

APPENDIX 1



**Report of
Regional and Minority Language Implementation Working Group of Mid Ulster District
Council**

Report of Regional and Minority Language Implementation Working Group of Mid Ulster Council held on Monday 5th October 2020 in the Council Offices, Dungannon.

Attendees Members: Cllr John McNamee (Chair), Cllr Wilbert Buchanan, Cllr Sean McGuigan, Cllr Trevor Wilson

By Remote link: Cllr Seán McPeake, Cllr Martin Kearney, Cllr Cora Corry.

Officers: Tony McCance, Déaglán Ó Doibhlin.

AGENDA	MATTERS AGREED	ACTIONS & RESPONSIBILITY
1.0	Apologies	
	Adrian McCreesh, Seán Mac Nia, Cllr Kim Ashton	
2.0	Declarations of Interest	
	No declarations of interest submitted.	
3.0	Minutes of previous meeting held on 24th February 2020.	
	A report of the minutes of the previous meeting of 24th February 2020 was presented to the Working Group.	

4.0	Signage Programme update	
	<p>T. McCance provided an update on the progress of the signage programme. With regard to road signage, procurement and installation of August approved signage will be complete by 16th October, and September approved signage should be complete by mid November though difficulties being experienced by the contractor in sourcing perspex (given COVID 19) might cause a delay. Total requests received from January stand at 101 with 65 surveys completed and a further 31 due by the end of October. Covid restrictions in place in the Electoral Office are having an impact on the work of officers.</p> <p>Cllr McNamee enquired as to the position with regard to internal building signage for Arts and Culture venues. T. McCance advised the Working Group that a procurement exercise had taken place but that none of the applicants met the specifications provided. This meant it was necessary to re-tender and this process was ongoing.</p>	T McCance
5.0	Irish Language Programme update	
	<p>D Ó Doibhlin informed the meeting that there had been no second Irish Language Officer in post for the period from the beginning of October 2019 to the end of March 2020 when Mr Seán Mac Nia was appointed in a temporary capacity. In light of the problems posed by the ongoing pandemic, certain aspects of the work could not be delivered including the Language Bursary programme, Irish in the Primary programme and a considerable portion of the Adult Education programmes. Staff were attempting to deliver as much of the service as possible online, and to this effect a number of online language learning initiatives have been developed by Seán Mac Nia. Cllr McGuigan enquired as to the feasibility of delivering a degree level course in Mid Ulster but it was felt that this would be difficult off-campus.</p>	D Ó Doibhlin
6.0	Ulster Scots Language Week 2020	
	<p>T McCance informed the meeting that Mid Ulster Council will be supporting the Ulster Scots Agency's Ulster Scots Language Week in November. Cllr Wilson asked what level of funding would be required. T McCance stated that the Ulster Scots Agency had offered some fundign assistance should it be required, however given the realtivley low cost of delivery, particualrly given that for this year's event it</p>	T. McCance

	will be necessary to deliver online that additional financial support would be required. Cllr Wilson felt that, given the low cost of delivery and that we had the budget to deliver the programme, as was the case in previous years, the additional funding may not be necessary.	
7.0	Irish Language Action Plan 2020-2021 (B)	
	D Ó Doibhlin presented an updated Irish Language Action Plan reflective of the current restrictive conditions for service delivery. A number of actions are no longer viable and a number of new online education and heritage actions are being developed to cater to the needs of the language community in Mid Ulster. Cllr Wilson commented that he would like to see which groups would be receiving Language Activity programme funding this year and it was agreed that this detail be added to the plan. Cllr McNamee stated that Council should seek to develop a major online event to celebrate and encourage the growth of the language in Mid Ulster and asked that his be investigated.	D Ó Doibhlin
8.0	A.O.B.	
	It was agreed to schedule the next meeting for December	
<i>Meeting concluded at 6.30pm</i>		

Reports of Working Groups: Finalised Reports of Working Groups should be forwarded to Democratic Services on committees@midulstercouncil.org with a cover report to be scheduled on the agenda of the next available relevant committee meeting

Appendix 2

PLEAN GNÍOMHAÍOCHTA GAEILGE – Aibreán 2020-Márta 2021
IRISH LANGUAGE ACTION PLAN - April 2020-March 2021



Comhairle Ceantair
Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster
District Council

GOAL 1

To Promote Opportunities to Learn Irish

ACTION STEP DESCRIPTIONS	DATE TO BEGIN	DATE DUE	RESOURCES REQUIRED (staff, tech, etc.)	DESIRED OUTCOME	NOTES
Deliver language taster days and or cultural workshops at various locations within the community	Oct 2020	March 2021		3 taster days and or Cultural Workshops to be delivered across MUDC	
Deliver Irish language classes at key locations across the District at <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beginner Level • Intermediate Level and • Advanced Level This will include youth and adult audiences and will involve clustering & collaboration with other groups eg schools, sporting, cultural groups and community organisations	Oct 2020	March 2021	£30,000	Residents of MUDC will have access to Irish Language class within 10 mile radius	MUDC classes will be marketed collectively Online options will be developed
Assist with provision of facilities /promotion for delivery of University of Ulster Diploma in Irish	Oct 2020	March 2021		15 + students will commence the Irish Language Diploma with Ulster University 2020/21	Advice and promotion provided to (potential) applicants
Deliver a schools Irish Language and Heritage programme in various Council venues across the district and/or in the classroom setting Examples include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irish language lessons • Gaelic Heritage projects (Gaelic origins of townlands/surnames) • Workshops/site visits 	Oct 2020	March 2021	£13,000	Engage 40+ schools in the language and heritage programme	Aimed at Key Stage 1 & 2 classes
2020 Mid Ulster District Council Regional & Minority Languages Bursary	April 2020	October 2020	£30,000	200 + applicants across the district to attend recognised language summer colleges for an average of 3 weeks	Opened to residents (adults and young people) of MUDC only

