

04 November 2021

Dear Councillor

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

The Chamber, Dungannon and by virtual meansCouncil Offices, Circular Road, Dungannon, BT71 6DT on Thursday, 04 November 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

AGENDA

OPEN BUSINESS

- 1. Apologies
- 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.
- 3. Chair's Business

Matters for Decision

4.	Update on Department for Communities Access and	3 - 8
	Inclusion Programme 2021/22	
5.	Cahore Playing Fields, Draperstown	9 - 52
6.	Sport NI Multi Facility Fund Application	53 - 58
7.	Elected Member Development Working Group	59 - 64
8.	Member Services	
Mat	ters for Information	
9	Minutes of Policy and Resources Committee held on 7	65 - 74

October 2021

10 Local Government Partnership on Travellers Issues: 75 - 78

Subscription 2021-22

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

- 11. DFI Roads Wayleave Agreement Play Park
- 12. Augmented Reality and Trail Interpretation for Davagh Forest (Cookstown), Slievemore (Mayo) and Ballyronan Marina (Magherafelt)
- 13. Cookstown Lands
- 14. Dungannon Lands
- 15. Staffing Matters for Decision
- 16. 2022/23 Rate Estimates
- 17. Banking Services

Matters for Information

- 18. Confidential Minutes of Policy and Resources Committee held on 7 October 2021
- 19. Financial Report for 6 months ended 30 September 2021
- 20. Contracts & DAC
- 21. Leisure Services VAT Update
- 22. Rate Support Grant Update
- 23. Staff Matters for Information
- 24. Recovery of Building Control Fees

Report on	Update on Department for Communities Access and	
	Inclusion Programme 2021/22	
Date of Meeting	Thursday 4 th November 2021	
Reporting Officer	Tony McCance, Head of Culture & Arts	
	Tony McCance, Head of Culture & Arts	
Contact Officer	Nigel Hill, Head of Parks	
	Kieran Gordon, Head of Leisure	
	Michael Browne, Head of Tourism	

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To provide members with an update on the 2021/22 Department for Communities Access and Inclusion Funding Programme
1.2	To provide members with the list of projects approved for funding by Department for Communities.
1.3	To seek approval to set up specific finance codes to incur expenditure for each project where required.
1.4	To seek approval to utilise the approved Council framework contractors, where required and
1.5	To seek approval to initiate a tender process to appoint a suitably qualified contractor to install automated doors at the five locations as identified within section 3 of this report.
2.0	Background
2.1	The Department for Communities (DfC) Access and Inclusion Capital Programme for 2021/22 is designed to improve access to and participation in arts and cultural activity and leisure and outdoor recreational activity by people with disabilities across Northern Ireland.
2.2	The Department for Communities invited Local Councils to apply for funding available through the programme and to assist in the prioritising of project submissions developed by Mid Ulster District Council, prior to submission to the Department for Communities prior to final Departmental assessment.
2.3	The maximum funding available for each project is £30,000 with up to 90% grant funding being provided.
2.4	Council-owned Culture & Arts, leisure, outdoor recreation and tourism projects were eligible to apply.

2.5 Applicants are eligible to apply for amounts up to the maximum of £30,000 per project, with a 10% funding contribution requirement from the applicant.

3.0 Main Report

- In total, 12 projects were submitted by Mid Ulster District Council to the Department for Communities (DfC) Access and Inclusion Capital Programme for 2021/22, with 11 projects successfully progressing and being allocated 90% funding (total value of projects £197,182.10)
- Following assessment by Department for Communities, 11 project submissions have now been approved with a total funding allocation by the Department for Communities of £177,463.89 (10% funding contribution of ££19,718.21 to be met by Mid Ulster District Council).
- 3.3 The 11 projects approved for funding are as follows:

1. Burnavon Access and Inclusion Project Total Project cost: £13,000.10

The funding will be used for:

- a) upgrading existing support hearing system throughout the facility.
- b) To purchase equipment, including adjustable lighting and AV cameras, which will enhance areas used for workshops, events, and activities. This will particularly be of benefit to persons with Autism Spectrum Disorder, as well as those with sight problems and restricted movement.

2. Greenvale Leisure Centre PoolPod Pool Access System Total Project cost: £30,000

The project seeks to install a Pool Pod pool hoist at the main pool area of Greenvale Leisure Centre.

The addition of the Pool pod pool hoist will provide equal access for users with a disability, allowing unrestricted access to both the main and learner pool, without the requirement for users to pre-book and/ or face lengthy waiting times at poolside/ reception.

3. Bridewell Automated/Power Assisted Accessible Doors & Loop Systems

Total Project cost: £10,500

To ensure that the building is accessible to all, this project proposes to improve access by replacing the existing heavy wooden doors with automated accessible doors, and installing an updated Loop system in the main hall/event space and a portable loop system in the main reception area.

4. Provision of 1No. Ability / Wheelchair swing Total Project cost: £14,982

This project focuses on improving inclusive play provision at Fairhill Play Area enabling all children, regardless of ability, to play together. This will be achieved through the provision of an Ability / wheelchair swing.

5. Provision of 13no. Independent "Hearing loop systems" at MUDC Leisure sites:-

Total Project cost: £5,000

Dungannon Leisure Centre (2), Cookstown Leisure Centre (1), MidUlster Sports Arena (2), Moneymore Rec. Centre (2), Greenvale Leisure Centre (2), Meadowbank Sports Arena (2), Maghera Rec. Centre (2).

This equipment will assist patrons with their hearing restrictions to communicate with Customer Service areas and assist in their participation of meetings:-

1no. Permanently located at Main Reception Area

1no. Mobile, to assist with meetings/ conferences/ workshops etc.

6. Installation of - automated / power assist doors at Mid Ulster Sports Arena

Total Project cost: £16,000

Installation of automated doors throughout Pavilion 2 the leisure facility detailed below –

- Entrance
- Internal door
- Changing room

Installing automated doors in this venue will ensure it is more accessible for members of the public who wouldn't ordinarily have had confidence or ability to access leisure facilities.

7. Installation of - automated / power assist doors at Maghera Leisure Centre

Total Project cost: £24,000

Installation of automated doors at the leisure facility detailed below -

Front entrance

Installing automated doors in this venue will ensure it is more accessible for members of the public who wouldn't ordinarily have had confidence or ability to access leisure facilities.

8. Installation of - automated / power assist doors at Cookstown Leisure Centre.

Total Project cost: £26,000

Installation of automated doors throughout the leisure facility detailed below -

- wet changing area
- viewing gallery
- main gym
- main hall
- meeting room

Installing automated doors in this venue will ensure it is more accessible for members of the public who wouldn't ordinarily have had confidence or ability to access leisure facilities.

9. Installation of - automated / power assist doors at Greenvale Leisure Centre.

Total Project cost: £30,000

Installation of automated doors throughout the leisure facility detailed below -

- sports hall
- main dryside corridor x 2
- swimming changing
- gym
- wet changing area

Installing automated doors in this venue will ensure it is more accessible for members of the public who wouldn't ordinarily have had confidence or ability to access leisure facilities.

10.Installation of - automated / power assist doors at Tobermore Golf Centre.

Total Project cost: £23,000

Installation of automated doors at the leisure facility detailed below -

- Front entrance
- Rear exit
- Internal doors to bays

Installing automated doors in this venue will ensure it is more accessible for members of the public who wouldn't ordinarily have had confidence or ability to access leisure facilities.

11. Purchase of Accessible picnic tables.

Total Project cost: £4,700

This project focuses on the purchase of 10 accessible picnic tables. These accessible picnic tables will be placed at various locations within the Parks Departments remit within the Mid-Ulster District Council area. These locations include picnic areas, parks and open spaces.

4.0 Other Considerations

4.1 Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications

Financial:

Projects submitted are required to provide matched funding of 10% (projects are 90% funded through the DfC Access and Inclusion programme 2021/22). The 10% match funding requirement can be met from within the existing budgets of applicant Services within Mid Ulster District Council

Human:

Staff time and staff resource allocated to delivering projects. This can be met from within existing resources within each of the Service teams responsible for delivering each project.

	Risk Management: All 11 projects approved for funding by DfC, will be required to be completed by 31st March 2022.
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: The Purpose of the DfC Access and Inclusion funding programme 2021/22 is to provide capital funding to ensure that access to arts, culture, leisure and recreational and outdoor activities is equitable throughout all 11 local authority areas.
	Rural Needs Implications:
	Rural needs are considered as part of the planned activity undertaken by Council Services including Culture & Arts, Leisure, Parks Tourism and Property Services.
	Rural needs are also considered as part of the delivery of the DfC Access and Inclusion Programme 2021/22
5.0	Recommendation(s)
3.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are asked to note the update on the 2021/22 Department for Communities Access and Inclusion Funding Programme
5.2	To seek approval to set up specific finance codes to incur expenditure for each project where required.
5.3	To seek approval to utilise the approved Council framework contractors, where required, to deliver the projects identified and
5.4	To seek approval to initiate a tender process to appoint a suitably qualified contractor for the installation of automated doors at the five locations as identified.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	N/A

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Report on	Cahore Playing Fields, Draperstown
Date of Meeting	4 th November 2021
Reporting Officer	Kieran Gordon, Assistant Director Health, Leisure & Wellbeing
Contact Officer	Sean Cavlin, Leisure and Business Development Manager

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To provide information to Members with information on a paper that was approved at the Development Committee in October 2021 and to seek a budget allocation of £55,000 towards Cahore Playing Fields.
2.0	Background
2.1	Previously in February 2021 (minute reference: D026/21), Members were advised of a formal request from Draperstown Celtic Football club (DCFC) for consideration to be given to upgrading the facilities at Cahore Playing Fields, Draperstown and also for Council to consider entering into a formal leasing arrangement with the club. Members approved that Officers should:
	 Carry out a survey of Cahore Playing Fields and ascertain costs for potential works to the grass pitches Engage with Council legal services and the landlord of Cahore Playing Fields to ascertain conditions associated with leasing and if permissible, engage with Land and Property Services (LPS) to ascertain market value for rental/leasing options.
2.2	 To date, Officers have carried out the following steps: Achieved permission from the Landlord to enter into a sub-leasing arrangement Engaged with Council legal services and received LPS valuations Commissioned a public expression of interest process and carried out an evaluation/assessment
2.3	At the Development Committee in October 2021, Members approved that Officers should: • Proceed to progress to the next stage by drafting, agreeing and executing terms with the successful submissions in line with LPS valuations for pitch 1, 2 and 3 for a period of 25 years with option to extend

- Proceed to engage with the landlord and extend the term where relevant to ensure agreements are co-terminus
- Assign a rental value of £1,000 per annum to the pavilion for a separate keyholding agreement – subject to annual review and monitoring
- Refer upgrade costs to the Policy and Resources Committee for a budget allocation of £55,000.

3.0 | Main Report

- Council currently lease the lands at Cahore Playing Fields from the Herons Bros Limited and the original lease was varied in 2014 to a term of 50 years from 1 April 1994. The current lease runs until 2044 and the landlord has indicated a willingness to discuss a further extension if necessary to concur with any potential sub lease term. As per the terms of the lease, a rent review linked to RPI shall be carried out every 5th anniversary of the commencement date of the term.
- 3.2 LPS valuations for an annual rental fee were received for the following:
 - Pitch 1 (currently lined for soccer) £820 per annum
 - Pitch 2 (currently lined for soccer) £625 per annum
 - Pitch 3 (currently lined for GAA) £1,000 per annum
 - Pitch 1 and 2 combined (currently lined for soccer) £1,600 per annum
 - Pavilion £4,250 per annum
- A public expression of interest was advertised week commencing 20 September 2021.

Closing date for submission was 5 October 2021 @ 4pm. An evaluation was carried out on 6 October 2021.

Two submissions were returned before the closing date and time from:

- Ballinascreen GAC (submitted an interest in Pitch 3 only)
- Draperstown Celtic Football Club (submitted an interest in Pitch 1 and 2 only)
- Included within the appendix are details on the evaluation criteria. Each submission was assessed using pre-qualification and selection criteria against the returned submission, and checked for compliance before proceeding to the next stage. Both submissions were scored and are recommended to proceed to the next stage.
- As both submissions have indicated interest in separate parcels of land, there is no conflict arising and upon assessment of historical booking analysis over the past 5 years at Cahore Playing Fields, there appears to be no displacement issues for any other clubs should a lease progress with both parties for the respective lands.
- 3.6 Council Officers have held informal discussions with both submissions around the LPS valuations and both submissions have indicated acceptance of the LPS valuations for the pitches and have indicated this has been factored into their financial modelling from a sustainability perspective.

