of a statutory requirement?

- Yes
- No - If no, your response should include clear evidence as to which materials you consider should not be incorporated within the list and why. Evidence with justification to extend timescales should be provided, if appropriate.
- Unsure

3. Some Councils may not be able to collect the core set of dry recyclables by the date proposed. In the table below we set out some circumstances which may delay changes to recycling collections. Please provide evidence with justification why timescales should be extended, as appropriate.

Not all rows need to be completed. Please use N/A where not applicable.	
Contracts for dry recyclable collection	
Sorting or reprocessing	
Procurement processes for new containers or vehicles	
Manufacturing capacity for new containers or vehicles	
MRF infrastructure or capacity	
Container distribution	
End Market volatility/lack of end markets	
Other – please describe	✓
All of the core set of dry recyclables are already efficiently collected by Mid Ulster District Council via a commingled bin.	

Proposal 3: That additional materials are added to the core set over time when feasible, with flexible plastic packaging set to be collected from households by the end of the financial year 2026/2027.

- As plastic films will need to be added to the core set of dry recyclables by no later than 31st March 2027, please state how you propose plastic films should be collected at the kerbside, ensuring quality and quantity of other dry recyclables. Select one of the options below (tick box)
 - Collected as a separate stream from all other recyclables, and from residual waste i.e., in a dedicated bag or container,
 - Collected in a container alongside other plastics – bottles, pots, tubs, and trays,
 - Collected mixed with other dry recyclables in the same container,
 - Unsure
 - Other (please detail and explain your reasoning for this proposal with supporting evidence)

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- Collecting plastic films by the 31st March 2027 may be challenging for some Councils. In this table we set out some circumstances which could affect a Council’s ability to collect plastic film by this date. Please provide evidence with justification detailing why this timescale will be challenging.

Not all rows need to be completed. Please use N/A where not applicable.	
Contracts for plastic film collection	✓
Sorting or reprocessing	✓

Procurement processes for new containers or vehicles	
Manufacturing capacity for new containers or vehicles	
MRF infrastructure or capacity	
Container distribution	
End Market volatility/lack of end markets	✓
Factors relevant to collections from flats and houses in multiple occupation, where citizens share communal containers	
Other – please describe	

3. Do you agree that the list of materials to be collected as a minimum by councils should be regularly reviewed, and providing certain conditions met, expanded?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

If you disagree with this proposal then please provide the reason for your response below with clear evidence on why you do not agree with regular reviews of the minimum list and why the list should not be expanded, provided certain conditions are met.

EPR and DRS will most likely affect the composition of packaging with a move towards more recyclable materials. It is therefore recommended that the list of materials to be collected for recycling should be reviewed with the input from Local Authorities and the waste treatment / reprocessing sector to ensure any new materials collected for recycling can be viably collected and have a proven market.

4. If the proposal for a minimum list of materials to be collected for dry recycling were to be adopted and regularly reviewed, do you agree that the frequency of review should be every two years.

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

If you answered “No,” then please provide the reason for your response below. Your response should include clear evidence as to what frequency of review would be more appropriate.

A longer frequency between reviews would be required as many local authority contracts with the private sector are 2 or more years in term. Any mid contract changes would attract cost increases under contracts that would not be budgeted for by local authorities. Furthermore, the implementation of new collection containers and the education of householders would take more than 2 years to implement. This potential frequency of changes to the system would be difficult for Councils to resource and for the residents to understand / keep up to date with.

5. What, if any products or materials do you consider should be also included in the core list of materials to be collected by councils? Please provide your response in the box below as to why the list should include the material (s).

Mid Ulster District Council currently collects the proposed core set of recyclables and is a top performing Council in terms of recycling rate. This is achieved through the efficient use of the commingled system. Plastic film could be an option for future collection and recycling. However, prior to this being implemented it would need to demonstrated that there is a clear market and value for recovered plastic film.

6. Do you agree that the materials comprising the items below should be *excluded* currently from the minimum list of materials for collection by councils within dry recycling collections?

Type	Examples	Agree. Items listed in the row should be excluded from recycling	Disagree. Items listed in the row should be <u>included</u> for recycling. Please state which items should be included and why	Unsure
Glass	Ceramics, for example crockery, earthenware Drinking glasses Flat glass Glass cookware including Pyrex® Light bulbs and tubes Microwave plates Mirrors Vases Window glass	✓		

Metal	Laminated foil, for example pet food pouches, coffee pouches General kitchenware, for example cutlery, pots, and pans Any other metal items, for example kettles, irons, pipes, white goods			✓
Plastic	Any plastic packaging or non-packaging items labelled as “compostable” or “biodegradable” (including but not limited to coffee pods and cutlery) with the exception of food waste caddy liners in food waste recycling collections Plastic pouches with laminated foil layer for example pet food pouches, coffee pouches Plastic bottles containing white spirits, paints, engine oils and anti-freeze Bulky rigid plastics such as garden furniture, bins, and plastic toys Polystyrene (expanded and high impact) Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) packaging	✓		
Paper and card	Absorbent hygiene products (AHPs) including nappies, period products and incontinence items Cotton wool, make up pads Tissue/toilet paper Wet wipes for example for nappy changing times, kitchen/ bathroom cleaning	✓		
Any other items – please state which items and why they should be specifically excluded from recycling				

7. Do you agree that the core list of materials in the dry recycling stream should apply to all households, including flats and houses in multiple occupation, where citizens share communal containers?

- Yes
 No
 Unsure

If you disagree with this proposal, please provide the reason for your response below. Your response should include clear evidence, relating to issues with collection of named materials from communal settings such as containment, contamination, engagement with citizens.

Proposal 4: To highlight NI's unique legislation on the quality of dry recyclable materials, the proposed term QualiTEE should be adopted to describe the exceptions to collecting dry recyclable materials separately.

1. Do you agree with our proposal that the term QualiTEE should be used to describe the process of determining if there may be an exception to collecting dry recyclable materials separately?

- Yes
 No - If no, your response should include clear evidence as to why the term QualiTEE is not your preference. Evidence with justification for alternative terminology should be provided.

Unsure

MUDC is concerned that the new concept of QualiTEE was not raised in the previous Discussion Document, nor in the workshops held with Councils. The QualiTEE terminology by definition appears to place a primary focus on the quality (as opposed to quantity) of recycle material and less emphasis on the other technical, economic, and environmental considerations.

In one sense the term for the assessment is irrelevant. However clear and transparent metrics for quality to be assessed against are required so that Local Authorities can ensure the clear quality standards can be transposed into contracts. Prior to the implementation of the QualiTEE assessment DAERA would need to engage with Local Authorities and waste processors to clearly define the benchmark of +/-2% for closed loop recycling and +/-5% for open loop recycling.

Proposal 5: The default position for collection of dry recyclables from households is in four separate streams.

1. As per the default position do you agree that councils should be required to collect “multi-stream,” with at least: (i) fibres (paper/card), (ii) plastics, (iii) metals, and (iv) glass separately from each other in the dry recycling collection?

- Yes
 No
 Unsure

If you disagree with this proposal, then please provide the reason for your response below. Ideally, your response should include clear evidence of how recyclables streams can be successfully collected including methods to preserve quality for recycling, the quantities and proportions of materials sent for recycling, both for closed and open loop processing.

MUDC is very concerned that the default position proposed i.e. four separate streams, goes beyond the options raised in the previous Recycling Discussion Document and in the workshops held with Councils. The separate options proposed previously were limited to keeping glass and/or paper separate from the other materials, which whilst challenging, would not be as difficult as collecting four separate waste streams. The Transition Cost Survey did not examine the option of four separate waste streams and therefore the validity of this report is now questionable.

Over the past ten years MUDC has been the top performing Council in relation to household waste recycling and has nearly reached a recycling rate of 60%. This has been achieved through the commingling of mixed dry recyclables which has proven an exceedingly high level of performance mainly due to the willingness of the public to participate in this scheme. The commingling option would follow the legislative travel of England following their release and recent updates of the Simpler Recycling guidance which has also been defined by DEFRA as the ‘common-sense approach that is both easy and effective for everyone.’ It is our view that the complex multi stream collection is not well accepted by the public and a forced implementation of this scheme will result in a reduction in recycling. It is our opinion that with a reduced frequency residual collection and continued/enhanced commingled recycling collections that MUDC could achieve a recycling rate of 65%-70%.

See further information provided in Annex 1.

2. Do you agree with our proposal that will require the core set of dry recyclables to be collected separately from each other in the dry recycling collection (i.e., multi-stream) within 24 months of notification of a statutory requirement and/ or notification of Extended Producer Responsibility funding allocation?
- Yes
 - No
 - Unsure

If you disagree with this proposal, then please provide the reason for your response below. Your response should include clear evidence as to why the dry recyclables cannot be collected separately from each other within the proposed timeframe. Evidence with justification to extend timescales should be provided, if appropriate.

MUDC strongly holds the view that a commingled collection system provides material of comparable quality and, importantly, higher quantities of material for recycling in comparison to separate collections. Therefore MUDC suggests that providing increased capacity for co-mingled collections to households, in the form of a second 240 litre blue bin, will make the greatest contribution to achieving recycling targets.

The costs to implement and operate a kerbside sort/box system for MUDC (estimated at £70m over 7 years) is considered cost prohibitive for the Council. The performance of the system is also less than the performance of the current commingled system. Therefore MUDC will not be investing in a change to the kerbside sort system for a decrease in efficiency. It is considered a more reasonable solution is to further invest in the current system to further increase its performance. This may include increased recycling capacity and reduced residual capacity (a trial scheme for same was previously refused funding by DAERA).

MUDC has embraced the positive health and safety aspects of one armed collection vehicles. MUDC has heavily invested in one armed vehicles and now has 9 in its fleet with a further 3 due for delivery this year. Each of these vehicles cost £230k and have a replacement cycle of 10 years. Therefore, this fleet will not be due for replacement until 2030 to 2034. These vehicles are used to carry out rural collections right across the district and are not compatible with kerbside sort systems. It is our opinion that kerbside sort is not a suitable collection method for our workforce and fleet.

See further information provided in Annex 1.

Proposal 6: Standardised written assessments are prepared by councils where two or more dry recyclables are mixed during the collection process, evidencing why separate collections are not practicable and that co-collection delivers recyclable material of comparable quality.

1. Where councils cannot collect each dry recyclable waste stream separately, do you agree that the council should produce a written assessment and make available to the NI Environment Agency to outline the exception (s) to the requirement, on the basis of Comparable Quality, Technical Feasibility, Economic Costs and Environmental Outcomes (QualiTEE).
 - Yes
 - No
 - Unsure

If you disagree with this proposal, then please provide the reason for your response below.

MUDC disagrees with this approach. This approach is a significant diversion from the Simpler Recycling guidance put forward by DEFRA. We believe that an imposed separate collection of recyclables or further administrative burden to justify the use of the current best performing system, commingling would add significant cost burden on Council finances. The only way that Councils can recoup this money is through District Rates increases at a time when household finances are already stretched with the current cost of living. See further information in Annex 1.

2. Where councils cannot collect the dry recyclable waste streams separately, do you agree that the council should provide a written assessment based on the template shown in Appendix 2 to outline the exception (s) to the requirement?
 - Yes
 - No – further content should be added.
 - No – content should be removed.
 - Unsure

If you disagree with this proposal then please provide the reason for your response below, including your suggested amendments to the template.

MUDC notes the outcome of the DEFRA Consultation on Consistency in Household Recycling in England which states “We propose to provide a further exemption to allow all dry recyclables (paper and card, plastic, glass, and metal) to be collected together in one recycling bin. If using an exemption, waste collectors would not be required to produce a written assessment to co-collect”. Given these statements from DEFRA, MUDC would request that similar exemptions be introduced in Northern Ireland rather than the imposition of the onerous QualiTEE assessment. See further information provided in Annex 1.

3. Do you agree or disagree with the recommendation that Councils should review and re-submit written assessments at least every 7 years?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

If you disagree, please select one of the following statements that best describes why:

- Revising written assessments every 7 years is too frequent (please state how frequently you think they should be revised and evidence why)
- Revising written assessments at least every 7 years is too infrequent please state how frequently you think they should be revised and evidence why)
- Other (please detail)

Please refer to Annex 1 for greater detail on the performance of the commingled system. It would be proposed that once a collection system is agreed for a Council then it should be for the Council to manage the collection system that best fits their circumstances. DAERA should stick with the legislating what should be achieved in terms of targets. It should be for the individual Councils then to assess and determine how best to collect waste to achieve the targets set by DAERA.

Proposal 7: A set of conditions should be set out that define comparable quality, best environmental outcome, technical feasibility and disproportionate economic cost- “QualiTEE”. Where conditions are met, an exception may apply, and two or more recyclable waste streams may be collected together from households.

Proposal 7a: Similar guidance on MRF sampling, to that used in England and Wales, should be introduced in NI to ensure that the quality of input and outputs for MRFs can be quantified.

1. In terms of disproportionate economic costs, to demonstrate if there is an excessive cost to collect recyclable waste in separate waste streams, do you agree that the following factors should be provided and evidenced by the council:

Factors	Yes agree	No disagree. If you disagree, please provide information as to why you disagree, providing clear evidence of why the factors should be included/ excluded.	Unsure
Gate fees and material income	✓		
Salaries and staff numbers - including supervision	✓		

Container costs, numbers, and replacements	✓		
Vehicle types, costs, finance, depreciation, hire, running costs	✓		
Quantities of materials collected, frequency of collection	✓		
Associated overheads including depot costs	✓		
Contract length, penalties associated with variations	✓		
Other (please detail)			
The quantity of waste left in the residual collection and the associated costs of dealing with a greater volume of residual waste. Costs associated with staff training and sick days / claims associated with manual handling injuries			

2. Do you agree that the following factors should be considered when evaluating economic costs:

Factors	Yes agree	No disagree - please provide information as to why you disagree, providing clear evidence	Unsure
Adverse environmental costs	✓		
Adverse health impacts	✓		
Potential for efficiency improvements	✓		
Revenues from sales of secondary raw materials	✓		
Application of the polluter pays principle	✓		
Application of Extended Producer Responsibility	✓		
Other – please detail			

3. Do you agree that economic costs could be considered to be disproportionately excessive on a method of calculating an average cost per household deviation from a standard separate collection system cost?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

If no, please provide information as to why you disagree, providing clear examples of alternative approaches to define excessive cost differences between systems, including a value you consider appropriate to differentiate economic impacts.

Due to the different ways Council report costs it is not possible to benchmark Council waste collection costs. Differences between what is included in Council costs will mean it is impossible to provide a meaningful benchmark. Waste collection and management costs account for the biggest Council expenditure each year. Given the current economic climate any costs over and above the current collection costs are undeliverable without 100% funding of the extra costs.

4. Please detail examples of technical challenges, with any supporting evidence, which you believe demonstrate that a separate collection of dry recyclables will not be feasible in circumstances for some or all properties.

Please refer to Annex 1.

5. In order to make the case that separate collection does not deliver the best Environmental Outcome-compared to the collection of recyclable waste streams together, do you agree that the-overall impact of the management of the household waste stream evidence should be provided on the-measures listed but not limited to the following:

Measures	Yes - agree	No disagree - please provide information as to why you disagree, providing clear evidence	Unsure
Quantities of materials collected;	✓		
Quantities of materials classed as contamination and not recycled;	✓		
Quantities of materials lost from sorting processes at a MRF;	✓		
Vehicle emissions from collection rounds;	✓		
Vehicle emissions from bulk transportation to sorting and reprocessing both in NI and overseas;	✓		
Emissions from disposal/ treatment including savings	✓		

arising from landfill diversion; and			
Carbon savings from using recycled materials rather than virgin materials	✓		
Other factor to be added – please describe			
Impact associated with the production of waste associated with broken collection containers and carbon impact from the manufacture and replacement of collection containers			

6. Do you agree that the following evidence factors should be provided by a Council to demonstrate that materials are of comparable quality.

Evidence Factors	Yes - agree	No disagree - please provide information as to why you disagree, providing clear evidence	Unsure
Comparable quantities (+/-2%) of each material stream sent for closed loop recycling			✓
Comparable quantities (+/- 5%) of each material stream sent for open loop recycling			✓
Other factor to be added – please describe			
Clear and transparent metrics are required for the benchmark values for comparable quantities sent for closed and open loop recycling.			

7. Do you agree standard default values and data that have clearly referenced sources (that cover comparable Quality of materials, Environmental outcomes, Technical feasibility or Economic Costs) which could be used to support a written assessment, would be useful?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

If you disagree, please provide the reason for your response.

Standard default values or data are rarely representative of all Councils in Northern Ireland given different populations and housing densities. Any values used should be a clear representation of the costs relevant to each individual Council. These costs should also be sourced from Northern Ireland and should not be generic WRAP UK figures.

8. Do you agree with the principle that MRFs in NI should follow the same input and output sampling guidance used as part of Environmental Permitting Regulations in England and Wales?

Yes

No

Unsure

If no, your response should include clear evidence as to why similar sampling protocols to England and Wales should not be followed in NI?

Proposal 8: The quality of recyclate for reprocessing is important and needs to be improved through changes to collections and clear measures should be set to describe quality.

1. Which of the following options are your most preferred scenarios concerning the mixing of materials? Please rank the following options 1 (most preferred) to 4 (least preferred). If you consider that some options are not viable, please do not include these in your ranking, in which case, please rank only one, two or three option(s). Please focus on comparable quality of materials, rather than economic costs or technical feasibility of collections. You will note that we have set out clearly in the options which streams are separate, and which are mixed. If you are not sure or have no preference, please skip this question.

Options	Ranking (1 – most preferred; 4 - least preferred). Leave blank for option(s) you consider are not viable	Please provide clear evidence in support of your selection for this ranking
<p>Option A – “three stream”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Separate stream of glass bottles & jars; with • Separate stream of paper & card; with 	4	

Options	Ranking (1 – most preferred; 4 - least preferred). Leave blank for option(s) you consider are not viable	Please provide clear evidence in support of your selection for this ranking
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mixed stream of: metal packaging and plastics bottles, tubs, and trays 		
<p>Option B – “two stream: fibres out”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Separate stream of paper & card; with Mixed stream of: metal packaging, plastic bottles, tubs and trays and glass bottles & jars 	3	
<p>Option C – “two stream: glass out”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Separate stream of glass bottles and jars; with Mixed stream of: metal packaging, plastics bottles, pots & trays, and paper & card 	2	
<p>Option D –“fully co-mingled”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mixed stream of: metal packaging plastics bottles, pots, tubs & trays, paper, card, and glass bottles & jars 	1	Please refer to Annex 1 for details on the performance of the fully comingled system

Proposal 9: Commingled collection of plastics and metals should be exempt from requirements to collect these materials as separate fractions.

1. Do you agree that Councils may have an exemption from the regulations where they mix plastics and metals, thus should not be required to prepare a written assessment to seek an exception from the regulations where these two materials

are collected together? Note that a Council may still select to collect these recyclable waste streams as separate materials.

- Yes
- No – all material streams should be collected separately.
- No – more mixing of materials should be permissible.
- Unsure

If you answered no, please provide information as to why you disagree, providing clear evidence as to why you consider all material streams should be collected separately, or more mixing should be permissible.

DAERA's own evidence, the LACMW Annual Reports show that commingling including glass has the highest dry recycling rate of all collection options utilized by NI Councils. In addition DAERA's 2017 Waste Compositional Analysis shows that when kerbside sort systems are utilized a greater % of recyclable materials are left in the residual bin. Furthermore, DEFRA through their Simpler Recycling guidance are supporting the commingling of recyclates stating it is the 'common sense approach'.

2. What, other exemptions would you propose to the requirement to collect the recyclable waste streams separately, where it would not significantly reduce the potential for recycling? Please provide your evidence in the box below.

Whilst being supportive of exemptions, MUDC would query how these are permissible under the unique legislation referred to in Northern Ireland and why, if this is possible, such exemptions cannot be granted for other materials? Therefore, on the basis that exemptions are possible, MUDC requests that such exemptions be extended to permit all of the core materials to be collected together (as is now the case in England – see previous responses for proposals 4 & 6). In other words, an exemption should be included that permits the commingling of paper, card, plastic, metals and glass when there is clear evidence that the performance of the system collects the greatest volume of dry recyclates, and the materials are produced to a standard accepted by NI, UK and EU reprocessors.

If an exemption for fully commingled is not possible then an alternative exemption should be considered which would permit card/plastic and glass/metal to be collected together in a second blue bin which would permit more balanced/efficient collection routes to be designed.

Proposal 10: Revisions to household food waste collections to increase capture rates and improve the diversion of food waste from disposal should be introduced, ensuring all householders, including those living in flats, can recycle more and in time have access to separate, weekly food waste recycling collections.

1. We have listed possible collection methods for food waste from kerbside properties below, some of which we consider are suitable short term. How would you rank the following options for food waste collections, where 1 is most preferred and 4 is least preferable? If you consider that some options are not viable, please do not include these in your ranking, in which case, please rank only one, two or three option(s).

Options	Ranking (1 – most preferred; 4 - least preferred). Leave blank for option(s) you consider are not viable	Please provide clear evidence or statements in support of your preferred selection for your ranking
A separate weekly collection of food waste with additional arrangements for garden waste	4	
A weekly mixed food and garden waste collection.	2	
A separate fortnightly collection of food waste with additional arrangements for garden waste.	3	
A fortnightly mixed food and garden waste collection.	1	Please refer to Annex 1 regarding the performance of the mixed food and garden waste collection
Other – please detail		

2. Do you agree with our proposal that all kerbside properties should in future have access to a least a weekly collection for food waste to increase capture rates of food waste?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

If you disagree with this proposal, please provide the reason for your response below, with clear evidence.

Evidence shows that the current fortnightly collection of food and garden waste captures comparable quantities of food waste to a separate collection. Measures should be implemented to encourage a greater diversion of food waste from the residual bin through restriction of residual waste capacity and funding to allow the provision of caddy liners free to all households in N Ireland.

WRAP has previously acknowledged that the commingled biowaste schemes in N Ireland are amongst the best performing in the UK. Indeed the results of the last full NI Waste Compositional Study carried out in 2017 showed that during the first (summer) phase more food waste (1.07kg/hh/week) was collected from commingled schemes compared to separate collections (0.92kg/hh/week). When an average of the first (summer) and second (winter) phases are taken the difference is marginal with an average of 1.2 kg/hh/week from commingled schemes compared to 1.28 kg/hh/week from separate food waste collections

MUDC therefore does not agree that weekly food waste collections are necessary. Reference is made to “UK” research which “shows that collecting food waste mixed with garden waste fortnightly can lead to lower yields compared to a weekly food waste collection”. MUDC believes that NI specific data is required to support this argument and would request the results of the recent composition studies undertaken in Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Council and Derry and Strabane Council).

See further information provided in Annex 1.

3. Do you agree that all households, including those dwellings such as flats and houses in multiple occupation where citizens share a communal bin should have access to at least a weekly collection for food waste?

- Yes
 No
 Unsure

If you disagree with this proposal, please provide the reason for your response below, with clear evidence.

As above. The current collection system captures comparable quantities of food waste as a weekly collection. However, all households including flats and houses in multiple occupancy should have access to a means of collecting food waste on at least a fortnightly basis.

4. Do you agree that councils should be required to implement a weekly food waste collection service from kerbside properties, keeping food and garden waste separate, by the points in time listed below?

Time Period	Yes	No	If you answered no, please provide the reason for your response with clear evidence such as collection contracts, treatment contracts, treatment infrastructure capacity (AD/IVC), cost burden, reprocessing, end markets.	Not sure
24 months from notification of a statutory requirement		✓	A separate weekly food waste collection could not be implemented without full funding of the capital and revenue costs associated with the operation being funded in full. A separate weekly food waste collection would compromise the viability of the garden waste collection which could result in garden waste not being collected and ending up in the residual bin. The maintenance of the garden waste collection is imperative for NI recycling rates as more than half of the current NI recycling rate is derived from the collection of household garden waste. Prior to the implementation of a separate food waste collection the AD capacity to treat the volume of separate food waste would need to be implemented. The separate collection of food waste would also need to be aligned with the end of current contracts for the composting of the mixed food and garden waste stream. See Annex 1 for further information.	
3 to 4 years from notification of a statutory requirement		✓		
More than 4 years from notification of statutory requirement		✓		
Never	✓			
Other – please detail				

5. Do you agree that guidance should be provided on caddy liners, including on caddy liner material types?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

If you disagree with this proposal, please provide the reason for your response below, with clear evidence.

6. Do you agree that caddy liners should be provided free of charge to citizens that participate in food waste collection? (Please select only one option)

(1) Yes, via Council offices, libraries, leisure centres etc	✓
(2) Yes, as in (1) and via citizens adding their own note to their food waste containers to request new liners which crews deliver	
Yes, as in (1) and via a tag supplied in the roll of caddy liners that is attached to the food waste container by the citizen when their supply is low. Crews deliver new liners.	✓
Other method – please detail	
No – citizens should purchase their own liners	
Not sure	

If you disagree with this proposal, please provide the reason for your response below, with clear evidence.

Proposal 11: Through collaboration with Councils, we will set out proportionate and robust guidelines for compliance and enforcement that enable Councils to enhance their waste and recycling services.

1. Do you agree that section 21 of the Waste and Contaminated Land (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, as amended, should be clarified to set out the circumstances in which Councils can enforce householders to place items of waste and recycling in certain receptacles and the levels of fixed penalty notice that could be levied where householders do not comply?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

If you disagree with this proposal, please provide the reason for your response below, with clear evidence.

2. Do you agree that the following options should be adopted to help to improve the quality of recycling collected from households:

	Yes	No – if no, please state why	Unsure
Issuing standardised information in the form of leaflets to citizens at least annually	✓		
Crew training on how to manage containers with the wrong items	✓		
Oversight of crew working practices		✓Operational issue for Councils	
Better support to crews and recognition of their work			✓
Clear and updated visually appealing websites	✓		
Other – Provision of internal recycling bags to encourage segregation of recyclables from residual waste within the households (as per MUDC)			

3. If a Fixed Penalty Notice system were to be levied where people continue to put the wrong items in their recycling containers, which of the values proposed for the Fixed Penalty Notice do you consider to be appropriate?

