



29 October 2020

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Council to be held in Burnavon Arts & Cultural Centre, Cookstown and by virtual means Burn Road, Cookstown, Co Tyrone, BT80 8DN on Thursday, 24 September 2020 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

Anthony Tohill
Chief Executive

AGENDA

OPEN BUSINESS

1. Apologies
2. Declarations of Interest
3. Chair's Business
4. Deputation - Northern Ireland Housing Executive

Matters for Decision

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| 5. Council minutes of meeting held on 27 August 2020 | 93 - 106 |
| 6. Planning Committee minutes of meeting held on 1 September 2020 | 107 - 126 |
| 7. Policy and Resources Committee minutes of meeting held on 3 September 2020 | 127 - 132 |
| 8. Environment Committee minutes of meeting held on 8 September 2020 | 133 - 148 |
| 9. Development Committee minutes of meeting held on 10 September 2020 | 149 - 168 |
| 10. Civic Recognition Nominations | 169 - 174 |
| 11. Conferences, Training and Seminars | 175 - 178 |

Matters for Information

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Notice of Motions

- 14 Councillor Corry to move
Raise Your Voice – Against Sexual Harassment

“This Council recognises the impact of misogyny and trans misogyny on those affected by it, as well as the role these attitudes play in a variety of crimes, including harassment, assault, sexual assault and hate crimes, and on the career choices and personal lives of women, girls and non-binary people.

The Council supports the inclusion of misogyny as a standalone offence and as a category of hate crime, recognising crimes targeted at women including trans women as hate crimes based on misogyny, and will write a letter to that effect to Judge Desmond Marrinan, as part of his ongoing review of hate crime legislation in Northern Ireland.

The Council supports also the Raise Your Voice Project, which tackles sexual harassment and sexual violence across Northern Ireland, by placing posters in all Council properties to raise awareness of the project.”

“The Council will invite representatives of the Raise Your Voice project to deliver training for Members on the realities facing victims of sexual harassment and violence and how we can best equip ourselves to assist them in our role as Elected Members.”

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

15. Council confidential minutes of meeting held on 27 August 2020
16. Planning Committee confidential minutes of meeting held on 1 September 2020
17. Policy and Resources Committee confidential minutes of meeting held on 3 September 2020
18. Environment Committee confidential minutes of meeting held on 8 September 2020

19. Development Committee confidential minutes of meeting held on 10 September 2020
20. Audit Committee confidential minutes of meeting held on 15 September 2020
21. Planning System Procurement September 2020
22. Document for Sealing - Lease of lands situated at Limekiln Lane, Cookstown, between Mid Ulster District Council and Mid Ulster Women's Aid.

Matters for Information

Housing
Executive

2020 Update





Foreword

As we approach our 50th year, the impact of COVID-19 has reminded us, should one be needed, that the housing services provided by the Housing Executive to the citizens of Northern Ireland are just as important now as they were in 1971.

At the end of the last financial year, we began to witness the early impact of COVID-19 - this is still being felt and this summary document highlights how we continue to provide vital services to all our customers in such challenging, and unique, circumstances. We in the Housing Executive pride ourselves on the services we provide and we remain determined to ensure that these services continue however the pandemic unfolds.

Staff and customer safety have been paramount during COVID-19. Lockdown regulations and social distancing guidelines meant we had to restrict, temporarily, some of our services, including routine repairs and change of tenancy work which prevented the allocation of homes to new tenants. House sales were suspended and inspections required for the awarding of grant schemes were also delayed.

However, we made sure, as a priority, that emergency repair services were maintained throughout, ensuring the safety of those living in our properties. Following government guidance, we recommenced a phased resumption of our full maintenance service on Wednesday 8th July. As we continue to work through a significant backlog, we hope to be in a position to bring our maintenance service back to normal as soon as possible.

We have faced the difficult task of ensuring essential services continue, while equipping our staff to work from home, where possible. We've worked very hard to adapt to new ways of working and I thank colleagues for their dedication and commitment to making this possible.

While this has been a challenging time for all of us, we look forward to the future with optimism and some sense of normality returning. As the current restrictions ease, we hope to be in a position to return to business as usual with regards to our services, while continuing to ensure appropriate safety measures.

Customer engagement continues, through our website, bulk texts, and our social media channels on Twitter and Facebook. In addition, we are communicating directly with our Central Housing Forum and wider housing community network on any changes which may impact on them.

We will continue to provide excellent housing services, underpinned by practical and sensitive support and commitment, care and professionalism which will not diminish. COVID-19 has forced us to adapt our services over a remarkably short period of time and our Board is very grateful to both our staff and our external partners for all that has been done to maintain essential services and continue to offer support for our tenants and other service users.

I would like to thank you for your patience and understanding of the difficulties faced by the Housing Executive during COVID-19 and I look forward to working with you again as we navigate our way through and out of the pandemic.

A strong, strategic housing authority, acting regionally and delivering locally, is as vital now as it was in 1971. We greatly value our relationship with all our Council partners and we once again re-confirm our commitment to working in partnership with you to ensure our communities are sustainable and great places to live, work and invest.

Clark Bailie
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

CHALLENGES

- Maintaining a maintenance service for our 84,690 homes.
- Gaining access to homes to complete statutory servicing and inspections.
- Co-ordinating services from home.

SUCCESSSES

- In order to keep our staff and customers safe we have purchased over 1.6 million pieces of personal protection equipment.
- Working with our contractors, we continued to carry out 20,000 emergency repairs.
- 5 new contracts with an estimated value of £16m per annum awarded, guaranteeing jobs in the local construction sector in Mid and East Antrim, South Antrim, North Down, South Down, and Lisburn and Castlereagh.
- Our Direct Labour Organisation (DLO) completed 15,076 response maintenance jobs and 1,238 health and safety checks at local homes from 18 March to the end of July.

EMERGENCY REPAIRS



20,000

CARRIED OUT

PPE



1.6 million

ITEMS PROCURED

CHALLENGES

- Enabling our workforce to work remotely to ensure we continued to deliver a service to our customers.
- Enabling payments staff to work remotely whilst ensuring robust payments controls.
- Housing Executive staff dealt with some of the associated work with new claims for Universal Credit, which increased by 400 per cent during March 2020.

SUCCESSSES

- Some 4,000 new HB claims awarded between 20 March to 20 July and just under 10,000 awards of Discretionary Housing Payments made from April 2020.
- The majority of our staff are now enabled to work from home and we also have colleagues working in our various offices. Supplied 200+ mobile phones to ensure front line service delivered.
- New tenant portal went live on 28 May 2020. Tenants can set up a secure account to access their tenancy information, request services and contact us.
- 87.59% of supplier invoices paid within 10 days; 95.74% of supplier invoices within 30 days for the first quarter of the financial year 2020/21 totalling £750,881.49.
- Working in partnership across the Housing Executive, we successfully bid for COVID funding to support homelessness and Supporting People providers in Northern Ireland.

NEW HOUSING BENEFIT CLAIMS



4,000

AWARDED BETWEEN
20 MARCH AND 20 JULY

87.59%

SUPPLIER INVOICES PAID WITHIN 10 DAYS



The **MAJORITY** of our staff are now enabled to work from home and we also have colleagues working in our various offices.

CHALLENGES

- Impact on the ability to secure land, planning approvals and/or construction contracts to meet our full delivery of the NewBuild programme.
- Unable to inspect and assess properties for the awarding of disability and fuel poverty grants.

SUCCESSES

- The Supporting People Programme continued to support and protect 19,000 vulnerable clients during lockdown.
- Additional £10m of funding secured to help those most in need provided by Department for Communities.
- Despite being unable to inspect completed works, payments for completed grant aided works were made.
This included 133 Affordable Warmth, 128 Boiler Replacement and 12 Disabled Facility Grants supporting customers and contractors. From April to June 2020, 122 Affordable Warmth, 57 Boiler Replacement, and 99 Disabled Facilities Grant approvals were made.
- The following activities have also been undertaken to support new social housing delivery in 2020/21:
 - Development of new processes and technical support to enable staff involved in SHDP delivery to fulfil duties on a remote basis;
 - Monitoring of progress and capacity within key delivery stakeholders, including Land Registry and Council Planning departments;
 - Agreement with Department for Communities on how to process housing association claims for additional funding for new construction works contracts, related to addressing the impacts of the pandemic and enabling starts on-site;
 - Continued support for housing associations to deliver adaptations to properties for people with disabilities.
- £3.5m secured for Supporting People providers Personal Protective Equipment funded by Department for Communities.

19,000



**VULNERABLE CLIENTS
CONTINUED TO BE SUPPORTED
AND PROTECTED**

ADDITIONAL

£10m

**FUNDING SECURED
TO HELP THOSE
MOST IN NEED**



PROVIDED BY DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES

**133 Affordable Warmth
128 Boiler Replacement
12 Disabled Facility Grants**

**PAYMENTS FOR COMPLETED
GRANT AIDED WORKS MADE**



CHALLENGES

- Continuing to provide a contact service with our customers as public offices closed and staff went to home working.
- Ensure accommodation provision for those most in need.
- Maintaining and looking after our 84,690 homes during lockdown.

SUCCESSES

- During lockdown there were NO recorded cases of anyone rough sleeping on the streets of Northern Ireland. All were provided with accommodation.
- We set up the £290k emergency COVID Fund, supporting 204 community groups to deliver help to their communities.
- Patch Managers made 800 calls to elderly and vulnerable customers every week across 13 regional offices. Additional assistance calls were made. 73,000 text messages sent to tenants keeping them up to date.
- 150 void properties were brought back into use as furnished hostel accommodation.
- By 29 May, 2,884 households were in temporary accommodation placements across NI.
- £7.3 million additional homelessness funding provided by the Department for Communities and the Department of Health.
- Our Customer Services Team dealt with 81,784 calls from 29 March to 4 July.

NO



ROUGH SLEEPER

CASES RECORDED DURING LOCKDOWN

£290k

EMERGENCY COVID FUND

SET UP SUPPORTING

204

COMMUNITY GROUPS

800

CALLS BY PATCH MANAGERS TO ELDERLY AND VULNERABLE TENANTS EVERY WEEK

73,000

TEXT MESSAGES SENT TO TENANTS

CHALLENGES

- Ensuring that our workplaces were safe for both customers and staff.
- Ensuring that customers and staff were kept fully informed in what was a rapidly changing situation.
- Ensuring staff were supported throughout the pandemic.

SUCCESSES

- Developed specific COVID-19 risk assessments for all our buildings and for staff interacting with tenants. Implemented measures such as Perspex screens, one way systems, floor signage and provision of PPE and hand sanitisers.
- Communicated with our 85k tenants through media, website and social media platforms. Issued almost 400 social media posts across all platforms and provided regularly updated FAQs for all our customers on our website.
- Provided comprehensive updates to almost 500 public representatives keeping them informed on service delivery and changes.
- Staff continuously updated with the latest NI and UK Government advice and information.

400

SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS
ACROSS ALL PLATFORMS



REGULARLY UPDATED

FAQs

FOR ALL CUSTOMERS
ON OUR WEBSITE



COMPREHENSIVE UPDATES FOR

500

PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES
KEEPING THEM INFORMED



“ What they said

For the second weekend in a row, I am advised that to the best of our knowledge there was no-one sleeping rough on the streets of Belfast and Derry. This is very welcome news. This is in huge part down to the extraordinary efforts of the Housing Executive and homeless charities and organisations.

Deirdre Hargey, Minister for Communities (April 2020)

Thank you to the lovely lady at the Housing Executive who called my 84 year old grandmother this morning to check if she had someone to go to the shop for her and told her just to give them a call if she needs anything. So kind at this stressful time for vulnerable people.

Grand-daughter of a tenant who received a Good Morning call (March 2020)

Big shout out to the Housing Executive's Belfast Housing Solutions Team, who are working closely with us to find emergency accommodation for women fleeing domestic violence.

Kelly Andrews, Chief Executive, Belfast & Lisburn Women's Aid (April 2020)

The Patch Manager in the Movilla area in North Down and Ards has been inspirational in working alongside the residents group, identifying those in need. She deserves the praise as she is working tirelessly through this pandemic. We are putting out over 100 food parcels a week with our Patch Manager's help. Thank you to the Housing Executive for your continued support.

East End Residents Association, Ards and North Down (April 2020)

The community response to COVID-19 has been overwhelming and I commend the Housing Executive for being so supportive and responsive.

Together we can ensure that no one in our community gets left behind and that we all emerge from this crisis together as a united community.

Linda Watson, Chair of the Central Housing Forum (May 2020)



Housing Executive

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Mid Ulster

Housing Investment Plan

Annual Update 2020





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Foreword

Welcome to our Housing Investment Plan, which sets out our local plans for the next year. Following feedback from our customers, we trust this report is reader friendly and that information is easy to find.

We continue to meet our statutory duties and to provide our housing services across Northern Ireland. Although, we face many challenges in the current financial climate, we continue to do our best to deliver our services across the board.

The COVID-19 (Coronavirus) outbreak has made it necessary for us to make changes in the way we deliver our services. These changes are intended to protect our customers and staff while ensuring that we continue to provide key essential services throughout this difficult time.

Four high level outcomes that are related to housing and associated services have shaped our plans:

1. Helping people find housing support and solutions;
2. Delivering better homes;
3. Fostering vibrant sustainable communities; and
4. Delivering quality public services.

Our Housing Investment Plan reports on progress over the past twelve months and presents our programmes for the coming year. We have aligned our outcomes to those of the Community Plans and we continue to engage with Community Planning partners to deliver housing services locally.



Professor Peter Roberts
Chair



we face many challenges in the current financial climate, we continue to do our best to deliver our services across the board

Introduction

We are delighted to present the first annual update for the 'Housing Investment Plan 2019-2023' (HIP). Launched in 2019 the HIP is aligned to the outcomes of each Community Plan to show how our work supports the work of the council. We look forward to continuing to contribute to shaping the future of housing in each council with our Community Planning partners.

This first annual update should be read in conjunction with [Mid Ulster Housing Investment Plan 2019-23](#) and will:

- Provide updates on Strategy progress where available (a full list of current strategies is available in the HIP);
- Report on new and upcoming strategies and initiatives including our COVID-19 response;
- Provide a local area update; and
- Update on progress in 2019/20 against the four outcomes contained within the HIP.

When writing our HIP we have taken account of the draft Programme for Government; Northern Ireland Housing Strategy; Regional Development Strategy; Sustainable Development Strategy for Northern Ireland; Planning Reform; Reform of Local Government; and the Social Housing Reform Programme.

Launched in 2019 the HIP is aligned to the outcomes of each Community Plan to show how our work supports the work of the council

Our Vision

Everyone is able to live in an affordable and decent home, appropriate to their needs, in a safe and attractive place

OUR OVERARCHING STRATEGIC THEMES

each have their own purpose statement



PEOPLE

To provide housing solutions, services and support to the people of Northern Ireland



PROPERTY

To ensure everyone has access to a quality home which is safe, affordable, warm and appropriate to their needs



PLACES

To work with others to develop, maintain and sustain attractive, connected, healthy and economically active places

OUR HIGH LEVEL OUTCOMES ARE

1. Helping people find housing support and solutions;
2. Delivering better homes;
3. Fostering vibrant sustainable communities; and
4. Delivering quality public services.

OUR VALUES ARE

Making a difference;
Fairness;
Passion;
Expertise

Strategic Context

The HIP 2019-23 provided detailed information on the Housing Executive's current strategies and initiatives and should be read in conjunction with the updates provided in the table below.

Further information on Housing Executive Strategies can also be found at [Housing Executive Corporate Strategies](#).

The most up to date information on the Housing Executive's response to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) emergency can be found on our website via the following link [Housing Executive COVID-19 Response](#).

Title	Update
Accessible Housing Register (AHR)	<p>The Housing Executive in conjunction with the Northern Ireland Federation of Housing Associations (NIFHA) is currently developing an in-house Accessible Housing Register (AHR) solution for social housing in Northern Ireland which will facilitate the classification of that stock based upon its accessibility features. This will enable people with disabilities to make more informed housing choices.</p> <p>The AHR was programmed for completion and 'go live' in May 2020, however this originally anticipated completion date has been delayed due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Both the Housing Executive and NIFHA are committed to the implementation of the AHR and intend to have the system fully operational as early as is practically possible during 2020/21.</p> <p>The Housing Executive is also exploring the potential for a web based module to advertise private sector accessible stock either for sale/to let on its website. This will be restricted to those properties adapted via Disabled Facilities Grants, or accessible properties sold under the Right To Buy schemes. The development of this module has also been impacted by the pandemic.</p>

Table continues

Title	Update
Affordable Housing	<p>In June 2019, the Department for Communities (DfC) launched a consultation on a new overarching definition of affordable housing, which aims to extend the range of affordable housing products, as envisaged by the Strategic Planning Policy Statement. The proposed definition is:</p> <p>‘Affordable housing is housing provided for sale or rent outside of the general market, for those whose needs are not met by the market. Affordable housing which is funded by Government must remain affordable or, alternatively, there must be provision for the public subsidy to be repaid or recycled in the provision of new affordable housing’.</p> <p>DfC’s consultation document states that a new definition of affordable housing, will not materially affect the established and agreed meaning of social housing.</p> <p>Intermediate housing may be funded by loans through a combination of Financial Transaction Capital loans from DfC, private capital and loans.</p>
Asset Management Strategy	<p>The Housing Executive continues to implement the revised Strategic Investment Strategy for its stock that was approved by DfC in October 2017 and aimed at ensuring that our investment was directed at optimising the level of lettable stock available to help address rising housing need. Consequently our investment programme has been focused on compliance and Health and Safety activities, adaptations, External Cyclical Maintenance and a programme of major component upgrading (e.g. bathrooms, kitchens, wiring, doors, windows, heating etc.). The three year period for this revised approach ends in late 2020 and, therefore, we are undertaking a review of the Strategy this year. The key imperative remains the development of a sustainable funding solution to meet our future stock investment needs and, while we welcome the potential measures set out in the New Decade New Approach agreement to addressing this issue, we will be developing a range of strategic options for discussion with DfC in the event that our future funding requirement remains unresolved.</p>
Cavity Wall Insulation	<p>In August 2017, the Housing Executive commissioned a research report on Cavity Wall Insulation in both its own stock and private sector housing. The research was undertaken by the British Board of Agrément using their Consultancy Investigation and Training subsidiary body. Its report was published in May 2019 and indicated a significant issue with cavity wall installations that are not compliant with current standards. We consulted widely on the report and are currently preparing a draft action plan in light of its findings and recommendations. The draft action plan will be issued for consultation in mid 2020/21.</p>

Table continues

Title	Update
Community Asset Transfer	Community Asset Transfer (the change in management and/or the ownership of land or buildings, from public bodies to communities) fulfils a number of government commitments. It supports the NI Executive's commitment to 'invest in social enterprise growth to increase sustainability in the broad community sector'. This work also supports the agreement between the Voluntary and Community Sector and the Government. The framework will also help delivery of other Executive priorities including the Economic Strategy and the Delivering Social Change programme. DfC has engaged Development Trusts Northern Ireland as a delivery partner to support the implementation of Community Asset Transfer and to build capacity and expertise within the Third Sector to enable community organisations to take advantage of future opportunities.
Community Involvement Strategy	In 2018, the Housing Executive published the Community Involvement Strategy . The previous strategy was directed towards tenants; however, the new strategy takes into account the change in population in Northern Ireland and in our communities. It is aimed at working with tenants, residents and leaseholders to ensure everyone's voice is heard. The new strategy provides a flexible approach to work with the community in a way that suits them and reflects our commitment to work with our partners to get the best outcomes for local communities.
Customer Excellence Strategy	Our Customer Excellence Strategy set out the direction for how we aimed to improve the way we delivered services for our customers during 2017/18 – 2019/20. Significant progress was achieved against each of the five key themes detailed in the strategy. We have reported progress against each annual action plans and published these updates on our website. Year 3 progress report, completing this work, will be published in Summer 2020.
Social Housing Development Programme (SHDP)	The Housing Executive manages the Social Housing Development Programme (SHDP) on a three-year rolling basis. The Housing Executive works closely with housing associations to ensure delivery of DfC's annual targets for new social housing starts and completions. The Housing Executive manages the annual SHDP budget and this investment (in the form of Housing Association Grant) is supported by private finance levered in by housing associations. Delivery of the SHDP is supported by the transfer of public sector land (including Housing Executive land) to housing associations. A wide range of new social homes are delivered through the SHDP, including general needs housing, wheelchair accessible housing, housing for applicants with Complex Needs, housing for older people, and housing for rural communities. The Housing Executive also continues to support new build Shared Housing schemes under the 'Housing for All' programme.

Table continues

Title	Update
Fundamental Review of the Private Rented Sector (PRS)	<p>DfC is currently carrying out a comprehensive review of the role and regulation of the private rented sector to ensure the regulatory framework and supporting policy improve standards for the benefit of both tenants and landlords. The areas being reviewed include: supply; affordability; security of tenure; tenancy management; property standards; and dispute resolution.</p> <p>It is expected that the review will inform future legislative proposals for Minister's consideration and will also include consideration of regulation of letting agents, including if further legislation is required to prevent letting agents charging tenants unfair fees.</p>
Fundamental Review of Social Housing Allocations	<p>DfC are finalising a report on the consultation exercise which was carried out on proposals for changes to social housing allocations in Northern Ireland. The Housing Executive is working closely with DfC to develop implementation plans to take forward the proposals for change.</p>
Homelessness Strategy	<p>The second annual report on the Housing Executive's Homelessness Strategy 2017/22 - Ending Homelessness Together was published in October 2019. The third annual progress report will be published in September 2020. The report demonstrates the multi-agency approach adopted by the Strategy to both prevent homelessness and to ensure that all clients are provided with the right support to sustain a long term tenancy when one becomes available. This multi-agency approach is further demonstrated via the established Homelessness Local Area Groups. They bring together a range of agencies from the statutory, voluntary and community sectors to deliver action plans linked to the Strategy to deliver better solutions on the ground for homeless clients.</p> <p>Key achievements in Year 2 included the commencement of a review of temporary accommodation and further embedding of our Housing Solutions and Support Approach. The report notes that 15 of the 17 actions were completed in line with the milestones in the Year 2 Implementation Plan, with delayed milestones brought forward to Year 3.</p>
Homelessness Communication Action Plan	<p>The Housing Executive continues to work on the implementation of a Communication Action Plan which aims to ensure households approaching crisis can access the right support quickly. In 2020/21 there will be an increased focus on this Action Plan as part of Objective 1 of the Homelessness Strategy which is to prioritise homelessness prevention. A series of awareness raising events were organised by Local Area Groups across Northern Ireland and building on the success of these events to improve collaborative working with be a key focus going forward.</p>

Table continues

Title	Update
Irish Travellers	The Housing Executive have regularly published comprehensive accommodation needs research in 2002, 2008 and 2015 for the Irish Traveller Community across Northern Ireland. Our Research Unit has recently completed the Irish Travellers' Accommodation Survey 2018/19 which will inform the development of our Irish Travellers Accommodation Strategy 2020 – 2025. The Strategy includes proposals for a Travellers housing needs assessment. The Strategy was submitted to the Housing Executive Board for approval in May 2020 and subsequent release for formal consultation.
Older People Strategy	Following the completion of a 12 week public consultation period, an Older People's Housing Strategy 2020/21 – 2025/26 is scheduled to be published in Summer 2020. The Strategy takes into account the projected changing demography of Northern Ireland, including that of our own tenant profile, and aims to ensure that the services, policies, initiatives and activities that we deliver consider and meet the needs of our ageing population. The Strategy also seeks to bring together the range of existing activities that we currently deliver for older people and outlines our plans to develop and deliver new services and initiatives under four broad themes. These themes are: Planning for the future; Promoting and maintaining dignity; Providing Housing Advice for Older People; and Promoting Participation. We will report regularly on progress against our high level action plan at regular intervals and publish this information on our website.
Research Programme	<p>As the strategic housing authority in Northern Ireland, the Housing Executive has a statutory responsibility to regularly examine housing conditions and need, and may also conduct or promote research into any matter relating to any of its functions. Some of the key projects provide data on an ongoing or regular basis including: the Northern Ireland House Condition Survey; the Continuous Tenant Omnibus Survey; and a number of strands of research on house prices, rents and affordability, which are carried out in partnership with Ulster University and propertynews.com. During the past year, reports have also been published on: the impacts to date, and potential future impacts, of the social sector size criteria (bedroom tax) in Northern Ireland; Brexit and the housing market; and the housing issues, needs and aspirations of older people.</p> <p>Work currently under way or due to commence soon includes: a number of strands of research to help inform the Homelessness Strategy; a survey to gather evidence on the views and experiences of tenants living in the private rented sector; a survey to help inform policy development on provision of a wider range of options for housing applicants, and further projects to help the Housing Executive assess and plan for the impacts of welfare reform, particularly the full roll-out of Universal Credit.</p>

Table continues

Title	Update
Rural Strategy & Action Plan	<p>The Housing Executive has long recognised that in rural areas, housing needs can be hidden or dispersed and that a different approach is often required to ensure that we deliver our statutory housing functions in both urban and rural areas. The introduction of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016, has presented an opportunity for us to reaffirm our commitment to rural communities by ensuring that we pay due regard to their needs through the delivery of a fair and equitable housing service which takes account of local issues and circumstances.</p> <p>For many rural households, housing choices can be more limited due to unsuitable stock, unaffordable prices and a lack of rental accommodation. Our Rural Strategy and Action Plan 2016-20 identifies in particular, the need to increase the provision of affordable housing in rural areas in order to help protect and sustain rural communities. Through the Housing Executive's annual programme of rural housing need tests, we engage with communities who wish to examine the need for new housing in their area and with housing associations to encourage the delivery of new rural housing where it is required.</p> <p>The Housing Executive's contribution to rural regeneration extends beyond the provision and maintenance of housing to the capital funding invested for the development and improvement of local community facilities and services. In 2020/21, the Housing Executive will also continue to celebrate the invaluable contribution of the rural community groups through the annual Rural Community Awards competition.</p>
Social Housing Enterprise	<p>The 2015-2018 Social Housing Enterprise Strategy was launched by the Housing Executive in September 2015. The aim was to support individuals and organisations in the growth and development of social enterprises to improve economic activity in Housing Executive communities. A total of £1.4 million was spent over the 2015-2018 period in Northern Ireland.</p> <p>An external evaluation of the 2015-2018 Strategy resulted in extremely positive findings. These findings and other recommendations helped shape our forthcoming Social Enterprise Plus Strategy 2020-2024 which received Housing Executive Board approval in December 2019, the launch of which has been delayed until later this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It is anticipated that when we can open invitations for applications to the new Social Enterprise Awards programme there is an initial budget of £300k available for the two year period 2020-2022.</p>

Table continues

Title	Update
Supporting People Strategy and Action Plan	<p>The Housing Executive acts as the administering authority for the Supporting People (SP) Programme in Northern Ireland. This role includes the payment of SP Grant to approximately 86 providers who provide over 850 housing support services, which deliver assistance with housing related tasks to more than 19,000 vulnerable people in order to help them develop or maintain the skills necessary to live as independently as possible in their own home. In 2020/21, the SP budget is £72.8m. In response to COVID-19 an additional £10 million has been made available to SP providers specifically for COVID-19 pressures. The SP contract management and reporting regime was relaxed temporarily to allow providers time to cope with the challenges of responding to the impact of COVID-19.</p> <p>SP are producing a three year strategy for 2020-2023. The main thematic areas of Disability and Mental Health, Young People, Older People and Homelessness remain strategically relevant. For further information on the SP programme see the NIHE website (Supporting People Programme).</p>
Sustainable Communities	<p>Now in its second year of a three year programme, the HANDIHEAT EU project is progressing its outputs with European partners from Iceland, Shetland, Republic of Ireland, Finland and Northern Ireland with a focus on identifying renewable energy solutions, best practice, toolkits, training and road maps for rural communities affected by fuel poverty and fuel inequality due to heavy reliance on imported fossil fuels for the production of energy. Two pilot demonstration sites in Northern Ireland and northern Finland have been identified to investigate means by which households can be improved through upgraded energy performance and a renewable energy supply with resulting greenhouse gas savings.</p> <p>The second pilot demonstration led by HANDIHEAT's Lead Partner, the Housing Executive, is progressing its outputs with associate partners and suppliers across Ireland to investigate possible hybrid energy solutions for six houses in a sparsely rural settlement in Lisnaskea, Co. Fermanagh. The Climote monitoring kits installed in the six houses during February 2020 will focus on the electrification of heat with an additional house (control house) fitted with the monitoring kit to collect data for a one-year period, and will monitor oil use and temperature of thermostats in each of the dwellings. Hybrid boiler solutions have been developed by Grant Engineering in the Republic of Ireland and will be installed in the dwellings during July 2020. The results of the pilot demonstrations in Northern Ireland and Finland will inform and influence energy policies going forward.</p>

Table continues

Title	Update
Temporary Accommodation Strategy	A strategic review of temporary accommodation commenced in January 2019 to examine how effectively the current portfolio of accommodation meets the needs of homeless customers. It has been analysing supply and demand, comparing options and performance with other UK jurisdictions, identifying key measures and working to project future needs. It will also seek to examine best practice on homeless prevention with a view to minimising a need for temporary accommodation or making stays as short as possible. Additionally, it will try to build an understanding of both customer and provider experiences and produce a strategic action plan to address issues identified. As part of the project, a number of pilot initiatives are being developed to test different models. These include modular housing, shared housing, community hosting and long term leasing. The Action Plan is expected to be completed by the end of 2020.
Tower Blocks	Following a major consultation exercise on our initial proposals with stakeholders in 2018, our final Tower Blocks Action Plan was approved by our Board in March 2019 and by DfC in August 2019. A Delivery Team has been put in place to drive and manage the implementation of the Action Plan.

Table continues

Title	Update
Welfare Reform	<p>Welfare Reform has meant significant changes to the benefit system for people of working age in Northern Ireland. Whilst all of the changes have had some effect on the Housing Executive, those which have had most impact are Social Sector Size Criteria (Bedroom Tax), Universal Credit and Benefit Cap.</p> <p>In March 2020, Social Sector Size Criteria was directly impacting on 23,619 Housing Executive tenants and 155 were affected by Benefit Cap.</p> <p>Welfare Supplementary Payments (mitigation) were due to end in 2020, however, Communities Minister Deirdre Hargey MLA announced plans to extend the mitigations to the Bedroom Tax beyond 31 March 2020 and payments have continued.</p> <p>By March 2020, the Housing Executive had 13,019 tenants claiming Universal Credit, with a significant increase in the number of tenants making a new claim for Universal Credit during March 2020 due to the economic impacts of the COVID-19 outbreak. Natural migration to Universal Credit continues and will do so until Universal Credit is fully implemented through the 'Move to UC' phase of roll out, where working-age customers on the relevant benefits will be advised when they should move to Universal Credit. This phase is due to commence in early 2021. It is anticipated that some 45,000 Housing Executive tenants of working age will be in receipt of Universal Credit when 'Move to UC' is complete.</p> <p>Housing Benefit's caseload is gradually decreasing and this reduction is likely to continue as Universal Credit's 'Move to UC' phase takes effect. However, Housing Benefit will still have a significant number of customers, approximately 42,000, of State Pension Credit age as well as customers living in supported accommodation or who are placed in temporary accommodation.</p> <p>The Housing Executive will continue to administer Housing Benefit for DfC along with Discretionary Housing Payments for both Housing Benefit and Universal Credit claimants.</p>

Local Context

Demographic Context

District Electoral Area Population Estimates (2018)*



Carntogher	17,660	
Clogher Valley	21,260	
Cookstown	23,930	
Dungannon	24,650	
Magherafelt	19,090	
Moyola	18,490	
Torrent	22,440	
TOTAL	147,520	

Source: NISRA

*Population Estimates for DEAs are estimated using a proportionate method which allocates Small Area population estimates to DEAs on the basis of information extracted from the 2011 Census.

