

Report on	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Association of Town Centre Management (ATCM) - Membership Renewal 2) Mid Ulster Regeneration Action Plan (2019/20) 3) Mid Ulster Town and Village Spruce Up Scheme 4) Coalisland Great Places Project 5) Public Art - Maghera Walkway Project
Date of Meeting	14 March 2019
Reporting Officer	Fiona McKeown, Head of Economic Development

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 provide Members with an update on key activities as detailed below.
2.0	Background
2.1	<p>Association of Town Centre Management (ATCM) - Membership Renewal ATCM is a respected voice for town and city management at both a European and wider global level. They are a not-for-profit organisation with membership from the public, private and third sectors. They include key stakeholders and leaders who develop and implement shared visions, strategies and action plans for town and city centres throughout the UK and Ireland.</p>
2.2	<p>Mid Ulster Regeneration Action Plan (2019/20) Town Centre regeneration and revitalisation is a key priority identified in the Mid Ulster Economic Development Plan (2019/2020). The Mid Ulster Regeneration Action Plan 2019/2020 addresses the key priorities for the five Town Centres of Mid Ulster District Council and regeneration of 37 villages.</p>
2.3	<p>Mid Ulster Town and Village Spruce Up Scheme As part of Mid Ulster's Regeneration Action Plan (2019/2020), the delivery of Mid Ulster Town and Village Spruce Up Scheme forms an integral part. The successful delivery of previous schemes involved the employment of a Chartered Architect to oversee the assessment, management and delivery.</p>
2.4	Coalisland Great Places Project.

2.5	<p>Lough Neagh Partnership have secured funding from the Heritage Lottery Scheme to implement the 'Coalisland Great Places Project'. Mid Ulster District Council had previously agreed to financially support this project.</p> <p>Public Art - Maghera Walkway Project</p> <p>Maghera Development Framework and Action Plan 2017 identified the need to investigate opportunities for on road / off road network and the development of linkages around from other facilities including The Walled Garden. A successful application was made to the Rural Development Programme under the Villages Renewal Theme for the redevelopment of a walkway from Maghera Walled Garden to Tobermore Road.</p>
3.0	<p>Main Report</p>
3.1	<p>Association of Town Centre Management (ATCM) - Membership Renewal</p> <p>Mid Ulster District Council has been a member of ATCM for several years. The annual membership renewal request (Appendix 1) is enclosed and members are requested to consider renewal of membership for a further year from January to December 2019 for a fee of £495 (+Vat).</p> <p>The benefits for the Council to joining this organisation in general are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Events delivered in relation to Town and City Centre Management - Platform for knowledge exchange in Town and City Centre Management - Access to written resources in Town and City Centre Management. <p>3.2 Mid Ulster Regeneration Action Plan (2019/20)</p> <p>The Draft Action Plan aims to prioritise the development of integrated, cohesive, and comprehensive Town Centre activities for 2019/20. The initiatives proposed address the key town centre issues for the five main towns of Dungannon, Cookstown, Magherafelt, Coalisland and Maghera.</p> <p>The proposed Draft Town Centre Action Plan is contained on Appendix 2, lists a variety of initiatives under the four main thematic headings as set out below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Marketing & Promotion 2. Business Support & Investment 3. Key Events 4. Physical Regeneration & Improving Infrastructure <p>These themes have been used to develop a number of projects that will address these needs under the following aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To maximise the profile of the five town centres and reinforce the existing town centre brands • To support the growth and development of a competitive retail sector across Mid Ulster

- To develop and deliver a number of key events that adds vitality and vibrancy to the five town centres
- To improve the townscape quality of the five town centres

3.3

Mid Ulster Town and Village Spruce Up Scheme

Within the Mid Ulster Regeneration Action Plan (2019/2020) it is proposed to deliver a Town and Village Spruce Up Scheme. The scheme will offer businesses/commercial properties in the town/village grant aid of up to 75% per property for eligible works, capped at £5,000 per property. Due to the expected high level of interest in the scheme, it is anticipated that the scheme will be delivered over a two/three year period, dependent upon number of eligible applications, available budget and staff resources.

The proposed Towns and Villages for inclusion in the scheme are as follows;

- **Towns**; Dungannon, Cookstown, Magherafelt, Coalisland and Maghera;
- **Village Settlements** based upon the draft Local Development Plan (2030), published in February 2019, under the Mid Ulster Settlement Hierarchy (Table 2, page 37), the following villages are identified; Aghaginduff/Cabragh, Annaghmore, Ardboe, Augher, Aughnacloy Ballinderry, Ballygawley, Ballylifford, Ballynakilly, Ballyronan, Bellaghy, Benburb, Brockagh/Mountjoy, Caledon, Cappagh, Castledawson, Castlecaulfield, Churchtown, Clady, Clogher, Coagh, Creagh, Desertmartin Donaghmore, Draperstown, Drummullan, Edendork, Eglisk, Fivemiletown, Galbally, Granville, Gulladuff, Killyman, Moneymore, Moortown, Moy, Newmills, Orritor, Pomeroy, Sandholes, Stewartstown, Swatragh, Tamnamore, The Bush, The Loup, The Rock, Tobermore and Upperlands. Furthermore, as per the previous Village Spruce Up Scheme, it is recommended that '**Moygashel**' is included also as an eligible area within the new Town and Village Spruce Up Scheme as it is currently classified within the settlement limits of Dungannon town but does not receive direct town centre regeneration funding, nor is it eligible for funding support from the Rural Villages Scheme under the auspices of the Rural Development Programme.