	About right	Too low	Too high	Unsure
£50				
£75				
£100 (existing value)	✓			
£150				
£200				
Other value you feel is appropriate – please detail				

Any other comments – please detail	MUDC believes that enforcement should only be used as a last resort. See Annex 1 for further information.
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Proposal 12: Non-Statutory Guidance will be provided to councils to expand the opportunities to recycle more materials and to embed best practice in existing services.

- Do you agree that Non-Statutory Guidance would be useful as a framework on good practice collections from kerbside and communal dwellings, HWRCs and bring sites?
 - Yes
 - No
 - Unsure

If you disagree with this proposal, please provide the reason for your response below, with clear evidence.

MUDC would welcome the provision of Non-Statutory Guidance and is of the view that all outcomes in relation to the proposals in the consultation should be on the basis of Non-Statutory Guidance as Councils are best placed to make decisions of their Waste Collection Systems and Policies based on their local knowledge and circumstances

- Do you agree that the following topics should be included in Non-Statutory Guidance to Councils on collections:

Topic	Yes	No – if no, please provide details on why you consider this topic not to be relevant	Unsure
Collection of hazardous waste from HWRCs	✓		
Collection of textiles, batteries, WEEE from the kerbside and communal properties		✓ Not collected at the kerbside	
Collection of cooking and engine oil from the kerbside		✓ Not collected at the kerbside	
Collection of AHPs (nappies, incontinence products) from the kerbside	✓		
Standardised arrangements for assisted collections from the kerbside	✓		
Standardised price ranges and arrangements for bulky waste collections	✓		
Standardised arrangements for replacement containers	✓		
Standardised arrangements for excess recycling		✓ Dependant on Council policy	
Other – please detail			

PART 2: PROPOSALS TO IMPROVE CONSISTENCY IN RECYCLING FROM BUSINESSES AND THE WIDER NHM SECTOR

Proposal 13: *The scope of the revised definition of municipal waste would include mixed waste and separately collected waste from other sources, where such waste is similar in nature and composition to waste from households. Specifically, wastes from production, agriculture, forestry, fishing, septic tanks and sewage network and treatment, including sewage sludge, end-of-life vehicles or waste generated by construction and demolition activities, are excluded.*

1. Do you agree with the list of **out-of-scope** waste producers, who will **not** be obligated to segregate a core set of dry recyclables from their residual waste?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

If you disagree with this proposal, please provide the reason for your response below, with clear evidence.

MUDC agrees with the revised definition of municipal waste and exclusions. However MUDC would query how municipal waste currently collected for recycling by private sector operators e.g. food waste from schools, is recorded? Also whilst dry recyclables and food waste is referenced in the proposal is there not also an opportunity to capture a significant proportion of garden waste from premises such as education and health estates?

Proposal 14: *Businesses and the wider non-household municipal (NHM) sector will be required to segregate from residual waste a core set of dry recyclables, to improve recycling behaviour and activity and ensure consistency between what people can recycle at home, at school and at work.*

1. Do you agree with the contents of the list below, detailing the materials that should be included in the core set of recyclable streams collected separately from businesses and NHM producing premises by waste collectors, as a minimum?

	Agree. All items listed in the row should be included	Disagree. All items listed in the row should <u>not</u> be included for recycling. Please state which ones should be excluded and why.	Unsure

Paper and card, including newspaper, cardboard packaging, office, writing paper etc;	✓		
Glass bottles and jars – including drinks bottles, condiment bottles, jars etc and their metal lids	✓		
Metals: aluminium cans, foil and aerosols, and steel cans [and aerosols], aluminium tubes	✓		
Plastic bottles – including drinks bottles, detergent/ shampoo/ cleaning products; pots, tubs, and trays plus cartons (such as Tetrapak)	✓		

2. Do you agree with the contents of the list below, detailing those materials that should be excluded currently from the core set of dry recyclables and therefore not collected by waste collectors from obligated businesses, public bodies, and other organisations, as a minimum?

Material	Items proposed to be excluded	Agree. All items listed in the row should be excluded from recycling	Disagree. Items listed in the row should be <u>included</u> for recycling. Please state which items should be included and why.	Unsure
Glass	Ceramics, e.g., Crockery or earthenware Drinking glasses Flat glass Glass cookware including Pyrex Light bulbs and tubes Microwave plates	✓		

	Mirrors Vases Window glass			
Metal	Laminated foil i.e., pet food pouches, coffee pouches General kitchenware i.e., cutlery, pots, and pans Any other metal items, i.e., kettles, irons, pipes, white goods	✓		
Plastic	Any plastic packaging or non-packaging items labelled as “compostable” or “biodegradable” (including but not limited to coffee pods and cutlery) with the exception of food waste caddy liners in food waste recycling collections Plastic pouches with laminated foil layer i.e., pet food pouches, coffee pouches Plastic bottles containing white spirits, paints, engine oils and antifreeze Bulky rigid plastics such as garden furniture, bins, and plastic toys Polystyrene (expanded and high impact) Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) packaging	✓		
Paper and card	Absorbent hygiene products (AHPs) including nappies, period products and incontinence items Cotton wool, make up pads Tissue/toilet paper Wet wipes for example for nappy changing times,	✓		

	kitchen/ bathroom cleaning			
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3. Do you agree that the list of materials to be collected as a minimum should be regularly reviewed, and providing certain conditions met, expanded?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

If you disagree with this proposal, then please provide your reason with supporting evidence in the box below.

MUDC agrees with this proposal, however, would query how this relates to or differs from the requirements of the existing Waste Regulations (NI) 2011 (section 20) which states *“the duties under regulations 18 and 19 shall apply equally to a person required to be registered as a carrier of controlled waste for the purposes of the Controlled Waste (Registration of Carriers and Seizure of Vehicles) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999 as they apply to district councils”*.

4. If the proposal for a minimum list of dry recyclable materials to be collected for recycling were to be adopted and regularly reviewed, do you agree that the frequency of review should be every two years.

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

If you answered “No” please provide the reason for your response. Your response should include clear evidence as to what frequency of review would be more appropriate.

A 2 yearly review is too often and would place a significant cost burden on businesses with limited time for previous changes for collection systems / materials to bed in. The frequency for review should be kept in tandem with household waste reviews. This will ensure measures for collecting recyclates are embedded through the same process in the household and workplace.

5. What, if any, other products or materials do you consider should be also included in the minimum list of materials to be collected by waste collectors from obligated businesses, public bodies, and other organisations? Please provide your response in the box below and clear evidence as to why the list should include the material(s).

N/A

Proposal 15: Subject to the costs being covered by packaging EPR (pEPR) and confirmation that the material can reasonably be collected for recycling, additional materials will be added to the core set over time, with businesses and NHM producing premises to be required by legislation to segregate flexible plastic packaging for recycling no later than March 31st 2027.

1. Do you have any views on how plastic film should be collected from obligated businesses, public bodies, and other organisations?
 - Collected as a separate stream from all other recyclables, and from residual waste i.e., in a dedicated bag or container,
 - Collected in a container alongside other plastics – bottles, pot, tubs, and trays,
 - Collected mixed with other dry recyclables in the same container,
 - Other (please detail and explain your reasoning for this proposal with supporting evidence)
 - Unsure

See previous comments in relation to proposal 3. MUDC would also highlight the existing UK wide network of in-store collection points operated by Tesco UK dedicated to the collection of flexible/soft plastic packaging as an alternative route for the disposal of this material.

2. Collecting plastic films from all obligated businesses, public bodies and other organisations by the 31st March 2027 may be challenging. Using the list below please select those reasons which you believe will affect the ability to collect plastic film by this timeframe from businesses and NHM producing premises.

Please provide evidence with justification, as appropriate. Not all rows need to be completed. Please use N/A where not applicable.	
Collection and treatment contract limitations	
MRF infrastructure and/or capacity	✓
Inability to resource and mobilise within the timeframe	
Cost Burden to obligated businesses, and NHM producing premises	
Reprocessing availability	✓
End Market volatility/lack of end markets	✓
Other – please describe	

Proposal 16: The Food Waste Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 will be revised to require all NHM premises which generate food waste, to be required to segregate food waste from their residual waste for recycling. An additional two years to implement such changes will be granted for small and micro sized businesses.

1. Do you agree with our proposal that will require the separate collection of food waste from all businesses and the wider NHM sector within 24 months of notification of a statutory requirement?

Yes

No - If no, your response should include clear evidence as to which materials you consider should not be incorporated within the list and why. Evidence with justification to extend timescales should be provided, if appropriate.

Unsure

2. Do you agree that the Food Waste Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 should be extended to require all obligated businesses, public bodies, and other organisations to segregate food waste for separate collection?

Yes, I agree - the Regulations should be extended to cover all obligated businesses, public bodies and other organisations, no matter of their size or nature. (If yes, go to Q7)

No, I disagree – the Regulations should not be extended to cover all obligated businesses, public bodies or other organisations, no matter of their size or nature, some exemptions or phasing should apply.

Unsure

3. If you disagreed, do you believe that exemptions to the Regulations should apply based on the amount of food waste produced by obligated businesses, public bodies, or other organisations?

Yes

No (If no, go to Q5)

Unsure

If you have answered no, please explain why you have this view, supplying evidence to justify your opinion.

4. If you believe that exemptions to the Regulations should apply based on the amount of food waste produced by obligated businesses, public bodies, or other

organisations, what parameter should be used to determine the de minimis amount? Please select from the list provided.

- 0-5kg of food waste per week
- 5kg+ food waste per week
- Other (please specify and provide evidence to support your proposal)

5. If you disagreed, do you believe that exemptions or phasing should be applied to the amended Food Waste Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 for some obligated businesses, public bodies, and other organisations? Please select the option that most closely represents your view and provide evidence to support your comments.

- **Option 1** - All obligated small (businesses, public bodies and other organisations that employ between 10-50 FTEs) and micro-firms (businesses, public bodies and other organisations that employ up to 9 FTEs) should be exempt from any requirement to segregate food waste from other waste streams.
- **Option 2** - All obligated small (businesses, public bodies and other organisations that employ between 10-50 FTEs) and micro-firms (businesses, public bodies and other organisations that employ up to 9 FTEs) should be given two additional years to comply with the new requirements (i.e., compliant 4 years post the legislative enactment)

If neither of the above options represents your view, please detail your view providing the reason for your response, and indicate if appropriate how long obligated businesses, public bodies, and other organisations, would require before they can segregate a core set of recyclables for recycling.

6. If you disagreed, do you believe that some obligated businesses, public bodies, or other organisations should not be required to segregate food waste for collection due to their nature, please detail the reason for this view, supplying evidence to justify your opinion.

7. To what extent do you agree that the measures we have proposed will increase the recycling of food waste from obligated businesses, public bodies, and other organisations? Please provide evidence to support your answer if possible.

- Strongly agree

- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- No opinion

8. Are there any further measures that you would like to see included over and above our proposals that would improve the recycling of food waste by obligated businesses, public bodies, and other organisations? Please provide supporting evidence for any proposed measures.

Proposal 17: For separately collected food waste from businesses and the wider NHM sector, anaerobic digestion is our preferred method of treatment.

1. We propose that anaerobic digestion is the preferred method for treating separately collected food waste, where suitable, but composting is also permitted. Do you agree with this view?
- Yes
 - No
 - Unsure

If you disagree, please explain why you have this view and provide supporting evidence.

MUDC would highlight that it currently does not offer a separate food waste collection service for NHM properties (only offers a co-mingled food and garden waste collection to households). Therefore if it were obligated to provide a service to NHM properties it could only offer a co-mingled service and the material collected would have to go to in-vessel composting for treatment (as it is not suitable for anaerobic digestion).

Proposal 18: Recyclables produced by businesses and the NHM sector should be collected separately from residual waste, and separately from each other, unless comparable quality is achieved through co-collection of materials beyond plastics and metals only, and separate collection is not technically feasible, incurs disproportion economic costs or does not deliver the best environmental outcome; or if a permitted exemption to this requirement is set out in legislation.

1. Do you agree that obligated businesses, public bodies, and other organisations should be required to segregate each of the following dry recyclables for collection and recycling?

Core dry recyclable	Example	Yes, agree	No, disagree	Unsure/ no opinion
Separate glass bottles and containers	Including drinks bottles, condiment bottles, jars, etc.		✓	
Separate Paper and card	Including newspaper, cardboard packaging, writing paper, etc.		✓	
Separate Plastics and metals	Including drinks containers, detergent, shampoo and cleaning products, pots, tubs & trays, etc. Steel and aluminium tins and cans, including aerosols Drinks cartons (i.e., Tetrapak)		✓	

2. Do you have any other comments to make on the separate collection of dry recycling from businesses and the NHM sector?

See previous comments in relation to proposals 5, 6, 7 and 8 on this issue. Notwithstanding previous comments in businesses (food and hospitality) were glass forms the largest volume of recyclable waste then this could potentially be collected separately in bring/bottle banks. However, in other sectors where the waste is more similar in nature to a household dry recyclable mix such as shops and offices the most efficient and cost effective means of collecting these materials for recycling would be commingling the materials in kerbside collections (as per household collections).

Proposal 19: Proposals on conditions where an exception may apply, and two or more recyclable waste streams may be collected together from businesses and the wider NHM sector, which would be required two years following a requirement in legislation to collect NHM recycling separately. In the interim, waste carriers would be encouraged to have regard to the principle of QualiTEE.

1. Please detail examples of technical challenges, with any supporting evidence, which you believe demonstrate that a separate collection of dry recyclables will not be feasible in circumstances for some or all NHM sector premises.

MUDC would highlight that whilst Councils have a duty to offer services to NHM organizations that request waste and recycling services they can only do so on the basis of cost recovery and existing design of services i.e. service provided would have to mirror that provided to households. Therefore if a Council carries out an assessment which concludes that it cannot provide separate collections due to technical, environmental or economic considerations, the NHM organisation should be required / directed to seek the services of a private sector waste collector.

Similarly Councils should be able to apply the existing exception in Article 20 of the WCLO as it relates to the non-collection of household waste *“which is situated at a place which in the opinion of the council is so isolated or inaccessible that the cost of collecting it would be unreasonably high, and as to which the council is satisfied that adequate arrangements for its disposal have been or can reasonably be expected to be made by a person who controls the waste”*.

Many town/city centre business are restricted for space and therefore may not have the capacity for multiple bins for a separate collection of recyclables. Many of the NHM are provided with a collection service by the private sector. This includes a residual waste collection, mix dry recyclables collection and separate food waste collection to those obligated businesses.

2. To make the case that separate collection does not deliver the best Environmental Outcome compared to the collection of recyclable waste streams together, do you agree that evidence on the overall impact of the management of the NHM sector waste stream should be provided on the measures listed but not limited to the following:

	Yes - agree	No disagree - please provide information as to why you disagree, providing clear evidence	Unsure
Quantities of materials collected;	✓		
Quantities of materials classed as contamination and not recycled;	✓		
Quantities of materials lost from sorting processes at a MRF;	✓		
Vehicle emissions from collection rounds;	✓		
Vehicle emissions from bulk transportation to sorting and reprocessing both in NI and overseas;	✓		

Emissions from disposal/ treatment including savings arising from landfill diversion; and	✓		
Carbon savings from using recycled materials rather than virgin materials	✓		
Other factors to be added – please describe			

3. Do you agree that the following evidence factors should be provided by a waste carrier to demonstrate that NHM sector recyclable materials are of comparable quality?

	Yes - agree	No disagree - please provide information as to why you disagree, providing clear evidence	Unsure
Comparable quantities (+/-2%) of each material stream sent for closed loop recycling			✓
Comparable quantities (+/- 5%) of each material stream sent for open loop recycling			✓
Other factors to be added – please describe	Further detail required on comparable quality		

4. Do you agree with the distance factor of more than 3 miles from another obligated NHM organisation, whereby collectors should not be required to collect recycling separately?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

If no, your response should include evidence as to why the distance factor is not appropriate and if relevant, supply information on an alternative distance.

5. Do you agree that if the quantity of all core materials for collection is less than 3kg per week from one NHM organisation, then collectors should not be required to collect recycling separately?

- Yes
- No

Unsure

If no, your response should include evidence as to why the quantity is not appropriate and if relevant, supply information on an alternative amount.

6. Which is your preferred option for collectors when requested to collect recycling where the distance to an obligated NHM organisation is above 3 miles or where the quantity of all core materials is less than 3kg per week? Please rank your preference where 1 is most preferred:

Preferred Option	Select Ranking (1-4, where 1 is most preferred)
Mixed recycling collections	2
Separate recycling collections using different coloured "survival sacks" which are collected in the same vehicle as residual waste, then managed apart from the residual waste after the vehicle tips off.	3
No recycling collections required, and a collector could direct organisations to alternative facilities.	1
Something else - please detail.	

7. Do you agree standard default values and data that have clearly referenced sources (that cover comparable Quality of materials, Environmental outcomes and Technical feasibility) which could be used to support a written assessment, would be useful?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

If you disagree, please provide the reason for your response.

Standard default values or data are rarely representative of all Councils in Northern Ireland given different populations and housing densities. Any values used should be a clear representation of the costs relevant to each individual Council. These costs should also be sourced from Northern Ireland and should not be generic WRAP UK figures

Proposal 20: Written assessments should be completed by waste collectors that co-collect dry recyclables from NHM premises, evidencing why separate collections are not practicable and that co-collection delivers recyclable materials of comparable quality to those collected as separate fractions. Collectors must ensure that where they deviate from a standardised template, their output information attains the same evidential threshold. Regular reviews of such assessments should be undertaken to ensure that they remain accurate and up to date.

1. Where waste collectors do not collect dry recyclable waste in the permitted three segregated streams, do you agree that the collector should produce a written assessment based on the template shown in Appendix 3 to outline the exception (s) to the requirement?

- Yes
 No – further content should be added to the template.
 No – content should be removed from the template.
 Unsure

If you responded No, please provide the reason for your response below, including your suggested amendments to the template.

The draft written assessment templates provided in appendix 2 and 3 of the consultation (for household and NHM respectively) are confusing as the NHM template is much more detailed consisting of 8 pages compared to only 3 pages in the Household version.

2. Do you agree that reference to standard default values and data that have clearly referenced sources, which could be used to support a written assessment, would be useful?

- Yes
 No
 Unsure

If you disagree, please provide the reason for your response with supporting evidence in the box below.

Standard default values or data are rarely representative of all Councils in Northern Ireland given different populations and housing densities. Any values used should be a clear representation of the costs relevant to each individual Council. These costs should also be sourced from Northern Ireland and should not be generic WRAP UK figures

3. Do you agree that waste carriers for NHM recycling should be encouraged to have regard to the principle of QualiTEE (and not required to conduct a written assessment) during the first two years following the introduction of legislation requiring separate NHM recycling collections?

- Yes
 No
 Unsure
 If no, please provide information as to why you disagree.

MUDC would highlight that it acts as a waste carrier / collector for NHM organisations and it would appear that the “bar” for not undertaking co-collections has been set much lower than in relation to household collections and would argue the same lighter touch should be applied for household collections i.e. collectors only required to have regard to the QualiTEE principle.

4. Do you agree with the recommendation that waste collectors should review and re-submit written assessments at least every 2 years?

- Yes
 No
 Unsure

If you disagree, please select one of the following statements that best describes why:

- Revising written assessments every 2 years is too frequent (please state how frequently you think they should be revised and evidence why)
 Revising written assessments at least every 2 years is too infrequent (please state how frequently you think they should be revised and evidence why)
 Written assessments should be revised every time changes are made to the collection services delivered by the waste collector or the treatment facility, they use i.e., collection methodology utilised, access to a new recycling facility.
 Other (please detail providing evidence to support your opinion).

5. Using a template to produce a written assessment and using standardised data should reduce the burden on waste collectors. What other ways to reduce the burden on waste collectors should we consider for the written QualiTEE assessment?

Evidence from MRF's that confirm that the quality of recyclates produced are within the permissible comparable quantities for the separate collection of materials

6. Do you agree with the content of the written assessment template for collection of waste from obligated businesses, public bodies or other organisations as provided at Appendix 3?

Yes

No

Unsure

If you disagree, please select any of the following that best describe why:

Further content should be added (please comment)

Content should be removed (please comment)

Other (please comment)

7. Do you have any other comments on the content for the written assessment template for non-household municipal collections?

The draft written assessment templates provided in appendix 2 and 3 of the consultation (for household and NHM respectively) are confusing as the NHM template is much more detailed consisting of 8 pages compared to only 3 pages in the Household version.

8. We are proposing that a waste collector should only need to produce one written assessment for each set of premises or rurality that they intend to employ an exception for. For 'set of premises', we have suggested that this would include at a national level, groups of premises on a collection route or type of premises, for example hospitality premises. Do you agree with the examples listed for 'set of premises'?

Yes

No

Unsure (please comment)

If you disagree, please select one of the following statements that best describes why:

Other examples should be added to the list (please comment)

Examples should be removed from the list (please comment)

Other (please comment)

9. What other factors, if any, should be taken into consideration and included in the written assessment? For example, different premise type in a service/geographical area, costs of breaking existing contractual arrangements and/or access to treatment facilities.

Available space for separate bins

Proposal 21: To introduce, or where existing, improve NHM recycling collections.

1. Do you agree that the range of proposals set out by DAERA in this consultation once implemented, will sufficiently ensure that NHM recycling collections focus on segregating recyclable waste from residual waste alongside improving the quality and quantity of recycling?
- Yes
 - No - If no, your response should include clear evidence as to why you have this.
 - Unsure

MJDC, as a public sector organization would request a variation on option (i) to separate the following streams from residual waste (subject to the amendments shown in brackets) as these match the existing collections:

- a) Food waste (co-collected with garden waste where necessary) and
- b) Mixed recycling comprising plastics, paper, card and cans (and glass)

Proposal 22: We will continue to review and investigate options to reduce costs for businesses and NHM premises where possible to maximise their recycling behaviour and activity.

1. What are the main barriers that obligated businesses (small and micro-firms in particular), public bodies and other organisations face when trying to recycle? Please select one option for each barrier listed.

	Major Barrier	Some Barrier	Little/No Barrier	No opinion
Financial		✓		

Contractual		✓		
Space	✓			
Engagement		✓		
Location	✓			
Time and expense of staff training		✓		
Enforcement			✓	
Lack of awareness or understanding of how to recycle more waste		✓		
Other				

Please provide further detail of these barriers and how you believe they can be overcome alongside any supporting evidence.

Many city and town centre businesses do not have the storage space for a large number of separate waste bins. Therefore, a 3 bin model with comingled dry recyclates, food/garden waste and residual waste will offer business the best option to segregate their waste in the space / bin stores they have. The time and effort training staff in waste separation and maintaining this system may be cost prohibitive. Online support may be useful to help business cover some costs of staff education and awareness.

2. Which type(s) of business support do you believe would be most useful for obligated businesses, public bodies, and other organisations to ensure they understand their obligations and enable them to recycle more of their waste? (Select any number of responses)

	Very useful	Useful	Neutral	Not useful	No opinion
1:1 support provided/offered to obligated businesses and organisations		✓			
National, regional, or local communications campaigns		✓			
National guidance and good practice case studies		✓			
Dedicated website including online business support tools (e.g., online calculator and good practice guidance)	✓				

Other (please specify)	
------------------------	--

3. If adopted, and it became a legal requirement for obligated businesses, public bodies, and other organisations to segregate a core list of dry recyclables for collection alongside food waste, how do you believe such regulatory change should be promoted or communicated?

	Please tick all that apply
National, regional, and local communications campaigns i.e., TV adverts, social media campaigns, adverts in trade, national or local press, webinars	✓
Guidance and/or notification provided directly to all obligated businesses and organisations via the relevant regulatory bodies (local councils, NIEA) i.e., emails, written notification	
Guidance and/or notification provided to obligated businesses and organisations via their existing waste or recycling collector	✓
Guidance and/or notification provided to obligated businesses and organisations via relevant trade bodies or umbrella associations, Chambers of Commerce etc. i.e., newsletters, social media, workshops, conferences, or webinars	✓
Other (please specify)	

4. Do you have any views on how Government could support businesses, public bodies, or other organisations to procure waste management services more collaboratively?

	Tick all the options which you think should be considered
Promote existing collaborative opportunities relating to waste management so that businesses and NHM producers can access these easier	
Develop new procurement framework opportunities for waste management services that businesses and NHM producers can use collaboratively to gain best value	✓
Develop standard contract templates that businesses and NHM producers can utilise to collaboratively source waste management services	✓

Collaborate with key industry organisations or accredited associations to develop waste management framework opportunities suitable to specific industry sectors i.e., transport, retail, hospitality	✓
Other (please detail and provide examples if possible)	

Proposal 23: Businesses and the NHM sector will be provided with a minimum two-year notification of a statutory requirement to collect dry recyclables as separate streams, segregated from residual waste, with a further phasing of such legislative requirements for small and micro businesses producing NHM waste.

- Do you agree with our proposal that will require the separate collection of the core set of dry recyclables within 24 months of notification of a statutory requirement?
 - Yes
 - No - If no, your response should include clear evidence as to which materials you consider should not be incorporated within the list and why. Evidence with justification to extend timescales should be provided, if appropriate.

Unsure

- Do you agree that small and microfirms should be required to implement a separate collection of the core set of dry recyclables, by the points in time listed below? Tick the point in time which you think should apply.

	Yes	No	If you answered no, please provide the reason for your response with clear evidence detailing why small and micro firms need more time to accommodate the changes.	Not sure
24 months from notification of a statutory requirement	✓			
3 to 4 years from notification of a statutory requirement				
More than 4 years from notification of statutory requirement				

Never				
Other – please detail				

3. Are there any other obligated businesses, public bodies or other organisations in your opinion that should be exempt from the proposed requirements?
Please provide evidence to support your view.

