

<b>Report on</b>	Full Fibre Project Update
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	9 June 2022
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Barry O'Hagan
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Barry O'Hagan

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To advise members of Full Fibre Project implementation.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	The council are part of a consortia of 10 Council and Business Services Organisation (BSO) who have now contracted with Fibrus to implement dark fibre to Council and NHS premises across the district through the full fibre NI project funded through DCMS and managed by Newry & Mourne District Council.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	<p>The council has completed all 80 sites in respect of the contract to bring fibre to the district.</p> <p>Further to the P&amp;R report presented to Council in February and May in relation to the management costs, Newry and Mourne District Council(NMDC) are currently maintaining the actual and project administration and technical support costs within the revised budget with monies being adjusted within cost headings as consultancy costs budgeted have been lowered than forecast allowing the project staff greater resource to remain in post and complete the post project review, monitoring, public relations and evaluation of the project without the need to increase budgets.( see appendices for further detail on costs).</p> <p>The Council is now working with Armagh Banbridge and Craigavon Council (ABC) in procuring wide area network (WAN) through public tender due to close on 23<sup>th</sup> June 2022 ( extended data ) and evaluated thereafter.</p> <p>Following a successful award each Council will individually contract with the successful communications provider (CP) to migrate to a new MPLS/SD Wan managed services contract over the installed fibre within the next 12 months.</p> <p>The final FFNI payment is still to be finalised and grant funding claimed for the final quarter later this month dependant on DCMS processes completion and some additional funding decisions sought by Mid Ulster for other network connections.</p> <p>Attached to the report are the last minutes of the Steering and Operations groups. The function and requirements of the group are drawing to a close but some discussions are underway within local government to use this project as a governance model and resource for further projects within the Economic Development wider group. Council will be updated if discussions become fruitful.</p>

<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b>
	<b>Financial:</b> None
	<b>Human:</b> The Head of IT represents Mid Ulster District Council on the tender assessment panel and on the Steering and operations group currently.
	<b>Risk Management:</b> The project is managed directly by NMDC and a risk register is now monitored on a monthly basis with the operation group (see attached in appendix 2).
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments :N/A</b>
	<b>Equality &amp; Good Relations Implications:</b> n/a
	<b>Rural Needs Implications:</b> n/a
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	Council note the report.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
	Appendix 1: Steering & Operations Group Minutes, Appendix 2 : Highlight and Latest Risk Register Site with FFNI