



05 July 2021

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Environment Committee to be held in The Chamber, Magherafelt and by virtual means Council Offices, Ballyronan Road, Magherafelt, BT45 6EN on Monday, 05 July 2021 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

Adrian McCreesh
Chief Executive

AGENDA

OPEN BUSINESS

1. Apologies
2. Declarations of Interest
Members should declare any financial and non-financial interests they have in the items of business for consideration, identifying the relevant agenda item and the nature of their interest.
3. Chair's Business
4. Deputation: NI Houses of Multiple Occupation Unit

Matters for Decision

- | | | |
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| 5. | Consultation on proposed changes to the NI Carrier Bag Levy | 3 - 16 |
| 6. | Consultation response on additional protection for service animals in Northern Ireland | 17 - 76 |
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Matters for Information

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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

17. Newbridge Picnic Area
18. Installation of Memorial Tree on Council Property
19. Pest Control Services - Update
20. Pavement Café Licence - Application
21. Purchase of Monitor

Matters for Information

22. Confidential Minutes of Environment Committee held on 15 June 2021
23. Ferry Bridge Cycle/Footway, Derryloughan
24. Capital Framework – ICT Contracts Update
25. Capital Framework – IST Contracts Update
26. Capital Projects – Scoping Contracts Update

Report on	Consultation on proposed changes to the NI Carrier Bag Levy
Date of Meeting	5 th July 2021
Reporting Officer	Mark McAdoo, Head of Environmental Services
Contact Officer	Mark McAdoo, Head of Environmental 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	To seek approval to submit a response to the consultation on the NI Carrier Bag Levy.
2.0	Background
2.1	The Department for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) have published a consultation on the Carrier Bag Levy in Northern Ireland (NI). The Department has taken the decision to consult on changes to The Single Use Carrier Bags Charge Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 in order to build and enhance the existing legislation.
2.2	The consultation opened on 1 st June and the deadline for responses is 27 th July 2021.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The levy in NI is the most extensive of carrier bag levies across the UK; it applies to all bags; not just single use and plastic bags. The proceeds are collected and processed by DAERA and used to both promote and sustain the wider NI environmental sector.
3.2	The 5 pence levy was introduced in April 2013 and initially applied only to single use bags. The scope of the levy was extended in January 2015 and is currently applicable to all bags with a retail price of less than 20 pence (the charging threshold). The primary objective of the levy is to influence customer behaviour to promote a significant reduction in bag usage. Published annual usage statistics for the existing levy show that the introduction of the levy across NI in 2013 had a significantly positive impact, reducing carrier bag use by 73.2% from the 2012 baseline figure of 300 million carrier bags.
3.3	While statistics also show a year on year decrease in overall bag usage since the introduction of the levy, the Department is now concerned that the volume of heavy duty carrier bags entering the NI retail and supply sector are not being reused and, regrettably, will often end up in landfill sites. So whilst it is clear that the existing levy has been successful, the Department now intends reviewing the related legislation.
3.4	In the seven years of existence in NI the levy has generated proceeds in excess of £32m which has subsequently been reinvested to support a broad range of local and country wide environmental projects. While the levels of funding have varied to support small, medium and large projects many of these initiatives have been funded through the NI

	Environment Fund, which enables not for profit organisations and councils to deliver key environmental interventions.
3.6	Across the NI retail sector many retailers have already taken steps to reduce the use of single use carrier bags by withdrawing them completely from circulation, replacing them with thicker bags which they designate as reusable. While this is to be commended and it is clear that significant progress has been made in reducing the use of single use bags, it should be recognised that further proactive and preventative action can be taken to continue to reduce usage of bags of all materials and protect our natural environment.
3.7	DAERA statistics and related trend analysis show that there has already been a move away from using single use bags across NI since the levy was introduced in 2013. These statistics show that 95% of bags dispensed in 2014/15 were those identified as single use carrier bags, compared to only 48% in 2019/20, a significant drop of 47%. While this reduction is encouraging, it should be recognised that a 48% usage figure still represents a high number of single use carrier bags which are in circulation and a significant change in consumer behaviour is still required to encourage further reductions.
3.8	Field based research clearly evidence that heavier, thicker bags, which are significantly more harmful to the environment, have become the main bag dispensed by retailers in NI (making up 52% of the figures available for the latest annual validated statistics). This clearly demonstrates that these heavier thicker bags have now become the new “throw away” bag as they are not being reused as often as was originally intended. These bags are significantly more harmful to the environment and further action is needed to address this potentially negative trend which represents a significant and increased environmental risk and also potentially threatens the ongoing successful impact of the levy.
3.9	Also carrier bags continue to contribute to the litter on our streets and a survey by Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful funded by DAERA in 2019ii, found that there were 1.3 million pieces of litter on our streets at any one time equating to 28 tonnes of rubbish resulting in an annual clean-up bill of £45 million. A total of 71% of all waste collected was made up of plastics, part of which, although significantly less than previously, is from plastic bags. Any reduction in carrier bags being provided to consumers in shops will reduce the overall litter on our streets and save money in cleaning throughout NI.
3.10	<p>The impact of carrier bags made from other materials also needs to be addressed. The Carrier Bags Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 amended the term ‘single use carrier bag’ to ‘carrier bag’ and extended the levy in NI to bags of all materials. This along with a number of other factors would point to the need to re-evaluate the current Carrier Bag levy policy incorporating changes to the list of exemptions, including the pricing threshold and the current charge. Proposals outlined in the consultation are therefore as follows:</p> <p>A - Proposal to increase the levy on all carrier bags to a minimum of either 20 pence or 25 pence.</p> <p>B - Proposal to simplify exemptions by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Removing the exemption for bags which are sold to customers for a sum of not less than 20 pence each.</i> • <i>Removing the exemption for gusseted liners used to line or cover boxes, crates or other containers of a similar nature.</i> • <i>Removing the exemption for bags used on board ships, trains, aircraft, coaches, buses and in areas designated as security restricted (with the exception of Security Tamper Evident Bags (STEB)).</i>

3.11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removing the exemption for bags made wholly from paper with no gusset or handle and with maximum dimensions of 175mm x 260mm. • Removing the exemption for bags made wholly from plastic, with no gusset or handle with maximum dimensions of 125mm x 125mm. • Removing the exemption for bags made wholly from paper, with no handle with maximum dimensions of 80mm (wide) x 50mm (gusset width) x 155mm (height). • Introducing an exemption for bags of any material with no handle, to include a gusset width no greater than 50mm and maximum dimensions of 125mm x 155mm <p>In addition to the changes being proposed above the Department are reserving any decision on the current exemptions for bags used to contain hot foods or hot drinks intended for consumption away from the premises on which they are sold and intend to revisit this in line with their current Single Use Plastics and Green Growth strategies.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: None
	Human: None
	Risk Management: None
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: The consultation includes an Equality & Disability Duties Screening Template
	Rural Needs Implications: The consultation includes a Rural Needs Impact Assessment (RNIA) Template
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are requested to approve the submission of a response to the NI Carrier Bag Levy consultation and to provide their views on whether to support the proposals to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> increase the levy on all carrier bags to a minimum of 20 or 25 pence. simplify exemptions by amending the exemptions as outlined
6.0	Attachment(s)
6.1	Consultation document on proposed changes to the Carrier Bag Levy



Consultation on proposed changes to the Carrier Bag Levy.

1 June 2021

Sustainability at the heart of a living, working, active landscape valued by everyone.



Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**
www.daera-ni.gov.uk





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To get a copy of this document in another format contact:

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111 Ballykelly Road,
Ballykelly,
Limavady,
BT49 9HP

Email: carrierbaglevy@daera-ni.gov.uk



1. Purpose of this consultation

This consultation aims to review the Carrier Bag Levy legislation currently in place in Northern Ireland (NI) with the aim of further reducing the number of carrier bags in circulation in order to continue to support positive environmental change.

2. Strategic context

Northern Ireland's environment is our most important asset and it is crucial to members of the public that we continue to protect and enhance it. The NI Executive's Programme for Government, Outcome 2 - we live and work sustainably, protecting the environment, aims to put a healthy environment at the heart of future Government policies whilst maintaining sustainable economic growth. Environmentally friendly products, processes and practices should impose no harm to the natural environment, whilst helping to conserve resources like water and energy and prevent contributions to air, water and land pollution. Continuing with negative environmental behaviours will have a detrimental impact on the things we value and all members of the public in NI are responsible for minimising our negative environmental impacts where possible. The Department for its part, in seeking to deliver its vision, will continue to strive for sustainability at the heart of a living, working, active landscape valued by all.

The Department aims to encourage a more sustainable environment and circular economy for everyone across NI with the reduction in usage of all carrier bags, a central building block of these targets. In the *"New Decade, New approach"* document the NI Executive made a firm commitment to prepare a plan to eliminate plastic pollution. These proposals are an important element of delivering on this commitment, as any changes to the scope or existing charging regime of the NI Carrier Bag Levy (the levy) will deliver a further decrease in the use of some of the most harmful plastics.

3. Background to the levy

The levy in NI is the most extensive of carrier bag levies across the UK; it applies to all bags and not just single use and plastic. The proceeds are collected and processed by DAERA and used to both promote and sustain the wider NI environmental sector.

The 5 pence levy was introduced in April 2013 as part of the then Department of the Environment's Sustainable Waste Management Strategy and initially applied only to single use bags. The scope of the levy was extended in January 2015 and is currently applicable to all bags with a retail price of less than 20 pence (the charging threshold). The primary objective of the levy is to influence customer behaviour to promote a significant reduction in bag usage.

Published annual usage statistics for the existing levy show that the introduction of the levy across NI in 2013 had a significantly positive impact, reducing carrier bag use by 73.2% (in excess of 1.5 billion bags) from the 2012 baseline figure of 300 million carrier bags. While



statistics also show a year on year decrease in overall bag usage since the introduction of the levy, the Department is now concerned that the volume of heavy duty carrier bags entering the NI retail and supply sector are not being reused and, regrettably, will often end up in landfill sites. While it is clear that the existing legislation has been successful, it is important to ensure it remains relevant and as such, the Department now intends reviewing the current legislation.

4. How is the levy used?

In the seven years of existence in NI the levy has generated proceeds in excess of £32m which has subsequently been reinvested to support a broad range of local and country wide environmental projects. While the levels of funding have varied to support small, medium and large projects many of these initiatives have been funded through the NI Environment Fund, which enables not for profit organisations and councils to deliver key environmental interventions. Previous recipients are both wide ranging and cross cutting, including Keep NI Beautiful which inspires our citizens to create cleaner, greener and more sustainable and healthy communities, Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council which created access and connectivity from Glenmore Activity Centre into the Deadwall Plantation and supported wildlife and natural habitats, the National Trust working within the Mourne Mountains, also our local councils enabling them to use innovative and sustainable methods to promote air quality.

5. Current trends

Across the NI retail sector many retailers have already taken steps to reduce the use of single use carrier bags by withdrawing them completely from circulation, replacing them with thicker bags which they designate as reusable. While this is to be commended and it is clear that significant progress has been made in reducing the use of single use bags, it should be recognised that further proactive and preventative action can be taken to continue to reduce usage of bags of all materials and protect our natural environment.

The existing legislation which has already delivered a “*Small Charge, Big Change*” and which focused on ‘bring your own bag’, now needs to be reviewed to reflect developing environmental and retail trends.

Figures from annual DAERA statisticsⁱ and related trend analysis show that there has already been a move away from using single use bags across NI since the levy was introduced in 2013. These statistics show that 95% of bags dispensed in 2014/15 were those identified as single use carrier bags, compared to only 48% in 2019/20, a significant drop of 47%. While this reduction is encouraging, it should be recognised that a 48% usage figure still represents a high number of single use carrier bags which are in circulation and a significant change in consumer behaviour is still required to encourage further reductions.

DAERA statistics and field based research clearly evidence that heavier, thicker bags, which are significantly more harmful to the environment, have become the main bag dispensed by retailers in NI (making up 52% of the figures available for the latest annual validated statistics).



This clearly demonstrates that these heavier thicker bags have now become the new “*throw away*” bag as they are not being reused as often as was originally intended. These bags are significantly more harmful to the environment and we must act quickly to address this potentially negative trend which represents a significant and increased environmental risk and also potentially threatens the ongoing successful impact of the levy. Action by the Department is now required in an effort to reinforce the messages of “*bring your own bag*” and “*reuse your bags as often as you can*”.

Many large retailers have already increased their bag prices to 20 pence and above and therefore now operate outside the scope of the levy. These figures are not included in the Department’s annual validated statistics and it is clear that consumers have and are regularly purchasing bags at this price.

6. Evidence for change

Carrier bags continue to contribute to the litter on our streets and a survey by Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful funded by DAERA in 2019ⁱⁱ, found that there were 1.3 million pieces of litter on our streets at any one time equating to 28 tonnes of rubbish resulting in an annual clean-up bill of £45 million. A total of 71% of all waste collected was made up of plastics, part of which, although significantly less than previously, is from plastic bags. Any reduction in carrier bags being provided to consumers in shops will reduce the overall litter on our streets and save money in cleaning throughout NI.

The impact of carrier bags made from other materials should also be addressed. The Carrier Bags Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 amended the term ‘single use carrier bag’ to ‘carrier bag’ and extended the levy in NI to bags of all materials. This was as a direct result of research which clearly showed the environmental impact of the supply and use of all carrier bags, regardless of materialⁱⁱⁱ. A Greenpeace/Environmental Investigations Agency study detailed that in 2019^{iv}, 10 UK companies (representing 95.2% of the UK grocery retail market) reported distributing 525 million single-use carrier bags and 1.58 billion ‘bags for life’, described as the heavier duty reusable option. It is clear from this data that many people are simply swapping ‘single-use’ plastic bags for these bags for ‘life’.

7. Conclusion

The levy in NI has already delivered a “*Small Charge, Big Change*” but further work is required to review and potentially strengthen existing Carrier Bag Levy policy in NI to ensure that it continues to deliver its policy objectives. Officials are now aware of a number of factors which would point to the need to re-evaluate our current Carrier Bag levy policy incorporating changes to the list of exemptions, including the pricing threshold and the current charge.

Other environmental trends and changes also now need to be considered within the levy regime, for example the renewed emphasis on minimising the use of single use plastic in line with the UK Government’s 25 year Environmental Plan.



It should be recognised that both further and wider societal impacts and behavioural changes are required. Promotion of a greater awareness by members of the public in NI of their environment and how we all use and dispose of our natural resources must be paramount in our thinking at both local and global levels. While the NI Assembly work primarily for everyone in NI we also must consider global environmental concerns and as such *“Act Locally, Think Globally”*.

8. Proposals

A - Proposal to increase the levy on all carrier bags to a minimum of either 20 pence or 25 pence.

B - Proposal to simplify exemptions by:

- Removing the exemption for bags which are sold to customers for a sum of not less than 20 pence each.
- Removing the exemption for gusseted liners used to line or cover boxes, crates or other containers of a similar nature.
- Removing the exemption for bags used on board ships, trains, aircraft, coaches, buses and in areas designated as security restricted (with the exception of Security Tamper Evident Bags (STEB)).
- Removing the exemption for bags made wholly from paper with no gusset or handle and with maximum dimensions of 175mm x 260mm.
- Removing the exemption for bags made wholly from plastic, with no gusset or handle with maximum dimensions of 125mm x 125mm.
- Removing the exemption for bags made wholly from paper, with no handle with maximum dimensions of 80mm (wide) x 50mm (gusset width) x 155mm (height).
- Introducing an exemption for bags of any material with no handle, to include a gusset width no greater than 50mm and maximum dimensions of 125mm x 155mm.

9. Legislative change

Amendments under secondary legislation to The Single Use Carrier Bags Charge Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 will be required.

In addition to the changes being proposed above, the Department are reserving any decision on the current exemptions for bags used to contain hot foods or hot drinks intended for consumption away from the premises on which they are sold. The Department intend to revisit this part of the legislation in line with the Department's current Single Use Plastics and Green Growth strategies.



10. The consultation

Those Affected

This is a public consultation, open to all who may have an interest and who wish to be part of improving the environmental impact of carrier bags. It is hoped that many will take an interest in this consultation and provide feedback. Retailers, producers, those involved in environmental issues, local authorities and members of the public views are all welcomed by the Department.

Duration

This consultation will run for a period of 8 weeks. It will open on **1 June 2021** and close on **27 July 2021**.

Early completion of the consultation response is encouraged.

Responding to this consultation

Responses are invited via Citizen Space at: [Carrier Bag Levy NI Consultation](#).

By email via: carrierbaglevy@daera-ni.gov.uk

Or by post to: Carrier Bag Levy Team,
Ballykelly House,
111 Ballykelly Road,
Ballykelly, Limavady,
BT49 9HP.

We would encourage an online response in order to limit any environmental impact.

11. After the consultation

Confidentiality

The Department will publish a summary of responses following completion of the consultation process. Your response and all other responses to the consultation, may be disclosed on request. The Department can refuse to disclose information only in exceptional circumstances. Before you submit your response, please read the paragraphs below on the confidentiality of consultations and they will give you guidance on the legal position about any information given by you in response to this consultation. Any confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system in e-mail responses will not be treated as such a request.

Data Protection

Section 8(e) of the Data Protection Act 2018 permits processing of personal data when necessary for an activity that supports or promotes democratic engagement. Information provided by respondents to this consultation exercise will be held and used for the purposes of the administration of this current exercise and subsequently disposed of in accordance with the provisions of the Data Protection Act 2018 and UK General Data Protection Regulation.



Freedom of Information

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 gives the public a right of access to any information held by a public authority (the Department in this case). This right of access to information includes information provided in response to a consultation. The Department cannot automatically consider as confidential information supplied to it in response to a consultation. However, it does have the responsibility to decide whether any information provided by you in response to this consultation, including information about your identity, should be made public or treated as confidential.

This means that information provided by you in response to the consultation is unlikely to be treated as confidential, except in very particular circumstances.

The Lord Chancellor's Code of Practice on the Freedom of Information Act provides that:

- the Department should only accept information from third parties in confidence if it is necessary to obtain that information in connection with the exercise of any of the Department's functions and it would not otherwise be provided;
- the Department should not agree to hold information received from third parties 'in confidence' which is not confidential in nature;
- acceptance by the Department of confidentiality provisions must be for good reasons, capable of being justified to the Information Commissioner.
- For further information about confidentiality of responses, please contact the Information Commissioner's Office:

Email: ni@ico.org.uk

Website: [Information Commissioner's Office](http://InformationCommissioner'sOffice)

Endnotes

i [Northern Ireland carrier bag levy statistics](http://NorthernIrelandcarrierbaglevystatistics) | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (daera-ni.gov.uk)

ii blog-000968-20200228111517.pdf (keepnorthernirelandbeautiful.org)

iii [Carrier bags – Environmental Impact](http://Carrierbags-EnvironmentalImpact) (niassembly.gov.uk)

iv EIA-Greenpeace-Checking-Out-on-Plastics-III-SPREADS.pdf (eia-international.org)



All enquiries to:

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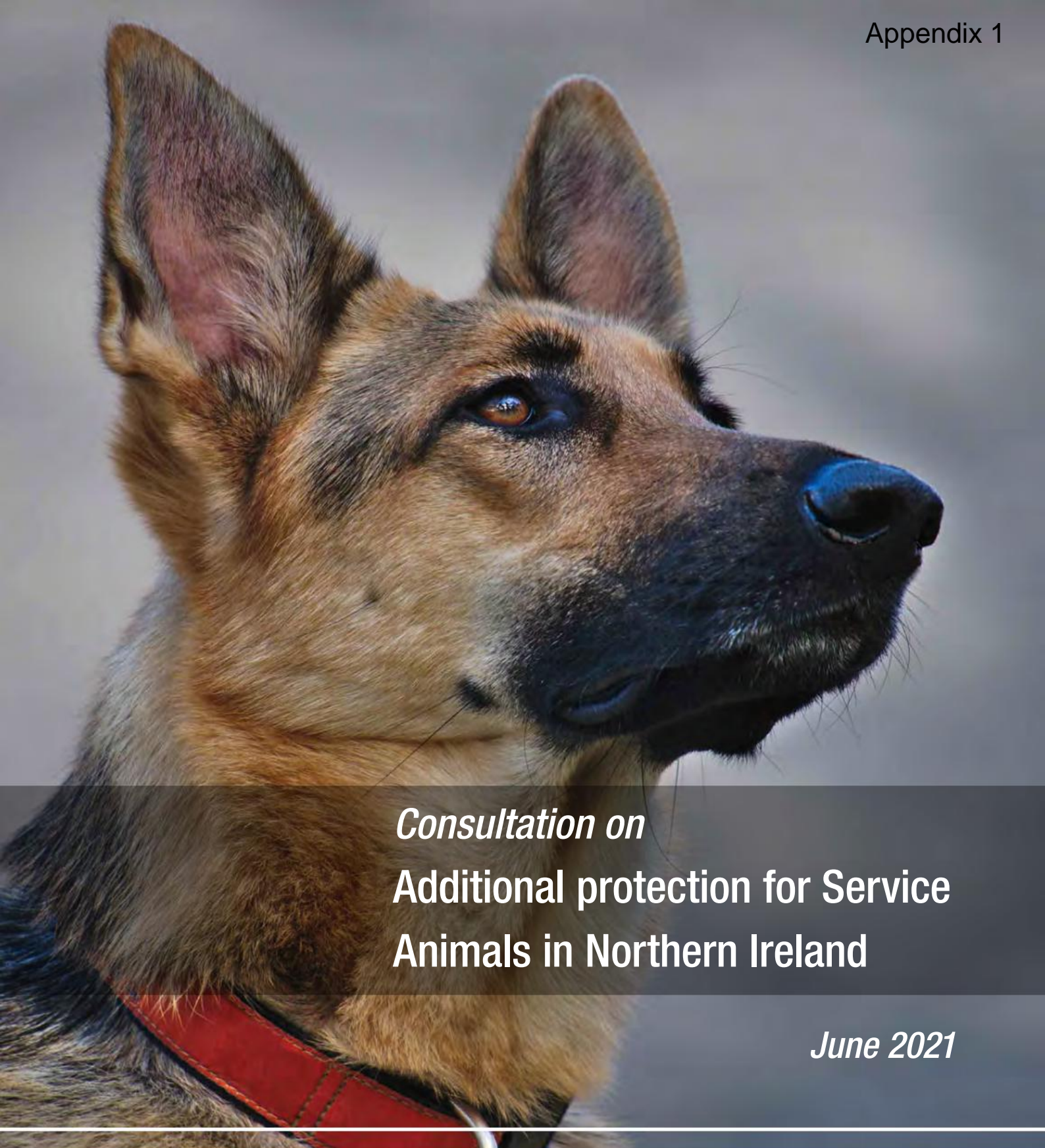
www.daera-ni.gov.uk

