

04 April 2019

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee to be held in

The Chamber, Cookstown at Mid Ulster District Council, Council Offices, COOKSTOWN, BT80 8DT on Thursday, 04 April 2019 at 19:00 to transact the business noted below.

Yours faithfully

Anthony Tohill Chief Executive

AGENDA

OPEN BUSINESS

- 1. Apologies
- 2. Declarations of Interest
- 3. Chair's Business

Matters for Decision

4.	Path and Angling Stands at Glenone and Newferry	3 - 36
5.	Davagh Forest Outdoor Experience (Phase II) DAERA	37 - 60
_	funding applications	
6.	Consultation findings on proposed Corporate Improvement	61 - 78
	Objectives for period 2019-2020	
7.	Elected Member Development Working Group Update	79 - 84
Matte	<u>rs for Information</u>	
8	Minutes of Policy and Resources Committee held on 7	85 - 90
	March 2019	
9	Arrangements for Annual Meeting of Council - May 2019	91 - 100
10	Council & Committee Governance Arrangements 2019-	101 - 120
	2023	
11	Mid Ulster District Council's First Term 2015-2019: Review	121 - 150
	Report	
12	Data Protection legislative Update for Members	151 - 154
- —		

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. NetworkNI Connection (PSSN) Contract Migration
- 14. Davagh Dark Skies Connectivity Solution Tender
- 15. Appointment and Rates of Pay for Election Staff
- 16. Request for consent to undertake additional employment outside of hours of duty
- 17. Staff Matters for Decision
- 18. Fleet Safety Policy
- 19. Council Estate Capital Refurbishment Funding
- 20. Land Acquisitions and Disposals
- 21. Dungannon Leisure Centre Renovation/Refurbishment
- 22. Increased ICT Fees Dungannon Leisure Centre Refurbishment
- 23. Members Allowances Update

Matters for Information

- 24. Confidential Minutes of Policy and Resources Committee held on 7 March 2019
- 25. Contracts and DAC
- 26. Financial report for 11 months ended 28 February 2019
- 27. Staff Matters for Information

Report on	Path and Angling Stands at Glenone and Newferry
Date of Meeting	Thursday 4 th April 2019
Reporting Officer	Head of Parks
Contact Officer	Nigel Hill

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To seek members approval for the council to allocate capital budget resources in relation to the development of public path access and extension of public angling amenity at Glenone to Newferry.
2.0	Background
2.1	Mid Ulster District Council are seeking to continue with public path/trail and angling development opportunities on the Bann in conjunction with Water Ways Ireland strategic plan with a clear objective to seek an off-road link from Portglenone Town to Newferry, approximately 7 kilometres of trail. The project forms a key element of the draft Outdoor Recreation Strategy which will be presented to Committee for approval shortly.
2.2	Council have completed phase 1 works at Portglenone Bridge with the link to Glenone angling amenity supported through 100% funding package of £106,000 from Water Ways Ireland. Works on this phase are now complete.
2.3	In December 2018 the council approved a proposal to accept £70,000 funding from LNP and HLF to establish new public access opportunities and create additional angling facilities along a section of river bank from Ballymacombs to Newferry and to establish private landowner lease agreements to facilitate the proposed development.
2.4	The identification of further necessary development works to facilitate the upcoming FIPSed European Coarse Angling Championships 2019 angling requires council to extend the scope of works at Glenone Wood and Newferry to accommodate additional angling stands. This requires refurbishment of existing stands and establishment of new stands/pegs. It also requires the provision of an upgrade to current public path and vehicular access roads. This necessitates additional stands to be provided at stage 2 of the project if the event is to go ahead.

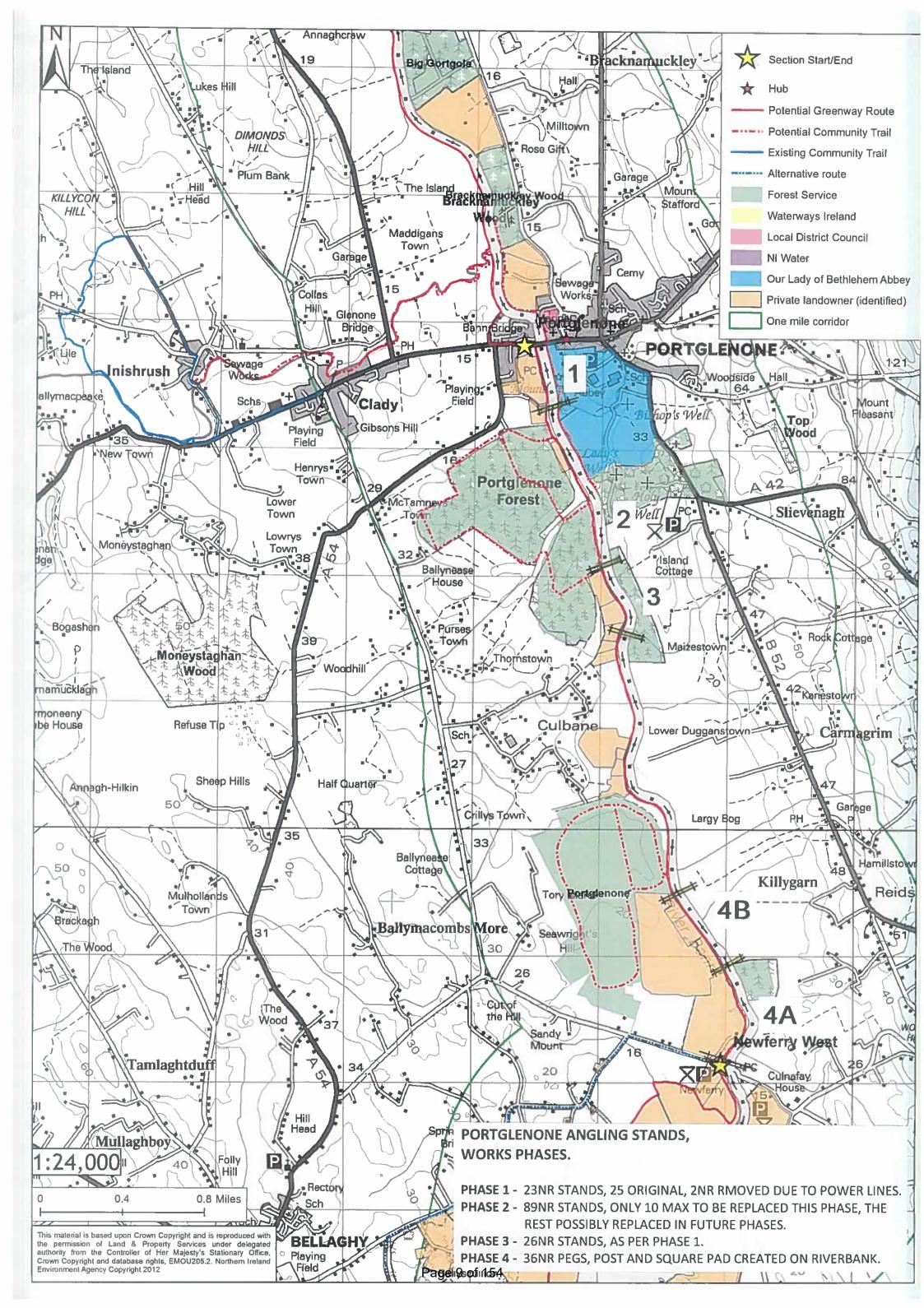
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The EURO 25 – FIPSed European Coarse Angling Championships 2019 is an annual event scheduled for 27 th -30 th June, which affiliated national angling associations countries from across Europe bid to host, in a format not unlike how countries bid for the hosting of the Olympic games. This year's European Championships is brought to Ireland by the National Coarse Fishing Federation of Ireland the only body representing coarse & predator angling in Ireland, North and South and the only body representing the World Sport Fishing Federation, CIPS. The achievement of scooping this event has been the culmination of two years lobbying by the National Coarse Fishing Federation of Ireland (NCFFI) and Water Ways Ireland (WWI).
3.2	The event planners anticipate 25 nations will take part in the event scheduled for the third week in June 2019 and have based their estimates on data collected from previous similar events.
3.3	In addition, the federation must supply a significant number of stewards (125) to facilitate the event, some of whom along with the organisers will choose to stay in the local area adding to the overall economic benefits this event will bring to the area.
3.4	Spectator numbers are difficult to gauge and dependant on promotion but are estimated to be in excess of 5,000 based on previous events hosted by The National Coarse Fishing Federation of Ireland (NCFFI).
3.5	Economic forecast estimations provided by NCFFI based on similar events hosted in Ireland based on a profile of 25 attending nations suggests that up to 2,000 bed nights for the region will be generated over the period in advance of the competition and during the actual event weekend. With additional visits for training outside of the championships and an increase in the number of events on the venue, NCFFI believe the event has the ability to deliver a direct economic benefit of up to £2m and will leave a legacy for angling in the region
3.4	In December 2018 members approved to accept Lough Neagh Partnership and Heritage Lottery Fund financial contributions of £70,000 towards the project. Currently other funding opportunities are limited. Mid Ulster District Council is seeking potential additional funding opportunities for 2019-20 with Waterways Ireland, SportNI and DAERA under Tackling Rural poverty and Social Isolation (TRPSI) programmes, however at this stage there is no confirmation.
3.5	Nevertheless the short and longer-term net benefits associated to the development of the venue in managed phases coupled with the hosting of the prestigious EURO 25 will have an instant and lasting impact on the region and provide a basis for a continued programme of development that will underpin the importance of the River Bann and Mid Ulster to an audience across the countries of Europe and further afield as a result of this initiative and the infrastructure provided under the scope of the scheme.

3.6	Portglenone Angling and Blueway Project has the capacity to deliver a world class angling venue fit to compete on any comparable stage. The quality of the River Bann and accessible green/open space is an instant attraction to visitors and anglers alike. The project will open the countryside for members of the community of all abilities as well as visiting tourists, increasing economic opportunities and developing cross community cohesion and increased social inclusion seamlessly.
3.7	In order to advance the necessary elements of the stage 2 development proposal an estimated capital resource contribution of £315,883 from council is requested (projections are based on actual tendered costs associated to phase one, similar programme of works). The figure does not include 10% contingency or professional fees).
3.8	Officers are currently working with the design team to identify potential savings in the contract. This could include reducing the number of passing bays on the path, reducing the number of existing stands repaired, reducing the area of path to be resurfaced and reducing ancillary equipment installed e.g. seating, pedestrian counter etc. Further estimated savings of up to £40k could be realised (needs to be confirmed at tender stage).
3.9	The extension to the scope of works will require additional land take. Landowner agreements will be required on the basis of a lease to council of identified strips of land totalling approximately 1500 - 2000 metres long and 10-15 metres wide to create a development corridor to permit public access and the creation of additional angling stands. The main terms of the Lease will follow the current draft template and include;
	 25 year term with option to renew; 5 yearly rent reviews linked to market rent; The Council will provide and maintain all agreed accommodation works associated to boundary stock proof fencing, gates or styles; The Council will bear the initial cost of a water supply to the lands for the purposes of watering stock; The Council will inspect and maintain the public car park area, public access pathways, angling stands and all furniture and signage associated to the amenity; and The Council will provide public liability insurance.
3.10	Land & Property Services will be required to provide a valuation on the measured land take to facilitate the development proposal.
3.11	The tender was uploaded onto the Council E-Tenders website inviting experienced and competent contractors to carry out construction works as per the supplied tender documentation. A two stage process will be used for the contract PQQ and ITT stages. The procurement timeline is as follows:

	Release of PQQ documents	7 th March 2019
	Release of ITT documents	4 th April 2019
	Return of ITT documents	18 th April 2019
	1 week mobilisation for contract	19 th April
	Completion of project (following 6 week	7 th June 2019
	of construction)	
4.0	Other Considerations	
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Im	plications
	Financial:	
	Council Capital Fund Allocation to project currently being identified by reducing certa £40k.)	
	Council will be responsible for the paymer and Agent fees in respect to a Lease.	nt of the Lessor's reasonable legal fees
	Council is also responsible for LPS valuat between the parties.	ion costs and the annual rent agreed
	Council will be responsible for annual insu associated to operational management.	urance, inspection and maintenance costs
	Human: Council Officers time.	
	Risk Management:	
	In accordance with current Council risk m	anagement procedures
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments	
	Equality & Good Relations Implications:	
	In accordance with council policies and pr	rocedures.
	Rural Needs Implications:	
	In accordance with council policies and pr	rocedures.

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5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	That Members note the level of external funding secured to date and the strategic importance of continued public access and angling developments on the River Bann in conjunction with MUDC's objective to establish a continuous trail link from Portglenone to Newferry.
5.2	Members approval is sought for the recommendation from Development Committee for the allocation of £315,883 funding from 2019-20 Council Capital Programme Fund. The figure does not include 10% contingency or professional fees).
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 Plan map Appendix 2 Business Plan Appendix 3 Event summary Appendix 4 Letter from NCFFI





BUSINESS CASE/ECONOMIC APPRAISAL FOR: -

Portglenone/Blueway Angling Project

Department and Author: -

NIGEL HILL

Date: -

7th March 2019

CONTENTS

- 1.0 Executive Summary
- 2.0 Introduction & Overview
- 3.0 Market Analysis
- 4.0 Links to Council Policy
- 5.0 Assessment of Benefits
- 6.0 Implications of not undertaking the proposal
- 7.0 Alternatives
- 8.0 Organisational Areas Affected
- 9.0 Risks
- 10.0 Investment Costs
- 11.0 Running Costs
- 12.0 Payback/NPV
- 13.0 Timescales/Phasing
- 14.0 Conclusion
- 15.0 Recommendations

Business Case/Economic Appraisal

1. Executive Summary

EURO 25 – FIPSed European Coarse Angling Championships 2019 is annual event scheduled for 27th -30th June, which affiliated national angling associations countries from across Europe bid to host, in a format not unlike how countries bid for the hosting of the Olympic games. This year's European Championships is brought to Ireland by the National Coarse Fishing Federation of Ireland the only body representing coarse & predator angling in Ireland, North and South and the only body representing the World Sport Fishing Federation, CIPS. The achievement of scooping this event has been the culmination of two years lobbying by the National Coarse Fishing Federation of Ireland (NCFFI) and Water Ways Ireland (WWI).

Mid Ulster District Council became directly involved as a result of having the potential to host the event at Glenone, on the River Bann. Mid Ulster District Council in conjunction with Waterways Ireland initiated the first stage development of the access trail and upgrade/development of fishing stands from Portglenone to Newferry West as these infrastructural improvements were crucial in assisting with their bid to bring the European Coarse Angling Championship to the area in 2019. Waterways Ireland views the development not only as a means of encouraging angling in the area but also as the first part of the developing a Blue Way on the Lower Bann.

The Council meeting in December 2017 resolved to accept an offer of funding for £106k from Waterways Ireland in respect of the initial element of the proposed Blue Way Trail (Portlenone Bridge to Glenone Coarse Angling Amenity) and thereafter to engage with Land and Property Services and landowners to establish access agreements.

A Project Steering Group was established with representation from Council Officers, Waterways Ireland, local councillor's/MLA, The Honourable Irish Society, Ulster Coarse Fishing Federation/National Coarse Fishing Federation and Angling NI. The steering group meets on a scheduled basis to coordinate the plan to develop the proposal to host the EURO 25 – FIPSed European Coarse Angling Championships 2019.

Phase one development at Portglenone to the value of £106k has been completed and was opened to the public in December 2018. This section provided new multi-use public path along the river bank and an additional 23 fishing stands. Mid Ulster District Council entered into a twenty-five year lease agreement with the relevant landowner as a requirement by the funder WWI.

Mid Ulster District Council have identified Glenone Coarse Angling Amenity as a capital development project and have currently secured NIEA/Landscape Partnership funding of £70k and are seeking to establish a match funding package of £120K (£87k DEARA and £30k MUDC) under the Rural Development Programme, Lough Neagh Co-operation fund. The proposal has been worked up with initial feasibility reports presented to the LAG and council are awaiting a potential Letter of Offer in Sept 2019. If successful this funding will assist with the ongoing development and upgrade of current infrastructure along the designated sections of angling stands and access path that will ultimately link Portglenone to Newferry.

Negotiations and agreements with local landowners have taken place and will continue on a rolling basis in order to successfully link from Portglenone to Newferry. Consultations with DAERA/Forest Service (NI) and other private landowners are currently live to develop access

agreements within the scope of the Blue Way proposal to link Portglenone to Newferry.

Council have appointed Robinson and Sons (architects/civil engineers) to design and project manage the project works. The procurement of a contractor for the next phases is ongoing at this stage. Projected costs for the phases are summarised below.

Phase 1 £106,000 (completed 100% funded) Phase 2 £96,545 (RDP £87k subject to LoO Sept 19) Phase 3 £117,000 Phase 4 £289,338 (£70K funding secured)

OPTION 1 Total Projection Costs £608,883k

Funding potential for the scheme is projected at £263k (approx. 43%) as of this date.

OPTION 2 Cost to progress project

Phase 2 & 4 Costs £385,883 Less secured funding £ 70,000

Projected Council Capital funding required £315,883

Mid Ulster District Council are seeking potential additional funding opportunities for 2019-20 with SportNI and DAERA under Tackling Rural poverty and Social Isolation (TRPSI) programmes, however at this stage there is no confirmation.

To progress the project at this stage a financial contribution of £315,883k from council capital funds is required as indicated under option 2.

2. Introduction & Overview

Give a brief description of the proposal including the key objectives.

EURO 25 – FIPSed European Coarse Angling Championships 2019

The 25th FIPSed European Championships is brought to Ireland by the National Coarse Fishing Federation of Ireland the only body representing coarse & predator angling in Ireland, North and South and the only body representing the World Sport Fishing Federation, CIPS.

The importance of the Championships is the opportunity to host a European level event and provide a top ranking angling venue for the visiting teams who will stay, compete and contribute to the local economy in advance off and over the period of the event. Also the media exposure of what Mid Ulster has to offer will be promoted throughout Europe for months in advance of the event. The event will showcase the River Bann as a world class angling destination leaving a legacy for angling tourism in the area with an opportunity for the local clubs to increase the size of existing competitions or indeed introduce more.

A Failte Ireland survey taken during a large competition in the border region showed us that the visiting angler spends double that of the normal holidaymaker. Based on this Cork County Council calculations showed a Total Direct Economic Benefit for a previous FIPS-ed event, World Youth Angling Championships in Inniscarra, Coachford, County Cork in 2017 of €2.6m. This event was a junior championship accommodating 286 anglers over an average stay of eight

nights.

The Championships event we are hosting in 2019 was held in Italy in 2017 and saw teams from 24 different countries including the home nation take part; in 2017 in Slovenia 30 nations attended. There will be 9 members of each team as a minimum with many countries bringing more, representing 1600 to 2000 bed nights approx. We anticipate 25 nations will take part and have based our estimated running costs on this. In addition, the federation must supply a significant number of stewards (125) to facilitate the event some of whom along with the organisers will choose to stay in the local area. Spectator numbers are difficult to gauge and dependant on promotion but could be in excess of 5000. The venue is closed to competitors the two weeks prior to the event and therefore a number of teams will make a separate visit for practise prior to this.

Aside from the benefit to the local community and wider area the championships will serve to provide a legacy for coarse angling on the Lower River Bann and highlight the multi-purpose use Blueway. Already additional festivals and events are being planned along with a junior angling hub.

Promotion

This event will showcase the fine angling facility enhanced to international status.

Both the World Organisation CIPS and Freshwater body FIPs-ed will promote the event through their own channels with a worldwide following.

The NCFFI has popular social media channels that will capture this specialist market live from the bank and followed up with press releases to the angling press. Angling journalists are being encouraged to attend.

The prestige of the anglers on the bank and their sponsors will showcase the individuals fishing through their own platforms followed by coarse angling enthusiasts, match and leisure anglers.

Coarse angling is an under-developed tourism product with stunning potential. Tourism NI have committed to work with us to help with the creation of an angling experience to enhance the leisure product. We hope they will come onboard with media investment to secure a legacy for the area and utilise the imagery opportunities.

Key Objectives:

To host the EURO 25 – FIPSed European Coarse Angling Championships 2019

To develop infrastructure along the River Bann capable of accommodating 180 anglers and 5,000 spectators for the European Coarse Angling Championships 2019.

3. Market analysis/Strategies?

Identify aspects of the Organisational Strategy.

Mid Ulster District Council Corporate Plan 2015 – 2019

The overarching vision of the Council's Corporate Plan is 'Mid Ulster Council aspires to be at the heart of our community'.

The Council has identified a number of key issues of importance to the people across Mid Ulster including; education, the economy, the environment, safety, a sense of belonging, partnership working, improved infrastructure, accessible amenities and attractive vibrant, tourism villages and open spaces. These issues are reflected in four themes namely:

1. Delivering for our People

2. Creating Growth

3. Sustaining our Environment

4. Building Unity

Theme 1: 'Delivering for our People' includes as its priorities for action: 'High quality, responsive, indoor and outdoor recreational services with increased customer numbers and satisfaction'.

Theme 2: 'Creating Growth' recognises the importance of a capital investment and improvement programme for the area including improving the physical infrastructure and connectivity of Mid Ulster and the importance of optimising the tourism potential of Mid Ulster'.

Theme 3: 'Sustaining our Environment' recognises the important of the environment which the Plan notes as deserving to be protected, preserved and enhanced for the enjoyment of everyone. Specific priorities include:

 maximising potential of the area's natural and built attractions and facilities, building collaborative partnerships and strategic alliances

• realising the tourism potential of Mid Ulster, being clear upon the opportunities and targeting resources

 developing and enhancing parks, play areas and open spaces to encourage physical activity and open the countryside in a sustainable manner to our community.

The importance of community planning is recognised in Theme 4: 'Building Unity', whereby a key priority of the Council is to use Community Planning and consequently Community Trails to connect communities and form collaborative partnerships.

Mid Ulster District Council Community Plan

Community Planning is a significant new statutory power which has been presented to Councils within Northern Ireland as a result of local government reform. Mid Ulster's first Community Plan published in 2016 sets out the vision of:

'Mid Ulster – a welcoming place where our people are content, healthy and safe; educated and skilled; where our economy is thriving; our environment and heritage are sustained; and where our public services excel'.

The Plan sets out 15 outcomes to be achieved through a number of actions that have been structured into 5 themes namely:

Economic growth

Infrastructure

Education and Skills

• Health and Well Being and Vibrant and;

Safe Communities

Running across the five themes are three cross cutting themes which impact on all aspects of life in Mid Ulster. One of these is 'sustainable environment' which recognises that Mid Ulster is home to many precious environments which its people have fostered and cherished for generations.

Four of the five themes include actions relating directly to the wider agenda of outdoor recreation as follows:

Economic growth

• maximise tourism investment and employment concentrating on the three strategic tourism themes of Seamus Heaney, Activity and Heritage.

Infrastructure

• secure the transfer of Lough Neagh into public ownership.

• progress the reinstatement of the Ulster Canal and its greenway links.

• increase the protection of, and access to and development of heritage assets – both natural and man-made including; Seamus Heaney countryside, O'Neill heritage, Lough Neagh, Sperrins, Beaghmore and the area's forests.

Health and Well Being

• deliver a Recreation and Active Lifestyle Plan which will provide formal and informal recreation and play opportunities.

Vibrant and Safe Communities

• promote and develop shared space across the area.

Tourism Strategy and Action Plan for 2016 – 2021 for Mid Ulster District Council

Prepared by BTS, the Action Plan sets out the vision for tourism in Mid Ulster as;

to enhance Mid Ulster's image and reputation for visitors and grow the visitor economy to £50m by 2021 as measured by overnight visitor expenditure'.

In order to achieve this vision the Plan highlights five strategic themes and interrelated actions for delivery one of which is the:

• development of three strategic tourism strands (Seamus Heaney, Archaeological Sites history and heritage and Outdoor Activities).

The development of outdoor activities in the area is therefore recognised as serving as one of the three strategic core propositions for Mid Ulster to attract visitors, encourage them to stay longer in the area and ensure that tourism contributes to the local economy.

The Action Plan states that 'the objective of focussing on the outdoor activity market lies in its scale and size and the opportunity of strengthening the competitiveness of the Mid Ulster destination, by building on this underdeveloped sector'.

Key actions identified in the Plan to improve the economic contribution of outdoor and activity tourism include:

• creating a coherent and compelling range of outdoor activity sites and facilities by pulling all existing and potential new sites under one umbrella.

