

Report on	Project Coordinating Officer for the Sperrins
Date of Meeting	4 th July 2018
Reporting Officer	Michael Browne
Contact Officer	Mary McKeown

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

1.0	Purpose of Report																				
1.1	To seek approval and associated budget to employ a Project Officer and Administration Assistant to coordinate and implement the Sperrin Future Search Action Plans on behalf of the four local councils within the Sperrins area.																				
2.0	Background																				
2.1	<p>The Sperrins Future Search conference held in the Glenavon House Hotel Cookstown on 27th – 29th September brought together a group of key stakeholders to make an action plan for the future of the Sperrins Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) summed up in the words 'reaching new heights, realising our potential'.</p> <p>The event was initiated by the four local councils, Derry and Strabane District Council, Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council and Mid Ulster District Council. These councils are responsible for the area and initiated the event with a view to enabling participants to agree a common mission, to take responsibility for action and to develop commitment to implementation. The conference took place over three days and involved 60 participants drawn from a wide range of stakeholder groups: community, land owners/farmers, government departments & statutory agencies, tourism, heritage & environment, outdoor recreation, business & industry, elected representatives and young people.</p> <p>The conference embarked upon a collective journey that developed over five sessions labelled Past, Present, Future, Common Ground, and Action. Each involved gathering information, sharing understandings in small groups, reports to the whole, and large group dialogues. Each session built on the previous one and the product was a number of 'common ground statements' and an action plan.</p> <p>Five thematic groups were created to develop and deliver action plans in each of the mentioned groups below. The five groups are as follows and are led by the following councils:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>1.</td> <td>Environment & Heritage</td> <td>-</td> <td>Mid Ulster District Council</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2.</td> <td>Infrastructure</td> <td>-</td> <td>Fermanagh & Omagh</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3.</td> <td>Brand & Tourism</td> <td>-</td> <td>Causeway Coast & Glens</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4.</td> <td>Community</td> <td>-</td> <td>Derry & Strabane</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5.</td> <td>Management Structures</td> <td>-</td> <td>Mid Ulster District Council</td> </tr> </table>	1.	Environment & Heritage	-	Mid Ulster District Council	2.	Infrastructure	-	Fermanagh & Omagh	3.	Brand & Tourism	-	Causeway Coast & Glens	4.	Community	-	Derry & Strabane	5.	Management Structures	-	Mid Ulster District Council
1.	Environment & Heritage	-	Mid Ulster District Council																		
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3.0	Main Report
3.1	The five thematic working groups Environment & Heritage, Infrastructure, Brand & Tourism, Community and Management Structures have met and agreed their short term and long term action plans. One of the short term actions is to appoint a Project Coordinating Officer with 2.5 day administration support to oversee the project to include administration duties for the Thematic groups and Management Board.
3.2	It is recommended that each Council provide budget to support this post which includes administration support and associated running costs.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	<p>Financial:</p> <p>Council to provide funding to employ a Project Coordinating officer,</p> <p>P01 – SCP 33 – 36</p> <p>Administration officer (Part time)</p> <p>Scale 4 – SCP 18 – 21</p> <p>Provision was made and agreed in 18/19 budgets for this expected investment. The costs will be equally divided between all councils. The cost per council will include running cost which include salary costs:</p> <p>Total running costs for 18/19 – £27745.75</p> <p>The cost per council for 18/19 – £6937</p> <p>Total running costs for 19/20 £65089.50</p> <p>The cost per council for 19/20 £16273</p> <p>Please see attached budget spreadsheets for breakdown.</p>
	Human: Training were identified
	Risk Management: none
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: none

	Rural Needs Implications: none
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	It is recommended that each council provide funding to appoint a Project Coordinating Officer and Administration Assistant.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 projected budget for the delivery of the Future Search Action Plans