Report on	Consultation response on additional protection for service animals in Northern Ireland
Date of Meeting	5 th July 2021
Reporting Officer	Fiona McClements

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	The purpose of this report is to provide Members with information on the recent consultation launched by Department of Agricultural & Rural Affairs (DAERA) on 17 th June 2021. This consultation seeks views on a proposal to strengthen protection provided to service animals in Northern Ireland. It is aimed at those stakeholders who work with service dogs and those who have an interest in animal welfare. The list of consultees is not, however, meant to be exhaustive and responses are welcomed from anyone with an interest in or views on the matters covered by this consultation paper.
2.0	Background
2.1	Councils, members of the public and a number of Animal Welfare organisations have been invited to respond to this consultation on the proposals for the introduction of Finn's Law to Northern Ireland. The law is named after Finn, a police dog in England who was stabbed whilst pursuing a suspect with his Police handler. Finn sustained serious stab wounds to the chest and head and initially thought unlikely he would survive. Subsequently, the Animal Welfare (Service Animals) Bill, also known as Finn's law was passed by Westminster in June 2019 to protect service animals such as police dogs and horses. The law prevented anyone who attacked or abused a service animal from claiming self-defence. Before this law, someone accused of causing suffering to a service animal could justify their actions by claiming self-defence.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Service animals often need to restrain suspects or use their physical presence to support the actions of an officer acting in accordance with his or her duty. In Northern Ireland, there is, however, currently no account taken of the role performed by service animals in the Welfare of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 2011. By introducing this legislation in Northern Ireland similar to Finn's law, it will make it an offence to harm or abuse service animals.
3.2	Therefore, it should make it more straightforward to prosecute under the Welfare of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 for the offence of causing unnecessary suffering to a service animal. Under the proposed change, an attacker will no longer be able to inflict suffering on a service animal and claim that they were

	<p>simply protecting themselves. Changing the law in this way should also act as a serious deterrent to those who think that they can harm these animals without repercussion.</p>
3.3	<p>The new proposed legislation is to be welcomed as the proposed legislative change will ensure that the law demonstrates sufficient regard for the vital role that service dogs play in protecting the community in Northern Ireland and that they are provided with the same level of protection as they are afforded elsewhere in the United Kingdom. In relation to enforcement of the legislation, it would be hoped that this would naturally fall to the PSNI to enforce as the majority of service dogs are under their remit.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: N/a
	Human: It is requested that enforcement of this legislation would fall to the PSNI.
	Risk Management: N/a
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/a
	Rural Needs Implications: N/a
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	<p>It is recommended that the Council responds to the online consultation in support of the new legislation to protect service dogs in advance of the response date of 1st August 2021.</p>
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 – DAERA Consultation Paper
6.2	Appendix 2 – List of consultation questions with proposed response



Consultation on
**Additional protection for Service
Animals in Northern Ireland**

June 2021

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Animal Identification and Welfare Branch
Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
Room 715
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Upper Newtownards Road
Belfast
BT4 3SB

Or alternatively, by:

Email: Animal.Welfare@daera-ni.gov.uk

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Ministerial Foreword

Service animals in Northern Ireland carry out invaluable work that can take them into very unpredictable and often dangerous situations. They play an essential part in keeping the brave men and women who protect us safe. As such, we owe them an enormous debt of gratitude and it is important that we recognise their contribution by ensuring that they are adequately protected by the law. Service animals can, in the course of their daily activities, be victims of violence and cruelty and the law must give them the protection they so rightly deserve. Put simply - we should be protecting those who protect us.



Like many others, I was concerned to learn of Finn; the police dog in England that was violently stabbed while on duty in 2016. Despite sustaining horrific injuries, Finn continued to intervene to save his handler – an amazing story of bravery on the part of this animal. I have no doubt that it is one with which many handlers of service dogs in Northern Ireland can resonate.

Unfortunately, Finn's attacker was able to claim that he was protecting himself during his arrest and prosecutors did not pursue animal cruelty charges. Instead, they prosecuted Finn's attacker for criminal damage. Treating service animals as property is entirely abhorrent. These animals are living, sentient creatures that bravely and loyally serve the public - they cannot and should not be compared to inanimate objects.

Following campaigns for change, animal welfare legislation in the rest of the United Kingdom now provides added protection for service animals. This consultation paper proposes that similar legislative changes are made here in Northern Ireland. This is not only needed but entirely sensible – it will ensure that service animals enjoy the same level of protection no matter where they are in the United Kingdom.

In 2016, my Department increased the sentences available for animal cruelty offences including those perpetrated against service animals. This was an important step forward in tackling crimes against animals. The change proposed in this consultation will go further and ensure that protection is available for service animals here that appropriately recognises the daily sacrifice they make to protect our community. It should make it more straightforward to prosecute under the Welfare of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 for the offence of causing unnecessary suffering to a service animal. Under the proposed change, an attacker will no longer be able to inflict suffering on a service animal and claim that they were simply protecting themselves. Changing the law in this way should also act as a serious deterrent to those who think that they can harm these animals without repercussion.

This consultation also invites views on whether or not the sentencing powers currently available for causing unnecessary suffering to service animals should be increased and on whether specific offences should be introduced to deal with injury to, or the death of, a service animal.

Service animals deserve appropriate recognition for the vital role they fulfil. I would, therefore, strongly encourage all those with an interest in this matter to respond to this consultation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Edwin Poots'.

Edwin Poots, MLA

Minister for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs

Chapter 1: Introduction

- 1.1. This consultation seeks views on a proposal to strengthen protection provided to service animals in Northern Ireland. It is aimed at those stakeholders who work with service dogs and those who have an interest in animal welfare. The list of consultees (**Appendix 1**) is not, however, meant to be exhaustive and responses are welcomed from anyone with an interest in or views on the matters covered by this consultation paper.
- 1.2. The consultation paper is divided into four chapters. Chapter 2 provides some background to the role of service animals in Northern Ireland, the current legal protections afforded to them and the developments that have taken place in other parts of the United Kingdom (UK). Chapter 3 details the Department's proposals for change with reference to a potential draft Bill (**Appendix 2**) to give effect to them. Chapter 4 outlines the procedure for providing responses to the paper. Equality and rural needs screening exercises have been carried out and are contained at **Appendices 3** and **4** respectively. **Appendix 5** details the list of questions for completion by respondents.
- 1.3. The consultation is being conducted using the online survey tool Citizen Space and will commence on 17 June 2021. It will run for 8 weeks closing on 11 August 2021. Following analysis of the responses received, the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (the Department) will consider and publish a summary of the responses. If it continues to consider it appropriate, the Department will then take steps to introduce the Assembly Bill needed to secure the necessary changes to the Welfare of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 (the 2011 Act).

Chapter 2: Background

Service animals in Northern Ireland

- 2.1 Dogs are currently the only service animals in Northern Ireland. They are used by the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) and the Northern Ireland Prison Service (NIPS). Statistics supplied by the PSNI indicate that, in January 2021, it had 57 operational police dogs. Records indicate that in 2019, there were 44 service dogs in the NIPS. Service dogs are selected by the PSNI and NIPS on the basis of their natural abilities which are developed and enhanced by continuous training and assessment, designed to ensure that they are safe and efficient in any operational environment.
- 2.2. The PSNI's Operational Support Department has a 'Dog Section' which provides a 24 hour response service and consists of personnel who handle and patrol with police dogs. Dogs can follow a scent trail or identify a specific scent which is undetectable to humans. Despite developments in technology, dogs remain a most valuable asset in modern day policing. Their searching ability is economical and effective in that they can

cover large and inaccessible areas quicker than their human colleagues. Police dogs carry out a range of duties using their specialist abilities that cannot be fulfilled in any other way. For example, they are used by the PSNI to track suspects, locate missing people or human remains, search for illegal substances, stolen property, money, firearms and explosive substances. Police dogs also protect their handlers and other officers in dangerous situations and their presence can often be enough to discourage bad behaviour. In a typical week, police dogs respond to calls for assistance in cases involving stolen property, burglaries, the tracking of offenders and other incidents involving the containment of serious crime scenes.

- 2.3.** The smuggling of contraband into prisons can put prison staff at risk and undermine attempts to rehabilitate offenders. Dogs are, therefore, used by the NIPS to stop prohibited items, such as illegal drugs, phones and tobacco, entering prisons. They are paired with dedicated handlers specifically trained in detecting contraband items. Inmates returning to prison from home leave and court appearances and visitors are checked by NIPS dogs. They and their handlers make prisons safer, more secure and ultimately a better environment for rehabilitation. PSNI and NIPS dogs have a unique relationship with their handlers. They live with them to ensure they remain bonded and when their working life comes to an end, many remain with their handlers as pets.

Current legal protections

- 2.4.** Section 4 of the 2011 Act provides that it is an offence to cause unnecessary suffering to any vertebrate animal in Northern Ireland. The Act provides stringent penalties for the commission of the offence; the maximum penalty is imprisonment of up to five years and/or an unlimited fine. Local councils are responsible for bringing prosecutions under the 2011 Act in respect of service dogs and other non-farmed animals.
- 2.5.** In deciding whether the suffering caused to an animal is unnecessary, the 2011 Act provides that there are a number of factors which must be considered. These are whether the suffering;
- could have been avoided, terminated or reduced;
 - was caused in compliance with a relevant statutory provision, licence or code of practice;
 - was caused for a legitimate purpose, such as:
 - benefiting the animal; or
 - protecting a person, property or another animal;
 - was proportionate;
 - was conducted by a reasonably competent and humane person.

A defendant charged with harming a service animal in Northern Ireland can, therefore, currently claim that his or her actions were necessary to protect him or herself or another person, property or an animal from the service animal and that, as such, no offence has been committed.

Developments in other jurisdictions

- 2.6.** A campaign to provide greater protection for service animals began in England following an attack there in 2016 on a police dog named Finn who was stabbed and seriously injured whilst pursuing a suspect with his handler. The incident arose when a robbery suspect had absconded from police and was followed by Finn and his handler, Police Constable (PC) Wardell. Finn took hold of the suspect's lower leg to restrain him and the suspect subsequently lunged at Finn with a 10-inch blade hunting knife and stabbed him through the chest several times. The suspect then turned and aimed the blade at PC Wardell. Finn intervened to save PC Wardell. PC Wardell received a hand wound whilst Finn sustained serious head wounds, chest injuries (including lung punctures) and required a four-hour long operation to save his life. After eleven weeks, Finn returned to work with PC Wardell and on his first shift was involved in the arrest of a fleeing suspect.
- 2.7.** There were two potential charges considered in respect of the injuries sustained by Finn; causing unnecessary suffering to an animal and criminal damage. Like the equivalent provision in Northern Ireland, section 4 of the Animal Welfare Act 2006 (the 2006 Act) which applies in England and Wales provides that it is an offence to cause unnecessary suffering to an animal and requires various factors to be taken into account in deciding whether the suffering can be considered unnecessary, including whether an animal was harmed by someone trying to protect a person, property or another animal. At the time of Finn's case, defendants charged under section 4 of the 2006 Act were able to argue that they were justified in applying force against a service animal in self-defence and that, as a result, they had not committed the offence of causing unnecessary suffering. This was an issue taken into consideration by the Crown Prosecution Service in England in its decision not to prosecute for the assault on Finn under the 2006 Act. Instead, charges of criminal damage were brought in Finn's case.
- 2.8.** Utterly dismayed that Finn had been treated like a piece of property, PC Wardell started a campaign to create a new law that offered additional protection to service animals. His online petition attracted approximately one hundred and twenty seven thousand signatures. PC Wardell's MP, Sir Oliver Heald, subsequently introduced a Private Member's Bill in April 2019 to Parliament. The Animal Welfare (Service Animals) Bill, as it was named, proposed to amend the 2006 Act to provide that whether someone causing harm to a service dog was protecting a person, property or another animal is to be disregarded when considering whether or not the harm was unnecessary. The Bill made a swift passage through Parliament and came into force in England and Wales on 8 June 2019. Similar provision was made in Scotland in the Animals and Wildlife (Penalties, Protections and Powers) (Scotland) Act 2020 and came into force on 30 November 2020.

Campaign for change in Northern Ireland

- 2.9.** A campaign to introduce Finn's Law to Northern Ireland began in April 2018. An online petition attracted almost 45,000 signatories and attracted the attention of local media. Following the resumption of devolved government in Northern Ireland in January 2020, Alex Easton, MLA and Pam Cameron, MLA, tabled a motion in the Northern Ireland Assembly calling on the Minister for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs to introduce legislation in Northern Ireland similar to Finn's law. The motion was subsequently debated and agreed by the Assembly on 10 February 2020 receiving cross-sectoral support.

Chapter 3: Proposals

- 3.1.** This chapter sets out the Department's proposals to provide greater legislative protection to service animals in Northern Ireland.

Added protection for service animals

- 3.2.** The Department considers that the manner in which section 4 of the 2011 Act applies to cases involving service animals has the potential to present difficulties. As noted, section 4 sets out the various factors that must be taken into account in deciding whether suffering inflicted on an animal can be considered unnecessary and those factors include the protection of a person, property or another animal. Service animals often need to restrain suspects or use their physical presence to support the actions of an officer acting in accordance with his or her duty. There is, however, currently no account taken of the role performed by service animals in the 2011 Act. The Department is concerned that, as the 2011 Act stands, it allows defendants to argue that they are justified in applying force against a service animal when it is acting in the course of its duty. It considers that the law currently demonstrates insufficient regard for the vital role that service dogs play in protecting the community in Northern Ireland. The Department is also of the view that prosecutions for attacks on service animals that cause unnecessary suffering may potentially be made more difficult due to the fact that the court must consider whether the defendant was acting in fear of harm.
- 3.3.** During Parliamentary debates on Finn's law, it was claimed that Finn was one of hundreds of service dogs that are injured in the course of their duty in England and Wales each year. Data provided by the PSNI and NIPS suggests that attacks on service dogs in Northern Ireland are not as prolific; in response to a Freedom of Information request in 2016, the PSNI states that one dog had received an injury to its paw during rioting in 2013. In response to a more recent request from the Department, the PSNI confirmed that from 2019 to 2021 no police dogs died because of injuries sustained in service. The NIPS has indicated that from 2014 to October 2020, two NIPS dogs were injured in the line of duty. The Department is, however, aware of media reports that a police dog required stitches

for her hind leg after being attacked by thrown masonry during violent disorder in Belfast in April 2021. It considers that this incident demonstrates the very real dangers that face service dogs in the execution of their duties. It considers it appropriate that service animals here should be afforded the same level of protection in all parts of the UK and that legislative steps should be taken to put the position in Northern Ireland on all fours with that in Great Britain. The Department, therefore, proposes that the law should be changed to provide that whether someone causing harm to a service dog was protecting a person, property or another animal should not be a relevant factor when considering whether or not the harm was unnecessary. It is hoped that the proposed change will make it more straightforward to successfully prosecute people for attacking a service animal when they carry out their duties. The draft Bill at Appendix 2 purports to insert a new provision into the 2011 Act to give effect to this proposed change.

- Q. Do you agree with the proposal to give service animals in Northern Ireland additional protection?**
- Q. Do you agree that, where service dogs are injured in the course of active duty, there should be no requirement to consider whether the conduct that caused the suffering was carried out in order to protect a person, property or another animal?**

Scope of protection

- 3.4.** Although dogs are currently the only type of animal used as service animals in Northern Ireland, the Department proposes that any added protection given should be broad enough to apply to all species of service animal. This should ensure adequate flexibility in the event that other animals are deployed to service duties in the future. The law in other parts of the UK is similarly framed to provide protection to service animals generally.
- 3.5.** It is intended that all dogs used by the PSNI and NIPS should be provided with the proposed added protection. Belfast Harbour Police and the Belfast International Airport Constabulary are small, specialised police forces with responsibility for policing the Port of Belfast and Belfast International Airport respectively. They do not currently use dogs in their activities. However, the Department proposes that the law should be wide enough to provide added protection to any animals that might be deployed by harbour or airport police in the future. It also proposes that any dogs that might be used by military police should be provided with added protection as they are in England and Wales. The Department further proposes that the law should be sufficiently wide to provide protection to any dogs used by other persons that may from time to time have the powers of a police constable.

- 3.6.** There are other dogs in Northern Ireland that perform extremely important services. For example, search and rescue dogs that are used by private companies or voluntary organisations to locate missing persons. These dogs operate in a passive and non-confrontational way. It is, therefore, considered unlikely that they would be involved in situations where individuals would attack them in order to protect themselves. The Department does not, therefore, propose that these animals should come within the ambit of the proposed protections. It notes that these animals are not within the scope of the added protection given to service dogs in other parts of the UK.
- 3.7.** It is, however, proposed that search and rescue dogs would be afforded added protection when they are engaged for police purposes. For example, the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service has an agreement with the Search and Rescue Dog Association (Ireland North) which supplies it with dogs to use when the PSNI asks it to aid in urban search and rescue environments. In those circumstances, it is suggested that the dogs involved should be afforded protection. To clarify, it is proposed that search and rescue dogs should have additional protection when they are carrying out tasks on behalf of the police. This would ensure alignment with the position in the rest of the UK where these dogs are afforded added protection in these circumstances.
- 3.8.** In summary, it is proposed that any animals used by the PSNI, NIPS, harbour, airport or military police as well as any person that exercises the powers of a police constable or is employed for, or engaged to provide, a service for police purposes should have the proposed added protection.
- 3.9.** It is, however, proposed that the Department should have the power to add to the animals that are to be provided with added protection. The draft Bill at **Appendix 2** achieves this by giving the Department the power to make regulations to add to list of officers under whose control an animal provided with the added protection may be. The intention is that this power should only be used to add officers in public service of the Crown and that the relevant regulations should be subject to the draft affirmative procedure before the Northern Ireland Assembly. A similar power to amend the list of relevant officers is available elsewhere in the UK.

Q. Do you agree with the Department's proposals regarding the animals that should be given additional protection?

Q. Do you agree with the Department's proposal that it should be able to add to the service animals that are to be given additional protection?

Safeguards

- 3.10.** The Department accepts that it is at least conceivable that a service dog could behave less than impeccably during an incident. For example, during an incident, it is possible that a service dog might not be under full control of an officer, could become too aggressive, ignore his or her handler's commands or it might not be on active duty. The Department does not consider that additional protection should be afforded in these circumstances. It, therefore, proposes that added protection is afforded to service animals only when they are on active duty; that is where they are under the control of an officer and being used by that officer in the course of the officer's duties and in a way that is reasonable. Similar provision is made in respect of Finn's law as it applies in the rest of the UK.
- 3.11.** The Department understands that there may be concerns that someone might be denied the opportunity to defend themselves lawfully if attacked by a service animal. The Department is, however, keen to ensure that defendants are not deprived of critical legal safeguards. It considers that a person should not be deprived of the self-defence consideration in section 4 of the 2011 Act if a service animal attacks them unduly. In those circumstances, the animal is unlikely to be under the control of an officer on duty or to be used in a way that is reasonable.

Q. Do you agree that the safeguards proposed by the Department are sufficient?

Penalties

- 3.12.** The Department took important steps to help protect animals, including service animals, in 2016 when it increased the maximum penalty for causing unnecessary suffering to an animal from six months' imprisonment to five years. Similar steps to increase the relevant penalties for the same offence were taken in the rest of the UK in 2020. The penalties across the UK for causing unnecessary suffering to a service animal are, therefore, currently the same.
- 3.13.** The Department is, however, interested to hear the views of respondents on whether or not the sentencing powers currently available for causing unnecessary suffering to service animals in Northern Ireland should be increased.

Q. Do you consider it necessary to increase the penalties for causing unnecessary suffering to a service animal?

Chapter 4: How to respond and when

Responses

- 4.1.** You can respond to this consultation online by accessing the consultation at the following link: www.daera-ni.gov.uk/consultations
- 4.2.** If you wish to respond in writing, you can request a copy of the written response template by e-mailing Animal.Welfare@daera-ni.gov.uk
- 4.3.** Written responses should be sent to:
- E-mail:** Animal.Welfare@daera-ni.gov.uk
- Postal address:** Animal Identification and Welfare Branch
Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
Room 715
Dundonald House
Upper Newtownards Road
Belfast
BT4 3SB
- 4.4.** When responding, please state whether you are doing so as an individual or representing the views of an organisation. If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please make it clear who the organisation represents, and where applicable, how the views of its members were assembled.

Closing date

- 4.5.** Responses should be submitted by 11 August 2021.

Confidentiality

- 4.6.** The Freedom of Information Act 2000 gives the public a right of access to any information held by a public authority; the Department in this case. This includes information provided in response to this consultation.
- 4.7.** The Department will publish a synopsis of responses to the consultation. This will include a list of names of organisations that responded but not personal names, addresses or other contact details.

- 4.8.** The Department cannot automatically consider information supplied to it in response to a consultation to be confidential. However, it does have a responsibility to decide whether any information provided by you in response to a consultation, including information about your identity, should be made public or be treated as confidential. If you do not wish information about your identity to be made public please include an explanation in your response. Please be aware that confidentiality cannot be guaranteed, except in very particular circumstances. Please note, if your computer automatically includes a confidentiality disclaimer, it won't count as a confidentiality request.
- 4.9.** Should you respond in an individual capacity, the Department will process your personal data in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. This means that your personal information will not be disclosed to third parties should you request confidentiality.
- 4.10.** For further information about confidentiality of responses please contact the Information Commissioner's Office (see its website at: <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk/>)

Appendix 1: List of Consultees

This consultation document has been sent to the statutory consultees and the following organisations:

- Almost Home Animal Rescue (Northern Ireland)
- Association of Veterinary Surgeons Practising in Northern Ireland
- Assisi Animal Sanctuary
- Belfast Harbour Police
- Belfast International Airport Constabulary
- Committee on the Administration of Justice
- Community Rescue Service
- Dogs Trust
- Fire Service of Northern Ireland
- Foyle Search and Rescue
- Human Rights Consortium
- Irish Cave Rescue Organisation
- K9 Search & Rescue NI
- Lagan Search and Rescue
- Liberty Human Rights UK
- Lough Neagh Rescue
- Maritime and Coastguard Agency
- Mid Antrim Animal Sanctuary
- Mourne Mountain Rescue
- Northern Ireland Ambulance Service
- Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service
- Northern Ireland Police Service
- Northern Ireland Prison Service

- Northern Ireland Veterinary Association
- North West Mountain Rescue
- Police Service of Northern Ireland
- Royal National Lifeboat Institution
- 7th Heaven Animal Rescue
- Search and Rescue Dogs Association Ireland North (SARDA IN)
- Service Animals Northern Ireland
- Sky watch NI
- Sport Northern Ireland
- The Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE)
- VetNI
- Ulster Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (USPCA)

Appendix 2: Draft Bill

A

B I L L

TO

Amend the Welfare of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 in relation to service animals.