- 3.7 The pavilion was not made available for expressions of interest for potential leasing mainly due to potential multi-use of the site (ie. a scenario whereby one club took responsibility and the other club would have to seek permission/make bookings, payment, etc was not deem plausible). The pavilion has 4 x changing rooms and does lend itself to be used by both clubs therefore proposal for Council to continue to retain responsibility, manage bookings/payments, etc but enter into a separate keyholding agreement with both clubs with certain conditions attached and subject to annual review and ongoing monitoring. Having researched similar pavilions in other Council areas, it is therefore proposed that the annual charge for a keyholding agreement for use of the pavilion is set at £1000 per annum (ie. £500 each).
- 3.8 As part of the Pitches Strategy Development, non-technical assessments have been carried out at all Council pitches and it was highlighted that the Gaelic pitch and one of the soccer pitches are ranked "poor" in terms of quality and drainage. This is also backed up by user feedback. Therefore, an initial survey from a local contractor has indicated that work is required to solve drainage and surface quality issues at the site at an approx. cost of £55k. A brief summary of the estimated work and costs for pitch 2 and 3 is included below:
- 3.9 Members may be aware that the request to initiate leasing options for Cahore Playing Fields was approved prior to the commencement of the Councils Pitches Strategy Development. One of the objectives of the pitches strategy is to set out a 5 year plan (with outline recommendations to 10 years) with an indicative budget and make area specific recommendations and provide cost estimates in relation to a range of options. It is highly likely that Cahore Playing Fields will need investment in the immediate future to bring it up to an acceptable standard even if leasing does not progress.
- 3.10 Further analysis on financial considerations is outlined within the appendix. A business case has been prepared that explores if investment in the playing surface is value for money. The business case included within the appendix recommends that should investment proceed concurrently with the leasing proposal, there would be an anticipated saving achieved within 5 years and it would be anticipated that this proposed saving would then be re-invested elsewhere within the Property Services section to help any identified service pressures and enhance operational requirements.
- 3.11 It is therefore recommended that the costs for potential works to bring Cahore Playing Fields up to an acceptable standard is therefore referred to Policy and Resources Committee for consideration for a budget of £55,000 (to include a 10% contingency and/or fluctuations from a procurement process should a budget be approved).
- 3.12 Should a budget be approved, Members should note that it would be proposed to focus only on the Gaelic Pitch at this stage for improvement works. The rationale to support this focuses on Draperstown Celtic FC's current developmental aspirations for a floodlit 3G pitch where they propose to bid into future funding schemes (if/when available and notably the proposed NI Executive Sub Regional Stadia Programme for Soccer). Being able to demonstrate tenure by way of a long term lease is likely to be part of the eligibility criteria for any proposed future funding schemes and its

unlikely local authorities will be able to apply for grant funding. It is therefore deemed not to be value for money to invest in required works to the soccer pitch at this stage until the outcome of the funding process is known. Officers have discussed this with club officials and they are in agreement with this approach should funding be approved.

4.0 Other Considerations

4.1 Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications

Financial:

Land and Property Services – assessment costs derived from existing revenue budgets (approx. £1,130)

Public Expression of Interest Process – advertisement costs derived from existing revenue budgets (approx. £540)

Cahore Playing Fields Potential Works Costs – to be referred to Policy and Resources Committee for consideration for a budget of £55,000.

It is estimated that proceeding with leasing could yield a saving of approx. £12,000 per annum (ie. as a result of Council transferring responsibility of ongoing maintenance, grass cutting, line marking, keyholding/supervision arrangements for bookings,etc).

Whilst this would necessitate an initial outlay of approx. £33.5k for pitch works, over 5 years this could result in approx. £40k savings versus current status quo scenario and it would be anticipated that this proposed saving would then be re-invested elsewhere within the Property Services section to help any identified service pressures and enhance operational requirements.

Human: Officer time.

Risk Management: In line with Council policies and procedures where relevant.

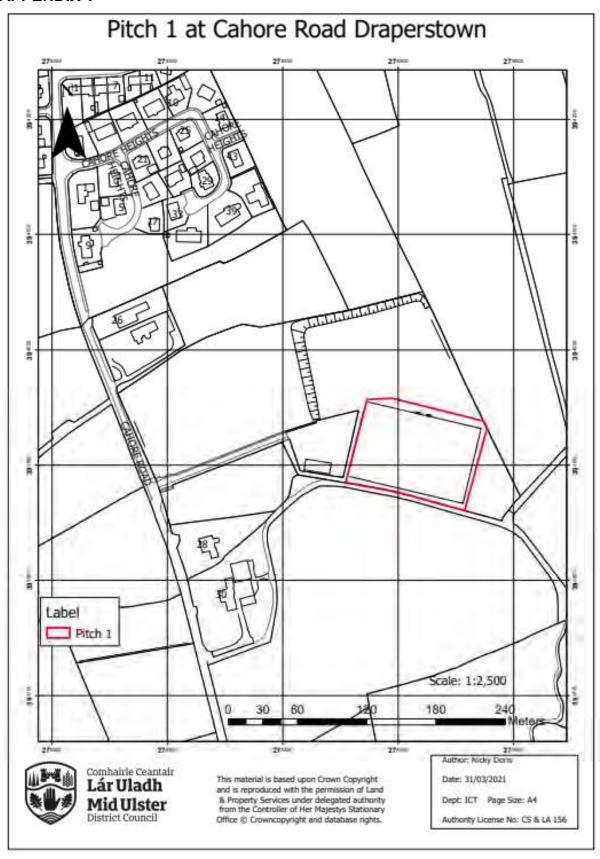
4.2 Screening & Impact Assessments

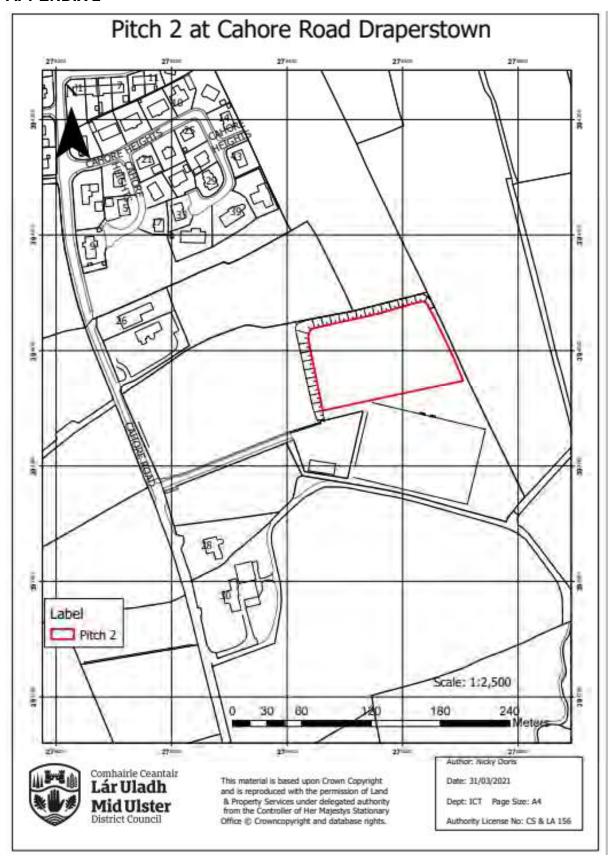
Equality & Good Relations Implications: Considered in line with relevant policies and procedures.

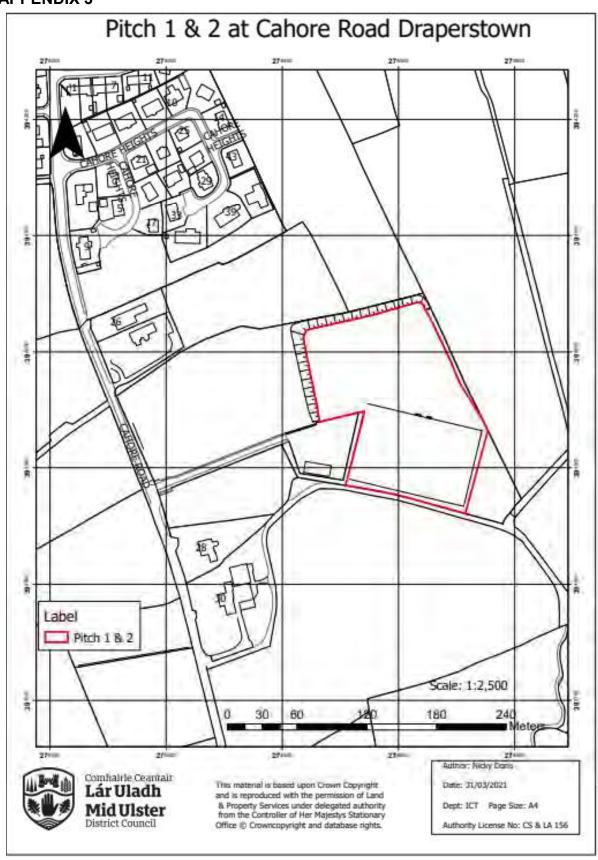
Rural Needs Implications: Considered in line with relevant policies and procedures.

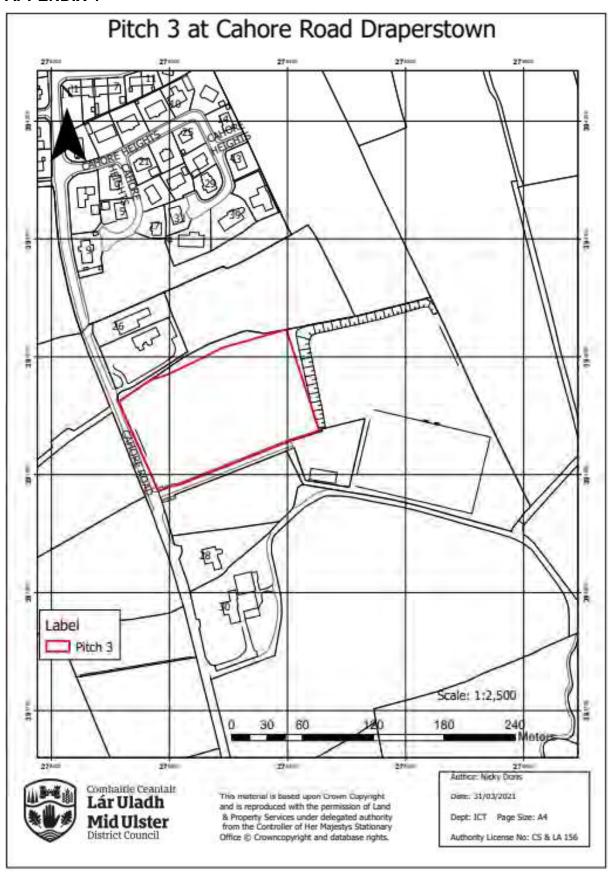
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	 To note the contents of this report and approve a budget allocation of £55,000 and that Officers: Proceed to progress to the next stage by drafting, agreeing and executing terms with the successful submissions in line with LPS valuations for pitch 1, 2 and 3 for a period of 25 years with option to extend Proceed to engage with the landlord and extend the term where relevant to ensure agreements are co-terminus Assign a rental value of £1,000 per annum to the pavilion for a separate keyholding agreement – subject to annual review and monitoring Agree budget allocation of £55,000 for the upgrade of the pitches to an acceptable standard.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	Appendix 1: Maps Appendix 2: Cahore Playing Fields Appraisal and Expression of Interest

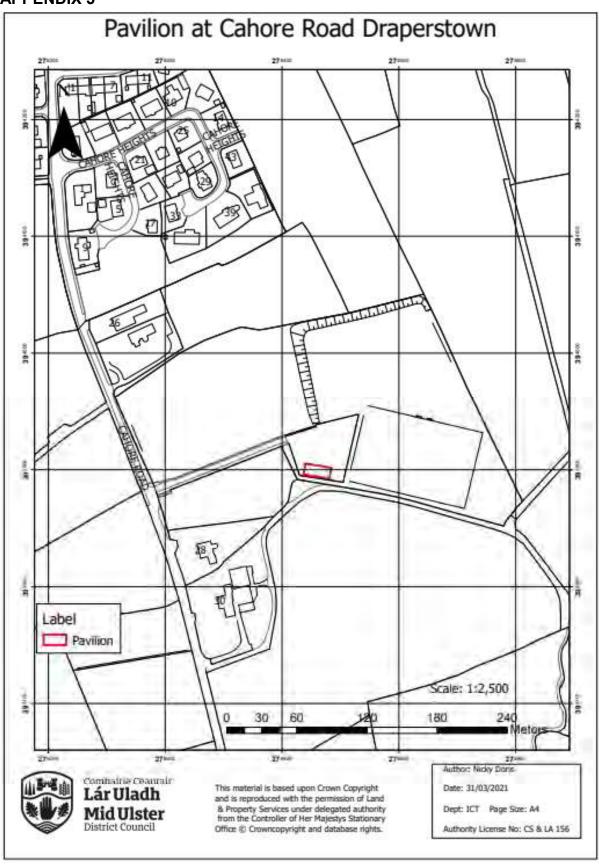
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BUSINESS CASE FOR: -

Cahore Playing Fields

Department: -

Leisure and Outdoor Recreation

Date: -

September 2021

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Business Case

1. Executive Summary

Previously in February 2021 (minute reference: D026/21), Members were advised of a formal request from Draperstown Celtic Football club (DCFC) for consideration to be given to upgrading the facilities at Cahore Playing Fields, Draperstown and also for Council to consider entering into a formal leasing arrangement with the club. Members approved that Officers should:

- Carry out a survey of Cahore Playing Fields and ascertain costs for potential works to the grass pitches
- Engage with Council legal services and the landlord of Cahore Playing Fields to ascertain conditions associated with leasing and if permissible, engage with Land and Property Services (LPS) to ascertain market value for rental/leasing options.