There is a need to employ a Chartered Architect to oversee the assessment, management and delivery of the scheme from start to finish. Approval is therefore, sought to procure by way of Council's public tender process, a Chartered Architect to independently oversee a Mid Ulster Town and Village Spruce Up Scheme for a period of two/three years, at an indicative cost of approx. £50,000 from Council's economic development budget.

The delivery costs of the Town and Village Spruce Up Scheme in Year 1 (2019/2020) is estimated at £120,000. This will include year 1 costs for employment of Chartered Architect, marketing and promotion of the scheme and the first tranche of grant payments to applicants.

3.4 **Coalisland Great Places Project**

In September 2018, Council approval was granted to support Lough Neagh Partnership (LNP) by providing funding of £30,000 over a 3 year period to deliver various aspects of the ‘Coalisland Great Places Project’.

LNP originally provided Council with a profile of when the funding was required for each of the three years, and funding was agreed on that basis. However, subsequently, LNP has requested a revision in years 2 and 3 as to the amount of funding required from Council in each of these years. This request has no material impact in the overall amount of funding sought from Council (ie, £30,000) over the three-year period.

It is recommended that approval is granted to LNP’s request and Council funding be provided as per breakdown in Table 2 below (instead of Table 1).

Table 1 – Original Funding Request from Coalisland Great Places Project

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Original Request from LNP	£10,000	£16,000	£4,000	£30,000

Table 2 - Revised Funding Request from Coalisland Great Places Project

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
New Request from LNP	£10,000	£11,000	£9,000	£30,000

3.5 **Public Art - Maghera Walkway Project**

A request has been received from Maghera Cross Community Link (**Appendix 3A**) seeking permission to place a piece of Public Art on the Maghera Walkway following the completion of the project.

Maghera Cross Community Link received a Letter of Offer from the Peace IV Programme for £24,030 towards the “Sculpting Communities and Changing Perception” project. The project involves bringing young people of Maghera together through a series of good relations workshops and the development of a sculpture depicting cultural identities.

Local artist Billy McCaughan was appointed to develop the sculpture and has worked with local children to create a design representing the four seasons and reflecting the nature of the walkway. (**Appendix 3B**)

Maghera Cross Community Link has requested Council situate the public art on the Maghera Walkway Project and approval is sought for such in addition to Council undertaking the maintenance and insurance of the public art piece once it is installed.

	Officers are working with the appointed artist to ensure the artwork complies with all health and safety regulations and to identify the most suitable location. (Appendix 3C).
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: Association of Town Centre Management (ATCM) - Membership Renewal ATCM Membership - £495 (+Vat) from within economic development budget. Mid Ulster Regeneration Action Plan (2019/20) £484,000 Programme Costs from Town Centre Budget. These funds will be used as a mechanism to attract further funding leverage, where possible. Mid Ulster Town and Village Spruce Up Scheme Employment of Chartered Architect, Project Grant Aid and Marketing & Promotion to value of £120,000 from within economic development budget (Year 1 costs) Coalisland Great Places Project Amendment to fund Coalisland Great Places Project as follows; Year 1 £10,000, Year 2 £11,000 and Year 3 £9,000. No change to the overall funding provided of £30,000 Public Art - Maghera Walkway Project £12,900 secured from Peace IV towards sculpture (includes installation costs). Costs to Council relate to the proposed annual maintenance and insurance.
	Human: staff time
	Risk Management:
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications:
	Rural Needs Implications:
5.0	Recommendation(s)
	It is recommended that Members;
5.1	Association of Town Centre Management (ATCM) - Membership Renewal Approve the renewal of ATCM membership for a fee of £495 (+Vat) for the period of January to December 2019.
5.2	Mid Ulster Regeneration Action Plan (2019/20) Approve the projects and indicative costings contained within the Mid Ulster Regeneration Action Plan for the financial year 2019/20.

<p>5.3</p> <p>5.4</p> <p>5.5</p>	<p>Mid Ulster Town and Village Spruce Up Scheme Approve the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procure by way of Council’s public tender process, a Chartered Architect to independently oversee a Mid Ulster Town and Village Spruce Up Scheme for a two/three year period, at an indicative cost of £50,000 from Council’s economic development budget. • Deliver Mid Ulster Town and Village Spruce Up Scheme over a period of two/three years to the towns and villages as outlined within Section 3.3 of the above report, with estimated year 1 costs of £120,000 from Council’s economic development budget. <p>Coalisland Great Places Project Approval of Lough Neagh Partnership’s request to amend Council’s profiled funding towards the Coalisland Great Places Project as set out below, with no overall impact on value of funding previously agreed by Council of £30,000;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 1 £10,000, • Year 2 £11,000 • Year 3 £9,000 <p>Public Art - Maghera Walkway Project Members to approve the request from Maghera Cross Community Link to place the Public Art at a suitable location on the refurbished walkway in Maghera and take on the maintenance and insurance costs once installed.</p>
<p>6.0</p>	<p>Documents Attached & References</p> <p>Appendix 1 - Association of Town Centre Management (ATCM) - Membership Renewal</p> <p>Appendix 2 - Mid Ulster Regeneration Action Plan (2019/20)</p> <p>Appendix 3A – Request from Maghera Cross Community Link</p> <p>Appendix 3B – Artists Impressions of Public art</p> <p>Appendix 3C – Proposed Location for Maghera Public Art Walkway Project</p>