



10 April 2024

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Development Committee to be held in The Chamber, Cookstown at Mid Ulster District Council, Council Offices, Burn Road, COOKSTOWN, BT80 8DT on Wednesday, 10 April 2024 at 19:00 to transact the business noted below.

Yours faithfully

Adrian McCreesh  
Chief Executive

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## 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
5. Deputation: Brown Signage (DfI & TNI Representatives in attendance)

### Matters for Decision

- |     |  |          |
|-----|--|----------|
| 6.  | Development Report   | 3 - 18   |
| 7.  | Community Grants   | 19 - 44  |
| 8.  | Brantry BARD Group Service Level Agreement                         | 45 - 48  |
| 9.  | Stewartstown Community Group Service Level Agreement               | 49 - 52  |
| 10. | Economic Development, Tourism & Strategic Programmes Report - OBFD | 53 - 198 |

### Matters for Information

- |     |  |           |
|-----|--|-----------|
| 11. | Minutes of Development Committee held on 14 March 2024 | 199 - 224 |
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**Items restricted in accordance with Section 42, Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014. The public will be asked to withdraw from the meeting at this point.**

Matters for Decision

- 13. SHHP Bellaghy Bawn Writers Residency Project
- 14. Fivemiletown Partnership Proposal

Matters for Information

- 15. Confidential Minutes of Development Committee held on 14 March 2024

<b>Report on</b>	Development Report
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	April 2024
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Claire Linney, Assistant Director of Development
<b>Contact Officers</b>	Philip Clarke – Neighbourhood Development Manager, Catherine Fox – Arts Development Manager, Brian McCormick – Seamus Heaney HomePlace Manager, Martina Totten – Social Inclusion Manager

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	<p>The purpose of this report is to update members and seek approval for the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Irish Language Plan 2024 – 2025</li> <li>• D Day 80</li> <li>• Development Department -Update</li> </ul>
<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	<p><b>Irish Language Plan 2024 – 2025</b></p> <p>Council annually delivers an Irish Language plan, in line with the agreed strategy and policy. The previous plan 23 - 24 was fully delivered, further detail can be provided by the staff team upon request.</p> <p>Please see a copy of the Irish Language Plan 24 – 25 at <b>Appendix 1</b>.</p> <p><b>D- Day 80 Recognition</b></p> <p>Members will recall an agreement of Council to in relation to D-Day as set out below. The original correspondence to Council has also been provided.</p> <p>Minute from the meeting - C171/23 Correspondence Members noted update on correspondence received for attention of Council. Councillor Cahoon drew attention to correspondence from Pageant Master 80 D Day 2024 and said she would encourage Council to participate in the event.</p> <p>The Chair, Councillor Molloy said it would be referred to the relevant Committee.</p> <p>Resolved That Pageant Master 80 D Day 2024 be referred to Development Committee regarding Council's participation in a planned event to mark 80 D Day 2024. Refer to <a href="https://www.d-day80beacons.co.uk/">https://www.d-day80beacons.co.uk/</a></p>

**Correspondence received by Council –  
10th August 2023**

Dear Councillor Mollory,

RE: NORTHERN IRELAND & D-DAY 80 - 6TH JUNE 2024

Further to my email to you dated 13th July regarding your Councils possible involvement in the lighting of a Beacon at 9.15pm on 6th June next year as part of D-Day 80, I have pleasure in attaching the up to date Guide To Taking Part, and can confirm that the Guide, Logo and Certificate of Grateful Recognition being given to those taking part, is also available to download from - [www.d-day80beacons.co.uk](http://www.d-day80beacons.co.uk) too. As you are aware, brave men from Northern Ireland played an important role in the D-Day landing eighty years ago on 6th June 2023, so we do hope that the fine District of Mid Ulster will take part, using this occasion to pay 'tribute' to those from Northern Ireland that gave so much to ensure the freedom we all enjoy today, especially as the beacons represent the 'light of peace' that emerged from the darkness of war.

If you do wish to participate, would you be kind enough to ask your office to confirm the following please. NAME OF COUNTRY: NORTHERN IRELAND Name of Council: Name of Contact: Tel: Email: Beacon Location Public or Private occasion: We look forward to receiving your decision.

Further information on the guidance that is provided for the D – Day 80 has been included below.

**Guidance on D-Day 80**

Consideration of a beacon or light/lantern to be lit at 9.15pm on Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> June 2024. If using the D Day 80 Beacons -

Beacons to be purchased before 30th April 2024 for delivery by end of May 24.

Lanterns to be purchased before 23rd May 2024.

In light of previous requests, it is proposed that Council would partner with the community in the D Day 80. This would involve the Council purchasing a number of the lanterns (25 lanterns initially pending demand) and make these available to community groups across the District for the D Day 80, alongside the guidance received. Further lanterns can be purchased pending demand. The cost of the initial lanterns is £1350, with a budget up to £2000. This will be promoted through the Community Development newsletter.

**Development Update**

2.2 Neighbourhood/Community Development

The grants closed on 8<sup>th</sup> March and officers have completed a full assessment of all grants, as per previous.

	<p>Covid Small Settlement projects – Coalisland Canal – engagement is continuing on the final design, Moy PAN public consultation was held and the results of this are being prepared.</p> <p>Railway Park – Update consultations are being held on the current designs and phased approach. Any member that would like detail please contact the officer team. The final designs will be progressed through the Committee process.</p> <p>Connecting Pomeroy – The Forest building works are ongoing due to complete April 2024. A new Development officer has been appointed and will commence April with a move to the new building when complete.</p> <p>2.3 <u>Social Inclusion</u>  The delivery of the Test and Learn model for Community Wealth Building is continuing. The most recent meeting took place on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February, with the next meeting planned for April. A workshop with Credit Unions is also planned to take place in May.</p> <p>The delivery of the Anti-Poverty Plan is continuing with a Family Fayre and Market being developed for June, in partnership with the Waste and Sustainability team, to sell pre-loved baby and children’s items such as prams, car seats, clothes, toys etc, as well as information stands and demos, focused on families.</p> <p>2.4 <u>Good Relations &amp; Peace</u>  The new plan for 2024 – 25 has been submitted to TEO for funding, no further update at this time.</p> <p>The final detail to support the agreed Peace Plus plan has been developed and is being submitted to SEUPB at the end of March.</p> <p>2.5 <u>Burnavon Arts Centre</u>  The Spring programme as previously noted was sold out. The development of the summer programme is ongoing. The arts showcase was a great success and the strategic arts partners all participated to highlight the diverse level of arts activity across the District.</p> <p>2.6 <u>Seamus Heaney Homeplace</u>  The Education Programme has had some 42 primary and post primary schools visit during the period from all over NI and beyond. The Key Stage 5 delivery has been rolled out utilising professors and lecturers from QUB, UU, and industry specialists, supported by PhD students from both universities. Open Ground is the platform for two workshops commencing in April, with one in partnership with RSPB. External agencies such as National Trust, HSC, PHA and local business continue to use the facilities at HomePlace for a range of meetings and conferences. In addition, The Helicon has hosted many successful shows over the period.</p> <p>2.7 <u>Hill of The O’Neill &amp; Ranfurly House</u>  The Hill of The O’Neill &amp; Ranfurly House plan is finalising with the new plan being ready to roll out. The recent St Patrick’s Day activity was very busy attracting a large number of people to the town. The next event planned is the Easter event.</p>
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	A letter has been received from the Minister acknowledging our correspondence on the Mast and a response to be received in due course. A paper as requested is being prepared for members on this issue.
2.8	<u>Regional and Minority Language</u> The Seachtain Na Gaeilge activity in March was very successful with all events at maximum capacity and partner activity.
2.9	<u>PCSP</u> See minutes attached in <b>Appendix 2</b> .
<b>4.1</b>	<b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b>
	Financial:  Irish Language Plan – as per agreed budget  D-Day 80 Recognition – lanterns (Lamp Light of Peace) £1375 (£55 per lantern x 25), up to a maximum of £2000, to be allocated within current Arts budget.
	Human: NA
	Risk Management: NA
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: NA
	Rural Needs Implications: NA
<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
5.1	Members are recommended to;  (i) Approve the annual Irish Language Plan (ii) Approve proposal for D-Day 80 (iii) Note the Development update.
<b>6</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
	Appendix 1 Irish Language Plan 2024 - 2025 Appendix 2 PCSP Minutes

PLEAN GNÍOMHAÍOCHTA GAEILGE – Aibreán 2024-Márta 2025  
IRISH LANGUAGE ACTION PLAN - April 2024-March 2025



Comhairle Ceantair  
**Lár Uladh**  
**Mid Ulster**  
District Council

# GOAL 1

## To Promote Opportunities to Learn Irish

ACTION STEP DESCRIPTIONS	DATE TO BEGIN	DATE DUE	RESOURCES REQUIRED (staff, tech, etc.)	DESIRED OUTCOME	NOTES
Deliver language taster days and or cultural workshops at various locations within the community	April 2024	March 2025	£24,000	3 taster days and or Cultural Workshops to be delivered across MUDC	
Deliver Irish language classes at key locations across the District at <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Beginner Level</li> <li>Intermediate Level and</li> <li>Advanced Level</li> </ul> This will include youth and adult audiences and will involve clustering & collaboration with other groups eg schools, sporting, cultural groups and community organisations	April 2024	March 2025		Residents of MUDC will have access to Irish Language class within 10 mile radius	MUDC classes will be marketed collectively Online options will be developed
Assist with provision of facilities /promotion for delivery of University of Ulster Diploma in Irish	Sep 2024	June 2025		15 + students will commence the Irish Language Diploma with Ulster University 2020/21	Advice and promotion provided to (potential) applicants
Deliver a schools Irish Language and Heritage programme across the district in the classroom setting Examples include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Irish language lessons</li> <li>Gaelic Heritage projects (Gaelic origins of townlands/surnames)</li> <li>Workshops/site visits</li> <li>Seek partnership with 'Scoil Spreagtha' programme – Gael Linn.</li> <li>Explore long term benefits of teacher training options.</li> </ul>	April 2024	March 2025	£10,000	Engage 15+ schools in the language and heritage programme	Aimed at Key Stage 1 classes. Persistent difficulties obtaining tutors for this programme.  To adopt the existing 'Dúchas' project as part of the wider 'Scoil Spreagtha' initiative currently operating with 40+ schools throughout Mid Ulster. Such an approach could entail several staff training

					workshops which will be facilitated by Gael Linn to upskill teaching staff in participating primary schools. This would have the effect of maximising the budget in partnership with Gael Linn to target an increased number of schools than previously reached. This would be more sustainable long term and leave a legacy in schools.
Mid Ulster District Council Regional & Minority Languages Bursary	April 2024	March 2025	£30,000	100 + applicants across the district to attend recognised language summer colleges for an average of 3 weeks	Opened to residents (adults and young people) of MUDC only

## GOAL 2

**To Develop Irish Language in the community and to make it more accessible for all**

ACTION STEP DESCRIPTIONS	DATE TO BEGIN	DATE DUE	RESOURCES REQUIRED (staff, tech, etc.)	DESIRED OUTCOME	NOTES
Provide development support, advice, information and guidance to individuals, groups and schools within the region in the promotion and development of the Irish Language and in particular An Ghaeloideachas (Irish Medium Education). Aim will be the further development and strengthening of the wider school 'community', with the purpose of creating bilingual communities.	April 2024	March 2025	£4,500	Community programme at HOTON to enhance linguistic support for bilingual families in the South Tyrone area	In conjunction with HOTON education office Further projects and activities for Gaelscoileanna to help promote Irish language use outside of the classroom, will also link in with further promotion of HOTON as a 'Cultúrlann'

Liaise with Irish language community locally through the Mid Ulster Irish Language Forum to assess needs and inform development of annual action plan and IL strategy	April 2024	March 2025		2+ themed meetings of Mid Ulster Irish Language Forum per annum	Meetings will focus on areas of interest to the community eg. Co-operation with GAA/Council, education, external funding opportunities etc
Provide development support through activity grant funding to external cultural organisations to establish Irish language programmes and to promote the language among its audience base.	April 2024	March 2025	£50,000	Irish Language Activity Fund	
Establish and maintain conversation circles and reading groups in local communities and possibly link to graduates and participants of Ulster University & Mid Ulster District Council Diploma participants - airgead breise d'imeachtaí HOTON	April 2024	March 2025		Adult fluency/language enrichment	
Co-operate with Irish Language community to develop a Mid Ulster Seachtain na Gaeilge programme which will feature a range of engaging activities aimed at Irish speakers and non-Irish speakers wanting to get involved in the language and profiling the Irish Language across the district	November 2024	March 2025	£7,500	Seachtain na Gaeilge delivered	Ensure geographical spread Align with MUDC Arts and Culture Festival
Enhance and promote youth services in Irish across MUDC and provide guidance and support to local youth projects – Ógchlub Dhún Geanainn agus Cairdeas Eoghain	April 2024	March 2025	£3,500	Materials, resource development	Engage with relevant organisations to increase the language capacity of local groups Consultations with sector highlight need for a programme aimed at teenagers. Focus on teenage services outside of term-time.
Facilitate the development of Foras na Gaeilge's Líonra programme in Mid Ulster An Coláiste Tuaithe stáidéar Gnó/Rural College Business Case	April 2024	March 2025	£2,468	Successful development of Líonra Charn Tóchair and subsequent extension of highest	

development level to other areas particularly Gael-Ionad Uí Néill in Coalisland.

Development support for identified lower level Lónra zones in Coalisland and Ballinascreen/Magherafelt to achieve highest status within 5 years (see IL Strategy 2023-27)

## GOAL 3

### To develop the Promotion and Use of Irish within and by Mid Ulster District Council

ACTION STEP DESCRIPTIONS	DATE TO BEGIN	DATE DUE	RESOURCES REQUIRED (staff, tech, etc.)	DESIRED OUTCOME	NOTES
Develop Irish Language service in the area of Environmental health awareness/education, recycling etc.	Sept 2024	March 2025	Collaboration with Environmental Health and Technical Services	7 pre-schools will avail of the Nigh Do Lámha hand washing instruction workshops. One community group will host a recycling and anti-litter project.	Service to be proactively marketing to Irish Medium pre-schools
Develop Irish Language service in Heritage and Education within MUDC Arts and Cultural facilities	April 2024	March 2025	Collaboration with MUDC Cultural Venues  £11,000	Facilitation of Irish language activities and programmes at key Council facilities and heritage sites and venues across the district	Investigate provision of digital resources for visitors to access on-site and online
Work with QUB Community Archaeology Programme	April 2024	March 2025			
To raise awareness of Gaelic linguistic heritage within the district	April 2024	March 2025	£2,000	Develop materials and plans for the benefit of the local Irish language community	Promote awareness of the linguistic heritage of Mid-Ulster (Láimhleabhar

					naíscoile agus Gaeilge sa Phobal)
Provide in-house translation services to Council Departments. Pat McKay	April 2024	March 2025	£500	Increase awareness within Council of this service	As per Irish Language policy
Provide language awareness training to Council Departments.	April 2024	June 2024		Increase awareness of Irish language community needs within Council Increase MUDC ability to deliver a bilingual service to the community	As per Irish Language policy
Provide advice and support as necessary to council departments re bilingual service delivery	April 2024	May 2024		Delivery of signage programme etc	
Provide Irish language audio tours for HOTION, Ohm Dark Skies Centre and Tulach Óg.	April 2024	June 2024	Collaboration with MUDC Cultural Venues	Enhanced facilitation of Irish language tourism	As per Irish Language policy

**Minutes of Mid Ulster Policing and Community Safety Partnership meeting held on 6 March 2024  
in Council Chamber, Dungannon and via MS Teams at 3.30pm**

- Present:** Councillor Sean McPeake (Chair), Councillor Eimear Carney, Councillor Clement Cuthbertson, Councillor Denise Johnston, Councillor Cathal Mallaghan, Councillor Brian McGuigan, Councillor John McNamee, Councillor Deirdre Varsani
- Grace Meerbeek, Julie McKeown
- Sharon Crooks (NIHE), Sinead Dolan (YJA), Michelle Grant (PBNI), Chris Morrison (NIFRS), Superintendent Michael O'Loan (PSNI), Leo Quinn (EA), T/Chief Inspector Beverlie Reid (PSNI)
- Apologies:** Councillor Anne Forde, Councillor Eva Cahoon, Alexandra Black (Vice Chair), Sue Chada
- In Attendance:** Michael McCrory (PCSP Manager), Annette McGahan (PCSP Officer), Shauna McCloskey (PCSP Officer), Martina McCullagh (PCSP Assistant)

The Meeting commenced at 3.33pm.

**PCSP303/24 WELCOME**

The Chair, Councillor McPeake welcomed all to the meeting. The Chair wished Alexandra Black (Vice Chair) a speedy recovery.

**PCSP304/24 DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Members were reminded of their obligation in relation to declarations of interest.

**PCSP305/24 MINUTES OF MID ULSTER POLICING & COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 24 JANUARY 2024**

The Minutes of Mid Ulster Policing and Community Safety Partnership meeting held on Wednesday 24 January 2024 were approved by Members.

**Proposed by:** Councillor Brian McGuigan

**Seconded by:** Councillor John McNamee

**PCSP306/24 MATTERS ARISING**

**PCSP290/23 MATTERS ARISING - PCSP285/23 - ANY OTHER BUSINESS**  
**Focus Meeting to discuss flags and offensive posters erected in Town Centres across Mid Ulster District**

In response to an update request from Councillor McNamee, the PCSP Manager advised a meeting to discuss flags and offensive posters erected in Town Centres across the district will take place on Wednesday 7 February 2024. Full details will be circulated to Members.

**PCSP291/23 – PROJECTS UPDATE – Tracker Units**

The PCSP Manager advised that copies of the Tracker Unit leaflet will be provided to Grace Meerbeek to assist with promotion of this initiative.

## PCSP299/24 REVIEW OF PCSP ACTION PLAN 2024/2025

The PCSP Manager referred to the overview of the PCSP Action Plan for 2024/25 which was provided at the last PCSP meeting held on the 13 December 2023, where it was agreed that Members would consider the document and provide feedback for the final review, prior to submission to the Joint Committee.

There are 3 strategic priorities as set out by the DoJ and the NIPB as follows;

**Strategic Priority 1** – *to ensure effective delivery in response to local need, and improve the visibility and recognition of the work of the PCSP through effective consultation, communication, and engagement.*

**Strategic Priority 2** – *to improve community safety by prioritising and addressing local safety issues, tackling crime and anti-social behaviour.*

**Strategic Priority 3** – *to support confidence in policing, including through collaborative problem solving with communities.*

**Strategic Priority 1** – *to ensure effective delivery in response to local need, and improve the visibility and recognition of the work of the PCSP through effective consultation, communication, and engagement*

### **Reference, Engagement and Listening (REAL)**

A new initiative to be included under this priority is a new format which Police wish to pursue called 'Reference, Engagement and Listening' (REAL) events. This involves consulting and engaging with local communities to develop problem solving initiatives which in turn will help build trust and confidence in Police. This will be trialled in one area and if successful can be rolled out across the district.

Members agreed with this addition to the Action Plan, no further amendments were requested to Strategic Priority 1.

**Strategic Priority 2** – *to improve community safety by prioritising and addressing local safety issues, tackling crime and anti-social behaviour*

### **Internet Safety**

As suggested by Alexandra Black, it is very important to raise awareness and highlight the dangers of on-line gaming and to inform the public of various 'parental controls' which can be activated to ensure a child is kept safe on-line. This awareness raising will be promoted through social media posts.

### **Agewell Handy Van - Domestic Violence high risk victims and Older Person's security equipment installations**

The PCSP Manager explained to Members the situation around funding, stating that PCSP contribute £15,000 to Agewell annually to contribute to the 'Handy Van' service which installs security equipment to the homes of domestic violence high-risk victims and to the homes of older people in the community. All referrals are received through the Crime Prevention Officer. The other funders which include the Northern and Southern Health Trusts, PHA, NIHE and MUDC have decided to prioritise the 'Good Morning Call' service only, and

to remove the 'Handy Van' service from the tender. This is a challenge for the PCSP as Agewell carry out an essential piece of work as laid out in the Action Plan. There is a deficit in funding of £40,000 for the Agewell tender.

The options are;

- Do we continue to contribute £15,000 to Agewell and fund this work from another pot of funding.
- Do we split the £15,000 to ensure we have some money where it is needed to fit domestic violence and older person's security equipment and provide some funding to the 'Good Morning Call'.

Members were asked for their views on the best way forward.

The Chair stated that it is disappointing to hear and short sighted of funding partners to remove the 'Handy Van' part of Agewell's work from the tender. It is an invaluable service and the absence of this will prove detrimental to services users.

In response to a question from Councillor McNamee, the PCSP Manager advised that there was a meeting attended by all the funders who took the decision to prioritise the 'Good Morning Call' aspect of Agewell's work and discontinue the 'Handy Van' as of 31 March 2024. The new tender will only contain the 'Good Morning Call' work. Funders have been informed of the major benefits to residents right across Mid Ulster district of this service provision.

Alexandra Black asked the question; can we allow this service to go by the wayside, as people's health and wellbeing will be seriously impacted.

Councillor McNamee stated that Agewell Funding will be discussed again at the next Development Committee meeting which will provide more clarity on all funders contributions towards this service.

The PCSP Manager advised that the information can be submitted as is and if amendments are needed later, they can be submitted separately to the Joint Committee with an accompanying explanation.

In response to a question from Grace Meerbeek regarding the quality of products being fitted, the PCSP Manager advised that all products are CE marked and approved by the PSNI Crime Prevention Officer.

T/Chief Inspector Reid advised that losing the 'Handy Van' service would present a major obstacle to arranging the fitting of security equipment. The Agewell staff are trusted and professional which is extremely important when attending victims of domestic violence and elderly people's homes to carry out work. It is not only the CPO who avails of this service, the Neighbourhood Teams also signpost people regularly to Agewell for assistance.

In response to a question from Councillor Varsani, the PCSP Manager advised that Mid and East Antrim have an Agewell service in their area, and he will contact them regarding their current funding situation.

The Chair asked if a breakdown of funding provision from all organisations

could be obtained to ascertain where the shortfall has arisen.

Members agreed with the above action in relation to Strategic Priority 2.

**Strategic Priority 3 – to support confidence in policing, including through collaborative problem solving with communities.**

The Chair referred to the continued damage to building confidence in Policing given their refusal, despite criticism from the judicial system to furnish information relating to legacy inquests. It is extremely difficult to get the GAA community in South Derry to fully engage with policing while this situation continues.

T/Chief Inspector Reid stated that she can fully understand the sentiment of the South Derry community and the level of mistrust towards Police and would relay the Chair's comments to her superior.

Members had no amendments to Strategic Priority 3.

**PCSP300/24 Justice and Security (NI) Act 2007**

T/Chief Inspector Reid referred to the Justice and Security (NI) Act 2007 and advised that all areas have been centrally asked to highlight and provide reassurance regarding the level of scrutiny that goes into legislation that Police use. This legislation gives Police powers to stop and search and stop and question (both with and without suspicion). This act was introduced in 2007 providing numerous additional powers, which assist Police to deal with terrorist related offences. There are small numbers in Mid Ulster that require the use of this legislation. Justice and Security powers need to be authorised every 14 days by an ACC and then confirmed by the Secretary of State. As part of the review process the Police as a service and at a District Level have a community Impact Assessment. Body worn video must be used and all searches are recorded.

In response to a question from the Chair, T/Chief Inspector Reid advised that statistics 'stop and search' are collated from April to April basis, therefore these can be provided in April 2024.

The Chair thanked T/Chief Inspector Reid for the update on the Justice and Security (NI) Act 2007.

**PCSP301/24 ANY OTHER BUSINESS  
Training for PCSP Members**

In response to a question from Grace Meerbeek in relation to training being provided to PCSP Members, the PCSP Manager advised that the target date for the re-constitution of PCSPs is the 1 April 2024, but may take to the 1 June 2024. The interview process for the recruitment of new PCSP Independent Members commences shortly following which the NIPB will arrange training for all Members.

**Youth Engagement Programme (YEP) in Holy Trinity, Cookstown**

Responding to a question from Grace Meerbeek in relation to the YEP in Holy Trinity College, Cookstown, Ryan McGee advised that this continues to be rolled

out using the Methodist Hall in Cookstown. The EA Youth Service premises will soon be complete and a comprehensive range of programmes will begin in February 2024. Emma Devlin, EA Youth Officer will contact the Member and provide an update on the YEP to date.

**PCSP302/24 Date of Next Meeting**

The next PCSP meeting will take place on Wednesday 6 March 2024 in Council Chamber, Dungannon and via MS Teams at 3.30pm.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending today's meeting.

The meeting ended at 4.33pm.



<b>Report on</b>	Community Grant Aid Awards
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> April 2024
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Claire Linney, Assistant Director of Development
<b>Contact Officers</b>	Hannah McCabe, Grants & Capacity Building Manager

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

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	<p>The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Grant Aid Programme award allocations 2024/2025.</li> <li>• Pitches and Recreational Spaces Strategy grant award allocations 2024/2025</li> <li>• Irish Language Activity grant award allocations 2024/2025</li> </ul>
<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	<p><b>Community Grant Aid 2024/2025</b> Members will be aware that the Community Grant Aid programme opened for online applications from the 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024 and closed on the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024. The call for applications was across a range of our grant programmes;</p> <p><b>Community Grant Policy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small Grants (Community, Arts, Heritage &amp; Culture, Sports and Environment)</li> <li>• Venues &amp; Facilities Grant</li> <li>• Strategic Community Development Grant</li> <li>• Strategic Arts Grant</li> <li>• Strategic Events Grant</li> <li>• Strategic Sports Grant</li> <li>• Community Festival Grant</li> <li>• Good Relations Grant</li> <li>• Sports Representative Grant</li> <li>• Capital Discretionary Grant</li> </ul> <p><b>Pitches &amp; Recreational Strategy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feasibility Development Grant</li> <li>• Infrastructure Development Grant</li> </ul> <p><b>Irish Language Activity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Activity Grant</li> </ul>

### 3.0 Main Report

A total of **547 applications** were received across all **13 grants programmes**, the detail of which is attached at **appendix 1**.

Members are advised that due to the level of eligible applications received under the **Small Development Grant & Pitches and Recreational Spaces Strategy Feasibility Development Grant**, the total fund amount was insufficient to award all eligible applications as per the scheme. Therefore to ensure that these 2 schemes can be delivered within budget, 2 options are presented for Members consideration;

- **Option 1** - Award as per original scheme until budget exhausted.
- **Option 2** - Award a reduced amount pro-rata across all eligible groups.

Outlined below is a summary of the assessment outcomes associated with each of the grants and Members are referred to appendix 1 for the detailed information.

### 3.1 Summary

Programme	No. of applications received	No. of Ineligible	Total budget	No of recommended awards & Amount	
<b>Community Grants Policy</b>	514	42	£875,000	<b>Option 1</b>	<b>Option 2</b>
				426	472
				<b>£829,156.22</b>	<b>£826,800.92</b>
<b>Pitches &amp; Recreational Strategy</b>	10	1	£200,000	<b>Option 1</b>	<b>Option 2</b>
				8	9
				<b>£195,932.00</b>	<b>£199,348.80</b>
<b>Irish Language Activity</b>	23	0	£50,000	23	
				<b>£50,000</b>	

**Please note:** The remaining balance in respect of the Community Grants Policy in relation to both option 1 and option 2 relates to the Good Relations & Community Festival, which are due to open for further calls later in the year and the Sports Representative Grant, which is a rolling programme.

### 4.0 Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications

Financial:

- Budget allocation to 10 Community Grant Aid Policy programmes  
Option1 £829,156.22 / Option 2 £826,800.92
- Budget allocation to 2 Pitches and Recreational Spaces Strategy Grant Programmes Option 1 £195,932.00 / Option 2 £199,348.80
- Budget allocation of the Irish Language Activity Grants Programme of £50,000

	Human: NA
	Risk Management: NA
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: Policies screened at time of development
	Rural Needs Implications: Policies screened at time of development
<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
5.1	Members are recommended to; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Consider and agree the award option in respect of the Small Development Grant &amp; Pitches and Recreational Spaces Strategy Feasibility Development Grant.</li> <li>(ii) Approve the remaining awards of the grants under the Grant Aid Policy, Pitches and Recreational Spaces Strategy and Irish Language Activity Grant.</li> </ul>
<b>6</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
6.1	Appendix 1 Grant Aid Assessment Panel Overview



COMMUNITY GRANTS INDEX 2024 / 2025

Grant Aid 2024/2025											
No	Grant Aid Policy Grants	No of Appl	No of Awards Option 1	No of Awards Option 2	Ineligible or did not meet threshold	Budget	Option 1 As original scheme until budget exhausted	Option 2 reduced pro rata across all eligible groups	Balance Option 1	Balance Option 2	Comments
1	<a href="#">Small Development Grant</a>	251	195	241	10	£198,602.82	£198,602.82	£196,247.52	£0.00	£2,355.30	Bal will transfer to Comm Fest Round 2 if Opt 2 agreed
2	<a href="#">Community/Sports Venues and Facilities</a>	96	89		7	£160,000.00	£160,000.00		£0.00		
3	<a href="#">Strategic Community Development</a>	8	5		3	£30,000.00	£30,000.00		£0.00		
4	<a href="#">Strategic Arts and Culture</a>	6	5		1	£77,500.00	£77,500.00		£0.00		
5	<a href="#">Strategic Events</a>	16	15		1	£74,500.00	£74,500.00		£0.00		
6	<a href="#">Strategic Sports</a>	6	6		0	£57,500.00	£57,500.00		£0.00		
7	<a href="#">Community Local Festivals</a>	96	86		10	£76,897.18	£69,553.40		£7,343.78		Balance for Rounds 2 & 3
8	<a href="#">Good Relations</a>	15	8		7	£35,000.00	£8,531.00		£26,469.00		Balance for Rounds 2 & 4
9	<a href="#">Sports Representative Teams &amp; Individuals</a>	16	14		2	£15,000.00	£2,969.00		£12,031.00		Rolling Grant
10	<a href="#">Capital Discretionary</a>	4	3		1	£150,000.00	£150,000.00		£0.00		
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>514</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>472</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>£875,000.00</b>	<b>£829,156.22</b>	<b>£826,800.92</b>	<b>£45,843.78</b>	<b>£2,355.30</b>	

No	Pitches & Recreational Spaces Strategy Grants 2024/2025	No of Appl	No of Awards Option 1	No of Awards Option 2	Ineligible or did not meet threshold	Budget	Option 1 As original scheme until budget exhausted	Option 2 reduced pro rata across all eligible groups	Balance Option 1	Balance Option 2	Comments
11	<a href="#">Feasibility Development Grant</a>	6	5	6	0	£50,000.00	£45,932.00	£49,348.80	£4,068.00	£651.20	
12	<a href="#">Infrastructure Development Grant</a>	4	3		1	£150,000	£150,000		0		
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>		<b>£200,000.00</b>	<b>£195,932.00</b>	<b>£199,348.80</b>	<b>£4,068.00</b>	<b>£651.20</b>	

No	Irish Language Grants	No of Appl	No of Awards		Ineligible or did not meet threshold	Budget	Award				Comments
13	<a href="#">Irish Language Activity Grant</a>	23	23		0	£50,000	£50,000				
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>£50,000.00</b>	<b>£50,000.00</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	

Small Development Grant (Maximum £1500)

Organisation name:	Title of Project/Activity:	Requested	Band	Award Option 1 - As per original scheme until budget exhausted	Award Option 2 - reduced pro rata across all eligible groups
1st Aughnacloy Cub and Beavers	1st Aughnacloy Cub and Beaver Programme	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
1st Ballygawley brownie Unit	Girlguiding in Ballygawley	£1,450.00	4	£1,015.00	£870.00
1st Ballygawley Scout Group	1st Ballygawley Scouts	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
1st Caledon Boys' Brigade	Programme Extras	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
1st Culnady Boys' Brigade	One and All	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
1st Loy Guides, Cookstown	Skills for the future.	£1,360.00	4	£952.00	£816.00
Acorns AC	Activity Programme	£1,500.00	2	£1,350.00	£1,200.00
Aghintaine Parish Heritage Group	Reading, 'Riting, 'Rithmic and Religion in Aghintaine	£1,150.00	6	£0.00	£460.00
Annahoe Mens Shed	Crafting A Caring Community	£1,500.00	7	£0.00	£450.00
Ardboe Art Group	Loughshore Art Project	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Aughadarragh Parent Support Association	Extra Curricular Arts Community and Sport Programmes in Rural	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Augharan Development Pipe Band Augharan Development Pipe Band	Tuition 2024	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Augher Pipe Band	Hall improvements and running costs	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Augher Stars Youth FC	Provision of Youth Football in the Augher/Clogher/ Ballygawley ar	£1,500.00	2	£1,350.00	£1,200.00
Aughnacloy Playgroup	Community Outreach Programme	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Aughnacloy Patchwork Club	To keep Aughnacloy Patchwork Club open foster good relations v	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Aughrim Rose of Derry LOL 711	Learning about our Culture	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Ballinascreen Camogie Club	Community Camogie Project	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Ballinascreen Men Shed	Ballinascreen Men Shed: Retraining and Repurposing	£1,500.00	3	£1,200.00	£1,050.00
Ballinascreen Traditional Music Group	Traditional Music Expansion Project	£1,485.00	4	£1,039.50	£891.00
Ballinderry AOH	AOH - Our Place & Home	£1,450.00	4	£1,015.00	£870.00
Ballinderry Hub Bowling Club	Bowls for All	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Ballygawley Local History Group	Monthly talks (Excluding Summer) and Annual Outing	£1,500.00	3	£1,200.00	£1,050.00
Ballymacall True Blues Flute Band	Annual Programme 2024	£1,500.00	3	£1,200.00	£1,050.00
Ballymaguigan Community Development Association	Running Costs and Ongoing Maintenance of the facility	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Bc Wolves	Growing Basketball	£1,500.00	2	£1,350.00	£1,200.00
Beechland Development Group	Voluntary gardening,, flower arranging general upkeep of estate	£1,500.00	6	£0.00	£600.00
Bellaghy Girls Brigade	Bellaghy Girls Brigade	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Bellaghy Wolfones Camogie Club	Bellaghy Camogie Club Winter Skills Programme	£1,500.00	2	£1,350.00	£1,200.00
Benburb Library & Museum	Annual Programme of Activities	£1,500.00	2	£1,350.00	£1,200.00
Bloomhill Rural Development Association Ltd	Fitness and fun for everyone	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Bush Womens Group	Womens Group Outing	£1,400.00	6	£0.00	£560.00
Caledon Guides and Rangers	Caledon Guide & Ranger Programme	£620.00	4	£434.00	£372.00
Caledon Open Door Club	Connecting Caledon	£1,255.00	7	£0.00	£376.50
Caledon Women's Institute	Caledon Womens Institute Annual Programme 2024/25	£1,325.00	6	£0.00	£530.00
Campa Chormaic	Campa Chormaic na hEaglaise	£1,500.00	6	£0.00	£600.00
CannyMan Community Arts	Canny Man's AV Equipment	£1,500.00	1	£1,500.00	£1,350.00
Castlecaulfield Youth Football Team	Youth football club	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Castledawson Community Partnership	Skills for Life/ Enhancing Community Relations	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Castledawson LOL 96	Skills for Life	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Castledawson Royal British Legion	Legion in the Community	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Causeway and Mid Ulster Women's Aid	Training and personal development programme.	£1,500.00	3	£1,200.00	£1,050.00
CCVF (Clogher community village forum)	Environment awareness community litter pick	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Christ Church Castledawson	A time of Socialising for our Senior Citizen	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Clogher Old Market House Community Development Initiative	Clogher Old Market House	£1,500.00	7	£0.00	£450.00
Clogher Valley CCE	Clogher Valley CCE - Classes For Beginners / Improvers	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Clogher Valley Rugby Football Club	Getting young people active at Clogher Valley RFC	£1,291.40	5	£774.84	£645.70
Clonoe Independent Pipe Band	Competition Band	£1,500.00	7	£0.00	£450.00
Cloughfin pipe band	Purchase of new equipment	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Coagh & District Local History Group	activities & speakers	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Coagh Community Crossroads Club	Arts and Crafts Learning Programme 2024-25	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Coalisland Parochial Centre Bowling Club	Youth Bowling Initiatives - 'Fun Bowls'	£1,150.00	6	£0.00	£460.00
Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Eireann (Cookstown Branch)	Ongoing delivery of music classes in various instruments.	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Cookstown and District Inter Church Forum	Church Forum Events & Activity	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Cookstown AOH	Our AOH & Us	£1,200.00	5	£720.00	£600.00
Cookstown Community allotments	Allotments For Health & Well Being	£1,500.00	3	£1,200.00	£1,050.00
Cookstown Floral Art Club	Activity Programme 2024 / 2025 Floral Art Club	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Cookstown Gardening Club	Promote social, physical and wellbeing	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Cookstown Hockey Club	Keeping Hockey Going	£1,500.00	2	£1,350.00	£1,200.00
Cookstown Local History Group	Exploring our shared history	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
cookstown motor club	Targa rally & Motor Sport in Mid Ulster	£1,500.00	1	£1,500.00	£1,350.00
Cookstown MS Help and Support	Health and Wellbeing 2024	£900.00	6	£0.00	£360.00
Cookstown North Community Group	Easter event at Stream Vale Farm	£1,500.00	6	£0.00	£600.00

Cookstown Wildlife Trust	To support the lecture programme and field outings of Cookstown	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Cookstown Woman's Support Group	Cookstown Woman's Support Group	£1,500.00	2	£1,350.00	£1,200.00
Cookstown Young Farmers Club	Cookstown Young Farmers Club	£1,500.00	6	£0.00	£600.00
Cookstown Youth Choir	Cookstown Youth Choir - Running Costs	£1,253.02	3	£1,002.42	£877.11
Cookstown Youth Football Club	CYFC Development Centre 2024	£1,500.00	1	£1,500.00	£1,350.00
Cookstown/Tamlaght COI	Community activities	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Country Roads Womens Group	Education through Presentation	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
County Tyrone Super Cup NI Association	Facility Hire at Mid Ulster Arena Cookstown	£1,470.80	3	£1,176.64	£1,029.56
Culnady LOL 479	Educating Culnady's Community	£800.00	5	£480.00	£400.00
Curran Heritage Culture and Community Association	Curran Community Engagement	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Derganagh Training and Development Association	Community interaction, inclusion and development initiative	£1,500.00	3	£1,200.00	£1,050.00
Derry Camogie Association	Mid Ulster Community Camogie Initiative	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Derry GAA For All	Sports for all (Derry GAA for all)	£1,500.00	6	£0.00	£600.00
Derryfuble LOL49	Delivery of community events including hall upkeep	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Derrylatinee Parent Support Group	Community Fun Run-Brantry Lough & Forest	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Derryloran Flower Guild	Floral Art classes, demonstrations, and Flower Festival planning	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Desertcreat Scottish Country Dancers	Annual Scottish Country Dance party	£870.00	6	£0.00	£348.00
Desertcreatives	Harvest Moon Festival	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Desertmartin Accordion Band	Community Coming Together	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Desertmartin Parish Church	Desertmartin Parish Church in the Community	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Donaghmore Historical Society	Digitisation of graveyard records form graveyards in Donaghmore	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Donaghmore Horticultural Community	Donaghmore in Bloom	£1,500.00	1	£1,500.00	£1,350.00
Donaghmore Mothers Union	Flower arranging class. Speakers at monthly meetings	£1,500.00	6	£0.00	£600.00
Donaghmore Primary School PTA	Mental Health and Well Being Workshops	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Dunamore Community Association	Dunamore Community Association 2024-5 Activities	£1,500.00	3	£1,200.00	£1,050.00
Dungannon & District Dancing Group	Learn and love to dance	£1,450.00	5	£870.00	£725.00
Dungannon & South Tyrone Kraft Circle.	Dungannon & South Tyrone Kraft Circle.	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Dungannon Amateur Boxing Club	Boxing and youth Development and Fitness classes	£1,500.00	3	£1,200.00	£1,050.00
Dungannon Amateur Swimming Club (DASC)	Dungannon Amateur Swimming Club	£1,500.00	2	£1,350.00	£1,200.00
Dungannon Area All Stars	Ogre - The Musical	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Dungannon Cricket Club	Replacement of Cricket Net Mat	£900.00	3	£720.00	£630.00
Dungannon Ladies Hockey Club	Umpire Development Programme	£1,500.00	2	£1,350.00	£1,200.00
Dungannon Multiple Sclerosis Support Group	Health and Wellbeing	£1,500.00	3	£1,200.00	£1,050.00
Dungannon Netball Juniors	Netball Training	£1,500.00	2	£1,350.00	£1,200.00
Dungannon Silver Band	Bigger, better, brassy	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Dungannon Visually Impaired Peoples (VIP) Club	VIP Annual Programme	£1,500.00	3	£1,200.00	£1,050.00
Dungannon Volunteer Flute Band	Promoting local culture and heritage	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Dungannon West Recycled Teenagers	Events/Running costs	£1,500.00	6	£0.00	£600.00
Dungannon Womans Institute	Developing and Celebrating Dungannon Womans Institute	£1,335.00	5	£801.00	£667.50
Eastvale & Kilcoole community and cultural group	Eastvale & Kilcoole Community events 2024 / 2025	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Edentilone Bowling Club	Rent, projector + projection screen, water boiler	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Edentilone Pipe Band	Rent of premises, purchase of uniform and instruments for new members	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Evergreen Club Coalisland	Inviting other clubs for dinner and dance	£760.00	5	£456.00	£380.00
Expac North Ltd	Know your place	£1,500.00	7	£0.00	£450.00
Fallaghlon AOH Community Hall	Social dancing/ Community bingo/ Drama group/ Marching band	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Fardross Heritage and Vision Society	Keeping it covered	£1,290.00	6	£0.00	£516.00
First Cookstown Bowling Club	Purchase and refurbishment of bowling equipment and storage facilities	£1,500.00	6	£0.00	£600.00
Fivemiletown Estates Group	Fivemiletown Estate Groups Community Activities 2024	£750.00	5	£450.00	£375.00
Fivemiletown Half Door Club	Fivemiletown Half Door Club Activities 2024/2025	£600.00	6	£0.00	£240.00
Friends of Ballylifford	Ballylifford Sporting and Community Wellbeing Project	£1,500.00	3	£1,200.00	£1,050.00
Friends of Killymoon Castle	Commerative Plaques	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Friends Of Kilronan	Summer Fun Day	£990.00	3	£792.00	£693.00
Friends of Knocknagin	Afterschools drama programme	£1,500.00	3	£1,200.00	£1,050.00
Friends of Little Woods	Mid Ulster Bat Walks	£1,432.80	4	£1,002.96	£859.68
Friends of Stewartstown Primary School	Sports & Arts Activities	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Friends of the Somme Mid Ulster Branch	Programme of Events 2024	£1,500.00	6	£0.00	£600.00
Galbally Country Club	Galbally Country Club	£1,500.00	6	£0.00	£600.00
Girlguiding Moneymore	We discover, we grow	£1,500.00	2	£1,350.00	£1,200.00
Glenburn Community Association	Glenburn Community Activities 2024	£320.00	5	£192.00	£160.00
Golden Star Temperance RBP 979	RBP 979 Hall	£1,450.00	5	£870.00	£725.00
Granaghan & District Women's Group, Swatragh	Working for and with our Community	£1,500.00	3	£1,200.00	£1,050.00
Granaghan Art Society	Weekly Art Class and Annual Exhibition	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Groundforce	D-Day	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Hilltop Highland Dancers Dergina	Hilltop Improvement Project	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Institute of Irish Leadership	Ciorcal Comhra 2024	£1,445.00	6	£0.00	£578.00
Island Triathlon Club	Island Triathlon Club	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Kilcronaghan Mothers Union	A Time of Socialising	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Kildress ABC	Kildress ABC - Community Sport	£1,500.00	3	£1,200.00	£1,050.00
Kildress Crafters	Kildress Crafters	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Kildress Health Matters	Kildress Matters	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Kildress Kare	Kildress Kare for 2024-5	£1,500.00	3	£1,200.00	£1,050.00