BE IT ENACTED by being passed by the Northern Ireland Assembly and assented to by Her Majesty as follows:

Amendment of the 2011 Act [j001]

1. In the Welfare of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 2011, after section 51 insert—

“Service animals

5 **51A.**—(1) Subsections (2) and (3) apply when it is being determined in connection with section 4(1) whether suffering is unnecessary in a case where the suffering was caused by conduct for the purpose mentioned in section 4(3)(c)(ii).

(2) The fact that the conduct was for the purpose mentioned in section 4(3)(c)(ii) is to be disregarded if—

10 (a) the animal was—

(i) under the control of a relevant officer at the time of the conduct, and

15 (ii) being used by the officer at the time of the conduct, in the course of the officer’s duties, in a way that was reasonable in all the circumstances, and

(b) the conduct was that of someone other than the officer.

(3) A relevant officer is—

(a) a constable (but see subsection (4)),

20 (b) a person (other than a constable)—

(i) employed for the purposes of the police, or

(ii) engaged to provide services for the purposes of the police, or

Animal Welfare (Service Animals)

(c) a prisoner custody officer as defined in Chapter 3 of Part 8 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994.

5 (4) A reference in this section to a constable excludes a member of the Naval, Military or Royal Air Force Police as mentioned in paragraph (c) in the definition of a constable in section 43A of the Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954.

10 (5) The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs may by regulations amend this section so as to alter the meaning of a relevant officer in this section.

(6) Only a person in the public service of the Crown may be included within the meaning of a relevant officer in this section by virtue of regulations under this section.”.

Commencement and short title [j997]

2.—(1) This Act comes into operation on the day after receiving Royal Assent.

15 (2) This Act may be cited as the Animal Welfare (Service Animals) Act (Northern Ireland) 2021.

Appendix 3: Equality Screening

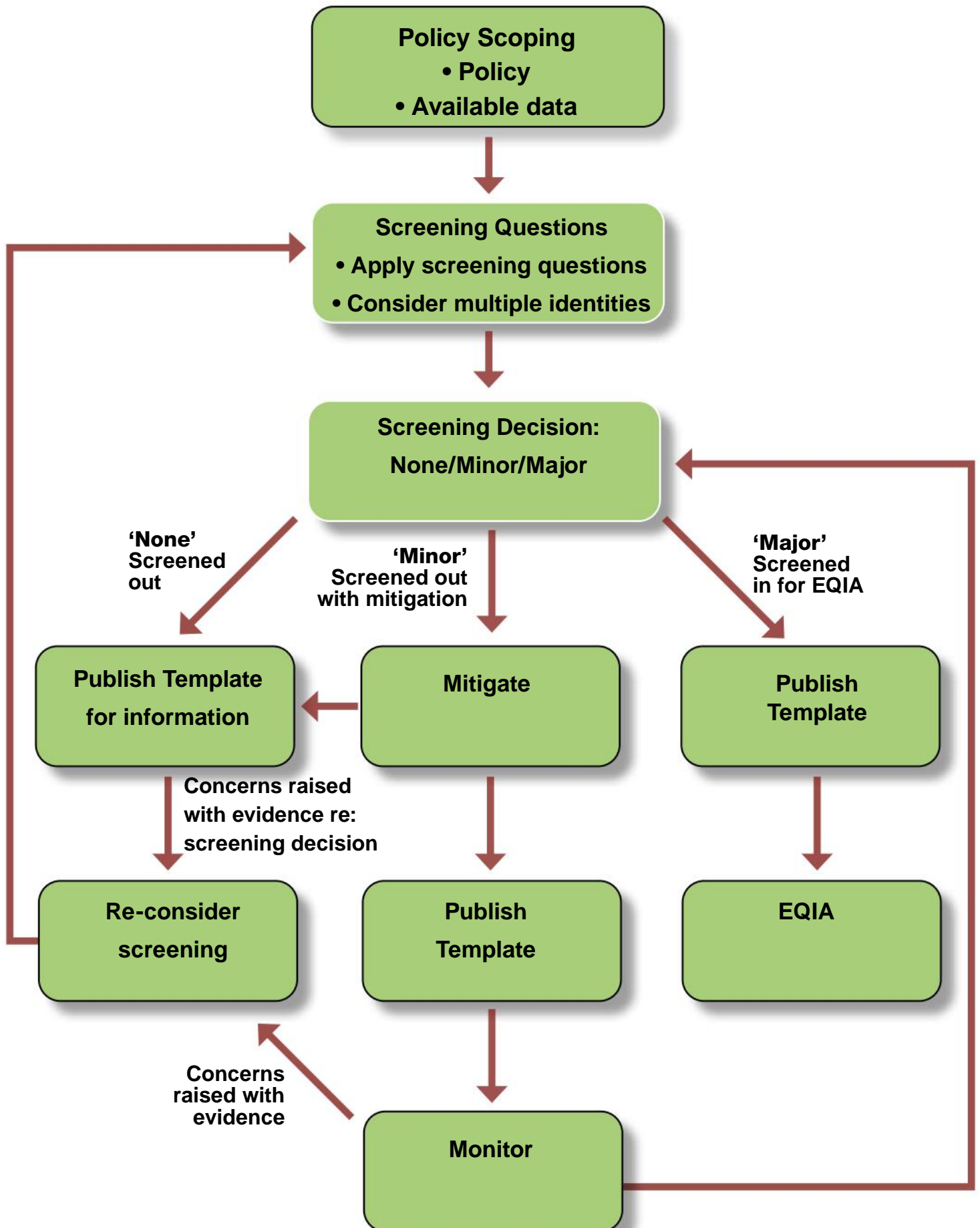
Equality & Disability Duties Screening Template

Screening flowchart and template (taken from Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 – A Guide for public authorities April 2010 (Appendix 1)).

Introduction

- Part 1. Policy scoping** - asks public authorities to provide details about the policy, procedure, practice and/or decision being screened and what available evidence you have gathered to help make an assessment of the likely impact on equality of opportunity and good relations.
- Part 2. Screening questions** - asks about the extent of the likely impact of the policy on groups of people within each of the Section 75 categories. Details of the groups consulted and the level of assessment of the likely impact. This includes consideration of multiple identity and good relations issues. This section also includes two questions related to the Disability Duties.
- Part 3. Screening decision** - guides the public authority to reach a screening decision as to whether or not there is a need to carry out an equality impact assessment (EQIA), or to introduce measures to mitigate the likely impact, or the introduction of an alternative policy to better promote equality of opportunity and/or good relations.
- Part 4. Monitoring** - provides guidance to public authorities on monitoring for adverse impact and broader monitoring.
- Part 5. Consideration of Human Rights** - please note this is not a Human Rights Screening form but rather a prompt that impacts on Human Rights should be considered.
- Part 6. Approval and authorisation** - verifies the public authority's approval of a screening decision by a senior manager responsible for the policy.

A screening flowchart is provided on next page.



Part 1. Policy scoping

The first stage of the screening process involves scoping the policy under consideration. The purpose of policy scoping is to help prepare the background and context and set out the aims and objectives for the policy, being screened. At this stage, scoping the policy will help identify potential constraints as well as opportunities and will help the policy maker work through the screening process on a step by step basis.

Public authorities should remember that the Section 75 statutory duties apply to internal policies (relating to people who work for the authority), as well as external policies (relating to those who are, or could be, served by the authority).

Information about the policy

Name of the policy

Amendment of the Welfare of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 to provide added protection to service animals.

Is this an existing, revised or a new policy?

New policy.

What is it trying to achieve? (intended aims/outcomes)

Service animals often need to restrain suspects or use their physical presence to support the actions of an officer acting in accordance with his or her duty. There is, however, currently no account taken of the role performed by service animals in the 2011 Act. The aim of the proposed legislative change is to ensure that the law demonstrates sufficient regard for the vital role that service dogs play in protecting the community in Northern Ireland and that they are provided with the same level of protection as they are afforded elsewhere in the United Kingdom.

Are there any Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit from the intended policy?

If so, explain how.

No.

Who initiated or wrote the policy?

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs.

Who owns and who implements the policy?

Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs.

Implementation factors

Are there any factors which could contribute to/detract from the intended aim/outcome of the policy/decision?

If yes, are they (please delete as appropriate)

Financial

Legislative – Assembly time will be required to progress the relevant Bill.

other, please specify _____

Main stakeholders affected

Who are the internal and external stakeholders (actual or potential) that the policy will impact upon? (please delete as appropriate)

Other public sector organisations

Local councils are responsible for enforcing the 2011 Act in respect of service animals. Service dogs in Northern Ireland are currently used by the Police Service of Northern Ireland and the Northern Ireland Prison Service.

Other, please specify

The policy impact any person charged with causing unnecessary suffering to a service animal, such as a police or prison dog.

Other policies with a bearing on this policy

- **What are they? N/A**
- **Who owns them? N/A**

Available evidence

Evidence to help inform the screening process may take many forms. Public authorities should ensure that their screening decision is informed by relevant data. The Commission has produced this guide to [signpost to S75 data](#).

What evidence/information (both qualitative and quantitative) have you gathered to inform this

policy? Specify details for each of the Section 75 categories.

Please ensure all data used is the most current and up to date available. You should verify this by contacting the Departmental Statisticians.

Religious belief evidence/information:

There is no evidence to suggest that the revised policy will impact negatively on people in this category.

Political Opinion evidence/information:

There is no evidence to suggest that the revised policy will impact negatively on people in this category.

Racial Group evidence/information:

There is no evidence to suggest that the revised policy will impact negatively on people in this category.

Age evidence/information:

There is no evidence to suggest that the revised policy will impact negatively on people in this category.

Marital Status evidence/information:

There is no evidence to suggest that the revised policy will impact negatively on people in this category.

Sexual Orientation evidence/information:

There is no evidence to suggest that the revised policy will impact negatively on people in this category.

Men & Women generally evidence/information:

There is no evidence to suggest that the revised policy will impact negatively on people in this category.

Disability evidence/information:

There is no evidence to suggest that the revised policy will impact negatively on people in this category.

Dependants evidence/information:

There is no evidence to suggest that the revised policy will impact negatively on people in this category.

Needs, experiences and priorities

Taking into account the information referred to above, what are the different needs, experiences and priorities of each of the following categories, in relation to the particular policy/decision?

Specify details of the needs, experiences and priorities for each of the Section 75 categories below:

Religious belief

None.

Political Opinion

None.

Racial Group

None.

Age

None.

Marital status

None.

Sexual orientation

None.

Men and Women Generally

None.

Disability

None.

Dependants

None.

Part 2. Screening questions

Introduction

In making a decision as to whether or not there is a need to carry out an equality impact assessment, the public authority should consider its answers to the questions 1-4.

If the public authority's conclusion is **none** in respect of all of the Section 75 equality of opportunity and/or good relations categories, then the public authority may decide to screen the policy out. If a policy is 'screened out' as having no relevance to equality of opportunity or good relations, a public authority should give details of the reasons for the decision taken.

If the public authority's conclusion is **major** in respect of one or more of the Section 75 equality of opportunity and/or good relations categories, then consideration should be given to subjecting the policy to the equality impact assessment procedure.

If the public authority's conclusion is **minor** in respect of one or more of the Section 75 equality categories and/or good relations categories, then consideration should still be given to proceeding with an equality impact assessment, or to:

- measures to mitigate the adverse impact; or
- the introduction of an alternative policy to better promote equality of opportunity and/or good relations.

In favour of a 'major' impact

- a) The policy is significant in terms of its strategic importance;
- b) Potential equality impacts are unknown, because, for example, there is insufficient data upon which to make an assessment or because they are complex, and it would be appropriate to conduct an equality impact assessment in order to better assess them;
- c) Potential equality and/or good relations impacts are likely to be adverse or are likely to be experienced disproportionately by groups of people including those who are marginalised or disadvantaged;
- d) Further assessment offers a valuable way to examine the evidence and develop recommendations in respect of a policy about which there are concerns amongst affected individuals and representative groups, for example in respect of multiple identities;
- e) The policy is likely to be challenged by way of judicial review;
- f) The policy is significant in terms of expenditure.

In favour of 'minor' impact

- a) The policy is not unlawfully discriminatory and any residual potential impacts on people are judged to be negligible;
- b) The policy, or certain proposals within it, are potentially unlawfully discriminatory, but this possibility can readily and easily be eliminated by making appropriate changes to the policy or by adopting appropriate mitigating measures;
- c) Any asymmetrical equality impacts caused by the policy are intentional because they are specifically designed to promote equality of opportunity for particular groups of disadvantaged people;
- d) By amending the policy there are better opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity and/or good relations.

In favour of none

- a) The policy has no relevance to equality of opportunity or good relations.
- b) The policy is purely technical in nature and will have no bearing in terms of its likely impact on equality of opportunity or good relations for people within the equality and good relations categories.

Taking into account the evidence presented above, consider and comment on the likely impact on equality of opportunity and good relations for those affected by this policy, in any way, for each of the equality and good relations categories, by applying the screening questions given overleaf and indicate the level of impact on the group i.e. minor, major or none.

Screening questions

1. What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy, for each of the Section 75 equality categories?

Please provide details of the likely policy impacts and determine the level of impact for each S75 categories below i.e. either minor, major or none.

Details of the likely policy impacts on Religious belief: (insert text here)

There is no evidence to suggest that the policy will impact on people in this category.

What is the level of impact? None

Details of the likely policy impacts on *Political Opinion*: (insert text here)

There is no evidence to suggest that the policy will impact on people in this category.

What is the level of impact? None

Details of the likely policy impacts on *Racial Group*: (insert text here)

There is no evidence to suggest that the policy will impact on people in this category.

What is the level of impact? None

Details of the likely policy impacts on *Age*: (insert text here)

There is no evidence to suggest that the policy will impact on people in this category.

What is the level of impact? None

Details of the likely policy impacts on *Marital Status*: (insert text here)

There is no evidence to suggest that the policy will impact on people in this category.

What is the level of impact? None

Details of the likely policy impacts on *Sexual Orientation*: (insert text here)

There is no evidence to suggest that the policy will impact on people in this category.

What is the level of impact? None

Details of the likely policy impacts on *Men and Women*: (insert text here)

There is no evidence to suggest that the policy will impact on people in this category.

What is the level of impact? None

Details of the likely policy impacts on *Disability*: (insert text here)

There is no evidence to suggest that the policy will impact on people in this category.

What is the level of impact? None

Details of the likely policy impacts on *Dependants*: (insert text here)

There is no evidence to suggest that the policy will impact on people in this category.

What is the level of impact? None

2. **Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity for people within the Section 75 equalities categories?** No

Religious Belief - If Yes, provide details:

N/A

If No, provide reasons:

There is no impact envisaged on, or opportunity to promote equality of opportunity for people within this category. However, the responses to the consultation will be monitored to inform the position.

Political Opinion - If Yes, provide details:

N/A

If No, provide reasons:

There is no impact envisaged on, or opportunity to promote equality of opportunity for people within this category. However, the responses to the consultation will be monitored to inform the position.

Racial Group - If Yes, provide details:

N/A

If No, provide reasons:

There is no impact envisaged on, or opportunity to promote equality of opportunity for people within this category. However, the responses to the consultation will be monitored to inform the position.

Age - If Yes, provide details:

N/A

If No, provide reasons:

There is no impact envisaged on, or opportunity to promote equality of opportunity for people within this category. However, the responses to the consultation will be monitored to inform the position.

Marital Status - If Yes, provide details:

N/A

If No, provide reasons

There is no impact envisaged on, or opportunity to promote equality of opportunity for people within this category. However, the responses to the consultation will be monitored to inform the position.

Sexual Orientation - If Yes, provide details:

N/A

If No, provide reasons:

There is no impact envisaged on, or opportunity to promote equality of opportunity for people within this category. However, the responses to the consultation will be monitored to inform the position.

Men and Women generally - If Yes, provide details:

N/A

If No, provide reasons:

There is no impact envisaged on, or opportunity to promote equality of opportunity for people within this category. However, the responses to the consultation will be monitored to inform the position.

Disability - If Yes, provide details:

N/A

If No, provide reasons:

There is no impact envisaged on, or opportunity to promote equality of opportunity for people within this category. However, the responses to the consultation will be monitored to inform the position.

Dependants - If Yes, provide details:

N/A

If No, provide reasons:

There is no impact envisaged on, or opportunity to promote equality of opportunity for people within this category. However, the responses to the consultation will be monitored to inform the position.

3. To what extent is the policy likely to impact on good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group?

Details of the likely policy impacts on Religious belief: (insert text here)

The policy does not impact on this group.

What is the level of impact? None

Details of the likely policy impacts on Political Opinion: (insert text here)

The policy does not impact on this group.

What is the level of impact? None

Details of the likely policy impacts on Racial Group: (insert text here)

The policy does not impact on this group.

What is the level of impact? None

4. Are there opportunities to better promote good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group?

No.

Religious Belief - If Yes, provide details:

N/A

If No, provide reasons:

There is no available evidence to indicate such opportunities. However, the responses to the consultation will be monitored to inform the position.

Political Opinion - If Yes, provide details:

N/A

If No, provide reasons:

There is no available evidence to indicate such opportunities. However, the responses to the consultation will be monitored to inform the position.

Racial Group - If Yes, provide details:

N/A

If No, provide reasons:

There is no available evidence to indicate such opportunities. However, the responses to the consultation will be monitored to inform the position.

Additional considerations

Multiple identity

Generally speaking, people can fall into more than one Section 75 category. Taking this into consideration, are there any potential impacts of the policy/decision on people with multiple identities? If so, please detail below.

(For example; disabled minority ethnic people; disabled women; young Protestant men; and young lesbians, gay and bisexual people).

No. There is no available evidence to indicate potential impacts on such people. However, the responses to the consultation will be monitored to inform the position.

Provide details of data on the impact of the policy on people with multiple identities. Specify relevant Section 75 categories concerned.

There is no available evidence to indicate potential impacts on such people. However, the responses to the consultation will be monitored to inform the position.

DAERA also has legislative obligations to meet under the [Disability Discrimination Order](#). Questions 5 - 6 relate to these.

Consideration of Disability Duties

5. Does this proposed policy or decision provide an opportunity for DAERA to better promote positive attitudes towards disabled people?

The proposed policy is in respect of service animals on active duty. There is no evidence of additional opportunities to better promote positive attitudes towards disabled people. However, all responses to the consultation will be monitored for any such opportunities.

6. Does this proposed policy or decision provide an opportunity to actively increase the participation by disabled people in public life?

There is no evidence of additional opportunities to actively increase the participation of disabled people in public life. However, all responses to the consultation will be monitored for any such opportunities.

Part 3. Screening decision (Please delete as appropriate)

“Screened out” without mitigation or an alternative policy proposed to be adopted

If the decision is not to conduct an equality impact assessment, please provide details of the reasons.

The policy will apply to all defendants equally and only when a service dog is under the control of an officer, is on duty and is used in a way that is reasonable.

If the decision is not to conduct an equality impact assessment the public authority should consider if the policy should be mitigated or an alternative policy be introduced - please provide details.

No mitigations or alternatives are needed. The policy will apply to all defendants equally.

If the decision is to subject the policy to an equality impact assessment, please provide details of the reasons.

N/A

All public authorities' equality schemes must state the authority's arrangements for assessing and consulting on the likely impact of policies adopted or proposed to be adopted by the authority on the promotion of equality of opportunity. The Commission recommends screening and equality impact assessment as the tools to be utilised for such assessments. Further advice on equality impact assessment may be found in a separate Commission publication: [A Practical Guide to Equality Impact Assessment](#)

Mitigation

When the public authority concludes that the likely impact is 'minor' and an equality impact assessment is not to be conducted, the public authority may consider mitigation to lessen the severity of any equality impact, or the introduction of an alternative policy to better promote equality of opportunity or good relations.

Can the policy/decision be amended or changed or an alternative policy introduced to better promote equality of opportunity and/or good relations? No

If so, give the reasons to support your decision, together with the proposed changes/ amendments or alternative policy.

Timetabling and prioritising

Factors to be considered in timetabling and prioritising policies for equality impact assessment.

If the policy has been '**screened in**' for equality impact assessment, then please answer the following questions to determine its priority for timetabling the equality impact assessment.

On a scale of 1-3, with 1 being the lowest priority and 3 being the highest, assess the policy in terms of its priority for equality impact assessment.

Priority criterion	Rating (1-3)
Effect on equality of opportunity and good relations	
Social need	
Effect on people's daily lives	
Relevance to a public authority's functions	
Total score	

Note: The Total Rating Score should be used to prioritise the policy in rank order with other policies screened in for equality impact assessment. This list of priorities will assist the public

authority in timetabling. Details of the Public Authority's Equality Impact Assessment Timetable should be included in the quarterly Screening Report.

Is the policy affected by timetables established by other relevant public authorities?

If yes, please provide details.

Part 4. Monitoring

Section 75 places a requirement on DAERA to have equality monitoring arrangements in place in order to assess the impact of policies and services etc.; and to help identify barriers to fair participation and to better promote equality of opportunity. Please note the following excerpt from The Equality Commission for Northern Ireland in relation to monitoring:

A system must be established to monitor the impact of the policy in order to find out its effect on relevant groups. The results of ongoing monitoring must be reviewed on an annual basis. The public authority is required to publish the results of this monitoring. And they must be included in the public authorities' annual review on progress to the Equality Commission. The Equality Scheme must specify how and where such monitoring information will be published. It is therefore essential that monitoring is carried out in a systematic manner and that the results are widely and openly published.

If the monitoring and analysis of results over a two year period show that the policy results in greater adverse impact than predicted, or if opportunities arise which would allow for greater equality of opportunity to be promoted, the public authority must ensure that the policy is revised to achieve better outcomes for the relevant equality groups.

Further advice on monitoring can be found at: [ECNI Monitoring Guidance for Public Authorities](#)

Outline what data you will collect in the future in order to monitor the impact of this policy or decision on equality, good relations and disability duties.

Equality: N/A

Good Relations: N/A

Disability Duties: N/A

Part 5. Consideration of Human Rights

- 7. The Human Rights Act (HRA) 1998 brings the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) into UK law and it applies in N Ireland. Indicate below by deleting Yes/No as appropriate, any potential adverse impacts that the policy or decision may have in relation to human rights issues.**

See **Annex A** for brief synopsis on each of the Human Rights Articles & Protocols.