GOAL 2

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

ACTION STEP DESCRIPTIONS	DATE TO BEGIN	DATE DUE	RESOURCES REQUIRED (staff, tech, etc.)	DESIRED OUTCOME	NOTES
Provide development support, advice, information and guidance to individuals, groups and schools within the region in the promotion and development of the Irish Language.	October 2020		£2,000	Community programme at HOTON to enhance linguistic support for bilingual families in the South Tyrone area	In conjunction with HOTON education office
Provide development support through activity grant funding to external cultural organisations to establish Irish language programmes and to promote the language among its audience base. See below for details:	October 2020	March 2021	£40,818	Irish Language Activity Fund	Publicly advertised March 2020
<p>Kileeshil Community Centre, Irish language courses for children and adults</p> <p>Tobin Youth Centre, Irish language programme for 4-11 year olds</p> <p>Pobal an Ghleanna, Activities to include adult classes, intensive course, lectures, conversation event, youth activities</p> <p>Institiúid Ceannasaíochta Éireann, Online adult course and Gaeltacht Thír Eoghain event</p> <p>Glór na Speiríní, Activities to include adult classes and intensive course, intensive AS/A2 course, local history workshop, language workshops for local primary schools, family event, Scéilíní/Stories from Gleann Concadhain</p> <p>Glór Mhachaire Fiolta, Activities to include adult classes, intensive courses, Youth club, book club, conversation event, family days x2</p> <p>Glór na nGael, Online workshop "Best practice in early years provision"</p> <p>Cumann Ban Ghreanacháin, Labhair í agus mairfidh sí adult education programme</p> <p>CnaG, Carn Tóchair, Gaeilge don Teaghlach family support programme</p> <p>C.L.G. Baile na Scríne, Lecture programme, family event, Gaelscoil blitz</p> <p>An Carn, Activities to include adult classes, intensive course, Feis Charn Tóchair, conversation event, youth activities, mentoring scheme, online summer college, Gaeltacht linkages, book club, drama club, schools</p>					

<p>vocational day, GAA outreach classes, Nollaig na mBan event, GCSE and A level support courses, language accuracy course, Scoil Samhraidh language festival event</p> <p>Sixtowns Cross Community Group, Irish for All adult education programme</p> <p>Feis Oileán agus Cluaine, Coalisland and Clonoe Irish language feis</p> <p>Cairdeas Eoghain, Activities to include adult classes, intensive course</p> <p>Cairde Uí Néill, activities to include Féasta Sráide festival event, singing club, Coalisland and Clonoe Sean-nós project, public talks series, traditional music workshop (all events through the medium of Irish).</p> <p>An Chraobh Rua, Online Irish language reading club</p> <p>CLG Chill Dreas, Campa Chill Dreas Irish language childrens activities</p>					
<p>Establish and maintain conversation circles and reading groups in local communities and possibly link to graduates and participants of Ulster University & Mid Ulster District Council Diploma participants</p>	Oct 2020	March 2021	£1,000	Adult fluency/language enrichment	
<p>Cooperate with Irish Language community to develop an online Mid Ulster Seachtain na Gaeilge programme branded as 'Gaelfest Lár Uladh' which will feature a range of engaging activities aimed at Irish speakers and non-Irish speakers wanting to get involved in the language and profiling the Irish Language across the district in an online capacity</p>	March 2021	March 2021	£3,000	Gaelfest delivered online	Ensure geographical spread
<p>To enhance and promote youth services in Irish across MUDC and provide guidance and support to local youth projects</p>	Oct 2020	March 2021	£3,000	Materials, online resource development, workshop/conference	Engage with relevant external groups to increase the language capacity of local groups

GOAL 3

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

ACTION STEP DESCRIPTIONS	DATE TO BEGIN	DATE DUE	RESOURCES REQUIRED (staff, tech, etc.)	DESIRED OUTCOME	NOTES
To develop Irish Language service in the area of education	April 2020	March 2021	Collaboration with Environmental Health -	6 schools will avail of the Nigh-Do Lámha— Environmental Health Project	Service to be proactively marketing to Irish-Medium schools
To develop Irish Language service in the areas of Tourism and Education within our Arts and Cultural facilities	Oct 2020	March 2021	Collaboration with MUDC Cultural Venues £3,000	Provide a range of digital resources for visitors to access online	Facilitate Irish language tours to key heritage sites as required
To raise awareness of Gaelic linguistic heritage within the district	Oct 2020	March 2021	£4,000	Develop a series of bilingual publications and workshops	Continue to promote Gaeilge don Teaghlach/family learning project
Provide in-house translation services to Council Departments.	April 2020	March 2021	£1,000	Increase awareness within Council of this service	As per Irish Language policy