To date, Officers have carried out the following steps:

- Achieved permission from the Landlord to enter into a sub-leasing arrangement
- Engaged with Council legal services and received LPS valuations
- Commissioned a public expression of interest process and carried out an evaluation/assessment

This business case sets out options for consideration on the proposed way forward and next steps:

- (1) That Council seek to progress leasing options with the local clubs to enable empowerment, to build capacity, to help them develop and deliver their club objectives
- (2) Council invest in bringing the existing grass pitches up to an acceptable standard (namely pitch 2 and pitch 3)
- (3) That Council recognise that they may be ineligible for future strategic funding scheme(s) and recognise that local clubs who cannot demonstrate tenure by way of land ownership or long term leasing may be eligible to bid for and secure investment where the Council cannot
- (4) That should leasing progress and should future funding schemes may become available, that the local club has aspirations to develop a floodlit 3G for shared use within the community – a scheme that may not be possible for Council to deliver on its own.

The context for examining options is the Mid Ulster District Council Sports Facility Strategy 2018.

Council approved the Sports Facility Strategy in May 2018 which provided a framework for the future prioritisation, development and provision of sports facilities at a local level in order to meet identified community need, helping to increase participation, addressing health inequalities, and other local specific factors.

Through local engagement with various stakeholders, the development of Cahore Playing Fields will seek to provide effective partnerships with the public/local community and voluntary sector organisations which could bring benefits to the Draperstown area and wider District in a way that seeks to maximises sustainability, efficiency and community benefit.

2. Introduction & Overview

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

Mid Ulster District Council covers an area of 1714 km2 and is the seventh largest of the eleven councils. According to NISRA – Mid-Year Estimate 2019, current population is 148,528 and the district has the fastest population growth in Northern Ireland, increasing by 18.4% from 2002 to 2018, compared with all the other Council areas and the Northern Ireland average of 10.3%. The population is projected to be 173,400 by 2037. Mid Ulster District Council is ranked 8th out of 11 district councils in terms of Multiple Deprivation indices.

Mid Ulster is home to more under 16's and fewer over 65's than the Northern Ireland average. A third of the population is based in and around the principal urban centres of Cookstown, Dungannon and Magherafelt and two smaller towns, Coalisland and Maghera. Only 56% of the population meets recommended physical activity levels of at least 150 minutes per week (2012 figures). Rates of adult and childhood obesity are increasing according to the most recent Northern Ireland Health Survey results.

Growing obesity levels suggest there is a need to facilitate increased participation, and to ensure availability of quality sports facilities, which are both affordable and accessible to the local community. It will be important to ensure that communities have equal access to sports and leisure facilities to ensure that levels of obesity do not continue to show significant increases.

As the population continues to grow, demand for access to quality sports facilities will increase.

The project here proposed is important in that the intention through sports development planning, proposed leasing to local clubs/groups and the proposed facility enhancements is to encourage more participation in sport and physical recreation.

As referenced in the Mid Ulster District Council Sports Facility Strategy 2018, it would be appropriate to support clubs and sports that will work together in the future e.g. in this case GAA and Soccer.

Current Position

Currently, Mid Ulster District Council leases lands and pays an annual rent for Cahore Playing Fields, Draperstown and there are 1 x GAA and 2 x Soccer pitches along with an onsite changing pavilion. Council administer bookings for the facilities as and when required and invoice the bookees accordingly for use. Council has responsibility for the full cost of facility maintenance, insurance and provides a staffing resource for bookings where relevant. In recent times, the two main users of the facilities are Draperstown Celtic FC and Ballinascreen GAC. Ballinascreen GAC have their own complex approx. 2.5 miles from the Cahore complex containing 3 x grass pitches.

A summary of income is presented below:

	Inco	ome
Year	Ballinascreen GAC	Draperstown Celtic Football Club
1 April 2018 - 31 Mar 2019	£1,350.51	£760.13
1 April 2019 - 31 Mar 2020	£1,536.60	£1,262.90
1 April 2020 -31 March 2021 * Covid Closures Impacted Use	£906.50	£407.60

Maintenance is carried out via the Council's Property Services section. A summary of annual expenditure on Cahore Playing Fields is presented below:

Item	Amount
Annual maintenance of verti draining,	
sanding, seeding and	
Grass cutting 16 cuts per season at 3hrs	
per cut – 1 x operative and machine	
Line marking 10 x times per year - 3hrs	
x 2 operatives per time	
Staff cost - 32 hours of pitch inspections	Approx £14,000 per annum
(incl mileage) per year plus 150 hours	
per year casual wages for	
matches/bookings	
Pavilion checks and associated works –	
statutory compliance, eg. Legionella,	
insurance, etc	
Rental costs (leasing with landlord)	£7,072.65 per annum
Total Expenditure	Approx £21,072.65 per annum

Therefore, if an average assessment of income of approx. £2,400 per annum based on precovid bookings is factored in, Council net cost to operate Cahore Playing Fields is currently estimated at approx. £18,600 per annum.

Future Leasing Proposal

Should approval for leasing be approved, it would be Council's intensions to enter into agreement(s) for a proposed 25 year term (with option to renew/extend).

In broad terms this would include a commitment for the sporting Club, collective or community organisation to:

- Carry out minor grounds and building maintenance (where relevant) for example pitch marking, grass cutting, ongoing maintenance, minor repairs, litter picking, inspections etc.
- General management of the site to ensure that members of the public, sporting

- organisations and clubs continue to use the facility to full capacity, to include opening and closing and ensuring all relevant health and safety arrangements are in place.
- Continue to permit members of the public to access the property for passive recreational pursuits save for areas provided for dedicated sporting or community purposes.
- Management of bookings and events.
- Pavilion management (where relevant) to include opening and closing, upkeep of the fabric, cleaning and general management.
- Responsible for service charges such as water, electricity etc. (where relevant)
- Full ongoing inspections and maintenance of the lands (as determined by agreed boundary areas)
- Financial management of the various activities associated with the above.
- To arrange relevant insurance cover as specified by the Council (currently minimum of £5 million Public Liability Insurance subject to review) and all necessary statutory approvals are in place and maintained.
- The above list is not exhaustive and may be subject to change.

It would be proposed Council would still have responsibility for the pavilion – eg. checks and associated works – statutory compliance, eg. Legionella, insurance, etc. A summary of anticipated income and costs are summarised below:

Item	Amount
Rental costs (leasing with landlord)	 £7,072.65 per annum
-	(expenditure)
Pavilion checks and associated works –	- £3,000 per annum
statutory compliance, eg. Legionella,	(expenditure)
insurance, etc	
Leasing of Pitch 1 and 2 Combined	£1,600 per annum (income)
Leasing of Pitch 3	£1,000 per annum (income)
Annual Keyholder agreement for	£1,000 per annum (income)
Pavilion	
Total Cost to Operate	Approx £6,472.65 per annum

It is estimated that proceeding with leasing could yield a saving of approx. £12,000 per annum (ie. as a result of Council transferring responsibility of ongoing maintenance, grass cutting, line marking, keyholding/supervision arrangements for bookings, etc).

It would be anticipated that this a proposed saving would then be re-invested elsewhere within the Property Services section to help any identified service pressures and enhance operational requirements.

Option 1 – Do Nothing

- Maintaining the status quo and continuing with current operations.
- This option could present several difficulties. These include:
 - Continued operational expenditure on maintenance and staffing costs to facilitate matches/bookings/inspections
 - Potential negative stakeholder feedback ie. clubs unable to gain a sense of empowerment and build capacity within their community
 - Potential loss of future investment eq. The clubs aspiration to leverage funding

into the local community for a proposed floodlit 3G pitch. Should funding be made available (notably the proposed NI Executive Sub Regional Stadia Programme for Soccer). Being able to demonstrate tenure by way of a long term lease is likely to be part of the eligibility criteria for any proposed future funding schemes and its unlikely local authorities will be able to apply.

Estimated costs are summarised below for this option, aggregated over the next 5 years, based on the current maintenance and income:

	Aggregated Expenditure	Aggregated Income
2022 - 2027	£120k	£14k
Net Cost to Operate 2022-2027	£10	D6k

Option 2 – Proceed with leasing and undertake works to improve pitch 3

- Proceed with leasing as per recent expression of interest process and based on LPS valuations
- Carry out identified works to pitch 3 only

As part of the Pitches Strategy Development, non-technical assessments have been carried out at all Council pitches and it was highlighted that the Gaelic pitch and one of the soccer pitches are ranked "poor" in terms of quality and drainage. This is also backed up by user feedback. Therefore, an initial survey from a local contractor has indicated that work is required to solve drainage and surface quality issues at the site (notable pitch 2 and pitch 3).

Should a budget be approved, it would be proposed to focus only on pitch 3 only at this stage for improvement works (Gaelic Pitch). The rationale to support this focuses on Draperstown Celtic FC's current developmental aspirations for a floodlit 3G pitch where they propose to bid into future funding schemes (if/when available and notably the proposed NI Executive Sub Regional Stadia Programme for Soccer). Being able to demonstrate tenure by way of a long term lease is likely to be part of the eligibility criteria for any proposed future funding schemes and its unlikely local authorities will be able to apply. It is therefore deemed not to be value for money to invest in required works to the soccer pitch at this stage until the outcome of the funding process is known. Officers have discussed this with club officials and they are in agreement with this approach.

Estimated costs are summarised below for this option, aggregated over the next 5 years, based on the proposing leasing approach and releasing a budget of approx. £33.5k for works on pitch 3:

	Aggregated Expenditure	Aggregated Income
Works to Pitch 3	Approx £33.5k	
2022 - 2027	Approx £50.5k	£18k
Net Cost to Operate	£6	6k

2022-2027	

Option 3 – Proceed with leasing and undertake works to improve pitch 2 and 3

- Proceed with leasing as per recent expression of interest process and based on LPS valuations
- Carry out identified works to pitch 2 and

This option is similar to option 2 but with the added component of investment in works required for pitch 2 should funding opportunities not materialise for the clubs aspiration to bid for a future floodlit 3G.

Estimated costs are summarised below for this option, aggregated over the next 5 years, based on the proposing leasing approach and releasing a budget of approx. £55k for works on pitch 2 and 3:

	Aggregated Expenditure	Aggregated Income
Works to Pitch 2 and 3	Approx £55k	
2022 - 2027	Approx £50.5k	£18k
Net Cost to Operate 2022-2027	£87	7.5k

3. Market analysis/Strategies?

Identify aspects of the Organisational Strategy.

At this stage of any proposed project it's important to consider its potential to complement and contribute to national, regional and local strategic approaches, should it proceed. Government and its agencies recognise the important role that community activity, sport and physical recreation can play in the development of people and the communities in which they live. This section looks at a range of national, regional and local strategic approaches that have a relevance to the proposed project and considers how the project might contribute to their objectives.

