

<b>Report on</b>	<b>Public Art Rural Proposal</b>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	13 <sup>th</sup> September 2018
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Michael Browne
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Michael Browne

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To secure Council approval to proceed in principle to work in partnership with Derry City and Strabane District Council, Fermanagh & Omagh District Council to scope a major public art project with significant tourism potential under the current Rural Tourism Scheme opened by the Northern Ireland Rural Development Scheme.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	The Sperrins Sculpture Trail is a proposed joint tourism initiative being developed by Omagh & Fermanagh District Council, Mid Ulster Council and Derry City and Strabane District Council acting as led Council for the project.
2.2	Interim support for the sculpture trail has also recently been obtained from the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) which has granted approval for the project to be considered for technical assistance funding.
2.3	The Sperrin Sculpture Trail project will embed an iconic public artwork installations within the heart of the Sperrins; one that reflects the rich cultural and natural heritage of the region and opens up, for further exploration, this Area Of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).
2.4	The proposed Sperrin Sculpture Trail project will be developed under the Rural Tourism Scheme as part of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 (NIRDP). The aim of the programme's Rural Tourism Scheme is to support investment in natural and built heritage projects that can act as a key driver for encouraging rural tourism and particularly out of state visitors whilst preserving the natural assets of the rural community. When the call for expressions of interest was issued, the Department gave a clear indication of its priorities, namely:

2.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop an iconic and unique offering for visitors</li> <li>- Increase tourism from out of state visitors</li> <li>- Create capital infrastructure</li> <li>- Create jobs</li> </ul> <p>The Sperrin Sculpture Trail project has been identified as a potential key flagship project and economic driver to deliver upon the strategic aims articulated by each of the three partner councils.</p>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	The proposed project would be to commission an artist of international reputation and renown to look at a multiple site projects in the western region and within the Sperrins.
3.2	The artist would need to have such a reputation that any public art piece by them would attract such publicity and interest that there would be immediate benefit to the local economy from visitor numbers.
3.3	Officers are working on a proposal that would connect under this project multiple sites potentially across the Sperrins area.
3.4	Officers are currently scoping a number of sites in the rural area and intend to submit an expression of interest to the Rural Tourism Scheme that is currently open under the Rural Development Programme.
3.5	A number of sites will be put forward to the artist as potential sites based on their availability for Councils to install a public art piece on and their short and long term accessibility for construction and subsequent public access.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b>
	<p>Financial:</p> <p>The proposed Sperrin Sculpture Trail project will have 2 phases. Phase 1 is concerned with the technical study and project competition. Phase 2 relates to the capital element of the project.</p> <p>Phase 1 – Technical Study</p> <p>Derry City and Strabane District Council will appoint a competent service provider to compete the technical study for this project identifying sites for the public artwork installation, secure all relevant permissions and compile a fully comprehensive artist’s brief to enable project to proceed to competition.</p> <p>Mid Ulster Council 25% match meet within Business &amp; Communities service within 18/19 expenditure.</p>

	<p>Phase 2 - Full Capital Project</p> <p>Upon completion of phase 1 the project will move to deliver phase 2 of the project, the delivery of the full capital project and launch of the Sperrin Sculpture Trail.</p> <p>Project Financing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The estimated budget for Phase 1 is £67,000.</li> <li>• The estimated budget for Phase 2 is £1,933,000.</li> <li>• It is envisaged that Phase 1 will be financed by DAERA and the 3 partner Councils.</li> </ul> <p>For the delivery of Phase 2 the partners will seek £1,433,000 from DAERA, £300k from Department for Infrastructure (Percent for Art Scheme) with the remaining £200,000 met by the 3 partner councils.</p>
	<p>Human:</p> <p>The three partner councils will establish a Project Reference Group. The successful bidder will liaise closely with this Project Reference Group in the delivery of Phase 1.</p>
	<p>Risk Management:</p> <p>Rural Management will be considered as part of the Scoping Studies undertaken in Phase 1.</p>
<p><b>4.2</b></p>	<p><b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b></p> <p>Equality &amp; Good Relations Implications:</p> <p>All Equality and Good Relations Implications will be considered and addressed within Scoping Studies undertaken</p> <p>Rural Needs Implications:</p> <p>Rural Needs Implications will be considered as part of the Scoping Studies undertaken in Phase 1.</p>
<p><b>5.0</b></p>	<p><b>Recommendation(s)</b></p>
<p>5.1</p>	<p>To approve in principle to proceed with scoping of this project and to submit an expression of interest to the current Rural Tourism Scheme.</p>
<p><b>6.0</b></p>	<p><b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b></p>
	<p>The Sperrin Sculptural Trail proposal.</p>