



08 December 2021

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Development Committee to be held in The Chamber, Magherafelt and by virtual means Council Offices, Ballyronan Road, Magherafelt, BT45 6EN on Wednesday, 08 December 2021 at 19:00 to transact the business noted below.

A link to join the meeting through the Council's remote meeting platform will follow.

Yours faithfully

Adrian McCreesh  
Chief Executive

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## AGENDA

### OPEN BUSINESS

1. Chair's Business
2. Apologies
3. Declarations of Interest  
Members should declare any financial and non-financial interests they have in the items of business for consideration, identifying the relevant agenda item and the nature of their interest.
4. Deputation: Clogher Valley Rugby Club

### Matters for Decision

- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| 5. Seachtain na Gaeilge 2022   | 3 - 14  |
| 6. Community Access and Inclusion - Accessible Outdoor Seating Benches Support | 15 - 24 |
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| 8. Mid Ulster District Council Heritage Strategy                               | 33 - 34 |
| 9. School Sports Facilities Access Grant                                       | 35 - 40 |
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| 11. Northern Ireland Forest Schools Awards Scheme                              | 45 - 48 |
| 12. Moydamlaght Forest Project   | 49 - 62 |
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| 15. | Feasibility Studies into the Development of Community Trails at Cabin Wood and Tullyhogue | 71 - 74 |
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Matters for Information

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**Items restricted in accordance with Section 42, Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014. The public will be asked to withdraw from the meeting at this point.**

Matters for Decision

Matters for Information

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| 21. | Confidential Minutes of Development Committee held on 11 November 2021 |
|-----|--|

<b>Report on</b>	Seachtain na Gaeilge 2022
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2021
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Tony McCance, Head of Culture & Arts
<b>Contact Officer(s)</b>	Déaglán Ó Doibhlin/Seán Mac Ní

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To seek members' approval to issue a call for Expressions of Interest from interested groups and individuals seeking to deliver activities and projects designed to encourage and promote use of the Irish Language as part of Seachtain na Gaeilge 2022.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	Seachtain na Gaeilge is an international festival that runs from 1st to 17th March each year.
2.2	The Festival seeks to celebrate and promote the Irish Language throughout this period through various schemes and activities delivered by and within the wider community.
2.3	Seachtain na Gaeilge was first established by Conradh na Gaeilge in 1902 and thus it is celebrating the 120 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the event in March 2022.
2.4	Subject to Council approval, it is proposed that Mid Ulster District Council will issue a call for Expressions of Interest for Seachtain na Gaeilge 2022 activities, advertising in January 2022 in local press as well as on MUDC's website and social media platforms.
2.5	The scheme will be open to applicant community groups or individuals who wish to apply for funding support to carry out an Irish Language activity as part of Seachtain na Gaeilge celebrations within the Mid Ulster District Council area.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	The Officer team will advertise the scheme in local press to ensure all groups and individuals who wish to apply, are aware of the funding available.
3.2	The Officer team will seek to encourage a varied range of bilingual and Irish language events across the district in order to encourage maximum participation

	by the wider Mid Ulster community. To this end an information brochure will be compiled and publicised promoting all the events and activities being delivered.
3.3	In July 2021 the Regional and Minority Language Action Plan was submitted to Council for their approval (see appendix 1).
3.4	The Action Plan identified an allocation of £3,000 to be utilised to: <i>Cooperate with the Irish Language community to develop an online Mid Ulster Seachtain na Gaeilge programme which will feature a range of engaging activities aimed at Irish speakers and non-Irish speakers wanting to get involved in the language and profiling the Irish Language across the district.</i>
3.5	The Action Plan also identified an allocation of £13,000 to be utilised to: <i>deliver a schools Irish Language and Heritage programme in various Council venues across the district and/or in the classroom setting</i> <i>Examples include:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Irish language lessons</i></li> <li>• <i>Gaelic Heritage projects (Gaelic origins of townlands/surnames)</i></li> <li>• <i>Workshops/site visits</i></li> </ul>
3.6	Further engagement with the Irish Language community has identified that, given the COVID restrictions that a schools Irish Language and Heritage Programme is unlikely to be delivered at the level initially envisaged when the Action Plan was presented to Council in July 2021.
3.7	As a result of an anticipated underspend in the schools Irish Language and Heritage Programme and an anticipated increase in demand for activity for the 120 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Seachtain na Gaeilge Programme, it is proposed to utilise the underspend in the schools Irish Language and Heritage Programme to enhance the allocation to the Seachtain na Gaeilge programme 2022 from £3,000 to £7,500 and to reduce the allocated budget within the schools Irish Language and Heritage Programme from £13,000 to £8,500.
3.8	It is envisaged that all events will be live face-to-face and in compliance with social distancing restrictions re Covid-19 that may be applicable at the time of activity delivery. However, it is recognised that some planned events may need to be virtual/online delivery given the difficulties and fluid situation presented by the current Covid-19 pandemic.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b>
	Financial: The budget of £7,500 can be met from within the Regional Minority Languages budget allocation 2021/22.
	Human: Officer time only



	<p>Risk Management:</p> <p>To avoid risk of groups missing the call for expressions of interest, local press and council's social media channels will be utilised to publicise the project</p>
<b>4.2</b>	<p><b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b></p> <p>Equality &amp; Good Relations Implications:</p> <p>The Expression of interest process is open to all groups involved in developing Seachtain na Gaeilge 2022 activities across the Mid Ulster District.</p> <p>Rural Needs Implications:</p> <p>The Expressions of interest process is open to all groups involved in developing Seachtain na Gaeilge 2022 activities across the Mid Ulster District</p>
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	It is recommended that members approve the reallocation of budgets as presented in the Action Plan approved by Council in July 2021, (i.e. to increase the Seachtain na Gaeilge 2022 allocation by £4,500 and to reduce the schools Irish Language and Heritage Programme by £4,500).
5.2	It is recommended that members approve the call for Expressions of Interest to be issued inviting submissions from interested groups and individuals seeking to deliver activities and projects designed to encourage and promote use of the Irish Language as part of the 120 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Seachtain na Gaeilge programme in March 2022 with a revised budget allocation of £7,500.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
6.1	Appendix 1 - Irish Language Action Plan Apr 2021-March 2022



PLEAN GNÍOMHAÍOCHTA GAEILGE – Aibreán 2021-Márta 2022  
IRISH LANGUAGE ACTION PLAN - April 2021-March 2022



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

# GOAL 1

## To Promote Opportunities to Learn Irish

ACTION STEP DESCRIPTIONS	DATE TO BEGIN	DATE DUE	RESOURCES REQUIRED (staff, tech, etc.)	DESIRED OUTCOME	NOTES
Deliver language taster days and or cultural workshops at various locations within the community	Oct 2021	March 2022	£30,000	3 taster days and or Cultural Workshops to be delivered across MUDC	
Deliver Irish language classes at key locations across the District at <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beginner Level</li> <li>• Intermediate Level and</li> <li>• Advanced Level</li> </ul> This will include youth and adult audiences and will involve clustering & collaboration with other groups eg schools, sporting, cultural groups and community organisations	Oct 2021	March 2022		Residents of MUDC will have access to Irish Language class within 10 mile radius	MUDC classes will be marketed collectively Online options will be developed
Assist with provision of facilities /promotion for delivery of University of Ulster Diploma in Irish	Oct 2021	March 2022		15 + students will commence the Irish Language Diploma with Ulster University 2020/21	Advice and promotion provided to (potential) applicants
Deliver a schools Irish Language and Heritage programme in various Council venues across the district and/or in the classroom setting Examples include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Irish language lessons</li> <li>• Gaelic Heritage projects (Gaelic origins of townlands/surnames)</li> <li>• Workshops/site visits</li> </ul>	Oct 2021	March 2022	Proposed amendment of allocation from £13,000 to £8,500	Engage 40+ schools in the language and heritage programme	Aimed at Key Stage 1 & 2 classes

# GOAL 2

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

ACTION STEP DESCRIPTIONS	DATE TO BEGIN	DATE DUE	RESOURCES REQUIRED (staff, tech, etc.)	DESIRED OUTCOME	NOTES
Provide development support, advice, information and guidance to individuals, groups and schools within the region in the promotion and development of the Irish Language.	October 2021	March 2022	£1,500	Community programme at HOTON to enhance linguistic support for bilingual families in the South Tyrone area	In conjunction with HOTON education office
Provide development support through activity grant funding to external cultural organisations to establish Irish language programmes and to promote the language among its audience base. See below for details:	October 2021	March 2022	£50,000	Irish Language Activity Fund	Publicly advertised March 2020
<p><b>Coalisland      Cairde Uí Néill    £7,912</b></p> <p><b>“Gaeilge sa Phobal – Irish in the Community”</b></p> <p><i>This wide-ranging project consists of Irish language days at local children’s summer camps, a range of outdoor activities for Irish speaking families, an adult summer school, a series of heritage talks, and an Irish language traditional song project and festival, helping local people achieve fluency through the promotion of our rich heritage of traditional song through the medium of Irish.</i></p> <p><b>Swatragh      Grúpa Ban Ghreanacháin - Granaghan Womens Group    £1,000</b></p> <p><b>Gaeilge Ar Fad!</b></p> <p><i>The project is an innovative series of Irish language workshops, targeting those who already have a little Irish. Due to the pandemic and the uncertainty surrounding what way it will evolve, the group wish to deliver their activities outside, as much as possible. The plan is for 10 Irish language sessions of 90 mins each. They will be delivered in the open air, walks and talks, all conducted through Irish Language.</i></p> <p><b>Maghera      An Carn Centre    £13,788</b></p> <p><b>“Plean Gníomhaíochta 2020-21” Language Revitalisation Plan</b></p>					

*A wide ranging 12 month activity plan from this award winning community group targeting all aspects of the use of Irish in the local district. A range of projects including youth activity support, adult learning, heritage promotion, Feis Charn Tóchair, family mentoring, teaching resource development, language colleges, Irish language drama etc.*

**Maghera      Conradh na Gaeilge Charn Tóchair   £6,480**

***“Scéim Thacaíochta do Theaghlaigh Gaelacha”  
(Support programme for Irish speaking families)***

*A range of actions to support and assist families making the difficult transition to bilingualism in their everyday lives. Project involves a storytelling/reading programme for pre-school, family resource development, and Mother and Toddler club activities.*

**Ballinascreen      Glór na Speiríní   £3,400**

***Imeachtaí Bliana Bhaile na Scríne  
(Ballinascreen Irish Language Events Programme)***

*A support programme for Irish speaking families with a range of activities including an Adult Winter School, online events and a programme of heritage walks delivered through the medium of Irish.*

**Magherafelt      Glór Mhachaire Fíolta   £3,500**

***“Scéim Óige 2021-22” (Irish Language Youth Project)***

*A support programme for the Magherafelt area targeting young people in primary and post-primary Irish medium education to develop their use of the language in informal settings through a range of youth activities.*

**Ardboe Tobin Youth Centre   £2,570**

***“Activities for 4-11 Year Olds”***

*The aim of project is to engage with 30 children (15, 4-7 year olds and 15, 8-11 year olds) on a weekly basis. Each age group of 15 will attend a 1 hour class for the 8 weeks prior to St Patricks Day 2022. During the 8 weekly sessions the children will take part in various youth activities delivered through Irish, eg games, dance, art and crafts, singing, cookery, etc. The aim is to make the activities offered as fun and as engaging as possible to assist with learning the Irish Language. The weekly language sessions will work towards the Annual Concert, with the children*

*performing through singing, dancing, drama and recitation.*

**Ardboe Craobh Ard Bó £900**

***“Comharsana ag Comhrá – Neighbours in conversation”***

*Under the wider title of ‘neighbours in conversation’, Craobh Ard Bó intend to adopt a two-pronged approach to embed the Irish language into the local community, and to offer all those in the community at every age group the chance to learn Irish together. Stage one of this project centres on engagement with the local GAA club and community group, where a 12 week course free of charge will be offered to members of the community. Stage two of the project takes place in the local primary school, where a tutor will work with the local children on learning key words and phrases in Irish so that they can communicate both with one another and with their families at home.*

**Kildress Campa Chill Dreas £2,350**

***Campa Chill Dreasa (Kildress Summer Camp)***

*Summer camp for primary school children involving a range of sports and practical cultural activities through the medium of Irish with a view to raising Irish language awareness and providing basic language skills.*

**Donaghmore Sruth na Gaeilge, Scoil Iósaef  
Domhnach Mór £1,000**

***Craobh an tSrutha (Champions of Irish)***

*Sports day through the medium of Irish for post-primary students of Irish Medium schools in the MUDC area aimed at providing a range of sports activities and interaction between different schools.*

**Pomeroy Institute of Irish Leadership £2,000**

***Féile Ghaeltacht Thír Eoghain 2021 (Tyrone Gaeltacht Festival)***

*Online Irish language Summer School for Adults involving a series of language classes and lectures to improve language skills and knowledge of cultural heritage in Tyrone area.*

**The Moy Liath Luachra £250**

***Liath Luachra (Irish Language Cycling Club)***

**A weekly cycling scheme for adults aimed at providing an outdoor activity through the medium of Irish for cyclists.**

**Cookstown      Cairdeas Eoghain      £2,600**

**Seal Spraoi Lúnasa (August Fun Activity Week)**

**Summer Scheme for local Irish Medium primary school children involving a range of linguistic activities for both parents and pupils with a view to continuing use of Irish during summer months/school holidays.**

**Dungannon      An Chraobh Rua      £640**

**An Gasra Léitheoireachta (Reading Club)**

**Online Irish language reading club for adults intended to provide opportunities for adult learners and speakers to interact primarily through a reading circle.**

**Ballygawley      Pobal an Ghleanna      £330**

**Workshop and celebration event for adults across a range of levels to provide an opportunity for learning and interaction through the medium of Irish.**

**Dungannon      Gaelscoil Aodha Rua      £1,300**

**Snas agus Blas (Fluency and language enrichment project)**

**Snas agus Blas will be a new project which will launch at the beginning of the new school year. The aim of the project is to encourage the wider school community, both teaching and non-teaching and parents of children in the school who have studied Irish at school, to engage in a programme of continued learning. The sessions will follow a 'book club' format, where a chosen text will be discussed and interesting grammatical / linguistic learning opportunities will be analysed and discussed, providing scope for further learning.**

Establish and maintain conversation circles and reading groups in local communities and possibly link to graduates and participants of Ulster University & Mid Ulster District Council Diploma participants

Oct 2021

March 2022

£1,000

Adult fluency/language enrichment

Cooperate with Irish Language community to develop an online Mid Ulster Seachtain na Gaeilge programme which will feature a range of

March 2022

March 2022

Proposed amendment of location from 320

Seachtain na Gaeilge delivered

Ensure geographical spread



engaging activities aimed at Irish speakers and non-Irish speakers wanting to get involved in the language and profiling the Irish Language across the district			£3,000 to £7,500		
To enhance and promote youth services in Irish across MUDC and provide guidance and support to local youth projects – Láimhleabhair d'obair óige and Mentoring Help Sheets	Oct 2021	March 2022	£3,500	Materials, resource development	Engage with relevant organisations to increase the language capacity of local groups

## GOAL 3

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

ACTION STEP DESCRIPTIONS	DATE TO BEGIN	DATE DUE	RESOURCES REQUIRED (staff, tech, etc.)	DESIRED OUTCOME	NOTES
To develop Irish Language service in the area of education	Sept 2021	March 2022	Collaboration with Environmental Health	6 schools will avail of the Nigh Do Lámha – Environmental Health Project	Service to be proactively marketing to Irish Medium schools
To develop Irish Language service in the areas of Tourism and Education within our Arts and Cultural facilities	Oct 2021	March 2022	Collaboration with MUDC Cultural Venues £3,000	Provide a range of digital resources for visitors to access online	Facilitate Irish language tours to key heritage sites as required
To raise awareness of Gaelic linguistic heritage within the district	July 2021	March 2022	£4,000	Develop publication and community project	Promote awareness of the linguistic heritage of the Sperrins Gaeltacht
Provide in-house translation services to Council Departments.	April 2021	March 2022	£1,000	Increase awareness within Council of this service	As per Irish Language policy



<b>Report on</b>	Community Access and Inclusion - Accessible Outdoor Seating Benches Support
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> December 2021
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Claire Linney, Assistant Director of Development Tony McCance, Head of Arts and Culture
<b>Contact Officers</b>	Philip Clarke, Community Services Manager, Margaret Quinn, Arts & Culture Assistant

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	Community Access and Inclusion - Accessible Benches Support – to agree to the delivery of accessible benches to community facilities to support the DFC Community Access and Inclusion Programme.
2.0	Background
2.1	<p>Community Access and Inclusion - Accessible Outdoor Seating Benches Support – DFC has supported Council over the last year to assist in ensuring facilities are as socially inclusive as possible; dealing with physical accessibility. Council has delivered a number of schemes across the District including arts, sports, and parks.</p> <p>DFC has updated Council that further funding may be available to continue to support access and inclusion in our facilities and wider community facilities.</p> <p><b>Programme Objectives</b></p> <p>The key objectives of the Department for Communities' Access and Inclusion Programme are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Improve access to arts, culture and active recreation venues across NI for people with disabilities;</li> <li>2. Make arts, cultural and active recreation venues more inclusive across society; and</li> <li>3. Increase participation in arts, culture and active recreation activities by people with disabilities.</li> </ol> <p>The maximum project cost of delivery must not exceed £30,000. Council would be expected to match 10% of this total project cost.</p> <p>Council, as part of its community commemoration plan, had identified £5000 of funding to support the community with tree planting and or benches etc. To date a number of organisations (UK Green Canopies programme) have been supporting with</p>

	tree planting in communities, therefore this funding should be maximised for the provision of accessible outdoor seating commemorative benches.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>Community Access and Inclusion - Accessible Outdoor Seating Support – Council proposes to seek funding from the DFC Access and Inclusion fund to support the provision of accessible outdoor seating benches at community owned facilities. The need identified for the programme:</p> <p>At a recent meeting of Development Committee there was a proposal to maximise the number of chatty benches to support social engagement:</p> <p>There is a number of groups and communities who are keen to provide accessible benches in their own community facilities to support social distancing and greater access to activities.</p> <p>There is also a number of groups and communities who are keen to provide commemorative benches and also be accessible to communities.</p> <p>It is proposed to deliver the above support via delivery of an accessible outdoor seating bench, or funding for an accessible outdoor seating bench to a group for their own community facilities based on an open request process. Please see attached request form in Appendix 1 (this does not allow for picnic tables etc.).</p> <p>The aim of the support is to:</p> <p>Provide an accessible outdoor seating bench in a community facility to allow for social engagement, greater disability access to community activities, including arts, cultural, ethical commemoration and community activity.</p> <p>Funding can only be issued to a registered community/voluntary group, with a constitution, annual AGM, and operate as a not for profit group delivering within Mid Ulster District Council.</p> <p>The funding can complement other funding however it cannot duplicate other grant support.</p> <p>It is proposed to open the process early January to close after 2 weeks. The support project will be promoted via the community newsletter which is targeted at 1500 community groups across Mid Ulster.</p> <p>The request form is a simple format as attached. The recommendations would be brought to the February committee, with proposed agreement, to allow letters of offer to be issued for the funding and 6 weeks for project completion.</p> <p>Successful applicants must provide evidence that the outdoor seating benches have been installed at all community locations by Mid-March.</p> <p>To allow the timeframe to be met it is proposed that groups would have an option of either a or b –</p> <p>A - to take receipt of an accessible outdoor seating bench procured by Council to be delivered to your community location.</p>

	<p>B – to receive a funding contribution up to the value of £500 to purchase an accessible outdoor seating bench.</p> <p>The benches are to be installed at community owned community facilities. Any group applying should own the community facility or partner with the community owner with permission to locate the bench and ensure adequate insurance and access.</p> <p>Council will deliver the bench to each community location, but it will not be responsible for the installation of any of the benches or insurance. Upon delivery of the benches to groups they will become the responsibility of the group and Council will have no further involvement.</p> <p>The outdoor seating benches must be installed in an accessible location.</p> <p>If demand exceeds supply; Council may create a waiting list and distribute over a period of time or create an additional criteria, with reengagement of groups who have made a request, for area based provision.</p> <p>It is proposed that Council would purchase benches up to a value of £30,000 (£27,000 and matched Council good relations £3000), and complementary have a funding allocation of up to £5000 Parks under community commemoration with a match of £5,000 from good relations; to be overseen by community development.</p> <p>An application to the DfC Access and Inclusion Programme 2021/22 has been submitted for their consideration (application deadline 24 November 2021). The outcome of this process should be known by mid –December, in order to ensure delivery of approved projects by 31 March 2021.</p> <p>Members should note that at the time of the December Development Committee, it may not be known if the application to DfC has been successful. (an update on the current status of the application will be verbally relayed to members at the Development meeting of Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021). Pending the outcome of a successful application to DfC permission is sought from Council to deliver both seating option projects as outlined above, (in the event that DfC funding is granted) seating option (b) only will be delivered.</p>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<p><b><u>Financial &amp; Human Resources Implications</u></b></p> <p>Community Access and Inclusion - Accessible Outdoor Seating Benches Support - £40,000 (DFC funding £27,000 and matched Council good relations £3000), and £5000 Parks under community commemoration plan, with a match of £5000 from good relations.</p> <p><b><u>Professional Support</u></b> None</p>
<b>4.2</b>	<b><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></b>

	None
<b>4.3</b>	<b><u>Risk Management Implications</u></b> None
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	Community Access and Inclusion - Accessible Outdoor Seating Benches Support – to agree the proposal to deliver the Accessible benches support  To agree to go to quotation for the accessible benches.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
	Appendix 1 Community Access and Inclusion - Accessible Outdoor Seating Benches Support – form



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

## Community Access and Inclusion – Accessible Outdoor Seating Benches

**Please complete all details & return by Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2022, close of play. Please contact [Margaret.quinn@midulstercouncil.org](mailto:Margaret.quinn@midulstercouncil.org) Tel 03000 132 132 .**

**Please email your completed form to : [artsculture@midulstercouncil.org](mailto:artsculture@midulstercouncil.org)**

### Programme Fund Information

Community Access and Inclusion - Accessible Outdoor Seating Benches Support –The aim of the fund is:

To provide an accessible outdoor seating bench (picnic tables not eligible) in a community facility to allow for social engagement, greater disability access to community activities, including arts, cultural, ethical commemoration and community activity.

Standard grant conditions:

1. Funding can only be issued to a registered community/voluntary group, with a constitution, annual AGM, and operate as a not for profit group delivering within Mid Ulster District Council.
2. Statutory and 'for profit' organisations, activities and recipients (incl. activities that receive statutory core provision are not eligible for grant).
3. Regional groups/organisations are not eligible to apply.
4. Applications that are not completed accurately and in full will not be considered.
5. Religious or political activity cannot be funded under any grant.
6. All applicants must present a project that will take place within the MUDC area.
7. Applicants must present a project that will be delivered by 31<sup>st</sup> March each year.
8. Evidence of good governance; including annual AGM, Group bank account, financial management practice, insurances, etc. will be required.

9. Successful applicants will draw down grants retrospectively based on vouched expenditure, with procurement adhered to. Advance payments will be 50% up to £1500 and 25% up to £10,000 with final verification of all expenditure.
10. Group recipients should not have a membership charge for its users accessing its community provision greater than £250.
11. Group recipients should have no element of profit gain to any member or individual of its Committee.
12. The following items are not eligible for funding:

Reclaimable VAT or other costs	Retrospective funding applications	Flags or bunting, sports kits	Groups or activities that discriminate against any section of the community	Equipment or items that duplicate what already exist or that are covered by other funding
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Funding will be conditional to -

- I. Provision of an accessible outdoor seating bench in line with the stated criteria
- II. Confirmation of community location for the bench, including permission, insurance issues etc. all being addressed.
- III. Confirmation that delivery can be completed / monies expended by Mid March 2022 or as per Council delivery.

The funding can complement other funding however it cannot duplicate other grant support.

Successful applicants must provide evidence that the outdoor seating benches have been installed at all community locations by Mid-March.

To allow the timeframe to be met it is proposed that groups would have an option of either a or b –

A - to take receipt of an accessible outdoor seating bench procured by Council to be delivered to your community location.

B – to receive a funding contribution up to the value of £500 to purchase an accessible outdoor seating bench.



The benches are to be installed at community owned community facilities. Any group applying should own the community facility or partner with the community owner with permission to locate the bench and ensure adequate insurance and access.

Council will deliver the bench to each community location, but it will not be responsible for the installation of any of the benches or insurance. Upon delivery of the benches to groups they will become the responsibility of the group and Council will have no further involvement.

The outdoor seating benches must be installed in an accessible location.

If demand exceeds supply; Council may create a waiting list and distribute over a period of time or create an additional criteria, with reengagement of groups who have made a request, for area based provision.

## Section 1 – You and your Group/Organisation

### 1.0 The Organisation's name and address:

Name of Organisation:

Contact:

Address:

Email:

Telephone number:

### 1.1 Please confirm your organisation is a not for profit community or voluntary group with an annual AGM and member volunteers.

Yes

☐

### 1.2 Aim of your group delivering community development activity

### 1.3 Project description

Please provide detail of the proposed location of the accessible bench – address of community facility and site location.  
Please confirm confirmation of permission to locate and all issues such as insurance etc. are addressed.  
Please confirm, if you are successful, if you wish to proceed with option 1 of your own purchase of a bench or option 2 where Council will provide it directly.

## Section 2 – Checklist of attachments

**The following documents are required with your form**

- A copy of our constitution or set of rules
- List of Office Bearers
- Copy of minutes of Annual General Meeting
- An original Bank or Building Society statement not more than three months old that show your group's name, account number and current balance.
- Evidence of approval to site bench, if required
- Details of insurance relating to the project

**If any of the above has been issued to Council already this financial year please state and you do not have to attach again.**

☐ All above documents issued to Council in current financial year.

## Section 3 – Verification and Authorisation

**Data Protection Policy -All data gathered will be held securely by the Mid Ulster District Council in line with the Data Protection Act 1998. All such data will not be shared with any third party unless required to do so by law.**

### **YOUR SIGNATURE**

I confirm that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, all the information in this application form is true and correct. I understand that you may ask for more information at any stage of the application process.

**Signed:**

**Date:**

**Chairperson, Vice Chair, Secretary or Treasurer**



<b>Report on</b>	Community Development
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> December 2021
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Claire Linney, Assistant Director of Development
<b>Contact Officers</b>	Philip Clarke - Community Services Manager, Oliver Morgan – Good Relations Manager, Michael McCrory - PCSP Manager

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	Community Grants - to agree the rolling grant awards - Local Community Festivals, Good Relations and Decade of Anniversaries
1.2	Emergency Support funding – to approve the venue/facility funding support awards.
1.3	Community Development - to update on Community Development.
2.0	Background
2.1	Community Grants – Council annually delivers an open call for its main grants, and then delivers a number of rolling community grant programmes; Good Relations and Local Community Festivals. Council also annually delivers the Decade of Anniversaries Grant.
2.2	Emergency Support funding – DFC has allocated Council a further emergency Covid 19 support fund to help the community sector remobilise and open up in light of the Covid 19 pandemic and social distancing requirements.
2.3	Community Development includes the following areas: Community Support, Good Relations, PCSP, and Strategic Community Development.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The Community Festivals grant is a rolling programme – 2 applications received and recommended for awards total £1440 See grant award recommendations in Appendix 1 for approval.
3.2	Emergency Support funding – In partnership with DFC, it was proposed to support the community sector through a grant fund to assist with opening up community development premises. A total of 64 applications were submitted for consideration with 59 proposals being recommended for grant awards and 5 deemed unsuccessful. Please see attached in Appendix 2 proposed grant awards. The total allocation is £118,056.

3.3	<p>The total budget from DFC was £134,621, engagement on the allocation of the remainder of the budget will take place with the funder.</p> <p><b>Community Development</b></p> <p><b>Community Support</b> The Community Support team is currently working with groups to develop activity and development plans.</p> <p><b>Good Relations</b> Good Relations is continuing to deliver the Plan for 2021 – 2022.</p> <p>Peace IV Local Action Plan – the programme is being completed. Final claims and queries are being resolved with the funder SEUPB.</p> <p>The extension to the programme has been agreed to June 2022. This will allow completion of the towns shared space project.</p> <p>PCSP –Ongoing as guided by the PCSP Partnership.</p>
4.0	<b>Other Considerations</b>
4.1	<p><b><u>Financial &amp; Human Resources Implications</u></b></p> <p>Community Festival awards £1,440</p> <p>Emergency Support funding –venue/facility funding support awards £118,056</p> <p><b><u>Professional Support</u></b> None</p>
4.2	<p><b><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></b> None</p>
4.3	<p><b><u>Risk Management Implications</u></b> None</p>
5.0	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	Community Grants - to agree the rolling grant awards - Local Community Festivals
5.2	Emergency Support funding – to approve the venue/facility funding support awards.
5.3	Community Development - to update on Community Development.
6.0	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
	Appendix 1 Good Relations and Local Community Festivals Grant Awards

	Appendix 2 Emergency Support funding –venue/facility funding support awards
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## Appendix 1

### Community Festivals December 2021 (Maximum £1200)

No	Organisation Name	Aim	Title Of Event/project	Band	Requested	Awarded
1	Derrylaughan GAC	Sport	Santa at the Shore	5	£1,200	£720
2	GAC Greenlough	Sport	Christmas Market	5	£1,200	£720
					<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,440</b>

Bands	Score	%
7	30-39	40%
6	40-49	50%
5	50-59	60%
4	60-69	70%
3	70-79	80%
2	80-89	90%
1	90+	100%



## Appendix 2

### Community Development Venues/Facilities Funding Support Awards 2021-2022

No	Organisation Name	Title of Event / Project	Request	Band	Award
1	Apex Music Centre	PA system & equipment	£2,839.00	2	£2,000.00
2	Augher St Macartan's GAC	Sanitizing locations & signage	£3,000.00	1	£3,000.00
3	Aughintober Regeneration	Equipment (nets & benches)	£1,820.00	2	£1,820.00
4	BADGER Brocagh & District Reg Gr	Foldable tables	£2,380.00	4	£1,500.00
5	Ballymacall True Blues	Toilet Refurb	£3,000.00	4	£1,500.00
6	Ballysaggart Area Community Assoc	Flooring & Kitchen Refurb	£3,000.00	3	£2,000.00
7	Bawn Development Assoc	Internal & external repairs to the Hall	£3,000.00	4	£1,500.00
8	Bovain Cultural Group (Moy)	Second hand grade B shipping container	£3,000.00	4	£1,500.00
9	Brocagh Emmetts GFC	Changing Rooms / Shower Refurb	£10,000.00	1	£3,000.00
10	Broughderg Area Development Assoc	Replacing Heating System	£3,000.00	1	£3,000.00
11	Caledon Community Centre	Repainting of Community Facility	£2,000.00	4	£1,500.00
12	Cavanakeeran Community Assoc	Awning, Seating & Facility Signage	£3,000.00	1	£3,000.00
13	Coagh & Drummullan Network Group	Replacement doors & chairs	£3,000.00	5	£2,000.00
14	Cookstown RBL	Tables & chairs / Partition screens	£3,000.00	1	£3,000.00
15	Craigmore CDA	Facility refurb (remove internal wall)	£3,000.00	3	£2,000.00
16	Derrylaughan GAC	Facility refurb -doors, toilets, external works	£6,500.00	2	£2,500.00
17	Derrytresk Community Projects	Upgrade of heating system	£3,000.00	4	£1,500.00
18	Dr Moutray Memorial RBP	Disabled Access to Hall	£3,000.00	4	£1,500.00
19	Drumnacross Guiding Star	Kitchen upgrade, chairs	£3,000.00	4	£1,500.00
20	Dungannon Football & Rugby Club	Commercial dishwasher	£2,200.00	4	£1,500.00
21	Dungannon RBL	Modernisation of toilets(disabled)	£3,000.00	3	£2,000.00
22	Dungannon Silver Band	Modernisation of toilets	£2,880.00	5	£1,000.00
23	Dungannon Swifts FC	Cleaning and sanitising equipment	£2,440.00	2	£2,440.00
24	Fairhill Development Assoc	Health and safety checks and repairs	£2,900.00	2	£2,500.00
25	First Steps Women's Group	New tables for facility	£3,000.00	2	£2,500.00

26	Fivemiletown Royal British Legion RBL	Refurb of roof and insulation	£3,000.00	2	£2,000.00
27	Galbally Youth & Community Assoc	Tables & Chairs / Sanitising station	£3,000.00	1	£3,000.00
28	Greystone Silver Band	External ground work/disabled	£3,000.00	5	£1,000.00
29	Kilcronaghan Activity Centre	Refurb of community space/audiovisual equip	£2,244.00	2	£2,244.00
30	Kildress Wolfe Tones	External work and equipment	£3,000.00	1	£3,000.00
31	Kileeshil Community Centre	External lighting upgrade	£3,000.00	2	£2,500.00
32	Killyman St Mary's GAC	Toilet refurb	£3,000.00	2	£2,500.00
33	Kilnaslee Development	Tables & chairs	£2,978.00	5	£1,000.00
34	Knocknagin Hall Committee	Stage curtains	£3,000.00	2	£2,500.00
35	Lisnagleer Community Group	Refurb of hall	£3,000.00	3	£2,000.00
36	Lissan Hall Committee	Heating boiler upgrade	£3,000.00	4	£1,500.00
37	Loughshore Community Services	Kitchen equipment/TV	£1,450.00	3	£1,450.00
38	Moortown Community Hall Committee	Kitchen upgrade	£3,000.00	4	£1,500.00
39	Moy GAC	External perimeter fencing works	£3,000.00	1	£3,000.00
40	Moygashel Community Ass	Internal painting of hall	£2,000.00	4	£1,500.00
41	MUVE	External refurb/upgrade	£2,000.00	3	£2,000.00
42	Naomh Colum Cille CLG	Internal flooring replacement	£3,000.00	4	£1,500.00
43	Newbridge GAC	Tables/Chairs/Covid 19 Equip	£2,800.00	1	£2,800.00
44	O'Donovan Rossa GAC	Refurb of toilets	£3,000.00	2	£2,500.00
45	Pomeroy District Sports & Cultural Assoc	Replacement of floors	£1,996.00	5	£1,000.00
46	Rainey Old Boys	Outdoor seating	£2,370.00	3	£2,000.00
47	Rock St Patrick's	Reception upgrade/ external refurb	£3,000.00	1	£3,000.00
48	Sandholes Community Group	Painting of facility	£2,350.00	4	£1,500.00
49	Speedwell	External refub and heating upgrade	£3,000.00	3	£2,000.00
50	St Malachy's GAC Castledawson	Fitness equipment	£3,000.00	4	£1,500.00
51	St Martin's GAC Desertmartin	Industrial cleaner/partition net	£3,000.00	2	£2,500.00
52	St Mary's Parochial Hall Stewartstown	Sanitiser, signage and screens	£1,900.00	4	£1,500.00
53	TABBDA	Kithchen equipment	£2,802.00	1	£2,802.00
54	Tamnamore Community Dev Assoc	Painting refurb	£1,000.00	2	£1,000.00

55	Termoneeny Community Assoc	Tables & chairs	£2,800.00	3	£2,000.00
56	Tobermore United Football Club	Kithchen equipment/fogger machine	£1,815.00	5	£1,000.00
57	Tobin Youth Centre	Internal refurb of facility	£3,000.00	3	£2,000.00
58	Upperlands Community Dev	Roof repairs	£3,000.00	3	£2,000.00
59	Upperlands RBL	External works - new footpaths	£2,580.00	4	£1,500.00
				<b>Total</b>	<b>£118,056.00</b>
	<b>Ineligible</b>				
1	Acorn Women's Group	Did not meet funding criteria			
2	Ausome Kids	Did not meet funding criteria			
3	Church Street Restaurant K&S Restaurant	Not C+V sector not eligible			
4	Dungannon Amateur Boxing Club	Did not meet funding criteria			
5	Gorestown Apprentice Boys Community	Did not meet minimum score threshold			

<b>Band</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>&gt;70</b>	<b>£3,000</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>60 - 69</b>	<b>£2,500</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>50 - 59</b>	<b>£2,000</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>40 - 49</b>	<b>£1,500</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>30 - 39</b>	<b>£1,000</b>



<b>Report on</b>	Mid Ulster District Council Heritage Strategy
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> December 2021
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Claire Linney, Assistant Director of Development Tony McCance, Head of Culture & Arts
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Claire Linney, Assistant Director of Development Tony McCance, Head of Culture & Arts

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To seek Council approval to engage external support to develop a five year Heritage strategy for Mid Ulster District Council.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	The development of an integrated Heritage Strategy will assist in ensuring the delivery of a high quality Heritage offering within the Mid Ulster region directly by and/or supported by Mid Ulster District Council. This will allow the capturing of our diverse heritage, both in Council ownership, regional DFC, and at a community level. It will help us work in partnership to develop the Mid Ulster Heritage offering.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	Given the significant potential to develop Council's key Heritage assets under the proposed Mid and South West Region Growth Deal programme, coupled with the potential to develop a region wide Heritage offering that has the potential to further support and enhance Mid Ulster District Council's heritage preservation and promotion it is proposed to develop a 5 year heritage strategy linked to arts, culture, tourism and community development.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b>
	Financial:  The cost of development of the strategy is not anticipated to exceed £15,000. This can be met from within existing agreed budgets within Culture and Arts.
	Human:

	Officer time working alongside the external expertise to engage communities and other key stakeholders in identifying local heritage.
	Risk Management:  None
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	Equality & Good Relations Implications:
	Rural Needs Implications:
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	Council approval is sought to procure support to develop a five year Mid Ulster District Council Heritage Strategy and to approve allocation of up to £15,000 from existing 2021/22 budgets within Culture & Arts Services.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
	None

<b>Report on</b>	Schools Sports Facilities Grant
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> December 2021
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Kieran Gordon, Assistant Director Health, Leisure & Wellbeing
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Leigh Gilmore, Participation Manager

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To advise Members on the advertised Schools' Sports Facilities Access Grants.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	Previously in Feb 2021, Members approved the Community Grants Policy 2021 – 2022. This report refers to the previously approved policy – Schools Access to Sports Facilities Grant. This grant allows for maximum award of £5,000 for the provision of schools sports facilities for community use of minority sports that do not have their own provision in areas with the overall budget set at £10,000.
2.2	The objectives for the programmes are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase access to underutilised school sports synthetic pitch facilities.</li> <li>• Contribute to the cost of opening up and maintaining schools' sports facilities, thereby encouraging ongoing usage.</li> <li>• Increase local people's access to training and competitive play opportunities.</li> <li>• Enhance access to team sports activities which are under-resourced or under-represented.</li> </ul>
2.3	As in previous years, the maximum amount available is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximum of £5,000 per club or school, dependent on level of usage. This is as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Up to £4,500 maximum grant.</li> <li>➢ For use of school sports facilities which have not previously been available for community use, up to an additional £500 grant on a pro rata basis.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The actual amount awarded will be dependent on the score each application achieves under the specified criteria. All grant maximums may be reduced if the fund is heavily oversubscribed by eligible applicants.</li> </ul>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	The grant was advertised during week commencing 25 <sup>th</sup> October 2021. Closing date was Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> November 2021. It was open to sports clubs or schools where eligible expenditure can be demonstrated as being incurred between 1 October 2021 and 31 March 2022 and all funds must be spent by 31 March 2022. A total of 7 applications were received and, as with previous years, passed to Williamson Consulting for assessment.
3.2	The assessment of the applications were carried out during the 15 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> November 2021. This involved three steps: review of all information to check completeness; eligibility check; and scoring the application.

3.3	As with previous years, the score was carried out using a formula system which automatically produced an indicated grant level.
3.4	<p>The outcome of the scoring is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 Applications passed the eligibility check and provided sufficient information and were therefore eligible for funding.</li> </ul>
3.5	<p>Williamson Consulting commented that 5 applications met the requirements for eligibility and recommended funding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cookstown Hockey Club <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Recommendation – Application to be funded at £4,500</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Dungannon Ladies Hockey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Recommendation – Application to be funded at £4,500</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Errigal Ciaran GAC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Recommendation – Application to be funded at £2,800</li> </ul> </li> <li>• St. Mary's Primary School, Pomeroy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Recommendation – Application to be funded at £4,050</li> </ul> </li> <li>• St. Oliver Plunkett GAC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Recommendation – Application to be funded at £3,000</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
3.6	All of the above grants will support hire / usage of school sports facilities.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<p><b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b></p> <p><b><u>Financial</u></b></p> <p>Budget allocation within the 2021/2022 for maximum of £10,000 – total amount recommended for funding is £18,850. The additional £8,850 of funding is to be derived from underspend in other sport programmes and grants areas.</p> <p>Human: Officer time to facilitate the process.</p> <p>Risk Management Considered in line with Council Policies and Procedures.</p>
<b>4.2</b>	<p><b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b></p> <p>Equality &amp; Good Relations Implications: Considered in line with Council Policies and Procedures.</p> <p>Rural Needs Implications: Considered in line with Council Policies and Procedures.</p>



<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	Members are asked to agree to the recommendation for successful grant applications as detailed in section 3.5.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
6.1	Appendix A – Grant Criteria
6.2	Appendix B – Mid Ulster District Council Schools’ Sports Facilities Access Grant Assessment Nov 2021



## **Appendix A – Grant Criteria**

### **Overview of Programme**

Mid Ulster District Council recognises the importance of participation in physical activity and sport and the need to maximise access to facilities which encourage and support this. The Northern Ireland Framework for Sports Facility Development (2016 - 2026) provides a guide for development of regional sports facilities across the province.

Locally, Council Sports Facilities Strategies identify shortfalls in provision and will recommend general geographic locations for development or refurbishment of sports facilities which address identified need. Council recognises that a few underrepresented sports may be constrained by lack of access to suitable facilities, yet these may exist in local schools.

The Mid Ulster District Council Schools' Sports Facilities Access Grants Programme was launched in mid-December 2016 and has been open for funding annually or twice yearly.

### **Eligibility**

The first stage of the assessment process will involve an eligibility check. Applicants must pass all the criteria to progress to stage two.

To be eligible, applicants must:

- Be a club using, or planning to use, school owned, synthetic pitch, sports facilities; or, be a school which plans to provide access to such sports facilities by external clubs (*see note 'b' below*).
- Be a constituted and not for profit sports club (*although see Note b, below*) or school.
- Be located in the Mid Ulster District Council area.
- For sports clubs:
  - Be participating in a sport recognised by Sport NI.
  - A minimum of 80% of members must be resident in the MUDC area.
  - Not have received any capital funding from Council in the 2021/22 year.
  - Be able to demonstrate difficulty in accessing other suitable sports facilities.
- Not have benefited in the 2021/22 year from Council's:
  - Sports Strategic Development Grant.
  - Sports Capital Grant.
- Be able to demonstrate difficulty in accessing other suitable sports facilities.
- Incur actual documented costs in utilising/providing a schools' sports facility, or, able to provide documentary evidence of voluntary work or maintenance costs involved in maintaining the facility. (*In such circumstances, Council will treat voluntary maintenance work in kind as valued at £10 per hour*).

#### **Note**

- a) The programme is primarily aimed at team sports.
- b) Council may consider applications by schools on behalf of, and supported by evidence of agreement with, a constituted sports club.

### **Application Process & Scoring**

Scoring to be carried out using a formula system which automatically produces an indicated grant level.

**Appendix B – Mid Ulster District Council Schools’ Sports Facilities Access Grant Assessment November 2021.**

GRANT TYPE	Organisation Name	Project	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended to be Awarded
Eligible	Cookstown Hockey Club	Synthetic Pitch maintenance	£13,500	£4,500 (reduction as school used before so no 10% premium)
Eligible	St. Mary's Primary School Pomeroy	Synthetic Pitch hire	£4,050	£4,050
Eligible	Dungannon Ladies Hockey	Synthetic Pitch hire	£5,085	£4,500 (reduction as school used before so no 10% premium)
Eligible	Errigal Ciaran GAC	Synthetic Pitch hire, sports hall hire	£4,480	£2,800 (reduction as the target group does not meet full priority eligibility)
Eligible	St. Oliver Plunkett GAC	Indoor Hall Hire, equipment	£4,500	£3,000 (reduction as equipment costs are ineligible)
Ineligible	St. Patricks Ladies GAA, Donaghmore	Indoor Hall Hire, courses for coaches, transport to venues, cost of equipment, cost of outdoor venue hire	£4,080	N/A – ineligible - no school location specified nor letter of support from Principle(s)
Ineligible	Fivemiletown College	Replacement of sand filters, pool steps and pool equipment	£5,742	N/A – ineligible – no club use specified with evidence of agreement with a constituted sports club

<b>Report on</b>	Sports Representative Grants
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> December 2021
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Kieran Gordon, Assistant Director Health, Leisure & Wellbeing
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Leigh Gilmore, Participation Manager Margaret McCammon Community Development Officer

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To present to Members the proposed community grant allocations for the range of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sports Representative Grant - Team and Individuals (November 2021)</li> </ul>
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	The Sports Representative Grants (Individual and Team) is a continuous rolling programme.
2.2	Previously in November 2021, Members approved the recommendation for the period October 2021.
2.3	Eligibility criteria compliance was completed by officers followed by grant programme assessment.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	Detailed analysis of the proposed grant awards are attached with Appendix A for information.
3.2	Summary detail is as follows: The Sports Representative Grant: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Individual application was received during this period</li> <li>0 Team applications were received during this period</li> <li>Proposal to award a total of £200 in respect of the above individual application.</li> </ul>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b>
	Financial:  The Sports Representative Grant is a continuous rolling programme with an annual allocation for 2021/2022 of £15,000; however £8,000 was allocated in June 2021 to Small Sports Grants leaving a revised budget of £7,000.

	£2,275 was approved in September, £1,650 In October, £650 in November leaving a balance of £2,425. Should the grant recommendation contained within this report be approved, £2,225 remains available to be allocated for the remainder of this financial year until March 2022.
	Human: Officer time.
	Risk Management: In line with Council policies and procedures.
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/A
	Rural Needs Implications: N/A
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	To note the contents of this report and give approval for the sports grant allocations as recommended within this report.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
6.1	Appendix A: Grant recipients and amount of grant award.

**Appendix A: Grant recipients and amount of grant award.**

**Sportsperson Representative on eligible cost to a max of £250**

Name		Project Title	Amount Requested	Band	Amount Awarded
Erika	Gourley	Womens Artistic Classic Challenge Championships 2021	£665.92	3	£200
Total					<b>£200</b>

Band	Amount
1	<b>£250.00</b>
2	<b>£225.00</b>
3	<b>£200.00</b>
4	<b>£175.00</b>
5	<b>£150.00</b>

**Sportsperson Representative on eligible cost to a max of £500**

Name		Project Title	Amount Requested	Band	Amount Awarded
Total					<b>£0</b>

Band	Amount
1	<b>£500.00</b>
2	<b>£450.00</b>
3	<b>£400.00</b>
4	<b>£350.00</b>





<b>Report on</b>	Northern Ireland Forest Schools Awards Scheme
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Wednesday 8th December 2021
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Nigel Hill, Head of Parks
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Anne Reid, Parks & Countryside Development Officer

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To seek approval to register and engage with Northern Ireland Forest Schools Association (NIFSA) to develop a schools programme in Mid Ulster District Council area for an extended two year programme 2021 - 2023
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	Northern Ireland Forest School Awards is an environmental awareness initiative which encourages local schools to visit and take on an ownership of their local Council Park. It has been operating successfully at Hill of The O'Neill Heritage Park, since April 2017, and through the Parks, since 2018, as part of the education programme at Hill of The O'Neill & Ranfurly House.
2.2	As part of the NIFSA programme, pupils and teachers identify an area within the local Council Park (Hill of The O'Neill) that they can develop as their own Forest School site. Here they undertake exciting and innovative activities to help them understand the importance of our natural environment and local heritage. Activities can include making a map of the Council Park using only natural resources, den building, as well as the use of trees to help children better understand maths.
2.3	The teachers involved undertake a Forest School Leader qualification (OCN Level 3). This gives them the confidence to continue visiting the Council Park year after year and developing more exciting outdoor activities to replace classroom led lessons.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	This year the Forest School format has changed to a blended programme. This has been devised to lessen contact time for all, during the pandemic, and to make use of virtual learning for the staff aspect of the programme. This programme delivery costs less to deliver than the previous programme in which there were six class visits to the park at Hill of The O'Neill. Now four school sessions are delivered during two class visits. Each class visit lasts for an entire morning.
3.2	During the period September 2021 to June 2022, six local schools will be participating in NIFSA at Hill of The O'Neill Heritage Park:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Howard PS</li> <li>• Augher Central PS</li> <li>• Spires IPS</li> <li>• Donaghey PS</li> <li>• Fivemiletown PS</li> <li>• Clogher Valley Sure Start</li> </ul>
3.3	This approach has increased the school intake from three, in previous years, to six. The objective is to further develop and encourage school participation across the MUDC catchment area from 2021 – 2023.
3.4	As a result of the reduction in the number of visits to the Hill of The O'Neill Heritage Park, schools from a wider catchment area across Mid Ulster are now participating: three of the six schools in this year's cohort are from the Clogher Valley.
3.5	Interest has been shown in NIFSA by a large number of local schools and community groups in the Mid Ulster District Council area: these have all registered expressions of interest on the Mid Ulster District Council section of the NIFSA website. The Parks & Countryside Development Officer and the Education Officer (Hill of The O'Neill & Ranfurly House) are currently examining ways in which this demand for environmental activities across the Mid Ulster District Council area can be met.
3.6	The Northern Ireland Forest Schools Awards is definitely a very popular addition to the Council's education programme. The continuation of this programme will maintain this connection of environmental awareness and citizenship skills with Council Parks, while extending the learning of ecological and conservation skills to even more pupils and teachers in the Mid Ulster District Council area.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
4.1	<p><b><u>Financial &amp; Human Resources Implications</u></b></p> <p>Financial: The programme cost £6,000 per annum, subject to available funding being approved in 2021/22 and 2022/23 Parks and Arts &amp; Culture budget. Programme costs shared equally between Parks and Arts &amp; Culture Services.</p> <p>Human: Council's Education Officer and Parks &amp; Countryside Development Officer coordinate and delivery the project in conjunction with NIFSA.</p>
4.2	<p><b><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></b></p> <p>Community ownership and civic responsibility will be positive outcomes of the programme with participating schools adopting an area within their local Council Park. This will become their Forest School site. They will visit their Forest School site on a regular basis every year. Here they will learn about civic responsibility and help manage the site. This will include regular litter lifting, opportunities to help improve its biodiversity, for example, wildflower planting, tree planting for example.</p>

4.3	<p><b><u>Risk Management Implications</u></b></p> <p>In line with Council policy and procedures.</p>
5.0	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	Register Mid Ulster District Council with Northern Ireland Forest Schools Association and continue with a programme to engage local schools and youth groups to embrace local parks and greenspace where feasible across the district.
5.2	To provide a shared contribution of £6,000 per annum towards programme support costs (subject to available resources) from the 2021/22 budget and subject to approval of the 2022/23 budgets, funded by the Culture & Arts and Parks Departments of Mid Ulster District Council.
6.0	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
6.1	N/A



<b>Report on</b>	Moydamlaght Forest Project
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Wednesday 8th December 2021
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	N Hill Head of Parks
<b>Contact Officer</b>	A Reid Parks & Countryside Development Officer

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

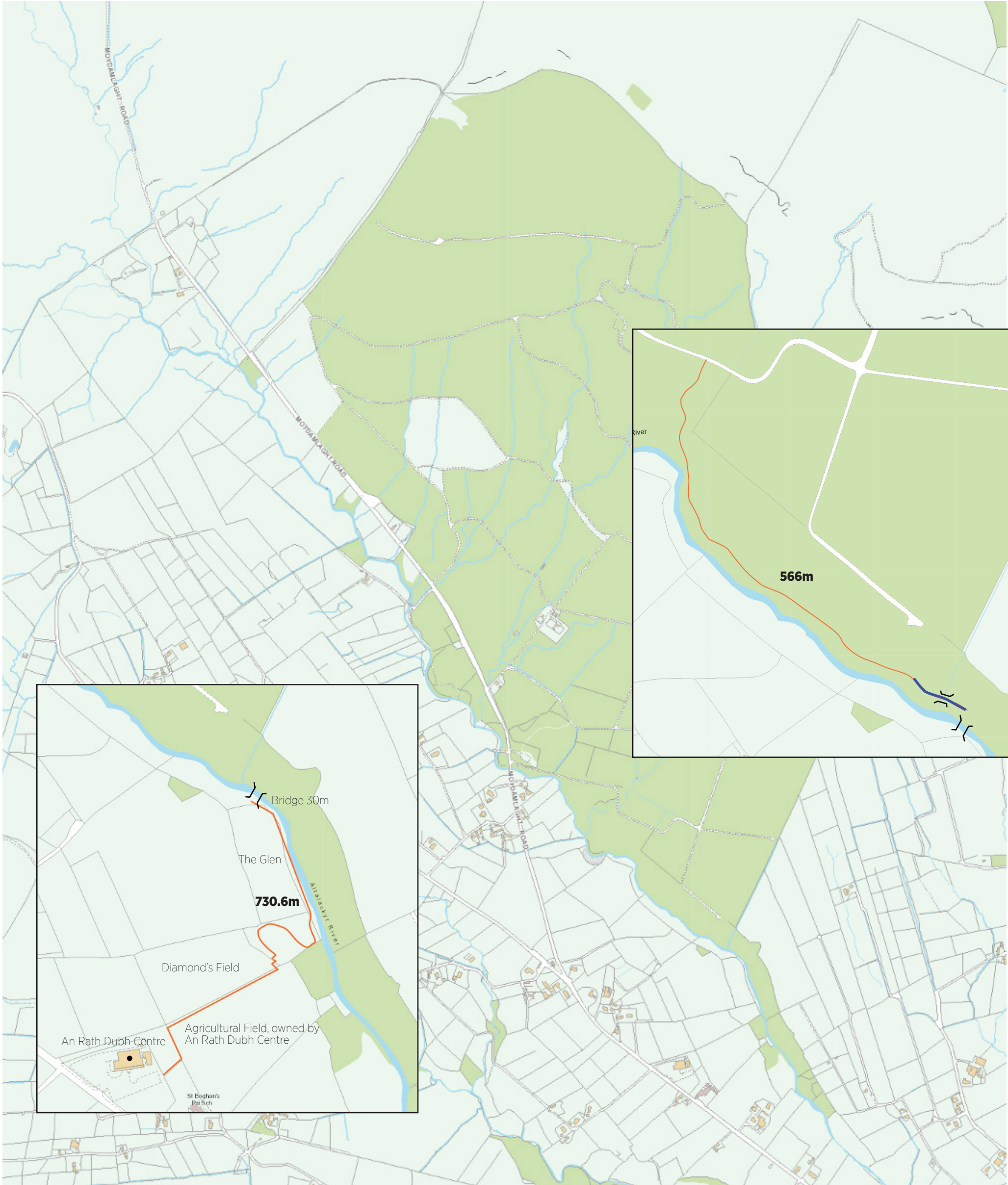
<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To seek Council approval to engage a suitably qualified ICT Team to carry out site scoping and survey works linked to the development and public access to Moydamlaght Forest.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	In 2014 Magherafelt District Council entered into a licence agreement with Forest Service NI (FSNI) for the development, operation, management and maintenance of trails and associated recreational facilities within Moydamlaght Forest. Over the years Council have been working closely with the local community to identify opportunities for recreation within the area.
2.2	In 2019 Council applied for & were successful in being awarded Tackling Rural Poverty and Social Isolation (TRPSI) funding to develop the car parking and general access in and around Moydamlaght Forest and the local Community Centre, Phase 1, these works are now completed. The long-term vision of this project is to link the community Centre within Moneyneena to the Forest.
2.3	Council plan to seek additional funding to create a feature bridge over the Altalacky River, and associated paths as part of Phase Two of the project, thereby providing the vital link between the village of Moneyneena and Moydamlaght Forest. Council are working with various landowners/stakeholders on this phase of the project, which is currently ongoing.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	The new improvements works at Moydamlaght Forest include carpark and riverside path, trim-trail and play structures, way-marking and interpretation. The improvements at An Rath Dubh Centre include an access link pathway from behind the centre to the forest.
3.2	It is proposed to further extend the Riverside trail to exit the forest and enter into private land before crossing the river (via a bridge). At this point it will enter into the glen, owned by the Community group (An Rath Dubh) on the ascent up through

	the glen it will emerge to connect to the established path at the An Rath Dubh Centre.
3.3	In order to extend this path network and make this vital link to the Community Centre, Council need to employ suitably qualified personnel to carry out detailed site surveys.
3.4	The proposed forest project complements the current provision which the An Rath Dubh Centre offers. The Centre is a strong community base and provides many opportunities for family experiences. The forest sits just behind the community centre however due to the lack of a link to the Centre it is under-utilised as an outdoor recreation resource. It is envisaged by providing the vital link between the Centre and the forest that this would open it up. The creation of all-ability trails coupled with trail infrastructure investment would provide an opportunities for families, of all ages and abilities, to get out and explore the woodland. When completed this outdoor recreation resource will provide an opportunity for the local community, residents and visitors to partake in healthy outdoor pursuits which will not only increase their own physical and mental well-being but also increase the level of community cohesion and social inclusion within the area.
3.5	Consultation is on-going through the local community groups and various landowners. All have provided their support to the project.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b>
	Financial: ICT Consultant approx £15,000 Budget identified under MUDC Capital Programme 2020-2024 as part of the Outdoor Recreation Strategy subject to Council approval of annual capital budget allocations.
	Human: Engagement of Technical Services Team to oversee ICT appointment Existing Parks staff resources sufficient to coordinate project support. No additional staffing resource required.
	Risk Management: In conjunction with Council policies and procedures.
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: In conjunction with Council policies and procedures.
	Rural Needs Implications: In conjunction with Council policies and procedures.

<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	Members approval is sought to tender and procure the necessary ICT Team to carry out all associated site scoping and survey works on lands linked to the Moydamlaght Forest project at an estimated cost of £15,000. The budget is identified under MUDC Capital Programme 2020-2024 as part of the Outdoor Recreation Strategy subject to Council approval of annual capital budget allocations.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
	<p>Appendix - Moydamlaght Forest Proposed Trail</p> <p>Appendix - D144/19 Development Minute - C172-19 Council Minute</p>















- (i) That Altmore Forest be included in the consultation as per Appendix 1 and to confirm that the Council will continue partnership working arrangements to expand opportunities for the development of Forest Recreation in East Fermanagh and East Tyrone. This continued development will be managed under the scope of the current Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Mid Ulster District Council and Forest Service NI and delivered through the creation of new Licence and Lease Agreements for identified properties within the catchment of scoping area;
- (ii) That Cappagh Village Regeneration Group be invited to make a presentation to Council

The Chair raised concern regarding admission charges by the Forestry Service and Council having no justification in the matter and felt that it would be beneficial to issue an invite for representatives to attend a future meeting on the criteria for charges.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson  
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to the Council to issue an invite to representatives from the Forest Service to attend a future meeting to get clarification on admission charging for Forestry Parks.