• positioning Mid Ulster as a centre of excellence for the visitor, thus encouraging them to visit the area, stay longer and spend more.

 the development of the outdoor and activity tourism product comprising both physical development and management and organisational dimensions – marketing, interagency collaboration and cluster development.

• the development of key Forest Parks – Parkanaur, Knockmany and Drum Manor.

• the delivery of a year round programme of events.

4. Links to Council Policy/Strategic Context

Identify aspects of the Divisional/Unit Plan that are addressed.

CRP 1.3 Delivering for Our People - High quality, responsive indoor and outdoor recreational services with increased customer numbers and satisfaction

CRP 3.4 Sustaining our Environment - Develop & enhance parks, play areas & open spaces to encourage physical activity and open the countryside in a sustainable manner to our community

Link to Commu nity Plan Theme: CMP 2.2 Infrastruct ure - We	nne 2.2 struct CRP 3.4 Sustaining our Environment - Develop & enhance parks, play areas & open spaces to encourage physical activity and open the countryside in a sustainable manner					1	
increasingl y value our environme Service	our commun	ty. Where are	What do	How Will we get there?			
Objective	measure the impact of our work (PI's)	we now? (Baseline data)	we want to achieve?	Key Actions	Dates	Owne rs	Outcome
Access to the Countrysid e developm ent via long distance trails	Creation of a Blueway Trail on the Lower Bann from Portglenone to Newferry in partnership with Waterways Ireland (WI) and community stakeholders	Conceptual proposals for the route have been created through partnership with WI and ORNI. Stage one Initial funding offer from Waterways Ireland £106k.	Complete multiple landowner agreemen ts for identified sections of the route. Seek second stage funding from RDP Major European angling event August 2019	 Public/Landowner/stakeh older consultation Access agreements Project Tender brief/procurement Design Planning and construction Stage 1 completion Stage 2 funding DRP Stage 2 Project Tender brief/procurement Stage 2 Design planning and construction Stage 2 completion 	May 2018 June 2018 May 2018 Aug 2018 Sept 2018 Mar 2019 May 2019 July 2019 Sept 2019	MUDC Water way Ireland Ulster coarse Anglers Federa tion Forest Service NI Angling NI Honour able Irish Society Local Comm unities Lando wners	Creation of five kilometres of off-road public path. Provision and refurbishment of 150 angling stands. Walk and cycle link from Portglenone town to Blueway trial Establishment of significant water recreation hub in Northern Ireland

Link to Community Plan Theme:	Corporate Plan Theme						
CMP 4.2 Health & Wellbeing - We have better availability to the right service, in the right place at the right time.	MP 4.2 Health Wellbeing - Ve have better vailability to the ght service, in he right place at					tdoor	
Service Objective	How Will we	Where are we now?	What do we want to	How Will we get there?			
	measure the impact of our work (PI's)	(Baseline data)	achieve? (Targets)	Key Actions	Dates	Owners	Outcome
Deliver event and activity programmes at the core MUDC venues Support event and activity programmes in Forest & Countryside venues managed by Mid Ulster District Council Deliver Parks Marketing Plan in conjunction with MUDC Marketing & Communications	Delivery of Parks Service events program me to schedule and within allocated budget Support program me of public and communi ty events to schedule and within allocated budget Delivery of integrate d marketin g plan for Parks 2018/19 Spring/S ummer Program me	Delivered 26 events in 2017 Supported 8 events in 2017 Initial Parks Marketing Plan established in 2017	Delivery of 29 Council Events as part of Parks Service calendar Support 10 Events as part of a wider programme of public and community events calendar Establish Parks identity and increased Parks Service profile with 1 publication and 4 specific event campaigns	 Review budget allocation Establish programme of events Tender/procurement of services Link with marketing and communications Produce marketing campaigns Coordinate logistical resources Deliver events programme Evaluations/Feedback analysis Review marketing budget Development marketing plan with Marketing & Communications Deliver Marketing Plan objectives Evaluations/Feedback analysis 	April – Oct 2018 April – Oct 2018	Parks Service Marketing and Communicati ons Stakeholder and participating Community groups/orga nisations	Programme of varied events and activities across Parks Service / MUDC venues throughout the spring/summer /autumn period seeking to engage a broad spectrum of participant and spectator audience Promoted effectively and delivered to a high standard in term of quality, public satisfaction and safety

5. Assessment of Benefits/Need

What are the opportunities and benefits for the Organisation and User(s)?



The Championships event planned for Portglenone in 2019 was held in Italy in 2017 and saw teams from 24 different countries including the home nation take part. In 2015 in Slovenia 30 nations attended.

The championship angling event teams are comprised of up to 9 members on each team as a minimum with many countries bringing more. This will likely require the availability of up to 1600 and even to a maximum of 2000 bed nights over the period of the practice week and actual competition weekend.

The event planners anticipate 25 nations will take part in the event scheduled for the third week in June 2019 and have based their estimates on data collected from previous similar events.

In addition, the federation must supply a significant number of stewards (125) to facilitate the event some of whom along with the organisers will choose to stay in the local area adding to the overall economic benefits this event will bring to the area.

Spectator numbers are difficult to gauge and dependant on our promotion but aree estimated to be in excess of 5000 based on previous events hosted by The National Coarse Fishing Federation of Ireland (NCFFI).

The venue will be closed to competitors the two weeks prior to the event, which is normal practice for such national angling events and as a result this stimulates early pre-event visits to the venue by potential teams in advance of the actual competition dates and therefore further increase and spreads the opportunity for local businesses to benefit from the pre-event build-up that is a feature of this nature of event. It is anticipated that a significant number of teams will make a separate visit for practise sessions in the lead up the scheduled June competition dates.

Aside from the benefit to the local community and wider area the championships will serve to provide a legacy for coarse angling on the Lower River Bann and highlight the multi-purpose use Blueway. Already additional festivals and events are being planned along with a junior angling hub.

Benefits for Local Communities

- Contribution to health and well-being by providing outdoor trails and linkages to products
- Tourism potential of the area is increased
- Economic and social benefits are realised with increased potential to stimulate local businesses and regenerate local areas
- Blueways provide an effective model of partnership between private, community, and voluntary sectors and relevant public bodies.



BLUEWAY, DO IT YOUR WAY!



6. Implications of not undertaking Proposal

What problems will arise if the proposal does not go ahead?

EURO 25 – FIPSed European Coarse Angling Championships 2019 is annual event which affiliated national angling associations countries from across Europe bid to host, in a format not unlike how countries bid for the hosting of the Olympic games. This year's European Championships is brought to Ireland by the National Coarse Fishing Federation of Ireland the only body representing coarse & predator angling in Ireland, North and South and the only body representing the World Sport Fishing Federation, CIPS. The achievement of scooping this event has been the culmination of two years lobbying by the National Coarse Fishing Federation of Ireland (NCFFI) and Water Ways Ireland (WWI). Should this proposal not be progressed Mid Ulster District Council would miss an important opportunity to host the prestigious angling event and jeopardise the image of the council in successfully biding for future events.



FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE LA FÊCHE SPORTIVE EN EAU DOUCE



WORLD & ZONE CHAMPIONSHIPS

CHAMPIONSHIPS	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
ICE FISHING	<u>16™ BULGARIA</u> January 26-27 Batak/ Shiroka Poliana Lake	POLAND USA LITHJANIA	LITHJANIA			
CARNIVOROUS A.B. SHORE	17th FRANCE June 1-2 Aurillac/Cére River	BULGARIA PORTUGAL				
COARSE ANGLING CLUBS	39 th CROATIA July 20-21 Prelog/Orehovica Channel	SERBIA PORTUGAL SLOVENIA	SLOVENIA ITALY			
COARSE ANGLING EUROPE	25 th IRELAND June 29-30 Lower River Bann	PORTUGAL		HUNGARY		
COARSE ANGLING VETERANS	<u>12th ITALY</u> June 15-16 Pisa/Scolmatore Channel	SLOVENIA	SPAIN HUNGARY SLOVENIA	HUNGARY		
COARSE ANGLING MASTERS	2nd SOUTH AFRICA February 14-15 Vereeniging/Vaal River	SLOVENIA	SPAIN HUNGARY SLOVENIA	HUNGARY		
COARSE ANGLING DISABLED	21** ITALY June 15-16 Pisa/Scolmatore Channel	SLOVENIA	SPAIN HUNGARY SLOVENIA	HUNGARY		
COARSE ANGLING YOUTH U15 - U20 - U25	SPAIN 24- U15 33+U20 12 th U25 August 10-11 Ciudad Real/El Vicano	SLOVENIA POLAND HUNGARY	PORTUGAL SLOVENIA			
COARSE ANGLING LADIES 26th SOUTH AFRICA February 15-16 Vereeniging/Vaal River		SERBIA ITALY	SPAIN ITALY	PORTUGAL		
COARSE ANGLING NATIONS	66 th SERBIA September 7-8 Novi Sad/Canal DTD	ITALY CROATIA	SPAIN CROATIA ITALY			
ROUT WITH NATURAL BAITS CLUBS	27th BULGARIA September 28-29 Devin/Vacha River					
CARNIVOROUS A.B. BOATS	12th SOUTH AFRICA February 12-13 Loskop Dam/Mpumalanga	POLAND	IRELAND			
BLACK-BASS	15th SOUTH AFRICA February 12-14 Vanderbijlpar/Vaal River	ITALY VENEZUELA USA	PORTUGAL			
CARP	21* SOUTH AFRICA February 10-13 Bloemhof Dam/Bamboessprul	UKRAINE	ITALY	PORTUGAL		
FEEDER 9th SOUTH AFRICA February 16-17 Bloemhof Dany/Sandveld		FRANCE NETHERLANDS	BULGARIA UKRAINE	PORTUGAL		
FEEDER CLUBS 3rd PORTUGAL May 18-19 Cabeçao		IRELAND BULGARIA ITALY SOUTH AFRICA	SOUTH AFRICA ITALY			



In order to host a championship at this level NCFFI need to be able to accommodate participating teams from 25 to 30 nations. The required number of fishing pegs/stands for the event is from 150 to 180 with 6 pegs/stands required per participating nation in training and 5 for competition. The plan is to utilise all available stands/pegs in the current development plan whether it be for training and/or competition.

7. Alternatives/Describe the options available

What are the alternatives/options to undertaking the proposed development?

The options below provide the opportunity to scope the overall project in terms of cost and

associated funding as of this date. Future additional funding opportunities may well be

available in 2019-20 funding programme, which have not yet opened. These are currently

being persued with funding organisation such as DAERA and Sport NI.

Projected costs for the phases are summarised below.

PORTGLENONE ANGLING & BLUEWAY PROJECT

Phase 1 £106,000 (completed 100% funded) Phase 2 £96,545 (RDP £87k subject to LoO Sept 19) Phase 3 £117,000 Phase 4 £289,338 (£70K funding secured)

OPTION 1 Total Projection Costs £608,883k

Funding potential for the scheme is projected at £263k (approx. 43%) as of this date.

OPTION 2 Cost to progress project (complete phases 2 & 4 only)

Phase 2 & 4 Costs£385,883Less secured funding£ 70,000

Projected Council Capital funding required £315,883

Funding potential for the scheme is projected at £70k (approx. 18%) as of this date.

Mid Ulster District Council are seeking potential additional funding opportunities for 2019-20 with SportNI and DAERA under Tackling Rural poverty and Social Isolation (TRPSI) programmes, however at this stage there is no confirmation.

To progress the project at this stage a financial contribution of £315,883 from council capital funds is required as indicated under option 2.

8. Organisational Areas Affected

What staff, processes and systems will be affected by the proposed development?

The existing MUDC organisational staffing structures are sufficient to develop and deliver the project in partnership with suitably qualified ICT personnel commissioned for the project.

9. Risks

What risks are involved in implementing the proposal and how will they be managed?

Risk Description	Risk management / mitigation measures
Failure to secure the necessary	There are few eligible funding programmes currently open
funding to allow sufficient work	due to the time of year for this project. Council will therefore
to be done at any one time to	need to include the project costs within its own capital budget.
make an 'impact' on the ground.	There is a risk that other projects will take priority within the
	Council and insufficient funding is available to deliver on the
	ground in a meaningful way.
	To mitigate against this risk, Council should commit to
	phasing the project over several concurrent years. Phase 2
	and Phase 4 to be prioritised at this stage.
Increasing costs due to phasing	Given the time frame pressures and costs involved, it will be
	necessary to phase the projects over several years. There is
	a risk that with development taking place in a 'piecemeal
	fashion' over a longer period of time, the costs of construction
	may increase by the time each phase of the project has been
	tendered.
	To mitigate against this risk, Council should commit to starting
	phase 2 and 4 of the project in the 2019-2020 financial year.

Time frame schedule	ACTIVITY	PQQ & ITT	
associated to procurement and	Topographical survey of the site	- ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~	
project delivery. The table indicated the extreme pressure	Board review meeting to discuss Project overview paper	5 th March 2019	
associated to the various	ITT Documents ready for MUDC review	12 th March 2019	
elements of the project. Any delay on associated actions will	ITT Documents ready for Procurement review	13 th March 2019	
have a negative impact and likely to jeopardise the	Release of ITT documents following "design freeze".	15 th March 2019	
deliverability of meeting the competition dates of 27 th -30 th	Date for return of tenders of ITT tender documents	29 th March 2019	
June 2019.	Moderate ITT Tenders	1 st – 2 nd April 2019	
	Papers to be ready for Full council	4 th April 2019	
	Present IST award at Full Council	15 th April 2019	
	Award of contract	23 rd April 2019	
	1 week mobilisation for Contract – Commence on site	25 th April 2019	
	Completion of project (following 6 week of construction)	9th June 2019 (6 week construction period)	
	MUDC mobilisation of Park staff ready for occupation	11 th June 2019	
	CRITICAL KEY DATES		
	50% funding to be spent by end of March 2019		
	w/c 24^{th} June 2019 – practice and competition later in week (29^{th} and 30^{th} June 2019)		
	The Employer reserves the right timescales.		
Planning permission and Legal	Full planning permission is not required for the main elements		
agreements with landowners.	of the project. These are deliverable within the scope of		
	Permitted Development includes the access paths and		
	angling pegs and associated accommodation works, specific		
	to landowner requirements.		
	There is a risk that legal agreements could result in delays in		

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	delivery or key elements of the project not happening at all,	
	which would then have a knock on effect on other elements of	
	the project.	
	To mitigate against this risk, Council Officers leading on the	
	project will work closely with landowners and our legal	
	colleagues to ensure that sufficient binding permissions are in	
	place. Letters of Comfort exchanged to permit progress.	
Insufficient on-going revenue	Maintaining the current site costs approx. £15,000 per annum	
funding.	in relation to staff time and maintenance. The extension to	
	the trails will add to the revenue costs incrementally.	
	Glenone Angling and Blueway litter is inspected three times	
	per week for inspection and litter collection. Maintenance on	
	hedge/shrubbery and boundary maintenance are undertaken	
	as required during the winter months and during the grass	
	cutting season a mobile 3-person squad attends every 2	
	weeks to cut grass and pathways blown. This currently costs	
	approx. £12,000	
	There is a risk that if no additional revenue funding is made	
	available for a part-time Park Attendant that the new facilities	
	will not be sufficiently inspected and maintained to meet	
	visitors' experience, elements will become the target of anti-	
	social behaviour causing the local community to feel unsafe	
	again and ultimately not use the Park.	
	To mitigate against this risk, Council must recognise the	
	importance of sustaining annual revenue budgets.	
Local community support	Certain aspects of this overall project has been on-going for	
diminishes from local	years from a legacy and MUDC perspective. Local	
communities and landowners	communities and landowners have witnessed tangible	
	outcomes on the ground to a varying degree.	
	There is the risk that the local community will lose their	
	enthusiasm for the project and their 'buy in' required moving	

forward to the project's ongoing sustainability in terms of
willingness to support and being ambassadors for the on-
going improvements that the Blueway can deliver medium
and long-term.
To mitigate against this risk, the local community must be kept
informed and involved in progress throughout and given the
opportunity to raise any concerns and issues related to the
project through an open public forum/consultation on a
regular basis. The established steering group will manage
this role.

10. Investment Costs

What is the summary of capital investment costs for the proposed development?

PORTGLENONE ANGLING & BLUEWAY PROJECT

Phase 1 £106,000 (completed 100% funded) Phase 2 £96,545 (RDP £87k subject to LoO Sept 19) Phase 3 £117,000 Phase 4 £289,338 (£70K funding secured)

OPTION 1 Total Projection Costs £608,883k

Funding potential for the scheme is projected at £263k (approx. 43%) as of this date.

OPTION 2 Cost to progress project (complete phases 2 & 4 only)

Phase 2 & 4 Costs£385,883Less secured funding£ 70,000

Projected Council Capital funding required £315,883

Funding potential for the scheme is projected at £70k (approx. 18%) as of this date. **The project is currently on hold without council capital commitment.**

To progress the project at this stage a financial contribution of £315,883 from council capital funds is required as indicated under option 2.

11. Running Costs

What are the costs to run this proposal as a service/system? Projected running costs based on a percentage of current annual budget allocations for annual council budget allocations. Maintaining the current site costs approx. £15,000 per annum in relation to staff time and maintenance. The extension to the trails will add to the revenue costs incrementally. With significant investment and the anticipated increased use, an additional Part-time Park Attendant (7hrs/week) is required to cover in both terms of work and physical presence. This will cost an additional £5,400 per annum

Staff

£ 5,400 Park Attendant Service.

Operational General Costs £15k Total annual running costs £20,400*

*estimated cost

12. Payback/NPV (Net Present Value

How and on what timescales will the projected costs be recouped as savings or benefits?

One off economic forecast estimations provided by NCFFI based on similar events hosted in Ireland based on a profile of 25 attending nations suggests that up to 2000 bed nights for the region will be generated over the period in advance of the competition and during the actual event weekend.. With additional visits for training outside of the championships and an increase in the number of events on the venue, NCFFI believe the event has the ability to deliver a direct economic benefit of up to £2m and will leave a legacy for angling in the region.

This is underpinned by the volume of new and returning users, the benefits associated to health and wellbeing and the quality of feedback and levels of satisfaction across a full range of users especially those from sections of the community that are identified as underrepresented. Community involvement and participation levels in future events will be the unit of valuation on which to assess the short and long-term benefit of the project.

13. Timescales/Phasing

What are the timescales and deadlines for the proposed development?

Release of ITT documents following "design freeze".	15 th March 2019
Award of contract	23 rd April 2019
Completion of project (following 6 week of construction)	9th June 2019 (6 week construction period)

14. Conclusion

It is EURO 25 – FIPSed European Coarse Angling Championships 2019 is annual event scheduled for 27th -30th June, which affiliated national angling associations countries from across

Europe bid to host, in a format not unlike how countries bid for the hosting of the Olympic games. This year's European Championships is brought to Ireland by the National Coarse Fishing Federation of Ireland the only body representing coarse & predator angling in Ireland, North and South and the only body representing the World Sport Fishing Federation, CIPS. The achievement of scooping this event has been the culmination of two years lobbying by the National Coarse Fishing Federation of Ireland (NCFFI) and Water Ways Ireland (WWI).

The event planners anticipate 25 nations will take part in the event scheduled for the third week in June 2019 and have based their estimates on data collected from previous similar events.

In addition, the federation must supply a significant number of stewards (125) to facilitate the event some of whom along with the organisers will choose to stay in the local area adding to the overall economic benefits this event will bring to the area.

Spectator numbers are difficult to gauge and dependant on our promotion but aree estimated to be in excess of 5000 based on previous events hosted by The National Coarse Fishing Federation of Ireland (NCFFI).

Economic forecast estimations provided by NCFFI based on similar events hosted in Ireland based on a profile of 25 attending nations suggests that up to 2000 bed nights for the region will be generated over the period in advance of the competition and during the actual event weekend. With additional visits for training outside of the championships and an increase in the number of events on the venue, NCFFI believe the event has the ability to deliver a direct economic benefit of up to £2m and will leave a legacy for angling in the region

However, there are risks as identified in section 9. Failure to secure the necessary funding to allow sufficient work to be done at any one time to make an 'impact' on the ground. Increasing costs due to phasing. The time frame schedule associated to procurement and project delivery. The extreme pressure associated to the various elements of the project. Any delay on associated actions will have a negative impact and likely to jeopardise the deliverability of meeting the competition dates of 27th-30th June 2019. Planning permission and Legal agreements with landowners and insufficient on-going revenue funding and community support diminishing from local communities and landowners.

Issues such as the fact that Council may have limited capital financial resources, along with current limited opportunities at present to secure additional external grant aid for the project and that several of the key proposals are dependent on securing landowner agreements means that the options all carry a degree of risk. However the short and longer-term net benefits associated to the development of the venue in managed phases (2 and 4) coupled with the hosting of the prestigious EURO 25 will have an instant and lasting impact on the region and provide a basis for a continued programme of development that will underpin the importance of the River Bann and Mid Ulster to an audience across the countries of Europe and further afield as a result of this initiative and the infrastructure provided under the scope of the scheme.

Portglenone Angling and Blueway Project has the capacity to deliver a world class angling venue fit to compete on any comparable stage. The quality of the River Bann and accessible green/open space is an instant attraction to visitors and anglers alike. The project will open the countryside for members of the community of all abilities as well as visiting tourists, increasing economic opportunities and developing cross community cohesion and increased social inclusion seamlessly. Ideally, the full project as indicated in option 1, however with limited external funding and time available, phasing the project as indicated in option 2 is considered a more realistic proposition moving forward. If a phased approach is taken, it will assist with the aim to develop sufficient infrastructure to permit the hosting of the EURO 25 Championships in June 2019.

15. Recommendations

Has the proposal been approved, rejected, deferred etc. and do any conditions apply?

The proposal to progress requires Mid Ulster District Council to lead on the project and commit resources both in capital contributions and staff time to deliver on the rolling phases of the Portglenone to Newferry. The business case identifies two options, the second of which is the preferred option

Estimated phased option 2 at a Project cost of £385,883 less the secured funding of £70,000 providing for a capital fund allocation from council of requirement £315,883. It is recommended that this business case be presented to support the Council Report for approval.

PORTGLENONE ANGLING & BLUEWAY PROJECT

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Phase 2 & 4 Costs £385,883

Less secured funding £ 70,000

Projected Council Capital funding required £315,883

Funding potential for the scheme is projected at £70k (approx. 18%) as of this date.

Recognition of the level of external funding secured to date and the strategic importance of the Euro 25 Angling Championships Event and the continued rolling programme to develop public access and angling developments on the River Bann in conjunction with MUDC's objective to establish a continuous trail link from Portglenone to Newferry.

The business case and Council Report to be recommended to Policy and Resources Committee for approval for the allocation of £315,883 match funding from 2019-20 Council Capital Programme Fund. (The figure does not include 10% contingency or professional fees).

Members approval is sought to establish all necessary landowner lease agreements in relation to the council's objective to link Glenone to Newferry.

The business recommends to seek all necessary valuations and to engage LPS on all further landowner lease agreement valuations associated to the Glenone to Newferry development plan.

The business case recommends to engage, tender and procure the necessary additional ICT services and capital works contractors, were necessary, in order to deliver the project as proposed.

Developed by	Post	Date
NIGEL HILL	HEAD OF PARKS	07 03 19

Authorised by	Post	Date
ANNE MARIE CAMPBELL	DIRECTOR OF LEISURE AND OUTDOOR RECREATION	07 03 19
Name of Assigned Project Manager		Date
NIGEL HILL		07 03 19







EURO 25 – FIPSed European Coarse Angling Championships 2019

The 25th FIPSed European Championships is brought to Ireland by the National Coarse Fishing Federation of Ireland the only body representing coarse & predator angling in Ireland, North and South and the only body representing the World Sport Fishing Federation, CIPS.

The importance of a Championships at this level is the benefit of the anglers that come and see the area and their spend but also the media promotion during the event. The event will showcase the River Bann as a world class angling destination leaving a legacy for angling tourism in area with an opportunity for the local clubs to increase the size of existing competitions or indeed introduce more.

A Failte Ireland survey taken during a large competition in the border region showed us that the visiting angler spends double that of the normal holidaymaker. Based on this Cork County Council calculations showed a Total Direct Economic Benefit for a previous FIPS-ed event, World Youth Angling Championships in Inniscarra, Coachford, County Cork in 2017 of €2.6m. This event was a junior championship accommodating 286 anglers over an average stay of eight nights.