Population of Mid Ulster District

The population of Mid Ulster District is projected to increase by 8% to 159,239 in 2028. This represents 7.8% of the NI population at 2018.

Source: NISRA

In light of demographic changes and the evolving policy context around older people, the Housing Executive published research in 2019 which sought to examine the views of older people toward their housing circumstances now and what they will need in the future. The report [Understanding the Housing Needs and Aspirations of Older People](#) will contribute to the knowledge available on this subject and will be important to a range of policy makers and stakeholders both within and beyond the housing sector.

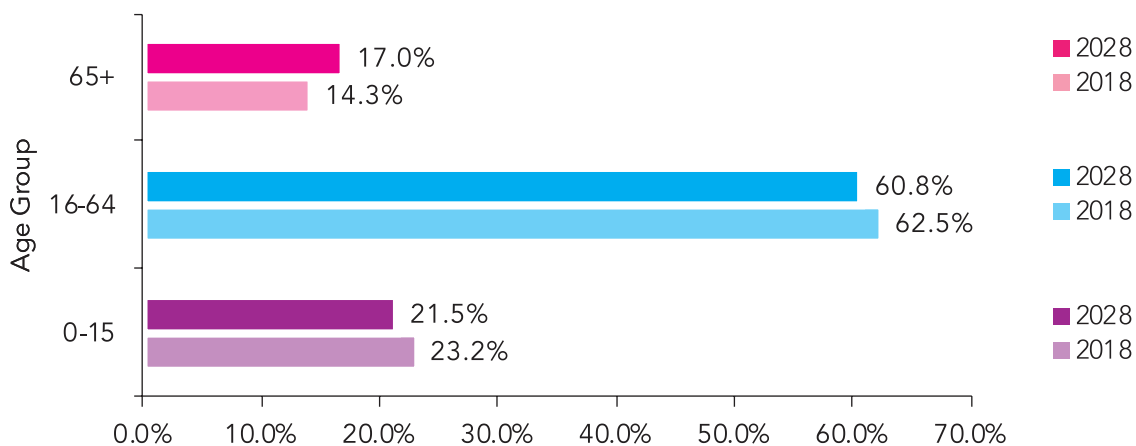


7.8%
OF NI POPULATION



8%
PROJECTED INCREASE
FROM 2018 TO 2028

Population Change 2018-2028



Source: NISRA

The growth in the Mid Ulster population will be concentrated mainly in the 65 plus age group which is projected to grow by 34%, the highest overall percentage increase by council area within NI. By contrast, the population of children is projected to decrease slightly (0.1%) and the working age population is projected to increase by only 5.1%. The projected population change chart for the period 2018 to 2028 shows the proportionate changes in the population. The 0-15, and 16-64 age groups reduce and older person households increase from 14% to 17% of the overall population over the ten year period.

The household size in Mid Ulster is projected to reduce slightly from 2.88 to 2.81 while the number of households is projected to increase by 5,036 from 51,069 to 56,105 over the 10 years to 2028. While the need for small family accommodation remains strong, there will be a pressing requirement to design and construct suitable accommodation for older persons.

Suitable housing can significantly improve life in older age, while unsuitable housing can be the source of multiple problems and costs. Poor quality housing costs the NHS an estimated £2.5 billion per year. Homes will be increasingly used as places of work and care. Appropriately designed housing, that can adapt to people's changing needs as they age, has a number of benefits. These benefits include reducing demand on health and care services, and enabling individuals to work more flexibly in later life. The ageing population presents opportunities to individuals and society however, as with any major demographic change, it also presents challenges.

The Housing Market

Projected Housing Growth Indicator new dwelling requirement



10,300

PROJECTED HOUSING GROWTH INDICATOR new dwelling requirement for the period **2016 to 2030**

There is a projected Housing Growth Indicator new dwelling requirement of 10,300 for the period 2016 to 2030 for the district, which is above the NI average of 7,709.

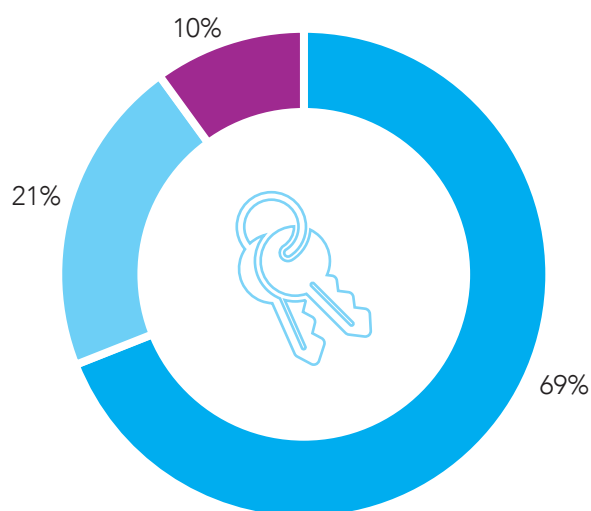
This data will inform the Council's Local Development Plan (LDP) on the need for additional development land. In addition the LDP will set out housing policy and objectives. When ratified, the LDP will be the statutory document for assessing future planning applications for housing.



Mid Ulster above the **NI average** of **7,709**

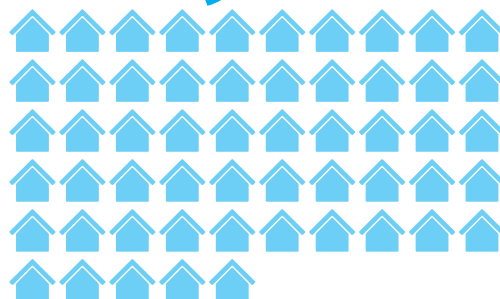
At 2016 there were approximately 52,800 households in the district, of these 69% were Owner Occupied, 21% Private Rented and 10% Social Rented (2016 NIHE House Condition Survey). These figures include 'vacants when last occupied' within the three main tenure groups.

2016 Tenure Breakdown



■ Owner occupation ■ Private rented ■ Social rented

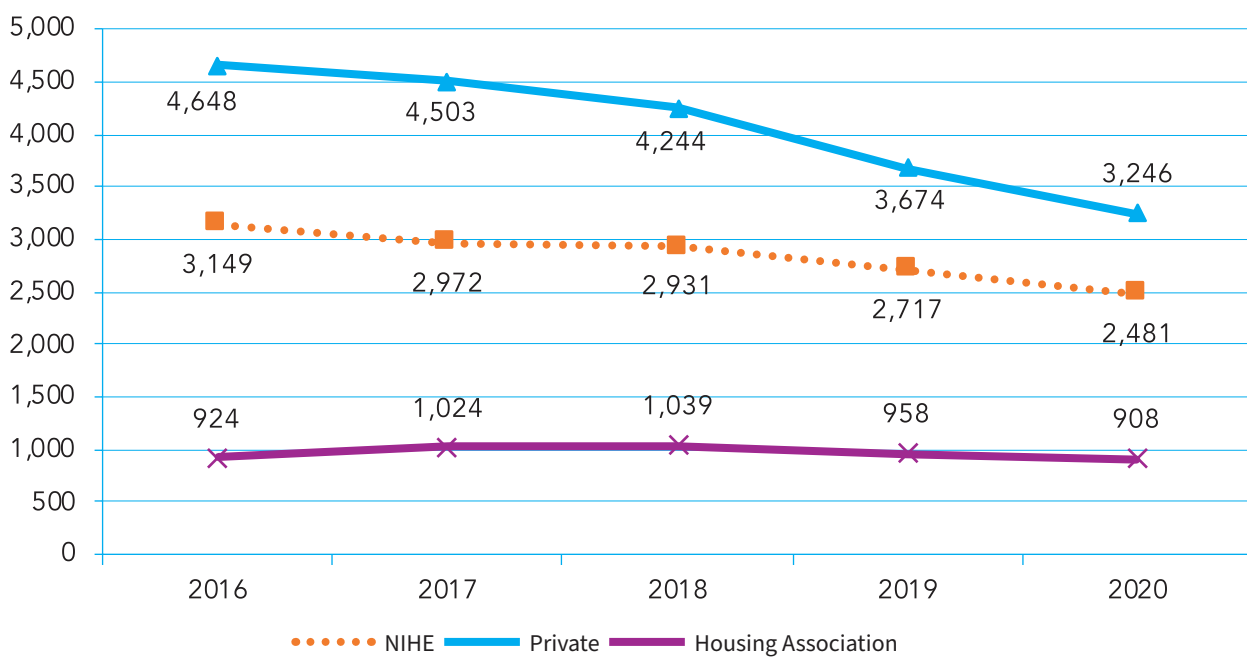
52,800



HOMES in the district (2016)

Source: Northern Ireland House Condition Survey 2016

Housing Benefit



Source: NIHE

The reduction in Housing Benefit claimants may be as a result of the migration exercise underway from Housing Benefit to Universal Credit.

There were 563 tenants receiving the Housing Cost element of Universal Credit in Mid Ulster at end of March 2020.

The following sections will discuss owner occupied, private rented and social rented sectors in more detail.

Owner Occupied Sector

Owner Occupation comprises 69% of the overall homes in the district. Ulster University state that the average house price in Mid Ulster in 2019 was £156,879 which represents an increase of 1.4% on 2018 figures.

Average Annual House Prices

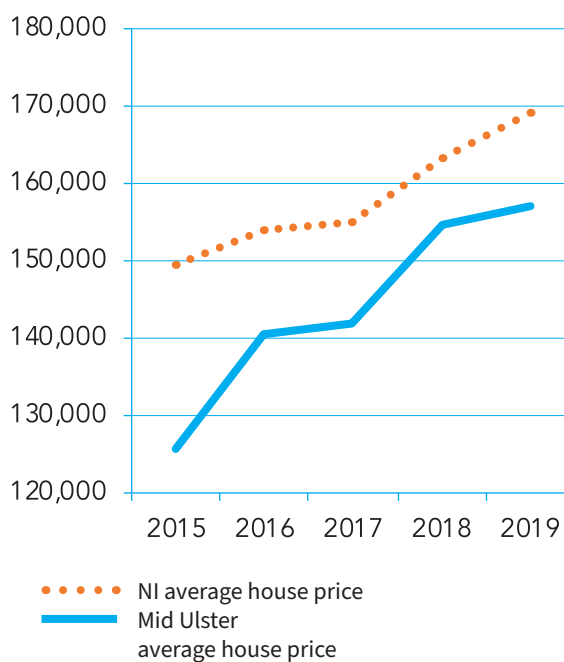


Average house price in Mid Ulster in 2019

£ **156,879**



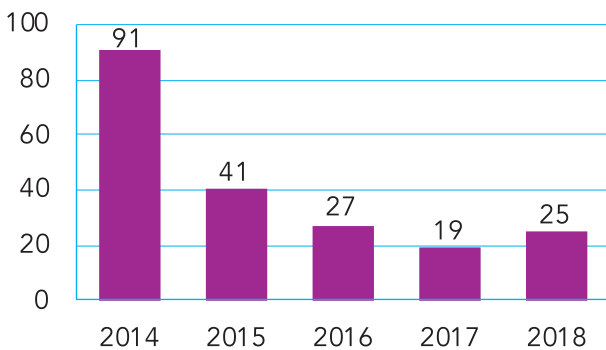
1.4%
INCREASE FROM 2018



Source: Ulster University

Repossessions

During 2018, there were 25 repossessions in Mid Ulster. This represents a 73% decrease since 2014 but a 32% increase over the previous 12 months.



Source: NI Courts and Tribunals Service



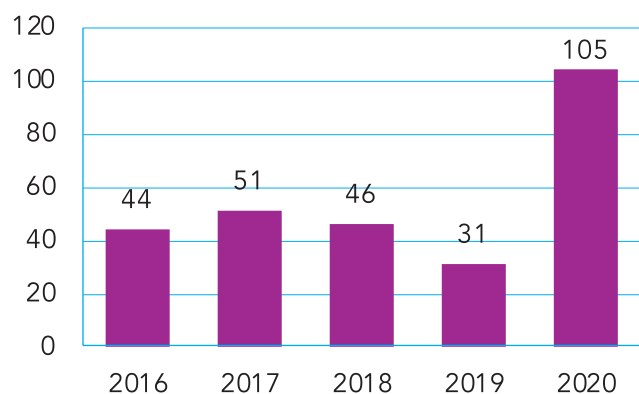
Intermediate need

Demand for intermediate housing aimed at low income households in Mid Ulster is estimated at 1,330 units between 2019-2029.



Co-ownership Purchases

Co ownership Housing Association had an active stock of 528 dwellings at March 2020, 105 of which were purchased during 2019/20.

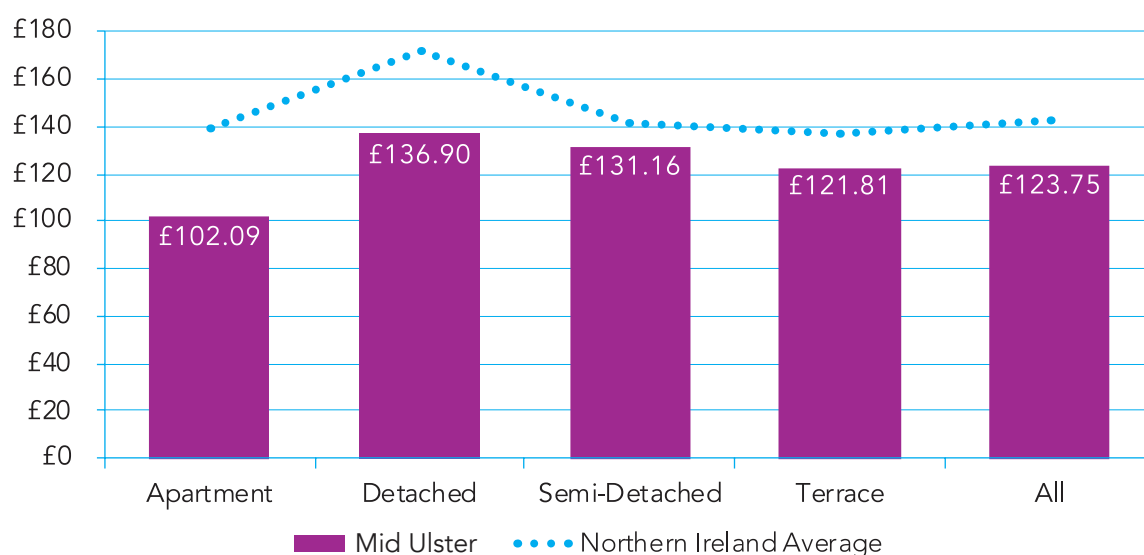


Source: Co ownership Housing Association

Private Rented Sector (PRS)

The Private Rented Sector comprises 21% of homes in the district.

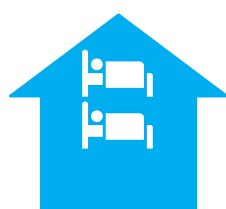
Average Weekly Private Sector Rent by Dwelling Type



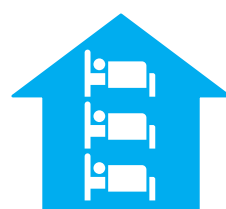
Source: Ulster University

Local Housing Allowance

Mid Ulster District falls within four broad rental market areas (BRMA) including Lough Neagh Upper, Lough Neagh Lower, South and South West.



The Local Housing Allowance, from April 2020, for **2 BEDROOM DWELLINGS** within the BRMA's is
£89.78 per week in Lough Neagh Upper
£81.62 per week in Lough Neagh Lower
£84.25 per week in South
£79.68 per week in South west



The Local Housing Allowance, from April 2020, for **3 BEDROOM DWELLINGS** within the BRMA's is
£97.70 per week in Lough Neagh Upper
£93.68 per week in Lough Neagh Lower
£92.64 per week in South
£91.24 per week in South west

Landlord Registration Scheme

DfC's Landlord Registration scheme identified 4,609 properties registered by 3,411 landlords in Mid Ulster at February 2020. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic, DfC are unable to report end of March 2020 information.

Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO)

As household groups reduce in size, Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) will continue to play a greater role in the housing market, particularly for single households aged under 35. Since 1 April 2019 Belfast City Council has assumed responsibility for licensing of HMOs.



Social Housing Sector

The Social Housing sector share of the housing market in Mid Ulster was 10% at 2016. (Northern Ireland House Condition Survey 2016)

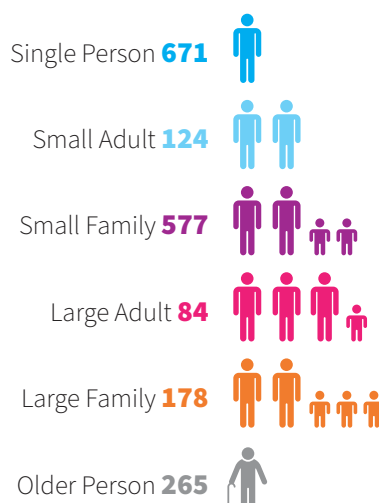
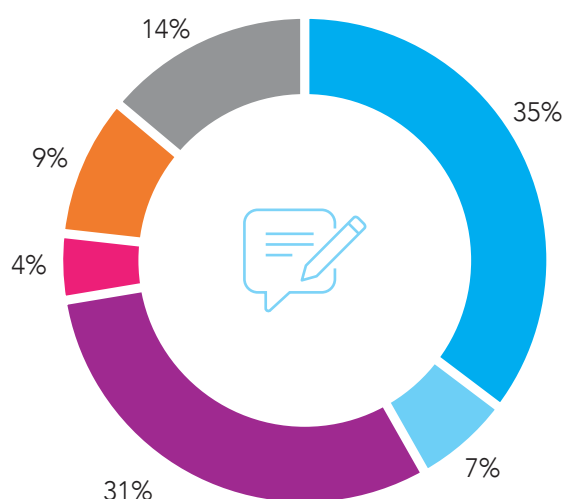
At March 2020 there were 1,899 applicants on the waiting list for Mid Ulster with 1,169 in housing stress. There were 306 allocations over the year. Single, small family households and older persons comprise 82% of the housing stress waiting list in the council area. The need for small family accommodation therefore remains strong and there is a growing demand to meet requirements for older persons. See Appendix 7 for local breakdown.

26 

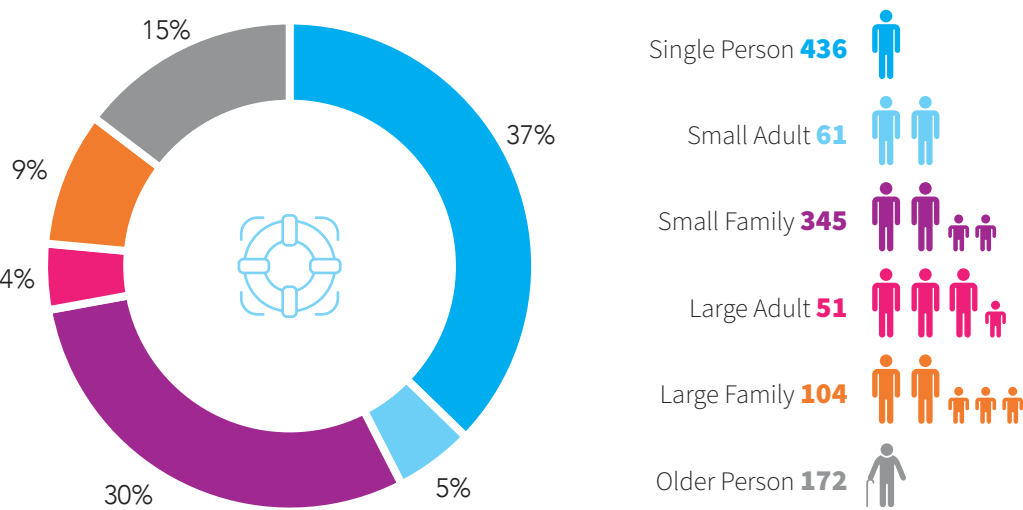
Housing Executive properties were sold to tenants under the House Sales Scheme during 2019/20 at an average selling price of

£47,453
for Mid Ulster.

Waiting List Applicants

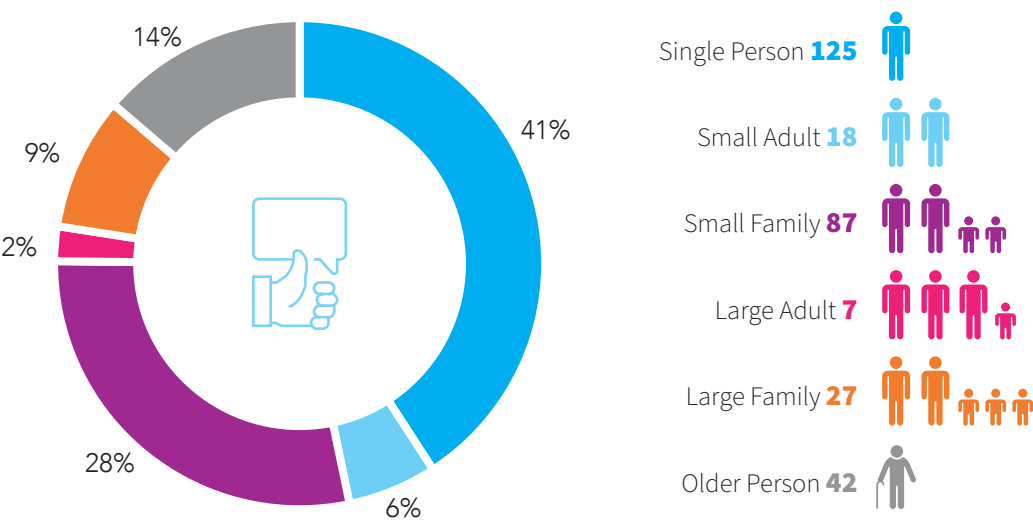


Applicants in Housing Stress



Source: NIHE, March 2020

Allocations to Applicants

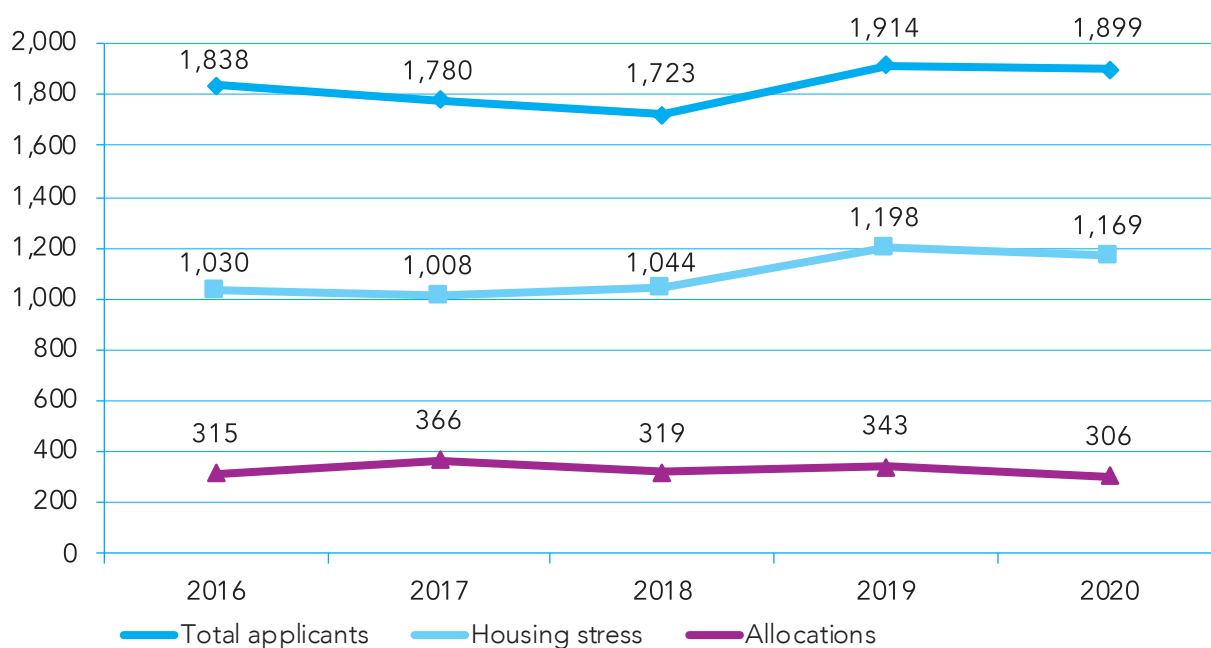


Source: NIHE, March 2020

Definition of Household Types

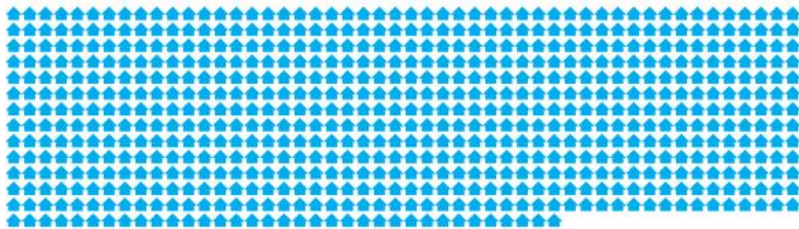
Single Person	1 person 16-59 years old
Small Adult	2 persons 16-59 years old
Small Family	1 or 2 persons aged 16 or over, with 1 or 2 children
Large Adult	3 or more persons aged 16 or over with or without 1 child aged 0-15
Large Family	1 or 2 persons aged 16 or over, and 3 or more children aged 0-15, or 3 or more persons 16 or over and 2 or more persons aged 0-15
Older person	1 or 2 persons aged 16 or over, at least 1 over 60

Social Housing Waiting List Trends



Source: NIHE

The requirement for new social housing across the district remains very high and in line with last year's figure. Dungannon town continues to demonstrate the greatest need.



To address social need, the Housing Executive's three year Social Housing Development Programme (SHDP) has 202 housing units planned.

During 2019/20, 42 homes were completed across Mid Ulster and 76 units were on-site at 31 March 2020. See Appendix 3 for details of the programme, completions and on-site schemes.

685

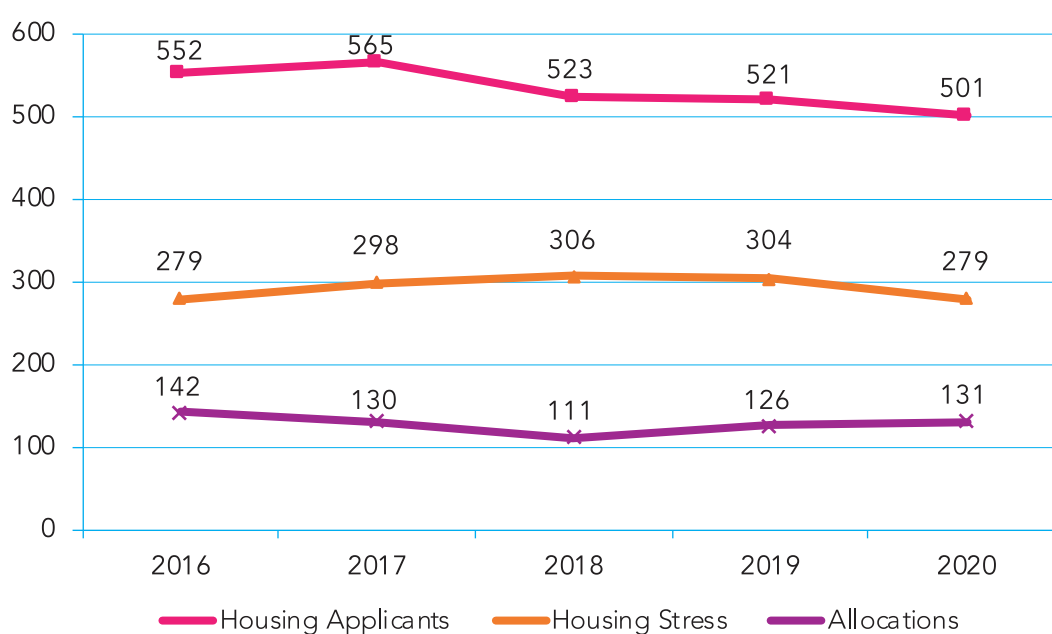
The five-year assessment for 2019-24 shows a need for 685 units across the district. Need is concentrated in Dungannon followed by Coalisand and Magherafelt, see Appendix 2 for further information.

Rural Areas

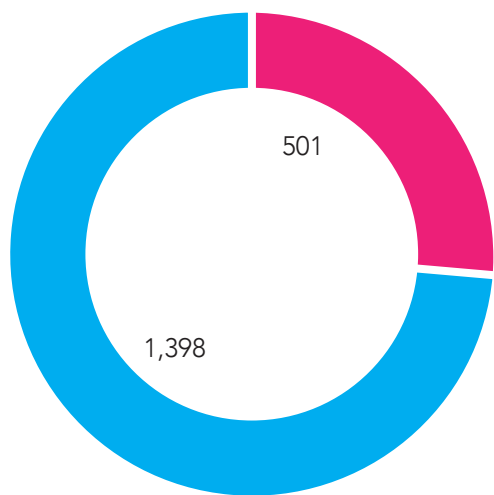
House and land prices, land availability and low rates of development will rule out owner occupation in the short to medium term for many young rural households within Mid Ulster District. The tendency for owner occupation in rural areas will also result in limited opportunity for the private rented sector to offer affordable accommodation.

The Housing Executive will work with rural communities to identify hidden or 'latent' housing need through rural housing needs tests. These rural locations will be determined following the annual review of the Housing Need Assessment and consideration is also given to requests from community representatives. See Outcome 2 for Site Identification Studies and Outcome 3 for Rural Housing Needs Test.