Kildress Mother's Union	Speakers, Christmas Lunch, Annual Outing, Kitchen Equipment	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Killeeshil Open Door Club	Killeeshil Stays Connected	£1,500.00	6	£0.00	£600.00
Killyman & District Cultural Group	Activates for the Community	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Killyman Craft & Leisure club	Candle wicking - sewing activity	£795.00	7	£0.00	£238.50
Killymoon Rangers Football Club	Community Wellbeing Project	£1,484.00	4	£1,038.80	£890.40
Killymuck Clay Pigeon Club	Community at Heart	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Kilnaslee Bowling Club	New Indoor Bowling Mat	£1,500.00	6	£0.00	£600.00
Ladies Guild Desertmartin Parish Church	Ladies Guild in the Community	£1,500.00	6	£0.00	£600.00
Lisbeg Pipe Band	Purchase of Instruments, equipment and uniform for new members	£1,497.00	7	£0.00	£449.10
Lough Fea Ladies Group	Remembering our Past at the Lough Fea Gathering	£1,500.00	6	£0.00	£600.00
Loughshore Community Services Ltd	Over 50s Exercise Classes	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Loup & District Historical Society	Researching/Documenting Items of Historic Interest in the Area	£1,500.00	3	£1,200.00	£1,050.00
Loup Women's Group	Autumn /Winter Classes 2024	£1,494.00	4	£1,045.80	£896.40
Maghera & District Gardening Group	Programme Speakers and Summer Visits	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Maghera Cricket Club	Maghera Cricket Club - Equipment and Coaching Investment	£1,491.94	5	£895.16	£745.97
Maghera Parish Caring Association	A time of Socialising and education	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Maghera Strollers Football Club	Hire of 4G Pitch	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Maghera Vintage Rally	An Evening of Country and Western Music	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Maghera Women's Institute	Programme of events 2024-2025	£1,410.00	6	£0.00	£564.00
Magherafelt Sky Blues FC	Getting young people active and healthier at MSBI!	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Magherafelt Titans Basketball Club	Development of basketball in the local area	£1,140.00	2	£1,026.00	£912.00
Magherafelt Versus Arthritis	Magherafelt Versus Arthritis Group Activity Plan 2024/25	£1,500.00	6	£0.00	£600.00
Magherafelt Welfare Group	Mental Health and Wellbeing	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Magherafelt Womens Group	Plates and Crafting	£1,500.00	3	£1,200.00	£1,050.00
Magherafelt Women's Institute	Activities for the coming year April 2024	£1,210.00	3	£968.00	£847.00
Martial Fitness	Move with Martial Arts	£1,500.00	3	£1,200.00	£1,050.00
Mid Ulster Beekeepers Association	Beekeeping outreach	£1,500.00	2	£1,350.00	£1,200.00
Mid Ulster Disability Forum	Mid Ulster Disability Forum promoting inclusion & accessibility	£1,500.00	3	£1,200.00	£1,050.00
Mid Ulster Floral Art Society	Floral Art	£1,500.00	6	£0.00	£600.00
Mid Ulster Lithuanian Community Baltic Together	Mid Summer Festival - Jonines 2024 (or Sain't Jonas Festival)	£1,500.00	6	£0.00	£600.00
Mid Ulster Netball Club	MUNC 2024-25	£1,500.00	2	£1,350.00	£1,200.00
Mid Ulster Squash Club	Diverse and Inclusive Squash in Mid Ulster	£556.00	4	£389.20	£333.60
Mid Ulster Swimming Club	Mid Ulster Swimming Club	£1,500.00	3	£1,200.00	£1,050.00
Mid Ulster Victims Empowerment Project	MUVE	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Milltown Arch & Cultural Group	2024/2025 Milltown Community Events and Upkeep of area	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Milltown Area Community Association	Milltown Area Community Activities 2024	£1,020.00	5	£612.00	£510.00
Moneymore Art Group	Art For All	£1,500.00	3	£1,200.00	£1,050.00
Moneymore WI	Moneymore WI - Activities	£1,500.00	6	£0.00	£600.00
Montober LOL 661	Community Development 2024/2025	£1,300.00	4	£910.00	£780.00
Moortown Community Hall	Moortown Community Hall Activities	£1,400.00	2	£1,260.00	£1,120.00
Moygashel Lambeg Drumming Club	Bringing the arts and culture alive to all ages	£1,500.00	3	£1,200.00	£1,050.00
Moygashel LOL708	Lodge Events	£1,500.00	6	£0.00	£600.00
Moygashel Regeneration Group (MRG)	Improvements in quality of life through community cohesion and	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Moyola Clay Target Club	Looking Forward	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Na Fianna Runners	Couch 2 5 K Program	£1,500.00	2	£1,350.00	£1,200.00
Newmills Football Club	Club Running Costs and Woman's Program 24/25	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Northern Counties Development Association	Swatragh in Bloom 2024	£1,500.00	3	£1,200.00	£1,050.00
O40 Cookstown Ltd	Arts and craft classes for Older People	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
ONeill Country Historical Society	Annual History Program	£1,500.00	2	£1,350.00	£1,200.00
Open Doors Club	Mindful Rainbow Colours and Sunshine Project	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Parkview Community Group	Our Community = Our Home	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Pomeroy Afterschool	Summer scheme 2024	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Pomeroy CCE	Autumn Session with focus on new player and new instruments	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Pomeroy Horticultural Group	Creating a garden at the Sale Yard Corner	£1,500.00	3	£1,200.00	£1,050.00
Pomeroy Players	2024 Production	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Pomeroy Plunketts Handball Club	Handball for All	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Pomeroy Plunketts Ladies GAC	Introduction Programme for New Comers	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Queen Elizabeth Pipe Band	Easter Piping and Drumming Workshops	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Richmond Parent Support Group	Building, developing & supporting relationships	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Riverside and Blackhill Community Association	Riverside and Blackhill Community Activities 2024	£560.00	6	£0.00	£224.00
Rock and District Historical Society	Bringing the Past to the Present	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00
Royal British Legion, Magherafelt	Branch Pensioner Welfare	£1,300.00	5	£780.00	£650.00
Sandholes Community Group	Increasing the development of the local community	£1,500.00	6	£0.00	£600.00
Sean O'Leary Camogie Newbridge	Newbridge Community Sports Initiative	£1,500.00	2	£1,350.00	£1,200.00
Simpson Grant Association Dergina	Providing a Dergina Community Facility	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Slieve Gallion Community Preschool	Summer Scheme	£1,500.00	7	£0.00	£450.00
South Tyrone Men's Shed	Building Connections in Dungannon	£1,500.00	6	£0.00	£600.00
Sperrin Cultural Awareness Association	An Older Persons Health and Wellbeing Initiative in the Sperrins	£1,500.00	5	£900.00	£750.00
Sperrin Kidz and Sperrin Youth Choir	Administration and Development of Childrens Choirs	£1,500.00	2	£1,350.00	£1,200.00
Sperrin U3A	Visit to Benburb and Coalisland Bog and Industrial Museum	£1,300.00	4	£910.00	£780.00
Sperrins Hillwalking Club	Hill and Low Level Walking for May 2024 to December 2024	£1,500.00	4	£1,050.00	£900.00



## Community/Sports and Venues Facilities Grant (Maximum £3500)

Organisation name:	Title of Project/Activity:	Requested	BAND	Award - As per original scheme
Aghaloo & Blackwater Community Association Ltd	Running Costs of Community Venue	£3,500.00	5	£1,500.00
Aghaloo O'Neills G.A.A. Club	Facility Utilities and Maintenance Costs	£3,500.00	4	£2,000.00
An Clochar Eire Og	Overhead Club Running Costs	£3,500.00	4	£2,000.00
Ardboe Community Centre	Running Costs	£3,500.00	3	£2,500.00
Ardboe O'Donovan Rossa GAC	Project Rossa Survival and Growth 2023	£3,500.00	4	£2,000.00
Augher St Macartan's GAC	Overhead Club Running Costs	£3,500.00	3	£2,500.00
Aughintober Regeneration	Advance Aughintober 2024-25	£3,500.00	4	£2,000.00
Ballinascreen GAC	Ballinascreen GAC Sports Facilities Support	£3,500.00	4	£2,000.00
Ballinderry Shamrocks Community Hub	Running Costs	£3,500.00	3	£2,500.00
Ballysaggart Area Community Association	Running costs	£3,500.00	5	£1,500.00
Bawn Development Association	The Bawn Hall Activity	£3,261.00	6	£1,000.00
Bellaghy Wolftones GAC	Bellaghy Wolftones Facility Support Project	£3,500.00	4	£2,000.00
Bonn Cultural Group Pomeroy	Ongoing costs	£3,500.00	5	£1,500.00
Brocagh and District Regeneration Group	Running Costs	£2,350.00	5	£1,500.00
Brocagh Emmets G F C	Brocagh G F C Running Costs	£3,500.00	4	£2,000.00
Broughderg Area Development Association Ltd	Peoples Centre, welcoming all who wish to avail	£3,500.00	5	£1,500.00
Caledon Community Centre	Operational running	£3,500.00	6	£1,000.00
Caledon Regeneration Partnership	Running Costs	£3,500.00	6	£1,000.00
Caledon Rovers Football Club	Running costs,	£3,500.00	6	£1,000.00
Cavanakeeran Community Association	Running Costs	£3,500.00	3	£2,500.00
Clogher Valley Community Centre	Running costs	£3,500.00	4	£2,000.00
Clogher Valley Outdoor bowling Federation	Maintenance costs	£3,350.00	7	£500.00
Clonoe Rural Development Agency Ltd	Running Costs	£3,500.00	3	£2,500.00
Coagh and Drummullan Network Group	Running Costs	£2,750.00	5	£1,500.00
Coagh United Football Club (incs Coagh United Youth)	Coagh Summer Soccer Camp	£2,950.00	4	£2,000.00
Coalisland & District Development Association	Room Hire	£3,500.00	2	£3,000.00
Coalisland Foodbank & Community Hub	Running Costs	£2,800.00	5	£1,500.00
Cookstown Boxing Club	Boxing Sports Wear & Equipment	£3,500.00	6	£1,000.00
Cookstown RBL Club	Running Costs	£3,500.00	3	£2,500.00
Craigmore and District Community Association	Glen Centre Support Project	£3,365.00	4	£2,000.00
Crossdernott Bowling Club	Community Venue	£2,300.00	6	£1,000.00
Derrylaughan Kevin Barry's GAC	Derrylaughan GAC Facility Improvement	£3,500.00	4	£2,000.00
Donaghmore District Community Association	Torrent Complex Community Venue	£3,500.00	3	£2,500.00
Donaghmore GAA	Donaghmore GAA - Social Inclusion	£3,500.00	4	£2,000.00
Dungannon Football Club t/a Dungannon Rugby Football Club	Property maintenance/ energy efficiency and reduce energy costs	£3,500.00	4	£2,000.00
Dungannon Swifts FC	Stangmore Community and Sporting Hub	£3,500.00	2	£3,000.00
Edentilone Hall LOL321	Running Costs	£3,500.00	6	£1,000.00
Eoghan Ruadh Hurling Club, Dungannon	Community walkway and building support	£3,500.00	4	£2,000.00
Erins Own Lavey GAC (Lavey GAC)	Erins Own Lavey Community Venue Support	£3,500.00	4	£2,000.00
Fivemiletown Royal British Legion Club Ltd	speaker/projector/audio system	£3,500.00	5	£1,500.00
Fivemiletown United Football Club	Goal Quest: Enhancing Community Play Spaces	£3,500.00	4	£2,000.00
Galbally Youth & Community Association	GYCA Running Costs	£3,500.00	3	£2,500.00
Glenageeragh Pipe Band	Community Venue	£3,500.00	6	£1,000.00
Glor Na Speirini	Supporting growth and development	£3,240.00	7	£500.00

Community/Sports Venues and Facilities Grant

Gortalowry House Project Ltd	Running costs	£3,500.00	2	£3,000.00
Henry Joy McCracken Moneymore GAC	Facility Development and Sustainability Project	£3,500.00	4	£2,000.00
Hope 4 U Foundation	Community Centre	£3,500.00	5	£1,500.00
Involve NI	Involve House	£3,500.00	3	£2,500.00
Kilcronaghan Community Association	Kilcronaghan Community Association 2024/25	£3,500.00	4	£2,000.00
Kildress Wolfe Tones GAA	Hub Running Costs	£3,500.00	3	£2,500.00
Killeeshil Community Centre	Community Venue Grant Towards Overheads	£3,500.00	2	£3,000.00
Killyman St Marys GAC	Facility Overheads and running costs for our Community Sporting Fa	£3,500.00	3	£2,500.00
Kilnaslee Community Development Group	Running Costs	£3,500.00	6	£1,000.00
Knocknagin Hall Committee	Knocknagin Community Hub	£3,500.00	3	£2,500.00
Liberty Church Mid-Ulster	Community Outreach program	£3,500.00	5	£1,500.00
Loughans Cultural and Development Association	Loughans Community User Groups	£3,500.00	7	£500.00
Maghera Cross Community Link	Venues grant	£3,500.00	3	£2,500.00
Michael Davitt Swatragh GAC	Swatragh GAC community venue support	£3,500.00	4	£2,000.00
Moneyneena & District Development Initiative	Community Venue Running Costs	£3,500.00	3	£2,500.00
Moortown St Malachys GAC	Running Costs of Moortown Community Hub	£3,500.00	5	£1,500.00
Moy GAC	Perimeter Spectator Fencing	£2,000.00	5	£1,500.00
Moygashel Community & Cultural Association	Running Costs	£3,500.00	7	£500.00
Moyola Park AFC	Maintaining our Pitch at Moyola Park AFC	£3,500.00	5	£1,500.00
Muintir N Mointeach	Washingbay Centre	£3,500.00	3	£2,500.00
Ochill Cultural Group	Running Costs for Ochill Cultural Group	£3,467.38	7	£500.00
O'Donovan Rossa GAC Magherafelt	O' Donovan Rossa Sporting Facility Support	£3,500.00	4	£2,000.00
Pomeroy Development Projects Ltd	Running Costs	£3,216.60	5	£1,500.00
Pomeroy Plunketts GAC	Running Costs	£3,500.00	4	£2,000.00
Rainey Rugby Football Club	Hatrick Park, Rainey Facility Support Project	£3,500.00	4	£2,000.00
Rhone Valley Community Group	Syerla Hall Venue Upkeep & Activities 2024	£2,903.33	6	£1,000.00
Roughan Orange Lodge & Cultural Group	Running costs and Overheads	£3,500.00	4	£2,000.00
Sean O'Leary GAC Newbridge	Newbridge GAC Facility Support Project	£3,500.00	4	£2,000.00
St Michael's GAC Lissan	General running costs & Maintenance upgrades to club facilities	£3,500.00	4	£2,000.00
ST Patrick's GAC Loup Co Derry	Upgrade of toilet facilities	£3,500.00	4	£2,000.00
St Trea's GFC Ballymaguigan	Support for running costs	£3,350.00	5	£1,500.00
St. Martin's GAC, Desertmartin	Football Versatile Goal Posts	£3,160.00	4	£2,000.00
St. Oliver Plunkett Greenlough GAC	Greenlough Community Sports Venue Support	£3,500.00	4	£2,000.00
Stewartstown Harps Gaelic Athletic Club	Club Running Costs	£3,500.00	4	£2,000.00
TABBDA	Ballyronan Marina Centre Running Costs	£3,500.00	5	£1,500.00
Tamnamore Community Development Association	Running Costs	£3,500.00	3	£2,500.00
Termoneeny Community Association	Community Venue Running Costs	£3,500.00	4	£2,000.00
The OpenDoor Complex	The OpenDoor Community Project	£3,500.00	4	£2,000.00
Tirgan Community Assoc.ltd	Running costs	£3,500.00	4	£2,000.00
Tobermore Community Projects	Tobermore Mckinney Hall	£3,500.00	7	£500.00
Tobermore Village Hall Development Assosiation	Village Hall Upgrade	£3,500.00	7	£500.00
Tobin Centre (Moortown) LTD	Community Venue Contribution Towards Running Costs	£3,324.00	3	£2,500.00
Upperlands Community Development Limited	Upperlands Youth	£3,200.00	6	£1,000.00
Watty Grahams GAC	Watty Grahams GAC Sports Venue Support	£3,500.00	4	£2,000.00
West Street Community Hub	Running Costs	£2,390.00	6	£1,000.00
1st Aghnacloy Scouts	Running Costs	£3,500.00		Ineligible. Core funding

Community/Sports Venues and Facilities Grant

Acorn Women's Group	Overhead Costs	£3,500.00	Ineligible. Core funding
Augher Stars FC	Club Running Costs	£3,500.00	Double Category Application
Ballyronan Boat Club	Refurbishment of Changing Rooms	£3,425.00	Did not meet Score threshold
Great Rossa Run	Fixed Assets	£3,500.00	Ineligible. Ownersip
Kileeshill & Clonaneese Historical Society	People of Note	£2,360.00	Ineligible. Ownership
Magherafelt Titans Basketball Club	Club running costs	£1,140.00	Ineligible. Ownership

**89 Awards**

**TOTAL**

**£160,000.00**

Score	Band	Award
90 - 100		1 £3,500
80 - 89		2 £3,000
70 - 79		3 £2,500
60 - 69		4 £2,000
50 - 59		5 £1,500
40 - 49		6 £1,000
30 - 39		7 £500

## 3. Strategic Community Development (Maximum £8000)

[RETURN TO INDEX](#)

Organisation name:	Title of Project/Activity:	Requested	Band	Award As per original scheme	Comments
Community Organisations of South Tyrone & Areas Ltd (COSTA)	Mid Ulster Community Development Support Service 2024 / 2025	8000	1	8000	
First Steps Women's Centre (FSWC)	Women Into Education, Training, Wellbeing and Volunteering	8000	3	6000	
Hope Magherafelt (Christians Against Poverty)	CAP Mid Ulster Debt Centre, Money Coaching Course & Eat Well Spend Less	5155	4	4000	Reduced in line with request
Mid Ulster Community Transport Services Ltd T/A Out and About Community Transport Ltd	Mid-Ulster Rural Dwellers	8000	4	5000	
Mid Ulster Volunteer Centre	Mid Ulster Volunteer Centre	8000	2	7000	
ADDNI LTD	Tackling ADHD: Supporting and empowering the ADHD Community	8000		Ineligible	Not Strategic Community Development
BEAM Creative Network	Building relations through music and climate action	7935		Ineligible	Not Strategic Community Development
Shopmobility Mid Ulster	Gobility Plus	8000		Ineligible	Not Strategic Community Development

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£30,000.00</b>
	<b>5 Awards</b>

Score	Band	Award
90 - 100		1 £8,000
80 - 89		2 £7,000
70 - 79		3 £6,000
60 - 69		4 £5,000
50 - 59		5 £4,000
40 - 49		6 £3,000

## RETURN TO INDEX

### 4. Strategic Arts and Culture Grant (Maximum £20,000)

Organisation name	Title of Project/Activity	Requested	Band	Award - As per original scheme
Bardic Theatre	Arts - Theatre - Dance	£20,000.00	1	£20,000.00
Brantry Area Rural Dev Assoc	Brantry Bard Arts and Culture Programme 2024-2025	£10,900.00	7	£5,000.00
Carntogher Community Association	Carntogher Arts Projects 2024/2025	£20,000.00	2	£17,500.00
Craic Arts Centre	Affordable Arts For All	£20,000.00	1	£20,000.00
Glasgowbury	Cornstore Creative Hub	£20,000.00	3	£15,000.00
The Hubbt80	Open Door Arts Project 2024	£15,578.00	-	did not meet threshold score
				<b>5 Awards</b>
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£77,500.00</b>

Score	Band	Award
90 - 100		1 £20,000
80 - 89		2 £17,500
70 - 79		3 £15,000
60 - 69		4 £12,500
50 - 59		5 £10,000
40 - 49		6 £7,500
30 - 39		7 £5,000

## RETURN TO INDEX

### 5. Strategic Events Grants (Maximum £8000)

Organisation name	Title of Project/Activity	Requested	Band	Award
Annahoe Historical Cultural and Sports Society	Last Saturday Cultural Event	£7,550.00	5	£4,000.00
Benburb District LOL 13	12th July Demonstration & Cultural Day 2024	£8,000.00	3	£6,000.00
Cookstown & District Motorcycle Club (Road Racing) Ltd	The 2024 Cookstown 100 Road Races	£8,000.00	2	£7,000.00
Cycul	Lap The Lough	£8,000.00	3	£6,000.00
Dungannon Gaelic Forum	St Patrick's Day Cultural Parade	£7,003.00	4	£5,000.00
Eglis Road Bowls Club	All Ireland road bowls Final 2024	£5,615.00	6	£3,000.00
Erins Own Lavey GAC	Mid Ulster Truckers Festival 2024	£8,000.00	5	£4,000.00
Friends of Killymoon Castle	D-Day + 80	£8,000.00	6	£3,000.00
Irish Junior Open Committee	Irish Junior Open Tour Players Championship	£8,000.00	5	£4,000.00
Magherafelt and District Motor Club	Annual Motorsport Event	£7,866.00	3	£6,000.00
Moneymore District LOL No 10	Celebrating our Culture through the Ages	£8,000.00	4	£5,000.00
Pomeroy Social Activity Group	Santas Magical Forest	£8,000.00	2	£7,000.00
The Clogher Valley Agricultural Society Ltd	Clogher Valley Show 2024	£8,000.00	2	£7,000.00
The Great Rossa Run	The Great Rossa Run 2023	£8,000.00	6	£3,000.00
Tri Limits Triathlon Club	Tri Tyrone 70.3 Triathlon	£7,300.00	5	£4,000.00
Loughinsholin Tourism Cluster	Ballyscullion Book Festival	£8,000.00	Ineligible: Governance	

Score	Band	Award
90 - 100	1	£8,000
80 - 89	2	£7,000
70 - 79	3	£6,000
60 - 69	4	£5,000
50 - 59	5	£4,000
40 - 49	6	£3,000

**£74,000.00**  
15 Groups  
awarded

**RETURN TO INDEX****6. Strategic Sports Development Grants (Maximum £15,000)**

Organisation name	Governing Body	Request	Band	Award As per original Scheme
Derry GAA	Ulster GAA8-10 Market Street, Armagh.02837521900	£15,000.00	3	£10,000.00
Irish FA Foundation	Irish Football Association / Irish FA Foundation	£15,000.00	2	£12,500.00
Swim Ulster Limited	Swim Ulster are the Governing Body in Ulster	£15,000.00	5	£5,000.00
Tyrone GAA	Gaelic Athletic Association	£15,000.00	3	£10,000.00
Ulster Hockey LTD	Ulster Hockey	£15,000.00	3	£10,000.00
Ulster Rugby	The Ulster Branch of the Irish Rugby Football Union	£15,000.00	3	£10,000.00

TOTAL £57,500.00

6 groups supported

Score	Band	Award
90 - 100	1	£15,000
80 - 89	2	£12,500
70 - 79	3	£10,000
60 - 69	4	£7,500
50 - 59	5	£5,000

[Return to Index](#)

## 7. Local Community Festivals (Maximum £1500)

Organisation name	Title of Project/Activity	Requested	Band	Award as per original sheme
33rd Derry Ballinascreen Scouts	30 Years Celebrating Scouting within our Community	1500	6	£750.00
Aghaloo O'Neills G.A.A. Club	19th May	1500	5	£900.00
Aughur Central PS PTFA	Community Fun Night	1500	6	£750.00
Ballinacross Accordion Band	Community Opening Evening	1500	6	£750.00
Ballinderry Shamrocks Community Hub	Health & Wellbeing Weekend	1500	4	£1,050.00
Beechland Development Group	Annual festival/party in the park	1500	6	£750.00
Benburb Library & Museum	Summer Fete at Benburb Library & Museum	1500	3	£1,200.00
Blackhill LOL 681	Community Family Fun Event	1500	6	£750.00
Brocagh After School Club	Summer FunDay	1250	7	£500.00
Bush Primary School PTA	Community Fun Night	1040	5	£624.00
Caoram Teoranta Cúram Teoranta	Grúpa Tuistí agus Táchran Fun Day	1500	6	£750.00
Castledawson Community Partnership	Castledawson Community Togetherness	1500	5	£900.00
Castledawson LOL 96	Castledawson Community Together	1500	6	£750.00
Cavanakeeran Community Association	Green Weekend	1500	4	£1,050.00
Christ Church Castledawson	with Santa	1500	6	£750.00
Clogher Valley Playgroup	Community Fun Day	1500	6	£750.00
Clonoe Rural Development Agency Ltd	Outdoor Marquee Festival	1500	5	£900.00
Coagh United Football Club	Community Fun Day	1150	5	£690.00
Coalisland Parochial Centre Bowling Club	C.P.C. Open Bowling Festival 24/25	1500	4	£1,050.00
Cookstown Youth Football Club	CYFC Community Festival 2024	1500	4	£1,050.00
Coolnafranky Park Residents Association	Kids Fun Day	1500	6	£750.00
Curran Heritage Culture and Community Association	Curran Community Concert	1500	6	£750.00
Derrylaughan Kevin Barry's GAC	Derrylaughan Community Festival	1500	4	£1,050.00
Desertcreatives	Christmas is coming	1500	6	£750.00
Desertmartin Parish Church	Vintage Rally	1500	4	£1,050.00
Donaghmore Primary School PTA	90th Anniversary of Donaghmore Primary School	1500	6	£750.00
Drumnaglough Flute Band	Drumnaglough Community Summer Festival	1000	7	£400.00
Dungannon Choral Society	Spring Concert	1500	6	£750.00
Dungannon Classic Car and Vehicle Club	Classic Vehicle Show	1500	5	£900.00
Dungannon Friends of Chest/Heart & Stroke	Community Engagement & Awareness Event	1500	3	£1,200.00
Dungannon Music and Drama Festival Association	Dungannon Speech and Drama Festival	1500	3	£1,200.00
Fivemiletown Primary School PTFA	Fivemiletown Fun Run	1500	5	£900.00
Friends of Knocknagin	Family fun night & BBQ	1500	6	£750.00
Friends of Magherafelt High School	and prettiest pouch competition	1500	6	£750.00
Friends of Rock (sub-committee Rock St Patrick's GAA Football club, Rock)	The annual 2024 Rock 5k run	1500	4	£1,050.00
Friends of Stewartstown Primary School	Fun Night	1500	6	£750.00
Gran Quilters	Gran Quilters Annual Exhibition	800	5	£480.00
Granaghan & District Women's Group, Swatragh	30 Years Young and Still Going Strong!	1500	6	£750.00
Kilcronaghan and Ballynascreen Girls Friendly Society	Community Concert	1500	6	£750.00
Kilcronaghan Community Association	Family Fun Day	1500	4	£1,050.00
Kilcronaghan Parish Church	A Community Garden Tea party	1500	6	£750.00
Killyman St Marys GAC	Killyman Vintage Car and Tractor Show 2024	1500	4	£1,050.00
Killymuck Clay Pigeon Club	Killymuck Clay Pigeon Shoot	1500	7	£600.00
Kilnaslee Community Development Group	Christmas Party & Wreath Making Workshop	1500	7	£600.00
Knockloughrim Accordion Band	Knockloughrim Accordion Culture Day	1500	5	£900.00
Knockloughrim Parents Association	Fun Colour Run	1500	5	£900.00
Leckagh Neighbourhood Partnership	The July Festival	1500	4	£1,050.00
Leo's boys and girls tug of war club	Annual international tug of war competition	1500	5	£900.00
Loughshore Community Services Ltd	Moortown Summer Festival 2024	1500	5	£900.00
Maghera Cricket Club	Festival of Cricket (2024)	1460	6	£730.00
Maghera Parish Caring Association	Cultural Garden Fete & Vintage Rally	1500	5	£900.00

Local Community Festivals

Maghera Vintage Rally	Maghera Vintage Rally	1500	5	£900.00
Moneyamore Community Group	Motor Show & family funday	1500	4	£1,050.00
Moygashel Community & Cultural Association	Festival Event	1250	6	£625.00
Moyola Clay Target Club	Moyola Cup Challenge	1500	4	£1,050.00
Na Fianna Runners	Running festival	1500	7	£600.00
Naíscoil Charn Tóchair	Back To School Hooley	1500	5	£900.00
Naíscoil Mhacahire Rátha	Safari Summer Fun Day	1500	6	£750.00
Newmills Playgroup	Community Festival	1010	6	£505.00
O Donovan Rossa Magherafelt	Magherafelt GAA Community Festival	1500	5	£900.00
Ochill Cultural Group	Ochill Summer Festival	1420	7	£568.00
O'Neill Country Historical Society	Anniversary of the Battle of Benburb	1500	3	£1,200.00
Open Doors Club	Silver Summer In The SWA	1500	6	£750.00
Parents, Teachers and Friends of Dungannon Primary School	Community Festival BBQ and Fun Day	1250	5	£750.00
Parish of Termoneeny	Termoneeny Parish Summer Fete and Funday	1500	6	£750.00
Queen Elizabeth Pipe Band	Cross Community Variety Concert	1500	6	£750.00
Ren Bu Kan Judo Club	Judo Festival	1500	7	£600.00
Royal British Legion, Magherafelt	Magherafelt Royal British Legion Community Concert	1500	6	£750.00
Soul Resort	You cant teach a Granny	1446	7	£578.40
Sperrin Harriers	Stunnerz and Runners	1500	7	£600.00
Sporting Hearts	Dungannon Truck Run	1500	5	£900.00
St Malachys GAC Castledawson	Dawson Summer Festival 2024	1500	4	£1,050.00
St Mary's Bowling Club Killeeshil	2024/2025	1280	5	£768.00
St Mary's Fivemiletown Parent, Teacher and Friends Association	Community Halloween Festival and Spooky Walk	1500	4	£1,050.00
St. Brigids Camogie Club	BrocaghFest 2024	1300	6	£650.00
Stewartstown & District Environmental Outreach	Stewartstown Christmas Market	1500	5	£900.00
Tamlaght O'Crilly District LOL No9	Five a side football Competition	1500	6	£750.00
Tamlaght O'Crilly Parish Vintage Group	Vintage Group	1500	4	£1,050.00
The BASE @ Tobin	The BASE Olympics/Summer Fun Day	1450	6	£725.00
Tiny Tots Pre-School Education Centre	Tiny Tots Summer Fayre	1450	6	£725.00
Tirgan Community Assoc.ltd	Festival	1500	6	£750.00
Tobermore Community Projects	Family Fun Day	1500	7	£600.00
Tobermore Old Standard LOL 131	200 Year Anniversary Event	1500	7	£600.00
Tobermore Primary School Parent Teacher Association	Summer Fair and Duck Race	1400	7	£560.00
Tobermore Village Hall Development Association	Community Funday	1500	6	£750.00
Walker Memorial Primary School, Castlecaulfield Parents Support Group	Family Summer Fun Evening	850	6	£425.00
Annahoe Historical Cultural and Sports Society	Clogher Valley Twelfth JULY Celebrations	1500	Ineligible	
Ballinascreen Men Shed	Present.	1500	Ineligible	
Ballymacall True Blues Flute Band	Darts Festival	850	Ineligible	
Bc Wolves	3x3 NI Community	4460	Ineligible	
Caledon Playgroup	Evening and Flower Demonstration	1500	Ineligible	
Country Roads Women's Group	Good Food and Good Health, how to prepare.	1600	Ineligible	
Errigle Keerogue Parish Church	The Big Helpout	1502.54	Ineligible	
Fivemiletown United Football Club	Football Fest	1500	Ineligible	
Killymoon Rangers Football Club	Football Festival for Young People Programme	1484	Ineligible	
O40 Cookstown Ltd	Seasonal Celebrations	1500	Ineligible	

			<b>Total Award</b>	<b>£69,553.40</b>
			<b>Balance</b>	<b>£7,343.78</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>		<b>£76,897.18</b>		
<b>Score</b>	<b>Band</b>	<b>% Award Option 1</b>		
90 - 100	1	100%		
80 - 89	2	90%		
70 - 89	3	80%		
60 - 89	4	70%		
50 - 89	5	60%		

Local Community Festivals

40 - 89	6	50%
30 - 89	7	40%



## 9. Sports Representative Teams (Maximum £500) and Individuals (Maximum £250)

[Return to Index](#)

## TEAMS

Organisation name	Title of event/Project.	Requested	Band	Award	Comments
Tullylagan Pony Club	Pony Club UK National Quiz	500	3	£400	-
33rd Derry Ballinascreen Scouts	Phoenix Challenge 2024	500			Ineligible

**Total                    £400**

## INDIVIDUALS

1 Team Award

Name of Participant	Title of event/Project.	Requested	Band	Award	Comments
Benjamin Patterson	Hockey Ireland under 16 4 nations tournament	250	2	£225.00	
Cathaoir Purvis	Valencia 10K, Spain Armagh International 5K Eur	250	1	£250.00	-
Cayden Cummings	All Ireland Championships	250	4	£175.00	
Charlie Costelloe	Hockey representation. UK LIONS hockey team.	250	2	£225.00	-
Colin Hogg	British Isles Indoor Senior Fours Event 2 British I	250	2	£225.00	-
Deagan Registe	Leinster Long Course Meet	97	2	£97.00	
James Shaw	British isles championships	250	2	£225.00	-
Luke Haycock	Series Vs Wales U20 team	250	5	£150.00	-
Mark Wilson	Hong Kong Classic 2023 British Isles Indoor Britis	250	2	£225.00	-
Matthew Henry	EPF European Powerlifting Championships	250	2	£225.00	-
Robert Vozar	British schools Championship	250	3	£200.00	-
Tanya Scullion	Masters Home Internationals	97	2	£97.00	-
Tom Irwin	Oster cup, Flensburg, Germany.	250	1	£250.00	-
Megan OKane	The Dance Worlds	250	Ineligible		
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£2,569.00</b>	

13 Individual Awards

Score	Band	Teams	Individuals
90 -100	1	£500.00	£250.00
80 - 89	2	£450.00	£225.00
70 - 79	3	£400.00	£200.00
60 - 69	4	£350.00	£175.00
50 - 59	5	£300.00	£150.00

[Return to Index](#)**10. Capital Discretionary Grant (Maximum £50,000)**

Organisation name:	Title of Project/Activity:	Requested	Award	Notes
Cairde Ui Neill	Gael-Ionad Ui- Neill	50000	£50,000.00	Recommended
Cookstown Fr Rocks GFC	Cookstown Fr Rocks Capital Developm	50000	£50,000.00	Recommended
Galbally Youth & Comm Associati	Youth Annexe	50000	£50,000.00	Recommended
Murley Silver Band	Centenary Band Hall Project	50000	£0.00	Did not meet the score threshold
			£150,000.00	
			3 Awards	

## Return to Index

### Pitches & Recreational Spaces Strategy, Feasibility Development Grant Applications Budget £50,000 (Maximum Grant £10,000)

Organisation	Project Activity	BAND	Total Cost of Project	Request from MUDC	Award Option 1 - As per original scheme until budget exhausted	Award Option 2 - reduced pro rata across all eligible groups
<b>Donaghmore GAC</b>	feasibility study for construction of a new full size Gaelic football pitch	<b>1</b>	£21,000.00	£10,000.00	£10,000.00	£10,000.00
<b>St Treas GAC Ballymaguigan</b>	synthetic pitch and replace the community hall	<b>2</b>	£12,064.00	£6,032.00	£6,032.00	£5,428.80
<b>Cookstown Hockey Club</b>	enhancing the hockey facilities at Cookstown Hockey Club	<b>2</b>	£20,000.00	£10,000.00	£10,000.00	£9,000.00
<b>Ballinderry GAC</b>	Changing Rooms & Community Wellbeing Space	<b>2</b>	£20,280.00	£10,000.00	£10,000.00	£9,000.00
<b>Lissan GAC</b>	club plans for a hub that serves our local community	<b>3</b>	£19,800.00	£9,900.00	£9,900.00	£7,920.00
<b>Loup GAC</b>	development of a Multisports 5G Surface Indoor Pitch	<b>3</b>	£20,000.00	£10,000.00	£0.00	£8,000.00
				<b>£55,932.00</b>	<b>£45,932.00</b>	<b>£49,348.80</b>

Band	% Award Option 1
1	100%
2	90%
3	80%

[Return to Index](#)

**Pitches & Recreational Spaces Strategy, Infrastructure Development Grant Applications**

Budget £150,000 (Maximum £50,000)

Organisation	project	Score Total	Requested	Award
<b>Dungannon United Youth C.I.C</b>	Replacing floodlights and resurfacing the 3G pitch at Dungannon Youth Stadium Black Lane	<b>98</b>	£50,000	£50,000
<b>Tyrone County Board</b>	Installation of Floodlights at O'Neill Park Dungannon	<b>98</b>	£50,000	£50,000
<b>Rainey Rugby Football Club</b>	Development of Rainey RFC Clubhouse - Phase 1 (changing rooms/sporting/social space)	<b>98</b>	£50,000	£50,000
<b>CLG &amp; CC Naomh Colum Cille, Oilean Agus Cluain</b>	Ball Wall & 3G Surface	<b>53</b>	£50,000	£0
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>£200,000</b>	<b>£150,000</b>

## [Return to Index](#)

<b>GEOGRAPHIC AREA</b>	<b>NAME OF GROUP</b>	<b>ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED</b>	<b>TOTAL AMOUNT AWARDED</b>
Coalisland	Cairde Uí Néill	“Gaeilge sa Phobal 24/25 – Irish in the Community”	£3,500.00
Swatragh	Grúpa Ban Ghreanacháin - Granaghan Womens Group	Series of Irish Language Workshops	£650.00
Maghera	An Carn Centre	“Clár Gníomhaíochta na Gaeilge” Language Revitalisation Plan	£14,685.00
Maghera	Conradh na Gaeilge Charn Tóchair	“Gaeilge sa Phobal” (Support programme for Irish speaking families)	£5,275.00
Ballinascreen	Glór na Speiríní	“Gníomhaíochtaí Bhaile na Scríne”	£3,050.00
Magherafelt	Glór Mhachaire Fíolta	“Gníomhaíochtaí Mhachaire Fíolta”	£3,855.04
Swatragh	Naíscoil Ghreanacháin	“Is Féidir Leat (Family Support Programme)”	£2,350.00
Kildress	Campa Chill Dreas	“Campa Chill Dreas (Kildress Summer Camp)” Irish language summer camp for local children	£1,588.00
Desertmartin	St Martin’s GFC	“Physical and Wellbeing Activities” Irish language GAA coaching training.	£1,440.00
Cookstown	Cairdeas Eoghain	“Seal Spraioi Summer Schemes”	£582.00
Brocagh	St Patrick's Camogie Club	“Promotion of the Irish Language in the Club and Wider Community”	£300.00
Ballygawley	Coláiste Naomh Chiaráin	“An Teanga Bheo” Irish language lunch time club culminating with a school Irish language céilí.	£350.00
Edendork	Edendork GAA	“An Ghaeilge Chun Tosaigh/ Irish First”	£1,000.00
Kildress	Kildress Wolf Tones	“Promoting Irish in Kildress”	£330.00
Ballinascreen	Ballinascreen Traditional Music Group	“Public Relations and Advertisement”	£200.00
The Loup	St Patrick's GAC, The Loup	“Development of Irish Language and Cultural Offering”	£1,000.00
Maghera	Cúram Teoranta	“Ceol agus Craic”	£2,424.96

Dungannon	Eoghan Ruadh Hurling Club, Dungannon	"Running Costs for Irish Language Conversational Meet Ups"	£300.00
Galbally	Galbally Pearses GAC	"Development of the Irish language"	£450.00
Stewartstown	Tobin Centre	"Activities in Irish for children between 4-11 years"	£2,420.00
Ballygawley	St Mary's Ballygawley PTA	"St Mary's After-School Irish Club"	£200.00
Desertmartin	Knocknagin Hall Committee	"Dúchas Dhíseart Mhártain" Irish language community activities for the Desertmartin area.	£350.00
Cookstown	Naíscoil & Gaelscoil Eoghain	"Cur chun cinn na Gaeilge"	£3,700.00
			Total Grant Amount Awarded:
			<b>£50,000.00</b>

<b>Report on</b>	Brantry BARD Group Service Level Agreement
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> April 2024
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Kieran Gordon, Assistant Director Health, Leisure & Wellbeing
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Martin Conlan, Recreation & Countryside Officer

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To consider a proposal to enter into a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Brantry BARD Community Group for caretaker and cleansing duties within Brantry Wood.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	Previously in March 2016, the Development committee considered and resolved to adopt proposals for annual service levels agreements in support of leisure and outdoor recreation services (minute reference: D075/16) and each year thereafter, a report has been brought forward for Members consideration on annual service level agreements.
2.2	In August 2018, the Development Committee considered and permitted to the development of Brantry Forest Development Proposal (minute reference: D173/18).
2.3	In March 2020, Members resolved to approve the MUDC Five Year Outdoor Recreation Strategic Plan (minute reference: D052/20) and a key strategic action contained within this plan is to <i>“Monitor existing SLAs with Community Groups for the on-going maintenance of outdoor recreation facilities in their local community”</i> and within each year of the strategic plan there is an action to seek to <i>“develop 1 x new SLA”</i>
2.4	Previously in March 2024, Members resolved to approve the approach for annual service levels agreements in support of leisure and outdoor recreation services for the April 24 – March 25 year.  Council review all Service Level Agreements annually based on a mixture of performance indicators and service provision - this ensures that service level objectives meet with Council's satisfaction and are monitored continuously.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	During 2019, Brantry Wood experienced significant investment and facility enhancements. Visitor numbers have increased significantly, and this has brought about additional challenges in terms of site maintenance, opening/closing the site, cleaning, light maintenance and inspections.
3.2	In line with one of the strategic actions contained within the MUDC Five Year Outdoor Recreation Strategic Plan, Council officers commenced discussions with the Brantry BARD Community Group to seek to develop a partnership that recognises the increased

	<p>accessibility of services at Brantry Wood and the challenges that Council resources face in maintaining a quality service within the Brantry Wood area.</p>
3.3	<p>It is proposed to enter into an SLA and to develop a close working partnership with a recognised grouping within the area. This will be of significant benefit to Council in terms of local community engagement, capacity building, commitment, support and supervision of one of our main visitor attractions within the area.</p>
3.4	<p>Proposals have been discussed with the group to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Target areas within Brantry Wood including Brantry Lodge</li> <li>• Cleaning toilet facilities at Brantry Lodge</li> <li>• Litter picking and low level maintenance</li> <li>• Grass cutting and leaf blowing</li> <li>• Attendance at Lough Macronan: litter picking and inspection of life-saving device(s)</li> <li>• Reporting of issues to Council staff – i.e.. antisocial behaviour, defects, fallen trees or large branches etc</li> <li>• The proposed agreement would seek to provide on-site support services 4 times a week equating to 8 hours per week with daily site presence. The calculated cost of this service equates to £100.72 per week / £5,237.44 per annum. By doing this, Council staffing resource and ongoing financial outlay towards this facility can reduce proportionately and this therefore can be re-invested elsewhere within the department to help identified service pressures and enhance operational service standards.</li> </ul>
3.5	<p>It would be proposed to enter into this agreement for the period of May 24 – March 25 and thereafter reviewed annually as part of the overall SLA report presented to Members on an annual basis.</p> <p>Initially therefore the above costings would be on a pro-rata basis and subject to review - Council review all Service Level Agreements annually based on interim performance indicators, this ensures that service level objectives meet with Council's satisfaction and monitored continuously.</p>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b>
	<p>Financial: All Service Level Agreement payments are contained within existing budgets and there is provision within the 2024/25 Health, Leisure and Wellbeing budgets allocations. In addition, this is in line with the Council's approved Five Year Outdoor Recreation Strategic Plan (minute reference: D052/20).</p>
	<p>Human: Officer time to administer and monitor delivery of agreed SLA's.</p>
	<p>Risk Management: Considered in line with relevant policies and procedures.</p>
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	<p>Equality &amp; Good Relations Implications: None anticipated at this juncture.</p>
	<p>Rural Needs Implications: None anticipated at this juncture.</p>

<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	<p>That Members note the contents of the report and approve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to enter into a Service Level Agreement with Brantry BARD Community Group to provide on-site support services 6 hours per week, 4 days per week on a flexible rota at an approx. cost of £100.72 per week/ £5,237.44 per annum.</li> </ul> <p>This is for the period May 2024 - March 2024, and thereafter reviewed annually as part of the overall SLA report presented to Members on an annual basis. This will be reviewed for effectiveness and extension in line with other annual Service Level Agreements in support of Council's leisure and outdoor recreation services.</p>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
6.1	N/A



<b>Report on</b>	Stewartstown Community Group Service Level Agreement
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> April 2024
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Kieran Gordon, Assistant Director Health, Leisure & Wellbeing
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Martin Conlan, Recreation & Countryside Officer

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To consider a proposal to enter into a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Stewartstown Community Group (SCG) for caretaker and cleansing duties within Drumcairne Forest.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	Previously in March 2016, the Development committee considered and resolved to adopt proposals for annual service levels agreements in support of leisure and outdoor recreation services (minute reference: D075/16) and each year thereafter, a report has been brought forward for Members consideration on annual service level agreements.
2.2	In May 2022, the Development Committee gained approval be granted to enter into a licence and lease agreement with FSNI to allow for the development of Drumcairne Forest. (minute reference: D082/22).
2.3	In March 2020, Members resolved to approve the MUDC Five Year Outdoor Recreation Strategic Plan (minute reference: D052/20) and a key strategic action contained within this plan is to <i>“Monitor existing SLAs with Community Groups for the on-going maintenance of outdoor recreation facilities in their local community”</i> and within each year of the strategic plan there is an action to seek to <i>“develop 1 x new SLA”</i>
2.4	Previously in March 2024, Members resolved to approve the approach for annual service levels agreements in support of leisure and outdoor recreation services for the April 24 – March 25 year.  Council review all Service Level Agreements annually based on a mixture of performance indicators and service provision - this ensures that service level objectives meet with Council's satisfaction and are monitored continuously.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	During 2023, Drumcairne Forest experienced significant investment and facility enhancements. Visitor numbers have increased significantly, and this has brought about additional challenges in terms of site maintenance, cleaning, light maintenance, and inspections.
3.2	In line with one of the strategic actions contained within the MUDC Five Year Outdoor Recreation Strategic Plan, Council officers commenced discussions with the Stewartstown Community Group to seek to develop a partnership that recognises the increased