4. Some waste collectors may not be able to collect the required dry recyclable streams from all obligated businesses, public bodies and other organisations within the timeframe proposed. In this table we set out some circumstances which may delay changes to dry recycling collections. Please select the circumstances which you believe will create challenges and provide evidence with justification detailing why timescales should be extended, as appropriate.

Not all rows need to be completed. Please use N/A where not applicable.	
Collection and treatment contract limitations	
MRF infrastructure and/or capacity	✓
Container procurement and distribution challenges	
Reprocessing availability	
End market volatility/lack of end markets	
Cost burdens to collectors of setting up new or expanded collection services	✓
Other – please describe	

Proposal 24: To review collection zoning and franchising to reduce costs to businesses and NHM premises.

1. Which recyclable waste streams do you believe should be included under a potential franchising/zoning scheme available for use by obligated businesses, public bodies, and other organisations?

For each option, please select whether you agree, disagree, or are not sure/do not have an opinion/not applicable.

	Agree	Disagree	Not sure/No opinion/Not applicable
Dry recyclable material streams (glass, metal, plastic, paper, and card)	✓		
Food Waste	✓		

Other Items, for example oils, hazardous waste, bulky waste (please specify)			
--	--	--	--

2. Which of the below options, if any, is your preferred for zoning and/or collaborative procurement? Please select only one option that most closely aligns with your preference.

- Encouraging two neighbouring businesses to share the same containers under a contract.
- Encouraging businesses to use shared facilities at a site/estate or equivalent.
- Business Improvement Districts/partnerships tendering to offer a preferential rate (opt-in).
- Co-collection – the contractor for household collection services also delivers the NHM service.
- Framework zoning – shortlist of suppliers licensed to offer services in the zone.
- Material specific zoning – one contractor collects food waste, one dry recyclables, one residual waste.
- Exclusive service zoning – one contractor delivers the core recycling and residual collection waste services for the zone.
- None of the above.
- Other (please detail)

3. Do you have any views on the roles of stakeholders in implementing a potential zoning/franchising scheme. Please **tick** where you think the named stakeholder should have a role in each of the following activities:

	DAERA	NIEA	Councils	Business Improvement Districts	Environmental Non-Governmental Organisations	Waste producers i.e., businesses, public bodies etc	Trade body, Umbrella Associations, Accredited bodies	Other – please detail
Procurement of services						✓	✓	
Scheme/collection service design						✓		
Admin and day to day management						✓		
Enforcement (ensuring zoning rules are adhered to)		✓						
Business support/advice	✓							
Development of tools & guidance	✓							
Delivery of communications campaigns	✓						✓	
Other activities (please detail)								

4. If you think that there is a role for any other stakeholders not already listed, please name the stakeholder below and state what activities you believe they should be involved in.

5. Do you have any further views on how a potential waste or recycling collection franchising or zoning scheme could be implemented?

MUDC would again highlight that it can only provide services to NHM premises on the basis of cost recovery and existing design of services. Councils should not be obligated to tender for Collection Zones as existing routes/vehicles may already be operating at full capacity servicing households and so this should be left to Councils to decide to participate.

Proposal 25: To establish commercial waste bring sites and/or to increase the access to HWRCs for businesses, public bodies, and other organisations to encourage more recycling and better waste management.

1. Do you agree that obligated businesses, public bodies, and other organisations would find the provision of commercial waste bring sites useful to facilitate an increase in recycling?

- Yes
 No
 Unsure

If you disagree, please explain why you have this view and provide supporting evidence.

2. Are there any barriers which we should be aware of, regarding the creation and operation of commercial waste bring sites?

- Lack of suitable location(s) to accommodate commercial waste bring sites.
 Access restrictions – time, availability, vehicular access, noise
 Risk of abuse which may cause recycling containers to fill up quickly.
 Risk of contamination to recyclables meaning collected materials are less likely to be recycled.
 Sites encourage fly-tipping or litter.
 Other (please specify)

Will commercial waste bring sites have to be staffed to prevent unauthorized disposal of waste e.g. asbestos

3. Do you agree that obligated businesses, public bodies, and other organisations should be permitted to use HWRC's to dispose of their waste or recyclables?

- Yes
 No
 Unsure

If you disagree, please detail the reason for this view, supplying evidence to justify your opinion.

If you agree, what benefits do you believe access to HWRCs will provide to obligated businesses, public bodies, or other organisations? (Select as many benefits as are appropriate)

- HWRC access will provide a trusted, legitimate disposal route for our waste and recyclables.
 HWRC access will provide a cost-effective disposal route for our waste and recyclables.
 HWRCs will provide access to disposal routes for our waste and recyclables at times which suit our organisation (in line with the opening hours of the facility)
 HWRC access will enable us to recycle more of our waste due to the range of accepted materials.
 Other (please specify)

4. Are there any barriers, which we should be aware of, should HWRCs be made accessible to obligated businesses, public bodies, and other organisations?

- HWRC network has limited capacity for waste or recyclable storage - would be unable to accept predicted increase in volumes.
 Council(s) has/have insufficient resources to handle the anticipated increase in numbers of visits, waste volumes, payments or permits needed to cope with acceptance of commercial waste or recyclables.
 Existing Environmental Permit or planning condition for HWRC network would not permit a service expansion.
 Other (please specify)

MUDC currently accepts commercial waste for disposal at its three main Recycling Centres where a weighbridge is in place to facilitate payment. Commercial waste is also accepted for recycling at the other/smaller sites where no payment is required. However it would not be practicable to permit disposal of residual commercial waste at the smaller sites due to space and capacity restraints.

MUDC therefore believes that the Department should revisit the previous recommendation put forward in the NI Waste Management Strategy 2006 to 2020 (Section 2.3 – Assisting Small Businesses) which stated:

“The consultation document proposed that district councils should encourage small businesses to participate by accepting their commercial & industrial waste for recycling at a minimum of one civic amenity site per council area, and that a reasonable charge should be made in return for the use of such facilities. There was broad support for this proposal from consultees. Therefore, the Department strongly encourages district councils to make such provision, so that on a regional basis SMEs can access a civic amenity site within a reasonable distance. Provision for this should be included in the development of future waste management plans”

Proposal 26: Amendments will be made to Article 5 of The Waste and Contaminated Land (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 to ensure compliance with the post-consultation requirements to segregate a core set of dry recyclables and food waste by obligated businesses and the wider NHM sector.

1. Do you agree that our proposal to extend Article 5 of the Waste & Contaminated Land (NI) Order 1997 will be sufficient to ensure compliance with the proposed requirements to segregate a core set of dry recyclables and food waste by obligated businesses, public bodies, and other organisations?

- Yes
 No
 Unsure

If you disagree, please explain why you have this view and provide supporting evidence.

Agree on the basis that co-mingling of recyclable waste is permitted

2. Do you agree that the existing penalty of £300 for non-compliance for obligated businesses, public bodies and other organisations is severe enough to ensure compliance?

- Yes
 No

Unsure

If you have answered No, what value do you feel the fixed penalty notice for non-compliance should be increased to?

Proposed new penalty value	Please select one answer
£400	
£500	
£600	
£700	✓

If you believe another value should apply to fixed penalty notices for non-compliance, please specify the value you feel the fixed penalty should be set at and explain why, as well as providing supporting evidence.

The fixed penalty notice should be increased to a minimum of £1000 to create the necessary deterrent for compliance given the significant cost of waste management.



DEARA Rethinking Our Resources Consultation - Annex 1

Proposal 1: To restrict the residual waste capacity for households in Northern Ireland to a maximum of 90 litres per week, delivered either via a 180-litre wheeled bin collected fortnightly or a 240 litre wheeled bin collected every three weeks. Councils would decide on the most appropriate methodology for their own circumstances.

RESPONSE:

MUDC agrees that a restriction on residual waste is necessary to achieve higher recycling levels of 65%-70% if these are to be achieved on an individual Council basis. However if the higher municipal waste recycling targets are to be achieved collectively by Councils and businesses and the wider NHM sector then this may not be necessary. MUDC would seek the department to legislate on the requirement for achieving these levels of recycling. MUDC has achieved an average HH recycling rate of 58.25% over the past four years which is higher than the HH 57% rate required in option 3 of the policy options presented (and close to the 61% and 62% required in conjunction with NHM rates for option 1 and 2 respectively). It is therefore possible that MUDC could achieve the HH rates identified in all policy options without residual waste restrictions but with marginal increases in mixed dry recycling and biowaste kerbside collections and/or increased Recycling Centre performance.

MUDC notes the recent comments (November 2023) contained in the Government response to the outcome of the DEFRA Consultation on Consistency in Household Recycling in England which appear to be at odds with this proposal as stating “*the government is committed to delivering comprehensive, frequent rubbish and recycling collections. Through statutory guidance, we propose requiring local authorities to collect residual (non-recyclable) waste at least fortnightly, if not more frequently, to protect local amenity and prevent unintended consequences of cutting residual waste collection frequency*”. Further information on this policy update can be accessed via the below link:

defracollectionandpackagingreform.cmail19.com/t/t-e-edltdn-jkijdjruh-z/

If a restriction on residual waste is required MUDC preference would be for three weekly collection of 240 litre residual bins rather than the provision of smaller containers as not only does this not require a wholesale purchase and distribution of replacement containers, but this also creates spare capacity within existing collection rounds which potentially can be utilized in providing enhanced recycling collections.

MUDC welcomes the acknowledgement in this proposal that “*Councils would decide on the most appropriate methodology for their own circumstances*” and feels this pragmatic approach should be adopted in relation to all proposals in the consultation i.e., DAERA should set the targets but let individual Councils decide on how best to achieve them.



Proposal 2: To require local Councils to collect a core set of dry recyclables from households to help avoid confusion and improve consistency and the quality of recyclable material.

RESPONSE:

Mid Ulster District Council agrees with the concept of a core set of materials from the point of view of avoiding confusion but would question if this will lead to a significant improvement in the consistency and quality of recyclable material collected given Table 4 of the consultation questions confirms that most Councils in N Ireland are already collecting the majority of these materials at the kerbside.

Proposal 3: That additional materials are added to the core set over time when feasible, with flexible plastic packaging set to be collected from households by the end of the financial year 2026/2027.

RESPONSE:

MUDC agrees with this proposal however would question if there has been engagement with the reprocessing sector to determine if there will be suitable and adequate infrastructure/capacity in place by 2026/27.

MUDC welcomes the confirmation (on p31 of consultation) that the *“range of materials would only be added to the core set when supported by evidence that materials can reasonably be collected for recycling and can reasonably be recycled. By this, we mean that there is capacity locally in NI, GB, and Ireland or if necessary, further afield into Europe, that it can technically be recycled and that the cost of reprocessing is not prohibitive”* and would encourage that this same pragmatic approach, particularly in relation to location, is also adopted with regard to the processing of existing dry recyclable material collected at the kerbside.



Proposal 4: To highlight NI's unique legislation on the quality of dry recyclable materials, the proposed term QualiTEE should be adopted to describe the exceptions to collecting dry recyclable materials separately.

RESPONSE:

MUDC is concerned that the new concept of QualiTEE was not raised in the previous Discussion Document, nor in the workshops held with Councils. The QualiTEE terminology by definition appears to place a primary focus on the quality (as opposed to quantity) of recyclate material and less emphasis on the other technical, economic, and environmental considerations.

MUDC notes the recent comments (updated 21st November 2023) contained in the Government response to the outcome of the DEFRA Consultation on Consistency in Household Recycling in England which confirms *“on further examination of the evidence base, we consider that there is sufficient evidence that the co-collection of dry recyclable materials will not significantly reduce their potential to be recycled, so long as dry recycling is collected separately from residual and organic waste. Based on available data, co-collection does not have a significant impact on recycling rates. Six of the top 10 local authorities in terms of ‘household waste’ recycling rate in England in 2021 to 2022 provided a co-mingled service for dry materials”*.

MUDC notes that the unique legislation in Northern Ireland on Separate Collections (referred to on page 22) does not include card/cardboard (regulations only reference waste paper) and therefore queries why card / cardboard should have to be collected separately from other recyclable materials.



Proposal 5: The default position for collection of dry recyclables from households is in four separate streams.

RESPONSE:

MUDC is very concerned that the default position proposed i.e. four separate streams, goes beyond the options raised in the previous Recycling Discussion Document and in the workshops held with Councils. The separate options proposed previously were limited to keeping glass and/or paper separate from the other materials, which whilst challenging, would not be as difficult as collecting four separate waste streams. The Transition Cost Survey did not examine the option of four separate waste streams and therefore the validity of this report is now questionable.

Over the past ten years MUDC has been the top performing Council in relation to household waste recycling and has nearly reached a recycling rate of 60%. This has been achieved through the commingling of mixed dry recyclables which has proven an exceedingly high level of performance mainly due to the willingness of the public to participate in this scheme. The commingling option would follow the legislative travel of England following their release and recent updates of the Simpler Recycling guidance which has also been defined by DEFRA as the '*common-sense approach that is both easy and effective for everyone.*' It is our view that the complex multi stream collection is not well accepted by the public and a forced implementation of this scheme will result in a reduction in recycling.

Table 1.1 offers a comparison in average set out rate between the 3-Stack Kerbside Sort Scheme and the Commingled Bin (including glass) Scheme. These figures were sourced from the DAERA Waste Composition Analysis Study 2017 and WRAP reports on trial performance. It is evident that the public set out rate for the commingled bin system is much higher in comparison to the kerbside sort scheme. It is our opinion that by simplifying the sorting process for users and maximising convenience, it encourages greater participation and thus leads to higher recycling rates.

Table 1.1 Average Set Out Rate.

Council	Scheme Type	Average Set Out %
Lisburn & Castlereagh	3 Stack Kerbside Sort Scheme	59.8
Antrim & Newtownabbey	3 Stack Kerbside Sort Scheme	65.15
Mid Ulster	Commingled Bin Including Glass	87.3
Fermanagh & Omagh	Commingled Bin Including Glass	88.43

MUDC strongly holds the view that a commingled collection system provides material of comparable quality and, importantly, higher quantities of material for recycling in comparison to separate collections. Therefore MUDC suggests that providing increased capacity for co-mingled collections to households, in the form of a second 240 litre blue bin, will make the greatest contribution to achieving recycling targets.



Table 1.2 below presents the NIEA Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste (LACMW) 2022/23 household waste dry recycling rates achieved by each local authority. This was sourced from the NIEA LACMW 2022/23 Data Tables. MUDC have achieved the fourth highest household dry recycling rate for 2022/23, thus demonstrating that the commingled system is effective in the collection of dry recyclables. It is evident that those Councils operating the commingled system (including glass) have achieved the highest dry recycling rates. Those Councils partially or fully operating the kerbside sort system have subsequently achieved the lowest dry recycling rates. It is our opinion that this stems from the public participation in each scheme, highlighting that a higher participation rate can be expected for the commingled including glass scheme and thus a higher dry recycling rate is the result.

Table 1.2 NIEA LACMW Household Waste Dry Recycling Rates

Rank	Authority	Household waste dry recycling rate	Collection System Used
1	Derry City & Strabane	27.9	Commingled including glass
2	Fermanagh & Omagh	26.6	Commingled including glass
3	Causeway Coast & Glens	25.7	Commingled including glass
4	Mid Ulster	24.2	Commingled including glass
5	Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon	24.2	Commingled including glass
6	Antrim & Newtownabbey	24.2	50% kerbside sort 50% commingled no glass
7	Newry, Mourne & Down	23.1	Commingled including glass
8	Belfast	21.9	Large portion kerbside sort remainder commingled no glass
9	Ards & North Down	20.8	Commingled with separate glass collection
10	Lisburn & Castlereagh	18.9	Large portion kerbside sort remainder commingled no glass
11	Mid & East Antrim	18.9	Kerbside sort

The commingled bin offers the greatest flexibility for changes to the composition of recyclable materials. The increase in online shopping combined with proposed EPR changes have increased the percentage cardboard in the dry recycling collection. The small 40 litre box for paper and cardboard in the kerbside sort option in our opinion will struggle to provide effective capacity for the volume of paper and card produced.



An economic model was created to understand the capital and operational costs associated with a change to the Kerbside Sort System. The results from this economic assessment are presented in Table 1.3 below. Considerations for this economic model include the following:

- Vehicle number assessment and replacement cycles.
- Container purchase, assembly, delivery, and container replacements.
- Collection and disposal of existing commingled containers.
- Need for storage of containers prior to roll out.
- Communications
- Operational staff costs
- Vehicle maintenance/running costs taking account for fuel, vehicle tax, PSV wash and test fees, vehicle insurance, tyre cost, and vehicle repairs.
- Based on known market rates and gate fees.

Table 1.3 Economic Model for Change to Kerbside Sort

Capital Costs	£
Stillage Vehicles	6,660,000
Replacement Cycle for RCVs	2,200,000
Storage Facility Rental	315,000
Communications Campaign	107,891
Triple Stack Box Assembly & Delivery	2,629,288
180 L Bin Assembly & Delivery	1,205,828
Collection & Disposal of Comingled Bins	163,242
Total Capex	13,281,249
7 Year Operational Cost	£
Staff	29,414,000
Vehicle Running Costs	4,833,542
Gates Fees	26,160,114
Potential Revenue Share on Recyclates	2,464,286
Total Opex	57,943,370
Total Cost Over 7 Years	£
Total Cost Over 7 Years	71,224,619

The costs to implement and operate the system are considered cost prohibitive for Mid Ulster District Council. The performance of the system is also less than the performance of the current commingled system. Therefore MUDC will not be investing in a change to the kerbside sort system for a decrease in efficiency. It is considered a more reasonable solution is to further invest in the current system to further increase its performance. This may include increased recycling capacity and reduced residual capacity (a trial scheme for same was previously refused capital grant funding by DAERA).

MUDC has embraced the positive health and safety aspects of one armed collection vehicles. MUDC has heavily invested in one armed vehicles and now has 9 in its fleet with a further 3 due for delivery this year. Each of these vehicles have a replacement cycle of 10 years.



Therefore, this fleet will not be due for replacement until 2030 to 2034. These vehicles are used to carry out rural collections right across the district and are not compatible with kerbside sort systems. It is our opinion that kerbside sort is not a suitable collection method for our workforce and fleet.

The Glasgow Caledonian and Greenwich Universities 'Body Mapping' report presents a case study undertaken to identify levels of MSD (Musculoskeletal Disorder) in relation to the methods of waste collection. The report notes the increased MSD related risks associated with the use of boxed or bagged collection services. It notes that wheeled bin collection services were the least likely to cause injuries/ musculoskeletal disorders.

3 surveys were conducted as part of this research report using the same local authority service. The first survey was conducted during the original waste collection system in 2010 which was primarily:

- Weekly collection of refuse in 140l wheeled bin;
- Fortnightly collection of paper, cans, and plastic in two 33l baskets;
- Monthly collection of glass in 50l boxes.

The second (2013) and third (2014) surveys were conducted after the implementation of a new system primarily;

- Fortnightly collection of refuse in 140l wheeled bins;
- Fortnightly collection of glass, paper, cans, and plastic in 240l wheeled bins;
- Weekly food waste collection in 20l mini bins;
- A paid for fortnightly garden waste service using 240l wheeled bins.

The key findings resulting from this conducted survey include:

- The parts of the body with highest Average Pain Count (APC) were the shoulder and neck/upper spinal which decreased from 0.91 to 0.19 with manual handling reduced after the removal of boxes and baskets.
- Lower back pain remained high for all three surveys (associated with vehicle driving), but also reducing after removal of boxes and baskets, from 0.86 to 0.64.
- Loaders who handled and sorted materials in 2010 contained in boxes and baskets (arm including elbow, shoulder/neck,) with the activity involving bending lifting and twisting had an APC of 2.08.
- The findings confirm links between awkward occupational postures and low back pain, in effect bending and twisting and lifting boxes and sorting recycling into different components and bins.

Ensuring the health and safety of our staff members is paramount in all operations conducted by MUDC. Therefore, introducing a waste collection system involving repetitive bending, turning, and lifting of boxes poses a significant threat to the well-being of our employees due to the potential for musculoskeletal disorders. The kerbside sort system also involves the loading of waste into the stillage vehicle from both sides which would place the collection crew in a live lane of traffic on a regular basis. We therefore cannot agree with compromising their safety for the sake of operational changes to a system that has shown to achieve the lowest participation rates (as evident in Table 1.1), dry recycling rates (as evident in Table 1.2) and has proven to increase health and safety risk.



MUDC believes the four stream approach is not deliverable within or compatible with a primarily rural district like Mid Ulster and is clearly aimed at the promotion of a kerbside sort system which may only be available from one local service provider which could potentially be anti-competitive.

Proposal 6: Standardised written assessments are prepared by councils where two or more dry recyclables are mixed during the collection process, evidencing why separate collections are not practicable and that co-collection delivers recyclable material of comparable quality.

RESPONSE:

MUDC disagrees with this approach. This approach is a significant diversion from the Simpler Recycling guidance put forward by DEFRA. We believe that an imposed separate collection of recyclables or further administrative burden to justify the use of the current best performing system, commingling would add significant cost burden on Council finances. The only way that Councils can recoup this money is through District Rates increases at a time when household finances are already stretched with the current cost of living.

Table 1.4 below demonstrates the efficiency of the commingled collection method in collecting the highest rate of recyclates at the kerbside. These figures exclude recyclates collected at recycling centres, focusing solely on the performance of each Councils' kerbside collection system. It is evident that the highest capture rate is being achieved by MUDC and full commingled systems.

Table 1.4 Dry Recycling Capture Rate (T/HH/Annum)

Council	Dry Recycling Capture Rate (t/HH/Annum)	Collection Method	Rank
Mid Ulster	0.195*	Comingled including glass	1 st
Fermanagh & Omagh	0.180*	Comingled including glass	2 nd
Newry Mourne & Down	0.171*	Comingled including glass	3 rd
Derry & Strabane	0.161*	Comingled including glass	4 th
Ards & North Down	0.158*	Comingled separate glass	5 th
Causeway Coast & Glens	0.157*	Comingled including glass	6 th
ABC	0.148*	Comingled separate glass, comingled no glass & kerbside sort	7 th
Antrim and Newtownabbey	0.125	Kerbside sort and comingled no glass	8 th
Mid & East Antrim	0.116	Large proportion with kerbside sort	9 th



Council	Dry Recycling Capture Rate (t/HH/Annum)	Collection Method	Rank
Lisburn & Castlereagh	0.107	3 stack boxes*	10 th
Belfast	0.089	3 stack boxes*	11 th

*Figure after contamination has been removed

MUDC notes the recent comments (updated 21st November 2023) contained in the Government response to the outcome of the DEFRA Consultation on Consistency in Household Recycling in England which confirms “*The Secretary of State has the power to set an exemption from the requirement to separately collect in relation to 2 or more recyclable waste streams, if satisfied that doing so does not significantly reduce the potential for the waste streams to be recycled or composted. We propose to provide a further exemption to allow all dry recyclables (paper and card, plastic, glass, and metal) to be collected together in one recycling bin. If using an exemption, waste collectors would not be required to produce a written assessment to co-collect*”. Given these statements from DEFRA, MUDC would request that similar exemptions be introduced in Northern Ireland rather than the imposition of the onerous QualiTEE assessment. If this is imposed MUDC would request that this should only apply to new collection systems, not to existing systems, given the enormous cost involved in changing collection systems.

It would be proposed that once a collection system is agreed for a Council then it should be for the Council to manage the collection system that best fits their circumstances. DAERA should stick with the legislating of what should be achieved in terms of targets. It should be for the individual Councils then to assess and determine how best to collect waste to achieve the targets set by DAERA.



Proposal 7: A set of conditions should be set out that define comparable quality, best environmental outcome, technical feasibility, and disproportionate economic cost- “QualiTEE”. Where conditions are met, an exception may apply, and two or more recyclable waste streams may be collected together from households.

Proposal 7a: Similar guidance on MRF sampling, to that used in England and Wales, should be introduced in NI to ensure that the quality of input and outputs for MRFs can be quantified.

RESPONSE:

MUDC is concerned at the limited reference to health and safety in the proposed assessment. The four stream approach proposed, which can only be implemented via a kerbside sort system, would have significant health and safety implications (as detailed in previous response to proposal 5). MUDC prioritises the health and safety of its employees and has invested millions of pounds in a move to one armed vehicles (OAVs) i.e. single person operated vehicles to collect bins in rural parts of the district. The use of one-armed vehicles for commingled bin collection offers significant advantages in terms of reducing labour costs and mitigating health and safety risks associated with manual collection. With a driver operated mechanical system handling all collection tasks, the need for manual labour is greatly reduced, resulting in cost savings for the Council. Additionally, the risks of musculoskeletal disorders among staff members is significantly lowered as they are not required to manually sort recyclables at the kerbside. This system also enhances safety by removing operator exposure to live traffic lanes (vehicles travelling at speeds of up to 60 mph on busy rural roads). In contrast, a kerbside sort approach would necessitate increased labour costs due to the manual sorting required by crews. This not only adds to operational expenses but also exposes staff to potential dangers such as vehicle collision and other traffic-related accidents. By adopting a one-armed vehicle system, MUDC can prioritise the safety of their workers whilst also optimising efficiency and reducing operational risks associated with waste collection.

Section 18 of the Waste Regulations (NI) 2011 includes one of the conditions as “*separate collection of the waste is not technically feasible taking into consideration good practices in waste collection*”. MUDC considers the use of OAVs to be best practice in waste collection from a health and safety perspective and has recently received a WISH award in relation to the use of OAVs. These vehicles are not compatible with four stream or two stream collections, however MUDC considers employee health and safety to be a higher priority than any perceived increase in material quality achieved through separate collection of recyclables.

MUDC is also very concerned that DEARA considers that “*people or historical preferences*” is not within the scope of technical feasibility as public participation in recycling schemes is the key to their success. Councils have a statutory approach to take into account the views of their residents in the delivery of services and to carry out related Equality Impact Assessments and Rural Needs Analysis. The separate collection of wastes (which may require up to seven separate containers) would not be publicly acceptable in Mid Ulster, where residents have indicated a very high level of satisfaction with the current three bin collection system. If separate collections were mandated this would lead to reduced public participation and decreased recycling rate.