Rural Housing Waiting List Trends

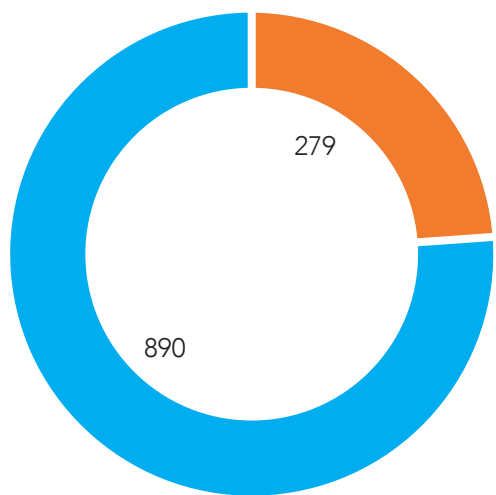


Waiting List Applicants
2020



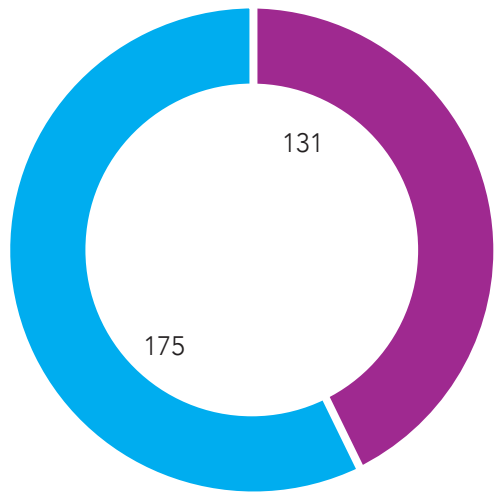
■ Mid Ulster Rural
■ Mid Ulster Urban

Waiting List Applicants in
Housing Stress



■ Mid Ulster Rural
■ Mid Ulster Urban

Allocation to Applicants
2020



■ Mid Ulster Rural
■ Mid Ulster Urban

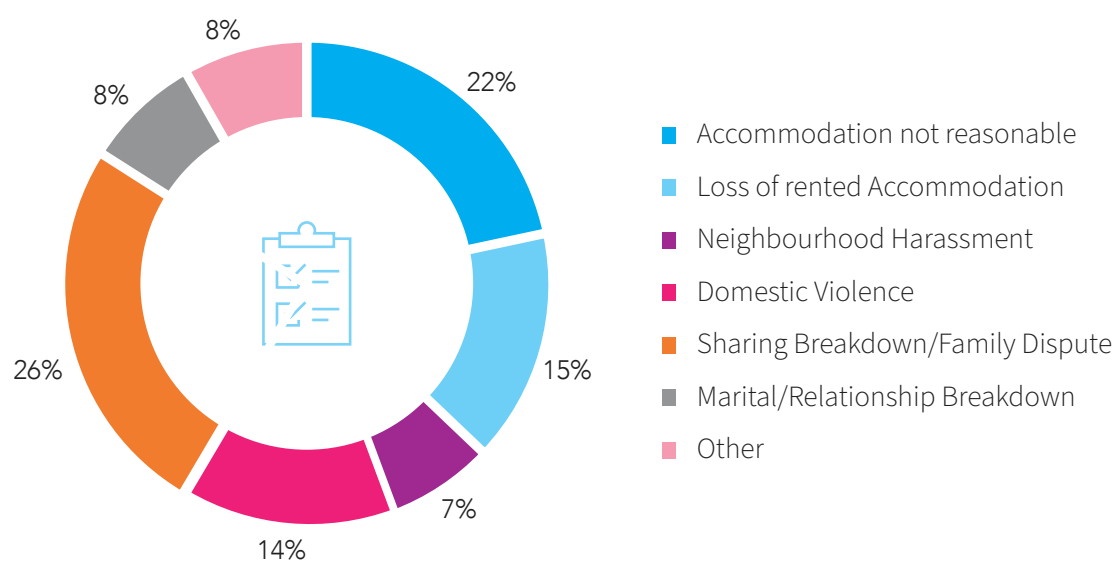
Source: NIHE

Homelessness

The number of households presenting as homeless in the district has fallen significantly over the previous 12 months to March 2020 with 669 presenters, a 21% decline over the corresponding 2019 position, see Appendix 5. The main reasons for homelessness acceptances continued to be sharing breakdown / family dispute and accommodation not being reasonable.

There is a range of temporary accommodation options available in Mid Ulster District. During 2019/20 the Housing Executive made 53 placements into voluntary sector hostels and 21 placements in single let properties.

Reasons for Homelessness



Specialised Housing and Housing Support Services

Accessible Housing

Work is continuing on the development of an Accessible Housing Register. This will allow social landlords to make more effective use of their existing adapted stock. Within Mid Ulster there is an identified social housing need at March 2019 for 24 wheelchair units.

Adaptations

During 2019/20 the Housing Executive spent £0.45m on adaptations to their properties in Mid Ulster. See Appendix 4.

£0.45m
SPENT ON ADAPTATIONS 2019/20

Disabled Facilities Grants

During 2019/20 the Housing Executive approved 107 Disabled Facilities Grants for private sector dwellings with an approval value of £817k. 99 were completed. See Appendix 4.

DISABLED FACILITIES GRANTS
£817k
APPROVAL VALUE 2019/20
99 COMPLETIONS

Irish Travellers

The Housing Executive has responsibility for identifying and meeting the accommodation needs of Irish Travellers. We are currently finalising a five year Irish Travellers Accommodation Strategy 2020-2025.

Supporting People

The Housing Executive, through the Supporting People Grant, funds 47 Housing Support Services across Mid Ulster at a cost of £3.51m, providing housing support to 801 clients per year. These are set out in Appendix 5.

£3.51m
ON FUNDING 47 HOUSING
SUPPORT SERVICES

Community Planning

[Mid Ulster Community Planning – Performance Statement 2017 – 2019](#)

The Mid Ulster Community Plan was launched in May 2017. The plan sets out a shared vision and highlights the importance of process, people, communities and of organisations coming together to improve our local well-being and quality of life. This ambitious plan brings together 40 different partner organisations to work together on difficult issues with the aim of improving the lives of local people.

The plan is delivered under five thematic groups including Economic Growth, Infrastructure, Education & Skills, Health & Wellbeing and Vibrant & Safe Communities. There are 15 outcomes to be achieved over the life of the 10 year plan with 76 strategic actions to be delivered in this time.

Through Community Planning, the Housing Forum has been established to maximise the provision and access to social housing and affordable housing for Mid Ulster District.

The main areas of focus for the forum include;

- Rent Controls for Mid Ulster
- Development Planning and provision of housing for Mid Ulster
- Social housing provision to meet increasing needs
- Social housing provision re location of need
- Access to social and affordable housing – housing allocation
- Rural social housing provision and rural housing needs testing
- Access to social and affordable housing including housing allowance and income after housing analysis and poverty
- Housing and impact on regeneration (to include open space and community, wider development planning considerations, mixed tenure etc.)

Another Community Planning driven project is Agewell, a Mid Ulster based partnership working together to improve services for vulnerable older people in the community. The range of services include good morning telephone calls, home maintenance work, community engagement, advice on fuel poverty and social events.

The [Performance Statement 2017 – 2019](#) is available on the Mid Ulster District Council Website.

Local Development Plan

The Council's timetable has been agreed and published with the Council's Preferred Options Paper (POP) published November 2016. A consultation exercise was previously carried out on the Local Development Plan 2030 – Draft Plan Strategy (from February to April 2019). However, the council identified a procedural error in relation to the original consultation and therefore, re-consulted on the Local Development Plan 2030 – Draft Plan Strategy until September 2020. The indicative timescales for the Key Stages in the LDP process are outlined in the Local Development Plan Timetable which is available to view on the Council's website at: <https://www.midulstercouncil.org/MidUlsterCouncil/media/Mid-Ulster-Council/Publications/Planning/Local%20Development%20Plan/Development-Plan-Timetable.pdf>

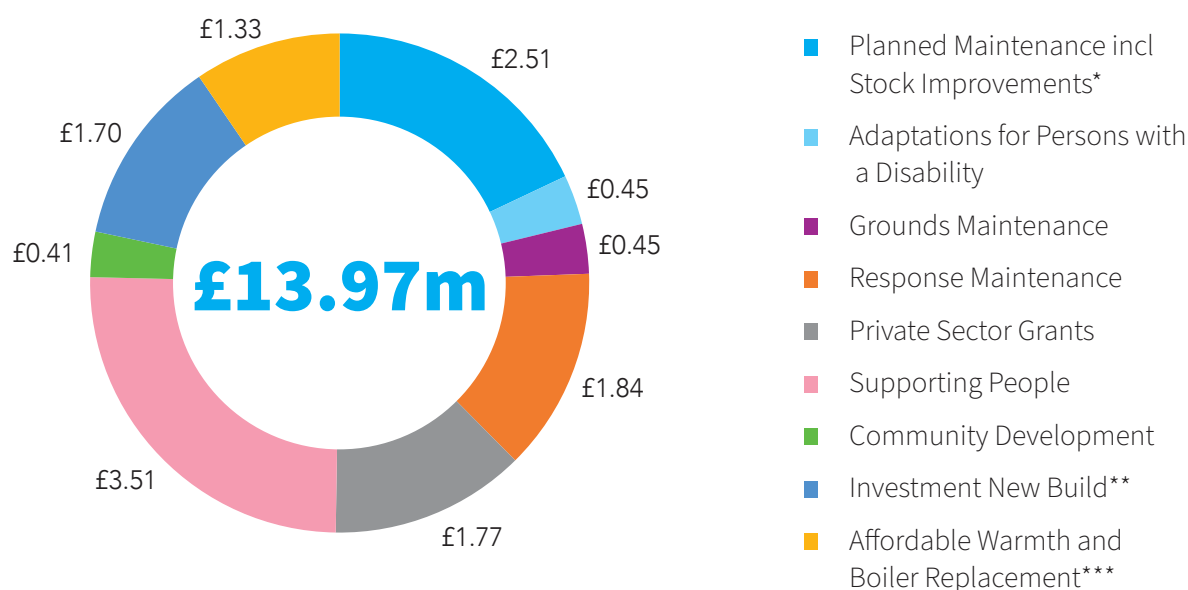
Housing Executive Spend

The past year has delivered significant housing investment for a wide range of services, and the 2019/20 public sector housing investment totalled £13.97m for Mid Ulster District Council area.

The Housing Executive originally intended to deliver investment of £227 million across Northern Ireland on all improvement and maintenance activities to its stock in 2020/21. However, other than for emergency situations and the undertaking of statutory inspections and servicing, these activities were suspended in late March 2020 due to the lockdown measures that were put in place by government in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. We have continued to review what works we can undertake in light of the further development of these measures, and in June 2020 we recommenced works to external areas and vacant properties. We will continue to inform all stakeholders as the situation progresses and we have greater certainty on the type and level of stock investment that can be delivered this year.

Aside from work to Housing Executive Stock, the projected spend for 2020/21 is £1.59m for Private Sector Grants and £3.49m for Supporting People.

Mid Ulster District Council 2019/20 Public Sector Housing Spend (£m)



Source: NIHE

*Planned Maintenance work (Planned, Cyclical, and MS running costs) spend was £2.50 million and Stock Improvement Spend was £0.01 million.

**Investment in new build is the total cost of schemes starting in the programme year but which may be spent over more than one year.

***Affordable Warmth spend was £1.28 million and Boiler Replacement spend was £0.05 million.

NB: 2019/20 expenditure figures in the chart above are with Northern Ireland Audit Office for auditing at present, although they are unlikely to be fully audited until late 2020 due to delays arising from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Housing Plans & Services - Outcomes



**Helping people
find housing
support and
solutions**



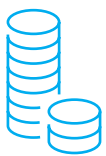
**Delivering
better homes**



**Fostering vibrant
sustainable
communities**



**Delivering quality
public services**



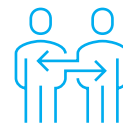
**Community
grants**
£14,218
funding awarded



**Community
Cohesion**
£16,616
funding awarded



**Community
safety**
£10,000
funding awarded



**Rural match
funding**
£135,541
awarded



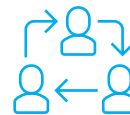
**Neighbourhood
Renewal**
£400,307
funding



**Energy
efficiency**
£0.71m



**Affordable
warmth**
381 installations
£1.28m
spend



**Supporting
People**
£3.51m
spend



**Disabled Facilities
Grants (DFGs)**
£817k
approval value



Adaptations
£0.45m
spend



New build
£1.70m
spend



Apex HA social housing development at Killymeal Road, Dungannon which is on-site as at 31 March 2020.



Apex HA social housing development at Killymeal Road, Dungannon which is on-site as at 31 March 2020.

Outcome 1

Helping people find housing support and solutions

Plans 2019/20	Progress	Plans 2020/23	Community Planning Ref*
Development and publication of the Chronic Homelessness Action Plan.	Following extensive public consultation, the Chronic Homelessness Action Plan was amended and approved by NIHE Board in November 2019.	Two Research projects have been commissioned. The first project will look at the impact of chronic homelessness on women and the second will consider the role of day services in delivering help to clients experiencing chronic homelessness.	2C 4C 5C
Implementation of year one actions in Chronic Homelessness Action Plan.	The number of objectives was reduced from ten to seven to ensure a more streamlined plan and avoid duplication. The indicators for chronic homelessness were adjusted to reflect the views of the sector, and ratified by the Central Homelessness Forum. 669 homelessness presenters and 388 homelessness acceptances.	Work will continue to incorporate chronic homelessness indicators into the Housing Management System to provide an evidence base to inform policy and strategic decisions going forward. NIHE is also exploring funding options for the delivery of housing led solutions for clients experiencing chronic homelessness.	

Table continues

Plans 2019/20	Progress	Plans 2020/23	Community Planning Ref*
<p>Ensure the Housing Solutions and Support Approach continues to be effectively embedded across the organisation.</p>	<p>The Housing Solutions approach is used for all customers who contact the NIHE with a housing issue. This continues to be embedded across the organisation through the delivery of training to new staff on the approach. Housing Solutions Handbook for staff was reviewed and updated during 2019/20.</p>	<p>Further develop the Housing Solutions and Support approach, including through exploring the potential of accreditation of staff.</p> <p>Continue to conduct peer reviews to benchmark the NIHE Housing Solutions service, identify good practice and areas for improvement.</p> <p>Ensure information is readily available across all tenures to meet the needs of a housing options service.</p>	2C
<p>Conduct peer reviews to benchmark the NIHE Housing Solutions service, identify good practice and areas for improvement.</p>	<p>The National Practitioner Support Service (NPSS) has been appointed to conduct peer reviews of NIHE's Housing Solutions Service.</p>		
<p>Work has been ongoing to investigate and develop a replacement Private Rented Sector Access Scheme (PRSAS). A number of consultation events have taken place and a specification has been produced. A business case is ongoing with the aim of having a new PRSAS procured and in place by September 2019.</p>	<p>Due to budgetary pressures arising in dealing with NIHE's statutory duties in respect of addressing homelessness, the delivery of a PRSAS has had to be put on hold until such times as sufficient funding can be secured.</p>	<p>Any further developments in respect of implementing a new PRSAS will be subject to the necessary funding being secured from DfC.</p>	2C 4C 5C

Table continues

Plans 2019/20	Progress	Plans 2020/23	Community Planning Ref*
£3.44m has been approved to deliver the Supporting People Programme for 2019/20.	<p>£3.51m was spent delivering the Supporting People Programme for 2019/20, Appendix 5.</p> <p>38 accommodation based support services for 528 service users.</p> <p>Nine floating support schemes for 273 service users.</p>	£3.49m has been approved to deliver the Supporting People Programme for 2020/21, Appendix 5.	2C 3B 4C 5A
The gross, three-year (2019/22) SHDP contains no supported housing schemes for the Council area. This will be kept under annual review.	There is currently no identified or known requirement for supported housing in Mid Ulster District council area.	The gross, three-year (2020/23) SHDP contains no new supported housing schemes for the Council area. This will be kept under annual review.	2C 3B 4C 5A
The Wheelchair Standard Accommodation target for general needs new build for 2019/20 is 8.5%.	Seven wheelchair units were on-site at March 2020.	The Wheelchair Standard Accommodation target for 2020/21 is 10%.	2C 3B 4C 5A
NIHE has funding of approximately £10m for DFGs for the private sector in 2019/20 across NI, £789k in Mid Ulster.	NIHE approved 107 DFGs with an approval value of approximately £817k during 2019/20. 99 DFGs were completed during the year.	NIHE has funding of approximately £12m for DFGs for the private sector in 2020/21 across NI. The funding for the District is £1.12m.	2C 3B 4C 5A

Table continues

Plans 2019/20	Progress	Plans 2020/23	Community Planning Ref*
During 2019/20 NIHE will spend £0.72m on adaptations to their properties across the district.	NIHE spent £0.45m on adaptations in 2019/20.	We are unable to provide detail on our budget for 2020/21 at this time.	2C 3B 4C 5A

Outcome 2

Delivering better homes

Plans 2019/20	Progress	Plans 2020/23	Community Planning Ref*
Identifying housing needs, increasing supply of affordable renting and assisting home ownership			
<p>NIHE will carry out an annual five year projected social housing need assessment for the Council area.</p> <p>NIHE will annually assess demand for intermediate housing for the Council area.</p>	<p>Achieved. The five year social housing need for the Council area is 685, Appendix 2.</p> <p>Achieved. The ten year intermediate housing need is 1,330.</p>	<p>NIHE will carry out an annual five-year projected social housing need assessment for the Council area.</p> <p>NIHE will annually assess demand for intermediate housing for the Council area.</p>	2C
<p>NIHE will continue its programme to deliver Housing Market Assessments across NI by completing Phase 1 of this process in March 2020 which includes Strategic Housing Market Analyses of Belfast and Derry/Strabane HMAs.</p>	<p>The Strategic Housing Market Analyses of Belfast Metropolitan Area and Derry/Strabane HMAs are due to complete in July 2020.</p>	<p>NIHE will commission Strategic Housing Market Analyses in the remaining identified HMAs in the following areas. Northern Area - Ballymena HMA and Causeway Coast HMA Western Area – Fermanagh, Omagh, Cookstown and Dungannon HMAs South Eastern Area – Newry and Craigavon Urban Area HMAs.</p>	2C
<p>DfC will approve a gross, three-year 2019/22 SHDP.</p>	<p>There are 76 units on-site at 31 March 2020. There were 42 units completed during 2019/20, Appendix 3.</p>	<p>DfC will approve a gross, three-year 2020/23 SHDP.</p>	2C
<p>Site identification studies will be completed as identified.</p>	<p>Three site identification studies have been completed in Ballyronan, Donaghmore and Moy over the past year.</p>	<p>Site identification studies for the seven district electoral areas have been scheduled for the final quarter of 2020.</p>	2C

Table continues

Plans 2019/20	Progress	Plans 2020/23	Community Planning Ref*
The 2019/20 investment in intermediate housing, which is delivered through the Co-Ownership Shared Ownership scheme, was £34m with a target of 1,091 homes.	In 2019/20, there were 105 properties purchased through Co-Ownership in the Mid Ulster District Council area.	Due to the impacts of COVID-19, funding and targets have not yet been confirmed for this period.	2C
NIHE and housing associations will implement the House Sales and Equity Sharing Scheme.	26 NIHE properties were sold to tenants through the House Sales Scheme during 2019/20.	NIHE and housing associations will implement the House Sales and Equity Sharing Scheme.	2C
Improving People's Homes – NIHE Stock			
Funding for NIHE planned maintenance schemes in 2019/20 is estimated at £3.13m for 18 schemes.	In 2019/20, NIHE spent £2.5m on 10 planned maintenance schemes in the Council area, Appendix 4.	We are unable to provide detail on our programmes for 2020/21 at this time.	2C
Funding for NIHE stock improvement work in 2019/20 is £0.70m.	In 2019/20, NIHE spent £0.01m on stock improvement work.	We are unable to provide detail on our programmes for 2020/21 at this time.	2C
NIHE will complete response maintenance repairs within the required target time.	83.90% of NIHE response maintenance repairs in NI were completed within the required target time.	NIHE will complete response maintenance repairs within the required target time.	
NIHE will carry out response maintenance repairs to customers' satisfaction.	98.79% of NIHE response maintenance repairs were carried out to the customers' satisfaction.	NIHE will carry out response maintenance repairs to customers' satisfaction.	

Table continues

Plans 2019/20	Progress	Plans 2020/23	Community Planning Ref*
Improving People's Homes – Private Stock			
NIHE will implement the Affordable Warmth Scheme with available funding of £12m for 2019/20 across NI, subject to change following current monitoring round outcome.	In the Council area, 381 measures were carried out to 213 private properties under the Affordable Warmth Scheme in 2019/20 at a cost of £1.28 million.	NIHE will implement the Affordable Warmth Scheme with available funding of £4m for 2020/21 across NI, subject to change following current monitoring round outcome. A new five year business case was approved for 2019-2024, with the emphasis being on a whole house approach.	2C 4C 5C
NIHE will implement the Boiler Replacement Scheme 2016-19, with anticipated funding of £1m for 2019/20 across NI, subject to change following current monitoring round outcome.	In Mid Ulster 71 properties had boilers replaced at cost of approximately £47k.	NIHE will implement the Boiler Replacement Scheme, with anticipated funding of £350k for 2020/21 across NI, subject to change following current monitoring round outcome.	2C 4C 5C
Funding of discretionary grants will continue in 2019/20.	Discretionary grant approval in 2019/20 was £366k, Appendix 4.	Funding of discretionary grants will continue in 2020/21.	2C 4C 5C
Repair notices issued by councils to private rental landlords can be recovered through a mandatory grant of up to £7.5k.	There were 28 mandatory repair grants approved in 2019/20, with an approval value of £66k, Appendix 4.	NIHE will issue mandatory repair grants as required.	2B 2C

Table continues

Plans 2019/20	Progress	Plans 2020/23	Community Planning Ref*
NIHE's 2019/22 Energy Efficiency Programme includes 1,660 units at a cost of £5.8m.	In 2019/20, the Energy Efficiency Programme included 206 units at a cost of £0.71m.	NIHE's 2020/23 Energy Efficiency Programme includes 1,715 units at a cost of £7.50m.	2C 4C 5C
Bryson Energy will continue to maintain the Oil Buying Clubs Scheme until the service transitions over to local community groups.	<p>5,200 households have become members of the 27 oil buying clubs established in NI. There are six clubs operating across Mid Ulster District:-</p> <p>Ballinascreen (Draperstown)</p> <p>CUT (Culnady, Upperlands, Tamlaght, Maghera)</p> <p>DAMOC (Desertmartin / Tobermore / Magherafelt / Castledawson)</p> <p>Lisnahull (Dungannon town)</p> <p>MUVE (Coagh, Cookstown)</p> <p>Bannvale (Ahoghill, Bellaghy, Lavey, Portglenone). Bannvale covers Mid Ulster and Mid and East Antrim.</p>	Having taken the Oil Buying Club Service back in house in February 2020, NIHE will continue to provide and hopefully expand membership.	4C 5C

Outcome 3

Fostering vibrant sustainable communities

Plans 2019/20	Progress	Plans 2020/23	Community Planning Ref*
Community Planning			
Promote housing led regeneration through master planning proposals in urban and village centres.	NIHE will continue to work with the Council through the Community Planning process.	Promote housing led regeneration through master planning proposals in urban and village centres.	1A, 1C, 2A, 2C, 4C, 5C
DfC to fund Areas at Risk, Small Pockets of Deprivation (SPOD) and Neighbourhood Renewal programmes for 2019/20.	DfC funded £400k for Neighbourhood Renewal work in Mid Ulster during 2019/20.	DfC hopes to continue to fund Areas at Risk, SPOD and Neighbourhood Renewal programmes for 2020/21.	1C 2C 4C 5C
NIHE will work with rural communities to identify hidden rural housing need. During 2019/20, tests are currently programmed to take place in Tobermore, Upperlands, Knockloughrim and Clonoe.	In 2019/20, tests were undertaken in Knockloughrim, Tobermore and Upperlands but due to the COVID-19 lockdown, have been extended into 2020/21 to allow additional response time, via email at rural.housing@nihe.gov.uk .	During 2020/21, rural needs tests have been programmed for Ballyronan, Clonoe and Longfield / Desertmartin. NIHE will work with rural communities to identify hidden rural housing need.	2C

Table continues

Plans 2019/20	Progress	Plans 2020/23	Community Planning Ref*
The NI target for 2019/20 is to fund a minimum of three projects across the Townscape Heritage Initiative areas.	One project received Heritage in Housing funding during 2019/20 and was located within Ards and North Down district.	The NI target for 2020/21 is to fund a minimum of three projects across the Townscape Heritage Initiative areas. (subject to budget allocation)	1C 2C 5C
NIHE will implement a match funding programme for the Rural Development Programme in 2019/20, for a minimum of seven projects across NI.	In 2019/20, 19 projects were funded in rural areas with a total spend of £300k. The following four projects were provided with funding throughout the district: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aughnacloy Community Hub • Caledon Community Hub • Charis Cancer Care, Cookstown • Kildress Community Hub. 	This is the final year of the NIHE match funding programme corresponding with the final year of the NI Rural Development Programme (2014-2020).	1C, 2A, 2B, 2C, 4C, 5C
NIHE will implement and promote the annual 'Rural Community Awards' competition.	The 2019/20 Rural Community Awards were presented to the winning community groups in November 2019 however none were within Mid Ulster.	NIHE hopes to offer the Rural Community Awards on an annual basis.	1C 5C

Table continues

Plans 2019/20	Progress	Plans 2020/23	Community Planning Ref*
Building Successful Communities			
DfC will continue to invest in social enterprise growth to increase sustainability in the broad community sector.	DfC is supporting Social Economy Enterprise growth in NI through Community Asset Transfer (CAT), Pilot Social Economy Projects, Social Enterprise Hubs and Social Innovation.	DfC will continue to invest in social enterprise growth to increase sustainability in the broad community sector.	1E 3A 3B 3C 3D
NIHE's Social Housing Enterprise (SHE) Strategy will continue to invest in local communities to support social housing enterprise developments.	The Social Enterprise Plus Strategy 2020-2024 will be launched later this year.	Social Enterprise Plus Strategy will invest in local communities to support social enterprise initiatives.	1A, 1B, 1C, 3A, 3C, 4C, 5C
Consult on the new Community Safety Strategy, launch and implement.	Public consultation on the new strategy has concluded. The Strategy Responses received are being reviewed and the Strategy is being finalised.	Launch & implement new Community Safety Strategy – Working Together for Safer Communities 2020-2023.	1D 1E 2C
We will work with partner organisations and communities to tackle Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) and hate crime and create safer places to live.	During 2019/20, NIHE dealt with 103 cases of ASB within the Council area of which four were categorised as hate related.	NIHE will deal with reported cases of ASB including hate harassment in its estates.	5A 5B 5C

Plans 2019/20	Progress	Plans 2020/23	Community Planning Ref*
NIHE will work to prevent people leaving their homes as a consequence of hate crimes.	During 2019/20, four Hate Incident Practical Action scheme (HIPA) incidents were actioned in the Council area.	NIHE will continue to implement the HIPA scheme.	5A 5B 5C
NIHE will continue to be a designated agency in the Policing and Community Safety Partnerships (PCSPs).	NIHE Area Managers continue to attend their respective PCSP meetings.	NIHE will continue to be a designated agency in the PCSPs.	5A 5B 5C
NIHE will assess funding applications from Community Groups, PCSPs and Councils for a range of community safety initiatives.	During 2019/20, £10,000 in funding was awarded to the Mid Ulster Ageing Well partnership within the council area.	NIHE will continue to assess funding applications and fund appropriate initiatives that address community safety issues in NIHE estates, where money is available.	
NIHE will continue to partner at ASB Forum.	Local office staff continues to work with statutory partners in addressing ASB issues and attend the ASB Forum with PSNI, Council and Department Of Justice to discuss cases of common concern.	NIHE will continue to partner on ASB Forum.	5A 5B 5C

Table continues

Plans 2019/20	Progress	Plans 2020/23	Community Planning Ref*
NIHE will work to raise awareness and promote integration through its Community Cohesion Strategy.	NIHE continues to engage at a local level to deliver programmes that raise awareness and promote integration. This can be measured by the number of Race Relations programmes funded.	NIHE will implement its Community Cohesion Strategy via its estate based cohesion programmes that raise awareness and promote integration.	5A 5B 5C
NIHE will promote Good Relations across the five cohesion themes of Race Relations, Communities in Transition, Interfaces, Flags, Emblems and Sectional Symbols.	Community Cohesion grants of £16,616 were spent on 12 projects throughout the district. Projects funded involved family fun days, educational trips, summer schemes, village improvements and guided tours.	We will continue to support a community led approach across the five cohesion themes of Race Relations, Communities in Transition, Interfaces, Flags, Emblems and Sectional Symbols.	5A 5B 5C
NIHE will continue to fund Supporting Communities NI (SCNI) in their work with communities.	To date staff engages with 66 community groups throughout Mid Ulster. The Good Relations Officer meets the estate based groups on a regular basis and participates in the Housing Community Network, Inter-Agency Meetings and also meets group representatives on request.	Continue to work with groups to ensure we give the best outcomes for our communities.	5A 5B 5C
The Community Involvement Strategy includes a one year action plan which will be monitored.	All actions have been delivered or are on target.	New action plan will incorporate new ways of supporting and engaging our communities to reflect current and future restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic.	5A 5B 5C

Table continues

Plans 2019/20	Progress	Plans 2020/23	Community Planning Ref*
Funding of £20k for 2019/20 for Community Grants and £4,307 per area for Housing Community Network will be made available by NIHE.	£14,218 was spent in 2019/20 on Community Grants throughout Mid Ulster with eleven groups receiving funding.	The Community Grants 2020-21 budget has been agreed as £20,000 per Area Office, but has been redirected and released as a COVID-19 Community Support Fund. Funding of £3,153.85 per area for Housing Community Network is also available.	5A 5B 5C

Outcome 4

Delivering quality public services

Plans 2019/20	Progress	Plans 2020/23	Community Planning Ref*
Increase rent collection to reinvest and improve services. Reduce arrears to maximise income. Continue to report Tenancy Fraud statistics to DfC. Monitor and reduce tenancy fraud.	<p>NIHE collected 98.63% of rent at March 2020.</p> <p>Arrears decreased by £1k during 2019/20.</p> <p>Statistics reported quarterly to DfC.</p>	<p>Maximise rent collection to reinvest and improve services.</p> <p>Manage arrears as effectively as possible to maximise income.</p> <p>Continue to report Tenancy Fraud statistics to DfC. Monitor and reduce tenancy fraud.</p>	2C
Implement the welfare reform project plan as required.	<p>NIHE has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an established Welfare Reform Project Team; • continued to implement the welfare reform project plan as required; • continued to identify the impact of the changes on our customers and on the business; • developed appropriate processes to implement changes; • developed an Income Collection project plan to deal with the impacts of welfare reform; 	<p>NIHE will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • continue to implement the welfare reform project plan as required; • communicate with staff, tenants and housing applicants to provide advice and assistance on the impacts of welfare reform; • continue to carry out research to help the business plan how to deal with the impacts of welfare reform; • assist DfC and DWP deliver the processes necessary to implement welfare reform and associated mitigations; and 	2C

Table continues

Plans 2019/20	Progress	Plans 2020/23	Community Planning Ref*
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • worked with DfC and Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) to align social rented sector payments with the claimants UC payment date; • carried out research to help the business plan how to deal with the impacts of welfare reform; • instigated measures to lessen the impacts; and • worked closely with DfC and DWP on the implementation of welfare reform and the mitigation processes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • continue to work with DfC as a trusted partner for the Move to UC. 	
NIHE plan to process new public/private HB claims within the 22 day target and HB claim amendment within seven days.	In 2019/20, new claims were processed in an average of 13.1 days. Claim amendments were processed in an average of three days.	NIHE plan to process new public/private HB claims within the 22-day target and HB claim amendment within seven days.	2C 5C
Develop and implement a new Voids Action Plan 2019-2022; maintain voids below 1% of total stock, make best use of housing stock and increase revenue from rents.	Actionable Voids Action Plan 2019-22 was approved in June 2019. NIHE has continued to perform strongly in its void management functions, showing improvement across all key performance metrics in the period covered by the previous void strategy. NIHE actionable voids at April 2020 were 1.06% of total stock	Continue to implement Actionable Voids Action Plan 2019-22.	1C 2C

Table continues

Plans 2019/20	Progress	Plans 2020/23	Community Planning Ref*
<p>Develop and Implement a new Customer Support & Tenancy Sustainment Strategy (2019-2022) which builds upon the success of the previous strategy.</p> <p>Reduce tenancy failure through increasing support for our customers and tenants to solve their housing problems and help them to stay in their own home.</p>	<p>The Customer Support & Tenancy Sustainment Strategy was approved in October 2019. Public consultation on the strategy closed in February 2020.</p> <p>The Strategy (and associated Action Plan) offers five key pillars of support to our customers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing Support; • Employment Support; • Money Support; • Proactive/Responsive Support for At Risk Customers; • Neighbourhood/Community Support. <p>86% of tenancies were sustained beyond 1 year.</p>	<p>Continue to implement Action Plan 2019-22.</p> <p>Continue to report on the number of tenancies lasting < 12 months against a baseline of 86%.</p>	2C
<p>Continue to monitor tenants' satisfaction through the Continuous Tenant Omnibus Survey (CTOS).</p>	<p>The 2019 survey found that 88% of tenants were satisfied with the overall service provided by NIHE. Work on the 2020 survey is under way.</p>	<p>Continue to monitor tenants' satisfaction through the Continuous Tenant Omnibus Survey (CTOS).</p>	2C

Appendices

Appendix 1

Community Plan themes and outcomes

The Mid Ulster Community Plan is entitled [10 Year Community Plan for Mid Ulster](#)

Theme	Outcome	Reference
Theme 1 – Economic Growth	We prosper in a stronger and more competitive economy.	1A
	We have more people working in a diverse economy.	1B
	Our towns and villages are vibrant and competitive.	1C
Theme 2 – Infrastructure	We are better connected through appropriate infrastructure.	2A
	We will increasingly value our environment and enhance it for our children.	2B
	We will enjoy increased access to affordable quality housing.	2C
Theme 3 – Education and Skills	Our people are better qualified and more skilled.	3A
	We give our children and young people the best chance in life.	3B
	We are more entrepreneurial, innovative and creative.	3C
Theme 4 – Health and Wellbeing	We are better enabled to live longer healthier and more active lives.	4A
	We have better availability to the right health service, in the right place at the right time.	4B
	We care more for those most vulnerable and in need.	4C
Theme 5 – Vibrant and Safe Communities	We are a safer community.	5A
	We have a greater value and respect for diversity.	5B
	We have fewer people living in poverty and fewer areas of disadvantage.	5C

Appendix 2

Social Housing Need by Settlement 2019-2024

Settlement	Social Housing Need 2019-24
Cookstown North	14
Cookstown South	41
Dungannon 1	298
Dungannon 2	23
Magherafelt	89
Moygashel	7
Coalisland	99
Maghera	10
Ardboe/Moortown/Ballinderry	9
Bellaghy	4
Benburb	3
Castlecaulfield	6
Castledawson	6
Donaghmore	21
Draperstown	17
Moy	31
Swatragh	7
Total	685

Source: NIHE

Housing need has currently been met in Ackinduff / Sheers Place, Augher, Aughnacloy, Ballygawley, Ballymaguigan, Ballyronan, Bush, Caledon, Cappagh, Clogher, Coagh/ Lisnahull, Cookstown Rural Cottages, Fivemiletown, Granville/ Brantry, Gulladuff, Innishrush, Knockloughrim, Lissan / Dunamore, Loup, Magherafelt Rural, Moneymore, Mountjoy, Newmills, Pomeroy, Sandholes, Stewartstown, The Rock, Tobermore, Tullyhogue and Upperlands. This will be kept under annual review.