<p>3.3</p> <p>3.4</p> <p>3.5</p>	<p>accessibility of services at Drumcairne Forest and also the challenges that Council resources face in maintaining a quality service within the Drumcairne area.</p> <p>It is proposed to enter into an SLA and to develop a close working partnership with a recognised grouping within the area. This will be of significant benefit to Council in terms of local community engagement, capacity building, commitment, support and supervision of one of our main visitor attractions within the area.</p> <p>Proposals have been discussed with the group to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Target areas within Drumcairne Forest.</li> <li>• Litter picking and low-level maintenance.</li> <li>• Removal of weeds and cutting back of undergrowth.</li> <li>• Reporting of issues to Council staff – ie. antisocial behaviour, defects, fallen trees or large branches etc.</li> <li>• The proposed agreement would seek to provide on-site support services 4 times a week equating to 6 hours per week with daily site presence. The calculated cost of this service equates to £75.54 per week/ £3,928.08 per annum. By doing this, Council staffing resource and ongoing financial outlay towards this facility can reduce proportionately and this therefore can be re-invested elsewhere within the department to help identified service pressures and enhance operational service standards.</li> </ul> <p>It would be proposed to enter into this agreement for the period of May 24 – March 25 and thereafter reviewed annually as part of the overall SLA report presented to Members on an annual basis. Initially therefore the above costings would be on a pro-rata basis and subject to review - Council review all Service Level Agreements annually based on interim performance indicators, this ensures that service level objectives meet with Council's satisfaction and monitored continuously.</p>
<p><b>4.0</b></p>	<p><b>Other Considerations</b></p>
<p><b>4.1</b></p>	<p><b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b></p> <p>Financial: All Service Level Agreement payments are contained within existing budgets and there is provision within the 2024/25 Health, Leisure and Wellbeing budgets allocations. In addition, this is in line with the Council's approved Five Year Outdoor Recreation Strategic Plan (minute reference: D052/20).</p> <p>Human: Officer time to administer and monitor delivery of agreed SLA's.</p> <p>Risk Management: Considered in line with relevant policies and procedures.</p>
<p><b>4.2</b></p>	<p><b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b></p> <p>Equality &amp; Good Relations Implications: None anticipated at this juncture.</p> <p>Rural Needs Implications: None anticipated at this juncture.</p>

<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	<p>That Members note the contents of the report and approve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to enter into a Service Level Agreement with Stewartstown Community Group to provide on-site support services equating to 6 hours per week, 4 days per week on a flexible rota at an approx. cost of £75.54 per week/ £3,928.08 per annum.</li> </ul> <p>This is for the period May 2024 - March 2024, and thereafter reviewed annually as part of the overall SLA report presented to Members on an annual basis. This will be reviewed for effectiveness and extension in line with other annual Service Level Agreements in support of Council's leisure and outdoor recreation services.</p>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
6.1	N/A



<b>Report on</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tourism Trade and Consumer Shows/Events 2024/2025</li> <li>2. Hidden Heritage Tours 2024</li> <li>3. Mid Ulster Brown Signage Audit</li> <li>4. Mid Ulster Labour Market Partnership (LMP) 2023/2024 Funding</li> <li>5. Service Level Agreement – Irish Central Border Area Network (ICBAN) 2024/2025</li> <li>6. MEGA - Progress Report for 2023/2024 and Third Funding Contribution for 2024/2025 via Service Level Agreement</li> </ol>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	10 April 2024
<b>Reporting Officers</b>	Assistant Director of Economic Development, Tourism & Strategic Programmes  Tourism Manager

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
<b>1.1</b>	To provide Members with an update on key activities as detailed below.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
<b>2.1</b>	<p><b>Tourism Trade and Consumer Shows/Events 2024/2025</b></p> <p>The tourism team continue to work in association with Tourism NI, Tourism Ireland, and other strategic partners to maximise tourism promotion of our key attractions, experiences and businesses targeting core ROI, UK, European &amp; US markets.</p> <p>In the aftermath of the covid pandemic, most promotions and events are now back to a fully in-person model, with little to no virtual events. Through research, experience, and stakeholder engagement, the MUDC tourism department have identified key promotions and shows that are a necessity to attend.</p>

<p><b>2.2</b></p>	<p><b>Hidden Heritage Tours 2024</b></p> <p>Hidden Heritage Tours are organised annually across the Mid Ulster District to encourage locals and visitors to explore heritage sites and discover the hidden gems of Mid Ulster.</p>
<p><b>2.3</b></p>	<p><b>Mid Ulster Brown Signage Audit</b></p> <p>In November 2022, Gerry Darby Consultancy was commissioned by Mid Ulster District Council to carry out an audit of brown signs across the entire district.</p> <p>The audit was completed between December 2022 and March 2023. Brown tourism signs were surveyed, photographed, geo-located and placed on a google map link. This allows all photos of the signs to be identified at their actual geographic location.</p> <p>The purpose of the audit is to inform staff and elected representatives of the location of signs, assess and help upgrade the physical condition and visibility of existing signs, identify any redundant signs and assess the present policy and procedures.</p>
<p><b>2.4</b></p>	<p><b>Mid Ulster Labour Market Partnership (LMP) 2023/2024 Funding</b></p> <p>The Council previously agreed to participate in the development and delivery of a Local Labour Market Partnership (LMP) under the Employability NI Programme led by the Department for Communities (DfC). The Mid Ulster LMP aims to improve employability outcomes and labour market conditions locally by working through coordinated, collaborative, multiagency partnerships. The LMP provides a unique opportunity to greatly impact Council's priorities for skills and employability ensuring that an appropriate skills pipeline is available to local industry both now and in the future.</p> <p>The Council previously received a Letter of Offer (dated 27 July 2023) for £369,005.21 from the Department for Communities to support delivery of the Mid Ulster LMP Action Plan 2023-2024.</p>
<p><b>2.5</b></p>	<p><b>Service Level Agreement – Irish Central Border Area Network (ICBAN) 2024/2025</b></p> <p>Over the past number of years, a group of 8 Councils from north and south (as listed below) have provided a financial contribution towards ICBAN to support their work; these are Mid Ulster District Council, Fermanagh and Omagh Council, Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council and Monaghan, Donegal, Sligo, Leitrim and Cavan County Councils.</p>

**2.6 MEGA - Progress Report for 2023/2024 and Third Funding Contribution for 2024/2025 via Service Level Agreement**

MEGA (Mid Ulster Manufacturing & Engineering Growth & Advancement) is an award-winning collaborative growth network formed in 2017 with the support of Mid Ulster District Council and Invest NI to address the immediate and medium-term skills shortages in the manufacturing and Engineering industries in the Mid-Ulster area. MEGA is unique in that it is an industry-led collaborative network of businesses who are working together towards a common goal. Its main aim is to tackle skills and labour issues in Mid Ulster and create and implement ways to attract and retain talent in the engineering and manufacturing industry.

**3.0 Main Report**

**3.1 Tourism Trade and Consumer Shows/Events 2024/2025**

The key shows and events the tourism team seek to attend are as follows:

Show/ Location	Dates	Cost
Clogher Valley Show	31 July 2024	£1,000 <i>(staff mileage/expenses)</i>
Meet The Buyer (Belfast)	9 & 10 April 2024	<i>(staff mileage /expenses)</i>
World Travel Market (London)	5 - 7 November 2024	Cost to attend £560 approx. Flights approx. £140pp. Hotel approx., £600 for one room 4 nights. Total costs: £1600 approx.
Holiday World (Dublin)	24 - 26 January 2025	£2,500
Celtic Connections (Glasgow)	January 2025	Stand £300 Flights approx £100 Hotel approx £90  Total approx. £500-600
Nordics - Scandinavian Mission	Winter/Spring 2024/2025	Stand £344 +VAT, Flights: £103pp approx., Hotel: £350 approx. Total spend: £1000 approx.
Flavours (London)	October 2024	Stand £300 Flights & Accommodation £150, Hotel 250 Approx £700
Inbound Tourism Operators Association	November 2024	<i>(staff mileage/expenses)</i>

(ITOA)		
Adventure Travel Trade Association (Austria)	May 2024	Stand - £650 Flights & accommodation £1,000
USA Sales Mission	During 2024/2025	£1,500 includes stand, Flights, and accommodation.
<b>Total</b>		<b>£9900</b>

The tourism team will continue to host familiarisation trips for media, influencers, and tour operators to promote our current and new products and newly developed tourism experiences.

**Return on investment / outcomes from attending tourism events and shows in 2023/2024:**

World Travel Market:

MUDC Tourism Officers and the Loughinsholin Cluster attended WTM London in November 2023 and had a productive three days, with 38 meetings with potential international operators. Generating a number of opportunities.

ITOA:

MUDC Tourism Officers and the Loughinsholin cluster attended ITOA in November 2023 and met with 30 buyers.

Meet the Buyer

Twelve Mid Ulster Tourism businesses attended. A number of industry members from the Tourism Development Group attended MTB in March 2023 – all described the event as successful, presenting good opportunities and leads for follow-up.

Clogher Valley Show

Eight Tourism Businesses attended the show selling to the staycation market. Data capture for tourism ezine via competitions.

Nordics Workshop

Mid Ulster Tourism featured on Tourism Ireland travel podcast. Familiarization Media Trip organised from this workshop. One confirmed booking from attending this workshop to OM Dark Sky Park. International influencer trips have taken place in Mid Ulster with social media coverage and a new audience reached as an outcome.

Increase awareness of Mid Ulster Tourism offering.

### 3.2 **Hidden Heritage Tours 2024**

This year's Hidden Heritage Programme will look at three heritage experiences, which allows the consumer to step back in time and discover what's on your doorstep, thus increasing visitor spend in the area and encouraging overnight stays in the district. This year will focus on the 'Big Houses' within the Mid Ulster District.

#### **Saturday 8 June 2024**

##### **Who lives in a house like this – Ballyscullion Park, Bellaghy, MAGHERAFELT**

Ballyscullion Park is the beautiful home of Richard and Rosalind Mulholland and their four children. The estate was bought by Richard's grandparents, Sir Harry, and Lady Mulholland in 1938, and the house was restored to its present state.

You will be taken on a journey to explore this private historic house and estate situated amongst unspoilt countryside, surrounded by ancient woodland and breathtaking views over Lough Beg. Richard (a professional tour guide) gives a fascinating talk about the history of Ballyscullion Park and the Mulholland family, with their long-standing involvement in the linen industry. Richard is descended from Jane Austen's brother Edward Knight, and Rosalind has connections with Charlotte Bronte.

#### **Friday 21 June 2024**

##### **The Three Sisters Tour - Springhill, Lissan House and Killymoon Castle, COOKSTOWN**

Explore Mid Ulster's amazing collection of historic houses, perfectly maintained and lovingly preserved. Three of these houses, Lissan House, Springhill and Killymoon Castle have a unique link: three sisters - Henrietta, Louisa and Elizabeth Molesworth, the daughters of Richard Molesworth and his second wife Mary Jenney Ussher.

#### **Saturday 21 September 2024**

##### **Who lives in a house like this – Blessingbourne Estate, FIVEMILETOWN**

A special welcome to the Lowry family home, the award-winning Blessingbourne Estate. A beautiful historic 550-acre Country Estate, nestled in the heart of woodlands, lakes, and wildlife on the edge of the Clogher Valley. Colleen will allow you to delve into the estate's captivating history.

In the coach house Bronagh Duffin from BakehouseNI will demonstrate her traditional baking including her now very famous soda farls.

All tours are £25 per person, which includes coach (departing from the Burnavon Arts & Cultural Centre, Cookstown) tour, refreshments, and a light meal. Each tour has a capacity of 25 persons (to accommodate house tours). Booking is essential.

### 3.3 Mid Ulster Brown Signage Audit

The Tourism Manager will present Mid Ulster's Brown Signage Audit to Members at the start of the meeting.

Previously on 12 March 2024, Mid Ulster's Draft Brown Signage Audit was presented to Mid Ulster's Tourism Development Group to seek their views/comments. The Brown Signage Audit was warmly received and gained the approval of the Group.

Representatives from DFI Roads and Tourism NI have been invited to attend the Development Committee Meeting to answer queries from Members in relation to the existing Brown Signage Policy and Procedures.

The Brown Signage Audit was a comprehensive piece of work which Council commissioned through a public procurement exercise and it took some time to complete with many exploratory journeys and mapping the brown signs on Mid Ulster's road network. The main work completed is as follows;

- Check that every brown sign is pointing in correct direction, reposition if required, and secure to post
- Report any missing signage where a sign is missing but posts are in place
- Cut back vegetation as required to ensure each sign is visible
- Clean each sign using appropriate materials as directed by Transport NI (DFI Roads)
- Photograph each sign or where a sign should be erected
- Submit a report displaying a photograph of each sign and its location noting what remedial action was taken or is required
- A complete set of digital photographs clearly referenced (e.g., Route, Road Name, Junction/Location)
- Prepare and submit a report detailing what replacement or new signage is required in a format that meets Transport NI's requirements

The report also contains a number of Recommendations as regards the way forward.

The full Brown Signage Audit Report is attached on **Appendix 1** for Members to review in advance of the meeting.

### **3.4 Mid Ulster Labour Market Partnership (LMP) 2023-2024 Funding**

On 26 January 2024, the Department for Communities (DfC) issued correspondence to all LMPs inviting easement bid submissions as a result of underspend within the Department's programme budget. To this end, a bid was submitted on behalf of Mid Ulster LMP to cover additional salary costs of £17,505.50 incurred in the 2023-2024 financial year. This relates to internal staff who provided support to the LMP secretariat whilst the Project Delivery Officer was on maternity leave as well as a contribution towards the salary of the Strategic Programmes Service Manager for their direct contribution towards the management of the programme.

DfC approved the easement bid for the period 2023-2024 and on 21 February 2024 issued an addendum letter of offer to Council. A copy of the addendum to the letter of offer is contained in **Appendix 2**, and the updated Budget Scheule for 2023-2024 is enclosed in **Appendix 3**.

### **3.5 Service Level Agreement – Irish Central Border Area Network (ICBAN) (2024/25)**

By way of update, ICBAN has provided a detailed account of the work they have completed in 2023/2024 financial year on **Appendix 4** and seeks support to build upon these initiatives going forward into 2024/2025.

ICBAN has also submitted a request to Mid Ulster District Council in December 2023 (**Appendix 5**), seeking a slightly reduced financial contribution from Council, totalling £14,750 for the 2024/2025 financial year.

Last year (2023/2024), Council provided a financial contribution to ICBAN via a Service Level Agreement and subject to Members approval this year, it is recommended to approve a financial contribution of £14,750 funding for the 2024/2025 financial year, via the Service Level Agreement as detailed in (**Appendix 6**). The SLA has been reviewed by Council's Legal Services Team.

### **3.6 MEGA - Progress Report for 2023/2024 and Third Funding Contribution for 2024/2025 via Service Level Agreement**

In 2022, MEGA (Mid Ulster Manufacturing & Engineering Growth & Advancement) Network submitted a request to Mid Ulster District Council for a contribution of £15,000 per annum for the period 2022-2025 to support the delivery of their new 3-year Strategic Action Plan.

In May 2022, Council approved a 3-year Service Level Agreement (SLA) with MEGA in which Council agreed to provide a financial contribution of £45,000 for the 2022/2025 term, which equates to £15,000 per financial year.

	<p><b>Appendix 7</b> provides a summary of the work MEGA has completed in Year 2 (2023/2024).</p> <p>It is now timely for Council to approve release its third and final payment to MEGA for the 2024/2025 financial year, as per the original Service Level Agreement. This will allow the work of the MEGA Network to continue to build momentum upon the early successes and allow for effective forward planning and project management.</p> <p>Council’s financial support to the MEGA Network will enable the group to deliver against the first three Work Streams of their Strategic Action Plan which include Focus on People, Skills for the Future and Collaborate to Win.</p>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<p><b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b></p> <p>Financial:</p> <p><b>4.1.1 Tourism Trade and Consumer Shows/Events 2024/2025</b>  Approx tourism budget of £10,000 earmarked to cover all costs including stand hire, travel, overnight accommodation, and relevant expenses related to staff travelling. An application will be made to Tourism NI for IMAP funding to attend trade shows. Funding allocation will depend on application outcome.</p> <p><b>4.1.2 Hidden Heritage Tours 2024</b>  Provision has been made in the 2024/2025 tourism budget of £4000.</p> <p><b>4.1.3 Mid Ulster Brown Signage</b>  Cost of audit - £4990 (funded previously from Council’s Tourism budget)</p> <p><b>4.1.4 Mid Ulster Labour Market Partnership (LMP) 2023-2024 Funding</b>  Letter of Offer (dated 27 July 2023) from DFC previously received for £369,005.21 to support delivery of the Mid Ulster LMP Action Plan 2023-2024. Further DFC Addendum to Letter of Offer received (dated 21 February 2024), offering additional funding of £17,505.50 in relation to Mid Ulster’s LMP Easement Funding Bid for additional salary costs.</p> <p><b>4.1.5 Service Level Agreement – Irish Central Border Area Network (ICBAN) (2024/25)</b>  Provision of annual financial contribution to ICBAN of £14,750 has been made in Council’s economic development budget for 2024/2025.</p> <p><b>4.1.6 MEGA - Progress Report for 2023/2024 and Third Funding Contribution for 2024/2025 via Service Level Agreement</b>  Council previously agreed to fund MEGA with £45,000 over a 3-year period (2022/2023 to 2024/2025), with £15,000 to be paid per annum. Provision has been made in the 2024/2025 economic development budget for the <i>third (and final) tranche</i> of funding of £15,000.</p>

	<b>Human:</b> Officer time
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Implications</b>
	Mid Ulster Council is committed to the promotion of equality of opportunity in all its activities with a focus on all citizens living within the Mid Ulster.
<b>4.3</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	Risk Management:  Rural Needs Implications
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
	<b>It is recommended that Members:-</b>
<b>5.1</b>	<b>Tourism Trade and Consumer Shows/Events 2024/2025</b>
	<b>Approve</b> officer attendance at the various Tourism Trade and Consumer Shows/Events in 2024/2025 as detailed in the report, at a cost of circa. £10,000 from Council's Tourism budget.
<b>5.2</b>	<b>Hidden Heritage Tours 2024</b>
	<b>Approve</b> content of the proposed Hidden Heritage Programme 2024 and the associated costs to deliver the Tours, circ. £4,000, to be borne by Council's Tourism Budget in 2024/2025.
<b>5.3</b>	<b>Mid Ulster Brown Signage Audit</b>
	<b>Approve</b> Mid Ulster's Brown Signage Audit Report and Recommendations contained therein.
<b>5.4</b>	<b>Mid Ulster Labour Market Partnership (LMP) 2023-2024 Funding</b>
	<b>5.4.1 Note</b> update report.
	<b>5.4.2 Retrospectively Approve</b> that Council's Chief Executive sign and return the Addendum to DFC's Letter of Offer to Mid Ulster Labour Market Partnership (2023-2024) providing additional funding of £17,505.50 for internal staff costs.

<p><b>5.5</b></p>	<p><b>Service Level Agreement: Irish Central Border Area Network (ICBAN) (2024/2025)</b></p> <p><b>5.5.1 Note</b> ICBAN's 2023/2024 Progress Report outlining actions completed against their 2023/2024 Service Level Agreement Projects.</p> <p><b>5.5.2 Approve</b> Council's Service Level Agreement with ICBAN for the financial year April 2024 – March 2025.</p> <p><b>5.5.3 Approve</b> the release of £14,750 from Council's Economic Development Budget (2024/2025), subject to Council being provided with the requisite documentation as detailed in the Service Level Agreement.</p>
<p><b>5.6</b></p>	<p><b>MEGA - Progress Report for 2023/2024 and Third Funding Contribution for 2024/2025 via Service Level Agreement</b></p> <p><b>5.6.1 Note</b> MEGA's Progress Report (2023/2024), outlining actions completed against their Service Level Agreement Targets for 2023/2024.</p> <p><b>5.6.2 Approve</b> release of third and final payment to MEGA of £15,000 for 2024/2025 financial year, from Council's Economic Development Budget, subject to Council being provided with all the requisite documentation as detailed in the original Service Level Agreement (2022-2025).</p>
<p><b>6.0</b></p>	<p><b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b></p>
	<p><b>Appendix 1 – Mid Ulster Brown Signage Audit</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Appendix 1.1</b> - List of Brown Sign Locations and Photographs across Mid Ulster District</li> <li>- <b>Appendix 1.2</b> - <a href="#">Interactive Google Map</a> of Brown Signs in Mid Ulster District</li> <li>- <b>Appendix 1.3</b> – List of Brown Tourist Signs Washed</li> <li>- <b>Appendix 1.4</b> - DFI Brown Sign Policy and Procedures</li> </ul> <p><b>Appendix 2</b> - Mid Ulster Labour Market Partnership – Addendum to Letter of Offer (2023-2024)</p> <p><b>Appendix 3</b> - Mid Ulster LMP - Budget Schedule (2023-2024)</p> <p><b>Appendix 4</b> - ICBAN Progress Report as per Service Level Agreement for 2023-2024</p>

**Appendix 5 - ICBAN Funding Request for 2024-2025**

**Appendix 6 - ICBAN Service Level Agreement for 2024-2025**

**Appendix 7 - MEGA Progress Report (2023-2024)**





Comhairle Ceantair  
**Lár Uladh**  
**Mid Ulster**  
District Council

# **MID ULSTER DISTRICT BROWN SIGNAGE AUDIT**

**FINAL REPORT : MARCH 2024**

# Table of Contents

<b>Chapter 1</b>	<b>Context and Brown Sign Policy Background</b>	<b>Page 2</b>
<b>Chapter 2</b>	<b>Report and Work Requirements</b>	<b>Page 4</b>
<b>Chapter 3</b>	<b>Audit Methodology</b>	<b>Page 5</b>
<b>Chapter 4</b>	<b>Brown Signage Policy Specifications</b>	<b>Page 6</b>
<b>Chapter 5</b>	<b>Recommendations Going Forward</b>	<b>Page 9</b>
<p><b>List of Appendices</b></p> <p><b>Appendix 1.1 - List of Brown Sign Locations and Photographs in Mid Ulster</b></p> <p><b>Appendix 1.2 - <u>Interactive Google Map</u> of Brown Signs in Mid Ulster</b></p> <p><b>Appendix 1.3 - List of Brown Tourist Signs Washed</b></p> <p><b>Appendix 1.4 - DFI Brown Sign Policy and Procedures</b></p>		

# CHAPTER 1

## CONTEXT

In November 2022, Gerry Darby Consultancy was commissioned by Mid Ulster District Council (MUDC), following a procurement exercise, to conduct an audit on all brown tourist signs within the Mid Ulster District. The audit was carried out between December 2022 and March 2023. All brown tourist signs were surveyed, photographed, geo-located and placed on a google map link. This allows all photos of the signs to be identified at their actual geographic location.

The purpose of the audit is to inform staff and elected representatives of the location of brown tourist signs, assess the physical condition and visibility of some of the existing signs, help identify any redundant signs and assess the present policy and procedures.

A schedule of potential new and replacement signs will be identified as part of the study. A number of new policy recommendations will also be made.

## BROWN TOURIST SIGNAGE POLICY BACKGROUND

The Brown Tourist Signage Policy in Northern Ireland is currently implemented by the Department for Infrastructure (DFI), in partnership with Tourism Northern Ireland (TNI).

- The Department for Infrastructure Policies and Procedures Guide on the ‘*Signing of Tourist Attractions and Facilities : RSPPG-EO29*’ can be accessed at the following link [Dfi Brown Signage Policy and Procedure RSPPG-EO29](#). This policy was developed jointly between the Government Departments in situ at 2014; TransportNI, the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment, and the Northern Ireland Tourist Board.
- Tourism Northern Ireland’s most up to date guidance on ‘*How to Apply for a Brown Sign*’ can be accessed via their website at the following link [TNI](#).

Brown signs are used as a traffic management tool to guide visitors to tourist destinations and are an important tool for promoting tourism in the region. The policy is designed to ensure that brown signs are used effectively to enhance the visitor experience to get to their destination and to ensure that they are used in a safe and sustainable manner.

The Brown Signage policy in Northern Ireland is based on a set of guidelines which outline the criteria for the provision of brown signs. The guidelines cover a range of factors including the quality and accessibility of the attraction or destination, the potential number of visitors, and the impact of the sign on the local environment. The policy is also based on the principle that brown signs should only be used for tourism purposes and should not be used for commercial or advertising purposes.

Department for Infrastructure and Tourism NI work closely with local Councils and tourism stakeholders to identify locations where brown signs are required, and to ensure that they are designed and installed in accordance with the guidelines. The design of brown signs in Northern Ireland follows a consistent style and format which is intended to be clear and easy for visitors to understand. The signs are typically brown with white text, and feature the name of the attraction or destination, as well as a symbol or icon to help visitors identify the type of attraction.

The use of brown signs in Northern Ireland has been successful in promoting tourism and helping visitors navigate the region including the Mid Ulster District Council (MUDC) area. The signs are an important part of the overall tourism infrastructure and are used to guide visitors to a wide range of destinations, including attractions, accommodation, historic sites, natural landmarks, and cultural events. The policy has not been reviewed or updated since 2014 to ensure that it remains effective and sustainable, and to reflect changes in the tourism industry and visitor behaviours. It is hoped this report will stimulate debate and a review of the policy.

Overall, the Brown Signage Policy in Northern Ireland is a key element of the region's Tourism Strategy and plays an important role in directing the visitor to the visitor experiences in the MUDC area. Improvements could be made and these will be suggested in the list of recommendations.

# CHAPTER 2

## REPORT AND WORK REQUIREMENTS

The main elements of work to be carried out relates to the actual identification and audit of existing brown tourist signs. The main activities MUDC identified within their scope of works are highlighted below:

- Check that every sign is pointing in correct direction, reposition if required, and secured to post.
- Report any missing signage whereby a sign is missing but posts are in place.
- Cut back vegetation as required to ensure each sign is visible.
- Clean each sign using appropriate materials as directed by Transport NI.
- Photograph each sign or where a sign should be erected.
- Submit a report displaying a photograph of each sign and its location noting what remedial action was taken, or is required.
- A complete set of digital photographs should be clearly referenced (e.g., Route, Road Name, Junction/Location) and submitted on a USB stick or similar device.
- Prepare and submit a report detailing what replacement or new signage is required in a format that meets DFI / TNI requirements.

# CHAPTER 3

## AUDIT METHODOLOGY

The delivery audit was carried out in several main stages. These included:

### **i) Initial contact meetings with Stakeholders**

Meetings with the client team from MUDC was held to clarify the proposal specification and gather necessary information on existing signage and stakeholder contacts held by MUDC.

### **ii) Gather existing information and survey methodology**

The main survey methodology is detailed below.

- a) Met with client team to go through google maps to mark any known or suggested signs that is thought to exist.
- b) Gather all relevant plans, photos and locations of suggested brown signs that are detailed within existing tourism plans and signage strategies, such as, car parks, coach parks, interpretation and visitor centres, scenic driving tours and walking routes, forest parks and cycle routes.
- c) Identification of all tourism accommodation and activity centres for possible brown signs and all junctions for directional white signs.

### **iii) Survey signage routes and individual signs**

Carried out an on-site assessment of each sign as per the work requirements.

### **iv) Client Engagement**

Discussions took place around recommendations from the signage site visits whilst bearing in mind the Brown Signage Policy and Procedures. Client team was asked their views on the following issues:

- The need to remove or add some signs
- The need to prioritise some signs
- How the existing tourism signage policy could be improved
- Detail what replacement or new signage is required in a format that meets DfI/TNI requirements.

### **v) Draft Report**

- A draft report was drawn up including recommendations for new or replacement signs. A list of all the cleaned signs has also been provided.

# CHAPTER 4

## BROWN SIGNAGE POLICY SPECIFICATIONS

### Brown Tourist Signage Policy

Brown Tourist Signing Policy has jointly been agreed between DfI Roads and Tourism NI. The policy seeks to reinforce/emphasise the roles of the different bodies involved on the public road network. The full details of DfI's most up to date Policy and Procedure Guidelines are provided in **Appendix 1.4 [DfI Brown Signage Policy and Procedure RSPPG-EO29](#)**. Below is a summary of the guidelines.

### The Process involved in implementing and applying for Brown Signs

- 1) MUDC co-ordinates all applications relating to Mid Ulster District.
- 2) Tourism NI confirms eligibility of the application as a tourist destination.
- 3) DfI will determine the extent of the signage to be provided and will design and erect all signs. As part of its duty to manage the road network, DfI Roads will be ultimately responsible for whether signing is provided or not.

### Process

The following is a summary of the process of applying for Brown Tourism Signage:

- Applicants complete a tourism signage application form and submit it to their local Council.
- The Council submits the application form to Tourism NI to verify eligibility in terms of the tourist product.
- The Council liaises with DfI Roads on the likely provision of traffic signs for applications deemed eligible by Tourism NI
- DfI Roads assess the extent of signing and advises the Council of the estimated cost for each tourist applicant
- The Council advises the applicant of the estimated costs, terms and conditions and the Council refers all queries on sign provision, design, location, and cost to DfI Roads
- The Council collects the associated cost of the signage from the applicant on behalf of DfI Roads
- DfI Roads organises sign design, purchase and erection on the specified site.

### Eligible "Tourist facilities and attractions"

The following is a list of eligible tourist facilities and attractions.

- Tourism NI funded tourism products
- Visitor attractions that have received TNI Quality Grading
- Historic buildings

- Museums
- Zoos
- Natural attractions such as nature reserves
- Beaches and viewpoints
- Scenic routes
- Outdoor pursuits centre
- Activity tourism centres
- Golf courses
- Areas providing fishing
- TNI approved tourist accommodation
- Caravan and camping parks
- Marinas
- Public slipways
- Boat/cruiser hire
- motorhome service facilities
- Picnic sites
- Visitor information centres and tourist information boards
- Theatres/arts centres
- Gardens
- Aires de Service
- Motorhome hire companies
- Activity tourism centres

### **General Eligibility Criteria**

The guidelines state that in order for any tourist destination to be signed it must be:

- Permanently established.
- Open to the public without prior booking. NB: this does not constitute free entry. Entry fees may still apply.
- Have adequate parking on site or close by.
- Have adequate toilet facilities on site (where appropriate) including those for visitors with disabilities.
- Have adequate publicity material (e.g. leaflets, featured within tourist guidebooks, websites or at visitor information centres).
- Be of excellent quality, well-maintained and suitable for people with disabilities.
- Be open continuously from Easter to October (inclusive) each year, at a minimum.
- Be adequately identifiable in terms of the nature of the tourist destination at the point of entry.
- Be a member of a Tourism NI approved quality assurance scheme for tourist accommodation (where appropriate).

DFI Roads Service Policy Procedure and Guidance outlines *'Where clear guidance is given by other direction signing, tourist attraction signs will not be necessary until the general area of the attraction is reached'*.

## Additional Points

The policy also highlights that the following points should be considered when assessing the likelihood of a site qualifying for a new brown sign and drafting application so that expectations are not raised unrealistically.

- Existing authorized signing not complying with current policy will remain until it needs replacement for sign maintenance or traffic management reasons. (This also applies to signage that a destination or Council would choose to replace for aesthetic or branding reasons, but this may need to be discussed further with Transport NI (DFI Roads).
- The primary purpose of tourist signing is for traffic management, not to advertise the destination.
- Consultation must be held with bodies controlling adjoining areas to ensure consistent arrangements for cross-boundary signing.
- Properties and sites such as forest parks, country parks, historic monuments and those controlled by the National Trust are automatically considered to be tourist destinations.
- Motorway signage can be provided for attractions with more than 75,000 visitors a year.
- Signage from a primary route that is not the main road may be provided to attractions with more than 20,000 visitors per annum up to a maximum of twenty miles from the attraction.

## Costs

Costs for design, production, and installation of brown signs are borne by the applicant. Applicants should know that final costs are dependent on the size of the sign required and if there are any installation requirements, for example if the ground surface would require additional preparation.

Costs for signs includes design, production and installation, however these can and will vary depending on specific locations and requirements.

## Indicative costs

- Small brown sign e.g., 'flag' directional sign: \*£600
- Large brown directional sign: \*£1000

(\*NB: Above figures may have increased due to inflationary pressures).

# CHAPTER 5

## RECOMMENDATIONS GOING FORWARD

When it comes to improving the Brown Tourist Signage Policy in Northern Ireland and the MUDC area, there is a need for safety considerations, clear and consistent language, collaboration and communication with all partners.

By implementing the recommendations of this report detailed below, brown signs in Mid Ulster can hopefully be enhanced to provide a more informative and seamless experience for visitors, ultimately promoting tourism and supporting local businesses.

Finally, it is important to know that while every effort has been made to document every brown sign this should be treated as a live report and be constantly updated.

Signs continue to be vandalised or foliage material grow over/around them and therefore, ideally there is a need to review and update the signage audit on an ongoing basis.

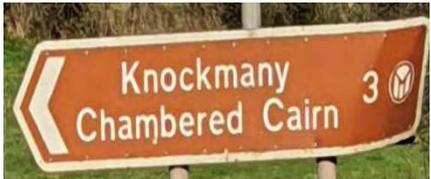
Outlined below are a number of Recommendations:

### 1) Presentation to Council Committee

A summary presentation of this report will be provided to the Mid Ulster District Council's Development Committee in Spring 2024.

### 2) Damaged Signs

A number of brown tourist signs relating to MUDC area appear to have been damaged and are in need of repair or replacement. Contact should be made with the owner of the tourism facility and DfI to arrange for repair. These are detailed below:

Site	Location	Repair	Photo
Knockmany Chambered Cairn	1A Main St, Augher BT77 0BD	Repair damage	
Newferry Canoe Trail	57 Ballynease Rd, Bellaghy, Magherafelt BT45 8NF	Sign Bent	

<p>Drumcairne Forest</p>	<p>88 Ballygittle Road, Stewartstown Dungannon BT71 5JU</p>	<p>Sign and Posts bent over</p>	
<p>Ardboe Cross Sign</p>	<p>Cookstown BT80 0HU</p>	<p>Posts Bent</p>	
<p>Manor View B&amp;B</p>	<p>Drum Road, Cookstown BT80 9DX</p>	<p>Sign Bent</p>	
<p>OM Dark Sky Park Sign</p>	<p>155 Davagh Rd, Omagh BT79 8JQ</p>	<p>Large sticker on sign</p>	
<p>Altmore Fishery</p>	<p>Best Cross Roads Cabragh, Dungannon BT70 2HW</p>	<p>Sign Bent</p>	
<p>The Linen Green</p>	<p>30 Main Rd, Dungannon BT71 6PH</p>	<p>Part of Sign Missing</p>	
<p>Tirkane Sweat House</p>	<p>4 Slaughtneill Rd, Maghera BT46 5NJ</p>	<p>Full sign missing</p>	

### 3) Tourist Sites No Longer Operating

There may be several signs relating to tourism businesses that are no longer operating and so it would be advisable to contact the original applicant and ask them sensitively and diplomatically to remove the signs. If the applicant cannot be contacted, then Dfl should be requested to remove them.

Site	Location	Photograph
Fish Processing Factory	185 Battery Rd, Cookstown BT80 0HY	
Springwell Fishery	Tobermore Road, Magherafelt, BT45	
Tullylagan Hotel	The Pipers Cave, 138 Dungannon Rd, Cookstown BT80 9BD	
Muleany House	100 Gorestown Rd, Moy, Dungannon BT71 7TW	

### 4) Annual List Update

The list of brown tourism signs should be provided to Dfl and TNI with a request they carry out an annual audit to update the information, as per the brown tourist sign procedures.

## 5) Heritage and Tourism Sites

There are a number of very important heritage buildings, nature reserves and archaeological sites within the MUDC area that already have brown signs, however, a number of these do not have the appropriate brown signs. These may be of huge interest to tourists with some having high tourism and heritage value. It is important that key priority heritage sites are appropriately signed.

It is recommended a meeting be convened with Department for Communities Historic Environment Division (HED) and Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) to ask if they wish to highlight the need for new or additional brown signs for any priority existing or new heritage sites, such as;

- Mountjoy Castle
- Brookend Nature Reserve
- Tradd Point
- Ballymaguigan Nature Reserve
- Toome Lockhouse
- Donaghmore High Cross
- The Forge, Hillhead Rd
- Roughan Castle
- Drumnaph Nature Reserve

This is not an exhaustive list.

## 6) Policy and Procedure Review

Discussion with a number of stakeholders and local Elected Members has highlighted concerns regarding the process and approval of brown signage. Some of the feedback is listed below:

- The brown signage policy and procedures were published ten years ago (October 2014), therefore, it is now timely that DFI and Tourism NI review them, providing key stakeholders the opportunity to input their views.
- The process in general seems to be lengthy, expensive and involves too many partners and stakeholders.
- Existence of illegal signs has resulted in feedback that DFI do not seem to police or remove them.
- It was noted that the eligibility criteria for a Tourism Body to be permanently open can be too onerous and excludes a lot of smaller tourism businesses.

This is not an exhaustive list.

In summary, there is general consensus of the need to extend invitations to the Chief Executive of Tourism NI and Senior DFI Officials (who have responsibility for the Brown Signage Policy), to meet with Elected Members, Senior Council Officials and other tourism stakeholders to listen to their concerns.

### **7) Inform Tourism Stakeholders**

There is a need to update, promote and inform all potential tourism stakeholders of the process and cost of applying for brown signs. This can be done in the form of a workshop with a TourismNI representative in attendance or information being sent out to businesses.

### **8) Clear Visible Signs**

Signs that were not visible due to dirt or foliage have been cleaned and foliage removed (as detailed in Appendix 1.3).

However, there were instances where thick algae had formed on the brown signs from overhanging trees and it was not possible to remove it as part of this assignment. This should be reported to DFI and Tourism NI, so that they can agree a mechanism whereby brown tourist signs can be checked and cleaned annually.