The Championships event we are hosting in 2019 was held in Italy in 2017 and saw teams from 24 different countries including the home nation take part; in 2017 in Slovenia 30 nations attended. There will be 9 members of each team as a minimum with many countries bringing more, representing 1600 to 2000 bed nights approx. We anticipate 25 nations will take part and have based our estimated running costs on this. In addition, the federation must supply a significant number of stewards (125) to facilitate the event some of whom along with the organisers will choose to stay in the local area. Spectator numbers are difficult to gauge and dependant on our promotion but could be in excess of 5000. The venue is closed to competitors the two weeks prior to the event and therefore a number of teams will make a separate visit for practise prior to this.

Aside from the benefit to the local community and wider area the championships will serve to provide a legacy for coarse angling on the Lower River Bann and highlight the multi-purpose use Blueway. Already additional festivals and events are being planned along with a junior angling hub.

Promotion

This event will showcase the fine angling facility enhanced to international status. Both the World Organisation CIPS and Freshwater body FIPs-ed will promote the event through their own channels with a worldwide following.

The NCFFI has popular social media channels that will capture this specialist market live from the bank and followed up with press releases to the angling press. Angling journalists are being encouraged to attend.

The prestige of the anglers on the bank and their sponsors will showcase the individuals fishing through their own platforms followed by coarse angling enthusiasts, match and leisure anglers.

Coarse angling is an under-developed tourism product with stunning potential. Tourism NI have committed to work with us to help with the creation of an angling experience to enhance the leisure product. We hope they will come onboard with media investment to secure a legacy for the area and utilise the imagery opportunities.









Total Estimated Expenditure

£42,620

ITEM	ESTIMATE
EVENT WEBSITE DESIGN AND HOSTING	£1,600.00
ACCOMODATION AND MEALS FIPS DELEGATES	£1,350.00
ACCOMODATION AND MEALS NCFFI ORGANISERS	£1,350.00
CLOSING CEREMONY DINNER (250-300 GUESTS) @£32.50	£9,750.00
CLOSING CEREMONY ENTERTAINMENT INCLUDING BAND	£1,000.00
CLOSING CEREMONY WINE 30 X 2 PLUS 20 FOR VIPS (80)	£800.00
COMPETITOR ID's, BIBS AND LANYARDS (250)	£2,200.00
OPENING CEREMONY BUFFET (250 -300) GUESTS) @8	£2,000.00
OPENING CEREMONY MARCHING BAND	£500.00
STEWARDS CHAIR HIRE (125)	£500.00
STATIONARY & PRINTING	£850.00
STEWARDS PACKED LUNCHES X 125 x 2 days @£5	£1,250.00
EMERGENCY SERVICES DONATION	£500.00
SIGNAGE	£2,500.00
INSURANCE	£500.00
PORTALOOS	£1,500.00
AIR HORNS	£70.00
SECURITY 2 NIGHTS	£600.00
RADIO HIRE	£500.00
FLAGS	£300.00
TROPHIES AND MEDALS	£2,000.00
HALL/ROOM HIRE FOR HQ/FIPS	£1,000.00
ANTI DOPING COST SPORT IRELAND	£1,000.00
DAERA LICENSES 9 x 25 - 225	£4,500.00
HON.IRISH PERMITS 9 x 25 - 225	£4,500.00
	£42,620.00

All items are estimates and will be negotiated. This is based on the attendance of 25 nations and some costs may be adjusted should the expected numbers not be reached. The hospitality provided is as regulated by CIPS.

Funding Secured from Other Sources

£4500 Hon.Irish Society £4500 DAERA Inland Fisheries £15000 Requested from Waterways Ireland



National Coarse Fishing Federation of Ireland www.ncffi.ie

Mr Nigel Hill Mid Ulster District Council 6th March 2019 57 Ferney View Ballinamallard Co Fermanagh BT94 2EZ

DEVELOPMENT FOR THE FIPSED EUROPEAN COARSE ANGLING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Dear Nigel,

On behalf of the NCFFI I would like to thank Mid Ulster Council for their commitment to the enhancement of the Glenone Angling facility to enable us to host the 25th Anniversary Edition of the FIPS-ed European Championships on the River Bann. The development will provide an international coarse angling venue in Northern Ireland on which we can attract similar competitions in the future. The event and its promotion through the NCFFI, FIPS-ed and the World Sporting Organisation CIPS will leave a legacy for coarse angling in the region along with the impact to the local economy the event itself will bring.

In order to host a championship at this level we need to be able to accommodate participating teams from 25 to 30 nations. The required number of fishing pegs/stands for the event is from 150 to 180 with 6 pegs/stands required per participating nation in training and 5 for competition. The plan is to utilise all those in the current development plan whether it be for training and/or competition.

The NCFFI are dedicated to promoting the event which we estimate will deliver economic benefits of up to £2m, but also the on-going promotion to anglers worldwide thereafter. Opening up the venue to provide vehicular access to the pegs necessary for the event will see the pegs utilised on a much more regular basis thereafter by domestic and visiting coarse anglers for whom accessibility of a fishing spot is based around how far they have to carry their equipment.

Yours in Sport,

Jack Tisdall Vice Chairman NCFFI Office Tel: 02866 347692 jacktisdall@btinternet.com





Report on	Davagh Forest Outdoor Experience (Phase II) DAERA funding applications
Date of Meeting	4 th April 2019
Reporting Officer	Michael Browne
Contact Officer	Michael Browne

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To request permission from the Policy & Resources Committee for the release of an additional £16,855.00 from the Capital Fund to support the development of the Davagh Forest Outdoor Experience Phase II Project
2.0	Background
2.1	The Officer team from Business and Communities have identified and prepared applications to DAERA – Rural Development Programme to support the development and delivery of the Davagh Forest Outdoor Experience (Phase 2) project.
2.2.	To bring this project to full application stage, May 2018, DAERA offered Mid Ulster District Council a Technical Assistance grants to develop a Scoping Study for the development of the Davagh Forest Outdoor Experience. A paper to proceed was presented and approved at the Development Committee October 2018.
2.3	At the P & R Committee on the 6 th January 2019, Financial support was approved to progress the Davagh Forest Outdoor Experience based on the total project cost of £591,780, which 75% matched funded by DAERA £443,835 was identified, with a request from Council of £147,945. These figures were based on the scoping study, which was prior to the procurement process being completed.
2.4	As part of the funding application to DAERA, the matched funding requirement for this project needed to have the necessary approvals from Mid Ulster District Council in place in advance of the submission date of 31 st January 2019.
2.5	Following the completion of the Scoping Studies, the next stage of the development of this project is to prepare and submit a full application to DAERA, which was submitted on 31 st January 2019.
2.6	A letter of offer was issued by DAERA on the 1^{st} March 2019 making available a grant of £485,400 (Appendix 1)

3.0	Main Report
3.1	The tender for Davagh Forest Phase II was uploaded onto the Council E-Tenders website inviting experienced and competent Design and Build Contractors to carry out the design and construction works as per supplied tender documentation.
3.2	A single stage procurement process was utilised consisting of ITT Works Information for the contract.
	The assessment panel consisted of:
	Linda Ferguson – Procurement (Chair of the panel) Raymond Lowry – Technical Services Mary McKeown – Tourism
	 ITT closed on 14/01/19. The ITT return was cost only with Tandem Partners Limited, Holywood, being the only firm to submit a tender, at an overall cost of £650,000.00 including MCE (Model Compensation Event). This has been arithmetically checked and confirmed as fully compliant. It was noted during the tender assessment that PC sums were reduced by £38,000 from that indicated in the tender documents issued. On review, it was confirmed that £19,000 of this was to be reinstated into the tender submission and this has been assessed and considered acceptable to the Procurement panel giving a revised tender cost of £669,000.
3.3	At the Council meeting held on 24 th January 2019, Council approved the appointment of Tandem Partners Limited, Holywood to carry out the Interpretive design and construction fit out contract for Davagh Forest Outdoor Experience (Phase 2) scheme, at a cost of £647,200. (Excluding MCE) plus 10% contingency sum resulting in upper limit of potential spend of £ 711,920 for the Interpretive design and construction fit out scheme delivery (excl. VAT).
3.4	Because of the difference in price between the Scoping Study and the final contract cost, there is a shortfall difference of £58,420. By maximising the grant offer from DAERA, £41,565 be allocated, towards this shortfall, leaving an additional match fund of £16,855 required from Council.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: Loss of funding.
	Human: Staff time to manage and support programme delivery.
	Risk Management: As contained within project management.
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: none

	Rural Needs Implications: none
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are requested to note the content of this report and approve the release of £16,855.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
0.0	Documents Attached & References
	Appendix 1. DAERA Letter of offer.





Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs

Dundonald House Upper Newtownards Road Ballymiscaw Belfast BT4 3SB

Rural Tourism Scheme Letter of Offer

DAERA Business No: 654890

Mid Ulster District Council

Application Reference No. 0009

76 - 78 Burn Road

Date: 01/03/2019

Cookstown Co Tyrone

BT80 8DT

Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020, Priority 6 Letter of Offer Contract

I am pleased to inform you that the Department of Agriculture Environment and Rural Affairs has approved your application for grant aid for the implementation of the following project:

Davagh Forest Outdoor Visitor Experience which will be situated at the following location: Davagh Forest Park, Davagh Road, Cookstown, Co Tyrone, BT79 8JH

You are offered grant aid under Priority 6 of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme:

- a) of up to a maximum amount of £ 485,400.00
- b) from the Rural Tourism Scheme.

This offer of up to £ 485,400.00 is equivalent to \in 555,752.74 and has been classified as Non State Aid. Under EC regulations you must retain this Letter of Offer for a minimum period of three years from the date of this offer.

This grant aid is provided through the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme which is funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development ("EAFRD") and the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs ("DAERA").

Application Reference No.	0009
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This Letter of Offer is subject to the availability of funding from the European Commission and DAERA; and your compliance with the following:

- (i) the conditions specific to your project, as contained in this offer and listed at Annex 1;
- (ii) the 'Terms and Conditions of Grant Aid' set out in the enclosed booklet;
- (iii) receipt of the official claim forms as provided at Annex 4

The offer is provided specifically to fund:

- (iv) the project described in your Application Form, Reference No. 0009
- (v) the project objective and associated key tasks as listed at Annex 1 to this offer;
- (vi) the schedule of eligible expenditure as detailed at Annex 2;

(Note: Any work started or items purchased before the Project Start Date, shall be deemed ineligible for payment of grant aid and may render the project ineligible).

(vii) the projected scheme targets to be achieved by implementation of the project as detailed in the letter of offer.

The start date for the project will be the date of this Letter of Offer, provided DAERA has received your completed Form of Acceptance within 28 days of this date. The end date for the project is 01/09/2020 . The final project end date may only be extended in exceptional circumstances and with prior written agreement of DAERA.

Final claims for reimbursement of expenditure under this Letter of Offer must be made to DAERA *within* 28 days of the project end date, unless previously agreed otherwise in writing with DAERA.

This Letter of Offer, which incorporates the information included in your application form and the 'Terms and Conditions of Grant Aid' booklet, is a legally binding contract, enforceable in law, between you and DAERA. Any project activity or expenditure that is in breach of the Letter of Offer and the Terms and Conditions Booklet will render the project ineligible and no grant aid will be payable. You should note that the compliance obligations to which you are agreeing under this Letter of Offer shall remain in place for a period of five years following the date of final payment or, where the project involves the purchase, building, development/refurbishment of property or land for which a legal charge is required, the conditions shall remain in place for a period of 10 years. Therefore, before accepting this offer of grant aid, you should ensure that you fully understand the conditions, responsibilities and liabilities to which you are agreeing. In this respect, it may be prudent to discuss the contract with your legal advisor.

This Letter of Offer and Form of Acceptance is issued in duplicate. Should you wish to take up the offer of grant-aid, on the terms and conditions stated, you should complete

Application Reference No.	0009	LoO Date 01/03/2019

and sign both **F**orms of Acceptance and return one full set of Letter of Offer papers to me at DAERA. The other full set of Letter of Offer papers including the 2nd signed Form of Acceptance should be retained for your own records.

The Form of Acceptance must be completed by a duly authorised representative of the applicant and returned to DAERA within 28 days from the date of this letter. If not signed and returned within this timescale, the offer will be deemed to have been withdrawn.

All queries about the administration of the Programme and /or this Letter of Offer should, in the first instance, be directed to :-

DAERA officerPauline DonaldsonTelephone028 82253416E-mailpauline.donaldson@daera-ni.gov.uk

Finally, on behalf of DAERA I would take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in the Rural Development Programme and wish you every success with your project.

Yours sincerely

Pur Dent

Paul Donnelly ______ Director of Rural Development

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Form of Acceptance

Application Reference No: 0009

Name of Project:

Davagh Forest Outdoor Visitor Experience

Address of Applicant: 76 - 78 Burn Road Cookstown

Co Tyrone BT80 8DT

Address of Project:

Davagh Forest Park, Davagh Road, Cookstown, Co Tyrone, BT79 8JH

I have read and understand the Letter of Offer Contract and the Terms and Conditions of Grant Aid Booklet (a copy of which I have retained). I accept the offer of grant aid for project Application Reference No. 0009 from DAERA on the conditions set out within the Letter of Offer and the Terms and Conditions of Grant Aid booklet.

I confirm that:

- i. I am the person legally empowered to enter into this contract;
- ii. the information submitted on Application Reference No. 0009 is true and complete;
- iii. all previous public funding received over the 3 year period prior to the date of this Letter of Offer has been declared;
- iv. I have received and understand the Letter of Offer attachments detailing the items to be grant aided and the project objective, key tasks and scheme targets to be achieved;
- v. I understand that failing to achieve the agreed project objective or key tasks and/or the projected scheme targets may result in exclusion from future funding opportunities;
- vi. the project is dependent upon and could not proceed at this time without grant aid being made available from the Rural Development Programme;
- vii. I will repay on written demand any grant aid received where the terms and conditions of the offer are adjudged, by DAERA, to have been breached;
- viii. a representative of DAERA met with Council officials and explained my rights and responsibilities attendant to my acceptance of this Letter of Offer, and I hereby accept the said offer of grant aid upon and subject to the terms and conditions herein and in the Terms and Conditions Booklet.

Application Reference No. 0009

I, understand that as a legally empowered representative of Mid Ulster District Council

- ix. providing wrong or misleading information is an offence, and such information may be used against me in any subsequent criminal investigation;
- x. that part or all of this information will be held on computer and will be used for the administration of the applications and for monitoring and evaluation purposes;
- xi. that DAERA has the right to share this information with other departments, agencies, and implementing bodies to enable them to prevent fraudulent applications or for detecting crime and to co-ordinate processing of complementary applications; and
- xii. that DAERA may also use this information for other legitimate purposes in line with the Data Protection Act 1998 and Freedom of Information legislation.

Signed as Accepted by Applicant:	Poia-load	Date :	4 3 19,
Name of Applicant:	Mid Ulster District Council	Position held:	Director of Business and Communities
Name of co-applicant (if applicable			

(For Official Use Only)

This form of acceptance, duly signed by the Applicant, has been reviewed on behalf of DAERA.

Signature: Date:.	
-------------------	--

Application Reference No. 0009 LoO Da

LoO Date 01/03/2019

Page 46 of 154

Project Schedule of Key Tasks	Project Schedule of Key Tasks, Timescales and Special Conditions	1 xeu
Grant Offer and Project Details Address: bage 41 ot 124	Mid Ulster District Council 76 - 78 Burn Road Cookstown Co Tyrone BT80 8DT	
Grant Offer from:	Rural Affairs	
NIRDP, Priority 6: Project Name:	Rural Tourism Scheme Davagh Forest Outdoor Visitor Experience	
Address of Project:	Davagh Forest Park, Davagh Road, Cookstown, Co Tyrone, BT79 8JH	
Grant Awarded:	£ 485,400.00	
Project Objective: Construction of Davagh Forest Outdoor Experience Key Tasks necessary to complete the project are: 1) Appoint acreed contractor within 12 weeks of the	t <u>Objective:</u> uction of Davagh Forest Outdoor Experience <u>asks necessary to complete the project are:</u> Annoint agreed contractor within 12 weeks of the date of accordance of this lotter of office	
	All construction works to be complete by 01/09/2020.	
3) 4)		
5)		
Application Reference No. 0009	LoO Date 01/03/2019	

Special Conditions of Grant Offer and Payment Specific to this Project are:

- Schedule for staged payments must be agreed between Council and DAERA before first payment is made.
- 2) The Outdoor Experience must be operational for a minimum of 10 years from the date of completion.
- 3) Any cost overrun in the delivery of the project will be met by Council.

Rage 18 of 154

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Timescales for the Project are:

Project Start Date: This is the date of this Letter of Offer, provided DAERA has received your completed Form of Acceptance within 28 days from this date.

(Note: Any work started or items purchased before the Project Start Date, shall be deemed ineligible for payment of grant aid and may render the project ineligible).

Project End Date: 01/09/2020

Final Claim for Payment of Grant Aid: 01/11/2020

Failure to adhere to the agreed timescales for completing the project or for claiming payment of the grant aid offered will result in a reduction in the amount of grant aid that can be paid or withdrawal of the full Letter of Offer.

Please Note: The Project End Date is the date you agreed with DAERA for the completion and payment of all items as listed in Annex 2.

Rentanting Brit

Application Reference No. 0009

Schedule of Eligible Expenditure

Project Name: Appoicant Name: 66

Mid Ulster District Council

Davagh Forest Outdoor Visitor Experience

out 😰 be greater than that estimated below, the grant amount payable to you will not increase. If the actual cost is lower than the estimated cost Your offer of grant aid is allocated for specific items only, as detailed in the table below. If the actual cost of procuring any individual item turns below, the grant amount payable to you will be reduced accordingly.

ltem	Capital or Resource		Total Cost of Item (Ex VAT) £	Grant Rate %	Max Grant Amount Payable £
Construction of Davagh Forest Outdoor Visitor Experience	Capital	01/09/2020	£ 647,200.00	75	£ 485,400.00
		The second second			

Application Reference No. 0009

Schedule of Eligible Expenditure Continued

Please Note :

AR vou are redistered for VAT. the amount of grant pavable will be exclusive of VAT.

	Capital or Comple 00 by Item	Capital or Resource	Completion Date for each Item	Total Cost of Item (Ex VAT) £	Grant Rate %	Max Grant Amount Payable £
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	The first second second second					
						-

Failure to adhere to the agreed timescales for completion of the above items may result in a reduction in the amount of grant aid that can be paid or withdrawal of the full Letter of Offer. Any potential problems/delays must be notified to DAERA immediately.

LoO Date 01/03/2019

Application Reference No. 0009

Total E £ 485,400.00

Scheme Targets to Be Achieved As A Result Of Grant Award

Below is a list of the scheme targets you projected would be achieved if grant was provided to help you carry out your project. In order to dectared as achieved by you in relation to this project will be verified by DAERA. In addition to this, DAERA will send you a Post Project assess and record progress with achievement of these targets, you will be contacted every 6 months by DAERA. All scheme targets Evaluation form which you must complete and submit to DAERA no later than 2 years following your project end date.

To assist DAERA with an evaluation of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme you are also required to provide DAERA with an evaluation of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme you are also required to provide DAERA with gender and age grouping details for the following beneficiaries of the grant aid, if applicable: yourself and, business partner/partners, (not employees); (i) additional employees (new jobs created as a result of the grant aid being awarded); and

- participants completing bespoke training activities.

Scheme targets to be achieved through the Implementation of this Project are:

Scheme Target	Value
Number of rural tourism actions/operations supported	<i>t</i>
Number of FTE equivalent jobs created	0
Number of people benefitting from improved tourism infrastructure	18,000
Number of out of state visitors	6,000

Application Reference No. 0009



Page 52 of 154

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 Column I – Enter your cheque number or the BACS transfer number used to find the provident - you must not claim more than the grant which has been to pay the invoice.	Column G – Enter the amount of VAT charged on the item(s). Not VAT registered – Multiply column M (cost including VAT) by the percentage grant rate in column N. Column H – Enter the total cost of the item(s) including VAT. Not VAT registered – Multiply column M (cost including VAT) by the percentage grant rate in column N.	Column D - Enter the date when you paid the invoice. Column O - Calculate the amount of the claimed expenditure bearing in mind the maximum grant amount offered for each item on the Schedule of Eligible Costs - see note below.	Column C – Enter the supplier's invoice number. be found on the schedule of eligible items in your Letter of Offer.	schedule of eligible items in your Letter of Offer. Column M – Enter the total cost including VAT of all the invoices from column K. Column B – Enter the date of the invoice.	Page 2 and 3 (Details of Expenditure Incurred) Column L – Enter the total cost of the VAT of all the invoices from column K.	your VAT status and VAT registration number and complete the number of relate to each item on your schedule of eligible costs.	 Page 1 (Payment Authorisation Form) Page 4 (Claim Summary and Declaration) Page 4 (Claim Summary and Declaration) The applicant reference number, DAERA Business ID number, name of claimant (applicant as it is written on your Letter of Offer), address, and telenhone number have been printed on your claim form. You must confirm
			actor.	actor.	actor.	ated on the actor.	actor.

LoO Date 01/03/2019

Application Reference No. 0009

Page 53 of 154

Invoices. These must • be original and not photocopies,	 The original credit card statement showing that the full amount of the item being funded has been paid and supporting bank statement showing payment.
 be addressed to the business / project or individual named in your Letter of Offer, show the supplier's name, address, telephone number and VAT Reg. No., 	Please note – You will need to supply a written explanation if the amount shown on the receipted invoice, receipt, copy cheque, or bank statement differs from the amount on the invoice. 6. Procurement
 have VAT charged separately, show details of the goods or services charged including quantities, unit costs, delivery costs and any discount, 	To prove that you have followed the procurement requirements set out in your Letter of Offer you must send the original documentation relevant to the Procurement undertaken for your project as outlined in the Applicant Procurement Guidance document (Section 16).
 Have labour costs showing dates the work was carried out, number of hours worked and cost per hour. Proof of payment 	 Agreed Scheme Targets DAERA will verify details of targets achieved to date and associated beneficiary details at the pre-payment site visit
It is important that you prove that you have paid the invoices in one of the following ways, the original invoice, with the bank statement showing the cheque number or direct debit and the amount clearing the bank. If payment is made by cheque, a copy of the cheque issued must be provided.	

Application Reference No. 0009

	Disallowance, reductio	Disallowance, reduction or recovery of grant
The gr	The grant which you have claimed may be disallowed, reduced or recovered if:	 The items which you are claiming have been applied for or claimed
•	You have not returned a signed acceptance of the conditions in your Letter of Offer,	 You knowingly make a false or misleading statement or withhold
•	Items for which you are claiming were purchased before your Project Start Date or after the Project End date,	 You do not allow access to your premises to authorised officers from the
	The work for which you are claiming was carried out before your Project Start Date or after the Project End date,	Department, Northern Ireland Audit Office or the European Commission to inspect the items funded.
•	The work being claimed has not been carried out to the correct standard,	Important Information
	You have failed to follow the terms of the scheme or the conditions in your Letter of Offer,	The amount of grant payable to you will be for those items which are eligible according to the scheme rules and conditions in your Letter of Offer.
•	You have not sent the correct original documents to support the claim,	If you include items in your claim which are ineligible for funding a
•	You have claimed for items which were not agreed in your Letter of Offer. Please note the schedule of eligible expenditure in your Letter of Offer gives details of the items for which you can claim grant aid.	penalty will be applied. You will not be paid for the ineligible items and your claim will be further reduced by a penalty.
	The item which you are claiming exceeds the expenditure limit in your Letter of Offer.	
	You have not followed the procurement procedures.	
-	The item claimed is not in use or is not being used for the purpose intended in your grant application.	

