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| <b>Report to</b>         | Development Committee   |
| <b>Subject</b>           | The Heart of Ancient Ulster Landscape Partnership Scheme (THoAULPS) – Governance Arrangements |
| <b>Date</b>              | 09 November 2017  |
| <b>Reporting Officer</b> | Michael Browne  |
| <b>Contact Officer</b>   | Mary McKeown  |

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| <b>1</b> | <b>Purpose of Report</b>  |
| 1.1      | To inform Council of the Governance Arrangements for the structure of the Heart of Ancient Ulster Landscape Partnership Scheme. |

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| <b>2</b> | <b>Background</b>   |
| 2.1      | The purpose of this report is to seek approval of draft governance documents (Board Structure of the Landscape Partnership and Terms of Reference) for the duration of the Development Phase ending by 14 November 2018.  |
| 2.2      | A Letter of Offer was issued by HLF totalling £115,000, including Council's contribution of £11,025, for the Development Phase, with a Stage 2 application to be submitted before 14 November 2018. If the application is successful the Delivery Phase has the potential to draw down a total of £2,932,351 over the five year life span of the project.   |
| 2.3      | The proposed Landscape Character Area, "the Carrickmore Plateau and Pomeroy Hills", lies between Omagh and Cookstown stretching from Garvaghey and Cappagh in the south to Glenhull and Davagh in the north.  |
| 2.4      | A Partnership Agreement and Governance Structure was put in place between Mid Ulster District Council and Fermanagh and Omagh District to ensure good governance and satisfy the requirements of the Heritage Lottery Fund Letter of Offer.   |
| 2.5      | Previously known as the Steering Group, the Landscape Partnership Board will provide strategic oversight and guidance to the Delivery Working Groups by providing input into and review of various natural, built and cultural heritage projects that will be worked up as part of the Stage 2 application via a Landscape Conservation Action Plan (LCAP). |
| 2.6      | It is hoped the outcomes achieved by this Landscape Partnership Board (LP Board) will help to contribute to the effective delivery and performance of the Councils' Tourism Strategy.   |

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| 2.7 | The Project Development Officer and Project Administrator have been in post since 1 <sup>st</sup> August.  |
| 2.8 | Council officers from MUDC and FODC and the Landscape Partnership staff met with the following HLF representatives at an introductory meeting on 16/08/2017: Lorraine Robinson, Grants Officer, Angela Lavin, Senior Grants Officer, and David Hughes Hallett, Mentor. At this meeting the HLF representatives raised concern at the make-up of the Landscape Partnership Board (LP Board), primarily at the number of elected Councillors (10) versus community representatives (9) and stated that this board should be more community focused. It was also noted that it was usual for 3-4 Councillors to sit as board members within LP boards across Northern Ireland and the rest of the UK. |
| 2.9 | At a meeting to discuss this further at HLF offices, Belfast on 26/09/2017, it was proposed that a grantee board be formed, reflecting the interests of MUDC and FODC as the grantees of the LPS and ensuring financial regularity of the grant monies. This board would be populated by the 10 Councillors representing the two councils, four of which would be nominated to sit on the LP board and report back at quarterly meetings. HLF were satisfied with proposal and asked that the Structure of the Partnership Board be amended to reflect this.   |

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| <b>3</b> | <b>Key Issues</b>   |
| 3.1      | Under guidance from Heritage Lottery the organisation will be structured into two main boards: Grantee and Landscape Partnership.   |
| 3.2      | Mid Ulster District Council (MUDC) and Fermanagh and Omagh District Council (FODC) will act as grantee for the funding granted by Heritage Lottery under the Landscape Partnership scheme. It is therefore deemed prudent that a board be formed to ensure financial regularity throughout the Development and Delivery phase and which will authorise projects costing £100,000 and above that will be undertaken during the Delivery phase. |
| 3.3      | The five nominated Councillors for the Grantee Board are:<br>Cllr Denise Mullen (SDLP)<br>Cllr Sean Clarke (SF)<br>Cllr Cathal Mallaghan (SF)<br>Cllr Mark Glasgow (UUP)<br>Cllr Wilbert Buchanan (DUP)   |
| 3.4      | The Landscape Partnership Board (LP Board) will be formed with membership comprised of nineteen members, made up of; Councillors (4 from the Grantee Board), Community / Social Partners (9) and Statutory / NGO Partners (5) see attached structure document. There will be six council observers, at least two of which to be present at each meeting. The LP will report to the Grantee Board at the quarterly meetings.                   |
| 3.5      | The main purpose of the Landscape Partnership Board (LP Board) is to oversee the Development Phase of the Project including the development of a Landscape Conservation Action Plan and submission of a Stage 2 application for the delivery phase by 14 November 2018. The LP Board will authorise all projects for inclusion in the Landscape Conservation Action Plan.   |

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| 3.6 | The LP Board will establish three Delivery Working Groups as follows; (i) a Built Heritage Delivery Working Group, ii) a Natural Heritage Delivery Working Group and, iii) a Cultural Heritage Delivery Working Group).   |
| 3.7 | The Delivery Working Groups will require advice, support and guidance from a range of council service areas including, Arts, Culture, Heritage, Biodiversity, Planning, Countryside Access, Biodiversity, Tourism, Economic, Rural and Community Development. It is therefore proposed that appropriate officers sit on the relevant Delivery Working Groups and that this is included within their overall work plan activity. |
| 3.8 | Draft Terms of References for the Grantee and Landscape Partnership Boards and Delivery Working Groups are also attached.   |

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| <b>4</b> | <b>Resources</b>   |
| 4.1      | <b><u>Financial</u></b><br>Appropriate financial provision is available within the current budgets and has also been factored into the 2017/18 Estimates.  |
| 4.2      | <b><u>Human</u></b><br>It is recommended that Council Officers from the service areas as mentioned in 2.5 will provide reasonable practical assistance and this will be factored into their overall work plan. |
| 4.3      | <b><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u></b><br>N/A   |
| 4.4      | <b><u>Other</u></b><br>N/A   |

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| <b>5</b> | <b>Other Considerations</b> |
|          | N/A                         |

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| <b>6</b> | <b>Recommendations</b>  |
| 6.1      | It is recommended that Council: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approves The Grantee and Landscape Partnership Boards as shown in the Governance Structure</li> <li>• Approves the Terms of Reference for the two boards.</li> <li>• Approves the Terms of Reference of the Delivery Working Groups</li> </ul> |

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| <b>7</b> | <b>List of Documents Attached</b>   |
| 7.1      | Appendix 1 – Governance Structure<br>Appendix 2 – Grantee Board Terms of Reference<br>Appendix 3 – Landscape Partnership Board Terms of Reference<br>Appendix 4 – Deliver Working Groups Terms of Reference |

**Key to Abbreviations:**

**THoAULPS** The Heart of Ancient Ulster Landscape Partnership Scheme