Right to Life	Article 2	No
Prohibition of torture, inhuman or degrading treatment	Article 3	No
Prohibition of slavery and forced labour	Article 4	No
Right to liberty and security	Article 5	No
Right to a fair and public trial	Article 6	No
Right to no punishment without law	Article 7	No
Right to respect for private and family life, home and correspondence	Article 8	No
Right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion	Article 9	No
Right to freedom of expression	Article 10	No
Right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association	Article 11	No
Right to marry and to found a family	Article 12	No
The prohibition of discrimination	Article 14	No
Protection of property and enjoyment of possessions	Protocol 1 Article 1	No
Right to education	Protocol 1 Article 2	No
Right to free and secret elections	Protocol 1 Article 3	No

8. Please explain any adverse impacts on human rights that you have identified.

It is not intended that a person should be deprived of the argument of self-defence if a service animal attacks them unduly. It is proposed that added protection is afforded to service animals only when they are on active duty; that is where they are under the control of an officer and being used by that officer in the course of the officer's duties and in a way that is reasonable. No adverse impacts on human rights have, therefore, been identified.

9. Please indicate any ways which you consider the policy positively promotes human rights.

It is proposed that added protection is afforded to service animals only when they are on active duty; that is where they are under the control of an officer and being used by that officer in the course of the officer's duties and in a way that is reasonable.

Part 6 - Approval and authorisation

Screening Checklist

Before signing off this screening template please confirm that you have completed all the actions listed below.

I can confirm that all the actions listed below have been completed:

- I have explained any technical issues in plain English (easily understood by a 12 year old)
- I have used the most relevant, current & up to date data available
- I have added evidence and explained my assessments in full
- I have provided a brief note to justify my decision to 'Screen In' or 'Screen Out'
- A copy of this screening template and the final decision has been sent to the Equality Unit for their consideration before it has been forwarded for sign-off

Screening assessment completed by (Staff Officer level or above) -

Name: Brenda Kelly **Grade:** Deputy Principal (DP)

Branch: Animal Identification and Welfare Policy Branch

Signature: Brenda Kelly

Screening decision approved by (must be Grade 3 /Deputy Secretary or above) -

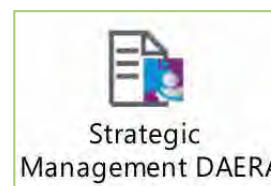
Name: Robert J Huey **Grade:** 3, Deputy Sec

Branch: VSAHG

Signature:

Note: A copy of the Screening Template, for each policy screened should be 'signed off' and approved by a senior manager responsible for the policy, made easily accessible on the public authority's website as soon as possible following completion and made available on request.

Please save the final signed version of the completed screening form in the CM container (AE2-19-11940) below as soon as possible after completion and forward the CM link to Equality Branch at equality@daera-ni.gov.uk. The screening template must be saved to the container in **HTML format** (not PDF) in order to comply with accessibility requirements. The screening form will be placed on the DAERA website and a link provided to the Department's Section 75 consultees.



For more information about equality screening, contact:

DAERA Equality Unit

Equality, Diversity & Public Appointments Branch

Ballykelly House

111 Ballykelly Road

LIMAVADY

BT49 9HP

Email: equality@daera-ni.gov.uk

Tel: 028 7744 2027

Annex A

Synopsis of Human Rights Act Articles & Protocols

ARTICLE 2

Right to life

1. Everyone's right to life shall be protected by law. No one shall be deprived of his life intentionally save in the execution of a sentence of a court following his conviction of a crime for which this penalty is provided by law.
2. Deprivation of life shall not be regarded as inflicted in contravention of this Article when it results from the use of force which is no more than absolutely necessary:
 - (a) In defence of any person from unlawful violence;
 - (b) In order to effect a lawful arrest or to prevent the escape of a person lawfully detained;
 - (c) In action lawfully taken for the purpose of quelling a riot or insurrection.

ARTICLE 3

Prohibition of torture

No one shall be subjected to torture or to inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

ARTICLE 4

Prohibition of slavery and forced labour

1. No one shall be held in slavery or servitude.
2. No one shall be required to perform forced or compulsory labour.
3. For the purpose of this Article the term "forced or compulsory labour" shall not include:
 - (a) Any work required to be done in the ordinary course of detention imposed according to the provisions of Article 5 of this Convention or during conditional release from such detention;
 - (b) Any service of a military character or, in case of conscientious objectors in countries where they are recognised, service exacted instead of compulsory military service;
 - (c) Any service exacted in case of an emergency or calamity threatening the life or well-being of the community;
 - (d) Any work or service which forms part of normal civic obligations.

ARTICLE 5

Right to liberty and security

1. Everyone has the right to liberty and security of person. No one shall be deprived of his liberty save in the following cases and in accordance with a procedure prescribed by law:
 - (a) the lawful detention of a person after conviction by a competent court;
 - (b) the lawful arrest or detention of a person for non-compliance with the lawful order of a court or in order to secure the fulfilment of any obligation prescribed by law;
 - (c) the lawful arrest or detention of a person effected for the purpose of bringing him before the competent legal authority on reasonable suspicion of having committed an offence or when it is reasonably considered necessary to prevent his committing an offence or fleeing after having done so;
 - (d) the detention of a minor by lawful order for the purpose of educational supervision or his lawful detention for the purpose of bringing him before the competent legal authority;
 - (e) the lawful detention of persons for the prevention of the spreading of infectious diseases, of persons of unsound mind, alcoholics or drug addicts or vagrants;
 - (f) the lawful arrest or detention of a person to prevent his effecting an unauthorised entry into the country or of a person against whom action is being taken with a view to deportation or extradition.
2. Everyone who is arrested shall be informed promptly, in a language which he understands, of the reasons for his arrest and of any charge against him.
3. Everyone arrested or detained in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 1(c) of this Article shall be brought promptly before a judge or other officer authorised by law to exercise judicial power and shall be entitled to trial within a reasonable time or to release pending trial. Release may be conditioned by guarantees to appear for trial.
4. Everyone who is deprived of his liberty by arrest or detention shall be entitled to take proceedings by which the lawfulness of his detention shall be decided speedily by a court and his release ordered if the detention is not lawful.
5. Everyone who has been the victim of arrest or detention in contravention of the provisions of this Article shall have an enforceable right to compensation.

ARTICLE 6

Right to a fair trial

1. In the determination of his civil rights and obligations or of any criminal charge against him, everyone is entitled to a fair and public hearing within a reasonable time by an independent and impartial tribunal established by law. Judgment shall be pronounced publicly but the press and public may be excluded from all or part of the trial in the interest of morals, public order or national security in a democratic society, where the interests of juveniles or the protection of the private life of the parties so require, or to the extent strictly necessary in the opinion of the court in special circumstances where publicity would prejudice the interests of justice.
2. Everyone charged with a criminal offence shall be presumed innocent until proved guilty according to law.
3. Everyone charged with a criminal offence has the following minimum rights:
 - (a) To be informed promptly, in a language which he understands and in detail, of the nature and cause of the accusation against him;
 - (b) To have adequate time and facilities for the preparation of his defence;
 - (c) To defend himself in person or through legal assistance of his own choosing or, if he has not sufficient means to pay for legal assistance, to be given it free when the interests of justice so require;
 - (d) To examine or have examined witnesses against him and to obtain the attendance and examination of witnesses on his behalf under the same conditions as witnesses against him;
 - (e) To have the free assistance of an interpreter if he cannot understand or speak the language used in court.

ARTICLE 7

No punishment without law

1. No one shall be held guilty of any criminal offence on account of any act or omission which did not constitute a criminal offence under national or international law at the time when it was committed. Nor shall a heavier penalty be imposed than the one that was applicable at the time the criminal offence was committed.
2. This Article shall not prejudice the trial and punishment of any person for any act or omission which, at the time when it was committed, was criminal according to the general principles of law recognised by civilised nations.

ARTICLE 8

Right to respect for private and family life

1. Everyone has the right to respect for his private and family life, his home and his correspondence.
2. There shall be no interference by a public authority with the exercise of this right except such as is in accordance with the law and is necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national security, public safety or the economic well-being of the country, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, or for the protection of the rights and freedoms of others.

ARTICLE 9

Freedom of thought, conscience and religion

1. Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief, in worship, teaching, practice and observance.
2. Freedom to manifest one's religion or beliefs shall be subject only to such limitations as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society in the interests of public safety, for the protection of public order, health or morals, or for the protection of the rights and freedoms of others.

ARTICLE 10

Freedom of expression

1. Everyone has the right to freedom of expression. This right shall include freedom to hold opinions and to receive and impart information and ideas without interference by public authority and regardless of frontiers. This Article shall not prevent States from requiring the licensing of broadcasting, television or cinema enterprises.
2. The exercise of these freedoms, since it carries with it duties and responsibilities, may be subject to such formalities, conditions, restrictions or penalties as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society, in the interests of national security, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, for the protection of the reputation or rights of others, for preventing the disclosure of information received in confidence, or for maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary.

ARTICLE 11

Freedom of assembly and association

1. Everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and to freedom of association with others, including the right to form and to join trade unions for the protection of his interests.
2. No restrictions shall be placed on the exercise of these rights other than such as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national security or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals or for the protection of the rights and freedoms of others. This Article shall not prevent the imposition of lawful restrictions on the exercise of these rights by members of the armed forces, of the police or of the administration of the State.

ARTICLE 12

Right to marry

Men and women of marriageable age have the right to marry and to found a family, according to the national laws governing the exercise of this right.

ARTICLE 14

Prohibition of discrimination

The enjoyment of the rights and freedoms set forth in this Convention shall be secured without discrimination on any ground such as sex, race, colour, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, association with a national minority, property, birth or other status.

Protocol 1

ARTICLE 1

Protection of property

Every natural or legal person is entitled to the peaceful enjoyment of his possessions. No one shall be deprived of his possessions except in the public interest and subject to the conditions provided for by law and by the general principles of international law.

The preceding provisions shall not, however, in any way impair the right of a State to enforce such laws as it deems necessary to control the use of property in accordance with the general interest or to secure the payment of taxes or other contributions or penalties.

Protocol 1

ARTICLE 2

Right to education

No person shall be denied the right to education. In the exercise of any functions which it assumes in relation to education and to teaching, the State shall respect the right of parents to ensure such education and teaching in conformity with their own religious and philosophical convictions.

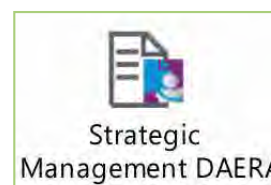
Protocol 1

ARTICLE 3

Right to free elections

The High Contracting Parties undertake to hold free elections at reasonable intervals by secret ballot, under conditions which will ensure the free expression of the opinion of the people in the choice of the legislature

Please save the final signed version of the completed screening form in the HPRM container below as soon as possible after completion and forward the HPRM link to Equality Branch at equalitydiversitypublicappointments@daera-ni.gov.uk. The screening form will be placed on the DAERA website and a link provided to the Department's Section 75 consultees.



For more information about equality screening, contact:

DAERA Equality Unit

Equality, Diversity & Public Appointments Branch

Ballykelly House

111 Ballykelly Road

LIMAVADY


BT49 9HP

Email: equalitydiversitypublicappointments@daera-ni.gov.uk

Tel: 028 7744 2027

August 2019

Appendix 4: Rural Impact Screening



A Guide to the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016 for Public Authorities
(Revised) April 2016

Appendix 1 - Rural Needs Impact Assessment (RNIA) Template

SECTION 1 - Defining the activity subject to Section 1(1) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016

1A. Name of Public Authority.

Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs

1B. Please provide a short title which describes the activity being undertaken by the Public Authority that is subject to Section 1(1) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016.

Amendment of the Welfare of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 to provide added protection to service animals.

1C. Please indicate which category the activity specified in Section 1B above relates to.

Developing a	Policy <input type="checkbox"/>	Strategy <input type="checkbox"/>	Plan <input type="checkbox"/>	
Adopting a	Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Strategy <input type="checkbox"/>	Plan <input type="checkbox"/>	
Implementing a	Policy <input type="checkbox"/>	Strategy <input type="checkbox"/>	Plan <input type="checkbox"/>	
Revising a	Policy <input type="checkbox"/>	Strategy <input type="checkbox"/>	Plan <input type="checkbox"/>	
Designing a Public Service	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Delivering a Public Service	<input type="checkbox"/>			

1D. Please provide the official title (if any) of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service document or initiative relating to the category indicated in Section 1C above.

Introduction of greater protection for service animals in Northern Ireland, colloquially known as 'Finn's law'.

1E. Please provide details of the aims and/or objectives of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service.

The aim of the proposed policy is to ensure that the law demonstrates sufficient regard for the vital role that service dogs play in protecting the community in Northern Ireland and that they are provided with the same level of protection as they are afforded elsewhere in the United Kingdom.

A Guide to the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016 for Public Authorities (Revised) April 2018	
1F. What definition of 'rural' is the Public Authority using in respect of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service?	
Population Settlements of less than 5,000 (Default definition).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other Definition (Provide details and the rationale below).	<input type="checkbox"/>
A definition of 'rural' is not applicable.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Details of alternative definition of 'rural' used.</i>	
N/A	
<i>Rationale for using alternative definition of 'rural'.</i>	
N/A	
<i>Reasons why a definition of 'rural' is not applicable.</i>	
N/A	

A Guide to the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016 for Public Authorities
(Revised) April 2018

SECTION 2 - Understanding the Impact of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service

2A. Is the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service likely to impact on people in rural areas?

Yes ☒ No ☐ If the response is **NO** GO TO Section **2E**

2B. Please explain how the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to impact on people in rural areas.

Section 4 of the Welfare of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 provides that it is an offence to cause unnecessary suffering to any vertebrate animal in Northern Ireland. In deciding whether the suffering caused to an animal is unnecessary, the 2011 Act provides that there are a number of factors which must be considered. These are whether the suffering was caused to protect a person, property or another animal. It is proposed that the 2011 Act should be amended to provide that no regard is to be given to whether or not the suffering caused was to protect a person, property or another animal where a service animal has been harmed when acting in the course of its duty. Similar legislative protection has already been afforded to service animals in other parts of the UK. The policy will apply to all cases involving injuries to service animals. It may affect people in rural areas but not disproportionately.

2C. If the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to impact on people in rural areas differently from people in urban areas, please explain how it is likely to impact on people in rural areas differently.

N/A – the policy will affect people in rural areas in the same way as it will affect people in urban areas.

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(Revised) April 2018

2D. Please indicate which of the following rural policy areas the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to primarily impact on.

Rural Businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rural Tourism	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rural Housing	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jobs or Employment in Rural Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Education or Training in Rural Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Broadband or Mobile Communications in Rural Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transport Services or Infrastructure in Rural Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health or Social Care Services in Rural Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poverty in Rural Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Deprivation in Rural Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rural Crime or Community Safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rural Development	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agri-Environment	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (Please state) <input type="text"/>	

If the response to Section 2A was YES GO TO Section 3A.

2E. Please explain why the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is NOT likely to impact on people in rural areas.

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(Revised) April 2018

SECTION 3 - Identifying the Social and Economic Needs of Persons in Rural Areas

3A. Has the Public Authority taken steps to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas that are relevant to the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service?

Yes
☐

No
☒

If the response is **NO** GO TO Section **3E**.

3B. Please indicate which of the following methods or information sources were used by the Public Authority to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas.

Consultation with Rural Stakeholders
☐

Published Statistics
☐

Consultation with Other Organisations
☐

Research Papers
☐

Surveys or Questionnaires
☐

Other Publications
☐

Other Methods or Information Sources (include details in Question 3C below).
☐

3C. Please provide details of the methods and information sources used to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas including relevant dates, names of organisations, titles of publications, website references, details of surveys or consultations undertaken etc.

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Page 48

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(Revised) April 2018

3D. Please provide details of the social and economic needs of people in rural areas which have been identified by the Public Authority?

If the response to Section 3A was **YES** GO TO Section 4A.

3E. Please explain why no steps were taken by the Public Authority to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas?

The policy will affect people in rural areas in the same way as it will affect people in urban areas. The Department will consider any evidence of a particular need of people in rural areas that may be brought to its attention during the public consultation process.

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(Revised) April 2018

SECTION 4 - Considering the Social and Economic Needs of Persons in Rural Areas

4A. Please provide details of the issues considered in relation to the social and economic needs of people in rural areas.

N/A

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(Revised) April 2018

SECTION 5 - Influencing the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service

5A. Has the development, adoption, implementation or revising of the Policy, Strategy or Plan, or the design or delivery of the Public Service, been influenced by the rural needs identified?

Yes ☐ No ☒ If the response is **NO** GO TO Section **5C**.

5B. Please explain how the development, adoption, implementation or revising of the Policy, Strategy or Plan, or the design or delivery of the Public Service, has been influenced by the rural needs identified.

N/A

If the response to Section **5A** was **YES** GO TO Section **5A**.

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(Revised) April 2018

5C. Please explain why the development, adoption, implementation or revising of the Policy, Strategy or Plan, or the design or the delivery of the Public Service, has NOT been influenced by the rural needs identified.

No rural needs have been identified. The Department will take account of any needs that might be identified during public consultation.

SECTION 6 - Documenting and Recording

6A. Please tick below to confirm that the RNIA Template will be retained by the Public Authority and relevant information on the Section 1 activity compiled in accordance with paragraph 6.7 of the guidance.

I confirm that the RNIA Template will be retained and relevant information compiled. ☒

Rural Needs Impact Assessment undertaken by:	Brenda Kelly
Position/Grade:	DP
Division/Branch:	Animal Identification and Welfare Branch
Signature:	<i>Brenda Kelly</i>
Date:	6 May 2021
Rural Needs Impact Assessment approved by:	Naomi Callaghan
Position/Grade:	Deputy Director, Animal Health and Welfare Policy
Division/Branch:	Animal Health and Welfare Policy Division
Signature:	<i>Naomi Callaghan</i>
Date:	7 May 2021

Appendix 5: Questions for Respondents

QUESTION 1.

What is your name?

QUESTION 2.

What is your email address?

QUESTION 3.

What is your organisation?

QUESTION 4.

Do you agree with the proposal to give service animals in Northern Ireland additional protection?

Yes / No / Don't know (please circle). Please give reasons for your answer.

QUESTION 5.

Do you agree that, where service dogs are injured in the course of active duty, there should be no requirement to consider whether the conduct that caused the suffering was carried out in order to protect a person, property or another animal?

Yes / No / Don't know (please circle). Please give reasons for your answer.

QUESTION 6.

Do you agree with the Department's proposals regarding the animals that should be given additional protection?

Yes / No / Don't know (please circle). Please give reasons for your answer.

QUESTION 7.

Do you agree with the Department's proposal that it should be able to add to the service animals that are to be given additional protection?

Yes / No / Don't know (please circle). Please give reasons for your answer.

QUESTION 8.

Do you agree that the safeguards proposed by the Department are sufficient?

Yes / No / Don't know (please circle). Please give reasons for your answer.

QUESTION 9.

Do you consider it necessary to increase the penalties for causing unnecessary suffering to a service animal?

Yes / No / Don't know (please circle). Please give reasons for your answer.

Consultation on Additional protection for Service Animals in Northern Ireland



Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**

www.daera-ni.gov.uk



**INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE**

Consultation Question & Proposed Responses

Q1. Do you agree with the Department's proposals regarding the animals that should be given additional protection?

Information

(See main body of Council Report)

A. Yes, Mid Ulster District Council agrees with this proposal.

Q2. Do you agree that, where service dogs are injured in the course of active duty, there should be no requirement to consider whether the conduct that caused the suffering was carried out in order to protect a person, property or another animal?

Information

The Department considers that the manner in which section 4 of the 2011 Act applies to cases involving service animals has the potential to present difficulties. As noted, section 4 sets out the various factors that must be taken into account in deciding whether suffering inflicted on an animal can be considered unnecessary and those factors include the protection of a person, property or another animal. Service animals often need to restrain suspects or use their physical presence to support the actions of an officer acting in accordance with his or her duty. There is, however, currently no account taken of the role performed by service animals in the 2011 Act. The Department is concerned that, as the 2011 Act stands, it allows defendants to argue that they are justified in applying force against a service animal when it is acting in the course of its duty. It considers that the law currently demonstrates insufficient regard for the vital role that service dogs play in protecting the community in Northern Ireland. The Department is also of the view that prosecutions for attacks on service animals that cause unnecessary suffering may potentially be made more difficult due to the fact that the court must consider whether the defendant was acting in fear of harm.

A. Mid Ulster District Council agrees that there should be no requirement to consider whether the conduct that caused the suffering of a service dog was carried out in order to protect a person, property or another animal.

Q3. Do you agree with the Department's proposal that it should be able to add to the service animals that are to be given additional protection?

Information

In summary, it is proposed that any animals used by the PSNI, NIPS, harbour, airport or military police as well as any person that exercises the powers of a police constable or is employed for, or engaged to provide, a service for police purposes should have the proposed added protection. It is, however proposed that the Department should have the power to add to the animals that are to be provided with added protection. The draft Bill at Appendix 2 achieves this by giving the Department the power to make regulations to add to list of officers under whose control an animal provided with

the added protection may be. The intention is that this power should only be used to add officers in public service of the Crown and that the relevant regulations should be subject to the draft affirmative procedure before the Northern Ireland Assembly. A similar power to amend the list of relevant officers is available elsewhere in the UK.

- A. Mid Ulster District Council agrees with the Department's proposal that it should be able to add to the service animals that are to be given additional information.**

Q4. Do you agree that the safeguards proposed by the Department are sufficient?

Information

The Department accepts that it is at least conceivable that a service dog could behave less than impeccably during an incident. For example, during an incident, it is possible that a service dog might not be under full control of an officer, could become too aggressive, ignore his or her handler's commands or it might not be on active duty. The Department does not consider that additional protection should be afforded in these circumstances. It, therefore, proposes that added protection is afforded to service animals only when they are on active duty; that is where they are under the control of an officer and being used by that officer in the course of the officer's duties and in a way that is reasonable. Similar provision is made in respect of Finn's law as it applies in the rest of the UK. The Department understands that there may be concerns that someone might be denied the opportunity to defend themselves lawfully if attacked by a service animal. The Department is, however, keen to ensure that defendants are not deprived of critical legal safeguards. It considers that a person should not be deprived of the self-defence consideration in section 4 of the 2011 Act if a service animal attacks them unduly. In those circumstances, the animal is unlikely to be under the control of an officer on duty or to be used in a way that is reasonable

- A. Mid Ulster District Council accepts that the safeguards proposed by the Department are sufficient.**

Q5. Do you consider it necessary to increase the penalties for causing unnecessary suffering to a service animal?

Information

The Department took important steps to help protect animals, including service animals in 2016 when it increased the maximum penalty for causing unnecessary suffering to an animal from six months' imprisonment to five years. Similar steps to increase the relevant penalties for the same offence were taken in the rest of the UK in 2020. The penalties across the UK for causing unnecessary suffering to a service animal are, therefore, currently the same.