Application Reference No. 0009



Payment Authorisation Form

Application Reference No: 0009	Sect	Section to be completed by DAERA Project Officer	ct Officer
DAERA Business No: 654890			
Name and Address of Claimant:	Vou	Vouching carried out by:	(Signature)
Mid Utster District Council			
76 - 78 Burn Road		claim cnecked by:	(Printed)
Cookstown			(Signature)
Co Tyrone	L		
BT80 8DT		Grant expenditure claimed £	
	<u> </u>	Ineligible expenditure deducted £	
Telephone Number: 03000 132 132	<u> </u>	Penalty deducted (If applicable) £	
VAT Registered: Yes () No ()		Approved payment £	
VAT Reg. Number:		ander a beeck a successful for the first of	
Number of Pages Used :	appl	irregularity check completed for Ineligible expenditure and any applied penalties?: Yes () No ()	expenditure and any)
	Stag	Stage 1 Project Monitoring Recorded on Database? Yes() No())))
	Data	Database fully completed? Yes () N	No ()
	App	Approved for Payment:	(Printed)
	Date	Date Approved:	(Date)

LoO Date 01/03/2019

Application Reference No. 0009

Page 57 of 154

DETAILS OF ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE WHICH HAS BEEN INCURRED

Bank Account Transaction through PP **Office Use** Date **Cheque No** issued to or **BACS** supplier Payment Total I 41 of Amount of VAT C 41 Page Net cost (ex.VAT) 41 ц., LoO Date 01/03/2019 (Please give address of Date of Claim: Name and address of company's registered supplier/ contractor SUB TOTAL appropriate) ш (*Delete as **TOTAL*** office) payment Date of Application Reference Number: 0009 Number Invoice C Application Reference No. 0009 Invoice Date of m Grant Aided Item Grant Aided Item Brate clearly the a brature of product/service) 4

DETAILS OF ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE WHICH HAS BEEN INCURRED

Application Reference Number: 0009

Date of Claim:

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,	Office Use Date	Transaction through PP Bank Account					
-	Cheque No or BACS	issued to supplier					
т	Total Payment	લ	į	Į.	-		
ი	Amount of VAT	4					
LL.	Net cost (ex.VAT)	બ					
ш	Name and address of supplier/ contractor	(Please give address of company's registered office)				SUB TOTAL / TOTAL* (*Delete as appropriate)	LoO Date 01/03/2019
۵	Date of payment						
o	Invoice Number						6000
ß	Date of Invoice						eference No.
A	Grant Aided Item	(a) nature of product/service)			þ		Application Reference No. 0009

TO BE SIGNED BY CLAIMANT	Date of Claim:
ECLARATI	6000
RY AND DECLA	eference No.
5	ication Ref
CLAIR	Appl

	nt liture ed				
	t Grant Expenditure claimed £				
	N LoO Grant Rate %				Total £
	M Total Payment £	11			
	L VAT Amount £				
Vale VI VIAIIII.	K Net cost ex VAT £				
המוב סו	Ø				
Application Neleience NO.	Item Detailed on Schedule				
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I DECLARE THAT:

- This claim complies with the Letter of Offer Contract;
- I have paid the sums stated which are supported by the enclosed original invoices;
- No sum included in this claim has been included in any previous claim; с п
- Sums included in this claim which have been included in claims to other funding bodies have been identified; 4
- Any assets included in this claim are my property or those of the business, Partnership Group, Association (or other) as detailed in the application; ທ່
 - No asset included in this claim or any previous claim under the present offer of assistance has been sold or disposed of in any way; ώ Ν ώ ö
 - I have followed the Applicant Procurement Guidance rules for the purchase of goods and services as detailed in this claim;
 - I enclose copies of the relevant statutory controls/permissions for this project (if applicable); and
- declare that the project named in the Letter of Offer is/is not* (*delete as appropriate) registered for VAT. VAT Registration number

	Position:	LoO Date 01/03/2019
Date:		
		6
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		polication Reference No. 0009
Signed:	Printed:	polication

Report on	Consultation findings on proposed Corporate Improvement Objectives for period 2019-2020
Date of Meeting	Thursday 4 th April, 2019
Reporting Officer	Philip Moffett, Head of Democratic Services
Contact Officer	Lisa Jenkins, Performance & Quality Officer

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update the committee on the findings and outcome of the consultation undertaken on the proposed performance improvement objectives for the period 2019-2020.
2.0	Background
2.1	The Local Government Act (NI) 2014 and subsequent departmental statutory guidance requires that the Council in discharging its duty under section 84 and 85, a council must consult on its improvement objectives. The Act requires councils to engage with its citizens in deciding on how to fulfil the general duty <i>to "…make arrangements to secure continuous improvement"</i> and choose its improvement objectives.
2.2	The Committee at its February 2019 meeting considered and approved 4 draft Corporate Improvement Objectives for consultation. This was accompanies with the rationale for choosing them and the associated links to the council's community and corporate plans. The committee agreed the following Improvement Objectives and that they be consulted on:
	 To assist in the growth of the local economy by increasing the number of visitors to our district
	To improve the average processing time for Local Planning Applications
	 To improve the accessibility of our services by increasing the number available online
	 To support people to adopt healthier lifestyles by increasing the usage of council recreational facilities

3.0	Main Report		
3.1	This consultation exercise ran from the 8 th of February to the 15 th of March 2019. Under each improvement objective, the Council asked whether respondents agreed with the objective or disagreed with the objective. Respondents were also asked to provide any related commentary they had regarding the proposed improvement objectives. The consultation survey also asked respondents to outline any improvements the council should consider in the future. The final question asked respondents to provide any further comments relating to the draft Improvement objectives		
3.2	The consultation involved a survey made available for completion and submission online or by post to the council. To ensure maximum engagement the process was promoted through a variety of communication channels including social media outlets, the council website, press releases, e-mails and internal staff meetings. 55 consultees responded to the consultation.		
	A report on the outcome of the consultation is appended as Appendix A. In summary;		
	• 98% of respondents agreed with objective 1 - To assist in the growth of the local economy by increasing the number of visitors to our district		
	• 94.55% of respondents agreed with objective 2 - To improve the average processing time for local planning applications.		
	• 94.54% of respondents agreed with objective 3- To improve the accessibility of our services by increasing the number available online		
	• 96.36% of respondents agreed with objective 4 - To support people to adopt healthier lifestyles by increasing the usage of Council recreational facilities		
3.3	With such significant endorsement of the four proposed improvement objectives, together with additional commentary provided, the council will develop its 2019 to 2020 Corporate Improvement Plan around those as consulted on. When reviewed, the respondent's commentary did not warrant the removal, amendment to or addition to the objectives proposed. The additional commentary and views provided will inform our wider improvement activity across the services.		
4.0	Other Considerations		
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications		
	Financial: NA		
	Human: NA		
	Risk Management: NA		
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments		
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: not applicable		

	Rural Needs Implications: not applicable
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	That the Committee considers the consultation report on the Corporate Improvement Objectives Consultation and agree the four objectives as listed for the period 2019-2020.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix A: Consultation Report: Proposed Corporate Improvement Objectives 2019-2020

Outworking's from Consultation on Mid Ulster District Council's Performance Improvement Objectives for 2019-20

March 2019

Summary

As required under Section 84 of the Local Government (NI) Act 2014 (hereafter referred to as 'The Act'), the Council is placed under a general duty to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the exercise of its functions. Part 12 of the Act sets out a series of provisions which the Council should be mindful of in "making arrangements to secure continuous improvement", under section 85, the Council is to identify and set itself corporate level performance Improvement Objective(s) for improving the exercise of its functions and to have arrangements in place to achieve these objectives. Under section 87 of the Act, the Council is also required to consult on our improvement objectives.

This year the consultation exercise ran from the 8th of February to the 15th of March 2019 and focused on our proposed objectives. Under each improvement objective, the Council asked whether respondents agreed with the objective or disagreed with the objective. Respondents were also asked to provide any related commentary they had regarding the proposed improvement objectives.

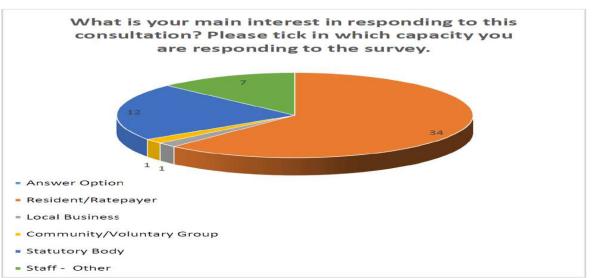
The consultation survey also asked respondents to outline any improvements the council should consideration in the future. The final question asked respondents to provide any further comments relating to the draft Improvement objectives

The consultation exercise was promoted via a variety of communication channels including social media, our Council website, e-mail/ internal staff meetings and press releases in local newspapers. In total, there were 55 responses from consultees.

QUESTION 1

Capacity in which responding to survey	Responses (Numbers)	Responses (%)
Citizen/Ratepayer	34	61.82%
Local Business	1	1.82%
Community /Voluntary Group	1	1.82%
Statutory Sector	12	21.82%
Other	7	12.73 % (all staff)

What is your main interest in responding to this consultation?



QUESTION 2

Do you agree that the proposed Performance Improvement Objectives are appropriate for our district?

Improvement Objective One

1. To assist in the growth of the local economy by increasing the number of visitors to our district.

Number of Responses AGREED	54	98 %
Number of Responses DISAGREED	0	0 %
Number of responses skipped question	1	2 %

Why we are doing it?

Tourism is a major engine for job creation and a driving force for economic growth and development, as highlighted by recent figures. There has been a steady growth in overall tourism in Northern Ireland from 2011¹. In the year ended March 2018, visitors spent £939 in the local economy², with 70% coming from external visitors, making tourism worth £662m as an export business. Overall tourism represents 5.4% of total jobs (supporting 1 in every 18 jobs), across Northern Ireland. The Programme for Government has set on of its outcomes as wanting Northern Ireland to "…create a place where people want to live and work, to visit and invest", and one of its indicators is to, "Improve Northern Ireland's attractiveness as a destination".

Tourism is recognised as an economic driver, to stimulate growth by the Council, to deliver jobs and investment. We want to increase the number of the 3,000 plus local tourism and tourism related jobs in the district³. Opportunities for tourism growth lie in building on existing and new tourism propositions into a single tourism product or destination by capitalising on Mid Ulster's central position in Northern Ireland, within an hour's drive of the Causeway Coast, North West, Fermanagh Lakes, Belfast and many cross border destinations. Mid Ulster has scope to grow within the tourism marketplace; it is a developing destination and as such has not yet fulfilled its potential.

We will work with our partners and others to promote Mid Ulster as a successful tourist destination. We want to assist with establishing good communication and collaborative relationships between stakeholders with an interest in sites, facilities, hospitality, skills development, quality standards, attractions and marketing. We want to ensure a welcoming and clean public realm, including public toilets, street furniture, signage etc.; all that is necessary to facilitate the quality of the visitor experience. We will work to seek improvements in skills development and coordinated approaches to vocational education and training, enhancing the sectors image and service quality. The challenge is to bring together Mid Ulster's tourism assets and attributes, support the dispersal of visitor spend and investment across the area and provide an offering for visitors to visit and stay in our district.

¹ Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency. Northern Ireland Annual Tourism Statistics 2017. https://www.nisra.gov.uk/sites/nisra.gov.uk/files/publications/Annual-Tourism-Statistics-Publication-2017%20.pdf

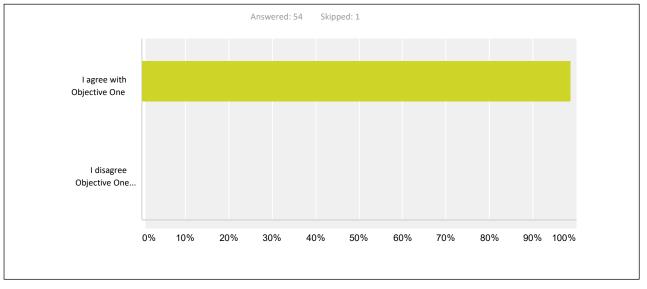
² Department for the Economy. Tourism Performance for the year ended 31march 2018. <u>https://www.economy-ni.gov.uk/topics/tourism</u>

³ Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency. NI Local Government District tourism Statistics 2017. https://www.nisra.gov.uk/sites/nisra.gov.uk/files/publications/Local-Government-District-Publication-2017.pdf

Comments: - There were 6 responses in total
Hard copy
NONE
Electronic
Depends on how this objective is to be achieved
Improving the Road infrastructure may help also. Provision of Multi Storey in town centre could make shopping more attractive
There is good growth opportunity in this sector; Seamus Heaney Centre, Davagh, Beaghmore Stone Circles, Sperrins AONB, Lough Fea, Lough Neagh. Attracting outside money to be spent within Mid Ulster makes good business sense and could provide additional investment opportunities to further grow this sector. I was the Planning Officer with approving the Observatory at Davagh which if developed would attract more visitors to this area. Myself and another member of staff ensured the wind turbine development would not have a negative impact on the observatory. This area of Davagh is renowned for its Dark Skies, of particular interest to star gazers.
I agree with this objective if it receives fair distribution of funding and all is not spent on one centre.
Always good to get more visitors to the area, this will bring more revenue for local businesses and keep people in jobs.
This is about the whole tourism industry working together to improve what the area can offer visitors; that will be the key to success. There is a need to continue to strengthen the calendar of local events year on year. The quality of where people can visit, stay and dine coupled with how these are promoted, requires a shared approach in order to get better all the time.



One: To assist in the growth of the local economy by increasing the number of visitors to our district.



Do you agree that the proposed Performance Improvement Objectives are appropriate for our district?

Improvement Objective Two:

2. To improve the average processing time of Local Planning Applications.

Number of Responses AGREED	52	94.55 %
Number of Responses DISAGREED	3	5.45 %
Number of responses skipped question	0	0 %

Why we are doing it?

We want to make the process of applying for planning permission better, thereby making our residents' lives easier. The outcome of a planning application has the potential to influence the applicant hugely. People unable to make the changes they want to their home will sometimes move altogether. If you can get it right for the one-time, householder applicant, who simply wants to build a new room, then you can get it right for everyone. We recognise that sometimes it is ostensibly minor improvements that can make a difference to people's lives. There are some big, complicated planning applications made each year, but there are many more household applications. Each one may be small, but if we can make a difference with such a high volume, we can have a huge impact.

The number of Local planning applications received in Northern Ireland during 2017/18 was 12,770 representing a decrease of 1.0% in 2016.17¹. Across Councils, Belfast City (1,788), Newry Mourne & Down (1,562) and Mid Ulster (1,397) received the highest number of local applications during 2017/18². These Councils also received the highest number of applications the previous year. Mid Ulster Council was below the regional average for all councils of 15.2 weeks average processing time for local planning applications during 2017/18. During 2017/18, Belfast City Council (1,779), Newry Mourne and Down Council (1,779) and Mid Ulster District Council (1,189) issued the most local decisions across the 11 Local Authorities. This in part reflected by the high volumes received in these Councils. During 2017/18, the average processing time to bring local applications to decisions or withdrawal was 15.2 weeks, across all the councils, an improvement of 1.0 week on the average time taken in 2016/17.

In 2017/18, Mid Ulster (14.4 weeks) along with four other Councils, Mid-East Antrim (9.6), Antrim and Newtownabbey (12.1) Fermanagh and Omagh (12.4), and Armagh City Banbridge and Craigavon (14.0) were within the 15-week statutory target. The shortest processing time taken by Mid-East Antrim (9.6 weeks), with Lisburn and Castlereagh having the longest processing times (21.6 weeks) and Causeway Coast and Glens (20.4 weeks). Performance at 14.4 weeks has been the same for Mid Ulster Council for the past two years, with this in mind we want to improve the average processing time for applicants.

² Northern Ireland Statistics & Research Agency. NI Planning Statistics 2017/18 Annual Statistical Bulletin. https://www.infrastructureni.gov.uk/system/files/publications/infrastructure/planning-statistics-2017-18-bulletin.pdf for further information).

¹ Local applications means an application in the category of local development within the meaning of the Planning (development Management) Regulations (NI) 2015, and any other applications for approval or consent under the Planning Act (NI) 2011 (or any orders or regulations made under the Act

Comments: - There were 6 responses in total

Hard Copy

NONE

Electronic

I consider the quality of the decisions more important than the time taken to process them. Are small issues such as house extensions really, where the Council's priorities should lie? The larger planning applications are more likely to have greater impacts and affect a greater number of people so surely, if planning application-processing time needs to be, improved major planning applications should also be included. Having looked at the annual report performance improvement plan self-assessment, MUDC is already meeting the local applications target but not the major target it seems that this objective has been selected as an easy win. The target seems short sighted and not very aspirational

However, I do understand the average processing time of local applications had significantly decreased in the past year. I do believe that you have to be realistic and bear in mind to a degree there has been a major improvement in this objective already to date.

I am a planning officer and deal with the processing of planning applications on a daily basis. Some things are outside of our control when processing planning applications, such as waiting on agents/architects to provide further information (some submissions are poor) and awaiting consultation replies (Environmental Health are under resourced to deal with the levels of planning consultations presented). For a period last year, there were staffing issues, which severely impacted planning application processing times. To ensure processing times are improved, proper resourcing of staff needs to happen. Caseloads per case officer reached the high 80's at on stage. The level of workload is not sustainable, and a quality service cannot be provided when numbers are this high. By keeping other applications moving through the system, applications that have missed their target seem to suffer. While caseloads are now around 50-60 per officer, this is slightly more manageable, but to see real improvements in performance caseloads need to be around 40-50 per officer, which means more staff. In the long-term, benefits to the economy are significant improved through a strong and efficient planning department, which should represent value for money for the Council.

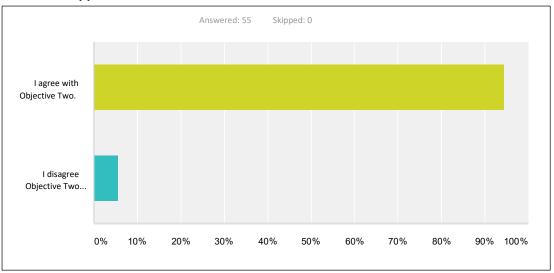
Is this significant enough to be a corporate objective? Is it not something that would naturally be worked towards regardless?!

Planning applications can be daunting enough and you want everything to run as smoothly as possible especially around turnaround timeframes as you have to look ahead to get trades booked in advance etc.

Agree so long as there is sufficient time given to consideration of applications to ensure they are dealt with properly and fairly.

Improvement Objective Two:

To improve the average processing time of Local Planning Applications.



Do you agree that the proposed Performance Improvement Objectives are appropriate for our district?

Improvement Objective Three

3. To improve the accessibility of our services by increasing the number available online

Number of Responses AGREED	52	94.54 %
Number of Responses DISAGREED	1	1.81 %
Number of responses skipped question	2	3.63 %

Why we are doing it?

The internet has transformed almost every aspect of private, public and work life. It is changing the way workplaces communicate, creating new industries and helping to improve public services and transparency. The Internet (or world wide web, which celebrates its 30th anniversary in March 2019), provides the public with the ability to conduct business at their convenience and at their own pace, without the need to travel to a Council office or wait to meet with one of our staff. In addition to being convenient, increased use of online services benefits the public and the Council by reducing the average time our employees spend processing forms, payments, applications, claims etc., freeing them to handle workloads that are more complicated. Online services are vital to good public service.

Over the last few years, we implemented several new, secure and easy-to-use online services, which allow us to handle applications, bookings, and payments better. Our goal is to continue increasing the variety of online services, we offer, including the ability to apply, pay for and book a range of services, and access information instantly. We are committed to making our online services secure and easy to use.

Developing online services for a population with a variety of experiences and comfort levels with technology presents a unique challenge. We solicit stakeholder input using a variety of methods prior to developing our services. Focus groups/discussions are common tools we use to engage our external stakeholders. We also consult with our employees when developing online services. Once we implement new online services, we continue to engage the public by soliciting their feedback using various methodologies. We will continue to provide appropriate support for those who interact with our services in non-digital ways such as face-to-face, written correspondence or by telephone.

Comments: - There were 10 responses in total
Hard Copy
NONE
Electronic
Surely, the availability of services online should have been achieved years ago! How behind the times we are?
I would also say that it's not just about increasing the number of service available online, but rather how the Council conducts its business and that as much need to be done as possible for services to be easy to complete. The process of some services is very cumbersome, and there are many public sector examples where technology has been adapted to make it more convenient for people to access services.

I agree, to a degree, there is a lot of people within MUDC's district that either don't use the internet or are foreign nationals. The older generation, don't tend to use online services. I do think that accessibility of the Council's services needs to be improved by other means also.

One way to improve services would be to develop a system where agents/architects can pay for and submit their planning applications online. Pay for a dog licence online.

The website needs to be improved and made more user friendly – there needs to be clear "buttons" to get straight to the most popular services – the menu list along the left hand sides buries all the links so they are nigh impossible to find.

This would be greatly assisted if the whole district council avail of reasonable broadband speeds.

I agree that more Council services should have on line facilities; however, I also believe that the Council shouldn't push users online by concealing offline contact details or limiting access to offline support. If a large number of users are choosing offline routes, then the Council needs to find out why and take an informed action to change how they access the services.

Leisure activities need to be bookable online. A very small number are currently online but bigger summer activities need to be online also. Payment up front at the time of booking means less build-up of people at reception on the first day and a smoother start.

Website needs to be more user friendly too much information on line can be a "mine field" for the public when they are trying to look for a service.

I agree with services being provided online provided there is choice for those who are unable to access services online or who prefer not to. Some people find it satisfactory to deal with real people rather than via technology and not everyone has access to appropriate technology or high quality broadband etc. The needs of older people and people with certain disabilities need to be taken into account.

To improve the accessibility of our services by increasing

Improvement Objective Three:

Answered: 53 Skipped: 2 I agree with **Objective Three** I disagree Objective Three 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100% 0%

the number available online.

Improvement Objective Four

4. To support people to adopt healthier lifestyles by increasing usage of Council recreational facilities

Number of Responses AGREED	53	96.36 %
Number of Responses DISAGREED	2	3.64 %
Number of responses skipped question	0	0 %

Why we are doing it?

People in the UK are around 20% less active now than in the 1960's ¹. If current trends continue, we will be 35% less active by 2030. We are the first generation to need to make a conscious decision to build physical activity into our daily lives. Fewer of us have manual jobs. Technology dominates at home and at work, the two places where we spend most of our time. Societal changes have designed physical activity out of our lives and an increase in car usage has meant a 25% reduction in travel by foot or bicycle. Council wants to help people to adopt and continue to develop healthy lifestyles. We have chosen this objective based on what our local communities have told us, whilst taking into account our identified health inequalities within the district, accessibility opportunities and participation rates.

Locally, core wellbeing levels are below Northern Ireland averages, and while 80% of the population rate their health as good (Northern Ireland wide those rating their health stands at 79.5%), approximately 20% of the population have life limiting illnesses. In absolute terms, long-term health issues continue to exert pressure on communities, affect overall health outcomes within communities and create challenges for the delivery of public services (i.e. the significant burden of chronic disease in health and social services). Sedentary behaviour is a risk factor for poor health, with just over 25% of adults in Northern Ireland lead a sedentary lifestyle by sitting for extending periods ². Within our district, obesity rates in children and adults are increasing, coupled with it being an area with the highest proportion of deaths due to circulatory diseases, points us towards a need to increase participation in local health and well-being programmes.

Promoting active healthier lifestyles for Mid Ulster residents, can help address the important challenges facing us locally today. Increasing physical activity and promoting active lifestyles have the potential to improve the physical and mental health of Mid Ulster residents. Being active can help us live longer and feel better, improve our mood, help improve our sleep and even reduce the risk of conditions like diabetes and coronary heart disease. Even small changes can make a big difference to health and make people feel better.

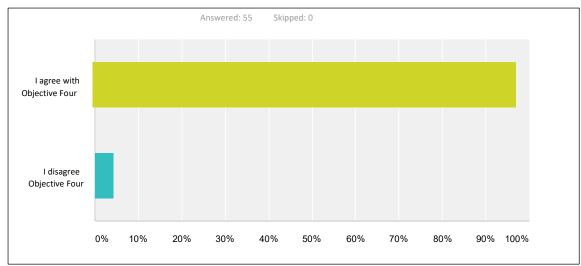
¹ Public Health. Gov.UK. Health matters: getting every adult active every day. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/healthmatters-getting-every-adult-active-every-day/health-matters-getting-every-adult-active-every-day

² Western health and Social Care Trust. Physical Activity. <u>http://www.westerntrust.hscni.net/livewell/3189.html</u>

	Hard Copy
	NONE
	Electronic
	Loyalty cards/discounts for classes. There seems to be a difference in membership fees betwee
	the three leisure centres. Would be beneficial if the membership allowed you to use the ot facilities within Council.
ļ	Any measure to promote the use of existing facilities should be encouraged.
	Need to improve the quality and quantity of local sports provision. Perhaps Council can b
	existing sports facilities in local schools, for community use. New leisure centre on a spacious would be a winner also.
	Mid Ulster Council, takes proactive role in health and wellbeing. I commend the recent activi and BBQ. that took place at Ballyronan. Concessionary fees for staff using the leisure facilities also welcome, as is the health and well-being programme.
	I don't see it as Council role to address healthy lifestyles. This is surely role of public health ager It is only Council's role to provide the facilities that are required to meet demand.
-	A healthy lifestyle will help people to live longer, feel good about themselves and keep peo
	away from GP's so the more we can offer them and get involved the better for everyone.
	The website used to promote the local Council leisure facilities are practically non-existent a
	booking on line is awful. I am glad to see that Council is investing in some of the centres thoug
	The leisure facilities at Greenvale Leisure Centre are fantastic; however, the swimming pool ter
	are ridiculously cold. The learner pool needs to be warmer for families to use the facilities, as
	too cold for younger children. They simply aren't active enough in the water to maintain a dec
	body temp as they can't swim yet. Also for those with health conditions or disabilities that inh
	them in any way it is too cold and simply just not user friendly. When I am taking my youn
	children to the pool we drive to Antrim instead as the pool temp is more suitable for younger or
	We shouldn't be driving past our local swimming pool to go to another one miles away. On anot
	note. I take my older children to GLC every week for a swim but for three consecutive week
	have been charged three different amounts for admission. This ranged from approx. £5 - £9. Pri
	need to be consistent unless there are promoters running. Gymnastics is a massive selling poin
	present and all classes continue to be fully booked for the younger age group. If possible,
-	additional class needs to be put on to deal with the demand at this young age.
	Works to Dungannon Leisure Centre could be planned better i.e. carry work out in phases to ena
	parts of the facilities to stay open to the public.
	Members of the public who purchase leisure centre memberships should be able to use it at
	of the 4 leisure centres. People living in rural areas are at a disadvantage as recreational facili
	are within towns. Community centres/ halls in rural areas could be supported and utilised
	encourage rural people to participate in physical activity, which would address isolation a
	mental health issues.
	People on very low incomes may need to be supported to enable them to access recreation
	facilities. Not everyone has transport to access key facilities, which is a deterrent.