Proposal 8: The quality of recyclate for reprocessing is important and needs to be improved through changes to collections and clear measures should be set to describe quality.

RESPONSE:

Please refer to Tables 1.2 & 1.4 which demonstrate the performance of the fully commingled system.

MUDC agrees that the quality of recyclate is important, however the quantity of recyclate collected should be viewed as being equally important if higher recycling targets are to be achieved. MUDC believes a fully commingled system provides material of comparable quality to the other systems (as evidenced by the fact there are markets for the material) as well as a higher quantity of material.

MUDC is concerned at the lack of detail in the consultation (one paragraph) on what constitutes “comparable quality” and further clarity is required on how this is to be assessed e.g. how will this differ from “as appropriate to meet the necessary quality standards for the relevant recycling sectors” as stated in the original Waste Regulations (NI) 2011?

On review of our reports from contractors processing our commingled materials recovered recyclates such as paper and plastic is of comparable quality to kerbside sort material and is entering local and UK reprocessors such as Huhtamaki, Cherry Polymers and Saica UK. Therefore, MUDC believe the commingled material from our collections is achieving a comparable quality as the kerbside sort material.

MUDC has the highest yield of kerbside dry recycling per household (as confirmed by Waste Dataflow statistics) and most of the other highest performing Councils in Northern Ireland operate commingled systems. MUDC is of the opinion that if some local reprocessors were to invest and upgrade their facilities e.g. use of more robotic equipment supported by AI then they could accept and accommodate material from commingled systems.

MUDC also believes that if glass were to be included in a future DRS scheme with sufficient incentives this would remove the majority of this material from kerbside collection schemes and further reduce any requirement to collect this material separately from other streams.

Furthermore, if glass is removed from the commingled collection this will most likely still be contained in the bin as a contaminant. Therefore, MRF’s will still need to be designed to effectively remove glass from other materials even if a separate glass collection is introduced.



Proposal 9: Commingled collection of plastics and metals should be exempt from requirements to collect these materials as separate fractions.

RESPONSE:

MUDC agrees with the proposed exemption to permit plastic and metal being collected together. Whilst being supportive of exemptions, MUDC would query how these are permissible under the unique legislation referred to in Northern Ireland and why, if this is possible, such exemptions cannot be granted for other materials? Therefore, on the basis that exemptions are possible, MUDC requests that such exemptions be extended to permit all of the core materials to be collected together (as is now the case in England – see previous responses for proposals 4 & 6)

If an exemption for fully commingled is not possible then an alternative exemption should be considered which would permit card/plastic and glass/metal to be collected together in a second blue bin which would permit more balanced/efficient collection routes to be designed.



Proposal 10: Revisions to household food waste collections to increase capture rates and improve the diversion of food waste from disposal should be introduced, ensuring all householders, including those living in flats, can recycle more and in time have access to separate, weekly food waste recycling collections.

RESPONSE:

Table 1.5 below outlines the volume of food waste resulting from both a commingled food and garden waste collection and a separate food waste collection. These figures were gathered from Volume 2 of the NI Waste Composition Analysis 2017 Report.

Table 1.5 Food Waste Collection

Council	Kg/HH/Week Food Waste in Comingled Collection	Kg/HH/Week in Separate Food Waste Collection
Antrim & Newtownabbey	0.7.- 2.6	0.8
Ards & North Down	1.0 – 1.5	
ABC	0.6 – 1.2	1.3 – 1.9
Belfast	1.8 – 1.8	0.4 – 1.4
Causeway Coast & Glens	0.7 – 0.7	1.8 – 2.0
Derry & Strabane		0.7 – 1.5
Fermanagh & Omagh		0.4 – 1.3
Lisburn & Castlereagh	0.9 – 1.5	
Mid & East Antrim	1.5 – 2.2	
Mid Ulster	0.9 – 0.9	
Newry Mourne & Down	0.5 – 0.7	
Average	0.95 – 1.45	0.9 – 1.62

As indicated in the Table 1.5 above, a commingled food and garden waste collection obtains a similar quantity of food waste per household when compared to a separate food waste collection. Table 1.5 points to a variation across each Council rather than between the collection method operated. The variability likely stems from the methods of communication to the public and how each household is encouraged to refrain from disposing of their food waste in the general residual waste bin. Considering the capacity of the commingled food and garden waste bin at 240 litres in contrast to the 23 litre caddy bin collected on a weekly basis, it is our opinion that implementing a Northern-Ireland wide restriction on the capacity of the residual bin would be most effective in diverting food waste away from general waste bin collections. This approach is believed to have a greater impact in food waste diversion compared to implementing a weekly collection of food waste.



MUDC therefore does not agree that weekly food waste collections are necessary. Reference is made to “UK” research which “*shows that collecting food waste mixed with garden waste fortnightly can lead to lower yields compared to a weekly food waste collection*”. MUDC believes that NI specific data is required to support this argument and would request the results of the recent composition studies undertaken in Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Council and Derry and Strabane Council).

WRAP has previously acknowledged that the commingled biowaste schemes in N Ireland are amongst the best performing in the UK. Indeed the results of the last full NI Waste Compositional Study carried out in 2017 showed that during the first (summer) phase more food waste (1.07kg/hh/week) was collected from commingled schemes compared to separate collections (0.92kg/hh/week). When an average of the first (summer) and second (winter) phases are taken the difference is marginal with an average of 1.2 kg/hh/week from commingled schemes compared to 1.28 kg/hh/week from separate food waste collections.

It would therefore be difficult to justify the massive capital expenditure and operational/revenue costs involved in changing to separate/weekly collections of food waste. Also consideration has to be given as to what would happen to the garden waste currently collected at the kerbside (currently accounting for 75-80% of the biowaste material in commingled schemes) should separate/weekly collections be imposed. The continued separate kerbside collections of garden waste would no longer be feasible and what impact would this (unintended consequence) have on overall recycling rates in Northern Ireland?

With regard to the provision of caddy liners MUDC is the only local authority in N Ireland which does not provide these free of charge to households (instead they are sold at a cost of £1 per roll). This does not appear to have adversely affected the performance of the kerbside biowaste collection scheme. However if funding were to be provided or budget made available to provide liners free of charge it is possible that the capture of food waste could be achieved at a level beyond that of separate collections.

Proposal 11: Through collaboration with Councils, we will set out proportionate and robust guidelines for compliance and enforcement that enable Councils to enhance their waste and recycling services.

RESPONSE:

MUDC believes that enforcement should only be used as a last resort, following comprehensive education and awareness raising activities. MUDC has an existing policy outlining action to be taken in relation to contamination which is adequate in the dealing with the majority of cases. The use of fines could have an adverse impact and lead to a negative public reaction to recycling schemes and related reduction in participation and quantity/quality of material collected.

MUDC agrees that the existing challenge with the current regulations in relation to the acceptance of waste at Recycling Centres need to be clarified/addressed in order to assist with enforcement issues in relation to the acceptance of commercial waste (so that it is the carrier of the waste rather than the source of the waste which determines the classification of the waste brought to the site).



Proposal 12: Non-Statutory Guidance will be provided to councils to expand the opportunities to recycle more materials and to embed best practice in existing services.

RESPONSE:

MUDC would welcome the provision of Non-Statutory Guidance and is of the view that all outcomes in relation to the proposals in the consultation should be on the basis of Non-Statutory Guidance as Councils are best placed to make decisions of their Waste Collection Systems and Policies based on their local knowledge and circumstances.

Report on	Chewing Gum Task Force Grant Scheme Funding
Date of Meeting	11 th June 2024
Reporting Officer	Mark McAdoo, Assistant Director: Environmental Services
Contact Officer	Karl McGowan, Waste & Sustainable Development Manager

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update members on a funding application to the Chewing Gum Grant Scheme.
2.0	Background
2.1	Set up by DEFRA in partnership with DAERA in Northern Ireland, the Scottish Government and the Welsh Government, the Chewing Gum Task Force (CGTF) brings together major chewing gum producers (including Mars Wrigley, Perfetti Van Melle and a producer of nicotine replacement therapy gum) in a partnership to remove gum litter from our high streets and to prevent future littering.
2.2	The scheme, administered by independent charity Keep Britain Tidy, sees the chewing gum firms invest up to £10 million over five years to achieve two objectives: cleaning up historic gum staining and changing littering behaviour.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The Chewing Gum Task Force Grant Scheme for Year 3 (2024) reopened for applications on the 5 th February for Councils across the UK who wish to clean the gum off the pavements in their local areas and invest in long-term behaviour change to prevent gum from being dropped in the first place.
3.2	Grants of up to £27,500 were available to individual Councils to fund: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchase of equipment and/or cleaning materials • Redeployment of existing equipment to other areas • Repair or refurbishment of existing equipment • Cost of new or temporary staff members • Redeploying existing staff members • Training staff members in the use of new equipment • Equipment hire and/or subcontractors, if there is a business case for this • Trials of innovative cleaning equipment or techniques • Trials of innovative new ways to identify areas in need of cleaning

3.3	As part of the scheme, Councils will also benefit from a bespoke chewing gum litter prevention package, including targeted behaviour change signage and advice to encourage people to bin their gum. The bespoke signage is designed to be installed on litter bins, street furniture, etc. in the areas being cleaned.
3.4	An application was submitted (by the deadline of the 28 th March 2024) based on purchasing an additional mobile steam cleaner and funding the wages of a previously funded operative for a further 15 week programme of cleaning.
3.5	<p>On the 20th May 2024 notification was received from the Chewing Gum Task Force that our application has been successful and they are able to offer the full grant to the value of £27,500 (bringing the total funding secured from the scheme over three years to £72,500). The conditions of the funding include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planned cleansing work is completed by the 31st October 2024; • Installation of the agreed signage within three days of cleaning; • Commitment to delivering communications at project award, during, and on completion of cleaning using press releases and social media.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p>Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications</p> <p>Financial: The funding of £27,500 will be spent as follows: 1 No. Mobile Steam Cleaner - £18,500 1 No. Operative Wages - £9,000</p> <p>Human: Works shall be carried out using existing staffing resources.</p> <p>Risk Management: Training will be provided in order to comply with the Health and Safety at Work (NI) Order and the Code of Practice for Safety at Street Works and Road Works.</p>
4.2	<p>Screening & Impact Assessments</p> <p>Equality & Good Relations Implications: None</p> <p>Rural Needs Implications: None</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are asked to note the content of this report and to approve acceptance of the £27,500 funding offer from the Chewing Gum Task Force Grant Scheme.

Report on	Festive Lighting Replacement - Delegated Authority request
Date of Meeting	11 th June 2024
Reporting Officer	Terry Scullion, AD Property Services
Contact Officer	Cormac McGinley, Building Maintenance Officer

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	For Council to approve awarding delegated powers for the award of a tender for the supply and deliver for a range of festive lighting to be used in the main towns throughout the district, if required.
2.0	Background
2.1	As members may be aware provision has been included within Council's Capital Programme 2023-27 for the replacement of festive lighting. A tender for the supply and deliver for a range of festive lighting for use in Dungannon, Cookstown, Magherafelt and Maghera town centres. It is hoped that delivery can be realised for the 2024 for a number of these locations.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The indicative contract value for new and replacement festive lighting is estimated to be in the region of £495K. The project is in public procurement mode and the tender will close on the 17 th June 2024.
3.2	At this juncture it is not possible that the tender evaluation will be complete in time to bring a paper before June 2024 Environment Committee for decision. To progress the award and maintain anticipated delivery lead deadlines it is intended to bring a tender evaluation report direct to the Council meeting on 27 th June 2024. However, in the event this is not achievable, approval to award the contract at the Environment Committee in July 2024 is required.
3.3	Due to the anticipated lead times involved with supplies, approval is therefore sought to delegate authority to the July Environment Committee to authorise the award of this contract to the successful tenderer. This will allow for progressing delivery for the 2024 Christmas period.

4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: Funding provision for the festive lighting provision is included within Councils Capital Programme 2023-27, and provision is under consideration with the revised Capital Programme currently under development.
	Human: Within the Council existing staffing structure.
	Risk Management: There is concern around delivery lead times if installations are possible for the 2024 festive season.
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: None.
	Rural Needs Implications: None.
5.0	Recommendations
5.1	Members are asked to note the contents of the report and to recommend to Council that, pursuant to Section 7(1)(b) of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014, that authority is delegated to the July 2024 Environment Committee to approve the award of contract for supply and delivery of town centre festive lighting goods, in the event it is not possible to bring a tender report for the appointment to the June 2024 Council meeting.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	None.

Minutes of Meeting of Environment Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Tuesday 14 May 2024 in Council Offices, Burn Road, Cookstown

Members Present

Councillor Cuthbertson, Chair

Councillors J Buchanan, J Burton, Cahoon, Kelly, Groogan, Milne, McAleer, McElvogue, McGuigan, McNamee, Quinn (7.02 pm), Robinson, Varsani

Officers in Attendance

Mrs Campbell, Strategic Director of Environment (SD: Env)

Mr McAdoo, Assistant Director of Environmental Services (AD: ES)

Mr Conlon, Head of Technical Services (HoTS)

Mr Scullion, Assistant Director of Property Services (AD: PS)

Mr Curran, ICT

Mrs Grogan, Committee and Member Services Officer

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm.

The Chair, Councillor Cuthbertson welcomed everyone to the meeting and those watching the meeting through the Live Broadcast. Councillor Cuthbertson in introducing the meeting detailed the operational arrangements for transacting the business of the committee by referring to Annex A to this minute.

E096/24 Notice of Recording

Members noted that the meeting would be webcast for live and subsequent broadcast on the Council's You Tube site.

E097/24 Apologies

Councillors Mallaghan and Martin.

E098/24 Declarations of Interest

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

E099/24 Chair's Business

The Chair advised that Councillor Cahoon wished to raise an issue under Chair's Business.

Councillor Cahoon referred to the footbridge at Lough Beg which has been closed for a few weeks and now that we are going into the summer months it would be important to have it reopened as it was one of the most popular tourist spots we have within the district. The member enquired if there was a timeframe for the reinstatement of the footbridge at this location.

The Assistant Director of Property Services (AD: PS) advised that he would come back to members with a more detailed timeframe but was aware of some work currently ongoing with respect to the design of a new footbridge. The AD: PS confirmed that he would follow the issue up with the Outdoor Recreation team and would provide members with a further update following discussions.

Councillor McGuigan seconded the request. The member advised that the same issue around the footbridge was brought to his attention today and although he had not been at Lough Beg for a while, a member of the public raised the concern with him.

Councillor Quinn entered the meeting at 7.02 pm.

Councillor McNamee concurred with previous comments as he had visited the site recently and agreed that the closure of the footbridge was causing a huge impact to the walk itself. The member hoped that this could be operational again very quickly coming into the summer months, otherwise it would be a disaster for that area.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that Officers investigate the reinstatement of the footbridge at Lough Beg as a matter of urgency.

The Chair wished to thank the Council in relation to work carried out on the bridge at Dungannon Park. The member said that there was now a great new bridge, with the walk not being closed for long around the park which was great to see for public users.

Matters for Decision

E100/24 Bus Shelters Update

Mr Conlon, Head of Technical Services (HoTS) presented previously circulated report to update Members on the current bus shelter status.

The Chair welcomed Mr Conlon to his first committee meeting and wished him all the best in his new role as Head of Technical Services replacing Mr Raymond Lowry.

Councillor Robinson thanked Council as he had been involved with the bus shelters at Knockmany and Station Road, Clogher. The member referred to another bus shelter at Findermore Road on the A5/A4 which was a little more complicated as it needed more work around it and sought an update on where the budget would come from and what stage it currently was at.

The Strategic Director of Environment (SD: Env) said that she was aware of this particular application and the policy Council has at the moment relates to the installation of bus shelters and it was her understanding that this site was more of a bus stop. The SD: Env advised members that at the moment we would not have the budget within current Council budgets for that aspect of work as costings could be quite significant. This was something that was under consideration and would have to be taken through the various processes as there was no budget in place and something that SMT would have to consider as it sits outside the policy of bus shelters but ultimately it would be a Council decision as to progressing and where budget would come from.

Councillor Robinson enquired if there were any incidents like this in the past and what was the outcome.

The SD: Env said that it was her understanding that this was not something that has been done in the past and would be setting a precedent otherwise.

The AD: PS also stated that he was not aware of any scenarios for an actual bus stop configuration. The work typically carried out involves approvals coming to Technical Services team and then passed to Property Services team for installation of the bus shelter i.e. clearing the land, installing concrete base and installing the shelter and does not involve substantial environmental improvements or civil works to make this possible.

The Chair in referring to Councillor Robinson's query advised that he only knew the location from driving past it and enquired who owned the layby.

The AD: PS advised that he was not aware of the ownership but certainly could investigate the issue.

The Chair said that this may not relate to a bus stop but in other areas, like the A29, the Council took control of two laybys from DfI and spent a considerable amount of money on picnic facilities and landscaping and felt a precedent could already be in place. The Chair said that surely if this was a safety issue for a bus shelter and although he was unsure when Councillor Robinson alluded to the request being made for the bus shelter, felt that this would have been made fairly early on, enquired if this was retained by Council under a monthly update or does this need to move on to SMT.

The AD: PS advised that the bus shelter update sets out a very clear staged process and because it was quite unique the matter would have to be considered by SMT.

The Chair asked that an update on the situation regarding bus stop at Findermore Road, Clogher be brought back to a future committee meeting.

Proposed by Councillor McElvogue
Seconded by Councillor Quinn and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to –

- i) Note the contents of the report on the progress made on bus shelters within the District
- ii) Approve bus shelter application as listed under 3.4 and to move from stage 5:
 - 3Nr – 3.4.1 – 3.4.3:
 - 3.4.1 - (Millview Manor, Coalisland Road)
 - 3.4.2 - (Fintona Road, Clogher)
 - 3.4.3 – (McErleans Villas, Ballynease Road, Bellaghy)
- iii) Approve bus shelter application as listed under 3.7 to installation this month:
 - 1Nr – 3.7.1 (Lavey Chapel Carpark, Gulladuff)
- iv) Withdraw bus shelter application as listed under 3.9 this month:
 - 2Nr – 3.9.1 – 3.9.2:

- 3.9.1 - (Goland-Armaghlughey Road, Ballygawley)
- 3.9.2 – (Tullyhogue Village)
- v) Update on bus stop at Findermore Road, Clogher to be brought back to a future meeting of this committee.

E101/24 Dfl Roads Proposal to Mid Ulster District Council – Reduced Speed Limit 40mph at Quarry Road, Knockloughrim

Mr Scullion, Assistant Director of Property Services (AD: PS) presented previously circulated report to seek the agreement of Members in relation to a proposal from Dfl Roads to introduce a 40mph speed limit at Quarry Road, Knockloughrim.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Kelly and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to endorse the proposal submitted by Department for Infrastructure Roads in relation to proposal to introduce a 40mph speed limit at Quarry Road, Knockloughrim.

Matters for Information

E102/24 Environment Committee minutes of meeting held on 16 April 2024

Members noted minutes of Environment Committee held on 16 April 2024.

Councillor McNamee referred to new parking Ringgo app and enquired if there were many issues this month compared to last month.

Mr Scullion (Assistant Director of Property Services (AD: PS) said that it has been reasonable quiet, and concerns has seemed to settle, although there were still a few queries, these were a lot less than last month.

E103/24 Update on Sites Managed for Biodiversity

Members noted update on the number of sites which are managed for biodiversity.

The Chair said that he was aware that an issue was raised in the past and this was why this list was before members tonight.

The Chair said that it was his understanding that these were sites which currently fall under our grass maintenance role within Council policy and enquired whether any of the new ones added on do not fit within our grass policy scheme.

The Assistant Director of Environmental Services (AD: ES) advised it did not.

The Chair referred to item 3.3 – No. 25 Clonoe roundabout and said that our policy was widely debated by Councillors in the previous mandate, where there were a limited number of roundabouts that Council maintain which were only gateway roundabouts i.e.

Ballygawley, Castledawson and one or two other roundabouts at the most. He remembered clearly a discussion had ensued at a number of meetings in relation to Tamnamore not being considered as a gateway roundabout into Mid Ulster. For grass maintenance, policy states that it has to fall inside a village within a 30mph zone and 300 plus residents and said that before proceeding with these, that this be investigated to make sure that those listed meets the policy for our grass maintenance rather than selecting a few from somewhere and including them into this. The Chair felt if these sites did not quality within policy that they should not be on this list.

The AD: ES advised that Clonoe roundabout was done historically going back to Dungannon legacy Council with reasons being raised at the last full Council meeting. The AD: ES stated that as it was a small roundabout, this was why it was selected for a wildflower trial to see how it would progress, with requests being made on a number of occasions. He said that Clonoe roundabout was a trial and going forward it would be used as a potential for other areas.

The Chair felt that was reasonable enough but should not be on our grass maintenance schedule as Tamnamore was removed as it was a 40mph zone and not deemed as a gateway roundabout. The Chair said that it could end up that people on the floor adding in roundabouts and places from all over and this was a reason why there was a need to be clear and stick to policy.

Councillor McAleer said that his issue did not relate to this particular issue and referred to agenda item 11, item 3.5 – Loughshore Community Services, Moortown and advised that they had received a grant for wildflower on the Battery Road and enquired whether this would be included at some point or was this something that was separate.

Councillor Quinn said that he had raised this issue last month and would certainly welcome Clonoe being added and was also aware of it being a legacy Council matter, but adding wildflower to the roundabout may stop people driving over it which would certainly be welcome. The member advised that there was wildflower planting down at Washingbay Park through Lough Neagh Partnership and given the walkways around Washingbay and the Park that lead up to the Holy River, felt that this would be an ideal location to plant wildflowers to see how it progresses and very welcome for the area. The member said that by looking over the 17 areas, felt that there was a good spread and Coalisland Recycling Centre was always one that caught the eye for anyone that used it due to staff always looking after it and good to see that continuing on. He was aware of some more being added to the list and hoped that this could be expanded over the next few years. He referred to discussion last month regarding Moneymore carriageway where it was indicated that this could prove costly to plant the wildflowers and enquired how much it would actually cost to set this up i.e. costs by acreage or by metre etc or how does costings be identified. The member felt that it would be well worth the expense as he had seen for himself some of these places which were striking and something different to what we were used to and after raising this matter last month, he was inundated with photos from other areas like Rotterdam and Amsterdam and commended the Council in taking the initiative for bringing this forward.

The Chair advised that the AD: ES had stated last month that there were daffodils planted on the Moneymore central reservation and the beauty of these flowers is that they reoccur each year, wildflowers would have to be mowed down and replanted. He

agreed that wildflowers were nice when they were flowering but when they die off, there could be a lot of complaints being received about why they were not being mowed off.

Councillor McGuigan felt that this should be referred back to the working group as there was a good piece of work done in relation to grass cutting and opportunities for planting wildflower with costings being carried out at that time. The member felt that we should revert back to this situation again and have another working group meeting to try and work this all out as there were a lot of issues being raised. The member said that in the past this was all mapped out with all parties having a copy of where wildflowers should be planted, and costings involved and felt that Council should refer back to this again as there was a potential for getting into another large discussion. The member said if the working group was reinstated, then we could proceed down that direction and bring a proposal to committee out of that group.

Councillor Robinson adding on from Councillor McGuigan's comments advised that he had sat on that working group and felt that it didn't sit well as part of the working group proposals to stop cutting the grass at the Ballygawley roundabout. The member said that he had discussions in the past with the AD: ES in relation to the new roundabout at Ballygawley which was built when the A4 was upgraded. Ballygawley was the gateway from Northern Ireland up to Donegal for southern traffic and was an eyesore and each year it was disgraceful and like a wilderness. Under the working group proposals, it was suggested to stop cutting grass at the old roundabout which would make it very poor looking for anyone travelling through from Dublin or Cork to Donegal and would portray a very bad image of the Clogher Valley and indeed Mid Ulster Council. The member said that it would be beneficial if something could be done to have this new roundabout included for maintenance. He said that he was aware that it was owned by DfI, and he had spoken to their representatives who were willing to let someone else maintain it.

The Chair advised that there had been a number of discussions at meetings which Councillors may remember in relation to the Ballygawley junction which was debated and refused along with Tamnamore and felt there was a need to be careful not to pick one or two that shouldn't be on the list due to requests coming from all over.

The AD: ES in response to Councillor McAleer's query advised that the scheme in Moortown was separate to this as it was funded through the Live Here Love Here Small Grants scheme.

The AD: ES in response to Councillor Quinn's query regarding Washingbay advised that he was not familiar with this issue but could investigate. In response to query regarding wildflower costings, he advised costings were made at the working group but did not have them at hand tonight but were provided to the working group.

The AD: ES in response to Councillor McGuigan's query advised that this could certainly be brought back to the working group but sought clarity on whether those identified tonight could be progressed or would this be a decision for the working group.

The Chair enquired if Councillor McGuigan was making a proposal that this all goes back to the working group which could be convened within the next few weeks.

Councillor McGuigan agreed that this would be his proposal. The member said that we started this piece of work and should be focussing on it and issues raised by Councillor Robinson should be included and discussed within the working group to see how we can progress going forward in terms of what we can do and what the costings were. The member felt if there were increased costs and we don't have the budget, then we have to make decisions as we cannot do everything that was requested, but certainly we need to have that discussion and try and move forward in a positive way. He referred to the biodiversity project in front of members which was all good but felt there was a need to manage that.

The Chair felt that this was a fair proposal and at the working group Officers could outline costings and whether maintenance includes grass being cut twice per year. He said that when the wildflowers die it looks unsightly but was important that the general public was aware that it could be like that for a few months until it is mowed off until the end of the season.

Councillor Quinn seconded the proposal.