New Intermediate Housing Demand for Mid Ulster 2019/29

Council	Intermediate Housing Demand 2019/29
Mid Ulster	1,330

Source: NIHE

Appendix 3

Social Housing Development Programme

For further details check the [Social Housing Development Programme](#) and the [Commissioning Prospectus](#)

Schemes completed April 2019 – March 2020

Scheme	No of units	Client Group	Housing Association	Policy Theme
Dungannon ESPs*	1	General Needs	Apex	Urban
Coalisland ESPs*	2	General Needs	Apex	Urban
Millview Meadows, Coalisland**	9	General Needs	NB	Urban
Barrack Street, Coalisland	28	General Needs	Radius	Urban
Moyola Avenue, Castledawson*	2	General Needs	Rural	Rural
Total	42			

Source: NIHE

* ESP - Existing Satisfactory Purchase ** OTS – Off the Shelf

Schemes on-site at March 2020

Scheme	No of units	Client Group	Housing Association	Policy Theme
Sycamore Drive, Killymeal Road, Dungannon	42	General Needs	Apex	Urban
64-66 Ballygawley Road, Dungannon	12	General Needs	Radius	Urban
Barrack Street Phase 2, Coalisland	12	General Needs	Radius	Urban
Roskeen Road, Moygashel (T)	8	General Needs	Apex	Urban
Station Road, Castledawson*	2	General Needs	Rural	Rural
Total	76			

Source: NIHE

(T) Transfer Scheme * ESP - Existing Satisfactory Purchase

Schemes programmed 2020/23

Scheme	No of units	Client Group	Year	Housing Association	Policy Theme
Mullaghmore Road, Dungannon	21	General Needs	2020/21	Choice	Urban
Old Eglish Road, Dungannon	40	General Needs	2020/21	Choice	Urban
63 Scotch Street, Dungannon	10	General Needs	2021/22	Ark	Urban
Annagher Road, Dungannon	9	General Needs	2021/22	NB	Urban
Land at Dungannon Phase 2, Dungannon	50	General Needs	2022/23	Apex	Urban
Castlehill, Dungannon	18	General Needs	2022/23	NB	Urban
Molesworth Plaza, Molesworth Street, Cookstown**	15	General Needs	2020/21	Clanmil	Urban
Killowen Drive, Magherafelt (T)	16	General Needs	2020/21	Choice	Urban
Leckagh Cottages, Magherafelt (T)	9	General Needs	2020/21	Choice	Urban
Coalisland ESPs*	4	General Needs	2020/21	Apex	Urban
34-38 The Square, Dungannon Road, Coalisland	10	General Needs	2020/21	Habinteg	Urban
Total	202				

Source: NIHE

(T) Transfer Scheme * ESP - Existing Satisfactory Purchase ** OTS - Off the Shelf

Appendix 4

Maintenance Programme, Grants and Adaptations information

Schemes completed April 2019 – March 2020

Work Category	Scheme	Units
External Cyclical Maintenance	Alexander Park, Upperlands/ Beatrice Villas, Bellaghy	147
	Moy/ Ballygawley/ Caledon	32
	King William III/ Tamney, Maghera	53
	Coalisland/ Gortgonis	13
Revenue Replacement Kitchen	Innishmore Park & Menagh Park, Coalisland/ Dunavon Park, Dungannon	12
Revenue Replacement Bathroom	Aghinduff, Dungannon	47
Heating Installation	Stewartstown/ Tullyhogue/ Pomeroy	5
	Ardboe/ Ballyronan/ Moneymore	12
	Magherafelt (No Gas)	117
	Aughnacloy/ Benburb/ Caledon	43
Total		481

Source: NIHE

Note: Some schemes may start and complete in year.

As reported earlier, other than carrying out emergency works and undertaking statutory inspections and servicing, we are unable to provide further detail on our programmes for 2020/21 at this time.

Definition of Work Categories	
External Cyclical Maintenance	Work to the external fabric of a dwelling and its immediate surrounding area.
Revenue Repair /Replacement	Repair or replacement of obsolete internal elements, e.g. sanitary ware and kitchen units.
Heating Installation	Replacement of solid fuel or electric heating.

Grants Performance 2019/20

Grant Type	Approved	Approval Value £k	Completed
Mandatory Grants			
Disabled Facilities Grant	107	817	99
Repairs Grant	28	66	28
Discretionary Grants			
Replacement Grant	-	-	<10
Renovation Grant	18	289	35
Home Repair Assistance Grant	18	77	<10
Total	171	1,249	-

Source: NIHE

There may be a discrepancy in calculation due to rounding.

Adaptations to Housing Executive stock in 2019/20

Type of Adaptation	Adaptations 2019/20	Actual spend 2019/20 £m
Adaptations for Persons with a Disability (APD's) Starts*	<10	0.13
Adaptations for Persons with a Disability (APD's) Completions*	12	
Lifts**	17	0.08
Showers**	66	0.13
Minor APD repairs***	215	0.12
Total	-	0.45

Source: NIHE

*Some Adaptations for Persons with a Disability (APD's) may start and complete in year

**Lifts & showers are also included in Planned Maintenance in Finance Chart in Local Context

***Minor APD repairs are also included in Response Maintenance in Finance Chart in Local Context

There may be a discrepancy in calculation due to rounding.

Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG's)

Year	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Approved	111	130	130	88	107
Funding(£k)	769	1,060	1,157	882	817

Source: NIHE

Appendix 5

Supporting People Information and Homelessness

Supporting People

Type of Service	Client Group	No. of schemes	No. of providers	Actual payments 2019-20 (£k)	Budget 2020-21 (£k)	Max. no of services users
Accommodation Based Support Services	Disability	12	6	1,572	1,556	144
	Homelessness	5	5	767	769	51
	Older People	18	4	147	146	314
	Young People	3	2	310	279	19
	Sub Total**	38	**	2,796	2,750	528
Floating Support Services	Homelessness	5	4	309	310	141
	Older People	2	2	168	162	65
	Young People	2	1	236	272	67
	Sub Total**	9	**	714	744	273
Grand Total*		47	**	3,510	3,493	801

Source: NIHE

* There may be a discrepancy in calculation due to rounding.

** Some providers supply both accommodation based and floating support services.

Homelessness

Year	No. of homeless presenters	No. of homeless acceptances	Households placed in temporary accommodation
2015/16	817	480	60
2016/17	829	466	88
2017/18	770	468	103
2018/19	843	542	107
2019/20	669	388	107

Source: NIHE

Appendix 6

NIHE Stock at March 2020

Sold Stock in bold

Common Landlord Area	Bung (i)	Flat	House	Mais (ii)	Cottage	Total	Void *
Dungannon 1	86	99	326	0	0	511	5
	50	26	691	0	0	767	
Dungannon 2	37	15	90	0	0	142	2
	10	3	278	0	0	291	
Moygashel	10	10	45	0	6	71	3
	13	0	248	0	17	278	
Coalisland	47	17	227	0	1	292	4
	16	1	340	0	10	367	
Ackinduff / Sheer's Place	8	0	23	0	0	31	0
	32	0	23	0	4	59	
Augher	8	4	21	0	0	33	0
	2	0	44	0	0	46	
Aughnacloy	19	0	27	0	0	46	1
	3	0	87	0	0	90	
Ballygawley	22	8	21	0	2	53	0
	19	0	55	0	1	75	
Benburb	2	0	3	0	0	5	0
	24	0	28	0	4	56	
Bush	9	0	16	0	0	25	1
	18	0	71	0	0	89	
Caledon	27	1	31	0	4	63	1
	36	1	37	0	40	114	
Cappagh	6	0	3	0	0	9	0
	18	0	19	0	0	37	

Table continues

Sold Stock in bold

Common Landlord Area	Bung (i)	Flat	House	Mais (ii)	Cottage	Total	Void *
Castlecaulfield	7	2	5	0	4	18	0
	16	2	68	0	29	115	
Clogher	15	11	34	0	1	61	2
	7	3	44	0	4	58	
Donaghmore	22	0	20	0	1	43	0
	15	1	131	0	15	162	
Fivemiletown	60	8	42	0	0	110	0
	25	0	133	0	0	158	
Granville / Brantry	21	0	6	0	0	27	0
	54	0	64	0	2	120	
Mountjoy	13	0	19	0	0	32	0
	55	0	46	0	4	105	
Moy	24	3	32	0	0	59	1
	12	1	144	0	3	160	
Newmills	8	0	7	0	0	15	0
	7	0	58	0	0	65	
Dungannon District Total	451	178	998	0	19	1,646	20
	432	38	2,609	0	133	3,212	
Cookstown North	51	62	166	11	0	290	4
	23	17	382	9	0	431	
Cookstown South	52	57	218	0	0	327	3
	47	7	547	0	2	603	
Ardboe/Moortown/ Ballinderry	14	0	37	0	0	51	0
	12	0	93	0	0	105	
Ballyronan	4	0	4	0	0	8	0
	13	0	38	0	0	51	
Drumullan	2	0	6	0	0	8	0
	6	0	10	0	0	16	
Dunamore/Orritor	0	0	4	0	0	4	0
	9	0	33	0	0	42	
Finnobar / Coagh / Lisnahull	16	0	26	0	0	42	0
	2	0	54	0	0	56	

Table continues

Sold Stock in bold

Common Landlord Area	Bung (i)	Flat	House	Mais (ii)	Cottage	Total	Void *
Loup	4	0	6	0	0	10	0
	1	0	10	0	0	11	
Moneymore	21	3	39	0	0	63	2
	35	1	121	0	0	157	
Pomeroy	27	0	26	0	0	53	1
	22	0	45	0	0	67	
Rock	6	0	4	0	0	10	0
	7	0	16	0	0	23	
Sandholes	1	0	8	0	0	9	0
	1	0	17	0	4	22	
Stewartstown	10	6	55	0	0	71	1
	3	2	95	0	0	100	
Tullyhogue	8	0	25	0	0	33	1
	6	0	49	0	0	55	
Tynure / Lissan / Dunman	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	25	0	0	25	
Rural Cottages	0	0	0	0	10	10	1
	8	0	4	0	140	152	
Cookstown District Total	216	128	624	11	10	989	13
	195	27	1,539	9	146	1,916	
Magherafelt	150	61	232	5	0	448	2
	84	17	691	5	0	797	
Maghera	125	21	96	0	0	242	3
	97	11	366	0	0	474	
Bellaghy	24	2	23	0	0	49	0
	15	0	125	0	0	140	
Castledawson	53	4	50	0	0	107	0
	49	2	133	0	0	184	
Draperstown	29	9	33	0	0	71	2
	40	5	134	0	0	179	
Tobermore	19	0	28	0	0	47	0
	14	0	69	0	0	83	

Table continues

Sold Stock in bold

Common Landlord Area	Bung (i)	Flat	House	Mais (ii)	Cottage	Total	Void *
Ballymaguigan	2	0	3	0	0	5	0
	18	0	9	0	0	27	
Carmean	4	0	0	0	0	4	0
	6	0	0	0	0	6	
Clady	19	0	11	0	0	30	0
	7	0	65	0	0	72	
Creagh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	8	0	19	0	0	27	
Culnady	4	0	11	0	0	15	0
	0	0	17	0	0	17	
Curran	1	0	4	0	0	5	0
	1	0	8	0	0	9	
Desertmartin	5	4	15	0	0	24	0
	9	0	28	0	0	37	
Fallahogey	1	0	5	0	0	6	0
	8	0	5	0	0	13	
Gulladuff	9	0	15	0	0	24	0
	3	0	30	0	0	33	
Innishrush	2	2	6	0	0	10	0
	0	0	17	0	0	17	
Kilross	7	0	0	0	0	7	0
	11	0	0	0	0	11	
Knockloughrim	6	0	3	0	0	9	0
	22	0	18	0	0	40	
Lisnamuck	3	0	0	0	0	3	0
	1	0	10	0	0	11	
Longfield	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
	0	0	24	0	0	24	
Moneyneaney	8	0	4	0	0	12	0
	9	0	22	0	0	31	
Portglenone	2	0	5	0	0	7	0
	8	0	21	0	0	29	

Table continues

Sold Stock in bold

Common Landlord Area	Bung (i)	Flat	House	Mais (ii)	Cottage	Total	Void *
Rural Cottages	0	0	0	0	26	26	1
	2	0	2	0	126	130	
Swatragh	7	0	16	0	0	23	0
	8	0	50	0	0	58	
Tamlaght	10	0	2	0	0	12	0
	12	0	5	0	0	17	
Tullyherron	6	0	4	0	0	10	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Upperlands	11	2	30	0	0	43	0
	3	0	57	0	0	60	
Magherafelt District Total	507	105	597	5	26	1,240	8
	435	35	1,925	5	126	2,526	
Mid Ulster Total	1,174	411	2,219	16	55	3,875	41
	1,062	100	6,073	14	405	7,654	

Source: NIHE

*Of the total stock these properties are void and do not include properties for sale or demolition

(i) Bungalow (ii) Maisonette

Appendix 7

Applicants and Allocations at March 2020

	Applicants (Total)	Applicants (HS)	Allocations
Dungannon 1	549	373	38
Dungannon 2	65	45	12
Moygashel	29	18	<10
Coalisland	183	131	44
Ackinduff / Sheer's Place	<10	<10	<10
Augher	<10	<10	<10
Aughnacloy	16	11	<10
Ballygawley	25	17	<10
Benburb	<10	<10	0
Bush	<10	<10	<10
Caledon	<10	0	<10
Cappagh	<10	<10	0
Castlecaulfield	11	<10	<10
Clogher	15	10	<10
Donaghmore	31	23	<10
Fivemiletown	20	10	12
Granville / Brantry	<10	<10	<10
Mountjoy	<10	<10	0
Moy	43	30	<10
Newmills	<10	<10	<10
Dungannon District Total	1,026	697	152
Cookstown North	118	71	20
Cookstown South	152	85	12
Cookstown (Burnvale Crescent)	50	33	<10
Ardboe / Moortown / Ballinderry	21	14	<10

Table continues

	Applicants (Total)	Applicants (HS)	Allocations
Ballyronan	<10	<10	0
Drumullan	0	0	0
Dunamore / Orritor	<10	<10	0
Finnobar / Coagh / Lisnahull	<10	<10	<10
Loup	<10	<10	<10
Moneymore	11	<10	<10
Pomeroy	15	<10	<10
Rock	0	0	0
Sandholes	<10	0	<10
Stewartstown	19	10	<10
Tullyhogue	<10	<10	<10
Tynure / Lissan / Dunman	0	0	0
Cookstown Cottages	<10	0	0
Cookstown Total	411	236	62
Magherafelt	252	134	38
Maghera	81	36	30
Bellaghy	16	<10	<10
Castledawson	47	25	<10
Draperstown	29	14	<10
Tobermore	<10	<10	<10
Ballymaguigan	<10	0	0
Carmean	0	0	0
Clady	<10	<10	<10
Creagh	0	0	0
Culnady	<10	<10	0

Table continues

	Applicants (Total)	Applicants (HS)	Allocations
Curran	0	0	0
Desertmartin	<10	0	<10
Fallahogey	0	0	0
Gulladuff	<10	<10	0
Innishrush	0	0	<10
Kilross	0	0	0
Knockloughrim	0	0	0
Lisnamuck	0	0	0
Longfield	0	0	0
Moneyneaney	<10	<10	0
Portglenone	<10	0	0
Magherafelt Rural Cottages	<10	<10	0
Swatragh	12	<10	0
Tamlaght	<10	0	0
Tullyherron	0	0	<10
Upperlands	<10	0	<10
Magherafelt District Total	462	236	92
Mid Ulster Total	1,899	1,169	306

Source: NIHE

Appendix 8

Management Team contact details

Landlord Services		
All enquiries 03448 920 900		
After Hours Homelessness 03448 920 908 (Mon-Fri after 5pm and weekends)		
Office	Contact	Contact Information
Dungannon Office 6 Ballygawley Road Dungannon BT70 1EL		dungannon@nihe.gov.uk 03448 920 900
Cookstown Office 15 Morgan's Hill Road Cookstown BT80 8HA		cookstown@nihe.gov.uk 03448 920 900
Magherafelt Office 3 Ballyronan Road Magherafelt BT45 6BP		magherafelt@nihe.gov.uk 03448 920 900
South Region Manager	Jonathan Blease	jonathan.blease@nihe.gov.uk
Mid Ulster Area Manager	Sharon Crooks	sharon.crooks@nihe.gov.uk
Assistant Area Manager	Helen Hicks (A)	helen.hicks@nihe.gov.uk
Housing Solutions Manager	Siobhan McSwiggan	siobhan.mcswiggan@nihe.gov.uk
Housing Landlord Manager (Patch)	Katrina Farley (A)	midulsterpatch@nihe.gov.uk
Lettings Manager (s)	Louise Smyth (Dungannon)	louise.smyth@nihe.gov.uk
	Mairead Rafferty (Magherafelt)	mairead.rafferty@nihe.gov.uk

Regional Services		
All enquiries 03448 920 900		
Office	Contact	Contact Information
Land and Regeneration Services 2 Adelaide Street, Belfast, BT2 8PB	Elma Newberry Assistant Director	elma.newberry@nihe.gov.uk
Central Grants 2 Adelaide Street Belfast, BT2 8PB	Danny O'Reilly Senior Principal Officer	daniel.o'reilly@nihe.gov.uk
Place Shaping South, Marlborough House, 2nd Floor, Central Way Craigavon, BT64 1AJ	Ailbhe Hickey Head of Place Shaping	ailbhe.hickey@nihe.gov.uk
Development Programme Group 2 Adelaide Street Belfast, BT2 8PB	Roy Baillie Head of Development Programme Group	roy.baillie@nihe.gov.uk
Supporting People 2 Adelaide Street, Belfast BT2 8PB	Alistair Mawhinney Assistant Director (Acting)	alistair.mawhinney@nihe.gov.uk

Appendix 9

Glossary

Affordable Housing	Affordable housing is defined as social rented housing and intermediate housing for eligible households.
Affordable Housing Fund	Administered by DfC, this finances an interest-free loan to housing associations, to fund the provision of new affordable homes and the refurbishment of empty homes.
Areas at Risk	This programme aims to intervene in areas at risk of slipping into social or environmental decline by working with residents.
Building Successful Communities (BSC)	Carried out in six pilot areas; this uses housing intervention to regenerate areas and reverse community decline.
Community Asset Transfer (CAT)	CAT provides for a change in management and/or ownership of land or buildings, from public bodies to communities.
Community Cohesion	Cohesive communities are communities where there is a sense of belonging, and there are positive relationships within the community, regardless of background.
Continuous Tenant Omnibus Survey (CTOS)	CTOS is an assessment of the attitudes of Housing Executive tenants.
Department for Communities (DfC)	A government department in Northern Ireland, which came into effect in May 2016 and replaced the Department for Social Development (DSD).
Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG)	A grant to help improve the home of a person with a disability who lives in the private sector to enable them to continue to live in their own home.
Discretionary Grants	Renovation, Replacement or Home Repair Assistance grants are grants that the Housing Executive may approve applications for assistance.
Equity Sharing	Equity sharing allows social housing tenants to buy part of their dwelling (starting at 25%). The remaining portion is rented from the Housing Executive or a registered housing association.
Floating Support	This support enables users to maintain or regain independence in their own homes. Floating support is not tied to the accommodation but is delivered to the individual users.

Fuel Poverty	A household is in fuel poverty if, in order to maintain an acceptable temperature throughout the home, they would have to spend more than 10% of their income on all household fuel.
Full Duty Applicant (FDA)	A Full Duty Applicant is a person to whom the Housing Executive owes a duty under Article 10 (2) of the Housing (NI) Order, 1988, to 'ensure that accommodation becomes available for his/her occupation'.
Home Energy Conservation Authority (HECA)	The Housing Executive is the HECA for Northern Ireland.
House in Multiple Occupation (HMO)	A HMO is a house occupied by more than two qualifying persons, who are not members of the same family.
House Sales Scheme	The House Sales Scheme gives eligible tenants of the Housing Executive, or registered housing associations, the right to buy their property from their landlord, at a discount.
Housing for All	Having met the Together Building a United Community (TBUC) commitment of delivering 10 shared schemes, commitment will be continued through the Programme for Government to support the delivery of 200 units annually, through the Shared New Build Programme, re-branded as 'Housing for All'.
Housing Growth Indicators (HGI)	Figures contained in the Regional Development Strategy, to estimate the new dwelling requirement for council areas and the Belfast Metropolitan Urban Area for 2012-25.
Housing Market Area	A housing market area is the geographic area within which the majority of households move, work and live.
Housing Market Assessment (HMA)	This is an evidence base for housing and planning policies, which examines the operation of housing market areas, including the characteristics of the housing market, how key factors work together and the potential housing need and demand on a cross tenure basis.
Housing Needs Assessment (HNA)	This is an assessment of local housing needs, primarily in relation to general needs social housing, supported housing, Travellers and affordable housing.

Housing Stress	Applicants, on the waiting list, who have 30 points or above are considered to be in housing stress, or housing need.
Intermediate Housing	Intermediate Housing, consists of shared ownership housing provided through a registered housing association (e.g. Co-Ownership Housing Association) and helps eligible households who can afford a small mortgage, but cannot afford to buy a property outright. The property is split between part ownership by the householder and part social renting from the registered housing association.
Rural Housing Needs Test	Rural Housing Needs Test is a housing needs survey carried out in a rural area to assess any potential hidden need.
Mandatory Grants	Disabled Facilities Grants and Repair Grants are grants where the Housing Executive shall approve applications for assistance.
Neighbourhood Renewal	Government departments and agencies working in partnership to tackle disadvantage and deprivation.
NIFHA	Northern Ireland Federation of Housing Associations.
NISRA	Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency.
Oil Buying Clubs Scheme	Oil Buying Clubs are designed to help consumers reduce their costs by purchasing oil orders in bulk, as part of a group.
PCSPs	Policing and Community Safety Partnerships.
PPS	Planning Policy Statement.
Supporting Communities Northern Ireland (SCNI)	Supporting Communities Northern Ireland provides training and funding for community groups.
Shared Housing	These are communities where people choose to live with others, regardless of their religion or race, in a neighbourhood that is safe and welcoming to all.
Site Investigation Study (SIS)	A Site Investigation Study is a report which examines all undeveloped lands within a settlement which has consistent unmet housing need. The study, which is prepared by the Housing Executive's Regional Placeshaping Teams, seeks to identify potential sites for the future development of social and intermediate housing.

Social Housing Development Programme (SHDP)	The SHDP provides grant funding to housing associations to build social housing. The programme is managed by the Housing Executive on a three-year rolling basis.
Social Enterprise	Social enterprises are businesses with primarily social objectives whose profits are reinvested to achieve these objectives in a community.
Social Rented Housing	Social Rented Housing is housing provided at an affordable rent by the Housing Executive and registered housing associations; that is, housing associations, which are registered and regulated by DfC as a social housing provider. Social rented accommodation is offered in accordance with the Common Selection Scheme, administered by the Housing Executive, prioritising households who are living in insecure or unsuitable accommodation.
Small Pockets of Deprivation (SPOD)	SPOD is a delivery vehicle for neighbourhood renewal.
Supported Housing	A term used to describe a range of both long and short-term accommodation provided for people who need an additional level of housing related support, to help them lead an independent life.
Supporting People Programme	The Supporting People Programme is designed to provide housing related support, to prevent difficulties that can typically lead to hospitalisation, homelessness or institutional care, and can aid a smooth transition to independent living, for those leaving an institutionalised environment.
Temporary Accommodation	The Housing Executive provides temporary accommodation in the form of Housing Executive hostels, voluntary sector hostels, leased premises (DIME), single lets and non-standard accommodation (B&B/hotel) as and when required. B&Bs and hotels are used, when no other options are available, for a short duration.
Universal Credit	Universal Credit is a new payment being introduced in Northern Ireland, for people of working age (over 18 and under qualifying age for State Pension Credit). It includes support for the cost of housing (rent), children and childcare, as well as support for disabled people, carers and people who are too ill to work.

Minutes of Meeting of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 27 August 2020 in the Burnavon Arts and Cultural Centre, Cookstown and by virtual means

Chair Councillor Mallaghan

Members Present Councillors Ashton, Bell, Black, Brown*, Buchanan, Burton, Clarke, Colvin, Corry, Cuddy, Cuthbertson, Doris, Elattar, Gildernew*, Glasgow, Graham, Corry, Hughes, Kearney, Kerr, N McAleer, S McAleer, McFlynn, B McGuigan, S McGuigan*, McKinney, McNamee, D McPeake, S McPeake, Milne, Molloy, Monteith, O'Neill, Quinn, Robinson, Totten and Wilson

Officers in Attendance Mr A Tohill, Chief Executive
Ms Campbell, Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation
Ms Canavan, Director of Organisational Development
Mr Cassells, Director of Environment & Property
Mr Kelso, Director of Public Health & Infrastructure
Ms Mezza** Head of Communications
Mr Moffett, Head of Democratic Services
Mr JJ Tohill, Director of Finance
Mr O'Hagan, Head of ICT
Mrs Forde, Member Support Officer

* Denotes Members present in remote attendance

** Denotes Officers present by remote means

The meeting commenced at 7 pm

The Chair, Councillor Mallaghan welcomed everyone to the meeting and those watching the meeting through the Live Broadcast. The Chair in introducing the meeting detailed the operational arrangements for transacting the business of the meeting in the chamber and by virtual means, by referring to Annex A to this minute.

C153/20 Apologies

Councillors Forde and Mullen

C154/20 Declarations of Interest

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

C155/20 Chair's Business

The Chair, Councillor Mallaghan referred to the email received tendering the resignation of the Chief Executive. He spoke of the initial shock as it was his hope that the Chief Executive would have remained longer in Local Government. The

Chair spoke of the achievements of Council under the direction of the Chief Executive over the past six years, the ambitious plans and projects led under his stewardship and his excellent management. He stated that the private sector company was gaining a huge asset and on behalf of all the Members and the Sinn Féin party wished him well. The Chair concluded that across the north councils' look upon Mid Ulster as the trend setters and this was due to the leadership of the Chief Executive and of course the fantastic work of the Councillors!

Councillor Elattar left the meeting at 7.04pm

Councillor McLean concurred with the remarks and stated that it was no surprise that a man of the Chief Executive's calibre had been head hunted. On behalf of the DUP Councillor McLean extended best wishes to the Chief Executive. He stated that he had said at the outset of the three council merger that the proof of the pudding would be in the eating and that proof had been delivered. Councillor McLean stated that the Chief Executive had been firm but fair and wished him continuing success.

Councillor Wilson reiterated previous comments and on behalf of the UUP thanked the Chief Executive for leading the Council through the transition and highlighted that it was unfortunate that he would not see it through the growth deal but that a good foundation had been led. Councillor Wilson extended best wishes to the Chief Executive stating that they may not always have agreed but that he had been fair and honest.

Councillor Monteith concurred with previous comments and stated that the Chief Executive had come to the job with energy and commitment and had steered the Council well. He stated that he may not always have agreed with the decisions made but thanked the Chief Executive for his hard work and wished him well in the future.

Councillor Kearney on behalf of the SDLP wished the Chief Executive well as he embarked on the next chapter of his career. He stated that the Chief Executive had served Mid Ulster with distinction establishing good policies and led a strong team. Reflecting on the Chief Executive's sporting past he stated that he 'had a safe pair of hands and was a good Carntogher man!'