Improvement Objective 4

To support people to adopt healthier lifestyles by increasing usage of council recreational facilities.



QUESTION 3.

Please outline any improvements that you feel could be made by Mid Ulster Council in the future

C	omments: - There were 15 responses in total
	Hard Copy
	NONE
	Electronic
	There seems to be regular communication via social media particularly twitter however there should be more regular communication with residents using traditional methods. I have received an insight magazine in the past but it needs to be more frequent to keep residents informed. I find the stats in relation to lost time due to sickness absence truly shocking! 8,816 days were lost due to sickness absence during 17/18 – that is 24 years! And also that 106 employees were absent due to long-term sickness absence. It would be interesting to see this in context of total employees. Surely there needs to be an objective to address this or perhaps Objective 4 should be specifically tailored to MUDC staff in an effort to reduce sickness absence. More consideration could be to families of children with special needs such as autism when attending Council organised events in town.
	Include environmental issues such as reduce litter n our roadsides, dog fouling on our footpaths, graffiti on our buildings, fly tipping etc.
	Sound language
	Mid Ulster District Council is missing out on what the ratepayer really cares about, reducing littering in our district, tackling fly tipping, getting people to recycle more and throw away less. Council needs to step up and start enforcing littering fines and actually following up on fly tipping incidents. At the moment, people can drop litter and dump what they like, where they like. Council cleans it up, using endless amounts of ratepayer's money but isn't tackling the root cause of the problem. Has Blue Planet passed the Council by? There is a wave of social awareness about the global, as well as local, effects of litter, waste and single use plastics. So many individuals and community groups are actively out cleaning up their areas, but the Council isn't backing their work up by tackling the people who continue to litter and dump. Yet none of the Council's objectives reflect this or even anything environmental.

No other issues
Develop the household membership across all of the sites
A membership option that allows use in all the council leisure centres
More publicity around what is available to people. Affordable prices for people to access facilities
Improved access to council facilities for disabled users especially at leisure facilities e.g. leisure centres etc.
In general, I always go to the website for information using my phone and this really could be doing with being more interactive, it's difficult to navigate and information remains static.
Objective 4 I agree with but I would consider improving the facilities and maintenance of Cookstown Leisure Centre. I attend the swimming pool twice a week (Monday – swimming lessons with my daughter and them I attend a swimming class on Friday evening) the changing rooms are very unclean and the hairdryers are mostly out of order. The children's pool is freezing and I have a 3 year old that can barely stay in it for long because she is so cold. When attending the main pool on Fridays there is an awful smell that comes from the main pool to the extent, I have had to purchase a nose clip. If the facilities and maintenance would improve and the cleaning more frequent if may assist increasing usage of facilities.
As much as possible online – information on what's on, process, as well as booking. MUSA site is also fantastic but lacks a play park like the one Meadowbank has. There is no facility for younger kids when possibly older siblings are participating in an activity onsite.
Telephone communication difficult, inability to pick up calls within the hunt system leaves callers with quite a long wait before it can be answered.
Improvement of operating times of council facilities (particularly leisure facilities) on Sundays – very restricted.

QUESTION 4

Please use the following space to provide any further comments relating to the draft Corporate Improvement objectives

Comments: - There were 3 responses
Hard Copy
NONE
Electronic
Why limit the number of improvement objectives to 4? Is reducing waste still not a priority? According to the Annual Report 98% of respondents agreed with this objective during the previous consultation, therefore I don't understand why it hasn't been included. Still quite a significant amount of waste (26,514 tonne in 2016/17) going to landfill. Surely more needs to be done to address this. Personally, I consider there to be still quite a bit of confusion regarding what can and can't be recycled. I really would have liked to have given more positive comments but really feel that the objectives should strive for much better!
Just to reiterate – council needs to realise the actual environmental quality of the district is what really matters most to people and will have the greatest impact on improving their overall quality of life. Tackle littering and dumping at source – instil some pride!
nothing else to add

Report on	Elected Member Development Working Group
Date of Meeting	4 April 2019
Reporting Officer	Philip Moffett, Head of Democratic Services
Contact Officer	Eileen Forde, Member Support Officer

Is this report restricted for confidential business?

If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon

Yes No x

1.0	Purpose of Report	
1.1	To receive and consider the report of a meeting of the Elected Member Development Working Group held on Thursday 28 February 2019.	
2.0	Background	
2.1	The Council through the Elected Member Development Steering Group has now attained Level 1 Charter Status for Elected Member Development.	
2.2	The steering group Terms of Reference confirms that the business of the Working Group be reported through Policy & Resources Committee.	
3.0	Main Report	
3.1	 The Report of the most recent meeting of the Elected Member Development Steering Group is attached as Appendix A for consideration and approval. The following issues have resulted from discussion at the February meeting: Directors to deliver one hour session as undernoted prior to each of the committees in June outlining the terms of reference of the committee Planning Training for Members to be scheduled for 2pm on Friday 24 May 2019. 	
	CommitteeTraining DatePolicy & Resources6 June 2019Environment Committee11 June 2019Development Committee13 June 2091	
	• Drop in Clinics to be organised at each site to accommodate Receipt of Councillor Induction pack, signing of relevant documentation ie Declaration of Councillor, finance forms confirmation of details for website.	
	 Standing Order Training as previous to be delivered early in the new Council term. 	
	 Declaration of Interest training, to include declaring interests with regard to planning matters. 	

	 Code of Conduct training to be organised early in new Council term. Avail of awareness training opportunities with offered by the NI Strategic Migration Partnership
3.2	Charter Status Assessment:
	The presentation of Level 1 Charter Status for Elected Member Development took place on Thursday 28 February 2019, (appendix b). Representatives of NILGA presented the award on behalf of the Awarding Body, North West Employers.
	Continuous improvement is an important part of the Charter Review process and the Elected Member Development Working Group continue to discuss training and development for the new Council term.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: not applicable at this point
	Human: Not applicable
	Risk Management: Not applicable
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: Not applicable
	Rural Needs Implications: Not applicable
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	The committee:
	 (i) Consider and approves the report of the Elected Member Development Steering Group meeting held on Thursday 28 February 2019;
	(ii) Approve the recommendations for Induction and future training made by the Elected Member Development Steering Group detailed at 3.1.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix A: Report of Elected Member Development Steering Group Appendix B: Photographs of Awards.



Report of Elected Member Development Steering Group of Mid Ulster District Council held on 28 February 2019 at 5.00 pm in Council Offices, Dungannon

- Attendees
 Members: Councillors Ashton, Cuddy, Doris, McKinney, M Quinn, Elattar, Gildernew, (Chair Cllr McPeake in attendance for presentation)
 Officers: E Forde, Member Support Officer, P Moffett, Head of Democratic Services
- **In attendance:** Fiona Douglas, NILGA

Apologies

AGENDA	MATTERS AGREED	ACTIONS & RESPONSIBILITY
1.0	Charter Status Update	
	 NILGA representative Fiona Douglas presented Chair of Elected Member Development Working Group with Charter Status award and certificate 	
2.0	Meeting Report 28 November 2018	
	Noted	
3.0	Progress Report	
	Members Noted	
	 Update on training, Personal Training Budget allocation and uses, In-house Links to Corporate Plan, Working group additional members now in attendance. Members noted the statistics provided from last survey of Councils undertaken by the National Association of Councillors with regard to Councillors allowances i.e. availability of iPads, stationery etc. Members suggested compiling a report on monies available for training/conferences and not utilised by Members; 	

	 avail of training offered by the group following the Light refreshments to include sandwiches for forth 		Member Support Officer
4.0	Induction Training Proposals		
	 Members Agreed: Directors to deliver one hour session prior to each of the committees in June outlining the terms of reference of the committee as undernoted Planning Training for Members to be scheduled for 2pm on Friday 24 May 2019. Committee 		Member Support Officer Head of Democratic Services Corporate L&D Manager
	Policy & Resources	6 June 2019	
	Environment Committee	11 June 2019	
	Development Committee	13 June 2091	
	 Drop in Clinics to be organised at each site to according of relevant documentation is Declaration of for website. Standing Order Training as previous to be deliver Declaration of Interest training, to include declaring Code of Conduct training to be organised early in Avail of awareness training opportunities with offerent of the second se	of Councillor, finance forms confirmation of details red early in the new Council term. ng interests with regard to planning matters. new Council term.	



Meeting concluded at 6.00pm

Presentation of Level 1 Charter Status for Elected Member Development Thursday 28 February 2019



Chair, Councillor Sean McPeake, Ms Fiona Douglas NILGA, Councillor Derek McKinney Chair of Elected Member Development Steering Group



Back Row Left to Right S McAleer Corporate L&D Manager, Cllrs Ashton, Cuddy, Doris, Gildernew E Forde Member Support Officer, Cllr Elattar

Front Row, Chair, Councillor Sean McPeake, Ms Fiona Douglas NILGA, Councillor Derek McKinney Chair of Elected Member Development Steering Group

Minutes of Meeting of Policy and Resources Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 7 March 2019 in the Council Offices, Ballyronan Road, Magherafelt

Members Present	Councillor McKinney, Chair
	Councillors Ashton, Cuddy, Doris, Gildernew, Kearney, S McGuigan, D McPeake, Molloy, M Quinn, Totten
Officers in Attendance	Mr Cassells, Director of Environment and Property Mrs Canavan, Director of Organisational Development Mr O'Hagan, Head of IT Mr Kelso, Director of Public Health and Infrastructure Ms Mezza, Head of Marketing and Communications Mr Moffett, Head of Democratic Services Mr Scullion, Head of Property Services Mr JJ Tohill, Director of Finance Miss Thompson, Democratic Services Officer

The meeting commenced at 7.03 pm.

PR047/19 Apologies

Councillors Buchanan, Elattar, Forde, McLean, S McPeake.

PR048/19 Declaration of Interest

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

PR049/19 Chair's Business

None.

Matters for Decision

PR050/19 Committee and Council Meetings – April 2019

The Head of Democratic Services presented previously circulated report which considered the re-scheduling of Committee and Council meetings due to take place in April 2019 to facilitate the Local Council Election timetable and arrangements.

Proposed by Councillor S McGuigan Seconded by Councillor Ashton and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to alter the pattern of Committee and Council meetings for April 2019 to facilitate Local Council Election timetable as follows –

1 – Policy & Resources Committee (07.03.19)

- Environment Committee Monday 1 April Cookstown Office
- Planning Committee Tuesday 2 April Magherafelt Office
- Development Committee Wednesday 3 April Cookstown Office
- Policy and Resources Committee Thursday 4 April Cookstown Office
- Council Meeting Monday 15 April Dungannon Office

Matters for Information

PR051/19 Minutes of Policy and Resources Committee held on Thursday 7 February 2019

Members noted Minutes of Policy and Resources Committee held on Thursday 7 February 2019.

PR052/19 National Association of Councillors and Local Government Staff Commission

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on correspondence received from the Local Government Staff Commission (LGSC) and the National Association for Councillors (NAC) on annual membership/contributions payable for 2019/20.

PR053/19 Performance Improvement Nine Month Progress Update (Objectives, Improvement Projects and Indicators)

Members noted previously circulated report which provided monitoring information on the review of performance against Council's seven statutory and three corporate performance improvement indicators and standards, along with an overview of the Corporate Health Indicators for the first nine months of 2018/19. The report also provided a performance progress summary against the Council's four corporate improvement objectives and the associated project plans. The indicators and standards, the four improvement projects and corporate health indicators are contained within the Performance Improvement Plan for 2018/19.

Councillor Cuddy asked if there was anything which stood out within the progress report.

The Head of Democratic Services directed Members to appendix two of the report and the statutory indicator in relation to processing time for major planning applications which has seen a dip in performance. The officer advised that the reason for the dip in performance is due to the processing of legacy planning applications which had been in the system for a long time. Members were advised that the processing time for planning applications would be a specific corporate objective going forward.

PR054/19 Council Motion on Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS)

The Head of Democratic Services presented previously circulated report in relation to Council Motion on Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS) which was carried by Council on 28 June 2018. The report provided information in relation to Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions and considered any implications for Mid Ulster District Council.

Councillor M Quinn stated he did not believe Council could carry out full a BDS campaign and proposed that a report be brought back to Committee in relation to how Council could take forward the various stages of implementation as listed at 3.3 and 3.4 of report.

Councillor Cuddy stated he was disappointed and concerned that this matter related to issues which were ongoing in another country and that this country had its own issues to sort out. Councillor Cuddy highlighted that there is a Jewish community within Northern Ireland.

Councillor Ashton stated she would support Councillor Cuddy's comments and that the DUP had voted against the motion when it came before Council. Councillor Ashton stated she appreciated that tonight's report was only for information but that she would be standing by her views.

Councillor M Quinn stated he understood the views of Councillors Cuddy and Ashton but that the BDS Campaign was not against the Jewish race but rather the Israeli government.

Councillor Molloy stated that there were many worldwide issues which are far enough away from Mid Ulster but that he would be continuing to support the motion and how it could be implemented.

The Chair, Councillor McKinney stated that Northern Ireland was a country governed by the UK and that the UK government does not support the BDS campaign.

Councillor Kearney seconded Councillor M Quinn's proposal.

Councillors Ashton and Cuddy recorded their objection to the proposal.

Councillor Cuddy asked that a recorded vote be taken on Councillor M Quinn's proposal –

For – (8) - Doris, Gildernew, Kearney, S McGuigan, D McPeake, Molloy, M Quinn, Totten

Against – (3) – Ashton, Cuddy, McKinney

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that a report be brought back to Policy and Resources Committee in relation to how Council could implement its support for the BDS campaign based on the issues identified at 3.3 and 3.4 of report.

3 – Policy & Resources Committee (07.03.19)

Councillor Ashton asked when the Air Ambulance motion would be brought before the Policy and Resources Committee.

The Director of Finance stated that as there was now limited time to bring forward a report to April committee and he would suggest that a report be brought to the first Policy and Resources meeting of the new Council term.

Councillor Ashton advised that Council would be receiving notification from Newry, Mourne and Down District Council that they had adopted the Air Ambulance motion. Councillor Ashton stated she was willing to work with officers and provide any information necessary.

The Director of Finance stated he would work with the Chief Executive to expedite a report.

PR055/19 Marketing & Communications Activity Update

Members noted previously circulated report which provided an update on key areas of recent marketing and communications activity.

The Head of Marketing and Communications advised that since the report had been issued quarter 2 and 3 recycling figures had been released in which there had been a 4.2% increase in blue bin material being collected. The officer stated that the publicity of the recycling campaign had undoubtedly contributed to this increase and that it was encouraging.

Councillor Molloy referred to closure of Dungannon Leisure Centre for refurbishment and discussion amongst users as to why the centre is closing. The Councillor stated he appreciated that the Council has issued a message to users explaining why the leisure centre is closing but it would be useful for further information to be sent out to keep users informed.

The Head of Marketing and Communications stated that it is planned to send out information to customers, particularly highlighting options with regard to swimming over the period of closure.

Councillor Cuddy asked if the littering campaign will include dog littering as these type of complaints seem to be on the increase.

The Head of Marketing and Communications advised that dog littering will form part of the litter campaign.

In response to comments from the Chair, the Head of Marketing and Communications confirmed that Facebook can be used to promote posts based on geography, age, gender, and interest and that the channel was used in this way and would continue to be as appropriate.

Local Government (NI) Act 2014 – Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor Molloy Seconded by Councillor M Quinn and

Resolved In accordance with Section 42, Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014 that Members of the public be asked to withdraw from the meeting whilst Members consider items PR056/19 to PR063/19.

Matters for Decision

PR056/19 Four Year Cyclical Fleet and Diverse Plant Replacement ProgrammePR057/19 Coalisland Public Realm Scheme

PR058/19 Planning System Replacement Update

Matters for Information

PR059/19	Confidential Minutes of Policy and Resources Committee
	held on Thursday 7 February 2019
PR060/19	Contracts and DAC
PR061/19	Financial Report for 10 months ended 31 January 2019
PR062/19	Staff Matters for Information
PR063/19	Dissolution Date – Local Government Staff Commission

PR064/19 Duration of Meeting

The commenced at 7pm and concluded at 8.16 pm.

Chair_____

Date _____

Report on	Arrangements for Annual Meeting of Council - May 2019
Date of Meeting	Thursday 4 th April, 2019
Reporting Officer	P Moffett, Head of Democratic Services
Contact Officer	P Moffett, Head of Democratic Services

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

1.0	Purpose of Report	
1.1	To update members of committee on arrangements for the annual meeting of Mid Ulster District Council following the Local Election scheduled for Thursday 2 nd May.	
2.0	Background	
2.1	In each year that is not an election year the Council is required under the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 to have an annual meeting in June. However, in a Local Election year the annual meeting must be held within 21 days from the day of the poll. Requirements on the convening of annual and subsequent meetings are set out within Council's Standing Orders - Standing Order 1 (1)-(4) and 2.	
2.2.	The annual meeting will, this year, be held on Monday 20 th May at 7pm in the Chamber, Council Offices, Dungannon.	
3.0	Main Report	
3.1	 The first meeting following Local Election will transact the business of; Confirming positions of responsibility for the period 2019-2014 Appointment of Positions of Responsibility for 2019-2020 (Note Party Nominating Officers will be asked to nominate for the positions) Receiving nominations (names) of Councillors to be represented on Committees (Note: Party Nominating officers will nominate to their party positions on Committees and independent members where a position(s) is available to them) Receiving nominations (names) of Councillors to be represented on Outside Bodies (Note Existing representation will be presented with active membership and any vacancies showing which need filled. Party nominating officers need only nominate by exception i.e. if they wish to make changes or fill vacancies for their Party) Confirming the 2019-2020 Schedule of Meetings 	

3.2	Positions of Responsibility. Positions have been specified within the Local Government (NI) Act 2014 as;
	 Chair of the Council Deputy Chair of the Council Chair of any committee of the council
	 Deputy Chair of any committee of the council
	 Member of a cabinet style executive of the council
	 External representative of the council.
3.3	In reference to those bodies identified as receiving an 'external representative' of the council, as referred to above, the following have been identified and also received representation during the 2015-2019 council term;
	Housing Council for NI
	Partnership Panel for NI
	 Reserve Forces and Cadets Association for NI
	 Policing & Community Safety Partnerships (PCSPs)
	• Tolicing & community Salety Fatherships (FCSFS)
3.4	A summons/agenda to attend the meeting will be served on every member at least 3 days before the meeting, in line with Council Standing Orders. A draft of the agenda is attached as appendix A.
3.5	Existing representation on 'Outside Bodies' is attached as appendix B and can also be
	reviewed on our website at https://mid-ulster.cmis-ni.org/midulster/OutsideBodies.aspx
4.0	Other Considerations
4.0	Other Considerations
4.0 4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications Financial: not applicable
	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications Financial: not applicable Human: not applicable
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications Financial: not applicable Human: not applicable Risk Management: not applicable
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications Financial: not applicable Human: not applicable Risk Management: not applicable Screening & Impact Assessments
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications Financial: not applicable Human: not applicable Risk Management: not applicable Screening & Impact Assessments Equality & Good Relations Implications: not applicable
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications Financial: not applicable Human: not applicable Risk Management: not applicable Screening & Impact Assessments Equality & Good Relations Implications: not applicable Rural Needs Implications: not applicable
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications Financial: not applicable Human: not applicable Risk Management: not applicable Screening & Impact Assessments Equality & Good Relations Implications: not applicable Rural Needs Implications: not applicable
4.1 4.2 5.0	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications Financial: not applicable Human: not applicable Risk Management: not applicable Screening & Impact Assessments Equality & Good Relations Implications: not applicable Rural Needs Implications: not applicable Recommendation(s) That the committee notes and considers the arrangements for the Council 2019 Annual
4.1 4.2 5.0 5.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications Financial: not applicable Human: not applicable Risk Management: not applicable Screening & Impact Assessments Equality & Good Relations Implications: not applicable Rural Needs Implications: not applicable Recommendation(s) That the committee notes and considers the arrangements for the Council 2019 Annual Meeting set for Monday 20 May 2019.
4.1 4.2 5.0 5.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications Financial: not applicable Human: not applicable Risk Management: not applicable Screening & Impact Assessments Equality & Good Relations Implications: not applicable Rural Needs Implications: not applicable Recommendation(s) That the committee notes and considers the arrangements for the Council 2019 Annual Meeting set for Monday 20 May 2019. Documents Attached & References

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XX May 2019

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend the Annual Meeting of Council to be held in the Council Chamber, Dungannon, Council Offices, Circular Road, Dungannon, BT71 6DT on Monday 20 May at 7pm to transact the business noted below.

Yours faithfully

Anthony Tohill Chief Executive

AGENDA

OPEN BUSINESS

- 1. Apologies
- 2. Declarations of Interest
- 3. Chair's Business

Matters for Decision

- 4. Positions of Responsibility for period 2019-2014
- 5. Appointment of Positions of Responsibility for 2019-2020

Note: Party Nominating Officers to nominate to positions for 2019-2020

Note: Chairperson for 2019-2020 will assume their position and conduct the rest of meeting

- 6. Nomination of Councillor to Committees
- Committee Audit
- Committee Development
- Committee Environment
- Committee Planning
- Committee Policy & Resources
- 7. Nomination of Councillors to Outside Bodies

Note: Party nominating officers nominate Cllrs to their party positions on Committees.