- A. Mid Ulster District Council would agree that the level of penalties for this offence in Northern Ireland should reflect that of the rest of the UK.**

Report on	Biodiversity – All Ireland Pollinator Plan
Date of Meeting	5 th July 2021
Reporting Officer	Raymond Lowry (Head of Technical 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	At the Council meeting held on 28 th May 2021, Members requested that Mid Ulster District Council should register its support for the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan. This report outlines the framework for this.
2.0	Background
2.1	We all depend on pollinators and the important service they provide. Unfortunately, our pollinators are in decline. Of the 99 different types of bees on the island of Ireland, nearly one third are threatened with extinction. The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan is a strategy that addresses this problem. It is a shared plan of action supported by more than 90 governmental and non-governmental organisations. By helping our pollinators, we are improving biodiversity across the island.
2.2	Pollinators are important to farmers that grow pollinator dependent crops, to gardeners that want to grow their own fruits and vegetables and for the health of our environment. The annual value of pollinators is at least €53 million in the Republic of Ireland and £603 million in the UK. (<i>Information from All-Ireland Pollinator Plan</i>)
2.3	To help pollinators we need to ensure that they have food, shelter and somewhere to breed. Many pollinator friendly actions simply require land to be managed in a slightly different way than what we have become used to. It is not about letting the landscape go wild, but about managing it in a way that is sustainable for pollinators so that they can survive and continue to provide us with their vital service.
2.4	Mid Ulster District Council are already taking actions to support pollinators. Through biodiversity initiatives both on council's own properties, and working with local community groups, local residents and schools, steps are already being undertaken to make Mid Ulster more 'pollinator friendly'.
2.5	To better support these efforts and to better promote the work being undertaken, a framework has been developed to recognise Councils as partners of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan.

3.0	Main Report
3.1	Mid Ulster District Council already undertakes actions to enhance the council's own properties for the benefit of pollinators.
3.2	Wildflower areas have been created through sowing wildflower seeds or by changing the management of existing grass areas to follow the "Don't Mow, Let it Grow" principles. The reduction and appropriate timing of mowing encourages wildflowers to become established enhancing the area for pollinators, and also has a resultant knock on benefit to other invertebrates, birds, mammals, etc. Mid Ulster council is currently trialling this on a few selected sites, and it is hoped to develop this to further suitable sites over the next few years.
3.3	In addition to initiatives on council properties, the council are working with local community groups, local residents and schools, encouraging and assisting in projects to make Mid Ulster more 'pollinator friendly'.
3.4	All of these actions undertaken by the council to improve the natural environment will help fulfil legal obligations under the Biodiversity Duty to "...further the conservation of biodiversity..." (Wildlife and Natural Environment Act (NI) 2011).
3.5	These actions also contribute to the delivery of the Northern Ireland Biodiversity Strategy, the blueprint for conserving and improving biodiversity in Northern Ireland.
3.6	These actions also feed into Mid Ulster District Council Corporate Improvement Objective 1 – to seek to reduce the environmental impacts of our own activities and contribute to the improvement of the wider environment through local action.
3.7	In addition to contributing to the fulfilment of legal obligations and feeding into various strategies and plans, these actions provide a demonstration of biodiversity credentials to local residents who are increasingly concerned with supporting environmentally friendly initiatives.
3.8	In registering its support for the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan, and becoming an All-Ireland Pollinator Plan Partner, Mid Ulster District Council will be formalising the actions already being undertaken and appropriate future initiatives.
3.9	<p>In becoming an All-Ireland Pollinator Plan Partner, Mid Ulster District Council agrees:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Mid Ulster District Council supports the ethos of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan and will consider the Plan in their policies, plans, and management decisions where possible. 2. To consider the evidence-based actions in the guideline document "Councils: Actions to help Pollinators", and to carry out one pollinator-friendly action in the first year of signing up and plan to carry out at least three more within the following five years. The guideline document lists 30 possible actions, many of which are low cost or cost-neutral. 3. To update the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan Team (within the National Biodiversity Data Centre) on the positive pollinator actions Mid Ulster District Council have planned, implemented or maintained at the end of each year.

4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: Minimal financial resources over and above that already committed to biodiversity related projects/activities.
	Human: Biodiversity Officer time reporting implementation of activities to All-Ireland Pollinator Plan. Biodiversity Officer, Parks and Property Services time in assessing sites and implementation and management of actions. However, this would be required in fulfilling obligations under the Biodiversity Duty and Corporate Improvement Objective 1.
	Risk Management: Non-delivery of the actions will result in negative press for the Council.
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/a
	Rural Needs Implications: N/a
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Recommend Mid Ulster District Council register as a supporter of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 – Council-Framework- All-Ireland Pollinator Plan
6.2	Appendix 2 – Councils – Actions to Help Pollinators

Council Partnership with the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan



Partnership with the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan: Framework for Councils/Local Authorities

We all depend on pollinators and the important service they provide. Unfortunately, our pollinators are in decline. Of the 99 different types of bees on the island of Ireland, nearly one third are threatened with extinction. The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan is a strategy that addresses this problem. It is a shared plan of action supported by more than 90 governmental and non-governmental organisations. By helping our pollinators, we are improving biodiversity across the island.

Most Councils/ Local Authorities are already taking actions to support pollinators on public land. Many are also working with local community groups, residents' associations and schools to help raise awareness of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan. To better support these efforts and to better promote the work being undertaken, we have developed this framework to recognise Councils as **partners** of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan.

Support of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan offers Councils/Local Authorities a suite of benefits in addition to biodiversity enhancement, including:

- ✓ Partnership with an internationally renowned strategy to reverse declines in biodiversity.
- ✓ A framework outlining options with the flexibility to choose from a variety of low/cost-neutral evidence-based actions that will have a positive impact.
- ✓ Access to training, guidance documents, support materials, case studies, etc. to help staff decide on appropriate actions. For more information, see: <http://pollinators.ie/councils>
- ✓ Helps demonstrate compliance with statutory requirements such as the Council's Biodiversity statutory responsibilities.
- ✓ Enhancing the local landscape for pollinators supports local food producers
- ✓ A framework to help support the delivery of key plans:
 - National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2021 (Action 4.1.8. Implement All-Ireland Pollinator Plan)
 - Biodiversity Strategy for Northern Ireland to 2020
 - County Development Plan (protecting natural habitats and plants objectives)
 - Green Infrastructure Plan (protecting and managing natural wildlife corridors and habitats)
 - Climate Change Adaptation Measures (resilience to climate change)
 - Local Biodiversity Action Plan
 - County Biodiversity Plan (pollinator actions)
 - EU Habitats Directive (ecological networks and buffer areas)
- ✓ A demonstration of your biodiversity credentials to local residents who are increasingly concerned with supporting environmentally friendly initiatives.
- ✓ Actions to support community engagement and strengthen relationships with local groups who are also working to protect our pollinators, e.g. Tidy Towns groups, Ulster in Bloom.
- ✓ Actions to support Local Agenda 21
- ✓ Actions to support the Green Schools Programme (Biodiversity Theme) (ROI) and Eco-Schools (NI)

To sign up as a **Partner** to the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan, please present this Framework, along with a copy of the ‘*Councils: Actions for Pollinators*’ guidelines, to your Council for adoption.
Once agreed, simply return (by email or post) a signed copy of this page.

**In becoming an All-Ireland Pollinator Plan Partner,
your Council/Local Authority agrees:**

- 1. That your Council/Local Authority supports the ethos of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan and will consider the Plan in their policies, plans, and management decisions where possible.
- 2. To consider the evidence-based actions in the guideline document *Councils: Actions to help Pollinators*, and to carry out one pollinator-friendly action in the first year of signing up and plan to carry out at least three more within the following five years. The guideline document lists 30 possible actions, many of which are low cost or cost-neutral.
- 3. To update the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan Team (within the National Biodiversity Data Centre) on the positive pollinator actions you have planned, implemented or maintained at the end of each year, when contacted, to help us promote your work.

We look forward to working with you to ensure that our pollinators and the critical service of pollination are available for generations to come.

Council/Local Authority:

Signature(s):
.....

Print name:

Role:

Point of contact (if different to above) email:

Email to: ufitzpatrick@biodiversityireland.ie
Postal address: Dr Una Fitzpatrick, The National Biodiversity Data Centre, Beechfield House, WIT West Campus, Carriganore, Waterford

What will happen next:

Once you have signed up, please send us a copy of your logo.

We will only use your logo to promote your support of the Pollinator Plan in the following two ways: on the 'Partners' page of our website and in our annual report.

In return, you will receive a copy of the Pollinator Plan's Council/Local Authority Partner logo, for use in Council documents/reports.



Along with the benefits that come from partnership with the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan, Councils/Local Authorities that sign up will receive a Certificate of Partnership, which can be displayed at your offices. You may also choose to use our artwork to erect a permanent sign.

Implementation of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan is coordinated by the National Biodiversity Data Centre.

For more information on the **All-Ireland Pollinator Plan**, please see www.pollinators.ie

To download a copy of the **Councils: Actions to help pollinators** guidelines, see www.pollinators.ie/councils

Councils:

actions to help pollinators

All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2015-2020

Implementation coordinated by the

National Biodiversity Data Centre

WHO are our pollinators?

While other insects play a role, most pollination on the island of Ireland is carried out by bees. We have one type (species) of managed honeybee and 97



Honeybee



Bumblebee



Solitary bee

different wild bees. That includes 20 bumblebee and 77 solitary bee species. Research shows that reliable pollination services depend not only on healthy honeybee populations, but also on an abundance and diversity of wild bees and other insect pollinators.

WHAT do our pollinators need to survive?

Just like us, pollinators need food and a safe place to live. Experts agree that inadequate nutrition is a major cause of declines. We want pollinators to be there when we need them, but our landscape doesn't provide the abundance and diversity of flowering plants that they need to survive throughout their life cycle. To have a healthy balanced diet, they need to be able to feed on pollen and nectar from a range of different flowers from MARCH through to OCTOBER. Spring is when hunger gaps are most likely to occur. It is important to prioritise increasing native plants (trees, shrubs, wildflowers) across the landscape to provide food for pollinators. Pollinators also need plenty of safe nesting habitats - long grass, bare earth, crevices in dry stone walls or wood - that are free from pesticides.

WHY do we need to help our pollinators?

Pollinators are important to farmers that grow pollinator dependent crops, to gardeners that want to grow their own fruits and vegetables and for the health of our environment. The annual value of pollinators is at least €53 million in the Republic of Ireland and £603 million in the UK. Furthermore, 78% of our wild plants require insect pollination. Without pollinators, these flowers would disappear, and our countryside would be a very different and less beautiful place.

All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2015-2020

One third of our 98 bee species are threatened with extinction from the island of Ireland. If we want them to be there to pollinate crops and wild plants for future generations we need to manage the landscape in a more pollinator friendly way and create a joined-up network of diverse and flower-rich habitats. The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2015-2020 is supported by over 68 governmental and non-governmental organisations who have pledged to deliver 81 actions to achieve this goal and make Ireland, North and South, more pollinator friendly.



www.biodiversityireland.ie/pollinator-plan

Benefits to Councils in supporting the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan



Meadow - Belfast City Council

Councils can play a leading role in implementing the Plan by making their land more pollinator friendly. In the Republic of Ireland this will involve County and City Councils. In Northern Ireland it will involve Borough, District and City Councils.

To help pollinators we need to ensure that they have food, shelter and safety from chemicals such as pesticides. Many pollinator friendly actions simply require us to manage the land in a slightly different way than we have become used to. It is not about letting the landscape go wild, but about managing it in a way that is sustainable for pollinators so that they can survive and continue to provide us with their vital service.

Parks and open spaces can also play the important role of increasing connectivity between pollinator friendly sites in the wider countryside. It is not only Councils who are being asked to play a role. Guidelines targeting farmers, local community groups, gardeners, businesses, transport authorities and others are also being produced.

- Enhancing the local landscape for pollinators supports local food producers
- Making the landscape more pollinator friendly protects the ability of local people to grow their own fruits and vegetables
- Taking actions for pollinators will lead to general biodiversity enhancement
- Many actions identified are either cost neutral or could lead to cost savings
- Many actions can be supported by the wider community such as Tidy Towns, Ulster in Bloom, or by local or national NGOs. It may also involve working with Local Community Development Committees (LCDCs), Area Working Groups, Development Partnerships etc. to plan and implement actions.
- Actions taken for pollinators can contribute to the Green Flag Award for parks under the sustainability, conservation and community involvement criteria.
- Actions taken may also help local community groups e.g., in the Tidy Towns competition (ROI) or in Ulster in Bloom.

The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan is about everyone working together and contributing to making the landscape more pollinator friendly. An online mapping tool (Actions for Pollinators) has been developed to track each contribution. Where a Council is taking action to support pollinators, the system will ensure that those efforts are recognised.



Actions Councils can take to help pollinators - providing food, shelter and safety

Please select some actions you could take and help us work together to protect pollinators

We know that each Council is different, so we have suggested a range of pollinator friendly actions to choose from. Step-by-step instructions on each action are provided.

A Protect what you have

The easiest and most important thing you can do is identify and protect existing areas that are already good for pollinators

Action 1                                     



Pollinator friendly roundabout - Fingal



Pollinator friendly roadside verge in NI - Don't Mow Let it Grow



Pollinator friendly containers - Maynooth

Action 11



For new works ensure 75% of ornamental planting is pollinator friendly

Action 12



In future ornamental maintenance planting try to select from the pollinator friendly planting code

Action 13



Make some urban planters pollinator friendly

Action 14



Make some urban roundabouts pollinator friendly

D Provide nesting habitats

In addition to food, wild pollinators need safe places to live.

Action 15



Manage hedgerows for pollinators

Action 16



Bare earth/sand banks for wild pollinator nesting

Action 17



Holes in wood or concrete for wild pollinator nesting

Action 18



Install a bee hotel

E Reduce use of pesticides

Pesticides include insecticides, fungicides and herbicides, all of which can be harmful to pollinators.

Action 19



Reduce or eliminate the use of pesticides (herbicides, insecticides & fungicides)

Action 20



Adopt the pollinator friendly pesticide code

Key

-Costs of each action range from zero/cost savings (£) to most expensive (£££)

-Effort required to carry out each action indicated by the number of spades (shovel icon)

-Our FAVOURITE actions are marked with a bee (bee icon)




National Biodiversity Data Centre
Documenting Ireland's Wildlife












Actions Councils can take to help pollinators - other





Please select some actions you could take and help us work together to protect pollinators

F Raise awareness

Action 21    Build actions on pollinators into existing frameworks and initiatives

Action 22       Fund pollinator projects on council land to demonstrate best practise to other sectors (reference sites)

Action 23    Put up signage to identify pollinator friendly habitats on council land

Action 24     Promote & distribute pollinator friendly guidelines to other sectors locally


Action 25     Promote & distribute the Junior Pollinator Plan to local schools


Action 26     Facilitate or deliver training on pollinators and how to take action to protect them

Action 27    Fund a special pollinator award in the Tidy Towns or Ulster in Bloom competition

Action 28   Promote and get involved in other pollinator related initiatives

G Tracking progress

Action 29    Log your 'Actions for Pollinators' on the mapping system to ensure your efforts are recognised

Action 30    Take part in the Bumblebee Monitoring Scheme to help track changes in wild pollinator numbers on council land



Semi-natural grassland



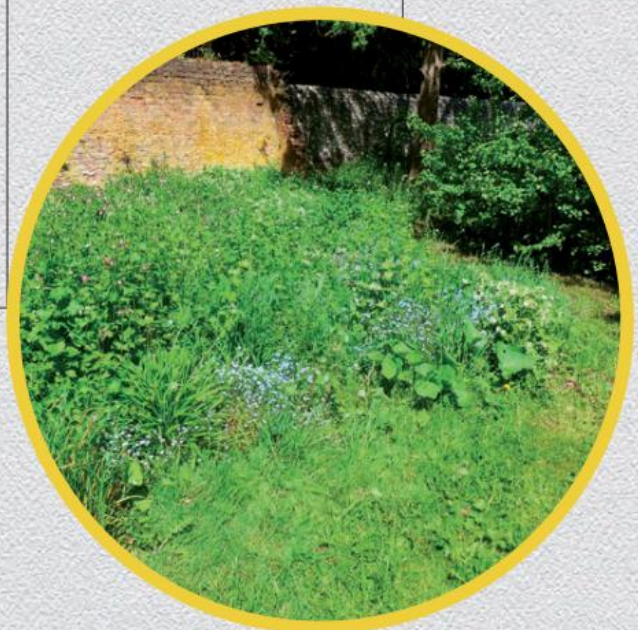
Food & shelter

A. Identify and protect existing areas that are good for pollinators

Within council land there will already be some areas that are very good for pollinators and are acting as refuges in an otherwise inhospitable landscape. The most important thing you can do is to recognise and protect these. These may be semi-natural habitats, but they could also be areas within general council land.

1	Action	Areas where it might apply	Staff who could assist
	Action 1: Manage and restore semi-natural habitats and their native plants on council land Ensure these are mapped and/or audited so that they can be recognised and protected	Semi-natural habitats that fall under council land e.g., meadows, woodland, coastal sites, heathland etc.	Senior management

2	Action	Areas where it might apply	Staff who could assist
	Action 2: Identify and protect existing sources of food and shelter for pollinators on general council land Ensure these are mapped and/or audited so that they can be recognised and protected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flowering hedgerows (food & shelter) • Patches of wildflowers on disused ground (food) • Short grass meadows (food) • Small wild areas with bramble/ivy (food) • Existing earth banks (shelter) • Dry stone walls (shelter) • Allotments <p>These areas can be very small. Signage could be used to identify these areas where appropriate.</p>	Heritage officers, biodiversity officers or others with this remit to identify areas and communicate as appropriate to other council staff





Ivy is a very important food source for pollinators in autumn

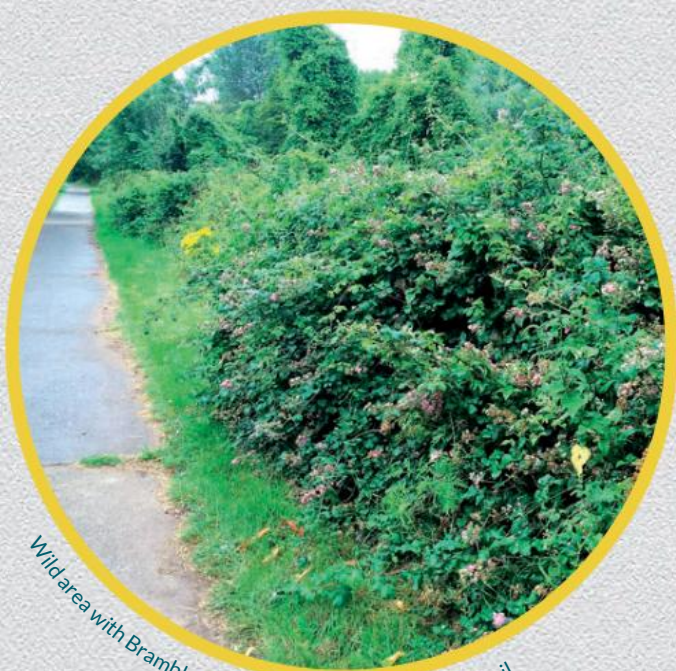
Prioritise native plants

For pollinators, it is important to prioritise the management and restoration of native plants over ornamental varieties. An estimated 78% of our native flowering plants require insect pollination. In return, they provide those pollinators with food (nectar and pollen) throughout the year. This means those insects will be there when we need them to pollinate our crops. Increasing the number of native flowers and trees that occur on council land not only provides food for pollinators, it creates a colourful and dynamic landscape that is pleasant to live in or to visit.

Use stock of local provenance

Often increasing or restoring native plants occurs through changes to site management. Although this is a slower process, it is cheaper and more sustainable as only plants that should naturally occur there will survive and thrive.

In areas where you can enhance native species by deliberate planting, it is important to use stock or seed of local provenance. This means that it is sourced locally and is adapted to the local climate and soil conditions. Many of our wild pollinators have evolved to emerge from hibernation in the short window when our native species are in flower. If you buy stock (e.g. Hawthorn) from central Europe there can be a three week difference in the flowering times compared to those sourced locally. Local provenance seed or stock may be more expensive, however the benefits greatly outweigh any additional initial costs.




Wild area with Bramble and Ivy - Tipperary County Council

Info Box:

Wildflower seed bought from elsewhere (e.g., southern England) will not be adapted to our climate and soil conditions. It also creates a risk of genetic pollution to our native wildflower populations.

Table: Examples of important native plants for pollinators

Trees & Shrubs	Wildflowers				
					
Blackthorn Bramble Broom Crab apple Elder Gorse Guelder Rose Hawthorn Hazel Honeysuckle Ivy Rowan Whitebeam Wild Cherry Wild Privet Wild Rose Willow	Bird's-foot-trefoil Bugle Cowslip Creeping buttercup Dandelion Germander speedwell Harebell Red clover Selfheal Tormentil White clover Wild Thyme	Agrimony Autumn hawkbit Cat's ear Creeping thistle Devil's Bit Scabious Field Scabious Goldenrod Knapweed Meadow buttercup Meadow Vetchling Ox-eye daisy Spear thistle Vetch Wild carrot Wild marjoram Yarrow Yellow rattle	Bluebell Brassica Dead nettles Foxglove Herb Robert Hogweed Lady's Bedstraw Lesser celandine Weld Ramsons Red campion Willowherb Woundworts Vetches Wild strawberry	Charlock Coltsfoot Deadnettle Forget me not Geranium Hawksbeard Mullein Mustard Poppy Red bartsia Speedwells Willowherb Vetch	Angelica Bisort Bogbean Crowfoot Cuckoo flower Meadowsweet Fleabane Purple Loosestrife Marsh marigold Mint Ragged Robin Valerian Willowherb Woundwort
Woodland, Hedgerow	Short grass meadows	Long grass meadows	Hedges, borders, woodland edge	Disturbed ground	Ponds, wetlands

Other semi-natural habitats (heaths, dunes, bog) are also rich in plants and provide pollinators with a diverse diet.



The humble Dandelion is one of the most important food sources for pollinators in spring. We need to change our view of this unpopular wildflower and see them as a welcome splash of colour in spring.

Food

B. Alter the frequency of mowing of grassy areas to allow more native plants to flower

On areas of grass, changing the frequency of mowing allows common wildflowers such as Clovers, Knapweed and Bird's-foot-trefoil to naturally grow amongst the longer grass. This is the most cost-effective way to provide food for pollinators and other insects. This is not a reduction in management effort, but a reallocation to provide additional benefits.