In response the Chief Executive said he had often sat at meetings feeling uncomfortable but no more so than tonight whereby he was humbled by the kind words and good wishes of all. He stated that it had been a privilege to have served Mid Ulster where he was just another worker, a member of the team which included Elected Members. He reflected that the success enjoyed by Mid Ulster was due to the hard work of the Elected Members and all Council officers who had all geared Mid Ulster up as it was where they were from and all had strived to make it a better place for all. He concluded by saying that it had been an honour to have worked with the Council and a time that he would look back on with pride and fondness and reminded Members he would still be working local and be a rate payer in the district.

Councillor S McAleer entered the meeting at 7.10pm

Members concluded with a round of applause.

Councillor Elattar returned to the meeting at 7.11 pm

The Chair, Councillor Mallaghan drew attention to the Business Support Grants issued in response to COVID19 highlighting that there had been six assessment panels, excessive applications and that letters of offer were now scheduled to be issued. The Chair commended what was an excellent piece of work that Mid Ulster again was the first council to deliver.

Councillor Kerr spoke of the grant for rural businesses stating that unfortunately it was a drop in the ocean and suggested that Council lobby for further intervention for rural businesses.

In response the Chair, Councillor Mallaghan advised there would be grants in the future and an update would be provided at the September development committee.

Councillor S McAleer spoke of businesses that had applied FOR the Village Spruce Up scheme and were on a reserved list and stated that it would be beneficial if more funding could be put into the scheme.

The Chair, Councillor Mallaghan drew attention to requests received to 'light up' civic buildings in support of the family of Noah Donohoe and their quest for information into his death. It was noted that the policy for Illumination of Buildings was currently under review. The Chair proposed that Council support the request.

Councillor Monteith seconded the proposal and advised it had been raised with him by citizens who had contacted the Council to be told the request had been passed to the relevant officer. He stated that people should have been told more in relation to the request. Councillor Monteith commended local groups who had already committed to the request and stated that Council needed to show solidarity with the family.

Resolved That Council light up Ranfurly House & Visitor Centre, Burnavon Arts & Cultural Centre and Bridewell blue during the weekend commencing 28 August 2020 in response to the request from the family of Noah Donohoe in the quest for more information regarding his death.

The Chair, Councillor Mallaghan provided an update on recent Ministerial visits advising that the Minister of Department for the Economy, had launched a programme to support businesses in Ballygawley earlier in the day and the Minister for the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs had visited the Davagh project earlier in the month. The Chair also advised that the Growth Deal would be launched on the 9th September 2020.

Councillor Quinn spoke of the passing of John Hume who had left his mark around the world especially in his beloved home city of Derry. He spoke of him winning the Nobel Peace Prize in 1998 and how he had improved the lives of so many people through his endeavours for peace and his role in the European Parliament.

Councillor Quinn spoke of the positives he left such as credit unions, thousands of jobs, his quest for justice and how he summed up his political philosophy that he was not a leader but a helper of people. He concluded that society owed a debt of gratitude to John Hume for the peace enjoyed today.

Councillor S McPeake concurred with previous remarks stating that John Hume had never been afraid to put himself on the line and had played a tremendous part in the peace process had often not been popular but his endeavours led to the Good Friday Agreement. He stated that a great debt was owed to John Hume and it was essential that all continued to keep working towards the justice he signed up and campaigned for. On behalf of the Sinn Féin party Councillor S McPeake extended sympathy to the family.

Councillor McLean stated that regardless of differences John Hume had dedicated his whole life to peace and was a fitting role model for all generations. He extended sympathy to the Hume family.

Councillor Cuddy concurred with previous speakers stating that the Good Friday agreement had been the pinnacle of John Hume's career and his endeavours together with David Trimble had brought great change. Councillor Cuddy extended sympathy to the Hume family.

Councillor Wilson stated that it was with regret that people have experienced the desecration of local cemeteries in Cookstown and stated that he thought society was past such actions when ornaments were being taken off graves. He stated that the situation had been ongoing for approximately three months, had been raised with the police and senior officers of council but it was very difficult to catch people in the act. He stated that he could not comprehend the pleasure people would get in carrying out such actions and appealed to the wider community if they had information to report it to the police.

Councillor McNamee concurred with Councillor Wilson stating that Francie Molloy MP and himself had met with the PSNI and had also raised the issue of the fire at Holy Trinity church. He too appealed to anyone with information to bring it to police.

Councillor Buchanan stated that the behaviour was shocking and that he had been in contact with Council officers and the police who were working to resolve the issue.

Councillor Cuthbertson advised that at Cottage Quinn cemetery in Dungannon there was issues with cars doing 'donuts' in the cemetery carpark.

Councillor N McAleer drew attention to posters which had been erected in Dungannon that were of a sectarian nature against the GAA. He condemned the posters and called for them to be removed and was emphatic that Council should send out a message that this type of behaviour would not be tolerated and was in stark contrast to the behaviour of the GAA who had been at the forefront of the community led response, helping everyone irrespective of community throughout the COVID 19 pandemic.

Councillor Monteith stated he was a member of the Dungannon Clarkes and also spoke of other GAA clubs in the town and across the county who had done sterling work and were at the forefront helping all of the communities throughout the pandemic. He suggested that Council send a letter to the County Board acknowledging this work. He highlighted that many GAA members and clubs had received messages of support from the unionist community in recent days and had acknowledged that they were aware the posters were the actions of a minority. He further highlighted that during Tyrone's winning years many of the unionist community attended Croke Park to support the team. He stated that all right thinking people would call for the sign to be removed.

Councillor Kerr concurred with preceding comments and stated as a member of the GAA it was disturbing and that the GAA was open to people from all walks of life irrespective of religion or background.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated that he had no trouble speaking about the poster in question as he believed it was wrong but stressed that the GAA governing body need to both look and weed out the sectarian elements involved in their sport. He spoke of competitions name after terrorists, sectarian singing on the bus in Aughnacloy, the use of terrorist names on club badges and stated that a terrorist was a terrorist should it be in recent troubles or 100 years ago.

Councillor Cuthbertson also made reference to posters displayed 365 days a year on both Newell and Donaghmore Road and further referred to anti internment celebrations in Dungannon and Republican white line protests on Saturday afternoons which were damaging local businesses. He described them as sectarian and also anti semitic and made reference to an incident where a young pizza delivery driver was hit on the side of the head with a block and highlighted racist attacks and smashing of business windows in the area. Councillor Cuthbertson concluded stating that if the meeting was going to speak of posters it should speak of all posters and incidents.

The Chair, Councillor Mallaghan stated that whilst some of the previous remarks were ridiculous he agreed that Council should sit down and discuss the issue of posters, effigies and other signs of hate as they are wrong and as local representatives all Members should sit down and endeavour to defeat hate within the community.

Resolved All Member meeting to be called to progress discussion in relation to the elimination of the display of offensive posters, effigies, etc throughout the district

Councillor Quinn concurred with the Chair and stated that the poster in relation to the GAA was disgusting, that he was the secretary in his local GAA club and like every GAA club across the district they had worked with everyone to help the local community during the recent pandemic and highlighted that the GAA had delivered to many unionist homes in the Torrent area. He stated that the signs were put up by loyalists to advise locals against working with the GAA community and were aimed at controlling unionist people. He concluded stating that the GAA were there for everyone.

Councillor Cuddy concurred with the Chair stating that his suggestion was a good step forward, that the world had moved on and Members needed to understand and show leadership. He emphasised that everyone needed to 'give and take' to allow progress but underlying issues needed to be addressed.

Councillor McLean said he would be happy to participate in discussion and urged caution on what is said in the public arena, what is supported on facebook and other social media platforms. He said although he did not use social media a lot everyone needed to be careful as it was easy to make a political statement but may be more difficult to follow it through. Councillor McLean concluded that the DUP would participate in the discussions.

Councillor Corry raised the issue of parents with special needs children coming under pressure in relation to schools re-opening. She spoke of the lack of guidance available for people dealing with vulnerable children and how 'blanket' guidance does not fit every circumstance. Councillor Corry requested that Council write to the Minister for the Department for Health seeking guidance for parents of vulnerable children in relation to school attendance during the COVID 19 pandemic.

Resolved That Council write to the Minister for the Department for Health seeking guidance for parents of vulnerable children in relation to school attendance during the COVID 19 pandemic

Councillor Corry asked what guidance if any was in place if the situation of a local lockdown arose within the Mid Ulster district.

In response the Director of Public Health and Infrastructure stated that currently there was no indication of this however there was ongoing conversations with the Chief Medical Officer and that the NI Executive Office would be producing guidance going forward.

Councillor Kerr spoke of local lady Sharon Cassidy who for two consecutive weekends had engaged in 'sleep outs' to both help raise money for and highlight the plight of the homeless. He stated that Sharon hoped to make this an annual event and requested that she be afforded the opportunity to present to Council about her quest.

The Chair, Councillor Mallaghan stated that Sharon had engaged in charity work for many years and was indeed worthy of the praise given.

Resolved That Sharon Cassidy be invited to make a presentation to relevant department regarding her quest in highlighting and helping the plight of homelessness

Matters for Decision

C156/20 **Receive and Consider Minutes of matters transacted in "Open Business" at the Council Meeting held on Thursday 23 July 2020**

Councillor Kerr drew attention to C135/20 and the references to black lives matter highlighting that the incident that Jacob Blake had been shot in the back seven times and there was no justification for such actions. He referred also to the white militia who had shot two protestors and the attitude to the two different incidents was disgusting.

Councillor McLean stated he was not disagreeing or commenting about either instance but it was not the business of the meeting at this time. He stated that Councillor Kerr had got his way making political statements using this platform the business at present was the minutes to be agreed not an opportunity for making political statements.

Proposed by B McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor Quinn and

Resolved That the Minutes of the Council held on Thursday 23 July 2020 (C132/20 – C152/20) transacted in Open Business having been printed and circulated, were considered and adopted.

C157/20 Receive and Consider Minutes of matters transacted in “Open Business” Planning Committee Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 4 August 2020

Councillor S McPeake requested an amendment to Minute at page 6 *P065/20 Planning Applications for determination: LA09/2019/1035/F to read Seconded by Councillor D McPeake*

Proposed by Councillor Kearney
Seconded by Councillor D McPeake

Resolved That the Minutes of Planning Committee held on Tuesday 4 August 2020 (P063/20 – P072/20) transacted in Open Business having been printed and circulated, were considered and adopted.

C158/20 Requests for Civic Recognition

The Head of Democratic Services sought approval for the previously circulated report on civic recognition requests from Members, in line with the stated Council Policy, as detailed within the report at appendix A.

Proposed by Councillor Kerr
Seconded by Councillor Milne

Resolved That approval be given to submitted requests for civic recognition as outlined in the report and be dealt with as previously resolved by April Council in that recipients receive a letter together with an award, where appropriate.

C159/20 Conferences, Seminars and Training

Approval was sought for the undernoted for attendance of Councillors and Council Officers as outlined in the report, the payment of attendance fees and associated costs as incurred.

Conferences

Provider/Course	Date & Time	Location	Costs
NI Housing Conference	<i>Tuesday, 1 September 2020</i>	Virtual	£95 plus VAT
Centre for Cross Border Studies' 21st Annual Conference "Reassessing and Reconfiguring North-South and East-West relations in a changing landscape"	Friday 25th September	Virtual	NIL
<i>Policy Forum for Northern Ireland</i> Priorities for infrastructure - key projects, investment and delivery	<i>Wednesday, 21st October 2020</i>	Virtual	£190 plus VAT
Agenda NI Northern Ireland Infrastructure Investment Conference 2020	<i>Thursday 5 November 2020</i>	Virtual	£185 + VAT @ 20% = £222
Policy Forum NI The Future of Northern Ireland Energy Policy	<i>Wednesday, 18th November 2020</i>	Virtual	£190 + vat Alternatively for non attendees £95 + VAT

It was noted there were no officer approvals,

Councillor S McPeake made reference to the charges associated with some of the conferences listed stating that £190 was a ridiculous cost for virtual conferences.

The Chair, Councillor Mallaghan made reference to a review by ICBAN who would welcome all comments.

Councillor Glasgow concurred that the costs for online conferences were bizarre especially when many areas still had poor broadband.

Councillors Kearney and S McPeake requested that they be booked on the Cross Border conference listed.

Proposed by Councillor S McPeake
Seconded by Councillor B McGuigan and

Resolved That the attendance of Members, the payment of attendance fees and associated costs as incurred be approved, as required for attendees. Councillors Kearney and S McPeake attend the Cross Border conference.

Matters for Information

C160/20 Correspondence

Members noted previously circulated report providing correspondence received for the attention of Council.

Councillor Monteith drew attention to correspondence received from Derry & Strabane District Council and stated that Council should support the motion carried on domiciliary care provision and the National Health Service and proposed that the all Ireland Health Campaign group be invited to make a presentation. He spoke against the privatisation of health care and the disaster it had been which was highlighted in particular when the COVID 19 crisis arrived at which time care homes and domiciliary care had been abandoned in areas such as personal protection equipment.

Resolved That Council invite representatives from the All Ireland health service campaign to make a presentation to Council.

Councillor Monteith drew attention to correspondence from Newry, Mourne and Down District Council and proposed that Council should support the motion as if local lockdowns occurred although he hoped they would not, it would be helpful to have a dedicated hotline for Elected Members highlighting that it worked well in other areas such as flooding.

The Chair, Councillor Mallaghan stated that the level of information was alarming and concurred.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith
Seconded by Councillor Kerr and

Resolved That Council supports the motion moved by Newry, Mourne and Down District Council and calls on the Department of Health and Public health Agency to provide DEA specific information or to provide a helpline for councillors in relation to localised outbreaks of COVID cases.

Councillor Kerr drew attention to the letter from Donegal County Council and requested that Council support the request as improved rail and motorway infrastructure would bring great benefits to all along the A5 route.

The Chair, Councillor Mallaghan stated that a lot of work had been undertaken in relation to the A5 and ICBAN also endeavoured to support the project.

Resolved That Council support the resolution passed at Donegal County Council and writes to the Government to commit to funding the A5 as a priority.

Declaration of Interest

Councillor Colvin declared an interest in the Local Commissioning Group

Councillor Colvin referred back to correspondence from Derry City and Strabane District Council and comments made by Councillor Monteith in relation to the care homes and stated that he knew of excellent care homes in the private sector and cautioned against the support of All Ireland health care service.

The Chair, Councillor Mallaghan stated that the group was being invited to make a presentation.

Councillor Ashton drew attention to the Business Support Grant Scheme and requested that Council write to both the Department for Communities and Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs to express thanks for the support received.

Resolved That Council to write a letter of thanks to DAERA and Department for Communities in respect of receipt of the Business Support Grants.

Councillor Gildernew referred back to the correspondence received from the Donegal County Council in relation to the A5 and spoke of the A5 cross county committee which had been driven by Fermanagh & Omagh District Council and asked when the meetings would recommence.

The Chair, Councillor Mallaghan stated that work was ongoing and officers would ascertain when the group would reconvene.

Councillor Monteith referred back to the correspondence from Derry City and Strabane District Council and Councillor Colvin's subsequent comments and clarified that he had not said individual care homes were a disaster but that privatisation of them had been. He made mention of minimum wage, zero hour contracts and the likes which was creeping into the health service. He stated whilst care provided in private care homes and by private domiciliary care providers may be good privatisation of services was not.

Councillor McKinney referred to the response received from Minister for Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs in relation to letter sent from Council to do with suckler farmers. He highlighted that the response did not address the queries raised and emphasised that farm businesses were under pressure, were still awaiting funding from tranche two of tier two of the Farm Investment Programme and spoke further of a statement made by the Minister at a recent Farmers Union annual general meeting. Councillor McKinney proposed that Council respond to the letter seeking answers to the questions previously raised.

Councillor Glasgow concurred that the letter did not answer the questions raised and spoke of farmers experiencing difficulties communicating with the department as

many staff were working from home. Councillor Glasgow highlighted that farming was a major industry in the district and they needed support.

The Chair Councillor Mallaghan advised that there had been an indication that funding should be distributed within three weeks

Resolved That Council to write to DAERA and seek a response in relation to the Lack of support for farmers of suckler herds who have been severely impacted from the impacts of COVID-19; which was not addressed in the response received 24 August 2020. Difficulties experienced by farmers endeavouring to make contact with the department also to be highlighted

Councillor Kearney drew attention to correspondence received from Department of Education and stated that Council should salute teachers and parents and wish all schools well as they return to the classroom. He further highlighted the £11.25m set aside for the Engage Programme and stated that he hoped Mid Ulster would benefit from the programme.

C161/20 Consultations Notified to Mid Ulster District Council

Members considered the previously circulated report.

Councillor Burton requested that Council submit a response to consultation from *Department for Communities Draft Disability Action Plan 2020-2024*. The Councillor spoke of people living in rural areas who use motorised scooters and referred to the nightmare of water, debris and large vehicles that both they and wheel chair users experience. Councillor Burton spoke of one man who had to drive the scooter up the middle of the road to be able to get out and about. Councillor Burton asked that a robust response be submitted highlighting example issues as aforementioned.

Councillor Colvin concurred stating that 'joint up thinking' was required and shared that one mother who had a progressive disability had no mechanism to bring her young child to school but qualified for no help for same. He concluded there was a lot of people with disabilities and the consultation was significant as it would impact a lot of people and Council needed to submit a robust response.

Resolved That Council submit response to consultation: *Department for Communities Draft Disability Action Plan 2020 – 2024*

C162/20 Notion of Motion

Councillor Oneill moving the motion stated:

"Our council has provided a great walk along the Coalisland Canal however there are three very dangerous excess points that lead onto the walk, myself and Councillor Niamh Doris held a number of meetings with Department for Infrastructure (Roads) to address this problem at all locations, the department were happy with the speed limit on all roads, which in my opinion is total madness, not only is these excess points on dangerous bends with very limited signage not one crossing point is within a 30 mph

speed limit, so we as a Council can't sit back and do nothing about this as people are using the walk daily and crossing over these dangerous roads and it simply is not good enough this Council needs to address this problem immediately so I move the undernoted motion."

"I call on the Mid Ulster Council to explore with DFI Roads a safer crossing at the 3 busy roads, Moor Road, Washingbay Road, and the Gortgonis Road that leads onto the canal walk in Coalisland that is clearly a very dangerous situation for everyone that uses the walk daily"

Councillor Doris seconded the motion stating that it was a frustrating situation at the access routes to the canal walk, especially when in recent months there was increased usage. She stated as a Councillor she was contacted regularly regarding the matter as the roadways to the access points were not safe. Councillor Doris called on Members to support the motion to improve the access points before a life is lost.

Councillor Kerr supported the motion and stated that Council should be trying to organise meetings with DfI Roads for electoral areas and asked for such meetings to be facilitated in the future.

In response the Chair, Councillor Mallaghan stated that DfI Roads would be presenting their report to Council in October and such meetings usually took place prior to that.

Councillor McKinney stated that Members should not have to wait to October to progress the aforementioned meetings.

Councillor Quinn supported the motion stating he was a regular user of the road and that whilst he understood there was meetings scheduled for October he would support the proposal for a meeting with the Torrent electoral area prior to this.

The Chair, Councillor Mallaghan declared the motion as undernoted carried

"I call on the Mid Ulster Council to explore with DFI Roads a safer crossing at the 3 busy roads, Moor Road, Washingbay Road, and the Gortgonis Road that leads onto the canal walk in Coalisland that is clearly a very dangerous situation for everyone that uses the walk daily"

Resolved That a meeting with Torrent Councillors is convened with DfI to discuss road issues in Coalisland.

Councillor Cuddy left the meeting at 8.10 pm

Members of the public left the meeting.

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.

The live broad cast concluded at 8.10 pm

Proposed by Councillor Monteith
Seconded by Councillor Quinn

Resolved That items C163/20 – C166/20 be taken as confidential business.

Matters for Decision

- (i) Council Confidential Minutes of Meeting held on 23 July 2020
- (ii) Planning Committee Confidential Minutes of Meeting held on 4 August 2020
- (iii) Rural Development Village Extension Programme
- (iv) Document for Sealing: Grant of Easement between Mid Ulster District Council and Northern Ireland Electricity Networks Limited in respect of lands at Maghera Leisure Centre

C167/20 Duration of Meeting

The meeting was called for 7.00 pm and ended at 8.29 pm

Chair _____

Date _____

Annex A - Introductory Remarks from Chairperson

Good evening and welcome to our meeting of Mid Ulster District Council in the Burnavon Arts & Cultural Centre, Cookstown whether you have joined us remotely or in the auditorium.

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 please raise your hand in the normal way and keep raised until advised to lower it
- When invited to speak please introduce yourself by name to the meeting
- 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.

Minutes of Meeting of Planning Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Tuesday 1 September 2020 in Council Offices, Ballyronan Road, Magherafelt and by virtual means

Members Present

Councillor S McPeake, Chair

Councillors Bell, Black, Brown, Clarke, Cuthbertson, Gildernew*, Glasgow, Kearney, Mallaghan, McFlynn, McKinney, D McPeake, Quinn, Robinson

Officers in Attendance

Dr Boomer, Planning Manager
Mr Bowman, Head of Development Management
Ms McCullagh, Senior Planning Officer
Mr McGibbon, Senior Planning Officer
Ms McKearney, Senior Planning Officer
Ms McNally, Council Solicitor
Miss Thompson, Democratic Services Officer

* Denotes members and members of the public present in remote attendance

** Denotes Officers present by remote means

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm

The Chair, Councillor S McPeake welcomed everyone to the meeting and those watching the meeting through the Live Broadcast. The Chair, 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.

The Chair also referred to addendum which had been circulated earlier in the day and asked if those joining remotely had seen this document and had time to read it.

Members joining remotely confirmed that they had seen the addendum and had time to read it.

P073/20 Apologies

Councillor Colvin.

P074/20 Declarations of Interest

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

P075/20 Chair's Business

The Planning Manager highlighted correspondence from Friends of the Earth, circulated to Members as part of addendum, in which the organisation expressed their concern in relation to the NIEA policy on ammonia emitting projects.

Matters for Decision

P076/20 Planning Applications for Determination

The Planning Manager referred to the below applications which were on the agenda for determination and sought approval to have the following applications deferred from tonight's meeting schedule for an office meeting –

Agenda Item 4.5 – LA09/2019/1373/O – Dwelling and garage 55m E of 32a Mulnavoo Road, Moneyneany Road, Draperstown for Michael Bradley Esq.

Agenda Item 4.9 – LA09/2020/0024/F – 3 lodges for short term accommodation at 210m SW of 35 Brookend Road, Ardboe for Donal Coney.

Agenda Item 4.10 – LA09/2020/0153/O – Dwelling and domestic garage adjacent and NE of junction with Mullaghmoyle Road on Colliers Lane, Coalisland for Marianne Sturtridge.

Agenda Item 4.12 – LA09/2020/0253/O – Site for dwelling adjacent to and immediately SW of 12 Kilmakardle Road, Dungannon for Catherine Donnelly.

Agenda Item 4.13 – LA09/2020/0315/O – 2 storey dwelling and garage on a farm adjacent to 182 Mountjoy Road, Brockagh, Dungannon for Paul Mulholland.

Agenda Item 4.17 – LA09/2020/0499/O – Site for dwelling and domestic garage at 51m SE of 86 Iniscarn Road, Keenaght, Desertmartin for Emmet O'Hagan.

Agenda Item 4.20 – LA09/2020/0608/O – Dwelling and garage adjacent to 9a Falgortrevy Road, Maghera for Shaun Kelly.

It was further advised that agenda items 4.6 and 4.7 were both deferred at last month's meeting and should not have been added to tonight's agenda for consideration.

Councillor Gildernew requested that agenda item 4.21 – LA09/2020/0657/O – Dwelling between 66 and 66a Derryoghill Road, Dungannon for Eugene Daly be deferred for an office meeting.

Councillor Mallaghan also requested that an office meeting be held in relation to agenda item 4.21 due to the circumstances of the application.

Proposed by Councillor McKinney
Seconded by Councillor Bell and

Resolved That the planning applications listed above for deferral be deferred for an office meeting.

The Chair drew Members attention to the undernoted planning applications for determination.

LA09/2019/0299/F Additional free range poultry shed with 2 feed bins, storage shed and associated site works at 150m S of 25 Coolmaghery Road, Dungannon, for Mr Gary Watt

Members considered previously circulated report on planning application LA09/2019/0299/F which had a recommendation for approval.

Proposed by Councillor McKinney
Seconded by Councillor Cuthbertson and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2019/0299/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2019/0612/F Retention of store extension, first floor accommodation to existing supermarket and additional car parking at 243 Derryfubble Road Benburb Dungannon, for Brendan McAnallen

Members considered previously circulated report on planning application LA09/2019/0612/F which had a recommendation for approval.

Proposed by Councillor Clarke
Seconded by Councillor McKinney and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2019/0612/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2019/0940/F 2 no. 2 storey dwellings, 67 Castlecaulfield Road, Donaghmore, Dungannon for GP Developments Ltd

The Head of Development Management presented a report on planning application LA09/2019/0940/F advising that it was recommended for refusal.

Councillor Bell asked if all avenues had been exhausted in relation to the roads issues.

The Head of Development Management advised that since November 2019 the applicant had been given the opportunity to address the issue of visibility splays and that the maximum visibility splay that the applicant can achieve is 2m x 33m. Roads Service require visibility splays of 2.4m x 50m and 2.4m x 43m. The officer advised that the site is capable of one dwelling and that the applicant could give this consideration.

Councillor Mallaghan stated that given the road safety concerns and that the principle of development has been established for one dwelling there is an opportunity for future development. Councillor Mallaghan proposed that the application be refused.

Councillor Clarke seconded Councillor Mallaghan's proposal.

Resolved That planning application LA09/2019/0940/F be refused on grounds stated in the officer's report.

LA09/2019/1027/F **Petrol filling station (8 No pumps), underground storage tanks; ancillary services accommodation including retail, storage, cafe facilities, ATM, car parking and all associated site works at lands 80m SE of 100 Coleraine Road, Maghera, for Specialist Joinery Group**

Members considered previously circulated report on planning application LA09/2019/1027/F which had a recommendation for approval.

Proposed by Councillor D McPeake
Seconded by Councillor Kearney and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2019/1027/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2019/1373/O **Dwelling and garage 55m E of 32a Mulnavoo Road, Moneyneany Road, Draperstown for Michael Bradley Esq**

Agreed that application be deferred for an office meeting earlier in meeting.

LA09/2019/1432/O **Site for dwelling and garage at 100m NW of 84 Loup Road, Moneymore, for Mr Michael O'Boyle**

Withdrawn from tonight's agenda as was deferred at last month's meeting.

LA09/2019/1484/O **Site for dwelling at 50m E of 91 Aughrim Road, Magherafelt, for Keith Fulton**

Withdrawn from tonight's agenda as was deferred at last month's meeting.

LA09/2019/1587/O **2 dwellings opposite 250 Ballygawley Road, Dungannon, for Jason Kelly**

Members considered previously circulated report on planning application LA09/2019/1587/O which had a recommendation for approval.

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan
Seconded by Councillor Robinson and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2019/1587/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2020/0024/F **3 lodges for short term accommodation at 210m SW of 35 Brookend Road, Ardboe for Donal Coney**

Agreed that application be deferred for an office meeting earlier in meeting.

LA09/2020/0153/O **Dwelling and domestic garage adjacent and NE of junction with Mullaghmoyle Road on Colliers Lane, Coalisland for Marianne Sturtridge**

Agreed that application be deferred for an office meeting earlier in meeting.

LA09/2020/0169/O **Housing Development at site immediately W and adjacent to Dernagh Cottages, Lisnastrane Road, Coalisland for Malachy McIlvenna**

Members considered previously circulated report on planning application LA09/2020/0169/O which had a recommendation for approval.

Proposed by Councillor Bell
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2020/0169/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2020/0253/O **Site for dwelling adjacent to and immediately SW of 12 Kilmakardle Road Dungannon, for Catherine Donnelly**

Agreed that application be deferred for an office meeting earlier in meeting.

LA09/2020/0315/O **2 storey dwelling and garage on a farm adjacent to 182 Mountjoy Road, Brockagh, Dungannon for Paul Mulholland**

Agreed that application be deferred for an office meeting earlier in meeting.

LA09/2020/0410/F **Dwelling and garage between 88 and 90 Iniscarn Road, Desertmartin, for Mr Mark Madden**

Members considered previously circulated report on planning application LA09/2020/0410/F which had a recommendation for approval.

Proposed by Councillor McKinney
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2020/0410/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2020/0446/F

**Change of house type (to approved M/2006/1301/RM),
at land opposite and SW of 165 Favour Royal Road,
Augher, for Finbarr McQuaid**

The Head of Development Management advised that officers were checking if the agent was waiting in another part of the building as they had made a request to speak on the application.

Councillor Cuthbertson referred to the addendum that is emailed to the Members joining the meeting remotely and asked if it is possible that this be emailed to everyone at 5pm.

The Planning Manager advised the addendum is to draw Members attention to all relevant material that has been submitted since the agenda was published and that this can be very last minute. The Planning Manager stated that up until the point of Members taking a decision on an application all relevant material has to be considered and he would share that view that it would be easier to email any additional information but it may not be 100% accurate if emailed at 5pm.

The Head of Development Management advised that the agent for the application was not present within the building and asked how Members wanted to proceed.

The Planning Manager asked if the application was valid.

The Head of Development Management stated that this would depend on whether reference is to be made of the commencement issue.

The Planning Manager suggested that the officer proceed with their presentation and then consideration can be given to the validity of the application.

The Council Solicitor stated that as speaking rights had been granted it may be fairer to try to make contact with the agent to ascertain whether they still intend to come to the meeting or if they are running late rather than there being any further discussion on this currently.

The Planning Manager stated that if a change of house type is to be considered you need to have a permission in the first instance.

The Chair, Councillor S McPeake stated that consideration of the planning application would be held in the interim in order to try and make contact with the agent and that the meeting would continue with the other items of business as per the agenda.

**LA09/2020/0479/F Change of house design / location as previously approved
under M/2008/1007/F at 200m SW of 28 Aghaloo Road (26
Aghaloo Road) Aughnacloy, for Con Carey**

Members considered previously circulated report on planning application LA09/2020/0479/F which had a recommendation for approval.

Proposed by Councillor McKinney
Seconded by Councillor Robinson and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2020/0479/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2020/0499/O **Site for dwelling and domestic garage at 51m SE of 86 Iniscarn Road, Keenaght, Desertmartin, for Emmet O'Hagan**

Agreed that application be deferred for an office meeting earlier in meeting.

LA09/2020/0501/O **Site for dwelling and garage approx. 80m SW of 110 Mullaghboy Road, Bellaghy, for Robert Milne**

Members considered previously circulated report on planning application LA09/2020/0501/O which had a recommendation for approval.

Proposed by Councillor D McPeake
Seconded by Councillor Bell and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2020/0501/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2020/0509/O **Site for dwelling at lands approx. 40m W of 32 Rehaghy Road, Aughnacloy for Liam Mc Killion**

Members considered previously circulated report on planning application LA09/2020/0509/O which had a recommendation for approval.

Proposed by Councillor Robinson
Seconded by Councillor Gildernew and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2020/0509/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2020/0608/O **Dwelling and garage adjacent to 9a Falgortrevy Road, Maghera, for Shaun Kelly**

Agreed that application be deferred for an office meeting earlier in meeting.