## APPENDIX 1.1

### LIST OF BROWN SIGN LOCATIONS AND PHOTOGRAPHS ACROSS MID ULSTER

WIDER DUNGANNON AREA
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Ref	Attraction	Address	Area	WKT	Photo of Signage
A1	Altmore Fishery	1 Pomeroy Road, Donaghmore, Dungannon BT70 3BF	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.82 54.53)	
A2	Altmore Fishery	Aghnagar Road, Dungannon BT70	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.96 54.49)	
A3	Altmore Fishery	Inishative Road	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.94 54.55)	
A4	Altmore Fishery	Altmore Road, Dungannon BT70	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.95 54.56)	
A5	Altmore Fishery	Termon Road B4	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.99 54.58)	
A6	Altmore Fishery	Barnaghs Road	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.95 54.55)	

A7	Altmore Fishery	Termon Road	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.99 54.58)	
A8	Altmore Fishery & Caravan Park	Bests Cross, Cabragh, Dungannon BT70 2HW	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.95 54.48)	
A9	Annaginny Fishery	100 Farlough Rd, Dungannon BT71 4DX	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.74 54.55)	
A10	Annaginny Fishery	Drumglass House, Cookstown Road, Dungannon BT71 4BG	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.77 54.53)	
	Benburb Castle	Priory House West, 14 Main St, Benburb, Dungannon BT71 7LA	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.74 54.41)	
A12	Blessingbourne Estate, The Old Barn, Round Lake & Carleton Trail	Butter Market, Main Street, Fivemiletown BT75 0PW	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.31 54.37)	
A13	Blessingbourne Estate, The Old Barn, Round Lake & The Valley Hotel	Butter Market, Main Street, Fivemiletown BT75 0PW	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.31 54.37)	
A15	Canoe Trail	13 The Quays Moy, Dungannon BT71 7TG	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.68 54.44)	

A16	Canoe Trail	Post Box, Dungannon BT71 6LX	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.67 54.47)	
A17	Carleton Trail	2 Ballagh Road, Clogher BT76 OHE	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.17 54.40)	
A18	Carleton Trail & Blessingbourne Estate	10 Main Street, Fivemiletown BT75 OPW	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.31 54.37)	
A19	Castlecaulfield	Mid Ulster, 1 Old Caulfield Rd, Castlecaulfield, Dungannon BT70 3NQ	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.83 54.50)	
A20	Castlecaulfield	62 Main Street, Castlecaulfield, Dungannon BT70 3NP	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.83 54.50)	
A21	Charlemont House B&B	12 The Square, Moy, Dungannon BT71 7SB	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.69 54.44)	
A22	Charlemont House B&B	1 Killyman Street, Moy, Tyrone, Dungannon BT71 7SJ	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.69 54.44)	
A23	Clogher Valley	Butter Market, Main Street, Fivemiletown BT75 OPW	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.31 54.37)	
A24	Clogher Valley & Errigal Keerogue Cross	2 Ballynany Road, Dungannon BT70 2AW	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.04 54.44)	

A25	Clogher Valley & Mullaghfad Forest	100 Main Street, Fivemiletown BT75 0PW	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.31 54.37)	
A26	Corick House Hotel	46 Crossowen Road, Clogher BT76 0AT	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.14 54.42)	
A27	Corick House Hotel	45 Crossowen Road, Clogher BT76 0AT	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.14 54.42)	
A28	Corick House Hotel	45 Crossowen Road, Clogher BT76 0AT	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.14 54.42)	
A29	Corick House Hotel	62 Crossowen Road, Clogher BT76 0AT	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.14 54.42)	
A30	Corick House Licenced Restaurant	11A Corick Road, Augher BT77 0BY	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.15 54.42)	
A31	Dungannon Park	Cunninghams Lane, Dungannon BT71 6WS	Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.75 54.49)	
A32	Dungannon Park	Ballynorthland Park, Dungannon BT71 7DS	Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.75 54.49)	
A33	Errigal Keerogue Cross	Errigal Keerogue Church and Cross, Dungannon BT70 2DE	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.09 54.45)	

A34	Errigal Keerogue Cross	80 Glenhoy Road, Dungannon BT70 2AY	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.095 54.45)	
A35	Errigal Keerogue Cross	Errigal Keerogue Church and Cross, Dungannon BT70 2DE	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.09 54.45)	
A36	Errigal Keerogue Cross and Scenic Drive	Errigal Keerogue Church and Cross, Dungannon BT70 2DE	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.07 54.45)	

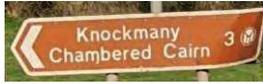
A37	Eskragh Lough	Woodlough Road, Dungannon BT70	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.81 54.48)	
A38	Eskragh Lough	28 Killyliss Road, Dungannon BT70 1QQ	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.82 54.48)	
A39	Eskragh Lough	Woodlough Road, Dungannon BT70	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.82 54.48)	
A40	Eskragh Lough	57 Parkanaur Road, Dungannon BT70 3AA	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.85 54.49)	
A41	Eskragh Lough	A4, Dungannon BT70 1RR	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.83 54.48)	
A42	Eskragh Lough	105 Old Ballygawley Road, Dungannon BT70 1TA	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.80 54.50)	
A43	Eskragh Lough	31 Old Ballygawley Road, Dungannon BT70 1TA	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.78 54.50)	

A44	Eskragh Lough	31 Ashdene, Dungannon BT70 1JL	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.78 54.50)	
A45	Eskragh Lough	1 Windmill Drive, Dungannon BT71 7BU	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.78 54.50)	
A46	Fardross	37 Ballagh Road, Clogher BT76 0LA	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.20 54.40)	
A47	Fardross	Ballagh Road, Clogher BT76 0LA	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.18 54.40)	
A48	Glenkeen Fishery	A28, Aughnacloy BT69 6JD	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.91 54.38)	

A49	Glenmore Scenic Walk	Ballyreagh Bridge, Dungannon BT70 2JX	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.99 54.47)	
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A50	Golf Club	38 Thomas St Dungannon BT71 4RR	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.76 54.50)	
A51	Golf Club	1 Hawthorn Cres Dungannon BT70 1QS	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.77 54.50)	
A52	Grange Lodge	Grange Bridge Dungannon BT71 7DX	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.72 54.46)	
A53	Hill of The O'Neill	1 Ranfurly Rd Dungannon BT71 6ED	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.76 54.50)	

A54	Hill of the O'Neill	44a Circular Rd Dungannon BT71 6BE	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.76 54.50)	
A55	Hill of the O'Neill	16 Market Square Dungannon BT70 1AA	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.76 54.50)	
A56	Hill of the O'Neill & Bank House Hotel	47 Thomas St Dungannon BT70 1HW	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.76 54.50)	
A57	Hill of the O'Neill & Dungannon Park	47 Carland Rd Dungannon BT71 4AA	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.76 54.51)	
A58	Hill of the O'Neill & Dungannon Park	Castle Hill Promotions 4, Dungannon Enterprise Centre, 2 Coalisland Rd, Dungannon BT71 6JT	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.76 54.514)	
A59	Hill of the O'Neill & Dungannon Park	100 Donaghmore Rd Dungannon BT70 1HD	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.77 54.50)	
A60	Island Turf Crafts & Bog Museum, Craic Theatre & Industrial Heritage Centre	54 Dungannon Rd Coalisland, Dungannon BT71 4HP	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.70 54.53)	
A61	Island Turf Crafts & Bog Museum, Craic Theatre & Industrial Heritage Centre	50 Dungannon Rd Coalisland, Dungannon BT71 4HP	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.70 54.53)	
A62	Knockmany	Unhitched 6 Annaghilla Rd, Augher BT77 0BN	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.13 54.43)	
A63	Knockmany	34 Crossowen Rd Augher BT77 0AX	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.13 54.42)	

A64	Knockmany Chambered Cairn	1A Main St Augher BT77 0BD	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.13 54.42)	
A65	Knockmany Chambered Cairn	35 Augher Rd Clogher BT76 0AE	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.15 54.41)	
A66	Linen Green	15 Mullybrannon Rd Dungannon BT71 7ER	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.75 54.47)	
A67	Linen Green Design	50 Moy Rd Dungannon BT71 7DT	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.73 54.48)	
A68	Linen Green Design and Visitors Centre	30 Main Rd Dungannon BT71 6PH	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.74 54.48)	
A69	Linen Green Design and Visitors Centre	8 Main Rd Dungannon BT71 7QR	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.74 54.48)	
A70	Mikora Lodge	81 Cookstown Road A29 Dungannon BT71 4HG	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.77 54.55)	
A71	Mountjoy Castle	Lineside 340 B520, Coalisland, Dungannon BT71 4LP	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.69 54.54)	
A72	Mountjoy Castle	1 Annagher Rd Coalisland, Dungannon BT71 4NE	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.69 54.54)	
A73	Mountjoy Castle	6 Dungannon Rd Coalisland, Dungannon BT71 4HP	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.70 54.53)	

A74	Muleany House	100 Gorestown Rd Moy, Dungannon BT71 7TW	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.70 54.44)	
A75	Mullaghfad	51 Ballagh Rd Clogher BT76 0LB	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.23 54.39)	
A76	Parkanaur	A4 Dungannon BT70 1AE	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.83 54.48)	
A77	Parkanaur	140 Woodlough Rd Dungannon BT70 1AE	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.84 54.48)	
A78	Parkanaur	A4 Dungannon BT70 1RR	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.83 54.48)	
A79	Parkanaur	160 Ballygawley Rd Dungannon BT70 1RX	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.86 54.48)	
A80	Parkanaur	78 Reaskmore Rd, Dungannon BT70 1RS	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.84 54.48)	
A81	Parkanaur	A4 Dungannon BT70 1RR	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.83 54.48)	
A82	Parkanaur	A4 Dungannon BT70 1RR	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.83 54.48)	

A83	Parkanaur	57 Parkanaur Rd Dungannon BT70 3AA	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.85 54.49)	
A84	Parkanaur	190 Ballygawley Rd Dungannon BT70 1TF	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.88 54.48)	

A85	Parkanaur	Donaghmore High Cross, 3HD Castlecaulfield Road Donaghmore BT70 3HB	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.81 54.53)	
A86	Parkanaur	A4 Dungannon BT70 1AE	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.88 54.48)	
A87	Parkanaur	57 Parkanaur Rd Dungannon BT70 3AA	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.85 54.49)	
A88	Parkanaur	A4 Dungannon BT70 1AE	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.88 54.48)	
A89	Parkanaur	Donaghmore High Cross 3HD, Castlecaulfield Rd, Donaghmore, Dungannon BT70 3HB	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.81 54.535)	
A90	Parkanaur	140 Woodlough Rd Dungannon BT70 1AE	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.84 54.48)	
A91	Parkanaur	57 Parkanaur Rd Dungannon BT70 3AA	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.85 54.49)	
A92	Round Lake	15 Murley Rd Fivemiletown BT75 0QS	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.31 54.38)	

A93	Roxborough	1 Killyman St Moy BT71 7SJ	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.69 54.44)	
A94	Scenic Drive	Ballagh Road Clogher BT76 0TQ	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.18 54.40)	
A95	Scenic Drive & Knockatallon Walks	16 Augher Rd Clogher BT76 0AD	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.15 54.41)	
A96	Scenic Drive & Knockmany	2 Sunnymead Clogher BT76 0AN	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.16 54.41)	

A97	Scenic Drive & Knockmany	5 Sunnymead Clogher BT76 0AP	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.16 54.41)	
A98	Sunnyside Care Home & Carleton Trail	2 Augher Rd Clogher BT76 0AD	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.16 54.41)	
A99	Sunnyside Care Home & Carleton Trail	2 Augher Rd Clogher BT76 0AD	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.16 54.41)	
A100	The Argory	133 Tamnamore Rd Dungannon BT71 6HW	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.65 54.49)	
A101	The Argory	Bovain Road Dungannon BT71 6HP	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.665 54.49)	
A102	The Argory & Canoe Trail	Post Box Dungannon BT71 6LX	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.66 54.47)	

A103	The Forest Stables & Hidden Gem Cottages	Cooper Irvine Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors 103 Main St, Fivemiletown BT75 OPG	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.31 54.37)	
A104	The Old Barn	15 Murley Rd Fivemiletown BT75 OQS	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.31 54.38)	
A105	The Ryandale	Moy War Memorial 31 The Square, Moy, Dungannon BT71 7SG	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.69 54.44)	
A106	The Ryandale	Moy War Memorial 31 The Square, Moy, Dungannon BT71 7SG	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.69 54.44)	
A107	Todds Leap Activity Centre	Annaghilla Road Ballygawley, Dungannon BT70 2BB	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.03 54.45)	
A108	Todd's Leap Activity Centre & Balinroey B&B	93 Omagh Rd Ballygawley Dungannon BT70 2BY	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.06 54.47)	
A109	US Grant Homestead	Patterson Sawmill Dungannon BT70 2HT	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.97 54.48)	
A110	Valley Hotel & Clogher Valley	14 Main St Fivemiletown BT75 0PW	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-7.31 54.37)	
A111	Various Dungannon	2 Parklane Dungannon BT71 6JL	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.75 54.49)	

A112	Washing Bay Wetlands Park	Killen Crossroads Dungannon BT71 5Q	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.63 54.55)	
A113	Washing Bay Wetlands Park	Killen Crossroads Dungannon BT71 5Q	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.63 54.55)	
A114	Washing Bay Wetlands Park	249 Washing Bay Rd Dungannon BT71 5DS	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.61 54.53)	
A115	Golf Club	1 Hawthorn Cres, Dungannon BT70 1QS	Wider Dungannon Area	POINT (-6.77 54.50)	

WIDER COOKSTOWN AREA					
B1	Accommodation	Manor House, 30 High Street, Money more BT45 7PD	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.67 54.69)	
B2	Accommodation	7 Greenvale, Drum Road, Cookstown BT80 8QS	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.75 54.63)	
B3	Accommodation	2 Sweep Road, Cookstown BT80 8GD	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.74 54.63)	
B4	Accommodation	15-51 Church St, Cookstown BT80 8HT	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.60 54.75)	
B5	Accommodation	2 Sweep Rd, Cookstown BT80 8GD	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.74 54.63)	

B6	Ardboe Abbey & Cross	164 Mullanahoe Rd, Coagh BT71 5AU	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.55 54.61)	
B7	Ardboe Abbey & Cross	Biggers House Bus Stop, Ardboe Road, Cookstown BT71 5BW	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.53 54.61)	
B8	Ardboe Abbey & Cross	Old Cross Ardboe, Ardboe Road, Cookstown, BT80 0HU	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.50 54.61)	
B9	Ardboe Abbey & Cross	6 Ardboe Road, Cookstown BT80 0HT	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.516 54.63)	
B10	Ardboe Abbey & Cross	Old Cross Ardboe, Old Ardboe Road, BT80 0HU	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.50 54.61)	

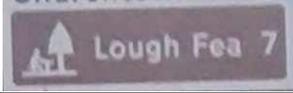
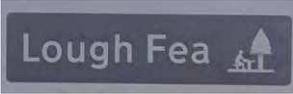
B11	Beaghmore Stone Circles	62 Blackrock Rd, Cookstown BT80 9PA	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.93 54.70)	
B12	Beaghmore Stone Circles	100-96 Blackrock Rd, Omagh BT79 8JG	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.94 54.71)	
B13	Beaghmore Stone Circles & OM Dark Sky Park	60 Dunamore Road, Cookstown BT80 9NX	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.94 54.67)	
B14	Beaghmore Stone Circles & OM Dark Sky Park	Blackrock Road, Omagh BT79 8JG	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.93 54.69)	
B15	Beaghmore Stone Circles & OM Dark Sky Park	Blackrock Road, Omagh BT79 8JG	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.92 54.66)	
B18	Beaghmore Stone Circles & OM Dark Sky Park and Observatory	Keenans Bridge, Cookstown BT80 9PT	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.90 54.66)	

B19	Beaghmore Stone Circles & OM Dark Sky Park and Observatory	Keenans Bridge, Cookstown BT80 9PT	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.90 54.66)	
B20	Beaghmore Stone Circles & OM Dark Sky Park and Observatory	321 Drum Rd, Cookstown BT80 9PS	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.94 54.66)	
B21	Burnavon Theatre & Tourist Information	The Hearing Care Partnership, 35 James Street, Cookstown BT80 8AA	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.74 54.64)	
B22	Burnavon Theatre, Tourist Information & East Sperrins Scenic Route	9 James St, Cookstown BT80 8AA	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.74 54.644)	
B23	Coyle's Cottage & Kinturk Cultural Centre	175 Battery Rd, Cookstown BT80 0HS	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.52 54.63)	
B24	Cregganconroe Chambered Cairn	248 Drum Rd, Cookstown BT80 9HP	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.87 54.65)	
B25	Davagh Forest	4 High St, Draperstown BT45 7AA	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.78 54.79)	
B26	Davagh Forest	62 Blackrock Rd, Cookstown BT80 9PA	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.93 54.70)	
B27	Drum Manor Forest Park	200 Drum Rd, Cookstown BT80 8UN	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.815 54.64)	
B28	Drum Manor Forest Park & OM Dark Sky Park & Observatory	55 Church St, Cookstown BT80 8HT	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.74 54.63)	
B29	Drum Manor Forest Park & OM Dark Sky Park & Observatory	110 Church St, Cookstown BT80 8HX	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.74 54.63)	

B30	Drumcairne Forest	6 Castlefarm Rd, Stewartstown BT71 5JD	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.67 54.58)	
B31	East Sperrins Scenic Route	112 Church St, Cookstown BT80 8HX	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.74 54.63)	
B32	East Sperrins Scenic Route	55 James St, Cookstown BT80 8NX	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.74 54.64)	
B33	East Sperrins Scenic Route	149 Lough Fea Rd, Cookstown BT80 9TZ	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.80 54.71)	
B34	East Sperrins Scenic Route	Lough Fea Road, Cookstown BT80 9TZ	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.82 54.73)	
B35	East Sperrins Scenic Route	31 Blackrock Rd, Cookstown BT80 9NY	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.92 54.68)	
B36	East Sperrins Scenic Route	24 Sixtowns Rd, Draperstown BT45 7BA	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.78 54.79)	

B37	East Sperrins Scenic Route	1 Lissan Rd, Cookstown BT80 8EN	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.74 54.65)	
B38	Fish Processing Factory	185 Battery Rd, Cookstown BT80 0HY	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.51 54.63)	
B39	Forest Park & An Creagan Visitor Centre	151 Drum Rd, Cookstown BT80 9DW	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.76 54.63)	
B40	Forest Trail & Parking	34 Castlefarm Rd, Stewartstown, Dungannon BT71 5LD	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.65 54.58)	

B41	Forest Trail & Parking	88 Ballygittle Rd, Stewartstown, Dungannon BT71 5JU	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.64 54.57)	
B42	Glenavon House Hotel & Greenvale Hotel	Asda, A29 Dungannon Road, Cookstown BT80 8GD	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.74 54.63)	
B43	Glenavon House Hotel & Greenvale Hotel	19 Killymoon St, Cookstown BT80 8HX	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.74 54.63)	
B44	Golf Club	112 Church St, Maghera BT46 5HD	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.74 54.63)	
B45	Killycolp House & Avondale	A29 Dungannon Road, BT80	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.74 54.61)	
B46	Killymoon Golf Club	19 Killymoon St, Cookstown BT80 8HX	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.74 54.63)	
B47	Kinturk Cultural Centre & Coyle's Cottage	96 Drumenny Rd, Cookstown BT80 0HN	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.55 54.63)	
B48	Lissan House	155 Coolreaghs Rd, Cookstown BT80 9QD	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.75 54.66)	
B49	Lissan Road & Lough Fea	Lissan Road B162	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.76 54.66)	
B50	Lough Fea	59 Lissan Rd, Cookstown BT80 8EW	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.7554.65)	
B51	Lough Fea	1 Lissan Rd, Cookstown BT80 8EN	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.74 54.65)	

B52	Lough Fea	110 Lough Fea Rd, Cookstown BT80 9SS	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.79 54.70)	
B53	Lough Fea	Muff Road, Magherafelt BT45 7YH	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.70 54.67)	
B54	Lough Fea	8 Lissan Rd, Cookstown BT80 8EN	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.74 54.65)	
B55	Lough Fea	155 Coolreaghs Rd, Cookstown BT80 9QD	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.75 54.66)	
B56	Lough Fea	A29 Moneymore Road, Magherafelt BT45 7YH	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.70 54.67)	
B57	Manor Park & Turnaface Fishery	29 Lawford St, Moneymore, Magherafelt BT45 7QS	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.67 54.69)	
B58	Manorview	Drumm Front Gate, Cookstown BT80 9DX	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.81 54.64)	
B59	OM Dark Sky Park	166-168 Davagh Road, Magherafelt BT45	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.88 54.754)	
B60	OM Dark Sky Park	155 Davagh Road, Omagh BT79 8JQ	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.92 54.72)	
B61	OM Dark Sky Park	130 Davagh Road, Omagh BT79 8JJ	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.94 54.71)	
B62	Pomeroy Forest	Soccer Pitch, Dungannon BT70 3FD	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.91 54.59)	

B63	Pomeroy Forest	MoneyGram 5 - 6 The Diamond, Dungannon BT70 2QX	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.92 54.59)	
B64	Pomeroy Forest	20 Tanderagee Road, Pomeroy, Dungannon BT70 3DS	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.91 54.59)	
B65	Pomeroy Forest	56-50 Tanderagee Road, Dungannon BT70 3DS	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.90 54.59)	
B66	Rectory Lodge Trout Fishery	Church Road, Cookstown BT80 9RY	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.84 54.64)	
B67	Rosehill House	4 Mullantain View, Stewartstown, Dungannon BT71 5HJ	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.67 54.57)	
B68	Royal Hotel	29 Oldtown Street, Cookstown BT80 8EE	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.74 54.64)	
B69	Royal Hotel	8 Oldtown Street, Cookstown BT80 8EF	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.74 54.64)	
B70	Sperrins	130 Lough Fea Road, Cookstown BT80 9ST	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.80 54.70)	
B71	Springhill House	1 Springhill Road, Moneymore, Magherafelt BT45 7NG	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.65 54.68)	
B72	Springhill House	3 High Street, Moneymore, Magherafelt BT45 7PE	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.66 54.69)	

B73	Springhill House	1 High Street, Moneymore, Magherafelt BT45 7PE	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.66 54.69)	
B74	Springhill House	1 High Street, Moneymore, Magherafelt BT45 7PE	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.66 54.69)	
B75	Tourist Information	25 Killymoon Street, Cookstown BT80 8JJ	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.74 54.63)	
B76	Tullaghoge Fort	Tullywiggan Road, Cookstown BT80 8UB	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.73 54.60)	
B77	Tullaghoge Fort	Tullywiggan Road, Cookstown BT80 8UB	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.73 54.60)	
B78	Tullaghoge Fort	Tullywiggan Road, Cookstown BT80 8UB	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.73 54.60)	
B79	Tullylagan House Hotel	The Pipers Cave	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.76 54.59)	
B80	Tullylagan House Hotel	The Pipers Cave, 138 Dungannon Rd, Cookstown BT80 9BD	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.76 54.59)	
B81	Turnaface Fishery	1 Coltrim Road, Moneymore, Magherafelt BT45 7QG	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.69 54.68)	
B82	Wellbrook Beetling Mill	210 Drum Road, Cookstown BT80 9RU	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.83 54.64)	

WIDER MAGHERAFELT AREA					
C1	Accommodation	90 Gortead Rd Upperlands, Maghera BT46 5DZ	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.63 54.88)	
C2	Accommodation & North Sperrins Scenic Route	Crosskeys Crossroads Maghera BT46 5SU	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.62 54.88)	
C3	An Carn	68-72 Main St Maghera BT46 5AF	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.67 54.84)	
C4	An Carn	54 Halfgayne Rd Maghera BT46 5NZ	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.69 54.88)	
C5	An Carn	Crawford Field Sports Maghera BT46 5AE	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.67 54.84)	
C6	Annagh Cottage & Dewhamill B&B	39 Ballydermot Rd Bellaghy, Magherafelt BT45 8LF	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.50 54.79)	
C7	Annagh Cottage & Dewhamill B&B	43 Ballydermot Rd Magherafelt BT45 8LF	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.49 54.78)	
C8	Annagh Cottage, Dewhamill B&B & The Strand at Lough Beg	50 Deerpark Rd Castledawson, Magherafelt BT45 8BU	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.510 54.79)	
C9	Bellaghy Bawn	Amazon Counter - Post Office Bellaghy 17-19 Main St, Bellaghy, Magherafelt BT45 8HS	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.51 54.80)	

C10	Canoe Trail	Glendale School Magherafelt BT45 8JS	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.50 54.819)	
C11	Canoe Trail	Glendale School Magherafelt BT45 8JS	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.50 54.81)	
C12	Canoe Trail	57 Ballynease Rd Bellaghy, Magherafelt BT45 8NF	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.49 54.82)	
C13	Coarse Angling Facility & Molloy's Ford	20 Ballymacombs Rd Portglenone, Ballymena BT44 8NQ	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.48 54.86)	
C14	Coarse Angling Facility & Molloy's Ford	20 Ballymacombs Rd Portglenone, Ballymena BT44 8NQ	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.48 54.86)	
C15	Cycle Trail	9 Draperstown Rd Magherafelt BT45 5GH	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.70 54.81)	
C16	Davagh Forest & East Sperrins Scenic Route	Holy Family Sisters High St, Draperstown, Magherafelt BT45 7AA	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.78 54.79)	
C17	East Sperrins Scenic Route	83 Desertmartin Rd Moneymore, Magherafelt BT45 7RF	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.66 54.74)	
C18	East Sperrins Scenic Route	29 Tobermore Rd Magherafelt BT45 5LW	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.67 54.76)	
C19	Marina & Caravan Park	125 Shore Rd Ballyronan, Magherafelt BT45 6JA	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.53 54.70)	

C20	Marina & Caravan Park	180 Shore Rd Ballyronan, Magherafelt BT45 6LS	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.53 54.71)	
C21	Moyola Park Golf Club	3 Boyne Row Castledawson, Magherafelt BT45 8AE	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.56 54.77)	
C22	Moyola Park Golf Club	57 Glenshane Rd Magherafelt BT45 8DQ	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.58 54.78)	
C23	New Ferry	Martin McAleese Fruit & Veg Ltd 23 Ballymacombs Rd, Antrim, Ballymena BT44 8NQ	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.49 54.86)	
C24	New Ferry & Canoe Trail	15 Ballymacombs Rd Portglenone, Ballymena BT44 8NQ	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.50 54.86)	
C25	New Ferry & Canoe Trail	Smithstown Crossroads Ballymena BT44 8NL	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.50 54.86)	
C26	North Sperrins Scenic Route	9 Draperstown Rd Magherafelt BT45 5GH	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.70 54.81)	
C27	North Sperrins Scenic Route	52 Main St Maghera BT46 5AE	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.67 54.84)	
C28	North Sperrins Scenic Route	Crawford Field Sports 58 Main St, Maghera BT46 5AE	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.67 54.84)	
C29	North Sperrins Scenic Route	Holy Family Sisters High St, Draperstown, Magherafelt BT45 7AA	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.78 54.79)	

C30	North Sperrins Scenic Route	58 Main St 58 Main St, Maghera BT46 5AE	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.67 54.84)	
C31	North Sperrins Scenic Route	Rafters Bar 2-4 Kilrea Rd, Swatragh, Maghera BT46 5QF	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.66 54.90)	
C32	North Sperrins Scenic Route	88 Coleraine Rd Maghera BT46 5BP	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.66 54.85)	
C33	Scenic Route	1A Grillagh Rd Maghera BT46 5HU	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.66 54.86)	
C34	Seamus Heaney HomePlace	98 Deerpark Rd Toomebridge, Antrim BT41 3SS	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.50 54.77)	
C35	Seamus Heaney HomePlace	45 Main St Bellaghy, Magherafelt BT45 8H	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.52 54.80)	
C36	Seamus Heaney HomePlace	Ballymacombs Road A54, Ballymena BT44	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.48 54.86)	
C37	Seamus Heaney HomePlace	Orchard Portglenone, Ballymena BT44 8DX	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.48 54.87)	
C38	Seamus Heaney HomePlace	47 Magherafelt Rd Castledawson, Magherafelt BT45 8DR	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.57 54.77)	
C39	Seamus Heaney HomePlace	47 Magherafelt Rd Castledawson, Magherafelt BT45 8DR	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.57 54.77)	
C40	Seamus Heaney HomePlace & Moyola Park Golf Club	18 Boyne Row Castledawson, Magherafelt BT45 8AE	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.56 54.77)	

C41	Seamus Heaney's Grave	3-7 Oldtown Road Magherafelt BT45 8JD	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.51 54.81)	
C42	Springwell Fishery	22 Gortinari Moneyneany, Draperstown, Magherafelt BT45 7EA	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.82 54.81)	
C43	St Lurach's Old Church & Maghera Walled Garden	Maghera Medical Centre 25 Church St, Maghera BT46 5EA	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.66 54.84)	
C44	The Jungle Outdoor Adventure & Glamping	83 Desertmartin Rd Moneymore, Magherafelt BT45 7RF	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.66 54.74)	
C45	The Strand at Lough Beg	8 Ballyscullion Rd Bellaghy, Magherafelt BT45 8LD	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.51 54.80)	
C46	Tirnoney Dolmen	101 Tirkane Rd Maghera BT46 5NB	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.69 54.85)	
C47	Broken Sign	Renault Car BreakersNi 10 Urbalshinny Rd, Maghera BT46 5PD	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.71 54.86)	
C48	Tirnoney Dolmen	101 Tirkane Rd Maghera BT46 5NB	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.69 54.85)	
C49	Broken Sign	4 Slaghtneill Rd Maghera BT46 5NJ	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.72 54.87)	
C50	Accommodation	40 King St, Magherafelt BT45 6AS	Wider Cookstown Area	POINT (-6.60 54.75)	

C51	Various Maghera	15 Lana Shui Finn Maghera BT46 5GF	Wider Magherafelt Area	POINT (-6.66 54.84)	
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**Appendix 1.2 –**

[Interactive Google Map of Brown Signs in Mid Ulster](#)

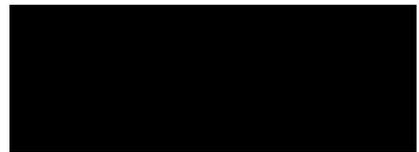
### APPENDIX 1.3

#### LIST OF BROWN TOURIST SIGNS WASHED

*(Please note in some instances thick algae formed from overhanging trees could not be removed).*

Site	Address	Town/Area	Brown Sign	Washed
Ardboe Cross	Ardboe Road, Cookstown BT80 0HU	Cookstown	yes	yes
Coyles Cottage	57 Annaghmore Rd, Cookstown BT80 0JA	Cookstown	yes	yes
Kinturk Cultural Centre	7 Kinturk Road, BT80 0JD	Cookstown	yes	yes
Burnavon/ VIC	Burn Road, Cookstown, BT80 8DN	Cookstown	yes	yes
Lissan House	Drumgrass Road, Cookstown, BT80 9SW	Cookstown	yes	yes
Springhill House	20 Springhill Road, Moneymore, Magherafelt, BT45 7NQ	Moneymore	yes	yes
Manor House	Moneymore, Magherafelt, BT45 7PD	Moneymore	yes	yes
Manor Park	Ministers Walk, Moneymore, Magherafelt BT45 7PD	Cookstown	yes	yes
Jungle NI	60 Desertmartin Road, BT45 7RB	Moneymore	yes	yes
Ballyronan Marina	135A Shore Rd, Ballyronan, Magherafelt, BT45 6JA	Ballyronan	yes	yes
Manor View	Drum Road, Cookstown BT80 9DX	Cookstown	yes	yes
Drum Manor	Drum Rd, Cookstown BT80 8UN	Cookstown	yes	yes
Wellbrook Beetling Mill	20 Wellbrook Rd, Corkhill Rd, Cookstown BT80 9RY	Cookstown	yes	yes

Beaghmore Stone Circles	64-62 Blackrock Rd, Cookstown BT80 9PA	Cookstown	yes	yes
Davagh Forest Trails	Davagh Rd, Omagh BT79 8JQ	Cookstown	yes	yes
OM Dark Sky Park	155 Davagh Rd, Omagh BT79 8JQ	Cookstown	yes	yes
Rectory Lodge Trout Fishery	Drum Rd Cookstown BT80 9RY,	Cookstown	yes	yes
Glenavon House	Main St Cookstown 19 Killymoon St, Cookstown BT80 8HX	Cookstown	yes	No Difficulty removing algae
Greenvale Hotel	Main St Cookstown 19 Killymoon St, Cookstown BT80 8HX	Cookstown	yes	No Difficulty removing algae
Royal Hotel	29 Oldtown St, Cookstown BT80 8EE	Cookstown	yes	Yes
Avondale B & B	Killycolpy Road, BT80 8UL	Cookstown	yes	yes
Lough Fea	149 Lough Fea Road, Cookstown BT80 9TZ	Cookstown	yes	yes
Dungannon Park	Moy Road, Dungannon BT71 6WS	Dungannon	yes	yes
Ranfurly House Arts & Visitor Centre	26 Market Square, Dungannon, BT70 1AB	Dungannon	yes	yes
Eskragh Lough	109 Ballygawley Road, Dungannon, BT71 7DF	Dungannon	yes	yes
Dungannon Golf Club	1 Hawthorn Crescent, Dungannon BT70 1QS	Dungannon	yes	yes
Linen Green	Main Road, Moygashel, Dungannon, BT71 7QR	Dungannon	yes	yes



Policy & Procedure Guide: RSPPG\_ E029

**Title:** The Signing of Tourist Attractions and Facilities

**Author :** Stephen Hughes  
**Version :** 2  
**Implementation Date:** To be effective from the 'Date Issued'.  
**Date issued to users:** 09 October 2014

**Classification**

**Level 1:** (Title / Key Words) Traffic signs, privately funded,  
**Level 2 :** Engineering  
(Directorate/Owner)  
**Level 3:** (RSHQ or HoBU Managed Function): ES – Traffic Management Policy  
**Level 4:**(Business Functn.) Traffic

**Notes**

**Certification**

This document represents TransportNI Policy drawn up in conjunction with the Northern Ireland Tourist Board (NITB) and is to be implemented with effect from the date of issue.

(Signed) PB Doherty Director of Engineering

Certification Date: 07/10/2014

CONTENTS

<b>1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>4</b>
1.1	Purpose	4
1.2	Definitions	4
1.3	Background	6
1.4	Implementation	8
1.5	Costs and benefits	8
<b>2</b>	<b>POLICY &amp; PROCEDURE</b>	<b>9</b>
2.1	Core principles	9
2.2	Criteria	9
2.3	General principles	10
2.4	Extent of Signing and Visitor numbers	12
2.5	Application Process	14
2.6	Tourist signing inventory	15
2.7	Financial arrangements	16
2.8	Sign erection	16
2.9	Unauthorised signs	17
2.10	Variations to the policy	17
<b>3</b>	<b>EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EQIA)</b>	<b>18</b>
3.1	Equality Impact Assessment Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998	18
3.2	<u>Rural Proofing</u>	18
3.3	<u>Impact Assessments (IAs)- formerly referred to as Regulatory Impact Assessments</u>	18
3.4	<u>Lifetime Opportunities – Government’s Anti-Poverty Strategy (replaces New TSN)</u>	18
<b>4</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>	<b>19</b>
4.1	Appendix 1 – Tourist destinations	19
4.1.1	Geographical areas of tourist interest	19
4.1.2	Town and village nameplate signing	19
4.1.3	By-passed communities	20
4.1.4	Historic monuments	20
4.1.5	Scenic routes and coastal routes	20
4.1.6	Walking and cycling routes	22

**Version: 2**

4.1.7	<b>Golfing facilities</b>	26
4.1.8	<b>Leisure facilities</b>	26
4.1.9	<b>Theatres/Arts Centres</b>	26
4.1.10	<b>Gardens</b>	27
4.1.11	<b>Sports facilities</b>	27
4.1.12	<b>Activity Tourism Centres</b>	27
4.1.13	<b>Churches</b>	28
4.1.14	<b>Conference centres / facilities</b>	28
4.1.15	<b>Cross-Border attractions</b>	29
4.1.16	<b>Restaurants / Tea Rooms / Cafes / Coffee Shops</b>	29
4.1.17	<b>Accommodation signing</b>	29
4.1.18	<b>Rural accommodation</b>	29
4.1.19	<b>Urban accommodation</b>	30
4.1.20	<b>Campus Accommodation</b>	31
4.1.21	<b>Caravan and camping parks</b>	31
4.1.22	<b>Aires de Service / Motorhome Service Facilities</b>	32
4.1.23	<b>Hostels</b>	33
4.1.24	<b>Motorhome Hire Outlets</b>	33
4.1.25	<b>Tourist/visitor information centres &amp; tourist information boards</b>	34
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Appendix 2 – Tourist signing principles</b>	<b>35</b>
4.2.1	<b>Sign design</b>	35
4.2.2	<b>Minimising visual and environmental intrusion</b>	36
4.2.3	<b>Extent of signing</b>	36
4.2.4	<b>Advance direction signs (ADS)</b>	36
4.2.5	<b>Direction signs</b>	38
4.2.6	<b>Route confirmatory signs</b>	38
4.2.7	<b>Signs at or near the entrance to a tourist destination</b>	39
4.2.8	<b>Alternative (or symbolic) signing method</b>	39
4.2.9	<b>Pedestrian signing</b>	41
4.2.10	<b>Motorway gantry signing</b>	42
4.2.11	<b>Signing of low bridges on routes to tourist attractions</b>	42
4.2.12	<b>Use of symbols</b>	42
4.2.13	<b>Colour of symbol</b>	43
4.2.14	<b>Location of symbols</b>	43
<b>4.3</b>	<b>Appendix 3 - Northern Ireland primary route network</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>4.4</b>	<b>Appendix 4 - Northern Ireland A &amp; B class road network</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>4.5</b>	<b>Appendix 5 - Tourist signing application process</b>	<b>47</b>

## 1 Introduction

### 1.1 Purpose

1.1.1.1 This Policy & Procedure Guide (RSPPG): -

- a) has been developed jointly between TransportNI, the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment, and the Northern Ireland Tourist Board;
- b) is aimed at all staff involved in the provision of tourist attraction signing.

### 1.2 Definitions

1.2.1.1 In this RSPPG the following definitions and abbreviations apply: -

- a) DRD – the Department for Regional Development
- b) NITB – The Northern Ireland Tourist Board
- c) DETI - the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment
- d) TNIHQ – TransportNI Headquarters
- e) TSR – The Traffic Signs Regulations (Northern Ireland)
- f) RTRO – The Road Traffic Regulation (Northern Ireland) Order
- g) RO – The Roads (Northern Ireland) Order
- h) Cost, sign cost, total cost, etc. - The total cost of design, purchase, erection and illumination or reflectorisation of a sign, including administration charges
- i) B&B – Bed and breakfast
- j) Urban area – A location within a built-up area with a speed limit of 40mph or less
- k) Rural area – A location outside a built-up area where the national speed limit applies or where a 50 or 60 mph speed limit has been introduced
- l) Visitor - a person from outside the immediate locality in which the tourist attraction is located

**Version: 2**

m) Tourist destination - A permanently established tourist attraction or tourist facility (both defined following this definition) which:

- attracts or is used by visitors to an area; and
- is open to the public without prior booking.

n) Tourist attraction - a location or place that, in itself, tourists would wish to see or visit. Typically, this would include: -

- NITB funded tourism products;
- Visitor attractions that have received NITB Quality Grading;
- historic buildings;
- museums;
- zoos;
- natural attractions such as nature reserves;
- beaches and viewpoints;
- scenic routes;
- outdoor pursuits centres;
- activity tourism centres;
- golf courses; and
- areas providing fishing.

o) Tourist facility - an enterprise that provides a service primarily for tourists, such as the provision of NITB accredited accommodation and information for tourists and would, typically, include: -

- hotels;
- guesthouses;
- B&B establishments;
- guest accommodation;
- caravan and camping parks;
- hostels;
- bunk houses;
- self catering accommodation;

**Version: 2**

- campus accommodation;
- marinas;
- public slipways;
- boat / cruiser hire;
- motorhome hire;
- Aire de service/motorhome service facilities;
- picnic sites; and
- tourist information centres and tourist information boards.

p) Utility - a place or service that would be of use to tourists but does not of itself constitute a tourist attraction. Utilities are commonplace and will not be signed, and would, typically, include: -

- banks;
- doctors' surgeries;
- chemist shops;
- hire (cars, cycles, surfing equipment, etc.) shops;
- sports facilities;
- antique shops;
- art galleries;
- restaurants;
- garden centres;
- shopping centres; and
- individual shops.

Generally, libraries may be deemed to be utilities unless they are individually designated for historical or other reasons as attractions by NITB.

### **1.3 Background**

1.3.1.1 Included in 'A Strategy for the Development of Tourism in Northern Ireland' published by NITB in November 1997 is an agreement that the then Roads Service would work with NITB on a review of the jointly agreed tourist signing policy.

**Version: 2**

1.3.1.2 Scott Wilson Resource Consultants were appointed in October 1998 to carry out a review of tourist signing policy. NITB subsequently carried out extensive consultations with local Councils, Government Departments and tourist industry associations to determine overall tourist signing needs. The main findings of these consultations have been taken into account in developing the first version of this policy in 2004. This version of the policy has been produced to reflect changes in the tourism market in the time since 2004.

1.3.1.3 There are three main parties in terms of the operation and implementation of the tourist signing policy in Northern Ireland. These are:

- NITB
- Local Councils
- DRD

1.3.1.4 NITB is the official body responsible for the development of tourism and marketing of Northern Ireland as a tourist destination to visitors within Northern Ireland and from the Republic of Ireland. Tourism Ireland promotes Northern Ireland outside Ireland. NITB's role in terms of tourist signing is to provide expert guidance on tourism products so that only suitable destinations that benefit tourists receive signing.

1.3.1.5 Local councils are responsible for the promotion and development of tourism within their respective local areas. Local councils have it in their remit to provide the following tourist related amenities:

- Coach parking;
- Car parking for leisure or tourism purposes;
- Visitor information/interpretation panels/boards;
- Tourism facilities; and,
- Visitor centres.

1.3.1.6 Councils are best placed to interface with the local tourist industry and to assist with developing any local tourism strategies.

1.3.1.7 The Local Council's Tourism Development or Economic Development Unit is the first point of contact for applicants. The Council is responsible for assisting applicants in completing the application form for tourism signage; for liaising with NITB to establish eligibility for tourism signage on the applicant's behalf; and in liaising directly with TransportNI regarding the production and installation of signage on behalf of the applicant.

## **Version: 2**

1.3.1.8 DRD has a discretionary statutory power to provide, or permit the provision of, traffic signs which includes 'white on brown' tourist direction signs. The Department has a key role in the design and provision of signs, and is concerned with the content and layout of the sign as well as the positioning of it on the road network. As DRD is responsible for road network stewardship it has a final arbiter role in terms of the provision of signs bearing in mind the need to maintain road safety and minimise the proliferation of traffic signs.

1.3.1.9 This policy has been developed and agreed between DETI, NITB and DRD so that eligible and harder to find tourist destinations in Northern Ireland can receive signing. The agreed eligibility criteria is intended to ensure that applications are treated on a fair and balanced basis, and traffic management and road safety considerations are given priority.

## **1.4 Implementation**

1.4.1.1 This policy and procedure guide is to be implemented with immediate effect. Whilst the criteria listed within this policy apply to the provision of new signs, existing authorised signing not complying with these criteria should be allowed to remain until they require replacement for either sign maintenance or traffic management reasons.

1.4.1.2 When sign replacement is required, a new application for signing should be submitted by the operator of the destination in order that it can be confirmed that the destination continues to meet the relevant criteria for the provision of tourist signing. Automatic replacement of tourist signs should not, therefore, be undertaken.

1.4.1.3 The implementation of the policy will be subject of an annual review between DRD/DETI/NITB.

## **1.5 Costs and benefits**

1.5.1.1 As with former policy, this policy and procedure guide places with the applicant the responsibility for bearing the total cost of all signs provided.

1.5.1.2 Some costs will arise from the removal of signs to destinations that no longer comply with the policy. It is anticipated that these costs will be minimal and will generally be borne by TransportNI.

1.5.1.3 The main benefit to derive from implementation of this policy and procedure guide will be clear guidance on the provision of high quality, visitor-focused tourist signing.

## 2 Policy & Procedure

### 2.1 Core principles

2.1.1.1 White-on-brown tourist signs constitute one part of the overall family of direction signs. The main purpose of tourist signs is to guide visitors to their desired destinations via the most appropriate route at the latter stages of their journey, particularly where destinations are hard to find. As with all other direction signs, tourist signs are an aid to safe and efficient navigation, to complement, but not replace, pre-planning of the journey and the use of navigational aids such as verbal instructions, maps, road atlases, websites, satellite navigation systems, and mobile phone applications.

2.1.1.2 White-on-brown signs for tourist destinations (Appendix 1 – Tourist destinations) should supplement rather than duplicate information already provided on other direction signs provided for the guidance of all traffic. While recognising that ancillary benefits may accrue to the operator of a tourist destination through increased patronage, white-on-brown signs should only be used where there are clear benefits to the road user, eg. for safety reasons, where locations are hard to find or to encourage visitors to use particular routes.

2.1.1.3 In built-up areas it may not be possible to sign all tourist destinations due to the large number involved. It is therefore recommended that comprehensive signing schemes be implemented, with applications for tourist signs being considered only as part of a group and not individually (see paragraph 2.5).

2.1.1.4 Only businesses in which a tourism element predominates as opposed to a commercial retail focus will be considered for white-on-brown signs. For example a large retail centre which while attracting visitors is primarily providing for the local retail market and will not be eligible for white-on-brown signing.

### 2.2 Criteria

2.2.1.1 Consideration of applications for the erection of tourist signs is a two-stage process:

- a) eligibility addresses the nature of the destination itself. Only tourist destinations designated as such by NITB will be eligible for tourist signing; and
- b) entitlement takes into consideration compliance with this policy and the satisfactory accommodation of the signing within the overall needs of other traffic.

2.2.1.2 Eligibility will not confer automatic entitlement to tourist signs. Where a tourist destination is deemed by NITB to be eligible for tourist signing the final decision as to whether a destination is signed will be made by TransportNI. Where TransportNI decides not to approve the provision of signing a full explanation as to the reason why will be provided to the local council.

## Version: 2

2.2.1.3 For a tourist destination to be signed it must be permanently established and be open to the public without prior booking. In addition, it should: -

- a) have adequate parking on site or close by. The signs should direct road users to the parking facilities with onward pedestrian signing (see paragraph 4.2.9) to the tourist destination itself;
- b) have adequate toilets on site (where appropriate), including those for visitors with disabilities;
- c) have adequate publicity material (eg. leaflets, within tourist guide books, websites or at tourist information centres), or have a website dedicated to the promotion of their product or make use of social media and mobile phone technology/applications, or be able to demonstrate the use of other on-line channels for promoting tourism such as the discover Northern Ireland web page link as follows <http://www.discovernorthernireland.com/>;
- d) be of good quality, well-maintained and suitable for people with disabilities;
- e) be open continuously from Easter to October (inclusive) each year, as a minimum;
- f) be adequately identifiable in terms of the nature of the tourist destination at the point of entry , as described in paragraph 4.2.7.1;
- g) be a member of an NITB approved quality assurance scheme for tourist accommodation (where appropriate); and
- h) enter into the appropriate financial arrangements as described in paragraph 2.7.

2.2.1.4 Existing authorised signing not complying with this policy should be allowed to remain until it is in need of replacement for either sign maintenance or traffic management reasons. When such signs are to be removed, TransportNI shall advise the operator of the destination concerned and the local Council so that provision may be made for inclusion of the destination on local tourist information boards if deemed appropriate by the local Council.

2.2.1.5 Utilities will not be signed individually, but information pertaining to them may be included on information panels at tourist information boards.

## 2.3 General principles

2.3.1.1 The primary purpose of tourist signing is to assist in the management of traffic and to ensure the safe operation of the road network. It is not intended that signs be used as advertising for the tourist destination. Signing should not be permitted that will provide an advantage to one commercial enterprise at the expense of another.

**Version: 2**

2.3.1.2 On the basis that signs should only be provided for enterprises that are difficult to find, tourist destinations located on A or B class roads will not normally receive any tourist signing, unless there are demonstrable traffic management or road safety reasons for signing or the destination is funded or Quality Graded by NITB and the tourist destination is intended to have a significant impact on the overall tourism offering for Northern Ireland. This may include high visitor numbers as outlined in section 2.4. Further exception may be made for tourist destinations located on A or B class roads carrying less than 1,500 vehicles per day.

2.3.1.3 Signing to a tourist destination shall not be provided until all unauthorised signs relating to that destination are removed from the public road (see paragraph 2.8.1.2i).

2.3.1.4 It is important to ensure that there is consistency across Divisional and local Council boundaries. To this end, signing to a tourist destination should only be developed after consulting bodies controlling adjoining areas to agree consistent arrangements for cross-boundary signing.

2.3.1.5 In some cases it may be difficult to decide whether a particular enterprise is primarily a tourist facility or a retail outlet (for example, craft workshops and potteries). NITB shall be responsible for determining if the tourism element predominates (eg. if the public can watch a demonstration or display without necessarily making any purchases of the products or goods on offer).

2.3.1.6 Properties and sites such as forest parks, country parks, historic monuments and those owned by the National Trust are automatically considered to be tourist destinations, but shall comply with the criteria given in paragraph 2.2.1.3 before signing is provided.

2.3.1.7 Permanent garden exhibitions that are part of, or are attached to a garden centre, should not be considered for tourist destination signing unless the exhibition is recognised by NITB as being of particular significance in horticultural or arboriculture terms.

2.3.1.8 In the interests of road safety, sign proliferation should be minimised by ensuring that, where a tourist destination comprises more than one attraction or facility, only the main attraction or facility is referred to on the signs. An exception may be made, however, where a destination is widely known as, say, 'Hotel and country club'. It is unlikely that a destination would be known, for instance, as 'Hotel and conference centre facilities' and requests of this nature should be refused, as they are basically an attempt to advertise rather than direct. Where there are number of discrete tourist products on offer at the same general tourism location product related symbols can be used to indicate the different ones up to a maximum of four.



2.3.1.9 Service symbols are generally not to be used. Symbols such as those indicating the availability of toilets or accessible parking are not required as tourist destinations have to provide these to receive signing (paragraph 2.2.1.3 refers). Other symbols such as the 'knife and fork' or 'cup' symbol are used on service areas signs on strategic routes for safety reasons in that they benefit people making longer journeys and on signs to by-passed communities (section 4.1.3 refers). However in the context of tourist signing they have the potential to provide commercial advantage for a tourist destination over a standalone 'non-tourist' related business in the general area.

2.3.1.10 In all cases TransportNI shall determine the design, size and siting of traffic signs.

## 2.4 Extent of Signing and Visitor numbers

2.4.1.1 If deemed eligible by NITB to constitute either a tourist attraction or tourist facility, a tourist destination may be signed from the nearest A or B class road regardless of visitor numbers to that destination. Appendix 4 in paragraph 4.4 provides an indicative map of the A and B class road network in Northern Ireland.