**D144/19 Mid Ulster District Council and DAERA (RDP/TRPSI) Capital Works Programme**

The Head of Parks presented previously circulated report and sought approval for Council to take forward Capital Projects under the MUDC/DAERA/Rural Development and TRPSI Programme. The Council to act as lead partner for Rural Development Projects, with Mid Ulster Rural Development Partnership (the LAG) as co-applicant regarding to the following:

Councillor Ashton referred to issue of capital funding and advised it had been brought to Policy & Resources Committee seeking the release of additional funding and enquired where we are with the capital fund and the timeframe as the Council has made a significant contribution for maintenance programme at the last Policy and Resources meeting and whether this was ringfenced within the budget.

The Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation advised that work has being ongoing with the Officer team identifying significant match funding and requirements would be uncertain as projects needed to be further developed. She said that this was DAERA's funding but there was a need for investment from Council to meet the overall budget requirements. This would be brought to Policy & Resources Committee for approval.

Councillor Ashton stated that there was a need for an officer collective across all departments as there was a significant request brought for approval to P&R Committee by the Environment & Properties department last week and felt that members on the P&R should be furnished with the full picture as this was a regular occurrence.

Councillor Doris enquired if Officers could investigate for the next committee meeting the potential for 24-hour toilet facilities at Washingbay.

Councillor Monteith referred to the major project for Railway Park and advised that this scheme was due to commence in October or November but unfortunately there has been an issue with the landowner and suggested that a Dungannon DEA meeting be arranged to discuss.

- Ballyronan Marina – Refurbishment Works
- Washingbay Wetlands Park
- Portglenone Angling Stands
- Davagh Forest Mountain Bike Trails – Extension
- Maghera Outdoor Recreational Facilities
- Fivemiletown Round Lake
- Moydamlaght

Proposed by Councillor Corry

Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to the Council that approval be given to:

- (i) Progress with the identified Capital Works Programme as detailed in the report.
- (ii) Engage, tender and procure the necessary IST Capital Works contractors, where necessary, in order to deliver the programme of Capital Works as proposed, subject to confirmed funding confirmation (LoO).
- (iii) Endorsement to present listed projects and Capital Funding request to P&R Committee for approval.
- (iv) Dungannon DEA meeting to be arranged to discuss Railway Park Scheme as a matter of urgency.

#### **D145/19 Sports Representative Grants**

The Acting Head of Leisure presented previously circulated report and sought approval for grant allocations for the Sports Representative Grant – Team and Individuals.

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Proposed by Councillor Monteith

Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to the Council to agree the Sport Grant Allocation in relation to the Individual and Team Representative Grant and to approve the transfer of £6,000 from the Sports Capital Grant Programme.

#### **D146/19 Schools Sports Facilities Grant**

The Acting Head of Leisure presented previously circulated report and sought approval for the Schools Sports Facilities Grant 2019/20.

adjustments to their homes which are necessary for medical conditions. Councillor McAleer proposed that they be invited to participate in the community plan emphasising that they are trained in dealing with issues both mental and physical in people of all ages and it would be important to have them on board in the community plan.

Councillor Burton concurred stating that many people were being cared for in their living rooms or kitchens and if this would help in any way it should be pursued.

Proposed by Councillor McAleer  
Seconded by Councillor Burton and

**Resolved** That Council through the Community Planning – Health & Wellbeing Thematic Group work with the RCOT.

Proposed by Councillor McGinley  
Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan and

**Resolved** That the Minutes of the Environment Committee held on Tuesday 10 September 2019 (E177/19 – E204/19 and E216/19) transacted in Open Business having been printed and circulated, subject to the foregoing were considered and adopted.

**C172/19** Receive and Consider Minutes of matters transacted in “Open Business” at the Development Committee Meeting held on Thursday 12 September 2019

Councillor Kerr referred to *D140/19 Economic Development Report: Mid Ulster Town & Village Business Spruce Up Scheme*. Councillor Kerr advised that in relation to the boundary changes, that whilst the minute stated boundaries could be reviewed in the future he had actually proposed that it would be reviewed.

Councillor Monteith concurred. Comments were noted.

Councillor Monteith drew attention to *D143/19 Forest Service NI Consultation Forestry Planning in the East Fermanagh/East Tyrone Area: Amendment to minute:*

Proposal to read

That it be recommended

- (i) That Altmore Forest be included in the consultation as per Appendix 1 and to confirm that the Council will continue partnership working arrangements to expand opportunities for the development of Forest Recreation in East Fermanagh and East Tyrone. This continued development will be managed under the scope of the current Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Mid Ulster District Council and Forest Service NI and delivered through the creation of new Licence and Lease Agreements for identified properties within the catchment of scoping area;



- (ii) That Cappagh Village Regeneration Group be invited to make a presentation to Council

Councillor Monteith drew attention to D149/19 Corporate Events 2019: and stated that he had declared an interest in the item and thus did not propose:

The Chief Executive asked if it was not proposed did the date change.

Amendment to minutes - That Proposer be amended from Councillor Monteith to Councillor Clarke

Proposed by Councillor Kerr  
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

**Resolved** That the Minutes of the Development Committee held on Thursday 12 September 2019 (D136/19 – D153/19 and D158/19) transacted in Open Business having been printed and circulated, were considered and adopted.

#### **C173/19 Conferences, Seminars & Training Report**

Approval was sought for the undernoted for attendance of Councillors and Council Officers as outlined in the report, the payment of attendance fees and associated costs as incurred.

##### **(i) Member Approvals**

- **NILGA - Code of Conduct Training**

Ranfurly House, Dungannon - Wednesday 2 October 2019 – 6.30 pm – 8.30 pm  
Travel and subsistence

- **NILGA – Changing Places: Planning, Place-shaping and Place-making in Northern Ireland**

Killyhevlin Hotel, Enniskillen – Tuesday 8 October 2019 – 9.30 am – 4.00 pm  
Travel and subsistence

Cllrs to attend

- **NILGA – Code of Conduct Training**

Town Hall, Bangor – Monday 25 November 2019 – 6.30pm – 8.30pm  
Travel and subsistence

- **National Association of Councillors Northern Ireland Region (Conference AGM)**

Glenavon House Hotel, Cookstown – Friday 4 October 2019 at 11 am  
Travel and subsistence







<b>Report on</b>	Requests for Support
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> December 2021
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Kieran Gordon, Assistant Director Health, Leisure & Wellbeing
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Kieran Gordon, Assistant Director Health, Leisure & Wellbeing

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To provide information on recent requests for support for leisure and recreation aspirational projects at Castlecaulfield and Clogher Valley Rugby Club.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	Council operate and maintain the Castlecaulfield grass pitches and indoor hall with associated changing provision and are available on a booking by booking basis. Additionally Council operate and maintain the playpark onsite at Castlecaulfield. The 3G playing facility on site is managed and operated via Service Level Agreement with Aughintober Regeneration with Council bearing no involvement in the ongoing day to day operations or maintenance of the 3G facility.
2.2	Clogher Valley Rugby Club have advised Officers that they have purchased 9 acres of land adjoining their own pitches, with the intention of developing a multi-sport, all weather facility.
2.3	Both of the above areas have been considered within the terms of reference of the current Pitches Strategy development. The assessment to date as part of the strategy development has focused on current condition/quality, location, size, usage profile, accessibility and ancillary facilities. Various stakeholders associated with both areas have submitted consultation responses as part of the strategy development that have highlighted their current provision as well as articulating their future aspirations and need.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	Officers have received correspondence from stakeholders associated with Castlecaulfield and they have highlighted their views on the perceived poor condition of the existing pavilion facilities, playing fields and open space. The stakeholders conveyed their vision of an opportunity to maximise the current facilities for community benefit and are asking if Council could assist the local groups in Castlecaulfield work towards the development of the pavilion and playing

	fields into a 'Castlecaulfield Community Hub'. Their vision is to develop this area into a space that has high quality facilities that caters for our local community that we and MUDC can be proud of.
3.2	It is proposed that Officers assist the stakeholders involved with Castlecaulfield and provide support in developing an overall masterplan for the Castlecaulfield site.
3.3	Officers have received correspondence from Clogher Valley Rugby Club that details their business case and concept for development of a multi-facility sports hub on their own site. The club have advised that new build plans are in place and planning permission has been obtained. The club expect the project costs to be approximately £350k and to date they have raised £85k towards the project. The club have advised that plans for further fund raising are in place including charitable donations and fund raising events. Building control is in place and once full project funding has been realised, the club anticipate being able to go to tender at the earliest opportunity. While their facility is not within the Mid Ulster District Council boundary (Fermanagh and Omagh), the club have advised that approx. 65% of their playing members are citizens of the Mid Ulster District Council and their aspirations are to provide a multi-use community facility for various sports that could also have far reaching benefits for Mid Ulster District Council residents. The club have asked if Council would consider providing a letter of support and work with them to help secure any grant funding they could apply to in the future and in addition being able to attend a future Development Committee to make a presentation.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b>
	Financial: To be considered and derived from existing revenue budgets where reasonable and practicable to do so.
	Human: Officer time.
	Risk Management: Considered in line with relevant Council policies and procedures.
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: None anticipated at this stage.
	Rural Needs Implications: None anticipated at this stage.

<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	<p>To note the contents of this report and to give approval for Officers to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Assist the stakeholders involved with Castlecaufield and provide support in developing an overall masterplan for the Castlecaufield site</li> <li>(2) Providing a letter of support to Clogher Valley Rugby Club and work with them to help secure any grant funding they could apply to in the future and invite club representatives to attend a future Development Committee to make a presentation.</li> </ul>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
	N/A



<b>Report on</b>	Fairhill Bowling Pavilion
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> December 2021
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Kieran Gordon, Assistant Director Health, Leisure & Wellbeing
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Sean Cavlin, Leisure and Business Development Manager

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To provide information on the Fairhill Bowling Pavilion, Cookstown and to seek approval for temporary works pending a full review of the Fairhill facility.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	Council operate and maintain the bowling green at Fairhill and currently the bowling playing facilities involve 6 rinks, two resident clubs with approximately 80 playing members between Cookstown Bowling Club and Fairhill Bowling Club. The playing season is generally between April to October each year and both clubs operate on a season hire booking arrangement. Additionally, non-club members can also make arrangements to book and play on a casual pay as you go basis.
2.2	In terms of the bowling pavilion, there are currently two separate changing areas with toilets in each. Both areas are antiquated and not currently meeting requirements of the modern game which has recently saw the development of mixed gender teams. The current changing areas are small and when visiting teams arrive for matches, generally there is an understanding reached where males of both opposing teams change in one area with females of both opposing teams changing in the other. Council Officers have been advised that in many cases, it has become the "norm" for female players to arrive "match ready" due to the lack of provision of changing areas.
2.3	There is a general area within the pavilion mainly used for meetings social viewing, and spectating and additionally there is a kitchen which is a reasonable standard although dated.
2.4	There is one accessible toilet within the pavilion. This is accessible only from the exterior of the building and would not meet current day DDA compliance.
2.5	It is generally accepted that the playing surface and associated equipment is of good standard and would not require any investment at this stage.

<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	Bowling has been included within the terms of reference of the current Pitches Strategy development. The assessment to date as part of the strategy development has focused on current condition/quality, location, size, usage profile, accessibility and ancillary facilities. It is likely that recommendations will arise for investment and enhancements of the four Council operated bowling playing surfaces and pavilions at Fairhill, Magherafelt, Dungannon and Fivemiletown on a priority ranking basis following their assessments.
3.2	Officers have also commissioned a condition survey to be carried out on Fairhill due to the reasons outlined within section 2 of this report and the final report is pending.
3.3	Cookstown Bowling Club have indicated to Council Officers that some of their members are due to hold positions of significance in regional and national bodies during 2022 and 2023 and as part of these responsible office bearing positions, this will involve many teams visiting Cookstown for competitions and meetings. Currently, for the reasons outlined in section 2, the current pavilion would not be fit for purpose to facilitate these expectations and in particular from a DDA compliance and mixed gender playing perspective.
3.4	Therefore in the medium term, it is highly likely that Fairhill Bowling Pavilion will require a re-development/enhancement and the outcome of the commissioned condition survey along with the final pitches strategy should plot the way forward for the mechanism for future development. It is expected that a full business case and concept would be worked up for Members consideration to include the wider Fairhill area and facility mix once all the assessments have been carried out.
3.5	In the interim, and to deal with current issues along with future competitions expected, it is proposed that short term temporary modular changing provision is installed to alleviate current concerns while future concept work is ongoing.
3.6	Officers would propose commissioning a procurement exercise to seek to install temporary modular changing accommodation on site. Initial cost estimates on a lease basis would be approx. £10k per annum (can be pro-rata up/down depending on length of time needed). It is anticipated that this should provide additional changing facilities to include shower cubicles and accessible toilet provision. It would be proposed that this would be installed prior to the start of the anticipated playing season in March 2022. This arrangement should also allow for an extension if required for the 2023 season.
3.7	Officers will continue to provide updates on progress and options for any decisions required via future Development Committee's when available.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b>



	<p><b>Financial:</b> It is estimated that up to £10k per annum would be required for leasing of the modular changing accommodation. This would be subject to agreement of inclusion in the 2022/23 rates estimates process.</p>
	<p><b>Human:</b> Officer time.</p>
	<p><b>Risk Management:</b> Considered in line with relevant Council policies and procedures.</p>
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	<p><b>Equality &amp; Good Relations Implications:</b> To be considered in line with relevant policies and procedures and full screening will be carried out and considered as part of business case development of the overall Fairhill project.</p>
	<p><b>Rural Needs Implications:</b> To be considered in line with relevant policies and procedures and full screening will be carried out and considered as part of business case development of the overall Fairhill project.</p>
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	<p>To note the contents of this report and to give approval for Officers to commission a procurement process and install temporary modular changing accommodation on site at Fairhill Bowling Pavilion pending outcome of the condition survey and business case development for the Fairhill facilities subject to agreement of inclusion in the 2022/23 rates estimates process.</p>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
	N/A



<b>Report on</b>	Feasibility Studies into the Development of Community Trails at Cabin Wood and Tullyhogue
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Wednesday 8th December 2021
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	N Hill Head of Parks
<b>Contact Officer</b>	A Reid Parks & Countryside Development Officer

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To seek Council approval to work with Outdoor Recreation NI in the production of Feasibility Studies into the development of Community Trails at Cabin Wood and Tullyhogue
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	As part of Council's Outdoor Recreation Strategic Plan the creation of Community Trails has been identified within the Action Plan.
2.2	Outdoor Recreation NI (ORNI) approached Council early in Spring 2021 regarding the possibility of entering into a partnership approach in the delivery of some of these actions.
2.3	ORNI applies every year to NIEA for financial support to deliver projects that fulfil key environmental outcomes across Northern Ireland <a href="https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/environment-fund">https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/environment-fund</a> .
2.4	Community trails will ultimately provide 'doorstep walking' opportunities for the local community and encourage them to connect and engage with nature in a rural community.
2.5	ORNI has been successful in securing funding from NIEA in the development of Feasibility Studies at Cabin Wood and Tullyhogue (as identified in the Outdoor Recreation Strategy).
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	NIEA has committed funding for the Tullyhogue Community Trail from the Multi Year Strategic Environment Fund. This is to undertake an initial feasibility study with regards to a trail to connect the village of Tullyhogue to Loughrey College and Mid Ulster Sports Arena by way of Tullyhogue Fort.

3.2	NIEA has committed funding for the Cabin Hill Wood Community Trail from the current annual Environment Fund. This is to undertake a Feasibility Investigation (Preparation) of a community trail (Cookstown to Cabin Hill Wood via the Ballinderry River)
3.3	These studies, undertaken by ORNI, will provide feasible options for each trail and identify the next steps to be undertaken by the Council such as landowner negotiation, ecological assessment and further liaison with local authorities.
3.4	Match funding is required to support and complete these Feasibility Studies for example in the production of preliminary ecological assessments.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
	<b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b>
4.1	Financial: Feasibility study for the Community Trails at Tullyhogue and Cabin Wood, as detailed - NIEA (funding secured) £6,400 (50%). <b>Required Match Funding from Council £6,400 (50%)</b>
4.2	Budget identified under MUDC Capital Programme 2020-2024 as part of the Outdoor Recreation Strategy subject to Council approval of annual capital budget allocations.
	Human: Existing staff resources sufficient to coordinate project support. No additional staffing resource required.
	Risk Management: In conjunction with Council policies and procedures.
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: Reviewed as part of the project and in conjunction with Council policies and procedures.
	Rural Needs Implications: Reviewed as part of the project and in conjunction with Council policies and procedures.
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	Members approval is sought to progress with the partnership arrangement with ORNI for the completion of Feasibility Studies for the creation of Community Trails at Tullyhogue and Cabin Wood with a council contribution/match funding of £6,400.

5.2	Budget identified under MUDC Capital Programme 2020-2024 as part of the Outdoor Recreation Strategy subject to Council approval of annual capital budget allocations.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
	N/A



<b>Report on</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Economic Recovery: Sub-Regional Development Funding from Invest NI</li> <li>2. Renewal of Membership with NI Chamber of Commerce 2022</li> <li>3. Mid Ulster Gift Card</li> <li>4. Tourism Promotional Videos &amp; Imagery</li> <li>5. Hospital Roundabout, Dungannon</li> <li>6. Town Centre Cleansing</li> <li>7. Mid Ulster Business WhatsApp Platform</li> <li>8. Cookstown Saturday Market</li> </ol>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	8 December 2021
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Assistant Director of Economy, Tourism & Strategic Programmes

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To provide Members with an update on key activities as detailed below.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	<p><b>Economic Recovery: Sub-Regional Development Funding from Invest NI</b> A new call has opened from Invest NI regarding an Economic Recovery: Sub-Regional Development Funding stream. Invest NI has now secured funds to support research to be undertaken by Councils, for the economic benefit of their sub-region.</p>
2.2	<p><b>Renewal of Membership with NI Chamber of Commerce 2022</b> The NI Chamber of Commerce and Industry has a business network with a membership circ. 1,200 businesses representing over 100,000 employees. Mid Ulster District Council has been a member for the last five years.</p>
2.3	<p><b>Mid Ulster Gift Card</b> The new Mid Ulster Gift Card was officially launched by the Council Chairman on Monday 8 November 2021. The Gift Card aims to lock-in additional money for participating businesses in the District, encourage local spend and increase footfall in our local towns and villages. All businesses across Mid Ulster are</p>

	<p>eligible to join the scheme free of charge. The public can only redeem their Gift Cards in participating businesses who have joined the scheme.</p>
2.4	<p><b>Tourism Promotional Videos &amp; Imagery</b></p> <p>Mid Ulster District Council wishes to develop a bank of tourism video materials and still photography focusing on the district's tourism experiences and walking product which can be used to target the domestic, national and international visitors.</p>
2.5	<p><b>Hospital Roundabout, Dungannon</b></p> <p>The hospital roundabout in Dungannon is located on the A29, a key arterial route. The roundabout is in need of a refresh for next spring/summer. The current structures on the roundabout have been in place for some time and requires works to help elevate it to a similar quality to the Cookstown and Magherafelt roundabouts.</p>
2.6	<p><b>Town Centre Cleansing</b></p> <p>It has been several years since the last time Council employed the services of a company to power wash the paving and remove the chewing gum, to visually enhance the streetscape of our town centres.</p>
2.7	<p><b>Mid Ulster Business WhatsApp Platform</b></p> <p>Many local businesses are struggling to adapt and keep abreast of current information in this ever increasing digital world and the Covid19 pandemic has only served to accelerate this further. The businesses in our towns and villages are witnessing a further decline in footfall, so in a bid to support local traders Council officers wish to explore opportunities to create an instantaneous messaging service between Council and our business base via an online platform through the development of a "Business Whats App Online Service" which can provide a number of services.</p>
2.8	<p><b>Cookstown Saturday Market</b></p> <p>For 400 years now the weekly Saturday market has graced Cookstown town centre. Mid Ulster District Council purchased the Market Rights in April 2021, with the aspiration to revitalise and reinvigorate the market.</p>
3.0	<p><b>Main Report</b></p>
3.1	<p><b>Economic Recovery: Sub-Regional Development Funding from Invest NI</b></p> <p>This funding opportunity has been secured by Invest NI and focuses on research to identify possible future interventions, either collaboratively across Councils or at an individual Council level, which could be implemented from 2022-26 (subject to budget availability) to ensure economic recovery is inclusive and regionally balanced.</p> <p>The window of opportunity to avail of the funding was extremely short with the funding call opening on 3<sup>rd</sup> November and closing on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2021, hence providing insufficient time to bring a report to Committee to advise of potential projects worthy of submission.</p>



The funding guidance advises that all funding must be spent by 28 February 2022, with the funds to be draw-down by 31 March 2022. Invest NI has advised that £20,000 is likely to be the level of funding provided towards each successful project.

Mid Ulster Council submitted **one bid** to develop a 'Mid Ulster Economic Recovery and Growth Plan (2022-2026)' as detailed at '*Point a*' below, and are also **partners to four further collaborative bids** as detailed at '*Point b*' below.

**(a) Mid Ulster Economic Recovery and Growth Plan (2022-2026) Bid**

Mid Ulster District Council submitted a bid to develop a Mid Ulster Economic Recovery and Growth Plan (2022-2026) which seeks to baseline Mid Ulster's current economic situation and prepare a detailed socio-economic profile of the area taking into account the impact of Covid19 and EU Exit. It will also focus on carrying out an analysis of the district's key business sectors, and seeks to provide recommendations for a range of actions to support recovery and growth. If Council is awarded funding, there is a very tight timeframe to complete the work, hence the request to procure an organisation 'at risk'. The organisation would only be appointed if Council receives a funding offer from Invest NI. Delegated authority is also requested for the Chief Executive to sign and accept the letter of offer from Invest NI, if funding is awarded to this initiative, as this will allow work to commence with immediate effect.

**(b) Collaborative Funding Bids**

**(i) Review of Agri-Food Producers and Markets**

(bid led by Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council on behalf of the three Mid South West Councils).

This bid seeks to undertake sub regional research to review the agri - food sector to help shape and improve engagement and collaboration within the sector between producers and markets (ie, hospitality/tourism and retail sectors), and develop suitable supply chain linkages. It will also map the strategic funders for the agri-food sector to assist with resource requirements for Councils. Indicative bid value: £25,000.

**(ii) Scoping New and Emerging Funding Opportunities**

(bid led by Fermanagh and Omagh Council on behalf of the three Mid South West Councils)

The objective of this proposed bid is to further develop the opportunities for the MSW Region to identify and avail of funding streams aligned to the key priorities of the MSW Regional Economic Strategy. The research will take the form of a scoping study to identify the new funding landscape that is emerging following EU Exit and identify/assess emerging funding opportunities and the impact of loss of EU funding on our region/economy. The context of the research will be provided through the key priorities outlined in the Mid South West (MSW) Regional Economic Strategy, with findings tailored to the pre-identified

key objectives of MSW partners, within the strategy. Indicative bid value: £25,000

**(iii) Revised Business Start-up Approach – Business Case Development and Resourcing Strategy**

(bid led by Belfast City Council on behalf of the 11 Councils)

A study is currently underway to assess the financial, commissioning and operational implications of a new approach to delivering on Councils' statutory remit to support business start-up. Based on the outcomes of the business start research work being led by Belfast City Council (due Dec 2021), and subject to in-principle agreement across Councils and partners on the proposed methodology, a detailed business case and delivery plan is needed for the new model of working to consider, as a minimum, the management and governance arrangements, the resourcing strategy, the management of risk and review of commissioning options to ensure value for money. Indicative bid value: £20,000.

**(iv) Place-based approaches to supporting economic development**

(bid led by Derry City and Strabane District Council on behalf of the 11 Councils).

Government policy is increasingly recognising the important role of place-based approaches in supporting inclusive economic growth. Councils' direct statutory remit in the field of economic growth and regeneration is relatively limited in NI at present. However, they have a critical convening role to play through their community planning remit. This presents an opportunity to drive forward coherent place-based approaches that recognise the uniqueness of locations while developing flexible interventions to ensure alignment with regional and national policy interventions. This bid focuses on carrying out scoping research to help Councils and relevant government departments explore opportunities for creating a more effective approach to shaping and resourcing delivery of key economic development functions, while taking account of all relevant statutory and legislative obligations. Indicative bid value: £20,000.

Members will be updated on the progress of these bids at subsequent meetings.

3.2

**Renewal of Membership with NI Chamber of Commerce 2022**

Membership renewal to the NI Chamber of Commerce (refer to Appendix 1) is now due for the period January 2022 – December 2022 at a cost of £3,000 (plus vat). The benefits to Council of membership are:

- Being part of a global network, links to UK chamber and its business membership of circa 1,200 members.
- Actively represents members interests at the highest political levels
- Provides a quarterly magazine of current affairs

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monthly newsletter update on what is happening in business in NI.</li> <li>• Organises monthly business events throughout NI</li> <li>• Hosting NI Chamber events in Mid Ulster – The most recent networking event was held on Hill Of The O'Neill on 8 November 2021 as part of Mid Ulster Enterprise Week, which attracted over 100 business representatives.</li> </ul>
3.3	<p><b>Mid Ulster Gift Card</b></p> <p>Mid Ulster District Council wishes to continues our support to our local community by making available up to £5,000 of Mid Ulster Gift Cards available. The gift cards are redeemable in over 120 registered businesses across Mid Ulster which have joined the scheme and more companies continue to register every week. Gift Cards can be redeemed at any time throughout the year. Council is also encouraging our large employers to purchase Gift Cards this Christmas for their employees (instead of other gifts) and in so doing, support our local traders.</p>
3.4	<p><b>Tourism Promotional Videos &amp; Imagery</b></p> <p>These promotional tourism videos and imagery will be used in marketing campaigns during the forthcoming COVID-19 recovery phase but will offer flexibility to ensure that they can be used in the longer-term and offer real value for money and a clear return on investment.</p> <p>The videos will enhance the tourism product in the Mid Ulster region as a must see visitor experience destination. This will be achieved using short, creative, natural and innovative clips. The aim of the video is to portray the accessible journey to Mid Ulster and the emotional, unique experience while falling in line with the Tourism NI 'Embrace the Giant Spirit' campaign. It will also enable the Council to share quality content with Tourism Ireland and Tourism NI to engage with and reach an audience beyond the Council's platforms. Approval is sought to invest up to £20,000 from Council's Economic Development budget towards this much needed initiative.</p>
3.5	<p><b>Hospital Roundabout, Dungannon</b></p> <p>The Mid Ulster Towns Covid19 Recovery Plan (June 2020), identified the need for new planting/landscaping in our key towns. The Hospital Roundabout in Dungannon is situated at a key Gateway on the A29 and requires a facelift. Due to budget constraints in recent years it has been difficult to find funding to improve the visual appearance of the roundabout. Through interdepartmental working, the Economic Development and Technical Teams have come together to progress the first phase of the initiative which requires removal of the butterflies and some landscaping works.</p> <p>It is anticipated the landscaping works can be progressed this financial year, and the economic development team seek approval to allocate a budget in the region of £20,000 to the Technical Team in 2021/22 to allow Phase 1 works to progress, subject to approval from Members.</p>

3.6	<p><b>Town Centre Cleansing</b></p> <p>Within the Mid Ulster Towns Covid19 Recovery Plan (June 2020), it identified the need for additional Cleansing within our town centres. As our high streets emerge from the pandemic, Council continue to undertake a rigorous cleansing programme within our towns. This will visually enrich the look and feel of our town centres, making them more inviting spaces to visit. This will create civic pride and develop public confidence, encouraging the public to return to our high streets and support their local traders. The estimated budget to cleanse the streets of our 5 largest town centres is in the region of £15,000 and can be funded from the existing economic development budget.</p>
3.7	<p><b>Mid Ulster Business WhatsApp Platform</b></p> <p>The WhatsApp Business Platform is in many ways like the Public WhatsApp messaging service that everyone is familiar with which provides instantaneous messaging, but has additional functionality.</p> <p>The profile page in WhatsApp Business is significantly upgraded compared to the regular WhatsApp where you only have a cover photo, name and description. WhatsApp Business is specifically tailored to suit small and medium size businesses.</p> <p>Council officers are keen to progress a new Mid Ulster WhatsApp for Business Platform and seek approval to obtain competitive quotations to employ the services of a suitable organisation to carry out a comprehensive scoping study at the outset of the assignment to determine the core What's App Business functions needed to fulfil requirements whilst adhering to GDPR guidelines. The scoping study will essentially inform how the App will be built and established in year 1. It is recommended there is an option to extend the assignment for up to another 2 years (1+1) to allow all the data to be checked and updated twice per annum and thus ensure the App is kept fresh and meets business needs.</p> <p>It is recommended an economic development budget in the region of £25,000 is committed to this project over a 3 year period.</p>
3.8	<p><b>Cookstown Saturday Market</b></p> <p>As Mid Ulster District Council now owns the Market Rights in Cookstown, it is an opportune time to take stock of the current Saturday Market and consider how it can be enhanced and developed.</p> <p>Approval is sought from Members to procure the services of an experienced organisation to review, consult and develop a comprehensive and costed Market Action Plan to revitalize and reinvigorate Cookstown's Saturday Market, with funding in the region of £28,000 being assigned to this initiative from Council's economic development budget.</p>

	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<p><b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b></p> <p>Financial:</p> <p><b>Economic Recovery: Sub-Regional Development Funding from Invest NI</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mid Ulster Economic Growth and Recovery Plan 2022-26</b> Application has been submitted with a total cost of up to £25,000 (including expenses and excluding vat); the match funding contribution required from Council will depend on the Letter of Offer value from Invest NI – it is anticipated Council may have to commit in the region of £5,000 towards this initiative.</li> <li>• <b>Four Collaborative Council Bids</b> It is anticipated that Mid Ulster District Council will be required to make a match funding contribution to each of the following bids, details of match funding amounts will be provided once these are confirmed by the lead Council for each. The total match funding, if required, for all 4 initiatives is likely to be in the region of £10,000 and will be funded from within the existing economic development budget. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Review of Agri-Food Producers and Markets</b> (led by Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council on behalf of the three Mid South West Councils). Total indicative cost £25,000.</li> <li>○ <b>Scoping New and Emerging Funding Opportunities</b> (led by Fermanagh and Omagh Council on behalf of the three Mid South West Councils). Total indicative cost £25,000.</li> <li>○ <b>Revised Business Start-up Approach</b> – business case development and resourcing strategy (led by Belfast City Council on behalf of the 11 Councils). Total indicative cost £20,000.</li> <li>○ <b>Place-based approaches to supporting economic development</b> (led by Derry City and Strabane District Council on behalf of the 11 Councils). Total indicative cost £20,000</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Renewal of Membership with NI Chamber of Commerce 2022</b> Commit £3,000 (plus Vat) from Council's existing economic development budget towards Membership of NI Chamber of Commerce for 2022.</p> <p><b>Mid Ulster Gift Card</b> Commit up to £5,000 towards purchase of Mid Ulster Gift Cards from Council's existing Economic Development budget for distribution to local citizens.</p>

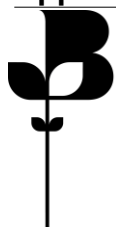
	<p><b>Tourism Promotional Videos &amp; Imagery</b> Commit up to £20,000 towards tourism promotional videos/imagery from Council's existing Economic Development budget.</p> <p><b>Hospital Roundabout, Dungannon</b> Commit in the region of £20,000 to the Technical Team to progress phase 1 works at the Hospital Roundabout, Dungannon from Council's existing Economic Development Budget.</p> <p><b>Town Centres Cleansing</b> Commit in the region of £15,000 towards the cleansing of our 5 largest town centres from Council's existing Economic Development budget.</p> <p><b>Mid Ulster Business WhatsApp Platform</b> Commit in the region of £25,000 towards the development of a new Mid Ulster Business WhatsApp Platform over a 3 year period from Council's Economic Development budget.</p> <p><b>Cookstown Saturday Market</b> Commit in the region of £28,000 towards a Scoping Study and Comprehensive Action Plan to revitalize and reinvigorate Cookstown's Saturday Market.</p>
	<p><b>Human:</b> Officer Time</p>
	<p><b>Risk Management:</b></p> <p><b>Economic Recovery: Sub-Regional Development Funding from Invest NI</b> In order to complete the work within Invest NI's timescale (by 28 February 2022), on the Mid Ulster Economic Growth and Recovery Plan 2022-26, Council is seeking to procure an organisation on an 'at risk' basis, only proceeding to appoint the organisation upon acceptance of an Invest NI Letter of Offer. Whilst the level of funding from Invest NI has not yet been confirmed but in the event we are awarded funding, it is anticipated Council may have to contribute match funding, which may be in the region of £5,000.</p> <p>Similarly, as outlined previously, funding contributions from Mid Ulster Council may be required from each of the "Lead Councils" for the four Collaborative Council Bids. The level of partner funding will depend on the value of the Letters of Offer issued by Invest NI for these projects. If match funding is required, it is anticipated to be in the region of £10,000 for the 4 projects.</p>
4.2	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	Equality & Good Relations Implications:
	Rural Needs Implications:

<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	<p>It is recommended that Members:</p> <p><b>Economic Recovery: Sub-Regional Development Funding from Invest NI</b></p> <p><b>5.1.1 Mid Ulster Economic Growth and Recovery Plan 2022-26</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>(a) Retrospectively approve</b> Council's bid to Invest NI, totalling £25,000, to carry out a '<b>Mid Ulster Economic Recovery and Growth Plan 2022-2026</b>' and commit funding in the region of £5,000 towards the initiative, if required, from Council's economic development budget.</li> <li><b>(b) Approve</b> Officers proceed to issue an Invitation to Quote on an 'at risk' basis to procure an organisation to undertake and complete all work by end of February / early March 2022 at a cost of up to £25,000 (including expenses and excluding vat).</li> <li><b>(c)</b> In the event Council receives a funding offer from Invest NI, to <b>approve</b> delegated authority be awarded to the Chief Executive to accept the Letter of Offer and proceed immediately to appoint the successful organisation to carry out the assignment.</li> </ul> <p><b>5.1.2 Retrospectively approve</b> Council's participation in four additional Council Collaborative Bids, and approve a financial contribution towards these, in the region of £10,000, if required, from Council's economic development budget. Final details on match funding requirements will be provided to Committee once confirmed by the Lead Councils, subject to the undernoted bids being successful in obtaining funding;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Review of Agri-Food Producers and Markets (led by Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council on behalf of the three Mid South West Councils).</li> <li>(b) Scoping New and Emerging Funding Opportunities (led by Fermanagh and Omagh District Council on behalf of the three Mid South West Councils).</li> <li>(c) Revised Business Start-up Approach – business case development and resourcing strategy (led by Belfast City Council on behalf of the 11 Councils).</li> <li>(d) Place-based approaches to supporting economic development (led by Derry City and Strabane District Council on behalf of the 11 Councils).</li> </ul>
5.2	<p><b>Renewal of Membership with NI Chamber of Commerce 2022</b></p> <p><b>Approve</b> Corporate Membership of NI Chamber of Commerce costing £3,000+Vat for the period of 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022.</p>

5.3	<p><b>Mid Ulster Gift Card</b>  <b>Approve</b> up to £5,000 from the economic development budget be used to purchase Mid Ulster Gift Cards this Christmas to benefit local citizens and distribute these through formal mechanisms with immediate effect.</p>
5.4	<p><b>Tourism Promotional Videos &amp; Imagery</b>  <b>Approve</b> the development of a series of promotional tourism videos and imagery at a cost in the region of £20,000 (excluding Vat) from Council's existing economic development budget and permit officers to proceed immediately to seek competitive quotations for same.</p>
5.5	<p><b>Hospital Roundabout, Dungannon</b>  <b>Approve</b> that initial landscaping works be commissioned at the Hospital Roundabout, Dungannon to give this Gateway feature a much needed facelift. It is anticipated that this phase of the works will cost in the region of £20,000 and be funded from Council's economic development budget in 2021/22 to allow the Technical Services Team to initiate work on the scheme.</p>
5.6	<p><b>Town Centres Cleansing</b>  <b>Approve</b> to procure and appoint a suitable company to undertake a deep cleanse of our 5 largest town centres, at a cost of approx. £15,000 from the existing Economic Development budget.</p>
5.7	<p><b>Mid Ulster Business WhatsApp Platform</b>  <b>Approve</b> to procure and appoint a suitable company to undertake the development of a new Mid Ulster Business WhatsApp Platform, costing in the region of £25,000 over a 3 year period (1+1+1) with funding from Council's economic development budget.</p>
5.8	<p><b>Cookstown Saturday Market</b>  <b>Approve</b> to procure and appoint a suitable company to conduct a Scoping Study and Comprehensive Action Plan to revitalize Cookstown's Saturday Market, costing in the region of £28,000 to be funded from Council's economic development budget.</p>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
	Appendix 1 – NI Chamber of Commerce Membership Invoice for 2022



## Appendix 1



Northern Ireland  
Chamber of Commerce  
and Industry

40 Linenhall Street  
Belfast  
BT2 8BA  
accounts@northernirelandchamber.com  
02890244113  
VAT Reg No: 254 427 658

Mid Ulster District Council
Magherafelt Office
Ballyronan Road
Magherafelt
BT45 6EN

Account Number	ORG2016821151
Date	10/11/2021
Invoice Number	INV2019267881
PO Number:	

## INVOICE

Transaction Date	Charge Reason	Charge Details	Membership	Net
10/11/2021	Membership	Commencing 1 January 22	Corporate	£3,000.00

**Terms & Conditions** - 30 days from Invoice Date

Pay by Electronic Transfer:  
Danske Bank  
Account No: 11136488  
Sort Code: 95-01-21

Pay by Debit/Credit Card Tel: 028 90244113

<b>Total Net</b>	£3,000.00
<b>VAT</b>	£600.00
<b>Total Gross</b>	£3,600.00





**Minutes of Meeting of the Development Committee of Mid Ulster District Council  
held on Thursday 11 November 2021 in the Council Offices, Circular Road,  
Dungannon and by Virtual Means**

**Members Present**

Councillor Molloy, Chair

Councillors Ashton, Black\*, Burton (7.08 pm), Clarke\*,  
Cuddy\*, Doris\*, Elattar\*, Hughes\*, Kerr, McNamee\*, Milne\*,  
Monteith, Wilson\*

**Officers in  
Attendance**

Mr McCreesh, Chief Executive  
Ms Campbell, Strategic Director of Environment  
Mr Browne\*\*, Head of Tourism  
Mr Gordon, Assistant Director of Health, Leisure and  
Wellbeing  
Mr Hill\*\*, Head of Parks  
Ms Linney\*\*, Assistant Director of Development, Strategic  
Community Development  
Mr McCance\*\*, Head of Culture & Arts  
Ms McKeown\*\*, Assistant Director of Economic  
Development, Tourism & Strategic Programmes  
Mr Brown\*\*, ICT Support  
Mrs Forde, Member Support Officer

**Others in  
Attendance**

Cllr S McGuigan\*\*\*

\* Denotes Members present in remote attendance

\*\* Denotes Officers present by remote means

\*\*\* Denotes Others present by remote means

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm.

*The Chair, Councillor Molloy welcomed everyone to the meeting and those watching the meeting through the Live Broadcast. Cllr Molloy in introducing the meeting detailed the operational arrangements for transacting the business of the committee in the chamber and by virtual means, by referring to Annex A to this minute.*

**D191/21      Apologies**

Councillors Corry and Quinn.

**D192/21      Declarations of Interest**

The Chair, Councillor Molloy reminded Members of their responsibility with regard to declaration of interest.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy declared an interest in item 6 – Community Development – Grant Awards.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy declared an interest in item 9 - Economic Development Report – OBFD – Board Member of Dungannon Enterprise Centre.

Councillor Clarke declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 10 - Extension to Davagh Forest Service Level Agreement – involved with Broughderg Development Association.

Councillor Cuddy declared an interest in item 9 – Economic Development Report – OBFD – Dungannon Enterprise Centre – Independent Member.

## **D193/21      Chair's Business**

The Chair extended best wishes to Coalisland Fianna for their forthcoming Championship Final against Dromore.

He referred to recent visit to Davagh Dark Sky Park & Observatory and wished to congratulate staff on their work to date. He said that this was a fantastic facility which members were allowed to see and wished them all the very best for the future of the centre.

Councillor McNamee extended congratulations to Cookstown Father Rocks GAA on winning the Tyrone Junior Football Championship when they beat Eskra by 2-10 to 1-06, lifting the Pat Darcy Cup. He also extended best wishes to the Club in the first round of the Ulster Junior Club Championship on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> November where they play the Monaghan Champions, Sean McDermott's in Clones and hoped that this would also be another good run for the Club, representing Cookstown, Tyrone and Mid Ulster. He too extended best wishes to Coalisland Fianna.

Councillor Kerr thanked Members for wishing his home team Coalisland Fianna all the best of luck on Sunday and would like to pass on his congratulations to Cookstown Father Rocks also. He said that he would also like to see Moortown and Coalisland prevail in the intermediary final and said it would be great if three teams within the district could bring glory to Mid Ulster.

## **Deputation – Coalisland Development Association**

The Chair advised that due to unforeseen circumstances the deputation from Coalisland Development Association were unable to attend to make their presentation tonight.

## **Matters for Decision**

### **D195/21      Upcoming Tourism Trade Shows, Holiday World, Dublin**

The Head of Tourism presented previously circulated report to inform Council of planned tourism promotion at Holiday World, RDS, Dublin 26-31st January 2022 and sought approval to attend the shows as outlined within the report.

He advised that this would be Tourism's first outing into the public domain after Covid to try and sell Mid Ulster as a tourist attraction and would also be proposing to be part of the Tourism NI Village, looking very carefully at the staycation market. He said that it was proposed to liaise with trade and attractions in regards to Mid Ulster Tourism and Industry to try and put together deals which could be put onto Tourism department's new website to try and sell staycations.

Proposed by Councillor Kerr  
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to approve purchase of stand, associated costs and staff expenses and mileage to work at this exhibition.

#### **D196/21 Community Development**

The AD: DSCD presented previously circulated report to provide an update on key activities and sought approval for the following:

- Community Grants - to agree the rolling grant awards - Local Community Festivals, Good Relations and Decade of Anniversaries, and to agree to open the Strategic Events Grant
- VPRS Storage Scheme - to approve request from DFC Syrian Refugee Team to Contribute towards the VPRS storage scheme
- Community Development - to update on Community Development

Proposed by Councillor Monteith  
Seconded by Councillor Kerr and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council -

- (i) **Community Grants - Rolling Grant Awards - Local Community Festivals, Good Relations and Decade of Anniversaries, Open the Strategic Events Grant**

**Resolved** To agree the rolling grant awards - Local Community Festivals, Good Relations and Decade of Anniversaries, and to agree to open the Strategic Events Grant.

- (ii) **VPRS Storage Scheme - Request from DFC Syrian Refugee Team to Contribute towards the VPRS Storage Scheme**

Councillor Monteith referred to the Syrian Refugees and said that he was aware that some of these people were here for quite a while and said it would be good to receive an update from them on their progress. He suggested that it would be beneficial for members to possibly meet some families which may live locally to get an understanding of the issues which they face day to day.

*Councillor Burton entered the meeting at 7.08 pm.*

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to

- (a) approve request from DFC Syrian Refugee Team to contribute towards the VPRS storage scheme; and
- (b) that Officers explore the opportunity of an updated on how Syrian Refugee families are progressing in the area.

**(iii) Community Development**

Noted.

**D197/21 Northern Health and Social Care Trust – Consultation on ‘How we Propose to Purchase Domiciliary Care Provided by Non-Statutory Providers’**

The AD: DSCD presented previously circulated report to inform Members of the Northern Health and Social Care Trust Consultation on ‘How we propose to purchase domiciliary care provided by non-statutory providers’ and to seek Members’ approval for Mid Ulster District Council’s Response. She noted two further areas for inclusion; the importance of direct payment care provision and the importance of the person receiving the care having a say in provision e.g. bed times etc.

Councillor Elattar commended officers on the comprehensive report welcoming the mention of direct provision and highlighted that Emma Sheerin MLA had met with families in recent days regarding the issue. She highlighted that the cost of direct care is in excess of the benefits allocated and families are having to pick up the costs. Councillor Elattar further highlighted the issue of lack of travel time allowed to carers travelling from call to call which in turn impacts care time especially when PPE has to be refreshed at each call, this is especially significant in rural areas where distance between calls is greater and stressed that the Carer was not paid for this time. Councillor Elattar said that to many it was a vocation as the terms and conditions are not feasible. She also made reference to bed blocking due to the inability to put care packages in place and the additional stress experienced by the patient and their families emphasising that the flip side of the coin which is a place in a care home was not what people wanted and if the patient signed themselves out of hospital their care package was in jeopardy. Councillor Elattar concluded that there was many problems but few answers but one would be recognition of the value of a domiciliary carer and that people should be trained and paid accordingly.

Councillor Wilson advised he had been contacted by a number of elderly people from Cookstown and Moneymore who had been told their care package was being changed for example if someone was receiving a call in the morning they would not get one at night. He spoke of one instance where a lady was going to have to sleep in the chair, that the Northern Health and Social Care Trust (NHSCT) had indicated there was a shortage in personnel and whilst she had been offered a care home place this was not what she wanted. Councillor Wilson also highlighted care packages being cut whereby people needed assistance with medication and family did not live nearby to help. He expressed grave concern at what was taking place and proposed that an urgent meeting be sought with the NHSCT to discuss the current crisis. He emphasised this request should be with immediate effect and should not have to await Council approval.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy said the situation was replicated in the Southern Health Social Care Trust and the entire situation was despairing.

Councillor Burton concurred with previous speakers saying that at every roundabout you see advertising board for jobs in the caring profession and many people were moving between companies and spoke of one company who had lost 10 employees recently. She said that the impact of the situation was that the client built a rapport with the carers especially when it was maybe the only person they saw in a day then this was all changed and an elderly person is left devastated at the loss of someone they classed as a friend. Councillor Burton also spoke of very rural calls late at night when carers had to have shovels in the car in poor weather conditions to clear the road or shovel gravel. She reiterated earlier comments that the domiciliary carer role is a vocation which many doing it would be better off in other jobs and stressed council should do all in its power to support care workers and ensuring they get a fair deal. Councillor Burton also highlighted the disparity between those employed directly by Trusts and those in the private sector.

The Chair Councillor Molloy said the issues were overlapping with the next item of business.

The AD: DSCD said that the areas highlighted could be incorporated in the issues for health in the next item of business, the matters expanded which were apt to the current consultation response and seek a meeting with the Director of Domiciliary Care to highlight the issues in the interim.

Proposed by Councillor Elattar  
Seconded by Councillor Burton and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to

- (i) Approve the draft Response to the Northern Health and Social Care Trust Consultation on 'How we propose to purchase domiciliary care provided by non-statutory providers'. as outlined in appendix and to include/expand on following issues:
  - Carers travel time between calls;
  - The cost of direct care is in excess of benefits allocated to it;
  - No travel time built into carers day thus impacting on care time;
  - Bed blocking due to lack of care packages and the additional stress experienced by patient and families;
  - The cut in current care packages and the impact on the clients;
  - Disparity in pay, terms and conditions between trusts and private providers;
  - Lack of continuity in personnel.
- (ii) Council immediately seek a meeting with the NHSCT Director of Domiciliary Care to discuss ongoing crisis in care provision.

**D198/21 Health Issues for Mid Ulster**

The AD: DSCD presented previously circulated report to inform Members of the key health issues for Mid Ulster to support lobbying and engagement with the health trusts. She highlighted that issues raised in the previous item of business would be included in relation to domiciliary care and also the matter of the birthing pools in the midwifery led unit at the Southern Trust Craigavon Area Hospital site.

Councillor Monteith commended the paper but said that he would have concern with the ambulance response and the mention of the station at Desertcreat. He said that people in nearby towns would be very concerned if the ambulance stations were removed from same and Council's message should not be the centralisation of ambulance services as response times would be impacted.

Councillor Monteith also proposed that the matter of poverty be expanded and said that the crisis in the NHS was creating further poverty. He told of a man in his 40s who needed a hip replacement who had a 4 year wait which meant he lost his job. When he eventually got one hip replaced due to compensating with the 'good hip' its condition had deteriorated and he had to wait a further 3 years to have that replaced. He highlighted that what should have been a short waiting time had left the man unable to work for a decade. He reiterated that poverty was being created by a broken system as without access to care, people lost jobs, households suffered yet if they had had a salaried post this may not have happened. He spoke of a recent meeting with credit unions when it had been revealed that one of the biggest reasons for loans was to pay for private health care, thus people were getting into debt to endeavour to access care and retain their jobs.

Councillor Kerr concurred with Councillor Monteith and made reference to GP services. He said more personnel were needed to answer telephone calls as it was near impossible to get a response when ringing a GP practise. He spoke to of the need for multi disciplinary teams, access to local practises both day time and out of hours' services. Councillor Kerr also stressed the importance of mental health services and investment in same. He praised the role of local charities but said that the situation was worsening especially in mental health services and much investment was needed. Referring to ambulance services he said that improved road signage, Councillor Kerr concluded that working class people were suffering and many had listened to situations similar to that raised by Councillor Monteith and stressed access to care was a must.

The AD: DSCD said she would update the paper and circulate it to Members.

Councillor Wilson concurred with previous speakers but said Desertcreat should remain with the stipulation that the upgrade does not decimate other stations. He said Members had a duty to lobby in relation to domiciliary care especially for carers who worked so hard to maintain quality of life for the vulnerable. He stressed the need for an immediate meeting regarding domiciliary care highlighting that the wider issues would not be addressed until the December meeting of Council.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy concurred.

Councillor Burton stressed the importance of keeping the situation with birthing pools in midwifery led units on the agenda highlighting again that at the Craigavon Area Hospital site the pool was removed from the unit and the room now doubles up for an area for



bereaved parents in instances where babies have died. She again requested that the question be asked if the pool could be reinstalled as although the response said there was extra large baths which could be utilised this was not ideal and many women were highlighting the issue.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy advised that as well as Dungannon where GP services had reached a chronic stage, the Moy too was experiencing problems especially in relation to telephone response times. He said it should be clarified if these issues were district wide.

The AD: DSCD advised that she would incorporate aforementioned issues in the paper.

Proposed by Councillor Kerr  
Seconded by Councillor Monteith and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to note the key health issues for Mid Ulster to support lobbying and engagement with the health trusts. An update to be provided to Members to include:

- Domiciliary Care Crisis;
- Birthing pool issue in Southern Trust
- The need to retain and improve current ambulance basis as well as further provision/training centre at Desertcreat;
- Expand on issue of health crisis creating further poverty in the community;
- The need for additional GP services, a multi disciplinary team in the practice as well as the retention of services in locally. Mid Ulster wide GP services Dungannon & Moy chronic, are other areas across the district the same
- Increase funding and improved services for Mental Health;
- Ambulance Assistance: improved road signage, house numbering and updating of GIS Systems;

## **D199/21      Economic Development – OBFD**

The Assistant Director of Economic Development, Tourism & Strategic Programmes presented previously circulated report to provide members with an update on key activities and sought approval for the following:

Councillor Ashton sought clarity as to whether Moygashel would meet the criteria.

In response the AD: EDTSP said Moygashel was included with Dungannon settlement limit but she would clarify with the Department if Moygashel could be considered.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy stated that there would be projects shelf ready which could be considered in the scheme.

The AD: EDTSP said the team was looking at a range of options.

Councillor Kerr asked if these could be brought back to stakeholders and also sought clarity as to what would happen if populations of settlements was below 1000. Councillor Burton said numbers of populations in settlements had raised issues in the past mentioning Caledon and Aughnacloy which was a border town. She also asked if for example footpaths in Castlecaulfield could be considered.

Councillor Monteith said a strong case needed to be made for the smaller settlements emphasising that Mid Ulster is made up of rural communities and highlighted hamlets such as Killeeshil which had a vibrant community centre, Edendork, Brantry and Cabragh who would not reach the numbers. He said the larger towns and villages had received funding and now these smaller communities would be looking equal treatment and it was Councils duty to fight for them.

The Chief Executive reinforced the comments made by the Assistant Director and said whilst they could concur with Members comments Council should welcome the funding opportunity. He also highlighted that the criteria was across three government departments all with their own agendas for example Department for Infrastructure would be focus on active travel, Department for Communities would be urban regeneration and DEARA would be for village investment. He further highlighted that Maghera may be another area of concern in relation to the criteria. He concluded that this funding was not a replacement for Rural Development Programme and clarity would be sought on all issues.

The Chair Councillor Molloy drew attention to the wording outlined at item 10 “there will be no firm rule that precludes projects in settlements below the 1000 threshold” which may provide scope for negotiations.

Proposed by Councillor Kerr  
Seconded by Councillor Burton

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to Council:

**(a) COVID Recovery Small Settlements Regeneration Programme**

- Resolved**
- (i) To note details on the new COVID Recovery Small Settlements Regeneration Programme.
  - (ii) To approve that officers work up proposed options and bring back a report to Members for discussion.

**(b) Request from Dungannon Enterprise Centre**

The Chair, Councillor Molloy stated he had declared an interest in the item but would facilitate discussion.

Councillor Monteith said he was aware of this from the recent Dungannon DEA meeting regarding capital projects and he would be reluctant to committing to a 10 year lease given that Council has ambitious plans for lands adjacent to the area to be leased.

The Chief Executive said officers had discussed the issue also and whilst they would want to show good will and work with the Enterprise Centre a 10 year lease would not sit

comfortable with Councils plans and perhaps a year on year lease may be a better way forward.

Councillor Ashton proposed that officers, Dungannon Enterprise Centre and Dungannon DEA Members meet to negotiate how best to progress the matter.

Councillor Burton seconded the proposal.

Councillor Ashton also stated that there had been issues with the rollout of broadband in Maghera and Coalisland and as chair of the working group she had spoke with officers to call a meeting to discuss same.

Councillor Cuddy suggested that perhaps a five year lease may sit comfortable with both Council and the Enterprise Centre. He said as a trader he would not want to halt anything that could take place currently while larger plans were being progressed. He said he would be keen to have a meeting as soon as possible.

Councillor Monteith supported the proposal for a meeting with all parties concerned but said that Council should not bind itself to a timescale. It could be agreed in principle perhaps as the land is key to Council's plans.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy said there is an understanding in relation to Council's future plans for the lands.

Councillor Clarke thanked officers and Councillor Ashton for the prompt response regarding a meeting of the broadband group.

**Resolved** That Council seek a meeting with Dungannon Enterprise Centre and Dungannon DEA Members to discuss the way forward on requested lease of Council for lands at Feeney's Lane, Dungannon.

## **D200/21 Extension to Davagh Forest Service Level Agreement**

The Head of Parks presented previously circulated report to review current Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Broughderg Area Development Association to include caretaker and cleansing duties within the OM Visitor Centre.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Kerr and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council -

- (i) To note the content of the report in relation to the extension of current duties and activities associated to the current Service Level Agreement with Broughderg Area Development Association.
- (ii) To approve the extension of on-site support services on a daily basis equating to 11 hours per week on a flexible rota. The calculated cost of this service equates to £104.50 per week/ £5,434 per annum.
- (iii) To agree to amend the current annual Service Level Agreement

with Broughderg Area Development Association to reflect a total annual SLA payment of £11,434.00 for services provided at Davagh Forest and OM Dark Skies Park & Observatory.

**D201/21      Greenlough Greenway Path Creation**

The Head of Parks presented previously circulated report and sought Council approval to enter into nine Permissive Path Agreements with nine different landowners in relation to lands in and around Clady River, Inishrush and Greenlough for the creation of a path network, known as Greenlough Greenways.

Councillor Milne commended the group on their forward thinking.

Proposed by Councillor Milne  
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council that approval be given –

- (i)      To enter into nine Permissive Path Agreements with nine landowners in relation to the development of the path network along the Clady River, Inishrush and Greenlough, known as Greenlough Greenways.
- (ii)      To investigate the potential of establishing a service level agreement with Bann Valley Community Group. A future detailed report to be submitted to committee for consideration/ approval in due course.

**D202/21      Pedestrian Bridge, Seyloran Land, Dungannon**

The Head of Parks presented previously circulated report to and sought Council approval to accept the transfer of a pedestrian footbridge crossing the River Rhone from Seyloran Lane, Dungannon, from Department of Infrastructure (DfI).

The Chair advised that he had taken a walk around this way after receiving the paper and stated that it was evident that work had been done to the bridge. He said that the landowners would be more than appreciative if it was kept open as a walkway as it was a public right of way used by numerous people in a circular route and also formed an old ancient public right of way.

Proposed by Councillor Clarke  
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council that approval be given –

- (i)      For ownership transfer regarding the bridge at Seyloran Lane over the River Rhone from DfI to Council.
- (ii)      To further investigate existing and potential public access opportunities along the River Rhone, Seyloran and bring a public path proposal in due course for committee consideration.

**D203/21      Feasibility study – Reopening disused tunnels linked to Great Northern Railway and Northland Estate for Off-Road cycling and walking routes**

The Head of Parks presented previously circulated report and sought Council approval to appoint a qualified consultancy to develop a feasibility study for the potential re-opening of disused tunnels linked to Great Northern Railway and Northland Estate for Off-Road cycling and walking routes (Appendix Map).

Councillor Burtons said she had initially thought the report was about the railways lines as opposed to the tunnels and referred to a recent television programme about former railways and that it was her understanding that ABC Council were exploring the possibilities of re-opening of wider railway network. Councillor Burton said if the aforementioned was the case she would like to see the Clogher Valley included in the scope of the study.

Councillor Cuddy advised that he knew the two tunnels reasonably well and said that the Water Service had plans to put a large sewage pipe through the subway under the main Moy Road. He referred to Developers on both sides of the road and the potential for Council to take control/ownership to connect Dungannon Park with Windmill Wood and continue to Linear Park in which Council wished to develop a path right around the town for cyclists and walkways off all main roads. He said that it would be important to work quickly as there could be a chance the site could be lost to the Water Service which would be unfortunate as it was on the maps from the 1830s and still in very good shape.

Councillor Cuddy also referred to the other railway line at the Moy Road also with the two tunnels right beside each other, with one end closed over due to the Killymerron Road. He said that both tunnels had a lot of history in Dungannon and well worth investigating and said that he would be happy to propose the feasibility study, especially the subway to make sure that other utilities do not run a waste pipe through it and make sure that these pipes are at least put underground as now was the time to work to try and link the two parks with agreement from landowners.

Councillor Monteith said that it looked like a good idea to him and assumed as there was and that Council take the opportunity to look at this and work within the guidelines which were given even if there was no bespoke policy in place with regard to adoption of tunnels.