Consulting with the local community and keeping them informed of plans can allay fears that changed mowing regimes are due to lack of management. Signage can also be used to identify areas as deliberate.

3 Action	Areas where it might apply	Staff who could assist
<p>Action 3: Identify at least 10 locations that are mown under a pollinator friendly regime (5 cut and lifts per year)</p> <p>Don't mow until 15th April and then cut on a 6 weekly rotation. Cuttings should be lifted.</p> <p>These areas could be combined with pollinator friendly spring flowering bulb planting (e.g., Snowdrop, Crocus, Allium).</p> <p>This regime keeps grass at a manageable level while increasing the growth of wildflowers as a food source for pollinators. Not cutting until mid-April allows Dandelions to flower but not set seed. Dandelions are a vital food source for pollinators in spring. Cutting at the end of May and not again until mid-late July will increase the growth of important plants like Clover, Selfheal, Cuckooflower and Bird's-foot-trefoil.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Parks• Roadside verges• Pavement verges• Greenways• Roundabouts• Off-road walking/cycle routes• Waterway towpaths• Housing estates• Old graveyards <p>These areas of species rich grass tend to be colourful and still look well managed</p> <p>Signage can be used to identify these areas as deliberate</p>	<p>Facilities Manager</p> <p>Roads Section: Area Engineer</p> <p>Parks and Gardens</p> <p>Heritage officers, biodiversity officers or others with this remit could assist in identifying suitable locations and advising on management</p>

Note: These locations can be small areas, but the greater their size, the greater the benefit to pollinators. It is also worth considering connectivity when deciding on their location.

Info Box:

On Council land many grassy areas are cut from mid-February on a 22 cuts per year cycle with the grass mulched back in. This may look tidy but it creates a sterile grassy desert for pollinators. A cost equivalent action would be to move some areas to a pollinator friendly mowing regime (Action 3).



Pavement verge cut on a 6-weekly rotation versus one with short grass: pollinator friendly mowing can provide food for pollinators where shortly mown grass does not.

Info box:

Mowing Regime	Approximate costs per HA (2016)
22 Cuts per year, grass mulched back in	€2,464.00+vat Cost inclusive of equipment, labour and fuel
5 Cuts per year with cuttings lifted	€2,437.00+vat Cost inclusive of equipment, labour, fuel and waste disposal

Cost benefit analysis based on prices from a large landscaping company in ROI. Prices are based on flat ground accessible with ride on equipment and within a 40km radius of Dublin, rates would reduce for larger areas.

Guidance for when mowing is contracted out: Identify at least ten locations and mow under a pollinator friendly regime - five cut and lifts per year. Mowing height should be set to 3 inches.

- First cut after the 15th April (Dandelions are a vital food source for pollinators in spring)
- Second cut at end of May
- Third cut in mid-late July (maximises growth of Clovers and other wildflowers)
- Fourth cut at the end August
- Fifth cut after mid-October

If necessary, this can be increased or decreased depending on the use of the area, but grass should not be cut from the beginning of March until mid-April or from the end of May until mid-July.



An English and bilingual signage template is available for download from the website. The bilingual version is compliant with the regulations made under the Official Languages Act for use on public land in the Republic of Ireland. Space has been left on the template for councils to add their own logo before use.





Meadow -
Belfast City
Council

4

Action	Areas where it might apply	Staff who could assist
<p>Action 4: Aim to create at least 5 meadows (one cut and lift per year)</p> <p>Identify areas of grass that could be left uncut until late August-early September. One cut and lift per year.</p> <p>Meadows managed in this way will allow wildflowers to bloom throughout the pollinator season and also provide undisturbed areas for nesting. The annual cut in September should be removed to reduce soil fertility over time. Over a number of years the meadow will naturally become more flower-rich with local species that are adapted to the site's conditions – all without spending money on wildflower seed.</p> <p>Cutting paths through the middle or keeping a short border at the edge will demonstrate that these meadows are being managed and allow the public to enjoy the resource.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks • Off-road walking/cycling routes • Greenways • Towpaths • Old graveyards • Housing estates <p>The creation of a long flowering meadow can be an excellent resource for pollinators but should be viewed as a long term action. The longer it is in place and managed to remove the final cut each year, the more flower-rich it will become and the more attractive it will be.</p> <p>It may be more appropriate to place these in areas where it is obvious to the public that their creation is deliberate, with signage used to demonstrate this.</p>	<p>Facilities Manager</p> <p>Roads Section: Area Engineer</p> <p>Parks and Gardens</p> <p>Heritage officers, biodiversity officers or others with this remit could assist in identifying suitable locations and advising on management</p>

It may take a number of years before your meadow becomes less grassy and more flower-rich. It will gradually improve year upon year if the grass cut is lifted. In the early years pernicious weeds (e.g., Ragwort) should be removed. A number of resources are available on the Pollinator Plan website including: How-to-guide on creating and managing a wildflower meadow, How-to-guide on collecting and using local pollinator friendly wildflower seed to naturally improve meadows. This is something that local community groups or schools could get involved in.

Pollinator friendly roadside verge - Fingal

5	Action	Areas where it might apply	Staff who could assist
	<p>Action 5: Identify at least 10 flagship roadside verges that are managed to be pollinator friendly (one cut and lift per year)</p> <p>Identify areas that could be left uncut until late August-early September. One cut and lift per year. The annual cut should be removed to reduce soil fertility over time.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roadside verges <p>Councils are likely to have areas where the location and soil type lends itself to the creation of a wildflower rich roadside verge.</p> <p>It is proposed these are used as flagship locations and identified using signage.</p>	<p>Roads Section: Area Engineer</p> <p>Parks and Gardens (ROI)</p> <p>Heritage officers, biodiversity officers or others with this remit could assist in identifying suitable locations and advising on management</p>

Note: To get the most from this action, it is important that expert advice is sought on the location of these verges. They should be in areas that will quickly become wildflower rich and provide maximum reward for your efforts. If sites with very fertile soil are chosen it could initially lead to more rank grassy verges that will look less attractive in the short term.

For more information on managing roadside verges for biodiversity see

Don't Mow Let it Grow <http://dontmowletitgrow.com>

6	Action	Areas where it might apply	Staff who could assist
	<p>Action 6: Introduce a layered mowing approach to other verges</p> <p>Identify areas where the edge of the roadside verge would be cut regularly with the strip behind mown less frequently. This allows a flower rich strip behind.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roadside verges <p>This approach can reduce the need for traffic management during mowing and is also pollinator friendly.</p>	<p>Roads Section: Area Engineer</p> <p>Parks and Gardens (ROI)</p>

Note: there will be areas where it is not appropriate to have long grass due to health and safety concerns about littering or dog fouling.

Actions 5 and 6 will only be relevant to Councils in ROI.



Ecoseeds:
native
perennial
wildflower
meadow

Food

C.Pollinator friendly planting

Traditionally, ornamental planting in urban areas has not considered pollinators. Often flowers that are not good sources of pollen or nectar are planted and so do not provide food for bees and other insects. Future planting projects should incorporate some plants that will look similarly attractive but are also pollinator friendly.

Pollinators need food from early spring through to autumn - planting should try to ensure that there is a continual supply of food during this time. Spring and early summer are when hunger gaps are most likely to occur, making it particularly important to provide plants that will flower during these times. Actions are listed here and suggested planting lists are provided in the Appendix (pollinator friendly planting code).

7	Action	Areas where it might apply	Staff who could assist
	Action 7: Plant a native perennial wildflower meadow Identify areas where it may be possible to create a native perennial wildflower meadow using commercially purchased seed. In the short term, this would be more flower-rich than the meadow in Action 4, but it is also more costly and requires careful planning. Please be aware that some existing amenity grassland sites will be unsuited to the immediate creation of a high quality wildflower meadow due to high soil fertility. Meadows should be cut once a year in late August-early September with the cuttings removed. The diversity of wild flowers in meadows increases if cuttings are removed to gradually reduce soil fertility.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Parks• Roadside verges• Off-road walking/cycling routes• Greenways <p>This could be considered where areas have undergone other works as an alternative to normal reseedling</p> <p>If wildflower meadows are being created along new roadside verges or greenways topsoil should not be applied</p> <p>The creation of a wildflower meadow can be an excellent resource for pollinators but should be viewed as a long term action.</p>	Heritage officers, biodiversity officers or others with this remit could assist in identifying suitable locations and advising on management

If you do have an appropriate site, it is very important to buy local provenance native wildflower seed that is pollinator friendly and suitable for your soil type.

Planting perennial wildflowers is much more cost effective and a better source of food for pollinators than continually planting annuals.

Green hay could be used as an alternative to buying seed. This is where a hay crop from a nearby species rich meadow is transported to the site and spread to distribute seeds.

Once your perennial meadow is established you should consider brush harvesting in September to collect the seed and use in other locations to save on future costs.

See website: How-to-guide on creating and managing a native wildflower meadow.



Native
wildflowers
planted along
Waterford
Greenway

8 Action	Areas where it might apply	Staff who could assist
<p>Action 8: Plant a native hedgerow</p> <p>Identify areas where it may be possible to plant a native hedgerow. Use stock of local provenance (sourced & grown locally).</p> <p>Choose a selection of species from page 26 which suit your location. An ideal native hedge has 75% Hawthorn and 25% of at least four other species such as Willow, Blackthorn, Hazel, Holly, Dog rose, Whin and Guelder rose in a 30m length. It is best to plant between October and March, but not when the ground is waterlogged or frozen. Additional expert advice should be sought on planting and management.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks • Roadside verges • Off-road walking/cycling routes • Greenways • New housing schemes 	<p>Roads Section: Area Engineer</p> <p>Parks & Gardens</p> <p>Heritage officers, biodiversity officers or others with this remit could assist in identifying suitable locations and advising on management</p>

9 Action	Areas where it might apply	Staff who could assist
<p>Action 9: Replace improved grass with a dense clover sward</p> <p>Identify areas where improved grass could be entirely replaced with a dense permanent clover mix. Red and white clovers will provide colour, and are a very important food source for pollinators in summer. Grasses should be minimised in the clover mix planted as the clovers will fix Nitrogen and boost grass growth if seeds are present.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roundabouts • Off-road walking/cycle routes • Greenways <p>Could be adopted in areas that have undergone other works as an alternative to normal reseeding.</p> <p>Not suitable for high use areas as it won't withstand heavy footfall.</p>	<p>Roads Section: Area Engineer</p> <p>Housing Section</p> <p>Parks & Gardens</p>



Planting
Yellow-rattle
in meadows
encourages other
wildflower
growth



Pollinator friendly perennial planting

10 Action	Areas where it might apply	Staff who could assist
<p>Action 10: For future ornamental tree planting select from pollinator friendly species</p> <p>Incorporate a mix of pollinator friendly trees that will flower from spring through to autumn [list of street trees and open space trees in Appendix]. These should be in line with Tree Management Strategies and wider planting policies.</p>	<p>Could be incorporated into future street and open space tree planting programmes</p>	<p>District Manager</p> <p>Roads Section: Area Engineer</p> <p>Planning</p> <p>Parks & Gardens</p> <p>Housing Section</p>
11 Action	Areas where it might apply	Staff who could assist
<p>Action 11: For new works ensure 75% of ornamental planting is pollinator friendly</p> <p>For new works with ornamental planting adopt the pollinator friendly planting code and try to ensure that 75% of planting is with pollinator friendly species [list in appendix; along with advice on pollinator friendly perennial planting schemes].</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New council developments • Housing schemes • New roads or road realignments • New roundabouts 	<p>District Manager</p> <p>Facilities Manager</p> <p>Roads Section: Area Engineer</p> <p>Parks & Gardens</p> <p>Housing Section</p>
12 Action	Areas where it might apply	Staff who could assist
<p>Action 12: In future ornamental maintenance planting try to select from the pollinator friendly planting code</p> <p>Incorporate pollinator friendly shrubs, perennial plants or annuals into future planting programmes to provide food for pollinators from spring through to autumn [list in appendix].</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks • Housing estates • Sections of off-road walking/ cycle routes 	<p>District Manager</p> <p>Roads Section: Area Engineer</p> <p>Parks & Gardens</p> <p>Housing Section</p>

Info Box:

Tulips and Daffodils create attractive visual displays in spring but are not a good food source for pollinators. Where used, it is recommended they be combined with more pollinator friendly bulb planting (e.g., Snowdrop, Crocus, Muscari, Allium).



Pollinator friendly planting in Merrion Square Dublin

Maynooth
Tidy Towns
- incorporating
pollinator friendly
perennials



13 Action	Areas where it might apply	Staff who could assist
Action 13: Make some urban planters pollinator friendly Identify some urban planters where the standard annual bedding mix could be partly/fully replaced by perennial pollinator friendly plants [list in appendix].	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban planters Areas of annual bedding 	District Manager Parks & Gardens Potential partners: Local community groups, businesses

14 Action	Areas where it might apply	Staff who could assist
Action 14: Make some urban roundabouts pollinator friendly Identify some roundabouts that could be planted in a pollinator friendly way without impacting line of sight e.g., pollinator friendly mowing, replace grass with clover, bulb planting (Crocus, Alliums) or permanent pollinator friendly perennial plants in centre [list in appendix].	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roundabouts 	District Manager Roads Section: Area Engineer Parks & Gardens Potential partners: Local community groups, businesses

Info box: Pollinator friendly perennial planting versus annual bedding

Planting regime	Approximate costs per m ² (2016)	Typical replacement
Pollinator friendly perennials	€10-13 (9 x 9cm pots) €17-19 (6 x 2L pots)	Life span of 10-12 years if well planted and well maintained. Small amount of annual replacement may be required depending on the site
Annual bedding	€10-29	

Based on prices from a large Irish perennial plant nursery. Typical annual bedding costs were provided by a Council in ROI.



Pollinator
friendly
roundabouts



Flowering
hedgerow

Shelter

D: Provide wild pollinator nesting habitat: hedgerows, earth banks and hotels

Nesting habitat for wild bees (bumblebees and solitary bees) is unobtrusive and easy to create. Wild bees live in small colonies and are entirely focussed on finding enough pollen and nectar to feed themselves and their offspring. They are not aggressive, have no interest in interacting with humans, and do not present any risk to the public. Where nesting habitat is being created, it could be kept away from busy paths or playgrounds to further reduce any public concerns.

There are 20 different species of bumblebees in Ireland. They nest on the ground in long grass, often at the base of a hedgerow. We have 62 species (types) of solitary bees who are mining bees. They nest by burrowing into bare ground or south/east facing banks of bare earth (soil, sand, clay, peat). The remaining 15 solitary bee species are cavity nesting bees who nest in south facing stone walls, masonry, wooden structures or commercially available bee nest boxes.

15 Action	Areas where it might apply	Staff who could assist
Action 15: Manage hedgerows for pollinators Hedgerows provide both food and nesting areas for pollinators. Flowering hedgerows that contain Willow, Blackthorn and Hawthorn provide vital food in spring when wild bees come out of hibernation. Bramble is a good source of food in summer, and Ivy in the autumn.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Parks with existing hedgerows or areas where new hedgerows are to be created• Hedgerows along roadsides (where sightlines are not impacted)	Roads Section: Area Engineer Parks & Gardens

Cut hedgerows every three years to encourage flowering. Avoid having all the hedges cut the same year, so that there is always some that will bloom and fruit in the area every year or cut one third of the hedge annually. The shape of the cut should be “A” shaped rather than the commonly observed low box shape.

Make sure the bases of hedgerows are not sprayed. This will allow flowering plants like Clovers, Vetches and Knapweed to provide additional food throughout the season and ensures nesting pollinators are safe.

Keep vegetation sparse on any sandy earth, or earth and stone banks e.g. by strimming, weeding, cutting, to provide nest sites for solitary bees. Do not spray areas where solitary bees are being encouraged to nest.

If vegetation beside and under hedgerows needs to be cut, do so between September and March to allow bumblebees to nest during the summer.

For additional information see website: How-to-guide on creating and managing hedgerows for pollinators



16 Action	Areas where it might apply	Staff who could assist
<p>Action 16: Bare earth/sand banks for wild pollinator nesting</p> <p>Using just a spade, you can create and maintain bare earth banks for mining solitary bees where natural ridges/banks occur. This is the best and most cost effective way to create nesting habitat for solitary bees. Once established, they should be maintained by manual scraping back to bare soil on an annual basis. Do not spray areas where solitary bees are being encouraged to nest.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coastal sites • Edges of tracks/lawns • Roadsides • Riverbanks • Natural ridges • Housing estates • Parks <p>Solitary bees commonly only fly 100m from their nest to feed. It is important to create nest sites close to food sources.</p>	<p>Heritage officers, biodiversity officers or others with this remit to identify appropriate areas and encourage local community groups or relevant council staff to create/manage.</p> <p>Potential partners: Local community groups</p>

17 Action	Areas where it might apply	Staff who could assist
<p>Action 17: Holes in wood or concrete for wild pollinator nesting</p> <p>Where wooden or concrete fencing exists in public areas, consider drilling small south or east facing holes for cavity nesting solitary bees. These holes should be 10cm in depth and 4-8mm diameter. A range of different diameters is best.</p> <p>They are added once, ideally at a height of 1.5-2m (or as high as possible). Alternatively, drill holes in a pallet block and attach this to the fence post. Do not treat wood where cavity nesting solitary bees are being encouraged to nest.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any wooden fencing on council land • Community buildings <p>This action will be most effective if small numbers of holes are drilled in areas that are close to food sources.</p>	<p>Heritage officers, biodiversity officers or others with this remit to identify appropriate areas and encourage local community groups or relevant council staff to create/manage.</p> <p>Potential partners: Local community groups</p>



Holes in wood

Info Box:
Traditional management of hedgerows on public land is often not pollinator friendly. If council hedgerows are not in flower in April-May they are not good for pollinators and other wildlife.



18 Action	Areas where it might apply	Staff who could assist
<p>Action 18: Bee hotels for wild pollinators</p> <p>Incorporate small numbers of solitary bee nest boxes into the local community for cavity nesting solitary bees. Bee hotels can be useful and are a good awareness raising tool, but actions 16 and 17 are preferable ways to create nest sites. A number of small hotels is better than one large one in terms of minimising the risks of disease and predators killing the bees.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any free common land where bee hotels could be kept (avoiding areas prone to vandalism) e.g., parks, allotments, schools <p>Bee hotels will only be used by bees if they are situated close to food sources.</p>	<p>Heritage officers, biodiversity officers or others with this remit to identify appropriate areas and encourage local community groups or relevant council staff to create/manage.</p> <p>Potential partners: Local community groups, schools etc.</p>

See website for a detailed How-to-guide on creating wild pollinator nesting habitat.



E. Reduce the use of pesticides

*In some cases, the use of pesticides (insecticides, fungicides and herbicides) is necessary e.g., the use of herbicides along railway tracks to ensure the health and safety of train passengers. In other cases, we have fallen into a pattern of using them as a way of tidying or sanitising our environment. To minimise negative impacts on pollinators it is important that pesticides are used sustainably. This means they should **only be used when necessary**, and efforts should be made to minimise their impact on non-target species like bees. Pesticides should always be applied **exactly** according to manufacturer guidelines.*

19 Action	Areas where it might apply	Staff who could assist
Action 19: Reduce or eliminate the use of pesticides (herbicides, insecticides & fungicides)		
Aim to eliminate the use of herbicide, fungicide and insecticide in some locations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> County Hall and Civic Centres Council Offices Libraries Heath Centres (NI) Community Centres Leisure Centres Graveyards Green Flag Sites 	Facilities manager Roads Section: Area Engineer Parks & Gardens
Identify sites where pesticide use could be reduced to 10% of previous planned maintenance spraying regimes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Green Flag Sites 	Facilities manager Parks & Gardens
Limit chemical control related to turf culture to only sports areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Across council land 	Facilities manager Roads Section: Area Engineer Parks & Gardens
For ornamental gardens (e.g., Rose Gardens) replace chemical pesticides and chemical fertilizers with organic products. Reduce fungicide use by using foliar feeds to make the plants more resistant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ornamental gardens 	Parks & Gardens



Stoneybatter Resident's Campaign for a Chemical free Dublin. Other residents groups are establishing similar zones in their area.

For spot treating on hard surfaces, and spraying edges of paths adopt a policy of not spraying until the 15th April. This allows Dandelions and other wild plants to flower and provide a vital source of food in spring.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Across council land 	<p>Facilities manager</p> <p>Roads Section: Area Engineer</p> <p>Parks & Gardens</p>
Eliminate the use of herbicides along south facing edging with bare soil to support solitary bee nesting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> South facing edging in parks, along pavements 	Heritage officers, biodiversity officers or others with this remit to identify areas and communicate as appropriate to other council staff
Have spraying buffer zones around important pollinator habitat Signage should be used to identify these areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Across council land 	Heritage officers, biodiversity officers or others with this remit to identify areas and communicate as appropriate to other council staff
Identify if there are streets/areas where community groups are willing to take responsibility for manual weed control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate residential areas 	<p>Heritage officers, biodiversity officers or others with this remit to identify areas/groups.</p> <p>Outreach Department</p> <p>Partners: Local community groups</p>

20 Action	Areas where it might apply	Staff who could assist
<p>Action 20: Ensure best practise where the use of pesticides cannot be avoided</p> <p>Adopt the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan pesticide best practice code and communicate to relevant staff</p> <p>One page pesticide code provided in Appendix. This could be laminated and provided to staff vehicles.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Across council land. 	<p>District Manager</p> <p>Facilities Manager</p> <p>Roads Section: Area Engineer</p> <p>Parks & Gardens</p> <p>Housing Section</p>

Info Box:
On Council land, herbicides are having the greatest negative impact on pollinators. Pollinators need a range of flowers to feed on from spring through to autumn. The overuse of herbicides is making it very difficult for them to find enough food to survive in our landscape.

F. Raise public awareness of pollinators within the local area

For the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2015-2020 to be successful we need to raise public awareness so that people know the importance of pollinators and understand why we all need to take action.

Councils can play a leading role through their influencing power and ability to reach elected representatives and rate payers.