2.4.1.2 Where signing is to be permitted to a tourist destination located on an A or B class road carrying less than 1500 vehicles per day (paragraph 2.3.1.2) signing shall be from the nearest A or B class road carrying more than 1500 vehicles per day.

2.4.1.3 Exceptionally, signing may also be provided from the next nearest A or B road when it can be established that traffic visiting the destination is likely to approach from either direction.

2.4.1.4 For traffic management and road safety reasons signing from main routes beyond the nearest A or B road will generally only be considered for tourist attractions when the relevant stipulations in the following paragraphs apply.

2.4.1.5 The signing of tourist facilities shall not be permitted from motorways.

2.4.1.6 The signing of tourist attractions from motorways shall only be permitted in exceptional circumstances and reserved for strategically significant tourist products that are deemed so, and fully supported, by the local Council and NITB, such as Titanic Belfast.

**Version: 2**

2.4.1.7 Before tourist signing from a motorway is considered the adequacy of the existing direction signing to the nearest main destination shall be assessed and improved if appropriate and more local but less extensive dedicated signing be provided closer to the attraction. Where more than one attraction is located at the same geographical destination, only the main attraction shall be signed.

2.4.1.8 Tourist signing shall also only be provided to tourist attractions located less than twenty miles from the nearest motorway junction. The opportunity to provide tourist signing will however be dependent on the existing signing on the stretch of motorway in question. If it is proposed to include the attraction on existing advance direction signs then the standard rules in Local Transport Note 1/94, in terms of the number of units of information that can be included on a sign, shall apply. If there is the opportunity to provide standalone dedicated supplementary tourist signs between existing motorway advance direction signs then up to a maximum of 3 eligible tourist attractions may be indicated from each motorway off-slip where a standard 'stack' type direction sign is used (see sign diagram 2924 below). Where a 'map' type sign is to be used which shows either a diverge or a roundabout ahead the number of attractions should be reduced to 2.



Sign Diagram 2924

2.4.1.9 It is accepted, however, that there may be instances where a motorway may be the closest and most suitable route to an attraction (eg. Peatlands Park, Ardross House & The Argory) and that each of these may not meet the revised approach to signing from motorways. Signing in such instances shall be allowed to remain until such times as the existing motorway signing needs replaced or an application is received asking for tourist signing from the same junction when the on-going need/eligibility for the existing signing will need assessed.

2.4.1.10 Signing from a primary route that is not the nearest main road may be provided to attractions with more than 20,000 visitors per annum, up to a maximum of twenty miles from the attraction. Appendix 3 in paragraph 4.3 provides an indicative map of the Northern Ireland Primary Route network. Continuity signing along a primary route from the junction with another primary route may be approved to tourist attractions meeting these criteria. This is designed to cater for traffic approaching the attraction from different directions. Such cases are likely to be rare and will be considered on their individual merits. However, signing may be permissible from two different primary routes if traffic is obviously drawn from more than one direction.

2.4.1.11 The applicant shall provide reliable proof of visitor numbers.

## **Version: 2**

2.4.1.12 Extended signing from a motorway or primary route should not be based on projected visitor numbers for a new attraction. Initial signing should be undertaken from the nearest A or B class road. Signing can then be extended further to include primary routes or motorways based on actual visitor numbers when achieved. Exceptions to this may be made for tourist destinations supported; Quality Graded; and/or funded by NITB irrespective of visitor numbers or by agreement between TNIHQ and NITB where a new tourist attraction is reasonably expected to have visitor numbers that are at least twice those required to merit such signing.

2.4.1.13 Where a multi-function venue is being assessed for tourist signing, it is important that only the elements eligible for tourist signing are included in visitor number totals. Where the primary purpose of a multi-function venue is clearly commercial, retail or unrelated to tourism, additional signing shall not be permitted. Where the balance between the tourist and non-tourist elements is less clear-cut, TransportNI may arrange to have such surveys carried out, as it considers appropriate to validate a request for additional signing. Applicants shall bear the cost of these surveys and failure to co-operate fully shall invalidate the request for additional signing.

2.4.1.14 Should visitor numbers not meet the required level within three years of the establishment opening, removal of the extended signing should be considered. This is important in order to maintain the validity of sign provision criteria relative to the standard of tourist destinations being signed and to prevent criticism from other attractions where extended signing has been denied on the basis of visitor numbers.

2.4.1.15 Extended signing may be retained where visitor numbers are showing annual increases and there is a likelihood that the required visitor level will be reached within the following three-year period. Signs should be removed, however, where visitor numbers are decreasing annually or are static at or below 80% of the required visitor level.

2.4.1.16 Departures from the above criteria in respect of visitor numbers will require the approval of the Director of Engineering. In all cases, NITB should be consulted regarding visitor levels before any action to remove signs is taken. As it is anticipated that the number of signs requiring removal will be small, TransportNI will bear the cost of removal in the interests of maintaining signing standards.

## **2.5 Application Process**

2.5.1.1 All applications should be made via the local council which has a responsibility for developing tourism in its area.

2.5.1.2 Further details of the application process are contained in Appendix 5.

2.5.1.3 The local council along with NITB will determine the eligibility of a destination for signing. The final decision on the provision of signing will however be dependent on the agreement of TransportNI which will consider all aspects of practical implementation.

**Version: 2**

2.5.1.4 TransportNI will determine the type and extent of signing required and whether it can be accommodated along with existing traffic signing in the area. If signing can be provided TransportNI will give an indication of the possible cost of provision.

2.5.1.5 The local Council will act as the sole point of contact with TransportNI regarding the provision and funding of tourist signing in its area and as such, all requests for tourist signing should be directed to it.

2.5.1.6 The local Council shall also be the point of contact with the applicant and is responsible for transmitting all decisions to the applicant, apart from any specific detail in relation to the sign provision. In accordance with paragraph 2.7.1.2 the local council will also organise obtaining the funding for the sign provision from the applicant.

2.5.1.7 When an application is rejected the council shall inform the applicant in writing of the reasons why.

2.5.1.8 When an application is successful the applicant shall be informed of the extent of signing to be offered and that the signing will only be provided after they have deposited the funding to cover the estimated cost with the local Council. Applicants should also be informed that they will need to agree to reconciling actual costs at the end of the process should the out turn figure be over the estimated figures. Where the outturn figure is less than the estimated figure the excess will be returned to the applicant.

## **2.6 Tourist signing inventory**

2.6.1.1 The local Council, in conjunction with NITB, should maintain an inventory of tourist attractions and facilities that have received tourist signing in its area. It is important that this inventory includes all existing approved tourist signing in the council area. Part of the council's responsibility in maintaining the inventory will be to identify any enterprises no longer operating and consequently any signs no longer needed. Councils shall inform TransportNI of any redundant signs and TransportNI will arrange removal.

2.6.1.2 Those items on the inventory not eligible for direction signing may be catered for by means of tourist information boards or specialist literature at tourist information centres.

2.6.1.3 The local Council will be responsible for the co-ordination and assembly of funding for the signing of destinations identified for signing as part of this policy on the provision of tourist signs.

2.6.1.4 If considered necessary by the partners, the tourist signing scheme will be subject to review on an annual basis.

**Version: 2**

## **2.7 Financial arrangements**

2.7.1.1 In all cases, the applicant shall provide all funding for tourist signing to the destination, whether publicly or privately owned. Regional delivery partners or local Councils should fund direction signing to general tourist attractions such as Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, scenic routes and viewpoints.

2.7.1.2 All funding shall be directed to the local Council who will act as the funding co-ordinator for tourist signing. This will ensure that the Council is aware of all signing provision within its area.

## **2.8 Sign erection**

2.8.1.1 Signs shall be erected by TransportNI, except in cases where specific agreements are drawn up in accordance with Article 29(3) of RTRO. Where applicants choose to supply signs, they shall comply with the specification contained in the current TransportNI Signs Supply Contract as let by the Central Procurement Directorate.

2.8.1.2 The following shall be made clear in writing to operators of destinations requesting tourist signing. It is anticipated that the local Council will be responsible for issue of a letter covering these points: -

- a) the signs shall become the property of the Department;
- b) the signs shall be removed if the destination fails to meet the criteria set out in this policy document;
- c) TransportNI will carry out normal sign maintenance, but should the signs be severely damaged and become unsightly or a road safety hazard, they will be removed from the site;
- d) the operator shall be responsible for the cost of replacing signs if they become damaged or require renewal due to normal wear and tear;
- e) if TransportNI can recover the cost of damage from a third party, the signs will be replaced at no cost to the operator. Otherwise the operator will be required to meet the cost of a replacement sign, if required;
- f) while estimates may be given, actual costs, whether more or less, shall be charged;
- g) full payment is required in advance;
- h) the signs shall be white-on-brown tourist direction signs and illuminated in accordance with TransportNI policy on illumination and reflectorisation;
- i) unauthorised signing / advertisement of the destination within the road boundary shall be removed by the operator before authorised tourist direction signs are provided; and

## **Version: 2**

j) subsequent erection of unauthorised signs / advertisements within the road boundary shall result in the removal of authorised tourist direction signs (see paragraph 2.9.1.2).

2.8.1.3 It is anticipated that the number of signs requiring removal will be small and as such the costs associated with this will be borne by TransportNI out of existing sign maintenance funding.

2.8.1.4 Where more than one attraction is shown on a sign, the cost of the sign should be shared proportionally between the attraction operators.

2.8.1.5 The piecemeal addition of individual signs to existing signage is undesirable both in terms of appearance and the clarity of information conveyed to the motorist. Where an extra attraction is to be added to an existing sign, the operator of the additional attraction should meet the full cost of reconstruction of all new signs.

## **2.9 Unauthorised signs**

2.9.1.1 Action should be taken by the relevant Division to have unauthorised signs / advertisements removed quickly. Authority for removal is contained in either Article 35 of RTRO or Article 87 of RO depending on the nature of the signs / advertisements involved. To assist in identifying unauthorised signs / advertisements, Divisions may wish to maintain records of the siting and nature of all approved signs.

2.9.1.2 If unauthorised signs / advertisements to a destination are erected after authorised signs have been provided, TransportNI shall ensure their removal from property under its control. Where those benefiting from the unauthorised signs / advertisements persist in their erection within the road boundary, consideration should be given to the removal of authorised signs to that destination as well. Applicants should previously have been advised of this course of action in the letter of offer for the provision of the signs (see paragraph 2.8.1.2). Should the applicant then agree, in writing, to withhold from the erection of further unauthorised signs / advertisements, authorised signs may be re-erected provided the applicant bears all costs relating to their removal and subsequent re-erection.

2.9.1.3 The procedures for the removal of unauthorised signs / advertisements are set out in RSPPG\_S035.

## **2.10 Variations to the policy**

2.10.1.1 Departures from policy as set out in this policy and procedure guide may from time to time be approved to accommodate specific cases. Requests for such departures should be submitted to the Director of Engineering through the Divisional Manager.

### 3 Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA)

#### 3.1 Equality Impact Assessment Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998

3.1.1.1 An equality screening analysis has been carried out on the policy contained within this policy and procedure guide. The analysis did not identify a differential impact on any of the groups listed in section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998. A full equality impact assessment has consequently not been deemed necessary.

3.1.1.2 A copy of the completed 'Equality Screening Analysis Form' has been signed off and forwarded to the DRD Equality Unit.

#### 3.2 Rural Proofing

3.2.1.1 This policy and procedure guide will be applied equally in the urban and rural contexts for the benefit of all road users, although there is a definite emphasis on providing signing to harder to find rural destinations.

#### 3.3 Impact Assessments (IAs)- formerly referred to as Regulatory Impact Assessments

3.3.1.1 An Impact Assessment is not deemed necessary as this policy and procedure guide will not impose either a direct or an indirect impact on businesses, charities, social economy enterprises or the voluntary sector.

#### 3.4 Lifetime Opportunities – Government’s Anti-Poverty Strategy (replaces New TSN)

3.4.1.1 The intention of this policy and procedure guide is to provide guidance on the provision of permanent direction traffic signs to assist the safe and effective movement of traffic. As such there is no opportunity to assist the Government’s Anti-Poverty Strategy.

## 4 Appendices

### 4.1 Appendix 1 – Tourist destinations

#### 4.1.1 Geographical areas of tourist interest

4.1.1.1 Signing of areas of landscape value (such as the Mournes, Causeway Coast, or the Glens of Antrim) or historical cultural value (such as St Patrick's Country or Orchard County) will take the form of boundary signs at the entrance to such areas.

4.1.1.2 It is anticipated that most geographical areas of tourist interest have already been identified and these should not be extended to include marketing or branding initiatives, the signing of which may dilute the impact of those areas already established.

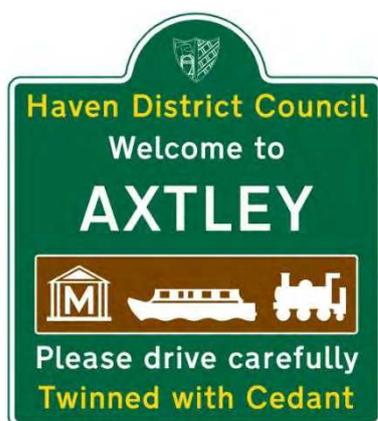
4.1.1.3 In order to maintain consistency in the signing of areas of geographical or historical value throughout Northern Ireland, any new areas shall be agreed by NITB in conjunction with TNIHQ.

4.1.1.4 As Council areas do not in themselves constitute tourist attractions or facilities, it is not appropriate to use white-on-brown signs as boundary signs of Council areas.

#### 4.1.2 Town and village nameplate signing

4.1.2.1 Town and village welcome signs can be dealt with in a number of ways and this section should be read in conjunction with RSPPG E034 'Direction Signs'.

4.1.2.2 Where a request is made to have a town or village signed with more than just its name on a black-on-white sign, this may be accommodated through the erection of a sign similar to that shown below. The content of the sign should be agreed with the local Council.



4.1.2.3 Although not currently in the TSR, this sign has been authorised for use here. Permitted variants shall be as prescribed in diagram 2403.1 of TSRGD, with the maximum number of tourist attraction symbols permitted being three.

**Version: 2**

4.1.2.4 The signs should generally be erected on the main approaches to the town or village, in the vicinity of the existing 30mph or 40mph limit signs. As with other tourist signing, the promoter should pay for these signs.

**4.1.3 By-passed communities**

4.1.3.1 Direction signing to by-passed communities (white-on-green or black-on-white) is primarily addressed in a separate RSPPG E064 “The Signing of Service Areas and Local Facilities in By-passed Communities”.

4.1.3.2 The signs that can be used indicate the availability of a range of basic services in a nearby small town or village lying off the main road to those making longer more strategic journeys and who are unfamiliar with the general area.

4.1.3.3 In exceptional cases the tourist signing alternatives of ‘local facilities’ signs may be used (i.e. sign diagrams 2328<sup>GB</sup> and 2329<sup>GB</sup>) where in addition to the requirements for local facilities in RSPPG E064 the town or village has:

- Overnight tourist accommodation; and,
- At least one other tourist attraction.

4.1.3.4 Sample signs are as follows. Where the town or village also has a networked tourist or visitor information centre the Tourist Information Centre ‘i’ symbol should be included.



4.1.3.5 Towns or villages already signed with facility signs in accordance with RSPGG E064 will not be eligible for tourist signing.

**4.1.4 Historic monuments**

4.1.4.1 Whilst historic sites and monuments designated as such by the Department of the Environment may be classed as tourist attractions, tourist signing to them should only be provided where interpretative panels and adequate parking facilities are available on site or nearby. Where parking is located nearby, vehicular signing should be to the car park, with pedestrian signing from there to the site or monument itself.

**4.1.5 Scenic routes and coastal routes**

**Version: 2**

4.1.5.1 Scenic routes and coastal routes shall not be signed without the prior agreement of TNIHQ and NITB in order to preserve the consistency of such signing throughout Northern Ireland. As in all matters relating to signing, road safety considerations shall be paramount and TransportNI shall be responsible for all decisions in this regard.

4.1.5.2 The signs at the start of a route and those at other major joining points should contain the legend 'scenic route', 'scenic trail', 'tourist route', 'tourist trail' or 'coastal route' as a minimum. In addition, and subject to space being available on the signs, a geographical name may be added to the legend together with a suitable authorised local symbol, if considered appropriate. TNIHQ will consider authorising the use of suitable local symbols, particularly where there is more than one route in an area. Where the route is to be a coastal one and subject to space being available on the signs, a geographical name generally need not be added. Advance direction signs may also be necessary where the route starts at the junction with a main road.

4.1.5.3 In addition, when designing **scenic** routes, NITB will consider the following:

-

- a) avoid congested areas such as stretches of main roads and traffic bottlenecks and avoid urban areas if possible;
- b) link places of minor interest;
- c) possibly avoid major tourist destinations which are already traffic magnets and plan the route to draw traffic out of these locations;
- d) avoid use of Class A roads where possible;
- e) utilise the most attractive roads where possible;
- f) where possible incorporate facilities required by visitors: - eg. toilets, picnic areas, car parks, restaurants, viewpoints etc.;
- g) plan a route distance of from twenty to sixty miles long, capable of being shortened by the tourist to allow flexibility;
- h) plan a circular route, with traffic not encouraged to join or leave at one particular point; and
- i) plan the route so as to use one direction only, preferably anti-clockwise, thus avoiding right hand turns.

4.1.5.4 Continuity or repeater signing along the route should consist of signs bearing the legend 'scenic route' (or variant) and an authorised symbol, if used.

Three types of signs are illustrated below: -



Advance direction sign for a scenic route



Direction sign at the start of a scenic route



Repeater sign along a scenic route



Direction sign showing attraction off a scenic route

#### 4.1.6 Walking and cycling routes

4.1.6.1 The following definitions apply in this section: -

- a) 'National Cycling Network' (NCN) - A UK-wide network of cycle routes designed to provide a safe and high quality environment for all types of cycling and walking journeys.

## Version: 2

- b) 'Local walking / cycling route (or trail)' - A route primarily intended for use by tourists and recreational walking / cycling. Ideally, it should be located off-road. Otherwise it should generally be located mainly in rural areas and away from busy roads.
- c) 'Cycle lane (or track)' - Part of a carriageway set aside exclusively or primarily for the use of cyclists, ie. mandatory and advisory cycle lanes respectively. These will be almost exclusively located in urban and semi-urban environments and will generally be utilitarian in nature.

4.1.6.2 The erection of tourist walking / cycling signing should complement and not conflict with general signing for pedestrians and cyclists. A consistent approach to the signing of local walking / cycling routes throughout Northern Ireland is important to assist their integration into the existing road infrastructure and to avoid conflict with signing of the National Cycle Network. To help ensure this the Department's Cycling Unit should be consulted when considering any request for tourist walking/cycling signing. The Unit should be able to advise on any planned cycling routes in the vicinity and whether the proposed route opens up any other opportunities to promote and provide for walking/cycling in the area. Only routes that meet the following criteria should be signed. To avoid sign proliferation, guidance on the appropriate levels of signing should be adhered to.

4.1.6.3 The National Cycle Network shall be signed in accordance with principles detailed in 'Cycle-Friendly Infrastructure – Guidelines for Planning and Design', published by Department for Transport. Urban walking / cycling networks shall be signed as set out in Chapter 3 of the Traffic Signs Manual using signs as prescribed in the current TSR or otherwise authorised by the Department.

4.1.6.4 Exceptionally, where urban walking / cycling routes have been clearly identified as having tourist use as their prime purpose or where these form part of a local walking / cycling route, additional signing in accordance with the guidance in paragraph 4.1.6.6 may be provided.

### *Eligibility criteria*

4.1.6.5 To be eligible for tourist signing, local walking / cycling routes must satisfy the following criteria: -

- a) They must be primarily for use by tourists and recreational walkers / cyclists.
- b) Only local routes recognised by NITB as being of tourist merit may be signed with white-on-brown tourist signs.
- c) Approved routes will generally be located in rural areas and away from busy roads. Consideration should be given to locating the start and finish of a local route within a rural town or village. This will increase access to useful facilities (eg. car parks, toilets and public transport) for those using the route. Allowing for this, the aim should be to have no more than about 30% of any local route, on a route mileage basis, located in urban areas.

**Version: 2**

- d) The promoter shall demonstrate that the proposed routes will be adequately marketed. The general availability of leaflets / maps in tourist information offices will be deemed to satisfy this requirement.
- e) Care should be taken to ensure that the proposed signing of the local cycle route does not cause confusion with that of the National Cycle Network. TransportNI Divisions should consult with the Departmental Cycling Unit and Sustrans on this matter.
- f) To ensure a co-ordinated approach avoiding duplication, conflict and unnecessary sign proliferation, TransportNI Divisional Cycling Officers should liaise with the Department's Cycling Unit to ascertain the proximity of the proposed local cycle route to any other cycle routes either existing or proposed.

*Guidance for signing*

4.1.6.6 The following should be taken into consideration with regard to the location and signing of local walking / cycling routes: -

- a) Routes need not necessarily include any tourist destinations, as recognised by NITB, but should link places of local interest (such as viewpoints) and local facilities (such as restaurants, picnic areas and toilets).
- b) Routes should generally be of a rural nature and away from busy roads.
- c) The use of A Class roads should be avoided where possible, except where designated cycling facilities have been provided.
- d) The most attractive lower class roads should be used where possible.
- e) The location of a route should be agreed with the TransportNI Divisional Cycling Officer for the area, bearing in mind the important road safety benefits derived from a route that circulates in an anti-clockwise direction, thus avoiding right turns.
- f) The minimum of signing should be provided, consistent with safety and the need to ensure clear directions. It will generally be necessary to erect signing at all main junctions / changes of direction along the route and at natural start and joining points, if applicable.
- g) Route confirmatory signing should not generally be necessary. Where it is required, it is not anticipated that signs will be needed at intervals of less than two miles.
- h) Walking routes should be interlinked as far as possible with other walking routes. Cycle routes should be similarly linked. Care must be taken to ensure that the signing of routes is properly integrated to avoid confusion between different cycle routes or between different walking routes.

## Version: 2

- i) For cycle routes, direction signing to / from the National Cycle Network should be provided where possible up to a distance of ten miles.
- j) Direction signing and distances to towns, villages, tourist destinations, etc. should be included where appropriate on off-road sections of the route.
- k) Thought should be given to the provision of car parking at starting and joining points to the route, where appropriate. Under Article 45 of the Access to the Countryside (NI) Order 1983: - 'a district council may provide parking places for the purpose of facilitating the use of public paths and other public rights of way and access to open country by members of the public'. Also the district council: - 'may acquire land compulsorily for that purpose'.
- l) Where a number of routes are concentrated in a local area, route numbers should be used in preference to trail names.

4.1.6.7 While the general principles set out above should be adhered to, due to the variable nature of local cycling / walking routes it may be necessary to depart from specific points. Records should be kept to explain the background to such departures.

### *Sign Design*

4.1.6.8 The following guidelines should be followed: -

- a) As appropriate to individual circumstances, signs may include a route name, route number, walking / cycling symbols and direction arrow(s). With the approval of TNIHQ, a logo may be added in addition to the pedestrian symbol. Signs incorporating such symbols shall require authorisation by TNIHQ, however, use of these should be kept to a minimum and use made of existing symbols where possible.
- b) Signs shall be white-on-brown. In rural areas they should generally be small and approximately square in shape with a 150mm maximum width.
- c) To reduce their environmental impact in the countryside and in environmentally sensitive areas, signs shall generally not be mounted more than 1m high on posts made of natural materials where possible.
- d) Signs / posts should not encroach into junction sight lines or grass mowing strips and the local TransportNI Section Engineer should be consulted to agree locations before erection. If local circumstances allow, signs may be erected on walls or other appropriate street furniture with the consent of the owner.
- e) In urban areas, signs should be mounted at normal traffic sign mounting height.

## **Version: 2**

Where essentially rural walking / cycling routes penetrate urban areas, the above principles may be adapted for incorporation into conventional directional signing.

### **4.1.7 Golfing facilities**

4.1.7.1 Golfing facilities (which include golf courses, par-three courses, driving ranges or pitch and putt courses) will be eligible for tourist signing provided that: -

- a) non-members can access the facilities on offer; and
- b) there is clear evidence of promotion and marketing to the tourist market. (NITB should be consulted to confirm the amount of tourist marketing undertaken by the facility.); and,
- c) the facility is a member of NITB's Golf Quality Assurance Scheme or is recognised by NITB as providing a tourism offering to visitors.

4.1.7.2 In the case of a golf course (par-three or otherwise), the name of the club may be included on the sign together with the golf symbol. Other facilities should only contain the golf symbol and the type of facility (pitch and putt or driving range) on offer.

4.1.7.3 The extent of signing should be as for other tourist destinations (see paragraph 4.2.3).

### **4.1.8 Leisure facilities**

4.1.8.1 Equestrian facilities approved by the British Horse Society and NITB shall be eligible for tourist signing.

4.1.8.2 Leisure facilities such as cinemas, ten pin bowling, and snooker halls, are primarily aimed at the domestic market and are not eligible for tourist signing. They may, however, be catered for by inclusion on tourist information boards.

### **4.1.9 Theatres/Arts Centres**

4.1.9.1 Theatres/arts centres approved by NITB may receive tourist signing appropriate to their location due to their important role in presenting local culture.

4.1.9.2 To be eligible for tourist signing the venue must:

- be of cultural significance; and,
- be able to demonstrate that events attract substantial numbers of visitors from outside of the local area; and,
- have a minimum seating capacity of 150; and,
- have performances scheduled for at least 9 months of the year; and,
- meet visitor servicing requirements (e.g. provide refreshments); and,

## **Version: 2**

- provide an internet based event listing / promotional material and booking contact details; and,
- have a physical box office and provide a messaging service when box office is not open.

4.1.9.3 Theatres / arts centres that do not meet these criteria may instead be eligible for standard 'black-on-white' directional signing as detailed in RSPPG E034.

4.1.9.4 Theatre groups and companies are not eligible for tourist signing.

### **4.1.10 Gardens**

4.1.10.1 Purpose built gardens can be historically significant in the local, and indeed wider Northern Ireland, context. A garden may be signed with tourist signs when:

- it is of horticultural importance e.g. it specialises in rare, unique or traditional plant species;
- it has a visiting season in line with the main tourist season (Easter to October), gardens that only open by appointment are not eligible for signing;
- It has clearly marketed and demonstrable opening arrangements;
- There is evidence of promotion through the tourism sector; and,
- It has interpretation/information panels throughout the site and/or tours available; and,
- Has visitor facilities such as toilets, parking etc.

### **4.1.11 Sports facilities**

4.1.11.1 Unless designated by NITB as a tourist attraction, public sports facilities owned and operated by local Councils are not eligible for white-on-brown tourist signing. They may, however, be eligible for black-on-white direction signs if considered appropriate by TransportNI for traffic management or road safety reasons.

4.1.11.2 Private sports facilities such as football / gaelic / cricket / hockey / rugby / athletic grounds, horse / greyhound racecourses and tennis / badminton / squash clubs are primarily directed at the domestic market. Similarly, unless specifically designated as tourist attractions by NITB, they shall not be eligible for tourist signing. They may, however, be catered for by inclusion on tourist information boards. Major events should be catered for by the erection of temporary black-on-yellow signs.

### **4.1.12 Activity Tourism Centres**

**Version: 2**

4.1.12.1 Activity tourism centres and providers may be signed where it can be established that the centre is largely aimed at the tourism market. The types of centre could include:

- diving schools;
- surf schools;
- off-road driving;
- mountain bike trails;
- go-karting;
- off-roading;
- motor sport facilities;
- paint balling;
- dry ski; and,
- water sport facilities.

4.1.12.2 To qualify for signing the enterprise must:

- Be recognised by NITB as having sufficient 'visitor offering' focus on the tourist market;
- Possess an industry recognised safety and quality accreditation such as 'Adventuremark';
- Have a permanent, fixed base;
- Be actively promoted in the tourism sector and be able to demonstrate same.

#### **4.1.13 Churches**

4.1.13.1 Tourist signing to churches / cathedrals may only be provided if they are likely to be of historical interest to tourists. In addition, to be eligible for tourist signing they shall be required to be open continuously from Easter to October (inclusive) each year, as a minimum. Information regarding churches not meeting the above criteria may be provided by means of tourist information boards. The direction signing of other church buildings (black-on-white signs) is addressed in RSPPG E034.

#### **4.1.14 Conference centres / facilities**

**Version: 2**

4.1.14.1 Conference centres / facilities are not eligible for tourist signing as they do not attract passing trade and in general those availing of the facilities do so by invitation with accompanying directions being issued. In any case, most conference centre / facilities form part of a larger hotel / Council office complex whose main business may be eligible for tourist or general direction signing respectively.

**4.1.15 Cross-Border attractions**

4.1.15.1 If recommended by NITB, signing to certain cross-Border tourist attractions may be merited from Northern Ireland. TransportNI will consider signing to such attractions on the same basis as Northern Ireland attractions.

**4.1.16 Restaurants / Tea Rooms / Cafes / Coffee Shops**

4.1.16.1 Due to issues of inequity that would arise from signing some eating establishments and not others, together with the potential proliferation of signs that would result from signing the full range of premises involved, the signing of this type of enterprise shall not be permitted.

**4.1.17 Accommodation signing**

4.1.17.1 To operate legally, all tourist accommodation establishments must be certified by NITB in Northern Ireland. Current NITB certification shall, therefore, be a prerequisite to the signing of such premises.

4.1.17.2 To reduce the proliferation of signs and maintain accommodation standards, providers shall submit to and pass a regular inspection of premises by NITB.

a) NITB shall advise those failing to pass or re-submit for a regular inspection that traffic signing to their premises will be removed if they do not pass an inspection within three months. Advice to this effect shall be included with any quotation for new sign provision being provided to applicants.

b) NITB shall notify TransportNI Divisions annually of all premises failing to pass or resubmit for inspection after the three-month notification period.

4.1.17.3 Signing at or near the entrance to tourist accommodation shall be as set out in paragraph 4.2.7.

4.1.17.4 To be eligible for signing, accommodation shall be available for tourist bookings from March to October (inclusive) each year, as a minimum.

4.1.17.5 The 'bed' symbol shall be the prime feature of all accommodation signs.

**4.1.18 Rural accommodation**

4.1.18.1 Rural accommodation that is certified by NITB may be signed at the request of the operator.

**Version: 2**

4.1.18.2 Signing will normally be from the nearest A or B class road and shall be consistent with the guidance given in paragraph 4.2.3.

4.1.18.3 Named signing may be provided for hotel, guesthouse, B&B, self-catering and hostel accommodation on initial and subsequent signs. Consideration should be given to the use of solely the 'bed' symbol on subsequent signing until the destination is reached.

4.1.18.4 Where multiple establishments are to be signed at a rural junction, those of the same type should be grouped and the number and type of premise shown on the sign. Preference shall be given to hotels and guesthouses (in that order), on the assumption that they will generally generate more traffic than the purely B&B establishments.



Direction sign to multiple tourist accommodation establishments

4.1.18.5 Where signing to rural accommodation is to be erected within an urban area, signs should take the same form as urban accommodation signing, ie. a 'bed' symbol only for B&Bs and guesthouses. The names of the B&Bs or guesthouses may be added to subsequent signs sited outside the urban area.

4.1.18.6 Existing named signing in urban areas directing to rural accommodation should remain until the signs are life-expired or are (or are likely to be) challenged by urban accommodation providers in the vicinity whose premises will receive solely a 'bed' type sign. Where for this reason a sign is removed that has been erected within the three years preceding introduction of this policy, the operator will be entitled to reimbursement of the cost of provision on the following basis: -

<i>Age of sign: -</i>	<i>Reimbursement of cost of sign provision: -</i>
over 3 years	Nil
2-3 years	1/4
1-2 years	1/2
<1 year	3/4

In this instance TransportNI shall bear the cost of replacement signs in the revised urban format where this is not covered by new urban accommodation signing provision.

**4.1.19 Urban accommodation**

**Version: 2**

4.1.19.1 Accommodation signing within an urban area should not commence further from the premises than the nearest urban distributor road or nearest point on a one-way system. TransportNI shall determine the roads in an urban area from which such signing shall commence.

4.1.19.2 Named signing may be provided for hotel accommodation. Signing to guesthouses, B&B and self-catering accommodation should not display the name or type of individual premises, but should solely depict the 'bed' symbol to convey that accommodation may be found in the direction indicated. Such signing should continue at subsequent junctions until the street on which such accommodation is located has been reached.



Example of urban accommodation signing

4.1.19.3 Accommodation signing is not considered necessary for establishments having direct access from urban distributor roads or one-way circulatory systems within an urban area. Such establishments should be identified as outlined in paragraph 4.2.7.1.

#### 4.1.20 **Campus Accommodation**

4.1.20.1 Accommodation based on campuses provides key accommodation stock particularly for visitors attending larger events.

4.1.20.2 To be eligible for signing the accommodation must be available for at least 4 months of the year. Signing will not be provided to accommodation located on campuses, or in other locations, that are already signed.

#### 4.1.21 **Caravan and camping parks**

4.1.21.1 To be eligible for tourist signing, a caravan site shall: -

- a) comply with the Model Conditions for Holiday Caravan Sites as set out by the Department of the Environment in 1992 (or as subsequently amended) where the site is owned and operated by a local Council;
- b) be licensed under the Caravans Act (Northern Ireland) 1963 where the site is privately owned and operated;
- c) have a minimum of ten pitches for casual overnight use without pre-booking; and

**Version: 2**

- d) have received at least a one-star rating in the UK Caravan & Camping Park Star Quality Grading Scheme.

4.1.21.2 Touring caravan and camping sites shall provide the same level of facilities, as those required for static caravans. Similarly, dedicated camping sites should, where practicable, provide facilities to the same standard, as those required for caravan sites. NITB shall determine whether the standard of facilities available merits tourist signing. The extent of signing shall be as indicated in paragraph 4.2.3.

4.1.21.3 Where necessary for traffic management or road safety reasons, for example where there are a number of sites in close vicinity, the name of the park may be included on the sign although applicants should be made aware of impact this will have on the cost of the sign.



Examples of signs using the caravan and camping symbols

#### 4.1.22 Aires de Service / Motorhome Service Facilities

4.1.22.1 Aires de Service are purpose built stopping areas for motor home users and can be signed as long as they are fully supported by the local Council and at a minimum provide:

- A fresh water fill point;
- A waste water emptying point;
- A chemical toilet emptying point; and,
- Rubbish disposal facilities.



Example of Aires de Service / motor home service facilities sign

**Version: 2**

#### **4.1.23 Hostels**

4.1.23.1 Signs may only be provided to hostels certified by NITB. The extent of signing shall be as indicated in paragraph 4.2.3.



Examples of signs giving direction to a hostel

#### **4.1.24 Motorhome Hire Outlets**

4.1.24.1 A motorhome hire outlet may be signed when:

- It can prove a minimum cumulative rental of 300 weeks per annum, applicant must supply documented evidence of same to NITB to verify;
- The logistics of the hire operation must show necessity for tourists to visit site with camper van i.e. solely airport pickup and return would not qualify;
- It is well established and in operation for over a year with a significant proportion of its business coming from outside of NI; and,
- It is able to prove that it is extensively marketed outside NI, to be verified by NITB.

Version: 2

#### 4.1.25 Tourist/visitor information centres & tourist information boards

4.1.25.1 The signs below are examples of those that should be used when directing traffic to tourist information *boards*. When signing to a networked Tourist / Visitor Information Centre the legend 'Tourist information centre' or 'Visitor Information Centre' should be used where possible, particularly on initial signs, however this may be shortened or omitted on subsequent signs where space is limited. NITB will advise as to which centres form part of the overall network.



4.1.25.2 Vehicular signing should only be provided to either a tourist / visitor information centre or tourist information board where adequate car parking is available at the centre or board.

4.1.25.3 Only tourist information boards conforming to a standard design approved by NITB should be signed.

4.1.25.4 Traffic signing for vehicular traffic should only be provided to tourist information *boards* located in rural areas where adequate safe parking is available. Signing to tourist information boards within urban areas may be by means of pedestrian signing, if considered appropriate.

4.1.25.5 Networked tourist / visitor information centres should be signed on all main approaches to the town or village in which they are located. This may be at the speed limit / entrance to small villages or the nearest main junctions within a larger urban environment. The signing examples shown above may be reduced to solely the **i** symbol where sign space is restricted.

## 4.2 Appendix 2 – Tourist signing principles

### 4.2.1 Sign design

4.2.1.1 It is important to achieve a balance between assisting tourists, maintaining safety (by preventing an overload of information on a sign that could not be read and understood safely by a driver passing at normal speed) and minimising environmental intrusion.

4.2.1.2 Sign design shall conform to the rules of traffic sign design prevailing at the time of erection (currently Chapter 7 of the Traffic Signs Manual and Local Transport Note 1/94) and will feature: -

- a) white legend, borders, arrows and chevrons on a brown background to 411 of BS 381C 'Middle Brown'.
- b) the use of Transport Medium alphabet in upper or lower case legend as appropriate; and
- c) a legend x-height that is the same as for normal direction signing on the route. This will be the appropriate size for the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed of traffic on the road.

4.2.1.3 The decision regarding illumination or reflectorisation of the signs (or neither) will rest with TransportNI, and will be in accordance with current policy on the illumination of traffic signs.

4.2.1.4 Because tourist destinations tend to have longer names than other destinations and because of the inclusion of additional symbols, the number of tourist destinations on any stand-alone sign shall be limited as follows: -

<i>Road type</i>	<i>Maximum number of tourist destinations</i>
Motorway	3*
Road having a speed limit of 50mph or more	3
Road having a speed limit of less than 50mph	4

\* Only tourist *attractions* can be signed from motorways

4.2.1.5 With the exception of premises where names are permitted under this RSPPG, commercial names should not be used. It is particularly important to avoid commercial names that might encourage the use of products or services not directly connected with the destination.

**Version: 2**

## **4.2.2 Minimising visual and environmental intrusion**

4.2.2.1 As many tourist destinations are located in Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty or in conservation areas in towns, particular care must be taken when siting direction signing. These apply to tourist signing as much as to other directional signs.

4.2.2.2 Where possible, advance direction signs to tourist *attractions* should be combined with those to other destinations (see examples in paragraph 4.2.4).

4.2.2.3 Where flag type direction signs are used, multiple tourist destinations (up to the maximum number given in paragraph 4.2.1.4) may be included on a single flag sign (depending on the lengths of the legends), rather than provide a separate sign for each tourist destination in that direction.

4.2.2.4 In the interests of road safety, the names of tourist destinations should be as succinct as possible and shortened to a form acceptable to TransportNI before being used on traffic signs. The onus for providing an alternative destination name shall rest with the applicant.

4.2.2.5 Where new signing is to be added to existing tourist or general direction signing, it is important that new composite signs be provided rather than permitting the growth of a collection of individual signs. This latter would be undesirable in terms both of overall appearance and of clarity of information conveyed to the motorist.

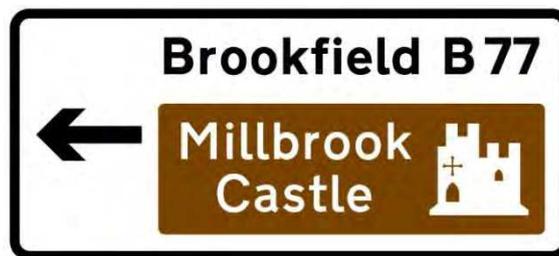
## **4.2.3 Extent of signing**

4.2.3.1 Except where there are good traffic management or road safety reasons for signing from further away, signing should generally commence from the nearest A or B class road (see paragraph 4.2.7). In addition: -

- a) TransportNI Divisions should be satisfied that the route onto which traffic is directed is the most suitable link between the tourist attraction and the main road where the signing begins.
- b) Where clear guidance is given by other direction signing, tourist signs will not be necessary until the general area of the tourist attraction is reached.

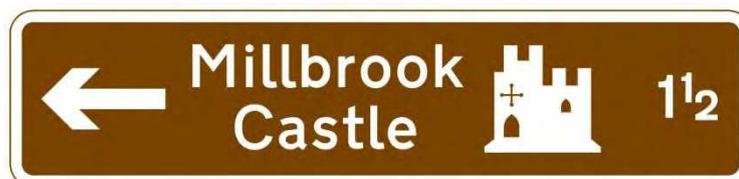
## **4.2.4 Advance direction signs (ADS)**

4.2.4.1 On general direction signing, tourist facilities (with the exception of tourist information centres and points) should not form part of ADS unless there are good traffic management reasons for their inclusion. To avoid sign clutter, white-on-brown ADS should wherever possible, be combined with standard ADS by including a white-on-brown panel to either the map-type or stack-type white or green background sign. For example



With the exception of the specific case covered by paragraph 4.2.10, white-on-brown *panels* are not permitted on motorway ADS unless the signs are located on a motorway off-slip.

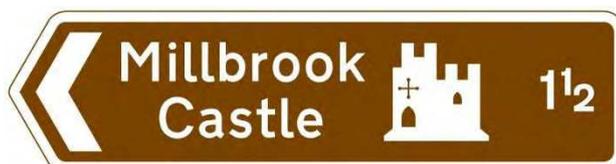
4.2.4.2 Where it is necessary to use a separately mounted white-on-brown ADS as shown below, particular care should be taken with its siting to ensure that it does not obscure or become obscured by other traffic signs, street furniture or grass / foliage.



Version: 2

#### 4.2.5 Direction signs

4.2.5.1 At a road junction, a white-on-brown flag type sign (as shown below) may be sited below other flag type signs for the appropriate arm of the junction. This may necessitate new posts to obtain the required mounting height either to clear the footway or avoid the sign being obscured by long grass in the summer (the time of year when the tourist signs will be needed most).



4.2.5.2 In the interests of tidy sign assemblies, all tourist destinations signed in a particular direction should be shown on a single flag sign. This is preferable to providing a separate sign for each tourist destination.

4.2.5.3 Paragraph 4.2.8 gives advice on the use of symbolic continuity signing along the route to a tourist destination.

#### 4.2.6 Route confirmatory signs



Route confirmatory sign

4.2.6.1 On long routes to tourist attractions it can be useful to provide route confirmatory signs following junctions. With the exception of tourist information centres and tourist information boards, tourist facilities shall not form part of route confirmatory signs.

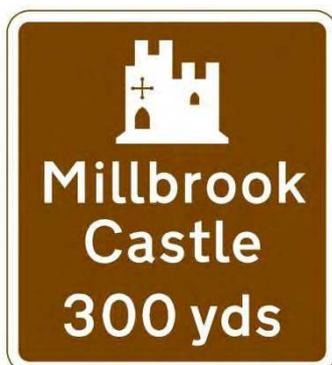
**Version: 2**

#### **4.2.7 Signs at or near the entrance to a tourist destination**

4.2.7.1 At the entrance to a tourist destination it shall be the responsibility of the applicant to provide sufficient indication as to the nature of the destination to make its presence obvious. Such indication shall: -

- a) be within the boundary of the premises;
- b) comply with Planning Service requirements; and
- c) be in place before white-on-brown tourist signing is provided.

4.2.7.2 Direction signs should not normally be provided at the entrance to a tourist destination. Consequently, tourist destinations located on A or B class roads will not normally receive any tourist signing. However, a flag type direction sign may be provided at or opposite the entrance to a tourist destination where there is insufficient forward sight distance to give adequate indication of the destination ahead. In the interests of road safety, it may also be appropriate on high-speed roads to erect an advance direction sign as shown in paragraph 4.2.4.1 or as shown below.

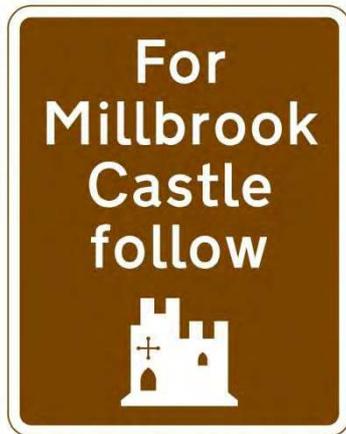


4.2.7.3 A flag type direction sign may also be provided where the frontage of a destination is insufficient to allow the operator to erect adequate indication of the attraction within the frontage, eg. a destination reached via a narrow laneway not owned by the operator or where land adjacent to the laneway is not owned by the operator.