The Chair said that like the railway, when it was gone it was gone and well worth trying to preserve these tunnels for the future otherwise they would be lost forever once they were exploring the issue of reinstating railway networks with the possibility of enhancement, with a report being brought back on what ABC were actually doing and if something that this Council could be involved in as it had been an act of vandalism to remove the railways.

Proposed by Councillor Cuddy  
Seconded by Councillor Monteith and

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council that approval be given –

- (i) To progress with the procurement and appointment of qualified consultancy to develop a Feasibility Study/Business Case for the potential re-opening of disused tunnels linked to Great Northern Railway and Northland Estate for Off-Road cycling and walking routes in conjunction with potential future Active Travel development opportunities for Dungannon town.
- (ii) For P&R committee approval for all identified capital expenditure associated to project as presented.

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council that Officers bring a report to future meeting in relation to ABC Council plans with regard to regenerating Railway provision in the west and the possibility of MUDC doing likewise.

## **D204/21 Sports Representative Grants**

The Assistant Director Health, Leisure & Wellbeing presented previously circulated report to present to Members the proposed community grant allocations for the Sports Representative Grant - Team and Individuals (October 2021).

Proposed by Councillor Clarke  
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to note the contents of the report and grant approval for the sports grant allocations as recommended to the value of £650 in respect of the 2 applications.

## **Matters for Information**

### **D205/21 Minutes of Development Committee held on 14 October 2021**

Members noted Minutes of Development Committee held on 14 October 2021.

Councillor Monteith referred to D148/21 regarding ongoing roadworks and advised that a meeting had been held with utilities the previous week. He said that it was disappointing that SGN had not attended and it was mid November and no progress had been made. He advised that areas of Dungannon continued to be operating on a one way system due to works ongoing at for example at night on the Newell Road noting neither local residents or nearby business had received notification despite assurances that disruptions would be during the hours of 9.30 to 4.30 pm. He said that there was a need to keep going as they talked about a moratorium and how works were to be completed before that time. He suggested that a meeting be raised with Roads Service stating that if the moratorium was going to raise a bottleneck every year, then it defeated the purpose and a better rule and guideline would be that only so many roads can be worked on at a particular time. He felt that the moratorium had now become counterproductive as it seemed like 'hell for leather' to get roads closed and works completed.

Councillor Monteith proposed that Council write to Roads Service in relation to the moratorium to ask that a more effective use of the moratorium would be to stagger or plan work better rather than having an onslaught.

Councillor Kerr seconded Councillor Monteith's proposal.

Councillor Wilson concurred with previous comments and experiences in Cookstown at the moment. He advised if someone wished to get a gas connection, then the road goes into a single lane traffic system which was a nightmare.

**Resolved** That Council write to DfI in relation to the moratorium requesting them to revise their working practices to ensure road works are phased throughout the year in our towns and rural areas.

Councillor Kerr referred to D184/21 regarding Playparks and advised that a local resident had contacted him in relation to a family relative having a severe nut allergy and having to leave the playpark due to other users eating nuts within the vicinity. He said that whilst Council's responsibility to tell parents and children what to eat it may be worthwhile highlighting the issue via by social media and a public campaign asking the public to be mindful of children and other users with allergies using the playpark.

The Strategic Director of Environment advised that this would be followed up.

**Resolved** That Council explore the possibility of a social media campaign highlighting the need for users of facilities such as play parks to have consideration of those with severe allergies eg nut allergy.

#### **D206/21 Minutes of Special Development Committee held on 21 October 2021**

Members noted Minutes of Special Development Committee held on 21 October 2021.

#### **D207/21 Economic Development Report – OBF**

Members noted update on key activities as detailed below:

- Cookstown Town Centre Forum Minutes 01.09.2020 & 22.09.2020
- Magherafelt Town Centre Forum Minutes 05.08.2020 & 22.09.2020
- Coalisland Town Centre Forum Minutes 10.05.2021 & 28.06.2021
- Maghera Town Centre Forum Minutes 06.08.2020 & 21.09.2020
- Irish Central Border Area Network (ICBAN) - QUB Report: 'The Border After Brexit'

#### **D208/21 Pitch and Recreational Spaces Strategy Update**

Members noted update on progress to date in relation to Pitch and Recreational Spaces Strategy.

*Live broadcast ended at 8.13 pm.*

#### **Local Government (NI) Act 2014 – Confidential Business**

Proposed by Councillor Kerr  
Seconded by Councillor Cuddy and

**Resolved** In accordance with Section 42, Part 1 Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014 that Members of the public be asked to withdraw from the meeting whilst members consider item D209/21.

**Matters for Decision**

**Matters for Information**

D209/21 Confidential Minutes of Development Committee held on 14 October 2021

**D210/21 Duration of Meeting**

The meeting commenced at 7 pm and concluded at 8.15 pm.

Chair \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



## **Annex A – Introductory Remarks from the Chairperson**

Good evening and welcome to the Council's [Policy & Resources/Environment/Development] Committee in the Chamber, [Dungannon/Magherafelt] and virtually.

I specifically welcome the public watching us through the Live Broadcast. The Live Broadcast will run for the period of our Open Business but will end just before we move into Confidential Business. I let you know before this happens.

Just some housekeeping before we commence. Can I remind you:-

- If you have joined the meeting remotely please keep your audio on mute unless invited to speak and then turn it off when finished speaking
- Keep your video on at all times, unless you have bandwidth or internet connection issues, where you are advised to try turning your video off
- If you wish to speak please raise your hand in the meeting or on screen and keep raised until observed by an Officer or myself
- Should we need to take a vote this evening please raise your hand in the normal way and keep raised until advised to lower it
- When invited to speak please introduce yourself by name to the meeting
- For any member attending remotely, if you declare an interest in an item, please turn off your video and keep your audio on mute for the duration of the item
- If referring to a specific report please reference the report, page or slide being referred to
- Lastly, I remind the public and press that taking photographs of proceedings or using any means to enable anyone not present to see or hear proceedings, or making a simultaneous oral report of the proceedings are not permitted

Thank you and we will now move to the first item on the agenda.



<b>Report on</b>	Community Planning Draft Performance Statement 2019-2020
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> December 2021
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Claire Linney, Assistant Director of Development
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Martina Totten, Celene O'Neill Community Planning

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 note the Community Planning Performance Statement 2019-2021
2.0	Background
2.1	As part of the Community Planning Statutory Guidance For Operation Of Community Planning 2014, Council as lead facilitator <i>"must publish a statement once every two years on outcomes achieved and actions taken, and community planning partners must provide the council with relevant information to enable the council to do so."</i>
2.2	The first Performance Statement was published in November 2019 detailing progress of Community Planning delivery from 2017-2019. The 2 <sup>nd</sup> Performance Statement for 2019-2021 has been drafted and sent to all Community Planning partners for comment before formal publication.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Please find attached the Draft Mid Ulster Community Planning Performance Statement 2019/2021.
3.2	The Statement is in 2 parts. Part 1 – 'The Story so Far' is an update of Community Planning delivery for each of the Thematic areas. Part 2 'The Data' is the performance monitoring data for each individual action.
3.3	The intention is to issue Part 1 to the public and issue both reports to all Community Planning partners and to the Department of Communities. Note the Statement is still in draft until it is agreed by all partners on 23 <sup>rd</sup> November 2019.
4.0	<b>Other Considerations</b>
4.1	<b><u>Financial &amp; Human Resources Implications</u></b>  None

	<b><u>Professional Support</u></b> None.
<b>4.2</b>	<b><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></b> None
<b>4.3</b>	<b><u>Risk Management Implications</u></b> None
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	To note the Draft Community Planning Performance Statement 2019-2021.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
6.1	Appendix 1 Community Planning Performance Statement







Community  
Planning  
Mid Ulster

# **MID ULSTER COMMUNITY PLANNING**

## **Draft Performance Statement 2019-2021**

### **Part 1: The Story So Far**

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# Vision

*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.*

## Background

The Mid Ulster Community Plan was launched in May 2017. Our plan was shaped by consultation with local groups in 2015 and 2016, where over 1700 people provided their opinions and views of what was important for Mid Ulster. Qualitative analysis was also used to help shape the plan. The process of engagement and evidence based statistics allowed us to arrive at consensus with the community/voluntary sectors and with our business and statutory partners on 15 outcomes to achieve over the life of the 10-year plan.

The Mid Ulster Community Plan not only sets out a shared vision but it highlights the importance of process, people, communities and of organisations coming together to improve local well-being and quality of life, and making sure that strategies, priorities, projects and programmes at all levels integrate effectively with each other. The Plan is ambitious, as it brings together over 40 different partner organisations to work collectively in tackling difficult issues with the aim of improving the lives of our local people. This includes 12 Statutory Partners<sup>1</sup>, as well as representatives from community, voluntary, business, colleges, NI Government Departments, Mid Ulster District Council and other sectors. Partners are represented on the Strategic Partnership Board and Thematic Working Groups.

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<sup>1</sup> Statutory Partners: Northern Health and Social Care Trust (NHSC), Southern Health and Social Care Trust (SHSC), Health and Social Care Board (HSCB), Public Health Agency (PHA), Education Authority (EA), Council for Catholic Maintained Schools (CCMS), Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE), Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI), Invest Northern Ireland (Invest NI), Sports Council for Northern Ireland (Sport NI), Northern Ireland Library Authority (Libraries NI), Northern Ireland Tourist Board (NITB), Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service (NIFRS).

In order to ensure participation and engagement the Plan is delivered under four thematic groups to include Economic Growth & Infrastructure, Education & Skills, Health & Wellbeing and Vibrant & Safe Communities.

## Introduction

### Covid19

Not long after the publication of the first Performance Statement in November 2019, the world was hit by the biggest global pandemic in 100 years. Covid19 has had a significant and lasting impact on societies the world over. Government priorities dramatically shifted to the preservation of life and wellbeing of its citizens, diverting focus and resources from other areas of government. Businesses have needed to adapt to how they interact with their customers, sell their products and manage their employees, some unable to meet the challenges and causing many to lose their jobs. Health services have been stretched to their limits, dealing with unprecedented numbers of very ill people with Covid19, while at the same time grappling with the dilemma of how to continue to provide every day services to people whose lives depend on them. Schools and children shifted continuously between remote and in-class learning, exams have been cancelled and childhoods have been disrupted. Loved ones have been separated for months on end, many have been isolated from social contacts and services, leading to what some have termed a “mental health pandemic”.

It was stated in the last Performance Statement in 2019 that, *“One of the key opportunities of Community Planning has been partners engaging and building relationships to agree the key strategic actions for Mid Ulster and a commitment by all to deliver. Informal networking has had a positive impact where organisations can partner quickly in response to issues that arise that require an integrated approach or to an emergency situation.”* Little did we know at the time, the relationships that were fostered in the first years of the Community Planning process, would prove so vital to the Covid19 response in the Mid Ulster.

# Community Planning Mid Term Review

The Statutory Guidance for Operation of Community Planning (2014) states, *“The Act also requires the council and its community planning partners, before the fourth anniversary of the publication of the community plan, to carry out a review of the plan.”* Although the fourth anniversary of the Mid Ulster Community Plan was not until May 2021, the events which started in the first half of 2020, and which will impact upon the district and its residents for years to come, created an urgency to review the Community Plan before this scheduled period. There was an accelerated need to reassess our actions and determine their relevance in a Covid19 environment and as a result, a review of the Mid Ulster Community Plan was carried out in late 2020.

A number of previous pieces of work laid the foundations to a review of the Community Plan. In 2018, the Short Term Delivery Plan for the Mid Ulster Community Plan was published. This Delivery Plan identified the actions across the 5 themes that partners agreed to deliver within the first 3 years (2017-2020). Then in April 2019, members of the Community Planning Strategic Board took part in a Planning Day in order to set the strategic direction for Community Planning in Mid Ulster and identified a number of actions that should be prioritised for delivery in the remaining short-term delivery period and moving into the next phase of delivery.

In November 2019, Mid Ulster Community Planning published its first Performance Statement. This report gave a detailed picture of the achievements of Community Planning delivery to date, underlining a large number of actions from our Community Plan that have been initiated, delivered and even completed.

The priorities set by the Strategic Board, our achievements to date as outlined in the 2019 Performance Statement and the impact of the COVID19 pandemic, were all considered when identifying the actions from the Community Plan to take forward in the next phase of delivery. The actions from the Mid Ulster Community Plan were assessed against these and a traffic light system was used to determine the following:



Actions to be taken forward. Some actions may merge with other similar worded actions. Others may have a change in wording to be more reflective of the current environment.

Actions to be paused and reviewed. This may be the result of other external factors that are preventing their delivery at this time.

Actions that have been completed as detailed in the Performance Statement 2019

As a result of the review, the following actions were agreed to be brought forward in the next phase of the Mid Ulster Community Plan:

### **Economic Growth & Infrastructure**

1. Secure Mid South West Region Growth Deal and NI Executive Complimentary Fund to deliver the following strategic actions:
  - i. Advance the development of the Strategic Road Network, including bypasses for the main towns and villages on the strategic routes.
  - ii. Facilitate the delivery of strategic infrastructure schemes such as the Desertcreat Safety College.
  - iii. Scope, develop and deliver an Engineering Centre of Excellence
  - iv. Deliver a Skills Action Plan
  - v. Optimise the provision of co-located health and social care wellbeing services in our three main towns.
2. Provide support to businesses under 3 priority areas: - COVID-19 Recovery; Business Growth; Brexit & Beyond.
3. Develop and implement broadband and mobile phone connectivity solutions across Mid Ulster.
4. Tourism Recovery & Growth, through activity tourism and natural heritage assets
5. Create a competitive advantage for our principal towns, complimenting a 'Town Centre First Principle'.
6. Develop and deliver coordinated village planning and renewal initiatives.
7. An asset management plan for public sector estate in Mid Ulster and the identification of potential co-location of public services with priority given to town centre locations

8. Develop an Intra-Town Transit System which will include shuttle bus, cycling and walking links. (Focus on cycling and walking links)
9. We will work to mitigate against the impacts of climate change by taking steps to reduce our carbon emissions.
10. Progress development of our Blueways and Greenways

## **Education & Skills**

1. Numeracy & Literacy Recovery & Support
2. Extend and enhance after-school drop in centres in schools and in the community
3. Provide a Family Support Centre in each school providing for disadvantaged communities, with the aim of building educational attainment levels.
4. Extend the number and range of Foundation Degrees and Degree courses delivered locally.
5. Extend the provision and access to part-time education for adult returners
6. School based mental health support programmes to improve the resilience of children and young people
7. Invest in the school and Further Education College estates, including an enhanced local Campus for Northern Regional College in Magherafelt.
8. Extend provision of Shared Education across Mid Ulster.
9. Establish a Mid Ulster Career's Forum to support the preparation of our young people for work

## **Health & Wellbeing**

### **Operational Actions**

1. An 'Aging Well' initiative.
2. A 'Healthy for Life' strategy, team and portal' coordinating all health initiatives, programmes and literature available in the District.
3. Deliver a Recreation and Active Lifestyle Plan which will provide formal and informal recreation and play opportunities.
4. Develop Healthy Places Plans across the district.
5. Develop and implement an integrated response to mental health and wellbeing
6. Enhance Adult Learning initiatives across Mid Ulster

## Strategic Actions

1. Progress the new-build scheme for the Oakridge Social Education Centre in Dungannon.
2. Extend and enhance supported and independent living provision across Mid Ulster
3. Optimise the provision of co-located health and social care wellbeing services in our three main towns.
4. Developed enhanced access to ambulatory and acute care for the Mid Ulster population, ensuring equitable access to safe and appropriate services.
5. Investigate the Mid Ulster district as a location for the delivery of a regional service
6. Develop a Centre of Excellence for Public Safety at Desertcreat and potential provision of an Ambulance Service hub for Mid Ulster

## Vibrant & Safe Communities

1. To support Mid Ulster PCSP to deliver upon outcomes of PCSP Action Plan
2. Develop and make available to 11-18 year olds an 'Engaged Youth' development initiative (based on the Planet Youth model)
3. To support MUDC Good Relations & Peace Partnerships to deliver upon outcomes of Good Relations and Peace Action Plans
4. Develop and deliver an Anti-Poverty Strategy for Mid Ulster
5. Support and develop capacity of volunteers to support community development in their local areas
6. A community benefits 'planning gain' requirement in the Local Development Plan
7. Provide an adequate supply of social and affordable 'homes-for-life' through Area Plan policy, direct public provision and partnership working (ensuring adequate sewage and water infrastructure)

Given that the review was undertaken half way through the reporting period of this Performance Statement, it is important to note that some actions will be reported under a new action priority from the review and some will follow the action priority from the original Plan.

# Thematic Area Progress Updates (2019 – 2021)

## Economic Growth & Infrastructure

### Outcomes

- We prosper in a stronger and more competitive economy
- We have people working in a diverse economy
- Our towns and villages are vibrant and competitive
- We are better connected through appropriate infrastructure
- We increasingly value our environment and enhance it for our children
- We enjoy increased access to affordable quality housing

### Covid19 Response

The response from businesses during the Covid19 Pandemic was very impressive, including the production of hundreds of thousands of masks and visors in Meadowbank Leisure Centre and the business sector collaborating together, repurposing PPE and making this available to the health sector. Mid Ulster District Council, in partnership with Invest NI, provided Covid19 grants to 1,500 businesses. Mid Ulster District Council's Environmental Health and the Public Health Agency worked together on enforcement and future proofing businesses so that they would be in a state of readiness to start up and survive (e.g. accessibility, outdoor catering, etc.). These practical examples of partnership working were all possible due to the strong, firm relationships and trust developed under the banner of Community Planning.

Mid Ulster businesses were the first to receive COVID-19 business recovery grants, less than 3 weeks after a funding scheme opened for applications. The £562,000 fund, which offered commercial premises grants of between £500 and £3,000 to support their work to help provide a safe environment for their customers and staff, opened in August 2020.

The funding was awarded via the Department for Communities (DfC) for town centres and by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) for smaller settlements, with further investment by the Council, which is coordinating the grant scheme.

A second grant scheme for £562,000 of Covid19 funding opened in November 2020 giving commercial premises a further opportunity to apply for discretionary grants of up to 100% of eligible costs of between £500 and £3,000 to support their COVID19 business recovery. Of the overall £1.124million, a total of £266,000 was invested by Mid Ulster District Council, which coordinated the grant scheme.

Mid Ulster District Council and Invest Northern Ireland worked closely to adapt programme delivery and provide Covid19 focused support with a £1.1million business support programme. The funding helped companies to adjust to overcome current economic challenges and sustain businesses, while they are planning for future recovery and growth in a post Covid19 economy. The three-year support package aims to help micro and small businesses in the area recover from the economic impacts of the Covid19 pandemic and sustain and grow employment in more than 600 local firms. Building capacity in key business areas such as, planning, financial management and tendering, innovation, the adoption of new technologies and digital growth, have all been included in the funded programme to help companies sustain and create jobs while competing successfully for new work to increase sales and turnover. This project is part funded by Invest Northern Ireland and the European Regional Development Fund under the Investment for Growth & Jobs Northern Ireland (2014-2020) Programme.

In May 2020, Mid Ulster District Council supported local businesses by providing a number of online services including webinars and seminars. Local businesses could participate in a number of free online digital seminars and business webinars 'Connecting with Customers', 'Communicating through Uncertainty', 'Building Psychological Resilience'.

In addition, Community Planning partners supported the tourism and hospitality sector in Mid Ulster, through the online forum and accompanying webinar sessions. The



forum with almost 90 participants gave businesses the opportunity to share their own experiences of coping with the current crisis, ask questions, and receive practical help and advice from a number of industry bodies, including Tourism NI, as well as legal, health and financial specialists.

### **Mid South West Growth Deal**

The 3-council collaborative partnership has formed to transform the economic outlook of the region through the delivery of the Mid South West Regional Economic Strategy. Developed as a collaboration between Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council and Mid Ulster District Council, the strategy is centred on boosting productivity but also seeks to drive business growth; fully realise the region's sectoral strengths and opportunities; create more and better-paid jobs and ensure the ongoing internationalisation of Mid South West (MSW) can be achieved.

The strategy, which stemmed from extensive research and analysis of the region's economy and was informed by engagement with the major employers throughout the region, identifies challenges and opportunities and sets out four pillars to guide investment and grow the collective economy. The pillars are future proofing the skills base, enabling infrastructure, boosting innovation and digital capacity and building a high performing tourism economy.

The Mid South West Regional Economic Strategy is without doubt the most significant means to stimulate and create long-term, sustained economic growth and prosperity across this region. The strategy was launched in September 2020 by First Minister Arlene Foster MLA and deputy First Minister Michelle O'Neill MLA and work has been progressing since.

Capitalising on the Region's sectoral strengths in manufacturing, engineering, agri-food, health and life sciences, tourism and construction as well as a fast growing digital tech sector, the strategy sets out a number of potential projects under each of the pillars which, with targeted investment, would help boost productivity. These include, for example, further development of critical road infrastructure; the implementation of

a Skills Action Plan; the development of an Innovation and Skills Academy through the South West College and an Agri-Food Robotics Centre at CAFRE Loughry Campus; enabling business development in Carn, Craigavon; delivery of a MSW destination tourism experience; and, further development of cross-border assets such as the Marble Arch Caves UNESCO Global Geopark. These projects will be subject to further consideration and scrutiny as the Steering Group turns its attention towards the development of the business cases that will be required to secure a Growth Deal for the Region. The £252million Growth Deal, which is just one of the economic levers that will be required to support the delivery of the Strategy, is a medium to long term plan.

## **Broadband**

Project Stratum has been developed to improve broadband connectivity mainly to rural areas (approximately 79,000 premises in total across NI) by delivering 30mbps broadband. The contract for Project Stratum was awarded to Fibrus Networks Ltd and work is now ongoing. In all, there are 12,289 premises in Mid Ulster earmarked for improvements via Stratum however, 354 premises in Mid Ulster are outside the scope of Project Stratum.

A HyperfastNI website<sup>2</sup> has been developed for Project Stratum to provide information on all key aspects of implementation, including planned phasing and full deployment of the broadband infrastructure across the target intervention areas. There is a postcode checker on this site, and the public can check if they are located in the target intervention area to receive an upgraded broadband service through Project Stratum and if so, get an indication of when they are likely to get access to improved broadband services.

In addition to Project Stratum, Mid Ulster District 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. This project will significantly increase the availability of gigabit capable

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<sup>2</sup><https://hyperfastni.com/>

broadband to homes and businesses in Northern Ireland. The project is mainly grant funded by the DCMS Rural Gigabit Connectivity (RGC) and Local Full Fibre Networks (LFFN) programmes. The application for funding was successful because there is a compelling need for connectivity in our region. The project is being delivered by the Fibrus and Openreach networks and are estimated to make fibre broadband available to around 39,000 premises in or near the Council's area as part of this project, which will be completed by December 2021.

### **Labour Market Partnerships**

Employability and skills development is a strategic economic priority for the Mid Ulster Community Plan and the need for intervention at this time is more important than ever. The aim of Labour Market Partnerships (LMPs) is to improve employability outcomes and labour market conditions locally by working through coordinated, collaborative, multiagency partnerships. The LMPs will be focused to achieve regional objectives whilst being flexible to meet the needs presented by the District connecting employers with employees. The Partnership is expected to provide an integrated approach to address labour market challenges by bringing together, in a single body, the necessary local knowledge and expertise to build on existing structures locally, operating in a holistic, streamlined and joined up way. This Partnership will form part of a Northern Ireland wide partnership involving all 11 Councils and there will be a regional Labour Market Partnership, managed by the Department for Communities, to oversee the work of the 11 Local LMPs. The Interim Labour Market Partnership for Mid Ulster provides a unique opportunity to greatly affect the district's priorities for skills and employability, ensuring that an appropriate skills pipeline is available to local industry both now and in the future. It has decided that the industry-led, Mid Ulster Skills Forum, as the delivery vehicle to operate the local Interim Labour Market Partnership. The membership of the Skills Forum will be revised to align with the guidance set out by DFC in terms of the local LMP approach.

The award winning Mid Ulster Skills Forum was established in 2017 and launched a comprehensive Mid Ulster Skills Action Plan in 2018 following consultation and engagement with key stakeholders. However, due to a lack of government funding

only a small number of initiatives have been delivered which include the establishment of the MEGA collaborative network. The Mid Ulster Skills Action Plan is the starting point and building block for developing a robust Two Year Employability Action Plan for Mid Ulster.

A key objective of the LMP approach is to develop a two year Action Plan which will be locally focused but still aligned to key strategic objectives identified within the Programme for Government, NI Economic Strategy, 10x Economy, NI Skills Strategy (draft), MSW Regional Economic Strategy, Mid Ulster Community Plan, Council Corporate Plan, Council Economic Development Plan, Mid Ulster Skills Action Plan and LMP member organisations corporate plans. On approval from DfC and subject to funding, the Action Plan will be delivered in 2021-23.

## **Tourism**

In the Mid Ulster District Council Tourism Strategy 2016-2021 the Council clearly identified the value of the strong working partnerships and from the outset this has been at the heart in the delivery of the strategy. During this time the Council has nurtured strong working relationships with Tourism Northern Ireland, Tourism Ireland, DAERA Rural Tourism Department & the Ulster Scots. In addition to the agencies a great deal of importance was placed upon building strong working relationships with the private sector through the Tourism Development Group and the working clusters to ensure that they shared and benefited from the strategic vision of the Council, which has been clearly demonstrated in 24 strong collective Mid Ulster experiential offerings that are and have been developed in line with the 'Embrace a Giant Spirit' regional brand.

Arguably, Mid Ulster contains the richest seam of archaeological, historic, natural and heritage sites and facilities in Northern Ireland, stretching from Mesolithic, Neolithic, pre, early Christian and medieval times to the Plantation era and up to the 2nd World War. A key objective of the strategy was to increase the visibility and understanding by residents and visitors alike of the significance of these assets within an all-Ireland

as well as a Northern Ireland context and this has been achieved in the development of strong products such as Hill of the O'Neill & Ranfurly House, OM Davagh Dark Sky Park and Observatory, US Grants Homestead which are now presented as world class visitor attractions.

The strong and compelling association of Seamus Heaney with Bellaghy and the surrounding communities and countryside provided a rich foundation for the development for the Seamus Heaney HomePlace visitor centre at Bellaghy, which opened in mid-2016, with literary and heritage trails 'Open Ground' immersing the visitor into the rich local landscape to place connections referenced in Seamus Heaney's poems and literature.

# Education and Skills

## Outcomes

- **Our people are better qualified and more skilled**
- **We give our children and young people the best chance in life**
- **We are more entrepreneurial, innovative and creative**

## Covid Response

### Fuel Vouchers

A total of 4,000 Mid Ulster families received support to tackle fuel poverty in a scheme co-ordinated by Mid Ulster District Council, funded by the Department for Communities and delivered in partnership with primary and secondary schools in Mid Ulster. The £200,000 programme aimed to help those experiencing difficulties in heating their homes, with fuel vouchers being distributed in partnership with post-primary and primary schools to families in receipt of free school meals. In a matter of weeks from announcing the scheme, over 4,000 families received vital support towards fuel costs, helping to ease the overall financial burden that people most in need in local communities were facing.

### Summer Get Active 21 Free Voucher Scheme, Reduced Leisure Rates and Summer Free Play Scheme

The benefits of exercise to promote positive mental health and wellbeing are well known. To encourage young people to get out and about this summer, Mid Ulster District Council developed a free Summer Get Active 21 leisure voucher scheme for post primary students in receipt of Free Schools Meals. Council partnered with all post primary schools to distribute the vouchers for young person and their friends/family to avail of 10 free sessions in Council leisure facilities from July to October 2021. In addition to this, young people not in receipt of Free Schools Meals could avail of a reduced leisure cost initiative, accessing a variety of activities for £1 per session. The scheme was well received with almost 6000 sessions/activities used.

### Free Play Scheme

Free Play Schemes for children aged between seven and 11 years were held at two Council facilities and supported via primary schools across the towns in the District. In total, ninety-six sessions at 10 venues in Dungannon, Magherafelt, Cookstown, Fivemiletown, Coalisland and Maghera were held. A healthy lunch was also provided each day to every child. Very positive feedback has been received from both schools and participants.

### **Peer Mentoring Programme**

The Paired Reading Project, delivered by Learn Spark, involved training older students (Mentors) how to deliver reading support to younger students (Mentees) who were finding reading uninteresting and challenging. In the initial year, Learn Spark invited 20 schools in the Mid Ulster District area to get involved. Seventeen schools took up the invitation and each school selected 10 students to train as Mentors. Twenty Mentees were selected to receive the training and support. A celebration event for all Mentors and Mentees was unable to proceed due to Covid19.

In this second year, 15 schools signed up to the programme. Due to Government restrictions, all training sessions were delivered virtually. Students were provided with a support booklet to guide them through the training and Learn Spark produced two support videos to enhance the virtual sessions. The next step in the project involved follow-on virtual sessions answering questions from teachers and students. The virtual training sessions were impacted again with school closures because of Covid19 and the project had to be suspended. The project evaluation indicates a very high level of satisfaction with the training and on-going support provided.

### **Schools for Hope**

The Schools for Hope programme is funded by Mid Ulster District Council through the Peace IV programme and led by St Joseph's Grammar School, Donaghmore and The Royal School, Dungannon.

Schools for Hope seeks to equip pupils and teaching staff with the tools they require to build resilience and promote good mental health through early intervention, combating mental health before it advances and negatively impacts on wellbeing and

academic performance. It seeks to provide young people with capacity and coping mechanisms prior to requiring intervention by Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) and combines a model of teacher training with pupil engagement.

The programme aims to build resilience and good mental health within our school communities and comprised distinct elements as follows:

- A needs analysis and evaluation of pupil's mental health in the Mid Ulster District and teacher response to increased pastoral demands conducted by Ulster University
- Hopeful Minds and Trauma Informed Schools whole school training pilot programmes in St Joseph's Grammar School, Donaghmore and The Royal School, Dungannon delivered by Hopeful Minds and Ulster University
- Engagement sessions (Dungannon and Cookstown Area Learning Partnership and Magherafelt ALP) covering topics such as sources of support and providing schools with the opportunity to share experiences and approaches to mental health and wellbeing.
- Schools for Hope Virtual Conference held on 4 June 2021
- A business plan will explore the potential for a mental health and wellbeing schools hub and the format this could take.

Following on from the Conference in June 2021, the two lead schools are undertaking training in mindfulness with a view to being able to deliver joint sessions/programmes in the future and having a skills set in school to continue this work. A Mindfulness App is being purchased by the two lead schools. Another Hopeful Minds resilience training programme is planned before the end of 2021 for the two lead schools and Magherafelt post-primary schools. A business plan on the potential for a Schools for Hope learning and training hub for Mid Ulster is being developed and should be ready in November 2021.

### **Careers Forum**

As part of the delivery of the Education & Skills strategic outcomes a Mid Ulster Skills Forum and Action Plan have been developed which, as previously mentioned, will now be brought forward under the newly established Labour Market Partnership



(LMP). The LMP will lead on the achievement of a number of specific actions identified through business engagement and skills sector.

Another key area for potential engagement is with the education careers sector, seeking to build linkages with skills and industry to ensure our young people are in the 'right destination'. As a result, a Mid Ulster Careers Forum has been established to: -

1. Support the education careers sector to build awareness of future business and employment opportunities and the relevant education requirements for accessing future opportunities.
2. Support the careers sector in making linkages and greater awareness of the skills training and apprenticeships opportunities.
3. Support the education careers sector to maximize resources and education vocational provision through partnerships.
4. Support networking within the sector to allow for sharing of practice.
5. Identify issues and opportunities and facilitate discussion where relevant.

The first workshop was held on the 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020, where careers teachers from post primary schools and colleges, from across the district, were given overviews of Community Planning, Mid Ulster Skills Forum, MEGA Programme and participated in the development of resources for a Careers Attractiveness Programme. A new workshop programme has been developed for 2021/22, with workshops on local work placement opportunities, apprenticeships and Interview and work readiness.

# Health and Wellbeing

## Outcomes

- **We are better enabled to live longer healthier and more active lives**
- **We have better availability to the right health service, in the right place at the right time**
- **We care more for those most vulnerable and in need**

## Covid Response

Through a multi-agency partnership with Mid Ulster Council, Department for Communities, both Health Trusts and the community and voluntary sector, the system to distribute food parcels was up and running within 14 days from the government announcement to move to 'lockdown' in March 2020. To manage this, a Community Support Hub was established, with staff from the Northern and Southern Health Trusts making referrals to relevant support agencies and services, including pharmacies, local charities and groups, as well as referrals to Mid Ulster District Council staff for the allocation of food parcels. In addition to the distribution of food parcels, a befriending call service was set up. Officers from Mid Ulster Council made regular calls to 80 who were experiencing extreme isolation and loneliness. They too would have made onward referrals to other support services.

The Agewell Partnership, which is funded by the Community Planning partners (Public Health Agency, Northern Health & Social Care Trust, Southern Health & Social Care Trust and Mid Ulster District Council) also continued to provide Good Morning Calls to their clients during the Pandemic. The partnership working between these community planning partners, helped to create a strong support system for the districts most vulnerable. Up to 200 food boxes were distributed every by over 30 local community groups and over 100 volunteers. Eighty older and vulnerable people were contacted each week through a Befriending Scheme which ran from April to August 2020.

Mid Ulster District Council re-purposed Meadowbank Sports Arena for local company Bloc Blinds as the Magherafelt based manufacturer went into production of frontline Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). The company repurposed its production line

producing 22,000 face shields per day. Joint initiatives with the Public Health Agency to use Council facilities and leisure centres for mobile testing and vaccinations has proved hugely effective during the Covid19 Pandemic. All Community Planning partners have continually reinforced key public health messages on behalf of the PHA. Partners will link with Community Planning on future regional and local Recovery Plans, planning for future pandemics and living with Covid19 in the years to come.

### **World Health Organisation Age Friendly Community**

The Ageing Well Vision is one of the outcomes within the Mid Ulster Community Plan. This includes the development of further Ageing Well Actions including 'Making Every Contact Count' and 'Age Friendly Society'. In addition, the Vibrant & Safe Communities Theme has identified actions including the promotion of the Ageing Well Programme, Older people engagement and information events, Intergenerational Programmes, Link to Ageing Well initiative for older people (contact and home safety).

Mid Ulster District Council is in the process of gaining a World Health Organisation (WHO) Age Friendly status and has appointed an Age Friendly Co-ordinator to take forward the Age Friendly agenda. An Age Friendly Alliance is to be established with relevant partners which will help raise awareness and interest in the Age Friendly concept and engage with local stakeholders across the Council area.

Age Friendly is a framework developed by the WHO to enable the development of Age Friendly communities. An Age-friendly world enables people of all ages to actively participate in community activities and treats everyone with respect, regardless of their age. It is a place that makes it easy for older people to stay connected to people and things which are important to them. It also helps people stay healthy and active even at the oldest ages.

### **Mid Ulster Loneliness Network**

The Mid Ulster Loneliness network was launched virtually on 26 August 2020 in response to a need to provide a co-ordinated and consistent approach to preventing and addressing loneliness in the Mid-Ulster area. Loneliness impacts on people of all ages and backgrounds and has increased significantly due to the restrictions and limitations placed on daily life and social interactions by the coronavirus pandemic.

Partnership working is central to the Network. It is supported by a Steering Group and made up of statutory, community and voluntary organisations working together to tackle loneliness in the Mid-Ulster area.

What does the Network aim to achieve?

- ❖ Engaging with Community Planning and other key partners to promote a culture of inclusiveness for all ages
- ❖ Raising greater awareness around loneliness across the generations and help reduce the stigma around it
- ❖ Initiating actions which address loneliness and increase opportunities for socialisation
- ❖ Sharing good practice and learning

To date the Network has:

- ✓ Met regularly to update and share information with members on the ongoing work within partner organisations
- ✓ Ensured that loneliness actions are included in the Mid Ulster Community Plan
- ✓ Distributed a range of activity packs and slow cooker packs across the generations, during COVID-19.
- ✓ Issued funding to members carrying out projects to tackle loneliness
- ✓ Created a brand logo to identify the Loneliness Network
- ✓ Launched a 'Chatty Bench' pilot initiative in Dungannon Park during Loneliness week with intentions to expand throughout the Mid Ulster Council area.

# Vibrant & Safe Communities

## Outcomes

- **We are a safer community**
- **We have a greater value and respect for diversity**
- **We have stronger communities with less disadvantage and poverty**

## Covid Response

Mid Ulster District Council launched an interactive online map with details of all the local community support during the COVID19 pandemic. The online community hub provided details of the many local groups and organisations offering support, including community groups, food banks, pharmacies delivering prescriptions and local shops offering food delivery services.

### Food Parcels

Over 1200 people were supported each week, for a period of 16 weeks from April to July, where a food parcel of estimate £35 was distributed to the most vulnerable. The food parcels were part of a scheme introduced by the Department for Communities (DfC) that aimed to provide food to vulnerable people who have been notified to shield by their GPs, who could not afford food and did not have access to local support networks. Dedicated teams in the health trusts and Mid Ulster Council managed referrals from the COVID-19 helpline and worked with over 30 local community groups and over 100 volunteers, each week, to arrange deliveries to those in real need.

### Food Banks

In the region of £225,000 was distributed, in partnership between DfC and Mid Ulster District Council, to support people in food and fuel crisis over the year. Support was provided to local foodbanks and SVP Societies to support them in assisting groups, including bringing groups together to network and maximize resources targeting as many people and families as possible. Over 5,000 food packages and fuel were distributed over the period to over 1,500 people/families for a number of weeks. This was complemented by the foodbanks and SVP's own resources.

### PPE

Partner grant funding between DfC and Mid Ulster District Council was allocated to local groups to support groups help their communities during this period. Mid Ulster District Council purchased £25,000 of PPE to support the community and care sector. Over 50% of the PPE purchased was allocated to care homes so that they could continue to look after their residents safely and the remainder was distributed to community groups supporting the delivery of food parcels to those in need across the district. Volunteers across Mid Ulster were also supported to make scrubs with a donation of £3000 to source the material required. This provided over 300 scrubs to those in need.

### Community Counselling

£80,000 support was provided to eight local community counselling services across the District to support networking, capacity building and engagement with other mental health provision. Over 2,500 counselling sessions were provided to over 500 people.

### Advice Services

Additional funding support of £100,000 was provided by DfC, through Mid Ulster Council, to support the districts main advice provision contract, to allow for additional support and tribunals.

### Fuel Vouchers

A total of 4,000 Mid Ulster families received support to tackle fuel poverty in a scheme co-ordinated by Mid Ulster District Council, funded by the Department for Communities and delivered in partnership with primary and secondary schools in Mid Ulster. The £200,000 programme aimed to help those experiencing difficulties in heating their homes, with fuel vouchers being distributed in partnership with post-primary and primary schools to families in receipt of free school meals. In a matter of weeks from announcing the scheme, 4,000 families received vital support towards fuel costs, helping to ease the overall financial burden that people most in need in local communities were facing. Mid Ulster District Council continues to provide support to charities responding to local people in food and fuel crisis.

## **Mid Ulster Anti-Poverty Plan**

Mid Ulster Community Planning produced an Anti-Poverty Plan in early 2021, the purpose of which is to work in partnership to reduce poverty and the impact of poverty on individuals and communities within Mid Ulster and to seek to reduce inequalities between areas over time, moving towards a better quality of life for everyone. The ethos of the Anti-Poverty Plan is that poverty is real and exists within our District, poverty is not a lifestyle choice and poverty is not inevitable, we can do something about it.

Work on the Anti-Poverty Plan began in 2019 when the Mid Ulster Community Planning partners came together to consider a range of issues that impact on poverty and to create an Anti-Poverty Plan. The Plan was developed following desk-based data analysis and research on the key determinants of poverty. A local Elected Member Working Group was established and a Community Planning Cross Thematic Workshop and virtual workshop were held to identify key issues of poverty, partner agency commitment to addressing poverty, examples of good practice, gaps in provision and strategic actions for partner delivery.

The Actions in the Plan have been developed under the Community Planning interlinking themes of Economic Growth, Education and Skills and Health and Wellbeing. Delivery of each action will be taken forward by Community Planning Partners with progress reported on a six monthly basis. Mid Ulster District Council has developed a Delivery Plan for the actions that Council intends to develop and take forward.

The Mid Ulster Anti-Poverty Plan will closely link with the regional NI Anti-Poverty Strategy currently being developed by the Department for Communities. Community Planning continues to contribute to the development of the regional plan at every available opportunity.

## **Housing**

The Mid Ulster Housing market has experienced a great deal of change over the last 20 years as a result of the significant increase in population and growth. The levels of growth, particularly in Dungannon, has had an impact on housing demand and rental values and the limited increase in social housing stock has led to issues of poverty in the area. A number of Housing Actions have come to the fore in the Mid Ulster

Community Plan and as a result, a Housing Forum was established in 2019 to consider and address pertinent housing issues faced by our local communities.

#### Housing Forum & Housing Working Group

Mid Ulster Community Planning established a Housing Forum to support the delivery of the Mid Ulster Community Plan strategic actions on housing and housing related issues. The Forum aims to maximise the provision and access to social and affordable housing for Mid Ulster District and provides an opportunity for partners to work together on an integrated approach to address social and affordable housing issues.

The main areas of focus are:

- Rent Controls for Mid Ulster
- Development Planning and provision of housing for Mid Ulster
- Social housing provision to meet increasing needs
- Social housing provision re location of need
- Access to social and affordable housing – housing allocations, housing allowance and income after housing analysis and poverty
- Rural social housing provision and latent demand testing
- Housing and impact on regeneration (to include open space and community, wider development planning considerations, mixed tenure etc).

The Forum membership is comprised of representatives from Mid Ulster District Council, the Department for Communities, the NI Housing Executive, NI Federation of Housing Associations, local Housing Associations, Mid Ulster District Council Planning and Environmental Health and other housing organisations and networks.

Members discuss and share their expertise on housing issues, analyse data and information and identify solutions to address social and affordable housing need and housing need in general. The Forum provides an opportunity to monitor housing need in line with the Mid Ulster Development Plan provision and delivery and to lobby on local issues relating to housing need, policy, good practice and solutions.



### Dungannon Housing and Regeneration Place Shaping Plan

Mid Ulster Community Planning has initiated a pilot Dungannon Housing and Regeneration Place Shaping Plan in partnership with NIHE. This plan will identify 'Place Shaping Principles' that we will seek to have adopted and implemented. Mid Ulster Community Planning will seek NIHE support to replicate this process across all hub towns to achieve a better balance between town centre regeneration and the provision of social and affordable housing.

NIHE recently advised that 90% of the proposed social housing development list was utilizing town centre retail units across the main towns. The Housing and Regeneration Place Shaping Plan will address the provision of social housing in town centres that does not meet real housing need, particularly that of families, and impacts negatively on the retail and leisure economy of our hub towns.

The Plan will seek to ensure that provision of an adequate supply of sustainable and quality social and affordable 'homes-for-life' through Area Plan policy, direct public provision and partnership working (ensuring adequate sewage and water infrastructure) while creating a competitive advantage for our principal towns, complimenting the 'Town Centre First Principle'.

### Supported Housing Women's Aid

Mid Ulster Community Planning Housing Forum is seeking a review of supported housing as there has been no provision in the last number of years but engagements with partners suggest there is a real need for this housing type. Mid Ulster District Council is currently working with Causeway and Mid Ulster Women's Aid and Department for Communities on the delivery of much needed Move On accommodation for their clients in Cookstown, as the next step back to normal housing situations. Such developments address the specific needs of those affected by violence and release other properties to address the wider social housing need in the area.

### Latent Demand Testing

Mid Ulster Community Planning has been working with NIHE to carry out Latent Demand Tests in rural areas. The Community Planning partnerships offer an avenue to raise awareness of rural housing need tests with local councils, elected members and other public sector bodies and community representatives. Focused engagement on rural housing issues at this level help to increase the support for each test and maximise the impact of each consultation as well as potentially unlocking other opportunities, such as accessing land for housing development where it is needed.

## **Community & Voluntary Sector Engagement Structure Review**

Community engagement within the Community Planning process is essential. As part of Community Planning structure, Council established a Community Panel in 2017, made up of representatives from community groups across Mid Ulster. As part of the Community Planning process, regular reviews of the community engagement must be undertaken. A review of the current Community Panel, through discussion and survey of members, highlighted that due to the strategic level of discussions within the Community Planning process, the input from local groups from specific areas was not always relevant. Community representatives from smaller groups also found it is difficult to feedback to the wider community group sector.

In light of this, a new two-tiered community engagement structure has just recently been formed. Firstly, networks have been established in each of the seven District Electoral Areas (DEAs) within the district. The networks are made up of community & voluntary groups operating in each DEA, as well as the local elected representative for that area.

The next tier comprises of a Strategic Community & Voluntary Sector (CVS) Forum, made up of CVS groups and organisations that operate across the district. A number of members of the Strategic CVS Forum participate in one of the four Community Planning Thematic Working Groups, where they will support the delivery of the Mid Ulster Community Plan.

The purpose of both the DEA Networks and Strategic CVS Forum is provide the sector with a platform to participate in the Community Planning process. It will also be used to keep them informed on the various grants and programmes being delivered by Community Planning partners and provide groups the opportunity to communicate and work with other groups across the district.

# **MID ULSTER COMMUNITY PLANNING**

## **Draft Performance Statement 2019-2021**

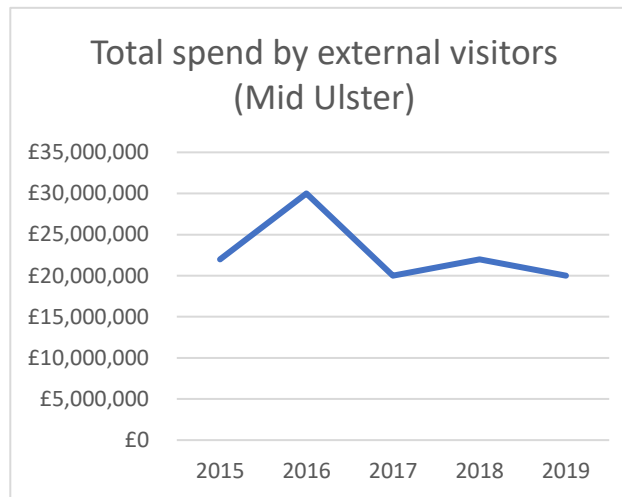
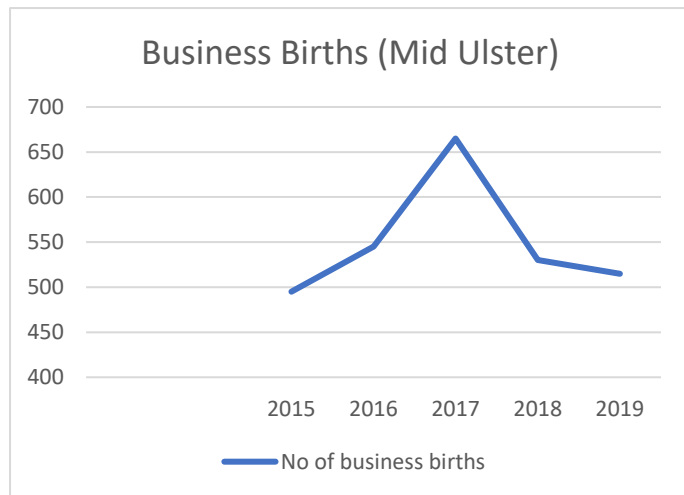
### **Part 2: The Data**

## Economic Growth & Infrastructure

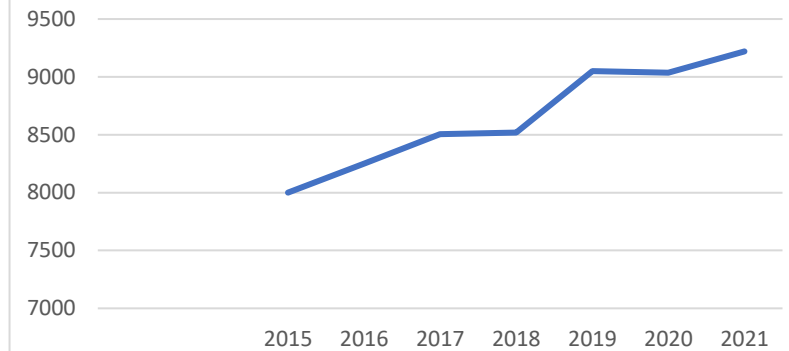
**Outcome: We prosper in a stronger and more competitive economy**

Measure	Baseline Year 1 2015	Baseline Year 2 2016	Baseline Year 3 2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
No. (%) of business births by LGD	495	545	665	530	515	Not Available	
No. of Registered businesses	8,000	8,250	8,505	8,520	9,050	9,035	9,220
Total spend by external visitors by LGD	£22m	£30M	£20m	£22M	£20M	Not Available	
Overnight Trips and associated Spend	0.2M	0.2M	0.1M	0.1M	0.1M	Not Available	

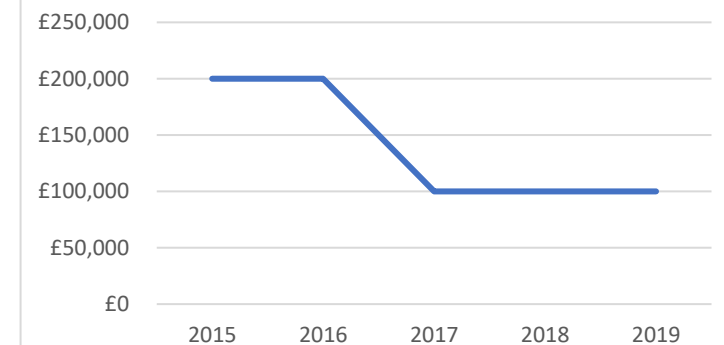
Source: NISRA



No. of Registered businesses (Mid Ulster)



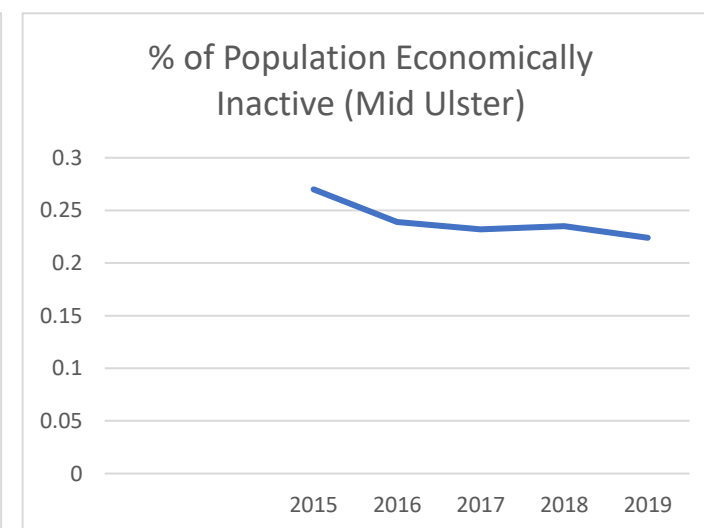
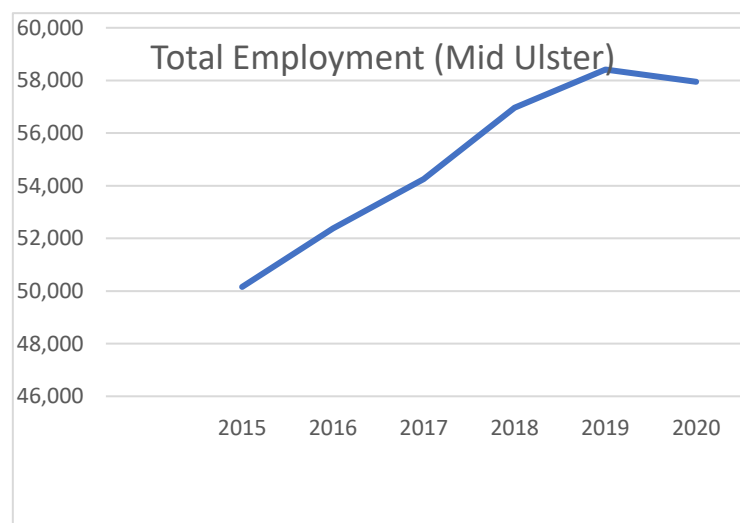
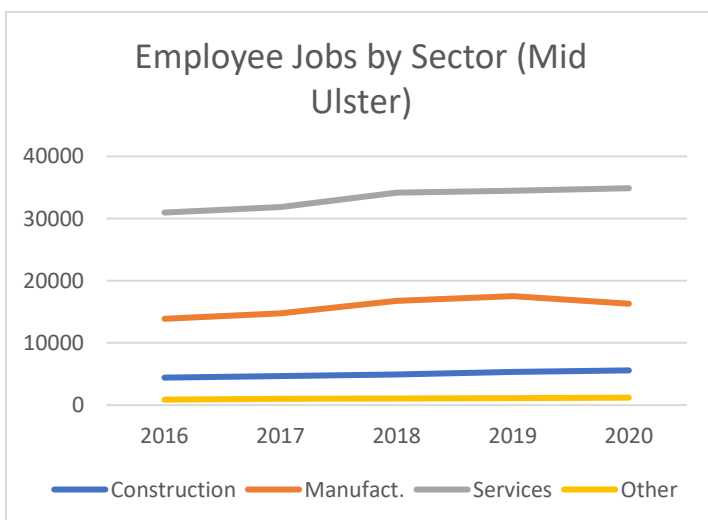
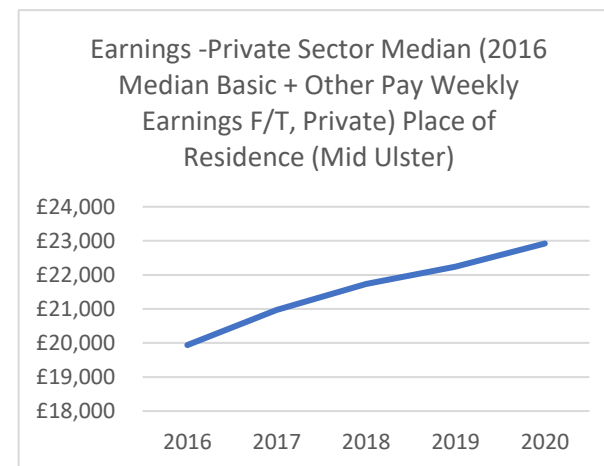
Overnight Trips and associated Spend (Mid Ulster)



## Outcome: We have more people working in a diverse economy

Measure		Baseline Year 1 2015	Baseline Year 2 2016	Baseline Year 3 2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Earnings -Private Sector Median (2016 Median Basic + Other Pay Weekly Earnings F/T, Private) Place of Residence		-	£19,939	£20,974	£21,738	£22,240	£22,921	Not Available
Employee Jobs by Sector	Construction		4425	4,691	4,931	5,316	5,586	Not Available
	Manufact.		13880	14,781	16,768	17,525	16,284	
	Services		30969	31,871	34,193	34,464	34,878	
	Other		882	1,030	1,070	1,110	1,205	
Total Employment by LGD		50,156	52,373	54,257	56,963	58,414	57,954	Not Available
% of Population Economically Inactive		27%	23.9%	23.2%	23.5%	22.4%		Not Available

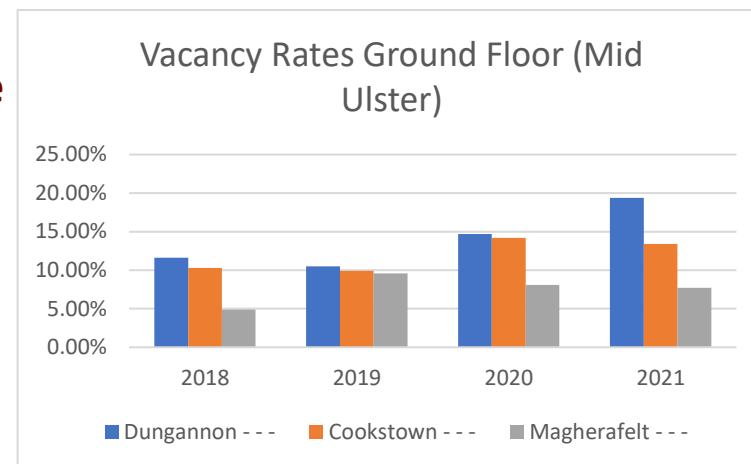
Source: NISRA



## Outcome: Our towns and villages are vibrant and competitive

Measure		Baseline Year 1 2015	Baseline Year 2 2016	Baseline Year 3 2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Vacancy Rate % Ground Floor Units (January)	Dungannon	Not Available			11.6%	10.5%	14.7%	19.4%
	Cookstown	Not Available			10.3%	9.9%	14.2%	13.4%
	Magherafelt	Not Available			4.9%	9.6%	8.1%	7.7%

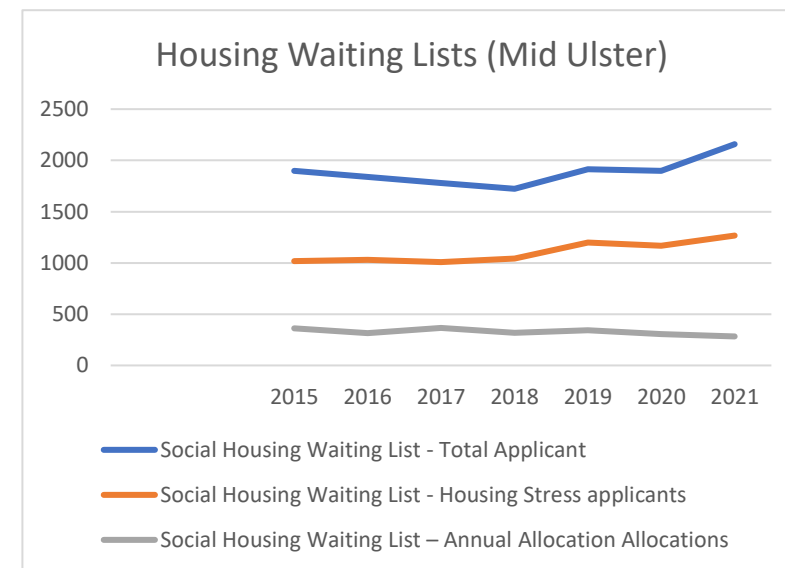
Source: Springboard



## Outcome: We enjoy increased access to affordable quality homes

Measure	Baseline Year 1 2015	Baseline Year 2 2016	Baseline Year 3 2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Social Housing Waiting List - Total Applicant	1,898	1,838	1,780	1,723	1,914	1,899	2,158
Social Housing Waiting List - Housing Stress applicants	1,017	1,030	1,008	1,044	1,198	1,169	1,267
Social Housing Waiting List – Annual Allocation Allocations	361	315	366	319	343	306	283

Source: NIHE

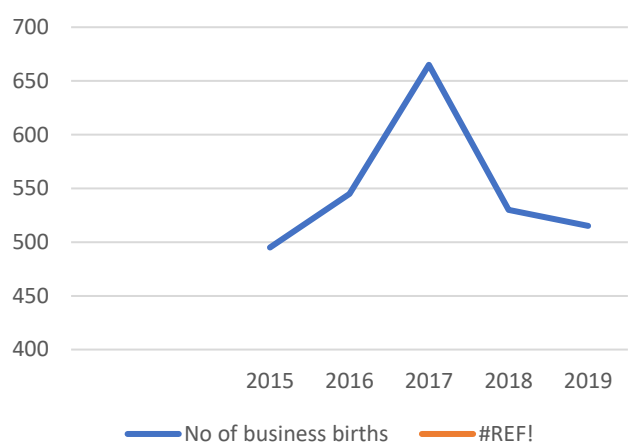


**Strategic Action: Enhanced support for business start-ups**  
**Strategic Action: Co-ordinate a single business support and one stop contact point**

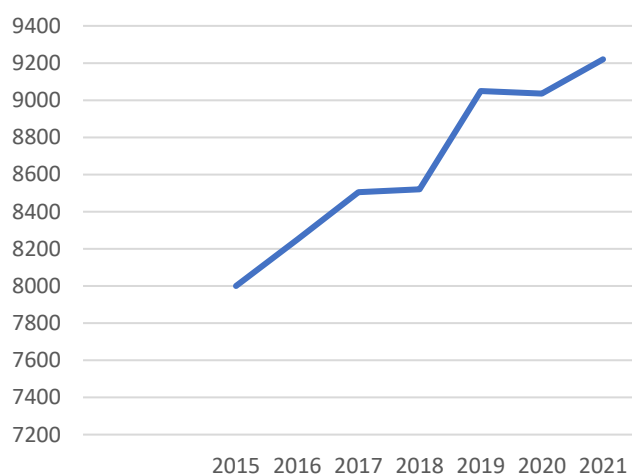
**Lead: MUDC**

**Indicators**

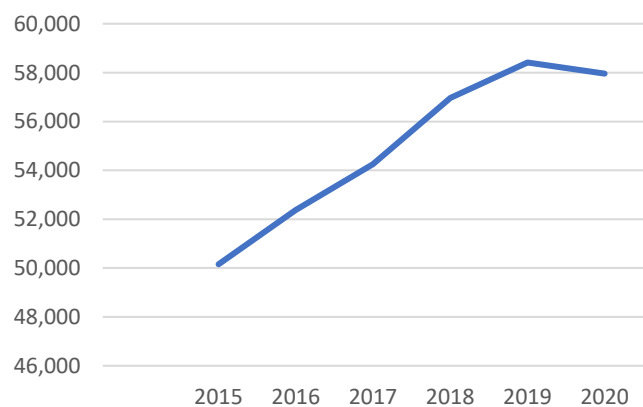
**Business Births**



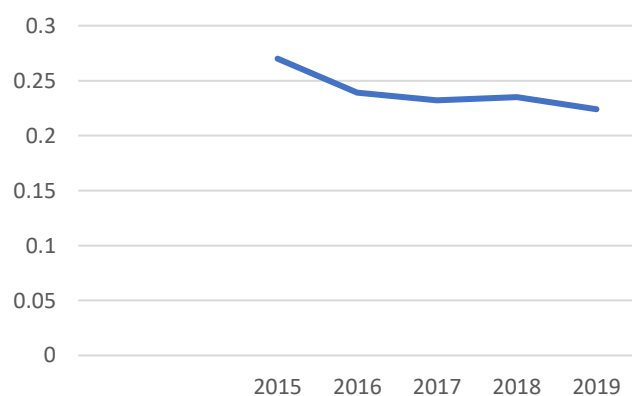
**No. of Registered businesses**



**Total Employment**



**% of Population Economically Inactive**





## What are we doing?

1. Deliver programmes to support local businesses post start-up to achieve their ambitions and goals introducing a broad mentoring of business skills such as:
  - Baseline review
  - Business Plans
  - Sales & Marketing
  - Social Media
  - Customer Care
  - Funding/Grants
  - Financial Management
  - Staff Management
  - Entrepreneurship
  - Networking Workshops & Events
  - Innovation
  - Digital /e-commerce
  - Tendering
2. To Map representation of following groups to Pre Start, Business Start and Post Start Programmes:
  - Women
  - Youth – SUSE/Pathways to Employment Programmes delivered across the district
  - Unemployed – Exploring Enterprise Programme delivered across the district
  - Rural – Enterprise/Start a Business Road Shows in identified rural areas
  - Social Enterprises

To encourage and promote underrepresented groups into programmes listed above.