Note: Existing representation will be presented with active membership and any vacancies showing which need to be filled (resulting from the election). Nominating officers need only nominate by exception (i.e. if they wish to make changes or fill vacancies for their Party)

8. 2019-2020 Schedule of Meetings

Matters for Information

9. Standing Orders of Mid Ulster District Council

Appendix B - Representation of Mid Ulster District Council on Outside Bodies (at 26-03-19)

Name of Outside Body	Mid Ulster District Council Positions Agreed	Membe	ership
Agewell Partnership	Sinn Féin Sinn Féin DUP UUP SDLP	Elat Cla Bur G Sh McF	rke ton iiels
Burnavon Arts & Cultural Centre Sub Committee	Sinn Féin Sinn Féin DUP UUP SDLP	Mallay McNa Buch Wils M Qu	imee anan son
Caledon Regeneration Partnership	4 Representatives	Mulli Bur McA Gilde	ton leer rnew
Coalisland and District Development Association	Party Agreement 2	Col Do	ris
Coalisland & Dungannon Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership	Dungannon & Torrent DEAs	Ashton Cuddy Cuthbertson Molloy Monteith ⁱ Mullen	Doris Gillespie McGinley O'Neill M Quinn Colvin
Coalisland Town Centre Forum	SF SF SF SF SDLP UUP	Do Gille: O'N McGi M Qu Col	ris spie eill nley uinn
Community Organisations of South Tyrone & Areas	SF SF DUP UUP SDLP	Mol O'N Bur Mulli McA	eill ton gan
Cookstown & District Town Twinning Committee	Cookstown DEA	Be McNa T Qu Wils Bucha Mallag	ell Imee Jinn Son anan
Cookstown Town Centre Forum	Cookstown DEA	Bell Buchanan Glasgow Mallaghan McNamee T Quinn Wilson	
Cookstown, Dungannon & Magherafelt Community Transport	Party Agreement 3	Buri McNa Col ⁱ	mee vin
Drainage Council	SF	Public App Process not o by I	commenced
Dungannon Enterprise Centre	Party Agreement 2	Mol Ash	loy
Dungannon Regeneration Partnership	Dungannon DEA	Ash	

Name of Outside Body	Mid Ulster District Council Positions Agreed	Membership
		Cuddy Cuthbertson Molloy Monteith Mullen
Flavour of Tyrone	Sinn Féin Sinn Féin DUP UUP SDLP	Gildernew Gillespie Burton Colvin McAleer
ICBAN	Sinn Féin Sinn Féin Sinn Féin UUP	Mallaghan McPeake Gildernew Mulligan
Maghera Town Centre Forum	SF SF SDLP DUP	McEldowney McGuigan B McPeake S M Quinn Sheils J
Rural Development Local Action Group	Sinn Féin Sinn Féin Sinn Féin Sinn Féin Sinn Féin UUP UUP SDLP SDLP DUP DUP	Clarke Gildernew McEldowney S McGuigan McPeake O'Neill G Shiels Wilson Kearney McAleer Buchanan Forde
Local Government Forum: Northern Commissioning Group, HSCB	SDLP SDLP UUP Sinn Féin	C McFlynn M Kearney G Shiels B McGuigan
Lough Neagh Partnership Board	Sinn Féin Sinn Féin DUP UUP SDLP	McEldowney McGinley Robinson McKinney M Quinn
Magherafelt Town Centre Forum	Magherafelt DEA	Clarke McFlynn McLean G Shiels Totten
Mid Ulster DC Community Plan	DUP DUP Sinn Féin Sinn Féin Sinn Féin Sinn Féin SDLP UUP UUP	Burton Forde Doris Gildernew Mallaghan, B McGuigan McPeake, Kearney G Shiels Cuddy

Name of Outside Body	Mid Ulster District Council Positions Agreed	Membership
Mid Ulster Housing Forum	DUP DUP SF	TBC TBC TBC S McPeake
	SF SF SF SF	McNamee Elattar Gillespie
	SDLP UUP UUP	Kearney Colvin Wilson
National Association of Councillors (NI)	Sinn Féin Sinn Féin Sinn Féin DUP DUP UUP SDLP	Molloy Gildernew J ONeill Clarke J Shiels Cuthbertson McKinney McFlynn
NI Amenity Council	Party Agreement 3	Gillespie G Shiels J Shiels
NI Local Government Association	Sinn Féin Sinn Féin DUP DUP DUP UUP SDLP	McPeake S McGuigan Mallaghan Burton J Shiels Robinson Glasgow Kearney
NILGA Member Networks:Community PlanningPlanning	Com. Planning (x1) Planning (x 1)	Glasgow Clarke
NILGA Regional Elected Member Development Group	From Council's Elected Member Development Group	Doris
NI Local Government Travellers Partnership	SF	D McPeake
 NI Strategic Migration Partnership Sustainable Communities & Demographics Working Group 	SF	S McGuigan
PEACE Partnership	DUP DUP Sinn Féin Sinn Féin Sinn Féin Sinn Féin SDLP UUP UUP	Ashton McLean Milne Doris McGinley McNamee McPeake Mullen McKinney Wilson
The Honourable The Irish Society: Advisory Committee	Party Agreement 2	G Shiels B McGuigan A Tohill (Officer)

Name of Outside Body	Mid Ulster District Council Positions Agreed	Membership
Shopmobility Mid Ulster	Sinn Féin Sinn Féin DUP, UUP	McNamee J O'Neill J Shiels
	SDLP	Glasgow McFlynn
Somme Association (Somme Advisory Council)	Party Agreement 2	Mulligan J Shiels
South Tyrone Hospital Community Forum	Party Agreement 2	Cuthbertson Molloy
Southern Child Care Partnership Trust Early Years Forum	Party Agreement 2	Colvin Molloy
Tullyvar Joint Committee	2SF, 1DUP, 1UUP, 1SDLP	McGinley S McGuigan Robinson Mulligan McAleer
William Carleton Summer School	Party Agreement 2	Mulligan S McGuigan
Workspace, Draperstown	Party Agreement	B McGuigan
The Heart of Ancient Ulster Landscape Partnership Scheme (THoAULP)	SDLP Sinn Féín Sinn Féin UUP DUP	Mullen Clarke Mallaghan Glasgow Buchanan

ⁱ Cllr Monteith does not avail of representation

Report on	Council & Committee Governance Arrangements 2019-2023
Date of Meeting	Thursday 4 th April, 2019
Reporting Officer	P Moffett, Head of Democratic Services
Contact Officer	P Moffett, Head of Democratic Services

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update committee members of the existing council and committee governance arrangements and those to be applied during the new Council term 2019-2023.
2.0	Background
2.1	The committee will be familiar with the council's form of governance in considering and arriving at decisions of council to be subsequently actioned by officers. Business has been transacted through a traditional committee system, where it is initially considered by one of its committees forming part of its governance decision-making framework and then recommendations presented to full Council in the form of minutes. In some instances delegated authority on some matters has been delegated to Committees, particularly on planning and licensing arrangements.
2.2.	Sec. 19 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 confirms that "A Council must operate a committee system unless the council decides to operate executive arrangements or prescribed arrangements". The Council, however, may resolve to operate executive arrangements or prescribed arrangements and a decision to do so must be arrived upon by way of a qualified majority.
2.3	The traditional committee system of governance has facilitated the transaction of council business since its establishment on 1 st April 2015 and during the 'shadow' period leading to local government reform on the aforementioned date.
2.4	The traditional committee system method of decision making is summarised as;
	 A Chair and Deputy Chair being nominated under Sch. 1 of the 2014 Act (i.e. d'Hondt) as positions of responsibility Membership being filled under Sch. 2 of the 2014 Act (i.e. Quota of Greatest Remainder) Establishment of as many Committees as is required Committees having as many members a determined by council Committees being able to appoint one or more sub-committee

3.0	Main Report				
3.1	Current committees, membership and those identified for the new Council term, 2019-2023 are as detailed;				
	Committees No. of Cllrs				
	Audit	8			
	Development	16			
	Environment	16			
	Planning	16			
	Policy & Resources	16			
3.2	confirms those matters re to Council - attached as a matters referred to it also other committees.	Terms of Reference & Delegation to ferred to each committee for consider ppendix A. The Policy & Resources (consides issues that do not fall within	ration and recommendation Committee, in addition to the		
3.3	Meeting Arrangements That the committee meeti public holidays);	ngs continue to be held, as detailed (unless to avoid for example,		
		<u> </u>			
	Committees	Day	Time		
	Audit	Tues on week prior to Council mtg.	7pm		
	Development	2 nd Thursday	7pm		
	Environment	2 nd Tuesday	7pm		
	Planning	1 st Tuesday	7pm		
	Policy & Resources	1 st Thursday	7pm		
	That the Council meeting Council Standing Orders.	held on 4 th Thursday of every month	as confirmed within the		
	Working Groups				
3.4	During the 2015-2019 term, committees considered it necessary to establish a number of working groups of members to consider and make recommendations on a series of non-policy related and/or to help in the formulation of policy on a task and finish basis. Committees have chosen to establish working groups rather than establish sub-committees given the advantages associated with convening and progressing issues through the former.				
3.5	The working groups officially report to and make recommendations to the committee which it is formed and does not have power to exercise on behalf of the council. Appendix B provides detail on the working groups established throughout the 2015-19 term. Sec. 11 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014 allows for establishment of one or more sub-committees by the relevant Committee.				
3.6	Standing Orders (SO 27.8) provides for appointing sub-committees for specific purposes with established administrative practice indicating that;				
	 Sub-committees meet as often as necessary for the transaction of the assigned business 				

	 Sub-committee minutes are submitted with the parent committee before being brought before Council Membership of sub-committees is appointed by the parent committee The size, term of office and its area of authority to progress is a matter for the committee Sub-committees may include non-voting persons Appendix B details the working groups convened by committees and council during the 2015-2019 term.			
4.0	Other Considerations			
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications			
	Financial: not applicable			
	Human: not applicable			
	Risk Management: not applicable			
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments			
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: not applicable			
	Rural Needs Implications: not applicable			
5.0	Recommendation(s)			
5.1	That the committee notes and considers the Council and Committee governance arrangements for 2019-2023			
6.0	Documents Attached & References			
	Appendix A: Terms of Reference and Delegation to Committees			
	Appendix B: Mid Ulster District Council Working Groups			

Appendix A

Mid Ulster District Council

Terms of Reference & Delegation to Committees

May 2016

Contents

Section			Page
1.0		General	3
2.0		Committee Provisions	4
3.0		Committees	5
	3.1 3.2	Audit Committee Development Committee	7 9
	3.3	Environment Committee	10
	3.4	Planning Committee	11
	3.5	Policy and Resources Committee	12
4.0		Monitoring and Review	13

1.0 GENERAL

1.1 Introduction

- 1.1 Mid Ulster District Council transacts its business through a traditional committee system, where business is initially considered by one of its committees forming part of its governance decision-making framework. This document:
 - Regulates the constitution and membership of each committee of Council
 - Allocates and confirms referred functions to each committee, forming their Terms of Reference
 - Delegates authority to committees to exercise the functions of the Council, where applicable
- 1.2 This document confirms the remit of each committee, their terms of reference, specifying the functions referred to each and defines authority limits.

1.2 Amendment

1.2.1 This document may be amended at any time by the Council by decision of a simple majority.

1.3 Interpretation

- 1.3.1 In this document the expressions, as detailed below, will have the following meaning assigned:
 - "Act" in relation to the functions of the Council means an the Local Government (NI) Act 2014 or other Act of Parliament or any amendment or variation thereof including Regulations made in the name of a relevant Act
 - "Co-opted Member" means any Member of a Committee who is not an elected member of Mid Ulster District Council
 - "Council" means Mid Ulster District Council
 - "Chief Executive" means the Clerk/ Chief Executive appointed by Mid Ulster District
 Council
 - "Senior Officer" means any Senior Officer appointed by the Council forming part of its senior management team
 - "Member" means a councillor elected to serve of Mid Ulster District Council

Page 3 of 13

Page 107 of 154

1.4 Committees

- 1.4.1 Subject to the provisions of the Local Government (NI) Act 2014, Schedules 1 and 2 and other relevant statutes the Council will establish, nominate members to and maintain the following committees:
 - Audit Committee
 - Development Committee
 - Environment Committee
 - Planning Committee
 - Policy & Resources Committee
- 1.4.2 Committees of Council as outlined will have the constitution, quorum, terms of reference and authority delegated, where appropriate, under the appropriate part of section 3 of this document.

1.5 Working Groups

- 1.5.1 The Council and either of its committees may consider it necessary to establish Working Groups of members and council officers to consider and make recommendations on a series of non-policy matters and/ or to help in the formulation of policy. Working Groups will be characterised as dealing with issues on a task and finish basis, established to further consider any matter forming part of the remit of the Committee convening it, or Council. Once the matter under consideration has been completed by the Working Group to the satisfaction of the relevant committee or Council it will be stood down.
- 1.5.2 Working Groups shall officially report to the committee, or council, from which it was formed and shall not have power to exercise on behalf of council any authority nor to incur expenditure without prior authority. A Working Group shall not have the scope to issue instructions to any officer without prior authority of the relevant committee.
- 1.5.3 All working groups shall be provided with a terms of reference by the committee establishing it, or Council, defining its objectives and reporting arrangements.

2.0 Committee Provisions

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 There will be excluded from reference to any committee of council:
 - Any matter which has been specifically referred to another committee
 - Any matter which the Council may decide is specifically excluded from reference to the committee or committees in general
- 2.1.2 Notwithstanding the reference to one Committee of any single function, the Council shall have the power to refer a function specifically to another committee, where by reason of the nature of the matter and in the opinion of the Council it should be so referred.

2.2 Delegated Functions

- 2.2.1 Subject to the provisions of the Local Government (NI) Act 2014, other relevant statutes and Council Standing Orders relating to the transaction of council proceedings where any function of the Council is delegated to a Committee it will have the power to exercise the function in like manner as the Council could have exercised it, had there been no delegation in the first instance. This is provided, however, that it will be competent for the committee in relation to any delegated matter, instead of taking a decision thereon to make a recommendation to the Council thereon, in which event the matter will be decided by the Council after consideration of that recommendation.
- 2.2.2 The Council will exclude from delegation to any of its committees the following, as detailed within the Local Government (NI) Act 2014 (a) to (e), and other relevant statutes, which must be wholly discharged by Council:
 - (a) Making a district rate under the Rates (Northern Ireland) Order 1977
 - (b) Making a determination under section 13(1) of the Local Government Finance Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 (affordable borrowing limit) and monitoring an amount determined under that subsection
 - (c) Borrowing money
 - (d) Acquiring or disposing of land itself
 - (e) Except as provided for in the council's Financial Regulations, the Scheme of Delegation or Standing Orders in respect of matters referred to the committee, any of the following:
 - i. The incurring of any net new expenditure not provided for in the estimate of capital or revenue expenditure unless such expenditure is reported to and approved by the Council

Page 5 of 13

- ii. The preparation, review and amendment this document regulating the constitution, membership, functions and powers of Committees of the Council
- iii. The preparation, review and amendment of the Standing Orders regulating proceedings and business of the Council and Committees
- iv. The preparation, review and amendment of the Scheme of Delegation detailing those functions delegated by the Council to its Officers
- (f) The appointment of representatives of the Council on outside bodies
- (g) The decision to co-operate or combine with other councils to provide services other than by way of collaborative agreement
- (h) Functions referred to or delegated to any other Committee

2.3 General

- 2.3.1 The Council will appoint all Members of Committees unless otherwise provided for in this document. Only the council itself has the power of appointment to and removal of Members from a committee. This power cannot be delegated and appointments to each committee shall take place at council's annual meeting as provisioned for within Standing Orders.
- 2.3.2 The appointment of Chair and Deputy Chair of any Committee, as positions of responsibility, as defined by the Local Government (NI) Act 2014 shall not be undertaken by a committee.
- 2.3.3 The proceedings of any committee will not be invalidated through any vacancy in membership or defect in appointment.
- 2.3.4 The Committees of the Council will have their terms of reference specified in this document in relation to each committee and each will conduct their business within their terms of reference only and act in accordance with the policies of the Council.
- 2.3.5 Committees will conduct their business always in accordance with the Standing Orders relating to meetings and proceedings of the Council and committees.
- 2.3.6 Committees will always conduct their business in accordance with Standing Orders and with Council Rules and Procedures as set out within the Council Constitution on contracts, financial arrangements and the budget and policy framework.
- 2.3.7 A Member may take part in the proceeding of, speak and vote, at any Committee of which he or she is a Member. A Member may attend meetings of a Committee of which they are not a Member but may only speak following prior request to the Chair and invited to address the Committee on the matter under consideration. They shall not be entitled to a vote on that or any other matter being considered at that meeting.
- 2.3.8 An Elected member who is not a member of committee may attend as a participant to the extent as referred at 2.3.7 above. Members may only be entitled to claim for travel, subsistence and necessary expenses, which they have been invited to attend and participate in the meeting or particular section of the meeting thereof.

Page 6 of 13

Page 110 of 154

3.0 COMMITTEES

3.1 Audit Committee

The Audit Committee will comprise 8 Members of Council appointed using the Quota of Greatest Remainder (QGR) as provisioned for within Sc. 2 of the Local Government (NI) Act 2014. The committee shall also have a co-opted member who will be independent of and not be a member of Mid Ulster District Council. The committee will comprise a membership of 9.

Purpose

To provide to those charged with governance independent assurance on the adequacy of the risk management framework, the internal control environment and the integrity of the financial reporting and annual governance processes in line with CIPFA's 2013 Position Statement.

Authority

The audit committee has authority to conduct or authorise investigations into any matters within its scope of responsibility.

Membership and Effectiveness

The audit committee membership is characterised by:

- a) being balanced, objective, independent of mind, knowledgeable and properly trained to fulfil their role;
- b) being supportive of good governance principles and their practical application towards the achievement of organisational objectives;
- c) having a strong independently minded chair displaying a depth of knowledge, skills and interest;
- d) unbiased attitudes- treating auditors, the executive and management fairly;
- e) having the ability to challenge the executive and senior managers when required.

The effectiveness of the audit committee will be considered annually along with a review of the terms of reference.

3.1.2 Chair

The committee will have a Chair and Deputy Chair and be appointed by the Council at its Annual Meeting as positions of responsibility under Part 3 of the Local Government (NI) Act 2014.

3.1.3 Quorum

Business shall not be transacted unless at least one third of the whole number of the committee is present. Three members shall be present.

Page 7 of 13

Meetings

The committee will meet every two months, with authority to convene additional meetings, as circumstances require. All committee members are expected to attend each meeting, in person or via tele- or video-conference. The committee will invite members of management, auditors or others to attend meetings and provide information, as necessary. It will hold private meetings as required with auditor and executive sessions. Meeting agendas will be prepared and provided in advance to members, along with appropriate materials.

3.1.4 Responsibilities

The core functions of an audit committee are to:

- 1) Be satisfied that the Council's assurance statements, including the Annual Governance Statement, properly reflect the risk environment and any actions required to improve it, and demonstrate how governance supports the achievements of the authority's objectives.
- 2) In relation to the Council's internal audit functions:
 - a) oversee its independence, objectivity, performance and professionalism
 - b) support the effectiveness of the internal audit process
 - c) promote the effective use of internal audit within the assurance framework
- 3) Consider the effectiveness of the Council's risk management arrangements and the control environment. Review the risk profile of the organisation and assurances that action is being taken on risk-related issues, including partnerships with other organisations.
- 4) Monitor the effectiveness of the control environment, including arrangements for ensuring value for money and for managing the Council's exposure to the risks of fraud and corruption.
- 5) Consider the reports and recommendations of external audit and *inspection agencies* and their implications for governance, risk management or control.
- 6) Support effective relationships between external audit and internal audit, inspection agencies and other relevant bodies and encourage the active promotion of the value of the audit process.
- 7) Review the financial statements, external auditor's opinion and reports to members, and monitor management action in response to the issues raised by external audit.

Possible wider functions of the Audit Committee:

- 1) Considering governance, risk or control matters at the request of other committees or statutory officers.
- 2) Working with local standards committees to support ethical values and reviewing the arrangements to achieve those values.
- 3) Reviewing and monitoring treasury management arrangements in accordance with the CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice.
- 4) Providing oversight of other public reports, such as the annual report.

3.2 Development Committee

3.2.1 Constitution

The Development Committee will comprise 16 Members of Council appointed using the Quota of Greatest Remainder (QGR) as provisioned for within Sc. 2 of the Local Government (NI) Act 2014.

3.2.2 Chair

The committee will have a Chair and Deputy Chair and be appointed by the Council at its Annual Meeting as positions of responsibility under Part 3 of the Local Government (NI) Act 2014.

3.2.3 Quorum

Business shall not be transacted unless at least one third of the whole number of the committee is present. Six members shall be present.

3.2.4 Functions Referred

The following functions stand referred to the committee.

- 1. To consider business and make recommendations to Council on:
 - Administration and management of cultural venues
 - Arts Development service delivery matters
 - Regional and Minority Languages requirements
 - Management of Leisure Services
 - Sports Development service delivery matters
 - Management and development of Water Recreation Sites transferred from central government
 - Management and development of Parks & Open Spaces
 - Management and development of Play Areas
 - Administration of matters pertaining to countryside access and related matters
 - Management of Community Services
 - Policing and Community Safety Partnership
 - Management of Rural Development Programme
 - Administration and management of Local Economic Development
 - Delivery of Physical Regeneration initiatives
 - Administration and management of functions and powers transferred from central government departments for Social Development and Enterprise, Trade & Investment
 - Tourism service delivery matters
 - Council and Community Events

3.3 Environment Committee

3.3.1 Constitution

The Environment Committee will comprise 16 Members of Council appointed using the Quota of Greatest Remainder (QGR) as provisioned for within Sc. 2 of the Local Government (NI) Act 2014.

3.3.2 Chair

The committee will have a Chair and Deputy Chair and be appointed by the Council at its Annual Meeting as positions of responsibility under Part 3 of the Local Government (NI) Act 2014.

3.3.3 Quorum

Business shall not be transacted unless at least one third of the whole number of the committee is present. Six members shall be present.

3.3.4 Functions Referred

The following functions are referred to the committee.

- 1. To consider business and make recommendations to council on:
 - Building Control service delivery matters
 - Environmental Health service delivery matters
 - Capital projects of the council
 - Waste management service delivery matters
 - Street cleansing service delivery matters
 - Council estate management and property portfolio
 - Maintenance and cleansing of public spaces
 - Management of Off-Street Car Parks, transferred from central government
 - Cemeteries and Burial Grants within the control of the Council
- 2. The power to exercise the council's functions in connection with all licensing matters having effect within the Mid Ulster District Council area, unless the licensing issues have been referred to another Committee

Page 10 of 13

3.4 Planning Committee

3.4.1 Constitution

The Planning Committee will comprise 16 Members of Council appointed using the Quota of Greatest Remainder (QGR) as provisioned for within Sc. 2 of the Local Government (NI) Act 2014.

3.4.2 Chair

The committee will have a Chair and Deputy Chair and be appointed by the Council at its Annual Meeting as positions of responsibility under Part 3 of the Local Government (NI) Act 2014.

3.4.3 Quorum

Business shall not be transacted unless at least one third of the whole number of the committee is present. Six members shall be present.

3.4.4 Functions Referred

The following functions are referred to the committee:

- 1. Consider planning applications made to the council and decide whether or not they should be approved in line with Scheme of Delegation for Planning Applications. Notwithstanding this, the following powers are delegated to the committee:
 - Applications which fall within the Major category of development
 - An application for planning permission where the application is made by the council or an elected member of the council
 - The application relates to land in which the council has an interest/estate
- 2. Participate in the preparation of the Mid Ulster Local Development Plan
- 3. Approve the local development plan before it is passed by resolution of the council
- 4. Monitor Local Development Plan on an annual basis in terms of the availability of housing and economic development land, and that it is reviewed every five years, giving consideration to whether there is a need to change the plan strategy or the zonings, designations and policies as contained in the local policies plan
- 5. Consider and determine the serving of an Enforcement Notice, Stop Notice, and Listed Building Enforcement Notice.

Page 11 of 13

3.8 Policy and Resources Committee

3.8.1 Constitution

The Policy and Resources Committee will comprise 16 Members of Council appointed using the Quota of Greatest Remainder (QGR) as provisioned for within Sc. 2 of the Local Government (Northern Ireland) Act 2014.

3.8.2 Chair

The committee will have a Chair and Deputy Chair and be appointed by the Council at its Annual Meeting as positions of responsibility under Part 2 of the Local Government (NI) Act 2014.

3.8.3 Quorum

Business shall not be transacted unless at least one third of the whole number of the committee is present. Six members shall be present.

3.8.4 Functions Referred

- 1. To consider business and make recommendations to Council on:
 - Administration and management of Democratic Services, to include Member Services
 - Administration and management of council Finance function
 - Governance arrangements and all such matters of Council
 - Administration and management of council Human Resources
 - Administration and management of Registration Services (Births, Deaths and Marriages)
 - Administration and management of ICT Services and related matters
 - Marketing & Communications service delivery matters
 - Council Policy Development Framework
 - Council Performance Improvement and Management Framework
- 2. Consider any matter not delegated, referred to or coming under the remit of any other committee

4.0 Monitoring and Review

This document will be reviewed and consulted throughout each term of the council. A formal review will be undertaken at the commencement of the term of each new council, following a Local Election to Mid Ulster District Council.