This proposed leasing of pitches to local clubs and also the investment in the playing surfaces is about developing people by encouraging active lifestyles through the provision of facilities. The Mid Ulster District Council Sports Facility Strategy 2018 audit evidences the Council's role in the provision of sports pitches and recreational spaces across the District therefore in the development of opportunities for active and healthier lifestyles. This proposed development comes at a time when an active lifestyle is recognised as vitally important in helping to reduce the incidence of a range of life-limiting diseases. It also makes significant contributions to at least two of the five Council strategic themes in its Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024:

- Theme 2: Service Delivery
- Theme 5; Communities

This proposed project should take cognizance of current Strategic plans:

- Mid Ulster District Council Corporate Plan 2020-2024
- Community Plan for Mid Ulster District Council 2017 "Our Community Plan, 10 year plan for Mid Ulster" – promoting healthy and active lifestyles, helping address mental health, health inequalities and greater community development engagement.
- Mid Ulster District Council Local Development Plan 2030
- Mid Ulster District Council Sports Facility Strategy 2018
- Mid Ulster District Council Open Space, Recreation and Leisure 2015
- Mid Ulster District Council Public Parks and Play Five Year Strategic Plan 2020 2025
- Mid Ulster District Council Sports Club Survey 2019
- The Northern Ireland Strategy for Sport & Physical Recreation 2009-2019 'Sport Matters'
- Sport Northern Ireland Corporate Plan 2015-2020
- Northern Ireland Executive: Active Ageing Strategy 2016-2021
- Active Living: No Limits 2016-2021
- Sport NI Wellbeing in Sport Action Plan 2019-2025
- Active Places Research Report (Bridging the Gap) 2009
- Active Places Research Report 2014 Update, Bridging the Gap
- Draft Programme for Government 2016 2021; NI Executive
- Together: Building a United Community (T:BUC); NI Executive

Taken together these strategies and their outcomes have been influenced by and reflect other strategies and policies. Not least of these is the draft 'Programme for Government' whose strategic outcomes address, amongst other things, the attainment of good health and confident and peaceful communities, targeting 'those things that make real improvements to the quality of life for the citizen'.

'Sport Matters: The NI Strategy for Sport and Physical Recreation 2009-2019'; Department for Communities/ Sport NI

The strategy sets out a shared vision of 'a culture of lifelong enjoyment and success in sport. The case is made for ongoing investment in sport and physical recreation to 'deliver a range of sporting outcomes and support the wider social agenda in areas such as education health, the economy and the development of communities over the period 2009-2019.' Investment is directed towards three key areas:

(1) Participation (2) Performance and (3) Places

As with the community planning process a number of key principles underpin the strategy's development that could easily be applied to this project:

- Empowering individuals, groups and communities;
- Responding to need;
- Partnership working based on consultation and stakeholder buy-in:
- Promoting good relations and working towards 'A Shared Future'; and
- Focusing on outcomes.

The strategy highlights the importance of joined-up planning and partnership working at strategic levels as well as within delivery structures, adding that the pooling of resources, public and private is critical to achieving delivery.

Given the challenges posed variously by the economic downturn and local government reform since the strategy was published the targets for 'Places' have not been delivered in full.

However, one target is highly relevant to this project, that is:

PL25: 'By 2019 to ensure that 90% of the population have quality accredited multi sports facilities that have the capacity to meet demand, within 20 minutes travel time.'

The clarity of this target helps to inform the preparation of the Council's position for considered proposed developments such as that presented by this business case with relation to Cahore Playing Fields, Draperstown.

Mid Ulster District Council Sports Facility Strategy 2018

The Mid Ulster District Council Sports Facility Strategy 2018 provides a framework to inform the priority for the development and provision of sports facilities at a local level, to meet identified community need in Mid Ulster. The strategy rationale is to develop a framework for future prioritisation and development of sports facilities based on identified need, increasing participation, addressing health inequalities and other local specific factors.

The focus of the 2018 strategy was facilities analysis on sports halls (4 courts or above – except those on education sites), pools of 20m length and above, health and fitness suites of 20 stations and above, Multi Use Games Areas (MUGA's), and full size Artificial Grass Pitches (AGP's).

This was one of 11 Local Strategies that were developed in the context of the wider NI Sports Facility Strategy.

The consultation process for this Strategy identified a number of key issues and priorities that relates to this proposed project at Cahore Playing Fields, Draperstown:

- Based on club feedback there is a lack of all-weather pitches/3Gs, particularly for training.
 New provision should be considered/supported where it would replace poorer quality grass pitches and can be shared between a number of local clubs/organisations.
- Development of additional 3G pitches; the priority is for those based on education sites
 which offer community use and the opportunity for multi-facility hub development. There
 is a need for additional club –based provision but again this should be shared between
 clubs as a minimum to ensure sustainability and provide the opportunity for multi-facility
 hubs.
- Investment to improve existing AGPs/3G pitches e.g. floodlights, fencing, surfaces, infrastructure such as changing rooms, storage

The consultation process for the 2018 strategy identified that several local stakeholders felt

there is a need for additional pitches within Mid Ulster District Council. The feedback on pitch provision, current and future, represents the majority of comments received. The consultation feedback identified the following:

- There is a need for an additional grass rugby pitch, ideally this would be on a club site, but access to a pitch for competition games could be off site; the growth in the numbers of young players means more teams are playing more often, and existing pitch facilities do not have the capacity
- There is a need for additional synthetic training pitch facilities for rugby given the number of teams now in the club and the condition of existing grass pitches,
- Upgraded existing 3G pitch to complement existing sports and social facilities
- Development of floodlit synthetic surfaces provision for training
- 3G pitches for local clubs

The strategy makes a number of recommendation to address the issues and priorities identified and provides a framework within which to develop sports facilities in Mid Ulster and many of these outcomes support the proposed development at Cahore Playing Fields.

The proposal here for Cahore Playing Fields is that:

- (1) That Council seek to progress leasing options with the local clubs to enable empowerment, to build capacity, to help them develop and deliver their club objectives
- (2) Council invest in bringing the existing grass pitches up to an acceptable standard (namely pitch 2 and pitch 3)
- (3) That Council recognise that they may be ineligible for future strategic funding scheme(s) and recognise that local clubs who cannot demonstrate tenure by way of land ownership or long term leasing may be eligible to bid for and secure investment where the Council cannot
- (4) That should leasing progress and should future funding schemes may become available, that the local club has aspirations to develop a floodlit 3G for shared use within the community a scheme that may not be possible for Council to deliver on its own.

Bridging the Gap – Active Places Research 2009

Bridging the Gap – Active Places Research 2009, and its subsequent update in 2014, have also informed the Mid Ulster District Council Sports Facility Strategy 2018.

The 2009, 'Bridging the Gap' Active Places research report, produced by Sport NI (SNI), assessed the adequacy of existing sports facility provision (excluding education facilities), in Northern Ireland's 26 former and 11 proposed district council areas by comparison with National Facility Standards and/or the facility demand of potential users (determined by the Facilities Planning Model (FPM).

'Bridging the Gap' established three general findings:

- 1. There is a significant shortfall in sports facility provision in Northern Ireland
- 2. The deficit in provision is not uniform
- There are a number of areas for concern regarding provision, particularly in relation to quality, quantity, accessibility, condition, universal access and specification.

Although 'Bridging the Gap 2009' identified significant need for sports facilities throughout Northern Ireland, the research stopped short of identifying where new or refurbished sports facility provision should be developed or located. The Programme for Government, Together Building a United Community, the Corporate Plan of the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure (DCAL), Sport Matters and SNI's Corporate Plan identify a number of Government priorities that set the direction for investment in sport and physical recreation, because sport contributes to a range of wider social, economic and cultural needs.

Sport improves community health and well-being and can contribute to reducing inequalities in child poverty and social deprivation, as well as ensuring equality of opportunity.

The 2014 Update to Bridging the Gap re-calculated need for a number of specific facility types, to illustrate progress in developing the sports facility infrastructure in NI; the analysis still identifies a significant shortfall in provision, however, particularly in terms of playing pitches.

Sport NI completed a 2014 update of figures quantifying all pitches in the 11 District Council Areas. They produced two tables covering Playing Pitches - Including education synthetic but excluding education grass pitches (Table below), which shows an assessment including both education synthetic and grass pitches.

DISTRICT COUNCIL	2011 Population Projection	PERCEIVED ACRES SHORTFALL (SNI STANDARD)	PITCHES REQUIRED I.E. SHORTFAL
Cookstown	35,238	-4	-2
DUNGANNON	50,995	6	2
MAGHERAFELT	43,682	-17	-7
		TOTAL	-7
Table 4.11 All Sites- Including Educ	cation synthetic and including Education Grass Pit	-	-7 PITCHES REQUIRED
CHARLES AND DESCRIPTION	THE RESERVE AND PARTY OF THE PA	ches PERCEIVED ACRES SHORTFALL (SNI	
DISTRICT COUNCIL	2011 Population Projection	Ches PERCEIVED ACRES SHORTFALL (SNI STANDARD)	PITCHES REQUIRED
DISTRICT COUNCIL COOKSTOWN	2011 Population Projection 35,238	PERCEIVED ACRES SHORTFALL (SNI STANDARD) -30	PITCHES REQUIRED

The Sport NI 2009 updated Bridging the Gap assessment identifies a need in Mid Ulster for additional pitches (grass and all weather).

Local Development Plan

The Council has prepared a Local Development Plan 2030 (LDP) and a Preferred Options Paper (POP) has been consulted on prior to the formal preparation of the LDP.

The Council has also developed a position paper of Open Space, Sport and Recreation.

The POP was prepared to consider issues that may have a direct impact on the district and set

out possible options to address them as well as the councils preferred option. In the context of Open Space, Recreation and Leisure the POP concludes that there is no immediate need to address pitch provision and therefore Development Plan intervention is not considered necessary in relation to the zoning of land at this time.

The Draft Plan Strategy sets out the Council's vision for planning the use of land and details the objectives, planning framework and planning policies that will be used to deliver the vision.

Responsibility for planning passed to the Council in April 2015 as a result of Local Government Reform and the Draft Plan Strategy is the first strategic approach to local development under the Council. The Draft Plan Strategy recognises it is set in the context of the Executive's Programme for Government commitments and priorities as well as the Regional Development Strategy 2035, the latter being the overarching spatial planning strategy for Northern Ireland.

Open Space, Recreation and Leisure' is one of five social policies whose objective is accommodating growth and creating places. The policy explains that applications under subpolicy 'Policy OS1 – Protection of Open Space' will be informed by the following policy statement:-

'Development that results in the loss of open space shall not accord with the Plan irrespective of its physical condition and appearance.

An exception can be made where it is demonstrated that it will bring substantial community benefits that outweigh the loss of the open space and it will have no significant detrimental impact on open space provision, amenity, character or biodiversity of an area.

Where appropriate, adequate compensatory measures to include provision for more intensive recreational use (3G sports pitches) on site or in other locations capable of serving the area will be given consideration. Compensatory measures should be comparable to that which is lost.'

Benefits to the community include:-

'More intensive recreation facilities such as all-weather pitches.'

In Northern Ireland, the Department of the Environment recognises the need for provision of outdoor recreation space in Planning Policy Statement 8: Open Space, Sport and Outdoor Recreation. Section 5.15 states:

 "In large developments there may be a need to provide more formal outdoor recreation facilities such as playing pitches to meet the needs generated by the development. In such cases the Department will consult closely with the recreation department of local district Councils."

It therefore could be argued that this proposed project at Cahore Playing Fields can assist with the strategic development of opportunities for increased participation in sport.

Planning policy is however necessary to ensure provision and protection of open space and also to ensure sports and recreation facilities coming forward are appropriately sited.

The Council's LDP Strategy for the retention, creation and promotion of Open Space, Recreation and Leisure is as follows:

Provide policy for the protection and safeguarding of public open space;

- Require the provision of open space in housing developments and where appropriate equip it for children's play;
- Facilitate large scale leisure on opportunity sites within or near town centers and smaller scale elsewhere within settlement limit;
- Protect environmental open spaces for example parks, gardens and linear open spaces such as pedestrian and cycle routes/walkways and river corridors that have open space value;
- Local Policies Plan designate important open spaces to be protected, zone new sites and offer protection through other means such as Local Landscape Policy Areas.

Source: Position Paper Seven Open Space, Recreation and Leisure 2 June 2015

4. Links to Council Policy/Strategic Context

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

Mid Ulster Community Plan 2017-2027; Mid Ulster District Council

The Council's vision for Community Planning reflects the plan's 5 themes, three of which have a particular resonance with the proposed project at Cahore Playing Fields:-



The community in Mid Ulster, and more specifically the Draperstown area, is at the very heart of this proposed project at Cahore Playing Fields.

It could be argued that increased participation will follow by implementing this proposed project at Cahore Playing Fields and this will contribute to the Community Plan's health and wellbeing

theme. It could be argues that local sports clubs will be able to grow their membership through better playing surfaces and should the local club be successful in obtaining future investment for a floodlit 3G is should enhance opportunities as the lack of a local floodlit all weather synthetic training facilities is a constraint on membership – and more volunteers will be needed to assist in servicing the growing clubs.

The strategic context for reviewing the adequacy of provision of pitches is quite simply to provide better quality facilities for a better quality experience, so encouraging more participation for all, including those in formalised sports and those not in formalised sports..

The particular challenge is to make best use of resources and to do so through partnerships that can deliver more by working together than working in isolation.

Mid Ulster District Council's vision within the Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024 reflects this:

• To be at the heart of our community.