## Progress

### How much did we do?

- 4 Economic Development business support programmes developed
- No of businesses participating per initiative on Economic Development business programmes  
Gearing for Growth – 91  
Tender Ready – 104  
Digital First – 113  
Transform – 45
- 1309 participants on ESF employability programmes from April 2018 – June 2021

### How well did we do it?

- 51% of businesses supported on economic development programmes based on total cumulative figures
- 8 Quality referrals accepted by Invest NI for further support
- 56% of participants on ESF employability programmes moving into: Education; Training; & Employment
- Of **1309** participants supported:  
547 urban: 762 rural | 594 male: 715 female  
599 aged <30: 710 aged >30
- 33% successfully developing action plans

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 855 business mentoring days delivered on Economic Development programmes</li> <li>▪ 6 Economic Development seminars/workshops held</li> <li>▪ 325 delegates attending seminars/workshops</li> <li>▪ 133 action plans developed</li> <li>▪ 51 new jobs created</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ % of participants (Businesses &amp; individuals) who felt their needs were met – <b>will be collated at the end of the programme</b></li> </ul>
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## Is Anyone Better Off?

29 businesses creating new jobs (Economic Development programmes)

51 Number of new jobs created (Economic development programmes)

734 Number of participants gaining employment or entering further training (ESF employability)

## Update

**Deliver programmes to support local businesses post start-up to achieve their ambitions and goals introducing a broad mentoring of business skills such as: Baseline review, Business Plans, Sales & Marketing, Social Media, Customer Care, Funding/Grants, Financial Management, Staff Management, Entrepreneurship, Networking Workshops & Events, Innovation**

No of Economic Development business support programmes developed – 4 Letters of Offer received from Invest NI for Programmes: Tender Ready, Digital First, Gearing for Growth, and Transform.

- Tender Ready Programme: Contractor appointed open for applications from Aug 2019
- Digital First Programme: Contractor appointed, open for applications from Oct 2019
- Transform Programme: Contractor appointed; open for Applications from Jan 2020.
- Gearing for Growth – Contractor appointed; open for Applications from Oct 2020

### By June 2021

- No of businesses participating per initiative on Economic Development business programmes – 353 of 690 target = 51%
 

Gearing for Growth – 91	Tender Ready – 104
Digital First – 113	Transform – 45
- No of business mentoring days delivered on Economic Development programmes –
 

Gearing for Growth – 112 days	Tender Ready – 265 days
Digital First – 378	Transform – 100
- No of Economic Development seminars/workshops held – 6
- No of delegates attending seminars/workshops – 325
- No of action plans developed – 133

- No of new jobs created – 51 confirmed (10 pending -awaiting documentation)
- No of Business Start up Info Packs distributed – 838

May 2019 – June 2021 838 business start clients provided with information on statutory regulation

#### **To Map representation of following groups to Pre Start, Business Start and Post Start Programmes:**

- **Women**
- **Youth – SUSE/Pathways to Employment Programmes delivered across the district,**
- **Unemployed – Exploring Enterprise Programme delivered across the district,**
- **Rural – Enterprise/Start a Business Road Shows in identified rural areas,**
- **Social Enterprises**

**To encourage and promote underrepresented groups into programmes listed above.**

**April 2015 – June 2021** the 4 ESF Programmes have:

- Supported 3026 participants
- Helped 841 people into employment
- Delivered 5490 qualifications
- Supported 521 to progress to Further Education / training

#### **ESF Participants from April 2018 – June 2021**

Of **1309** participants supported: 547 urban: 762 rural | 594 male: 715 female | 599 aged <30: 710 aged >30

Mapping of jobs created to be reported in Jan-Mar 2020.

#### **Business Programmes (by June 2021)**

Of the **51** new jobs created: 21 urban: 30 rural | 34 male: 17 female | 28 aged <30: 23 aged >30

Following the onset of the Covid 19 pandemic economists identified Mid Ulster in particular as being at highest risk of taking “the biggest short-term coronavirus-related economic hit of any Northern Ireland region”. The CPP (Centre for Progressive Policy: BBC Report 17 April 2020) estimated “the impact on Mid Ulster could be a 45% fall”. To respond effectively to business needs, in May 2020, Council submitted a request to Invest NI for a number of mitigating actions in relation to the 4 Programmes and these were approved:

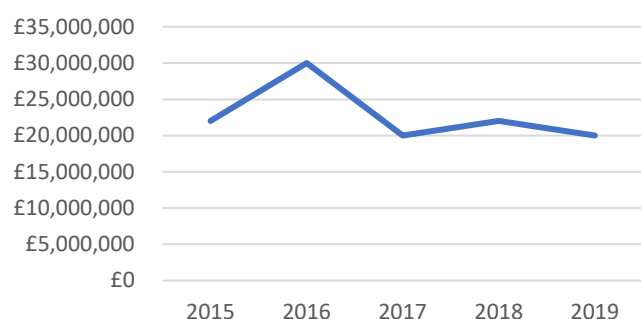
- The re-branding and inclusion of the Programmes within an overall ‘Mid Ulster Covid-19 Business Recovery’ Package
- The original job creation targets were on the basis of delivering 1 job / £1,000 spent; Invest NI confirmed that while job creation would remain a target, projects which do not meet their targets as a direct result of the Covid-19 impact would not be penalised
- The two eligibility criteria which required businesses to commit to job creation and be trading for at least 1 year were removed
- Businesses would be permitted to access support on more than one programme
- Flexibility was given to transfer underutilised days to other businesses
- Support on offer could be broadened to help businesses pivot and become more adaptable as a result of Covid

## Strategic Action: Maximise Tourism investment & employment concentrating on Mid Ulster strategic tourism themes of Seamus Heaney, Activity & Heritage

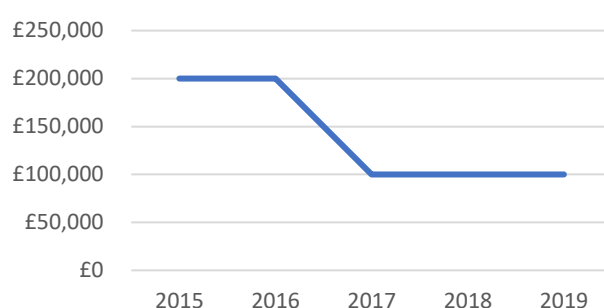
**Lead: MUDC**

### Indicators

Total spend by external visitors by LGD



Overnight Trips and associated Spend



### What are we doing?

Develop a standardised performance management reporting framework.

MUDC lead the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) £3 million "Heart of Ancient Ulster"

Set up Tourism Development Group & Working cluster Groups with regards to Seamus Heaney, Heritage & Outdoor Hub plans.

Mid Ulster to adopt a "digital first" approach to Tourism delivery, marketing & promotion.

Identify Skills Shortage within the Hospitality Sector and develop plan to address.

Develop a Food Tourism event showcasing Mid Ulster

## Progress

How much did we do?

How well did we do it?

Is Anyone Better Off?

## Update

**Develop a standardised performance management-reporting framework.**

**Lead Partner: MUDC**

Action: Ongoing tourism review

**MUDC lead the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) £3 million "Heart of Ancient Ulster"**

**Lead Partner: MUDC**

March 2020 the Council were informed that were unsuccessful

**Set up Tourism Development Group & Working cluster Groups with regards to Seamus Heaney, Heritage & Outdoor Hub plans.**

The Tourism Development Group (TDG) and associated clusters are working hard and going from strength to strength. The TDG meets once every two months and comprises Council members and business representatives.

Our clusters include:

1. Seamus Heaney/Mid Ulster Literary Cluster who have successfully completed a stage 1 Invest NI Collaborative programme and has now successfully moved onto the stage 2 part of the programme which will be delivered between 2021 – 2023.
2. Members of the Archaeology, History & Heritage Cluster are currently working with staff on the DAERA funded Experience Development programme being delivered by Kate Taylor up until the 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2022. Outputs from this programme is to develop at least 3 commercial propositions under the TNI 'Embrace a Giant Spirit' branding.
3. With the Sperrins Partnership Project the Outdoor Cluster have developed and delivered a festival of walking events across Mid Ulster with ten local businesses participating. The group plan to build on the joint promotion with other Sperrin Councils in future.
4. Hotel Cluster, this is our newest cluster and comprises the ten hotels in Mid Ulster. The group have benefitted from the Hotel mentor programme and are considering joint promotion plus statistics collation across the region.

**Mid Ulster to adopt a "digital first "approach to Tourism delivery, marketing & promotion.  
Lead Partner: MUDC**

Mid Ulster District Council has developed and launched both an on-line presence ([www.visitmidulster.com](http://www.visitmidulster.com)), that went live on October 2021. In addition, this, the business-to-business portal is now live and other on-line solutions are being developed for specific projects, such as the Seamus Heaney Experience.

The tourism department have availed of Tourism NI 100% financial assistance to develop a new consumer destination website dedicated to mid Ulster, which will also align with [discovernorthernireland.com](http://discovernorthernireland.com). The website is part of Tourism NI's aspiration for a collaborative and synchronized online presentation of NI tourism across the regions, putting the visitor first.

Tourism and communications staff have engaged with copywriters, photographers and film production companies to populate and showcase the tourism product to the highest standard and offer a user friendly experience for the visitor. These will also be shared on dedicated Mid Ulster tourism social media pages and allow greater reach and interaction.

Simpleview are a Destination Management System provider, who were contracted with the rollout of the DMS to the strategic partners. The financial assistance provided by Tourism NI is £41,886 and will benefit the wider tourism sector.

New Council wide information screens installed. In addition to providing 24-hour visitor Information in the town centres, it is worth noting that this technology will also provide the Council with a solution that can be extended into hotels, attractions and other strategic entry points, throughout the district. These were due to be installed and live for March 2020 but because of COVID this was delayed and is now a priority for 2022.

**Identify Skills Shortage within the Hospitality Sector and develop plan to address.  
Lead Partner: MUDC**

In the Mid Ulster area, the hospitality sector accounts for 6% (2,968 employee jobs) of employment, with the food and drink component of the sector (pubs, restaurants etc.) being a key contributor.

Key challenges and priorities facing the sector across Northern Ireland include the supply and retention of talent across all levels of their business, along with the high reliance on EU nationals, who represent between 12% to 24% of the current workforce. The sector already struggles to recruit, with particular challenges in recruiting chefs, other kitchen staff, housekeeping and front of house staff, which are among the roles with the highest proportion of EU migrant workers.

Consequently, the sector is likely to be more significantly impacted by any change in the availability of EU labour than other sectors, which rely less heavily on EU nationals. The hospitality sector is also associated with high levels of staff turnover - each year it loses and has to recruit a large number of people relative to its total employment.

It is estimated that the high levels of staff turnover, coupled with projected employment growth in the sector, will generate a significant labour market requirement for workers from outside the

sector. This figure will increase over time as the total employment in the sector grows. This recruitment need is currently filled with a combination of:

- UK workers previously unemployed or inactive;
- UK workers moving from other sectors;
- EU nationals; and
- Rest of the world nationals.

However, assuming the continuation of current levels of recruitment from UK and rest of world migrant workforce, restrictions to new EU migrants entering the UK for work in the sector will likely generate a recruitment gap, which will have a cumulative impact on the UK hospitality sector over time.

The hospitality sector faces challenges in recruiting enough workers, particularly in specific roles.

Key reasons for this include a lack of willingness by job seekers to work in the sector due to:

- Careers not being seen as viable in the long-term - roles are often seen as short-term and temporary and primarily aimed at young people/students.
- Roles are perceived to be low-paid and high-effort; UK workers do not desire seasonal work and shift patterns in the industry.
- Lack of knowledge about career progression and opportunities within the hospitality industry.
- A lack of necessary skills - chefs and front of house staff are the two most frequently cited hard-to-fill roles in the sector.
- Overall labour market conditions in the context of low unemployment.

Council have been successful in securing 100% funding from DAERA to deliver on the Rural Tourism Collaborative Experience Programme. This project comprises to elements

1. Mid Ulster Heritage
2. Lough Neagh Shoreline in conjunction with Antrim & Newtownabbey Council.

The objective of this £66,000 programme is to develop 2 clusters and a series of experiences based around the Embrace a Giant Spirit brand. This programme will run to end of March 2022 and is being facilitated by Taylored Training. The programme will also identify skills and training gaps amongst the businesses, deliver both a marketing and action plan and finally identify key stakeholders and partners who can support the clusters and bring the experiences to market.

## **Business Engagement**

The Council Tourism Business Engagement programme continues with a high level of engagement from the tourism and hospitality sector.

## **Webinars**

Tourism have developed a series of webinars in response to the onset of the pandemic. These commenced on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2021 and to date we have hosted 45 webinars targeting issues

relating to our tourism and hospitality sector, with an average of 25 businesses dial in to each session.

We have hosted experts from right across the sector and have on an ongoing basis hosted law experts from Cleaver, Fulton, Rankin (CFR) and accountants from FPK/FPM covered through Tourism NI TED Scheme.

Businesses have been encouraged to sign up for the Embrace a Giants Spirit brand with TNI Business Solutions Team.

We have also profiled over a series of webinars Mid Ulster Council supports in terms of Covid grants, Economic Development Programmes, Marketing grants and many of our tourism and hospitality businesses have taken advantage of these programmes.

An average of 25 businesses dial in to each session and the Q&A to these experts that follows means the sessions last on average 1 hour and 15 minutes.

### **What's App group**

This group was established in response to the pandemic and businesses desperately seeking advice and support. Membership of our group currently stands at 140 business representatives, it has proved so successful in highlighting news, updates, and what is new in a fast and convenient manner for businesses.

### **Mentoring**

Tourism have also rolled out two mentoring programmes in the past year:

Road to Recovery for 14 small businesses focussing on development of experiences. These businesses are now working to develop their experiences, have opened for the summer in some cases or are developing programmes and itineraries.

Instagram Programme to upskill businesses on Instagram and help promote their businesses. 19 businesses completed this programme.

### **Tourism Development Group**

The tourism Development group is comprised Council, business representatives and representatives from education and training plus statutory agencies including TNI. This group meet once every two months and work with officers and their respective cluster groups to manage the delivery of Council tourism strategy and act as an advisory body for the industry.



## Strategic Action: Develop and deliver coordinated Village Planning and renewal initiatives

**Lead: MUDC**

### Indicators

The Economic Development team can draft a one page "Community Satisfaction" questionnaire to be completed by the lead person representing each Community when the relative village project is completed. For example, the Ballygawley project has just been completed and when we met the Community group they expressed their delight with the outcome. We could capture this in a brief Community satisfaction questionnaire. To be produced, data to be collected by Council.

### What are we doing?

- To work in partnership to deliver Village Regeneration Projects in up to 50 villages across Mid Ulster District Council over 4 years.
- To deliver a Town & Village Spruce Up Scheme for eligible business and commercial properties

### Progress

#### How much did we do?

##### 1. RDP Village Regeneration projects

- Delivered £2.86m to the Village Renewal Scheme.
- All actions were identified through an integrated village plan recognised by Council.
- Funding of £1.5 million was made available to take on a further 3 additional Strategic Projects
- This capital investment is supporting the enhancement of facilities for local people and contributing to the regeneration of our district.

#### How well did we do it?

##### ▪ RDP Village Regeneration projects

- 100% completed of the schemes
- 52 areas benefited from the scheme
- 3 additional Strategic Projects were identified due to the success of the scheme:
- **Maghera**- development of pitch and recreational facilities
- **Fivemiletown**- development of Roundlake Recreation area
- **Ballyronan**- Development of play park area, with further work in the community building and marina area.
- The Village Renewal Scheme has created/ enhanced, inclusive, sensory sensitive areas within the community to enhance the living space of community throughout the Mid Ulster rural areas

## **2. Peace Village Regeneration Projects**

6 Villages not included under the RDP project were identified for funding through PEACE with an allocation of £100,000 per village.

## **3. Town & Village Spruce Up schemes**

Phase 1 2019-2020- 32 applicants accepted Letters of Offer and completed works to the value of grant aid of £112,771.42.

Phase 2 2020-2021- 72 applicants accepted Letters of Offer and completed works to the value of grant aid of £250,812.13.

Phase 3 2021-2022- currently being delivered with up to 79 Letters of Offer issued to the value of £250,000.

## **Peace Village Regeneration Projects**

- 6 Villages including Moy, Draperstown, Money more, Aughnacloy, Castledawson and Donaghmore received £100,000 to deliver projects funded through the Peace programme.
- Projects included –  
Draperstown – Plantin and Fairhill Upgrade  
Moy – Riverside Walk  
Money more – walkway around recreational facility  
Aughnacloy – New play at Council Playing Field  
Donaghmore – Walkway Lighting at Torrent River  
Castledawson – MUGA and upgrade to Council Recreation Facility.

## **Town & Village Spruce Up schemes**

100% of the schemes for phase 1 & 2 are completed.

Phase 3 which is a further 79 schemes to value of £250,000 is planned to be completed by 31 March 2022.

## **Is Anyone Better Off?**

### **RDP Village Regeneration projects**

- 52 small towns and villages are more vibrant and aesthetically enhanced.
- Town and villages users have access to improved services, which will contribute to healthier lifestyles.

### **Town & Village Spruce Up schemes**

- 47 small towns and villages will have received enhancements to their business properties to make them more attractive and sustainable, improving the visual appearance of the streetscapes.

## Update

**Nov 2019 – Nov 2021**

**To work in partnership with RDP to deliver Village Regeneration Projects in up to 37 villages across Mid Ulster District Council over 4 years through the Rural Development Programme:**

**Phase 1: 2 Strategic areas & 1 thematic area (Play Parks) for smaller villages to be completed**

**Lead Partner: MUDC**

Mid Ulster District Council lead on the Village Renewal Scheme included within the Rural Development Programme 2014 - 2020. The LAG allocated a budget of £2.15m in grant aid to the Village Renewal Scheme for the implementation of strategic and minor works within agreed villages. Council contributes match funding of 25% (£716,000), to compliment the funding from RDP. Council made applications to the Local Action Group for the Village Renewal scheme and leads on development and delivery.

52 areas benefited from the scheme, 6 villages received major works with a further 40 villages selected for minor works. A further 6 areas had been identified for minor works due to extra funding becoming available from the Programme. Due to the success rate of implementation of work across the initial sites funding of £1.5 million was received to roll out the scheme enabling work in Maghera, Fivemiletown and Ballyronan area. All actions supported under both major and minor works were identified through an integrated village plan recognised by Council.

**To deliver a new Towns & Village Spruce Up Scheme for eligible business and commercial properties located within the village development limits**

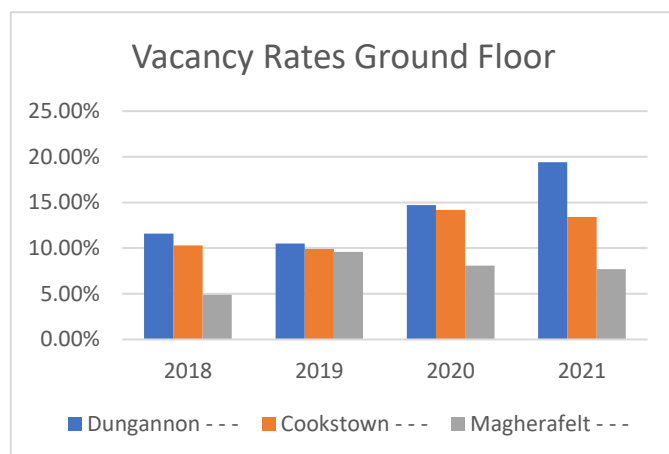
**Lead Partner: MUDC**

- 100% of the schemes for phase 1 & 2 are completed, which is 104 schemes to value of £363,583.55. *(The achievement is remarkable given the ongoing Covid19 pandemic and obstacles businesses have faced over the last 18 months)*
- Phase 3 is underway
- This is a major boost to the Private Sector Businesses across Mid Ulster Towns and Villages
- Covid did impact upon the scheme but was not detrimental to its delivery. Works were unable to be conducted in the first lockdown of 2020 and Letters of Offer were not issued to June 2020. Businesses worked closely with staff to get their scheme delivered effectively and efficiently.
- One major element in relation to the delivery of the scheme is that the cost of schemes has risen substantially for many applicants i.e. due to an increase in materials, from the time of application in September 2019 to issuing of Letter of Offer. Some applicants have had to decline their Letter of Offer due to the substantial increases, as they could not afford to incur the extra costs associated with scheme delivery.

**Strategic Action: Create a competitive advantage for our principal towns, complimenting a 'Town Centre First' principle; prioritising the re-use of derelict sites and/or building**

**Lead: MUDC**

### Indicators



### What are we doing?

Complete Public Realm Schemes within our 5 principal towns

Undertake a Branding Exercise in 3 Main Towns

Pilot scheme to address dereliction

### Progress

#### How much did we do?

##### Public Realms

- Public Realm schemes have been completed in 4 of our main towns
- Public consultation on Maghera Public Realm scheme is planned in September 2021

##### Branding

- Branding has been completed in our 3 main towns
- Consultation activities for Branding in Coalisland to happen in autumn 2021

#### How well did we do it?)

##### Public Realms

- 80% Public Realm completed.
- £13.5 million spent on individual Public Realm Schemes in our 4 towns

##### Branding

- £180,000 spent on Branding

**Dereliction**

- Dungannon Town Centre is under review with a potential pilot project to specifically look at reducing vacancy rates within the town.

**Dereliction**

- Pilot project under review

**Is Anyone Better Off?**

Public Realms and Branding are not easily quantifiable. There is anecdotal evidence that most businesses and citizens are very satisfied with the Public Realms. The Public Realm Schemes were well publicised consultations within each town. There were ample opportunities for all citizens to make their views known especially if they objected to the proposed Public Realm Scheme.

The Branding exercise was supported via a consultation exercise in each town with local traders to determine the Brand for each town.

**Update****Nov 2019 – Nov 2021****Complete Public Realm Schemes within our 5 principal towns**

4 out of 5 planned Public Realms have been achieved and the final Public Realm, which is Maghera is now going to community consultation. The project is also in the middle of a planning application process. The project is still subject to funding from the Department of Communities. Coalisland Public Realm has been recognised as a model of good practice by the Equality Commission (September 2021).

**Undertake a Branding Exercise in 3 Main Towns**

All 3 main towns have completed a Branding exercise. Each town has its own distinct brand and logo within Mid Ulster. Merchandise has and continues to be used at every opportunity such as town events, to promote the brand. Coalisland are in the process of developing a brand as part of Coalisland Revitalisation scheme as requested by traders.

**Pilot scheme to address dereliction**

Dungannon Regeneration Partnership (DRP), in October 2019, submitted a proposal to Council requesting funding for to reduce vacancy levels in Dungannon town centre. It was proposed that an external town centre development management contactor would be employed by Dungannon Regeneration Partnership for a 3-year period. Funding was allocated to undertake a pilot scheme - Reducing Dereliction and Vacancy Levels in Dungannon Town Centre – led by DRP. The proposed start date was 1 April 2020 with an expected end date by 31 March 2023.

Due to changes in the management structure and the loss of a funding partner who withdrew the funding offered previously plus the ongoing Covid 19 situation it was regarded as a bad time to approach Traders to meet the short fall in funding to support this project.

At a meeting in September 2020, Members of the DRP agreed to put the current proposal on hold this year. Council has now undertaken an audit of the dereliction and vacancy rates within its 5 main towns and a report will follow this.

## **Reason why Action has not commenced**

### **Public Realm Schemes**

Maghera is the last town to undergo the Public Realm scheme and the consultation process with Businesses and residents is underway.

### **Dereliction**

Dungannon Town Centre was seen as a potential pilot project to specifically look at reducing vacancy rates within the town. There were difficulties with stakeholders to appoint a resource to progress this. Council is now reviewing and exploring a further potential proposal on this matter.

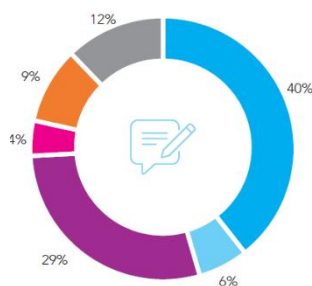
# Strategic Action: Provide an adequate supply of social and affordable 'homes-for-life' and Supported Living through Area Plan policy and direct public provision

Lead: NIHE

## Indicators

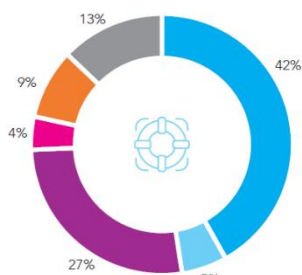
### Social Housing Need

#### Waiting List Applicants

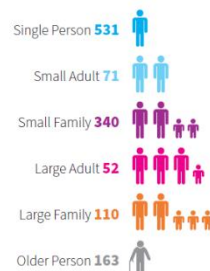
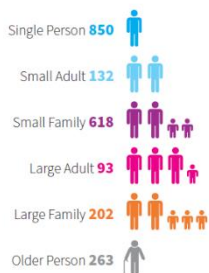


Source: NIHE, March 2021

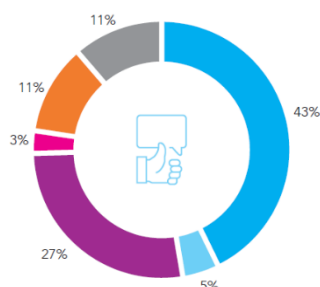
#### Applicants in Housing Stress



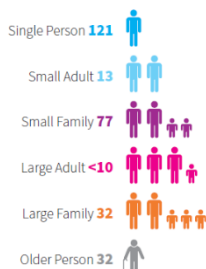
Source: NIHE, March 2021



#### Allocations to Applicants



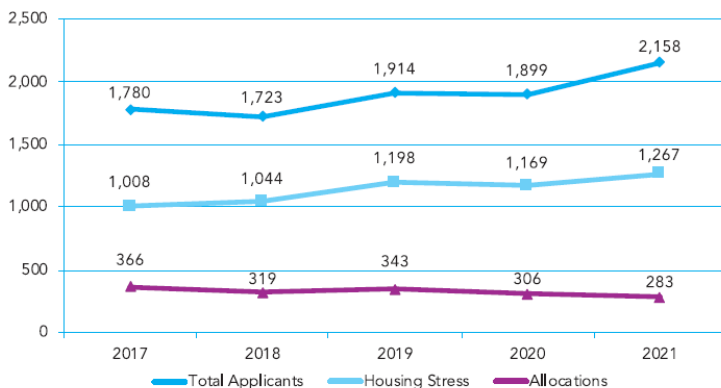
Source: NIHE, March 2021



#### Definition of Household Types

<b>Single Person</b>	1 person 16-59 years old
<b>Small Adult</b>	2 persons 16-59 years old
<b>Small Family</b>	1 or 2 persons aged 16 or over, with 1 or 2 children
<b>Large Adult</b>	3 or more persons aged 16 or over with or without 1 child aged 0-15
<b>Large Family</b>	1 or 2 persons aged 16 or over, and 3 or more children aged 0-15, or 3 or more persons 16 or over and 2 or more persons aged 0-15
<b>Older person</b>	1 or 2 persons aged 16 or over, at least 1 over 60

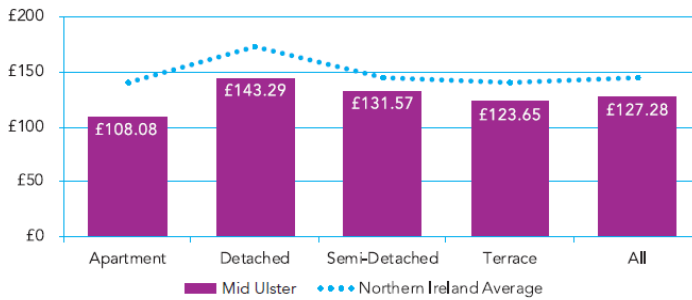
#### Social Housing Waiting List Trends



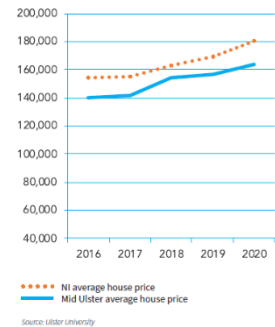
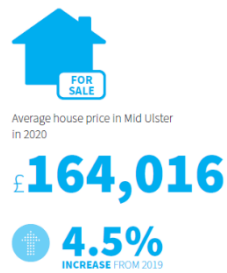
Source: NIHE

## Affordable Housing

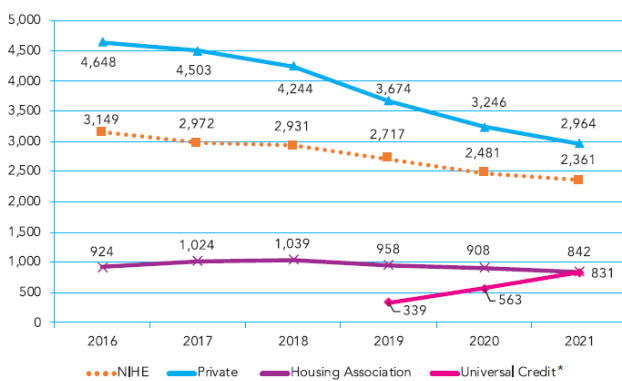
### Average Weekly Private Sector Rent by Dwelling Type



### Average Annual House Prices



### Housing Benefit



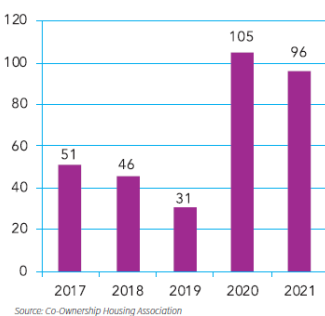
### Intermediate need

Demand for intermediate housing aimed at low income households in Mid Ulster is estimated at 1,350 units between 2020-2030.

**1,350** UNITS  
BETWEEN  
2020-2030

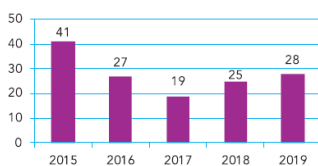
### Co-ownership Purchases

Co-Ownership Housing Association had an active stock of 574 dwellings at March 2021, 96 of which were purchased during 2020/21 in the Council area.



### Repossessions

During 2019, there were 28 repossessions in Mid Ulster. This represents a 32% decrease since 2015.





## What are we doing?

### 1. Deliver units of social housing.

At 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 there were 30 units completed within the district, 93 are under construction and 217 units are programmed for 2021-2024.

### 2. Bring forward housing land through the LDP and progress policy to encourage a mix of housing types and tenures

Mid Ulster Council Submitted its Local Development Plan draft Plan Strategy (dPS) to the Department for Infrastructure on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

## Progress

### How much did we do?

#### Agree LDP Housing

Mid Ulster District Council submitted its Local Development Plan draft Plan Strategy (dPS) to the Department for Infrastructure on 28 May 2021.

#### No of social housing units to be delivered

At 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 there were 30 units completed within the district, 93 are under construction and 217 units are programmed for 2021-2024.

No of Supported Living units to be delivered

### How well did we do it?

#### LDP being implemented

Mid Ulster Council Submitted its Local Development Plan draft Plan Strategy (dPS) to the Department for Infrastructure on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

30 social housing units completed and 93 are under construction.

No supported living units completed

No housing schemes being developed on land identified through the LDP, awaiting completion.

## Is Anyone Better Off

1.4% Increased social and affordable housing in Mid Ulster (Completions as proportion of Waiting List).

No increased provision of Supported Housing units and schemes to meet local need

## Update

### Deliver social housing

At 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 there were 30 units completed within the district, 93 are under construction and 217 units are programmed for 2021-2024.

### Bring forward housing land through the LDP and progress policy to encourage a mix of housing types and tenures

Mid Ulster Council Submitted its Local Development Plan draft Plan Strategy (dPS) to the Department for Infrastructure on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

## **Additional Housing Delivery**

### Housing Forum & Housing Working Group

Mid Ulster Community Planning established a Housing Forum to support the delivery of the Mid Ulster Community Plan strategic actions on housing and housing related issues. The Forum aims to maximise the provision and access to social and affordable housing for Mid Ulster District and provides an opportunity for partners to work together on an integrated approach to address social and affordable housing issues.

The main areas of focus are:

- Rent Controls for Mid Ulster
- Development Planning and provision of housing for Mid Ulster
- Social housing provision to meet increasing needs
- Social housing provision re location of need
- Access to social and affordable housing – housing allocations, housing allowance and income after housing analysis and poverty
- Rural social housing provision and latent demand testing
- Housing and impact on regeneration (to include open space and community, wider development planning considerations, mixed tenure etc).

The Forum membership is comprised of representatives from Mid Ulster District Council, the Department for Communities, the NI Housing Executive, NI Federation of Housing Associations, local Housing Associations, Mid Ulster District Council Planning and Environmental Health and other housing organisations and networks.

Members discuss and share their expertise on housing issues, analyse data and information and identify solutions to address social and affordable housing need and housing need in general. The Forum provides an opportunity to monitor housing need in line with the Mid Ulster Development Plan provision and delivery and to lobby on local issues relating to housing need, policy, good practice and solutions.

### Dungannon Housing and Regeneration Place Shaping Plan

Mid Ulster Community Planning has initiated a pilot Dungannon Housing and Regeneration Place Shaping Plan in partnership with NIHE. This plan will identify 'Place Shaping Principles' that we will seek to have adopted and implemented. Mid Ulster Community Planning will seek NIHE support to replicate this process across all hub towns to achieve a better balance between town centre regeneration and the provision of social and affordable housing.

NIHE recently advised that 90% of the proposed social housing development list was utilizing town centre retail units across the main towns. The Housing and Regeneration Place Shaping Plan will address the provision of social housing in town centres that does not meet real housing need, particularly that of families, and impacts negatively on the retail and leisure economy of our hub towns.

The Plan will seek to ensure that provision of an adequate supply of sustainable and quality social and affordable 'homes-for-life' through Area Plan policy, direct public provision and partnership working (ensuring adequate sewage and water infrastructure) while creating a competitive advantage for our principal towns, complimenting the 'Town Centre First Principle'.

### Supported Housing Women's Aid

Mid Ulster Community Planning Housing Forum is seeking a review of supported housing as there has been no provision in the last number of years but engagements with partners suggest there is a real need for this housing type. Mid Ulster District Council is currently working with Causeway and Mid Ulster Women's Aid and Department for Communities on the delivery of much needed Move On accommodation for their clients in Cookstown, as the next step back to normal housing situations. Such developments address the specific needs of those affected by violence and release other properties to address the wider social housing need in the area.

#### Latent Demand Testing

Mid Ulster Community Planning has been working with NIHE to carry out Latent Demand Tests in rural areas. The Community Planning partnerships offer an avenue to raise awareness of rural housing need tests with local councils, elected members and other public sector bodies and community representatives. Focused engagement on rural housing issues at this level help to increase the support for each test and maximise the impact of each consultation as well as potentially unlocking other opportunities, such as accessing land for housing development where it is needed.

## Strategic Action: Promote and provide for mixed housing developments

**Lead: NIHE**

### Indicators

Create Safer and Cohesive Communities  
Regenerate Neighbourhoods

- Working Together for Safer Communities has been launched and will run until 2023, supporting working together with a range of partners across statutory, voluntary and community sectors.
- During 2019/20, NIHE dealt with 103 cases of ASB within the Council area, of which four were categorised as hate related. During 2020/21, there were 90 cases of ASB, four of which were categorised as hate related.
- During 2019/20, four Hate Incident Practical Action scheme (HIPA) incidents were actioned in the council area. During 2020/21 no HIPA incidents were actioned.

### What are we doing?

Bring forward new shared future proposals/ schemes to assist in meeting the overall housing need.

Undertake reimagining projects, Community Cohesion, Good relations projects in existing single identity estates

### Progress

#### How much did we do?

##### **Develop new shared future proposals/schemes to meet housing need.**

Three Housing for All schemes including 85 units started on-site during 2019 to 2021.

##### **No of reimagining projects to be completed**

(April 2019 – March 2021 – 0 Projects)

##### **No of community cohesion projects to be completed**

(April 2019 – March 2021 – 14 Projects)

##### **No of good relation projects to be completed**

(April 2019 – March 2021 – 3 Projects)

#### How well did we do it?

##### **Shared Future proposals/schemes in place**

Three Housing for All schemes including 85 units started on-site during 2019 to 2021.

##### **Project of reimagining projects completed**

(April 2019 – March 2021 – 0 Projects)

##### **Community cohesion projects completed.**

(April 2019 – March 2021 – 14 Projects)

##### **Good relation projects completed.**

(April 2019 – March 2021 – 3 Projects)

## Is Anyone Better Off?

Three Housing for All schemes including 85 units started on-site during 2019 to 2021, where respect and diversity are promoted.

## Update

**Bring forward new shared future proposals/ schemes to assist in meeting the overall housing need.**

Lead Partner: NIHE

HA	Scheme Name	Units	SG	Designation	Actual On-site date	Actual Completion date
Apex Housing	Sycamore Drive, Killymeal Road, Dungannon	42	Urban	Housing for All (20/21)	May-19	Oct-21
Choice	Mullaghmore Road, Dungannon	28	Urban	Housing for All (20/21)	Mar-21	Feb-22
Clanmil	Molesworth Plaza , Cookstown	15	Urban	Housing for All (20/21)	Mar-21	Oct-21

**Undertake reimagining projects, Community Cohesion, Good relations projects in existing single identity estates**

Lead Partner: NIHE

### **Total Good Relations/Community Cohesion Projects**

NIHE will promote Good Relations across the five cohesion themes of Communities in Transition, Segregation/Integration, Interfaces, Race Relations and Flags, Emblems and Sectional Symbols.

During 2019/20, Community Cohesion grants of £16,616 were spent on 12 projects throughout the district. Projects funded involved family fun days, educational trips, summer schemes, village improvements and guided tours.

During 2020/21, Community Cohesion funding of £3,720 was spent on three projects in Mid Ulster. Each of the projects complied with COVID restrictions.

## Education & Skills

**Outcome: Our people are better qualified and more skilled**

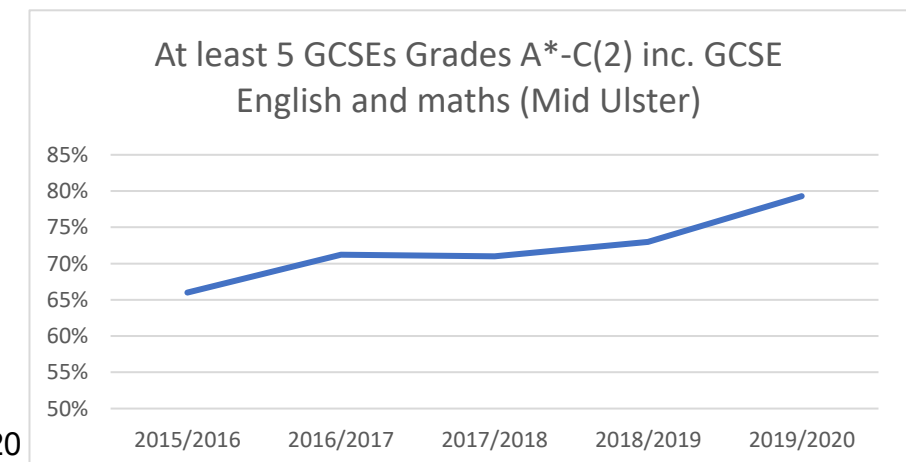
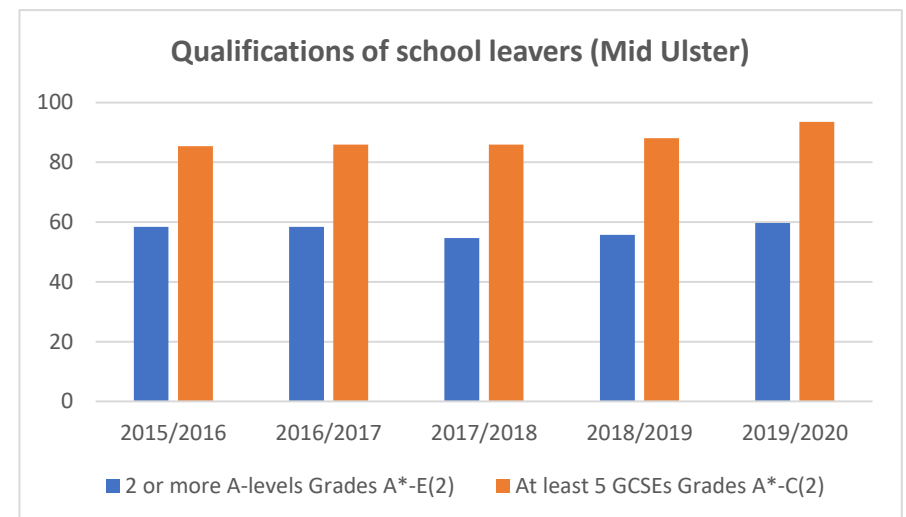
**Outcome: We give our children and young people the best chance in life**

**Outcome: We are more entrepreneurial, innovative and creative**

**Qualifications of school leavers by 2014 district council of pupil residence**

**Source: Department for Education Statistical Bulletin**

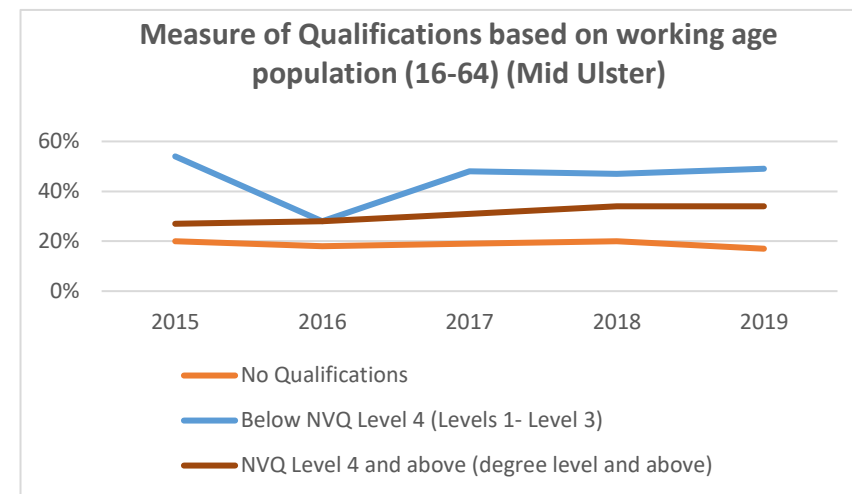
Measure	2 or more A-levels Grades A*-E(2)		At least 5 GCSEs Grades A*-C(2)		At least 5 GCSEs Grades A*-C(2) inc. GCSE English and maths		Total Leavers
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
Baseline Year 1 2014/2015							
Baseline Year 2 2015/2016	1099	58.4	1608	85.4	1242	66	1882
Baseline Year 3 2016/2017	1071	58.4	1574	85.9	1306	71.2	1833
2017/2018	1048	54.7	1647	85.9	1361	71	1917
2018/2019	1012	55.7	1602	88.1	1327	73	1818
2019/2020	1091	59.7	1708	93.5	1448	79.3	1827
2020/2021	Published May 2022						



### Measure of Qualifications based on working age population (16-64)

Source NISRA

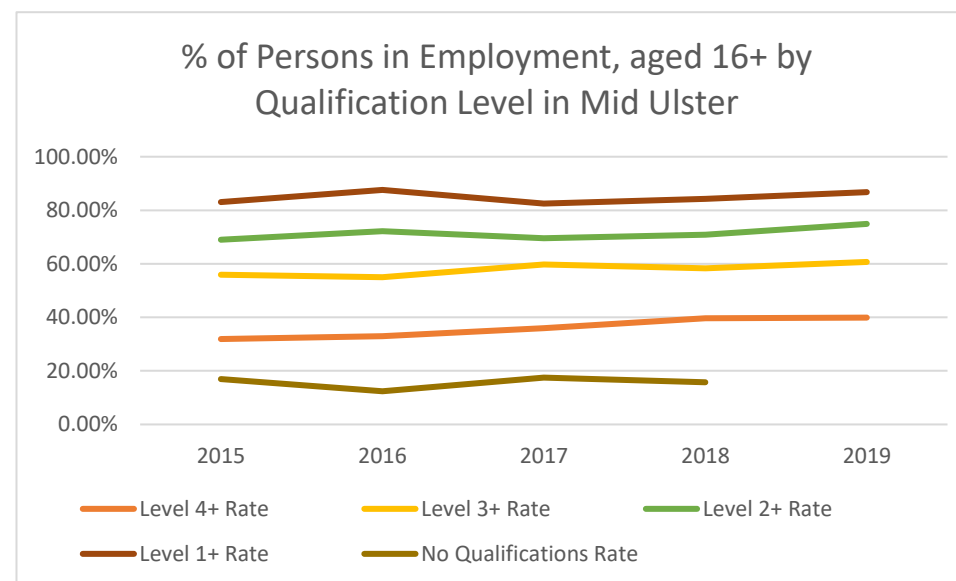
Measure	Baseline Year 1 2015	Baseline Year 2 2016	Baseline Year 3 2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
No Qualifications	20%	18%	19%	20%	17%	Not Available	
Below NVQ Level 4 (Levels 1- Level 3)	54%	28%	48%	47%	49%	Not Available	
NVQ Level 4 and above (degree level and above)	27%	28%	31%	34%	34%	Not Available	



### % of Persons in Employment, aged 16+ by Qualification Level in Mid Ulster

Source: Labour Force Survey Annual Report

Measure	Level 4+	Level 3+	Level 2+	Level 1+	No Qualifications
	Rate	Rate	Rate	Rate	Rate
<b>Baseline Year 1 2015</b>	31.9%	55.9%	69.0%	83.1%	16.9%
<b>Baseline Year 2 2016</b>	33.0%	55.0%	72.2%	87.6%	12.4%
<b>Baseline Year 3 2017</b>	36.0%	59.8%	69.6%	82.5%	17.5%
<b>2018</b>	39.7%	58.3%	70.9%	84.2%	15.8%
<b>2019</b>	39.9%	60.7%	74.9%	86.8%	
<b>2020</b>	Not Available				
<b>2021</b>	Not Available				



## NEET rate by Northern Ireland Local Government District, age 16-24, 2010-2014 and 2015-2019

Source: Labour Force Survey, January December 2010-2014 and 2015-2019

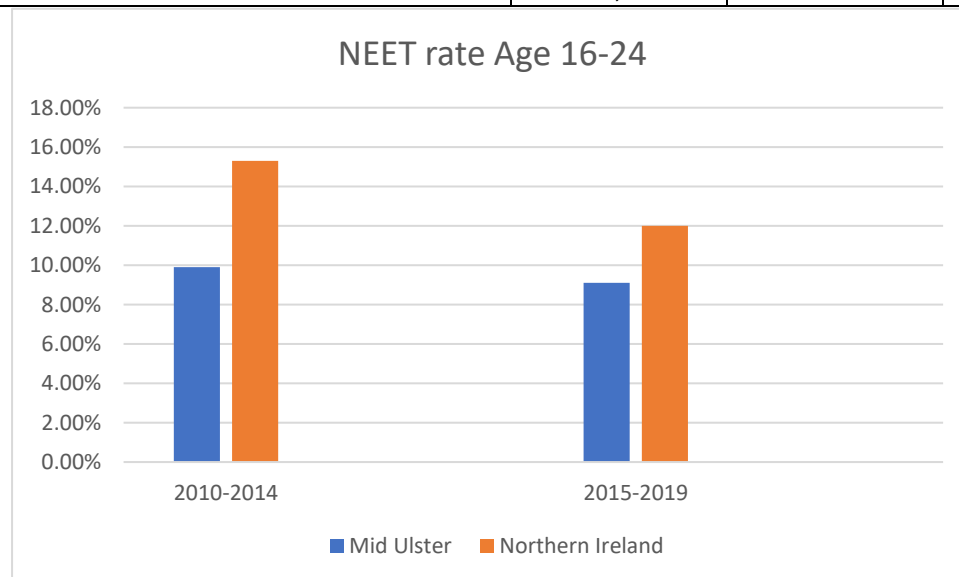
Local Government District	2010-2014		2015-2019	
	NEET	NEETs Rate (%)	NEET	NEETs Rate (%)
<b>Antrim &amp; Newtownabbey</b>	<b>9,000</b>	<b>12.4</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>7.8</b>
Ards & North Down	11,000	14.5	9,000	11.5
Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon	22,000	19.8	15,000	13.5
Belfast	41,000	18.2	26,000	12.2
Causeway Coast & Glens	14,000	14.8	14,000	19.9
Derry City & Strabane	19,000	18.5	11,000	12.2
<b>Fermanagh &amp; Omagh</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>8.8</b>
<b>Lisburn &amp; Castlereagh</b>	<b>9,000</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>10.8</b>
Mid & East Antrim	12,000	13.7	12,000	13.4
<b>Mid Ulster</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>9.1</b>
Newry, Mourne & Down	14,000	13.9	12,000	11.9
Northern Ireland	168,000	15.3	124,000	12.0

Notes:

Areas in bold are estimates based on a small sample size. This may result in less precise estimates, which should be used with caution.

Unshaded estimates are based on a larger sample size. This is likely to result in estimates of higher precision, although they will still be subject to some sampling variability.

\*Estimates under a cell count of 3 are disclosive and therefore suppressed.

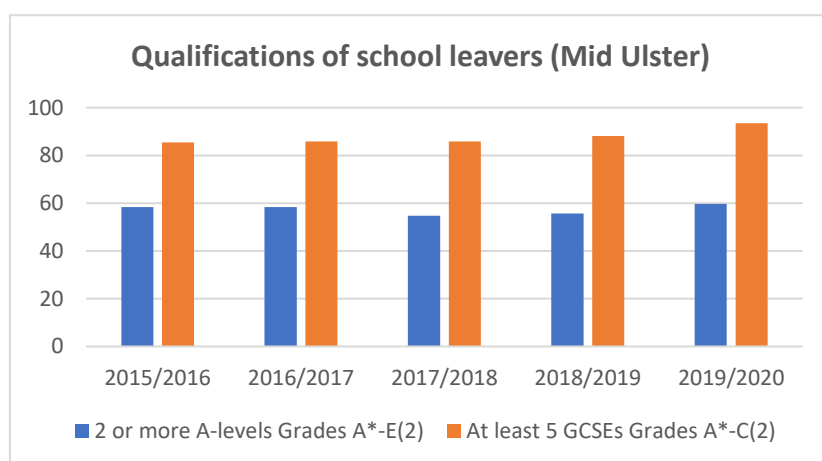




## Strategic Action: Ensure accessible preschool places for every child

Lead: Education Authority

### Indicators



### What are we doing?

1. Map and monitor children receiving a final pre-school place compared to initial expression of interest to ensure children receive the opportunity of a pre-school development
2. Review issues of access to pre-school provision, if required for areas where demand cannot meet supply

### Progress

#### How much did we do?

Number of pre-school places <b>2021-22 academic year</b>	2174
Number of applicants	2051
Number of children placed	2015
Number of children not placed	6
Number of places remaining	91
Number of pre-school places <b>2020-21 academic year</b>	2256
Number of applicants	2141

#### How well did we do it?

##### 2021-22 academic year

89.4% of children placed in their 1<sup>st</sup> preference setting

% of children from areas of disadvantage with pre-school place **Not available**

##### 2020-21 academic year

89.1% of children placed in their 1<sup>st</sup> preference setting

Number of children placed	2119	% of children from areas of disadvantage with pre-school place <b>Not available</b>
Number of children not placed	2	
Number of places remaining	111	
Number of pre-school places <b>2019-20 academic year</b>	2222	<b>2019-20 academic year</b>
Number of applicants	2128	88.1% of children placed in their 1 <sup>st</sup> preference setting
Number of children placed	2107	% of children from areas of disadvantage with pre-school place <b>Not available</b>
Number of children not placed	6	
Number of places remaining	83	

### Is Anyone Better Off?

#### 2021-22 academic year

98.2% of 3-4 year olds who engaged in the pre-school admissions process are placed in pre school education in Mid Ulster DC

#### 2020-21 academic year

98.9% of 3-4 year olds who engaged in the pre-school admissions process are placed in pre school education in Mid Ulster DC

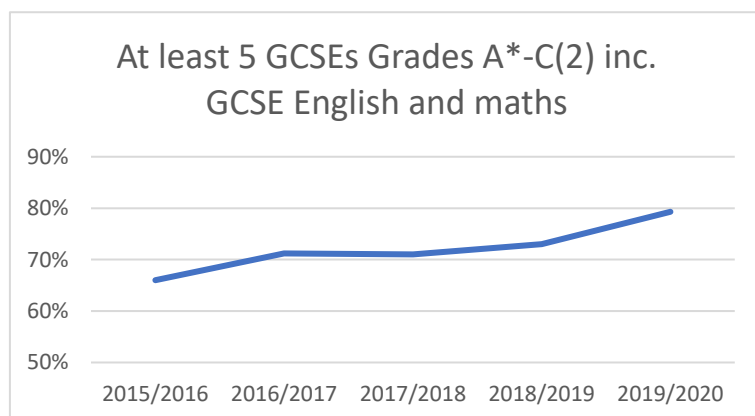
#### 2019-20 academic year

99% of 3-4 year olds who engaged in the pre-school admissions process are placed in pre school education in Mid Ulster DC

## Strategic Action: Numeracy & Literacy Recovery & Support

Lead: MUDC

### Indicators



### What are we doing?

1. Deliver Mentoring Programme in post primary schools
2. Develop a coordinated volunteer scheme for schools, focusing on retired and teachers needing to gain experience to support the above programme.
3. Engage libraries in the delivery of numeracy and literacy support

### Progress

#### How much did we do?

15 post primary schools in 2019/20 and 17 post primary schools in 2020/21 participated out of target of 20.

117 students participated

117 mentees participated

32 teachers participated

#### How well did we do it?

75% in 2019/20 and 85% in 2020/21 of total post primary schools in the district engaging in programme

97% of participants attended and completed the program

Increase of 16% on participant no's from last year

### Is Anyone Better Off?

## Update

### Schools Supporting Schools – Paired Reading Project 2019/21

Learn Spark was awarded the tender for the delivery of the Students Supporting Students, Paired Reading project in the summer of 2019.