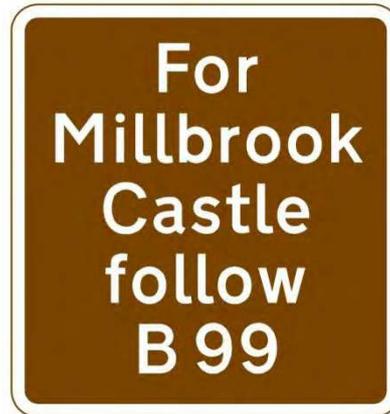
#### **4.2.8 Alternative (or symbolic) signing method**

4.2.8.1 The use of white-on-brown informatory tourist signs with messages of the type 'For tourist attraction X follow place Y' can be used successfully and precludes the need for any continuity signing until close to the attraction. Display of the symbol on its own on subsequent continuity signs will serve to reduce sign size, cost and clutter without appreciable loss of direction signing effectiveness. The use of symbols in this way may also serve to discourage applications based on a desire for the name of the premise to be displayed essentially for advertising rather than traffic management purposes.

Version: 2



or



4.2.8.2 The above sign types should only be used when: -

- a) The sign includes only one tourist destination (or two, if their names are short (ie. they will fit onto one line each) and are reached along the same route).
- b) On the approach to a junction from one direction: -
  - i. no more than one of the signs shown above is used; and
  - ii. the signs are not used in conjunction with the route confirmatory sign shown in paragraph 4.2.6

In addition, the symbol, placed on a brown panel, may be added to a map type advance direction sign. The use of the above signs can facilitate a reduction in sign overload at heavily signed junctions.

4.2.8.3 Where multiple tourist destinations are signed along a particular route and individual tourist destinations are reached by turning off the main road, signing can be simplified by only using symbols for ahead destinations on junctions along the route, but giving worded descriptions as well for the tourist destination on the side road. For example: -



**Version: 2**

4.2.8.4 The first sign encountered along a route should, however, include the full list of worded legends, but the words 'For tourist attraction X follow place Y' may be omitted from the sign to simplify the design even though only the symbols are used for ahead destinations on subsequent signs.

4.2.8.5 Where space on a sign is limited, the combination of a reduced legend plus a symbol may be appropriate, eg. 'Millbrook Castle' could be shown as 'Millbrook' plus the castle symbol.

**4.2.9 Pedestrian signing**

4.2.9.1 All pedestrian signs to tourist attractions shall include a walking figure symbol as shown in TSR or otherwise authorised for use in Northern Ireland. An example of a standard pedestrian sign is shown below. An attraction symbol may also be included. Normally, only flag type signs are necessary for pedestrian signing but there may be situations where more elaborate pedestrian signing schemes involving stack type signs will be required.



Pedestrian sign to a tourist information board



Pedestrian sign to a tourist attraction

4.2.9.2 Many tourist attractions in town centres do not have adequate adjacent parking provision. In such cases, vehicles should be signed to public car parks in the first instance, with onward signing being by way of pedestrian tourist signs. This policy may necessitate the erection of an explanatory sign to this effect at town boundaries. Such signs should be in conventional white-on-blue pedestrian signing except where the car park is specifically associated with an attraction, in which case they should be white-on-brown as shown below: -



**Version: 2**

#### **4.2.10 Motorway gantry signing**

4.2.10.1 The following policy shall apply to the use of white-on-brown panels on motorway gantry signs:

- a) White-on-brown panels on motorway gantry signs shall be restricted to the signing of strategic tourist signing packages, including the signing of strategic tourist trails. These will be few in number and shall be agreed individually between TNIHQ and NITB.
- b) Written requests for site-specific approval for the erection of new tourist panels on motorway gantry signs should be made to the Director of Engineering through the Divisional Manager.
- c) White-on-brown panels on motorway gantry signs shall only be considered when the normal visitor number and distance criteria for motorway signing (see paragraph 2.4.1.1) have been met.
- d) As stated in Local Transport Note 1/94 published by The Stationery Office, once a gantry mounted advance direction sign has been used on the approach to a motorway junction, subsequent verge mounted advance direction signs shall not be used for that junction.
- e) Logos or symbols shall not be incorporated on tourist panels on motorway gantry signs.

4.2.10.2 Situations may arise where existing gantry signs are fully utilised with general, non-tourist destinations. The layout of the motorway junction may place constraints on the way that available space can be used. Also, gantries are normally designed for a 3.3m high sign envelope and this places a restriction on the number of lines of legend that can be displayed. Situations may arise, therefore, where it will not be possible to accommodate tourist destination panels on gantry signs. In such cases, departure from normal good practice of not mixing verge-mounted signs with gantry signs will not be permitted and the request for tourist route signing will be refused.

4.2.10.3 White-on-brown panels shall not be permitted on verge mounted motorway signs.

#### **4.2.11 Signing of low bridges on routes to tourist attractions**

4.2.11.1 Use is sometimes made of double deck buses for excursions to tourist attractions. To reduce the risk of bridge strikes, therefore, attention shall be paid to the signing of low bridges and to route selection in tourist areas.

#### **4.2.12 Use of symbols**

4.2.12.1 Symbols provide a convenient means of conveying to tourists the generic nature of tourist destinations. While they can be of benefit to the premise operator as well as to the motorist, the prime objective of symbols is not that of marketing individual attractions or facilities. Accordingly, while tourist signs containing

## Version: 2

destination-specific symbols may be authorised in individual cases, the presumption shall be that generic symbols will serve the direction signing needs of most tourist destinations.

4.2.12.2 Up to four symbols shall be allowed for each attraction. Where, for example, a forest park also has a number of features such as waterfalls, outdoor pursuits, mountain bike trails, up to a maximum of four may be depicted on the sign as well as the name of the forest. The operator should decide which will go onto the sign, but should be advised that the addition of each will increase the size of the sign and consequently increase to cost. Service symbols such 'knife and fork' or 'cup' shall only be used in the limited circumstances outlined in paragraph 2.3.19 and the numbers used must be accommodated within the maximum allowable of four symbols.

4.2.12.3 Where a suitable symbol is included in Schedule 14 of TSR, it shall be used in preference to specially designed alternatives. Where no suitable symbol exists, either: -

- a) the symbol should be omitted; or
- b) application should be made to TNIHQ to have a sign containing the new symbol considered for authorisation. All applications should be accompanied by an example of the proposed symbol on a grid approximately 14 units by 14 units in JPEG format, together with an explanation as to why the need cannot be met by using an existing symbol.

4.2.12.4 Where a symbol for a particular type of destination has already been prescribed or authorised, the same design shall be used at other similar destinations unless it is specifically associated with one particular tourist attraction. Where possible, the design of new symbols should be compatible with those used in maps and guidebooks and should not be limited to use at a specific site or attraction.

4.2.12.5 Accommodation, camping and caravan parks, picnic sites and lay-bys may be signed using symbols only, without worded legends.

### 4.2.13 Colour of symbol

4.2.13.1 Symbols shall be coloured white (except where TNIHQ approves otherwise) and applied directly to the brown background of the sign.

4.2.13.2 The tourist information **i** symbol is always enclosed in a white box border when used on brown background signs, it may also be incorporated into pedestrian and cycle route signs in addition to the walking figure and / or cycle symbol.

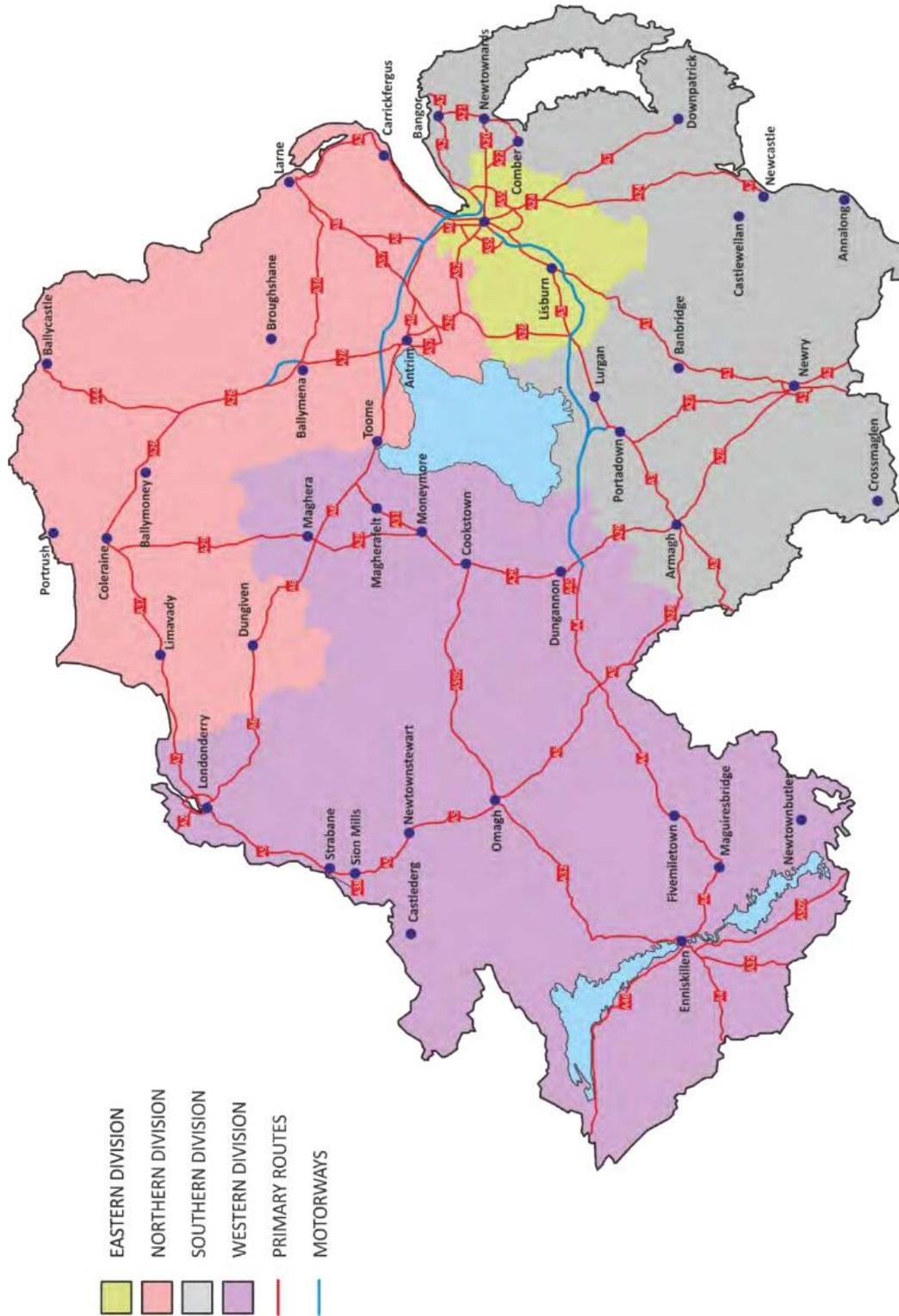
### 4.2.14 Location of symbols

4.2.14.1 Sign design shall be in accordance with the design rules prevailing at the time. Unless these rules indicate otherwise, symbols should be positioned as follows: -

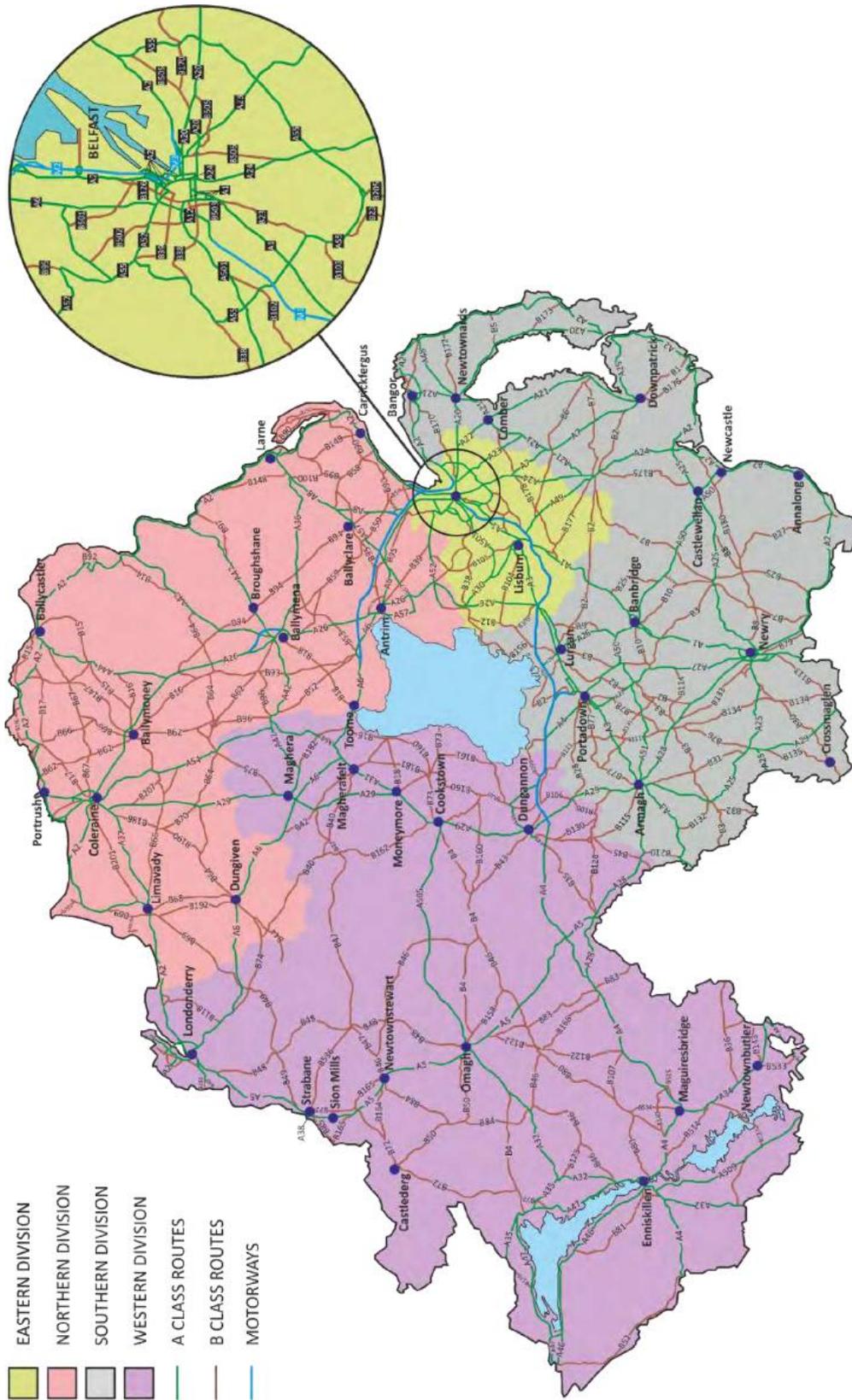
**Version: 2**

- a) tourist attraction-type symbols should be positioned at the opposite end of the sign from the arrow or chevron;
- b) on pedestrian and / or cycle direction signs, the walking figure and / or cycle symbol shall appear furthest from the arrow or chevron; on pedestrian and / or cycle direction signs, the walking figure and / or cycle symbol shall appear furthest from the arrow or chevron.
- c) where symbols alone are used to indicate a number of attractions, they shall appear in the order in which the attractions or relevant road junctions are reached. Where symbols alone are used on a sign, the number of symbols should not exceed four; and
- d) symbols which have a directional element (eg. steam railway, zoo) shall face the same general direction (horizontally left or right) as any arrow or chevron on the sign. When the arrow points straight ahead the symbol shall face left.

### 4.3 Appendix 3 - Northern Ireland primary route network

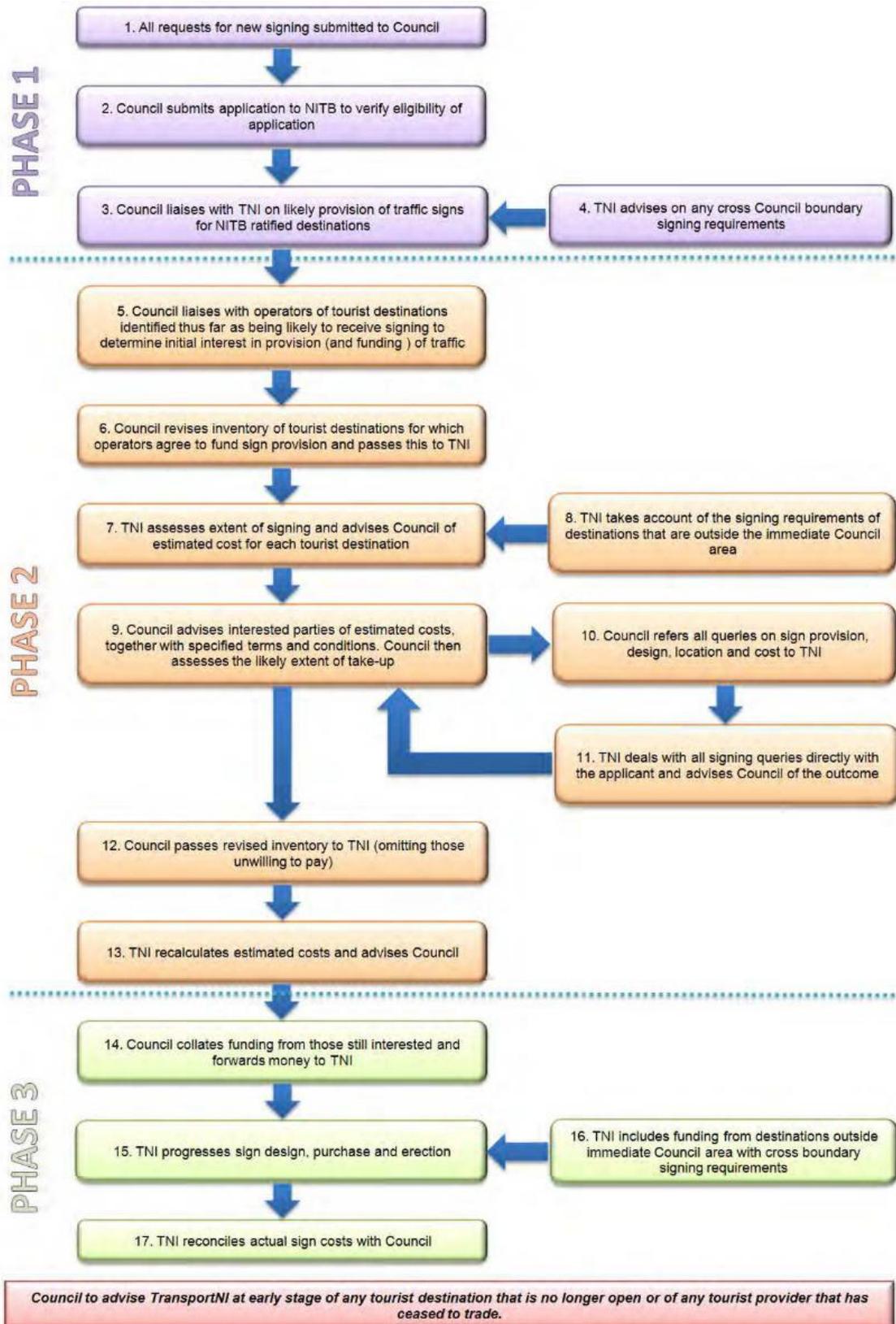


4.4 Appendix 4 - Northern Ireland A & B class road network



### 4.5 Appendix 5 - Tourist signing application process

NOTE: Reference should be made to the accompanying explanatory notes.



## **Explanatory Notes on activities within the Tourist Signing Plan Flowchart**

### **Phase 1**

*1 All requests for new signing submitted to Council:*

Local Councils have a responsibility to develop tourism within their areas. As part of this function, it is important that they take the lead in developing with TransportNI and NITB an integrated strategy for the signing of tourist destinations in accordance with the standards set out in this policy. Accordingly all applications must be made through the local Council.

The local Council can maintain an accurate picture of the potential tourism development and will be best placed to use this information in the compilation of items for inclusion on tourist information boards, particularly with regard to those requests that are not suitable for traffic signing.

*2 Council submits application to NITB to assess eligibility as a tourist destination:*

NITB shall confirm in writing the eligibility or not of all applications.

*3 Council liaises with TNI on likely provision of traffic signs for NITB ratified destinations:*

Discussions at an early stage between the local Council and TransportNI will help to develop an understanding by the local Council of those destinations likely to be eligible to receive signing. This will reduce the extent of wasted effort, avoid raising unrealistic expectations regarding the provision of signing and ensure that operators of tourist destinations are approached with a realistic indication of what may be achieved.

*4 TransportNI advises on any cross Council boundary signing requirements:*

TransportNI will advise on the potential for signing within the local Council's area generated by destinations located outside the area. Whilst these signs will be funded by the destinations concerned, their presence may have an impact on sign design and, in particular, the number of destinations that can be accommodated on signing at any given location.

### **Phase 2**

In phases 2 and 3 of the flowchart, an agent acting on behalf of the local Council may fulfil the role of the Council, provided both NITB and TransportNI have approved the agent.

*6 Council liaises with operator of tourist destination identified thus far as being likely to receive signing to determine initial interest in provision (and funding) of traffic signing within agreed policy:*

**Version: 2**

The local Council should seek to determine from destination operator identified as being likely to receive signing their interest (in principle) in paying for the signs. It will not be possible at this stage to provide an estimate of sign cost other than in very broad outline.

**7 Council advises TransportNI that the operator has agreed to fund sign provision:**

At this stage, agreement to pay for signs will still be in principle only as detailed estimates cannot be developed until the overall extent of operator agreement is known.

**8 TransportNI assesses extent of signing and advises Council of estimated cost for each tourist destination:**

TransportNI will assess the extent of signing provision permitted, design the signing required and provide the local Council with a detailed estimate of costs (taking into consideration pro rata sharing of cost where more than one destination is shown on signs) and the nature / extent of proposed sign provision for each destination within the revised inventory.

**9 TransportNI takes account of the signing requirements of destinations that are outside the immediate Council area:**

TransportNI will liaise with those involved with tourist signing inventories in neighbouring local Council areas to determine the extent of signing requirements across local Council areas.

**10 Council advises interested parties of estimated costs, together with specified terms and conditions. Council then assesses the likely extent of take-up:**

The local Council shall forward these cost estimates to the interested parties in the form of a letter of offer setting out the following terms and conditions: -

- (a) the signs shall become the property of the Department;
- (b) the operator must accept that the signs will be removed if the attraction fails to meet the criteria set out in this policy or if the signs are damaged and become a road safety hazard;
- (c) TransportNI will carry out normal sign maintenance, however, the operator is responsible for the cost of replacing signs if they become damaged or require renewal due to normal wear and tear;
- (d) if TransportNI can recover the cost of damage from a third party, the signs will be replaced at no cost to the operator. Otherwise the operator will be required to meet the cost of replacement signs, if required;
- (e) where estimates are be given, actual costs, whether more or less, will be charged;
- (f) full payment is required in advance;

**Version: 2**

- (g) the signs will be white-on-brown tourist direction signs
- (h) any illegal signing at or to the destination must be removed by the operator before authorised tourist direction signs will be provided; and
- (i) subsequent erection of illegal signs will result in the removal of authorised tourist direction signs.

The local Council should then prepare a revised inventory of those parties willing to provide funding on the basis of the estimates provided.

**11 Council refers all queries on sign provision, design, location and cost to TransportNI:**

In discussions with the operators of tourist attractions and facilities, the local Council should clarify its role as being that of tourism promoter and that it will not be responsible for decisions on the provision, extent and design of signs or their location. Responsibility for these matters rests with TransportNI and queries or complaints regarding them should be forwarded to TransportNI, who will deal directly with the party lodging the query.

**12 TransportNI deals with all signing queries directly with applicant and advises the Council of the outcome:**

On resolution of a query, TransportNI will advise the local Council of the outcome so that the tourist signing inventory may be updated accordingly.

**13 Council passes revised inventory to TransportNI (omitting those unwilling to pay):**

The local Council should forward a revised inventory to TransportNI (or otherwise confirm that the former inventory of destinations remains unchanged) as a reduced uptake may affect the sign estimates previously given.

**14 TransportNI recalculates estimated costs and advises Council:**

TransportNI will recalculate the costs of sign provision for each operator and forward this to the local Council together with details of any revision to sign design. Items 10 to 14 above may constitute an iterative process until all applicants are content with the estimates given.

**Phase 3**

**15 Council collates funding from those still interested and forwards money to TransportNI:**

The local Council should assemble funding from those parties still interested in the provision of signing and forward the total amount to TransportNI.

**Version: 2**

*16 TransportNI includes funding from destinations outside immediate Council area with cross boundary signing requirements:*

TransportNI will liaise with those involved with tourist signing inventories in neighbouring local Council areas to ensure the timely delivery of their funding for cross Council area signing.

*17 TransportNI progresses sign design, purchase and erection:*

TransportNI will arrange manufacture and erection of signs for which funding has been provided. Every attempt will be made to have this process completed in advance of the incoming tourist season.

*18 TransportNI reconciles actual sign costs with Council:*

When actual sign costs are known, TransportNI will reconcile with the local Council any overpayment (or underpayment) made at item 15 above. Local Councils will similarly reconcile costs with the applicants.

Any or all of the above items may be varied or omitted for individual tourist signing plans with the agreement of TransportNI, NITB and the local Council for the area concerned. Where no such agreement is reached, the items above should be implemented.

Version: 2

**Policy & Procedure Guide: RSPPG\_ E029**

**Title: The Signing of Tourist Attractions and Facilities**

**Document History**

Version	Date	Author	Authorised by Document Control Panel Members Name : Signature
1 (Final)	15 April 2004	PC Morrison	
2	26 Sept. 2014	S Hughes	Version approved by the Minister for Regional Development and the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Investment

**Overall Reasons For This Version**

Version	Reasons
1	First issue of document
2	First major review of document.

**Revision Details**

Version	Amendments
2	1.2 Definitions – updated 1.3 Background – roles and responsibilities clarified 2.1 Core principles – updates 2.2 Criteria – updated 2.3 General Principles – clarified and approach to symbols amended 2.4 Extent of signing – clarified and commentary enhanced 2.5 Application process – simplified 2.6 Tourist signing inventory – new replacing annual tourist signing plan 4.1.3 By-passed communities – expanded 4.1.9 Theatres/arts centres – new 4.1.10 Gardens – new 4.1.12 Activity tourism centres – new 4.1.17 – 21 Accommodation – updated 4.1.23 Aires de Service – new 4.1.25 Motor-home Hire – new Appendix 5 Application Process – updated/simplified



Mid Ulster District Council  
Council Offices  
Dungannon Office  
Circular Road  
Dungannon  
BT71 6DT

Work & Wellbeing Division  
Department for Communities  
Causeway Exchange  
Level 7  
1-7 Bedford Street  
Belfast  
BT2 7EG  
Email: LMP@communities-ni.gov.uk

Our reference: LMP/ENI/10/23

Date: 21 February 2024

Dear Chief Executive,

**LABOUR MARKET PARTNERSHIP (LMP) FUNDING 1<sup>st</sup> APRIL 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2024  
– ADDENDUM TO LETTER OF OFFER**

Further to the letter of offer issued to you by the Department for Communities (DfC) on 27th July 2023, I can confirm that the Department for Communities is in a position to provide you with additional funding of £17,505.50 in relation to the approved Easement Funding Bids submitted to the Department.

All conditions detailed within your original letter of offer of 27th July 2023 will remain in place and will apply equally to this additional funding, as will the declarations you have provided in relation to your organisation.

Specific conditions of the offer:

1. The funding provided is to be used solely for running the LMP.
2. This offer is governed by the conditions for LMPs funding as detailed in the LMP Financial Guidelines and Funding Agreement.
3. This offer is conditional on acceptance of and adherence to the terms and conditions contained in the LMP Funding Agreement.
4. The Department reserves the right to recover funding related to subsidies if required to do so.

## Acceptance

Please complete the enclosed Letter of Acceptance of funding offer with a copy of the budget attached and return it to:

Secretariat to Labour Market Partnerships  
Work and Wellbeing Division  
Department for Communities  
Causeway Exchange  
Level 7  
1-7 Bedford Street  
Belfast  
BT2 7EG

Alternatively, an electronic copy can be sent via the email of the Chief Executive to [LMP@communities-ni.gov.uk](mailto:LMP@communities-ni.gov.uk). An acceptable format for electronic return can include a scanned copy of the signed Letter of Acceptance, digital signature produced using asymmetric or public key cryptography, or the signatory typing their name in the electronic document.

By accepting this offer you are also confirming that the revised 2023/24 Budget Schedule attached is also accurate.

Yours sincerely

pp 

Deirdre Ward  
Department for Communities

<b>LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE</b>
-----------------------------

Secretariat to Labour Market Partnerships  
Work and Wellbeing Division  
Department for Communities  
Causeway Exchange  
1-7 Bedford Street  
Belfast  
BT2 7EG  
Date .....

**LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE OF LABOUR MARKET PARTNERSHIP (LMP) FUNDING 1  
APRIL 2023 TO 31 MARCH 2024**

**Mid Ulster District Council**

This Council agrees the funding offer from the Department for Communities of £386,510.71 for the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 to administer and run the activities of the LMP, in line with the funding criteria.

The funding will be wholly, exclusively and necessarily incurred in running the activities of the LMP as detailed in the LMP Action Plan, associated Easement Funding Bid and budget schedule. The Council accept and agree to abide by the Terms and Conditions of the LMP Financial Guidelines and Funding Agreement.

The Council understand that in accepting this funding offer, the previous funding offer made by the Department on 27th July 2023 in support of LMPs has been superseded.

**Statement of Financial arrangements and control environment**

I confirm the Council:

- has sound financial procedures and controls in place to govern the activities and expenditure of the LMP;
- will ensure all relevant documentation is retained to support all LMP expenditure claims;
- has arrangements in place to satisfy the requirement for providing assurance on the probity and proper use of funds;
- has effective Corporate Governance, Risk Management and operating policies referred to in the Financial Guidelines in place for the LMP; and
- will allow reasonable access to Council records relating to LMP transactions.

Signed.....

Date .....

Chief Executive, on behalf of Mid Ulster District Council

**BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS**

DfC Reference No: LMP/ENI/10/23

Applicant: Mid Ulster District Council

Amount of Funding £386,510.71

Period of Funding 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024

Please complete Bank details below:

Name of Organisation: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Account: \_\_\_\_\_

Bank Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Bank Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Sort Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signed by (Chief Executive)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (Block Capitals)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**APPENDIX 3 – Mid Ulster Labour Market Partnership Budget Schedule 2023-2024**

Normally funds will be released on receipt of the Funding Claims Workbook up to the maximum as detailed on the Breakdown of Award and paid quarterly during the period of the project.

Admin/ Operational	Expenditure Category	Theme	Title	Budget		Comments
				AP	BSCH	
Admin	Salaries		LMP Manager (73%)	£41,246.66	£41,246.66	
			LMP Finance and Admin Officer (100%)	£35,736.56	£35,736.56	
			LMP Project Delivery Officer (50%)	£10,731.36	£10,731.36	
			*Additional Admin Support*	£0.00	£17,505.50	
	Staff Costs		Staff mileage	£2,250.00	£2,250.00	
			Printing & stationary	£404.02	£404.02	
	Running Costs		LMP Internal Audit	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	
			LMP Chairperson Stipend @ £80 per mth	£960.00	£960.00	
			LMP Vice-Chair Stipend @ £50 per mth	£600.00	£600.00	
<b>Admin Total (Maximum Available: £93,928.60)</b>				<b>£93,928.60</b>	<b>£111,434.10</b>	
Operational	SP1	LMP Delivery and Development	SP1.1 LMP Delivery and Development	£1,576.61	£1,576.61	
			SP1.2: Development of a 3-Year Strategic Assessment and 1-Year Action Plan	£20,000.00	£20,000.00	
			SP1.3: Construction Sector Working Group	£0.00	£0.00	
	SP2	Economic Inactivity	SP2.1 Sector Based Academies			
			Tourism	£18,960.00	£18,960.00	
			Construction	£33,960.00	£33,960.00	
			Health and Social Care	£18,960.00	£18,960.00	
			HGV	£56,847.74	£56,847.74	
		SP2.3 Women Returners Programme	£40,790.00	£40,790.00		
		Skilled Labour Supply	SP2.5 Employer Support Programme	£25,907.26	£25,907.26	
		Disability	SP2.6 Employer-led Disability Inclusion programme	£37,575.00	£37,575.00	
	SP3	Increased Awareness	SP2.7 Disability Charter	£0.00	£0.00	
			SP3.1 Job Fair / Employability Events	£20,500.00	£20,500.00	
			SP3.2 Female Job Fair / Employability Events	£0.00	£0.00	
<b>Operational Total</b>				<b>£275,076.61</b>	<b>£275,076.61</b>	
<b>Overall Total (Maximum Available: £369,005.21)</b>				<b>£369,005.21</b>	<b>£386,510.71</b>	

## ICBAN Progress Report as per Service Level Agreement for 2023-2024 (1 April 2023 – 31 March 2024)

**ACTION****Interactions**

- Promote opportunities for MUDC to regularly engage with other member Councils within the ICBAN Partnership, and to discuss opportunities for cross-border co-operation through ICBAN structures, including Management Board (for nominated elected reps) and Council Senior Officers' Forum (for Directors / Heads of Service)

ICBAN has held Board Meetings on the following dates:

- 19th April 2023
- 10th May 2023
- 28th June 2023
- 20th September 2023
- 18<sup>th</sup> October 2023
- 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023
- 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023
- 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024
- 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2024
- 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Due to the local elections in NI on 18th May 2023, new members were nominated to the ICBAN Board. Inductions were subsequently held with the newly appointed Members (including MUDC Councillors) in June and July.

ICBAN received funding from the Department of Foreign Affairs' Reconciliation Fund in December 2022 to assist with ICBAN's Operational Costs in 2023. This funding has helped the network to enhance cooperation through widening conversations on and progressing various opportunities and issue. The DFA Operational Costs project for 2023 concluded in December 2023. As part of this project a paper on '*Influencing Westminster for the betterment of the Irish Central Border Region: Understanding UK Regional Policies and Parliamentary Processes*' was produced.

The DFA 2024 Operational Costs project commenced in January 2024. An application for 2025 Operational Costs is being prepared for submission ahead of 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024 deadline.

The AGM was held on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023, with Councillor Seamus Coyle (Monaghan) elected as Chair, Councillor Eugene McConnell (MUDC) elected as ICBAN's Vice Chair, and Councillors Sean Mc Peake (MUDC) and Winston Bennett (Cavan) as Co-Treasurers.

## **ACTION**

### **Framework of Regional Priorities Strategy**

Implementation of the 'Framework of Regional Priorities' strategy for the Central Border Region

- Promote and advocate on same, targeting key stakeholders in government, political, community and business sectors etc.
- Engage in relevant public consultations in both jurisdictions, using the FRP strategy as the basis for submissions.

## **ACTIVITIES & PROGRESS**

ICBAN continues to promote the FRP through meetings with stakeholders, in completing relevant consultation responses, in engaging on policy matters, and when referencing in support of project developments and related funding applications.

Delivery of the strategy is a key focus for the organisation. A Sub-Committee for the Implementation of the FRP was established with the aim of supporting the overall work programme of the ICBAN Management Board, as and when required, in overseeing the implementation of the Framework of Regional Priorities (FRP) strategy. The Sub-Committee, along with the Council Senior Officers Forum (for Council Directors / Heads of Service), bring additional energy and impetus to the delivery of the regional priorities.

### ***Consultations submitted / activities:***

- SLNCR Greenway Consultation – meeting on 21st September 2023.
- SLNCR survey submitted.
- OFCOM Consultation: Mobile roaming – Strengthening customer protections closed on 28th September 2023. Input of Councils was sought as part of a regional response that was submitted by ICBAN.
- All Island Rail Review Consultation closed on 29th September 2023. ICBAN issued a regional response in line with the FRP strategy ambitions for the area on Infrastructure and Connectivity, Liveable Communities and Economic Development.

ICBAN has met with both Department for Economy (DSIT, London) and OFCOM NI on progress with delivering the Shared Rural Network ambitions.

## **ACTION**

### **Project Pipeline:**

- Development of a pipeline of new projects, aligned across the 5 key Pillars / Themes of the FRP, and targeting opportunities for cross-border and regional development funding (including but not limited to Peace Plus, Shared Island Initiative, and Levelling-up / Shared Prosperity, Reconciliation Fund)
- Initiate and review new project opportunities and initiatives, including those linked to the already identified Emergent Catalyst Projects, and transferable concepts such as the 'Border Transition' community-led climate initiative led by ICBAN.
- Progress the development of these new project opportunities and initiatives (under the direction of the ICBAN Management Board and its structures).

ICBAN is continuing to develop projects and to identify potential funding sources, associated with the five pillars of the FRP regional strategy.

### **Infrastructure & Connectivity**

- *Broadband*

A meeting was held with the Department for Economy's Telecoms Unit (NI) regarding delivery of Project Stratum and the planned follow-up, Project Gigabit. This was attended by Board members and Council Officers. It was noted that these are significant investment programmes, which can deliver very effectively against the regional ambitions that were the basis of ICBAN's original reports in 2016-2019. A copy of the presentation was shared with ICBAN Board Members and Officers.

Following ICBAN's submission to the Ofcom roaming consultation, a delegation met with the Ofcom NI team on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023 to discuss matters relating to inadvertent roaming and the delivery of the Shared Rural Network.

ICBAN continues to engage with National Broadband Ireland on monitoring broadband delivery in RoI. In the latest exchanges ICBAN requested details of the planned build programme and which locations are being targeted across the region.

Correspondence had been issued to DfE to query the clawback funding due to the Department / NI Executive for the historic NI Broadband Improvement Programme. This has been confirmed as £5,366,322; a further small amount was expected in October. DfE have advised that the use of the clawback funding will be determined by the NI Executive.

### **Greening the Region**

Queen's University Belfast Intern Mr. Gil Guerra completed a paper on scoping out project opportunities for a Hedgerows Project in the border region.

ICBAN is partner on the PEACE Plus IA 5.5 GEMINI project (Geothermal Energy Development Programme) (details below).

### **Human Capital Pillar**

Meetings of the Human Capital Pillar Steering Group (Education, Skills and Training) were held on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2023, 01<sup>st</sup> December 2023, with the next meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2024. The Steering Committee agreed to further develop the GRASP Project (skills development for retrofit sector)

(details below) and will continue to focus on identifying opportunities for the Region through other funding sources.

***Ongoing activities:***

Continued monitoring of National Broadband Ireland, Project Stratum, Project Gigabit and Shared Rural Network delivery.

Continued lobbying for upgrades to the A2 / N5 and A4 / N16 arterial roads.

## **ACTION**

### **PEACE Plus**

- Facilitate MUDC and other member Councils in coming together and sharing ambitions and ideas in developing project concepts and opportunities for the PEACE Plus programme

## **ACTIVITIES & PROGRESS**

ICBAN has been engaging all eight member Councils on opportunities through the new PEACE Plus Programme. ICBAN, together with member Councils identified ideas for potential cross-border projects for PEACEPLUS Investment Areas: 2.4 - Smart Towns and Villages and 4.2 - Rural Regeneration and Social Inclusion.

Initial meetings of the working groups took place in April and May 2023 and the Concept Notes were submitted to the SEUPB in April. ICBAN and the working groups met with SEUPB Advisors in May and June 2023 to receive feedback and this feedback has further shaped the project proposals. ICBAN has also regularly met with the SEUPB Advisors on these Investment Areas.

### ***DS<sup>3</sup> Project (Investment Area 2.4):***

Project: The strategic investment in digital services, digital supports and digital spaces (DS<sup>3</sup>) to modernise, grow and future-proof a cluster of challenged towns and villages in the Central Border Region.

ICBAN have been liaising with all Councils, including Mid Ulster to deliver on smart towns and villages priorities for inclusion in the project. Partners have been active in working together to refine and agree the project outline and delivery structure. Progress has been positive; the key project work packages have been agreed and partners are finalising their various roles and responsibilities in the project.

Project partnership meetings were subsequently held on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023, 06<sup>th</sup> June 2023, 20<sup>th</sup> September 2023, 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023, 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024, 13<sup>th</sup> February 2024, and 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024.

A meeting was held with Mid Ulster District Council Officers regarding the DS<sup>3</sup> Project on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023.

The project application is being finalised for submission ahead of 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024 deadline. A decision is expected in summer 2024.

### ***reFRESH Project (Investment Area 4.2):***

A meeting was held on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at which ESB outlined their proposed role in a project and the implications of this for project delivery. It was concluded that initially at least, the development of a Feasibility Study would provide the most pragmatic and realistic first step towards mobility hub development in the Central Border Region. A Feasibility Study would be used to scope out and address these issues and any subsequent resulting Business Case could then be used as the basis of any full funding application.

In terms of progressing a Feasibility Study, PEACE Plus Investment Area 6.1 and Shared Island may be two funding possibilities.

An example Feasibility Study from a project in County Cork has been shared with partner organisations and feedback was requested by 23<sup>rd</sup> February, including how the issues presented might be progressed further.

### ***GEMINI Project (Investment Area 5.5):***

ICBAN is partner on the 5.5 GEMINI project (Geothermal Energy Development Programme). GEMINI is being led by the City of Dublin Energy Management Authority (CODEMA). The project objective is to develop the market for geothermal energy on the island of Ireland, to re-risk both shallow and deep geothermal energy projects and to create conditions for job creation and public participation. The project was submitted to the PEACEPLUS Programme on 12th September 2023. A decision is expected in late spring 2024.

***GRASP Project (Investment Area 2.3):***

ICBAN is also a partner on the GRASP Project, which is led by the South West College.

GRASP is an integrated green skills development programme which will be delivered by the seven tertiary education providers across the Central Border Region. The focus of the project will be on providing 2,000 current construction employees and new entrants with the opportunity to develop the skills required to decarbonise housing stock.

A concept note has been submitted and feedback was received in October 2023. Meetings have been held with all Councils in the Region to appraise Officers of the project and to be advised on local opportunities and issues that would be connected. There has also been contact with Derry City & Strabane District Council (North West Cross-Border Region) to help ensure cohesion between different regional projects being developed for PEACEPLUS submissions, between both the Central Border Region and North West Cross-Border Region.

***Planned activities in the next period***

The various projects referenced above are being developed and finalised for submissions to the various PEACEPLUS funding calls being opened and closed over the next while.

New working groups will be established and involving opportunities for member Councils, associated with new PEACEPLUS Investment Area funding calls opening in the future.

**ACTION****Broadband Infrastructure**

To utilise the previously completed reports for continued advocacy on regional broadband issues and inadvertent roaming charges.

**ACTIVITIES & PROGRESS****As per page 2 above:**

A meeting was held with the Department for Economy's Telecoms Unit (NI) regarding delivery of Project Stratum and the planned follow-up, Project Gigabit. This was attended by Board members and Council Officers. It was noted that these are significant investment programmes, which can deliver very effectively against the regional ambitions that were the basis of ICBAN's original reports in 2016-2019. A copy of the presentation was shared with ICBAN Board Members and Officers.

Following ICBAN's submission to the Ofcom roaming consultation, a delegation met with the Ofcom NI team on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023 to discuss matters relating to inadvertent roaming and the delivery of the Shared Rural Network.

ICBAN continues to engage with National Broadband Ireland on monitoring broadband delivery in RoI. In the latest exchanges ICBAN requested details of the planned build programme and which locations are being targeted across the region.

Correspondence had been issued to DfE to query the clawback funding due to the Department / NI Executive for the historic NI Broadband Improvement Programme. This has been confirmed as £5,366,322; a further small amount was expected in October. DfE have advised that the use of the clawback funding will be determined by the NI Executive.

**ACTION****EU Exit**

- Assist the Council in further exploring the opportunities and challenges of the EU Exit.
- Continue to deliver submissions and make representations drawing on the previously completed reports as evidence

ICBAN keeps abreast of Brexit developments, through monitoring of current affairs and governmental updates. The organisation has been submitting evidence to a number of committees and consultations and uses such opportunities to make representations on behalf of the Central Border Region.

Having identified an absence of community consultation on both sides of the border, ICBAN together with Queen's University Belfast (QUB) have published four reports on the impact of Brexit on local communities. There have been over 2,100 responses to these research initiatives to date. ICBAN has ensured those voices were heard by disseminating the reports to those involved in high-level negotiations, including the EU's negotiating team and the UK and Irish governments.

ICBAN's has also focused on enhancing East-West cooperation, in building upon our core North-South cooperation function, and has completed a research paper (as detailed above on '*Influencing Westminster for the betterment of the Irish Central Border Region: Understanding UK Regional Policies and Parliamentary Processes*'), as part of the DFA Operational Costs project for 2023.

**ACTION****Communications**

- Provide regular updates on the work and interests of the organisation and cross-border co-operation happening in the Region, through quarterly newsletters, social media updates, reports, and in-person presentations, as required.

**ACTIVITIES & PROGRESS**

ICBAN uses social media (X) and the website to provide updates.

An Update is issued at regular intervals through the year to member Councils. Updates were issued in May 2023 and December 2023. The next Update is scheduled for April 2024.

A presentation was provided to MUDC Officers in May 2023 on north-south and cross-border funding opportunities.