Document Control Summary			
Last Revised	Last Revised Revised By Nature of Revision		
26 May 2016	Head of Democratic Services	Audit Committee Terms of Reference, section 3.1	
20 May 2010			

Page 13 of 13

Page 117 of 154

Mid Ulster District Council

Working Groups Established by Committees: Updated March 2019

Working Groups Status			Status
Bonfire Working Group	DUP SF SF SDLP UUP	No representative Cllr J O'Neill Cllr B McGuigan Cllr C McFlynn Cllr Walter Cuddy	Active
Broadband Working Group Formed 2018	SF SF SF SF DUP DUP UUP UUP SDLP	Clir S Clarke Clir M Gillespie Clir B McGuigan Clir J McNamee Clir S McPeake Clir K Ashton Clir W Buchanan Clir W Buchanan Clir M Glasgow Clir R Mulligan Clir S McAleer	Active
Civic Recognition Working Group	DUP DUP SDLP SF SF SF SF UUP UUP	Cllr Ashton Cllr Burton Cllr Kearney Cllr Bell Cllr Doris Cllr Mallaghan Cllr McGinley Cllr Molloy Cllr Cuddy Cllr Wilson	Wound-up May 2018
Tourism Development Group	DUP SF SF SDLP UUP	Councillor F Burton Councillor Clarke Councillor Doris <i>Councillor Kearney</i> Councillor Cuddy	Active
Good Relations	DUP DUP SF SF SF SF SF SDLP UUP UUP	Councillor Ashton Councillor McLean Councillor Milne Councillor McGinley Councillor McNamee Councillor McPeake <i>Councillor Doris</i> Councillor Mullen Councillor McKinney Councillor Wilson	Active
Regional & Minority Languages Working Group	DUP DUP SF SF SF SF	Councillor Ashton Councillor McLean Councillor Milne Councillor McGinley Councillor McNamee Councillor McPeake	Active

	SF	Councillor S McGuigan	
	SDLP	Councillor Kearney	
	UUP	Councillor McKinney	
	UUP	Councillor Wilson	
	001		
Wind Turbine Working	DUP	Councillor Robinson	Active
Group	SF	Councillor Bell	
Cloup	SF	Councillor Clarke	
	SDLP	Councillor Kearney	
	UUP	Councillor Glasgow	
	001		
Elected Member	DUP	Councillor Ashton	Active
Development Charter	DUP	Councillor Forde	
	SF	Councillor Doris	
	SF	Councillor Gildernew	
	SF	Councillor Elattar	
	SF	Councillor McGinley	
	SF	Councillor Bell	
	SDLP	Councillor M Quinn	
	UUP	Councillor McKinney	
	UUP	Councillor Cuddy	
Mid Ulster Skills Forum	DUP	Councillor Burton	Active
	SF	Councillor Molloy	
	SF	Councillor Elattar	
	SDLP	Councillor McAleer	
	UUP	Councillor G Shiels	
Planning Forums			
			Active
Lough Neagh	SDLP	Councillor Kearney	
	SF	Councillor McPeake	
The Sperrins	SF	Councillor Clarke	
	SF	Councillor Mallaghan	
_	05		
Cross Border	SF	Councillor D McPeake	
	SF	Councillor Gildernew	
	SF	Councillor McPeake	
	SDLP	Councillor McAleer	
Travellers Working Group	DUP	Ashton	Active
	DUP	Forde	
	SF	D McPeake	
	SF	Doris	
	SF	Mallaghan	
	SF	McGinley	
	SF	O'Neill	
	SDLP	McFlynn	
	UUP	McKinney	
	UUP	Wilson	
	005	VVIISUI1	

Brexit Working Group	DUP	McLean	
	DUP	Robinson	Active
	SF	Elattar	
	SF	Gillespie	
	SF	S McGuigan	
	SF	S McPeake	
	SF	Molloy	
	SDLP	Kearney	
	UUP	Cuddy	
	UUP	Wilson	

Report on	Mid Ulster District Council's First Term 2015-2019: Review Report
Date of Meeting	Thursday 4 April 2019
Reporting Officer	Head of Marketing & Communications
Contact Officer	Head of Marketing & Communications

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To present members with a review report documenting the achievements of the Council in its first 4-year term.
2.0	Background
2.1	Mid Ulster District Council became operational on the 1 April 2015, merging 3 councils and becoming responsible for new areas of work and new powers.
2.2	As the Council reaches the end of its first term, it is timely to consider how the Council's performance, success and progress in its first 4 years has contributed to its vision and to the achievement of its priorities.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The review report details the Council's progress in terms of its new powers, including the high performance of the planning service and the significant work to develop the first Mid Ulster Local Draft Plan Strategy, as well as the introduction of community planning, including the 10-year Mid Ulster Community Plan.
3.2	The protection and enhancement of the environment is featured, highlighting the Council's strategic investment in waste infrastructure, its position at the top of the recycling table since 2015 and its status as the first council to reach the 50% recycling target, several years ahead of the 2020 target.
3.3	How the Council has addressed the region's rurality is also profiled, from the £10M rural development programme, including the £2.1M which to date has supported 21 village programmes to the village spruce-up scheme which saw a total of 109 properties across 46 villages benefit from funding.
3.4	The Council's role as a leader in rural tourism, notably through the success of Seamus Heaney HomePlace and latterly with the development of the dark sky observatory and visitor centre at Davagh Forest, is also included.

3.5	A section of the report focusses specifically on the Council's investment to grow the local economy: the launch of the economic development strategy in 2015 valued at £30M and its subsequent annual impact; regeneration work in town centres, including £10M in public realm schemes and the delivery of a £500K shop improvement scheme; the strategic planning for the district via development plans for significant opportunity sites and the ambitious plan for a 3-council Growth Deal.
3.6	The Council has also been investing to grow vibrant, active and healthy communities in Mid Ulster, most visibly in its programme of capital works, which has been steadily enhancing its leisure facilities with allocated investment to date of over £3M.
3.7	More than 20 local and national awards are also documented, from blue flags and green flags for marinas and parks to UK-wide recognition for planning and tourism.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: N/A
	Human: N/A
	Risk Management: N/A
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/A
	Rural Needs Implications: N/A
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	That the Committee notes the Mid Ulster District Council Review Report: 2015-2019.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	Review Report: 2015-2019

End of Term Review 2015 - 2019

Mid Ulster District Council

March 2019 www.midulstercouncil.org



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

Page 123 of 154

Mid Ulster District Council Shadow Council and First Term Chairs and Deputy Chairs

2014 - 2015

Presiding Councillor: Councillor Cáthal Mallaghan Deputy Presiding Councillor: Councillor Kenneth Reid

2015 - 2016

Chair: Councillor Linda Dillon (interim Chair Councillor Cáthal Mallaghan from May 2016 to June 2016) **Deputy Chair: Councillor Kim Ashton**

2016 - 2017

Chair: Councillor Trevor Wilson Deputy Chair: Councillor Sharon McAleer

2017 - 2018

Chair: Councillor Kim Ashton Deputy Chair: Councillor Mark Glasgow





















2018 - 2019

Chair: Councillor Seán McPeake Deputy Chair: Councillor Frances Burton

Chair's **Foreword**

From the beginning, Mid Ulster District Council's vision has been clearly articulated: to be at the heart of our community.

Our priorities have been as diverse and far-reaching as the district we serve, spanning the community, the economy, health and well-being, the environment, and of course unifying staff from 3 long-established councils and a central government department.

Our goal in the lead-up to 1 April 2015 when this Council became operational was to ensure a continuity of service to local people. That smooth transition was, in fact, our first major achievement.

In the four years which have followed, we have continued to manage considerable change, not just for our people, but in our policies, our processes and procedures, all with the aim of building a more efficient and effective organisation, better able to meet the needs of the people of Mid Ulster.

For most of us, the first term of the Council has gone by at some considerable speed. And as our focus is so often concentrated on the future, we often fail to take the time to pause, look back and consider what has gone before.

This review report does just that, documenting the highlights of the past 4 years, together with the breadth and the reach of the Council's work from 2015 - 2019.

It would be impossible to capture every achievement, every success, the outcome of every project, scheme or proposal – there are simply too many. I take this opportunity, therefore, to pay tribute to each and every member of the Council and the Council's staff who demonstrate their commitment and contribution to achieving Mid Ulster's vision every single day, in every single service they deliver for our residents.



Councillor Seán McPeake Chair 2018 - 2019

Finance

The Council's annual revenue budget amounts to more than £40M, requiring close scrutiny of expenditure and financial prudence, together with long-term financial planning which allows the Council to fund an ambitious programme of capital development to support its strategic objectives.

Setting the district rate each year is, therefore, a key decision: balancing a commitment to minimise any increase in the rates which local people pay, while continuing to provide and improve quality services and to plan for future investment in the region.

The challenge has been to do so in a difficult financial climate and increased budgetary pressures, many of which, from the apprentice levy and landfill tax rises to employer costs, are beyond the Council's control.

Despite the pressures, the Council has employed a combination of efficiencies, savings and income generation measures which have meant any increase in the rate has been held to below 2% in 3 of the last 4 financial years.

This grant is money distributed from central government to those councils which are less wealthy when compared to others with the potential to generate a higher level of rates income.

The Council's case had its basis in the view that the formula was incorrectly applied, resulting in the Council's wealth being overstated and the grant payable being less than it should have received.

While unprotected and therefore never guaranteed to be received in any one year, the appeal success represented additional funding for Mid Ulster and an opportunity to recoup monies which were payable from previous years.

* Note: rate-setting for the 2015-2016 financial year, moving from 3 councils to 1 required separate increases for each of the former council areas. When combined with the regional rate increase these resulted in an average domestic ratepayer in Cookstown paying 2.58% more on existing bills, an average ratepayer in Dungannon paying 5.64% more on existing bills and 5.46% more for an average ratepayer in Magherafelt.

District Rate Increases*

2016 - 2017	1.94%
2017 - 2018	1.46%
2018 - 2019	2.98%
2019 - 2020	1.49%

m Review

Of financial significance, in September 2018, was the Council's successful appeal of a ruling relating to the calculation of the Rates Support Grant.

Page 126 of 154

New Council **New Powers**

Along with merging the services and functions of 3 councils to form a new local authority, came the transfer of two powers from central to local government (planning and off-street parking) and responsibility for two new powers (community planning and the General Power of Competence).

Planning

Making decisions on local planning issues for the first time in over 4 decades was arguably the most visible and immediately impactful change from April 2015.

Mid Ulster quickly established itself as a high performing council in planning terms, processing among the highest number of applications per head of population and with one of the highest planning approval rates.

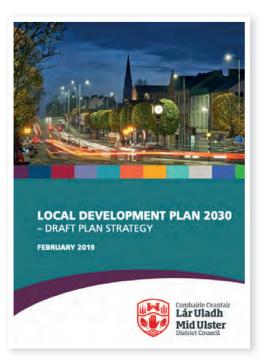
At the same time, the Council embraced the opportunity to begin work on a new Local Development Plan for Mid Ulster.

A hugely important strategic document which would set out the Council's vision for planning land use to 2030, the Local Development Plan would allow the Council to consider Mid Ulster's unique characteristics and create a planning framework tailored specifically to meet the region's needs.

In November 2016 the Council took the first step towards realising the plan with the publication for consultation of its 'Proposed Options Paper' (POP), which set out the intended approach to a range of issues, from housing in urban and rural locations and economic and tourism development to telecommunications and renewable energy.

Taking account of the public representations made in response to the POP, a draft Local Development Plan

was launched in February 2019, including a series of proposed objectives, spatial planning framework and planning policies.



A total of 17 separate objectives are detailed in the plan, aiming to support sustainable patterns of urban and rural development and growth, and spanning housing, infrastructure, transport, tourism, community and recreational facilities, and the protection of vulnerable landscapes.

Some of the detail of the draft plan's proposals is interwoven into the 'enhancing our environment' and 'addressing rurality' sections of this report.

The final draft plan will be subjected to a public independent examination and be finalised for adoption by 2020 -2021. Following this, a local policies plan will be prepared and all settlements will be reviewed in terms of development limits, zonings and other policy designations.

New Council New Powers (Cont'd)

Community Planning

A new concept for local councils, and indeed, the wider public sector, community planning puts local people at the core of work to identify priorities and needs for their own areas – and brings together all those organisations which have a role to play in meeting those needs to deliver agreed outcomes.



In Mid Ulster, work to create a Community Plan began when the new Mid Ulster District Council was still in shadow form and after 2 years' of work, a draft plan was published for consultation in December 2016.

In May the following year, the Mid Ulster Community Planning Partnership reached a milestone with the launch of the region's new Community Plan.

The 10 year plan, for the first time formally brought together over 40 different organisations to work

collectively to make a real and tangible difference to the quality of local people's lives.

The plan set out a vision for the region in 5 themes, 15 outcomes and 76 strategic actions, encompassing everything from a healthy economy and healthy

people to a sustainable environment and a skilled, educated population.

Early successes have included the Mid Ulster Ageing Well Programme and the Mid Ulster Skills Forum.

Ageing Well supports older people to live independently at home and to reduce isolation and fear of crime. Since the programme launched, up to 400 people across Mid Ulster receive a 'good morning' phone call every week day and access to a 'handy van' service is also provided.

The creation of the Mid Ulster Skills Forum, an industry-led body which is seeking to address the skills gap and skills retention issues facing employers, has had a positive economic impact.

The 10 year plan, for the first time formally brought together over 40 different organisations to work collectively.

Established in 2017 by the Council, the Forum commissioned an in-depth scoping study to map the current skills base across businesses in 6 specific sectors skills (manufacturing and engineering; construction; food and agri-food; retail; hospitality; IT) and to identify areas for action to match education and skills provision to meet the critical workforce needs of local employers. The resulting action plan is ambitious and intended to deliver a workforce with the necessary skills to drive economic growth and to protect and grow the area's key sectors while recognising the importance of emerging sectors – with the potential to create an additional 2,355 new jobs by 2021 in the Mid Ulster region.

General Power of Competence

Used rarely among local councils to date, Mid Ulster did avail of its new General Power of Competence to solve an exceptional road access issue at a housing development in Dungannon in 2018.

The power allows a local authority 'to do anything that individuals generally may do' which it considers to be for the benefit of the Council, district or residents.



> Curran Terrace: using the General Power of Competence to resolve a decades' old issue.

While it has no responsibility for roads, in this instance the Council used the scope provided by the power to deal with the issue which would normally fall outside of its remit. Ownership of the road at Curran Terrace in Dungannon had never been established, meaning it had never been part of the public road network or been maintained by any roads authority.

The situation had left residents with no avenue to seek repairs to the road or footpaths at their homes.

The Council's intervention in these exceptional circumstances ensured that the road and footpaths at Curran Terrace could be brought to an acceptable standard for the first time in 40 years.

Off-Street Car Parking

Early in its first term, the Council began work on a new strategy for off-street car parking, having assumed responsibility for 25 off-street car parks, with 2,000 car parking spaces spread across 11 towns and villages in a mixture of paid-for and free spaces.

An evaluation of the existing car parks was undertaken, centring on usage, occupancy and existing operating models, and agreement came in 2018 to pilot a 'pay on foot' model.

The pilot scheme will see Central Car Park in Magherafelt move from 'pay and display' to 'pay on foot', where the first 2 hours of parking are free. After 2 hours, the standard tariff of 40p per hour, which has not risen in the last 6 years, applies.

The outworkings of the pilot will now inform the development of the Council's final off-street car parking strategy.

Enhancing **Our Environment**

From the overarching Community Plan to its specific Corporate Improvement Objectives, Mid Ulster has a clear commitment to the protection and enhancement of the environment.

A very clear emphasis on waste and the reduction of our dependency on landfill has meant Mid Ulster has not only been at the top of the Northern Ireland recycling table every year since 2015, but was also the first Council to meet the statutory 50% target for household waste recycling - 3 years ahead of the target date of 2020.

Mid Ulster Recycling Rates

2015 - 2016	49.65%
2016 - 2017	51.56%
2017 - 2018	54.28%
2018 - 2019	55.24% (based on the 3
	quarters to December 2018)

Mid Ulster Landfill Rates

2015 - 2016	38.01%
2016 - 2017	36.11%
2017 - 2018	28.05%
2018 - 2019	22.31% (based on the 3
	quarters to December 2018)

This strong performance in waste diversion is only possible with strategic investment in the infrastructure which supports waste collection and disposal. This area of the Council's work accounts for over 30% of its annual expenditure and the financial imperative to manage our waste as effectively as possible remains compelling.

Dungannon has been at the centre of this investment, both in terms of the public-facing recycling service and the Council's internal service arrangements.

In June 2015 Drumcoo Recycling Centre saw the start of a major refurbishment programme to improve

recycling facilities at the site, as well as to introduce a new traffic management system.



The £750K redevelopment works, with £500K funded by the Council and a further £250K from the Rethink Waste Capital Fund, completely changed the facility, making it easier, quicker and more convenient to use, increasing safety and minimising congestion when it re-opened to the public in July 2016.

> This strong performance in waste diversion is only possible with strategic investment in the infrastructure which supports waste collection and disposal.

Two years later in September 2018, at the rear of the recycling centre, a new state of the art £1.8M waste transfer station opened, modernising how waste services are managed in Mid Ulster.

The facility now acts as a central point for refuse collection and street cleansing vehicles to deposit their waste before it is collected for onward transport to waste treatment and processing plants. The transfer station deals with each of the four main waste streams completely separately. This significant investment in waste transfer followed the Council decision to minimise the amount of waste sent to landfill and provided a direct replacement facility for the now mothballed Tullyvar Landfill Site which had served the Dungannon, South Tyrone and Omagh areas for many years.

Its opening also followed a landmark moment in landfill the previous year when Magheraglass landfill site near Cookstown accepted its last lorry-load of waste, exactly 20 years to the day after a refuse collection vehicle first tipped waste into the site.

Its opening in 1997 coincided with the introduction of landfill tax, essentially a financial penalty to encourage more environmentally-friendly methods of waste disposal. Its closure after 2 decades is now contributing to Mid Ulster's drive to continue to reduce waste being needlessly buried.



Mid Ulster District Council has also made significant investment in ensuring that householders have access to the collection of food waste through the kerbside brown bin collection service which is part of the district wide integrated 'three bin system'.

The Council also continues to make capital investment in maintaining an up-to-date refuse collection and street cleansing fleet with some £4.5M committed during the first four years. The provision of enhanced facilities to enable increases in recycling and reduction in landfill has been supported with wide ranging education, awareness and communication campaigns to help ensure householders are aware of what they can recycle and how.



Ultimately while the Council can provide the infrastructure to enable this success story it is the citizens of Mid Ulster who have made this possible through their attitudes and behaviours towards protecting our natural environment.

Enhancing the environment is, of course, about much more than waste, particularly for a region like Mid Ulster, which encompasses Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Special Scientific Interest, has international archaeological significance, is home to rare bog lands and bog plants, uncommon woodland, priority and threatened species, from curlews to otters, Atlantic salmon and freshwater pearl mussel.

In September 2017, the first steps were taken towards the creation of a plan to manage the future development of the Sperrins.

More than 70 delegates, drawn from across the community, special interest groups, as well as the public and private sectors, participated in the

Enhancing Our Environment (Cont'd)

'Future Search' conference which was organised jointly by Mid Ulster and three other local councils whose districts also include parts of the mountain range - Causeway Coast & Glens, Derry City & Strabane, Fermanagh & Omagh.

The conference considered the history and heritage of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, together with current issues across a wide of range themes, from community and the environment to infrastructure and tourism, resulting in a 'statement of common ground' and the development of an action plan.

The sensitivities of the region have also been recognised in the Council's vision for planning land use, set out in its draft Local Development Plan to 2030.

That plan will undoubtedly dovetail with the work of the 'Heart of Ancient Ulster Landscape Partnership', which was established in 2017 with Heritage Lottery funding.

Having completed substantial community consultation, the Partnership has created a community-led conservation plan which aims to deliver a series of projects which will conserve and protect 144km2 of outstanding prehistoric landscape of the Lower Sperrin plateau and reconnect the local community to its unique natural, built and cultural heritage. The sensitivities of the region have also been recognised in the Council's vision for planning land use, set out in its draft Local Development Plan to 2030. In it, the Council has the opportunity for the first time to tailor its planning policy specifically for the Mid Ulster region and so it proposes 'Special Countryside Areas' with additional protections for the high Sperrins, Slieve Beagh and the Lough shore.



Similarly, 'Areas of Constraint' are also proposed for mineral development, renewable energy and telecommunications, and the draft plan also seeks to introduce restrictions and new policies in relation to matters such as peat extraction or surface lands above mines and shafts.

There is a balance to be achieved between the preservation of unique natural landscapes and sustainable development to support the rural economy and rural life, and addressing rurality has been a key theme of the Council's first four year term.

Enhancing **Our Environment**



Addressing **Rurality**

Close to 70% of Mid Ulster's population live in a rural setting, a fact which has shaped and influenced the Council's approach to service delivery, to investment and to long-term planning.

The importance of meeting the needs of a rural region is a key principle of the draft Local Development Plan.

Flexibility for housing in the countryside is among the key suggested changes to existing planning policy, with proposals to allow a dwelling for a carer or in a farm cluster or for commercial fishermen to build a home within a designated area of the lough shore, all included.



A new concept of 'Rural Industrial Policy Areas' also features in the draft plan, reflecting the fact that much of Mid Ulster's industry, particularly engineering linked to quarrying, takes place in the countryside, while the needs of small rural enterprises are also acknowledged through plans to allow development of small workshops in rural areas.

While planning for the future, the Council has also been delivering in the present, with a programme of investment in rural life and rural businesses. Critical to ensuring that our villages remain as hubs for rural communities has been the £10M rural development programme which was launched in 2016 and is managed locally by the Mid Ulster Rural Development Partnership (Local Action Group).

Close to 70% of Mid Ulster's population live in a rural setting, a fact which has shaped and influenced the Council's approach to service delivery, to investment and to long-term planning.

The partnership is responsible for delivering a range of development projects, from a business investment scheme to a £2M village renewal programme.

A total of 37 village renewal projects are being part funded under Priority 6 (LEADER) of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs and the European Union, with the Council's investment totalling £716K over 4 years.

Each project, whether a renovation of a community building or a new play area, has been developed by and for local communities who have worked together to identify priorities for work which will enhance local villages and village life.

From 2016, 21 projects have received support:

Ardboe

Renovations to enhance the accessibility of St.Patrick's Hall with works to the front entrance and the installation of a lift.

Investment: £240K

Augher

New play equipment at an existing play park.

Investment: £37K

Ballygawley

Transformation of a derelict pathway to allow pedestrian access to a play park, which also benefited from new equipment, landscaping, lighting, kerbing and seating.

Investment: £190K

Ballynakelly

An inclusive roundabout, a toddler multiplay unit with slide and a single bay swing enhance the existing play park.

Investment: £17K

Ballyronan

Creation of a community garden area at Ballyronan Wood.

Investment: £37K

Benburb

Carpark improvements at the Derryfubble Road playing fields including a new entrance upgrade to enhance accessibility and safety.

Investment: £37K

Castlecaulfield

Play park upgrade and the creation of a conservation trail through the area to provide educational and recreational opportunities.

Investment: £37K

Caledon

New play equipment at an existing play park Investment: £37K

Clogher

An environmental improvement scheme to replace existing seating and bins, improve Clogher School House, and add new play equipment.

Investment: £37K

Fivemiletown

Play area upgrade, including new equipment, seating, and landscaping, with the Market Yard benefiting from re-surfacing, drainage and environmental works.

Investment: £260K

Gulladuff

Shared space improvements, including repaying and painting, the installation of seats, bins, railings, interpretation panels.

Investment: £37K

Glenone

New playpark including toddler multifunction unit, inclusive roundabout, safety surface and new fencing.

Investment: £37K

Granville

Installation of 2 pieces of play apparatus at existing play park.

Investment: £37K

Killyman

Additional play equipment tailored for older children with new benches and bins.

Investment: £37K

Addressing Rurality (Cont'd)

Maghera

Largantogher Walkway, connecting the Walled Garden to the Tobermore Road for the first time.

Investment: £250K

Newmills

Resurfacing and drainage work to a church car park, with a new landscaped area with picnic tables.

Investment: £37K

Orritor

A new wearing course on road infrastructure.

Investment: £16K

Swatragh

New play equipment has enhanced an existing play park.

Investment: £37K

The Loup

New kickabout area with synthetic grass pitch and fencing.

Investment: £37K

Tobermore

An existing play park has benefited from the addition of new play equipment.

Investment: £37K

Upperlands

Two projects have enhanced the village, with a refurbished Multi Use Games Area at Alexander Park and a new play park at the Linenhall Centre.

Investment: £250K

Improving the competitiveness and economic sustainability of our rural settlements has not been forgotten either, and a priority under the Council's regeneration work has been the enhancement of properties in local villages via a 'spruce-up' scheme.

Beginning in April 2017 and completing in September 2018, a total of 109 properties across 46 villages benefited from a funding opportunity, which grant-aided 75% of eligible costs up to a maximum of £5,000 per property.

Funding minor internal and external improvements including external windows, doors, guttering and redecoration and internal walls, ceilings, floors and redecoration, transformed properties, breathing new life into many and growing the vibrancy and vitality of each village.