The Paired Reading Project involved training older students (Mentors) how to deliver reading support to younger students (Mentees) who were finding reading uninteresting and challenging. In this initial year Learn Spark invited 20 schools in the Mid Ulster District area to get involved. 17 schools took up the invitation and each school selected around 10 students to train as Mentors. The schools were then divided into 5 cohorts and invited to a training day in various locations. During the training students got to know each other by initially engaging in collaborative team-building games. Then, they moved on to learning the skills and competences required to become a trained Paired Reading practitioner.

Whilst the students were training, the teachers who would lead the projects in their schools, were taken through the detail of the project. They learned about the expectations of the project and the various timelines and milestones. Following the training, the schools then began their paired reading. This involved selecting up to 20 Mentees to receive the training and support. Learn Spark put various forms of support in place for the schools as they proceeded with the implementation of the project.

Towards the end of this first year, a Celebration Event was arranged for all the Mentors and Mentees to highlight and reward their achievements. However, whilst in the process of arranging this event the schools were hit with closure due to Covid 19 and the event was unable to proceed.

### Schools Supporting Schools – Paired Reading Project 2020/21

In this second year, the project again invited 20 schools in the Mid Ulster Council area to get involved with the project. On this occasion 15 schools signed up. The other schools who were unable to get involved cited various reasons based around the on-going restrictions in place due to Covid 19. All expressed an interest in getting involved in the following year.

Due to Government restrictions all the training sessions were delivered virtually. The schools were arranged into pairs and offered 2 x 1.5 hours virtual sessions. In advance each student was provided with a support booklet to guide them through the training and provide ongoing support. Learn Spark also produced two support videos to enhance the virtual sessions. The first video was a selection of students from the previous year giving their views, as well as hints and tips, on how to be an effective Paired Reading Mentor. The second video was a demonstration video showing the Paired Reading project in action. Two young actors recruited from a local drama school played the parts of the Mentor and Mentee. The video was needed within a virtual setting to clearly show the students the personal approach and progress involved in mentoring. The video was later made available to all the schools.

The next steps in the project involved follow-on virtual sessions answering questions from teachers and students. Then, there was to be a Celebration Event to highlight and reward all the students for their participation. However, right at the end of the virtual training sessions we were hit again with school closures because of Covid 19 and the project had to be suspended.

Overall, the project was very well received in schools and the evaluations indicated a very high level of satisfaction with the organisation and training provided as well as the on-going support. However, the true benefits of the project for those young students with difficulties reading were lessened due to the effects on schools of Covid 19.

### **Actions with Delayed Development**

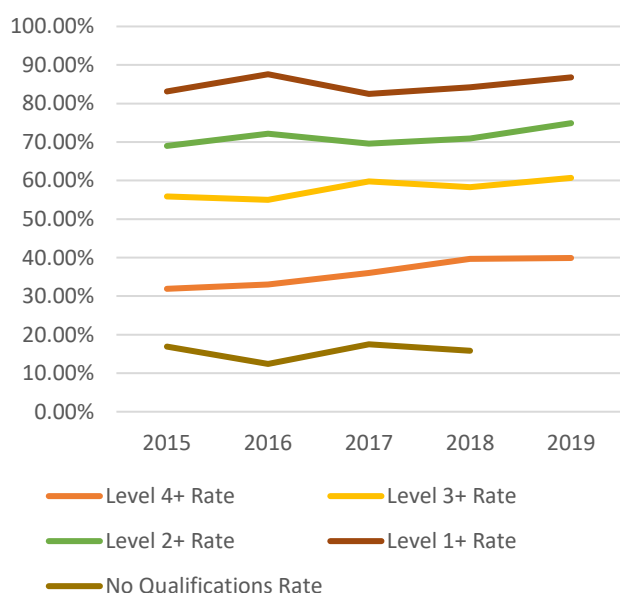
The thematic group has not yet developed remaining elements. Covid19 pandemic and the closure of schools have impacted the development of these actions considerably.

## Strategic Action: Develop and deliver tailored Apprenticeships programmes to meet the specific needs of Mid Ulster industry

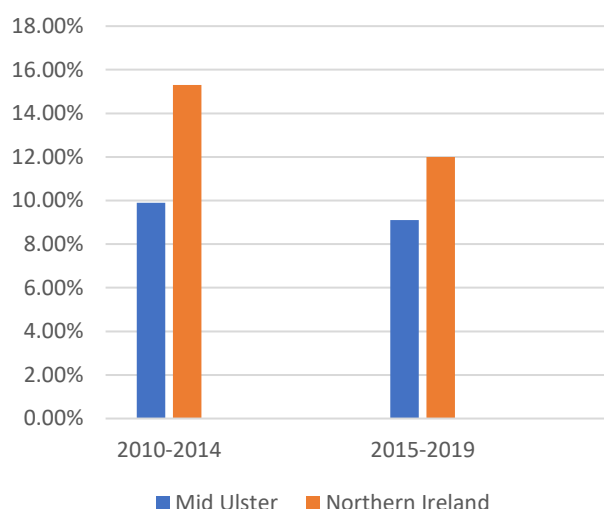
**Lead: Northern Regional College & South West College**

### Indicators

% of Persons in Employment, aged 16+ by Qualification Level in Mid Ulster



NEET rate Age 16-24



### What are we doing?

- Marketing/branding of Colleges as a positive alternative to academic pathways through:
  - Open Day/taster days for schools (similar to University open days)
  - Awareness raising with parents on 'appropriate pathways'.
  - Awareness raising for post 18/A-level pathway (positive alternative to University degree)
- Apprenticeship programmes with co schooling for Year 11's - formalised link between schools and colleges with potential to deliver courses jointly leading to higher level frameworks.
- Engage with the Skills Forum to identify flexible apprenticeships and engage schools and colleges with businesses to offer on-site visits, skills days and opportunities for young people to engage with maximise impact (coordinated approach)

#### Additional Sub-actions

4. Develop a minimum of 4 HLA Frameworks for offer in the Mid Ulster region
5. Increase business engagement in the Higher Level Apprenticeship frameworks for the development of Level 4 and 5 industrial skills.

## Progress

### How much did we do?

62 awareness raising events

30 in campus targeted awareness raising events for parents and youth

135 awareness raising school visits

Email Marketing to 8962 warm contacts, highlighting and promoting apprenticeships

Digital outreach to the post-18/ A-Level group using paid advertising platforms such as Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat as well as promotion targeted to parents and guardians.

### How well did we do it?

200% increase in HLA web referrals

38% Increase in HLA apprenticeship participants programmes available at SWC – 2 new Frameworks at Level 6 Honours Degree.

141% Increase in HLA apprenticeship participants at SWC

The number of companies in Mid Ulster offering Apprenticeships/HLA frameworks remains very strong with a continued annual increase.

### Is Anyone Better Off

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Recruitment	406	262	259
Into Employment	92	67	65
Progressed	171	119	105
NEETS	119	77	67

0.8% reduction in NEETs from 2010-2014 to 2015-2019 in Mid Ulster

### Update

#### Marketing/branding of Colleges as academic and skills training pathways through:

- Open Day/taster days for schools (similar to University open days)
- Awareness raising with parents on 'appropriate pathways'.
- Awareness raising for post 18/A-level pathways.

SWC continues to maintain a sustained, focused and successful marketing campaign for all educational and skills development provision. Due to a covid-19 response, the vast majority of the promotional events were conducted through online platforms and social media channels. This included additional Digital outreach to the post-18/ A-Level group using paid advertising platforms such as Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat, as well as 'keep warm' Email Marketing.

**Apprenticeships programmes with co schooling for Year 11's - formalised link between schools and colleges with potential to deliver courses jointly leading to higher level frameworks.**

Entitlement Framework, SWC School Sector participation – SWC continues to have strong student/apprentice numbers on the Dungannon Campus over September 2019 to June 2021 period. A range of Occupational Studies programmes are offered on the Dungannon campus in collaboration with partnering schools.

There has been a steady increase in the recruitment of Apprentices in the 2020/21 recruitment period, meeting the development plan targets.

Total number of SWC Work Based Learning enrolments is 2902.

A series of very successful online school liaison meetings have been held for 2020/21 in response to COVID-19 – Mid Ulster District Council Region specifically target at Apprenticeships NI and Higher Level Apprenticeship frameworks.

**Engage with the Skills Forum to identify flexible apprenticeships and engage schools and colleges with businesses to offer on-site visits, skills days and opportunities for young people to engage with maximise impact (coordinated approach)**

South West College has two senior management staff participating in the Skills Forum. SWC is the Engineering Curriculum Hub Lead for the NI College sector, the College continues to work closely with the MEGA group and the wider industrial base in the Mid-Ulster Region.

**Additional Sub-actions**

**Develop a minimum of 4 HLA Frameworks for offer in the Mid Ulster region**

South West College now offers 13 Higher Level Apprenticeship Frameworks with five additional HLA frameworks available. All are available for participation in the Mid-Ulster Region.

**Increase business engagement in the Higher Level Apprenticeship frameworks for the development of Level 4 and 5 industrial skills.**

South West College continues to grow the provision of HLA frameworks in the NI Sector. Two new HLA frameworks at Level 6 Honours Degrees in Engineering and Finance are now also available.

Currently 141% increase in participation on Higher Level Apprenticeship programmes at September 2021, with approximately 42% of those are on the Dungannon Campus (these are all STEM frameworks prioritised in line with the NI Skills Barometer and industrial demand).

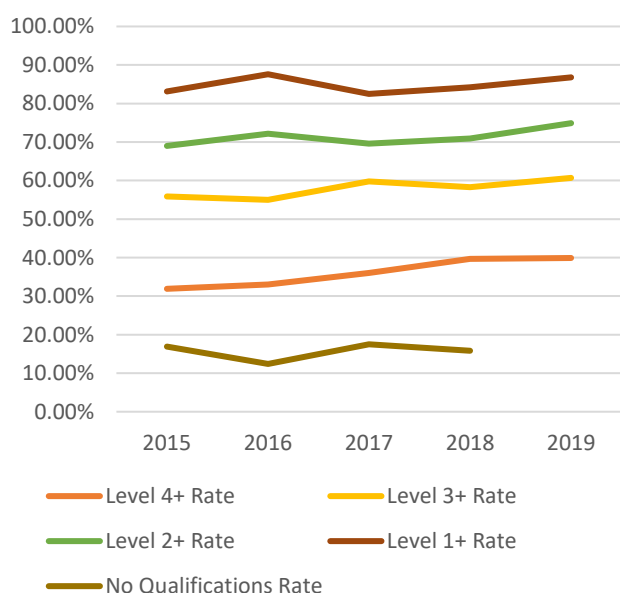


## Strategic Action: Develop and deliver tailored Apprenticeships programmes to meet the specific needs of Mid Ulster industry

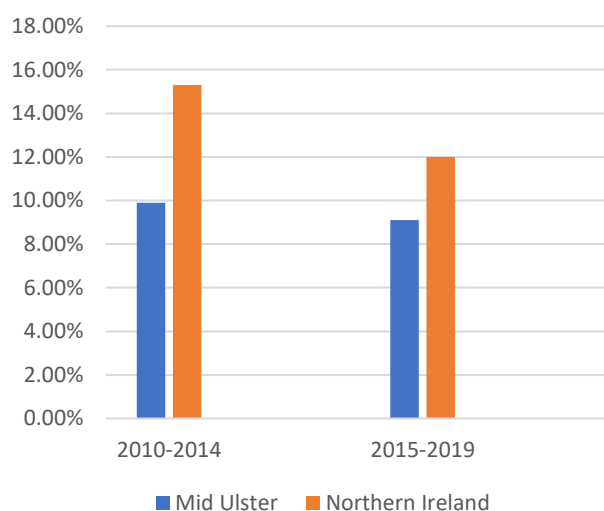
**Lead: Northern Regional College**

### Indicators

% of Persons in Employment, aged 16+ by Qualification Level in Mid Ulster



NEET rate Age 16-24



### What are we doing?

6. Marketing/branding of Colleges as a positive alternative to academic pathways through:
  - Open Day/taster days for schools (similar to University open days)
  - Awareness raising with parents on 'appropriate pathways'.
  - Awareness raising for post 18/A-level pathway (positive alternative to University degree)
7. Apprenticeship programmes with co schooling for Year 11's - formalised link between schools and colleges with potential to deliver courses jointly leading to higher level frameworks.
8. Engage with the Skills Forum to identify flexible apprenticeships and engage schools and colleges with businesses to offer on-site visits, skills days and opportunities for young people to engage with maximise impact (coordinated approach)

#### Additional Sub-actions

9. Develop a minimum of 4 HLA Frameworks for offer in the Mid Ulster region
10. Increase business engagement in the Higher Level Apprenticeship frameworks for the development of Level 4 and 5 industrial skills.

## Progress

### How much did we do?

All awareness events have been held online due to the social distancing restrictions in place during the pandemic.

During the past 6 months, NRC has held the following engagement events to raise awareness of opportunities in the College:

- Online Open Day – 1 March - online.
- Online Apprenticeship Event – 26 April – online.
- HE Subject Information Session Sessions – w/b 1 June - on-campus (registration only).
- FE Subject Information Session Sessions – w/b 7 June – on-campus (registration only).
- Higher Education Webinar – 10 and 11 August (11am & 2pm) – streamed online.
- Higher Education/Part-time Advice Evening (2 September: 4pm-6pm) – on-campus event.

All awareness events have been held online due to the social distancing restrictions in place during the pandemic.

As above

- Online Open Day – 1 March - online.
- Online Apprenticeship Event – 26 April – online.
- HE Subject Information Session Sessions – w/b 1 June - on-campus (registration only).
- FE Subject Information Session Sessions – w/b 7 June – on-campus (registration only).
- Higher Education Webinar – 10 and 11 August (11am & 2pm) – streamed online.
- Higher Education/Part-time Advice Evening (2 September: 4pm-6pm) – on-campus event.
- Number of Traineeship programmes with co schooling for Year 11's –
- None

### How well did we do it?

Attendance levels not available from 2019

- % increase in young people accessing apprenticeships (HLA) - 0
- 2019/20 retention rate was 91%

- Develop and offer Higher Level Apprenticeship frameworks across a range of industrial sectors
- The HLA programme for Magherafelt campus is currently being considered as part of our overall curriculum strategy. We have an ambition to grow our HLA provision in the region, with a particular focus on engineering and construction and will also explore potential for Logistics and Supply Chain.
- Skills Forum active plan delivery

## Is Anyone Better Off

0.8% reduction in NEETs from 2010-2014 to 2015-2019 in Mid Ulster

## Update

### **Marketing/branding of Colleges as a positive alternative to academic pathways through:**

- **Open Day/taster days for schools (similar to University open days)**
- **Awareness raising with parents on 'appropriate pathways'.**
- **Awareness raising for post 18/A-level pathway (positive alternative to University degree)**

Please note that events are only one element of our marketing strategy to increase brand awareness and actively engage with key stakeholders and their influencers. During the year, the College runs comprehensive targeted advertising campaigns as well as a programme of activity aligned with recruitment cycles for each course type such as media relations, social media, email, website, digital advertising, publications, branding and targeted direct mail to promote all course provision and increase applications and enrolments at the College.

### **Apprenticeships programmes with co schooling for Year 11's - formalised link between schools and colleges with potential to deliver courses jointly leading to higher level frameworks.**

We don't deliver apprenticeships in a co school model.

### **Engage with the Skills Forum to identify flexible apprenticeships and engage schools and colleges with businesses to offer on-site visits, skills days and opportunities for young people to engage with maximise impact (coordinated approach)**

**Lead Partner: North Regional College & South West College**

This has been difficult during the pandemic, however we are hoping to return to face to face open events in February and local businesses will be invited to participate.

### **Additional Sub-actions**

#### **Develop a minimum of 4 HLA Frameworks for offer in the Mid Ulster region**

As above, as part of our curriculum strategy for 2021-24 we are considering the demand for HLA provision at our Magherafelt campus in the areas of construction, engineering, logistics and supply chain.

#### **Increase business engagement in the Higher Level Apprenticeship frameworks for the development of Level 4 and 5 industrial skills.**

As above

#### **Actions with Delayed Development**

Currently we have 148 apprentices placed with Mid-Ulster employers in the College. The bulk of this provision is at levels 2/3 and we have ambitions to significantly grow provision at Level 4+. This objective will be built into our new curriculum strategy (2021-24), our estates plans for the next ten-year period and our ongoing employer engagement strategy.

#### **Reason why Action has not commenced**

The College held a staff engagement workshop to focus on the provision offered in Magherafelt on 28 September to progress a Capital Development Programme for the Magherafelt campus in line with the drivers in the 10x strategy including those specific to the Mid Ulster Council Area such as Advanced Manufacturing. This will be a 10-year strategic capital development programme. The College has appointed a Business Engagement Officer for the Magherafelt campus and the post holder has already begun to engage with MEGA with a view to supporting the College curriculum team broaden the apprenticeship offering in response to local needs.

## **Strategic Action: School based mental health support programmes to improve the resilience of children and young people**

**Lead: MUDC**

### **Indicators**

To be agreed

### **What are we doing?**

Develop a Schools for Hope model for children and young people to develop resilience and address early mental health issues through a partnership schools approach. The model will be developed with the University of Ulster through assessment of current practice in schools and models of good practice from other regions.

#### **Schools for Hope Model Research**

Undertake research on a Schools for Hope model assessing current practice in schools and models of good practice from other regions – lead UU

#### **Training on Schools for Hope Model**

Deliver capacity training sessions and engagement with wider Mid Ulster Schools areas across the post primary and primary schools. Teachers will be trained in the delivery of the Schools for Hope Model.

#### **Pilot project with young people**

Deliver a cross community pilot Schools for Hope programme with pupils from Royal School Dungannon and St Joseph's Grammar School Donaghmore young people.

#### **Conference**

Deliver a half day conference to share and engage on the Schools for Hope model across the Mid Ulster District education and schools sector.

#### **Schools for Hope Model Hub concept**

Complete a business plan for the potential development of a hub x 2 locations across Mid Ulster for the delivery of Schools for Hope initiatives including; Counselling, low intensity CBT, Hopeful minds ( whole school approach) building resilience and hope, Drugs and Alcohol awareness training, Diet and Nutrition, Exercise and Fitness, Complimentary Therapies, Therapies (Psychotherapy, Child and Adolescent play/art therapy, Parent and Counselling

support, and Programmes (Mindfulness, resilience, Intergenerational engagement, REACH, Diana Model).

It is anticipated that the users of the Schools for Hope Hub would be:

- Anyone under the age of 21 attending school or college within the Dungannon and Cookstown areas (for Magherafelt Hub the Magherafelt and wider area)
- Parents/guardians of children in the area who are dealing with challenging situations
- Teachers; to support them to deal with issues that are impacting on the health and wellbeing of young people and children
- Board of Governors providing leadership to our schools
- Schools in general regarding capacity building to deliver resilience programmes

## Progress

### How much did we do?

Approx.. 250 young people registered to participate in programme

215 young people participate on online event

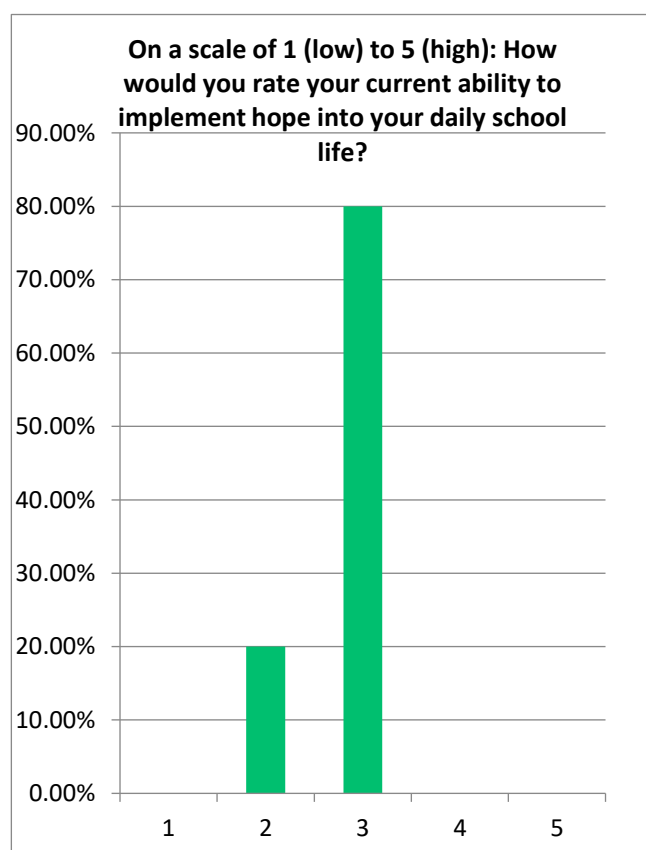
12 approx. per ALP workshop

100 teaching and 40 non-teaching staff benefitted from Trauma Informed Schools pre-recording sessions

approx. 100 people attended the virtual Schools for Hope Conference

9 schools participated in Hopeful Minds Training

### How well did we do it?



## Is Anyone Better Of

Programme is still ongoing

## Update

The current climate and pressures faced in education due to Covid-19 – school closures, home schooling, and blended learning has the potential to impact seriously on the mental wellbeing of teachers, school staff and pupils alike. From that perspective, Schools for Hope has been timely and more needed than ever and the provision of pre-recorded materials has provided valuable resources for schools to avail of in their own time.

The Schools for Hope conference took place virtually, in line with restrictions in place at that time. Schools worked together on their joint planning sessions for Module 2 of Hopeful Minds (capacity building) and the second module of Hopeful Minds training took place 08 June (virtually). It is planned to deliver Hopeful Minds training for a second cohort in the Autumn 2021 before the end of the project. The conference was an opportunity to share and showcase the learning from the programme. With contributions from the Minister for Education and the Mental Health Champion, it was an excellent opportunity to share the activities undertaken by the various aspects of the programme and how these can benefit schools and the wider Mid Ulster community. Feedback was very positive, with enquiries from other schools and mental health stakeholders on how they could develop similar interventions. Hopeful Minds training has been well received, with schools expressing positive feedback for delivery and engagement.

## Health & Wellbeing

**Outcome: We are better enabled to live longer healthier and more active lives**

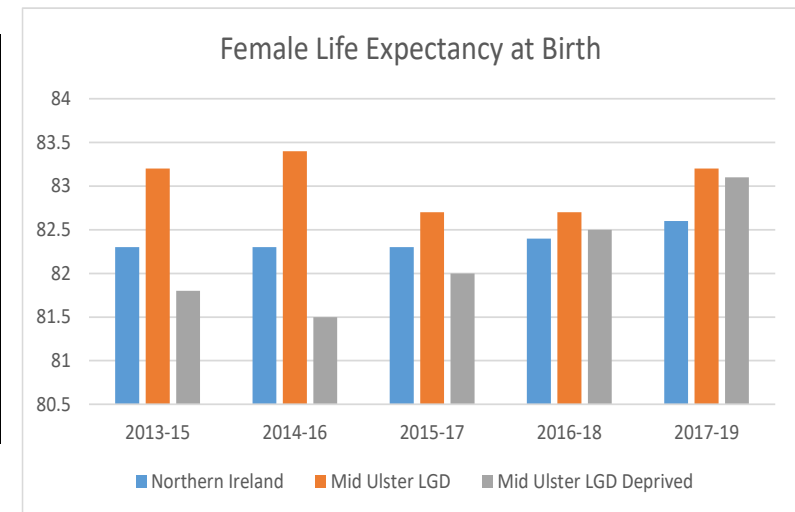
**Outcome: We have better availability to the right service, in the right place at the right time**

**Outcome: We care more for those most vulnerable and in need**

### Female Life Expectancy at Birth

Source: Department for Health

Years	Baseline Year 1 2013-15	Baseline Year 2 2014-16	Baseline Year 3 2015-17	2016-18	2017-19	Trend Analysis
Northern Ireland	82.3	82.3	82.3	82.4	82.6	Positive Change
Mid Ulster LGD	83.2	83.4	82.7	82.7	83.2	No Change
Mid Ulster LGD Deprived	81.8	81.5	82.0	82.5	83.1	Positive Change
Mid Ulster LGD-NI Gap	-0.9	-1.1	-0.3	-0.3	-0.6	Narrowed
Mid Ulster LGD Deprivation Gap	1.5	1.9	0.6	0.2	0.1	Narrowed

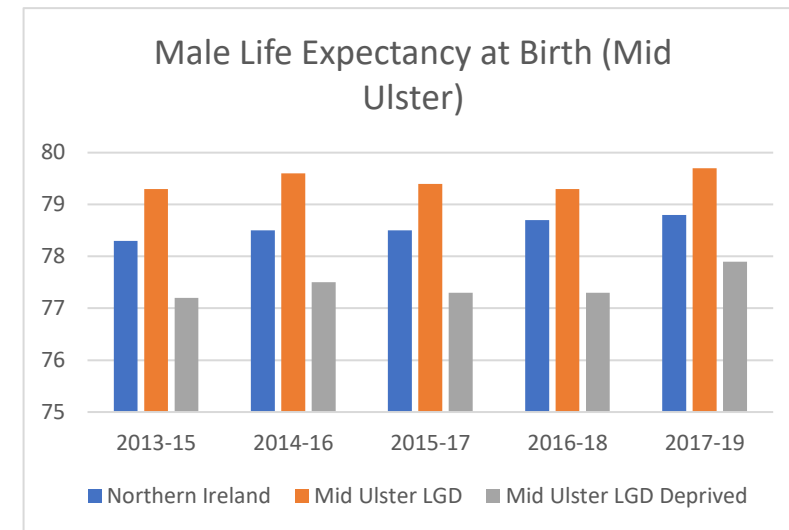




## Male Life Expectancy at Birth

Source: Department for Health

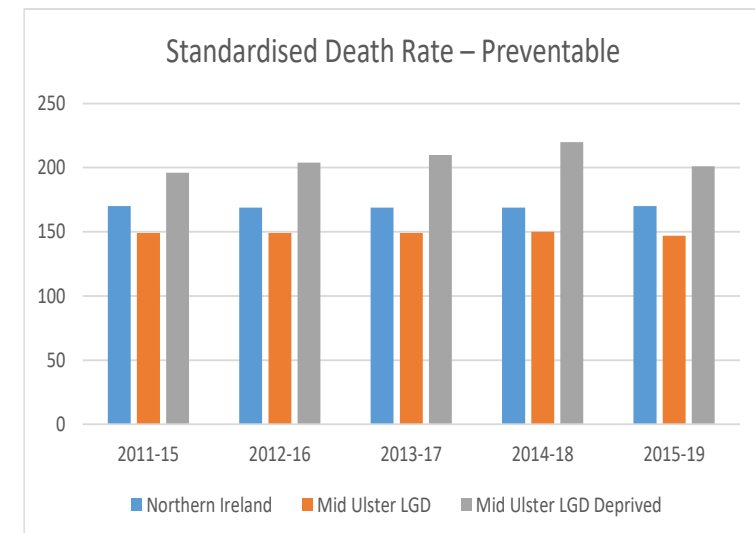
Years	Baseline Year 1 2013-15	Baseline Year 2 2014-16	Baseline Year 3 2015-17	2016-18	2017-19	Trend Analysis
Northern Ireland	78.3	78.5	78.5	78.7	78.8	Positive Change
Mid Ulster LGD	79.3	79.6	79.4	79.3	79.7	No Change
Mid Ulster LGD Deprived	77.2	77.5	77.3	77.3	77.9	Positive Change
Mid Ulster LGD-NI Gap	-1.0	-1.0	-0.9	-0.6	-0.9	No Change
Mid Ulster LGD Deprivation Gap	2.0	2.1	2.0	2.0	1.8	Narrowed



## Standardised Death Rate – Preventable

Source: Department for Health

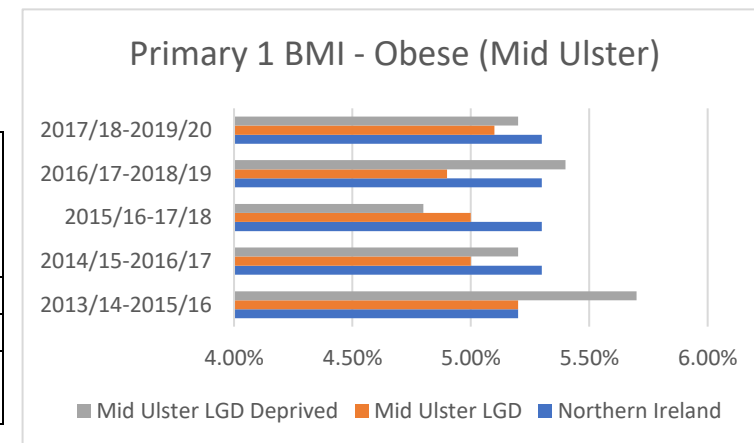
Deaths per 100,000 population	Baseline Year 1 2011-15	Baseline Year 2 2012-16	Baseline Year 3 2013-17	2014-18	2015-19	Trend Analysis
Northern Ireland	170	169	169	169	170	No Change
Mid Ulster LGD	149	149	149	150	147	No Change
Mid Ulster LGD Deprived	196	204	210	220	201	Negative Change
Mid Ulster LGD-NI Gap	-12%	-12%	-12%	-11%	-14%	No Change
Mid Ulster LGD Deprivation Gap	31%	37%	41%	46%	37%	Widened



### Primary 1 BMI: Obese

Source: Department for Health

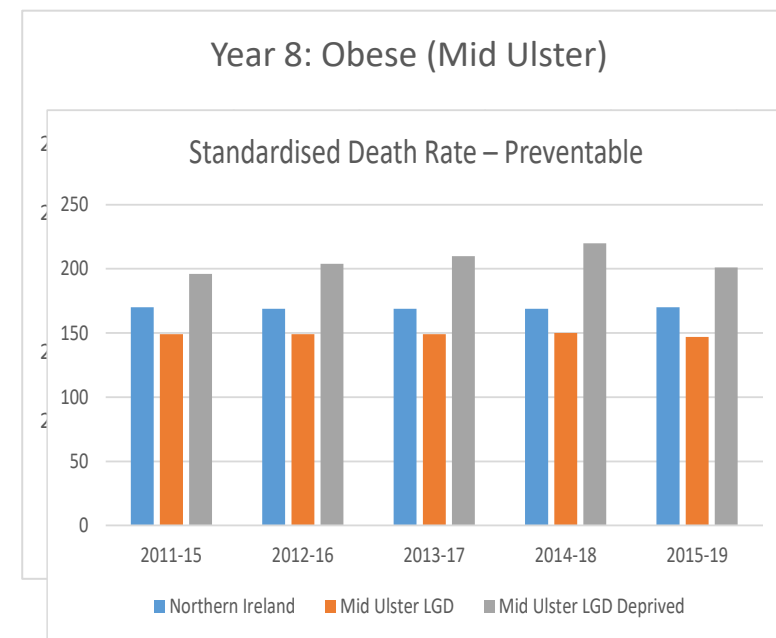
Proportion of Pupils (%)	Baseline Year 1 2013/14-2015/16	Baseline Year 2 2014/15-2016/17	Baseline Year 3 2015/16-17/18	2016/17-2018/19	2017/18-2019/20	Trend Analysis
Northern Ireland	5.2%	5.3%	5.3%	5.3%	5.3%	No Change
Mid Ulster LGD	5.2%	5.0%	5.0%	4.9%	5.1%	No Change
Mid Ulster LGD Deprived	5.7%	5.2%	4.8%	5.4%	5.2%	No Change



### Year 8 BMI: Obese

Source: Department for Health

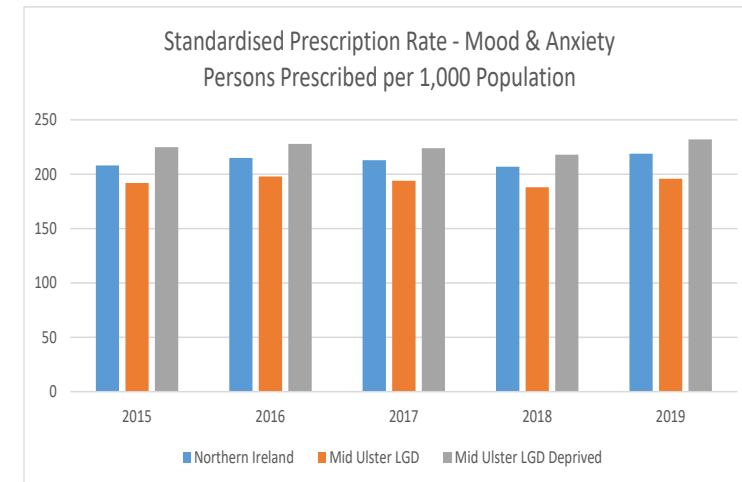
Proportion of Pupils (%)	Baseline Year 1 2013/14-2015/16	Baseline Year 2 2014/15-2016/17	Baseline Year 3 2015/16-17/18	2016/17-2018/19	2017/18-2019/20	Trend Analysis
Northern Ireland	7.1%	7.0%	6.7%	6.4%	5.9%	
Mid Ulster LGD	6.5%	6.9%	7.1%	6.7%	5.9%	No Change
Mid Ulster LGD Deprived	5.7%	6.5%	6.7%	7.6%	6.8%	No Change



### Standardised Prescription Rate - Mood & Anxiety

Source: Department for Health

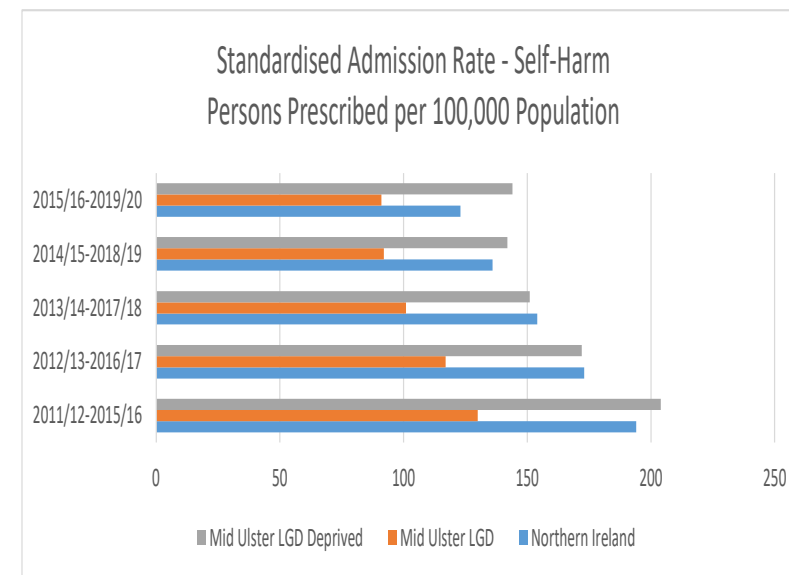
Persons Prescribed per 1,000 population	Baseline Year 1 2015	Baseline Year 2 2016	Baseline Year 3 2017	2018	2019	Trend Analysis
Northern Ireland	208	215	213	207	219	Negative Change
Mid Ulster LGD	192	198	194	188	196	Negative Change
Mid Ulster LGD Deprived	225	228	224	218	232	Negative Change
Mid Ulster LGD-NI Gap	-8%	-8%	-9%	-9%	-11%	No Change
Mid Ulster LGD Deprivation Gap	17%	15%	16%	16%	19%	No Change



### Standardised Admission Rate - Self-Harm

Source: Department for Health

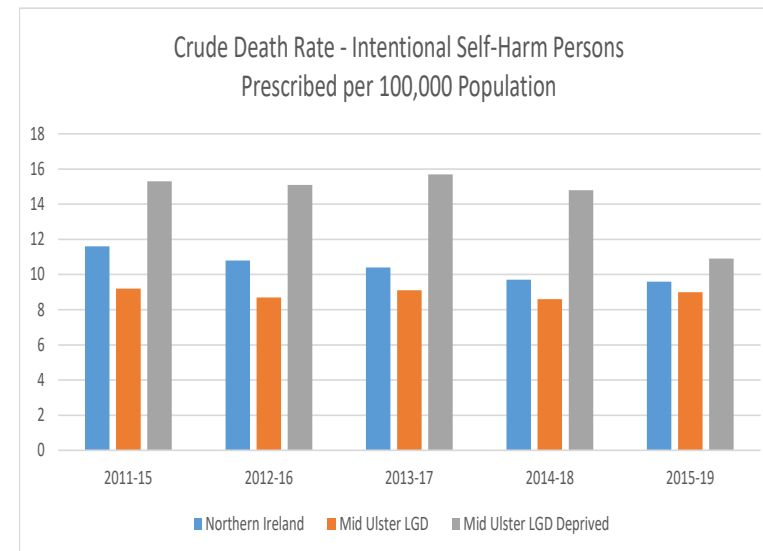
Admissions per 100,000 population	Baseline Year 1 2011/12-2015/16	Baseline Year 2 2012/13-2016/17	Baseline Year 3 2013/14-2017/18	2014/15-2018/19	2015/16-2019/20	Trend Analysis
Northern Ireland	194	173	154	136	123	Positive Change
Mid Ulster LGD	130	117	101	92	91	Positive Change
Mid Ulster LGD Deprived	204	172	151	142	144	Positive Change
Mid Ulster LGD-NI Gap	-33%	-32%	-34%	-33%	-26%	Narrowed
Mid Ulster LGD Deprivation Gap	57%	47%	49%	54%	59%	No Change



## Crude Death Rate - Intentional Self-Harm

Source: Department for Health

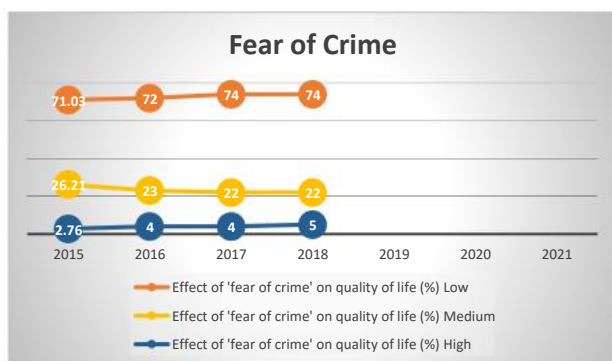
Deaths per 100,000 population	Baseline Year 1 2011-15	Baseline Year 2 2012-16	Baseline Year 3 2013-17	2014-18	2015-19	Trend Analysis
Northern Ireland	11.6	10.8	10.4	9.7	9.6	Positive Change
Mid Ulster LGD	9.2	8.7	9.1	8.6	9.0	No Change
Mid Ulster LGD Deprived	15.3	15.1	15.7	14.8	10.9	Positive Change
Mid Ulster LGD-NI Gap	-20%	-19%	-13%	-12%	-6%	Narrowed
Mid Ulster LGD Deprivation Gap	65%	74%	74%	73%	20%	Narrowed



## Strategic Action: An 'Ageing Well' initiative

Lead: MUDC

### Indicators



Other indicators to be identified through Ageing Friendly programme

### What are we doing?

Ageing Well Contract to commence for Phase 1 of model:

- Good Morning Telephone Calls – telephone support scheme, which allows for contact with older people to allow them to remain independent at home and includes progression planning and links to the Every Contact Count initiative.
- Handyvan Service – to support older people to remain in their homes by completing all necessary maintenance jobs.
- Promotion of Health and Wellbeing messages.
- Signposting and integration of partner services and receiving referrals from Partners.

Data capture method developed for the Ageing Well service to demonstrate outputs and outcomes.

### Phase 2: Ageing Well Vision

- Development of further Ageing Well Actions including 'Making Every Contact Count' and Age friendly Society.

## Progress

### How much did we do? (How will we measure success)

The number of clients receiving Good morning calls have increased from 775 in Oct 2019 to 961 at the end of September 2021. During this time period the daily calls have increased from approx. 484 per day to 670 per day

Between Oct 19 and end of August 21 1476 Handyvan visits were carried out

538 referrals addressed

First Point of Contact initiative in place through the contract with two way referral pathways in place.

### How well did we do it? (What will success look like)

The percentage of clients progressing from high dependency to low dependency or from low to independence ranged from 1%-8%

1476 handyvan measures were carried out including installation of key safes increasing safety measures within older people's homes.

Increased multi agency delivery

### Is Anyone Better Off?

Increase in the number of older people living independently

Level of reduction in fear of crime and isolation

### Update

#### Ageing Well Contract to commence for Phase 1 of model:

- **Good Morning Telephone Calls, Handyvan Service, Promotion of Health and Wellbeing messages, signposting and integration of partner services and receiving referrals from Partners.**
- **Data capture method developed for the Ageing Well service to demonstrate outputs and outcomes.**

	Between Oct 19 & august 21
Good morning calls to 1000 clients p.a	961
400 calls per day	670
Handyvan service	1476

#### Phase 2: Ageing Well Vision

Development of further Ageing Well Actions including 'Making Every Contact Count' and Age friendly Society.

The Age Friendly co-ordinator post has been put in place through funding from the PHA. Work is ongoing through inter-departmental groups across Mid Ulster District Council and communications are being established with the V&C sector and other statutory agencies. Work is being progressed to put in place an Age friendly Alliance and prepare with partners a 3-year plan in line with an application to gain WHO Age friendly status.

### **Actions with Delayed Development**

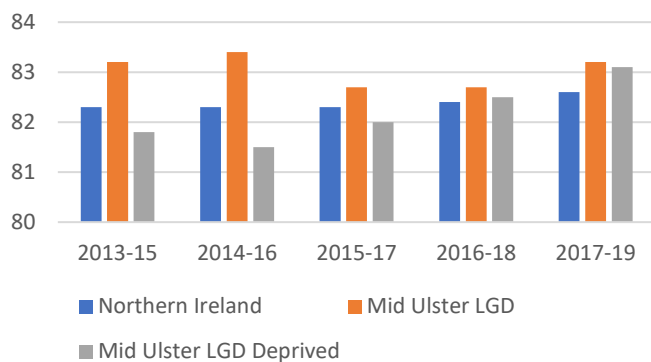
Covid -19 impacted greatly on the handyvan service as regulations and guidance did not permit inside domestic visits and non-essential travel. Some of the clients and their relatives were also anxious about the relaxation of covid regulations and were reluctant to have works carried out. Due to lock down and isolation from others, the number of Good morning calls greatly increased.

**Strategic Action: A 'Healthy for Life' strategy, team and portal; coordinating all health initiatives, programmes and literature available in the District**

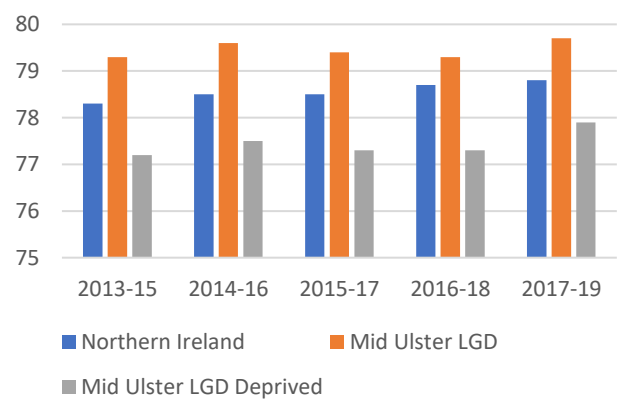
**Lead: NHSCT**

### Indicators

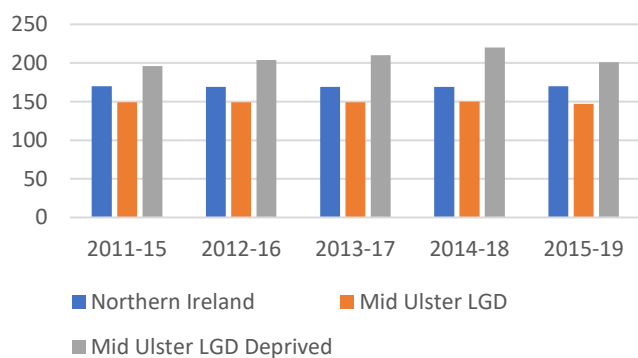
Female Life Expectancy at Birth



Male Life Expectancy at Birth



Standardised Death Rate – Preventable





## What are we doing?

**Phase 1:** Develop a shared Healthy for Life strategy to include:

- Mapping exercise of all current 'Healthy Living' Initiatives and programmes. Identify areas of focus i.e. target groups etc.
- Partners to agree a Vision document and commit to an information sharing agreement
- Refreshed data analysis of key health issues in Mid Ulster. Arrange workshop with statisticians from PHA / NISRA to look at data capture.
- Analysis of current provision meeting current health issues.
- Proposed 'Shared Working' Strategy to include shared work linkages (regular cross partner team meetings, potential for co-location).

**Phase 2:** First 'Shared Working' arrangements piloted

## Progress

### How much did we do?

See NHSCT Report Cards

### How well did we do it?

See NHSCT Report Cards

### Is Anyone Better Off?

See NHSCT Report Cards

## Update

### Healthy Workplaces

The Healthy Workplaces meetings have taken place via zoom over the last year. Linking with small business to promote a healthy working environment looking at the health and well being needs of staff.

Linked with Herons Draperstown. Other businesses to be identified. Staff changes and capacity have slowed progress with this group.

### Healthy Eating

The healthy eating group has continued to meet throughout the last year. The attached OBA's provide some of outcomes of the slow cooker work which links in with the poverty plan. Slow cooker programmes have been rolled out with young people and families through Belfast Central Mission, Foodbanks in collaborating with the Make a change programme and also through

identifying individuals in the community and voluntary sector groups through the loneliness network



OBA MUDC slowcooker-loneliness network 18.06.21.zip

### Health Literacy

The Health literacy group has met through out the year . Focus has been on facilitating on groups with individuals at risk of limited health literacy taking their thoughts and opinions to develop and pilot some resources to support them in getting the best out of health or care consultations and conversations . This is a continuation of the development of the health literacy logo and strapline 'Take Time to Ask - Make time to listen'

These resources are currently in the process of being piloted in the Mid ulster area through Pharmacies and other groups .

10 I pads were purchased and distributed throughout the Mid ulster area to promote good health literacy within the pharmacy setting and local community. This work is not complete and evaluation will follow



Health Literacy OBA Report Card - March 2021.zip



Health Literacy OBA  
Report Card - March .

### Healthy Gathering Places

This group has not progressed as it was agreed that it would fit amalgamate with the recreational and active lifestyles group

### Mid Ulster Loneliness network

The loneliness network launched in August 2020. The attached flier has been made available and provides the aims and objectives of the network and some of the work to date . Many new connections have been made through the network. There are now 53 members representing community, voluntary and stat organisations and 13 members on the steering group.

The Loneliness network has been used as vehicle to take forward projects within the community such as the slow cooker programme with the council and the Falls prevention work with Agewell .(see attached OBA) The steering group and loneliness network meet quarterly.



muln flyer final pdf.zip



Older People Report  
Card - 2021.pdf

## Introduction



### Mid Ulster District Council

## Slow Cooker Initiative – Healthier Eating on a Budget



As a result of learning from the Shielding Service and to further support the needs of vulnerable households during the Covid-19 pandemic Mid Ulster District Council's Healthy Eating Sub Group of the Health and Wellbeing Thematic Group and the Northern Healthy Lifestyles Partnership developed a proposal for those households accessing the 11 local Foodbank services. This was kindly supported by Mid Ulster Tesco's Community Champions with the aim of providing a more sustainable, longer term option for those availing of Foodbank services, to make nutritious meals on a budget.

In total fifty five slow cooker starter kits were offered to households availing of Foodbank services and included; a slow cooker, recipe book, store cupboard food items, Tesco £10 voucher (cannot be used on alcohol and cigarettes) and a Northern Healthy Lifestyle reusable shopping bag.

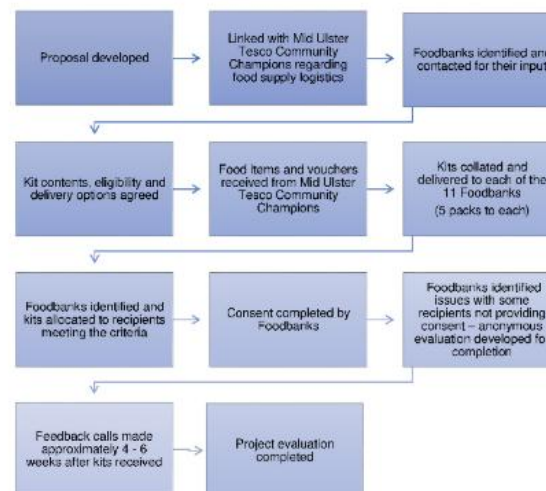
Foodbanks identified households based on the following criteria;

- Did not currently have a slow cooker
- Were struggling to make nutritious, hot meals on a low budget
- Were interested in learning to cook healthy, affordable food

Once a household was confirmed as eligible, Foodbanks issued the kits and completed consent for the recipient to be contacted by Mid Ulster District Council in 4 - 6 weeks for the purposes of providing feedback. Some recipients were not comfortable with being contacted in this way so an anonymous evaluation was developed which the Foodbank asked the recipient to complete.

All fifty five starter kits were issued between 8 July and 4 December 2020. Initially Foodbanks were asked to issue the starter kits to households within 2 weeks, however, this period was extended as those accessing a Foodbank do not tend to require assistance every week.

## How much did we do?



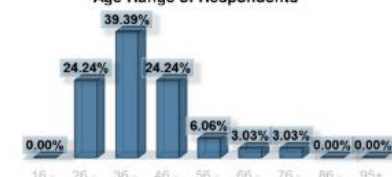
55 slow cooker kits were distributed through 11 Foodbanks

Feedback received from 34 recipients

Closest large town to recipients:  
20 households - Dungannon  
15 households - Cookstown  
20 households - Magherafelt

80% were allocated to families with children under 18  
24% to single parent families  
24% families with children over 18

### Age Range of Respondents



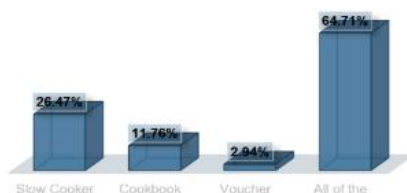
## How well did we do?

### Interest in additional support

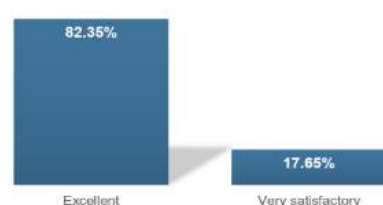


All items within the slow cooker starter kit were highlighted as being useful including; the slow cooker, recipe book and voucher

### Most liked slow cooker kit item

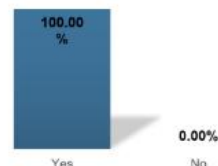


### Flavour of meals made from recipe book

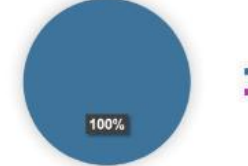


## Is anyone better off?

### Have you used the slow cooker?



### Would you recommend to other families?



100% reported that they used the cooker, found it easy to use, will continue to use it and would recommend this programme to other families.

94% of the respondents reported using the recipe book, with 97% stating they found it easy to use. Some even reported using the book with their children and involving them in meal preparation.

'Kids loved helping with recipes'  
'Kids have never eaten as well, normally chicken nuggets'

Within the comments there were multiple references to confidence building as a result of receiving the packs:

'This is a very kind gesture and will give people more confidence when cooking meals'  
'I have very low self-esteem would like any help I can so I can get confident cooking for kids. I love the slow cooker so easy to use and clean.'

'I was under so much pressure the week I got it the voucher was of most interest as it took pressure off, but long term the slow cooker is the best part'

'Without the recipe book I would have struggled to use the cooker'

'People want a hand up not a hand out'

'I was scared at first it would be expensive to run but it's so cheap!'



# Overview

## Mid Ulster Community Planning Partnership Slow Cooker Initiative Young Peoples Slow Cooker Programme

### Background

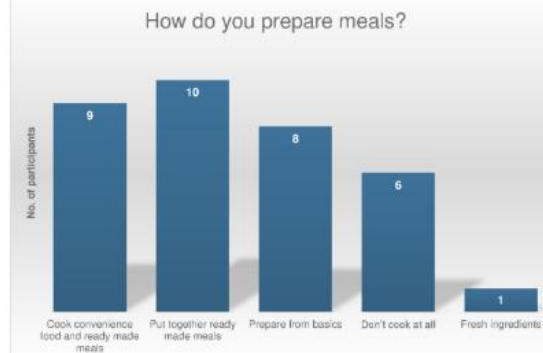
The Mid Ulster District Councils Healthy Eating Sub Group of the Health and Wellbeing Thematic Group has rolled out several slow cooker programmes within the District. It was recognised by the group that young single parents and young people had not been given an opportunity to take up this programme. Through the Mid Ulster Loneliness Network, Belfast Central Mission identified 27 young people who were either single parents, single people or young couples to partake in the programme which would improve their skills in cooking nutritional meals on a budget during COVID.

The aims of the slow cooker programme were to;

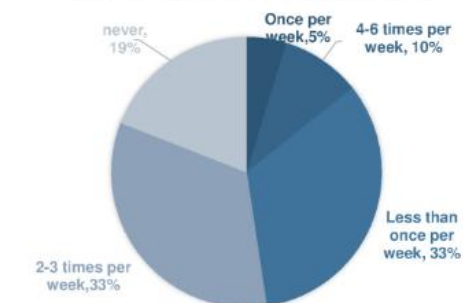
- Provide healthy eating choices improving nutritional awareness for themselves and their families
- Improve budgeting skills for the young people especially with the financial pressures forced on them by COVID
- Promote batch cooking
- Improve living skills in young people
- Promote social interaction with their mentor either via zoom or face to face

Each of the young people, were given a pack which consisted of a slow cooker, recipe book and a £10 Tesco voucher (used for food only). The young people consented to completing an evaluation of the programme. The programme started in February 2021-March 2021.

### Need Identified



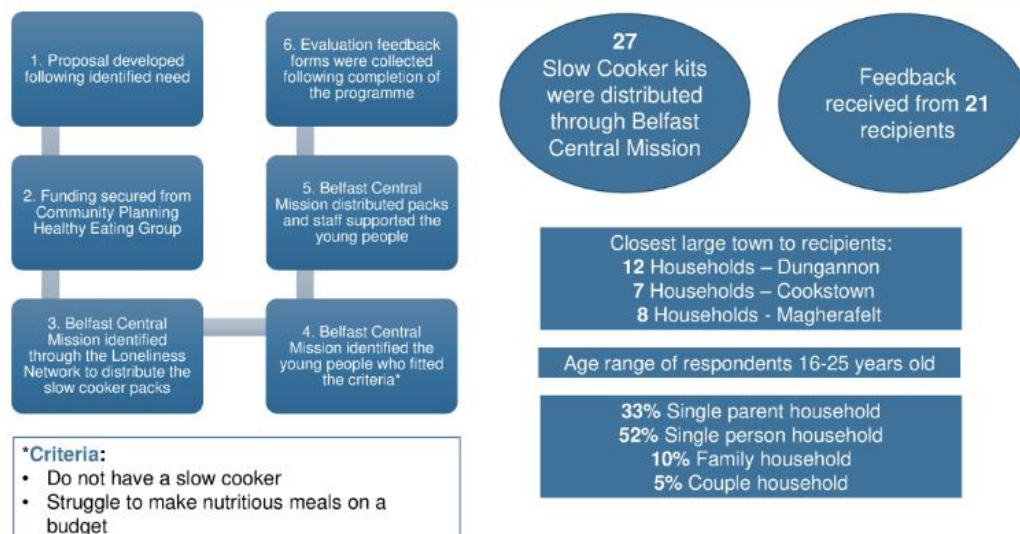
### HOW OFTEN DO YOU PREPARE AND COOK A MEAL FROM BASIC INGREDIENTS



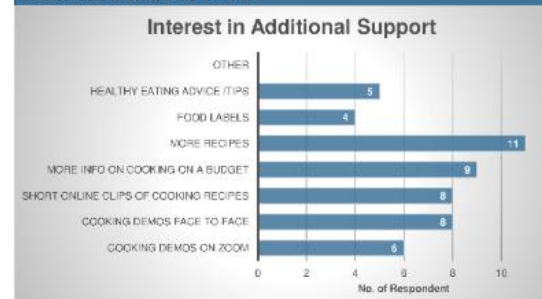
45% said they cook convenience food and ready made meals  
50% put together ready meals  
40% prepare from basics  
30% said they didn't cook at all  
5% said they cooked with fresh ingredients

More than half of the participants did not prepare and cook meals using basic ingredients prior to the slow cooker programme and the others did it infrequently

### How much did we do?

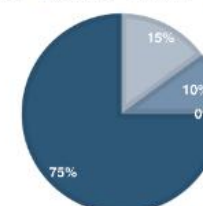


### How well did we do it?



### MOST POPULAR ITEM IN SLOW COOKER PACK

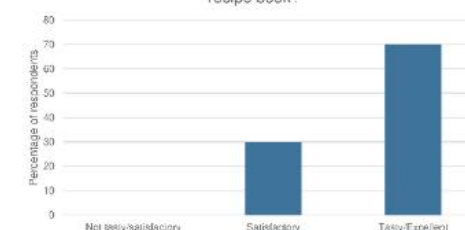
■ Slow cooker ■ cookbook ■ Voucher ■ All of the above



95%\* of participants found the slow cooker easy to use

\*1 participant did not have time to use the pack

How would you rate the flavour of meals from the recipe book?



## Is anyone better off?

100% of participants  
stated they would  
**continue to use** the  
slow cooker to prepare  
meals

95% of participants  
stated they would  
**recommend** the slow  
cooker programme to  
others

"I liked the cook book, simple steps to follow not too much information to follow shocked by how tasty the food was and felt safe using it."

"I can cook better now for less money. I am saving a lot on takeaways because I have been shown how to batch cook which really takes the pressure off."

"I can use the slow cooker, its really easy when you are shown. I put food in to it in the morning and when I came home from work there is something tasty to eat which is great. My friends are impressed."

"I couldn't do anything but now I can cook stew and it is really nice. It lasts a few days and I can freeze stuff. I really liked making curry and I can cook boiled ham."

"I really enjoyed using the recipes making good food for my children."

"The slow cooker has helped me develop my cooking skills and I am very thankful!"

"I don't have a cooker at the moment so it was great for us to have a home cooked meal."

## Introduction

In response to the needs of vulnerable households during the COVID-19 pandemic Mid Ulster District Council - Healthy Eating Thematic group and the Northern Healthy Lifestyles Partnership developed a proposal to offer additional support to individuals identified through the Loneliness Network. This initiative provides participants with a slow cooker starter kit which includes the basic items to enable the use of a slow cooker to be experienced and embedded within the home. Support and encouragement is provided through regular and timely phone calls / contact which also allows further guidance and reassurance to be offered. The primary benefit of the initiative is improved knowledge and skills to create nutritious and healthy meals on a low budget resulting in a sustained lifestyle change.

The packs consisted of a slow cooker, a recipe book and a £10 Tesco food voucher.