Councillor Quinn said that he was happy to second the proposal to a point but would have been happy to let the list in front of members tonight go through and continue on with the working group for additional ones thereafter. He said we need to make sure that the working group is up and running as soon as possible to keep momentum going as we don't want this being done in October or November time as it would be too late when spring arrives next year. It would be beneficial to have it brought back to committee next month if possible.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that Working Group discuss options and concerns around Biodiversity managed sites and a report is brought back to the Environment Committee.

E104/24 Eco Speak Competition 2024

Members noted update on the Eco Speak Competition for Mid Ulster Primary Schools.

The Chair advised that the AD: ES and himself was on the judging panel of the final which was greatly supported with approximately 22 schools taking part. The Chair said that it was a great return as the event had not run from 2019 and was something to build on, with a high standard of competitors and great to hear some of the new ideas coming forward. The Chair hoped that this will be another huge success next year again.

Councillor Robinson congratulated the Council and commended the event and said that it was great to see a pupil from his old school, Augher Central Primary School winning the competition.

E105/24 Fairtrade Re-Certification

Members noted update on the re-certification of the Council as a Fairtrade Community.

E106/24 Live Here Love Here Small Grants Scheme 2023/24 Update

Members noted update on the completed projects that received funding under the 2023 Live Here Love Here, Small Grants Funding Scheme for Mid Ulster District Council.

The Chair referred to his own DEA area, Dungannon, Killyman and Dungannon Swifts Charitable Trust benefiting from the scheme and was good to see local groups getting money back from this as it was something we pay into as a Council.

E107/24 Northern Ireland Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste Management (LACMW) Report for October to December 2023

Members noted update on the 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 3 of 2023/24 from October to December.

E108/24 Entertainment Licensing Applications

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

E109/24 Building Control Workload

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

E110/24 Building Control 23/24 Workload Overview

Members noted previously circulated report which provided an update on the workload analysis for Building Control Service from 1st April 2023 to 31st March.

E111/24 Dual Language Signage Requests

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

Live broadcast ended at 7.24 pm.

Local Government (NI) Act 2014 - Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Quinn 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 E112/24 to E120/24.

Matters for Decision

- E112/24 Cottagequinn Cemetery Capital Scheme Contract Award
- E113//24 Connecting Pomeroy Project
- E114/24 Internal Directional Signage and District Road Name Signage Tender
- E115/24 Procurement Framework for Washroom Services

Matters for Information

- E116/24 Environment Committee Confidential Minutes of meeting held on 16 April 2024
- E117/24 Capital Framework – ICT Contracts Update
- E118/24 Capital Framework – IST Contracts Update
- E119/24 Off-Street Car Parking Update 2023-2024
- E120/24 Structural Engineering Services Update

E121/24 Duration of Meeting

The meeting was called for 7.00 pm and ended at 7.50 pm.

CHAIR _____

DATE _____

Annex A – Introductory Remarks from the Chairperson

Good evening and welcome to the Council's [Policy & Resources/Environment/Development] Committee in the Chamber, [Cookstown/Dungannon/Magherafelt].

I specifically welcome the public watching us through the Live Broadcast. The Live Broadcast as aforesaid, will run for the period of our Open Business but will end just before we move into Confidential Business. I will let you know before this happens.

I would remind the public and press that taking photographs of proceedings or using any means to enable anyone not present to see or hear proceedings, or making a simultaneous oral report of the proceedings are not permitted.

Thank you and we will now move to the agenda.

Report on	Environment Directorate Departmental Plan 2024/25
Date of Meeting	11 th June 2024
Reporting Officer	Anne-Marie Campbell, Strategic Director Environment
Contact Officer	Anne-Marie Campbell, Strategic Director Environment

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To inform Members of the content of the annual Departmental Plan for the Environment Directorate for the period 2024/25.
2.0	Background
2.1	A Departmental Plan has been prepared for the Environment Directorate for 2024/25 which will contribute towards the Council's Corporate Objectives.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The Environment Directorate is responsible for the following function areas across Mid-Ulster District Council: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Services • Property Services • Technical Services
3.2	A detailed breakdown of these services is included in the Departmental Plan (see Appendix 1).
3.3	The Departmental Plan for 2024/25 includes the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purpose, scope and responsibilities of the services; • Customers and stakeholders; • Overview of performance 2023/24; • Budget and Staffing compliment; • Services work plan for 2024/25; • Risks for the Directorate.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: Within current resources.

	Human: Within current resources.
	Risk Management: As identified.
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: None
	Rural Needs Implications: None
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are asked to note the contents of this report and the Environment Directorate Departmental Plan for 2024/25.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 – Departmental Plan 2024/25 for Environment Directorate



Comhairle Ceantair
Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster
District Council

ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE PLAN - 2024 / 2025

Date

Consulted within staff team

01/ 05 /2024

Discussed & signed off by Director

07/ 05 /2024

CONTENT

SECTION	TITLE
	Foreword
1.0	OVERALL PURPOSE & SCOPE OF THE DEPARTMENT
1.1	Purpose and scope of the department
1.2	Responsibilities
1.3	Customers & Stakeholders
1.4	Performance Overview in 2023/24
2.0	IMPROVING OUR SERVICES AND MANAGING PERFORMANCE - 2024/25
2.1	Budget - 2024/25
2.2	Staffing Complement Department – 2024/25
2.3	Service Plan – 2024/ 25
2.4	Risk Management of Department
3.0	OUR STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS
3.1	Equality Duty
3.2	Rural Needs Duty

1.0 OVERALL PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THE DEPARTMENT

1.1 Purpose and Scope of the Department

The Environment Directorate is responsible for contributing to the improvement of the local environment through the provision of all waste management, cleansing and grounds maintenance services. Expenditure on Environmental Services accounts for about one third of the Council Budget. The Directorate is also responsible for Assets Development, Building Control & Licensing, Capital Planning & Strategic Projects, Corporate Health and Safety/Emergency Planning. The Directorate is also responsible for delivery of the Capital Programme for the Council.

1.2 Responsibilities

The Environment Directorate is specifically responsible for the following services:

- Refuse and Recycling kerbside collections (domestic and commercial)
- Provision of Recycling Centres
- Waste Transfer Facilities
- Landfill Site Management/Aftercare
- Delivery of waste related capital projects
- Waste recycling, treatment and processing
- Bulky waste collections
- Removal of fly tipping and abandoned vehicles
- Street and road cleansing
- Environmental Education and Awareness
- Grounds maintenance
- Provision of Cemeteries
- Building maintenance and repair services of Council properties
- Compliance activities to ensure works and services enable Council to meet statutory and regulatory requirements in relation to its Building and Assets
- Management, maintenance, replacement and disposal of the Council's fleet
- Management, development and performance monitoring of Council's Off Street Car Parks
- Front end service delivery of key amenities including Public Toilets
- Assessment of Building Control plans and assessment of building works in progress to ensure as is reasonably practicable, Building Regulations are not contravened.
- The administration of Property Certificates, Street Naming and Property Numbering for all new streets, The Dual Language Signage Policy.
- The inspection of Dangerous Structures in accordance with "The Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1907 – Section 30
- The enforcement of The Energy Performance of Buildings Regulations to ensure the production of Energy Performance Certificates, Display Energy Certificates and Air Conditioning Certificates.

- The Licensing of Places of Entertainment, Premises for the storage of Petroleum, Cinemas, Venues for Civil Marriages and Civil Partnerships in accordance with the relevant legislation.
- Corporate Health and Safety/Emergency Planning
- Capital Planning and Capital Construction Delivery
- Bus Shelters & Signage
- Sustainability & Biodiversity

1.3 Customers & Stakeholders

Customers & Stakeholders
• Council (Officers, Elected Members, SMT, SLT, Internal Client Services)
• MLAs/MPs
• Funding Bodies (e.g. DAERA, NIEA, DfC, EA, SEUPB, LCF, Sport NI, SIF, MSW, LUF)
• Members of the General Public / ratepayers
• External Agencies, including Central Government and District Council Working Groups (e.g. Transport NI, DfI Roads, NIW, NIE, BT, NIEA, LPS, SGN, PSNI, NIFRS, NIHE, HSE, WISHNI, PHA, Mid Ulster Disability Forum, Sport NI, NI Council Waste Forum, NI Technical Advisors Group, NI Council Grounds and Parks Forum, NILGA, NI amenity Council, NI Sustainable Development Forum, Local Government Climate Action Network, Fairtrade Foundations, Energy Managers Forum, Logistics UK, ROSCPG, LASAN, Building Control NI, Licensing Forum etc.)
• Accreditation Bodies (e.g. OHSAS 45001)
• Trade Union representatives
• Community Groups, residents associations, schools etc.
• Environmental NGO's (e.g. The Conservation Volunteers, Sustainable NI, NIEL, Woodlands Trust, Groundwork NI, Ulster Wildlife, RSPB, BTO, BRT)
• Local Businesses, commercial/trade customers, service providers, utility providers, ICT Consultants / Contractors, Architects, Agents, Engineers, Solicitors, Estate Agents etc.

1.4 Performance Overview in 2023/24 (Retrospective Review)

2023/2024 Performance Response/ Overview (What we achieved- Measured Activities)	End of Year Progress Status: Activity was - Completed /Commenced/ Other
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To enhance personal learning and development within department 	Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To recycle/compost at 60% of our household waste 	Completed - during Q2 2023/24
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To prepare a Council Sustainability Strategy and Climate Change Action Plan 	Completed - agreed at Climate Change Working Group in December 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To progress Digital Transformation Project within department 	Completed – missed bins project / webpage/portal live from March 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To undertake a service rationalisation review in relation to the provision of Recycling Centres and Grounds Maintenance Services 	Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To obtain ISO45001 accreditation for Cookstown and Moneymore Recycling Centres and Forthill Cemetery 	Not commenced (delayed as site not prioritised in Corporate roll out during 23/24)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To review and revise the Council’s statutory Waste Management Plan (WMP) 	Commenced – draft addendum to WMP prepared
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To undertake capital enhancement schemes and health and safety works at Council cemeteries 	Completed – capital scheme at Coolhill Cemetery undertaken
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other - To achieve recognition/success in NI Best Kept Awards and Ulster in Bloom competition 	Completed

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other – introduce new Community Reuse schemes for used paint and school uniforms 	Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90% of all domestic applications were responded to by BC within 21 days 	Completed – 90.4%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90% of all amended plans submitted were responded to by BC within 14 days 	Completed - 91%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase Building Notice and Regularisation online Applications to 75% 	Substantially completed – 69.4%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase Property Certificate applications received online to 80% 	Completed – 85.5%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15% of Domestic Full Plan Applications to be submitted online 	Completed – 26%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporate Health and Safety Service will Audit and Inspect 30 Council facilities, 20 revisits and update of 4 procedures on the basis of risk and produce Corrective Action Plans; and 6 premises externally appraised for accreditation to ISO45001 	Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of a Capital Framework Programme for the period 2023 – 27 (Year 1 of 4) 	Completed – new framework agreed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement the Cyclical Fleet and Diverse Plant Replacement Policy including the continued application and trial of alternative fuelled Vehicles/Diverse Plant into Council’s Fleet 	Completed – new cyclical fleet and diverse plant replacement programme and approval for HVO fuel trial
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued Implementation of Community led Public Convenience Provision (Year 2 of 3) 	Ongoing – Community options being explored
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of Capital Projects in line with the Capital Programme, funder deadlines and budget 	<p>Projects completed during 2023-2024 are detailed below indicating projects completed and costs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13 Projects completed at £6.78m. (all Communities and Place) • Value of ICT / survey ancillary costs was circa £400k for these projects

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently Technical Services are responsible for management of 14 ICT teams with a total ICT fees value of circa £1.9m • 1 further projects commenced in 2023/2024 which are to complete out construction phase by Q1 of 24/25 at a total value of approx £2.7m
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical Services delivery in respect of Bus Shelters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued progress of the roll out of shelters throughout the district and review of internal council delivery process. • Bus Shelter policy amendment approved by Council in Dec 23/Jan 24
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity has been made in the following work stream as detailed in link signage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing framework for signage supplier and work continues to roll out a Programme Dual language signage in 2023/24 to Council Assets and included in the Capital Project delivery.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New procurement process scheduled for Q1 25/26
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of Capital programme that contributes to regeneration through investment, enhancing facilities and for local people aligned to Corporate Improvement Objective 4 	<p>Completed through Year 1 of 4 Capital framework implementation and ongoing delivery</p>

2.0 IMPROVING OUR SERVICES AND MANAGING PERFORMANCE - 2024/25

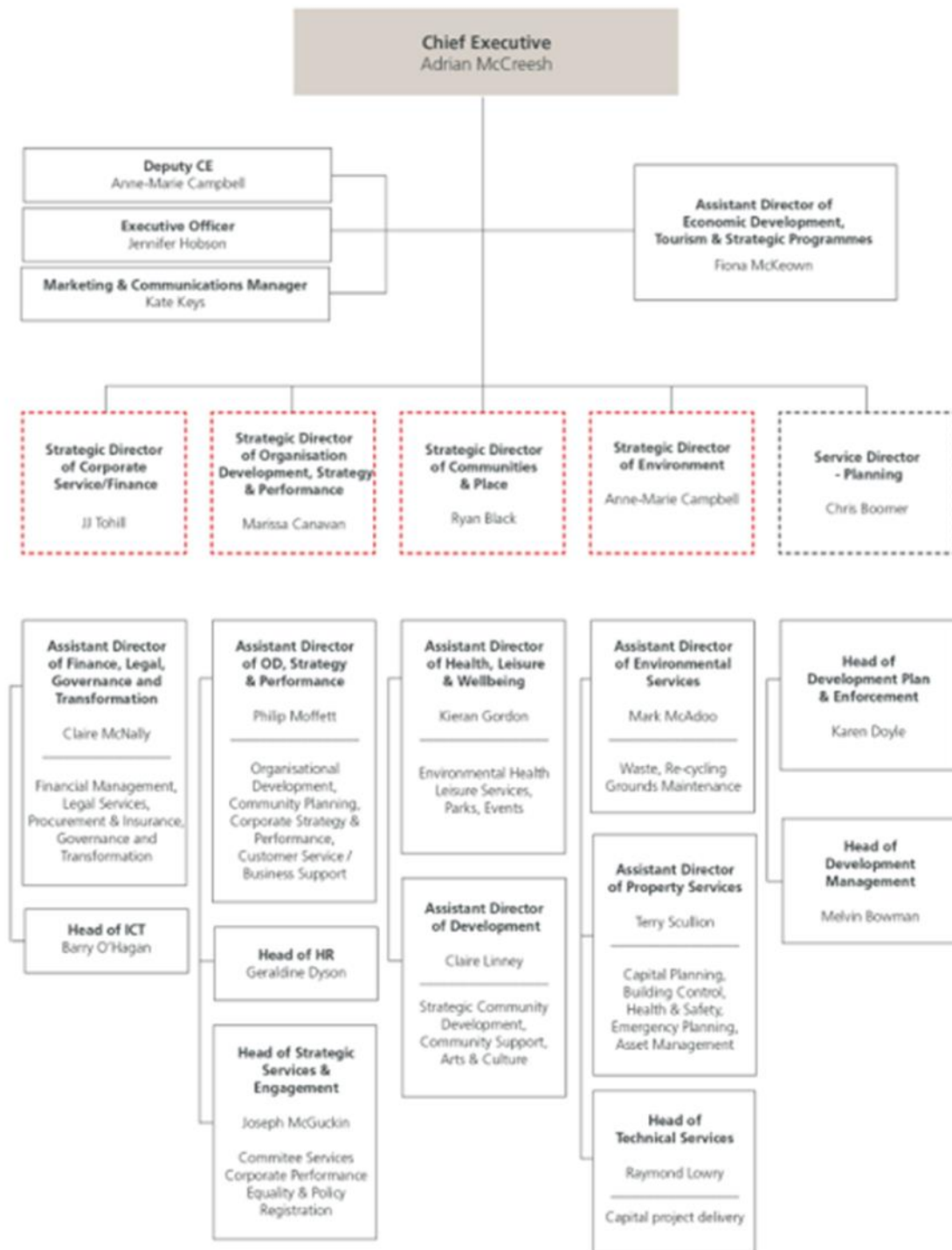
The following tables confirm the resources, financial and people, which the Department has access to throughout 2024-25 to deliver its actions, activities and core business.

2.1 Budget 2024/25

Budget Headings	£
Environmental Services	18,560,000
Property Services	7,160,095
Technical Services	390,107*
Strategic Director	418,600*
Gross Budget	26,528, 802
Income	(2,257,580)
Net Budget for 2024-25	24,271,222

**as per 2023/24 budget provision, 2024/25 TBC*

2.2 Departmental Services - Council Structure - 2024/25



Staffing	No. of Staff
Assistant Director	2
Head of Service	1
Managers	12
Officers	34
Remaining Team	296
Total	345
<i>(Excludes weekend & Casual employees)</i> <i>(Excludes Business Support who will be included in OD Plan)</i>	

2.3 Service Work Plan - 2024/25

This plan outlines the core activities and actions, which will form your Department (by Services) or Departmental Service Work Plan for 2024-2025.

This is a high-level capture of the Department and the Service outcomes /activities/measures as well as some improvement undertakings which the services will focus on throughout 2024-2025.

The Plan links to hierarchy of other plans and measures such as:

1. Community Plan
2. Strategic plans e.g. Local Development Plan
3. 2024-2028 Corporate Plan priorities,
4. Annual Corporate Performance Improvement (PIP plan)
5. Corporate Improvement Project Plans (CIP's)
6. Statutory Indicators,
7. Corporate Health Indicators

Mid Ulster District Council's Improvement Objectives for 2024 to 2025 are:

1. Mid Ulster District Council will seek to reduce the environmental impacts of our own activities and will contribute to the improvement of the wider environment through local action
2. We will ensure a more connected Mid Ulster where new technologies and ways of working, empower citizens to get the best services that matter to them
3. To create cleaner neighbourhoods, where everyone takes responsibility for their waste and environment
4. We will contribute to the on-going regeneration of our district by delivering a capital investment programme, enhancing facilities and opportunities for local people

SERVICES WORK PLAN 2024/25

Service Name: Environmental Services						
Link to Community Plan Theme:			Align to Corporate Plan Theme			
CMP 3.1 Education & Skills - Our People are better qualified & more skilled			Theme 1 : Our Service Delivery			
Service Objective (What do we want to achieve?):		What are the key activities we will deliver (actions):	By When (Date?)	Service Name /Lead Officers(s)	What difference will it make? (Outcomes)	How Will we Know? (Measures) clear measurement e.g. %, #, £, date etc.
No.001	To continue to enhance personal learning and development within Environmental Services	Refuse Collection Street Cleansing Recycling Centres Grounds Maintenance Cemeteries Sustainability Biodiversity	Apr 2024 – Mar 2025	M McAdoo D Richardson	Staff more engaged and supported to help realise organisational objectives and priorities. Better developed and motivated employees More flexible workforce able to undertake different roles	Number of employees involved in the PCSP (Personal Contribution and Support) Process Number of employees who achieve ILM L3 Leadership Award or higher qualification Number of officers achieving Operator Competence Certificate

						Number of operatives up skilled as relief HGV or full time OAV drivers
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SERVICES WORK PLAN 2024/25

Service Name: Environmental Services						
Link to Community Plan Theme:			Align to Corporate Plan Theme			
CMP 2.2 Infrastructure - We increasingly value our environment & enhance it for our children			Theme 3: Being the Best Council Possible			
Service Objective (What do we want to achieve?):		What are the key activities we will deliver (actions):	By When (Date?)	Service Name /Lead Officers(s)	What difference will it make? (Outcomes)	How Will we Know? (Measures) clear measurement e.g. %, #, £, date etc.
No.002	To recycle/compost at least 60% of household waste collected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing collections of kerbside residual, dry recyclable and compostable waste every fortnight (on alternate weeks) Operation of network of Recycling Centres/Transfer Stations Delivery of Recycling Environmental Education Programme 	Apr 2024 – Mar 2025	D Richardson K McGowan	<p>At least 43,000 tonnes of household waste recycled or composted</p> <p>No more than 1,000 tonnes of household waste sent to landfill</p>	<p>Quarterly returns (to Waste Data Flow)</p> <p>Quarterly and annual waste statistics NIEA reports</p>

SERVICES WORK PLAN 2024/25

Service Name: Environmental Services						
Link to Community Plan Theme:		Align to Corporate Plan Theme				
<i>CMP 2.2 Infrastructure - We increasingly value our environment & enhance it for our children</i>		<i>Theme 1 : Our Service Delivery</i>				
Service Objective (What do we want to achieve?):	What are the key activities we will deliver (actions):	By When (Date?)	Service Name /Lead Officers(s)	What difference will it make? (Outcomes)	How Will we Know? (Measures) clear measurement e.g. %, #, £, date etc.	
No.003	To carry out public consultation exercises on (i) Recycling Centre Opening Hours and (ii) Sustainability Strategy & Climate Change Action Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct two separate 12 week public consultation exercises Analyse responses and report findings to (i) Rationalisation Working Group and (ii) Climate Change Working Group Present final reports and recommendations to Environment Committee 	Apr 2024 – Dec 2024	D Richardson K McGowan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saving/efficiencies from rationalisation of Recycling Centre opening hours Range of cross-departmental actions agreed to achieve 20% reductions in carbon emissions by 2028 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Recycling Centre opening hours in operation Final version Sustainability and Climate Change Action Plan approved by Council for 2024 to 2028 Stage 4 of NI Climate Adaptation Planning Cycle achieved

SERVICES WORK PLAN 2024/25

Service Name: Environmental Services						
Link to Community Plan Theme:			Align to Corporate Plan Theme			
CMP 4.2 Health & Wellbeing - We have better availability to the right service, in the right place at the right time.			Theme 1 : Our Service Delivery			
Service Objective (What do we want to achieve?):		What are the key activities we will deliver (actions):	By When (Date?)	Service Name /Lead Officers(s)	What difference will it make? (Outcomes)	How Will we Know? (Measures) clear measurement e.g. %, #, £, date etc.
No.004	Conduct further phase of refuse collection route optimisation transformation project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design and implement new routes for 3 No additional One Armed Vehicles (OAV) for rural collections in Dungannon area Design and implement new routes for 1 additional 32 tonne refuse collection vehicle in Cookstown area 	Apr 2024 – Mar 2025	D Richardson C Sinnamon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved health and safety on rural routes serviced by OAV Improved efficiency on routes collected by 32 tonne RCV Improved/simplified communications with affected householders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in number of accidents on rural routes Reduced return journeys to waste transfer station Number of complaints received from residents

SERVICES WORK PLAN 2024/25

Service Name: Environmental Services						
Link to Community Plan Theme:			Align to Corporate Plan Theme			
CMP 4.2 Health & Wellbeing - We have better availability to the right service, in the right place at the right time.			Theme 1 : Our Service Delivery			
Service Objective (What do we want to achieve?):		What are the key activities we will deliver (actions):	By When (Date?)	Service Name /Lead Officers(s)	What difference will it make? (Outcomes)	How Will we Know? (Measures) clear measurement e.g. %, #, £, date etc.
No.005	Award new major contract for the treatment of all residual waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treatment of approx. 35,000 tonnes of residual waste per annum collected from three waste transfer stations in Mid Ulster Appoint consultants to assist with tender process (via waste related services framework) <p>Agree joint procurement / approach with Omagh & Fermanagh Council</p>	Apr 2024 – Mar 2025	M McAdoo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborative approach to major waste procurement (contract value of over £30m) Realise economies of scale from joint procurement OJEU compliant tender process Contribution to waste recycling and landfill diversion targets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Award of new contract by 31st March 2025 Overcome potential legal challenges to the procurement process New competitive contract rate (gate fee) achieved with resultant

						savings in expenditure
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SERVICES WORK PLAN 2024/25

Service Name: Environmental Services						
Link to Community Plan Theme:			Align to Corporate Plan Theme			
CMP 5.1 Vibrant & safe Communities - We are a safer Community			Theme 3: Being the Best Council Possible			
Service Objective (What do we want to achieve?):		What are the key activities we will deliver (actions):	By When (Date?)	Service Name /Lead Officers(s)	What difference will it make? (Outcomes)	How Will we Know? (Measures) clear measurement e.g. %, #, £, date etc.
No.006	To obtain ISO45001 accreditation for Cookstown Recycling Centres and Forthill Cemetery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate site visits/audits by external surveillance auditor Address any non-conformances and implement corrective actions identified during external audit process 	Apr 2024– Mar 2025	C Sinnamon E Murray	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved safety facilities on site Reduction in site accidents/incidents Enhanced reputation as exemplar facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surveillance feedback Site accreditation Receipt of certification

SERVICES WORK PLAN 2024/25

Service Name: Environmental Services						
Link to Community Plan Theme:			Align to Corporate Plan Theme			
<i>CMP 4.2 Health & Wellbeing - We have better availability to the right service, in the right place at the right time.</i>			<i>Theme 1 : Our Service Delivery</i>			
Service Objective (What do we want to achieve?):	What are the key activities we will deliver (actions):	By When (Date?)	Service Name /Lead Officers(s)	What difference will it make? (Outcomes)	How Will we Know? (Measures) clear measurement e.g. %, #, £, date etc.	
No.007	To review and revise the Council's statutory Waste Management Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete addendum to existing Waste Management Plan in conjunction with appointed consultants (RPS) • Undertake public consultation exercise if deemed necessary 	Apr 2024 – Dec 2024	M McAdoo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compliance with the requirements of the Circular Economy Package (CEP) targets • Compliance with requirements of Waste and Contaminated Land Order (NI) 1997 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing WMP reviewed and addendum completed • New WMP determined by DAERA