This proposed project at Cahore Playing Fields is about developing people by encouraging active lifestyles through the provision of facilities.

The Mid Ulster District Council Sports Facility Strategy 2018 audit evidences the Council's role in the provision of sports pitches and recreation space therefore in the development of opportunities for active and healthier lifestyles. This proposed development comes at a time when an active lifestyle is recognised as vitally important in helping to reduce the incidence of a range of life-limiting diseases. It also makes significant contributions to at least two of the five Council strategic themes in its Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024:

Theme 2: Service Delivery

Theme 5: Communities

Whilst the project here proposed clearly fits with delivery, it is first and foremost about people, in that it will create opportunities for active recreation that bring people and groups together, facilitating individuals' growth and the development of communities with positive outcomes for people's health and wellbeing. In providing and enhancing the quality of sports facilities the Council is effectively a community encourager.

The Recreation and Youth Service (Northern Ireland) Order 1986 states that "Each district council shall secure the provision for its area of adequate facilities for recreational, social, physical and cultural activities and for that purpose may, either alone or together with another district council or any other person, establish, maintain and manage any such facilities". Furthermore, the Order 1986 goes on to state that "a district council shall, in carrying out its functions, have regard to the facilities provided by other district councils or by other persons. A district council may provide a facility for the whole of Northern Ireland or for an area or areas outside its own area".

5. Assessment of Benefits/Need

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

This proposed project comes at a time when an active lifestyle is recognised as vitally important in helping to reduce the incidence of a range of life-limiting diseases. It also makes significant contributions to at least two of the five Council strategic themes in its Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024:

Theme 2: Service Delivery

Theme 5: Communities

In addition, linked to Mid Ulster District Council's Corporate Plan 2020 – 2025, while each of the strategic themes has a clear focus and purpose, there are also a number of corporate commitments which are not tethered to one area of work, but are common to all and will be realised via this proposed strategy:

- Promoting Equality of Opportunity and Good Relations
 - "Beyond a duty of compliance with our equality scheme, we aim to mainstream the promotion of Equality of Opportunity and Good Relations throughout the organisation, actively seeking out ways in which to enhance those opportunities and to build positive relations between and among the diverse communities across Mid Ulster."
 - Working in partnership our Good Relations and Community Development Teams to further promote shared spaces across Mid Ulster in all our towns and villages to seek to bring people together and maximise resources.
- Continuously improving our services
 - "Whether through our formal Corporate Improvement Objectives and servicespecific Performance Improvement Plans or the small, regular, routine changes which we make to services through feedback, we are committed to continuously improving what we do and how we do it."
 - Working in partnership with our outreach sports and leisure teams, Health and Wellbeing teams to promote active and health lifestyles for all.
- Designing and delivering our services sustainably
 - "From large-scale investment projects to new or changing service models, we place a value on ensuring that what we do not only meets current needs, but is designed and delivered to be sustainable in the longer-term, ensuring the needs of future generations are uncompromised."
- Working collaboratively across the public, private, community and voluntary sector to achieve shared objectives
 - "Collaborative working is key to delivering successful outcomes for local people. The Council is committed to embracing the opportunities to work with a range of other organisations on issues, projects and plans as they relate to every theme, priority and aspect of our work."

It is recognised, that good quality open/green space can help address issues of poverty, health, education and social interaction and therefore significantly enhance the lives of those who live in

the area. This proposed at Cahore Playing Fields could be argued as having great potential in being a key contributor to enhancing opportunities and could directly impact on the lives of people on health physical and mental wellbeing, education, social interaction and pride in their community place.

Community/Sporting Group Engagement

The purpose of this engagement was to understand the current issues and explore attitudes towards this and attempt to find out what indicative use may be if the facility was enhanced – either by Council investment in the grass pitches (specifically pitch 2 and 3), potential impact leasing could have and also should leasing be successful, if that would provide the local club the platform to make a bid for future investment (ie. floodlit 3G) that otherwise may not have the potential to be delivered at its likely Council would be ineligible to apply for funding and may not have the resources to deliver it on his own. As part of the engagement process with local community/sporting groups, information was requested on potential use if the facility were to be constructed.

The following stakeholders were asked for feedback:

- Ballinascreen GAC
- Draperstown Celtic Football Club
- Workspace NI
- Local Councillors
- Heron Brothers Limited (Landlord)

Engagement focused on the following themes:

- Number of adult and under age teams
- Normal location for club outdoor activities (ie. club owned, hire of other pitches,etc)
- If grass pitch enhancements were to be carried out and if the local club were able to use leasing (proof of tenure) to bid and achieve funding for a floodlit 3G, how and what would be their specific need of use (ie. Alleviate grass pitch congestion / usage / increase numbers of adult/junior teams
- Prediction of anticipated hours per week? (eg. daytime / evening / weekend / Spring / Summer / Autumn / Winter)
- Analysis of bookings at other nearby Council facilities ie. Meadowbank Sports Arena

Summary

- Available space and the limitations of current grass pitches at Cahore Playing Fields was
 the main issue particularly weather issues and over reliance on grass pitches and
 unpredictability of availability for grass pitches that could result in planned activities being
 cancelled/postponed
- Indication that this proposed development would help them with aspiration of development of new activities and possible new youth teams being established.

6. Implications of not undertaking Proposal

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

By not taking forward this proposal, it supports a status quo decision, which does not allow for maximising Council's current recreational assets for the wider benefit of all within the Draperstown area.

By not taking forward this proposed development, then this would not seek to target the analysis with the following papers:

• The Bridging the Gap – Active Places Research 2009, and its subsequent update in 2014, along with the Mid Ulster District Council Sports Facility Strategy 2018 evidence.

By not taking forward this proposal for leasing, it may make future facility development/enhancement unobtainable as due to current pressures on budgets and resources, Council may not be in a position to develop enhanced facilities that the local community desire – ie. floodlit 3G – should a future funding scheme become available, its likely Councils will be ineligible to apply and if one of the criteria for funding is for local clubs/groups to demonstrate ownership or long term tenure, should leasing not progress then there is a potential that future investment opportunities may be lost.

7. Alternatives/Describe the options available

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

Council currently have Maghera Leisure Centre (approx. 7.2 miles and approx. 15 min drive) and the Meadowbank Sports Arena in Magherafelt (approx. 9.5 miles and approx. 20 min drive).

Potential for Displacement

The potential for this proposed leasing to local clubs, investment in upgrading 2 x grass pitches and the aspiration for the local club to leverage in investment for a future floodlit 3G to detract from other facilities (i.e., people/groups cease using other facilities in favour of the new facility) could be argued that it is low risk.

There are two elements of displacement to consider:

- (i) Displacement from other sports clubs in the area
- (ii) Displacement from similar facilities in the area

Considering the first element above, the proposed project here is an enhancement of existing facilities. There is a long history of sports club participation in the locality of Draperstown with well-established memberships that are invariably clearly defined according to home location. The proposed project is therefore not expected to cause movement of membership between clubs but rather allow for growth of each of the resident/anchor clubs with access to an improved facility.

Considering the second element above, whilst Maghera Leisure Centre has a floodlit 3G and Meadowbank Sports Arena has 3G provision, engagement and feedback with local clubs/groups suggest that they see Cahore Playing Fields as their only viable option. Use of the other facilities is predominately when the grass pitches are unplayable or when they are invited to the other locations by other teams to play matches.

8. Organisational Areas Affected

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

- Staff engagement and facilitation of stakeholder engagement can be derived via existing resources
- Infrastructure/databases/communication capabilities can be derived via existing resources
- Working group, across departments, to ensure an integrated approach to deliver to meet the wider corporate targets for leisure and sport, health and wellbeing, community development, good relations

9. Risks

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

- Project funding risks.
- Lack of clarity of roles/ responsibilities for the project.
- Failure to deliver address identified needs and deliver project objectives
- Stakeholder resistance to proposed development

10. Investment Costs

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

- a) Staff
 - N/A
- b) Training
 - N/A
- c) Equipment, etc
 - N/A
- d) Other
- Indicative capital investment estimate of up to £55k for grass playing surface enhancements (pitch 2 and pitch 3). Initial release would be approx. £33.5k for pitch 3 only and the additional £21.5k would only be required to enhance the grass pitch 2 only if the local clubs bid for investment to construct a floodlit 3G is unsuccessful

Item	Amount
Rental costs (leasing with landlord)	- £7,072.65 per annum
Pavilion checks and associated works –	- £3,000 per annum
statutory compliance, eg. Legionella,	
insurance, etc	
Leasing of Pitch 1 and 2 Combined	£1,600 per annum
Leasing of Pitch 3	£1,000 per annum
Annual Keyholder agreement for Pavilion	£1,000 per annum
Total Cost to Operate	Approx £6,472.65 per annum

Estimated costs are summarised below for this option, aggregated over the next 5 years, based on the proposing leasing approach and releasing a budget of approx. £33.5k for works on pitch 3:

	Aggregated Expenditure	Aggregated Income
Works to Pitch 3	Approx £33.5k	
2022 - 2027	Approx £50.5k	£18k
Net Cost to Operate 2022-2027	£66k	

Estimated costs are summarised below for this option, aggregated over the next 5 years, based on the proposing leasing approach and releasing a budget of approx. £55k for works on pitch 2 and 3:

	Aggregated Expenditure	Aggregated Income
Works to Pitch 2 and 3	Approx £55k	
2022 - 2027	Approx £50.5k	£18k
Net Cost to Operate 2022-2027	£87.5k	

11. Running Costs

What are the costs to run this proposal as a service/system?

The above would be presented as indicative costs and subject to consideration and approval by Members and included within the Council's Capital Framework therefore at this stage indicative costs won't be completely established until a procurement process is carried out.

Whilst this would necessitate an initial outlay of approx. £33.5k for pitch works, over 5 years this could result in approx. £40k savings versus option 1 "do nothing" and it would be anticipated that this proposed saving would then be re-invested elsewhere within the Property Services section to help any identified service pressures and enhance operational requirements.

12. Payback/NPV (Net Present Value

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

Whilst there would not be an immediate payback on the initial outlay of the investment for the strategy developed, it is anticipated that this proposed development comes at a time when an active lifestyle is recognised as vitally important in helping to reduce the incidence of a range of life-limiting diseases. It is anticipated that there will be non-monetary benefits with the development for the future prioritisation, development and provision of sports facilities at a local level in order to meet identified community need, helping to increase participation, addressing health inequalities, and other local specific factors.

13. Timescales/Phasing

What are the timescales and deadlines for the proposed development?

It is estimated that if this business plan concept is approved, this will move forward as part of the overall leasing development which would anticipate be concluded within 6-9 months subject to agreement with both sets of legal parties. Investment in pitch 3 would be anticipated to be carried out within 6-9 months subject to Council approval, procurement and contractor timeframes.

In terms of the local clubs aspirations to seek to use their leasing to leverage in funding (should it become available) and seek to develop a floodlit 3G, it is not yet known what timescales could be attributed to this.

14. Conclusion

Proceed with option 2 as outlined above. Whilst this would necessitate an initial outlay of approx. £33.5k for pitch works, over 5 years this could result in approx. £40k savings versus option 1 "do nothing" and it would be anticipated that this proposed saving would then be re-invested elsewhere within the Property Services section to help any identified service pressures and enhance operational requirements.

The project potentially delivers a range of benefits through provision of extended and new opportunities for participation in sport and physical activity for the community of Draperstown. These opportunities and the resultant benefits will be realised through a combination of facility provision and sports development programming.

15. Recommendations

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

Proceed with option 2 as outlined above.

Developed by	Post	Date
Kieran Gordon	Head of Leisure	06.10.2021
Authorised by	Post	Date
Anne-Marie Campbell	Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation	06.10.2021
Name of Assigned Project Manager		Date



Invitation for Expression of Interest from

Sports Clubs to lease Cahore Playing Fields

Mid Ulster District Council is inviting Expressions of Interest from any Sports Clubs who wish to lease a pitch(es) at Cahore Playing Fields, Draperstown for sporting purposes only. Expressions of interest will only be accepted from fully constituted, not for profit sports clubs playing sports that are recognized by Sport NI, and which are located in the Mid Ulster District Council area.

The enclosed application form must be completed in full.

Expressions of interest are to be submitted in writing for the attention of the Business Support Manager, Leisure & Outdoor Recreation, Mid Ulster District Council, Cookstown Office, Burn Road, Cookstown, BT80 8DT or via email to leisure@midulstercouncil.org by 4pm on Tuesday 5th October 2021.

Council is currently seeking expressions of interest only and there is no commitment on any party to move any proposal forward, and the Council may cease the process at any point. Any submissions are done so at the proposer's risk, and the Council will accept no responsibility for any expenses incurred.