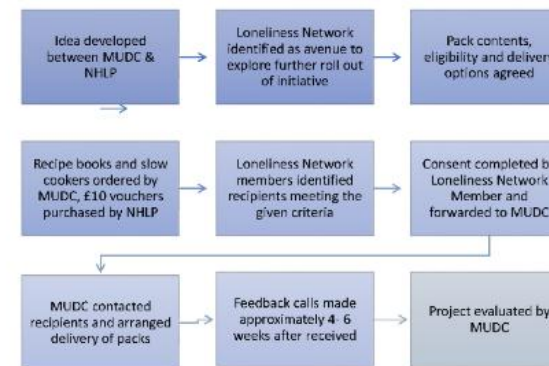
Loneliness Network members identified recipients who met the following criteria and were interested in participating in this programme:

- Are over 50 years
- Do not currently have a slow cooker
- Are struggling to make nutritious, hot meals on a low budget
- Are interested in learning to cook healthy, affordable food
- Interested in batch cooking

Once a household was confirmed as eligible, Loneliness Network members completed consent for the recipient to be contacted by Mid Ulster District Council to arrange delivery of the pack and for the purposes of providing feedback on the slow cooker programme. Some recipients preferred to remain anonymous so packs were provided to the Loneliness Network requesting member and delivered to recipients by them, anonymous evaluation was completed via survey monkey.

25 Packs have been issued by Mid Ulster District Council Make a Change Officers, 3 packs remain in uor possession that have been requested by an organisation.

## How much did we do?



28 slow cooker kits were delivered through Loneliness Network

feedback from 19 recipients

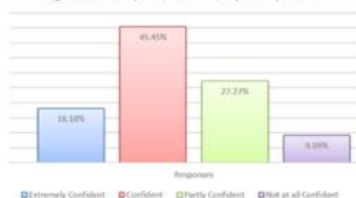
84% were allocated Single person households  
5% to Couple households  
5% Single parent households  
5% Families with children under 18

### Age Split of Respondents

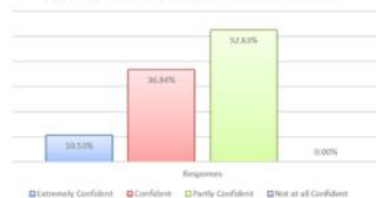


## How well did we do?

### Confidence rating cooking from basic ingredients prior to receipt of pack



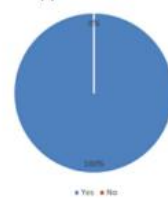
### Confidence rating cooking from basic ingredients following receipt of pack



### Interest in additional support

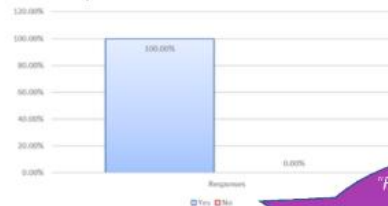


### Would you recommend this slow cooker support to others?



## Is anyone better off?

### Will you continue to use the slow cooker?



All bar one recipient has used their slow cooker but they offered this explanation as to why: 'Currently living in temporary accommodation with limited space, plan to use in our home when it is liveable.' Recipient was very grateful to receive the pack but current circumstance has impacted their ability to use it.

'Having recently had a heart attack I'm more conscious of what I eat, I can put ingredients in this in the morning and know I have a healthy meal waiting for me when I get home rather than being tempted to buy something 'fast' on way home'

'For someone living alone I couldn't recommend it enough. I batch cook with it so on days I don't feel like cooking I can still have something nutritious as it's already in the freezer.'

'Slow cooker was a welcome change from eating sandwiches, ready meals and take away food as limited with the ability to cook in a mobile home.'

'My cooker broke and I couldn't afford to replace it, this had made such a difference to me. I really appreciate it and the support so much, thank you!'

'I am delighted to receive the slow cooker, my carer helped me use it the first time, the stew was lovely, I find it easy to clean and light to lift as I have arthritis in my hands.'



## Overview

### Introduction

"Health Literacy is about people having the knowledge, skills, understanding and confidence they need to be able to use health and care information and services" (NHSCT service users, 2019).

Low levels of health literacy are associated with poorer access to health services, poorer communication with healthcare professionals, lower adherence to treatment and poorer self management of medical conditions. Improving health literacy could contribute to reducing health inequalities, strengthening health and improving health care efficiency.



### Aims of the service

- To raise awareness of health literacy and it's importance in addressing health inequalities in the northern area
- Use a co-production approach to support our communities to understand and develop their own health literacy
- Co-produce health promoting messages for individuals to prevent ill-health
- Develop resources to support community and voluntary sector workers in the promotion of positive health messages
- Share health literacy work regionally to support better working together

### Delivery model

Facilitate a number of focus groups with individuals at risk of limited health literacy, taking their thoughts and opinions to develop and pilot some resources to support them in getting the best out of health or care consultations and conversations.

This is continuing on from the development of the health literacy logo and strapline 'Take time to ask, make time to listen' which was developed by service users who wanted people, like them to feel more confident to ask questions so they can better understand their health condition.

## How much did we do?



Service users said they would: encourage others to ask questions to improve their health literacy

### Draft Resource

Is it clear?  
Good idea or bad idea?  
Would you use it?  
Design / layout?  
Accessibility?

Take time to ask if you are not clear about health information you are given. Asking questions is a good way to understand your health. There is no such thing as a silly question.

When you are being given health information these questions can help:

- What is my main issue?
- What do I need to do?
- Why is it important I do this?

Other questions I would like to ask during my appointment:

Who do I call if I have questions after my appointment?

Developed and produced by the Northern Health and Social Care Trust Health and Wellbeing Team 2020

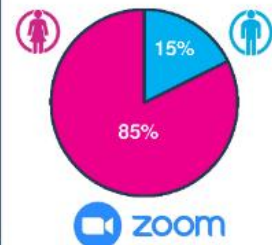
### Focus groups

3 Groups

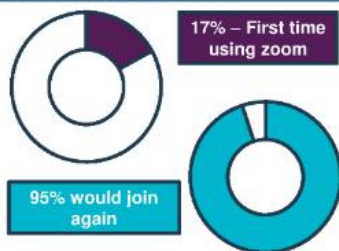
18 Participants

Mid Ulster Area

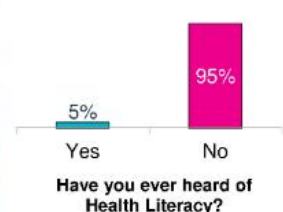
### Focus group participation



## How well did we do it?



### Awareness of health literacy



### Is it a good idea?

It's clear  
It's a good idea  
I'd use it

100%

It's simple, visual and easy to read

### Design



## Is anyone better off?



Service users need confidence to ask questions. This will help their understanding

Good health decisions

Health professionals need to take the time to listen and answer questions

Really important for service users to have a contact to follow-up with questions

Understanding your health

Asking questions is a good way to understand your health. These questions might help or you may have your own:

What is my main issue? What do I need to do? Why is it important I do this?

My notes:

Other questions I would like to ask:

My notes:

My notes:

My notes:

Important information:

Who do I call if I have questions after my appointment?

Developed and produced by the Northern Health and Social Care Trust Health and Wellbeing Team & Service Users 2021

### Access to resource



### Future resource ideas





# Overview

## Falls Prevention Packs

Falls and fall-related injuries are a common and serious problem for older people, especially those aged 65 and over who are at the highest risk of falling. With this in mind the Mid Ulster Health and Wellbeing Locality Team worked in conjunction with Mid Ulster Agewell to identify those in the area who either had a recent fall or who were at risk of falling.

In addition Agewell also identified that there were more falls in the Mid Ulster area during the pandemic due to isolating, restrictions, shielding and people therefore spending more time within the home environment.

As a result 60 packs were distributed to individuals who met the criteria in the Magherafelt and Cookstown areas. These packs were funded by the PHA as part of their falls prevention remit. Those who received them found the items useful and valuable feedback was provided.

How much did we do?

How much did we do?

Criteria for packs

- Those who had a fall
- Those who were identified at risk of falling

Distribution of packs

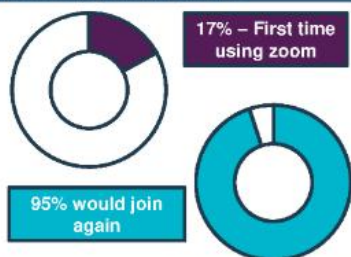
- 60 packs distributed to targeted clients through Mid Ulster Agewell



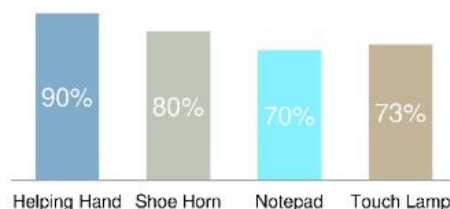
How well did we do it?

How well did we do it?

Is anyone better off?



When asked which items were of most use respondents answered:



Feedback quotes and suggestions for future packs:

- "Delighted to receive, brightened up my day during difficult times - thank you"
- "My shoe horn meant I could get my shoes on after months of walking with lack of shoes. Love my helping hand"
- "It was varied and well thought out. Information leaflet had useful and informative dietary advice. Touch lamp useful at bedside. Helping hand comes in very useful to pick items dropped"
- "Love the notebook for shopping, love all my items, love the picker upper as well. I am very happy with what I got thank you for everything"
- Suggestions for future packs included:
  - Magnifying glass
  - Aids to remove lids
  - Sunglasses
  - Suction grab bar

Understanding your health

a good way to understand your health. It helps you to have your own:

What do I need to do? Why is it important I do this?

What I would like to ask:

Questions after my appointment?

Access to resource

- Own supply
- Sent with appointment
- In reception / waiting areas

Future resource ideas

- Page focused on my results and what's next
- Consider learning disabilities
- Separate sheet for medication changes

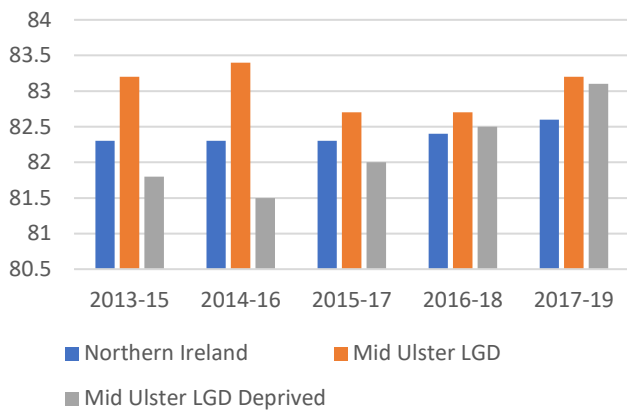


## Strategic Action: A Recreation and Active Lifestyle Plan which will provide formal and informal recreation and play opportunities

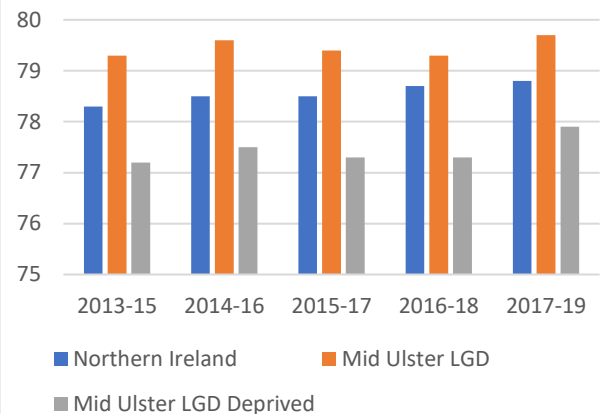
### Lead: MUDC

#### Indicators

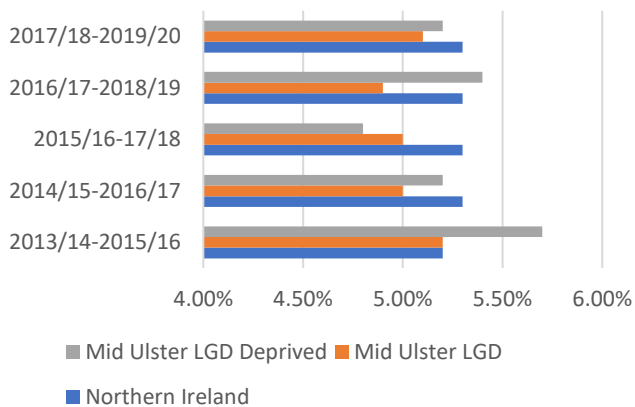
Female Life Expectancy at Birth



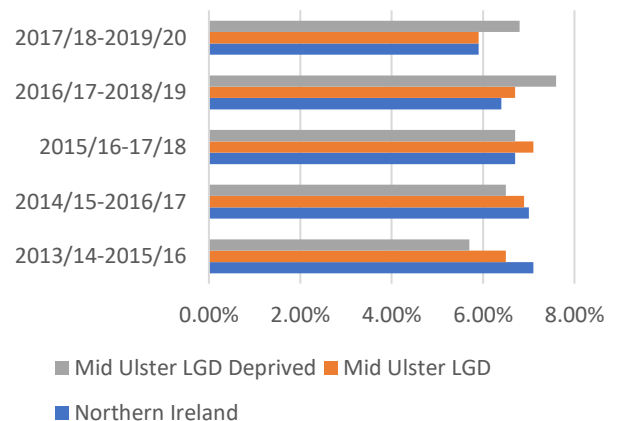
Male Life Expectancy at Birth



Primary 1 BMI - Obese



Year 8: Obese



## What are we doing?

**Phase 1:** Completion of the following:

1. Everybody Active Plan
2. Play Parks Strategy
3. Forest and Outdoor Recreation Strategy
4. Village Plans – recreation / active lifestyles
5. PHA Commissioning / Trusts – Activity Referral Plan, Physical Activity Improvement Plan

**Phase 2:** Creation of a cross partner working group (MUDC Leisure, Parks, Environmental Health, Community Development, Sport NI, Disability Sport NI, PHA's Northern & Sothern's Partnerships for Physical Activity)

**Phase 3:** Map all Partner recreation and activity programmes in Mid Ulster

Identify and develop plans for gaps in recreation across Mid Ulster

**Phase 4:** Recreation and Active Lifestyle Plan for Mid Ulster (Cross Partner Plan)

## Progress

### How much did we do?

Recreation and Lifestyle Plan delivery put on hold due to onset of covid pandemic in March 2020 and subsequent closure of facilities/lockdowns, etc. New pilot plan developed to consider the covid restrictions and pilot programme due for implementation in October 2021 with a target of approx. 1350 spaces available for new activity sessions between October 2021 – March 2022.

Play Parks Strategy approved by Council and funding allocated by Council to implement over the next five years.

38 play parks with disabled friendly access and equipment

New recreation developments in space developed in 11 rural communities through partnership working and funding

The Forest and Outdoor Recreation was approved in March 2020 with an accompanying five year strategic plan.

Cross partner working Group established meetings ongoing

Focused proposals now brought forward for a Mid Ulster Active Lifestyle Plan with a pilot programme to be launched for October 2021 to March 2022.

### How well did we do it?

Due to Covid19 and the closure of leisure facilities for most of this reporting period, there is insufficient data for this section.

projects delivered in the following areas that will create further recreational activity programmes:

- Ballyronan
  - Davagh (Davagh Dark Skies project completed and now open. Further enhancement of Mountain bikes trails ongoing)
  - Portglenone (phase 2(b) completed – upgrade top angling facilities and public access)
  - Moydamlaght (phase 1 completed. Phase 2 in progress)
  - Maghera Leisure Centre (new playpark, addition of a floodlit 3G and a new trim trail)
  - Moneymore Recreation Centre (new trim trail)
  - Castledawson (new MUGA)
- 
- 2,342,165 uses of leisure and outdoor recreation facilities
  - Play parks strategy developed and action plan agreed by Council Nov/Dec 2019
  - 38 play parks with disabled friendly access and equipment
  - New recreation developments in space developed in 11 rural communities through partnership working and funding
  - Council and Macmillan Cancer employed an officer to work with cancer patients within the Mid Ulster area for the 'Move More' programme. Each participant is eligible for discounted leisure centre membership upon conclusion of their 12 week programme.
  - PHA and Council implemented amended delivery model of the GP leisure referral programme – coverage now across 4 x locations across the District, facilitated by 2 x staff and consistent referral pathway and delivery model now implemented. Each participant is eligible for discounted leisure centre membership upon conclusion of their 12 week programme.
  - Council agreed to host a Get Out Get Active Officer (GOGA) via Disability Sport NI and funded by Spirit of 2021 to deliver programmes across the District focused on getting some of the least active people moving more through fun and inclusive activities
  - Dungannon Leisure Centre has been refurbished and reopened to the public in February 2020.
  - Gyms in Dungannon LC (Feb 2020), Maghera LC (Aug 2020) and Greenvale LC (Sept 2021) have been replaced and upgraded
  - Davagh Dark Skies project completed and now open. Further enhancement of Mountain bikes trails ongoing.
  - Portglenone (phase 2(b) completed – upgrade to angling facilities and public access

- Development proposals being progressed for Railway Park/Ballysaggart Lough, a new Gortgonis Health Hub and enhanced provision at Mid Ulster Sports Arena with an additional 3G pitch and 8 lane running track

## Is Anyone Better Off?

Due to Covid19 and the closure of leisure facilities for most of this reporting period, there is insufficient data for this section.

## Update

The Covid19 pandemic has had an unprecedented impact on the delivery of Services. The social and economic disruption caused by Covid 19 had had a significant impact on our District, our citizens, our services and the way we provide them. Effectively planning ahead will determine how well our Services adapts to the challenges and opportunities within the current and post Covid 19 environments, as lockdown restrictions are anticipated to ease, social distancing measures are relaxed and service provision gradually recovers, transitions and adjusts to the “new” normal.

Plans need to focus on being dynamic, flexible and responsive to the turbulence and volatility of the internal and external environments arising out of the Covid 19 pandemic and as such, may need reviewed and/or adjusted in response to any legislative changes arising from any future NI Executive and/or Public Health measures.

### **Phase 1: Completion of the following:**

**Everybody Active Plan, Play Parks Strategy, Forest and Outdoor Recreation Strategy, Village Plans – recreation / active lifestyles, PHA Commissioning / Trusts – Activity Referral Plan, Physical Activity Improvement Plan**

**Lead Partner: MUDC**

Plans have all been drafted.

Play Parks and Forest and Outdoor Recreation Strategy presented to Development Committee in October 2020. Further consultation ongoing with Councillors.

Play Parks Strategy approved by Council and funding allocated by Council to implement over the next five years. Delays have been experienced due to Covid 19 impact however works are now progressing.

The Forest and Outdoor Recreation was approved in March 2020 with an accompanying five year strategic plan. Delays have been experienced due to Covid 19 impact however works are now progressing.

In January 2021, Council received correspondence from Sport NI detailing the planned Everybody Active 2020 programme closedown, end of contract date of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 and the termination of services to the previously agreed targeted groups. Everybody Active 2020 was a 5 year lottery funded programme aimed at getting people more active more often through sport and physical activity in Northern Ireland. It commenced in April 2015. Previously it operated

under a similar remit – Active Communities. Council were unable to absorb the funded services within its own internal delivery model however has now brought forward focused proposals for a Mid Ulster Active Lifestyle Plan with a pilot programme to be launched for October 2021 to March 2022.

**Phase 2: Creation of a cross partner working group (MUDC Leisure, Parks, Environmental Health, Community Development, Sport NI, Disability Sport NI, PHA's Northern & Southern's Partnerships for Physical Activity)**

**Lead Partner: MUDC**

Cross partner working Group established meetings ongoing

**Phase 3: Map all Partner recreation and activity programmes in Mid Ulster  
Identify and develop plans for gaps in recreation across Mid Ulster**

**Lead Partner: MUDC**

Mapping exercise undertaken. Gyms in Cookstown LC, Dungannon LC, Maghera LC and Greenvale LC have been replaced and upgraded. Dungannon Leisure Centre has been refurbished and reopened to the public in March 2020.

Funding applications were developed and projects delivered in the following areas that will create further recreational activity programmes:

- Ballyronan
- Davagh (Davagh Dark Skies project completed and now open. Further enhancement of Mountain bikes trails ongoing)
- Portglenone (phase 2(b) completed – upgrade top angling facilities and public access)
- Moydamlaght (phase 1 completed. Phase 2 in progress)
- Maghera Leisure Centre (new playpark, addition of a floodlit 3G and a new trim trail)
- Moneymore Recreation Centre (new trim trail)
- Castledawson (new MUGA)

Development proposals ongoing for Railway Park/Ballysaggart Lough, a new Gortgonis Health Hub and enhanced provision at Mid Ulster Sports Arena with an additional 3G pitch and 8 lane running track.

**Phase 4: Recreation and Active Lifestyle Plan for Mid Ulster (Cross Partner Plan)**

**Lead Partner: MUDC**

One year plan has been developed with actions to be measured through the following themes:

1. Communication of benefits of physical exercise – Overarching
2. Outdoor/Natural environment – walking, running , cycling
3. Family/Intergenerational/connections
4. Existing facility usage

To focus and market - Play, Walking, Running and Cycling through case studies:

- Play Play near Me/Walk and Talk
- Walking Walking Groups with Walking Group Leaders.
- Running Parkrun/C25K/Junior Parkrun
- Cycling Dungannon Pod/Spin Bikes/Staff Charity Event – across all organisations.

Focused proposals now brought forward for a Mid Ulster Active Lifestyle Plan with a pilot programme to be launched for October 2021 to March 2022. This new pilot is intended to bring opportunities for approx. 1351 new activity sessions during this 6 month pilot programme period and the intention is to support existing programmes with the addition of activities within the following areas:

- Walk and Run Coordination
- Cycle Coordination
- Inclusive Coordination
- Pre & Post Natal Coordination
- Active Aging Coordination

In order to contribute towards the Council's Anti-Poverty Plan and to encourage more residents to get active, it is anticipated that these additional activities within the pilot programme would be available at £1 per session in order to maximise uptake and participation within specific target groupings and traditionally underrepresented groups that would have been the focus of the previous lottery funded Sport NI Everybody Active 2020 programme:

- Women and girls (specifically aged 14-25)
- People with a disability; and
- Those living in areas of greatest social need (specifically people living within the top 25% of wards designated by NI Multiple Deprivation Measure Index 2010)

#### **Actions with Delayed Development**

Implementation of the actions plans associated with the approved Play Parks Strategy and Outdoor Recreation Strategy.

Implementation of Active Lifestyle Plan delayed.

#### **Reason why Action has not commenced**

Covid 19 Pandemic.

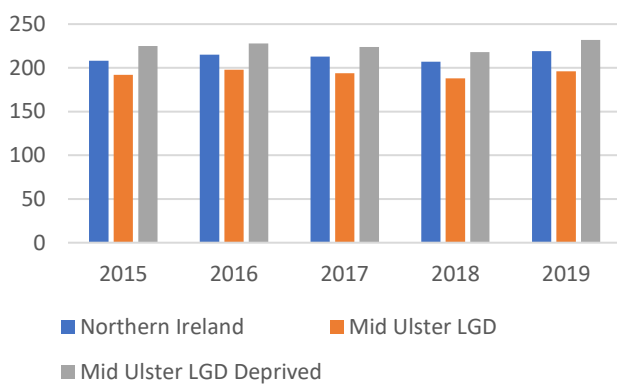
Vacant posts and current restructuring causing delays in development.

## Strategic Action: Develop and implement an integrated response to mental health and wellbeing.

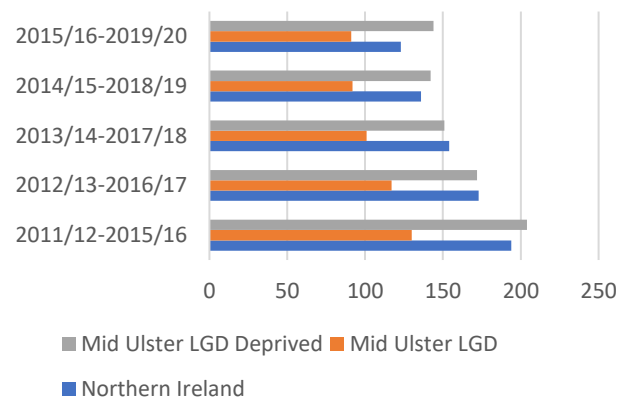
**Lead: PHA**

### Indicators

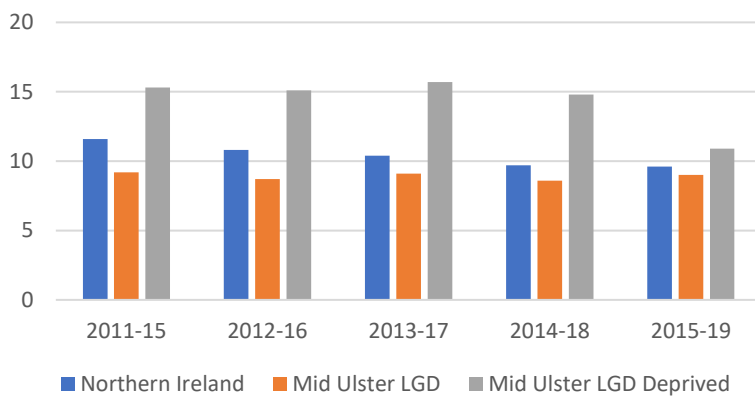
Standardised Prescription Rate - Mood & Anxiety  
Persons Prescribed per 1,000 Population



Standardised Admission Rate - Self-Harm  
Persons Prescribed per 100,000 Population



Crude Death Rate - Intentional Self-Harm Persons  
Prescribed per 100,000 Population



## What are we doing?

Mapping and integration of current provision, both preventative and treatment and identification of gaps in Mid Ulster.

Identification of key mental health issues and gaps in the district (including poverty and disadvantage, drugs & alcohol, isolation).

Develop a Mental Health Portal for treatment and pathway, and preventative support through engagement of the Take 5 Ways to Wellbeing Approach and other good practice initiatives.

Promote and develop resilience area based mental health support programmes to improve resilience of children and young people along with Education and Skills Action. To link with CYPSP Outcomes Groups (NHSCT & SHSCT) to support joined up planning.

## Progress

## Is Anyone Better Off?

## Update

**Mapping and integration of current provision, both preventative and treatment and identification of gaps in Mid Ulster.**

Cross thematic workshop was planned for June 2020 with the aim of:

- Sharing best practice examples and further informing mapping/identify gaps in current mental health and wellbeing services in MUDC
- Discuss communication pathways
- Inform future community planning actions

All plans were postponed due to Covid19

**Identification of key mental health issues and gaps in the district (including poverty and disadvantage, drugs & alcohol, isolation).**

**Develop a Mental Health Portal for treatment and pathway, and preventative support through engagement of the Take 5 Ways to Wellbeing Approach and other good practice initiatives.**



**Promote and develop resilience area based mental health support programmes to improve resilience of children and young people along with Education and Skills Action. To link with CYPSP Outcomes Groups (NHSCT & SHSCT) to support joined up planning.**

### **Actions with Delayed Development**

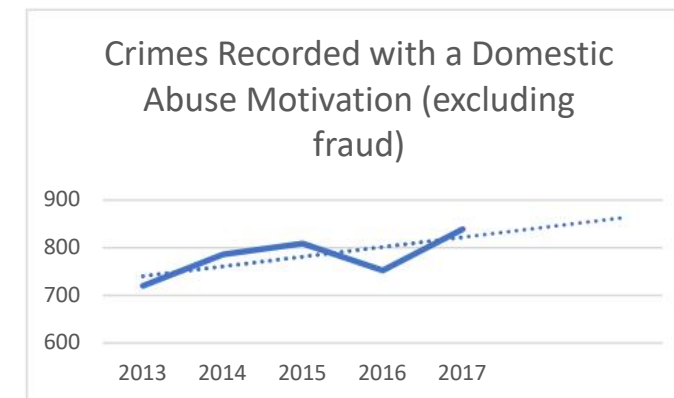
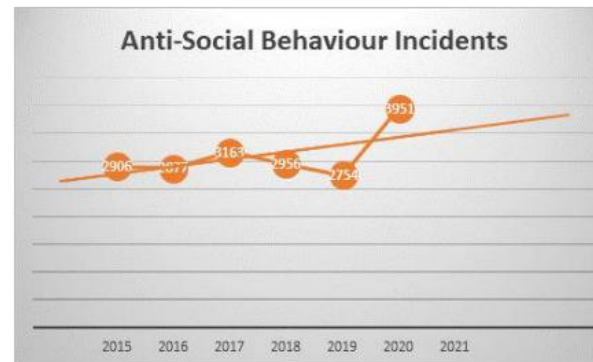
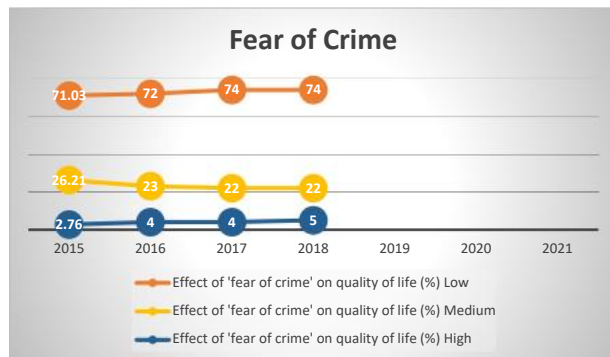
All actions have been delayed or postponed due to the commencement of the COVID 19 pandemic in March 2020 along with the related regulations and restrictions. In tandem the majority of Public Health Agency (PHA) staff were redeployed full-time to health protection duties including vaccination programmes and contact-tracing and this remains in place currently. Most if not all partner agencies also faced and continue to face similar circumstances.

PHA will seek to introduce a phased approach to taking forward the outstanding actions as staff are released from health-protection, vaccination and contact tracing duties however this is dependent on COVID 19 rates and forthcoming winter pressures in 2021/22. It is envisaged that responding to COVID 19 and winter pressures will be the major Health and Social Care priority in the coming months.

## Vibrant & Safe Communities

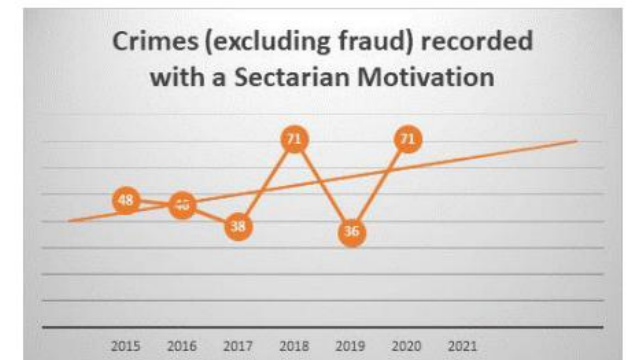
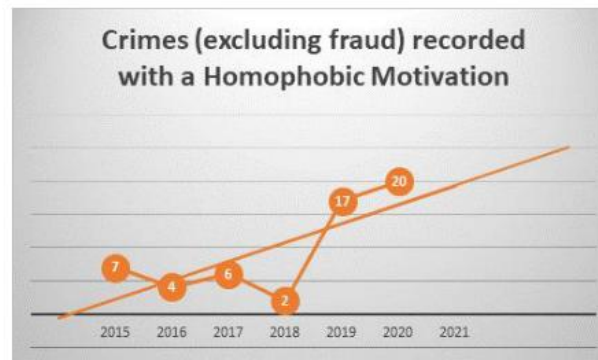
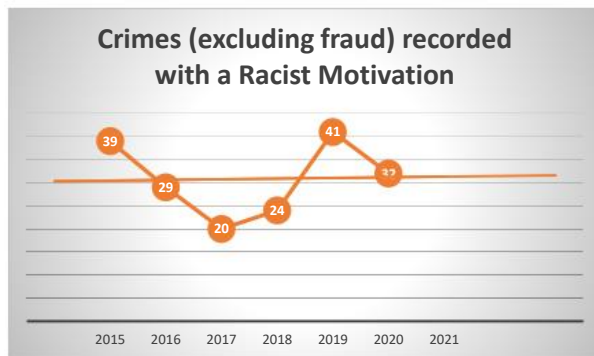
### Outcome: We are a safer community

Measure	Source		Baseline Year 2 2015	Baseline Year 3 2016	Baseline Year 3 2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Effect of 'fear of crime' on quality of life (%)	Northern Ireland Crime Survey	Low	71.03	72	74	74	Not Available		
		Medium	26.21	23	22	22	Not Available		
		High	2.76	4	4	5	Not Available		
Crimes recorded with a Domestic Abuse Motivation (excluding fraud)	NISRA		809	752	839	938	1,188	1,130	Not Available
Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents	NISRA		2906	2877	3163	2956	2754	3951	Not Available

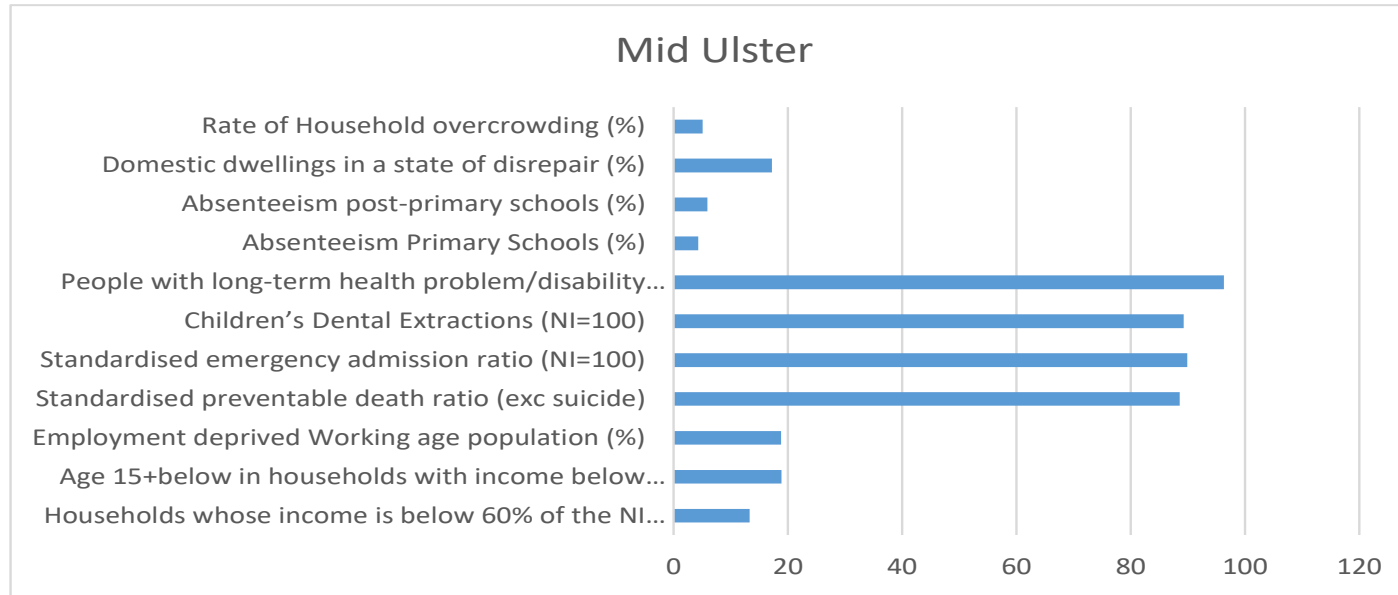


## Outcome: We have a greater value and respect for diversity

Measure	Source		Baseline Year 2 2015	Baseline Year 3 2016	Baseline Year 3 2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Crimes (excluding fraud) recorded with a Racist Motivation	NISRA		39	29	20	24	41	32	Not Available
Crimes (excluding fraud) recorded with a Homophobic Motivation	NISRA		7	4	6	2	17	20	Not Available
Crimes (excluding fraud) recorded with a Sectarian Motivation	NISRA		48	46	38	71	36	71	Not Available



## Outcome: We have stronger communities with less disadvantages and poverty



## Outcome: We are a safer community

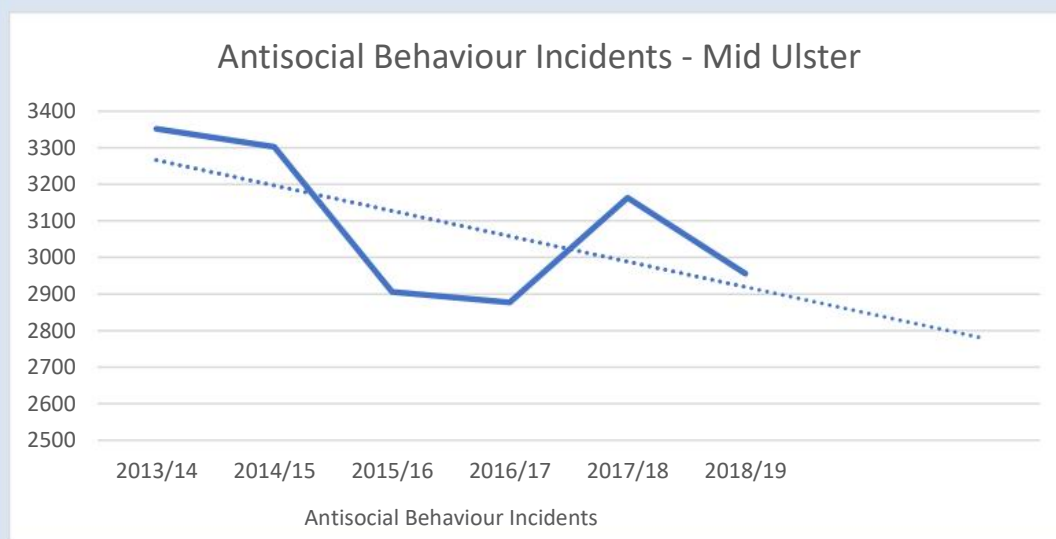
### PCSP: Mid Ulster

### Indicator:

Recorded incidents of ASB



### Baseline



### Story behind the baseline

From 2013/14 the trend in ASB incidents across Mid Ulster district is downwards. The trend forecast is that figures will continue to reduce.

Although ASB has decreased consistently over the last five years, it remains a volume crime, and perception of high or increasing levels of ASB is a community concern.

### Data Development Agenda:

#### What are we doing to help Turn the Curve?

Youth Diversionary/  
Engagement Programmes

#### How are our projects performing?

##### How Much

4 YEPs started. 79 youth aged 13-18 involved.

2 Halloween Diversionary programmes with 150 youth involved

Anti-Social Driving	<p><b>How Well</b> 100% of youth completed projects. Q4 not measured due to coronavirus</p> <p><b>Better Off</b> Yeps – 100% increased awareness of impact of ASB Updated Q4 not available due to postponement of scheme due to coronavirus.</p> <p>Halloween – Zero ASB incidents reported. 100% positive feedback from working partners.</p> <p><b>How Much</b> RoadSafe Roadshow delivered. 500 participants. Crash Car Simulator delivered to 12 schools. 290 participants. Driving Simulator delivered to 2 events. 105 participants. SIDS – erected at 9 sites Fatal Road Traffic Collision Reconstruction held on 25 February.</p> <p><b>How Well</b> Roadsafe Roadshow –87% rated as good/very good Crash Car Simulator –90% rated as good/very good Driving Simulator –92% rated as good/very good SIDS – Erected within 5 weeks of requests. Fatal Road Traffic Collision Reconstruction – 100% of participants rated is as very good/good.</p> <p><b>Better Off</b> Roadsafe Roadshow – 98% increased knowledge road safety. 100% increased knowledge of antisocial driving. Crash Car Simulator – 90% increased awareness of road safety Driving Simulator – 87% increased awareness of dangers of texting and driving SIDS – Average speed reduction of 5mph. Feedback from community and partners very positive Fatal Road Traffic Collision Reconstruction - 100% increased awareness of the impact and consequences of a serious road traffic collision from the participants.</p> <p><b>How Much</b> 3 projects started. 2995 views on social media</p>
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ASB Educational Programmes	<p><b>How Well</b></p> <p>2 projects completed within timescale. 1 postponed due to covid-19 20 Shares on social media</p> <p><b>Better Off</b></p> <p>Partners organisations report positive feedback on completed campaigns</p>
<b>Projects/Initiatives Under Development</b>	<b>Reason why project has not commenced</b>

<p><b>Partners</b></p> <p>EA, PSNI, DYRC, Fermanagh and Omagh PCSP</p>
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<p><b>Any Additional Comments</b> <i>(please use this space to provide any additional comments about this indicator)</i></p>
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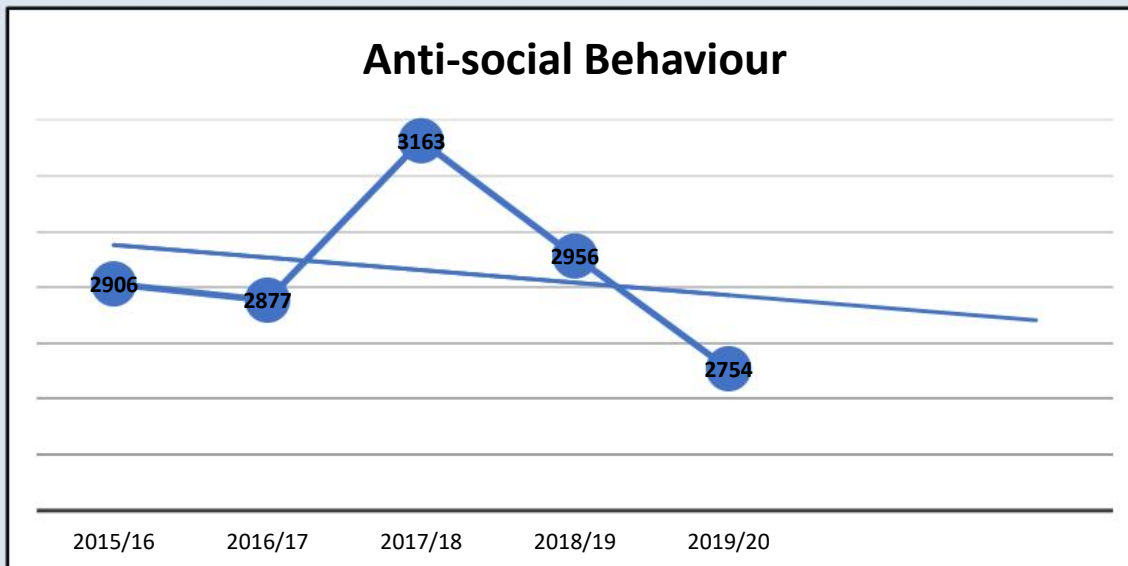
## PCSP: Mid Ulster

### Indicator:

Recorded incidents of ASB



### Baseline



### Story behind the baseline

From 2015/16 the trend in ASB incidents across Mid Ulster district is downwards. The trend forecast is that figures will continue to reduce.

Although ASB has decreased consistently over the last five years, it remains a volume crime, and perception of high or increasing levels of ASB is a community concern.

### Data Development Agenda:

#### What are we doing to help Turn the Curve?

Youth Diversionary/ Engagement Programmes

#### How are our projects performing?

##### How Much

Due to Covid 19 this initiative was unable to process in Q1 and Q2. One programme took place in Nov/Dec with 30 young people on Fri/Sat nights. Unfortunately this had to be stopped after four weeks due to new restrictions.

##### How Well



Anti-Social Driving	<p>Due to early stoppage we were unable to gather OBA info for YEP.</p> <p><b>Better Off</b></p> <p>Due to early stoppage we were unable to gather OBA info for YEP</p> <p><b>How Much</b></p> <p>Fatal RTC Reconstructions and Driving Seat Simulators on hold due to Covid19 restrictions.</p> <p>Crashed Car simulator restricted due to Covid but visited 5 schools across district in Q3. Engaged with 150 youth. No visits in Q4 due to Covid restrictions.</p> <p><b>How Well</b></p> <p>100% of crash car participants stated their participation was positive</p> <p><b>Better Off</b></p> <p>Crashed Car simulator – 100% of participants had increased road safety awareness.</p> <p><b>How Much</b></p>
ASB Educational Programmes	<p>Fireworks CRN course did not take place due to Covid.</p> <p>Child Tonight campaign viewed 10,169 times on social media</p> <p>Who Do I Call – 2,000 leaflets distributed by PSNI to 31 NW co-ordinators</p> <p><b>How Well</b></p> <p>Child Tonight shared 16 times on social media</p> <p>Who Do I Call – 31 NW schemes received leaflets</p> <p><b>Better Off</b></p> <p>Child Tonight video played 12,667 times. Top audience males 34-44.</p> <p>Who Do I Call – 31 NW schemes with increased awareness of support agencies.</p>

Projects/Initiatives Under Development	<p>Reason why project has not commenced</p> <p>Fatal RTC reconstruction video will be rolled out online and used as a teaching resource when Covid restrictions relax.</p>
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### Partners

EA, PSNI, DYRC, Fermanagh and Omagh PCSP

### Any Additional Comments

Due to Covid 19 projects are restricted.

Very successful joint working between Council, PSNI and PCSP in relation to ASB at Windmill Wood. Joint patrolling with PSNI and Council staff. PSNI officers patrolling wood on bicycles. Joint social media and press release. Issues in Windmill Wood have resolved for time being.

Crime Prevention Officer liaising with clergy at Clonoe and Brackaville re asb/thefts at graveyards. PCSP providing redeployable CCTV. Project underway.

Neighbourhood Policing Teams involved in ongoing work and engagement in relation to ASB at Drumcoo (developing potential youth projects with Council Leisure Services and PCSP), Newmills, Donaghmore, Draperstown, Tobermore, Union Place Dungannon. Projects can be developed as Covid restrictions ease.

ASB environmental project at Newmills through the local CPLC to encourage youth to take pride in their area keeping it ASB and litter free.

Arts project being developed with Reducing Reoffending Unit, currently on hold due to Covid.

## PCSP: Mid Ulster

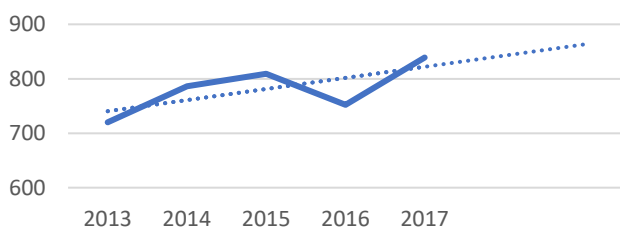
### Indicator:

Recorded crime against vulnerable groups

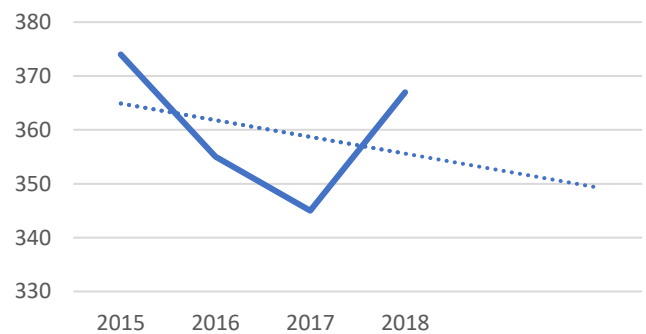


#### Baseline

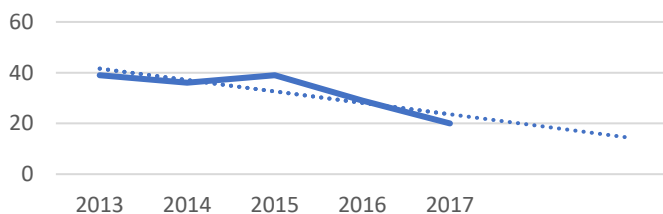
Crimes Recorded with a Domestic Abuse Motivation (excluding fraud)



Recorded crime - (age 60+)



Crimes (excluding fraud) Recorded with a Racist Motivation



#### Story behind the baseline

Fear of crime at night overall and especially among the 65+ age group remains high. Recorded crime has decreased for 60+ demographic over last three years

Recorded Hate Crime had decreased in the last year across racist, sectarian and homophobic demographics.

Crimes with a DV motivation are still high and have increased slightly

PCSP aims to reduce fear of crime and reduce the risk of being a victim of crime, especially among older people

Internet safety is an increasing issue across Mid Ulster. The PSNI are dealing with increasing issues from schools surrounding the internet.

#### Data Development Agenda:



## Domestic Violence

92% stated increased their awareness of home security, crime prevention and cyber crime.

80% said the session increased their confidence in accessing Support Services

### Agewell

#### How Much

775 older people currently receiving good morning call

1048 home security visits this year

1420 messages delivered during Good Morning calls re home security

#### How Well

100% of those surveyed rated the project good or very good

#### Better Off?

100% of those surveyed have increased feeling of safety

#### How Much?

Positive Relationships - 11 schools signed up, 13 programmes commenced, 1037 pupils

Behind Closed Doors - 9 Adshels across Mid Ulster, 26 supersides and 24 solus rears on buses.

High Risk Security – 12 referrals from PSNI

#### How Well?

Positive Relationships - Unable to report due to completed evaluation forms are in Womens Aid offices and they are in lockdown.

Behind Closed Doors – 7 (77%) adshels in the main towns. 100% Bus routes travelling through high population areas.

High Risk Security – Security Equipment provided and fitted in the homes of 12 High Risk DV Victims. 92% of installations were arranged/carried out within one week of receiving referral

#### Better Off?

Positive Relationships - Unable to report due to completed evaluation forms are in Womens Aid offices and they are in lockdown.

Behind Closed Doors – Awaiting on statistics from the Domestic and Sexual Violence Helpline on increase in calls to Helpline during campaign.

	High Risk Security – Crime Prevention Officer said that 12 (100%) of victims feel safer with the security equipment installed
<b>Projects/Initiatives Under Development</b>	<b>Reason why project has not commenced</b>

#### Partners

PSNI Schools Officers, Local Schools, Mid Ulster Women's Aid, MMD Communications

**Any Additional Comments** *(please use this space to provide any additional comments about this indicator)*

## PCSP: Mid Ulster

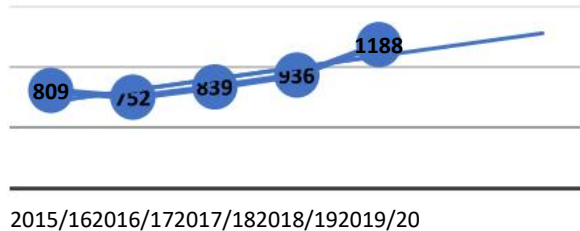
### Indicator:

Recorded crime against vulnerable groups

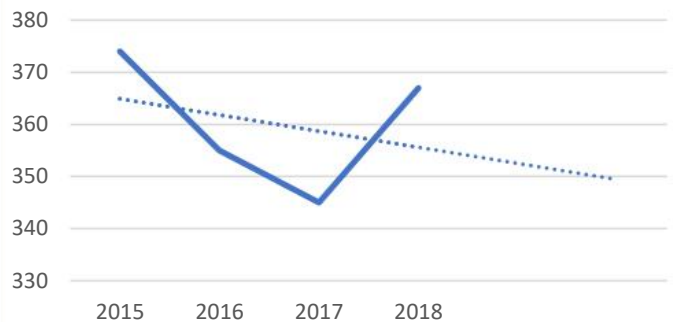


#### Baseline

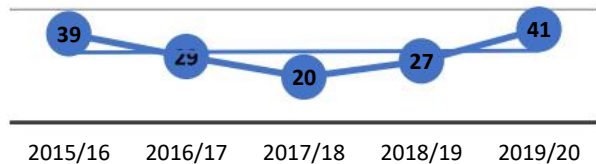
##### Domestic Violence - All Offences



##### Recorded crime - (age 60+)



##### Recorded Crime with a Racist Motivation



#### Story behind the baseline

Fear of crime at night overall and especially among the 65+ age group remains high. Recorded crime has decreased for 60+ demographic over last three years

Recorded Hate Crime had decreased in the last year across racist, sectarian and homophobic demographics.

Crimes with a DV motivation are still high and have increased slightly

PCSP aims to reduce fear of crime and reduce the risk of being a victim of crime, especially among older people

Internet safety is an increasing issue across Mid Ulster. The PSNI are dealing with increasing issues from schools surrounding the internet.

#### Data Development Agenda:

<p><b>What are we doing to help Turn the Curve?</b></p>	<p><b>How are our projects performing?</b></p>
<p><b>Internet Safety</b></p>	<p><b>How Much</b></p> <p>Teen Safe delayed due to Covid</p> <p>Beam School Internet Safety Programme – 16 Schools participated with 216 pupils</p> <p><b>How Well</b></p> <p>89.81% said they enjoyed the session</p> <p>95.83% found the session useful</p> <p><b>Better Off?</b></p> <p>96.3% said the session taught them more about internet safety and keeping themselves safe online</p> <p>83.33% said the session taught them more about cyberbullying</p> <p>76.39% have increased knowledge of where to access support</p>
<p><b>Domestic Violence</b></p>	<p><b>How Much?</b></p> <p>Positive Relationships Schools Programme delivered in 4 schools online with 473 pupils participating</p> <p>Domestic Violence Campaign took place in Q3 and Q4 using 34 adshels, 78 buses adverts and facebook.</p> <p>High Risk DV Victims Installations – Equipment provided for 8 high risk victims. Due to Covid restrictions there is limited access.</p> <p><b>How Well?</b></p> <p>Positive Relationships Schools Programme – 86% of those who completed evaluation reported programme as very good/good.</p> <p>Domestic Violence Campaign – 100% adverts were placed to cover high population areas.</p> <p>High Risk – 100% of installations completed within 1 weeks of referral. 100% satisfied with service</p>



## Vulnerable Persons Initiatives

### Better Off

Positive Relationships Schools Programme – Respondents stated that their awareness increased as follows:

- Positive/Healthy Relationships (88.1%)
- Unhealthy Relationships (88.1%)
- Warning signs of abuse (90.48%)
- Dating Violence (92.86%)
- Risks & consequences associated with sexting (80.95%)
- Cyberbullying (66.67%)
- Controlling behaviours (85.71%)
- 92.86% agreed or strongly agreed that domestic violence can happen to anyone
- 88.1% agreed or strongly agreed that they could identify support services
- 86% of teachers said the programme increased their awareness

Domestic Violence Campaign – Requested breakdown for DV Helpline regarding number of calls. Helpline can only provide for each Health Trust area and this is an ineffective measure as we are covered by two Trusts.

Viewed 24,100 times on Facebook

High Risk DV – 100% feeling safer due to install

### How Much

Awareness Events – Postponed due to covid

Alcohol and Drugs Schools Programme – Postponed due to restrictions.

Ageing Well – 456 visits carried out

### How Well

Ageing Well – 100% of people happy with the service

### Better Off?

Ageing Well - 100% of people who have used this service feel safer in their community.

<b>Projects/Initiatives Under Development</b>	<b>Reason why project has not commenced</b>
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#### Partners

PSNI Schools Officers, Local Schools, Mid Ulster Women's Aid, MMD Communications

**Any Additional Comments** *(please use this space to provide any additional comments about this indicator)*

## Outcome: We have a greater value and respect for diversity

**Strategic Action: Promote engagement between schools and youth provision in diversity and good relations**

**Strategic Action: Support and promote respect for diversity and the integration of our minority communities**

**Lead: MUDC**

### Indicators

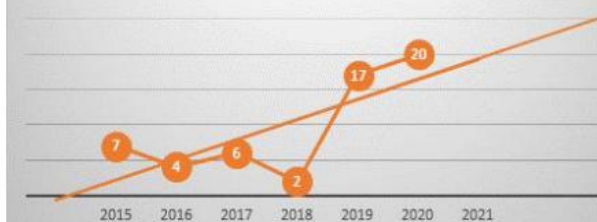
**Crimes (excluding fraud) recorded with a Racist Motivation**



**Crimes (excluding fraud) recorded with a Sectarian Motivation**



**Crimes (excluding fraud) recorded with a Homophobic Motivation**



### What are we doing?

1. A promotion campaign on respect for diversity across Mid Ulster by all partners with a short to medium term communications plan
2. Support/deliver diversity programmes to promote respect for diversity, inclusion and equality with children and young people in schools, youth groups, identified through a good relations audit of Mid Ulster

Deliver cross community engagement and diversity programme to all primary schools in Mid Ulster annually targeting P6/P7 and engage EA on the signature project for Mid Ulster to maximise engagement of all schools

3. Promote, develop and support cultural expression among our minority groups; including migrant support service with STEP, traveller engagement and belong model, mini Melas in all our principal towns annually and engagement of all our migrant groups and communities
4. Promote Peace and reconciliation across our District and development of shared/diverse space to include everyone, through delivery of the Peace IV programme of £3million

## Progress

### How much did we do?

#### Children & Young People

##### Good Relations

(see GR Scorecards)

##### Peace IV

Peace on Demand programme engaged 382 young people from secondary schools within the Mid Ulster District Council area.

Shared Space Youth Sports Engagement programme engaged 330 young people aged 11-14 years over 2 years in activities across a number of recreation areas.

6 community grants to increase participation of young people from all religions, cultures & ethnic backgrounds coming together to make a positive difference within their community.

New Towns Youth Engagement Project engaged young people in the age range 16-21 years in the delivery of Creative Arts and Peace and Reconciliation across our towns in Mid Ulster.

Rural Communities Youth Programme - 20 groups completed work on the initial programme.

#### Minority Groups

##### Good Relation Programme

(See GR Scorecards)

##### Peace

Urban Migrant communities Programme - 9 partnership groups completed joint projects.

### How well did we do it?

#### Children & Young People

##### Good Relation Programme

(See GR Scorecards)

##### Peace

#### Minority Groups

##### Good Relation Programme

(See GR Scorecards)

##### Peace

#### Peace & Reconciliation

##### Good Relation Programme

(See GR Scorecards)

##### Peace

**Peace & Reconciliation**  
Good Relation Programme  
(See GR Scorecards)

Peace

Shared Space Arts & Events Programme

- 6 shared space sites.
- 3 grants were funded

## **Is Anyone Better Off**

**Children & Young People**  
Good Relation Programme  
(See GR Scorecards)

Peace

**Minority Groups**  
Good Relation Programme  
(See GR Scorecards)

Peace

**Peace & Reconciliation**  
Good Relation Programme  
(See GR Scorecards)

Peace

## **Update**

**A promotion campaign on respect for diversity across Mid Ulster by all partners with a short to medium term communications plan**

A new Diversity campaign is currently under development. A marketing consultants has been contracted and visuals, wording and marketing platforms are being explored.