*Irish Central Border Area Network Ltd*  
*Units 4-6 Enniskillen Business Centre*  
*21 Lackaghboy Road*  
*Enniskillen*  
*Co Fermanagh*  
*BT74 4RL*

*Tel: (0)28 6634 0710*

*Email: [info@icban.com](mailto:info@icban.com)*

*Website: [www.icban.com](http://www.icban.com)*



01<sup>st</sup> December 2023

Mr. Adrian McCreesh  
Chief Executive  
Mid Ulster District Council  
Burn Road  
Cookstown  
County Tyrone  
BT80 8DT

Dear Adrian,

#### **ICBAN Member Councils' Annual Contribution (2024-25)**

Each year, ICBAN contacts member Councils regarding the Annual Contribution to the cross-border partnership. Member Council contributions are a very important contributor towards our core administration resources and for which we are always most appreciative. The amount to be levied has been agreed by the Management Board to be **£14,750** for the 2024 financial year for County Councils, and 2024-25 financial year for NI Councils. This is a reduction on last year's contribution level.

On behalf of the ICBAN Management Board, I would like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to all Councils for their ongoing support and assistance. Should you have any queries or would like more information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

*Shane Campbell*

**CEO**  
**ICBAN**

**SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT**

**BETWEEN**

**MID ULSTER DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**AND**

**IRISH CENTRAL BORDER AREA NETWORK (ICBAN)**

**April 2024 – March 2025**

**THIS AGREEMENT** is made on the day of 2024.

## **PARTIES**

- (1) MID ULSTER DISTRICT COUNCIL whose address is at Dungannon Office, 15 Circular Road, Dungannon BT71 6DT (the "**Council**"); and
- (2) IRISH CENTRAL BORDER AREA NETWORK incorporated and registered in Northern Ireland with company number NI040472 whose registered office is at Units 4-6 Enniskillen Business Centre, 21 Lackaghboy Road, Enniskillen, County Fermanagh, Northern Ireland, BT74 4RL ("**ICBAN**").

## **BACKGROUND**

- a) ICBAN was established in 1995 to promote co-operation and communication on a cross-border basis on common regional development concerns. ICBAN works in a spirit of cross-border consensus decision-making, cross party cooperation and partnership.
- b) ICBAN currently has 8 partner councils: 3 in Northern Ireland, which are, Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council, Mid Ulster District Council and Fermanagh & Omagh District Council; and 5 Councils in the Republic of Ireland which are Cavan County Council, Donegal County Council, Monaghan County Council, Leitrim County Council and Sligo County Council.
- c) The Council and ICBAN have agreed to enter into this Agreement in order to set out the contractual basis upon which ICBAN shall provide certain services to the Council.

## **1. DEFINITIONS**

"Charges" shall mean the charges which shall become due and payable by the Council to ICBAN in respect of the Services in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, as such charges are set out in Schedule 2.

"Commencement Date" shall mean 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024

"Data Protection Legislation" means all applicable data protection and privacy legislation in force from time to time in the UK including the UK GDPR; the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA 2018) (and regulations made thereunder) and the Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations 2003 (SI 2003/2426) as amended and the guidance and codes of practice issued by the Information Commissioner or other relevant regulatory authority and applicable to a party.

"Law" shall mean the laws of Northern Ireland and any other laws or regulations, regulatory policies, guidelines or industry codes which apply to the provision of the Services or with which ICBAN is bound to comply.

"Services" shall mean those services specified in Schedule 2 of this Agreement and any other such services which may be agreed between the parties from time to time.

"Term" shall mean from the Commencement Date until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025.

“Working Day” shall mean Monday to Friday, excluding any public holidays in Northern Ireland.

## **2. COMMENCEMENT AND DURATION**

This Agreement shall take effect on the Commencement Date and, unless terminated earlier in accordance with the terms of this Agreement, shall continue for the Term.

## **3. SUPPLY OF SERVICES**

- a. ICBAN shall provide the Services and provide secretariat to ICBAN Company and its structures with a view to enhancing the region and bringing to the area European and other funding in partnership with all 8 local authority members for the duration of the Term and in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement.
- b. Responsibility for the management of the ICBAN will be vested in the Board of Directors of ICBAN and its executive team.
- c. The parties' authorised representatives for the purpose of this shall be Mid Ulster District Council's Strategic Programmes Service Manager and the Chief Executive of ICBAN. Mid Ulster District Council contact for day-to-day purposes shall be the Business and Investment Officer.
- d. The Council reserves the right to withdraw funding should the ICBAN fail to adequately provide the service as outlined in this document, which forms the basis of the Council's agreement to commit funds to it. Funding will be reviewed annually and will require ICBAN to submit 6 month and end of year progress reports for each year of the agreement showing progress against the targets and the plan for the year ahead. In addition ICBAN may be required to attend a committee meeting of Council in Quarter 3 to outline their progress to date and work for the future months.

## **4. COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE**

- a. ICBAN shall operate a procedure for dealing with the repercussions of defaulting on any of its obligations under this Agreement and/or complaints about its provision of the Service.

## **5. COMPLIANCE AND CHANGE IN LAWS**

- a. In performing its obligations under this Agreement ICBAN shall have regard to and comply with all applicable Law (including but not limited to the Health & Safety at Work Act 1974 and any other Law relating to health and safety).
- b. ICBAN shall monitor and shall keep the Council informed in writing of any changes in the Law which may impact the Services and shall provide the

Council with timely details of measures it proposes to take and changes it proposes to make to comply with any such changes.

- c. ICBAN shall neither be relieved of its obligations to supply the Services in accordance with the terms of this Agreement nor be entitled to an increase in the Charges as the result of a change in Law.

## **6. INSURANCE**

- a. ICBAN shall at its own cost effect and maintain with reputable insurance companies adequate insurance to cover all such risks and liabilities as may arise in the course of providing the Services including death or personal injury, loss of or damage to property or any other loss (the "Required Insurances"). Such policies shall include cover in respect of any financial loss arising from any advice given or omitted to be given by ICBAN. This is, in part, to ensure the risk is minimised to the Council against all claims, demands, actions or proceedings made or brought and all losses, damages, costs, expenses and liabilities incurred, suffered or arising directly or indirectly in respect of or otherwise connected with the actions of the Services provided by ICBAN.
- b. If, for whatever reason, ICBAN fails to give effect to and maintain the Required Insurances, the Council may make alternative arrangements to protect its interests and may recover the costs of such arrangements from ICBAN.
- c. The terms of any insurance or the amount of cover shall not relieve ICBAN of any liabilities under the agreement.

## **7. ICBAN STAFF**

- a. In relation to the employment of staff, employment conditions and practices must comply with all the relevant Law and should take account of current good practice in relation to employment rights and the promotion of equality of opportunity and good relations.
- b. The Parties believe that the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006 (the "Employment Regulations") will not apply to this Agreement, whether on its commencement, during the Term on expiry or termination of the Agreement in whole or in part. In the event that, contrary to the expressed understanding of the Parties, the Employment Regulations are alleged by any person (including a Party, any trade union or staff association, employee representative or employee) to apply, or held by court of competent jurisdiction to apply, ICBAN shall indemnify the Council for all liabilities, claims, losses, damages, costs and expenses arising out of or in connection with the application of the Employment Regulations.

## **8. AUDIT**

- a. During the Term and for a period of seven years thereafter ICBAN shall allow the Council (acting by itself or via any representatives authorised to act on behalf of the Council) to access any of ICBAN's premises, records, financial or

otherwise, systems, personnel or equipment as may be required for the purposes of (*inter alia*) fulfilling any legally enforceable request by a regulatory body, monitoring and evaluating ICBAN's compliance with its obligations under this Agreement, verify the accuracy of the Charges or identify suspected fraud and to verify the achievement or objectives or progress towards such objectives.

## 9. CHARGES

- a. The Council shall pay the Charges to the ICBAN in accordance with Schedule 2.
- b. If ICBAN is in breach of any of its obligations relating to this Agreement then the Council may require ICBAN to pay the Council the aggregate of all Charges paid to ICBAN during the Term or such lesser amount as the Council may determine.
- c. ICBAN shall publicise receipt of the Charges by the inclusion of a printed acknowledgement in relevant publicity material to include newspaper advertisements, stationery and promotional aids. Mid Ulster District Council shall be entitled to publish details of the assistance referred to in this letter at such times and in such manner as they may decide.
- d. The Council would expect that its contributions would receive formal recognition by way of an invitation to the Council Chair and the elected representatives for the area at any appropriate regional event/official opening and mention in publicity pertaining to the event/facility.
- e. ICBAN shall be required to submit 6 month and end of year progress reports for each year of the agreement showing progress against the targets and the plan for the year ahead. In addition ICBAN may be required to attend a committee meeting of council in Quarter 3 to outline their progress to date and work for the future months.

## 10. INDEMNITY

- a. ICBAN shall indemnify and keep indemnified the Council against all liabilities, costs, expenses, damages and losses incurred by the Council arising out of or in connection with:
  - i. ICBAN's breach or negligent performance or non-performance of this Agreement;
  - ii. any claim made against the Council arising out of or in connection with the provision of the Services, to the extent that such claim arises out of the breach, negligent performance or failure or delay in performance of this Agreement by ICBAN.

## 11. LIABILITY

- a. Nothing in this Agreement limits any liability which cannot legally be limited, including for:
  - i. death and personal injury caused by negligence; and
  - ii. fraud or fraudulent misrepresentation.
- b. Subject to clause 10(a), the Council's total aggregate liability under this Agreement shall be limited to the Charges.

## 12. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

- a. The Council is subject to the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the "Act"). Any information, which comes into the possession of the Council may be subject to disclosure under the provisions of that Act, unless an exemption applies. Only the Council can make the decision regarding whether information is disclosable or not. In arriving at the decision, The Council will take account of the nature of the information, exemptions provided by the Act, and the public interest. If the information is disclosable in accordance with the terms of the Council has no discretion to prevent its disclosure.
- b. ICBAN will:
  - i. provide all necessary assistance and cooperation as reasonably requested by the Council to enable the Council to comply with its obligations under the Act;
  - ii. transfer to the council all requests for Information relating to this Agreement that it receives as soon as practicable and in any event within 2 Working Days of receipt;
  - iii. provide the Council with a copy of all information belonging to the Council requested in the request for information which is in its possession or control in the form that the Council requires within 5 Working Days (or such other period as the Council may reasonably specify) of the Council's request for such information; and
  - iv. not respond directly to a request for information unless authorised in writing to do so by the Council.

## 13. DATA PROCESSING

- a. Both parties acknowledge that the only personal data which will be exchanged between the parties is details of employee names of each party. Both parties acknowledge that they shall each act as independent controllers in respect of these employee names.
- b. Both parties will comply with all applicable requirements of the Data Protection Legislation. This clause is in addition to, and does not relieve, remove or replace, a party's obligations or rights under the Data Protection Legislation.

- c. ICBAN shall ensure that it has an appropriate privacy policy in place with those of its employees whom shall have their name shared with the Council.

#### 14. NO PARTNERSHIP OR AGENCY

- a. Nothing in this Agreement is intended to, or shall be deemed to, establish any partnership or joint venture between any of the parties, constitute any party the agent of another party, or authorise any party to make or enter into any commitments for or on behalf of any other party.
- b. Each party confirms it is acting on its own behalf and not for the benefit of any other person.

#### 15. CONFIDENTIALITY

- a. The provisions of this clause do not apply to any Confidential information:
  - i. is or becomes available to the public (other than as a result of its disclosure by the receiving party or its representatives in breach of this clause);
  - ii. was available to the receiving party on a non-confidential basis before disclosure by the disclosing party;
  - iii. was, is, or becomes available to the receiving party on a non-confidential basis from a person who, to the receiving party's knowledge, is not bound by a confidentiality agreement with the disclosing party or otherwise prohibited from disclosing the information to the receiving party;
  - iv. the parties agree in writing is not confidential or may be disclosed;
  - v. which is disclosed by the Council on a confidential basis to any central government or regulatory body.
- b. Each party shall keep the other party's Confidential Information secret and confidential and shall not:
  - i. use such Confidential Information except for the purpose of exercising or performing its rights and obligations under or in connection with this Agreement (**Permitted Purpose**); or
  - ii. disclose such Confidential information in whole or in part to any third party, except as expressly permitted by this.
- c. A party may disclose the other party's Confidential information to those of its representatives who need to know such Confidential Information for the Permitted Purpose, provided that:
  - i. it informs such representatives of the confidential nature of the Confidential Information before disclosure; and
  - ii. it procures that its representatives shall, in relation to any Confidential Information disclosed to them, comply with the obligations set out in this clause as if they were a party to this Agreement,

- iii. and at all times, it is liable for the failure of any Representatives to comply with the obligations set out in this clause.
- d. A party may disclose Confidential Information to the extent such Confidential Information is required to be disclosed by Law (including under the Act), by any governmental or other regulatory authority or by a court or other authority of competent jurisdiction provided that, to the extent it is legally permitted to do so, it gives the other party as much notice of such disclosure as possible.

## 16. REMEDIATION PROCESS

- a. If ICBAN is in default in complying with any of its obligations under this Agreement the Council may, at its sole discretion, choose to terminate this Agreement in accordance with clause 17 or enter into a remediation plan process. If the Council chooses to enter into a remediation plan process, it shall give a remediation notice to ICBAN which shall specify the default in outline and the actions ICBAN needs to take to remedy the default.
- b. The Council shall be under no obligation to initiate a remediation plan process.
- c. Within 5 Business Days of receipt of a Remediation Notice, ICBAN shall:
  - i. submit a draft remediation plan, even if it disputes that it is responsible for the matters which are the subject of the remediation notice; or
  - ii. inform the Council that it does not intend to submit a remediation plan, in which event the Council shall be entitled to serve a termination notice.
- d. The Council shall either approve the draft remediation plan within 5 Business Days of its receipt or it shall inform ICBAN why it cannot accept the draft remediation plan. In such circumstances, ICBAN shall address all such concerns in a revised remediation plan, which it shall submit to the Council within 5 Business Days of its receipt of the Council's comments. If no such notice is given, ICBAN's draft remediation plan shall be deemed to be agreed.
- e. Once agreed, ICBAN shall immediately start work on the actions set out in the remediation plan.
- f. If a remediation plan cannot be agreed within 5 Business Days then the Council may elect to end the remediation plan process and serve a termination notice.
- g. If a remediation plan is agreed between the parties, but ICBAN fails to implement or successfully complete the remediation plan by the required completion date, the Council may:
  - i. terminate this Agreement by serving a termination notice; or

- ii. give ICBAN a further opportunity to resume full implementation of the remediation plan.

## **17. TERMINATION**

- a. Without affecting any other right or remedy available to it the Council may terminate this Agreement with immediate effect or on the expiry of the period specified in the Termination Notice by giving written notice to ICBAN if one or more of the following circumstances occurs or exists:
  - i. if ICBAN is in material breach of this Agreement, which is irremediable;
  - ii. if ICBAN is in material breach of this Agreement (where, for the avoidance of doubt, failure to adequately provide the services shall constitute a material breach) and, where such breach is remediable, fails to remedy such breach within 3 days of being notified of such breach;
  - iii. if there is an Insolvency Event; or
  - iv. the Council reasonably believes that the circumstances set out in regulation 73(1) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 apply.

## **18. TERMINATION ON NOTICE**

Without affecting any other right or remedy available to it, the Council may terminate this Agreement at any time by giving one month's written notice to ICBAN.

## **19. WAIVER**

- a. A waiver of any right or remedy is only effective if given in writing and shall not be deemed a waiver of any subsequent right or remedy.
- b. A delay or failure to exercise, or the single or partial exercise of, any right or remedy shall not waive that or any other right or remedy, nor shall it prevent or restrict the further exercise of that or any other right or remedy.

## **20. SEVERANCE**

If any provision or part-provision of this Agreement is or becomes invalid, illegal or unenforceable, it shall be deemed deleted, but that shall not affect the validity and enforceability of the rest of this Agreement.

## **21. ASSIGNMENT AND OTHER DEALINGS**

- a. The Council may at any time assign, mortgage, charge, subcontract, delegate, declare a trust over or deal in any other manner with any or all of its rights and obligations under this Agreement.
- b. ICBAN shall not assign, transfer, mortgage, charge, subcontract, delegate, declare a trust over or deal in any other manner with any of its rights and obligations under this Agreement without the prior written consent of the Council.

## **22. ENTIRE AGREEMENT AND VARIATION**

- a. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and supersedes and extinguishes all previous and contemporaneous agreements, promises, assurances and understandings between them, whether written or oral, relating to its subject matter.
- b. No variation of this Agreement shall be effective unless it is in writing and signed by the parties.

## **23. GOVERNING LAW**

This Agreement and any dispute or claim arising out of or in connection with it or its subject matter or formation (including non-contractual disputes or claims) shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the law of Northern Ireland.

## **24. JURISDICTION**

Each party irrevocably agrees that the courts of Northern Ireland shall have exclusive jurisdiction to settle any dispute or claim arising out of or in connection with this Agreement or its subject matter or formation (including non-contractual disputes or claims).

## Schedule 1 – SERVICE OBJECTIVES & SPECIFICATION

### 1. AIMS OF THE SERVICE

ICBAN will provide a service to 8 partner Councils that will deliver the priorities in their agreed Framework of Regional Priorities for the Irish Central Border Region, 2020–2027. This framework permits all areas to work together in developing actions and setting cross border priorities for the region and play a pivotal role in the formation of strategic alliances between key stakeholders in the region. The delivery of the service and projects should contribute to the Council's International Linkages Framework and be consistent with its aims, objectives and standards.

### 2. PROJECTS FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT

ICBAN will continue to develop the following projects for member Councils including

#### 2.1. Interactions

Promote opportunities for MUDC to regularly engage with other member Councils within the ICBAN Partnership, and to discuss opportunities for cross-border co-operation through ICBAN structures, including Management Board (for nominated elected reps) and Council Senior Officers Forum (for Directors / Heads of Service)

#### 2.2. Framework of Regional Priorities Strategy

Implementation of the 'Framework of Regional Priorities' strategy for the Central Border Region

- Promote and advocate on same, targeting key stakeholders in government, political, community and business sectors etc.
- Engage in relevant public consultations in both jurisdictions, using the FRP strategy as the basis for submissions.

#### 2.3. Project Pipeline:

Development of a pipeline of new projects, aligned across the 5 key Pillars / Themes of the FRP, and targeting opportunities for cross-border and regional development funding (including but not limited to Peace Plus, Shared Island Initiative, and Levelling-up / Shared Prosperity, Reconciliation Fund):

- Initiate and review new project opportunities and initiatives, including those linked to the already identified Emergent Catalyst Projects, and transferable concepts such as the 'Border Transition' community-led climate initiative led by ICBAN.
- Progress the development of these new project opportunities and initiatives (under the direction of the ICBAN Management Board and its structures).

#### 2.4. Peace Plus:

Facilitate MUDC and other member Councils in coming together and sharing ambitions and ideas in developing project concepts and opportunities for the Peace Plus programme

**2.5. Broadband Infrastructure**

To utilise the previously completed reports for continued advocacy on regional broadband issues and inadvertent roaming charges.

**2.6. EU Exit**

- Assist the Council in further exploring the opportunities and challenges of the EU Exit.
- Continue to deliver submissions and make representations drawing on the previously completed reports as evidence.

**2.7. Communications**

Provide regular updates on the work and interests of the organisation and cross-border co-operation happening in the Region, through quarterly newsletters, social media updates, reports, and in-person presentations, as required.

**3. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

**3.1.** ICBAN will provide the following services for the Council:

- 3.1.1.** ICBAN will deliver a general information service on EU and other funding programmes.
- 3.1.2.** ICBAN will assist with project identification, project co-ordination and financial management as agreed for PEACE PLUS and other funding programmes.
- 3.1.3.** ICBAN will represent the agreed vision of the region in responding to consultations relating to regional, international and global funds.
- 3.1.4.** In implementing its framework ICBAN will lobby for the needs of the cross border region in Dublin/Belfast/London and in Brussels.
- 3.1.5.** ICBAN will organise Best Practice Visits of both elected members and officials as and when required.
- 3.1.6.** ICBAN will provide elected member and official training and development on EU issues and any other issues as and when required.
- 3.1.7.** ICBAN will submit 6 monthly reports detailing progress on all key areas of work and its contribution to Council's International Linkages Framework.
- 3.1.8.** ICBAN will administer all structures necessary to manage and implement the funds appropriately.
- 3.1.9.** ICBAN will facilitate the involvement of council staff and elected members in its work.

## **SCHEDULE 2 – FINANCIAL & RESOURCING ARRANGEMENT**

The Council has agreed that payment of £14,750 sterling (Fourteen thousand pounds and seven hundred and fifty pounds) will be paid to ICBAN for organisation costs for year 1 April 2024 – 31 March 2025 (the Charges).

Payment will be released only upon the following condition:

- Submission of an original invoice at a time acceptable to the Council. Copies are NOT acceptable.
- Provision of completed and signed Declaration Form confirming ICBAN has all requisite documentation in place
- The Council will have the right to request repayment of all or part of the assistance if the conditions outlined in this Agreement are not met.

**ANNEX ONE**

**ACCEPTANCE FORM**

I, Shane Campbell, as Chief Executive of ICBAN have read and understood the Council’s Service Level Agreement between ICBAN and Mid Ulster District Council.

I agree to comply with the conditions as detailed in these documents and to abide by those principles and procedures in my role as a Chairperson/Chief Executive (delete as appropriate) of ICBAN.

**Council Official** \_\_\_\_\_

**ICBAN Chief Executive**  
(delete as appropriate) \_\_\_\_\_

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Position:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Position** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name (Block Capitals)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Name (Block Capitals):**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Please sign two copies of this Agreement, one to be returned to Mid Ulster District Council and one to be retained by ICBAN.

**APPENDIX 7 - MEGA PROGRESS REPORT (APRIL 2023 – MARCH 2024)**



**Progress Update Report**

The implementation of MEGA’s new strategic action plan will deliver outcomes and positive impacts by 2025

Annual Review Number:	2 (SLA Year 2)	Period covered by Review	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2023 to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024
Network Name	MEGA – Manufacturing & Engineering Growth Advancement	SLA Start/End Date	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2022 – 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025
Maria Curran	MEGA Project Director	maria.curran@midulstermega.com	

<p><b>ACTION</b></p> <p><b>1. Focus on People</b></p> <p>Address the current deficit in human resources available to the manufacturing and engineering sector in Mid Ulster.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Careers Portal - Collaborate with MUDC to develop a Manufacturing &amp; Engineering online careers portal that showcases MEGA companies; career paths; “a day in the life of”; job vacancies etc.</li> <li>• School Ambassadors programme rolled out. All ambassadors attend at least 1 school visit per year.</li> <li>• Schools Projects – Year 1 pilot project with 5 schools/companies. Year 2 &amp; 3 increased to minimum 8/10</li> <li>• JBO Connections attend 2 MEGA meetings per year</li> <li>• National diversity. Target marketing in native languages.</li> <li>• Host an annual MEGA jobs fair targeted at specific recruitment groups.</li> <li>• Workplace attractiveness. Design a self assessment questionnaire to baseline &amp; score MEGA member working conditions. Consider the facilities necessary to support diversity in the operational workplace. • Encourage members to apply for funding support to address improvement action plans.</li> </ul>
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- PR & Marketing. Part time marketing resource to handle all social media, website content, PR and marketing activity. • Develop a new communications strategy. • Use PR to address misperceptions of the sector. • Maximise MEGA opportunities for press and media exposure. • Seek media training for key MEGA representatives

## ACTIVITIES & PROGRESS

- Prison Unlocked programme. 24 attendees at the event including Dfc, justice department and 13 MEGA companies. MEGA involvement in the 'Prison Unlocked' programme gives us the opportunity to discuss changes to prison service curriculum to meet needs of our member companies. This programme has the potential to deliver a small number of new employees to each company. However, prisoners historically become very loyal employees so the initial effort should be worth the effort in the long run.
- 7 member companies visited Maghaberry prison and met with some inmates.
- 15th May Launch of the DFE Welding Academy Recruitment – paid opportunity to train/retrain as a welder, level 2 qualification in MIG/MAG with Manual handling and Abrasive wheels
- Kilcronagh Open day May 20th 9.30am to 1.30pm – Advertising all things welding, jobs, training, progression, career changes. \*\*recruitment for DFE Welding Academy
- June level 1 welding aimed at future apprentices and school leavers or quick career changers.
- September 4th Cohort 2 DFE Welding Academy – 12 trainees currently undergoing the training with the potential to get full time employment in November.
- Elita informed teachers of the opportunity to visit the Welding Academy for a tour. Lough Road Learning Centre (EOTAS) & Holy Trinity College attended tours in May
- Elita distributed leaflets for the Welding Academy Open Day at schools and at the Jobs & Benefit Office / Universal Credit Dept.
- In response to a request from the Department for Economy (Dfe) to boost enrollment for the Assured Skills Academy, the MEGA team undertook a two-week promotional campaign due to concerns about the potential cancellation of the upcoming academy (with only 5 applications received to date). The team implemented various strategies:
  - Video Interviews: Conducted interviews with past academy participants, showcasing their experiences.
  - Content Reposting: Shared existing footage to rekindle interest.
  - Word of Mouth Promotion: Encouraged team members to spread the word during their interactions.
  - Open Evening: Rebecca organised a drop-in open evening in early September at Kilcronagh, allowing interested individuals to tour the facility and apply for the course.
- As a result of these efforts, there was a noticeable uptick in responses, leading to interviews held on September 26th. Rebecca, responding to feedback, scheduled interviews in the evening as well, contributing to a 40% higher interview rate compared to previous cohorts with the same number of applications.

- **Diverse Participant Profile:** The academy commenced on October 16th with 2 females and 10 males, representing a diverse range of ages, locations, and professional backgrounds, including education, food, Amazon, and IT.
- **Employability:** Participants completing the course have strong prospects for full-time employment, thanks to the diverse range of backgrounds covered.
- 
- 28 member companies engaged in Education Outreach
- 30 schools received a Degree Apprenticeship presentation over the 22/23 academic year. 84% of applicants for the Degree Apprenticeship heard about it through the MEGA visit/presentation
- 125 students inspired into engineering through tours - 8 students (year 12 school leavers) were offered places for the Welding Academy from the tours
- 18 companies offered to promote work experience opportunities for Yrs 11 – Bloc, Coote, Edge, Ezystak, Four Dee, Greiner, J&B, Mallaghan, McCloskey, Moyola, Muldoon, Portafill, SpecDrum, Specialist, Sperrin, Terex, Todds Leap, Tyrone Fab
- 5 MEGA network companies received training from MEGA on delivering hands-on workshops to young people – both on the topic of engineering and on classroom management
- Hands-on Workshop for 100 Year 8 girls at St. Patrick’s Academy – building a conveyor (June) Opportunity for 100 Year 8 girls to take part in a hands-on engineering project in order to inspire them into engineering. Female engineers from SpecDrum, Mallaghan, Terex, Greiner & Ezystak participated in order to raise the visibility of women in engineering
- Building a STEM community by raising awareness about STEM to primary-aged children, 7 network companies, 3 MEGA Degree Apprentices & 150 children participated
- Secondary-school students in Mid Ulster have been asked to create a logo for the launch of the MEGA Illuminate Programme. Winner was a student from Rainey Endowed, Magherafelt and she received £100 voucher
- Elita held meetings with careers & technology teachers. Found out areas where MEGA can support: curriculum enhancement, mentoring (CAD), resources, hands-on projects, tours, presentation, after-schools. Strengthened relationships between MEGA & teachers. MEGA had struggled previously to engage with Rainey Endowed. They reached out and asked for a meeting with their Head of Technology & Technology teacher and have asked for MEGA support for their department.
- From the Rainey meeting, Elita organised a meeting for all TD/Engineering/Construction teachers in Mid Ulster to meet with industry to discuss ways in which industry can support Engineering/TD departments.
- Teachers were able to express needs and ways in which industry could support, by way of materials, curriculum support, mentoring. Industry was eager to offer support.

**Explore Engineering Expo 18/10/2023:**

- The MEGA team and the MRLP careers committee worked tirelessly to organise this event, aiming to inspire young minds toward the manufacturing and engineering sector. Together, we targeted Year 10 students, encouraging them to consider STEM subjects at GCSE level. We faced the challenge of coordinating **1200 Year 10 students and 47 exhibitors and colleges**, and it was heartening to see the event come to fruition.
- During the afternoon session, we were pleasantly surprised to welcome over 250 parents and older students. They had the opportunity to receive current and valuable career advice directly from companies and colleges.
- The Expo was designed to ignite an interest in engineering across various disciplines and to showcase the diverse roles within the engineering sector available right in our community.
- £3000 sponsorship from Cavanagh Kelly to pay for transport & Brilliant PR with BBC coverage
- MEGA presented to Universal Credit team of Jobs & Benefits office in May. This helped their work coaches to gain knowledge of the MEGA programme and offerings in the welding academy.
- Through Mentoring Training and Aftercare support Una, has been able to encourage companies to use marketing as a platform to showcase Workplace attractiveness. MEGA hosted a very successful Marketing event with 40 Industry guests in collaboration with Bluesky Media. The theme was Marketing and how this aids attraction, engagement and retention of staff.
- The total number of followers across all social media platforms has experienced a significant increase over the last quarter. Specifically, the total followers rose from **7,926 to 8,698**, indicating a percentage increase of approximately **9.7%**. This growth reflects a positive trend in the engagement and interest in our online presence, demonstrating an expanding and enthusiastic audience within the Manufacturing and Engineering sector.

#### Nov 23' to March 24'

- The interest in MEGA and apprenticeships has grown in schools and it is becoming increasingly difficult to meet all schools' requests for visits.
- 33 companies have engaged in Educational Outreach since Oct.
- 7 Company tours in Greiner, Mallaghan, Moyola, Sperrin, Specialist, Plastics 2000 and Nugents. 4 of these tours were in partnership with NI Science Festival. The general public had the opportunity to see inside factories as one-off opportunity, increasing awareness beyond just students. The NI Science Festival PR reaches up to 6.8 million people, thus elevating the visibility of the manufacturing companies that took part.
- Facilitated work experience for students in Edge and OD3
- Over 600 students were introduced to the manufacturing & engineering sector. MEGA attended:
- **8 School Visits** to promote the Manufacturing sector as well as the MEGA Degree Apprenticeships with: **Mallaghan Engineering, Hutchinson & Fabricat**. Schools visited: Banbridge Academy x 2, Drumglass High, Sperrin Integrated x 2, St. Mary's Grammar Magherafelt, St. Ciaran's College Ballygawley & Rainey Endowed.

- **4 Mock Interview** events, with **Kiverco, RubbleMaster, SpecDrum, Edge Innovate, Specialist Group, Bloc Group & Mallaghan Engineering** at Magherafelt High School, Integrated College Dungannon, Drumglass High School & St. Pius X College.
- **3 Careers Fairs** at Integrated College, Dungannon with **Nugent, RubbleMaster & Edge Innovate** & Magherafelt High with **Four Dee & Moyola Precision Engineering**. Plus, St. Ciaran’s College with numerous local companies
- **1 Year 10 Career Options Fair** with Cookstown High & Holy Trinity College in Cookstown and **Mallaghan Engineering Ambassadors**.
- Organised a workshop on ‘How to Present like a Pro’, aimed at MEGA Ambassadors to train them in delivering presentations to students. **Nugent, Four Dee, SpecDrum, Ulster Shredders, Sperrin Metal Storage Solutions, Strickland, Moyola, Bloc & Edge Innovate** attended. MEGA Ambassadors learned tips on presenting to young people & were given a template to improve their presentation skills.
- Launched **2024 MEGA Apprenticeship Model Booklet**. Over 200 apprenticeship opportunities are available within 95% of MEGA companies. Booklets will be sent to schools, and teachers will encourage students to apply.
- **Primary School Outreach**: Elita has created a bespoke primary school outreach programme for Mallaghan Engineering which will be rolled out in the spring. They will be able to deliver themselves going forward for primary schools, inspiring primary children into engineering from an early age.
- MEGA's focus on All Age Apprenticeships during Apprenticeship Week is anticipated to drive increased interest and participation in apprenticeship programs, fostering a more inclusive and skilled workforce.
- 2 update meetings with Niall Kearney, Employer Adviser, Department for Communities, Cookstown Job & Benefits Office regarding apprenticeship and welding academy opportunities. Niall circulates relevant information to all JOB’s in the surrounding region.
- Supported LMP with Job Fairs and promoted within our member companies.
- Attended LMP Strategic Planning day
- The total number of followers across all social media platforms has experienced a significant increase over the last quarter. Specifically, the total followers rose from **8,698 to 9,116** indicating a percentage increase of approximately **5%**.

## **ACTION**

### **2. Skills for the Future**

Adapt the provision of education of skills development to meet the changing needs of the sector over time.

- Skills demand planning. Conduct an annual survey of members to understand people & skills demands for the 12-18 months ahead. Collaborate with MUDC LMP to inform stakeholders of the rolling 12 – 18 month skills needs.
- MEGA Skills Academy. Create a skills academy to deliver a range of short training courses (eg spray painting; robotic welding; CNC; Hydraulics). Leverage the supply base to loan training equipment & materials
- Digital manufacturing & I4.0. Identify a training partner for digital manufacturing & automation (e.g. Digital Catapult, Dundalk AMTCE) Adopt a clear curriculum relevant to MEGA members. Identify funding opportunities to support member training. Train members in emerging technologies

- Skills investment programme. Signpost and encourage members towards grant support packages available for skills investment (e.g. Skills Advancement Grant for INI clients) 3 year span of project

### ACTIVITIES & PROGRESS

- The Department for Economy (Dfe) has recently announced funding for All Age Apprenticeships, marking a significant development in workforce training. MEGA, recognising the importance of this initiative, plans to focus on promoting and leveraging these apprenticeships during Apprenticeship Week in February 2024.
- Requests to be part of the MEGA Mentor Training have increased in the last 6 months. People are asking to be part of this before recruitment commences and ask to be on the waiting lists.
- Additional training offered to our MEGA companies through Skill Up funds – uptake was higher than expected with people requesting places including – film making, leadership, digital marketing etc
- The Department for the Economy is backing free short courses with up to 7000 open slots until the end of March 2024. These **‘Skill Up’** opportunities are tailored to key economic sectors, offering numerous courses relevant to businesses. The impact of the training courses on the **12** member companies included enhanced skills and knowledge among employees, improved efficiency in key areas, and a strengthened foundation in priority economic sectors such as digital skills, green technologies, advanced manufacturing, and leadership/management. The participating companies benefited from a more skilled workforce, potentially leading to increased productivity, innovation, and competitiveness in their respective companies.
- Over the 3rd quarter there has been continual development and growth with regards to the **SMDH project** and what it has to offer companies in terms of support and guidance on their digital journey. There are currently over 80 projects being rolled out across NI and more of the MEGA companies have come onboard and are involved with doing a project.
- Promoted funding opportunities for skills development, particularly through the Digital Transformation Flexible Fund (DTFF) The DTFF grants are worth between £5,000 and £20,000 and are designed to help small and micro businesses.

### Nov 23’ to March 24’

- Detailed report created on Insights from Mega Skills Survey in Feb. This will direct Mega to what upskilling courses will have the most impact for our member companies. 74% responses rate with 31 members completing the survey. Target set in 2024 Strategic Plan for the **Launch of Mega UpSkilling Academy**
- Insights from Mega Skills survey - Key ways in which our member can leverage this valuable resource to inform and enhance your company's future plans:  
Identify specific skill areas that require attention and investment within their company.

Tailor training programmes, recruitment strategies, and talent development initiatives to address identified skill gaps effectively. Align their workforce development plans with the evolving needs of the industry, whether it's prioritising upskilling and retraining initiatives, fostering diversity and inclusion, or embracing emerging technologies.

- In addition to providing insights, Mega is here to support companies in delivering on the recommendations outlined in the survey. We believe that active participation in Mega activities, training, and networking opportunities can further support their company's growth and development. Suggestions on how your company can get involved are outlined in the Insights document.
- By actively participating in Mega initiatives, companies can gain access to valuable resources, networking opportunities, and industry insights that can help drive companies success. Whether it's through attending industry events, participating in training programmes, school engagements, mentoring or engaging in collaborative projects, Mega offers a range of opportunities for companies to connect with industry peers and stay at the forefront of developments in the manufacturing and engineering sector.
- The invaluable contributions to the survey have enabled a highly comprehensive outcomes report produced with detailed analytics that portray clear ambitions and commitment to sustainable growth, development and advancing the industry.
- **Specdrum** worked with MEGA & SMDH to create a promotional video for the project. David Glasgow talked about how the SMDH project had supported his company on their digital journey. In January **SFM engineering** were successful in their bid for rapid demonstration funding and **Mallaghans** have just received their award in March. This is excellent success stories for them and MEGA. Over **£200k** was awarded in total.
- The 3rd Cohort of MEGA Mentor Training ILM level 3 commenced November 2023 and completed Jan 2024. Recruitment from 8 companies with 15 attendees
- Signposted companies towards numerous funding opportunities:
  1. **Industrial Decarbonisation for NI (IDNI) project:** Learn about cheaper energy costs, improved productivity, and more. Wednesday, 28th Feb 2024
  2. **SMDH Digital Transformation Workshops: Unlock the potential of digital tools and funding opportunities**
  3. **Lighthouse Funding** Tuesday, 27th February: Digital Innovation Fund - Lighthouse Open Call 3 Webinar
  4. **Hartree Centre NI:** Realise the Data and Artificial Intelligence Opportunities within your business
  5. **Digital Factory Accelerator: Transform your manufacturing business with the pilot Digital Factory Accelerator**

**ACTION**

**3. Collaborate to win**

Build strong working relations with key delivery partners and leverage third party resources and budget to the best advantage of MEGA members.

- Education & skills alignment. Build strategic working relationships at board level with funded skills delivery partners (e.g SWC, NRC) Collaborate with operational resource to devise new training and development offerings that are aligned to industry skills demands.
- Degree apprenticeships. Sustain the Engineering degree apprenticeship. Grow to 30 plus places per year
- Emerging skills programme. Build networks with Centers of Excellence to understand emerging technologies & skills requirements. Encourage Centers of Excellence to host awareness sessions in Mid Ulster

- Influence & communicate. Embrace Manufacturing NI as a collaboration partner to manage communications and influence with Government.
- MSW economic engine. Build relationships with the MSW programme team and stay abreast of developments under the Growth deal
- Assign two MEGA representatives to the ESIC working group
- NI Makers Alliance. Maintain representation with the Makers Alliance and provide periodic updates on MEGA activities and successes.

#### **ACTIVITIES & PROGRESS**

- Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering DA

##### Students:

Year 1 14 Degree Apprenticeship Students on the course

Year 2 23 Degree Apprenticeship Students on the course

Year 3 20 Degree Apprenticeships Students on the course

##### Industry Employers:

Year 1 11 Employers with 13 Placements

Year 2 16 Employers with 23 Placements

Year 3 17 Confirmed Employers with 20 placements confirmed.

- Degree Apprenticeship review evidenced – 121% increase in companies with Degree Apprenticeship students over the last two intakes
- 286 % Increase in the number of Degree Apprenticeship students
- 86 % of this years intake heard about the course from our MEGA Industry and Education Engagement Manager. 12 % heard from word of mouth and 2 % website search – evidencing the impact of our school and career teacher engagement.
- 100 % of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> years now know who their mentor is compared to this time last year when only 18 % knew who their mentor was – evidence of increase due to industry engagement with the Mentor service offered in MEGA
- 99 % of those who have attended the MEGA ILM Mentoring Training have continued to engage with the MEGA Mentor service.
- In the last 9 months the MEGA Mentor Now Programme has saved our MEGA companies **£166, 000.00** in training and support services.
- Working closely with the Welding Academy to develop strategies to make the courses more accessible and improve demand. Getting access to all the required information from the previous 2 years to look over the patterns in terms of numbers applying and completing the courses.
- **Ongoing collaboration and work** are being carried out by the different partners within the SMDH project. A great deal of progress is being made and the development of the Virtual Manufacturing platform and Virtual Manufacturing Testbeds is well on the way. Magee have developed 2 Virtual testbeds for companies to use going forward. One will focus on additive manufacturing – companies will be providing access to a 3D printer virtually. Companies can design and print a product to identify if it will work for them.

- SMDH Project has improved industry cohesion through links with **Cambridge, Catapult, Ulster University, Hartree, Manufacturing NI** will lead to improved industry collaboration to promote the overall competitiveness of the Mid-Ulster region in a global marketplace.
- Ongoing discussions with MSW team and MEGA to discuss City Deal funding. MEGA submitted a concept paper for the MEGA Learning Factory to the 3 council chiefs Adrian McCreesh, Alison McCullough, Roger Wilson (Chief Executives)
- Darragh emphasised the real need for the Learning Factory among local manufacturing companies. **Action:** Recognising the importance of adapting training methods to align with automation trends in the manufacturing sector.
- MEGA have now fee paying members - 40 companies (**£63,700.10**). Target was to get over half of the original membership of 71 companies. We have exceeded this target within the first six months.
- **Activities and Actions Resulting from Stakeholder Engagements:**

**22nd August - Meeting with SERC Aine McGeehan:**

- Purpose: Explore synergies between MEGA and SERC.
- Outcome: Identification of potential collaborative opportunities and shared initiatives.

**1st Sept - GEMX Industry 4 Showcase (Una McCabe, Maria Curran):**

- Participation in the Industry 4 Showcase to showcase MEGA's initiatives.
- Networking and collaboration opportunities with other industry players.

**14th Sept - Apprentices Meeting with MUDC, Joe Kennedy III and Jayne Brady:**

- Unique opportunity for MEGA apprentices to engage with Joe Kennedy III and Jayne Brady.
- Round table discussion with network member companies addressing manufacturing concerns.

**Horizon Engineering: Innovation Lab QUB (Maria Curran):**

- Engagement with Horizon Engineering at the Innovation Lab, Queen's University Belfast.
- Exploring innovative opportunities and advancements in electrical engineering.

**26th Sept - Terex Women in Engineering Event (Una McCabe, Maria Curran, Anastazja, Elita Frid):**

- Participation in the Terex Women in Engineering Event.
- Showcasing the involvement and contributions of women in the engineering sector.

**3rd Oct - Barclays Manufacturing Sector Networking Lunch (Patrick Hurst, Darragh Cullen, Maria Curran):**

- Attendance at the Barclays Manufacturing Sector Networking Lunch.
- Networking with key stakeholders in the manufacturing sector.

**25th Oct - Digital Skills & Employability Programme Launch, Belfast Met (Maria Curran):**

- Participation in the launch of the Digital Skills & Employability Programme.
- Demonstrating MEGA's commitment to skills development and employability.

**26th Oct - Future of Skills Summit, NI Chamber of Commerce (Maria Curran):**

- Attendance at the Future of Skills Summit.
- Contribution to discussions on the evolving skills landscape in the manufacturing sector.

**27th Oct - Sinn Fein Business Breakfast (Shane Nugent, Darragh Cullen, Maria Curran):**

- Attendance at the Sinn Fein Business Breakfast.
- Engagement with political stakeholders to discuss business-related matters.
- These activities showcase a proactive approach to stakeholder engagement, resulting in a diverse range of collaborations, networking opportunities, and contributions to industry events. The involvement in various initiatives reflects MEGA's commitment to staying informed, fostering partnerships, and actively participating in discussions shaping the future of the manufacturing and engineering sector.

#### Nov 23' to March 24'

- During November and Feb Focus Groups were held with all 58 DA students across the three-year groups in Ulster University. The purpose of the focus groups was to have a check-in with students re their academic progress and experience in Industry.
- Applications for the 2024 intake opened on the 30<sup>th</sup> of November 2023 and will close on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024. MEGA created a video on how to apply for the MEGA Degree Apprenticeship, which is on our social media platforms, has been shared with the career departments and is now embedded in our education and industry managers engagement presentation
- Launch in December of the MEGA Partnership with Ulster Universities Business School for the Degree Apprenticeship in Accounting and Finance
- MEGA had individual meetings with Abbie Mc Kenna (UU Apprenticeship Hub); Kathryn Mc Campley (Department of the Economy); Ulf Bosh (Queens) Nicola Quinn (Skills Focus SWC) regarding future training opportunities.
- Attendance at the MEGA Apprenticeship Sub Committee has significantly risen from **5 companies in 2022/2023 to 12 in 2023/2024**. Note that the rise in diversity of roles in the committee is made up of Managing Directors, Operations Managers, Team Leads, HR, Marketing and Engineers. The Apprenticeship Sub Committee in 2022 only included two men but now includes 7. Important for diversity and collaboration.
- The Open evening in the University of Ulster, facilitated and organised by MEGA, had an attendance of 300 people made up of potential applicants and their parents/Guardians. This is an increase of 159% on last year's attendance. This rise evidences the curiosity and increased popularity and demand for Degree Apprenticeships as the option for many families and individuals.
- Graeme Wilkinson Director of Skills attended our Open Evening at UUM representing the support given to MEGA from the Department of the Economy.
- Submitted a Proposition Paper to MSW in December 2023 for the MEGA Learning Factory, outlining the project's objectives, scope, and budget requirements, intended for sharing with the NIO.
- On Tuesday 7th November we held our annual Directors Breakfast. Breakfast brought together 102 prominent figures, including leaders within our local manufacturing companies, government officials, policy makers, and training providers.