Application Form:

Expression of Interest to lease designated land within Mid Ulster District Council.

Organisation/Club Name	
Contact Name	
Position within Organisation/Club	
Address	
Postcode	
Telephone Number	
Email	

Details:

Mid Ulster District Council are currently seeking Expressions of Interest from any Sports Clubs who wish to lease a pitch(es) at Cahore Playing Fields, Draperstown for sporting purposes only.

Expressions of interest will only be accepted from fully constituted, not for profit sports clubs playing sports that are recognized by Sport NI, and which are located in the Mid Ulster District Council area.

Location & Description

The subject lands are located along the Cahore Road, less than a mile south of Draperstown village and less than 9 miles northwest of its nearest major town, Magherafelt. Surrounding land use is mainly agricultural with a small mix of single residential sites on the periphery of the village.

The Property is a community recreational centre which is currently occupied by Mid Ulster District Council by way of a 50 year lease which commenced 1st April 1994 and Land Registry confirmed that the entire folio measures 4.07 ha / 10.05715 acres which currently comprises two grass soccer pitches, one GAA grass pitch and a pavilion which was constructed in 2005 measures 212sqm (GEA).

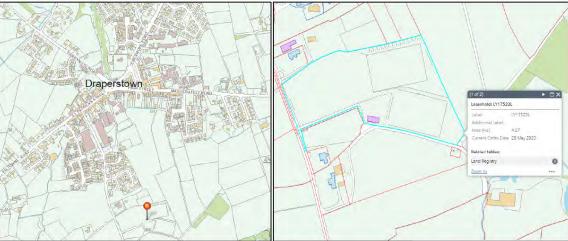
The site is fully fenced and the floodlit carpark has provision for 66 cars.

Areas

Maps and areas are enclosed for information purposes and each area are assumed to be correct as follows;

- Pitch 1 2.05 acres
- Pitch 2 2.08 acres
- Pitch 3 3.39 acres
- Pitch 1 and 2 combined 4.54 acres
- Pavilion 0.05 acres
- Overall site in total 10.06 acres

Maps and Photographs



Location Map

Overview of folio as per LPS IMA



Overview of folio as per LPS IMA

Proposed Leasing Terms

Council will be guided by Land and Property Services for valuations of each of the above areas. It would be Council's intensions to enter into agreement(s) for a proposed 25 year term (with option to renew/extend).

In broad terms this would include a commitment for the sporting Club, collective or community organisation to:

- Carry out minor grounds and building maintenance (where relevant) for example pitch marking, grass cutting, ongoing maintenance, minor repairs, litter picking, inspections etc.
- General management of the site to ensure that members of the public, sporting organisations and clubs continue to use the facility to full capacity, to include opening and closing and ensuring all relevant health and safety arrangements are in place.
- Continue to permit members of the public to access the property for passive recreational pursuits save for areas provided for dedicated sporting or

- community purposes.
- Management of bookings and events.
- Pavilion management (where relevant) to include opening and closing, upkeep of the fabric, cleaning and general management.
- Responsible for service charges such as water, electricity etc. (where relevant)
- Full ongoing inspections and maintenance of the lands (as determined by agreed boundary areas)
- Financial management of the various activities associated with the above.
- To arrange relevant insurance cover as specified by the Council (currently minimum of £5 million Public Liability Insurance – subject to review) and all necessary statutory approvals are in place and maintained.

The above list is not exhaustive and may be subject to change.

There is an on-site changing pavilion and while that is not currently subject to expressions of interest for leasing, there may be an opportunity for further discussions with Council on agreements for use subject to satisfactory agreement by all parties.

The enclosed application form must be completed in full.

Expressions of interest are to be submitted in writing for the attention of the Business Support Manager, Leisure & Outdoor Recreation, Mid Ulster District Council, Cookstown Office, Burn Road, Cookstown, BT80 8DT or via email to leisure@midulstercouncil.org by 4pm on Tuesday 5th October 2021.

Council is currently seeking expressions of interest only and there is no commitment on any party to move any proposal forward, and the Council may cease the process at any point. Any submissions are done so at the proposer's risk, and the Council will accept no responsibility for any expenses incurred.

Please tick from the list below which area you are expressing an interest in:

Area	Tick
Pitch 1 (currently lined for soccer)	
Pitch 2 (currently lined for soccer)	
Pitch 3 (currently lined for GAA)	

Applicants must complete:

- Basic Eligibility
- Qualitative Assessment (100%)

For each of the sections below, please include your response and supporting details. The space provided under each section may be expanded to allow your submission to provide further details.

Where you feel it is appropriate to provide any further documents/supporting information, please make sure this is clearly labelled as per the criteria reference when submitting your return.

Stage 1: Basic eligibility	criteria	
Criteria	Details to be evidenced	Office Use: Pass/Fail
1.1 Is a constituted group with not-for-profit objectives?	Details/evidence to be provided. May include for example, registered charity number,etc	
1.1 Applicant Response:	I	
1.2 Open membership?	Confirmation that the applicant is open to all to include non-participants, male, female, adults, children, people with disabilities and ethnic minorities.	
1.2 Applicant Response:		
TIZ Applicant Responses		

1.3 Can meet financial obligations?	Can demonstrate they can demonstrate sustainability and carry out all the requirements to include ongoing rent, maintenance, insurance, etc and the financial model is demonstrated to be sustainable with evidence of income/grants, etc.	
1.3 Applicant Response:		
Insurances (public, building)?	Can demonstrate they can meet the specified insurance requirements.	
1.4 Applicant Response:		
Applicant is based in Mid Ulster District Council	Can demonstrate main participant base within the Mid Ulster District Council	
4 E Applicant Doopses	area.	
1.5 Applicant Response:		

Note for applicants: At evaluation stage, should the evaluation panel determine that an applicant's submission obtains a "fail" assessment for any of the above basic eligibility criteria, then the application will be automatically disqualified at this stage.

Note for applicants: At evaluation stage, should the evaluation panel determine that an applicant's submission obtain a "pass" assessment for all elements of the above eligibility criteria then the application will proceed to stage 2 assessment.

For each of the sections below, please include your response and supporting details. The space provided under each section may be expanded to allow your submission to provide further details.

Where you feel it is appropriate to provide any further documents, supporting information, please make sure this is clearly labelled as per the criteria reference when submitting your return.

Stage 2: Qualitativ Criteria	Details to be evidenced	Weighting
2.1: Demonstrated need for activities and facilities in local area or within Mid Ulster District Council and beyond	Overall business plan prepared and submitted to include: Number of existing members and/or players currently in the organization Number of existing teams currently in the organization. Detail on the current standard of leagues played in. Current facilities Membership and expected growth Expected usage with new facilities. Proposals for investment and improvement of the site to include cognisance of historical use of the site. Identification of grant funding that will be applied for Evidence of alignment with Council's Corporate Plan. https://www.midulstercouncil.org/your-council/policies-documents	30%

applied for • Evidence of alignment with Council's Corporate Plan. https://www.midulstercouncil.org/your-council/policies-documents 2.1 Applicant Response:

2.2: Capacity and willingness to share the facility with other community organisations	Proposals for proper upkeep of the physical environment. Examples of partnerships (past or expected), current and/or intended use of facilities by other groups, letters of support,etc	20%
2.2 Applicant Resp	oonse:	•
2.3: Viability and capacity to manage a	Financial standing and evidence of sustainability of potential lessee.	15%
community facility including financial capacity to meet	A requirement to be registered with a governing body.	
operational costs and development commitments.	Current key holder duties, evidence of operating and managing a sports facility, club accounts (past 3 years), policies etc.	
	Proposals to manage the Land or Property Management Agreement. Past	
	Performance/Track record of managing a club and its resources at community level.	
2.3 Applicant Resp	oonse:	

2.4: Governance, and management structure, sports development.	Strategic/development plan, other evidence such as record of competition achievements, club history document, club minute book, Child Protection Policy, Constitution, Coaches/Player Code of Conduct, Equality Policy,etc	15%
2.4 Applicant Resp	onse:	
2.5: Social Value - Evidence that the grant of tenure will be in the public's interest and that the proposed activities will increase sport, recreation and/or community participation level.	 A Development Plan for the leased areas to include: Proposals on how the club will develop members/players numbers, teams and standard of leagues played in; Current examples of working with target groups, strategic development plan, letter of support etc. Proposals for increased participation of local communities Access arrangements to be detailed for informal public uses. Proposals which promote shared use and inclusivity and which demonstrate wider community benefit. 	20%
2.5 Applicant Resp	onse:	

Scoring Methodology:

To ensure consistency, the evaluation panel will mark the above sub-categories according to this scale:

Assessment	Score 0-5	Reasons to award this score based on evidence provided and against the criteria include
Unacceptable	0	 The response fails to meet the methodology requirements There is a high risk that this applicant, in this sub category, could jeopardise the success of a project if awarded. No evidence provided against this sub category
Reservations	1	 The response in this category is compliant, but with reservations. Weakness and/or risks in this methodology outweigh strengths.
Compliant	2	 Compliant response in this sub category, but lacks sufficient detail to award a higher mark. Strengths in this methodology outweigh weaknesses.
Good	3	 Indicates a convincing response in this sub category with no weaknesses. Methodology demonstrates that the applicant will provide a good quality service.
Very Good	4	 Indicates a very good response in this category with no weaknesses. Methodology demonstrates that the applicant will provide very good quality service.
Excellent	5	 Indicates an excellent methodology with no weaknesses. Methodology demonstrates that this applicant will provide an outstanding service.

Please sign your completed application

I confirm that the information I have given on this application form is accurate and complete. I confirm that I have the authority on behalf of my organisation/club to complete and submit this application. I understand that Council is currently seeking expressions of interest only and there is no commitment on any party to move any proposal forward, and the Council may cease the process at any point. I understand that any submissions are done so at the proposer's risk, and the Council will accept no responsibility for any expenses incurred.

I acknowledge that if I give misleading or inaccurate statements on behalf of my organisation/club, this application may then be disqualified.

Signature	
Print Name	
Position within Organisation/Club	
Date	

Report on	Sport NI Multi Facility Fund Application
Date of Meeting	4 th November 2021
Reporting Officer	Kieran Gordon, Assistant Director Health, Leisure & Wellbeing
Contact Officer	Kieran Gordon, Assistant Director Health, Leisure & Wellbeing

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 update members of the progress of the Sport NI Multi Facility Fund Application and to seek Members approval for match funding allocation from the Council's Capital Framework 2020 – 2024.
2.0	Background
2.1	The Multi-Facility Fund is a capital grants programme managed and administered by Sport Northern Ireland. The programme is financed by National Lottery funds.
2.2	Previously in November 2018, Council approved the progression of and Mid Ulster District Council application to Stage 2 of the process, specifically an application for Mid Ulster Sports Arena facility enhancement to include an 8 lane running track and pitch in the middle of the track both with floodlights. It was noted that this project would require additional land so as part of this approval, Officers were also permitted to write to CAFRE Director to formally request the transfer of land known as First Beech to Mid Ulster District Council.
2.3	The indicative budget for the Sport NI Multi-Facility programme is £6.75m and following an initial 39 applications that were invited to Stage 2, subsequently 10 applicants were invited to the next stage which included the MUSA project. District councils are eligible for 60% of the costs up to a maximum of £1million.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Previously in November 2019, as a result of a successful Stage 2 application, Council approved the procurement of a consultant to complete the required Economic Appraisal required for the project. In conjunction with the Council's technical team, the Consultant progressed design works with a number of potential options for the proposed new facility enhancement having been considered. This included extensive consultation with clubs and user groups and the development of a sports

development plan for the MUSA facility. A funding application along with an economic appraisal was submitted to Sport NI in advance of their 4th September 2020 deadline.

- 3.2 Members agreed the Capital Framework 2020 2024 at the Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held in February 2020 and a budget allocation of £1million was assigned to the MUSA project subject to successful funding.
- Previously in September 2020, Members at the Development Committee resolved to note the progression of the Economic Appraisal to Sport NI as part of Stage 4 of the process and subject to the achievement of funding from Sport NI, approval was given for the appointment of a full ICT team and the submission of full planning permission. Indicative costs were approved at this point for £2,585,306 (including optimum bias) and on the basis Council could achieve the maximum funding of £1million.
- 3.4 At April 2021 Development Committee, it was noted within Chairs Business that Sport NI approved the application with an indicative funding offer of £1million for that project.
- 3.5 Council officers have commenced work on Sport NI's project management requirements that includes the appointment of ICT Teams and applying for planning permission.
- 3.6 Members approval is sought for Council match funding allocation of approx. £1.6million from the Council's Capital Framework 2020 2024 (an uplift of approx. £600k based on previous budget allocation of £1million in February 2020).
- 3.7 As time has elapsed from the Economic Appraisal in September 2020 and rising material costs experienced over the past 12 months, full costs will not be known until a tender processed is conducted. Potential savings have been identified which include a potential reduction for the PC sum for NIE works for relocation of overhead cables and also a reduced specification for the running track. Further design work will be required to identify potential savings. Reduction of the specification of the infield pitch from 3G to natural grass sand mattress was ruled out within the economic appraisal due to other natural grass pitch provision on site as well as the benefits of a 3G surface being available all year round. Savings may therefore be realised at tender stage and also as a result of NIE works.