LA09/2020/0657/O **Dwelling between 66 and 66a Derryoghill Road, Dungannon for Eugene Daly**

Agreed that application be deferred for an office meeting earlier in meeting.

LA09/2020/0696/F Retention of the existing general purpose / storage shed for machinery and vehicles and the extension of the existing site curtilage at 55m S of No 39C Gortahurk Road, Draperstown, for Mr Fergal McGuigan

Members considered previously circulated report on planning application LA09/2020/0696/F which had a recommendation for approval.

Proposed by Councillor Clarke
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2020/0696/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2020/0749/F Single storey extension to side at 5 Ashwood Heights, Cookstown, for Mr A McCreesh

Members considered previously circulated report on planning application LA09/2020/0749/F which had a recommendation for approval.

Proposed by Councillor McFlynn
Seconded by Councillor McKinney and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2020/0749/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**Continuation of
LA09/2020/0446/F Change of house type (to approved M/2006/1301/RM), at land opposite and SW of 165 Favour Royal Road, Augher, for Finbarr McQuaid**

The Head of Development Management advised that the agent for the application had still not arrived.

The Planning Manager stated that he believed there was an issue of whether the application was in time or not and if it was not in time then it was not a change of house type. The Planning Manager suggested that the application be deferred to explore this issue with the agent.

Proposed by Councillor Gildernew
Seconded by Councillor Bell and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2020/0446/F be deferred to explore the validity of the application.

LA09/2018/0420/F 10 dwellings immediately to the rear of and adjacent to 12, 14, 18 and 20 Mullaghteige Road Bush, Dungannon, for BOA Island Developments

Members considered previously circulated report on planning application LA09/2018/0420/F which had a recommendation for approval.

Proposed by Councillor Clarke
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2018/0420/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2018/0765/O Dwelling and garage to the rear of 13 Fairhill Road, Cookstown, for Mr Paul Quinn

The Head of Development Management presented a report on planning application LA09/2018/0765/O advising that it was recommended for refusal.

Councillor McFlynn asked if access to the site is via the grounds of the front house.

The Head of Development Management advised that there is an existing access however demolition of a garage would be required and highlighted that the existing garden is elevated meaning the proposal would sit higher than adjoining property. The officer also referred to the noise and nuisance of vehicles coming and going from the proposed property on a daily basis.

Proposed by Councillor Glasgow
Seconded by Councillor Robinson and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2018/0765/O be refused on grounds stated in the officer's report.

LA09/2018/1569/F 35 two storey houses, landscaping, access and associated site works at lands to the SW of 12, 14, 15, 16 and 18 Woodland Grove with access through Woodland Heights on to Derrynoyd Road, Draperstown, for Mr Boyle

Councillor McKinney referred to the late objection received and circulated as part of the addendum. The Councillor stated that he recalled previous discussion on the application and asked how the previous issues had been overcome since the last time the application was presented.

Ms McCullagh (SPO) presented a report on planning application LA09/2018/1569/F advising that it was recommended for approval which included how previous issues had been overcome.

Councillor Bell stated he had listened to what had been said tonight and that this was the third time the application had been brought with an approval. Councillor Bell

stated that a lot of hard work had gone into addressing concerns and proposed the officer recommendation.

Councillor Mallaghan stated he noted the reduction in objections and referred to the late objection received in relation to greenbelt maintenance issues however he did not feel that it was a material consideration in terms of permission for the site. Councillor Mallaghan seconded Councillor Bell's proposal.

The Planning Manager referred to the reduced number of houses coming off the road and that this has led to the reduction in objections. The Planning Manager reminded Members however that it is not the number of objections but the validity of the concerns being put forward.

Councillor McKinney stated he still had some concerns in relation to the application but he was glad to hear there was not going to be a through road through the existing development. Councillor McKinney stated he voted against the proposal to approve the application.

Resolved That planning application LA09/2018/1569/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**LA09/2019/0633/O Site for a dwelling and garage (amended access),
25m NE of 59 Ferry Road Coalisland, for Mr Patrick
McNeice**

Members considered previously circulated report on planning application LA09/2019/0633/O which had a recommendation for approval.

Proposed by Councillor Quinn
Seconded by Councillor Mallaghan and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2019/0633/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**LA09/2019/1045/O Dwelling and domestic garage / store at 130m W of 27
Tirnaskea Road, Pomeroy, for Mr Mallon**

Members considered previously circulated report on planning application LA09/2019/1045/O which had a recommendation for approval.

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2019/1045/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

P077/20 Receive LDP Draft Revised Timetable

The Planning Manager presented previously circulated report which provided a revised timetable for the production of the new Local Development Plan (LDP) for

the Mid Ulster District Council Area. The timetable details the key stages, actions and timescales in the plan preparation process.

Councillor Clarke stated that this was not the timeframe Members had expected at the beginning of the process. Councillor Clarke proposed the revised timetable as the best option available.

The Planning Manager stated that what was supposed to be a quicker and easier to understand process has become the opposite and that it is government departments which are making it this way.

Councillor Bell seconded Councillor Clarke's proposal.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to agree the revised Local Development Plan Timetable as set out at appendix to report following which the Timetable will then be submitted to the Department for its agreement.

The Planning Manager advised that the timetable would be sent to the Department and when approved it would be put on the Council website.

P078/20 Receive report on Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Draft Plan Strategy – Notification of Proposed Changes

The Planning Manager presented previously circulated report which advised of some changes to Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's Draft Plan Strategy. The report further advised of Mid Ulster Council's position in relation to the various changes.

Proposed by Councillor D McPeake
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

Resolved To agree the content of the letter as set out at appendix to report which will then be sent to Fermanagh and Omagh District Council in response to the consultation on the Schedule of Proposed Changes to the Draft Plan Strategy 2030.

P079/20 Receive Planning Department Service Improvement Plan 2020/21

The Planning Manager presented previously circulated report which provided the Planning Department's Service Improvement Plan for 2020/21.

The Chair, Councillor S McPeake stated there was a lot of uncertainty for the future and that there would be challenges in a new planning computer system and new development plan. The Chair stated that it was a time to take stock and be resilient for what was ahead.

Councillor McKinney thanked planning staff for their efforts during lockdown and the speed at which planning applications were processed during this time. The

Councillor stated that everyone was in unchartered waters but that Mid Ulster planning had shown that they are open for business and staff were always available.

Councillor Kearney stated that he concurred with Councillor McKinney's remarks and that in the words of Seamus Heaney keeping going is the secret and that Mid Ulster planning kept going and this has to be acknowledged.

Members noted the Planning Department Service Improvement Plan for 2020/21.

Matters for Information

P080/20 Minutes of Planning Committee held on 4 August 2020

Members noted minutes of Planning Committee held on 4 August 2020.

Live broadcast ended at 7.55 pm.

Local Government (NI) Act 2014 – Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan
Seconded by Councillor Brown 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 Members consider items P081/20 to P087/20.

Matters for Decision

P081/20 Receive Revocation Report
P082/20 Receive Enforcement Report

Matters for Information

P083/20 Confidential Minutes of Planning Committee held on 4 August 2020
P084/20 Enforcement Live Case List
P085/20 Enforcement Cases Opened
P086/20 Enforcement Cases Closed
P087/20 Local Development Plan Revised Timetable

P088/20 Duration of Meeting

The meeting was called for 7 pm and concluded at 8.30 pm.

Chair _____

Date _____

Annex A – Introductory Remarks from the Chairperson

Good evening and welcome to the meeting of Mid Ulster District Council's Planning Committee in the Chamber, Magherafelt and virtually.

I specifically welcome the public watching us through the Live Broadcast feed. The Live Broadcast will run for the period of our Open Business but will end just before we move into Confidential Business. I will 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 please raise your hand in the normal way and keep raised until advised to lower
- For members attending remotely, note that by voting on any application, you are confirming that you were in attendance for the duration of, and that you heard and saw all relevant information in connection with the application you vote on
- When invited to speak please introduce yourself by name to the meeting. When finished please put your audio to mute
- 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
- An Addendum was emailed to all Committee Members at 5pm today. There is also a hard copy on each desk in the Chamber. Can all members attending remotely please confirm that they received the Addendum and that have had sufficient time to review it?
- If referring to a specific report please reference the report, page or slide being referred to so everyone has a clear understanding
- For members of the public that are exercising a right to speak by remote means, please ensure that you are able to hear and be heard by councillors, officers and any others requesting speaking rights on the particular application. If this isn't the case you must advise the Chair immediately. Please note that once your application has been decided, you will be removed from the meeting. If you wish to view the rest of the meeting, please join the live link.

- Can I remind the public and press that taking photographs of proceedings or the use of any other means to enable persons not present to see or hear any proceedings (whether now or later), or making a contemporaneous oral report of any of the proceedings are all prohibited acts.

Thank you and we will now move to the first item on the agenda.



ADDENDUM TO PLANNING COMMITTEE AGENDA

FOR PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING ON: 1st September 2020

Additional information has been received on the following items since the agenda was issued.

ITEM	INFORMATION RECEIVED	ACTION REQUIRED
Chairs Business	Friends of Earth correspondence	Members to note
4.6	Item added in error – was on last month's agenda	Members to note
4.7	Item added in error – was on last month's agenda	Members to note
4.10	Late objection received	Members to note, this has been deferred for office meeting.
4.20	Late request for deferral. Area Manager recommends deferral is granted for office meeting.	To be granted as deferral at discretion of chair
5.3	Late correspondence from objector received	Members to note

FAO – Dr Chris Boomer
Head of Planning
Mid Ulster District Council
Council Offices
Ballyronan Road
Magherafelt
BT45 6EN



14 August 2020

BY EMAIL – URGENT

Dear Sirs,

NIEA OPERATIONAL POLICY ON AMMONIA EMITTING PROJECTS

We refer to the above matter recently discussed at the Mid and East Antrim Council Meeting on 3 August 2020.

You will of course be aware that a discrepancy about the appropriate policy to apply to planning decisions concerning ammonia emitting projects arose when Shared Environmental Services adjusted its policy to reflect a much lower threshold of permitted ammonia emissions. This revised policy was subsequently withdrawn subject to legal challenge.

In an effort to clarify what policy now prevails, Mid and East Antrim wrote to the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs seeking clarification on the appropriate protocol to apply when assessing the impact of ammonia emitting developments on protected sites.

Friends of the Earth have concerns over the implications of the response received by DAERA (attached for ease of reference) for local government as a competent authority in making planning decisions concerning this specific type of ammonia emitting development.

As such, this letter has been sent to all Councils in Northern Ireland.

THE NORTHERN IRELAND AMMONIA CRISIS AND ITS EFFECT ON PUBLIC HEALTH

Ammonia (NH₃) is an air pollutant largely emitted from agriculture which is known to have a damaging impact on biodiversity, including sensitive habitats and ecosystem resilience as well as human health. It is produced by many common farming activities such as the housing of livestock, the storage and spreading of manure and slurries and the application of fertiliser. Ammonia emitted into the air is subsequently deposited as nitrogen onto land and water surfaces. These nitrogen deposits can travel many miles from the original ammonia source.

Excessive ammonia emissions can also lead to increases in particulate matter which is associated with human health impacts.

Most of Northern Ireland, including our designated sites and other priority habitats are receiving levels of nitrogen which are significantly above their critical load, the concentration at which significant ecological damage occurs.

STATUTORY CONSULTEES POLICY REVIEW AND RESULTING UNCERTAINTY

In his correspondence addressed to the Chief Executive of Mid and East Antrim Borough Council dated 22 July 2020 (attached), Minister Poots confirmed that the current NIEA operational policy on ammonia emitting projects is subject to ongoing review and a new protocol would not be in place until the Autumn.

In the absence of a new policy, determinations made under this old policy have been termed by NIEA officials at a number of Planning Appeals Commission hearings as “vulnerable to legal challenge”.

As a result, the ongoing review of this policy renders NIEA’s existing policy on ammonia emitting projects incapable of providing scientific certainty to competent authorities.

THE PRECAUTIONARY PRINCIPLE

The law is clear about what stance competent authorities should adopt under these circumstances.

The precautionary principle states that a competent authority must establish beyond scientific doubt that there will be no significant harm caused by a development on protected sites before it is given approval. This approach is confirmed at paragraph 57 of the “Waddenzee” Judgement (ECJ C127/02) and was discussed in a Northern Ireland context in Friends of the Earth’s Lough Neagh case heard in the Court of Appeal (2017 NICA 41).

The Orleans v Vlaams Gewest Case 2017 (Case C-187/15 Env LR 12 at [48]-[52]) states that a statutory authority must not grant planning permission unless it is “certain” on the basis of the “best scientific knowledge in the field” that the proposed development would not adversely affect the integrity of the designated site within the meaning of the habitats regulations.

Furthermore, an appropriate assessment will be unlawful if “it contains gaps and lacks complete, precise and definitive findings and conclusions capable of removing all reasonable scientific doubt as to the effect of the works proposed (Case C404-09 Commission v Spain [2011] ECR I-11853).

Effectively, for a development of this nature to attain approval from a statutory authority, there cannot be “lacunae” in the scientific evidence (C323/17) People Over Wind v Coillte Teoranta [2018] Env LR 31 at par[38].

The vulnerability of NIEA’s current operating policy coupled with the fact that it is under review represents significant scientific doubt or “lacunae” in the evidence over the effects of ammonia emitting developments on sensitive receptor sites within the meaning of the habitats regulations. Moreover, a policy under review does not represent the “best scientific knowledge in the field” within the meaning of the Orleans v Vlaams Gewest caselaw.

When a statutory authority is faced with such obvious scientific doubt the precautionary principle must apply. To quote the European Court of Justice in Waddenzee, “***...where doubt remains as to the absence of adverse effects on the integrity of the site linked to the plan or project being considered, the competent authority will have to refuse authorisation***”.

STATUTORY DUTY OF PUBLIC AUTHORITIES

Under the Wildlife and Natural Environment Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 all public authorities in Northern Ireland have a statutory duty to protect designated sites and priority habitats. You will also be aware that to permit the carrying out of operations which damages any of the flora, fauna or geological or physiographical features of an Area of Special Scientific Interest may be found guilty of a criminal offence.

Given the scientific doubt and lacunae in evidence as a result of NIEA's policy review, there is no certainty that such sensitive sites will not be adversely affected by these developments and the precautionary principle must apply.

In light of the foregoing, the approval of such applications would be unlawful.

Please note that we intend to send correspondence to the Department outlining this position.

Yours faithfully,



Laura Neal
Solicitor
Friends of the Earth
Northern Ireland

Sent: 01 September 2020 11:20

To: Melvin Bowman <Melvin.Bowman@midulstercouncil.org>

Subject: The woodlands

Dear Mr Bowman

I speak on behalf of the Woodland Heights and Woodland grove residents.

We have spoke'n with Brian Mcguigan and have heard all the new out line guidance for this new development that's to use the woodlands road through which we are more happier about, but as you know we always would of preferred the site entrance from the Sixtowns road. We believe that all is up for approval tonight and that we can't attend.

We ask that the Boundary hedge from the woodlands not to be removed until the site is well near completion, so that the site traffic cannot use the Woodlands road in.

Our Concerns now are that we find it very on fair that we still have to pay for the up keeping of the green areas and the Surrounding boundaries at our cost for this new development to use the road through.

These greens do not belong to the woodland residence as they still are in ownership of the Henrys / PRH construction.

We the residents where paying up to £354 per house to the greenbelt maintenance company and after many years to get out of there contract PRH where to sign the greens and boundaries over to the woodland residence which did not happen as you know why !! So we are maintaining someone else's property all these years.

We are now facing the cost separately from what we are already paying for the keeping of the greens, to cut / top the large trees around the woodland as these trees are getting to high and starting to block the light to many homes and over growing into gardens this is going to cost us around £3000 + to have this job done thought the woodlands.

We the residents would like the new developer to share our cost's as it's to there advantage for selling the new development and driving through our well maintained green areas.

We hope the Council committee will see that this is only fair that the developer helps out.

Minutes of Meeting of Policy and Resources Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 3 September 2020 in the Council Offices, Ballyronan Road, Magherafelt and by Virtual Means

Members Present

Councillor Quinn, Chair

Councillors Ashton (7.05 pm), Buchanan, Cuddy, Doris, Elattar, Forde, Gildernew*, McFlynn, S McGuigan, McKinney, S McPeake, Molloy

Officers in Attendance

Mr A Tohill, Chief Executive
Mrs Canavan, Director of Organisational Development
Mr Cassells, Director of Environment and Property
Mr Kelso, Director of Public Health and Infrastructure
Mr McCreesh, Director of Business and Communities
Ms Mezza**, Head of Marketing and Communications
Mr Moffett, Head of Democratic Services
Mr McKeown, ICT Support
Mr O'Hagan, Head of ICT
Mr JJ Tohill, Director of Finance
Mrs Grogan, Democratic Services Officer

* Denotes members present in remote attendance

** Denotes Officers present by remote means

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm.

The Chair, Councillor Quinn welcomed everyone to the meeting and those watching the meeting through the Live Broadcast. Councillor Quinn 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.

PR0126/20 Apologies

Councillors Hughes, McLean and Totten.

PR127/20 Declarations of Interest

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

PR128/20 Chair's Business

The Chair, Councillor Quinn stated this was his first meeting Chairing the Policy and Resources Committee and that he looked forward to working with Members and Officers over the next year.

Councillor S McPeake referred to the General Power of Competence workshops organised last winter but had been put on hold due to the Covid pandemic. He stated that he was aware of a paper but not aware of any projects and asked that an update be brought on how to advance this in the future.

The Director of Environment & Property advised that several workshops had been organised last year and agreed that these had been put on hold due to Covid but agreed to bring a report to the next committee meeting.

Matters for Decision

PR129 Request to illuminate Council Property for Recycle Week 2020

The Head of Democratic Services presented previously circulated report which sought permission from Recycle Now to highlight Recycle Week 2020 by lighting up/illuminating the Burnavon, Cookstown; Ranfurly House, Dungannon and the Bridewell, Magherafelt on Monday 21st September – Thursday 24th September 2020 (inclusive).

He also referred to the following requests received to illuminate buildings:

- Marie Curie “Light up the Night” to encourage people by taking part in a Twilight Walk in memory and celebration of a loved one and asked that Council buildings be lit up yellow on Friday 25th September 2020 to show support for families through their toughest time.
- Children with Cancer “Children Childhood Cancer Awareness Month” in September – specific date not known
- Dyslexia Awareness Week – commencing 5 October 2020. This request to illuminate will be before the October Policy & Resources Committee

Councillor Ashton entered the meeting at 7.05 pm.

The Head of Democratic Services in referring to Marie Curie “light up the night” said that it would be anticipated to light up Council facilities on Friday 25 September.

The Chair in referring to Children Childhood Cancer Awareness month stated that it would be important to support this worthy cause and asked that a date be worked on.

Councillor Doris agreed with previous comment and said that she would be happy to propose this as she is aware of a family in Coalisland who’s child was battling cancer. She suggested that Childhood Cancer Awareness be investigated by Communications Department and articles included on social media be shared on early signs of detection of cancer so people are able to have the best chance of survival.

Councillor Molloy concurred with comments and said that dates be worked upon for the worthy causes.

Councillor Cuddy said that it was important that these worthy causes are supported and was easy to change the light colour of buildings.

He referred to buildings being illuminated in blue last weekend to remember Noah Donohoe and said that it would be beneficial going forward if reasonably sized posters be developed to indicate to people what the coloured lighting represented and what the worthy cause was.

Councillor Forde concurred with all the previous comments and said that she was aware of an individual and his family receiving cancer treatment and felt that this would be a great support to his family and families in a similar position. She also concurred with member's comments about banners being erected to indicate what the coloured lighting represents.

The Head of Democratic Services advised that a meeting of the Working Group on Lighting Up Buildings Policy was due to take place on Wednesday 16 September at 6 pm in Dungannon offices.

Proposed by Councillor Doris
Seconded by Councillor Molloy and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to agree to request from:

- i) WRAP to light up/illuminate the designated properties (Ranfurly House & Visitor Centre, Dungannon; the Burnavon Arts & Cultural Centre, Cookstown and the Bridewell, Magherafelt) green on the evenings of Monday 21st – Thursday 24th September 2020 (inclusive) to mark Recycle Week 2020.
- ii) Marie Curie "Light up the Night" to encourage people by taking part in a Twilight Walk in memory and celebration of a loved one and asked that Council buildings be lit up yellow from Friday 25th September 2020
- iii) Children with Cancer "Children Childhood Cancer Awareness Month" to be supported when a specific date is known in September
- iv) Dyslexia Awareness Week – first week in October 2020 – to be supported when specific date is known

PR130/20 Annual Report (2019-2020): Performance Improvement Plan Self-Assessment

The Head of Democratic Services presented previously circulated report to inform members on the progress made towards the delivery of the 2019 to 2020 Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) by way of a self-assessment report. Section 3.1 – four improvements objections drew attention to.

Councillor Cuddy thanked officers for such a comprehensive document and enquired if this document had to be completed by the end of this month and who makes the decision to do so.

The Head of Democratic Services advised that Local Government (NI) Act requires that this is completed by 30 September and subsequent statutory guidance.

Councillor McFlynn said that it was a very comprehensive report and thanked officers for their time and effort and in referring to Planning said that although it wasn't up to scratch where it currently was, it was very close considering the impact of Covid.

Proposed by Councillor S McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor S McPeake and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to note, review and comment as necessary on the Improvement Plan 2019-2020 Annual Report and Self-Assessment.

PR131/20 Member Services

No issues.

Matters for Information

PR132/20 Minutes of Policy & Resources Committee held on Thursday 2 July 2020

Members noted Minutes of Policy & Resources Committee held on Thursday 2 July 2020.

PR133/20 Service Improvement Plan – Finance

Members noted previously circulated report in relation to the Finance Department's Service Improvement Plan 2020/21.

Live broadcast ended at 7.14 pm

Local Government (NI) Act 2014 – Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor Buchanan
Seconded by Councillor Forde 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 Members consider items PR134/20 to PR147/20.

Matters for Decision

- PR134/20 Leisure Management Review
- PR135/20 Staffing Matters for Decision
- PR136/20 Contract for Works at Fivemiletown Recycling Centre
- PR137/20 Increased ICT Costs for Seamus Heaney Open Ground Project
- PR138/20 Financial Update in Relation to Covid19 and Associated Works
- PR139/20 Network Service Contract Extension (MPLS Services)

Matters for Information

- PR140/20 Confidential Minutes of Policy & Resources Committee held on 2 July 2020
- PR141/20 Staff Furlough Scheme Update
- PR142/20 Staff Matters for Information
- PR143/20 Dungannon Leisure Centre – ICT Costs
- PR144/20 Contracts and DAC
- PR145/20 Financial Report for 3 Months ended 30 June 2020
- PR146/20 Planning System Replacement May 2020
- PR147/20 Full Fibre NI (FFNI) Project

PR148/20 Duration of Meeting

The meeting commenced at 7 pm and concluded at 8.30 pm.

Chair _____

Date _____

**Minutes of Meeting of Environment Committee of Mid Ulster District Council
held on Tuesday 8 September 2020 in Council Offices, Ballyronan Road,
Magherafelt and by virtual means**

Members Present

Councillor S McGuigan, Chair

Councillors Buchanan, Cuthbertson, Glasgow, Graham,
N McAleer, S McAleer, McFlynn, B McGuigan,
McNamee, Milne, Wilson

**Officers in
Attendance**

Mr Cassells, Director of Environment and Property
Mr Kelso, Director of Public Health and Infrastructure
Mr Lowry, Head of Technical Services
Mr McAdoo, Head of Environmental Services
Mrs McClements, Head of Environmental Health**
Mr Scullion, Head of Property Services
Mr Wilkinson, Head of Building Control
Miss Thompson, Democratic Services Officer

* Denotes members and members of the public present in remote attendance

** Denotes Officers present by remote means

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm

The Chair, Councillor S McGuigan welcomed everyone to the meeting and those watching the meeting through the Live Broadcast. Councillor McGuigan 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.

E158/20 Apologies

Councillors Brown, Burton, O'Neill and Totten.

E159/20 Declarations of Interest

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

E160/20 Chair's Business

None.

Matters for Decision

E161/20 Street Naming and Property Numbering

Members considered previously circulated report regarding the naming of new residential housing developments within Mid Ulster.

Site off Mullagh Lane, Maghera

Proposed by Councillor B McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor Milne and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to name development off Mullagh Lane, Maghera as Daisy Hill Gardens.

Site off Coolreaghs Road, Cookstown

Councillor Wilson stated he lived off the Coolreaghs Road and that this was the first time he had heard of the names being proposed and that he did not see their relevance.

Councillor McNamee proposed to go back to the developer to seek an alternative name for the development.

Councillor Wilson seconded Councillor McNamee's proposal.

Councillor B McGuigan stated that some names are put forward by developers with little thought of the area or consultation with local people. Councillor B McGuigan felt that developers should be linking in with local residents or historical groups when coming forward with street names.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to seek alternative names from developer for development off Coolreaghs Road, Cookstown.

Site off Gallion Heights, Moneymore

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to name development off Gallion Heights, Moneymore as Gallion Drive.

E162/20 Consultation on Proposed Amendments to Building Regulations

The Head of Building Control presented previously circulated report which outlined the consultation forwarded by the Department of Finance inviting a response on the proposed amendments to the Building Regulations.

Proposed by Councillor B McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to agree the content of the draft consultation response to the proposed amendments of the Building Regulations as set out at appendix 2 of report.

E163/20 Process for Entertainment Licensing Applications during COVID 19

The Head of Building Control presented previously circulated report which advised on a request for credit in relation to fees paid in connection with applications for the renewal of Entertainment Licences.

Councillor Wilson stated that Council should be doing its bit to help and proposed that Council extend the date of commencement of an Entertainment Licence by up to 3 months.

Councillor McNamee seconded Councillor Wilson's proposal.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to extend the date of commencement of an Entertainment Licence by up to 3 months.

E164/20 Reusable Nappy Scheme

The Head of Environmental Services presented previously circulated report which sought the approval for the introduction of a Council Reusable Nappy Scheme.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated he had been lobbied on this issue in the past and had made the suggestion to introduce a Scheme within the Council area. Councillor Cuthbertson proposed the introduction of a Reusable Nappy Scheme for Mid Ulster.

Councillor Buchanan seconded Councillor Cuthbertson's proposal.

Councillor Wilson asked what would happen if more than 50 households came forward to take part in the Scheme.

The Head of Environmental Services stated the Scheme would be offered on a first come first served basis, up to a maximum of 50 but that this number would be reviewed annually.

Councillor Wilson stated that he appreciated this was probably the only way the Scheme could be delivered but that the Scheme needed to be fair and equitable across the board.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the introduction of a Mid Ulster Reusable Nappy Scheme.

E165/20 Waste Collection Service Policy Public Consultation

The Head of Environmental Services presented previously circulated report which provided the outcome of a public consultation exercise on a revised Waste Collection Service policy and sought approval for the adoption of the new/amended policy.

Councillor Milne referred to Council's collection of up to two blue bins per household but stated that many households cannot afford the £25 charge for an additional bin and therefore some blue bin material inevitably ends up in the black bin. Councillor Milne stated that the blue bin was becoming more widely used and that the £25 charge for an additional bin needed to be looked at again.

The Head of Environmental Services stated that there would be budget implications if there was no charge for the bin. The officer also referred to the next report on the agenda which looks at change to recycling in the future.

Councillor Milne stated that consideration could also be given to collecting the blue bin every week.

The Head of Environmental Services stated this could be considered as part of a future plan. The officer stated that there are a number of houses in the District that already have a second blue bin.

The Director of Environment and Property stated that the blue bin is becoming the critical bin and that he took on board the Members comments. The Director stated that there were options in order to get more material out of the black bin and into the blue/brown bin ie. Reducing the volume of the black bin and increasing the volume of the blue bin. The Director stated that a report will be brought back to Committee with proposals along with a cost/benefit analysis when looking at the annual charges as part of the budget process.

Councillor Glasgow stated that over the years bin types have changed and that when a spare part is needed for a bin the spare part only suits the new type of bin and that the resident has to then buy a new bin. The Councillor felt that there should be a stock of spare parts for the older types of bins and asked that this be looked into.

Councillor Glasgow referred to point 7.5.4 of the policy which refers to bringing a bin out for collection by 7.30 am to a suitable collection point. The Councillor asked if this includes bringing a bin to the other side of the road.

The Head of Environmental Services stated that the policy was referring to a collection point which may be needed within a housing development.

Councillor Glasgow asked if anyone was being asked to take their bin to the other side of the road for collection even for the one armed collection.

The Head of Environmental Services stated that there had been some previous discussion regarding one household but there were no plans to ask anyone else to do this.

Councillor Cuthbertson felt that while Council should not be making a profit from selling bins it needed to be careful in how it moved forward with the provision of a second blue bin given that there is no service charge for the collection of a second blue bin and that new households have to purchase a bin. The Councillor stated that a person does not have to buy a bin from Council as there are other places bins are sold which may be more cost advantageous.

Councillor Milne referred to unadopted lanes which have a number of houses and that due to legacy Council arrangements some houses have a bin lifted from outside their home whilst others have to take the bin to the end of the lane for collection. The Councillor stated it was important to have this situation agreed and understood within what was being proposed tonight.

The Director of Environment and Property stated that there are some legacy issues where some residents are served up private lanes and others are not. The Director stated that there are a significant number of unadopted lanes in the District and the Council did not have the resources to service all lanes as the primary function is kerbside collection or collection beside a public road. The Director also referred to point 7.5.8 of the policy.

Councillor Milne referred to a situation in which there could be 9 houses down a lane and 2 of these houses could have their bin collected due to disability whilst the others have to take their bin to the end of the lane. The Councillor stated that there needed to be a bit of common sense taken whereby if the refuse collection vehicle is coming down the lane to lift from the 2 properties there is no reason why it can't collect from the other properties at the same time.

Councillor McNamee referred to previous discussion in relation to properties just off Fountain Road in Cookstown having to take their bins to the roadside for collection and asked if these properties would now be served.

The Director of Environment and Property stated that issues can be assessed on a case by case basis and that he would discuss the matter further with the Member outside of the meeting.

Proposed by Councillor S McAleer
Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the revised Waste Collection Service Policy as set out at appendix 3 to report.

E166/20 Consultation on Future Recycling and Separate Collection of Waste of a Household Nature in Northern Ireland

The Head of Environmental Services presented previously circulated report which outlined discussion document on the Future Recycling and Separate Collection of Waste of a Household Nature in Northern Ireland and sought approval for a consultation response to be submitted to DAERA.

Councillor Cuthbertson welcomed the response and that Council needed to stay clear of the kerbside box schemes as used in other areas as they do not work.

Councillor Glasgow also welcomed the response and felt that the system Council uses is working well.

Councillor Wilson stated that this Council and its staff do an excellent job and that Council should pride itself in the amount of material it sends for recycling. The Councillor felt that some further education was needed as regards keeping blue bin

material out of the black bin and also that Council sell liners for the kitchen caddys as many people do not know this.

Councillor McNamee asked for officer's thoughts on the potential for a pilot for a larger blue bin.