21 Action	Areas where it might apply	Staff who could assist
Action 21: Build actions on pollinators into existing frameworks and initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City, County or Local Development Plans Sustainability criteria of the Green Flag Award Scheme (parks) Green Infrastructure strategies Climate adaptation plans 	<p>Senior management</p> <p>Heritage officers, biodiversity officers or others with this remit to suggest incorporation where appropriate</p>
22 Action	Areas where it might apply	Staff who could assist
Action 22: Fund pollinator projects on council land to demonstrate best practice to other sectors <p>Fund the creation of best practice pollinator habitat on council land. These can be used as case studies and reference sites to other sectors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Across council land 	<p>Senior management</p> <p>Heritage officers, biodiversity officers or others with this remit to coordinate</p>
23 Action	Areas where it might apply	Staff who could assist
Action 23: Put up signage to identify pollinator friendly habitats on council land <p>Put up signage explaining the importance of pollinators and what is being done on council land to support the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Across council land 	<p>Heritage officers, biodiversity officers or others with this remit</p>

An English and bilingual signage template is available for download from the website. The bilingual version meets the language criteria for use on public land in the Republic of Ireland. Space has been left for the inclusion of council logos

24 Action	Areas where it might apply	Staff who could assist
<p>Action 24: Promote & distribute pollinator friendly guidelines to other sectors</p> <p>Parallel guidelines are available on actions local communities, gardeners, farmers & businesses can take to help pollinators. These could be promoted where appropriate. See the Pollinator Plan website for high resolution, print-ready PDFs of these guidelines.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local community groups Council events Libraries 	Heritage officers, biodiversity officers or others with this remit to fund print runs of guidelines for distribution
25 Action	Areas where it might apply	Staff who could assist
<p>Action 25: Promote & distribute the Junior Pollinator Plan to local schools</p> <p>The Junior Plan is a child friendly version of the original Plan and has actions for schools</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local schools and youth groups Libraries Education Centres 	Heritage officers, biodiversity officers or others with this remit
26 Action	Areas where it might apply	Staff who could assist
<p>Action 26: Facilitate or deliver training on pollinators and how to take action to protect them</p> <p>Resources provided through the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan website</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council staff Local community groups 	Heritage officers, biodiversity officers or others with this remit to organise
27 Action	Areas where it might apply	Staff who could assist
<p>Action 27: Fund a special pollinator award in the Tidy Towns or Ulster in Bloom competition</p> <p>Sponsor an award that recognises the town that has made most efforts to make their local area more pollinator friendly</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tidy Towns and Ulster in Bloom competitions 	Heritage and Biodiversity Officers across Councils could come together to collectively sponsor the award.
28 Action	Areas where it might apply	Staff who could assist
<p>Action 28: Promote and get involved in other pollinator related initiatives</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See website for list of existing projects e.g., Save our Magnificent Meadows, Grow Wild, Don't Mow, Let it Grow, Bee-Licious, Bi 	Heritage officers, biodiversity officers or others with this remit

See website to download the Junior Pollinator Plan (Action 25).



G. Tracking progress and recognition for efforts

Progress in the implementation of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2015-2020 will be carefully tracked. Success is not measured in having the Plan, but by knowing that it is working. A publicly available online mapping system will track existing and new pollinator friendly actions taken around the country and provide recognition to those who are helping.

The All-Ireland Bumblebee Monitoring Scheme is a citizen science initiative managed by the National Biodiversity Data Centre. It will be used to track changes in wild pollinators as the Plan is implemented.

Pollinator
friendly
mowing

29 Action	Areas where it might apply	Staff who could assist
<p>Action 29: Log your existing and new 'Actions for Pollinators' on the mapping system to ensure your efforts are recognised</p> <p>A publicly available online mapping system will allow all those who take pollinator friendly actions to log their location and the action(s) taken. This will track the build-up of food, shelter and safety for pollinators in the landscape. It is hoped councils will use the system to log what they are doing and show the restoration and creation of pollinator resources in their area. Once established, the system will help coordinate efforts locally between councils, community groups, schools etc. pollinators.biodiversityireland.ie</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All actions taken on council land can be logged and recognised 	<p>Heritage officers, biodiversity officers & other staff as relevant</p> <p>GIS staff</p>

30 Action	Areas where it might apply	Staff who could assist
<p>Action 30: Take part in the Bumblebee Monitoring Scheme</p> <p>Identify interested people and set up at least one bumblebee monitoring scheme walk within key sites. In this scheme volunteers walk a fixed 1-2km route once a month between March and October and record the diversity and abundance of bumblebees that they see. The scheme is run by the National Biodiversity Data Centre who provide full support and training. The scheme is vital in tracking what is happening with wild pollinators in the landscape, and can be used to assess the effectiveness of any pollinator friendly actions that are being taken locally. Email info@biodiversityireland.ie for more information</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Across council land 	<p>Coordinated by Heritage officers, biodiversity officers or others with this remit – could be in collaboration with other council staff or through local community groups</p>



Appendix

Pollinator friendly planting code

Experts agree that inadequate nutrition is a major cause of pollinator declines. We want pollinators to be there when we need them, but our landscape doesn't provide the abundance and diversity of flowering plants that they need to survive throughout their life cycle. To have a healthy balanced diet, bees need to be able to feed on pollen and nectar from a range of different flowers from early spring to autumn.

It is important to prioritise increasing native plants (trees, shrubs, wildflowers) across the landscape to provide food for pollinators.

Spring  Autumn



Willow



Dandelion



Clover



Knapweed



Bramble



Ivy

Good native hedgerow species for pollinators:

Hazel (Feb-Apr)
Willow (Mar-May)
Blackthorn (Mar-May)
Hawthorn (Apr-Jun)
Broom (Apr-Jun)
Wild Cherry (Apr-May)

Bramble (May-Sept)
Wild Privet (May-Jul)
Crab apple (May-Jun)
Elder (May-Jun)
Whitebeam (May-Jun)
Rowan (May-Jun)

Wild Rose (Jun-Jul)
Honeysuckle (Jun-Oct)
Guelder Rose (Jun-Jul)
Raspberry (Jun-Aug)
Ivy (Sept-Nov)
Gorse (Jan-Dec)

These species are not recommended for hedgerows: Horse Chestnut, Beech, Laburnum, Lilac, Lime.

These species can be considered invasive and should not be planted: Fuchsia, Cherry Laurel, Rhododendron, Sycamore, Snowberry.



Deliberately planting horticultural or ornamental plants

Important: In towns and villages non-native horticultural or ornamental plants can be an important additional food source for pollinators. It is important to choose species that are good sources of nectar and pollen. However, you should not plant these in natural or semi-natural habitats. They should also not be planted in farmland (outside of farm gardens).

- Perennial plants are generally better sources of pollen and nectar than annuals. They are also cost effective as they grow and flourish over the following years. In contrast to seasonally replaced annual bedding, perennial plants can look less attractive to the public when they have finished flowering. This can be minimised by carefully selecting perennials and mixing them with ornamental grasses. See advice on perennial planting, including pollinator friendly planting suggestions on page 34.
- Traditional annual bedding plants like Geraniums, Begonias, Busy Lizzy, Petunias, Polyanthus or Salvia splendens have virtually no pollen and nectar and are of little value to pollinators. If you are choosing bedding plants, do not select F1 and F2 hybrids. If you are using annuals you should try to select scented, single-flowered varieties. The block planting of these can be an excellent source of food for pollinators.
- We have provided lists of pollinator friendly trees, shrubs, climbers, perennials, annuals and bulbs. Please note that these are not exhaustive lists. There are lots of other species that are also pollinator friendly and could be incorporated where appropriate. The best guide is to observe what the bees themselves are feeding on in parks/gardens and to increase the amount of these plants.



Street Trees

Roadside margins can be difficult locations in which to establish trees. Those suggested are pollinator friendly, resistant to pruning and should not cause any structural damage or create health and safety issues.

Lime (*Tilia*) species have fragrant flowers and produce a lot of nectar, however care is needed in the selection of cultivars as many can grow to large tree size proportions that will exceed allotted roadside space. Some are also very attractive to aphids and can lead to honeydew drip onto cars below (e.g., *Tilia* × *europaea*, *T. platyphyllos*). Those suggested below are smaller and don't attract aphids, therefore producing no dripping.

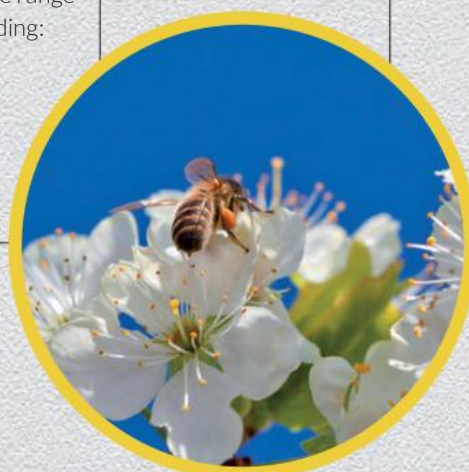
Species	Flowering
Juneberry Tree <i>Amelanchier</i> × <i>grandiflora</i> 'Robin Hill'	Small white flower April. Good autumn colour
Upright Hawthorn <i>Crataegus monogyna</i> 'Stricta'	White flowers May
Pillar crab <i>Malus tschonoskii</i>	Scented white flowers May. <u>Can set fruit.</u>
Callery pear <i>Pyrus calleryana</i> 'Chanticleer'	White flowers April-May. <u>Can set fruit.</u>
Rowan <i>Sorbus acuparia</i> varieties	White flowers May-June
Lime: <i>Tilia cordata</i> 'Greenspire'; <i>Tilia</i> × <i>europaea</i> 'Euchlora'	Pale yellow flowers June-July

Open Space Trees

While the range of trees favourable to pollinators capable of growing on open spaces is very large, actual selection is very much dependent on the situation thus **expert advice should be sought**.

Species	Flowering
Horse Chestnut <i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	White flowers May-June
Juneberry <i>Amelanchier</i> species (not <i>A. lamarckii</i> which may be invasive)	White flowers April
Indian bean tree <i>Catalpa bignonioides</i>	White flowers May - July

Hawthorn <i>Crataegus</i> species	White flowers May – June
Apple <i>Malus</i> species/cultivars	White, pink, red flowers May
Foxglove tree <i>Paulownia tomentosa</i>	Lavender blue flowers May
Wild Cherry <i>Prunus avium</i>	White flowers April
Bird Cherry <i>Prunus padus</i>	White flowers April
Japanese flowering cherry <i>Prunus serrulata</i> 'Tai Haku'	Large white flowers April
Japanese flowering cherries are available in a wide range of cultivars, those with single flowers most pollinator attractive, however the attractiveness of specific cultivars is unclear and not well documented	
Pear <i>Pyrus</i> species and cultivars	White flowers May
Rowan <i>Sorbus</i> species/cultivars	White flowers May-June
Willow Salix are fast growing and are excellent trees for pollinating insects producing large quantities of nectar and pollen. However choice of an appropriate species/cultivar for the right situation requires careful consideration. Priority should always be given to native species, but recommended non-native species include: <i>Salix aegyptiaca</i> (early spring flowering) <i>Salix alba</i> (spring flowering) <i>Salix alba</i> 'Liempde' <i>Salix alba</i> var. <i>vitellina</i>	Flowers in catkins in spring
Lime Tilia can grow to very large trees, so careful selection is required. Although the range and diversity of Tilia is very large, only a small selection is recommended including: <i>Tilia americana</i> 'Redmond' <i>Tilia cordata</i> <i>Tilia x europea</i> <i>Tilia platyphyllos</i> <i>Tilia tomentosa</i>	White flowers in summer





Bulbs, Annuals, Biennials, Perennials, Climbers & Shrubs

This list of ornamental plants is taken directly from the RHS Perfect for Pollinators list <https://www.rhs.org.uk>. Potentially invasive species have not been included. Highlighted species are those recognised to be particularly good for pollinators in Ireland, based on expert opinion (this is not exhaustive).

Autumn

BULBS

Colchicum species (Autumn crocus)

Crocus species (Crocus, autumn-flowering)

PERENNIALS

Aconitum carmichaelii (Carmichael's monk's hood)

Actaea simplex (Simple-stemmed bugbane)

Anemone × *hybrida* (Japanese anemone)

Anemone hupehensis (Chinese anemone)

Aster species and hybrids (Michaelmas daisy)

Campanula poscharskyana (Trailing bellflower)

Cerastigma plumbaginoides (Hardy blue-flowered leadwort)

Chrysanthemum species & hybrids
(Chrysanthemum)

Dahlia species & hybrids (Dahlia)

Helianthus × *laetiflorus* (Perennial sunflower)

Leucanthemella serotina (Autumn ox-eye)

Salvia species (Sage, autumn flowering)

CLIMBERS

Clematis heracleifolia (Tube clematis)

Hedera colchica (Persian ivy)

SHRUBS

Arbutus unedo (Strawberry tree)

Elaeagnus × *ebbingei* (Ebbing's silverberry)

Elaeagnus pungens (Silverthorn)

Fatsia japonica (Japanese aralia)

Winter

BULBS

Crocus species (Crocus, winter-flowering)

Eranthis hyemalis (Winter aconite)

Galanthus nivalis (Common snowdrop)

PERENNIALS

Helleborus species and hybrids (Hellebore, winter flowering)

CLIMBERS

Clematis cirrhosa (Spanish traveller's joy)

SHRUBS

× *Fatsia lizei* (Tree ivy)

Lonicera × *purpurea* (Purpus honeysuckle)

Mahonia species (Oregon grape)

Salix aegyptiaca (Musk willow)

Sarcococca confusa (Sweet box)

Sarcococca hookeriana (Sweet box)

Viburnum tinus (Laurustinus)

Spring

BULBS

Crocus species (Crocus, spring-flowering)

Muscari armeniacum (Armenian grape hyacinth)

Ornithogalum umbellatum (Common star of Bethlehem)

BIENNIALS

Erysimum species (Wallflower)

Lunaria annua (Honesty)

PERENNIALS

Arabis alpina subsp. *caucasica* (Alpine rock cress)
Armeria juniperifolia (Juniper-leaved thrift)
Aubrieta species (Aubretia)
Aurinia saxatilis (Gold dust)
Bergenia species (Elephant ear)
Doronicum × *excelsum* (Leopard's bane)
Erysimum 'Bredon' (Wallflower 'Bredon')
Euphorbia amygdaloides (Wood spurge)
Euphorbia characias (Mediterranean spurge)
Euphorbia cyparissias (Cypress spurge)
Euphorbia epithymoides (Cushion spurge)
Euphorbia nicaeensis (Nice spurge)
***Helleborus* species & hybrids** (Hellebore, spring flowering)
Iberis saxatilis (Alpine candytuft)
Iberis sempervirens (Perennial candytuft)
Lamium maculatum (Spotted dead nettle)
***Pulmonaria* species** (Lungwort)

SHRUBS

Berberis darwinii (Darwin's barberry)
Chaenomeles species (Japanese quince)
Cornus mas (Cornelian cherry)
Cotoneaster conspicuus (Tibetan cotoneaster)
Enkianthus campanulatus (Redvein enkianthus)
Erica* × *darleyensis (Darley dale heath)
Erica carnea (Alpine heath)
***Hebe* species** (Hebe)
***Mahonia* species** (Oregon grape, spring flowering)
Pieris formosa (Lily-of-the-valley bush)
Pieris japonica (Lily-of-the-valley bush)
Prunus incisa 'Kojo-no-mai' (Cherry 'Kojo-no-mai')
Prunus tenella (Dwarf Russian almond)
Ribes nigrum (Blackcurrant)
Ribes rubrum (Redcurrant)
***Salix hastata* 'Wehrhahnii'** (Halberd willow 'Wehrhahnii')
Salix lanata (Woolly willow, male form only)
Skimmia japonica (Skimmia)
Stachyurus chinensis (Stachyurus)
Stachyurus praecox (Stachyurus)
Vaccinium corymbosum (Blueberry)

Summer

BULBS

Allium species ornamental and edibles (when allowed to flower) (*Allium*)

ANNUALS

Ageratum houstonianum (Flossflower)
Amberboa moschata (Sweet sultan)
Anchusa azurea (Large blue alkanet)
Anchusa capensis (Cape alkanet)
Antirrhinum majus (Snapdragon)
Argemone platyceras (Crested poppy)
Borago officinalis (Borage)
Calendula officinalis (Common marigold)
Callistephus chinensis (China aster)
Centaurea cyanus (Cornflower)
Centratherum punctatum (Manaos beauty)
***Cerinthe major* 'Purpurascens'** (Honeywort 'Purpurascens')
Clarkia unguiculata (Butterfly flower)
Cleome hassleriana (Spider flower)
Consolida ajacis (Giant larkspur)
Cosmos bipinnatus (Cosmea)
Cosmos sulphureus (Yellow cosmos)
Cucurbita pepo (Courgette)
Cuphea ignea (Cigar flower)
Echium vulgare (Viper's bugloss)
Eschscholzia californica (California poppy)
Gilia capitata (Blue thimble flower)
Glebionis segetum (Corn marigold)
Gypsophila elegans (Annual baby's breath)
Helianthus annuus (Common sunflower, avoid pollen free cultivars)
Helianthus debilis (Cucumberleaf sunflower)
Heliotropium arborescens (Common heliotrope)
Iberis amara (Wild candytuft)
Lavatera trimestris (Annual lavatera)
Limnanthes douglasii (Poached egg flower)
Linaria maroccana (Annual toadflax)
Lobularia maritima (Sweet alyssum)
Malope trifida (Large-flowered mallow wort)
Nemophila menziesii (Baby blue eyes)
Nicotiana alata (Flowering tobacco)
Nicotiana langsdorffii (Langsdorff's tobacco)

Nigella damascena (Love-in-a-mist)
Nigella hispanica (Spanish fennel flower)
Papaver rhoeas (Poppy)
Phacelia campanularia (Californian bluebell)
Phacelia tanacetifolia (Fiddleneck)
Phaseolus coccineus (Scarlet runner bean)
Reseda odorata (Garden mignonette)
Ridolfia segetum (False fennel)
Sanvitalia procumbens (Creeping zinnia)
Scabiosa atropurpurea (Sweet scabious)
Tagetes patula (French marigold)
Tithonia rotundifolia (Mexican sunflower)
Trachymene coerulea (Blue lace flower)
Tropaeolum majus (Garden nasturtium)
Verbena × hybrida (Garden verbena)
Verbena rigida (Slender vervain)
Vicia faba (Broad bean)
Zinnia elegans (Youth and old age)

BIENNIALS

Alcea rosea (Hollyhock)
Angelica archangelica (Angelica)
Angelica gigas (Purple angelica)
Campanula medium (Canterbury bells)
Dianthus barbatus (Sweet william)
Digitalis species (Foxglove)
Eryngium giganteum (Miss Willmott's ghost)
Lychnis coronaria (Rose campion)
Matthiola incana (Hoary stock)
Myosotis species (Forget-me-not)
Oenothera species (Evening primrose)
Onopordum acanthium (Cotton thistle)
Verbascum species (Mullein)

PERENNIALS

Achillea species (Yarrow)
Actaea japonica (Baneberry)
Agastache species (Giant hyssop)
Amsonia tabernaemontana (Eastern bluestar)
Anthemis tinctoria (Dyer's chamomile)
Aquilegia species (Columbine)
Aruncus dioicus (Goat's beard, male form only)
Asparagus officinalis (Common asparagus)
Astrantia major (Greater masterwort)
Buphthalmum salicifolium (Yellow ox-eye)
Calamintha nepeta (Lesser calamint)

Campanula carpatica (Tussock bellflower)
Campanula glomerata (Clustered bellflower)
Campanula lactiflora (Milky bellflower)
Campanula latifolia (Giant bellflower)
Campanula persicifolia (Peach-leaved bellflower)
Catananche caerulea (Blue cupidone)
Centaurea atropurpurea (Purple knapweed)
Centaurea dealbata (Mealy centaury)
Centaurea macrocephala (Giant knapweed)
Centaurea montana (Perennial cornflower)
Cirsium rivulare 'Atropurpureum' (Purple plume thistle)
Coreopsis species (Tickseed)
Crambe cordifolia (Greater sea kale)
Cynara cardunculus including *Scolymus* Group (Globe artichoke and cardoon)
Cynoglossum amabile (Chinese forget-me-knot)
Dahlia species (Dahlia)
Delosperma floribundum (Ice plant)
Delphinium elatum (Candle larkspur)
Dictamnus albus (Dittany)
Echinacea purpurea (Purple coneflower)
Echinops species (Globe thistle)
Erigeron species (Fleabane)
Eriophyllum lanatum (Golden yarrow)
Eryngium × tripartitum (Eryngo)
Eryngium alpinum (Alpine eryngo)
Eryngium planum (Blue eryngo)
Erysimum × allionii (Siberian wallflower)
Eupatorium maculatum (Eupatorium 'Purple Bush')
Euphorbia cornigera (Horned spurge)
Euphorbia sarawschanica (Zeravshan spurge)
Ferula communis (Giant fennel)
Foeniculum vulgare (Fennel)
Fragaria × ananassa (Garden strawberry)
Gaillardia × grandiflora (Blanket flower)
Gaura lindheimeri (White gaura)
Geranium species (Cranesbill, summer-flowering)
Geum species (Avens, summer-flowering)
Helenium species (Helen's flower)
Heliopsis helianthoides (Smooth ox-eye)
Hesperis matronalis (Dame's violet)
Inula species (Harvest daisy)
Knautia macedonica (Macedonian scabious)
Lathyrus latifolius (Broad-leaved everlasting pea)
Leucanthemum × superbum (Shasta daisy)

Liatriis spicata (Button snakewort)

Limonium platyphyllum (Broad-leaved statice)

Linaria purpurea (Purple toadflax)

Lythrum virgatum (Wand loosestrife)

Malva moschata (Musk mallow)

Mentha spicata (Spearmint)

Monarda didyma (Bergamot)

Nepeta × faassenii (Garden catmint)

Origanum 'Rosenkuppel' (Marjoram 'Rosenkuppel')

Paeonia species (Peony)

Papaver orientale (Oriental poppy)

Persicaria amplexicaulis (Red bistort)

Persicaria bistorta (Bistort)

Phlox paniculata (Perennial phlox)

Phuopsis stylosa (Caucasian crosswort)

Polemonium caeruleum (Jacob's ladder)

Potentilla species (Cinquefoil)

Rudbeckia species (Coneflower)

Salvia species (Sage)

Scabiosa caucasica (Garden scabious)

Scabiosa columbaria (Small scabious)

Sedum spectabile & hybrids (Ice plant)

Sedum telephium (Orpine)

Sidalcea malviflora (Checkerbloom)

Solidago species (Goldenrod)

Stachys byzantina (Lamb's ear)

Stachys macrantha (Big sage)

Stokesia laevis (Stokes' aster)

Tanacetum coccineum (Pyrethrum)

Tanacetum vulgare (Tansy)

Telekia speciosa (Yellow ox-eye)

Teucrium chamaedrys (Wall germander)

Verbena bonariensis (Purple top)

Veronica longifolia (Garden speedwell)

Veronicastrum virginicum (Culver's root)

CLIMBERS

Campsis radicans (Trumpet honeysuckle)

Convolvulus tricolor (Dwarf morning glory)

Hydrangea anomala subsp. *petiolaris* (Climbing hydrangea)

Jasminum officinale (Common jasmine)

Parthenocissus tricuspidata (Boston ivy)

Pileostegia viburnoides (Climbing hydrangea)

SHRUBS

Aesculus parviflora (Bottlebrush buckeye)

Brachyglottis (Dunedin Group) 'Sunshine'
(*Brachyglottis* 'Sunshine')

Brachyglottis monroi (Monro's ragwort)

Buddleja globosa (Orange ball tree)

Bupleurum fruticosum (Shrubby hare's ear)

Callicarpa bodinieri var. *giraldii* (Beautyberry)

Caryopteris × clandonensis (*Caryopteris*)

Cornus alba (Red-barked dogwood)

Elaeagnus angustifolia (Oleaster)

Erica vagans (Cornish heath)

Erysimum 'Bowles's Mauve' (Wallflower 'Bowles's Mauve')

Escallonia species (*Escallonia*)

Hebe species (*Hebe*)

Hydrangea paniculata (Paniculate hydrangea,
cultivars with many fertile flowers e.g. 'Kyushu', 'Big Ben', 'Floribunda', 'Brussels Lace')

Hyssopus officinalis (Hyssop)

Kalmia latifolia (Mountain laurel)

Laurus nobilis (Bay tree)

Lavandula × intermedia (*Lavandin*)

Lavandula angustifolia (English lavender)

Lavandula stoechas (French lavender)

Lavatera olbia (Tree lavatera)

Ligustrum ovalifolium (Garden privet)

Ligustrum sinense (Chinese privet)

Olearia species (Daisy bush)

Perovskia atriplicifolia (Russian sage)

Phlomis species (*Sage*)

Photinia davidiana (*Stranvaesia*)

Prostanthera cuneata (Alpine mint bush)

Ptelea trifoliata (Hop tree)

Pyracantha species (Firethorn)

Rosmarinus officinalis (Rosemary)

Spiraea japonica (Japanese spiraea)

Tamarix ramosissima (Tamarisk)

Thymus species (*Thyme*)

Viburnum lantana (Common wayfaring tree)

Weigela florida (*Weigelia*)

Zauschneria californica (Californian fuchsia)



Perennial planting schemes

Pollinator friendly perennial plants are excellent sources of pollen and nectar. They are much more attractive to bees when planted in blocks rather than as single plants. Having a pollinator friendly perennial bed is an excellent way to provide food for pollinators across their lifecycle.