SERVICES WORK PLAN 2024/25

Service Name: Environmental Services						
Link to Community Plan Theme:			Align to Corporate Plan Theme			
CMP 4.2 Health & Wellbeing - We have better availability to the right service, in the right place at the right time.			Theme 1 : Our Service Delivery			
Service Objective (What do we want to achieve?):		What are the key activities we will deliver (actions):	By When (Date?)	Service Name /Lead Officers(s)	What difference will it make? (Outcomes)	How Will we Know? (Measures) clear measurement e.g. %, #, £, date etc.
No.008	To progress capital projects for Council Cemeteries, Recycling Centres and Depots	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete capital improvement scheme at Cottagequinn cemetery Complete business case and approval for installation of Columbarian wall at Forthill Cemetery <p>Secure 50% from HWACAP for provision of new Recycling Centre in Maghera</p> <p>Undertake site selection study / analysis for new depots in Cookstown and Dungannon</p>	Apr 2024 – Mar 2025	M McAdoo D Richardson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced aesthetic appearance and improved access to cemetery facilities Increased capacity for burials in the future Safe memorial space for cemetery visitors and workers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capital schemes completed within time and budget Number of dangerous headstones removed or repaired Increase in number of available burial plots

SERVICES WORK PLAN 2024/25

Service Name: Property Services: Building Control & Licensing						
Link to Community Plan Theme:			Align to Corporate Plan Theme			
CMP 4.2 Health & Wellbeing - We have better availability to the right service, in the right place at the right time.			Theme 1 : Our Service Delivery			
Service Objective (What do we want to achieve?):		What are the key activities we will deliver (actions):	By When (Date?)	Service Name /Lead Officers(s)	What difference will it make? (Outcomes)	How Will we Know? (Measures) clear measurement e.g. %, #, £, date etc.
No.009	Increased online Building Control service delivery	70% of Building Notice and Regularisation online Applications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise awareness of online facility with companies which make multiple applications • Encourage applicants to make applications online Ensure all online applications are validated daily	31/03/2025	Senior Building Control Officers	Customers can avail of online facilities thereby have access to services 24/7	Number of applications received from the online portal for Building Notices and Regularisation Certificates
		Increase Property Certificate applications received online to 85% <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continually raise awareness of online facility with Solicitors • Actively encourage non-participating Solicitors to utilise the online portal. Staff to prioritise online applications to highlight the benefits of the online portal	31/03/2025	Senior Building Control Officers	Customers can avail of online facilities thereby have access to services 24/7. More efficient service for online applications	Number of applications received from the online portal property certificate applications

		<p>Increase to 30% of Domestic Full Plan Applications are submitted online</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise awareness of online facility with agents who regularly make applications • Encourage applicants to make applications online • Provide necessary IT equipment (I-Pad pros, second monitor etc.) to all relevant officers. 	31/03/2025	Senior Building Control Officers	Customers can avail of online facilities thereby have access to services 24/7	Number of applications received from the online portal for full plans application
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SERVICES WORK PLAN 2024/25

Service Name: Property Services: Building Control & Licensing						
Link to Community Plan Theme:			Align to Corporate Plan Theme			
<i>CMP 2.2 Infrastructure - We increasingly value our environment & enhance it for our children</i>			<i>Theme 1 : Our Service Delivery</i>			
Service Objective (What do we want to achieve?):		What are the key activities we will deliver (actions):	By When (Date?)	Service Name /Lead Officers(s)	What difference will it make? (Outcomes)	How Will we Know? (Measures) clear measurement e.g. %, #, £, date etc.
No.010	Realisation of Building Control Energy performance compliance	Enforcement of Energy Performance of Buildings Regulations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspection of premises for compliance • Provide additional information to estate agents • Enforcement in relation to non-compliant estate agents and premises All new Buildings to have an EPC in place where applicable	31/03/2025	Senior Building Control Officers	Increase in EPB Legislation compliance from Estate Agents in accordance with the agreed Procedural Document	Monitoring and enforcement will show that there will be a measured reduction in the number of non-compliant estate agents due to the risk of receiving a Penalty Charge Notice

SERVICES WORK PLAN 2024/25

Service Name: Property Services: Corporate Health & Safety/Emergency Planning						
Link to Community Plan Theme:			Align to Corporate Plan Theme			
CMP 5.1 Vibrant & safe Communities - We are a safer Community			Theme 3: Being the Best Council Possible			
Service Objective (What do we want to achieve?):		What are the key activities we will deliver (actions):	By When (Date?)	Service Name /Lead Officers(s)	What difference will it make? (Outcomes)	How Will we Know? (Measures) clear measurement e.g. %, #, £, date etc.
No.011	Provision of workplaces in compliance with Legislation, and embedding a Health and Safety Culture	Officers in the Corporate Health and Safety Service will Audit and Inspect 30 Council facilities on the basis of risk and produce Corrective Action Plans for these.	31/03/2025	Corporate Health and Safety Officers	The Health and Safety inspection will be arranged in conjunction with the Service Manager to identify and assess the risks in the workplace and the management of controls to ensure that so far as is reasonably practicable work spaces are safe.	Details as to the numbers of inspections undertaken will be provided monthly to Councils Senior Management Team and quarterly to Councils Health and Safety Committee
		Officers in the Corporate Health and Safety Service will undertake 20 revisits to Council facilities to assess compliance with the recommendations made in these Corrective Action Plans	31/03/2025	Corporate Health and Safety Officers	Upon completion of the Corrective action report a revisit to the facility will be undertaken to ensure recommendations have been completed and so far, as is reasonably practicable work spaces are safe	Details as to the number of inspections undertaken will be provided monthly to Councils Senior Management Team and quarterly to Councils Health

						and Safety Committee
		<p>Corporate Health and Safety Section will review 4 corporate health and safety procedures and present these to Council Senior Management Team for Approval</p> <p>Once approved the Corporate Health and Safety Team will make these procedures available on the Council Intranet</p>	31 st March 2025	Corporate Health and Safety Manager	The review and consultation of these procedures will enhance and ensure the safe delivery of services, that are accessible, and customer focused	<p>Consultation on procedures will be consulted upon with Heads of Service, Councils Senior Management Team and the Health and Safety committee. When agreed the revised procedure will be uploaded to the Councils Health and Safety intranet site</p>

SERVICES WORK PLAN 2024/25

Service Name: Property Services: Asset Development					
Link to Community Plan Theme:			Align to Corporate Plan Theme		
CMP 2.2 Infrastructure - We increasingly value our environment & enhance it for our children			Theme 1 : Our Service Delivery		
Service Objective (What do we want to achieve?):	What are the key activities we will deliver (actions):	By When (Date?)	Service Name /Lead Officers(s)	What difference will it make? (Outcomes)	How Will we Know? (Measures) clear measurement e.g. %, #, £, date etc.
No.012	Implement the Cyclical Fleet and Diverse Plant Replacement Policy including the continued application and trial of alternative fuelled Vehicles/Diverse Plant into Council's Fleet	Deliver Year 2 Fleet & Diverse Plant Replacement Capital Programme (Plan 2023-2027): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchase replacement of fossil fuel derived vehicles/diverse plant (fleet items) on an annual basis Schedule replacement vehicles/diverse plant based on age and application. • Conduct regular benchmarking exercises with other companies/organisations in "next" practice green vehicle replacement programmes/ diverse plant /green technologies in order to reduce emissions (both GHG emissions and air pollutants) from vehicles used 	March 2025	Transport Manager & Fleet Officer	Minimise environmental impact and carbon footprint of Council's own activities Number of fleet items replaced against annual plan for year 2 Asset/disposal register updated Staff learning and development in completed Annual Review Programme completed Updated Fleet Safety Policy

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draw up annual procurement schedule for SMT including decarbonisation approach, scope, requirements, budgets etc. • Maintain asset/disposal register (e.g. auction items etc.) as per policy/protocol • Staff learning and development familiarisation programme/guidance materials in place for new fleet items, including an updated Fleet Safety Policy • Review and revise Capital programme plan 				
		<p>Purchasing up to two alternative fuel vehicles/diverse plant in year, and annually over the remaining years of the replacement programme.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benchmark (time series) fuel usage reports <p>This is subject to continued affordability and vehicle suitability for service applications</p>	March 2025	Transport Manager & Fleet Officer	Reduction in the Councils carbon foot print through less fuel usage.	<p>Minimum of Two vehicles to be purchased</p> <p>Production of time series annual Fuel Usage Reports</p>
		Implementation of HVO fuel trial and monitoring for Council's Diesel	December 2024	Transport Manager & Fleet Officer	Reduction in the Councils carbon foot print through less fuel usage.	Minimum of six month trail and reporting

		<p>fleet, focusing on HGV's in one of the three Depots:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benchmark (time series) fuel usage reports <p>This is subject to continued affordability and vehicle suitability for service applications</p>				<p>Production of time series annual Fuel Usage Reports</p> <p>Plan for further roll out, subject to budget</p>
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SERVICES WORK PLAN 2024/25

Service Name: Property Services: Asset Development						
Link to Community Plan Theme:			Align to Corporate Plan Theme			
CMP 2.1 Infrastructure - We are better connected through appropriate infrastructure			Theme 1 : Our Service Delivery			
Service Objective (What do we want to achieve?):		What are the key activities we will deliver (actions):	By When (Date?)	Service Name /Lead Officers(s)	What difference will it make? (Outcomes)	How Will we Know? (Measures) clear measurement e.g. %, #, £, date etc.
No.013	Implement the Computerised Asset Development & Maintenance Solution, and support the delivery of Estate Maintenance & Strategic Project Delivery	Review and procure a computerised maintenance system management system as the current Alcumcus system is coming to the end of its contract, aligned to Council's Digital Transformation approach.	March 2025	Asset Development Manager, Building Maintenance Officers & Assistant Director Property Services	A full systematic approach will be obtained for inspections, maintenance requests, operation and strategic management reporting and performance management	Implementation of the software based on the outcome of the procurement process by March 2025
		Develop a structured methodology to ensure asset maintenance undertaken is planned adequately resourced to achieve specific standards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A matrix for the allocation of maintenance resources will ensure budget matches the maintenance standard required for the property or asset type and frequency • Cognisance of maintenance investment required to 	December 2024	Asset Development Manager, Building Maintenance Officers	Maintenance resources will be allocated to council assets that are going to be required in the long term, and investment reduced on assets that are not	A minimum of 12 Stock Condition surveys for key building in estate completed, to include decarbonisation plan to align with Council's Sustainability and Climate Change actions.

		maintain schemes funded through Council's Capital Programme is recognised, captured and recorded				Investment plans for short, medium and long term assets identified and plans in place
		Planning and delivery of Maghera Regeneration Project with a value circa £10.5m funded by LUF, subject to budget and statutory consents.	March 2025	Assistant Director Property Services, Strategic Project Manager, & Strategic Projects Officer	Three elements substantially completed will have enhanced visitor experience with new/ refurbished public realm, business park and recreational provision to meet the public demand	Schemes will be substantially completed. Monthly board and regularly Committee update

SERVICES WORK PLAN 2024/25

Service Name: Property Services: Capital Planning						
Link to Community Plan Theme:			Align to Corporate Plan Theme			
CMP 2.1 Infrastructure - We are better connected through appropriate infrastructure			Theme 1 : Our Service Delivery			
Service Objective (What do we want to achieve?):		What are the key activities we will deliver (actions):	By When (Date?)	Service Name /Lead Officers(s)	What difference will it make? (Outcomes)	How Will we Know? (Measures) clear measurement e.g. %, #, £, date etc.
No.014	Implementation of Council's Capital Programme Planning, Strategic Asset management & Governance Framework	Conclude Council's Asset Management Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An agreed time bound action plan and that considers affordability challenges to effectively manage, utilise and maintain Council's assets, now and in the future. 	November 2024	Capital Planning Manager & Assistant Director Property Services	Methodology outlining how Council will actively review, manage and transact land and property going forward.	Completed Council's Asset Management Strategy in place.
		Development of Asset Management Policy for land and property matters, and Procedures.	December 2024	Capital Planning Manager and Land & Property Officer	Policy to provide a framework through which the Council will be able to effectively manage land and property transactions.	In line with approved policy/procedures: Rationalising or disposing of surplus or underperforming assets.

						Creation and acquisition of new assets. Enhancement and replacement of existing assets.
		Phased development and refinement of the Land and Property Asset Register.	March 2025	Capital Planning Manager and Land & Property Officer	Actively maintained comprehensive register describing all assets owned, leased and occupied by Council.	Phase implementation complete, i.e. 'Parent' Assets assessed, and 'Child' Assets identified and mapped. Property data attributes recorded.
		Development and Oversight of a Capital Framework Programme for the period 2024 – 28 (Year 1 of 4)	2024 – 28	Capital Planning Manager, Financial Management Information Officer and Assistant Director Property Services	Forward programme planning and robust governance to ensure a successful programme.	Agreed Council framework. Regular oversight reporting on implementation and delivery by others

SERVICES WORK PLAN 2024/25

Service Name: Technical Services						
Link to Community Plan Theme:			Align to Corporate Plan Theme			
<i>CMP 2.1 Infrastructure - We are better connected through appropriate infrastructure</i>			<i>Theme 1 : Our Service Delivery</i>			
Service Objective (What do we want to achieve?):		What are the key activities we will deliver (actions):	By When (Date?)	Service Name /Lead Officers(s)	What difference will it make? (Outcomes)	How Will we Know? (Measures) clear measurement e.g. %, #, £, date etc.
No.015	Delivery of capital projects in line with the capital framework, funders deadlines, all on programme and budget.	Capital Projects Define / review /implement process for Project Management of Capital Projects / Brexit / Protocol / Ukraine Conflict etc	March 2025	Johnny McNeill, Eamon Gallogly & Paddy Conlon (HoS)	Improved IT access to ensure projects can continue to progress through the various RIBA stages 0-4	Programme delays will be evident if projects are not progressed. Monthly ICT & IST reporting
		Bus Shelter – Define / review /implement processes for Bus Shelter delivery	March 2025	Johnny McNeill (TS Officers)	By progression of this function the full implementation of the Bus Shelters can be delivered within the district	Report to Council on monthly basis will record progress made.
		Signage – Continue signage delivery for facilities in accordance signage programme.	March 2025	Johnny McNeill & Paddy Conlon (HoS)	By progression of this function the full implementation of the dual language signage will be rolled out to all facility venues	Report to Council when required on progress made.

SERVICES WORK PLAN 2024/25

Service Name: Technical Services						
Link to Community Plan Theme:			Align to Corporate Plan Theme			
CMP 2.2 Infrastructure - We increasingly value our environment & enhance it for our children			Theme 2: Leadership and Partnership for Local Growth			
Service Objective (What do we want to achieve?):		What are the key activities we will deliver (actions):	By When (Date?)	Service Name /Lead Officers(s)	What difference will it make? (Outcomes)	How Will we Know? (Measures) clear measurement e.g. %, #, £, date etc.
No.016	Delivery of the capital programme in accordance with projected timelines.	Corporate Improvement Objective 4 We will contribute to the ongoing regeneration of our district by delivering a capital investment programme, enhancing facilities and opportunities for local people	March 2025	Paddy Conlon	Contribute to the ongoing regeneration of our district	Regular reports to the Project Boards / SRO will be presented to chart progress against proposed targets. Monthly reporting to Committee
		Completion of up to 9 number projects noted in Capital Programme delivery 2023-2027 to be delivered as approved by Council For Council Directorates with a value circa £7.1m.	Q4	Paddy Conlon, Johnny McNeill & Eamon Gallogly	Completed schemes will have enhanced visitor experience with new/ refurbished facility upgrades. Upgrades will ensure facilities meet the public demand	Up to 9 schemes will be completed and open to the public to use. Project costs will be presented to Env Committee on monthly basis

2.5 RISK MANAGEMENT OF DEPARTMENT/SERVICES

The purpose of risk management is to manage the barriers which prevents the Council from achieving its objectives. This section of the service plan includes space for the Department to input their key risks (in summary form), which have been identified during the business planning process. The Council uses risk management to maximize opportunities and minimize risks. This improves its ability to deliver priorities and improve outcomes. This is why the Council deems it important to link business planning and risk management. Risk Management aims to:

- Help the Council achieve its overall aims and objectives
- Manage the significant risks the Council faces to an acceptable level
- Assist with the decision making process
- Implement the most effective measures to avoid, reduce and control those risks
- Balance risk with opportunity
- Manage risk and internal controls in the most effective way.

This table illustrates the risks identified to deliver the Department's/Services business as outlined in service plan for 2024-25.

Risk Ref Number	Description of Risk	Risk Rating	Mitigation Activity
1.	Risk of disruption to frontline service delivery due to industrial action	9	Prioritisation of service delivery during strike periods e.g. black/blue bin collections instead of brown bins. Engagement with trade unions at local/regional level
2.	Withdrawal of or disruption to service contracts due to inflationary pressures in relation to fuel and energy costs	9	Engagement with service providers to agree payment of temporary surcharges (subject to evidence). Lobbying for central government funding/support
3.	Failure to meet statutory waste management targets	6	Statutory quarterly reporting of recycling and landfill diversion performance to NIEA via the online Waste Data Flow system (confirms statutory recycling and landfill diversion targets have been achieved). Network of Recycling Centres (11 No.) and Waste Transfer Stations (3 No.) in operation across district Annual Recycling and Environmental Education Programme delivered across local schools, community groups etc. including themed campaigns.
4.	Environmental pollution incident as a result of managing three landfill sites e.g. from leachate, landfill gas etc.	6	Environmental monitoring contract and pollution insurance cover in place. Technically competent staff on site

			Landfill gas collection systems in place at all three sites (for flaring and/or production of electricity) Progressive capping/closure of landfill sites
5.	Fraud, bribery or theft	6	Monitoring of online CCTV at facilities and on vehicle cameras systems as required. Pre-payment system at three main Recycling Centres to reduced receipt/handling of cash at relevant sites.
6.	Failure to deliver waste related capital projects on time and within budget	6	Utilisation of suitably qualified and experienced consultants to assist with project delivery Regular risk reduction meetings held on site
7.	Inadequate Health and Safety systems and processes in place leading to injury to employee or member of the public.	6	Health and Safety risk assessments in place for all activities including refuse route risk assessments Range of statutory and other health and safety training provided for all operatives and drivers
8.	Legal/procurement challenge in relation to the award of a major contract	6	Undertake regular procurement training/briefings Access legal advice and guidance in a timely manner
9.	Inadequate Health and Safety systems and processes in place leading to injury to employee or member of the public.	6	Health and Safety risk assessments in place for all activities including refuse route risk assessments Range of statutory and other health and safety training provided for all operatives
10.	Legal/procurement challenge in relation to the award of a major contract	6	Undertake regular procurement training/briefings

			Access legal advice and guidance in a timely manner
11.	Compliance and Risk in terms of statutory asset compliance and energy management	8	Statutory compliance planned through Alcumus Maintenance management system and development of maintenance plan
12.	Potential failure to manage and exploit assets by failure to utilise asset or poorly maintain	8	Computerised asset management and maintenance information system continuing to be populated
13.	Procurement of Services, Contracts, consumables, and stock items to aid alignment of third party providers in compliance with procurement policy and governance	9	Service work plan developed and being actioned in conjunction with Procurement and Finance teams
14.	Fleet Management, compliance with MUDC's Operator's licence and Transport Management Undertaking	9	Transport Manager appointed and Fleet Officer supporting same
15.	Sufficient revenue and capital budget provision to maintain an growing estate and maintain demands of Council's Capital Programme, in environment of rising costs	8	Annual budget pressures identified, and provisional capital commitment for large estate maintenance requirements.
16.	Management of Contracts	9	Pre-cost estimates to be obtained and verified by QS as required for capital and maintenance projects CE/ EW register developed for capital schemes
17.	Delivery and consistent implementation of Policies & Procedures across Mid Ulster Council	6	Monitoring of Policies being carried out on a regular basis by Senior Officers
18.	Failure to respond appropriately to emergencies for example COVID 19 Pandemic, floods, fire.	8	Continue to develop relationships with multi-agency partners to deal with the emergency situations through

			active interaction and liaison with the Southern Emergency Preparedness Group
19.	Covid -19 / Brexit / Protocol	9	Legal advice NEC Contract guidance
20.	Management of Contracts	9	Pre-cost estimates to be obtained and verified at RIBA stages in the contract(s) CE/ EW register developed within Contract File All Capital Projects exceeding £30k have NEC / JCT / formal contract clauses built in to ITT tender documents (4) Heads of Service regularly updated as to project status and invited to regular progress meeting. (2) Consistent approach to retention of data and recording of information across officer level exists.
21.	Failing to protect environment.	9	(1) Officer appointed with responsibility. (2) Procedures developed to ensure accurate measuring of results. (3) Manage within existing budgetary controls.
22.	Failing to meet legal frameworks requirements as regards payments	6	(1) Policies and procedures are in place within existing councils to meet legal frameworks requirements. Ensure adequate payment clause is inserted in all contract documents and this is included in all associated meetings (i.e. technical/Board Agenda)
23.	MUDC02. Delivery of Capital Project Schemes.	8	Business Case prepared and approved.

			<p>Capital Project monthly review spread-sheet being developed for reporting on monthly basis to Senior Management team which will improve governance arrangements</p> <p>Expertise in-house and sourced externally.</p> <p>Framework developed for Departmental response times to enable projects to move freely and without delay.</p> <p>Procurement expertise in-house & policies/procedures in place.</p> <p>Regular monitoring meetings occurring.</p> <p>Regular reporting to SMT/Council/ stakeholders.</p>
24.	Fraud, theft or bribery occurring within Technical Services	6	<p>Essential staff have been trained in CPD procurement requirements</p> <p>Monitoring of invoices being submitted and verification from Contractors / Designers for fees owed to be carried out by HOS. Draft invoices for consideration issued to Project Officer/HoS/BS Manager. Process to have adequate evaluation carried out by suitably trained Council Staff who are regular trained on Council / CPD guidelines and appropriate time allocated to carry out the process.</p> <p>New process for authorisation of payments has been introduced since 1st April 2018. Agreed with Finance department and Director PH&I</p>

Rating	Descriptor
16 - 25	Extreme Risk (immediate action required)
10 - 15	High Risk (urgent action required)
7 - 9	Moderate Risk (action required)
1 – 6	Low Risk (keep under review)

3.0 OUR STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS

In carrying out our responsibilities, the Service is cognisant of the statutory duties placed upon the council in the delivery of its services. Whilst the Service operates, under various obligations it is however mindful of the changing context in which it operates and endeavours to mainstream the equality and rural needs duties in the design and delivery of our functions.

3.1 EQUALITY DUTY

The council and by consequence our Service is committed to contributing towards its part in working towards fulfilling obligations under Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 to ensure adequate time, staff and resources to fulfil our duties.

The Service will also work towards adherence to the council's Equality Scheme ensuring equality duties, together with promoting positive attitudes towards persons with a disability and the participation of people with a disability in public life when carrying out our functions.

3.2 RURAL NEEDS DUTY

The Service will be mindful of the rural needs of its customers when carrying out its functions and subsequent responsibilities, particularly in developing any new policies, plans or strategies throughout the year. In line with the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016 we will give due regard to rurality in terms of needs in carrying out the activities within our Service.

Report on	Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations (NI) 2024
Date of Meeting	11 th June 2024
Reporting Officer	Mark McAdoo, Assistant Director: Environmental Services
Contact Officer	Karl McGowan, Waste and Sustainable Development Manager

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To inform members on the new Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2024.
2.0	Background
2.1	The Department for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) has recently notified all relevant public body organisations of their new obligations under the Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations (NI) 2024. These regulations were required to be made under the Climate Change Act (NI) 2022.
2.2	Public bodies have a significant role to play in helping to achieve the greenhouse gas emissions reductions which Northern Ireland needs to make, and indeed are now required by law. They are also key in helping Northern Ireland to be climate-adaptable and resilient both for now and for future generations.
2.3	The Regulations put in place a climate change reporting framework for the specified public bodies which can enable informed and timely climate action. The aim of this is to make public bodies more sustainable and give them the opportunity to provide a positive example and exploit the opportunities that early and effective climate action can deliver.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Notification was received from DAERA on 12 th April 2024 that Mid Ulster District Council is listed as a specified 'Reporting Body' within the Schedule of the draft Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations (NI) 2024, as having climate change reporting duties. The Regulations came into operation on 3rd May 2024.
3.2	A copy of the correspondence from DAERA along with related Q&A is included as an appendix. However a summary of the main implications are outlined below.

- There are two types of reports which Council will be required to provide under our reporting duties set by the Regulations, and these are; ‘climate change mitigation’ reports and ‘climate change adaptation’ reports. The regulations require publication of these reports on both the Council and DAERA websites.
 - The 1st ‘mitigation report’ must be submitted to DAERA by the 31st October 2025.
 - The 2nd and all subsequent adaptation reports will be on a 3-yearly cycle thereafter.
 - The 1st ‘adaptation report’ must be submitted to DAERA by the 31st March 2026 (the period which the first report will cover is 4 years beginning from 1st January 2026).
 - The 2nd and all subsequent adaptation reports will be on a 5-yearly cycle.
- The 1st (4 year) adaptation report, and the subsequent 5-yearly adaptation reports are required to include:
 - The current and predicted impact of climate change in relation to the Councils functions; and
 - Proposals and policies for adapting to climate change in the exercise the Councils functions, including the timescales for implementing these proposals and policies. The 2nd and all subsequent 5-yearly adaptation reports are also required to include an assessment of the progress the Council has made towards implementing the proposals and policies set out in any of the previous climate change adaptation reports.
- The 1st mitigation report is required to include:
 - The amounts and sources of greenhouse gas emissions, in respect of the financial year beginning 1st April 2024 and ending 31st March 2025; and
 - The Councils proposals and policies for reducing its emissions in the exercise of its functions, including timescales for implementing those proposals and policies.
- The 2nd and all subsequent 3-yearly mitigation reports are required to include:
 - The amounts and sources of greenhouse gas emissions in respect of each of the three preceding financial years i.e. the 2nd mitigation report, to be submitted to DAERA by October 2028, will include the amounts and sources of greenhouse gas emissions from the 1st April 2025 until the 31st March 2028;
 - The Councils proposals and policies for reducing its emissions in the exercise of its functions, including the timescale for implementing those proposals and policies; and
 - An assessment of the progress it has made towards implementing the proposals and policies set out in any of its previous climate change mitigation reports.