The Head of Environmental Services advised that Council made a funding application last year to carry out a trial of using a larger blue bin across 10,000 homes in the District but that the application was turned down. The officer stated that this was disappointing but that there may be other opportunities in the future.

Councillor S McAleer stated that rather than changing the size of the bins the frequency of collections could be amended ie. Collection of black bin once a month and blue bin 3 times a month.

The Head of Environmental Services stated that was another option which could be explored.

The Director of Environment and Property stated that Mid Ulster Council has topped the recycling rates since its inception and that there was a good system in place. The Director felt that the system needs to be straightforward for the householder otherwise it won't be used and stated that the current system needs to be "maxed out" in terms of providing facilities and education. The Director referred to the previous application for funding which was turned down but that he felt a pilot scheme would be required in order to ascertain a way forward. The Director of Environment and Property also referred to the next UK target for recycling which is 65% and stated that this Council currently has a recycling rate of almost 60%, the Director stated that Council has a good system that works very well but that some modification is required to get more from it and that he felt Council could achieve 65% in the next 3-4 years.

Councillor Milne referred to the amount of blue bin material and the increasing drive for householders to use their blue bins and stated that if Council's blue bins are not fit for purpose then we are only defeating ourselves. The Councillor felt that a larger blue bin was the way forward.

Proposed by Councillor Buchanan
Seconded by Councillor Milne and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the submission of the consultation response to DAERA as set out at appendix to report.

E167/20 Food Standards Agency Consultation on The Supply of Wild Game for Human Consumption

The Head of Environmental Health presented previously circulated report which advised of the Food Standards Agency's consultation on guidance relating to The Supply of Wild Game for Human Consumption and considered the draft response prepared by the Environmental Health Service. The Head of Environmental Health highlighted that the response was required to be submitted by 11 September 2020 and asked for Committee approval to respond prior to Council ratification.

Councillor Wilson stated that a draft response could be submitted in the interim prior to Council ratification.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Wilson and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the Environmental Health response as set out at appendix 2 of report. Draft response to be submitted in advance of the deadline of 11 September 2020 and confirmed after September Council meeting.

E168/20 Consultation on the Review of the Roads (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act (Northern Ireland) 2010

The Head of Environmental Health presented previously circulated report which outlined the Department for Infrastructure's consultation on a review of the legislation associated with road closures for special events and sought approval for the draft consultation response to be forwarded to DfI.

Councillor McFlynn stated that this legislation has caused a lot of grief to groups who want to hold events which require a road closure. The Councillor stated she welcomed the consultation and proposed the response as outlined.

Councillor B McGuigan seconded Councillor McFlynn's proposal.

Councillor Wilson stated that the biggest cost in the process is advertising and referred to the possibility of advertising events on websites of statutory agencies. The Councillor asked if this is covered in law and adequate as newspapers are struggling at the moment and need every bit of advertising. Councillor Wilson asked if an event has to be advertised through the press or if advertising on a webpage was suffice.

The Head of Environmental Health advised that there was a requirement in the legislation for an advertisement to be placed in a newspaper but there was an opportunity within the consultation for Council to express its view whether it should remain that an advertisement is placed at the cost of the group holding the event or if consideration should be given to webpage notifications. The officer advised that due to previous discussions and concerns in relation to costs to groups for advertising the response has been worded in the way put forward but it was up to Members to advise what response they wanted to make.

Councillor Wilson stated that whilst the Department will ultimately take a decision, Council should include this within their response as advertising is a significant cost to groups wanting to hold an event.

The Head of Environmental Health advised that this consultation had a closing date of 24 September 2020 which was the day of the next Council meeting and requested that a draft response be submitted in the interim to be confirmed after the September Council meeting.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to agree and submit an interim draft response to the Department for Infrastructure's review of the

Roads (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act (Northern Ireland) 2010 as set out at appendix 3 of report. Response to be confirmed after September Council meeting.

E169/20 NIHE Irish Traveller Accommodation Strategy for 2020-2025

The Head of Environmental Health presented previously circulated report which set out the NIHE Irish Traveller Accommodation Strategy for 2020-2025 and sought approval on response to same.

Councillor Wilson stated that Council have little option but to support the strategy and what is being put forward. The Councillor stated that Council previously gave money to the Belong project and asked if an update could be provided on the project.

The Head of Environmental Health advised that the Belong project had been a Good Relations project under Community Development.

Councillor Wilson stated he would raise the matter at the Development Committee.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to submit the correspondence to NIHE on their Irish Traveller Accommodation Strategy for 2020-2025 as set out at appendix 2 of report.

E170/20 COVID 19 Collective Response

The Head of Environmental Health presented previously circulated report which advised of a request from the Public Health Agency for Mid Ulster Council to be part of a collective response to tackle COVID 19 across Northern Ireland through two key actions.

Councillor B McGuigan proposed the recommendation to support the PHA.

Councillor Cuthbertson referred to the request for support from PHA and asked if there is a testing facility within this Council area as he had received numerous phonecalls from those seeking a test who are being advised to travel, some as far as Stranraer, to get a test done. The Councillor felt it was difficult to support PHA if there is no where in the Council area that carries out testing.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure stated that testing facilities are identified and provided by the Health and Social Care Board. The Director stated that South Tyrone Hospital had previously been used as a site for testing however this may no longer be the case.

Councillor Cuthbertson seconded Councillor B McGuigan's proposal on that basis that it included that Council should lobby in relation to having testing facilities within the Council area.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council –

- To support the Public Health Agency by taking the following two key actions –
 - 1 Help to increase the numbers of residents who are downloading and using the StopCOVID NI App, and

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- 2 Help people to understand the importance of Test, Trace and Protect, to help stop the spread of Coronavirus
- To lobby the Health and Social Care Boards with a view of having COVID testing facilities within the Mid Ulster Council area

E171/20 Amendments to Retained EU Food Law

The Head of Environmental Health presented previously circulated report which advised of consultation on amendments to Retained EU Law for Food and Feed Safety and Hygiene for the end of the EU Exit Transition Period.

Councillor B McGuigan referred to the short turnaround in relation to this consultation which did not leave time for any further discussions.

The Head of Environmental Health advised that the purpose of the consultation was to get legislation in line before the end of the transition period. The officer stated that there was no significant impact identified from the legislative change.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson
Seconded by Councillor B McGuigan and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to agree and submit an interim draft response to the consultation to the Food Standards Agency by 16 September 2020 as set out at appendix 1 of report. Response to be confirmed after September Council meeting.

E172/20 Bus Shelter Update

The Head of Technical Services presented previously circulated report which provided update on current bus shelter status. The officer highlighted that the first bullet point under 3.5 of the report was a misprint and should be omitted from the report.

Councillor B McGuigan asked if it was the bus shelter at Crosskeys that the officer was stating should be omitted from the report.

The Head of Technical Services stated that there already was a bus shelter at this location and although there was a request to move the bus shelter there was no other suitable location found and the intention was to retain the bus shelter as is.

Councillor B McGuigan stated he could not understand why the bus shelter was on the list in the first place as it was in a proper location with a safe footpath to it and that DfI Roads had no issue with the shelter.

The Head of Technical Services stated that there appeared to have been a land owner issue which was raised with another Councillor who then requested that the bus shelter be investigated and that was why it was on the list. The officer stated that the bus shelter could not be taken off the list without Council approval.

Councillor B McGuigan proposed the report recommendation to include that the bus shelter at Dungalady Road/Kilrea Road, Crosskeys be removed from the list.

Councillor Milne seconded Councillor B McGuigan's proposal.

Councillor Milne asked if officers had received any correspondence from Translink in relation to the bus shelters on Main Street, Bellaghy.

The Head of Technical Services advised that as far as he was aware Translink have confirmed the locations of the bus shelters. The officer advised that neighbour notification would now be carried out and following this the bus shelters should be installed.

Councillor Wilson asked if Council ever remove bus shelters that are in disrepair. The Councillor advised that someone had been in contact with him in relation to a bus shelter on the Dungannon to Pomeroy Road.

The Head of Technical Services advised that the property services team would look after the removal/maintenance of bus shelters.

Councillor Wilson stated he would raise the matter with the officer outside of the meeting.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the actions noted in sections 3.2, 3.4 (with the bus shelter at Dunlady Road/Kilrea Road, Crosskeys to be removed from the list) and 3.5 of the report.

Matters for Information

E173/20 Minutes of Environment Committee held on 7 July 2020

Members noted minutes of Environment Committee held on 7 July 2020.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated that at an Environment meeting last autumn a paper came before the Committee stating which Council buildings have defibrillators and at that time Gardner's Hall and the President Grant Ancestral Homestead did not have a defibrillator. The Councillor stated that there was no defibrillator at Drumcoo Bowling Pavilion although this was slightly different as there had been a defibrillator in place but that it was removed due to vandalism. Councillor Cuthbertson stated that at that time he had proposed that a defibrillator be installed at Gardner's Hall and President Grant's but that at that meeting it was decided to have further discussion on the matter with NI Ambulance Service. The Councillor stated that the discussion with NI Ambulance Service took place last November and nothing further had been brought to Committee on the matter. On this basis, Councillor Cuthbertson re-proposed that a defibrillator be installed at Gardner's Hall and President Grant Homestead.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure stated that he recalled the previous discussions and apologised as he stated there was a report to be brought back to Committee based on discussions with NI Ambulance Service and the only reason it hadn't come back was most likely down to COVID 19. The Director stated that a review report would be brought back to Committee on the defibrillator issue.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated that a year had now passed since he had first raised the issue and that he would like to proceed with his proposal as adequate discussions had already taken place on the matter.

Councillor S McAleer seconded Councillor Cuthbertson's proposal.

Councillor Glasgow stated he appreciated the view of the Councillor but that he would have some concern as to where Council stands if a further request is made next month to have a defibrillator sited. Councillor Glasgow referred to the playpark at Drum Manor which is maintained by Council and spoke of a recent incident in which the Air Ambulance had to be called to this location as someone required a defibrillator. Councillor Glasgow asked where Council stands tonight from an equality screening point of view if the proposal put forward is agreed and then a paper comes back at a later date.

Councillor S McAleer stated that the President Grant Homestead is used by a lot of people and is in a rural location. The Councillor stated that she had been in attendance for the discussion with NI Ambulance Service and felt that having a defibrillator close by does save lives. Councillor S McAleer stated that Members have waited a year to raise the matter again and highlighted that there were other avenues for groups to obtain a defibrillator ie. Sport NI funding.

Councillor McNamee stated he was not taking away from the proposal with regard to the need for defibrillators but felt that Council needed to be careful in how it moves forward. The Councillor stated that it was disappointing that a report had not come back to Committee before now and suggested that the matter be left for a month in order for a report to be brought before Members for consideration.

The Chair, Councillor S McGuigan asked for agreement from the proposer and seconder that the matter be held to await a report being brought forward next month.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated that there was a list brought to a previous committee which detailed council buildings that have a defibrillator and the only 3 buildings that did not have defibrillator were those already mentioned, albeit Drumcoo was a slightly different issue which also needed to be looked at. Councillor Cuthbertson felt that playparks were slightly different as they were not a physical building.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure stated that it was his understanding that Council did not have a defibrillator on all Council premises.

The Chair, Councillor S McGuigan stated that the Member was entitled to put a proposal forward and that whilst all Members are in support of the principle, if the Committee waits for a month for the officer report it would allow other properties to be considered.

Councillor Cuthbertson asked that his proposal be put to the vote.

Councillor Milne stated that one building or area should not be taken over another and that there needed to be criteria in place. The Councillor referred to walkways which are also used by vast numbers of people and do not have a defibrillator in place and asked Councillor Cuthbertson to withdraw his proposal based on what has been said by the officer tonight.

Councillor Glasgow stated he did not have an issue with the principle of Councillor Cuthbertson's proposal but that he was very uncomfortable with having to vote on the proposal tonight when the Committee could wait for one month to consider a report which will look at all buildings/areas. Councillor Glasgow proposed that a report be brought back to Committee next month on the issue of defibrillators.

Councillor McNamee seconded Councillor Glasgow's proposal.

Members voted on Councillor Glasgow's proposal –

For – 8

Against - 3

Councillor Cuthbertson stated he was disappointed as Members have already heard all the facts relating to the matter.

The Chair, Councillor S McGuigan stated that a vote had been taken tonight with the result that the matter is held for one month with a report to come before the Committee next month. The Chair stated that if Councillors were aware of any other areas which they believed should be considered for a defibrillator that these should be put forward as soon as possible.

Councillor Milne stated that the report should include all Council properties not already considered and that this includes walkways.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that the report will include as comprehensive a list as possible of all Council properties and areas Council has an involvement in and will consider the relevant issues.

Councillor S McAleer stated that during previous discussion with NI Ambulance Service it was advised that it was not every area where there was a defibrillator in the vicinity and that Members had waited a year to raise the matter again.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to bring report back to the next meeting of the Environment Committee on the issue of defibrillators. The report should consider all relevant issues and provide a comprehensive list of council buildings/locations in which Council are involved. Members to put forward buildings/locations for consideration as soon as possible.

E174/20 Building Control Workload

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on the workload analysis for Building Control.

E175/20 Entertainment Licensing Applications

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on Entertainment Licensing Applications across the Mid Ulster District.

E176/20 Dual Language Signage Requests

Members noted previously circulated report which advised of requests for Dual Language Signage from residents on streets/roads in the District.

E177/20 Dual Language Signage Surveys

Members noted previously circulated report which advised on the results of surveys undertaken on all applicable residents on the streets/roads in response to Dual Language Signage nameplate requests.

E178/20 Drinking Water Quality Report for Northern Ireland 2019 – Mid Ulster District Council

Members noted previously circulated report which advised on the Drinking Water Quality Report for Northern Ireland 2019 – Mid Ulster District Council.

E179/20 Animal Welfare

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on the levels of activity in the Animal Welfare function within the Mid Ulster District Council Area and Western Region.

Councillor Glasgow referred to the number of inspections carried out, the number of cases where animals were seized and the number of notices served from April 2019 to March 2020. The Councillor also referred to the DAERA Statistical Report for 2018 and asked if this was the most up to date report.

The Head of Environmental Health advised that whilst the number of inspection visits for 2019/20 was 480 the number of cases was 310. The Head of Environmental Health advised that Animal Welfare officers will try to work with people as far as possible and that animals will only be seized as a last resort. The officer advised that the 2018 statistical report circulated was the most up to date available but that she would check this.

Councillor Milne expressed some concern in that owners of farm animals who have been banned from keeping livestock can then lease out their land and the person who has leased the land can keep animals on the same piece of ground. The Councillor felt that when a person is banned from keeping animals the ban should include the land/property owned by the person.

The Head of Environmental Health advised that DAERA are responsible for farming stock and Council is responsible for small animals. The officer stated that the Members comments could be passed to DAERA.

Councillor Milne stated he would like his comments to be forwarded to DAERA as what he had stated was a regular occurrence.

Members were in agreement.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to write to DAERA in relation to owners of livestock who have been banned from keeping animals then

leasing out their land and animals continuing to be kept on the same piece of ground.

E180/20 Update on prepayment system at Recycling Centres

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on the operation of the prepayment system for the acceptance of commercial waste at Cookstown, Drumcoo and Magherafelt Recycling Centres.

E181/20 Northern Ireland Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste Management (LACMW) Report for January to March 2020.

Members noted presented previously circulated report which provided update on Council's performance in relation to recycling and landfill diversion targets as outlined in the NIEA Northern Ireland Local Authority Waste Management Statistics Report for Quarter 4 of 2019/20, January to March 2020.

E182/20 Energy Management Update – Display Energy Certificates (DECs)

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on the current position on Energy Management Certification for eligible properties owned by Council.

E183/20 Town Centre Footpath Snow/Ice Clearance Agreement

Members noted previously circulated report which advised of the rolling annual agreement with DfI/Transport NI in relation to the treatment of footpaths in the main town centres within Mid Ulster District following heavy snowfall or prolonged freezing.

E184/20 Invasive Species Control and Maintenance on Council Property and maintained sites

Members noted previously circulated report which advised on Invasive Species control and maintenance on Council property and sites maintained by Council.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated that Members have been receiving this report for a number of years but there was no information as to whether the battle was being won against invasive species. The Councillor referred to invasive species at Railway Park and asked if this would hold back any future development of the Park.

The Head of Property Services advised that invasive species were being controlled through a lot of programmed maintenance, however none had been eliminated from any site. The officer advised that an additional nine sites had been identified this year and that this had been achieved through increased staff awareness. The Head of Property Services advised that if there is invasive species on land it is the responsibility of the property owner to have it treated, the officer advised that Council is duty bound to control what is on its own sites.

Live broadcast ended at 8.23 pm.

Local Government (NI) Act 2014 - Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor S McAleer 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 Members consider items E185/20 to E190/20.

Matters for Decision

E185/20 Affordable Warmth Scheme Update
E186/20 Tender report for the appointment of a Vehicle Supplier
E187/20 Tender report for the appointment of Contractors to a framework for construction works

Matters for Information

E188/20 Confidential Minutes of Environment Committee held on 7 July 2020
E189/20 Disposal/Sale of Assets – Fleet and Plant
E190/20 Capital Projects Update

E191/20 Duration of Meeting

The meeting was called for 7.00 pm and ended at 8.47 pm.

CHAIR _____

DATE _____

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 please raise your hand in the normal way and keep raised until advised to lower it
- When invited to speak please introduce yourself by name to the meeting
- 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.

**Minutes of Meeting of the Development Committee of Mid Ulster District Council
held on Thursday 10 September 2020 in the Council Offices, Ballyronan Road,
Magherafelt and by Virtual Means**

Members Present

Councillor McNamee

Councillors Ashton, Black, Burton, Clarke, Corry, Cuddy,
Doris, Elattar, Kerr, Hughes, Kearney, Milne, Monteith, Wilson

**Officers in
Attendance**

Mrs Campbell, Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation
Mr McCreesh, Director of Business and Communities
Mr M Browne, Head of Tourism**
Mr Gordon, Head of Leisure
Mr Hill, Head of Parks
Ms Linney, Head of Community Development**
Mr McCance, Head of Culture and Arts
Ms McKeown, Head of Economic Development
Mr Brown, ICT Support
Ms Grogan, Democratic Services Officer

**Others in
Attendance**

* Denotes Members present in remote attendance

** Denotes Officers present by remote means

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm.

The Chair, Councillor McNamee welcomed everyone to the meeting and those watching the meeting through the Live Broadcast. Cllr McNamee 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.

D111/20 Apologies

Councillor Molloy

D112/20 Declarations of Interest

The Chair Councillor McNamee reminded Members of their responsibility with regard to declaration of interest.

Councillor Clarke declared an interest in LAG

Councillor Hughes declared an interest in LAG

Councillor Burton declared an interest in LAG

Councillor Kearney declared an interest in LAG and Lough Neagh Partnership

Councillor Milne declared an interest in Lough Neagh Partnership

Councillor Elattar declared an interest in Northern Ireland Housing Executive

Councillor Wilson declared an interest in LAG

D113/20 Chair's Business

The Chair advised members that a Special Development Committee meeting was scheduled to take place on Thursday 1st October to deal with the backlog of presentations and said that an email would be issued in due course clarifying the date.

The Director of Business and Communities referred to Covid19 Business Support Grant and said that this was welcome. He updated Members on the current position relating to Tranche 1 as follows;

Tranche 1 (Covid19 Business Support Grant Scheme)

DFC	£281,000	(urban areas)
DAERA	£148,000	(rural areas)
Council	£133,000	(rural areas)
	<u>£562,000</u>	Fully committed & letters of offer issued to projects within 3 weeks of receipt of funding

The Director of Business and Communities sought approval to progress to Tranche 2 of the Covid19 Business Grants Scheme. He advised that DfC would provide £281,000 as per previous programme, and indicated he is hopeful of receiving similar DAERA funding as in Tranche 1 of £148,000, but awaits confirmation of this. He added Council's Head of Economic Development had been reviewing the existing economic development budget and was able to contribute a further £133K to match DAERA funding for rural areas. He said that Officers are working extremely hard to try to progress the scheme as soon as possible.

Councillor Doris commended Officers on their commitment and said that she would be more than happy to propose that Tranche 2 is progressed but asked that it be reiterated back to both Departments the need to address the boundaries situation.

Councillor Monteith concurred with Councillor Doris and said that he welcomed the extra funding for businesses but also raised his concern around boundaries and about the different emphasis for tranches and enquired how this affects the other.

The Director of Business and Communities advised that the same criteria for urban and rural businesses would be followed the same as tranche one.

The Director of Business and Communities advised Members that since the committee papers were issued that Council had received notification from DfC that DfI would provide Mid Ulster Council with a further £464,659, the focus of which would be based on the following areas; pavement widening to allow for social distancing, active travel, promote connectivity, access to services, enhancement of green/blue spaces etc. He

stated that this is a positive development, but the timing is challenging with Council's application due back to the Department next week,

He advised that DfI funding was to be allocated towards the urban areas like Cookstown, Dungannon, Magherafelt and Coalisland and sought agreement in principle from Members for the following proposed works, subject to greater detail being provided at Town Centre Forum meetings involving representation from DEA Members and businesses;

- **Cookstown** – The area to the front and side of the Burnavon Theatre and The Hub – outdoor covered civic spaces, seating etc, to provide pedestrian rest areas.
- **Coalisland** – The new civic area off Main Street – outdoor covered civic space, seating, etc, to provide pedestrian rest areas. A second project is proposed for Coalisland relating to the Canal Walk and is a perfect opportunity to consider upgrade works along the pathway.
- **Dungannon** – Civic Space at the front of Ranfurly House and Hill of The O'Neill and on Irish Street – outdoor covered civic space, seating, etc, to provide pedestrian rest areas.
- **Magherafelt – The civic space in the Diamond** – outdoor covered civic space, seating, etc, to provide pedestrian rest areas.

The Director of Business and Communities advised members that the application has to be submitted by the 18th September 2020. The Director requested permission to appoint an ICT Team with immediate effect, after which meetings would be held with Town Centre Forums's on the specific schemes.

Councillor Clarke commended Officers on their work regarding projects and said it was great to see such good work being carried out in such a short space of time and would be happy to second the proposal.

Councillor Wilson praised the work being carried out by Officers, but said that he would have some concerns regarding how as a committee this proposal can be pushed through without it being agreed by Council. He said that at the previous Environment Committee a number of consultations were presented with a short date and it was agreed that these would be agreed in "draft form" and asked for this project to be treated the same, subject to gaining full Council approval.

The Director of Business and Committee advised that any works commissioned would be treated in draft format, subject to attaining Full Council approval.

Councillor Kerr commended Officers on their quick reaction, but also raised concern around the boundary issue as there seemed to be a separate element for spruce up grant scheme which was available for businesses to use to renovate shops with some financial support from the Council. He said that he welcomed the fact that the scheme was at an advanced stage but felt this was unacceptable for businesses which operate outside the boundary lines and when we return to normality, rural areas needed to be included in terms of equality and asked if there was any update on this.

Councillor Ashton concurred with previous Members comments regarding the work commitment by the Officer team when it was previously debated and decided to proceed

with the funding issue. She said that she was glad that things were moving forward, but enquired about the new scheme and the appointment of the ICT team costings and if these could be recouped.

The Director of Business and Committees advised that costs would be determined as part of the framework but could not determine yet if the fees could be included in the costs.

Councillor Kearney congratulated the Officer team on their work, but enquired why Maghera was being excluded from the scheme.

The Director of Business and Committees stated that specific projects were for urban areas and larger towns with populations greater than 5000. He added however, that subject to gaining confirmation from DAERA that rural funding will be made available, that Maghera would be included again in the next round of funding for Covid19 Business Support Grants.

Councillor Black referred to Covid19 Business Support Grant Scheme and enquired if this funding would go towards applicants on the reserve list and said that he was also disappointed that Maghera was being excluded from the DFI funding initiative.

The Director of Business and Communities in response to the query advised that there was no reserve list for Covid19 Business Support Grants as this was a rolling grant programme and all the monies were allocated in Tranche 1, however, any business who wished could reapply when the scheme opens again.

Councillor Cuddy queried about applicants who applied for Covid grant funding at the beginning and when list is complete, will they be eligible to apply for the small grant or will this be re-advertised again.

The Director of Business and Communities advised that Tranche 2 of the Covid19 Business Support Grant Scheme will be rolled out as in Tranche 1 until all the monies were allocated. He said that there was a high volume of businesses seeking grants between £500 - £3,000.

In response to a member query, the Head of Economic Development advised that a high number of businesses had applied for the funding in Tranche 1 and there was a surge of applications as the funding pot was almost fully allocated. She said that any business that submitted an application when all the funding was allocated had been written to advising them they were unsuccessful due to Tranche 1 funding being fully allocated but if an opportunity for Tranche 2 funding became available, they could reapply with a fresh application.

In response to Councillor Black's query, the Director of Business and Committees advised that Tranche 1 closes when money was all allocated and Council is currently working up a funding application for Tranche 2. He stated that forms for applying would be straight forward and basic.

Councillor Milne enquired about the closing date for completion of works.

The Head of Economic Development advised that the scheme must be completed by the end of March 2021.

Cllr Milne advised that an applicant had advised him that that returns had to be submitted by the 14th October 2020.

The Head of Economic Development said that all works must be complete and claims submitted by March 2021 but agreed to investigate Cllr Milne's query and would respond directly to him.

The Director of Business and Communities advised that Covid19 Grant funding had been sourced from DfC and DAERA and this had to be spent by the end of this financial year.

The Chair said that it was great to see the funding coming through and for the people who previously missed out, there will be another opportunity for them to apply.

The Director of Businesses and Communities in reply to Councillor Kerr's query, regarding Council's Spruce Up Scheme, advised that there were;

- 38 schemes completed with a budget of £124,122 in 2019/20;
- 69 schemes were awarded funding of £249,147 through letters of offer in 2020/21; and
- 70 schemes are budgeted for to the value of £250,191 in 2021/22

He added that a further 74 schemes remain on the reserve list to the value of £272,387. He said that money has to be sourced to fund these but at present the Economic Development budget has been maximized to fund as many schemes as the budget currently allows.

The Chair stated that he had received enquiries about the reserve list by someone which was on it.

Councillor Kerr congratulated Officers on their great amount of work, but stated that his main concern would be the boundaries of the spruce up grant scheme and rural businesses falling outside the area of the town and asked if they would be opted out of the scheme or will they have the opportunity in the next Phase.

The Head of Economic Development advised that the Spruce Up Scheme had opened and closed with an enormous amount of applications and advised that Council had been upfront and made applicants aware that funding towards the scheme would take a phased approach to allow funding to be sourced. She said that Council Officers cannot go back and change the existing scheme at this stage, but moving forward with any new scheme in the future, consideration would be given towards how the scheme could be made more inclusive.

Proposed by Councillor Doris
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to agree;

- (1) to move forward with the Covid19 Recovery Revitalisation Funding Programme in association with DfC, DAERA and DFI.
- (2) Funding of £133,000 be made available in Tranche 2 from Council's economic development budget for the Covid19 Business Grants Scheme to co-fund rural applications, alongside DAERA (*subject to confirmation of DAERA funding*).
- (3) Appointment of an ICT team with immediate effect to assist Council progress the proposed projects as outlined for each town for DFI streetscape funding, subject to all works being treated as 'drafts' until full Council approval is attained, and Town Centre Forum Meetings held to agree the schemes.

Councillor Wilson stated that it was brought to his attention of concerns relating to 2 National Trust Properties, Wellbrook Beetling Mill and Springhill which are struggling very badly due to the covid pandemic and looking at cost cutting measures. He said that Springhill House was closed indefinitely, with gardens being opened but with no carparking facilities. Staff are off or on furlough and not there to tend to the grounds and there needs to be something considered and put in place to keep it up to standard.

He advised that the National Trust had sought a DEA meeting with Councillors to progress this as tomorrow was the deadline for staff and volunteers.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson
Seconded by Councillor Cuddy

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that a meeting be arranged for DEA's and representatives from the National Trust to investigate a favorable outcome relating to Springhill and Wellbrook Beetling Mill.

Matters for Decision

D114/20 Outdoor Recreation Master Plan Programme

The Head of Parks presented previously circulated report and sought approval to appoint a qualified consultancy to develop Master Plans for the potential development of Drumcairn, Altmore and Dunmoyle Forests as local multi-activity hubs, subject to available funding. As outlined in the Action Plan of Mid Ulster District Council Outdoor Recreation Strategic Plan, March 2020.

Councillor Doris said that she was happy to propose the report as it was a long time coming for the Drumcairn & Cappagh/Altmore areas and said that there would be more ability for mountain biking and walking trails, picnic areas, parks and possible glamping in the areas of outstanding natural beauty.

She sought a meeting with Stewartstown Community Group and Cappagh Village Regeneration Group to progress these projects forward.

She also asked that the carpark at Drumcairn be given attention as it was in a dire need of a good clean up.

Councillor Kerr concurred with member's comments and said that it would be important to work with the community groups in Stewartstown and Cappagh and would like an Interagency meeting relating to Altmore Forest project. He sought an update on Cappagh Reservoir project and how it was progressing.

Councillor Clarke referred to Dunmoyle Forest and sought clarification on whether it was part of Mid Ulster District Council area.

The Head of Parks advised that it was part of the former Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough Council remit and that Ballygawley was part of the Council's jurisdiction.

Councillor Clarke stated that Drum Manor was identified as a regional hub and enquired if Forest Service had made this identification as space and opportunity was limited.

The Head of Parks advised that Drum Manor, Parkanaur and Ballyronan were identified as regional hubs as part of the Council approved strategic plan as they were recognised as visitor destinations. He said that access was important and structure on site and these were points to determine whether they were classed as a local facility or a regional facility.

Councillor Elattar said that she was happy the people of Tyrone and looked forward to the projects coming through but when the Strategy went out Iniscarn Forest and Derrynoid Forest were not recognised and felt that it was a pity as Iniscarn Forest was adjacent to Slieve Gallion. She stated that there were very poor carparking facilities and overflowing bins and asked if extra bins could be installed or addressed to protect the area.

The Head of Parks advised that there were a number of other activities within the Strategy which would cater for those. In referring to carparking he said that he would liaise with the Forestry Service to see if anything can be done to elevate carparking issues. He said that the Council wanted people to follow the Countryside Code and be pro-active and responsible with their litter and didn't want to follow down the route of installing more bins but would take on board and seek to address the issue.

Councillor Elattar said that it would be beneficial if some benches could be placed in some areas going towards the top of Iniscarn so people can stop and rest.

The Head of Parks advised that a current scheme would be looking at this for Iniscarn.

Councillor Burton said that this was the next 5-year plan and raised concern regarding Lumfords Glen being overlooked. She stated that she had raised Lumfords Glen on numerous occasions and felt that not enough was being done to address issues around the damage caused by adverse weather conditions dilapidating the beauty spot. She also referred to Brantry Lough and said that more bins were required as it was a very busy attraction and used a lot by the community especially during the pandemic.

The Head of Parks advised that Lumfords Glen was continuously being brought to the attention of Forestry Service and that he would continue to press on the issue and keep the committee updated.

In referring to request for additional bins at Brantry Lough, the Head of Parks advised that no additional bins would be installed due to the fact that everyone should be adhering to the Countryside Code and taking their litter home with them, but would continue to get the area where the bins are located, picnic area and carpark serviced.