**Deliver cross community engagement and diversity programme to all primary schools in Mid Ulster annually targeting P6/P7 and engage EA on the signature project for Mid Ulster to maximise engagement of all schools**

**\*\*See also Good Relations Scorecard\*\***

Over 1,130 young people participating in a range of programmes; sport, arts, multimedia, which provided for successful interaction between different schools and youth from different areas. This theme includes:

- **BEAM** - Peace on Demand engaged 382 young people from secondary schools within the Mid Ulster District Council area.
  - **Todds Leap** - Shared Space Youth Sports Engagement programme engaged 330 young people aged 11-14 years over 2 years in activities across a number of recreation areas.
  - **Grants** - 6 community grants to increased participation of young people from all religions, cultures & ethnic backgrounds coming together to make a positive difference within their community.
  - **New Towns Youth Engagement Project** – This newly funded programme will engage young people in the age range 16-21 years in the delivery of Creative Arts and Peace and Reconciliation across our towns in Mid Ulster.
- Total budget - £707,632.09**

**Promote, develop and support cultural expression among our minority groups; including migrant support service with STEP, traveller engagement and belong model, mini Melas in all our principal towns annually and engagement of all our migrant groups and communities**

**Lead Partner: MUDC**

**\*\*See also Good Relations Scorecard\*\***

**Promote Peace and reconciliation across our District and development of shared/diverse space to include everyone, through delivery of the Peace IV programme of £3million**

**Lead Partner: MUDC**

**\*\*See also Good Relations Scorecard\*\***

- **CWSAN** – Rural Communities Programme targeting cross community engagement amongst young people within & between communities. 20 groups completed work on the initial programme.
- **Artsekta** – Shared Space Arts & Events Programme was hugely successful in developing arts programmes to run alongside the regeneration of 6 shared space sites.
- **Ten Minutes More** – Shared Space Arts & Events Programme included 3 major town centre cross community projects using difference medium of arts to engage senior citizens of a cross community basis.

PROJECT REPORT CARD - PROGRAMME NAME: Children & Young People - Diversity Programme					
KEY WORDS			CODE		
DIVERSE CULTURE TRADITION YOUTH			MUC01		
Total cost of the programme (100%)		£11,865.29			
Total Number of participants		Direct	150	Indirect	150
Participant Background Analysis		PUL	30%	Other	10%
		CNR	60%		
Project Level Outcome					
What did we do?		How well did we do it?			
Quarter 1: Preparatory work has commenced. Currently engaging primary schools to look at providers delivering cultural engagement workshops with a view to linking rural and urban schools. Preparing a letter to go to PTA’S to develop a focused programme for PTA’S to make cultural work more sustainable and link local communities.		Quarter 1: % attendance, % completion			
Quarter 2: Programme 1 – Procurement exercise commencing late November 2020. This will partner primary Schools across region to support & promote diversity. This project currently in planning stage. Programme 2 – GR Officers will engage school PTA groups in targeted areas to develop GR projects in the community – Pilot programmes initially. The project will create partnerships (cross community) with schools & PTA groups.		Quarter 2: % attendance, % completion			
Quarter 3: List of activities underway /completed – Tender submitted to council 28/01/2021 – Successful contractor appointed - ArtseEkta. Delivery from Feb- March 21. First meeting between ArtsEkta and Council takes place on the 11 February 2021. Module 1 of this programme – 6		Quarter 3: % attendance, % completion			

<p>Café Culture workshops for teachers from 6 rural primary schools throughout Mid Ulster.</p> <p><b>Module 2</b> – Exploring diverse traditions and culture for pupils from 12 partner rural primary schools, and teachers from 6 partner schools. Project to be completed by the 31 March 2021.</p>	
<p><b>Quarter 4: Artseka £11,670- Module 2 - Delivered online cultural awareness and diversity training to 9 Rural Primary schools in Mid Ulster.</b></p> <p><b>Module 1</b> – Café Culture event for teachers :- Teachers from the following schools are participating :- Donaghy PS, St. McCartan's PS, Carntall PS, St. Treas's PS and Woods PS. Speakers and sessions x 1 hour:- Setting a Diversity Inclusion Context in the Classroom. 2 teachers from 2 schools participated. Disability – Building an Inclusive Classroom Culture A Sense of Belonging for New Migrant Communities. Presentation on ArtsEkta One World Day Teaching Resource. All of the presentations and information shared with the participating schools and will be promoted for wider use by schools</p> <p><b><u>Module 2 – For Pupils</u></b> This Module was very successful. Primary 6 and 7 pupils from 9 rural primary schools across Mid Ulster are participating. These schools are :- Cookstown PS, Coagh PS, Ballylifford PS, St Patrick's PS, Laghey PS, St. Brigid's PS, Newmills PS, Ampertaine PS, Desertmartin PS, and Knocknagin PS. The aim of this project was to help rural primary school pupils to integrate easily into their new secondary school where there may a high proportion of BME pupils. 20 sessions where to be delivered; a total of 27 sessions were delivered</p>	<p><b>Quarter 4:</b> % attendance, % completion</p> <p>Module 1 3 Teachers returned Questionnaires * 6.5.21 <b>Project completed*</b></p> <p><b><u>Module 2</u></b> <b>Number of schools engaged: 9</b> <b>Number of children engaged: 234</b> <b>Number of sessions delivered:27</b> <b>*20 sample pre &amp; post recorded.</b> <b>Project completed*</b></p>
<p><b>What difference did we make?</b></p>	



Number	%
<b>Quarter 1:</b> Number of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet)	Percentage of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet) as a percentage of the total number surveyed
<b>Quarter 2:</b> Number of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet)	Percentage of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet) as a percentage of the total number surveyed
<b>Quarter 3:</b> Number of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet)	Percentage of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet) as a percentage of the total number surveyed
<b>Quarter 4:</b> Number of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet)	Percentage of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet) as a percentage of the total number surveyed <b>Artsektā -Module 1</b> 100% increased knowledge of cultural traditions/backgrounds 67% improved attitude towards people from a different religious background 67% improved attitude towards people from a different ethnic background <b>Module 2</b> 100% increased knowledge of cultural traditions/backgrounds 84% improved attitude towards people from a different religious background 84% improved attitude towards people from a different ethnic background

<b>Additional Project Level Outcomes (optional)</b>	
<b>2.22 Quotes from participants and stakeholders</b>	Teacher – Module 1 – The project has helped me to deliver diversity in the classroom
<b>2.23 Learning for future programmes</b>	

PROJECT REPORT CARD - PROGRAMME NAME: Children & Young People - Youth Diversity and Engagement Programme					
KEY WORDS				CODE	
DIVERSE YOUTH				MUC02	
Total cost of the programme (100%)		£8,000			
Total Number of participants		Direct	250	Indirect	416
Participant Background Analysis		PUL	30%	Other	10%
		CNR	60%		
Project Level Outcome					
What did we do?		How well did we do it?			
Quarter 1: Engaged Peace Players international as partner to deliver a leadership course which will engage with 8 partner schools mainly in urban areas across Mid Ulster. This work will commence in October.		Quarter 1: % attendance, % completion			
Quarter 2: Peace Players – have been engaging with schools during September and have identified 15 young people that will benefit from the capacity building training – virtual workshops for recruitment are ongoing. 15 youth leaders will be recruited, 100 primary school children (up to 4 primary school class twinning’s), and 8 teachers engaged on delivery. Planning & development completed. Project will commence this month. £8,000 paid Q2		Quarter 2: % attendance, % completion Schools now engaged – Commitment from schools & Teachers to engage & deliver.  Pre project evaluations will be completed November.			
Quarter 3: List of activities underway /completed Peace Players Programme has commenced online – The ‘Twinning at Home’ project is underway with an approach that includes providing teachers with support materials, which they send out to their students for completion and return after the live events. These materials will support the teachers in conducting follow-up work with their students. Given the pressure teachers are under this approach has dual benefits: it engages the children together in GR conversations; and also provides teachers with materials that will support their on-going remote teaching.		Quarter 3: % attendance, % completion  15 Young Leaders trained who will work with pupils through sport to reduce feelings of isolation and segregation. 100 primary school pupils and 8 teachers identified for the project. Project commenced 1 <sup>st</sup> February 2021. Further reporting Q4.			

The 'Young Leaders' aspect of the programme is also progressing.	
<b>Quarter 4:</b> <b><u>Peace Players</u></b> Training the Trainer sessions took place over 3 sessions - The trained youth are 8 youth :- youth Blackwatertown, youth Donaghmore, youth Dungannon, youth Moy, youth Coalisland, youth Pomeroy, 2 youth Moy. They were assisted by PeacePlayers volunteers x 2 leaders The pupils addressed Integrated Good Relations through sport games (basketball), conversations and team building activities. 18 pupils from the following primary schools participated in the first session on the 12 March 2021 :- Holy Trinity PS Cookstown, Cookstown PS, Desertmartin PS and Knocknagin PS. <b><u>Sports Integration &amp; Diversity</u></b> 4 Further sessions took place. Estimate 40 pupils participated in each of these sessions	<b>Quarter 4: % attendance, % completion</b> <b><u>Train the trainer</u></b> 3 Sessions – 8 Youth at 7 Youth clubs/centres MU  <b><u>Sports Integration &amp; Diversity</u></b> 18 students – 4 Primary Schools 40 further students at 4 further sessions 15 questionnaires completed – sample study.
<b>What difference did we make?</b>	
<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Quarter 1:</b> Number of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet)	Percentage of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet) as a percentage of the total number surveyed
<b>Quarter 2:</b> Number of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet)	Percentage of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet) as a percentage of the total number surveyed
<b>Quarter 3:</b> Number of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet)	Percentage of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet) as a percentage of the total number surveyed Peace Players From the <b>Pre Programme questionnaire</b> statistics :- 9 participants 73% had participated in a GR project before
<b>Quarter 4:</b> Number of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet)	Percentage of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet) as a percentage of the total number surveyed From the <b>Pre Programme questionnaire</b> statistics :- 73% <b>HAD</b> participated in a Good Relations programme before this one.

	<p><b>Attitude</b> towards people from a different religious background :- 100% scored 7 to 10.</p> <p><b>Attitude</b> towards people from a different ethnic background :- 100 % scored 7 to 10.</p> <p><b>Behaviour</b> –how likely would you be to attend an event in an area associated with another community? 100% scored 4 to 10</p>
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<b>Additional Project Level Outcomes (optional)</b>	
<b>2.22 Quotes from participants and stakeholders</b>	
<b>2.23 Learning for future programmes</b>	

PROJECT REPORT CARD - PROGRAMME NAME: MU Post Primary Schools Cross Community Programme					
KEY WORDS				CODE	
DIVERSE SHARED YOUTH				MUC03	
Total cost of the programme (100%)		£34,600			
Total Number of participants		Direct	250	Indirect	400
Participant Background Analysis		PUL	30%	Other	10%
		CNR	60%		
Project Level Outcome					
What did we do?		How well did we do it?			
<p><b>Quarter 1:</b> Element A – Pilot project run in 2019/20 now engaging to expand this programme to year 2, expected delivery of programme to run Nov 2020 – March 2021.</p> <p>Element B – Extending Peace on Demand programme which is a multi media programme engaging new young people around debate and discussion involving social issues within their communities. Expected delivery Nov 2020 – March 2021.</p>		<p><b>Quarter 1:</b> % attendance, % completion</p>			
<p>Quarter 2: Element A: Learn Spark - have commenced with the Youth Engagement for Post Primary Schools. They have secured 15 schools out of target of 20. This project involves capacity skills training, upskilling students to do one-to-one mentoring in paired reading with their peers. 9 cohorts confirmed, 180 students and 15 teachers. Sessions have now commenced. Increase of 16% on participant no’s from last year</p> <p>Element B – Delivery Agent Beam Creative Media engaged to deliver an extension to the Peace IV POD (Peace on Demand) and this was an extremely successful P IV programme. GR staff are monitoring weekly &amp; liaising with Learn Spark and school staff.</p>		<p><b>Quarter 2:</b> % attendance, % completion</p> <p>Element A -Pre project evaluations will be completed November.</p> <p>Element B- Pre project evaluations – December.</p>			

<p>Quarter 3 (B) –BEAM – Ongoing discussions on this project. Due to Lockdown <b>BEAM have restructured their project</b> (February 2021) to write and produce two animation films – one for Key Stage 2 and another for Key Stage 3. Both animations will be linked to the NI Curriculum (The World Around Us and Learning for Life and Work) and will contain messages to promote respect, friendship, and tolerance and understanding difference. The animations will be shared to schools for them to use in their teachings. Pupils will get the opportunity to voice over on both. Also a generic animation for all ages will be made given the current pandemic, to promote respect and kindness. This animation could then be posted on social media. BEAM - <b>£15,000 paid Q3</b></p>	<p>Q4 Create &amp; produce two animated films- specifically – For Key stage 2 &amp; 3</p>
<p>Quarter 3- LearnSpark is progressing as planned.</p> <p>All mentors were trained prior to the January 2021 Lockdown. Each mentor will support at least 1 pupil from January 2021 onwards. A celebration event will take place when the project finishes in March 2021. LearnSpark is submitting the pre and post questionnaires.</p> <p>LearnSpark - <b>£17,200 paid Q3</b></p>	<p><b>Quarter 3: % attendance, % completion</b> 117 pupils from 15 secondary schools within the Mid Ulster District Council area participated. (75% of Secondary Schools participating) Schools were paired on a cross community basis. GR officer attended the virtual session with pupils from Magherafelt High School and Holy Trinity College Cookstown on the 3 December 2020.</p>
<p><b>Quarter 4: LearnSpark</b> <b>LearnSpark</b> – all phases of this program are now complete with 6 cohorts functioning within each of the schools, with the necessary processes in place to continue this mentoring programme independently There were 117 mentors were trained to mentor 117 mentees aged 12-14 years in 3 virtual 1.5 hours sessions per mentee. LearnSpark have developed a demonstrational video to assist with the program this has proved very effective in the virtual training sessions.</p>	<p><b>Quarter 4: % attendance, % completion</b> 117 students (6-10 per school) 117mentees 97% of participants attended and completed the program</p>
What difference did we make?	
Number	%
<p><b>Quarter 1:</b> Number of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet)</p>	<p>Percentage of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet) as a percentage of the total number surveyed</p>
<p><b>Quarter 2:</b> Number of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet)</p>	<p>Percentage of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet) as a percentage of the total number surveyed</p>

<p><b>Quarter 3:</b> Number of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet)</p>	<p>Percentage of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet) as a percentage of the total number surveyed LEARNSPARK From the <b>Pre Programme questionnaire</b> statistics :- 73% <b>HAD NOT</b> participated in a Good Relations programme before this one. <b>Knowledge</b> regarding cultural traditions and backgrounds. <b>(0 = none; to 10 = very positive for all 4 categories below)) :-</b> 6.25 % had NO <b>knowledge</b> ; 6.25 % very knowledgeable with the remaining 87.5 % having some <b>knowledge</b> ( 1 – 9). <b>Attitude</b> towards people from a different religious background :- 100% scored 7 to 10. <b>Attitude</b> towards people from a different ethnic background :- 100 % scored 7 to 10. <b>Behaviour</b> –how likely would you be to attend an event in an area associated with another community? 100% scored 4 to 10</p>
<p><b>Quarter 4:</b> Number of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet) <b><u>Excel Ref: MUC03 LearnSpark Outcomes 2020-21</u></b> 117 students mentored 117mentees 97% of participants attended and completed the program 25% of participants were surveyed</p>	<p>Percentage of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet) as a percentage of the total number surveyed <b><u>Excel Ref: MUC03 LearnSpark Outcomes 2020-21</u></b> From the <b>Post Programme questionnaire</b> statistics :- Knowledge – 93% had increased knowledge of cultural/trad backgrounds Attitude - 97% had a positive change Behaviour – 33% would attend event associated with another community</p>

<b>Additional Project Level Outcomes (optional)</b>	
<b>2.22 Quotes from participants and stakeholders</b>	
<b>2.23 Learning for future programmes</b>	

PROJECT REPORT CARD - PROGRAMME NAME: MU Primary Schools Cross Community Programme Tender					
KEY WORDS			CODE		
DIVERSE YOUTH SHARED			MUC04		
Total cost of the programme (100%)		£25,000			
Total Number of participants		Direct	280	Indirect	400
Participant Background Analysis		PUL	30%	Other	10%
		CNR	60%		
Project Level Outcome					
What did we do?		How well did we do it?			
<p><b>Quarter 1:</b></p> <p>Element 1 - The Youth Voice project board is now established. The recruitment process is underway and once young people are elected a timeline for council engagement will be defined. Elected youth members will hold post on a 2 year basis, annually good relations will support training, mentoring and democratic engagement. Timeline Sept 2020 ongoing.</p> <p>Element 2 – EA Youth will partner good relations officers targeting schools in partnership models historically who didn’t work together. This will involve year 11/12 students from different backgrounds engaging in good relations workshops. Timeline Oct onwards.</p>		<p><b>Quarter 1:</b> % attendance, % completion</p>			
<p><b>Quarter 2:</b></p> <p><b>EA Authority – Youth Voice</b></p> <p>The promotional videos are now being delivered to schools and venues. Schools have been contacted, promotional packs distributed to all post primary schools. Promotion efforts via council website. Chair of council launched the project. The project board has now been established, involving PCSP, EA staff, GR, community planning, and will meet in November. The recruitment campaign is ongoing. Ongoing consultations with schools to deliver the project on time. To date 28 applications have been received from schools/students from across Mid Ulster. 5 initial workshops will be delivered with students, EA staff &amp; GR Officers -W/C 23/11. <b>£7,000 paid Q2</b></p>		<p><b>Quarter 2:</b> % attendance, % completion</p> <p>Pre project evaluations will be completed W/C 23 November.</p>			



<p><b>EA Authority</b> - Cross Community Primary School Program (CCPSP) Phase 1 is under way with recruitment of 12 primary working in 6 partners/clusters will embark in joint workshops to address the following issues, understanding identity, understanding each other, prejudice, stereotyping, flags, emblems &amp; symbols and relationship building. GR staff are developing the project in partnership with delivery agent and our 12 participating schools. GR staff are working closely with schools staff to ensure an efficient &amp; timely delivery. - <b>£18,000 paid Q2</b></p>	<p>Pre project evaluations will be completed November</p>
<p><b>Quarter 3 EA Authority – Mid Ulster Youth Voice</b> - Short listing of candidates in January 2021. 28 youth have signed up. Schedule for Year 1 is as follows :- <b>January 2021</b> – Introductions, engage, discuss key issues and team building. <b>Feb – Mar</b> :- Training and support, identify roles, plan event to launch Youth Voice, meet with senior youth officer and design logo and branding. <b>April</b> :- Launch event, meet Council officers and the chairperson of the Mid Ulster District Council. Project Board created – PSNI, Council, PCSP, Comm Planning. EA <b>May</b> :- Select key issues and develop subgroups, plus carry out consultations. <b>June</b> :- Develop links and contacts with Comhairle na nOg, Republic of Ireland and consultations. <b>July – August</b> :- Team building + Summer project <b>Sept. – Dec</b> :- Social action campaigns, residential, meet Councillors, launch, lobby, rally and celebration event.</p> <p><b>Quarter 3- EA Authority</b></p>	<p><b>Quarter 3:</b> % attendance, % completion</p> <p><b>2 Online sessions completed to date.</b> Project Group formed with reps from Council, GR, Comm Planning, PCSP, PSNI and PHA.</p> <p>27/1/21 – 27 Young people participating. 10/2/21 – 2<sup>nd</sup> session. GR Officer inputs &amp; Civic roles addressed.</p> <p><b>Evaluations Q4</b> <b>A sample of 12 participants completed questionnaires</b> <b>The Youth Voice panel now constituted.</b> <b>Developed structures &amp; Leadership Roles.</b> <b>Organising social media democracy campaign.</b> <b>Launch Event on 5/6/21</b></p>

<p>Each School was sent an email highlighting the benefits of the project and asking would the School like to participate. Schools that stated yes where then followed up by phone calls.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12 Schools x 1 hour phone call to have an initial conversation.</li> <li>• 12 Schools x 1 hour phone call to have consolation about home pack &amp; level of delivery.</li> <li>• 12 Schools x 1 hour phone call to discuss final draft of home pack.</li> <li>• 12 Schools x 1 hour phone call to review &amp; get feedback from School on final pack to be sent out.</li> </ul> <p>96 hours of consulting with schools on planning, delivery &amp; evaluation of pack.</p> <p>All evaluations &amp; final students' piece of Art will be completed by the end of March.</p> <p>Sessions have also been held online with key stakeholders addressing Good Relations &amp; Health &amp; Well Being through Stay Connected. This was a platform to support &amp; help young people and families in this difficult time, that included the schools highlighted above.</p> <p>Additional to the above programme, 25 young people where participating twice weekly on the L.T.P programme, engaging in workshops to build confidence &amp; self-esteem. The outcome of this is that as part of the wider qualification of a grade B GCSE in May 2022, the young people completed 2 Accredited modules under the theme of Good Relations and EDI. This delivery is part of Key stage 4 within Magherafelt High School.</p>	<p><b>EA Authority</b></p> <p>12 primary schools participating – working in pairs – each pair – one controlled – one maintained.</p> <p>10 pupils per school participating.</p> <p>Through zoom meetings pupils are learning about understanding identity, understanding each other, exploring flags, symbols and relationship building.</p>
What difference did we make?	
Number	%
<p><b>Quarter 1:</b></p> <p>Number of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet)</p>	<p>Percentage of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet) as a percentage of the total number surveyed</p>
<p><b>Quarter 2:</b></p> <p>Number of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet)</p>	<p>Percentage of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet) as a percentage of the total number surveyed</p>

<b>Quarter 3:</b> Number of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet)	Percentage of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet) as a percentage of the total number surveyed YOUTH VOICE – Sample 12 interviews- From the <b>Pre Programme questionnaire</b> statistics :- 58% <b>HAD NOT</b> participated in a Good Relations programme before this one.
<b>Quarter 4:</b> Number of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet)	Percentage of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet) as a percentage of the total number surveyed Youth Voice From the <b>Pre Programme questionnaire</b> statistics :- 58% <b>HAD NOT</b> participated in a Good Relations programme before this one. <b>Knowledge</b> regarding cultural traditions and backgrounds. <b>Attitude</b> towards people from a different religious background :- 100% scored 7 to 10. <b>Attitude</b> towards people from a different ethnic background :- 64 % scored 7 to 10. <b>Behaviour</b> –how likely would you be to attend an event in an area associated with another community? 91% scored 4 to 10

<b>Additional Project Level Outcomes (optional)</b>	
<b>2.22 Quotes from participants and stakeholders</b>	
<b>2.23 Learning for future programmes</b>	

PROJECT REPORT CARD - PROGRAMME NAME: Shared Community – Shared Spaces					
KEY WORDS				CODE MUC07	
RURAL SHARED					
Total cost of the programme (100%)		£8,000			
Total Number of participants		Direct	100	Indirect	200
Participant Background Analysis		PUL	30%	Other	10%
		CNR	60%		
Project Level Outcome					
What did we do?		How well did we do it?			
<b>Quarter 1:</b> £1531.52 Galtec Solutions – purchase of IT equipment to enable cycling project.  An engagement programme of activity inter and intra community exploring access to urban areas within Dungannon and historically not engaged in cross community work. Looking at partner to deliver social cycling on a cross community basis across Dungannon opening access to these hard to reach areas.		<b>Quarter 1:</b> Increased returns highlighting engagement of community groups.			
<b>Quarter 2:</b> £498.00 – Additional technical Support –Agreed with TEO - IT equipment to enable officers monitoring of Shared Space programme (Working remotely & safely). Access across the programme Supporting a group of ‘excluded’ persons to engage on a GR programme to create safer and shared town areas that in the past were ‘territorial’ and affected by flags and graffiti demarking territory and exclusion.		<b>Quarter 2:</b> % attendance, % completion			
<b>Quarter 3:</b> List of activities underway /completed		<b>Quarter 3:</b> % attendance, % completion Engagement forums, Cllr queries, meetings, poverty issues, community engagement			

<p><b>CYCUL</b> - – Due to pandemic restrictions – planned activity not taking place – Replaced with an online programme of whatsapp and zoom daily activity of 50 adults. Exploring shared passions of walking and cycling to explore each other’s community, estates and stories. Looking at perceptions of segregated housing estates. Exploring ways of developing friendships and creating more shared space using walking and cycling.</p> <p>Cycul - <b>£1,950 paid out in Q3</b></p>	<p>Response from community... local issues.</p> <p><b>CYCUL- 50 adults meeting online weekly online and whatsapp. Engaging a diverse group of residents on a journey of reflection, discovery and exploring difference and segregation in a town that is divided physically, culturally and economically. Reflecting on the legacy of conflict and its impact on a community. 10 persons sample surveyed – Pre Questionnaire.</b></p>
<p><b>Quarter 4:</b> List of activities underway /completed</p>	<p><b>Quarter 4:</b> % attendance, % completion</p>
<p><b>Shared Spaces Youth Engagement £13,220</b></p> <p>Development of Shared Spaces across MU Towns and Villages (50 settlements) – The pandemic has resulted in people needing to access usable and shared outside space, walks and recreation. This program has promoted community facilities to young people across all areas and has sought to maximize use and participation in sport for all. It has delivered a unique interactive golf academy engaging with young people, allowing socially distanced interaction.</p>	<p><b>Shared Spaces Youth Engagement £13,220</b></p> <p>This pilot program has had 2234 attendees in 6 month period (approx. 97 per week)</p>
<p>Wordwell Heritage Guides - £5,889.62</p> <p>The guides will provide anecdotal information on single identity spaces and open up to all communities dispelling the myths surrounding historical incidents. These shared cultural heritage spaces will continue to encourage shared civic spaces across Mid Ulster.</p>	<p>Wordwell Heritage Guides</p> <p>An increase in the number of participants who feel more comfortable using shared cultural heritage spaces and services traditionally associated with people from another community background.</p>
<p>Additional youth resources - £4726.87 –complimentary resources to embellish youth programs.</p>	
What difference did we make?	
Number	%
<p><b>Quarter 1:</b></p> <p>Increased contact with community groups.</p>	<p>Ongoing – improved resources should allow for increased monitoring returns.</p>

<b>Quarter 2:</b> Number of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet)	Percentage of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet) as a percentage of the total number surveyed
<b>Quarter 3:</b> Number of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet)	Percentage of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet) as a percentage of the total number surveyed <b>CYCUL</b> <b>10 persons sample surveyed – Pre Questionnaire.</b> 90% <b>HAD NOT</b> participated in a Good Relations programme before this one.
<b>Quarter 4:</b> Number of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet)	Percentage of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet) as a percentage of the total number surveyed
<b><u>Excel Ref: MUC07 SS Youth Engagement Outcomes 2020-21</u></b> This pilot program has had 2234 attendees in 6 month period (approx. 97 per week) 90 participants were surveyed	<b>From the questionnaire statistics :-</b> <b><u>Excel Ref: MUC07 SS Youth Engagement Outcomes 2020-21</u></b>  92% had not participated in a Good Relations program before this one. <b>Knowledge</b> regarding cultural traditions and backgrounds. 43% had no knowledge 57% felt their knowledge had increased post event <b>Attitude:</b> towards people from a different religious background, increased by 81% towards people from a different ethnic background, increased by 81%

<b>Additional Project Level Outcomes (optional)</b>	
<b>2.22 Quotes from participants and stakeholders</b>	
<b>2.23 Learning for future programmes</b>	

PROJECT REPORT CARD - PROGRAMME NAME: Our Cultural Expression – Supporting BME Communities					
KEY WORDS				CODE	
DIVERSE SOCIAL INCLUSION CULTURE				MUC12	
Total cost of the programme (100%)		£33,000			
Total Number of participants		Direct	500	Indirect	2000
Participant Background Analysis		PUL	30%	Other	10%
		CNR	60%		
Project Level Outcome	Support Section 75 groups to participate in an active life within Mid Ulster GR officers will work with a series of marginalised groups including LGBT+, disability groups and women’s groups to encourage more inclusion and equality. Engage partner organisations within these sectors to deliver meaningful programmes that can change attitudes toward the more marginalised within our society.				
What did we do?		How well did we do it?			
<b>Quarter 1:</b> <b>Community Initiatives to support COVID-19 responses</b> £500.00 Ardboe O’Donovan Rossa GAC £220.00 Dgn Film Club £857.19 Newell Stores  <b>£10,000 STEP</b> STEP BME Inclusion - £10,000 This program continues to deliver to the BME community and has had to adapt to Covid guidelines and restrictions, with 1-1 mentoring and appointments for issue based advocacy online/virtual		<b>Quarter 1:</b> Numerous community initiatives to allow engagement during the Covid-19 pandemic. This has allowed a sense of inclusion within communities that would have otherwise felt isolated and vulnerable  <b>STEP BME Inclusion</b> This year’s programme has commenced and will continue to support the BME community in attaining rights based equality in areas such as employment, housing and health and further support to ensure access support to services on an equal basis. Monitoring of the programme will take place on a quarterly basis and updates provided will show numbers availing of advocacy services. Current numbers - 79 have availed of one or more services.			
<b>Quarter 2:</b>		<b>Quarter 2:</b> % attendance, % completion			

<p><b>Support for Section 75 Groups - £50.00 &amp; £50.00- Photography</b> of MU Pride Parade &amp; Launch events. Supports cost of MU Pride event. GR staff remain committed to supporting &amp; advising the new MU Pride committee. The group have launched early 2020 &amp; delivered a wide range of LGBTQ+ events, including the first 'Rural Pride' event. The group are reaching out to the vulnerable &amp; isolated LGBTQ+ community in Mid Ulster.</p> <p><b>Support for Development of Community Groups - £41.67 &amp; £77.92</b> Support with costs for East Timorese Association activity (See schedule of cost for breakdown). We are liaising with migrant groups translating Covid 19 guidelines into their native language, through the Churches, Schools and Adshels. This project aims to include migrant communities in the public health messages.</p>	<p>The MU rural pride event (Covid limits) involved 30 participants. Despite covid pandemic, ensuring LGBTQ+ community are represented &amp; included. Challenging homophobia at all levels. Improving mental health &amp; delivering on equality.</p> <p>Pre project outcome questionnaire will be completed December</p> <p>Delivering multi lingual messages around covid to ensure inclusiveness.</p>
<p><b>Quarter 3:</b> List of activities underway /completed</p> <p><b>STEP BME Inclusion</b> This project was delivered throughout Lockdown ensuring that BME residents were aware of the Health and Safety messages from the Public Health Agency regarding Covid 19 and dealt with all other concerns around this issue.</p> <p><b>Dungannon MS Support Group</b> - 60 telehealth video conferencing sessions for those with MS that cannot attend the local hall for the meetings. Approved £2,500</p> <p><b>Mid Ulster Pride</b> – Supporting first LGBTQ+ - Pride group in Mid Ulster. To support Pride activity and events in Mid Ulster. MU Pride is the first rural pride group in Ireland. Tackling a range of challenging issues – homophobia, equality and mental health issues. Support with events, planning &amp; health issues.</p>	<p><b>Quarter 3:</b> % attendance, % completion</p> <p><b>MS Support Group -Progress will be reported in Q4.</b></p> <p><b>Pride Monthly meetings (Zoom) planning; Pride members are planning a covid response to address isolation in the LGBTQ+ community. Planning health and wellbeing project.</b> <b>25 members of the group – Pre Questionnaire of sample 10 persons.</b></p> <p><b>Q4 – Reports &amp; Outcomes.</b> <b>MU Pride are running a social media campaign to support those affected by homophobia or require support as they disclose their sexuality. Particularly young persons in rural isolated communities.</b> <b>Phone line support &amp; Zoom meetings for members.</b></p>



<p>Costs :-</p> <p>Kiltonga Christian Centre - <b>£300 (Syrian Refugee support)</b></p> <p>STEP Training and Learning Ltd. - <b>£80 ( migrant support cost)</b></p>	<p><b>East Timorese Association</b> – Good Relations Officers continue to engage with ongoing support for this new support group in Mid Ulster. (TAIS - Timorese Association Inclusive Support Group).Ongoing advice concerning EU Settlement scheme, Brexit issues &amp; passport concerns. Engage with Portuguese consul, Home Office, and Timorese authorities on complex nationality issues affecting this community. <b>5 online meetings with Timorese Association &amp; Councillors. Meetings with Portuguese consul, Timor Leste Embassy and Home Office.</b></p> <p><b>Ongoing partnership with Stronger Together Network on BAME issues.</b></p> <p>Support for Timorese Christmas virtual event – For benefit of local Timor and families in East Timor. <b>Logistics and support to East Timor Christmas event at Hill of O’Neill – Recorded and circulated via YouTube.See link <a href="https://youtu.be/WsWRyjETrBI">https://youtu.be/WsWRyjETrBI</a></b></p> <p>Good Relations officers continue to get the Covid 19 regulations as issued by the PHA translated into Tetum, the native language of the East Timorese residents, and have the translations included in Church Bulletins and left in schools.</p> <p>Good Relations Officers are currently assisting this group to secure premises within the Dungannon area.</p> <p>Within Mid Ulster we have 3310 Portuguese citizens. Many of them will be from East Timor but it is impossible to estimate just how many.</p> <p>Romanians</p> <p>Good Relations officers estimate that there are approximately 460 Romanians living within the Mid Ulster District Council area.</p> <p><b>Syrians</b></p>
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	<p>The Syrian population has settled well into the Mid Ulster District Council area. Good Relations Officers attend the regular meetings organised by the NI Refugee Resettlement Scheme / Department of Communities. All translations regarding Covid, the March 2021 Census etc are issued to the Syrian families in Magherafelt, Cookstown and Dungannon.</p> <p>The UK government has announced that undocumented migrants can register with their doctors for a Covid vaccine without fear of being ejected by the Home Office. New residents within the Mid Ulster District Council have been made aware of this by the Good Relations Officers.</p>
<b>Quarter 4:</b> List of activities underway /completed	<b>Quarter 4:</b> % attendance, % completion
Dungannon MS Support Group - £2500	Dungannon MS Support Group - £2500
MU Pride – £4,000	MU Pride – £4,000
<b>Cross Community Environmental Program- £1,000</b> The 2 <sup>nd</sup> lockdown led to dramatic increase in level of people visiting public areas, hence increase in litter and GR linked with MU Environmental Services, by provided equipment for a cross community approach to clean up with all local community groups, estates, schools and youth groups and section 75 groups participating to make their area an inclusive place to live and contribute to an active life within Mid Ulster	<b>Cross Community Environmental Program-</b> 49 community clean ups – involving 5000 volunteers from minority groups (LGBT) that have not participated in activities like this before.
<b>Outward Focused Christmas (Studio Kin/Newell)- £1200</b> OFC was delivered by Vineyard Church Dungannon, where they delivered 408 hampers to vulnerable people within the community and linking in with MU Women's Aid and 20 other partnership agencies to deliver much needed provisions and essential items.	<b>Outward Focused Christmas</b> – 175 volunteers, preparing and delivering 408 - hampers across MU and 20 agencies providing much needed essentials to 2040 of our most vulnerable people at Christmas. <i>"I am totally overwhelmed at the generosity of Vineyard Church for the vulnerable families within the Mid-Ulster Area"</i>
What difference did we make?	
Number	%
<b>Quarter 1:</b> Numbers of all participants and beneficiaries will be reported when program complete.	Percentage of the total number surveyed will be reported when programme complete.
<b>Quarter 2:</b> Number of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet)	Percentage of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet) as a percentage of the total number surveyed

<p><b>Quarter 3:</b> Number of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet)</p>	<p>Percentage of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet) as a percentage of the total number surveyed</p> <p>STEP-Pre evaluation has shown that less than 20% of those contacting STEP felt included in the provision of information around the pandemic.</p> <p>Post evaluation shows that over 50% felt included and supported as part of the community, and by the community. This was an increase of 50%.</p>
<p><b>Quarter 4:</b> Number of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet)</p> <p><b><u>Excel Ref: MUC12 CC Environmental Program Outcomes 2020-21</u></b> 49 community clean ups – involving 5000 volunteers 49 participants were surveyed (1 per group)</p>	<p>Percentage of positive changes recorded (a 1 or more on the Excel spreadsheet) as a percentage of the total number surveyed</p> <p><b>From the questionnaire statistics :</b> <b><u>Excel Ref: MUC12 CC Environmental Program Outcomes 2020-21</u></b> 94% had not participated in a Good Relations program before this one. <b>Knowledge</b> regarding cultural traditions and backgrounds. 49% had no knowledge 51% felt their knowledge had increased post event <b>Attitude:</b> towards people from a different religious background, increased by 73% towards people from a different ethnic background, increased by 73%</p> <p><b><u>Mid Ulster Pride</u></b> 60% had not participated in a Good Relations program before this one. <b>Knowledge</b> regarding cultural traditions and backgrounds. <b>Attitude:</b> towards people from a different religious background, increased by 80% towards people from a different ethnic background, increased by 70%</p>
<p><b>Additional Project Level Outcomes (optional)</b></p>	

<b>2.22 Quotes from participants and stakeholders</b>	Rev Rawding –‘Mid Ulster Pride delivered the first Rural Pride event in Ireland !’
<b>2.23 Learning for future programmes</b>	

## Strategic Action: Support the community and voluntary sector to build capacity and promote volunteering opportunities

**Lead: MUDC**

### Indicators

Measure	Source	Baseline Year 2018	2021
Registered Community and Voluntary groups on MUDC Database	Mid Ulster District Council	1000	

### What are we doing?

1. Support and develop community volunteering opportunities across Mid Ulster through grant and investment support to community development infrastructure through grants and strategic support programme over 3 years
2. Establish a good practice guide/IT resource to share case studies and support to Groups
3. Develop a recognition process for proactive volunteering
4. Mapping of Partner Volunteering Programmes
5. Link with young people's volunteering programmes (Duke of Edinburgh Award and John Paul II Scheme) and greater engagement with community

### Progress

#### How much did we do?

##### Food Parcels

- 200 food boxes delivered each week
- 30 community groups p each week
- 100 volunteers each week

##### Be-Friending Support

Over 120 individuals supported

##### Food Banks

- £360,000 funding support distributed
- Over 1,500 people/families supported

#### How well did we do it?

##### Food Parcels

Multi partnership system referral and food parcels distribution was established within 14 days.

##### PPE

Over 50% of the PPE purchased was allocated to care homes

**PPE**

- £25,000 of PPE purchased for CVS
- £3000 material purchased to make scrubs
- Over 300 scrubs made and donated to health sector

**Counselling Services**

- £80,000 support was provided to
- 8 local community counselling services participated
- Over 2,500 counselling sessions provided
- over 500 people supported

**Advice Services**

- £100,000 distributed

**Fuel Vouchers**

- £200,00 fuel vouchers distributed
- Over 4000 families supported
- 120 schools participated

**Grants – Sustaining our strategic support and venues – annual support**

- £80,000 grants issued
- 44 community venues supported
- £200,000 grants issued to strategic groups
- 20 strategic groups supported

**Grants - keeping people engaged**

- £200,000 small community, arts, sports grants issued
- over 200 groups supported

**Covid 19 Emergency Support Small Grant**

- £30,000 small grant programme allocated
- 30 groups supported

**Is Anyone Better Off**

Social Investment Return: for every £1 of resourcing by the Council there is a £7 dividend in respect of volunteer input.

**Update**

Community Support concentrated for this reporting period focused on the Covid19 response by the community & voluntary sector and partners support to the sector.

Mid Ulster District Council launched an interactive online map with details of all the local community support during the COVID19 pandemic. The online community hub provided details of the many local groups and organisations offering support, including community groups, food banks, pharmacies delivering prescriptions and local shops offering food delivery services.

### **Food Parcels**

Up to 200 food boxes were distributed every week to those among the most vulnerable as part of a scheme introduced by the Department for Communities (DfC) that aimed to provide food to vulnerable people who have been notified to shield by their GPs, who could not afford food and did not have access to local support networks. Dedicated teams in the health trusts and Mid Ulster Council managed referrals from the COVID-19 helpline and worked with over 30 local community groups and over 100 volunteers, each week, to arrange deliveries to those in real need.

### **Be-Friending Support**

Council developed a befriending scheme in partnership with the Trusts and Agewell to offer daily contact with people who were shielding or isolated as a result the pandemic. Over 120 individuals benefited from this initiative.

### **Food Banks**

In the region of £360,000 was distributed, in partnership between DfC and Mid Ulster District Council, to support people in food and fuel crisis over the year. Support was provided to local foodbanks and SVP Societies to support them in assisting groups, including bringing groups together to network and maximize resources targeting as many people and families as possible. Over 5,000 food packages and fuel were distributed over the period to over 1,500 people/families for a number of weeks. This was complemented by the foodbanks and SVP's own resources.

### **PPE**

Partner grant funding between DfC and Mid Ulster District Council was allocated to local groups to support groups help their communities during this period. Mid Ulster District Council purchased £25,000 of PPE to support the community and care sector. Over 50% of the PPE purchased was allocated to care homes so that they could continue to look after their residents safely and the remainder was distributed to community groups supporting the delivery of food parcels to those in need across the district. Volunteers across Mid Ulster were also supported to make scrubs with a donation of £3000 to source the material required. This provided over 300 scrubs to those in need.

### **Community Counselling**

£80,000 support was provided to eight local community counselling services across the District to support networking, capacity building and engagement with other mental health provision. Over 2,500 counselling sessions were provided to over 500 people.

### **Advice Services**

Additional funding support of £100,000 was provided by DfC, through Mid Ulster Council, to support the districts main advice provision contract, to allow for additional advisor support and tribunals case work arising from Welfare Reform implementation.

### **Fuel Vouchers**

over 4,000 Mid Ulster families received support to tackle fuel poverty in a scheme co-ordinated by Mid Ulster District Council, funded by the Department for Communities and delivered in partnership with primary and secondary schools in Mid Ulster. The £200,000 programme aimed to help those experiencing difficulties in heating their homes, with fuel vouchers being distributed in partnership with post-primary and primary schools to families in receipt of free school meals. In a matter of weeks from announcing the scheme, 4,000 families received vital support towards fuel

costs, helping to ease the overall financial burden that people most in need in local communities were facing. Mid Ulster District Council continues to provide support to charities responding to local people in food and fuel crisis.

**Grants – Sustaining our strategic support and venues – annual support**

Grants of £80,000 were issued to 44 community venues and verified to provide continued support to sustain and for continued costs when they were not able to open.

Grants of £200,000 were issued to 20 strategic groups to allow them to continue to keep staff and premises to allow them to sustain their services post social isolation closures.

**Grants - keeping people engaged**

Small community, arts, sports grants of £200,000 were issued to over 200 groups to allow them to sustain their local community activity and continue to keep people engaged via online and other activity in line with social distancing.

**Covid 19 Emergency Support Small Grant**

Small grant programme that allocated £30,000 to around 30 groups who were active in emergency response support through lockdown, support those most vulnerable and isolated in the community.



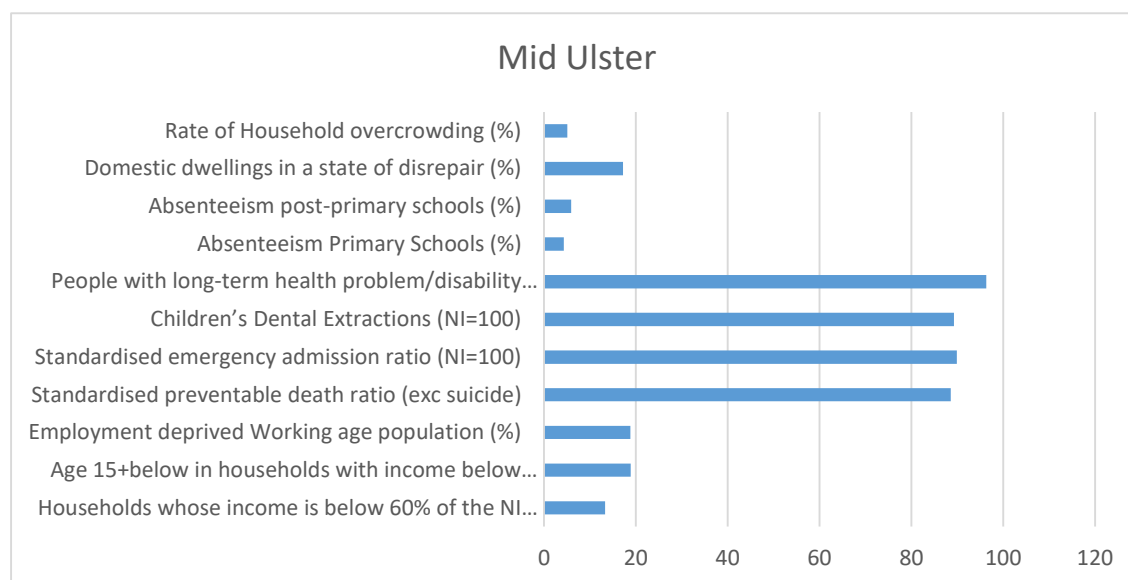
## Strategic Action: We have fewer people living in poverty and fewer areas of disadvantage

**Lead: MUDC**

### Indicators

NISRA Multiple Deprivation Measures

#### Baseline – NISRA Multiple Deprivation Measures 2017



#### What are we doing?

Poverty is real: it exists within our District; it is not a lifestyle choice and it is not inevitable: we can do something about it. Mid Ulster Community Planning is working in partnership to reduce poverty and the impact of poverty on individuals and communities within Mid Ulster, through the development of a Community Plan led Poverty Plan for the District to seek to reduce inequalities between areas over time and move towards a better quality of life for everyone.

## Progress

### How much did we do?

Development of a Mid Ulster Poverty Plan.

To be completed as actions are delivered.

### How well did we do it?

To be completed as actions are delivered.

### Is Anyone Better Off?

To be completed as actions are delivered.

## Update

In 2019 Mid Ulster Community Planning partners came together from statutory agencies, business and community to look at a range of priorities impacting on poverty; with the aim to create a Poverty Plan that seeks:

1. To identify issues of poverty
2. To identify partner agency commitments to addressing poverty
3. To identify good practice in addressing poverty – what works well and could be developed further
4. To identify key issues of poverty for Mid Ulster and gaps in provision
5. To identify strategic actions for partner delivery

The following steps were taken to develop this paper:

**Step 1** – Desk based data analysis and research of the main/key determinants of poverty in the district (see appendix 1)

**Step 2** – Community Planning Cross Thematic Workshop with Community Planning partners and other relevant statutory and community/voluntary sector organisations to identify issues, current provision, gaps and potential actions. A update paper was issued to all for further comment.

**Step 3** – Working group was held with elected members for input based on needs and local issues.

**Step 4** – Virtual workshop was held with Community Planning Partners for comment.

The Anti Poverty Plan was produced and endorsed by the Community Planning Partners in early 2021. A delivery action plan has been developed and work has commenced with partners on delivery of the actions.

One of the actions implemented in Summer 2021 was the delivery of a Summer Free Play programme to 650 children aged between 7 and 11 years in Cookstown, Dungannon, Magherafelt, Maghera, Coalisland and Fivemiletown with free lunch provision each day and the delivery of reduced price 5,743 (£1) sessions for young people (soft play, teen gym, courts, driving range, Par 3, athletics track, tennis & 3g pitch) in all Mid Ulster District Council leisure centres.

<b>Report on</b>	Environmental Health Reporting
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> December 2021
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Kieran Gordon, Assistant Director Health, Leisure & Wellbeing
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Kieran Gordon, Assistant Director Health, Leisure & Wellbeing

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To provide information on the addition of the Environmental Health service area and associated matters to the Development Committee from January 2021 onwards.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	<p>The Council agreed a new organisational structure in July 2021 which resulted in a series of changes to the then Council structure. During October 2021, Members considered and agreed to the proposed alignment to Committees and reporting arising from the new structure.</p> <p>The key changes to the structure relating to the Development Committee are that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Environmental Health and its associated functions will now fall within the new Communities and Place Department and be delivered alongside Leisure, Parks and Events in a new combined service area under the remit of the Assistant Director for Health, Leisure and Wellbeing.</li> </ul>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	Members will be aware that Environmental Health matters and associated statutory functions would have previously been reported through, and decisions resolved via the Environment Committee.
3.2	From the 13 <sup>th</sup> January 2021, all Environmental Health matters and associated statutory functions that require decision, that are for information or that have relevance to Chair's business shall be via the Development Committee.
3.3	A separate report detailing proposed amendments to the Council's Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers to reflect the new organisational structure was considered at the Policy and Resources Committee meeting on 2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2021. As the Chief Executive continues to fill the new organisational structure, the post of Strategic Director of Communities and Place is being recruited for and vacant at this time therefore the proposal is that the Council's Director of Public

	Health and Infrastructure, or in their absence the Chief Executive, be delegated areas pertaining to Environmental Health and related matters, where required under the Scheme until such times as the Strategic Director of Communities and Place takes up post.
3.4	Further details are provided within the appendix highlighting the previously approved changes for Council committee structures to take effect from January 2022 and a list of the statutory functions that fall within the Environmental Health area which will now be transferred from the Environment Committee to Members of the Development Committee for January 2022 onwards.
3.5	<p>Below is a general list of the matters referred to the Development Committee (<i>note this list is not exhaustive</i>):</p> <p>(i) The committee is delegated the power to exercise the council's licensing functions in connection with its Environmental Health functions.</p> <p>(ii) The following functions stand referred to the committee:-</p> <p>To consider business and make recommendations to Council on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administration and management of cultural venues</li> <li>• Arts Development service delivery matters</li> <li>• Regional and Minority Languages requirements</li> <li>• Management of Leisure Services</li> <li>• Sports Development service delivery matters</li> <li>• Management and development of Water Recreation Sites transferred from central government</li> <li>• Management and development of Parks &amp; Open Spaces</li> <li>• Management and development of Play Areas</li> <li>• Administration of matters pertaining to countryside access and related matters</li> <li>• Management of Community Services</li> <li>• Policing and Community Safety Partnership</li> <li>• Management of Rural Development Programme</li> <li>• Administration and management of Local Economic Development</li> <li>• Delivery of Physical Regeneration initiatives</li> <li>• Administration and management of functions and powers transferred from central government departments for Social Development and Enterprise, Trade &amp; Investment</li> <li>• Tourism service delivery matters</li> <li>• Council and Community Events</li> <li>• Environmental Health service delivery matters</li> </ul>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b>
	Financial: N/A

	Human: N/A
	Risk Management: N/A
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/A
	Rural Needs Implications: N/A
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	To note the contents of this report that details the changes to the Development Committee from January 2022 onwards.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
	Appendix A: Changes to Committee Structures and Environmental Health statutory functions.



## Appendix A: Changes to Committee Structures and Environmental Health statutory functions.

Audit	Planning	Policy & Resources	Development	Environment
<b>Reporting January 2022</b>	<b>Reporting January 2022</b>	<b>Reporting January 2022</b>	<b>Reporting January 2022</b>	<b>Reporting January 2022</b>
Strategic Director: Corporate Services and Finance	Service Director: Planning  Head: Development Plan & Enforcement Head: Development Management	Strategic Director: Corporate Services and Finance Strategic Director Organisational Development, Strategy & Performance  Ass Director: Finance, Legal, Governance & Transformation Ass Director: Organisational Development, Strategy & Performance  Head: Marketing & Communications Head: ICT Head: Democratic Services Head of Human Resources	Strategic Director: Communities & Place  Ass Director: Health, Leisure & Well Being Ass Director: Development, Strategic Community Development Ass Director: Economic Development, Tourism & Strategic Programmes	Strategic Director: Environment  Ass Director Environmental Services Ass Director Property  Head of Technical Services
<b>Current Reporting</b>	<b>Current Reporting</b>	<b>Current Reporting</b>	<b>Current Reporting</b>	<b>Current Reporting</b>
Director of Finance	Planning Manager  Head: Development Plan & Enforcement Head: Development Management	Director: Finance Director: Organisational Development  Head: Finance Head: ICT Head of HR Head: Democratic Services Council Solicitor	Director: Business & Communities Director: Leisure & Outdoor Recreation  Head: Leisure Head: Parks Head: Community Dev. Head: Economic Dev. Head: Tourism Head: Culture Arts Leisure	Director: Public Health & Infrastructure  Head: Building Control Head: Env. Health Head: Technical Services Head: Env. Services Head: Property Services

**STATUTORY RULES *(as included within Council's Scheme of Delegation)***  
**Environmental Health Functions**

Legislation	<p>Animal By Products Regulations (NI) 2003</p> <p>Anti-Social Behaviour (NI) Order 2004</p> <p>Betting, Gaming, Lotteries &amp; Amusements (NI) Order 1985</p> <p>Building Regulations (NI) Order 1979 (as amended)</p> <p>Building Regulations (NI) 2012 (as amended)</p> <p>Building (Prescribed Fees) Regulations (NI) 1997 (as amended)</p> <p>Caravans Act (Northern Ireland) 1963</p> <p>Children and Young Persons (Protection from Tobacco) (Northern Ireland) Order 1991</p> <p>Cinemas (NI) 1994</p> <p>Clean Air (Northern Ireland) Order 1981</p> <p>Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (NI) 2011</p> <p>Construction Products Regulations 1991</p> <p>Consumer Protection Act 1987</p> <p>Dangerous Dogs 1991</p> <p>Dogs (NI) Order 1983</p> <p>Energy Performance of Buildings (Certificates and Inspections)(Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2014</p> <p>Environment (NI) Order 2003</p> <p>European Communities Act 1972</p> <p>Fire &amp; Rescue Services NI Order 2006</p> <p>Food and Environment Protection Act 1985</p> <p>Food Hygiene Regulations (NI) 2006</p> <p>Food Labelling Regulations (NI) 1996</p> <p>Food (Northern Ireland) Order 1989</p> <p>Food safety (Temperature Control) Regulations (NI) 1995</p> <p>Food Safety (Northern Ireland) Order 1991</p> <p>General Product Safety Regulations 2005</p> <p>Good Rule and Government Bylaws</p> <p>Hairdressers Act (NI) 1939</p> <p>Health and Safety at Work (Northern Ireland) Order 1978</p> <p>Health and Personal Social Services (NI) Order 1978</p> <p>High Hedges Act (NI) 2011</p> <p>Industrial Pollution Control (Northern Ireland) Order 1997</p>
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	<p>Licensing (NI) Order 1996</p> <p>Litter (Northern Ireland) Order 1994</p> <p>Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 1972 - Byelaws</p> <p>Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1985</p> <p>Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1992</p> <p>Noise Act 1996</p> <p>Petroleum (Consolidation) Act (NI) 1929</p> <p>Pleasure Grounds Bylaws</p> <p>Poisons (Northern Ireland) Order 1976</p> <p>Pollution Control and Local Government (Northern Ireland) Order 1978</p> <p>Pollution Prevention and Control Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003</p> <p>Private Tenancies (NI) Order 2006</p> <p>Public Health Acts 1878 to 1971</p> <p>Public Health and Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1949</p> <p>Rats and Mice Destruction Act 1919</p> <p>REACH Enforcement Regulations 2008</p> <p>Rent (Northern Ireland) Order 1978</p> <p>Shops (Sunday Trading etc) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997</p> <p>Street Trading Act (Northern Ireland) 2001</p> <p>Smoking (NI) Order 2006 and associated Regulations</p> <p>Sunbeds Act (Northern Ireland) 2011</p> <p>Safety of Sports Grounds (Northern Ireland) Order 2006</p> <p>Tobacco Advertising and Promotion Act 2002</p> <p>Volatile Organic Compounds in Paints, Varnishes and Vehicle Refinishing Products Regulations 2005</p> <p>Waste and Contaminated Land (NI) Order 1997</p> <p>Welfare of Animals Act (NI) 2011</p> <p>Welfare Services Act (Northern Ireland) 1971</p> <p><b><u>EC Regulations</u></b></p> <p>Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 Laying Down the General Principles and requirements of Food Law, Establishing the</p>
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	<p>European food Safety Authority and Laying Down Procedures in matters of Food Safety</p> <p>Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 The Hygiene of Foodstuffs</p> <p>Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 Laying Down Specific Hygiene Rules for Food of Animal Origin</p> <p>Regulation (EC) No 854/2004 Laying Down Specific Rules for the Organisation of Official Controls on Products of Animal Origin Intended for Human Consumption</p> <p>Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 Official Controls Performed to Ensure the Verification of Compliance with Feed and Food law, Animal Health and Animal Welfare Rules</p> <p>Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006 concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals.</p>
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<b>Report on</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cookstown Town Centre Forum Minutes 15.09.21 &amp; 19.10.21</li> <li>2. Coalisland Town Centre Forum Minutes 27.09.21</li> <li>3. High Street Task Force: Call For Evidence 2021</li> <li>4. TRPSI Rural Business Development Grant Scheme 2021/22</li> <li>5. NI Apprenticeship Week 2022 (NIAW2022)</li> </ol>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	8 December 2021
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Assistant Director of Economy, Tourism & Strategic Programmes

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To provide Members with an update on key activities as detailed below.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	<p><b>Cookstown Town Centre Forum Minutes 15.09.21 &amp; 19.10.21</b> Cookstown Town Centre Forum was established in 2002 to develop a partnership approach for the development and delivery of key town centre initiatives. The Forum meets at regular intervals throughout the year.</p>
2.2	<p><b>Coalisland Town Centre Forum Minutes 27.09.21</b> Coalisland Town Centre Forum was established in March 2019. It is a partnership of public, private, community and voluntary sector organisations working together to deliver a range of strategic economic actions to develop Coalisland town.</p>
2.3	<p><b>High Street Task Force: Call For Evidence 2021</b> The Northern Ireland Executive Office is seeking views on its initial findings and potential solutions for key issues facing our high streets.</p> <p>The High Street Task Force (HSTF), a group formed by The Executive Office, has identified the challenges and issues that our high streets face. The HSTF is now seeking views on solutions to support our high streets and to contribute to the development of thriving and sustainable city, town and village centres.</p>

2.4	<p><b>TRPSI Rural Business Development Grant Scheme 2021/22</b></p> <p>The Rural Micro Business Development Grant Scheme is funded through DAERA's Tackling Rural Poverty and Social Isolation programme (TRPSI). This year's Scheme opened for applications on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021 and closed at 12noon on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2021.</p>
2.5	<p><b>NI Apprenticeship Week (NIAW2022)</b></p> <p>The Department for the Economy is facilitating the third annual Northern Ireland Apprenticeship Week, which will take place from Monday 7<sup>th</sup> to Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2022. This week will offer an opportunity through a dedicated week of virtual events and online promotional activity to demonstrate how apprenticeships work for individuals, businesses, communities and the wider economy.</p>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	<p><b>Cookstown Town Centre Forum Minutes 15.09.21 &amp; 19.10.21</b></p> <p>Minutes of meetings of Cookstown Town Centre Forum held on the 15<sup>th</sup> September &amp; 19<sup>th</sup> October 2021 are attached at <b>Appendix 1</b></p>
3.2	<p><b>Coalisland Town Centre Forum Minutes 27.09.21</b></p> <p>Minutes of the meeting of Coalisland Town Centre Forum held on the 27<sup>th</sup> September 2021 are attached at <b>Appendix 2</b>.</p>
3.3	<p><b>High Street Task Force: Call For Evidence 2021</b></p> <p>The High Street Task Force (HSTF) has undertaken work to identify challenges and issues that our high streets face. The HSTF is now seeking views on solutions to support our high streets and to contribute to the development of thriving and sustainable city, town and village centres.</p> <p>The vision is "Sustainable city, town and village centres which are thriving places for people to do business, socialise, shop, be creative and use public services as well as being great places to live."</p> <p>As part of this process, the Executive Office launched a Call for Evidence, which is available on <b>Appendix 3</b>. The Call For Evidence opened on 25 October 2021 and closed again on 6 December 2021.</p> <p>Six workshops were held across NI, including one in the Burnavon Arts and Cultural Centre, Cookstown on Tuesday 9th November 2021 to which a number of Council's economic development staff attended.</p> <p>HSTF identified 14 themes in this Call for Evidence with 46 questions seeking a response. The themes are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Partnerships</li> <li>2 Follow Best Practice</li> <li>3 Investment</li> <li>4 Planning</li> <li>5 Public Realm</li> <li>6 Fiscal - Including Rates</li> </ol>

3.4	<p>7 Capacity 8 Energy, Climate Change and Sustainability 9 Housing and Other Infrastructure 10 Getting To and From the High Street 11 Tourism 12 Digital High Streets 13 Rural Settlements 14 People, Localism and Well-being</p> <p>The High Street Task Force will collate all information gathered across the workshops and responses to the Call for Evidence to create a draft report, with recommendations, which will be subject to consultation and equality considerations before a final report is presented for agreement by the Executive by Spring 2022.</p> <p>Council officers are currently undertaking a series of Traders meetings to obtain their views on the issues above and will also be engaging with the respective Town Centre Forums. The feedback received will then be collated into a Council response for submission by 6 December 2021 deadline. The consultation response will be brought to the next available meeting of the Development Committee to seek retrospective approval from Members.</p> <p><b>TRPSI Rural Business Development Grant Scheme 2021/22</b> This Scheme is targeted at the rural micro business sector and will provide capital grant aid of up to £4,999 funded at 50% of eligible costs. Mid Ulster Council has a funding allocation of £140,000 from DAERA for this year's scheme.</p> <p>208 applications were received before the closing date and a further 12 received late. There was sifting of projects received to identify further late applications received in full or in part as well as applications submitted from other Council areas in error.</p> <p>Eligibility checks were carried out on applications received before they were assessed and scored.</p> <p>The value of applications received was in the region of £640,000 so considerably above the funding allocation available. Eligible applications were scored and ranked highest to lowest with grant awarded in ranked order until exhausted.</p> <p>After assessment there were a total of 93 eligible projects, with grant award totalling £306,513.67. DAERA agreed to uplift their funding to allow all these projects to proceed and avail of funding.</p> <p>Delegated authority was previously granted to the Chief Executive to sign and issue letters of offer approved under the Scheme. 3 businesses have withdrawn from the scheme since letter of offer issue.</p> <p>A full list of all successful grant recipients is enclosed on <b>Appendix 4</b>.</p>
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3.5	<p><b>NI Apprenticeship Week (NIAW 2022)</b></p> <p>There will be a programme of events taking place right across Northern Ireland as part of the second annual Apprenticeship Week NI from Monday 7 to Friday 11 February 2022. The theme of NIAW2022 is “<i>Apprenticeship is your future</i>”. One of the main priorities of the industry-led MEGA Network is to increase the number of apprenticeships within the manufacturing and engineering sector in Mid Ulster. A survey completed in October 2021 identified that within 39 MEGA companies there are 643 current vacancies and the majority of these are within level 2 &amp; 3 roles. South West College’s intake for September 2021 for level 2 apprenticeships dropped from 250 to 180. MEGA’s key target for 2022 is to promote apprenticeships at level 2 &amp; 3 to ensure higher uptake for September 2022. As part of this year’s NIAW2021 programme, it is planned to support MEGA to develop promotional videos to help promote Level 2 and 3 apprenticeships; the target audience will include students, teachers, parents and employers.</p>
	<b>Other Considerations</b>
4.1	<p><b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b></p> <p>Financial:  <b>TRPSI Rural Business Development Grant Scheme 21/22</b>  Grant aid provided by DAERA. An administration budget of 10% of the funding allocation available to Council.</p> <p>Human:  <b>TRPSI Rural Business Development Grant Scheme 21/22</b>  Officers time</p> <p>Risk Management:  <b>TRPSI Rural Business Development Grant Scheme 21/22</b>  Council policies and procedures were adhered to in the roll out of this plan.</p>
4.2	<p><b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b></p> <p>Equality &amp; Good Relations Implications:  <b>TRPSI Rural Business Development Grant Scheme</b>  Equality and Good Relations screening has been carried out prior to commencement of the Scheme.</p> <p>Rural Needs Implications:  <b>TRPSI Rural Business Development Grant Scheme</b>  Screening has been carried out prior to commencement of the Scheme.</p>

<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
	It is recommended that Members;
5.1	<b>Cookstown Town Centre Forum Minutes 15.09.21 &amp; 19.10.21</b> <b>Note</b> minutes of Cookstown Town Centre Forum held 15 September 2021 & 19 October 2021.
5.2	<b>Coalisland Town Centre Forum Minutes 27.09.21</b> <b>Note</b> minutes of Coalisland Town Centre Forum held on 27 September 2021.
5.3	<b>High Street Task Force: Call For Evidence 2021</b> <b>Note</b> the timescales to submit a response to the High Street Task Force consultation is 6 December 2021. Council's full consultation response will be provided to Members at the next available Committee in January 2022.
5.4	<b>TRPSI Rural Business Development Grant Scheme 2021/22</b> <b>Note</b> progress on the TRPSI Rural Business Development Grant Scheme 2021/22.
5.5	<b>NI Apprenticeship Week (NIAW2022)</b> <b>Note</b> update on NI Apprenticeship Week.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
	<p>Appendix 1 – Minutes of Cookstown Town Centre Forum 5.09.21 &amp; 19.10.21</p> <p>Appendix 2 – Minutes of Coalisland Town Centre Forum 27.09.21</p> <p>Appendix 3 - High Street Task Force 2021 Consultation Document</p> <p>Appendix 4 - List of successful applicants under the TRPSI Rural Business Development Grants Scheme 2021/22</p>





## Appendix 1

# **MINUTES OF COOKSTOWN TOWN CENTRE FORUM MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2021 AT 12.30PM VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

### **Present:**

Councillor McNamee	Mid Ulster District Council
Councillor Wilson	Mid Ulster District Council
Councillor Mallaghan	Mid Ulster District Council
Sharon McGowan	Department for Communities
Conall McKee	DFI Roads NI
Ursula Marshall	Cookstown Disability Forum
Annette McGahan	Mid Ulster PCSP
Andrew McConnell	Large Retailer
Paul Wilson	Large Independent Retailer
Mary McCullagh	) Mid Ulster District Council
Colin McKenna	

**In attendance:** Deborah Ewing ) Mid Ulster District Council

## **1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillor Mark Glasgow and Councillor Wilbert Buchanan, Mid Ulster District Council; TP Sheehy, Small Independent Retailer; Bernie Sonner, Tenants Association; Sean MacMahon, Property Developer; John Downey, PSNI; Peter Beckett, Large Retailer; Fiona McKeown, Mid Ulster District Council.