4.0 Other Considerations

4.1 Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications

Financial: This preferred option has been approved by Sport NI. This option sets the parameters for any future Stage 4 Letter of Offer Pack. The Sport NI Board agreed to offer an indicative maximum award of £1m towards capital costs. This provisional offer is subject to Mid Ulster District Council fulfilling the remaining Project Management Requirements, including submission of a Tender Report,

business case updated with the tendered costs, full partnership funding package, and risks/benefits etc.

Project is dependent on appropriate match funding being secured from the Council's Capital Framework 2020 – 2024, estimated at approx. £1.6million.

Project is dependent on land transfer from Department.

Human: Current staff structure sufficient to deliver on outcomes.

Risk Management: Additional external funding has been secured with an indicative award but is subject to a number of conditions and risks. Council staff and appointed ICT will manage and monitor the project aims and outcomes to ensure compliance to council policies and procedures and associated funders criteria throughout the delivery of the project.

4.2 | Screening & Impact Assessments

Equality & Good Relations Implications: Considered in line with Council's policies and procedures.

Rural Needs Implications: Considered in line with Council's policies and procedures.

5.0 | Recommendation(s)

5.1 That members note the progression of the project and to give approval for Council to provide match funding of £1.6 million as part of the Council's Capital Framework 2020 – 2024.

6.0 Documents Attached & References

Appendix A: Draft Site Plan.

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Report on	Elected Member Development Working Group
Date of Meeting	4 November 2021
Reporting Officer	Philip Moffett, Head of Democratic Services
Contact Officer	Eileen Forde, Member Support Officer

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

1.0	Purpose of Report		
1.1	To receive and consider the report of a meeting of the Elected Member Development Working Group held on 26 October 2021		
2.0	Background		
2.1	The Council through the Elected Member Development Steering Group has now attained Level 1 Charter Status for Elected Member Development and completed a successful Review process.		
2.2	The steering group Terms of Reference confirms that the business of the Working Group be reported through Policy & Resources Committee.		
3.0	Main Report		
3.1	The Report of the most recent meeting of the Elected Member Development Steering Group is attached, as Appendix A to this report for consideration and approval. The following issues have resulted from discussion at the October meeting:		
	 The training programme in line with needs reflected in Member Personal Development Plans (PDPs) be amended and progressed as outlined in the report of the Working Group detailed at appendix A; A programme of Getting to Know 'Lesser Spotted Mid Ulster' be progressed to enable Members to learn and develop knowledge of the districts attributes outside their own DEA. Continue to retain Charter Status and explore Charter Plus officer and Member commitment. 		
3.2	It was noted at the Working Group meeting that one Member had enrolled on the NILGA Leadership Development Accredited Course and two Members had enrolled on the NILGA Local Planning Programme Accredited Course.		

4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: not applicable at this point
	Human: Not applicable
	Risk Management: Not applicable
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: Not applicable
	Rural Needs Implications: Not applicable
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	The committee consider and approves the report of the Elected Member Development Steering Group meeting, and actions contained, held on Tuesday 26 October 2021
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix A: Report of Elected Member Development Steering Group



Report of Elected Member Development Steering Group of Mid Ulster District Council held on 26 October 2021 at 6.00pm via Zoom

Attendees Members: Councillors Ashton, Buchanan, Doris, Elattar and Mallaghan

Officers: E Forde, Member Support Officer, S McAleer Corporate L&D Manager

Apologies P Moffett Assistant Director: OD, S&P

AGENDA	MATTERS AGREED	ACTIONS & RESPONSIBILITY
1.0	Chair's Business In the absence of the Chair, Councillor McKinney, it was agreed that Councillor Ashton Chair the meeting.	
2.0	 Member Support Officer provided update on training highlighting forthcoming opportunities AGREED: That Corporate L&D Manager send out details of E Learning and plan a further demonstration prior to a committee meeting to encourage Members to avail of Learning and Development opportunities via this platform. NOTED: NILGA Planning Leadership Course 2 Members have commenced the 2021/2022 course and 1 Member has commenced the 2021/2022 NILGA Local Leadership Course. NOTED: NILGA Regional Training Programme September 2021 – April 2022 	Member Support Officer Corporate L&D Manager
3.0	Future Training Agreed	



	Climate Change School Event (if permitted with SWC & St Patrick's College event Members attend via zoom to hear College report to be presented to NI Assembly)	15 November	Member Support Officer Corporate L&D Manager
	Procurement Training (Revised Policy) Land & Property Services	17 November 2021 4 November 2021	
	Treasury Management	To be confirmed	
	Personal Resilience	Progress training as outlined to take place Jan – March 2022	
	Onboard Training	Progress training as outlined to take place Jan – March 2022	
	Time Management	Progress training to take place Jan – June 2022	
	Deaf Awareness/Sign Language Deaf Awareness and An Introduction to Sign Language skills	Agreed to progress an in person evening course cost approx. £250 for up to 14 people	
4.0	Evaluations		



5.0	Personal Development Plans	
5.5	AGREED: Members who completed Personal Development Plans receive progress update.	Member Support Officer
6.0	Lesser Spotted Mid Ulster	
	Members discussed the value of progressing a 'Lesser Spotted Mid Ulster' series of learning to know other DEA's over the winter spring months. First proposed event 30 November 2021 early evening Solar Walk: meet in Cookstown, get dropped at Beaghmore Boardwalk walk along to Davagh (approximately 3Km), appreciate the archaeological experience, the landscape, solar system, finishing at Davagh and transport back to Cookstown. All events will be risk assessed as per current restrictions. • Future: Suggestions to experience other places of interest for further activity across the district to be emailed to Member Support Officer. Members asked that a number of events be held prior to measuring success or otherwise. • Party Leaders to be contacted to encourage Party Members to attend.	Member Support Officer AD: ODSP
7.0	Verbal Update on Charter Review	
	 Member Support Officer advised that as reported at June P&R meeting Council had successfully completed the Charter Review had taken place on 26 May 2021. As previous the Chair of the Working Group Cllr McKinney, Member Support Officer and Head of Democratic Services would be interviewed for the review 	Member Support Officer & AD: ODSP
8.0	Consideration of Charter/Charter Plus	



	AGREED: that Member Support Officer explore Charter Plus to be considered at a future meeting. Considerations to include cost, officer and Member commitment. **Meeting concluded at 6.50 pm**	AD: ODSP
•	NOTED: that Charter Status would be reassessed in 2022 having reached the end of a three year period, cost would be as previous £2500 to renew.	Member Support Officer &

Minutes of Meeting of Policy and Resources Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 7 October 2021 in the Council Offices, Ballyronan Road, Magherafelt and by Virtual Means

Members Present Councillor McKinney, Chair

Councillors Ashton, Buchanan, Cuddy, Doris*, Elattar*, Forde, Gildernew*, Kearney, S McAleer*, S McGuigan,

McLean, S McPeake, Molloy*, Quinn*

Officers in Attendance

Mr McCreesh, Chief Executive

Mrs Campbell**, Strategic Director of Environment Mrs Canavan, Strategic Director of Organisation

Development, Strategy and Performance

Mrs Dyson**, Head of HR Mr Hill**, Head of Parks

Mr Kelso, Director of Public Health & Infrastructure Ms Linney**, Assistant Director of Development Ms Mezza**, Head of Marketing and Communications

Mr Moffett, Assistant Director of Organisation Development,

Strategy and Performance Mr O'Hagan, Head of ICT

Mr Tohill, Strategic Director of Corporate Service and

Finance

Miss Thompson, Democratic Services Officer

Others in Attendance

Councillor McFlynn*** (7.09 pm)

- * 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 McKinney welcomed everyone to the meeting and those watching the meeting through the Live Broadcast. Councillor McKinney 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.

PR176/21 Apologies

Councillor Totten.

PR177/21 Declarations of Interest

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

Councillor Buchanan declared an interest in agenda item 4 – Community Development – Connecting Pomeroy as he sits on the Connecting Pomeroy Committee.

PR178/21 Chair's Business

The Chair, Councillor McKinney advised there was an item of Chair's Business which would be taken in confidential business.

Matters for Decision

PR179/21 Community Development – Connecting Pomeroy

The Assistant Director of Development presented previously circulated report which sought approval to accept additional funding from the Rural Development Programme to extend the previously approved project at the court yard parking and amenity area at Pomeroy Forest.

Proposed by Councillor McLean Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council –

- (I) To accept funding from the Rural Development Programme (£60,750), with match contribution (£20,250), and proceed with the court yard parking and amenity area at Pomeroy Forest.
- (II) To approve awarding delegated powers to the Policy and Resources Committee to approve the award of IST contractor at November 2021 Committee.

PR180/21 DAERA: Environmental Challenge Fund 2021/22

The Head of Parks presented previously circulated report which advised of successful application to the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs: Environment Challenge Competition 2020/21 for the redevelopment of Ballyronan Wood and sought approval to secure match funding for the redevelopment of the Wood project.

Councillor Kearney stated that this is a very worthwhile project and that the possible future link with Traad Point will also be something to look forward to. The Councillor stated that he had visited Ballyronan a number of times during the summer and that he felt the facilities there are probably the most up to date in any Council area. Councillor Kearney proposed the recommendation.

Councillor Forde seconded Councillor Kearney's proposal and stated that she had also visited Ballyronan a number of times recently and that it is a great facility.

Resolved

That it be recommended to Council to allocate match funding of £47,454 to the Ballyronan Wood redevelopment from Council's Capital Programme budget allocations as part of the Council's Outdoor Recreation Five Year Strategic Plan.

PR181/21 Iniscarn Forest, DAERA - TRPSI Application

The Head of Parks presented previously circulated report which provided update on the application to DAERA for Tackling Rural Poverty and Social Isolation (TRPSI) funding to assist with the development of Iniscarn Forest and sought approval for match funding allocation from Council's Outdoor Recreation capital budget.

Councillor S McPeake proposed the recommendation and stated that Iniscarn Forest had always been popular but that during the pandemic the popularity of the facility was causing issues with car parking and had outgrown any previous investment.

Councillor Cuddy stated it was good to see several projects coming forward tonight to which there is significant capital funding going into and that this is being triggered by over 50% of external funding. The Councillor thanked the teams for their work in this regard and stated that rate payers' monies were being maximised. Councillor Cuddy seconded Councillor S McPeake's proposal.

The Chair, Councillor McKinney stated this is a good project and that local residents will be glad to see a car park at this location coming to fruition.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to allocate match funding of £68,750 for the development of Iniscarn Forest subject to an agreed Letter of Offer from DEARA as part of the TRPSI funding allocation.

Councillor McFlynn joined the meeting at 7.09 pm.

PR182/21 Requests to Illuminate Council Property

The Assistant Director of Organisation Development, Strategy and Performance presented previously circulated report which considered requests received to illuminate/light up the Council's three designated properties to raise awareness of and mark;

- World Diabetes Day: Sunday 14th November 2021
- World Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Day: Thursday 18th November 2021
- NSPCC Walk for Children Day: Tuesday 21st December 2021

The officer advised that since the report had been published a further request had been received from North West Migrants Forum to illuminate Council's designated properties to mark Black History Month on 30 and 31 October 2021.

Councillor Cuddy proposed that Council's designated properties be illuminated as per the report and additional request as detailed tonight. The Councillor referred to the lighting of Ranfurly House in Dungannon which is illuminated by only two lights and stated that he felt additional lighting at this location would be beneficial.

Councillor Ashton seconded Councillor Cuddy's proposal with the addition of including the NIO proposal to illuminate properties on 22 October 2021 as part of the Northern Ireland Centenary Programme detailed within the report.

The Chair, Councillor McKinney stated that officers would come back with costing for additional lighting at Ranfurly House.

Councillor Molloy proposed the three requests detailed on the report and the additional request outlined by the officer tonight in relation to Black History Month. Councillor Molloy stated that he felt Council had previously taken a decision in relation to lighting up Council properties to mark the Centenary of Northern Ireland.

Councillor Quinn stated he supported the three requests listed in the report along with the additional request to mark Black History Month.