Colm Gildernew, MLA:

***'I thought the event was really good and was an excellent showcase of both the important work MEGA is doing and the overall strength and value of the engineering and manufacturing sector which we are all so rightly proud of.'***

- During a Mega team strategic planning day a detailed stakeholder map with identified interests and influence was discussed in detail. Open discussion on each stakeholder's expectations and what specific strategies we need to implement for meeting stakeholder expectations.

- Mega have 49 paid members bringing in approx. £80,000 in membership fees.

**Minutes of Meeting of the Development Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 14 March 2024 in the Council Offices, Burn Road, Cookstown**

<b>Members Present</b>	Councillor McNamee, Chair  Councillors Bell, W Buchanan, F Burton, Clarke, Corry, Gildernew, McQuade, Molloy, Quinn, Wilson (7.05 pm)
<b>Officers in Attendance</b>	Mr Black, Strategic Director of Communities & Place (SD: C&P) Ms Linney, Assistant Director of Development (AD: Dev) Mr Gordon, Assistant Director of Health, Leisure & Wellbeing (AD: HL&W) Ms McKeown, Assistant Director of Economic Development, Tourism and Strategic Programmes (AD: EDT&SP) Mr McCreedy, Strategic Programmes Service Manager (SPSM) Mrs Grogan, Committee and Member Services Officer
<b>Others in Attendance</b>	<b>Agenda Item 5 – Deputation – Benburb Priory</b> Professor Gerry McKenna Kevin Boyd, Board Member of Benburb Priory Carmel O'Kane, Coordinator of Marketing and Fundraising

- \* Denotes Members present in remote attendance
- \*\* Denotes Officers present by remote means
- \*\*\* Denotes Others present by remote means

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm.

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

**D036/24 Notice of Recording**

This meeting will be webcast for live and subsequent broadcast on the Council's You Tube site.

**D037/24 Apologies**

Councillors Black, Forde, McLernon, Milne and Monteith.

**D038/24 Declaration of Interests**

The Chair, Councillor McNamee reminded Members of their responsibility with regard to declaration of interest.

Councillor Clarke declared an interest in item 7 – Service Level Agreements 2024/25

- Broughderg Area Development Association (BADA) – Davagh Forest MBT Trailhead
- Slieve Gallion (PSG) - Sperrins Partnership

#### **D039/24 Chair's Business**

The Chair advised that he had received three items to be raised under Chair's Business.

Councillor Clarke said that he wished to raise the issue of two broadband developments which were operational for a number of years, Project Stratum and another provider. The connection between Cookstown and his area including Dunamore, Blackrock Road and Davagh Road right up to OM, at the time it was assured that any residents that lived along the route could be served and be able to buy into the connection through BT. Fibrus had done most of the heavy lifting throughout most of the area and recently it was discovered that a number of houses in Davagh Park were able to avail of BT fibre connection and was quite certain that OM could also. During the time of the Project Stratum project there were some addresses missed and a huge campaign to get these addresses added on, which happened. It's the case now that there are routes within Council areas which could be available through different funding mechanisms. There was a scarcity of supply and if addresses were not on then it was the case that they were not going to get on through Project Stratum, but felt that there must be spare capacity if that was the case and enquired if Council could delve into this to see what the status of those connections are as Mid Ulster is our focal point, but was the same across other Councils also. He said that other areas are provided in some cases like Omagh, but knowledge is not there, and local people may not be aware that this service is available and as far as he was concerned, this was a very confusing situation. The member enquired if it was possible for Officers to carry out investigations to see what the status is regarding these projects.

The Assistant Director of Economic Development, Tourism and Strategic Programmes (AD: EDT&SP) advised that the issues raised by Councillor Clarke will be investigated. She added that if a report is ready, the matter would be reported back to the next meeting of the Broadband Working Group on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April, but noted any delays in obtaining the necessary information could mean the report would have to be brought to a future meeting. The AD: EDT&SP advised the member that Officers would liaise with him directly on the matter to obtain more details.

Councillor Quinn concurred with Councillor Clarke's comments and said that it was no secret of the criticism he had with Project Stratum over the years. The member advised that there were waves of houses which were not added to the project over the years, including mistakes with Land Registry or homes being built too late in the day, including his own home. The member did note that however when BT had offered him broadband connection, Fibrus were very quick to offer him fibre broadband connection

within 2 to 3 weeks when previously he was left off. The member enquired if the houses which were left off originally have been looked into, but later added possibly a year or so later, was there any idea how many were left off and how many have been re-added since BT decided to roll out their scheme.

*Councillor Wilson entered the meeting at 7.05 pm.*

The AD: EDT&SP advised the member that she did not have the relevant figures with her this evening and again added that Members would be updated on the matter at the next scheduled Broadband Working Group meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024. She noted the Working Group normally only consists of those Members nominated to serve on the Group, but on this occasion the invitation is open to all 40 Councillors as Fibrus is attending to deal with some of the issues that arose during the recent storm.

Councillor F Burton enquired if there would be any advantage with joining other Council areas as she was aware of other families experiencing the same issues. The member advised that she had contacted a former Officer from this Council who was now working in another Council area to seek advice and stated that this was not just relative to Mid Ulster. The member advised that Wi-Fi going to people's homes was as important as electricity for home, working and school children's education and may strengthen the argument. The member said where this person is concerned No.s 1 and 2 can acquire Fibrus, No's 3 and 4 cannot and seems to be an issue right across Northern Ireland and may be beneficial to have strength in numbers. The member recalled the Chief Executive stating that if you do not get it now, you would not be getting it for a very long time and felt it was very important to ensure that people across Northern Ireland can acquire this service successfully.

The Chair advised members that the AD: EDT&SP was hopeful that she would be able to bring back the relevant information to the next Broadband meeting due to be held on 8<sup>th</sup> April in which all members were invited. Any member which had any concerns about broadband should be at the meeting to raise issues.

Councillor Molloy referred to item discussed at Environment meeting on Tuesday night which was connected around the issue of the River Blackwater. The member advised that he had received a disappointing response from DfI Rivers today in relation to a query that was submitted 2 weeks ago in relation to a full blockage of the river at the old Railway Bridge between Verner's Bridge and Bond's Bridge where a lot of storm damage had washed down a lot of branches and trees resulting in the river being completely blocked. A lot of issues had arose including Lough Neagh Rescue being unable to get up the river if required to do so. DfI Rivers advised that they had come out and examined the river and mysteriously the blockage had gone, this was a result of many good volunteers and people coming along 2 Saturday's past with a lot of effort removing the blockage and spent 2 full days with heavy lifting equipment including diggers, winches, tractors, trailers, chainsaws etc, everyone got together to work to remove the debris. The member felt that it was totally unacceptable that this was left to people to open up a waterway which is essential to our tourism offering along with the people who live locally. The member said that this was a disappointing response from Rivers Agency, that a statutory body would allow the local people to carry out this work at a risk to themselves, over the 2 Saturday's 30 to 40 volunteers came along putting themselves in danger on a river with boats and only with a lot of

management ensuring that lifejackets and floatation were supplied. The member stated that this was a disaster waiting to happen, a member of the public trying to carry out this work when there were other agencies who should be doing it and felt that on back of what was discussed at the Environment Meeting on Tuesday night these concerns should be raised on what has been done.

Councillor Quinn concurred with Councillor Molloy's comments and advised that it was discussed on Tuesday night's Environment Committee and was aware that a letter was being sent to the Minister. The member said that it was an absolute disgrace what DfI were allowing to happen, if it wasn't for the likes of Gerard McCourt and others, the blockage would never have been shifted. The volunteers had put themselves at risk getting the equipment, boats and everything raised up which was not an easy job in any shape or form and because the people live and care about the Blackwater they put their lives at risk and got it done. If this was not done there would be no way Lough Neagh Rescue would have been able to come up and possibly save lives as this was a life-or-death situation. The member advised that there was also a blockage at Maghery Canal, Rivers Agency came out and advised that it would be sorted and the very next day they advised the member that it wouldn't be sorted as it wasn't their concern. Rivers Agency were the statutory body which should be responsible for looking after our rivers and the fact now the Mid Ulster Council has to write to a Minister to try and bring this to his attention although he was confident that the Minister will try his best to get it resolved. The member referred to the other Council responsible on the other side of the River who were really not making an effort to do anything and Mid Ulster were nearly having to delve into another Council area to try and get this sorted which says a lot about our Council and also a lot about a neighbouring Council also. The member stated that the longer this goes on, the more chance of a tragedy happening and DfI need to take some responsibility and looked forward to the meeting with the Minister, going forward would hope that this issue is resolved very quickly.

The Chair thanked members for raising their concerns and agreed with the frustrations as this issue was going on for a long time and a solution needs to be found.

Councillor Corry said that they have become aware of an opportunity to deliver a pilot health and wellbeing educational programme within the Mid Ulster area which is led via a clinical and academic evidence-based approach which aims to specifically target brain health including Alzheimer's, Dementia and End of Life Care. The programme is proposed to be delivered via an innovative approach through storytelling and animation, targeted at school children along with linkages to Councils Age Friendly strategy and using arts & culture means to improve health & wellbeing. This opportunity is coming about via potential funding via the Shared Island funding programme therefore requires an application to be submitted and led by a local authority in the South, working in partnership with organisations based in the North. The member sought permission from this committee to give consideration to approving officers to explore the feasibility of this opportunity, to engage with the Shared Island unit and a local authority in the South and understand the opportunities on how to avail of this opportunity via partnership working and to submit a Letter of Support towards the funding application before the application deadline of 28<sup>th</sup> March. There will be no financial ask of Council and obviously would have to meet any due diligence but if Officers could explore the proposal and link in with the proposed

applicant regarding a Letter of Support. When full details are made available, they could be presented to committee or council as appropriate.

Proposed by Councillor Corry  
Seconded by Councillor Gildernew and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council that a Letter of Support be submitted to explore the opportunity before the deadline of 28 March 2024.

#### **D040/24 Deputation – Benburb Priory**

The Chair advised that Professor Gerry McKenna, Mr Kevin Boyd and Ms Carmel O’Kane from Benburb Priory were in attendance to provide an overhead presentation and invited them to address the committee. (appendix)

Professor McKenna provided members with a brief overview of the History of Benburb Priory Estate 1, Estate 2 and Estate 3. He advised that Benburb Priory was a leading Cultural and Heritage Centre and outlined its assets and actual and potential offerings. The Cultural and Heritage Centre offers support for conferences, talks, tours and events; lectures and meetings facilities, business meetings, residential accommodation; arts and crafts; facilities for community groups; support for local sports groups; support for local small businesses and tourism.

Benburb Priory Priorities offers:

- Spiritual/Pastoral: Supportive, Reflective, Sharing and Caring;
- Social and Cultural: Community Exchange, Community Support, Sport and Recreation, Heritage, Education and Intergenerational Activities
- Commercial: Business Support, Events, Conferences and Meetings

Mr McKenna outlined:

- 1). Benburb Priory Sustainability Physical Requirements:**  
Refurbishments and replacement builds (including residential) to support events, conferences and activities; Enhancement of physical estate (improved walkways, signage, interpretative boards etc); Childrens play area; Roadways (Castle), parking
- 2). Benburb Priory Sustainability Human Resource Requirements:**  
Management; Accounts/book-keeping; Events organisation; Library & Museum support; Cleaning and Maintenance; Continued support from committed volunteers (a major strength of the Priory)
- 3) Benburb Priory Sustainability External Support Requirements**  
  
Local Community; Local Councils (MUDC and ABC); Religious and spiritual groups; Community Groups and Priory Users; Culture and Heritage Groups (e.g. O’Neill Country Historical Society, Universities, Specialist Groups etc); External funders (Heritage Fund, Peace Plus, Government Departments, Local Councils, Charitable Foundations, Donors etc).

Professor McKenna said that Benburb Priory's Vision is:

*'An oasis of spiritual, cultural and social development and a model of community cooperation for the benefit of all'*

In conclusion, Benburb Priory is a thriving and vibrant centre but needs the continued and active support of all key organisations and individuals in promoting a sustainable future for the benefit of the local and wider community.

The Chair thanked Professor McKenna for his presentation and said that it was a great asset on our doorstep in Mid Ulster with a lot of history also. He said that he was glad to see the group outlining their vision for the future and would like to think that the Council can support them in any way to keep the magnificent building and everything that was going on there to continue into centuries ahead of us.

Councillor Molloy thanked Professor McKenna for his impressive presentation and may not give justice to what the whole site is. One of the last visits representatives of Dungannon District Council made including himself, Councillor F Burton and Councillor R Burton who was Mayor of the Council at the time, was particular taken with the first edition of King James Bible in the library which was fantastic to be able to come along and access that at the time. The member said that it was a really rich offering that Benburb has there, the walks and riverwalks and was aware of a lot of working being carried out within the last fortnight by volunteers. He concurred with Chair's comment about Council being able to do anything to enable, help or broaden it as it features in really well with The O'Neill dynasty in terms of Benburb, Hill of The O'Neill and Tullyhogue. The member advised the building had an overall history and building on that to let people know what it out there is what it is all about and wished the group very well with the future of it and said that Council will be there to do what they can to help.

Councillor Gildernew stated that she would like to offer her support also to the project. The member advised that she had lived on the Armagh side of the river for a number of years and that herself and children would walk through the Priory over to the village, which was a beautiful, serene setting. The member also advised that she had attended Benburb Sunday on annual basis with her parents and family from they were little and wished to offer support and recently had been out with her brother Colm and staff from her office to offer advice on signposting and funding opportunities. The member wished the group well in their future endeavours going forward.

Councillor Clarke thanked Professor McKenna for this presentation and although he came from the opposite side of the district he had attended and been to Benburb for many years. The member advised that he had a particular interest in history and agreed that it was a great site with an unbelievable setting. He felt that one thing that he missed was the gap between the Christian period and the Castle itself, nearly thousand years, which was an important site during those years as well and during those times and would like to see that brought forward. The member stated that there was a vast collection of unbelievable material in the building and hoped that this could always be preserved, looked after and protected as you could not put a value on it. He wished to be assured that the prime aim of anything that is done in Benburb is protected as there was material there that is nowhere else. There is a need to make

sure everything is in place to protect what is there for the future as it was important for everyone and wished the group and Benburb well going forward on those grounds.

Professor McKenna advised that representatives of Benburb Priory had went to great efforts to implement the new structures and getting top legal advice to ensure the sustainability of Priory. The structure in place cannot be sold or available to any group including the Servite and had went to great effort to say that this was for the future and an asset for the people.

*Councillor F Burton left the meeting at 7.40 pm.*

Councillor McQuade thanked Professor McKenna and representatives for attending the meeting tonight and stated that Benburb was a fantastic, unique, historical village. The member advised that he lives 3 miles away and like Councillor Gildernew attended Benburb Sunday each year when coming from home Tyrone beating Armagh most years. He agreed that it was a fantastic opportunity and historically we have to do what we can to preserve and keep this historic facility. This site generates fantastic community use, with the hurling and soccer clubs working closely to try and develop an initiative to work within the Priory grounds and over the years a lot of community groups have got a huge benefit out of it and hoped that the Council can do what they can to help going forward.

The Strategic Director of Communities & Place (SD: C&P) thanked Professor McKenna for his presentation and from an Officer's prospective he had the pleasure of attending the Priory and agreed that it was a fantastic facility and also agreed with some of the comments made in that the presentation doesn't capture the full extent of the offering and work. The SD: C&P said that he was aware that Professor McKenna and his team had been linking in with Assistant Director of Development and her team and would continue to provide that support from an Official's prospective, not only looking at what opportunities that are available from a funding and support from the Council, but also look into linking in with some of those wider strategic partnerships, both locally and beyond. The SD: C&P said that he would be really happy to continue working with Professor McKenna and his team in relation to the development of the facility.

The Chair thanked the representatives for attending the meeting tonight and wished them well going forward and advised that the Council would be there to help in any way they can.

*The representatives from Benburb Priory withdraw from the meeting at 7.43 pm.*

## **Matters for Decision**

### **D041/24      Development Report**

The Assistant Director of Development (AD: Dev) presented previously circulated report which sought approval for the following –

- Rolling Community Grant Awards
- Arts Council NI Consultation

- Arts Development Plan
- Hill of The O'Neill and Ranfurly House Plan
- Mid Ulster General Advice Service Annual Review - For Information
- Development Department -Update

Councillor Clarke said that it was brought to his attention that there would be an opportunity for promoting Slieve Gallion through the song. The member advised that the lyrics of the song could be placed on the site of Slieve Gallion and the site he would have considered appropriate would be the site that the Council has developed, which is open and accessible. The member asked that Officers investigate this possibility as it was something that was well known within the area regarding the song relative to this area.

The AD: Dev advised that she would link in with Councillor Clarke regarding this issue.

Councillor Quinn referred to letter from Chair of the Council to Arts Council for Northern Ireland and said that there was so much included which shows the depth of the arts in this Council area which is fantastic to see. The member said that he would like to raise 2 questions, he said that he noticed Mid Ulster Arts Showcase budget was £10k and he had pestered Officers on how this could be increased so we could really see a huge success with that and hoped that this would progress going forward. In regards to the letter to the Arts Council we are at pains to point out the talent we have in this area and the organisations we have, if anyone went to see Westside Story they will agree that it is a fantastic show, it is amazing the talent that is on the stage and also Grease coming to CRAIC theatre in the future. Year on year these two-organisations put on amazing work and people each year go on to win awards and go elsewhere outside the district like Belfast to show them how it is done. The member enquired if a bigger commitment has been seen from the Arts Council yet into these in terms of funding as Covid nearly killed of these organisations and are still living on shoestring budgets and constantly crying out for more money. For every pound we get from Arts Council we get £2 to £3 back and this is why it is very important for Coalisland and Donaghmore as they are depending on that. From his prospective, he does not see any extra money coming into Mid Ulster and still being ignored, which is not the fault of this Council, but was the West of the Bann scenario which annoyed him. The member said that it was his understanding that CRAIC was bringing one of their shows up to Stormont within the next few weeks and months which showcases what they can do with it when they get funding. The member enquired if Officers were aware of anything coming from the Arts Council towards this Council area.

The AD: Dev advised that Council does provide some level of funding through our Strategic Arts and one of the things that it is trying to achieve is a network of the groups to share resources where they can but also get a momentum to lobby. One of the things that they are considering once Council responds to the consultation is getting the Arts Council down to showcase what is happening across the District in community arts and let people see what is happening on the ground.

*Councillor Wilson declared an interest in:*

- *Ulster Scots Agency*
- *Mid Ulster Pipe Bands*

Councillor Wilson referred to the Arts in general and see what we actually do is great and would support Councillor Quinn on the fact the number of young people involved in the Arts. He said that he had taken his grandkids to see the pantomime in Burnavon and the number of young people on the stage was unbelievable and does wonders for encouraging mental health and wellbeing. In referring to comment regarding the invitation from the Arts Council to meet with these groups, he felt that the Arts Council needs to be invited to come to us and do no harm to be invited to attend this committee. The member said that although the Arts Council supports things, the vast majority is within a 12 mile radius of the M1 and M2 and may be useful to see what the theatres are receiving within that zone compared to what we are getting West of the province.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson  
Seconded by Councillor Quinn and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council that an invite be forwarded to the Arts Council inviting them to attend a future committee meeting.

*Councillor Gildernew declared an interest in Brantry Bard as Strategic Arts Partner.*

Councillor Gildernew referred to 2.6 of the report and referred to the Test and Learn in the Aughnacloy area which was one of the areas that was a great initiative. The member advised that there have been a few meetings so far, first one was in Aughnacloy High School which was attended by all parties and a really good meeting, it was then decided to move forward without elected representative input which may have benefits also. The member stated that a few groups have come forward to say that they haven't been included in the next stage of it and asked if it would be possible to acquire a list who is included and whether people can still be included in the process at this stage.

The AD: Dev advised that Council was linked in with DfC and will check to see if the relevant groups were included as it was about getting as many people involved as possible.

Councillor Corry referred to The Hill of The O'Neill and said after tonight's presentation enquired if there could be an opportunity through Heritage or Open Learning course to tie in Tullyhogue and Benburb around our history of The O'Neills.

Proposed by Councillor Molloy  
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to –

- Approve the assessment panel recommendations under the community grants
- Approve the response to the Arts Council NI Consultation
- Approve the annual Arts Development Plan

- Approve the annual Hill of The O'Neill & Ranfurly House Development Plan
- Note the Mid Ulster General Advice Service Annual Review
- Note the update from the Development update.

**D042/24      Health, Leisure & Wellbeing Service Level Agreements 2024/25**

The Assistant Director of Health, Leisure & Wellbeing (AD: HL&W) presented previously circulated report to agree proposals on Community Service Level Agreements (SLA's) for the financial year 2024/25 only.

Councillor Corry said that she would be happy to propose the recommendation as the groups which undertake the SLA's do great work looking after vital community assets.

Councillor Molloy said that a lot of these groups coming out of Covid had very little footfall in some of their facilities and have to remember that everyone is facing increasing costs and would be happy to second the recommendation due to the service they provide.

Proposed by Councillor Corry  
Seconded by Councillor Molloy and

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council to grant approval for the Health, Leisure & Wellbeing Service Level Agreements for the period 2024/25 financial year only.

**D043/24      Request for Support**

The Assistant Director of Health, Leisure & Wellbeing (AD: HL&W) presented previously circulated report to provide information on a recent request for support for a project bid to a funder from the Clanrye Group.

Councillor Gildernew said that she would be happy to support the recommendation as the social prescribing project is a fabulous project and would be great to see it rolled out.

Proposed by Councillor Gildernew  
Seconded by Councillor Wilson and

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council to grant approval to supporting the Clanrye Group by way of issuing a letter of support for their project for submission as part of an application to Peace Plus.

**D044/24      Health and Safety Executive for Northern Ireland (HSENI) Data Sharing Agreement with Mid Ulster District Council**

The Assistant Director of Health, Leisure & Wellbeing (AD: HL&W) presented previously circulated report asking Members to consider a Data Sharing Agreement between the Health and Safety Executive for Northern Ireland (HSENI) and Mid Ulster District Council.

Proposed by Councillor W Buchanan  
Seconded by Councillor Wilson and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to approve the Data Sharing Agreement between Health and Safety Executive for Northern Ireland (HSENI) and Mid Ulster District Council as enclosed within the appendix.

#### **D045/24 Mobile Vendor Opportunities**

The Assistant Director of Health, Leisure & Wellbeing (AD: HL&W) presented previously circulated report to seek Member's views on a proposed approach to make available specific Council managed open spaces & recreation sites for mobile vendors.

The following Council managed open spaces & recreation sites have been carefully considered in line with being significant customer footfall venues and ensuring there would be little or no potential for a conflict of interest for services that may already be in situ:

- Iniscarn Forest
- Mid Ulster Sports Arena - Cookstown
- Pomeroy Forest
- Round lake Fivemiletown

Councillor Molloy referred to item 2.2 Dungannon Park and advised that there was no offering at this location, although there was one previously which had elapsed and felt that this would be an ideal opportunity for someone to take this up due to the footfall as it was an ideal location.

Councillor Wilson referred to Mid Ulster Sports Arena (MUSA) and said that this would be one that he would wonder about as it may be busy during the evening but not as busy during the daytime. The member advised that in the past Council went to tender for various sites and one of the people who tendered which could have been awarded, was overturned by Council. The member enquired if the tender went out again, could that same situation arise.

The AD: HL&W in response to Councillor Molloy's query advised that Council currently does have a separate live procurement process at the moment, with Dungannon Park being included within that along with Cookstown Leisure Centre and Greenvale Leisure Centre. He advised that primarily why they were grouped together was because they have existing facilities onsite by way of kitchen facilities and hope to be in a position to evaluate that and bring back recommendations next month or the following month. The arrangements specifically for Dungannon Park would be whoever the successful incumbent would be to run the café, they would be able to provide the vending opportunities for the Park also and hope to have feedback on this situation in due course.

The AD: HL&W in response to Councillor Wilson's query regarding MUSA and advised that this was one of the sites out of them all which had received the most representation in terms of prospective companies and bidders and would also agree that it would be up to their own discretion when to be there. Council would not be putting any stipulations on trading times as it would be up to them to decide, but there would be key times during the week there is obvious footfall with it being outside the town.

The AD: HL&W said that in terms of sites, these have been carefully selected and members may be aware of various discussions in the Chamber in the past years around the variety of sites and members comments has been carefully reflected and the subsequent audit report which was considered also. Sites has been carefully selected and believe that these do not have any conflict of interest or incumbence within the immediate facility that could be displaced. It is important that visitors are accommodated when they are out and about on their walks and the companies also. The AD: HL&W wished to give reassurance that any of those previous discussions and members thoughts around the lists which were circulated a few years ago have been reflected upon and carefully considered.

Councillor Molloy said that it was good to hear Dungannon Park being considered, in the modern era of trading, mobile catering cart offering is probably the best we are going to get in Dungannon Park. Having someone there as a presence during opening hours or working hours is less likely and come and go where places are busy, for example the Parkrun on a Saturday morning and may be an option to determine peak times.

The AD: HL&W said that it was hoped with this opportunity if Council were successful in appointing a vendor that whilst they would have a base inside the building, they would be able to extend their services outside the building also. The AD: HL&W advised that this can be kept under review, but would not want within such a small location, conflict between competing businesses.

Proposed by Councillor Clarke

Seconded by Councillor Molloy and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to grant approval for officers to commence the tendering process for making available the sites listed above for the purpose of mobile vendors and thereafter present the outcome of the tendering process to a future Development Committee for Members consideration.

#### **D046/24 Mid Ulster Sports Arena – Capital Development**

The Assistant Director of Health, Leisure & Wellbeing (AD: HL&W) presented previously circulated report to provide members with an update on the European Commission's ruling on 25th September 2023, in relation to the long-term control and management of the use of microplastics and to seek Members approval for the new MUSA pitch to be developed based on current internationally recognised standards to include modern containment methods.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson  
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to agree that the new MUSA pitch be developed based on current internationally recognised standards to include modern containment methods. These developments will be subject to continued planning consultations and guidance as part of planning approval processes.

#### **D047/24 Economic Development Report – OBFD**

The Assistant Director of Economic Development, Tourism and Strategic Programmes (AD: EDT&SP) presented previously circulated report to provide Members with an update on key activities as detailed below:

- Town Centre Business Spruce Up Scheme
- ATCM Membership
- NABMA Membership
- Lough Neagh Rescue - Service Level Agreement (2024/2025)
- Labour Market Partnership (LMPs): Multiply Funding Programme Bid
- Sperrins Partnership Funding (October 2023 – March 2024)

Councillor Wilson said that he was happy to propose the report but wished to raise an issue regarding Town Centre Spruce Up Scheme. He advised that there were two premises at Oldtown Street, namely the hairdresser and Stanley Best Estate Agents that do not fall into this category. In referring to the map, the line instead of going straight across to their premises, goes at an angle down the laneway. The member advised that these were not our maps but the Department's and a map in which Council never used.

The Chair said that it was his understanding that this issue was raised at a previous meeting from other towns indicating something similar. He referred to comment from AD: EDT&SP advising of the possible opportunity of meeting representatives from DfC updating them on what the situation is.

Councillor Molloy sought clarification on whether sitting on LMP barred him from making a proposal and if not, he would be happy to second the report.

The AD: EDT&SP clarified to members that the maps which DfC requested Council to use for the Spruce Up Scheme originated from the various Area Plans which had been developed many years ago. She added that Officers had consistently lobbied DfC to extend the 'eligible town boundary' area to the 30 mph speed limits at the edge of the four towns, but after several meetings with DfC officials, they refused to allow any changes to the scheme boundaries.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson

Seconded by Councillor Molloy and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to –

- 1) Town Business Spruce Up Scheme  
**Approve** that Council's Chief Executive be granted delegated authority to approve and issue Letters of Offers to successful applicants from the Town Business Spruce Up Scheme to meet Department for Communities funding timelines.
- 2) Association of Town Centre Management - Membership Renewal  
**Approve** Council renew its annual ATCM membership (January 2024 – January 2025) at a cost of £620 (excluding Vat).
- 3) National Association of British Market Authorities – Memberships  
**Approve** Council to become a member of the National Association of British Market Authorities (NABMA) for the financial year 2024/2025 at a cost of £768 (excluding Vat).
- 4) Lough Neagh Rescue – Service Level Agreement (2024-2025)
  - i) **Note** Lough Neagh Rescue's 2023/24 Progress Report outlining actions completed against their SLA Targets.
  - ii) **Approve** Mid Ulster District Council's Service Level Agreement with Lough Neagh Rescue for the year 2024/2025
  - iii) **Approve** the release of £12,000 to Lough Neagh Rescue from Council's Tourism budget (2024/2025) subject to Council being provided with the requisite documentation as detailed in the Service Level Agreement.
- 5) Mid Ulster Labour Market Partnership (LMPs): NI Multiply Programme Bid
  - 5.1 Subject to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) formally confirming the successful bid;
    - (i) **Approve** Council's participation in the NI Multiply Programme.
    - (ii) **Approve** Mid Ulster Labour Market Partnership (LMP) as the delivery vehicle for the Multiply Programme in Mid Ulster.
    - (iii) **Approve** that delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive to;
      - a) Sign and return the letter of offer from the Department for the Economy when it is received. It is expected that the letter of offer will provide funding in the region of up to £235K to cover the period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025. The types of initiatives/activity that Council are expected to deliver are included in Appendix 6. A copy of the letter of offer and programme of activity will be submitted to the Committee when available.

- b) Procure suitable organisations to deliver the agreed programme of activity in adherence with Council policy and procedures to enable the Multiply Programme to commence as swiftly as possible.

- 6) Sperrins Partnership Funding (October 2023 – March 2024)  
**Approve** financial contribution of £2,500 to Sperrins Partnership, for the period 1 October 2023 until 31 March 2024.

## **Matters for Information**

### **D048/24 Minutes of Development Committee held on 15 February 2024**

Members noted Minutes of Development Committee held on 15 February 2024.

Councillor W Buchanan referred to D025/24 and advised that he was raising the issue on behalf of Councillor McLean. He enquired if access to 50m pool in Magherafelt had increased any as there has been various complaints made about half of the pool being closed off.

The AD: HL&W said that Officers were aware of the situation and share frustrations with members of public. He advised as it was a 50m pool, resources were needed to staff it and when it is a 25m pool it needs less staff. Leisure has been experiencing unprecedented staff shortages and currently running a recruitment campaign seeking 24 full-time and part-time vacancies which are out for public advertisement and due to close imminently. He said whilst Officers were hopeful, they also recognise that it may not provide an answer to all of the solutions due to working within a challenging budget situation. Council is trying to work within a balancing programme in only opening the 50m pool on certain days, mornings and evenings of the week and whilst recruitment may yield a massive pressure for opening it more, Officers are aware that it cannot be opened during the current climate 7 days per week. The AD: HL&M hoped that a balanced blend for clubs and individuals who use the pool can be reached successfully in the future.

### **D049/24 Corporate Events 2024**

Members noted contents of previously circulated update which provided information on the proposed Mid Ulster District Council Corporate Events Programme for April 2024 – March 2025.

Councillor Gildernew advised members that she wished to raise an issue on behalf of Councillor McLernon in her absence in relation to Coalisland Summer Bash. The member advised that Councillor McLernon had been speaking to the Chief Executive and Council Officers in relation to seeing the Coalisland Summer Bash rolled out again this year and hopefully to coincide with Newell Stores 10k in Coalisland at the end of May. This event has been a proven event over the past 3 years and there is now an expectation that this is an annual community event due to its success over the last 3 years. The people of Coalisland have embraced this annual event and look forward to it each year. Coalisland is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest town in Mid Ulster and Councillor McLernon

would like Council Officers go back and look at it again and see if funding can be found for it.

Councillor Quinn said that he would be happy to support Councillor McLernon's proposal in her absence. The member said that this was discussed at Coalisland Town Forum with himself, Councillors McLernon and Carney being very eager to get this event reinstated along with other events like the continental market as it was a massive success during the years it was run. Coalisland is a very lively town and when Newell Stores put on their 10k run, it was an event like no other, with music being put on, there is no other atmosphere in the town like it with enjoyment for both young and old was fabulous and also to showcase the public realm. There has been a lot of disappointment when it was cut back, it was just not the same and were used to Coalisland having the International Music Festival for 10 years which was fabulous, and this was the sort of atmosphere that the Summer Bash was bringing back. The member hoped that there is something that Officers can look at to bring this back as it was his understanding that costs were not extortionate.

The Strategic Director of Communities & Place (SD: C&P) advised that Officers recognised that Coalisland Summer Bash was a really successful and well supported programme. As already alluded to there was a decision taken as part of the 2023/24 rate setting process to remove Coalisland Summer Bash from the Annual Events Programme, therefore there is no longer resources available within our budgets. The SD: C&P said that however, if there was a direction from committee to go away and look at this, then this can be accommodated and would be looked at in the context of potential wider directorate underspend in year and an update would be provided to committee. The SD: C&P advised that if there was a view that this is to be a sustained position within the Events Programme, that this would need to be picked up politically and considered and agreed as part of the rate setting process for 2025/26 going forward.

Proposed by Councillor Gildernew  
Seconded by Councillor Quinn and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council the Officers investigate funding opportunities available to reinstate Coalisland Summer Bash event for this year.

#### **D050/24 Environmental Health Service Update**

Members noted contents of previously circulated update on the work of Mid Ulster District Council's Environmental Health Service during the period 9<sup>th</sup> December 2023 to 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

Councillor Gildernew referred to previous meetings with Environmental Health Officers and staff, there had been an agreement to put in static testing in the Killeeshil and Cabragh area in the vicinity of the Northway Plant. The member advised that the last time she spoke to Environment Health Service Manager, Officers were still deciding on what compounds to test for and enquired if this has been agreed or the testing commenced yet.

The Strategic Director of Communities & Place (SD: C&P) advised that there has been a number of investigations ongoing within the Environmental Health team and his understanding was that Officers had concluded on what they are going to test through the static monitoring. He advised that a monitor has been sourced and procurement exercise about to be completed if not already done so. The SD: C&P advised that once this has been completed, a timeline would be agreed on the installation on the monitoring period, which should be imminent.

#### **D051/24 Mid Ulster District Council Air Quality Report 2023**

Members noted contents of previously circulated update on the Draft Air Quality Monitoring report 2023 for the Mid Ulster District Council area and of the ongoing monitoring currently being undertaken in relation to this.

Councillor Molloy said that again we were faced with the two same sites that are over the limits which were recognised and quite high. He advised that there have been a number of ongoing meetings with statutory bodies which has been welcomed to try and elevate the issue. The member advised that as we progress, it would be important to keep these meetings going, keep on the agenda and live to try and get a long-term solution. He referred to the recent food festival in Moy and said that the new layout kept the flow of traffic moving and worked reasonably well.

#### **D052/24 2023/2024 Tobacco Control Test Purchasing Activity**

Members noted contents of previously circulated report on the Tobacco Control Officer's test purchase activity during 2023/2024.

#### **D053/24 Economic Development Report - OBFI**

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on the key activities as detailed below –

- ICBAN – Peace Plus - DS3 Smart Towns and Villages (Investment Area 2.4)
- Cookstown Town Centre Forum Minutes – AGM Minutes 15.09.21 & Meeting Minutes 18.5.22
- Coalisland Town Centre Forum Minutes - 09.10.23
- Digital Transformation Flexible Fund (DTFF) – Call 1

Councillor Quinn referred to Coalisland Town Centre Forum Minutes in October 2023 and advised that there was a recent one in February 2024 and enquired why they were not circulated tonight.

The Assistant Director of Economic Development, Tourism and Strategic Programmes (AD: EDT&SP) stated that there was another meeting of Coalisland Town Centre Forum in February 2024, however, Forum Minutes are not brought to the Development Committee until they are ratified by Forum Members. She stated this will happen at the next Forum meeting, and then the minutes can be brought to the Development Committee thereafter.

*The live broadcast ended at 8.31 pm.*

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

Proposed by Councillor Gildernew  
Seconded by Councillor Molloy and

**Resolved** In accordance with Section 42, Part 1 Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014 that Members of the public in accordance with Section 42, Part 1 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 D054/24 to D060/60.

### **Matters for Decision**

- D054/24 SHHP Bellaghy Bawn Writers Residency Project
- D055/24 Public Right of Way
- D056/24 Tender for Play Park Facilities
- D057/24 Mid Ulster Labour Market Partnership – Draft 3 Year Strategy and Action Plan 2024-2025
- D058/24 Collaboration Agreement with Belfast City Council for Go Succeed (NI Enterprise Support Service)

### **Matters for Information**

- D059/24 Confidential Minutes of Development Committee held on 15 February 2024
- D060/24 Mid Ulster's Employ-led Disability Inclusion Programme Evaluation

## **D061/24 Duration of Meeting**

The meeting commenced at 7pm and concluded at 8.55 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.



**Presentation to Mid Ulster  
District Council  
Development Committee**

14 March 2024

1

## History of Benburb Priory Estate 1

- early Christian period, religious settlement
- early 1600s, Sir Richard Wingfield (later Viscount Powerscourt) granted 9,200 acres of land including Benburb and surrounding area
- 1611, Wingfield built a castle/bawn at Benburb (Benburb Castle) on the site of the original Shane O'Neill castle, and built St Patrick's Church (1618)
- 1646, Battle of Benburb. Owen Roe O'Neill's army defeated the army of Col. Robert Monro
- 1877 James Bruce (distiller) bought the estate, remodelled the village, and built the manor house (1887)
- 1917, Bruce died, estate (reduced to around 100 acres as a result *inter alia* of the land acts) passed to his brother. It fell into progressive disuse under successive owners.
- 1940, estate requisitioned by the War Office as a WW2 military hospital for UK, US and Belgian troops

2

## History of Benburb Priory Estate 2

- 1947, estate purchased by Clonfeacle parish and later sold to the Servite Order (Chicago branch)
- 1949, Benburb Servite Priory established as a seminary for training of friars
- Late 1950s/early 1960s, close to 100 friars and trainees based at Benburb
- 1970s onwards, progressive diminution in friar numbers paralleled by increasing role of the Priory as a cross-community centre
- 2000, amalgamation of Servites in Ireland and Great Britain into 'Province of the Isles'

3

## History of Benburb Priory Estate 3

- Early 2000s, Servite library holdings and archives from across Great Britain and Ireland transferred to Benburb
- 2010, Library & Museum Board established
- 2012, initial tranche of funding from Heritage (Lottery) Fund (HF)
- 2014, major tranche of HF funding to refurbish Stables area, develop Library and Museum and establish coffee shop
- 2017, Library and Museum officially opened by the Roman Catholic and Church of Ireland archbishops of Armagh
- 2020, revised governance and management structures established in order to maintain Priory (Servite) ethos, and its role and sustainability as a major religious, cultural and community centre (recognising the inevitable inability of the Servite Order to maintain a constant physical presence in Benburb).

4

## Benburb Priory – A Leading Cultural and Heritage Centre

### The Assets

- Beautiful and historic estate
- O’Neill/Wingfield Castle (reopened to the public after years in dormancy)
- the Library and Museum
- the Manor House
- the white bridge spanning the River Blackwater
- the walled garden and its greenhouses dating back to the 19<sup>th</sup> century
- walkways and laneways
- Fishing and other river activities

### The Actual and Potential Offerings

- support for conferences, talks, tours and events
- lecture and meeting facilities, business meetings, residential accommodation
- arts and crafts
- facilities for community groups
- support for local sports groups
- support for local small businesses and tourism

5



6

## Benburb Priory Sustainability Physical Requirements

- Refurbishments and replacement builds (including residential) to support events, conferences and activities
- Enhancement of physical estate (improved walkways, signage, interpretative boards etc.)
- Childrens play area
- Roadways (castle), parking

7

## Benburb Priory Sustainability Human Resource Requirements

- Management
- Accounts/book-keeping
- Events organisation
- Library & Museum support
- Cleaning and Maintenance
- Continued support from committed volunteers (a major strength of the Priory)

8

## Benburb Priory Sustainability External Support Requirements

- Local Community
- Local Councils (MUDC [and ABC])
- Religious and spiritual groups
- Community Groups and Priory Users
- Culture and Heritage Groups (e.g. O'Neill Country Historical Society, universities, specialist groups etc.)
- External funders (Heritage Fund, Peace Plus, government departments, local councils, charitable foundations, donors etc.)

9



### Vision

*'An oasis of spiritual, cultural and social development and a model of community cooperation for the benefit of all'*

**Benburb Priory is a thriving and vibrant centre but needs the continued and active support of all key organisations and individuals in promoting a sustainable future for the benefit of the local and wider community**

10



11



<b>Report on</b>	Corporate Events 2024
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	10th April 2024
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Kieran Gordon, Assistant Director Health, Leisure & Wellbeing
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Sharon Arbuthnot, Events & Promotions Manager

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	At the March 2024 Development Committee, Members noted the update on the schedule of Corporate Events for 2024. In addition, Members resolved that <i>"it be recommended to Council the Officers investigate funding opportunities available to reinstate Coalisland Summer Bash event for this year"</i> .
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	When agreeing the District Rate for the 2023/24 year, it was agreed to remove the Tafelta and the Coalisland Summer Events from the programme which contributed to £27,000 in savings. Up until this point, both events have been part of the recurring annual corporate events schedule for a number of years.
2.2	When it became known that the Cookstown Continental Market was to be postponed for 2023, Members agreed to a relocation of budget across Council Events for the 2023 year and therefore the Coalisland Summer Event was re-instated for the 2023 year only.
2.3	At the March 2024 Development Committee, Members noted the update on the schedule of Corporate Events for 2024. In addition, Members resolved that <i>"it be recommended to Council the Officers investigate funding opportunities available to reinstate Coalisland Summer Bash event for this year"</i> .
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	<b>Proposed reinstatement of the Coalisland Summer Event</b> This year, the local group "Keep er Lit" have scheduled their annual 5/10Km race on Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> May 2024.
3.2	Council Officers have engaged with "Keep er Lit" to identify an opportunity whereby Council could organise an event on the same date, Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> May 2024. The event would take the form of procuring an entertainment company to organise family friendly/ sporting games, walkabouts and face painting in the new PEACE funded civic space in front of Newell Stores. A stage will be erected in this area for live music and presentation of medals for the winners of the races. The aim generally is to entice not only the runners but also their families and onlookers to extend their stay in Coalisland, thereby fostering a sense of community engagement and enjoyment throughout the day.

3.3	<p>The Council led family event would be fully managed by MUDC staff with budget required for entertainment and associated logistics. All Health &amp; Safety requirements for the Council led family event (Event Plan Risk Assessments etc) would be managed by Council Staff. Event Plan/Risk Assessment would need to be completed and presented to a forthcoming Safety Advisory Meeting (SAG). All other activities taking place outside of the designated Council event space would be the responsibility of the other groups and subject to the normal process of event plans, risk assessments, engagement with SAG, etc</p> <p>It is estimated that a budget of £6,000 would be required to execute this event.</p>
3.4	<p>Following the decision made at March 2024 Development Committee, Officers can identify in-year efficiencies from across the wider Health, Leisure &amp; Wellbeing departmental revenue budget to facilitate this event.</p>
3.5	<p>Members should note this is not viewed as a sustainable position moving into the April 2025 - March 2026 year and therefore recommend that Members should consider allocating a budget allowance towards the 2025/2026 rates estimates process should they wish this event to resume as part of the recurring schedule of annual corporate events.</p>
	<p><b>Other Considerations</b></p>
	<p><b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b></p>
4.1	<p>Financial: Delivered within departmental budget allocation as per the 2024/25 rates estimates process.</p>
	<p>Human: Delivered with staff from various departments/services.</p>
	<p>Risk Management: The Risk Assessment will be reviewed with assistance from Council Corporate Health &amp; Safety team along with the Event Management Plan. Additionally, the Events plan will be presented to the Safety Advisory Group (SAG) in May 2024 prior to the event..</p>
	<p><b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b></p>
4.2	<p>Equality &amp; Good Relations Implications: None anticipated at this juncture.</p>
	<p>Rural Needs Implications: None anticipated at this juncture.</p>
5.0	<p><b>Recommendation(s)</b></p>
5.1	<p>To note that the Coalisland Summer Event will return for the 2024 year and funded through 'in year' budget efficiencies from across the department.</p> <p>Thereafter, Members are being asked to give due consideration as part of the 2025/2026 rates process to release additional budget should they wish this event to return to the annual events programme for 2025 onwards.</p>

<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
	N/A

