

Report on	Pedestrian Bridge, Seyloran Land, Dungannon
Date of Meeting	Thursday 11 th November 2021
Reporting Officer	Nigel Hill Head of Parks
Contact Officer	A H Reid

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To seek Council approval to accept the transfer of a pedestrian footbridge crossing the River Rhone from Seyloran Lane, Dungannon, from Department of Infrastructure (DfI).
2.0	Background
2.1	DfI contacted Council regarding the pedestrian bridge over the River Rhone, as shown in App 1, in late 2020. DfI believed that this pedestrian footbridge formed part of a Right of Way. Initial investigations, carried out by Council, confirmed that a pathway ran through these lands back to the early 1900s (OSNI historical 3 rd Edition 1900 – 1907). It should be noted that these are early investigations and that this path is not at this stage asserted as a public right of way under the Access to the Countryside Legislation (NI) 1983.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>DfI Rivers do not retain a remit to protect or manage Public rights of Ways, their role and responsibilities are listed below. The bridge at Seyloran Lane is serving no purpose to DfI Rivers. DfI Rivers have indicated that they would intend to remove the bridge.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement sustainable flood risk management policies to facilitate development management and planning decisions. • reduce the number of properties currently at risk of flooding from rivers and the sea; • maintain flood defence and drainage infrastructure in a satisfactory condition; • maintain as necessary the designated watercourse network; • provide flood maps and risk information; • discharge our Lead Government Department responsibility of the co-ordination for the Emergency response to flooding incidents. • support and motivate all our people to achieve DfI Rivers' objectives; and • deliver quality services for our customers and stakeholders in a fair and equitable way.

3.2	Following consultation with Council Officers, Dfl carried out repairs to the bridge, in early 2021 (Appendix).
3.3	A bridge survey was conducted, report attached in Appendix.
3.4	As the bridge serves no purpose to Dfl they have requested to transfer the foot bridge to Council for future maintenance and responsibility.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: There will be no cost associated with the transfer of the bridge
	Human: Officers time in preparing the transfer documents
	Risk Management: Significant repairs have been carried out and the bridge has been surveyed and deemed structurally safe.
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: In conjunction with Council Policy and procedures
	Rural Needs Implications: In conjunction with Council Policy and procedures
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members approval is sought for ownership transfer regarding the bridge at Seyloran Lane over the River Rhone from Dfl to Council.
5.2	Members approval is sought to further investigate existing and potential public access opportunities along the River Rhone, Seyloran and bring a public path proposal in due course for committee consideration.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	Appendix: Location Map Appendix: Engineer's Survey Report Appendix: Bridge Repairs