The Assistant Director of Organisation Development, Strategy and Performance advised that the report included correspondence from NIO which gives notification of plans to light up buildings across the UK on 22nd October as part of the Northern Ireland Centenary Programme.

Councillor Cuddy proposed that Council's designated properties be illuminated to mark the three requests listed in the report along with the additional request to mark Black History Month and that properties also be illuminated on 22 October as part of the Northern Ireland Centenary Programme.

Councillor Ashton seconded Councillor Cuddy's proposal and stated that the NIO proposal is a UK wide initiative and it would be good for Mid Ulster to be represented.

Councillor Doris stated that as an Irish Republican she would be voting against Council properties being illuminated to celebrate something which deserves no celebration which was the partition of Ireland. Councillor Doris stated she would second Councillor Molloy's proposal as previous discussions and decisions had taken place regarding illuminating Council properties for the Northern Ireland Centenary.

The Assistant Director of Organisation Development, Strategy and Performance stated that a decision was previously taken not to light up Council properties to mark the Northern Ireland Centenary at the start of May. The officer advised that the correspondence before Members tonight from the NIO is informative and it is up to Members how they wish to proceed.

Councillor Cuddy stated that everyone signed up to the Good Friday Agreement and that minorities should be respected and that the people of the Unionist community would like the opportunity to mark the Centenary of Northern Ireland.

The Strategic Director of Corporate Service and Finance clarified that costings referred to earlier does not refer to the cost of lighting up of buildings but rather the cost of additional lighting at Ranfurly House.

Councillor McLean stated it was his understanding that the Centenary Committee of the NIO was set up by the Executive which is a joint working group across all parties and that he thought that as this information had come through the auspices of the Executive Office it would have been favourably considered. Councillor McLean asked Councillor Molloy and Doris to reflect on their proposal to exclude lighting up Council properties to

mark the Centenary of Northern Ireland. Councillor McLean stated he appreciated the political viewpoint of other Members but that history could not be changed.

Councillor Molloy stated that this matter was discussed previously in April/May with a decision taken at that time. Councillor Molloy stated that the lighting up of Council properties is for charitable organisations and that he was content to stand over and keep to that.

Councillor Cuddy stated that there were instances in the past in which Council properties were lit up for non charitable organisations and asked Members to respect what was signed up to in the Good Friday Agreement. The Councillor stated that moving forward is about respecting other traditions and to work in partnership and that the request to light up Council properties to mark the Centenary of Northern Ireland was not going to change the world. Councillor Cuddy stated that all residents in the District paid rates and own part of the Council properties and it was a pity a way forward could not be found.

Councillor Doris stated that no one is trying to stop Unionists from celebrating the Centenary of Northern Ireland and that she has a good working relationship with Unionist Councillors however she would understand how Unionists would not be comfortable with lighting up Council properties to mark events such as the 1916 Easter Rising and would therefore not try to impose that opinion. Councillor Doris stated she continued to second Councillor Molloy's proposal and requested a recorded vote.

Councillor Quinn proposed that a vote be taken on the first four requests and a separate vote be taken in relation to lighting up properties to mark Centenary of Northern Ireland.

Councillor Molloy stated that his proposal was to light up Council properties on the three occasions outlined in the report and including the additional requested outlined in relation to Black History Month and that this had been seconded by Councillor Doris. The Councillor stated that Councillor Cuddy's proposal was to illuminate Council properties for all five occasions and should be voted on first.

The Strategic Director of Corporate Service and Finance advised that the original proposal was Councillor Cuddy's and this was to illuminate Council properties for all five occasions (three listed in report together with the additional request for Black History Month and to mark Centenary of Northern Ireland). Councillor Molloy and Councillor Doris then proposed and seconded an amendment which was to illuminate Council properties on four occasions (three listed in report and additional request for Black History Month). The officer advised that the amendment would be taken first -

Members voted on Councillor Molloy's proposal -

For – Doris, Gildernew, S McGuigan, S McPeake, Elattar, Kearney, Molloy, S McAleer, Quinn (9)

Against – Ashton, Buchanan, McKinney, Cuddy, Forde, McLean (6)

It was advised that the amendment had now become the substantive proposal and that Members were voting on whether they were for or against illuminating Council

properties on the four occasions (three listed in report and additional request for Black History Month).

For – Doris, Gildernew, S McGuigan, S McPeake, Elattar, Kearney, Molloy, S McAleer, Quinn (9)

Abstained – Ashton, Buchanan, Cuddy, Forde, McLean, McKinney (6)

It was advised that the substantive motion had been carried.

Resolved

That it be recommended to Council to light up designated Council properties as follows -

- (I) World Diabetes Day on Sunday 14th November colour blue;
- (II) World Pancreatic Cancer Day on Thursday 18th November colour purple;
- (III) NSPCC Walk for Children on 21st December colour green
- (IV) Black History Month on 30th and 31st October colours green and red

PR183/21 Corporate Good Relations Working Group Meeting Report

The Assistant Director of Organisation Development, Strategy and Performance presented previously circulated report which provided details of the outworking's of the Corporate Good Relations Working Group that was held on 20th September 2021.

The Chair, Councillor McKinney stated he felt this was a paper exercise given what had just happened at tonight's meeting. Councillor McKinney highlighted that there was no one from the Unionist perspective in attendance at the working group and that he felt good relations within Council were nil.

Councillor Cuddy stated that there was no Unionist attendance at the working group because there was nothing there for Unionists.

Councillor Ashton stated that tonight was a demonstration of why there was no Unionist uptake at the working group and called into question the purpose of having the working group.

Councillor S McPeake stated it was disappointing that no Unionists attended the working group and that this said more about Unionism than anything else. The Councillor stated that the meeting was open to all Councillors and was an opportunity to bring grievances to the table and it was highly disrespectful to the outside facilitators who were there to facilitate the meeting that no Unionists attended.

Councillor Doris stated she felt the meeting was helpful and that it was disappointing that no Unionists were in attendance. The Councillor stated she hoped Unionists would consider attending future meetings as there was nothing to fear from talking to each other.

Councillor Cuddy stated it was good to hear Councillor Doris' comments but that from a Unionist point of view he felt there was nothing there. Councillor Cuddy stated that a sign of any party in control is how they treat the minorities around them and how well they work with them. Councillor Cuddy referred to the previous item of discussion and

how this would have been a simple, small gesture for the Unionist community. The Councillor stated that Unionist Councillors can go to meetings but that time and time again anything to do with the Unionist background is brushed under the carpet and that it gets to the stage that Unionist Councillors do not attend meetings because they aren't getting anything for the community they represent. Councillor Cuddy appealed to the majority on Council that it is how they treat the minority and that the minority feels it is not getting its fair share. The Councillor stated that Unionist Councillors needed to see more than words and that this can sometimes be hard but that is why there is frustration tonight and that this will continue until things change.

Councillor McLean stated that Councillor Cuddy had articulated the issue well and that as Chair of Council for this year he had played his part as a Unionist Councillor and had visited places and people which as a mature Unionist he believed it is his responsibility to do so. Councillor McLean stated he took exception to Councillor S McPeake's comments as they both would know each other better than some of the other Councillors having both sat on Magherafelt Council previously. Councillor McLean stated that he had attended meetings on many occasions in the past and that he felt they were just lip service to the Unionist Councillors. The Councillor stated he was for inclusiveness and discussing issues but that there was only a certain length of time this can be done and if such meetings are not profitable for Unionists then they would not be there. Councillor McLean stated that if the working group continues to meet and there is a genuine olive branch set before Unionist Councillors then he did not think there would be a problem in attending and being part of future discussions but that there needed to be something tangible and that at the moment it was not there. The Councillor stated he understood this may be difficult but that it was the reality.

Councillor Kearney stated he had attended the working group and could not remember the previous meeting of good relations. The Councillor stated that one of the things he took from the meeting was the huge role and responsibility on everyone to do their best. Councillor Kearney stated that there is an outside facilitator who is prepared to attend future meetings and again highlighted the responsibility of everyone to do their best and that he would continue to attend any future meetings.

The Chair, Councillor McKinney stated that for a meeting such as good relations to take place needs the opinions of both sides of the community and asked is the working group a tick box exercise for Council.

The Assistant Director of Organisation Development, Strategy and Performance stated that the role of the working group is embedded within the equality scheme and that its purpose is to create an environment to discuss and work out sensitive issues and that the working group held in September was convened to discuss the review of Dual Language Signage. The officer advised that the working group is part of the governance of Council and that its representation is a matter for parties if they wish to attend as the Standing Orders do not extend to working groups and their makeup. The officer added that there will be a further meeting of the working group in November.

Proposed by Councillor S McPeake Seconded by Councillor Kearney and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the report of the Corporate

Good Relations Working Group meeting held on 20th September 2021 as

set out at appendix one of report.

PR184/21 Member Services

No issues.

Matters for Information

PR185/21 Minutes of Policy and Resources Committee held on 9 September 2021

Members noted Policy and Resources Committee Minutes of Meeting held on 9 September 2021.

PR186/21 Non-Domestic Rating Revaluation 2023

The Strategic Director of Corporate Service and Finance presented previously circulated report which provided update in relation to the Department of Finance's (DoF) non-domestic Rating Revaluation 2023.

Members noted the content of the report.

PR187/21 Full Fibre Project Update

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update regarding implementation of Full Fibre Project.

The Chair, Councillor McKinney stated it was good to see the continuing roll out of this programme which will help to bring broadband to rural areas.

Live broadcast ended at 7.46 pm.

Local Government (NI) Act 2014 – Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor S McGuigan Seconded by Councillor Cuddy and

Resolved

In accordance with Section 42, Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014 that Members of the public be asked to withdraw from the meeting whilst Member consider items PR188/21 to PR198/21.

Matters for Decision

PR188/21 Davagh Forest Mountain Bike Trails – TRPSI Application PR189/21 Cot Lane Footbridge

PR190/21	DfC Revitalisation Scheme 2021/2022 – Coalisland Town Centre
PR191/21	Chair's Business
PR192/21	Review of Financial Statements 2020/21
PR193/21	Staffing Matters for Decision
Matters for	Information
PR194/21	Confidential Minutes of Policy & Resources Committee
	Meeting held on 9 September 2021
PR195/21	Contracts and DAC
PR196/21	Staff Matters for Information
PR197/21	ICT Update October 2021
PR198/21	Update on Senior Staff Structure

PR199/21 Duration of Meeting

The meeting commenced at 7 pm and concluded at 8.55 pm.

Chair		
Data		

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 I will ask each member to confirm whether they are for or against the proposal or abstaining
- When invited to speak please introduce yourself by name to the meeting
- o 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 - apologies and then roll call of all other Members in attendance.

Report on	Local Government Partnership on Travellers Issues: Subscription 2021-22
Date of Meeting	Thursday 4th November 2021
Reporting Officer	Philip Moffett, Head of Democratic Services
Contact Officer	Philip Moffett, Head of Democratic Services

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

1.0	Purpose of Report		
1.1	To update the committee on request received from the Northern Ireland Local Government Partnership on Travellers Issues for annual membership subscription, for period 2021-2022.		
2.0	Background		
2.1	The Council is currently a member organisation of the Local Government Partnership on traveller Issues to which it has elected member representation. The current representative is Cllr Donal McPeake, details of which is confirmed on the council website at:		
	Local Government Partnership on Travellers Issues		
2.2	Partnership membership was considered by the Environment Committee in May 2018 and subsequently recommended to Council (minute reference E136/18).		
3.0	Main Report		
3.1	The council has received an invoice for payment for the period 2021-22. Costs associated with annual organisational membership is provided for, from the Democratic Services in-year budget.		
4.0	Other Considerations		
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications		
	Financial: Local Government Partnership on Traveller Issues - £500 (VAT is not applicable to this charge)		
	Human: not applicable		
	Risk Management: not applicable		
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments		
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: not applicable		

	Rural Needs Implications: not applicable
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	That the committee notes request for payment from the NI Local Government Partnership on Traveller Issues for the 2021-22 annual subscription.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	Appendix A Renewal of Annual Membership for 2021-22





Renewal of Annual Membership for 2021/2022

5th October 2021

Invoice: 2021/22 - 10

Mid Ulster District Council Burn Road COOKSTOWN BT80 8DT

The annual subscription in respect of membership of this Partnership by your Council for the period April 2021 to March 2022 is now due for renewal and payment.

Renewal Subscription - £500.00 (VAT is not applicable to this charge)

Please remit by BACS to the following bank account.

Account Name: Local Government Partnership on Traveller Issues

Account Number:

Bank Sort Code:

Bank: Danske Bank, 21-23 High Street, Carrickfergus BT38 7AL

Payment advice notes are to be posted to the address listed below or emailed to robert.irvine@fermanaghomagh.com.

R. J. Irvine (Treasurer)

Tele No

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