The Council has also been at the forefront of rural tourism development, reflecting not only the area's unique geography and natural assets, but also its distinctive history and heritage.

Improving the competitiveness and economic sustainability of our rural settlements has not been forgotten either. a total of 109 properties across 46 villages benefited from a funding opportunity, which grant-aided 75% of eligible costs up to a maximum of £5,000 per property. > Village Spruce Up Scheme: Aughnacloy, Bellaghy, Castledawson, Moy & Pomeroy.



Distinctive **Tourism Development**

Mid Ulster's three very distinct, unique, but interconnected, tourism elements have been defined in the Council's first tourism strategy.

Launched in May 2017, the strategy focuses on Mid Ulster's key strengths – our history and heritage, the great outdoors and our connections to one of our most celebrated writers, Seamus Heaney.

Seamus Heaney HomePlace, the arts and literary centre in Bellaghy, was officially opened by the Heaney family in September 2016.

Marie Heaney, together with children, Michael, Christopher and Catherine, were joined by almost 200 guests at the event to mark the completion of the £4.2M building which celebrates the life and literature of the poet and Nobel Laureate.



Poets, literary figures, extended family and friends, many of whom had travelled specially to be present and prominent politicians were among the attendees which also included acclaimed singer-songwriter, Paul Brady, who performed 'Slieve Gallion Braes' as part of the opening ceremony.

Since then, HomePlace has had countless memorable moments, from Seamus Heaney's 3 granddaughters launching the centre's education programme to a visit by the Prince of Wales and Duchess of Cornwall in May 2017, followed almost a year later by the President of Ireland, Michael D Higgins.

Close to 80,000 visitors have been welcomed to the exhibition, education and arts events, and HomePlace's reputation as an important cultural and literary centre has grown year on year with local, national and international audiences.

HomePlace remains a key strand of the Council's investment in the development of literary tourism and an exemplar for success in rural tourism.

The development of HomePlace has, however, had a much broader impact, estimated to generate more than £800K in visitor spend and bed nights in the area per annum.

The centre itself has created 20 jobs, with most of the staff coming from the immediate local area, and its wider positive economic impact has included the regeneration of the village of Bellaghy and surrounding district, increased visitors and visitor spend with local businesses, notably in the hospitality and tourism sector, and, through its retail outlet, it has provided an outlet for craft makers to showcase and sell their work.

HomePlace remains a key strand of the Council's investment in the development of literary tourism and an exemplar for success in rural tourism, helping to attract visitors beyond the boundaries of the traditional 'City and Causeway' offering.

The authenticity of the location is, of course, key. HomePlace is at the heart of the area which was always 'home' to Seamus Heaney and which was the inspiration for so much of his work. That notion of authenticity extends equally to other aspects of our tourism offering, notably at Davagh Forest where construction of the new Dark Sky Observatory and Visitor Centre began in March 2019.

The area's 'dark sky'- a lack of light pollution which allows an unrivalled view of the night sky and makes the site ideal for star-gazing - is a defining attribute.

The centrepiece of the new centre will be a star-gazing telescope, opening up opportunities to view the night sky, while the exhibition will combine the latest tech from holographic installations to virtual reality headsets with colourful, accessible interpretation panels and hands-on activities, allowing visitors to explore our solar system, from our sun and moon to our stars and planets.

The significance of the stars to ancient life in this part of the world, to the seasons and to stone circles, will also form an integral part of the exhibition experience, linking the rich landscape and history of the Sperrins, including Beaghmore Stone Circles.



Representing an investment of £1.2M, the new attraction at Davagh has secured funding of £500K from the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) Rural Tourism Scheme under the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020, and a further £245k towards the project has come from the Landfill Tax Fund.

Mid Ulster's rich history is also reflected at The Hill of The O'Neill in Dungannon, where Ranfurly House is the gateway to this significant archaeological and heritage site.

The history of the Hill is linked inextricably to the history of Ireland and Europe - from the early 1300s when it was the seat of the ancient Gaelic Chieftains and powerful ruling clan, The O'Neills, to its choice as the ideal location for the grand gothic house of an 18th century banker, to the present day, as a destination for visitors from across the world.



Ranfurly House houses a multi-media exhibition which narrates the history of the site, which visitors can then experience first hand.

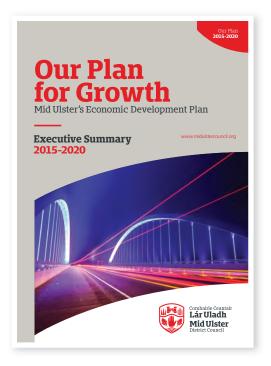
The appeal of the Hill was greatly enhanced in 2016 with the opening of a new event and conferencing space, complete with a viewing tour from which visitors can take in 7 of the 9 counties of Ulster (Antrim, Armagh, Down, Derry, Fermanagh, Tyrone and Monaghan).

The development was part of a wider £7M EU Peace III funded project which also created a new community building in Railway Park in the town, as well as a 6.9km path around Dungannon which links key recreational spaces.

Investing In **Our Economy**

Tourism is, of course, a key economic driver in Mid Ulster and is recognised as such in our strategy for economic growth.

Mid Ulster is, for all its rurality, the most entrepreneurial region here, a status which it held when the Council's £30M economic development strategy was launched in 2015.



And it was a status which Mid Ulster retained two years later when the latest Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) report was published, measuring the entrepreneurial activity of working age adults, providing data which allows comparisons and benchmarking between and within the participating 65 countries.

The Council's 5 year economic development strategy aims to create and sustain 3,000 jobs, support 1,500 businesses and provide employment and training opportunities for 4,000 people. In its first full year of implementation (2016-2017), four of the strategy's business development programmes alone supported the growth of 74 businesses and social enterprises resulting in an economic impact of over £4M. This 40:1 investment return was also boosted by a particularly successful tender programme where nine businesses won new work of £2.5M.

A particular focus of the Council's work in its first term has been to enhance the vitality and vibrancy of local towns.

The following year (2017-2018), economic development investment of more than £3.4M was generated by the Council's activity.

Analysis showed that every £1 spent leveraged an additional £7 from external sources, demonstrating the wide-ranging nature of the Council's economic development work, as well as the impact on local businesses, skills and employability.



A particular focus of the Council's work in its first term has been to enhance the vitality and vibrancy of local towns.

The success to date is impressive.

Investment in town centres has taken multiple forms, from new branding and promotion, support for town centre forums and traders' associations to the exploration of the potential to introduce Business Improvement Districts to towns and the creation and delivery of appealing events which add another reason to visit and to shop local.

Some of these events have become core elements of the year-round event portfolio -from the everpopular Cookstown continental market attracting 20,000 visitors every year, Dungannon's Magical Kingdom which sees 14,000 flock to the town centre at the start of the festive season or the unrivalled Magherafelt Christmas Market with its artisan stalls and music which sees thousands fill up the town centre.

Direct investment via an extensive shop improvement scheme began in 2015, completing in 2017, when more than 100 shops across Mid Ulster were able to enhance their premises inside and out through the £450K programme.



Eligible businesses in Coalisland, Cookstown, Dungannon, Maghera and Magherafelt benefited from up to £10K in grant aid to fund improvements to internal areas which are visible to the public, as well as building frontages. The most substantial investment in the regeneration of town centres came, however, with 3 public realm schemes valued at over £10M.

Three major schemes were completed in Cookstown, Dungannon and Magherafelt when funding from the Department for Communities and the Council transformed the look and feel of each centre with new paving, lighting, street furniture, signage and planting.



The success of the schemes was dependent on the co-operation, support and patience of local people, businesses and town centre bodies, and the outcomes have been broadly welcomed as making the town centres more visually appealing for retailers, businesses, shoppers and residents, and underpinning the importance of vibrant towns to the local economy.

Dungannon's Market Square also benefited from an additional £300K improvement scheme which was coordinated by the Council to address pedestrian safety, traffic flow and parking.

While not responsible for traffic management or roads issues, the Council stepped in to resolve problems which arose from the first phase of a public realm scheme in the town in 2012.

Investing In Our Economy (Cont'd)

With schemes completed in the 3 main towns, work got underway to progress similar investment in Coalisland and Maghera.

In February 2019, a funding package of £3.4M was confirmed for the Coalisland scheme, while the initial design concepts for Maghera improvements were presented to local people in March 2019.

Major development opportunities have also been explored and progressed in the Council's first term.

The release of the 4.12 acre site on Ann Street in Dungannon in March 2017 for development was a milestone in the Council's strategic economic ambitions.

Long considered a 'unique gateway site' because of its links to the premier retail core Market Square and Scotch Street via Irish Street, the land has been vacant for a number of years.

Proposals by the successful bidder, Moorefield Group, for a mixed-use scheme representing a £10 million investment in the area, are now in progress.

Similarly, land at the former Maghera High School was identified as an opportunity site, this time, for development of a business park, the first to be spearheaded by a local council here.

The proposal, intended to meet a demand for land to allow business growth and expansion, is to create up to 8 serviced sites, with qualifying businesses constructing their own purpose-built facilities ranging in size from 4,000sqft to 20,000sqft.

And signalling the Council's ambitions for Mid Ulster most strongly was the landmark announcement in October 2018 that, together with Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council and Fermanagh & Omagh District Council, work was to begin towards a Growth Deal to boost economic growth and deliver a step change to the future prospects of the collective area.

The three councils - which together represent over 25% of Northern Ireland's population - wrote to the Chancellor stating a Growth Deal would address specific economic needs and was a once-in-a-generation opportunity, not just for the region, but for the whole of Northern Ireland.

The most substantial investment in the regeneration of town centres came, however, with 3 public realm schemes valued at over £10M.



> Cookstown's Continental Market which attracts 20,000 visitors to the town centre each year.

> Shop Improvement Scheme: Cookstown, Coalisland, Dungannon, Maghera, Magherafelt.



Investing To Grow Healthy Communities

While investing to grow a thriving economy, the Council has also been investing to grow vibrant, active and healthy communities in Mid Ulster.

Most visible in its programme of capital works, the Council has been steadily enhancing its leisure facilities across its first term, with allocated investment to date of over £3M:

- Drumcoo playing fields benefited from a £230K refurbishment and upgrade in 2016.
- New visitor facilities, including a café, showering and laundry facilities for the 200,000 visitors to the flagship Dungannon Park, were unveiled in 2016 following a £700K investment programme.
- In 2017, a new Disability Sports Hub was opened at the Mid Ulster Sports Arena in Cookstown. It provides a range of sports equipment including wheelchairs, inclusive bikes and inclusive sports equipment, to enable children and adults with disabilities to participate in at least 14 different sports and activities.
- In 2018, work was completed on improvements at Moneymore Recreation Centre, bringing two additional meeting rooms, one of which is large enough to act as a studio for leisure classes, and adding air extraction, as well as modernising the reception, kitchen and toilet areas. Over £270K was secured for the project from the Social Investment Fund under its Community Capacity Hubs Programme with the remaining £70K provided by the Council.
- Investment of close to £120K was also made in Maghera Leisure Centre, with the sports hall floor resurfaced, a new 3G surface installed at the existing synthetic pitch and new dug outs on the grass soccer pitch which are required for league matches.

- Late 2018 saw consultation begin on proposals for a multi-million pound development of the Gortgonis leisure complex in Coalisland. The plans include a new leisure centre, incorporating changing rooms, meeting rooms and a gym, with planned outdoor facilities to include a running track, 3G pitch, walkways, play park and car parking.
- Early 2019 brought the announcement of a £1.5M refurbishment programme for Dungannon Leisure Centre. The centre's swimming pools, fitness suite, changing facilities and reception area will all benefit from upgrades as a result of the work. Renovations to the pool will include new tiling, pool linings, surrounds, filters and structural work, while the gym will be fitted out with a completely new range of fitness equipment and the centre's squash court will also be revamped.



Investment in outdoor recreation saw the first phase of the Lower Bann Blueway delivered in a partnership project between the Council, Waterways Ireland and angling stakeholders. A new multi-use public path along the riverbank at Portglenone was developed, accessing an additional 25 coarse angling stands installed as part of the phased works that complement the existing 89 angling stands and associated facilities already at the site. Phase two works will be completed in time for the 25th European Coarse Angling Championships to be held there. A programme of investment in Council-managed forest sites starting at the latter end of 2018 into 2019 saw areas such as Brantry Wood and Knockmany Forest receive enhancements that will make a marked difference to the recreational value of the forests, and have a positive knock-on effect on the health and well-being of those who use them.

Supporting the Council's overall improvement agenda for leisure, was the key decision to bring Greenvale Leisure Centre back under its operational control and the Magherafelt centre, which had been managed by Pulse Fitness since September 2012, successfully underwent a smooth transfer in September 2017.

The Council recognises equally that we contribute to our residents' well-being by opening up opportunities to participate in a broad range of physical, community, cultural and artistic activities.

However, improving opportunities for well-being goes beyond the infrastructure of providing quality, customer-focussed leisure facilities.

The Council recognises equally that we contribute to our residents' well-being by opening up opportunities to participate in a broad range of physical, community, cultural and artistic activities.

Our sports arenas, parks and open spaces have become increasingly important as venues for walking, park runs, Couch to 5K programmes, and for delivery of the Everybody Active2020 programme which encourages more physical activity among harder to reach groups. Our theatres and arts centres – the Burnavon, Ranfurly House and Seamus Heaney HomePlace – not only act as important social spaces in the local community with their varied events programmes, but also offer a complete range of arts classes, from dance to drama, to suit all ages and abilities.

Our educational work includes an annual BeeSafe programme for primary school children which has seen more than 2,000 children engage in active learning about keeping safe whether they're on the street or on the internet. It also recognises the benefits of the natural resources in the area by including Forest School programmes at three sites across the district (Hill of the O'Neill and Ranfurly House, Dungannon Park and Ballyronan Marina), providing local children with the freedom and confidence to explore, and to use their multiple senses for encouraging creative, diverse and imaginative play.



Our well-being programmes promote healthier lifestyles, from smoking-cessation to cooking lessons for those who may be less likely to eat well.

Our annual grants programme supports athletes, sports clubs, arts groups, community groups, cultural groups, language groups and health groups, funding projects, programmes and events.

Investing To Grow Healthy Communities (Cont'd)

In its first 4 years, the Council has provided close to $\pm 2M$ in grant aid for the voluntary and community sector in Mid Ulster.

The £5M 'Connecting Pomeroy' project, to be funded under the European Union's PEACE IV Programme, will encourage greater levels of cross-community contact within the local area, with three core elements forming the focus of the project: enhancing the look and feel of the centre of the village, creating a suite of new community facilities, and boosting outdoor and tourism opportunities through the development of a 'magic forest'.

In its first 4 years, the Council has provided close to £2M in grant aid for the voluntary and community sector in Mid Ulster.

In a wider context, the new PEACE IV programme for Mid Ulster, worth £2.8M in funding to the region until 2020, will be pivotal in developing shared spaces and services, generating contact across the community, particularly among children and young people, encouraging respect and understanding, and building positive relations.

Investing To Grow Healthy Communities



> Mid Ulster Leisure & Recreation Facilities

Awards **& Accolades**



The first term of Mid Ulster District Council has been characterised by a series of awards and accolades, recognising achievement in everything from accessibility to sustainability.

May 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 Blue Flag Award, Ballyronan Marina

In 2018 the marina received a Blue Flag for an impressive 9th year in a row.

September 2015 Biodiversity Project of the Year, Sustainable Ireland Awards

A joint win with Fermanagh and Omagh District Council for a wetlands development project at Tullyvar Landfill Site.

November 2015 Burnavon, RNIB Model of Excellence Award

The Burnavon is recognised for ensuring accessibility to blind and visually impaired people across its services.

July 2016, 2017, 2018

Green Flag Awards For Dungannon Park and Maghera Walled Garden

A prestigious award for excellence in the management of parks and green spaces.

January 2017

Award for Excellence in Architectural Technology, Hill of the O'Neill & Ranfurly House

The new outdoor event space, conference facilities and viewing tower on The Hill of The O'Neill win a Chartered Institute of Architectural Technologists (CIAT) award for work undertaken by GM Design Associates Ltd.

June 2017 Excellence In Planning, Built Heritage, Seamus Heaney HomePlace

A UK-wide award from the Royal Town Planning Institute, celebrating exceptional examples of planning and the contribution planners make to society.

August 2017 Learning Outside the Classroom (LOtC) Award, Hill of the O'Neill & Ranfurly House

A national badge of quality for the education programme delivered outside the classroom on the heritage site.

October 2017

Best Visitor and Interpretation Centre, Association of Heritage Interpretation Awards, Seamus Heaney HomePlace

Beginning an award-winning month for HomePlace, the AHI awards recognise excellence at a UK level.

October 2017

Best Local Authority Tourism Initiative, Northern Ireland Local Government Association Awards, Seamus Heaney HomePlace

Recognising the success of HomePlace after its first year of operation.

October 2017

Best NI Visitor Attraction 2017, Northern Ireland Travel and Tourism Awards, Seamus Heaney HomePlace

Completing the hat trick of awards for HomePlace in one month.



July 2018 Green Flag Award For The Hill of The O'Neill

The Hill joins Dungannon Park and Maghera Walled Garden, bringing a trio of Green Flags for Mid Ulster properties.

August 2018 100% In Tourism Assessment: Visitor Information Centres

Each of the Council's Visitor Information Centres receive the top score for customer services.

October 2018

Best Enterprise Initiative, Northern Ireland Local Government Association Awards, Mid Ulster Skills Forum

A well-deserved accolade for the industry-led forum, the first of its kind in Northern Ireland, seeking to address the skills gap in Mid Ulster.

October 2018

Best Community Planning Initiative, Northern Ireland Local Government Association Awards, Mid Ulster Ageing Well

Recognising early success of a community planning partnership project to support older people and reduce isolation.

October 2018

Member Development Charter, North West Employers

Accreditation and award recognising the Council's good practice in supporting the development of councillors to fulfil their vital community role.

November 2018 Highly Commended, Great British High Street Awards

Cookstown is highly commended in the Great British High Street Awards.

December 2018

William Keown Award, Moneymore Recreation Centre

The newly refurbished centre is recognised for the accessibility of its facilities.

February 2019 Davagh Forest Mountain Bike Trails, Mountain Bike NI Awards

The Stream Trail in Davagh Forest is named NI's Favourite Trail in a public vote.

March 2019

Health & Safety Ambassador Award, WISHNI

The Council is awarded Ambassador status by the Waste Industry Safety and Health Forum in recognition of health and safety best practice in the waste industry.

March 2019 NI Public Sector Communications Awards

The Council's 'Recycling Hero' campaign wins 3rd place at the first ever public sector communications awards.

Mid Ulster District Council 2015 - 2019

03000 132 132 www.midulstercouncil.org

Report on	Data Protection legislative Update for Members
Date of Meeting	4 April 2019
Reporting Officer	Barry O'Hagan
Contact Officer	same

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To provide Members with an update on recent legislative changes to Personal Data Protection Legislations that potentially impacts members
2.0	Background
2.1	New legislation from ICO becomes law from the 1 st April affecting who is liable for data protection registration fees.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Data controllers must pay an annual data protection fee unless they are only processing personal data for one or more of the exempt purposes.
	On 1 April 2019, the <i>Data Protection (Charges and Information) (Amendment) Regulations 2019</i> (the 2019 amendments) will come into force. These will add a new exemption.
	The new exemption will exempt the processing of personal data by:
	 members of the House of Lords,
	elected representatives,
	 prospective representatives,
	('the three groups') and those acting on their instructions, where that processing is in connection with the discharge of the functions of the member of the House of Lords/elected representative or in connection with any activity where the (main) purpose is the future election of the prospective representative.
	Is all processing of personal data undertaken by people in the three groups exempt?
	No. For the processing to fall within the new exemption, it must be undertaken by people within the three groups – or by someone on their behalf – where the main purpose of that processing is in connection with their functions as members of the

	House of Lords, their functions as elected representatives or any activity where the sole or principal purpose is their future election.							
	As such, if any member of the three groups also processes personal data for any other non-exempt purpose, for example as a business owner, or if they have CCTV at their offices for crime prevention purposes, then as that processing is not exempt, they must pay the data protection fee in respect of it.							
	What advice should we give to members of the three groups if their registration expires after 1 April?							
	If they are only processing personal data in connection with their functions as members of the House of Lords, in connection with their functions as elected representatives or in connection with any activity where the sole or principal purpose is their future election, then they will not need to renew their registration/pay the data protection fee.							
	If, however, they also process personal data for any other non-exempt purpose, for example as a business owner, or if they have CCTV at their offices for crime prevention purposes, then as that processing is not exempt, they must renew their registration/pay the data protection fee in respect of that processing.							
4.0	Other Considerations							
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications:							
	Financial: Members will no longer be liable for the annual data protection registration fee potentially as a result of the exemption.							
	potentially as a result of the exemption. Risk Management: The legislation still requires members to manage personal data they process in line with the Data Protection Act 2018 and they can be found liable for							
4.2	potentially as a result of the exemption. Risk Management: The legislation still requires members to manage personal data they process in line with the Data Protection Act 2018 and they can be found liable for breaches as before.							
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Draft Regulations laid before Parliament under sections 138(5) and 182(7) of the Data Protection Act 2018, for approval by resolution of each House of Parliament.

DRAFT STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2019 No.

DATA PROTECTION

The Data Protection (Charges and Information) (Amendment) Regulations 2019

Made	-	-	***
Coming into force	-	-	1st April 2019

The Secretary of State makes these Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by section 137(1) and (3)(c) of the Data Protection Act $2018(\mathbf{a})$.

The Secretary of State makes these Regulations-

- (a) having regard to the matters specified in section 137(4) of that Act; and
- (b) after consultation in accordance with sections 138(1) and 182(2) of that Act.

In accordance with sections 138(5) and 182(7) of the Data Protection Act 2018, a draft of this instrument was laid before Parliament and approved by a resolution of each House of Parliament.

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Data Protection (Charges and Information) (Amendment) Regulations 2019 and come into force on 1st April 2019.

Amendment of the Data Protection (Charges and Information) Regulations 2018

2.—(1) The Schedule to the Data Protection (Charges and Information) Regulations 2018(**b**) is amended as follows.

(2) In paragraph 1, before the definition of "judge", insert—

"elected representative" has the meaning given in paragraph 23(3)(a) to (d) and (f) to (m) of Schedule 1 to the Data Protection Act 2018;".

(3) In paragraph 2(2)—

- (a) at the end of paragraph (g), omit "or";
- (b) at the end of paragraph (h), insert "or";

⁽**a**) 2018 c. 12.

⁽b) S.I. 2018/480, amended by paragraph 421 of Schedule 19 to the Data Protection Act 2018. S.I. 2018/480 was made under sections 108(1) and (5) and 110(6) of the Digital Economy Act 2017 (c. 30). Those sections were subsequently repealed by paragraph 224 of Schedule 19 to the Data Protection Act 2018. S.I. 2018/480 now has effect as if it was made under section 137 of the Data Protection Act 2018 (see paragraph 26 of Schedule 20 to that Act).

- (c) after paragraph (h), insert—
 - "(i) carried out by-
 - (i) a member of the House of Lords who is entitled to receive writs of summons to attend that House, or
 - (ii) a person acting on the instructions, or on behalf, of such a member,
 - for the purposes of exercising the member's functions as such;
 - (j) carried out by-
 - (i) an elected representative, or
 - (ii) a person acting on the instructions, or on behalf, of such a representative,

for the purposes of exercising the elected representative's functions as such;

- (k) carried out by-
 - (i) a person seeking to become (or remain) an elected representative (a "prospective representative"), or
 - (ii) a person acting on the instructions, or on behalf, of a prospective representative,

in connection with any activity which can be reasonably regarded as intended to promote or procure the election (or re-election) of the prospective representative.".

Name Minister of State Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

The Data Protection (Charges and Information) Regulations 2018 (S.I. 2018/480) set out the circumstances in which data controllers are required to pay a charge to the Information Commissioner. Regulation 2 of those Regulations requires a data controller to pay an annual charge to the Information Commissioner unless all the processing of personal data by the data controller is exempt processing. "Exempt processing" has the meaning given in the Schedule to those Regulations.

These Regulations amend the Schedule to the Data Protection (Charges and Information) Regulations 2018 so that processing of personal data by members of the House of Lords, elected representatives and prospective representatives is also "exempt processing" for the purposes of those Regulations.

A full regulatory impact assessment has not been produced for this instrument as no significant impact on the private or voluntary sectors is foreseen.



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Date

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