<p>3.3</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Regulations require that the mitigation report must use as a baseline, the body’s greenhouse gas emissions and sources which were reported in its first mitigation report, for the financial year beginning 1st April 2024 and ending 31st March 2025. This baseline will be used for assessing and reporting on progress. The Regulations also allow for an alternative baseline to be used e.g. the Councils current baseline year of 2019/20, however this will require agreement with DAERA. <p>To help assist the Council meet its reporting duties under the Regulations, DAERA is not providing any additional financial support but will provide the following practical support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technical, co-designed guidance on how to complete climate change reports. Co-development of a reporting template containing a list of climate change questions for your organisation to answer. Provision of an online climate change reporting portal, for you to enter your data into, to create your reports and make subsequent reporting as easy as possible. Provision of training on how to complete climate change reports to meet your reporting duties. <p>3.4</p> <p>We have recently agreed with the DAERA Climate Change Public Body Reporting Team to participate in the co-design working group(s) to assist in the development of the reporting template, guidance and portal in relation to these Regulations.</p>
<p>4.0</p>	<p>Other Considerations</p>
<p>4.1</p>	<p>Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications</p> <p>Financial:</p> <p>The regulations have no financial considerations at this time, however, the future climate change reporting requirements will result in additional costs to Council in terms of staff time, external consultancy / expertise, data collection and analysis.</p>
	<p>Human:</p> <p>As described above there will be additional staff time required for data collection and analysis across all Council departments. It should be noted that Council does not currently have a full-time dedicated staffing resource for Climate Change. These responsibilities currently form part of other officer roles which, whilst workable up until now, will not be adequate considering these new requirements. Consideration therefore needs to be given to the creation of a new role covering energy and climate change data collection and analysis if Council is to comply.</p>

	<p>Risk Management:</p> <p>There will be the risk of reputational damage should the Council fail to comply with these regulations and/or be seen to be not making sufficient contribution to Northern Ireland's future greenhouse gas emission or climate change targets.</p>
4.2	<p>Screening & Impact Assessments</p>
	<p>Equality & Good Relations Implications: None</p>
	<p>Rural Needs Implications: None</p>
5.0	<p>Recommendation(s)</p>
5.1	<p>Members are asked to note the content this report for information.</p>
6.0	<p>Documents Attached & References</p>
6.1	<p>Letter to Specified Bodies re The Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations</p>
6.2	<p>Letter to Specified Bodies - Annex B (FAQs)</p>
6.3	<p>List of bodies specified in the Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations</p>

Climate Change and Science Innovation Group

Climate Change and Green Growth Policy Division

Your reference
Our reference



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

An Roinn

**Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil
agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe**

Department o'

**Fairmin, Environment
an' Kintra Matthers**

www.daera-ni.gov.uk

Climate Change and Green Growth
Policy Division

Clare House

303 Airport Road West

Sydenham Intake

Belfast BT3 9ED

Telephone: 028 90524561

Email: jane.corderoy@daera-ni.gov.uk

12th April 2024

Dear Public Body,

Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2024 – New Climate Change Reporting Duties for Your Organisation

I am writing to confirm with you that your public body organisation is specified as a 'Reporting Body' within the Schedule of the attached draft Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2024, as having climate change reporting duties placed upon it.

A copy of the draft Regulations, which have recently been agreed by the Northern Ireland Executive, is attached in Annex A for your information. The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs ('DAERA') intends to make and lay these Regulations at the earliest opportunity in the Northern Ireland Assembly.

Annex B of this letter contains some frequently asked questions and corresponding answers for your information on what the Regulations require and what they mean for you which we hope will address any immediate concerns that you may have.

Context

Making and bringing into operation these Regulations delivers on DAERA's legal requirement to do so under section 42 of the Climate Change Act (Northern Ireland) 2022 ('the Act'). The Regulations put in place a climate change reporting framework for the specified public bodies, which can enable them to take informed, and timely climate action. The aim of this is to make public bodies more sustainable and give them the

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opportunity to provide a positive example and exploit the opportunities that early and effective climate action can deliver.

Operational date of the Regulations, and when reporting is required.

The Regulations will come into operation in early May 2024, 21 days after they are laid by DAERA in the Northern Ireland Assembly. The duties placed on the scheduled list of public bodies cover climate change reporting requirements on both adaptation and mitigation. However, reporting by public bodies will not be required immediately and they will not be required at exactly the same time. The first mitigation report by the public bodies will be required to be submitted to DAERA by October 2025. The first adaptation report is not due until March 2026. Mitigation reports will then be required on a 3-yearly cycle, and the adaptation reports will be required on a 5-yearly cycle.

The timing and frequency of reporting is to allow, and enable, your organisation to collect the necessary data, and for DAERA to develop and provide practical support to help you and the other organisations specified in the Regulations to report.

Support will be provided by DAERA through the provision of guidance co-designed with public bodies themselves. DAERA is also working on developing a reporting template which will again be informed by and co-designed with the specified public bodies. Training and an online portal for reporting bodies will also be put in place to make the process as straightforward as possible. Further information on timings and frequency of reporting is in Annex B at Question 6, and 'support' to public bodies at Question 9.

Consultation, and pre-consultation engagement

Your organisation had been previously contacted by DAERA regarding our consultation (which ran for an extended 10-week period from March 2023 until June 2023) on the development and making of these Regulations. The consultation can be found at Climate Change Reporting by Specified Public Bodies - Developing New Regulations. The summary of responses received to the consultation can be found at Summary of Responses and Next Steps: Consultation on Climate Change Reporting by Specified Public Bodies - Developing New Regulations. This summary of responses document also includes the detail on, and the outcome of, DAERA's pre-consultation engagement workshops undertaken with public bodies in the later quarter of 2022 which informed the development and content of the consultation.

Reporting Bodies

The Act does not require all public bodies to have reporting duties placed on them by the Regulations. A balanced approach has been applied to these first set of Regulations to minimise the risk of undue burden, by requiring only those public bodies which are large-sized organisations to report (40 organisations in total, which can be viewed [here](#)). Large-sized public bodies are more likely the highest emitters, and they can help most in contributing to ensuring a climate resilient and sustainable Northern Ireland, while also having the capacity to deliver on reporting requirements and show leadership in climate action. Details of the definition of a 'public body' under the meaning of the Act, and the criteria used to identify who should be required to report under this first set of Regulations, is detailed in the attached Annex B at Question 5.

Please note that DAERA is committed to reviewing these first set of Regulations, at a future point, to explore expanding them through amending regulations, including the

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scope of bodies required to report. In the interim the Department intends to promote voluntary reporting from those public bodies not specified in the Regulations. It is clear from the consultation that there are many public body organisations that are keen to assess and report on their climate change risks, and actions to address these risks and reduce their emissions, including developing adaptation and mitigation plans. However, not all of these organisations come within scope of these first set of Regulations. The voluntary reporting is therefore a way for those bodies, that are not specified in the regulations, to develop their experience and skills for reporting.

What does DAERA require from you now?

After the Regulations are laid, DAERA's preparation work will then commence on the co-design of technical guidance including a reporting template, development of an online portal, and development and provision of training, to help public bodies meet their reporting duties.

In the interim, we would be grateful if you could please provide DAERA (at: climatechangediscussion@daera-ni.gov.uk), with the name and contact details of a nominated person(s) for your organisation for future direct engagement on matters regarding the requirements set by the Regulations.

DAERA looks forward to working with you on these important matters. Reporting will give the bodies an opportunity to show continued leadership on climate action within the public sector, providing positive examples and shared learning of what effective climate action can deliver, which is benefit to us all. If you have any issues or queries about these matters, you can contact the Public Body Reporting team at climatechangediscussion@daera-ni.gov.uk, or please call Arlene McGowan on (028) 9056 9484.

Yours faithfully,



Jane Corderoy

Director

Climate Change and Green Growth Policy Division

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Annex B

The Climate Change (Reporting bodies) Regulations 2024: Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

Index:

- Question 1: Why are the Regulations being brought forward?
- Question 2: When and how often will reporting be required?
- Question 3: What information will the reports need to contain?
- Question 4: What are the other requirements/allowances set by the Regulations?
- Question 5: What support will be provided to you for meeting your reporting duties, and when?
- Question 6: Why must the Regulations wait for 21 days before coming into operation, after they are made and laid in the Assembly?
- Question 7: How were the Regulations informed?
- Question 8: What was the UK Climate Change Committee's advice to DAERA?
- Question 9: What criteria was used to identify which organisations should be specified to have climate change reporting duties placed on them by the Regulations?
- Question 10: Will other public bodies be required to report in the future?
- Question 11: What next?

Question 1: Why are the Regulations being brought forward?

Ans: Section 42 of the Climate Change Act (Northern Ireland) 2022 ('the Act') requires DAERA to make new Regulations, which will place climate change reporting duties on specified public bodies. The Regulations are crosscutting and so the content of the Regulations in **Annex A** has been agreed by the Northern Ireland Executive, who have also agreed that DAERA should make and lay them in the Assembly and bring them into operation.

Question 2: When and how often will reporting be required?

Ans: There are two types of reports which you will be required to provide under your reporting duties set by the Regulations, and these are - 'climate change mitigation' reports and 'climate change adaptation' reports. The required content of these reports is discussed in question 3 below. Detailed guidance, which will be co-designed with reporting bodies, and training, will be provided to you on the requirements and on how to meet your reporting duties.

The timings and frequency of reporting are set in the Regulations (Annex A), specifically regulation 4 for adaptation, and regulation 5 for mitigation.

The following provides an explanation of the timings and frequency of reports:

Regulation 4: Adaptation Reports

- Your first 'adaptation report' **must be submitted to DAERA by 31st March 2026** (the period which the first report will cover is 4 years* beginning from 1st January 2026).
- Your second and subsequent adaptation reports will be on a 5-yearly cycle*.
- Your second adaptation report will therefore begin from 1st January 2030, and must be submitted to DAERA by 31st January 2030.
- Your third adaptation report will begin from 1st January 2035. This third report must be submitted to DAERA by 31st January 2035; and so on for subsequent 5-yearly adaptation reports.

*[*N.B. The frequencies and timings are set to align with, in order to aim to inform, the development of the 5-yearly UK Climate Change Risk Assessments which are required under the UK Climate Change Act 2008 – these risk Assessments include detail on the current and projected climate change risks and impacts to Northern Ireland (see question 10 for more detail).]*

Regulation 5: Mitigation Reports

- Your mitigation reports will be on a 3-yearly cycle.
- Your **first ‘mitigation report’ must be submitted to DAERA by 31st October 2025.**
- Your second mitigation report must therefore be submitted to DAERA by 31st October 2028.
- Your third mitigation report must be submitted to DAERA by 31st October 2031, and so on for subsequent reports every 3 years.

Question 3: What information will the reports need to contain?

Ans: The Regulations (Annex A) set the requirements on what your reports must contain. The requirements are set under regulation 4(1) which relates to adaptation, and regulation 5(1) which relates to mitigation. Please note that DAERA intends to develop and co-design guidance with reporting bodies to help them meet their reporting duties. This will include technical detail and guidance on what is reported, and how it is reported, for both adaptation and mitigation. Further detail on support to be provided to you to help you to meet your reporting duties is discussed under question 5.

Adaptation reports

The first (4 year) adaptation report, and the subsequent 5-yearly adaptation reports are required to include your public body’s:

- (i) current and predicted impact of climate change in relation to its functions; and
- (ii) proposals and policies for adapting to climate change in the exercise of its functions, including the timescales for implementing these proposals and policies.

Second and subsequent 5-yearly adaptation reports are also required to include your public body’s:

- assessment of the progress it has made towards implementing the proposals and policies set out in any of its previous climate change adaptation reports.

Mitigation Reports

The first mitigation report is required to include your public body's:

- (i) amounts and sources of greenhouse gas emissions, in respect of the financial year beginning 1st April 2024 and ending 31st March 2025; and
- (ii) its proposals and policies for reducing its emissions in the exercise of its functions, including timescales for implementing those proposals and policies.

The second and subsequent 3-yearly mitigation reports are required to include your public body's:

- (a) amounts and sources of greenhouse gas emissions in respect of each of the three preceding financial years (1st of April – 31st March) [*For example: Your public body's second mitigation report, to be submitted to DAERA by October 2028, will include the amounts and sources of its greenhouse gas emissions in respect of the three preceding financial years – i.e. from 1st April 2025 until 31st March 2028.*];
- (b) proposals and policies for reducing its emissions in the exercise of its functions, including the timescale for implementing those proposals and policies; and
- (c) assessment of the progress it has made towards implementing the proposals and policies set out in any of its previous climate change mitigation reports.

The Regulations require that a mitigation report must use as a baseline, the body's greenhouse gas emissions and sources which were reported in its first mitigation report, for the financial year beginning 1st April 2024 and ending 31st March 2025. This baseline will be used for assessing and reporting on progress. The Regulations also allow for an alternative baseline to be used, however, this will require agreement with DAERA.

For the support in place to help you with the reporting, and especially the first reports please see the answer to question 5 below.

Question 4: What are the other requirements/allowances set by the Regulations?

Ans: The Regulations:

- require the reporting bodies to have regard to certain matters (if relevant) when reporting, including, for example – the most recent 5-yearly UK Climate Change Risk Assessment, required under the UK Climate Change Act 2008, which contains climate change risks and impacts to Northern Ireland (see regulation 7, Annex A);
- allow co-operation in preparation of reports, and/or joint reporting, between two or more reporting bodies to meet their reporting requirements (see regulation 8 and 9 respectively, Annex A);
- allow for corrections to be made to the reports, after they are submitted to DAERA (see regulation 10, Annex A); and
- require publication of a body's own reports on its website and also on DAERA's website (see regulation 11, Annex A).

Question 5: What support will be provided to you for meeting your reporting duties, and when?

Ans: To help your organisation meet its reporting duties under the Regulations, DAERA will provide the following practical support:

- Technical, co-designed guidance on how to complete climate change reports.
- Co-development of a reporting template containing a list of climate change questions for your organisation to answer.
- Provision of an online climate change reporting portal, for you to enter your data into, to create your reports and make subsequent reporting as easy as possible.
- Provision of training on how to complete climate change reports to meet your reporting duties.

DAERA is undertaking preparation work to bring forward this support as soon

as possible. Support will be provided at the earliest opportunity and ahead of the reporting submission dates. DAERA may contact you regarding input to the co-design developmental work regarding this support.

DAERA also, intends as part of its co-development of support, where possible and as appropriate, to ensure a streamlined and consistent approach to reporting, where public bodies are required to report on climate change elsewhere. For example, we have already engaged with the Department of the Economy regarding their Energy Carbon Data Repository System. We recognise as streamlined and consistent approach as possible, in order to avoid any duplication of process, is very important for public bodies and for the success of the reporting.

Question 6: Why must the Regulations wait for 21 days before coming into operation, after they are made and laid in the Assembly?

Ans: The Regulations are subject to the ‘negative resolution’ procedure under the Act. This means that they are required to be ‘laid’ in the Assembly for 21 days, before they can become operational.

Question 7: How were the Regulations informed?

Ans: The following have helped to inform the development of the Regulations:

- advice from the UK Climate Change Committee (the statutory independent expert advisers on climate change, to the Northern Ireland government);
- the outcome of DAERA’s public consultation on developing the Regulations; and
- the outcome of the pre-consultation workshops with public bodies which informed the consultation’s development.

The consultation can be found at: [Climate Change Reporting by Specified Public Bodies - Developing New Regulations.](#)

The summary of responses received to consultation, including findings from the pre-consultation workshops with public bodies, can be found at: [Summary of Responses and Next Steps: Consultation on Climate Change Reporting by Specified Public Bodies - Developing New Regulations](#)

Question 8: What criteria was used to identify which organisations should be specified to have climate change reporting duties placed on them by the Regulations?

Ans: The Climate Change Act (NI) 2022 ('the Act'), in section 42, requires DAERA to make new Regulations which will set 'climate change reporting duties' on 'specified public bodies'. The Act's definition of a public body in section 42, is very wide - it can be: "*a person or body with functions of a public nature*" and "*a person who is a statutory undertaker within the meaning of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011*". The Act does not require all public bodies to report under the Regulations. DAERA therefore is applying a phased and balanced approach, in which these first set of Regulations will focus on large-sized organisations being required to report. DAERA intends to explore at a future point, bringing forward amending Regulations, to expand the scope of these first set of Regulations, including the scope of who is required to report.

The following criteria, which has been informed by the consultation and the pre-consultation workshops with public bodies, was used to identify the bodies which are specified in these first set of Regulations as having reporting duties placed on them:

Public Bodies:

- (i) with 250 or more staff (based on full-time equivalent (FTE) data or total of permanent staff),
- (ii) which are listed authorities in Schedule 3 to the Public Services Ombudsman Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 and/or in the list of organisations subject to the

- Department of Finance's public procurement policy,
- (iii) whose remit/functions do not fall under reserved or excepted matters, or they are not North/South government dual funded, and
 - (iv) which are not a Registered Housing Association, a General Practitioner, nor a Northern Ireland Civil Service department and their Executive agency(ies) (due to the more extensive requirements* placed on these departments by other sections of the Act).

**The Act sets a range of duties on Northern Ireland departments including that they must all contribute to delivering the Act's emissions reduction targets and carbon budgets (i.e. caps or limits on the level of emissions which are permitted over a 5-year period). The Act places a range of reporting requirements on departments in that regard, including developing and publishing sectoral plans, climate action plans and progress reports and statements. Section 42 of the Act has a much narrower scope, in that the Regulations required by this section can only be made to require public bodies to report solely on climate change.*

Question 9: Will other public bodies be required to report in the future?

Ans: DAERA intends, at a future point, to review these Regulations (after they are made and are operational). The Review will include exploring the making of amending Regulations to expand the scope of the Regulations including who is required to report.

Question 10: What was the UK Climate Change Committee's advice to DAERA?

Ans: The following is the UK Climate Change Committee's ('the CCC') advice to DAERA on the timing and frequency of climate change reporting by public bodies, with which the Regulations (in Annex A) are aligned:

General Advice from the CCC

Actions and especially policy, for both tackling the causes of climate change (i.e. mitigation) and adapting to its impacts and risks, can have long lead-in times before they are embedded, and the results and benefits are seen. This is particularly true of adaptation.

CCC Advice on Adaptation Reporting

5-yearly reporting is considered an appropriate interval at which to reassess climate risks, as the type and magnitude of climate risks facing an organisation are unlikely to change significantly on a year-to-year basis. Likewise, the observation that adaptation actions take time to identify, fund and implement, similarly supports 5-yearly adaptation reporting, to provide meaningful updates on progress and to identify new adaptation priorities. They have also said that 5-yearly reporting removes the risk of overly burdensome and unnecessary reporting and is consistent with similar reporting in other nations e.g. the adaptation reporting power under the UK Climate Change Act (2008).

Timing: The CCC recommended that the timing of provision of the adaptation reports by public bodies should align with development of the CCC's five-yearly evidence reports, which inform the five-yearly UK Climate Change Risk Assessment ('CCRA') required under the UK Act 2008. This is because the information collected under the regulations could be used to help inform these CCC evidence reports. The CCC also advised that public bodies should provide a risk assessment and an adaptation action plan at the same time. They said this is necessary to provide better insight, and full understanding into whether climate risks will be appropriately managed by a particular specified public body.

- DAERA has set adaptation reporting for every 5 years (which also aligns with the outcome of the consultation – see question 7 above).¹

¹ The first adaptation report will cover a 4-year period, and second and subsequent adaptation reports will be 5-yearly. The frequencies and timings are set to align with, in order to aim to inform, the development of the 5-yearly UK Climate Change Risk Assessments required under the UK Climate Change Act 2008.

CCC Advice on Mitigation Reporting

The CCC have said that reporting every 5 years on mitigation should be a minimum. However, they also advised that every 5 years would likely be too infrequent to drive the rapid progress needed to see any difference in cutting emissions, and it would not be enough to build a robust database (for mitigation). It was also their perspective that reporting every year (annual reporting) on mitigation by public bodies would not be necessary.

- DAERA has set mitigation reporting for every 3 years (which also aligns with the outcome of the consultation see question 7 above).

Question 11: What next?

Ans: Once you have provided to DAERA, your body's nominated person(s) contact details, we will be in touch with that person to initiate engagement and regularly as the support referred to in question 5, is being developed, implemented and delivered.



List of Public Bodies Specified in the Schedule to the Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations (NI) 2024

The Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2024 sets climate change reporting duties on 40 individual public body organisations, which are listed within its Schedule.

The list within the Schedule to the Regulations groups some of these organisations using 'legislative descriptions', rather than their 'individual names'. The following provides the individual names of each of the public body organisations who are specified within this Scheduled list.

Individual Names of the Public Bodies Specified in the Regulations

Education

1. Education Authority
2. Belfast Metropolitan College
3. Northern Regional College
4. North West Regional College
5. South Eastern Regional College
6. South West Regional College
7. Southern Regional College
8. Queen's University of Belfast
9. Ulster University
10. Northern Ireland Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment

Health and social care

11. Northern Ireland Ambulance Service Health and Social Care Trust

12. Belfast Health and Social Care Trust
13. Northern Health and Social Care Trust
14. South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust
15. Southern Health and Social Care Trust
16. Western Health and Social Care Trust
17. Regional Agency for Public Health and Social Well-being
18. Regional Business Services Organisation

Miscellaneous

19. Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute
20. Board of Trustees of the National Museums and Galleries of Northern Ireland
21. Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council
22. Ards and North Down Borough Council
23. Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council
24. Belfast City Council
25. Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council
26. Derry City and Strabane District Council
27. Fermanagh and Omagh District Council
28. Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council
29. Mid and East Antrim Borough Council
30. Mid Ulster District Council
31. Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
32. Invest Northern Ireland
33. Northern Ireland Assembly Commission
34. Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service
35. Northern Ireland Housing Executive
36. Northern Ireland Library Authority ("Libraries NI")
37. Northern Ireland Transport Holding Company
38. Northern Ireland Water Limited
39. Police Service of Northern Ireland
40. Probation Board for Northern Ireland

Report on	Building Control Workload
Date of Meeting	11 th June 2024
Reporting Officer	Terry Scullion, AD Property Services
Contact Officer	P J Fox, Building Control Development Manager

Is this report restricted for confidential business? If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	Yes	
	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	May 2024	Accumulative 2024/25
	<u>Applications Received</u>		
	Full plans applications	56	101
	Building Notices applications	151	205
	Regularisation applications	<u>16</u>	<u>31</u>
	Total applications received.	223	337

	Estimated value of works submitted	£11,841,392	£27,021,022
	Number of inspections carried out by Building Control Officers	676	1190
	<u>Commencements</u>		
	Domestic Dwellings	38	67
	Domestic Alterations and Extensions	157	273
	Non-Domestic work	<u>7</u>	<u>19</u>
	Total Commencements	202	359
	<u>Completions</u>		
	Domestic Dwellings	22	44
	Domestic Alterations and Extensions	117	246
	Non-Domestic work	<u>14</u>	<u>22</u>
	Total Completions	153	312
	Property Certificates Received	184	303
3.2	It should be noted from the Workload Analysis in 3.1, that the full range of applications are being received and administered in accordance with our procedures criteria.		
3.3	There is an increase of 25% in new applications received compared to the same period in year 2023/2024. There is also a 12% increase in inspection requests for the same period.		
3.4	Property Certificate numbers are on par with same period in year 2023/24.		
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 the Building Control Service

BC1 Appendix 1

Significant Developments Report June 2024 Environment Committee

Applicant	Location of Development	Details of Development	Estimated value of development
Quarrytech Limited	81 Gortgonis Road, Coalisland.	Erection of an industrial unit (Floor area 2160 m ²) B.C. fee - £7,402.63	£1,560,384
Cloverpeat	16 Derryloughan Road, Coalisland.	Extension to storage building (Floor area 1486m ²) B.C. fee - £5,430	£997,106
Killyman Primary School	15 Trewmount Road, Killyman, Dungannon.	Extension to Primary School (Floor area 250m ²) B.C. fee - £3,545	£620,500
Health Centre	52 Orritor Road, Cookstown.	Extension and alterations to health centre B.C. fee - £2,610	£433,400

Report on	Entertainment Licensing Applications
Date of Meeting	11 th June 2024
Reporting Officer	Terry Scullion, AD Property Services
Contact Officer	Colm Currie, Senior Building Control Officer

Is this report restricted for confidential business? If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	Yes	
	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. Entertainment Licensing applications are received on a continued basis across the District. Statutory consultations are carried out with PSNI and NIFRS for each Entertainment Licence application (grant or renewal) submitted.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>As previously agreed a list of applications received (see Appendix 1) and for all grant/renewal of Entertainment Licences in Mid Ulster District Council which are attached (see Appendix 2). The number of applications received on a monthly basis will vary depending on the date of expiry of the current licence.</p> <p>Each application is accompanied by the following documentation:</p> <p>1 A current Fire Risk Assessment detailing the following:</p> <ul 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> <p>2 Electrical certification is required for the following:</p> <ul 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>
3.2	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.
3.3	<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.
3.4	Entertainment licensing applications have continued to be processed where possible including statutory consultations with external Bodies as required by legislation.
3.5	Licences have been issued where inspections had been completed and all points requiring attention have been addressed.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: Within Current Resources
	Human: Within Current Resources
	Risk Management: Within Current Resources
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 for May 2024
6.2	Appendix 2 – Schedule of Entertainment Licence applications which have been granted/renewed for May 2024.

