

Report on	Sperrin Future Search update
Date of Meeting	14 th March 2019
Reporting Officer	Michael Browne
Contact Officer	Mary McKeown

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

1.0	Purpose of Report																				
1.1	To update the council on Sperrin Future Search and appoint two elected members to sit on the Sperrin Future Search Board.																				
2.0	Background																				
2.1	<p>The Sperrins Future Search conference held in the Glenavon House Hotel Cookstown on 27th – 29th September brought together a group of key stakeholders to make an action plan for the future of the Sperrins Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) summed up in the words 'reaching new heights, realising our potential'.</p> <p>The event was initiated by the four local councils, Derry and Strabane District Council, Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council and Mid Ulster District Council. These councils are responsible for the area and initiated the event with a view to enabling participants to agree a common mission, to take responsibility for action and to develop commitment to implementation. The conference took place over three days and involved 60 participants drawn from a wide range of stakeholder groups: community, land owners/farmers, government departments & statutory agencies, tourism, heritage & environment, outdoor recreation, business & industry, elected representatives and young people.</p> <p>The conference embarked upon a collective journey that developed over five sessions labelled Past, Present, Future, Common Ground, and Action. Each involved gathering information, sharing understandings in small groups, reports to the whole, and large group dialogues. Each session built on the previous one and the product was a number of 'common ground statements' and an action plan.</p> <p>Five thematic groups were created to develop and deliver action plans in each of the mentioned groups below. The five groups are as follows and are led by the following councils:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>1.</td> <td>Environment & Heritage</td> <td>-</td> <td>Mid Ulster District Council</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2.</td> <td>Infrastructure</td> <td>-</td> <td>Fermanagh & Omagh</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3.</td> <td>Brand & Tourism</td> <td>-</td> <td>Causeway Coast & Glens</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4.</td> <td>Community</td> <td>-</td> <td>Derry & Strabane</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5.</td> <td>Management Structures</td> <td>-</td> <td>Mid Ulster District Council</td> </tr> </table> <p>The five thematic working groups Environment & Heritage, Infrastructure, Brand & Tourism, Community and Management Structures have met and agreed their short term and long term action plans.</p>	1.	Environment & Heritage	-	Mid Ulster District Council	2.	Infrastructure	-	Fermanagh & Omagh	3.	Brand & Tourism	-	Causeway Coast & Glens	4.	Community	-	Derry & Strabane	5.	Management Structures	-	Mid Ulster District Council
1.	Environment & Heritage	-	Mid Ulster District Council																		
2.	Infrastructure	-	Fermanagh & Omagh																		
3.	Brand & Tourism	-	Causeway Coast & Glens																		
4.	Community	-	Derry & Strabane																		
5.	Management Structures	-	Mid Ulster District Council																		

	It was approved by each Council that they provide budget to support the post of a Project Coordinating Officer and part time Administrator. The budget included administration support and associated running costs.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>The relevant councils met on Monday 11th February to discuss next steps for the future search project now that funding had been secured. It was agreed to convey a meeting with the management structures team to establish the board and its role which is not to exceed 20 members this would consist of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chairman representing each Thematic Group – 4 in total • 2 Council Members from each Council – 8 in total • Key Stakeholders • Council Officers observers only role
3.2	It was advised that the structure establishes a Statutory Partnership sub-group, this group would meet on a quarterly basis and feed into the board. This group would include the following organisations, such as, Lough Agency, NIEA, Forestry, Tourism NI, DFC etc.
3.3	The Council now seeks two nominations from elected members to sit on the Sperrin Future Search board.
3.4	Launch of the Actions Plans will take place in the Derry and Strabane council area in June 2019.
3.5	The recruitment process will now commence to appoint the Project Coordinating Officer and part time Administrator through an internal trawl in all councils.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	<p>Financial:</p> <p>Council has provided funding to employ a Project Coordinating officer,</p> <p>P01 – SCP 33 – 36</p> <p>Administration officer (Part time)</p> <p>Scale 4 – SCP 18 – 21</p> <p>The costs will be equally divided between all councils. The cost per council will include running cost which include salary costs:</p> <p>The cost per council for 18/19 – £4,162</p> <p>Total running costs for 19/20 £65089.50</p> <p>The cost per council for 19/20 £16,273</p>

	Human: Training were identified
	Risk Management: none
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: none
	Rural Needs Implications: none
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	It is recommended that each council nominate two elected members to represent their council area on the Sperrin Future Search Board.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	N/A