## **2. MINUTES OF TOWN CENTRE FORUM MEETING 1 SEPTEMBER 2020**

It was proposed by U Marshall and seconded by Cllr McNamee to ADOPT the minutes of the Town Centre Forum Meeting held on 1 September 2020.

## **3. MINUTES OF TOWN CENTRE FORUM MEETING 22 SEPTEMBER 2020**

It was proposed by U Marshall and seconded by Cllr Wilson to ADOPT the minutes of the Town Centre Forum Meeting held on 22 September 2020.

#### **4. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

#### **5. UPDATE ON TOWN CENTRE RECOVERY PLAN/MID ULSTER TOWN CENTRE PROJECTS**

M McCullagh advised members that the Government's High Street Voucher Scheme will open to applications on Monday 27 September 2021 and close Monday 25 October 2021. A phone line service will be available from Monday 11 October 2021. It is anticipated that cards will be issued to successful applicants between 5 and 7 days after applying. All vouchers must be spent by Tuesday 30 November 2021. She advised members that she will forward the link with the relevant information and requested that any queries or issues from traders are forwarded to Council to enable elected members to take them forward through the appropriate channels. The Council Chair will be issuing a news release encouraging the public to shop local. This will also be promoted across Council's social media sites.

The Town Centre Managers Progress Report had been circulated to members prior to the meeting. M McCullagh provided an update on Mid Ulster Town Centre Projects as follows:

##### **a) Marketing & Promotion**

Support was provided for the initial re-opening of businesses in April 2021 following Covid-19 lockdown. This involved active engagement with local businesses to participate in the campaign and to encourage the local residents to reconnect with the towns and village centres. Marketing videos were developed and promoted on Council's social media platforms which focussed on the 'Welcome Back Campaign' and included the following sectors from across the Mid Ulster District:

- Close Contact Services (23 April 2021)
- Non Essential Retail & Outdoor Hospitality (30 April 2021)
- Hospitality (also press adverts – 24 May 2021)

As we progress out of lockdown the message will change to 'Love Local Campaign' which will entail:

- Link to Public Health messaging
- Delivery of a wide range of marketing activities which will be linked to key retail periods and include outdoor advertising, social media videos and press adverts
- Promotion of Government's High Street Voucher Scheme

Council are currently providing music throughout each Saturday in September in Cookstown, Dungannon and Magherafelt town centres. The location for Cookstown is outside the vacant Boots site on James Street. Council staff will also be on each Saturday providing branded bags and facemasks to the public.

Cllr Wilson expressed concern on the location of the entertainment, stating that it is quite removed from the main thoroughfare and therefore not having the impact. M McCullagh advised that Council had initially sought to locate in the scene doc area of the Burnavon but due to Covid vaccine centre and events which required access this was not an option. Another option was Molesworth Plaza which members agreed was also too far removed.

Members requested that now Council have taken over the rights to the Saturday Market that there should be an initiative in place to promote the market and the town centre at the same time. Discussion took place on the rebranding of the market and how it could be developed i.e. artisan, farmers market, crafts etc.

Cllr Mallaghan stated that a good strategy and action plan is required to revive the market and recommended that other market towns are reviewed as a guide to good practice. M McCullagh advised that she and Mary McKeown, Tourism Manager, are currently involved in researching town centre markets, including areas of good practice. An update will be provided when available.

P Wilson advised that Cookstown Chamber of Commerce would be keen to be involved in generation of ideas and future of the Market.

## **b) Business Support**

### **(i) Mid Ulster Gift Card Scheme**

Mid Ulster District Council's Gift Card Scheme is ongoing. Council are currently in the process of procuring an external organisation to assist with the set up and ongoing support of the development and deliver. A minimum contract term will be 3 years with break clauses annually.

It is anticipated that the card will be launched by Christmas 2021. Council will encourage Mid Ulster businesses to sign up and participate for free. M McCullagh noted that the promotion will be closely monitored to ensure there is no confusion between the High Street Voucher Scheme and Mid Ulster Gift Card.

### **(ii) Mid Ulster Business Marketing Scheme**

A small grants 'Mid Ulster Business Marketing Scheme' opened Monday 2 August 2021 at 9am to Mid Ulster businesses. Eligible businesses can apply for revenue grants of up to £300, on a first come, first served basis until the funding is fully allocated. Applications can only be accepted through completion of an online form.

The Scheme aims to assist businesses with their marketing efforts as they recover from the effects of the pandemic and includes support towards developing improved online presence, click and collect services, promotional activity, merchandising and window displays, use of influencers/vloggers/bloggers etc.

M McCullagh can provide further information to members if required and requested that they encourage businesses to apply to the scheme. C McKenna stated that there has been a good response from businesses to date with 478 Letters of Offer issued to date.

Cllr McNamee sought clarification on how much funding is still available with M McCullagh stating that there is money available for approximately 800 businesses.

### **c) Physical Regeneration/Improving Infrastructure**

#### **(i) Rural Regeneration Projects**

Under the Rural Development Programme a total of 37 villages will access funding to develop and deliver projects identified through their respective village plans. To date projects have been identified through the village planning process and consultation with the local community groups to determine projects that can access grant aid through the Programme.

A professional led design consultancy team was appointed to commence design schemes for the various projects identified in the villages. A cross council working group has been established for the lifetime of the project. Economic Development Officers are working alongside Technical Services to deliver the schemes. Assistance has been provided to 10 of the 11 villages in the former Cookstown District Council area. Projects have been completed in Ardboe, Ballyronan, Orritor, Lissan, Drumullan, Coagh, Rock, Sandholes, Moortown and Pomeroy. Broughderg is the only outstanding village at present and it is anticipated that it will be complete in the near future.

#### **(ii) Mid Ulster Town and Village Spruce Up Scheme**

Mid Ulster Town and Village Spruce Up Scheme offers discretionary grants of up to 75% eligible costs, capped at £5,000 per property for external and/or internal improvements. Knox and Clayton were appointed to assist in the delivery i.e. assessment of applications and management and monitoring of the successful projects.

The Scheme is now in year 3, Phase 3. Phase 1 and Phase 2 projects are now complete. In April 2021, 73 Letters of Offer were issued to businesses under Phase 3 to a total value of £250,000. Members were advised that another scheme cannot be opened until the current scheme ends. M McCullagh stated that the business community still have an appetite for this type of scheme.

#### **(iii) Shared Space Application**

At the 22 September 2020 Cookstown Town Centre Forum meeting a concept drawing was presented for a proposed project under Active Travel for the area adjacent to the Burnavon. This concept was subsequently removed under Active Travel and was successful under a Peace application, and forms one of 5 projects for each of the towns of Mid Ulster.

Comments from the meeting were forwarded accordingly and further discussions have taken place. The location for the proposed project has been reviewed and potentially may result in the relocation to Molesworth Street – in the space adjacent to Molesworth Plaza. ICT team are currently being appointed and drawings are being prepared. Updates will be provided as the scheme progresses. Claire Linney, Head of Community Development, is the main point of contact for the project.

U Marshall requested who would be responsible for maintaining the space once work is complete. M McCullagh advised that insurances and liability issues are currently ongoing with McAleer & Rushe, once clarified members will be updated.

Councillor McNamee thanked M McCullagh for the update.

## **6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

### **(i) Update on Corporate Council Events 2021**

Michael Browne, Head of Tourism, joined the meeting to present on the proposal for corporate events in 2021.

He advised members that his department are reviewing the process for providing corporate events across the district and presenting at the next Council meeting their recommendations on corporate events for Halloween and Christmas. There is normally 17 corporate events held annually throughout the district but due to the current situation with Covid-19 and the restrictions, the delivery of the events has been impossible to facilitate.

In line with this, it has been recommended that both Halloween and Christmas events are provided virtually. This will include the consideration of animation in the town centres prior to Christmas.

M Browne advised that Council are reaching out to community groups across the district with the aim to upscale the events which they currently run i.e. the Magherafelt fire department driving through the town with Santa. On the Saturdays prior to Christmas it has been proposed that street theatre/walkabouts/music may be options.

M Browne thanked the members for their time and stated that an update will be provided when available.

### **(ii) Timing of Forum Meetings**

P Wilson requested that dates for the next 4 meetings are issued in advance to members. M McCullagh agreed to issue provisional dates at this stage with a view that changes may be required.

## **7. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next date will be set and members will be notified accordingly.

The meeting ended at 1.10pm

## **MINUTES OF COOKSTOWN TOWN CENTRE FORUM MEETING HELD TUESDAY 19 OCTOBER 2021 AT 12.30PM VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

### **Present:**

Paul Wilson	Large Independent Retailer
Councillor Mallaghan	Mid Ulster District Council
Annette McGahan	Mid Ulster PCSP
Sharon McGowan	Department for Communities
Tom Jebb	Vintners Association
Andrew McConnell	Large Retailer
Marc Blake	Miconex
Mary McCullagh	) Mid Ulster District Council
Colin McKenna	

**In attendance:** Deborah Ewing ) Mid Ulster District Council

### **8. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillor John McNamee, Councillor Trevor Wilson and Councillor Wilbert Buchanan, Mid Ulster District Council; Sean MacMahon, Property Developer; Ursula Marshall, Disability Forum; and Roisin McAllister, Mid Ulster District Council.

Due to the absence of Cllr McNamee, P Wilson will be the acting Chair. P Wilson thanked the members for attending the meeting today.

### **9. MID ULSTER GIFT CARD**

M McCullagh advised that the purpose of the meeting is to discuss the Mid Ulster Gift Card Programme. The consultants appointed to design and deliver the programme are Miconex. Marc Blake from Miconex is in attendance to provide an overview of the programme and the Mid Ulster Gift Card.

M Blake delivered a presentation on the Mid Ulster Gift Card. The purpose of the Mid Ulster Gift Card is to encourage people to shop, spend and keep it within Mid Ulster. The Gift Cards are being used in other Council areas which have been successful to date,

with some areas extending the programme. Over 80 towns and cities in the UK operate a local gift card. In Northern Ireland Belfast, Strabane, Enniskillen and Causeway Coast and Glens operate a gift card. It is free for Mid Ulster businesses to register.

The benefits of a local gift card are the associated spend being locked into the Mid Ulster District only; an increase in footfall to the town centre shops and participating businesses; and it also stimulates the local economy.

The design of the Mid Ulster Gift Card was conducted by Council's Communications Team and an image was presented to members.

The Mid Ulster gift card is a private label prepaid mastercard, so it uses existing payment infrastructure. It swipes through the magstripe reader on the PDQ machine. Payment will be received by the normal method from each businesses relevant merchant agreement and there will be no additional fees.

To complete the registration process businesses will be provided with details to complete a transaction of £1 – which will be declined. This will enable the details to be stored on the relevant system and the business account will be activated. An Agreement Letter will also be issued to businesses.

M Blake advised at present that there are approximately 40 businesses across Mid Ulster registered. A website link will be located on the back of the gift cards which when accessed online will show all the participating businesses in the Mid Ulster District.

The gift cards can be purchased online or blank cards with the associated relevant instructions (on how to activate and add money) can be collected at relevant Council pick ups – namely the Burnavon Arts & Cultural Centre, Cookstown; Bridewell, Magherafelt ; Hill of the O'Neill, Dungannon.

There will be a dedicated Mid Ulster District Gift Card website – [www.midulstergiftcard.com](http://www.midulstergiftcard.com). The website will enable transactions to be made or to view their balances, registrations for businesses and other general enquiries. A QR code will also be available on the back of the cards which can be scanned to show relevant balances.

M Blake thanked members and requested that they register or promote the Gift Card through various methods i.e. purchasing the Gift Card; becoming an advocate and recommending to other businesses/friends and family etc.

P Wilson thanked M Blake for the presentation and requested that a copy of the presentation is circulated to members to enable them to promote to other businesses throughout the town and Cookstown Chamber of Commerce. He also sought clarification on the minimum and maximum amount for the Gift Card. M Blake advised that the minimum value is £5 and maximum is £500 on a single card. P Wilson opened the floor to questions.

A McConnell asked if the Gift Card is for instore purchases only. He was advised that businesses who offer a click and collect option can register but that the main purpose of the card is to increase footfall into the local businesses.

P Wilson asked where pre-populated cards will be sold. C McKenna advised that at present this is only an online facility and this can be reviewed at a future date dependent on the success of the cards. A McConnell asked if Council would review the possibility of providing pre-paid cards for sale as this would be an easier option and in his opinion would have a better uptake – at present it is easier to go to a large supermarket and take a gift card from the peg to the value that is required. P Wilson concurred stating that the residents of Mid Ulster would use predominately more cash than in other areas of Northern Ireland and the availability of being able to purchase the gift card for cash would be a better option.

C McKenna advised that the Council had agreed to the programme with the understanding that Council staff would not have to deal with cash handling process.

M Blake stated that he can see the value of this in certain areas and advised that Ballinroad in Co. Waterford offer a pick and load option which had a turn around of €200,000 last Christmas. He advised that this is an option which can be further investigated in the future.

Cllr Mallaghan commented that the gift card should be designed to suit the Mid Ulster customer. If this option is not meeting their requirements then it should be further investigated. He requested that a meeting is arranged with JJ Tohill, Director of Finance to discuss the options available. He stated that as a customer he would not purchase this as it would be easier for him to buy straight from the shelf.

A McConnell advised that this is not just based on the cash version but rather the ease of purchasing and having it straight away. An option to buy the gift card to the value and paying by bank card should also be available.

C McKenna advised that this will be investigated and that members will be advised of the outcome in due course.

A range of webinars is also available for businesses or other interested parties to attend and learn more on the Mid Ulster Gift Card. These will take place on the following dates and times:

- **Wednesday 20th October at 10am and 5.30pm**
- **Thursday 21st October at 5.30pm**

## **10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business.

## **11. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING**



The next date will be set and members will be notified accordingly.

The meeting ended at 1.05pm

## **Appendix 2**

### **Minutes of Coalisland Town Centre Forum Meeting** **Monday 27 September 2021 at 17.30pm** **Microsoft Teams**

#### **Present**

Cllr Niamh Doris	Mid Ulster District Council (Chair)
Cllr Malachy Quinn	Mid Ulster District Council
Cllr N McAleer	

Sharon McGowan	Department for Communities
Brian O'Neill	Coalisland Credit Union
Dermot McGirr	Translink
Francie Molloy MP	Coalisland Residents & Community Forum
Raymond O'Neill	Coalisland Traders Association
Joe Connaghan	PSNI
Ursula Marshall	Mid Ulster Disability Forum

#### **In Attendance**

Raymond Lowry	Mid Ulster District Council
Michael Browne	Mid Ulster District Council
Colin McKenna	Mid Ulster District Council
Catherine Fox	Mid Ulster District Council
Oliver Donnelly	Mid Ulster District Council

	<b>DISCUSSION</b>																
<b>1</b>	<p><b>Apologies</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Cllr Dan Kerr</td> <td>Mid Ulster District Council</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cllr Niall McAleer</td> <td>Mid Ulster District Council</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adrian McCreesh</td> <td>Mid Ulster District Council</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mark Kelso</td> <td>Mid Ulster District Council</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fiona McKeown</td> <td>Mid Ulster District Council</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Michael McGibbon</td> <td>Mid Ulster District Council</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Aedamar McCrossan</td> <td>PSNI</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Peter Waugh</td> <td>PSNI</td> </tr> </table>	Cllr Dan Kerr	Mid Ulster District Council	Cllr Niall McAleer	Mid Ulster District Council	Adrian McCreesh	Mid Ulster District Council	Mark Kelso	Mid Ulster District Council	Fiona McKeown	Mid Ulster District Council	Michael McGibbon	Mid Ulster District Council	Aedamar McCrossan	PSNI	Peter Waugh	PSNI
Cllr Dan Kerr	Mid Ulster District Council																
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Aedamar McCrossan	PSNI																
Peter Waugh	PSNI																
<b>2.</b>	<p><b>Minutes of Previous Meeting - Monday 28 June 2021</b></p> <p>Proposed by F Molloy  Seconded by Cllr Doris and agreed: -</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 28 June 2021 were a true and accurate record of proceedings.</p>																

3.	<p><b>Matters Arising from Previous Meeting – Monday 28 June 2021</b></p> <p>O Donnelly updated that he had spoken to owner of the taxi company who admitted one of their vehicles caused the oil spillage and that this vehicle has since been fixed. He also stated that there was nowhere else in town where they could operate from. B O'Neill suggested that the area perhaps could be tarmacked.</p>
4.	<p><b>Coalisland Project Updates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <p><b>Coalisland Public Realm</b></p> <p>F Molloy asked if there could be an art piece or sculpture placed in the area adjacent to Toals Bookmakers. R Lowry stated that there are a lot of approvals to go through when an art piece is erected, there are TAS Approvals, consultation etc which is all very time consuming. M Browne stated that from inception to installation this can take anything up to 2 ½ years.</p> <p>R O'Neill asked if the one-way system would be removed. He stated that 15 out of the 35 businesses have closed as a result of the one way system, he also stated that there are property owners on Main Street who cannot rent properties out as no one would like to move in there.</p> <p>R O'Neill asked about the consultation carried out by MUDC at a cost of £20,000 where 2/3 of respondents said they would like Main Street kept as a two-way process. He also stated that at 8am emergency vehicles would not be able to get through the town due to the log-jam on Lineside. Those travelling along Lineside have reported an additional 10-15 minute journey time from Lineside to Landis.</p> <p>R O'Neill also enquired about CO2 monitors in relation to exhaust fumes and requested they are placed in the town to record levels as he stated that it is damaging to lungs.</p> <p>R O'Neill stated that F Molloy was 'on the payroll' of Newell Stores to which he subsequently retracted following a request.</p> <p>He stated that the event space was an area only for drunkards and junkies to sit on and that the real event space for Coalisland was in the Cornmill Car Park. He further requested, under FOI, for a total cost of the car park on Barrack Street.</p> </li> <li> <p><b>Gortgonis Recreation Centre Redevelopment</b></p> <p>C Fox provided an update sent by the Head of Leisure, MUDC. An online virtual consultation event took place on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> August with an online consultation magazine made available. Residents in the immediate vicinity received a letter drop during July. Consultations are now closed and consultants are preparing a report based on the feedback received.</p> </li> <li> <p><b>Town Centre Progress Report</b></p> </li> </ul>

	<p>C Fox updated Mid Ulster District Council have opened a new £250K Business Marketing Grant scheme to support the economic recovery of local businesses in the district and encouraged all members to make businesses aware of scheme.</p> <p>An update was also given on the Department for Economy's High Street Voucher Scheme and also Mid Ulster Gift Card.</p> <p>F Molloy asked if there could be a town newssheet published with useful information detailed or perhaps a Facebook page for Coalisland. C Fox stated that there previously was a Discover Dungannon Facebook page but this is now defunct as council operate a more corporate process and Council are unable to promote individual businesses. It was advised that the Traders Association are in the best position to operate a Facebook page as they have more freedom to promote businesses. C McKenna updated that Council currently have a business database with over 600 businesses on it. He also stated that there were over 600 applicants to the Marketing Grant.</p> <p>C Fox updated that Council have received a Letter of Offer for a Coalisland Revitalization Project to include Festive lighting scheme in 2022, EI Scheme on Lineside and Brand Development for the town.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Events</b></li> </ul> <p>M Browne updated on events stating that council have 17 corporate events over Halloween and Christmas period. He stated that as there is no lifting of restrictions that Council are being cautious in approach. M Browne stated that he took a paper to council two weeks ago where approval was given for an allocation of £5000 to Coalisland which may include a series of workshops etc. The detail will be worked out over the new few weeks. There will however be no fireworks display as per previous years.</p> <p>F Molloy asked if the Halloween Working Group could be reinstated to discuss proposals.</p> <p>Head of Tourism also outlined that there would be a virtual switch on in relation to Christmas with animation in the Town Centres over 3 weekends leading up to Christmas.</p> <p><b>Action: O Donnelly to organize meeting of Halloween Working Group on the following Monday</b></p> <p>F Molloy stated that there still is an issue with tyre companies dropping tyres off for the youths to burn at Halloween. J Connaghan stated that PSNI had removed tyres from Clonoe are recently but they are unable to remove tyres from private property.</p>
5.	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p>C McKenna thanked S McGowan for her assistance on the Revitalization project and getting the Letter of Offer out.</p>

	<p>R O'Neill reiterated his previous statements asking if Main Street will be put back to one way system. He also asked for process of Barrack Street Car Park and that co2 and Nitrogen oxide monitors are placed in the town to monitor levels. R O'Neill apologized to F Molloy regarding his earlier statements.</p> <p>M Quinn stated that the recent clean up of the Canal has made a great difference to the town and that an eye should be kept on this so it doesn't become overgrown again.</p> <p>C Fox advised that the Department for Finance were getting in touch with businesses in relation to ReVal 2023 to ensure correct revaluations.</p> <p>Meeting ended at 18.40pm</p>
<b>6.</b>	<p><b>Date of Next Meeting</b></p> <p>25<sup>th</sup> October 2021</p>



# High Street Task Force

## Call for Evidence - 2021

# High Street Task Force

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## Call for Evidence 2021

### **The Vision:**

*“Sustainable city, town and village centres which are thriving places for people to do business, socialise, shop, be creative and use public services, as well as being great places to live.”*



The  
**Executive Office**

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# Ministerial Foreword

We have a bold, ambitious vision: “Sustainable city, town and village centres which are thriving places for people to do business, socialise, shop, be creative and use public services, as well as being great places to live.”

High streets and small businesses are the backbone of our economy and we want to see them thrive now and in the future. They are more than simply places to shop: they are a focal point for the community. People care about their local high streets because they are the centres of their community.

We know that our high streets are changing, and the Executive are committed to helping communities adapt. We also know that restoring the vibrancy of our high streets will take a number of phases over a period of years.

The issues that the High Street Task Force has been considering are found all across our towns and cities, but there cannot be a one-size-fits-all solution. Every high street is different. They each have their own character and personality with traits as unique as the village, town or city where they are located, and, they will need bespoke local solutions.

This call for evidence is an important opportunity for people to have their say and will be an essential step in bringing the vision to life and seeing results “at street level”.

We encourage the widest possible engagement and sharing of views and experiences through this call for evidence. Its findings, together with other data, will inform a draft report and recommendations that will be subject to consultation and equality considerations before a final report is presented for agreement by the Executive by spring 2022.

We look forward to your response to this call for evidence and your ongoing engagement.



**Junior Minister Gary Middleton MLA**



**Junior Minister Declan Kearney MLA**

# Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the wide range of individuals who contributed to the development of this Call for Evidence (CfE). This includes, but is not limited to, colleagues from other Departments and representatives from the business sector, local Government, voluntary and community sectors and professional bodies.

We particularly thank the members of the High Street Task Force:

- Business Alliance
- Department for Agriculture, the Environment and Rural Affairs
- Department for Communities
- Department for Infrastructure
- Department for the Economy
- Department of Finance
- Federation of Small Businesses
- Hospitality Ulster
- Mr Chris Suitor (Business Owner)
- NI Council for Voluntary Action
- NI Committee of the Irish Congress of Trade Unions
- NI Local Government Association
- NI Retail Consortium
- Queen's University Belfast
- Retail NI
- Social Enterprise NI
- SOLACE – The Society of Local Authority Chief Executives
- Ulster University
- USDAW – The Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers

# Key Dates and Purpose of this Document

Opening: 25 October 2021

Closing: 6 December 2021

This CfE is open from 25 October 2021 until 6 December 2021. We are keen to hear from a wide range of bodies, groups and individuals across society.

This CfE is the first stage in an ongoing public engagement process. The CfE document sets out the current understanding of the evidence available relating to high street issues and we invite comments and views on this.

Its publication is supported by a series of focused engagement events, including public workshop sessions.

Responses to the questions in this CfE will be analysed along with other evidence and information to form the basis of policy options for the Executive. A summary of findings will be published on the Executive Office website following the completion of the CfE.

**Note that, due to COVID-19 restrictions, all engagement activities may be conducted using a virtual platform.**

# How to Respond

All responses should arrive no later than 6 December 2021 and early responses are encouraged.

There are questions in each section of the document. Please respond to as many, or as few, as you wish.

There are four options available for response. The online option is the easiest and preferred option. If you wish to request a hard copy, please contact us by email or post.

1. Online – Accessible at:  
<https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/dfc-analytical-services-unit/high-streets-call-for-evidence>
2. Email – [highstreet@communities-ni.gov.uk](mailto:highstreet@communities-ni.gov.uk)
  - a. With “High Street Call for Evidence 2021” as the subject line.
3. Postal – Send responses to:  

High Street Call for Evidence 2021  
High Street Task Force  
Level 4  
Department for Communities  
9 Lanyon Place  
Belfast  
BT1 3LP
4. Workshops – Details on where and when the workshops will be held will be made available on the Executive Office website and can be accessed here:  
[www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/consultations/call-evidence-high-street-task-force](http://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/consultations/call-evidence-high-street-task-force)

## Accessibility

We can provide information in alternative formats on request, where reasonably practicable.

We liaise with representatives of young people and disability and minority ethnic organisations and take account of existing and developing good practice. We will respond to requests for information in alternative formats in a timely manner.

We will use a range of communications channels to enable wide access to information. Some members of the public may not have access to a computer to obtain information from websites. The Department will consider a range of communication methods to ensure wide access to its information. We will respond positively to requests for access to information to meet user needs.

## **Privacy, Confidentiality and Access to Call for Evidence Responses**

The Executive will publish responses on the nidirect website at <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/> . If a respondent is an individual acting in a private capacity, they should indicate whether or not they wish their name to be withheld or disclosed when responding.

Where responses from companies and individuals responding in a professional capacity are to be published, the Department will remove contact details only.

Responses to this Call for Evidence may be subject to requests under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) or the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR). All disclosures will be in line with this legislation. If you feel that information that you provide should be treated as private or confidential, please explain why so that we can take this into consideration.

All personal data will be processed in line with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 2018/UK General Data Protection Regulations (UKGDPR).

For more information, please see our privacy notice Privacy Notice in Annex A.

# Introduction

Our high streets are changing. The way in which we work, live, shop, access services, enjoy leisure and travel is continually changing and moving away from the traditional high street experience. This change has been and continues to be exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Retail trends, the prevailing economic mood and the broader business landscape create an uncertain backdrop.

Businesses, sectors, employees and communities have experienced an unprecedented impact which continues to affect our high streets and beyond.

The Executive Office formed the High Street Task Force (HSTF) with a view to identify the challenges and issues that our high streets face, and to oversee the development of solutions and actions that can be taken to support our high streets with the strategic aim to contribute to the development of thriving and sustainable city, town and village centres. Collectively, the HSTF membership includes a range of business representatives from retail; hospitality; local government; academia; the voluntary and community sector; the culture and arts sector; tourism; and trade unions. Together, they represent considerable experience and expertise, along with economic and social acumen.

The vision of the HSTF is: *“Sustainable city, town and village centres which are thriving places for people to do business, socialise, shop, be creative and use public services, as well as being great places to live.”* It is a vision that will require everyone working together and the broadest possible buy-in from those who live and use our high streets. It will need partnership and a focus on delivery, and it will very much be a long-term project. Transformation will not happen overnight and significant work has already been undertaken in getting us to this point.

Right across society, there is a desire for our high streets to succeed. They are more than simply places to shop: they are a focal point for the community and the HSTF membership will use its networks to ensure a balanced approach that reaches across the entire region.

With this, comes the understanding that it cannot be a one-size-fits-all solution. Every high street is different. They each have their own character and personality,



with traits as unique as the village, town or city where they are located, and they will need bespoke local solutions.

We need to seize control of that change and create a new vision of thriving high streets where retail and hospitality, amongst others, can play their part. This vision is about building something new; not about resisting change or reinventing the past. The key lesson from other places is that no single sector can provide all of the solution. We need to see high streets as diverse business ecosystems that meet the needs of communities.

The HSTF appreciates the size and scale of the challenge ahead but does so with an ambition and a desire to succeed.

This Call for Evidence is the first formal stage in the strategy development and your participation is welcomed and encouraged. The responsibility for high streets rests with many and, therefore, the solutions are something that we must design and tackle together.

Making this happen will require substantial institutional, regulatory and policy change. We recognise that the solutions to these deep-rooted challenges require all of us across government to work together in new ways.

# The Context

The problems facing our village, town and city centre high streets predate COVID-19, the 2007 economic crisis and internet shopping. The way people shop and the way that communities use their high streets is changing. This changes the nature of what makes a high street successful. High streets are having to evolve and adapt.

The impact of the coronavirus pandemic and the resultant impact on village, town and city centres has reinforced the need for a coordinated strategic response to both the immediate and longer-term recovery priorities for our town and city centres.

On 23 March 2020, UK high streets, town and city centres effectively closed for business. Most retailers, offices, restaurants, bars, coffee shops, cultural and leisure destinations shut their doors, as only essential businesses were allowed to stay open. Technology has meant that whilst many office-based businesses have been disrupted, working from home has been possible and new ways of working have materialised.

The impact on retail and hospitality has been much more widespread and damaging. Many have looked to new business models, offering take away options, online delivery or digital services. Others furloughed their staff to survive financially. In addition, other sectors, which play a key role in the vibrancy of town and city centres, such as arts and cultural venues, tourist attractions and event venues, have been impacted.

We need a fundamental reinvention of our high streets. It will require new levels of partnership between the Executive, councils, business and wider society to it. Since the start of the pandemic, leaders in our town centres have been managing its impact with the certainty that the 'old normal' is not a recipe for the long-term future. As habits change, our retail sector and high streets must change too.

# The Task

The HSTF has been established to contribute to:-

- ***developing the strategic approach to delivering the vision and responding to the economic and social challenges facing village, town and city centres;***
- ***building and strengthening the partnerships that will deliver the strategic response; and***
- ***building the capacity needed to achieve the vision.***

The HSTF provides the opportunity to shift the perception of the high street away from the traditional economic model and towards a more complex one that addresses social, environmental and economic sustainability.

The HSTF has looked at problems, challenges, and concerns. It has questioned what good practice is; has developed key principles that can be used across any size of high street and has set out outcomes that it wants to see achieved, including sustainable regeneration. It has examined the outputs needed to deliver those outcomes and considered what best practice looks like locally, nationally and internationally.

It has also asked: “What is a high street? What are the key constituents? Who is the client/user? Can we see a clear trajectory? How does density and scale affect the solution, and, looking to the future, what are the key forces acting on the street?”

This is a rare opportunity to set in tow a model of good capacity practice for the next Programme for Government, for example; with locality-based budgets, cross-departmentally and across government tiers, and drawing on existing work such as Rural Catalyst Pilots, Urban Village Renewal and scoping adaptations tailored for and by each settlement.

# The Vision

The vision of the High Street Task Force is:

***“Sustainable city, town and village centres which are thriving places for people to do business, socialise, shop, be creative and use public services, as well as being great places to live.”***

## A Shared Responsibility

The challenges currently faced by village, town and city centres cannot be addressed by one government Department working in isolation. They require action not just by central government Departments but partnership working that also includes councils, non-governmental bodies and the business community.

No matter how good the government policy is, it needs to be implemented properly, and that will only happen if all key stakeholders are ‘bought in’ – politicians, communities, developers, business and others.

## A Call for Action

The achievement of the HSTF vision will require sustained effort over time; reflected in legislation, policy and strategy, as well as front-line delivery. It will need a collaborative approach, with villages, towns, cities and councils competing for funding. Policies will be required to operate in the same space, multiple funding streams will need a more joined-up approach, and a local focus on delivery will be required. Further to this, we will need to capitalise on uniqueness, build on strengths and recognise that not one size fits all.

# What Does a Good High Street Look Like?

There is a need to define what good practice looks like. However, this cannot be a proscriptive definition but rather should be a set of guiding principles.

A good high street is likely to have many or all of the following characteristics:

- Accessible and connected;
- Easier to get to and move around in;
- Welcoming and safe;
- Has unique characteristics and culture;
- Collaborative, responsible and ongoing;
- Enjoyable;
- Has a diversity of uses and activities;
- Is a nicer place to be;
- Has a better mix of uses so that more people will want to go there, spend time, live and do business there;
- Has found a way of managing them well.

## What are the key issues?

- Recovery from Coronavirus and beyond;
- Developing a new strategic approach;
- Climate change – adaptation and mitigation;
- Planning principles;
- Vacancies;
- Housing;
- Public Transport (including active travel);
- Rates;
- Tourism;
- Digital High Streets;
- Rural settlements;
- People, localism and well-being.

# Themes and Questions

The 14 themes listed in this Call for Evidence provide an overview of the issues that our high streets currently face. The key considerations and issues have been listed in bullet form to show the initial thoughts gathered so far and set the scene for further ideas to be gathered through the Call for Evidence.

The questions for each theme are then listed and mirror those provided in the online version.

## Theme 1: Partnerships

**The HSTF will seek to encourage partnerships with public, private and third sector partners, locally, regionally and nationally. This could require the consideration of:**

- Government, local authorities, the wider public sector, businesses and communities must put the health of village, town and city centres at the heart of decision making and deliver the best local outcomes, align policies and target available resources to prioritise town centre sites, encouraging vibrancy, equality and diversity.
- Champions are needed to lead the way forward and to involve those who live and work in our town centres in the decision making.
- More coordination and joined-up working, partnership and reorganisation of the key statutory functions is needed to bring about effective change more quickly.
- Correct powers, appropriately devolved, need to be in place to deliver interventions.
- A recognition that this a long-term approach.
- Our councils have a key role in the localism agenda and the Executive need to consider the devolution of regeneration and other powers to them so that they can play a fuller role in the recovery process.
- We need interim solutions.
- We need to determine what has worked well and has not worked.

## **Theme 1: Questions**

1. What are the key issues for partnerships?
2. What powers should local partnerships have to make them more effective?
3. What changes to legislation, policies, processes or procedures could transform partnerships on the high street?



## **Theme 2: Follow Best Practice**

**The HSTF approach to developing best practice is to assess good practice from other places and adapt this so that 'best practice' becomes a unique 'right practice' for our local high streets. This could require the consideration of:**

- Looking at best practice locally, nationally and internationally.
- The importance of community planning, in which public sector organisations work in partnership with the private sector, local communities and the community and voluntary sector to identify and solve local problems, improve services and implement a shared vision for promoting the well-being of an area.

### **Theme 2: Questions**

4. What is best practice for the management of the high street?
5. What expert help is needed to develop best practice?
6. What changes are needed to legislation, procedures and processes to improve best practice and transform community planning on the high street?

## Theme 3: Investment

**The high street needs ways of dealing with investment that will support innovation, help renewal and create thriving high streets. Investment is not only needed for buildings and digital infrastructure, but also for developing people and communities. This could require the consideration of:**

- More specific funding streams and schemes are required to promote and encourage residential living
- Funding streams and workforces should be aligned.
- Specific funding schemes to promote and encourage wider provision of community services.
- A better understanding and clarity on the availability of funding streams.
- Place-based budgeting.
- The residential Urban Development Grant scheme should be revived.
- More focused funding for village, town and city centre promotions.
- Incentives to deal with long-term vacancies.
- Clarity on priority investment area(s) is needed.

## Theme 3: Questions

7. What are the key issues for investment?
8. Is information on funding easy to find?
9. Which of the following funds would support the development of the high street? Pick as many or as few as you wish.
  - a. High Street Transformation
  - b. Residential Living
  - c. Urban Development Grant
  - d. Other (Please comment below)

## Theme 4: Planning

**In addressing planning for the high street, our challenge will be to contribute to the delivery of a fair and inclusive planning system for people, communities and businesses. This could require a review of the planning system, its impact on the high street and the consideration of:**

- Village, town and city centre masterplans.
- Promoting a “Town Centre First” principle to encourage the public sector to continue to invest in town centres and help communities thrive.
- More flexible planning policies are required to enable repurposing.
- Strong diversification of town centres is needed to include, but not limited to: housing, community uses, leisure, offices and outdoor spaces.
- Actions are needed to address vacancy and dereliction on the High Street.
- A five-year moratorium on major out-of-town retail applications should be considered.
- A stricter “town centre first” approach, more Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) and a joined-up approach to regeneration.
- An approach to increase population living and working in our high street.

## Theme 4: Questions

10. Are you aware of village, town and city centre masterplans?
11. What are the key planning issues?
12. Would you support a temporary ban on out-of-town retail developments?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No

If yes, for how long?

13. What changes to legislation, policies, processes or procedures could transform high street planning for the better?

## **Theme 5: Public Realm**

**The Public Realm is defined as the space around, between and within buildings that are publicly accessible, including streets, squares, parks and open spaces. These are the everyday spaces that we move through and socialise within and the places where we live, work and play. This could require the consideration of:**

- Creating better ways of delivering Public Realm that are cleaner and greener.
- Public Realm “smart” towns with green spaces that are decluttered, eco-friendly, sustainable and better connected.
- Promoting high-quality design to ensure that our town centres provide sustainable, attractive, accessible and safe environments.
- Town centres should be clean, vibrant and attractive if visitors are to be encouraged to visit and stay.

### **Theme 5: Questions**

14. What are your views on the high street environment?
15. What could be done to change the perception of the Public Realm?
16. What improvements are needed in your high street?
17. What is a priority for Public Realm projects in the high street?
18. What would make town-centre living more attractive?

## Theme 6: Fiscal - Including Rates

**Fiscal policy is how government taxation and spending policies are used to influence economic conditions. This affects demands on employment, inflation, goods and services, and economic growth. This could require the consideration of:**

- Reform the tax system to ensure that sufficient revenue to pay for public services whilst ensuring that the tax burden is fair.
- A fundamental reform and review of commercial and business rates in village, town and city centres. (NI Reval 2023)
- A targeted approach to rates for small businesses.
- Our high streets have the highest vacancy rates in the UK. We need to develop a policy response to address vacancies and rates.

### Theme 6: Questions

19. What tax and rating reforms are needed to help stimulate the high street economy?
20. What actions should be taken to reduce vacancy rates on the high street?
21. Do you believe that legislation is required to change fiscal policy?

## Theme 7: Capacity

**Capacity refers to the built, social, spatial, and infrastructural strengths and opportunities to transform to produce significant and measurable change. This could require the consideration of:**

- A capacity mapping and pilots exercise similar to that undertaken by the HSTF in England should be developed for our region, utilising Ministerial Advisory Group data and knowledge, and resourced and contemporised by HSTF funds. This should be council area coordinated and community led.
- Greater High Street inclusion for Community Wealth Building Pilots, community planning, with greater formal and allocated cross-departmental investment in each. Community Wealth Building Pilots are an investment model to enable local communities to increase co-operative asset ownership, anchor jobs and resources locally, and ensure local community economic stability and democratic control.
- Develop HSTF capacity by investment in hubs by location, and, if desired at community level.

## Theme 7: Questions

22. What is the priority for capacity mapping and pilot exercises?

23. What capacity skills need to be developed?

24. What should be created to support the development of high street capacity?

- a. Community funds
- b. Locality budgets
- c. Sector schemes
- d. Expert advice
- e. Workshops
- f. Collaborative approach
- g. Other (Please comment below)

## Theme 8: Energy, Climate Change and Sustainability

Our environment is our most important asset and is crucial to each and every one of us. It is one of the main reasons that people from other countries and regions visit, bringing money into the local economy. It affects our economy, our health and well-being, and it facilitates social interaction. Building, through construction, renovation and repurposing, also plays a key role in emissions reduction. This could require the consideration of:

- The carbon impact of interventions during design, to reduce the carbon footprint and increase sustainable development.
- Carbon reduction measures in existing and future infrastructures in our high streets should be dynamically addressed.
- Blue-green infrastructures, which are strategically planned networks of natural and semi-natural areas to enhance the biodiversity designed and managed to support a wide range of ecosystem services, could assist with the greening of our urban environments, facilitate better water management and support safer, cleaner, sustainable spaces. This will allow interconnectivity, provide recreation spaces and help communities to connect and to thrive economically and socially.
- Examine incentives for repurposing existing buildings to address embodied energy, increase energy efficiency and use of renewable energy.

### Theme 8: Questions

25. What actions should be adopted to provide greener urban environments?
26. What incentives should there be for repurposing buildings? (Tick as many or as few as you wish)
- a. Environmental grants
  - b. Loans
  - c. Reduced rates
  - d. Other (if you pick "Other" please expand on your answer)
27. Should existing buildings, including our heritage assets, play an enhanced role in transforming the High Street?
- a. Yes
  - b. No

## Theme 9: Housing and Other Infrastructure

**Good quality, affordable and sustainable housing is central to reducing housing stress, homelessness and improving housing solutions for the most vulnerable. This could require the consideration of:**

- Policies and strategies to address quality, quantity and availability of housing to encourage people to live in and around high streets.
- We should ensure that these are not just transient communities but that they are attractive to families.
- We should consider space standards, access to services and the living over the shops scheme.

### Theme 9: Questions

28. What strategies are needed to encourage people to live in and around the high street?

29. What key services should be available for high street residents?

- a. Health
- b. Housing
- c. Education
- d. Leisure
- e. Other (if you pick "Other" please expand on your answer)

30. How do we engage communities more effectively?

31. How will housing developments improve areas of deprivation in high streets, rural villages, town and city centres?



## Theme 10: Getting To and From the High Street

Getting to and within villages, towns and cities is at the heart of urban regeneration and positively impacts local and regional economies. It unlocks development potential and as a result, many places and communities have seen increased regeneration, investment and employment. This could require the consideration of:

- Ensure that our town centres are well served with public transport provision and supporting infrastructure.
- Promote policies to encourage walking, cycling and the accessibility and quality of environment. This could link to the 15-minute neighbourhood concept.
- Maintain and improve accessibility to, and within, village, town and city centres.
- Parking, including issues such as charging, free or time-limited parking, especially in the levelling-up context.
- Reduce the appeal of commuter and out-of-town parking.
- Incentivise employers to promote the use of public transport.

### Theme 10: Questions

32. How do you get to your high street? (Tick all that apply)

- a. Walk
- b. Car
- c. Bus
- d. Train
- e. Cycle
- f. Taxi
- g. Other (if you pick "Other" please expand on your answer)

33. What would make your journey to and from your high street easier?

34. What changes to legislation, policies, processes or procedures would encourage walking and cycling?

35. What are your views on high street parking?

## Theme 11: Tourism

**Tourism is a major contributor to the economic well-being of our villages, towns and cities. Its development could include:**

- A review of policy and regulations including support for hotels.
- Recognising the importance of sustainable town centres to meet the expectations of the tourist of the future. This will mean being able to provide a critical mass of services for accommodation, hospitality outlets and a thriving night-time economy.
- Develop the unique and visitor attractiveness of our high streets and remodel their marketing to reflect that.

### Theme 11: Questions

36. How do we engage with communities to promote tourism?
37. What changes to legislation, policies, processes or procedures should be made to develop tourism on the high street?
38. Are you aware of an innovative tourism project that could help your high street?

## Theme 12: Digital High Streets

**Online shopping has impacted our high streets. As well as the opportunities, consideration of the concerns and issues could include:**

- Complementing existing business models to allow additional flexibility and resilience to react and survive during what are still uncertain times. Going online will also open up opportunities to reach new markets and new consumer demand.
- In addition to online innovation and diversification, the high street needs to be offering something different that cannot be delivered or experienced online.
- We need data-driven insights into the social media conversations that matter with ways to understand the audience and how to make better connections to reach them, such as their preferences.
- Promoting local products, services and trades.
- Considering the potential for strategies such as data and IT training.

### Theme 12: Questions

39. What aspects of a digital high street are important?

40. What digital innovations would help your high street?

41. What more needs to be done to improve digital skills?

## **Theme 13: Rural Settlements**

Rural development is vital not just for individuals in rural areas but also for economic growth. Rural development will help improve productivity and stability in social and economic development. It enhances the quality of life and financial well-being of individuals, specifically those living in rural areas, but it also has major impacts on those in urban environments. This could require the consideration of:

- Providing support for rural settlements, including consideration of the social, environmental and economic role of settlements in a new era of connected working.
- Maximising the opportunities of the Department for the Economy-led Project Stratum that will bring high-speed broadband and connectivity to rural settlements.
- Invest in and provide a tailored and seamless approach.
- Village high street development

### **Theme 13: Questions**

42. What changes to legislation, process and procedures are needed for village developments?
43. How could funding for rural settlements be made easier?
44. What innovative initiatives would improve village economies?

## Theme 14: People, Localism and Well-being

**Places need to be compelling, to encourage communities to support economies, products and services that promote and improve the health and well-being of residents and the wider community. People need to feel connected, and community networks can support these links. This could include:**

- The High Streets Task Force in England describes this regeneration framework as four Rs: repositioning, reinventing, rebranding and restructuring. These 'four Rs' require a new vision, a changed offer to consumers, better stakeholder communication and changing the governance of our high streets.
- Part of the solution to this challenge lies in fully developing and implementing the concept of 'localism' to repurpose our village, town and city centres as unique hubs at the heart of our community.
- Localism is not just about supporting independent retailers; it is also about empowering people and communities to reshape and repurpose their local villages, towns and city centres and reinvigorate the leadership model.
- Considering the impact of the Living Wage on equality and on people wanting to work on the high street.

### Theme 14: Questions

45. Are you aware of any initiatives that would improve localism in your community?
46. What is the most important aspect for creating well-being in the community?

# Annex A

## Privacy Notice

### High Street Task Force (HSTF)

**Data Controller Name:** Department for Communities

**Address:** Causeway Exchange, 1 -7 Bedford Street, Belfast BT2 7EG

**Email:** [DPO@communities-ni.gov.uk](mailto:DPO@communities-ni.gov.uk)

#### **Why are you processing my personal information?**

The High Street Call for Evidence, launched on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2021, seeks evidence, data and views on High Street issues. The lawful basis for processing data provided to the Department during this consultation is in the UK GDPR at Article 6(1)(e) and Article 9(2)(g)). The personal data collected in this consultation exercise will be used for analysis and reporting of consultation responses.

#### **Which categories of personal data are you processing?**

The personal data we are expecting to receive and handle will consist of your name, address, email address, and any additional personal data you provide in your responses. If you are responding as a commercial/business entity, then some elements of your contact details may not be personal data.

#### **Where do you get my personal data from?**

If we hold your personal data in relation to this Call for Evidence, then you will have sent it to us when you submitted your consultation response.

#### **Do you share my personal data with anyone else?**

During the Call for Evidence analysis, responses will be analysed and responses may be published on the Department for Communities website.

### **Do you transfer my personal data to other countries?**

No.

### **How long to do you keep my personal data?**

The data you provide in your response will be retained on the Department's Record Management system for seven years in line with the Department's Retention and Disposal Schedule.

### **What rights do I have?**

- You have the right to obtain confirmation that your data is being processed and access to your personal data.
- You are entitled to have personal data rectified if it is inaccurate or incomplete.
- You have the right to have personal data erased and to prevent the processing of personal data in specific circumstances.
- You have the right to 'block' or suppress the processing of personal data, in specific circumstances.
- You have the right to data portability, in specific circumstances.
- You have the right to object to the processing, in specific circumstances.
- You have rights in relation to automated decision making and profiling.

### **How do I complain if I am not happy?**

If you are unhappy with how any aspect of this privacy notice, or how your personal data is being processed, please contact the Department's Data Protection Officer at:

[DPO@communities-ni.gov.uk](mailto:DPO@communities-ni.gov.uk)

If you are still not happy, you have the right to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO):

**Information Commissioner's Office**

Wycliffe House

Water Lane

Wilmslow

Cheshire SK9 5AF

Tel: 0303 123 1113

Email: [casework@ico.org.uk](mailto:casework@ico.org.uk)

<https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us>





## Appendix 4

### Rural Business Development Grants Scheme 2021 - successful applicants

Organisation	Grant Award	W= withdrawn by applicant following LOO issue
PVS Manufacturing Ltd	£ 4,999.00	
Brocagh Precision Engineering	£ 3,945.00	
Elite physiotherapy Ltd	£ 4,999.00	
70 degrees catering	£ 2,942.39	
Power to Switch Ltd	£ 1,734.58	
Divine Photography	£ 750.00	W
CV Engineering	£ 3,897.00	
Moocha Kombucha	£ 4,999.00	
Murphy Joinery	£ 4,999.00	
AJT Transport Consultancy Ltd	£ 1,210.00	W
Kelly Carpentry & Joinery	£ 4,950.00	
ISO Hydraulics Limited	£ 4,999.00	
HBK Architects	£ 1,530.28	
Chefskills Online	£ 1,439.49	
Adrian McCann t/a Agribarn	£ 4,900.00	
Duggan Engineering	£ 4,245.00	
Cady Ltd	£ 4,975.68	
Blackwater Medical	£ 4,999.00	W
FCC Fabrications Ltd	£ 4,999.00	
Beechfield Flower farm	£ 1,675.98	
John Forsythe Machinery	£ 4,999.00	
MCK Splashbacks	£ 2,707.40	
Oaklea Kitchens Ltd	£ 4,975.00	
Origin 7 Ltd	£ 2,437.20	
Embrace Tours Ltd	£ 659.49	
Phelim Devlin t/a Cotlane Insurance Ser	£ 4,445.00	
Cajera Hair Designs	£ 1,301.27	
MCD B&J Services	£ 4,150.00	
W Ferson Joinery	£ 1,938.00	
McGuckin Plumbing and Heating.	£ 3,122.82	
Osbert Whyte Contracting	£ 2,872.50	
New Landscapes	£ 1,585.00	
J McElowney Joinery	£ 3,168.47	
i-customise	£ 4,999.00	
CM Civil Engineering Ltd	£ 4,999.00	
Installations of Light	£ 4,996.98	
CAP Interiors	£ 4,999.00	
BMK Plumbing and Heating	£ 4,610.12	
Annie's Delight	£ 711.01	
Kyle Martin Engineering	£ 653.75	
R-Two Fitness	£ 2,925.00	
Kelso Car Sales	£ 4,999.00	
McGahan Engineering	£ 4,056.50	

R S Motors	£	1,936.50	
Beechtree Garden Centre Ltd	£	3,498.00	
AMK Aquaculture	£	1,433.60	
Interior Building Solutions Ltd	£	929.91	
Christopher O'Kane Fencing	£	4,999.00	
P McKenna Motors	£	844.34	
Eugene Muldoon Financial Services	£	4,158.98	
D Sloan Engineering Ltd	£	4,369.00	
Koa Gym Limited	£	1,961.00	
Neil Irvine Design Ltd	£	1,708.30	
Petrina O'Neill Childcare	£	1,742.00	
An Croi	£	1,349.98	
Jill Cake's	£	1,705.79	
Hillside Service Station	£	3,019.37	
Mulholland Plant Hire	£	4,999.00	
Aughrim Engineering	£	4,999.00	
Malachy Devlin Ltd	£	2,598.75	
Boyle's Bar, Mayogall	£	2,798.40	
Smyth Building & Joinery Contractors Lt	£	2,302.50	
C G Quinn	£	1,650.00	
Barry Turner	£	3,375.00	
OK Hospitality Ltd T/A The Taphouse Ba	£	3,966.03	
J & S McKee	£	4,997.50	
Straw Garden	£	2,046.47	
Sperrin Skincare Ltd	£	505.99	
Springhill Car body Repairs	£	4,999.00	
Print Engine	£	4,950.00	
Tyrone Farmers Market Ltd	£	2,400.00	
The Lower House Bar	£	2,465.75	
CK Car sales	£	3,592.50	
ROC Contracts Ltd	£	4,999.00	
DMAC Truck and Trailer	£	3,937.50	
M Boyle	£	4,800.00	
NK Engineering	£	4,625.00	
Streamline Joinery and Construction	£	4,750.00	
Cookstown Print and Design	£	3,759.00	
Alternative Hair Solutions	£	1,866.00	
CrossFit Balor	£	2,519.46	
LMA	£	1,395.00	
Box IT Ireland	£	3,497.50	
Burrows Engineering Ltd	£	4,999.00	
Benburb Productions	£	4,999.00	
AMN Manufacturing Ltd	£	2,400.00	
Rahoran Ltd	£	3,447.37	
Wellwood Adami Ltd.	£	3,749.59	
R McConville	£	2,577.00	
Kevin Mullan	£	4,920.00	
Pretty Robin Boutique	£	964.10	
Sidebar Joe	£	1,758.58	

Furniture Store Ltd	£ 4,750.00	
	<b>£ 306,513.67</b>	