Appendix 1–Schedule of applications received for the Grant/Renewal/Variation of Entertainment Licences May 2024

Name of Applicant	Name of Premises	Address of Premises	Type of Licence	Days and Hours proposed	Max Number of Patrons
D Scott	Scott's Bar	72-76 Main Street Fivemiletown	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 11.00 To 01.00 Sunday From 12.00 To 00.00	75
O Mulvaney	Circus Vegas	Loves Hill Castledawson	14 Specified Days	Thursday 13th June From 16.30 To 2130 Friday 14th June From 16.30 To 21.30 Saturday 15th June From 14.00 To 17.00 Sunday 16th June From 14.00 To 17.00	500

Name of Applicant	Name of Premises	Address of Premises	Type of Licence	Days and Hours proposed	Max Number of Patrons
D Spiers	Moyola Park Football Club	26 Bridge Street Castledawson	Annual	Thursday To Sunday From 18.00 To 00.00	220
C Eastwood	Pot Black Snooker Club	2b Burn Road Cookstown	Annual	Monday To Sunday From 11.00 To 02.00	86
B McNiece	Tomney's Bar	9-10 The Square Moy	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 11.30 To 01.00 Sunday From 12.30 To 00.00	247
T McLernon	The Miners' Rest	48 Main Street Coalisland	Annual	Thursday From 18.00 To 21.30 Friday and Saturday From 18.00 To 22.00 Sunday From 16.00 To 21.00	50

Office Use
From: 27/4/2024
To: 28/05/2024

Appendix 2 – Schedule of Entertainment Licence applications which have been Granted/Renewed in May 2024

Name Of Applicant	Name Of Premises	Address Of Premises	Type Of Licence	Days And Hours Granted
M Loughran	The Perfect Pint	40 Main Street, Fivemiletown	Annual	Monday To Sunday From 11.30 To 01.00
R Patton	Dungannon Rugby Club	36 Moy Road, Dungannon	Annual	Monday To Sunday From 11.00 To 01.00
A McPeake	Greenlough GAC	237 Mayogall Road, Clady	Any 14 Unspecified Days	Monday To Thursday From 12.30 To 23.30 Friday To Saturday From 12.30 To 01.00 Sunday From 12.30 To 23.30

Name Of Applicant	Name Of Premises	Address Of Premises	Type Of Licence	Days And Hours Granted
Mid Ulster District Council	The Bridewell	6 Church Street, Magherafelt	Annual	Monday To Thursday From 09.00 To 22.00 Friday To Saturday From 09.00 To 23.00 Sunday From 09.00 To 20.00
R Carmichael	The Jungle	60 Desertmartin Road, Magherafelt	Any 14 Unspecified Days	Monday To Sunday From 09.00 To 01.00
I Millar	Cookstown Community Centre	42 Fairhill Road, Cookstown	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 11.30 To 01.00 Sunday From 11.30 To 21.00

Name Of Applicant	Name Of Premises	Address Of Premises	Type Of Licence	Days And Hours Granted
A Robson, A Beacom, H McCleary	Corick House Hotel & Spa	20 Corick Road, Clougher	Annual	Monday To Sunday From 09.00 To 02.00
K Boyd	Dungannon Swifts Football Club	Far Circular Road, Dungannon	Annual	Monday To Tuesday From 19.00 To 23.00 Wednesday To Thursday From 16.00 To 23.30 Friday To Saturday From 12.00 To 01.00 Sunday From 12.00 To 22.00
A Barrett	Errigle Keerogue Church Hall	Ballinasaggart, Ballygawley	any 14 unspecified days	Monday To Saturday From 19.00 To 00.00

Name Of Applicant	Name Of Premises	Address Of Premises	Type Of Licence	Days And Hours Granted
F McAnallen	Bottle of Benburb	245 Derryfubble Road, Dungannon	Annual	Monday To Wednesday From 12.00 To 00.00 Thursday To Sunday From 12.00 To 01.00
H & T Henry	Secrets Nightclub & Dormans Bar	15-17 Queen Street Magherafelt	Variation	Monday To Saturday From 11.30 To 03.00 Sunday From 12.30 To 03.00
D Friel	Friels Bar & Restaurant	2-4 Kilrea Road, Swatragh	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 11.30 To 01.00 Sunday From 12.30 To 01.00

Name Of Applicant	Name Of Premises	Address Of Premises	Type Of Licence	Days And Hours Granted
C McKenna	McKenna's Bar	2-4 Glen Road, Maghera	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 11.30 To 01.00 Sunday From 12.30 To 01.00
Rev J Gates	Magherafelt Parish Centre	24 King Street, Magherafelt	Annual	Monday To Sunday From 09.00 To 01.00
C Devlin	The Inn	47 Main Street, Castledawson	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 12.00 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
C Eastwood	Dunleath Bar	58-66 Church Street, Cookstown	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 11.30 To 01.00 Sunday From 12.30 To 00.00
M Carolan	Craic Theatre	51 Dungannon Road, Coalisland	Annual	Monday To Sunday From 09.00 To 23.00
N McMullan	Castledawson Presbyterian Church Hall	61 Main Street, Castledawson	Any 14 Unspecified Days	Monday To Saturday From 08.00 To 00.00
M F Doyle	The Hogan Stand	32a Moneyneany Road, Draperstown	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 11.00 To 01.00 Sunday From 12.30 To 00.00

Name Of Applicant	Name Of Premises	Address Of Premises	Type Of Licence	Days And Hours Granted
D Gordon	The Hawthorn Inn	54 Kilrea Road, Portglenone	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 11.30 To 01.00 Sunday From 12.30 To 22.00
M P Doyle	The Shepherds Rest	220 Sixtowns Road, Draperstown	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 11.30 To 01.00 Sunday From 12.00 To 00.00

Report on	Dual Language Signage Surveys
Date of Meeting	11 th June 2024
Reporting Officer	Terry Scullion, AD Property Services
Contact Officer	Colm Currie, Senior Building Control Officer

Is this report restricted for confidential business? If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	Yes	
	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 (See Appendix 1) as adopted 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 street/road 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	The Building Control Service within the Environment Directorate issued occupiers of the undernoted street, correspondence seeking their views on the request to erect a dual-language street nameplate.						
3.2	Completed surveys were received by the return date and the outcome is as follows: <table border="1" data-bbox="274 1928 1311 2040"> <tr> <td>Name of Street</td> <td>Brackaville Road, Dungannon</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Language Requested</td> <td>Irish</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Date Request Validated</td> <td>19/12/2023</td> </tr> </table>	Name of Street	Brackaville Road, Dungannon	Language Requested	Irish	Date Request Validated	19/12/2023
Name of Street	Brackaville Road, Dungannon						
Language Requested	Irish						
Date Request Validated	19/12/2023						

Survey Request Reported to Environment Committee	25/01/2024
Surveys Issued	22/04//2024
Surveys returned by	20/05/2024
Survey Letters Issued	173
Survey Letters Returned	57
Replies in Favour	37
Replies not in Favour	13
Invalid	7
Valid Returns	50
Percentage in Favour	74%

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 favor of the erection of a dual language street nameplate, it is confirmed that the dual language nameplates at Brackaville Road, Dungannon will be erected.

Name of Street	Torrent Valley, Coalisland
Language Requested	Irish
Date Request Validated	12/02/2024
Survey Request Reported to Environment Committee	24/03/2024
Surveys Issued	22/04//2024
Surveys returned by	20/05/2024
Survey Letters Issued	23
Survey Letters Returned	9
Replies in Favour	8
Replies not in Favour	0
Invalid	1
Valid Returns	8
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 favor of the erection of a dual language street nameplate, it is confirmed that the dual language nameplates at Torrent Valley, Coalisland will be erected.

Name of Street	Clarke Avenue, Maghera
Language Requested	Irish
Date Request Validated	12/02/2024
Survey Request Reported to Environment Committee	24/03/2024

Surveys Issued	22/04//2024
Surveys returned by	20/05/2024
Survey Letters Issued	26
Survey Letters Returned	9
Replies in Favour	7
Replies not in Favour	1
Invalid	1
Valid Returns	8
Percentage in Favour	88%

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 favor of the erection of a dual language street nameplate, it is confirmed that the dual language nameplates at Clarke Avenue, Maghera will be erected.

Name of Street	Rossmore Road, Dungannon
Language Requested	Irish
Date Request Validated	26/02/2024
Survey Request Reported to Environment Committee	12/03/2024
Surveys Issued	22/04//2024
Surveys returned by	20/05/2024
Survey Letters Issued	61
Survey Letters Returned	52
Replies in Favour	42
Replies not in Favour	10
Invalid	0
Valid Returns	52
Percentage in Favour	81%

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 favor of the erection of a dual language street nameplate, it is confirmed that the dual language nameplates at Rossmore Road, Dungannon will be erected.

Name of Street	Derryvaren Road, Coalisland
Language Requested	Irish
Date Request Validated	20/03/2023
Survey Request Reported to Environment Committee	14/06/2023
Surveys Issued	19/06/2023
Surveys returned by	17/07/2023
Survey Letters Issued	60
Survey Letters Returned	21
Replies in Favour	20

Replies not in Favour	0
Invalid	1
Valid Returns	20
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 favor of the erection of a dual language street nameplate, it is confirmed that the dual language nameplates at Derryvaren Road, Coalisland will be erected.

Name of Street	Tullyallen Road, Dungannon
Language Requested	Irish
Date Request Validated	20/04/2023
Survey Request Reported to Environment Committee	14/06/2023
Surveys Issued	19/06/2023
Surveys returned by	17/07/2023
Survey Letters Issued	44
Survey Letters Returned	16
Replies in Favour	15
Replies not in Favour	1
Invalid	0
Valid Returns	16
Percentage in Favour	94%

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 favor of the erection of a dual language street nameplate, it is confirmed that the dual language nameplates at Tullyallen Road, Dungannon will be erected.

Name of Street	The Millrace, Coalisland
Language Requested	Irish
Date Request Validated	20/04/2023
Survey Request Reported to Environment Committee	14/06/2023
Surveys Issued	19/06/2023
Surveys returned by	17/07/2023
Survey Letters Issued	33
Survey Letters Returned	8
Replies in Favour	5
Replies not in Favour	0
Invalid	3
Valid Returns	5
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 favor of the erection of a dual language street nameplate, it is confirmed that the dual language nameplates at The Millrace, Coalisland will be erected.

Name of Street	Cabragh Road, Dungannon
Language Requested	Irish
Date Request Validated	07/04/2023
Survey Request Reported to Environment Committee	14/06/2023
Surveys Issued	19/06/2023
Surveys returned by	17/07/2023
Survey Letters Issued	75
Survey Letters Returned	26
Replies in Favour	22
Replies not in Favour	1
Invalid	3
Valid Returns	23
Percentage in Favour	96%

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 favor of the erection of a dual language street nameplate, it is confirmed that the dual language nameplates at Cabragh Road, Dungannon 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 result of the survey for application of Dual Language Nameplates in Irish for the street as detailed below.
5.2	<p>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.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Brackaville Road, Dungannon 2. Torrent Valley, Coalisland 3. Clarke Avenue, Maghera 4. Rossmore Road, Dungannon 5. Derryvaren Road, Coalisland 6. Tullyallen Road, Dungannon 7. The Millrace, Coalisland 8. Cabragh Road, Dungannon
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 - Policy for Dual Language Nameplate Signage
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		
Version	Version 1		
Consultation	Senior Management Team	Yes / No	
	Trade Unions	Yes / No	
Equality Screened by	Principal Building Control Officer	Date	27/04/21
Equality Impact Assessment	N/A	Date	
Good Relations	N/A		
Approved By	Environment Committee	Date	11/05/21
Adopted By	Council	Date	27/05/21
Review Date		By Whom	
Circulation	Councillors, Staff		
Document Linkages			

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3.0	Policy Scope	
4.0	Linkage to Corporate Plan	
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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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B	Dual Language Signage Nameplates: <i>Procedure</i>	
C	Name Plate Layout	
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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 4 years 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

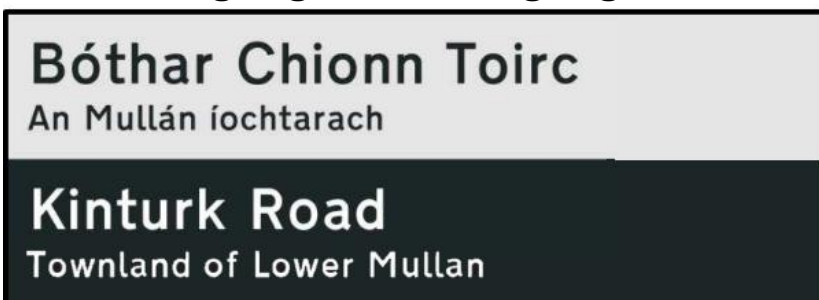


Example signage

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 Ulster Road Dungannon BT17 6L0	Magherafelt Office Ballyronan Road Magherafelt BT45 6EN	Telephone 03000 132 132 willie.wilkinson@midulstercouncil.org www.midulstercouncil.org
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19 February 2019

Our Ref:- MUDL0078

The Occupier (1)
50 Ballyronan Road
Townparks of Magherafelt
Magherafelt
BT45 6EN

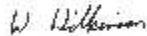
Ref: Application for Dual Language signs at Name of Street/Development

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 Nameplate Translation for each Street/Road

	Current Name	Irish Translation
Road	Brackaville Road, Coalisland	Bóthar Bhréachmhaoile
Townland	Drumreagh Otra Drumreagh Etra Roughan Brackaville	An Droim Riabhach Uachtarach An Droim Riabhach Íochtarach Ruachán Bréachmhaoil

	Current Name	Irish Translation
Road	Torrent Valley Coalisland	Gleann na Torainne
Townland	Gortnaskea	Gort na Sceach

	Current Name	Irish Translation
Road	Clarke Avenue	Ascaill Uí Chléirigh
Townland	Largantogher	Leargain Tóchair

	Current Name	Irish Translation
Road	Rossmore Road, Dungannon	Bóthar an Réisc Mhóir
Townland	Ross More Ross Beg Killybrackey	An Riasc Mór An Riasc Beag Coill an Bhrocaigh

	Current Name	Irish Translation
Road	Derryvaren Road, Coalisland	Bóthar Dhoire Bhearáin
Townland	Derrytresk Derryloughan	Doire Treasc Doire Locháin

	Current Name	Irish Translation
Road	Tullyallen Road, Dungannon	Bóthar Thulaigh Álainn
Townland	Tullyallen Edenacrannon	Tulaigh Álainn Éadán an Chrannáin

	Current Name	Irish Translation
Road	The Millrace, Coalisland	Traoth an Mhuilinn
Townland	Gortgonis	Gort an Ghamhna

	Current Name	Irish Translation
Road	Cabragh Road, Dungannon	Bóthar na Cabraí
Townland	Cabragh Gortlenaghan And Derrykeel	An Chabrach Gort Uí Leanacháin agus Doire Caol

Report on	Dual Language Signage Requests
Date of Meeting	11 th June 2024
Reporting Officer	Terry Scullion, AD Property Services
Contact Officer	Colm Currie, Senior Building Control Officer

Is this report restricted for confidential business? If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	Yes	
	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 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 Environment Directorate have received valid letters signed by the occupiers of the streets below requesting signage to be erected in a second language being “Irish” in each case adjacent to the nameplate in English as follows: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cedar Park, Magherafelt 2. Millrace Lane, Dungannon 3. Roan Avenue, Coalisland 4. Armaghlughey Road, Aughnacloy
3.2	The occupiers signing the requests in these cases 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 letters of request attached in Appendix 1-4.

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 – Dual Language Nameplate Signage Policy
6.2	Appendix 2 - Letter received from a resident of Cedar Park, Magherafelt
6.3	Appendix 3 - Letter received from a resident of Millrace Lane, Dungannon
6.4	Appendix 4 - Letter received from a resident of Roan Avenue, Coalisland
6.5	Appendix 5 - Letter received from a resident of Armaghlughey Road, Aughnacloy

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	27/04/21
Equality Impact Assessment	N/A	Date	
Good Relations	N/A		
Approved By	Environment Committee	Date	11/05/21
Adopted By	Council	Date	27/05/21
Review Date		By Whom	
Circulation	Councillors, Staff		
Document Linkages			

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3.0	Policy Scope	
4.0	Linkage to Corporate Plan	
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	
9.0	Communication	
10.0	Monitoring & Review Arrangements	

Appendices	Description	Page Number
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B	Dual Language Signage Nameplates: <i>Procedure</i>	
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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 4 years 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

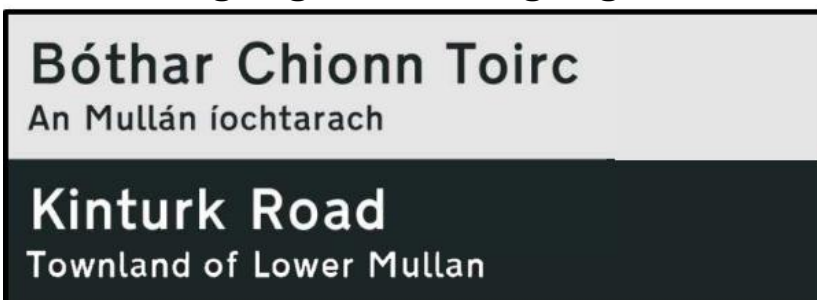


Example signage

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



Cumhairle 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 Ulster Road Dungannon BT17 6L0	Magherafelt Office Ballyronan Road Magherafelt BT45 6EN	Telephone 03000 132 132 willie.wilkinson@midulstercouncil.org www.midulstercouncil.org
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19 February 2019

Our Ref:- MUDL0078

The Occupier (1)
50 Ballyronan Road
Townparks of Magherafelt
Magherafelt
BT45 6EN

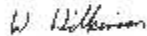
Ref: Application for Dual Language signs at Name of Street/Development

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 ???

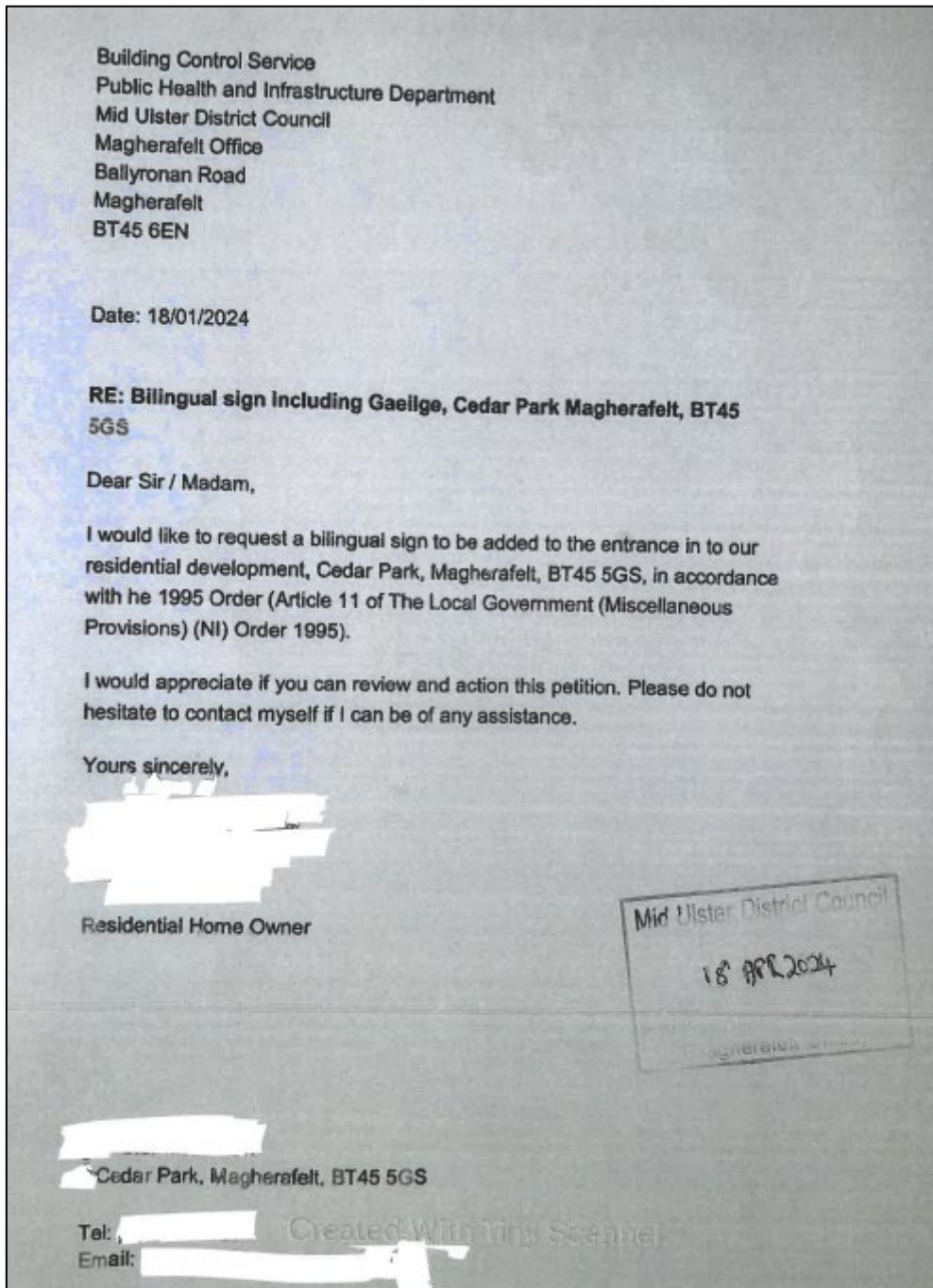
Print Name: _____

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 - Letter received from a resident of Cedar Park, Magherafelt



Appendix 3 - Letter received from a resident of Millrace Lane, Dungannon

Address: / MILLRACE LANE
DUNGANNON
CO. TYRONE
BT 70 1EW.

Dear Mr :

I am a permanent resident at the above address.

My name is : _____ I am on the Electoral Register.

I wish to request Irish language signage on the nameplate for our address, using the Council's Dual Language Policy.

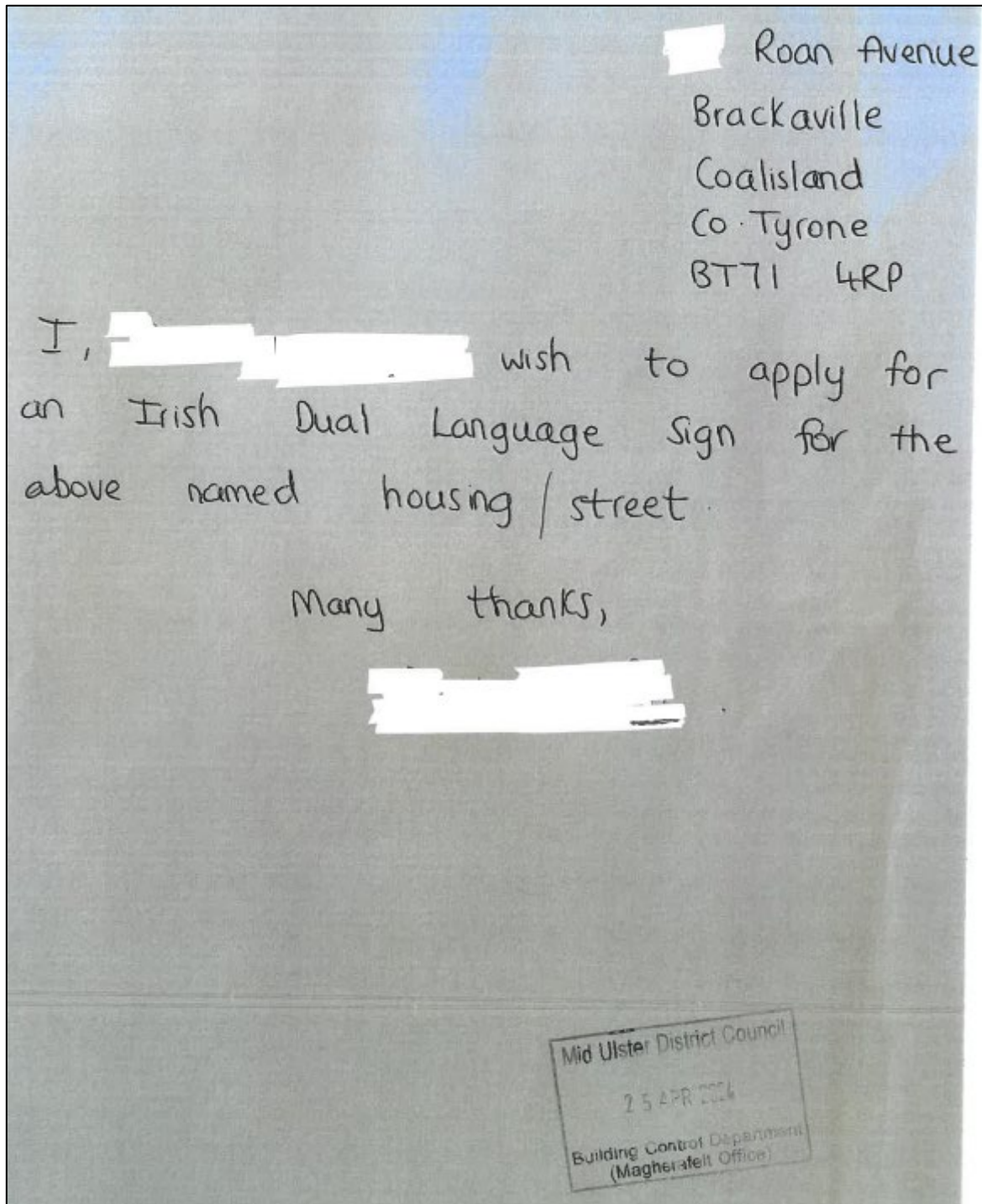
Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours sincerely,

This letter can be dropped to the local Council Office, or posted to Mr _____, Mid Ulster District Council, Ballyronan Road, BT45 6EN.

Mid Ulster District Council
24 APR 2024
Building Control Department
(Magherafelt Office)

Appendix 4 - Letter received from a resident of Roan Avenue, Coalisland



Appendix 5 - Letter received from a resident of Armaghlughey Road, Aughnacloy

My name is [redacted]
I live at [redacted] Armaghlughey Road,
Aughnacloy. I would like dual
language Irish survey for this
road.

[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted] Armaghlughey Road
Aughnacloy
BT69 6DN