Councillor Burton raised concern as she felt that Lumfords Glen should be given more priority when others have come more recently and are listed on the agenda, it is disheartening to see and wants this matter moved forward as its being overlooked.

She stated that it was important that the bins at Brantry Lough were emptied on a regular basis as litter is being blown around the forest and into the water.

Councillor Cuddy referred to the incident at Dungannon Park where a handbrake failed to work and a car ran away. He said that it could have been a tragic incident as a lot of pedestrians were around that area and asked for an update on how this could be prevented in the future.

The Head of Parks advised that the handbrake wasn't secured resulting in the car rolling away and coming into contact with a bollard. He said that the car did progress down the pedestrian area where people were moving about and that a review on carpark safety would be investigated with Safety Officers looking at other methods for safety measures within the Park environment.

The Chair said that it was good to see the masterplans for Forests going forward.

Proposed by Councillor Doris
Seconded by Councillor Kerr and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that approval be granted to procure and appoint qualified consultancy to develop Master Plans for the potential development of Drumcairn, Altmore and Dunmoyle Forests as local multi-agency recreational hubs, subject to available funding.

D115/20 Lough Neagh Partnership Core Funding 2020/21

The Head of Tourism presented previously circulated report and sought approval for annual contribution for year 2020/21 towards the core running costs associated with Lough Neagh Partnership (LNP) in the delivery of marketing tourism, recreational, environmental and heritage activities on Lough Neagh (LN) and the shoreline on behalf of Mid Ulster District Council.

Councillor Corry left the meeting at 7.50 pm and returned at 7.54 pm.

Councillor Doris stated that she would be happy to propose the recommendation but had an issue around the boglands at Derrylaughan and Derrytresk. She said that it was upsetting to see the burning of moss and the detrimental effects that this was having on wildlife and the environment. She referred to the June Development Committee meeting where she made a proposal that the burning of moss be carried out in a controlled way and thanked the locals for their assistance in working for years to preserve the lands.

Councillor Kerr concurred with member's comments and said that he would be happy to second the proposal.

He said that he had met with community groups regarding the issues around Derrytresk and Derrylaughan and felt that it was important that something was done to address this issue around the boglands.

In regard to the linkage to Washingbay, Lough Neagh and Coalisland Canal, there is a huge potential to interlink each specified area and to become a recognised pathway. He said that it would be hugely significant that Council does all it can to continue and maximise their efforts to support the fantastic work LNP was carrying out.

Councillor Kerr referred to The Low Country Native Irish Honeybee Association where members of LNP are interested in getting a conservation area and asked that Council Officers engage the group on the use of Council maintained lands.

The Head of Tourism said that he would pursue the issue raised regarding Derrylaughan and Derrytresk boglands and advised that as off today there still was no agreement from the Education Board.

The Head of Tourism stated that he would follow up Councillor Kerr's request.

Proposed by Councillor Doris
Seconded by Councillor Kerr and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve that:

- (i) Mid Ulster District Council fund Lough Neagh Partnership £22,000 as requested subject to funding being secured from all five Councils on the shores of Lough Neagh.
- (ii) Lough Neagh Partnership submit a quarterly update to MUDC.

D116/20 ITT Report for Augmented Reality and Trail Interpretation for Davagh Forest (Cookstown), Slievemore (Mayo) and Ballyronan Marina (Magherafelt) and Update on Grant Aid Letters of Offer for OM, Dark Sky Park Solar Walk

The Head of Tourism presented previously circulated report to provide an update regarding:

- ITT Report for Augmented Reality and Trail Interpretation for Davagh Forest (Cookstown), Slievemore (Mayo) and Ballyronan Marina (Magherafelt)
- Letters of Offer for the DAERA match funding for OM Solar Walk, OM Archaeological Walks & The Ballyronan Tourism Project

Councillor Clarke stated it was a very comprehensive, strong report and a lot of progress in Mid Ulster but enquired about 40% quality for overall 88 and still 70%. He said that it seemed to be difficult for people to meet the criteria and maintain a good score.

Councillor Ashton said that it would be useful for officers to update members in the future on the scoring mechanisms used.

Councillor Corry said that it was an excellent initiative and a great selling point which captured people's attention.

Proposed by Councillor Clarke
Seconded by Councillor Corry and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council:

- (i) To approve for acceptance the tender received from Tandem Partners Ltd, being the most economically advantageous tender and their tender total price of £218,443.
- (ii) That Council grant approval for the match funding for the projects outlined within the report.

D117/20 Autumn Corporate Events Update

The Head of Tourism presented previously circulated report to which updated members on no advice being given yet regarding mass gatherings and maximum numbers permitted to attend an outdoor event. However, from Monday 24 August 2020 the maximum number of people who can meet outdoors has been reduced from 30 people to 15 people. Any meetings of more than 15 people will be required to complete a risk assessment.

To ensure all options were investigated; site visits took place in particular looking at the logistics of hosting firework displays with Officers and Health and Safety.

Councillor Ashton referred to item 4.1 and said that proposals looked to be more cost effective than fireworks costings and asked if the money could be put towards the Economic Development budget.

The Head of Tourism advised that savings have been made and a report would be brought to the next meeting on allocated funding measures.

Councillor Wilson said that he had no problem with agreeing to the report but queried why the issue of Magherafelt Christmas was included in the Halloween festivities and brought to this meeting.

The Head of Tourism advised that it was an error on his part and would form part of his report next month.

Councillor Doris said that discussions with the Coalisland Town Centre Forum had included the possibility of having a Halloween Shop Window Decoration Initiative which would bring a happy atmosphere and deter anti-social behavior.

The Head of Tourism reassured the member that he would investigate the matter.

Proposed by Councillor Milne

Seconded by Councillor Corry and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that approval be granted to celebrating Halloween and Christmas in Mid Ulster in a new way. With no mass gatherings of people, but in a safe way enhancing the atmospheres within our town centres and instilling civic pride with our residents amidst these uncertain times.

D118/20 Social Housing Working Group & Pilot Dungannon Place Shaping Plan

The Head of Community Development presented previously circulated report to:

- Update members on Social Housing Working Group issues and plans to address these
- Seek agreement to proceed with the development of a pilot Place Shaping Plan for Dungannon

Councillor Monteith said that he was glad to see the issue of affordable housing on the agenda tonight.

He raised concern about affordable housing in Dungannon and the extortionate cost of renting in the town, with no families being allocated social housing and forced down the road of expensive renting. He stated that the minimum for a 3-bed former housing executive house was in the region of £620 per month and stressed the need for a rigorous rent control system between the private and public sector which must be adhered to. If anyone was paying more than 30% of their weekly wage then this was classed as rental poverty and there was a need to move away from Housing Associations as they are also expensive and don't help the people as there is an extra amount to be paid on top of the housing benefit. He said that in this day and age this was totally unacceptable and in relation to the strength of the report, there was a need for a buy in from Developers and others who buy up retail businesses and turn them into 2-bedroom apartments, which are unacceptable for families. He said that MUDC's Planning Department were also to blame for approving these type of buildings as they approved town houses outside the town and there was a need to grasp this and have more homes adapted for families. He suggested a simple solution called mixed tenure development where a development is not approved unless some goes towards social housing.

Councillor Kerr supported Councillor Monteith's comments and said that there was a similar problem in Coalisland regarding social housing, with people being the working poor and having to choose between feeding their families or paying rent. He said that unfortunately there will more poverty-stricken families after the furlough scheme ends and no employment opportunities and these 2 areas will be the hardest hit.

Councillor Wilson sought clarification on item 3.2 and enquired if all the phased land was used up in Dungannon.

The Head of Community Development advised that phased land still remained and that social housing development was important and NIHE are re-examining potential sites

and any issues regarding these. This was agreed at an earlier meeting of members as the current social housing list was mainly retail units.

Councillor Monteith noted that it is important if Council invests this money in the pilot plan that there needs to be action from this.

The Head of Community Development stated that it was about getting the right people around the table at the beginning and having everyone involved in the development of a specification and ensuring commitment at this time. Due to the level of proposals currently it is important that this is taking forward as soon as possible and setting up a working group to progress this issue.

Councillor Wilson said that it was strange that Dungannon was considering phase II land for social housing as the phased land for Cookstown hasn't been considered; he is aware of one such site discussion. He asked that a report be brought to a future meeting on the difference between Dungannon and Cookstown.

The Chair concurred with members comments about extortionate rental prices, with rental prices over £600 in Cookstown. He referred to people living in social housing and in receipt of housing benefit expected to pay an extra £20 per week to cover their rent.

Councillor Black left the meeting at 8.15 pm

Councillor Corry said that it was important that this matter be sorted as soon as possible and agreed with Councillor Kerr's theory that things were going to get more difficult for people once furlough ends and people end up losing their jobs.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith
Seconded by Councillor Kerr and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council:

- (i) To note update on social housing issues and plans to address them
- (ii) To commit up to £10,000 towards the development of a Place Shaping Plan for Dungannon with a further 50% match from NIHE (from within existing budgets).

D119/20 Community Development Report

The Head of Community Development presented previously circulated report to update members on the following:

- Grants – approval sought for rolling Good Relations Grants
- Peace IV – approval sought for Peace IV proposals and to note the update
- Community Development – to note the Community Development update

In response to Councillor Ashton's query regarding Good Relations DOA Events, the Head of Community Development advised these had to be completed by March 2021.

Councillor Burton declared an interest in Ulster in Bloom as a member of NILGA.

Councillor Burton referred to appendix 1, Good Relations Report, Ulster in Bloom 2021 and sought clarification if this event was going ahead next year.

Councillor Milne left the meeting at 8.17 pm.

The Head of Community Development said that the project was anticipated to be delivered as the main element of the project being funded is bringing the diverse groups and people together from across the village through planting.

Councillor Burton said that there was no issue but it could be a bit misleading re the title.

Councillor Black returned to the meeting at 8.19 pm.

Proposed by Councillor Doris
Seconded by Councillor Kerr and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve:

- (i) Grant award recommendations for Good Relations totaling £3,000
- (ii) Peace IV extension end date of June 2021 and Peace IV update
- (iii) Note the contents of Community Development report.

D120/20 Economic Development Report

Councillor Milne returned to the meeting at 8.20 pm.

The Head of Economic Development presented previously circulated report to update members and sought approval for the following:

(1) Christmas Off Street Car Parking Charges - Dungannon & Magherafelt

To boost trade over the Christmas period during the last 5 years, Council previously agreed to introduce a reduced tariff car parking scheme in Dungannon and Magherafelt. Approval sought to bring into effect a similar scheme this year to support the local retail sector.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith
Seconded by Councillor Kearney and

Resolved Christmas Off Street Car Parking Charges – Dungannon & Magherafelt
Implement a temporary reduced tariff for the first 3 hours of 10 pence in all Off Street Pay & Display Car Parks in Dungannon and Magherafelt during the Christmas period from Saturday 21 November 2020 to Saturday 2 January 2021 (6-week period) at a cost of £23,400.

Councillor Monteith said that for a few years he had been arguing the fact that carparking should be free and now post Covid, this should be the case more than ever as more shops are closing and people highlight the fact that carparking charges deters them from coming into town centres. He said that there was supposed to be a pilot scheme carried out and doesn't know what

become of that but welcomed the reduction in carparking charges for Christmas.

The Chair advised that the pilot scheme had been brought to the Environment Committee for decision with the first 2 hours free across all carparks to see if it was viable.

(2) DAERA Public Consultation – Further Education (FE) Support & Charging Policy at the College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise (CAFRE)

DAERA has launched a public consultation on a Review of Further Education Support and Charging Policy at CAFRE. They provide a range of full-time and part-time further and higher education courses as well as industry training course at CAFRE. The courses cover agriculture, equine, food, horticulture and business for agri-food and rural enterprise. Permission sought to approve the draft consultation response to enable it to be submitted to DAERA before closing date for submissions of 11th September 2020.

Proposed by Councillor Corry
Seconded by Councillor Milne and

Resolved DAERA Public Consultation – Further Education Support & Charging Policy at the College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise (CAFRE)

Delegate authority to the Development Committee to approve the draft consultation response to enable it to be submitted to DAERA before the closing date for submissions of 11th September 2020.

Councillor Clarke left the meeting at 8.23 pm.

(3) Review of Council's Online Business Directory

The function of this directory is to provide a facility for Mid Ulster businesses to include their details on Mid Ulster District Council's Online Business Directory

Councillor Ashton enquired if the Council community services database was just for the Council or for public use.

The Head of Economic Development advised that she believed the Council's community database was an internal database.

Councillor Ashton said that she would have an issue with removing community groups from the platform and would propose putting these groups back on a database for public use.

Councillor Clarke returned to the meeting at 8.26 pm.

She referred to appendix 2, item 3 where it seemed to review the complaints regarding religious beliefs and then on page 8 referred to “political beliefs” was raised again and felt that this needed checking or screening. She said that she would not be supporting this regardless of their background and if people were willing to work with community then Council should work with them.

The Director of Business and Communities advised that it was appropriate that businesses are seen to be acting responsibly and that going forward they would be offered the option of completing an Equality Monitoring Form.

Proposed by Councillor Ashton

Seconded by Councillor Burton and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that going forward that a community platform be publicly advertised on the Council’s website.

Councillor Ashton said that the community groups section should not have been removed from the business directory in the first instance due to the great work being carried out i.e. Niamh Louise Foundation.

The Director of Business and Communities in response to member’s query, advised that a policy approach would be brought forward on the issue to Council’s P&R Committee.

Proposed by Councillor Milne

Seconded by Councillor Corry and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that approval be granted to:

Review of Council’s Online Business Directory

Approving the recommendations contained in the Review of Council’s Online Business Directory.

D121/20 A29 Cookstown and Dungannon By-Passes

The Director of Business & Communities presented previously circulated report to:

- (1) Update member on the progress of the A29 Cookstown by-pass project
- (2) Seek agreement with Dungannon DEA elected members to form a working group with officials from the Department of Infrastructure (DfI) to progress a by-pass scheme for Dungannon

The Chair advised members that the bimonthly meetings with DfI representatives were very useful and this meeting should be extended to discuss Dungannon also but felt that

there was a need to start identifying Moneymore too as an issue as it was becoming a problem due to traffic congestion.

Councillor Clarke agreed that Moneymore needed to be kept on the radar as it was the 3rd link from north to south.

Councillor Cuddy said that it was great to see Cookstown progressing as our Council extends from Swatragh to Fivemiletown and stated that primary things needed to be done and learn from the Cookstown Councillors.

Councillor Kearney felt it was a good day for Mid Ulster due to the launch of the Mid South West Growth Deal Economic Strategy.

Proposed by Councillor Cuddy

Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that approval be granted to:

- (i) Note update on the progress of the A29 Cookstown by-pass scheme
- (ii) Form a working group comprising Dungannon DEA elected members and officers from the Department of Infrastructure (DfI) to progress the development of a by-pass scheme in Dungannon

**D122/20 Department for Communities Access and Inclusion Programme
2020/21**

The Head of Culture & Arts presented previously circulated report to:

- (1) Inform members of the 2020/21 Department for Communities Access and Inclusion funding programme
- (2) Seek Council approval to participate in the 2020/21 Department for Communities Access and Inclusion Scheme and to request project submissions from internal Arts & Culture, Leisure, Parks, Tourism Services and to assess submissions received in advance of submitting all project applications to the Department for Communities for further project funding assessment.

Councillor Corry said that this was a great opportunity for projects as it would create a positive impact for people who may be otherwise disadvantaged.

Proposed by Councillor Corry

Seconded by Councillor Kerr and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that approval be granted to:

- (i) Participation in the 2020/21 DfC Access and Inclusion Programme
- (ii) Council requesting project submissions from internal Culture, Arts, Leisure Parks, Recreational and Tourism services to form applications for funding to the 2020/21 DfC Access and Inclusion Programme.

Matters for Information

D123/20 Minutes of Development Committee held on 9 July 2020

Members noted Minutes of Development Committee held on 9 July 2020.

D124/20 OM Dark Sky Park & Observatory, Davagh

Members noted update on the progress and scheduled official launch of the OM Dark Sky Park and Observatory, Davagh Forest.

Councillor Ashton referred to page 98 and stated that there was a typo error on the report and should read “BBC Northern Ireland”.

Councillor Doris enquired if there was any possibility of arranging a site visit to the OM Dark Skies Project for members.

The Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation advised that there would be an opportunity for a visit for members and the community before opening the venue to the public.

Councillor Black commended the work by Officers to get the project to this stage and said that from looking at the images, it looks spectacular. He said that it was unfortunate that the project won't get the launch it deserves at this current time.

He referred to the financial impact with the possibility of a 70% decrease in tourist footfall and increased costs regarding Covid restrictions and asked if it would be possible for a report to be brought back to committee on the impact Covid was having on tourism, arts, leisure and other venues used by the public.

The Director of Business and Communities advised that budget predictions were due to commence shortly, and similarly for other venues like theatres etc. which were unlikely to open this side of Christmas. There will be challenging times ahead as no performances can be booked but officers will do their best to try and keep things moving forward.

D125/20 Macmillan Move More Service Update

Members noted update which provided information on a research and evaluation report completed in partnership with Queen's University Belfast and Macmillan, demonstrating how proactive the Macmillan Move More Programme has been throughout the Covid pandemic.

D126/20 Leisure – Covid 19 Recovery Update

Members noted update on the response from the Leisure Team to the Covid 19 pandemic and the ongoing engagement and contact with customers and users of Council Leisure Services.

Councillor Cuddy said that these were worrying times for the public and private sectors and stated at the beginning of Covid, the Council stated that they would be eligible to get

10% back and enquired where we were presently and also asked about Furlough and leisure staff who received it.

The Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation advised that centre managers were all working at all levels through the pandemic. Staff up to Duty Managers were furloughed but were back at work by June. She said that family packages had been introduced this week and the service had been building reassurance and confidence within the community to use leisure facilities, with positive feedback being received. She stated that income was below where it had been but anticipated that when the swimming lesson programme was launched things should improve.

Councillor Cuddy said that it was the Councillors responsibility to find out where we were financially.

D127/20 Mid Ulster Walking and Hillwalking Festival

Members noted update on the upcoming walking festival.

Councillor Corry said that she welcomed the report and commended officers on their work in such a short period of time. She stated that Mid Ulster had some magnificent walking opportunities and felt that during the Covid pandemic walking had been reignited again and suggested that marketing be considered to enhance this.

She enquired about promotional adverts for Carntogher Way Walk and if this was taking taken on board.

The Head of Tourism advised that a date still had to be finalised for Carntogher Walk but would be worked upon.

Councillor Doris enquired if there was any update on DEA meetings for Councillors for their local areas.

The Head of Tourism said to date that this still hadn't been progressed but were looking at a complement across the District of long and short walking routes and advised that there would be consultations over the next couple of weeks to progress this.

Councillor Ashton referred to £10pp rate and enquired if there were any packages if any individual wished to take part in 3 walking opportunities.

The Head of Tourism advised that to date there has been no package for groups but going forward this can be investigated.

D128/20 EA Youth Engagement Mid Ulster

Members noted update on the Education Authority (EA) funding support for Youth Services in Mid Ulster.

Councillor Monteith said that he welcomed the fact that there was communication between staff and Education Authority (EA) but felt that there needed to a further

development for co-ordination of working together moving forward. He stated that youth clubs were going to be hindered and our programmes needed to be adapted with more money being put into youth activity. He said that this could include staff being trained up to do more youth outreach. He stated that although the youth got bad press, they went through a horrific time over the last few months and that blame towards them was unwarranted as they were responsible in protecting their families. He suggested that the youth outreach be moved forward with possible areas identified like the Hill of The O'Neill and Burnavon arts, education outreach and street arts.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith
Seconded by Councillor Corry and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to investigate opportunities for officers to work with Education Authority on working in co-ordination to enhance youth activity in the area and source possible areas for outreach and street arts.

Councillor Corry referred to youth services in Maghera and why were there two contracts in this area for the north and south and enquired why this might be.

The Head of Community Development said that the EA had noted this was due to previous youth delivery which had worked well in the area.

D129/20 Economic Development Report – OBF1

Members noted correspondence relating to the following:

- Ministerial Launch of Council's £1million Business Support Package
- Cookstown Town Centre Forum Minutes
- Coalisland Town Centre Forum Minutes
- Magherafelt Town Centre Forum Minutes
- Maghera Town Centre Forum Minutes

Councillor Burton declared an interest in item 2.1 as relative is employed by PJD Safety Supplies.

Live broadcast ended at 8.50 pm.

Local Government (NI) Act 2014 – Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor Clarke
Seconded by Councillor Corry 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 Members consider items D130/20 to D137/20.

Matters for Decision

- D130/20 Reservoirs Safety Management Appointment of Integrated Consultancy Team
- D131/20 Moydamlaght Forest Permissive Path Agreement
- D132/20 Meadowbank Sports Arena Carpet
- D133/20 Sports NI Multi Facility Fund Application

Matters for Information

- D134/20 Confidential Minutes of Development Committee held on 9 July 2020
- D135/20 Greenvale Leisure Centre
- D136/20 Culture & Arts Update Report
- D137/20 Economic Development Report

D138/20 Duration of Meeting

The meeting was called for 7.00 pm and concluded at 9.10 pm.

Chair _____

Date _____

Report on	Consideration of Requests for Civic Recognition
Date of Meeting	Thursday 24 September 2020
Reporting Officer	P Moffett, Head of Democratic Services
Contact Officer	E Forde, Member Support Officer

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 consider approval of request(s) for civic recognition from members, in line with council's current <i>Civic Honour and Receptions Policy</i> .
1.2	In the context of the Coronavirus outbreak in March 2020, the Council has been transacting essential business only from this period. Reports on civic recognition have not been considered over this period
2.0	Background
2.1	All requests for recognition are to be submitted with Democratic Services using the pro-forma, <i>Request for Civic Recognition: Civic Honour & Civic Reception</i> . Requests for recognition are reviewed against the categories and associated criteria contained within the policy as detailed at 2.2.
2.2	<p><u>Recognition</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Civic Honour: recognition will be permissible when the following has been achieved at an All-Ireland, European, International, or National level:<div><p>Have won first place at a competition in their relevant field at the highest level of competition</p><p>Have received an outstanding achievement award at the highest level. Outstanding achievement relates to when a participant or group has not been involved in a competition</p></div>Civic Reception: will be permissible for individual, groups or organisations when:<div><p>Representing their country at International, European, All-Ireland or National level at the highest level</p></div>

	Winning first place at a competition at the highest level at a Northern Ireland or Provincial level in the relevant field at the highest level of competition
	Receiving an outstanding achievement award at the highest level at a Northern Ireland or Provincial level. Outstanding achievement relates to when a participant or group has not been involved in a competition
2.3	<p><u>Processing the Request</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewed against the policy/criteria • Reviewed to identify if recognition provided for similar achievement within 3 years prior to this • Requests meeting criteria will be recommended to Council for Civic Honour or Civic Reception • Requests not meeting criteria will be recommended to receive letter from Council Chair
2.4	Appendix A details those requests received for recommendation to and approval by council. The request have been categorised in line with the revised policy.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Implementation of the policy allows the Council in acknowledging the achievements of organisations and persons from the district, as put forward by members. Recognition requests received from Members since the meeting of Council in February 2020 have been categorised, details of which are set out within appendix A to this report.
3.2	Due to the outbreak of COVID-19, Council has been transacting essential business only and reports/requests for same have not been brought to Council since the outbreak. It is proposed that requests as detailed in Appendix A, where agreed, should be dealt with as previously resolved by April Council that is, recipients will receive a letter together with award as appropriate.
3.3	Members will be aware it has been agreed to review the existing Policy and associated arrangements. Meetings of the working group have taken place and a report will be brought to Committee in due course.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: not applicable
	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 Members give consideration to approving civic recognition requests as presented and be dealt with as previously resolved by April Council in that recipients receive a letter together with an award, where appropriate.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	Appendix A: Civic Recognitions Recommended for Approval

Appendix A: September 2020 Requests for Civic Recognition Submitted: For Approval

Category: Civic Honour

Proposed Recipient	Achievement	Submitted by	Condition/Criteria Met	Recipient Previously Acknowledged
None				

Category: Civic Reception

Proposed Recipient	Achievement	Submitted by	Condition/Criteria Met	Recipient Previously Acknowledged
None			•	

Other: Letter from Council Chair

Where it is deemed that conditions/criteria have not been met for a civic reception, civic award or chair & deputy chair reception a letter from the Council Chair is recommended. This may also be in instances where recipients have previously received a reception or award for the same or similar achievement.

Proposed Recipient	Achievement	Submitted by
Moortown Senior Ladies GAA	Junior B Championship County Tyrone Final	Cllr D Kerr
Naomh Colum Cille	Junior Hurling Title County Tyrone Final	Cllr D Kerr

Report on	Conferences, Seminars & Training
Date of Meeting	24 September 2020
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	x

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	Provide an update on seminars and conferences received. To seek approval for (i) elected member attendance and the payment of registration/ attendance fees and associated costs, as incurred and, (ii) council officer approvals.
2.0	Background
2.1	Costs associated will be set against 2020-21 member Conference, Seminar and Training allocations.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>Approval for Consideration of Attendance by Elected Members</p> <p>There are occasions when it is beneficial to Members to attend training, conferences and seminars to better equip them in their role as elected representatives. There are currently no requests.</p>
3.2	<p>Officer Approvals</p> <p>There are occasions when it is beneficial to the council for Officers to attend conferences and seminars. Approval for attendance as detailed in Appendix A to this report is sought.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p>Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications</p> <p>Financial: Costs to be set against Members 2019/20 conference/seminar/training allocation. Any costs incurred above annual allocation to be incurred by Member</p> <p>Human: not applicable</p>

	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	Approval for attendance at the conferences, seminars and training by members and council officers as required.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	Appendix A Officers Conferences, Seminars & Training

Approval - Conferences

Conference & Seminar	Date	No. of Attendees	Location	Attendance Fee (Yes/ No)
Next Steps for Skills & Apprenticeships	8/10/20	1	E Conference	Yes
RTPI NI Conference – Connected Neighbourhoods	15/9/20	1	Webinar	No
RTPI NI Conference – Integrated approach to future development through Development Plan	16/9/20	1	Webinar	No

Report on	Correspondence to Council - September 2020
Date of Meeting	Thurs 24 th September 2020
Reporting Officer	P Moffett, Head of Democratic Services
Contact Officer	P Moffett, Head of Democratic Services

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	Provide an update on correspondence received for attention of Council.
2.0	Background
2.1	This paper refers to correspondence to be brought to the attention of Council. Items are referred to in 3.0 below.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>Correspondence from Fermanagh & Omagh District Council</p> <p>The Chief Executive of Fermanagh & Omagh DC has copied the Council into a letter issued to the Minister of Health on the future provision of domiciliary care homes and their need to be brought into public ownership.</p> <p>Appendix A refers to correspondence from Fermanagh & Omagh DC.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: not applicable
	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 Council notes and considers, as necessary, the correspondence received.

6.0	Documents Attached & References
	Appendix A: Fermanagh & Omagh District Council



Our Ref: Democratic Services

Date: 21 August 2020

Email: democratic.services@fermanaghmagh.com

Mr Robin Swann MLA
Minister of Health
Department of Health
Castle Buildings
Stormont
BELFAST
BT4 3SQ

Dear Minister,

Re: Care Homes

At the Council meeting held on 20 July 2020, during discussions relating to the adverse impact Coronavirus has had on Care Homes, Members voiced their concerns about domiciliary care services in general across Northern Ireland, with several Members stating their belief that domiciliary care services should be part of the National Health Service.

On this basis, the Council has asked that I write to you, to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) and to all Councils across the island of Ireland to urge for the need for Care Homes to be brought into public ownership in the context of an all-island health care service, free at the point of entry.

Similar representations have been made to the Health and Safety Executive and this correspondence has been copied to all Councils across the island of Ireland.

The Council would ask that collaborative working is undertaken between all key stakeholders to consider the possibility of the Council's proposal for domiciliary care in the context of an all-island health care service free at the point of entry.

The Council looks forward to your receiving your response.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Alison McCullagh".

Alison McCullagh
Chief Executive

Report on	Consultations notified to Mid Ulster District Council
Date of Meeting	24 September 2020
Reporting Officer	Philip Moffett, Head of Democratic Services
Contact Officer	Ann McAleer, Corporate Policy and Equality Officer

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 on the consultations notified to Mid Ulster District Council for comment.
2.0	Background
2.1	Council is a consultee for many government departments and statutory agencies, and as such receives consultation documentation inviting commentary on a wide range of issues that may be pertinent to council services and/or the District.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Documentation relating to the aforementioned consultations can be accessed via the links provided in the table provided in Appendix A.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: N/A
	Human: N/A
	Risk Management: N/A
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: None
	Rural Needs Implications: None
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members review and note consultations notified to Mid Ulster District Council.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	Appendix A: Details of Current Consultations

Appendix A: Details of Current Consultations

Organisation	Consultation Title	Issue	Closing Date	Response Currently Being Developed
Department for the Economy	Transposition of the 2019 Electricity (Recast) Directive Consultation	On 5 June 2019 the European Commission made The Electricity (Recast) Directive on the internal market for electricity which applies from 1 January 2021 and has a transposition date of 31 December 2020. While much of the scope of the Directive builds on policies and procedures brought forward in the 2009 Directive, it contains a number of new policies which require fresh consideration. The Department is now seeking views and comments from stakeholders on a number of issues raised within the Directive and on our proposed approach to transposition.	Fri 16 th October 2020	
	Link to Consultation	https://www.economy-ni.gov.uk/consultations/transposition-2019-electricity-recast-directive		
	Delegated Authority required to be granted to a Committee if Council agrees that a response should be made (where an extension is not given)?		Yes	
Organisation	Consultation Title	Issue	Closing Date	Response Currently Being Developed
Northern Ireland Local Government Association (NILGA)	Transformation and Driving Practical Change in Local Government	This consultation takes the form of a questionnaire and focuses on the realignment of NILGA's 2020/21 Work-plan, as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.	Friday 11th December 2020	

	Link to Consultation	Documents are available upon request via ann.mcaleer@midulstercouncil.org		
	Delegated Authority required to be granted to a Committee if Council agrees that a response should be made (where an extension is not given)?		No	
Organisation	Consultation Title	Issue	Closing Date	Response Currently Being Developed
Food Standards Agency (NI)	Proposed approach to domestic legislation relating to food and feed safety and hygiene, food compositional standards and food labelling (including nutrition labelling) in Northern Ireland	This consultation is on the FSA's proposed approach relating to food and feed safety and hygiene, food compositional standards and food labelling (including nutrition labelling) in Northern Ireland. It concerns technical amendments to domestic legislation required to reflect the application of the Withdrawal Agreement and Protocol on Ireland/Northern Ireland to ensure NI food and feed law remains effective at the end of the Transition Period.	Wed 14 th October 2020	
	Link to Consultation	https://www.food.gov.uk/news-alerts/consultations/the-proposed-approach-to-domestic-legislation-relating-to-food-and-feed-safety-and-hygiene-food-compositional-standards-and-food		
	Delegated Authority required to be granted to a Committee if Council agrees that a response should be made (where an extension is not given)?		Yes	