Perennials can be used to great effect in traffic islands and public spaces, providing a strong visual impact and giving a good display of flowers over a long period. Pollinator friendly perennial planting should be designed to provide a food source from spring through to autumn. In addition they are:

- Low maintenance
- Easy to establish
- Have strong visual impact
- More cost effective than bedding schemes over the long term
- Less maintenance than lawn mowing
- Provides a natural style of planting
- Provides habitat and nesting materials for birds and insects

Costing: Pollinator friendly perennial planting versus annual bedding

Planting regime	Approximate costs per m ² (2016)	Typical replacement
Pollinator friendly perennials	€10-13 (9 x 9cm pots)	Life span of 10-12 years if well planted and well maintained. Small amount of annual replacement may be required depending on the site
	€17-19 (6 x 2L pots)	
Annual bedding	€10-29	Twice per year

Based on prices from a large Irish perennial plant nursery. Typical annual bedding costs were provided by a Council in ROI.

Key Points:

- Soil preparation before planting is essential
- Dense planting will reduce weeding
- Regular maintenance is important
- Use only good quality plants from a reliable source



Suggested plant lists:

These are examples of planting selections that have been used to create pollinator friendly perennial beds in Ireland. These mixes create an attractive and colourful display for the public while also providing food for pollinators. Grass is included to provide colour and structure in autumn/winter.

Option A

Little Experience with Perennials		Flowering
Aster 'Asran' / 'Stardust'	Pollinator	Aug - Sept
Crocosmia 'Babylon'	Pollinator	Aug - Sept
Geranium 'Cambridge'	Pollinator	May - Aug
Hemerocallis 'Stella d'or'	Pollinator	May - Aug
Nepeta 'Walkers Low'	Pollinator	May - July
Oregano 'Golden'	Pollinator	June - July
Rudbeckia 'Goldstrum'	Pollinator	July - Aug
Sedum 'Autumn Joy'	Pollinator	July - Aug
Stachys 'Byzantina'	Pollinator	July - Aug
Stipa arundinacea	Grass	

Plants from List A are easy to grow and maintain, ideal to start off with.

Option B

Some Experience with Perennials		Flowering
Achillea 'Moonshine'	Pollinator	May - Aug
Allium schoenoprasum	Pollinator	June - July
Anemone 'Splendens'	Pollinator	July - Aug
Aster 'Little Carlow'	Pollinator	Sept - Oct
Calamagrostis 'Karl Foerster'	Grass	
Calamintha	Pollinator	Aug - Sept
Fennel	Pollinator	July - Sept
Kniphofia	Pollinator	July - Sept
Lamium 'Pink Chablis'	Pollinator	April - Aug
Lavender	Pollinator	May - July
Leucanthemum	Pollinator	July - Aug
Monarda Jacob Cline	Pollinator	July - Aug
Osteospermum ecklonis	Pollinator	May - Aug
Salvia nemerosa	Pollinator	May - July
Stachys 'Hummelo'	Pollinator	July - Aug
Stipa 'Ponytails'	Grass	
Symphytum 'Wisley Blue'	Pollinator	April - May
Thyme	Pollinator	June - July

Plants from List B can be added to schemes to provide more interest in colour and form



Note: Spanish Bluebells are invasive. Only native, local provenance Bluebells should be planted.

Perennial planting schemes can be underplanted with spring bulbs to provide early food for bees	
Crocus	Pollinator
Snowdrop	Pollinator
Muscari	Pollinator
Bluebells - native	Pollinator
Stipa arundinacea	Grass

Maintenance:

Good ground preparation is essential to minimise maintenance in the future.

- Removal of all root weeds before planting such as scutch grass, bindweed etc. will reduce weeding later on. Sometimes it is best to leave the site fallow for a season to sort out any issues.
- The soil must be well drained and not compacted, and have good nutritional content. Organic material can be added. There is usually no need to add fertiliser.
- Plants ideally should contain a slow release fertiliser in the pot and should be watered well before planting.
- In the first few months after planting beds will have to be weeded by hand as hoeing can damage spreading plants. This should be done regularly, maybe three or four times in year one depending on the weed population. When the perennials have established and provided dense cover, the frequency of weeding can be reduced.
- In year two and onwards, weed the beds at the beginning of and end of the growing season, and spot check for the odd weed in between.
- Watering may have to be taken into consideration during dry spells.
- Leave dead stems on plants for the winter as they provide protection for the plants, offer food and habitat and nesting materials for wildlife, prevent weed seeds from germinating and increase the organic matter.
- The dead foliage can be removed in spring by mass pruning to approx. 10cm height when there is new growth appearing. Some plants like Grasses & Thymes will look good without pruning back.
- Organic matter like compost can be added to keep the soil in good condition.

Planting time:

March-April is the best time for planting as the plants will have plenty time to root in before summer. If planted in June then weeds will have already established and they will be easy to remove, but the plants have less time to root in and provide ground coverage.

Life span of perennial planting:

The life span of a well planted and well maintained perennial scheme is 10 to 12 years, maybe longer, which is about the same as a shrub bed. Small amount of replacements may be required depending on the site but in general the plants are trouble free.

Thanks to Young Nurseries who voluntarily provided suggested perennial plant lists and example costings.



Best Practice in the Use of Pesticides

In addition to the honeybee who lives in hives, we also have 20 different types of bumblebees and 77 different types of solitary bees in Ireland. Bumblebees and solitary bees live entirely in the wild. We need healthy populations of all these bees to carry out pollination if we want to have wildflowers in the landscape, be able to grow our own fruits and vegetables, or buy affordable, locally grown apples or strawberries in our shops. Bees and other pollinators can only survive in a landscape that provides them with food, shelter and safety throughout the year. Already, one third of our 98 bee species are threatened with extinction from Ireland.

Insecticides pose the greatest direct hazard to insect pollinators. However, herbicides are having a much greater negative impact on pollinators because they are so widely used.

Herbicides, Fungicides and Plant Growth Regulators typically have little or no toxicity to pollinators, but many of the plants we spray as weeds are vital sources of food for pollinators, especially in early spring. Pollinators need a range of flowers to feed on from spring through to autumn. The overuse of these chemicals is making it very difficult for them to find enough food to survive in our landscape.

Pesticides should be used sparingly and only when absolutely necessary, such as in the treatment of invasive species like Japanese Knotweed

Do's

- Check the label and select pesticides that are less harmful to pollinators
- Always read, understand and follow the product label instructions fully
- Treat only the target area
- Spot treat rather than use blanket sprays
- Follow the buffer zone instructions on the product label
- Leave areas of pollinator-friendly habitat free from all pesticides. These include areas of clover or wildflowers, the base of hedgerows, and any natural areas.
- Minimize spray drift to non-target areas by:
 - Using equipment that reduces drift
 - Checking the weather forecast before application and be mindful of changing conditions.
 - Ensure that you spray when the wind is blowing away from beehives and pollinator-friendly habitat.

Don'ts

- Do not apply pesticides to bees or other pollinating insects
- Do not spray flower-rich areas (including weeds) when flowers are in bloom and providing food for bees. Plants that we might consider weeds like dandelions, vetches, clovers, dead-nettles and knapweed are important food sources as they provide high quality pollen and nectar for bees.
- Do not apply pesticides to areas that have been identified as important nesting areas for wild pollinators
- Do not apply pesticides to standing water.



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About the National Biodiversity Data Centre

The National Biodiversity Data Centre is a national organisation that collects and manages data to document Ireland's wildlife resource, and to track how it is changing.

Find out what biodiversity has already been recorded in your local area:

maps.biodiversityireland.ie

Help us to build up the knowledge of biodiversity in your local area by submitting sightings to

records.biodiversityireland.ie

Text: Úna FitzPatrick & Erin Jo Tiedeken (National Biodiversity Data Centre), Niamh Lennon (Wexford County Council), Orla Maguire (Belfast City Council) & Melina Quinn (Northern Ireland Environment Agency)

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**Minutes of Meeting of Environment Committee of Mid Ulster District Council
held on Tuesday 15 June 2021 in Council Offices, Circular Road, Dungannon
and by virtual means**

Members Present Councillor Brown, Chair

Councillors Buchanan*, Burton, Cuthbertson, Glasgow,
Graham, Kearney, N McAleer, S McAleer*, B McGuigan,
S McGuigan, McNamee, Milne, O'Neill*, Totten*, Wilson*

Officers in Attendance Mr Kelso, Director of Public Health and Infrastructure
Mr Fox, Principal Building Control Officer
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

Others in Attendance Councillor McLean

**Agenda Item 27 – Entertainment Licensing
Tropicana Inns**
Mr Valera

* 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 Brown welcomed everyone to the meeting and those watching the meeting through the Live Broadcast. Councillor Brown 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.

E151/21 Apologies

None.

The Chair, Councillor Brown welcomed everyone back to the new term of the Environment Committee, the Chair also placed on record the work of the outgoing Chair, Councillor S McGuigan and Deputy Chair Councillor S McAleer. The Chair welcomed Councillor Kearney on to the Environment Committee who has replaced Councillor McFlynn.

E152/21 Declarations of Interest

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

E153/21 Chair's Business

Councillor Cuthbertson asked for an update on the rollout of defibrillators.

The Head of Environmental Health advised that the tender exercise for the purchase of defibrillators had now been concluded and is awaiting sign off. The officer advised that work has been ongoing in respect of electricity connections and also discussions with other parties who have defibrillators as to whether they can be relocated or made more accessible.

Councillor McNamee asked if officers had been able to get an electricity supply for a defibrillator at Lough Fea.

The Head of Environmental Health advised that officers have been pursuing this and would provide an update directly to Councillor McNamee in relation to the Lough Fea site tomorrow.

The Chair advised that agenda item 14 – Lands at Railway Yard, Molesworth Road, Cookstown and agenda item 23 – Bus Shelters Update would be brought out of matters for information and into matters for decision.

Matters for Decision

E154/21 DfI Roads Proposal to Mid Ulster District Council - Proposed 40MPH Speed Limit – Castlecaulfield Road, Donaghmore, Dungannon

Members considered previously circulated report which sought agreement in relation to proposed 40mph speed limit at Castlecaulfield Road, Donaghmore, Dungannon.

Proposed by Councillor S McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor Burton and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers to endorse the proposal submitted by Department for Infrastructure Roads in relation to proposed 40mph speed limit at Castlecaulfield Road, Donaghmore, Dungannon.

E155/21 DfI Roads Proposal to Mid Ulster District Council - Proposed 40MPH Speed Limit – Killeenan Road and Cloughfin Road, Cookstown

Members considered previously circulated report which sought agreement in relation to proposed 40mph speed limit at Killeenan Road and Cloughfin Road, Cookstown.

Proposed by Councillor S McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor Burton and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of

Delegation for Senior Officers to endorse the proposal submitted by Department for Infrastructure Roads in relation to proposed 40mph speed limit at Killeenan Road and Cloughfin Road, Cookstown.

E156/21 DfI Roads Proposal to Mid Ulster District Council - Proposed Provision of a Disabled Persons' Parking Bay at Leckagh Walk, Magherafelt

Members considered previously circulated report which sought agreement in relation to proposed provision of a Disabled Persons' Parking Bay at Leckagh Walk, Magherafelt.

Proposed by Councillor Brown
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers to endorse the proposal submitted by Department for Infrastructure Roads in relation to proposed provision of a Disabled Persons' Parking Bay at Leckagh Walk, Magherafelt.

E157/21 DfI Roads Proposal to Mid Ulster District Council - Proposed 40MPH Speed Limit – Tullydraw Road, Dungannon

Members considered previously circulated report which sought agreement in relation to proposed 40mph speed limit at Tullydraw Road, Dungannon.

Proposed by Councillor S McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor Burton and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers to endorse the proposal submitted by Department for Infrastructure Roads in relation to proposed 40mph speed limit at Tullydraw Road, Dungannon.

E158/21 Street Naming and Property Numbering

The Head of Building Control presented previously circulated report which considered the naming of new streets within residential Housing Developments within Mid-Ulster.

Site off Tullyodonnell Road, The Rock, Dungannon

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Milne and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers to name development off Tullyodonnell Road, The Rock, Dungannon as Carrick Heights.

Site off Moneymore Road, Cookstown

Councillor Wilson advised that he had been contacted by the developer who would prefer the name Linen Gate. The Councillor advised that the development will be gated and is beside the Weavers Nursing Home. Councillor Wilson proposed the name Linen Gate.

Councillor McNamee seconded Councillor Wilson's proposal.

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers to name development off Moneymore Road, Cookstown as Linen Gate.

E159/21 Service Level Agreement - Structural Engineering Services

The Head of Building Control presented previously circulated report which sought approval to sign a Service Level Agreement between Mid Ulster District Council and Fermanagh and Omagh District Council for the provision of specialist structural engineering services for its Mid Ulster Building Control Service.

Councillor Cuthbertson advised he had received representation on this matter and declared an interest.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated this matter had been brought before Council in 2015 as an interim arrangement and should have been reviewed over the years. The Councillor asked if this arrangement is value for money for Council or if another engineer required at extra cost on occasions.

The Head of Building Control advised that the service that is provided by the engineer is required by Council in any case. The officer advised that the engineer has provided the service for several years and is in an ideal position to provide an assessment of calculations, it was advised that the engineer is also on call for structural issues. The Head of Building Control advised that an officer would still be needed to provide the service to the Building Control Department.

Councillor B McGuigan asked if the engineer only provides a service for Council property or projects or if it includes private property ie. dangerous structures.

The Head of Building Control advised that the engineer is on call and that Council can ask them to visit any site if there is an issue with a dangerous structure. The officer advised that the primary task for the engineer relates to the assessment of calculations but that they can be asked to carry out other functions within the Service Level Agreement.

Councillor Graham asked if the £45,000 cost outlined at 4.1 of the report is for each Council or if it is split over the two Councils.

The Head of Building Control advised that the cost is for each Council.

Proposed by Councillor B McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers to sign the Service Level Agreement for provision of specialist structural engineering services for 2021/22 as set out at appendix to report.

E160/21 Application for Approval for Civil Marriages/Civil Partnerships

The Head of Building Control presented previously circulated report which considered an application received from Killymoon Golf Club for the Place Approval for Civil Marriages/Civil Partnerships.

Councillor Wilson declared an interest in this item as a Member of Killymoon Golf Club.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Milne and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers to approve the application for the “Place Approval for Civil Marriages/Civil Partnerships” at Killymoon Golf Club, Killymoon Road, Cookstown with an advisory note attached highlighting the requirements of “The Registration of Clubs (NI) Order 1996”.

E161/21 The Roads Miscellaneous Provisions Act (NI) 2010 – Road Closures

The Head of Environmental Health presented previously circulated report which considered an application for a Road Closure Order in connection with a special event to be held on 31 July 2021.

The Head of Environmental Health clarified that the £219 listed as a fee at 3.3 of report is for the cost of advertising. Members were advised that no objections have been received in relation to the application.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson
Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers to approve the Road Closure Order as set out at point 3.1 of report in line with DfI guidance subject to no objections being received during the consultation process and DfI consent being granted.

E162/21 Private Tenancies – update on current proposals

The Head of Environmental Health presented previously circulated report which advised of recent communications from the Department for Communities regarding Departmental Response to the Review of the Private Rented Sector; draft Private

Tenancies Bill and regional Environmental Health response; and proposals to transfer registration of Landlords to councils.

Councillor McNamee proposed the report recommendation to write to DfC welcoming the proposals and to request funding be made available to Councils. The Councillor stated that there were some good proposals for tenants within the Bill namely, provision of smoke/carbon monoxide alarms, periodic electrical checks, restriction of rent increases and restriction on deposit amounts.

The Chair, Councillor Brown seconded Councillor McNamee's proposal.

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers to write to DfC to welcome the proposals which strengthen the regulation of the Private Rented Sector, and request that the Department give due consideration to providing Councils with suitable funding arrangements to enable them to effectively implement any new legislative requirements which Council may be responsible for.

E163/21 Lands at Railway Yard, Molesworth Road, Cookstown

The Head of Environmental Services presented previously circulated report which provided update on the use of lands at Railway Yard, Molesworth Road, Cookstown.

The Chair, Councillor Brown asked if everything had now been resolved in relation to insurances following last year's fire.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that costs were relayed to insurers last year following completion of the works to the site and would check and come back to the Member to advise if everything was resolved.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers to approve the use of the site at Railway Yard, Molesworth Road, Cookstown as outlined in the report.

E164/21 Bus Shelters Update

The Head of Technical Services presented previously circulated report which provided an update on current bus shelter status.

Councillor Cuthbertson asked if the bus shelter for Moygashel had been ordered and when it can be expected on site.

The Head of Technical Services advised that all bus shelters have been ordered and are in the process of being delivered. The officer advised he would get back to Councillor Cuthbertson with an expected date for the bus shelter to come on site.

The Chair, Councillor Brown referred to proposed bus shelters for Benburb, Innishrush and Bellaghy and that these applications had been considered previously prior to the review of policy and that following the review were then re-surveyed. The Chair referred in particular to surveys returned for Innishrush and Bellaghy which are at 50% and asked if there is anything further can be done in order to get these bus shelters over the line.

The Head of Technical Services advised that following the workshops held discussions indicated that 51% had to have no objections to the provision of a bus shelter and that is what is written into the guide. The officer advised that all Members were notified of this however if Members feel they want to revisit these applications then they can be put on hold.

Councillor Milne asked if it was not part of the policy that a DEA meeting could be arranged to discuss an application if there were issues. In relation to the application for Bellaghy, Councillor Milne stated that out of the 11 surveys issued and apart from the 4 responses received the rest of the properties are empty. Councillor Milne proposed that in light of the policy that a DEA meeting be held to discuss the Bellaghy bus shelter application.

The Head of Technical Services agreed to facilitate a DEA meeting.

Councillor O'Neill referred to application for Meenagh Park, Coalisland and that this had been voted against recently. The Councillor stated that the policy says that an application should not be coming back within 12 months and asked why this one had come back so quickly.

The Head of Technical Services advised that at the time the application for Meenagh Park was first presented it was agreed to put all applications on hold until the review of the bus shelter policy had taken place with a re-survey to take place after the review. The officer stated that this is now what has happened in relation to Meenagh Park and that it would now be taken off the list and can be revisited again if there is another application after 12 months.

Councillor Wilson stated that there were workshops held and a policy agreed in relation to process for bus shelters and 51% of surveys returned were to be in favour was agreed. The Councillor stated that he would have concerns and felt it would be a dangerous precedent to have a DEA meeting in relation to an application and that policy cannot be changed just for the sake of it. Councillor Wilson stated that it is the people who are surveyed and not Councillors.

Councillor B McGuigan stated that it was his understanding that at the workshops there had been discussion in relation to if there were issues with an application a DEA meeting may be helpful in solving the issues. Councillor B McGuigan seconded Councillor Milne's request for a DEA meeting in relation to the Bellaghy application and if issues cannot be resolved following this meeting then the application should be removed from the list.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure stated that following the workshops it was felt there needs to be a mindset of trying to make things happen and that there was a reflection that Members would like to have the option of a DEA discussion if there was an issue with an application. The Director advised that he did not have a

difficulty with deferring a decision in order for further discussions to take place and come back to Committee at a later date.

Councillor Cuthbertson asked if the option of a DEA meeting is within the policy or not.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure stated that it is up to Members whether they want to defer making a decision tonight.

Councillor Glasgow referred to policy which states that 51% of returned surveys must be in favour for a bus shelter to be installed otherwise the application is removed from the list and another application cannot be submitted for 12 months. The Councillor asked if it was in policy that DEA meetings be held otherwise Council could be going against its own policy.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that the process outlined in appendix one is a procedural guide not a policy.

Councillor McNamee advised that Councillor Molloy had been working in relation to the application for Benburb and that there was concern that some people had not received Council correspondence in relation to this. Councillor McNamee stated that Councillor Molloy felt there is a way forward for the Benburb application and requested that it be deferred in order for discussions to take place between Councillor Molloy and the Head of Technical Services.

Councillor Kearney stated that he was aware there were some tensions in relation to the application for Innishrush and that a DEA meeting may be helpful on this one.

The Chair, Councillor Brown asked if Members were content for the applications in relation to Bellaghy, Benburb and Innishrush to be deferred for further discussions.

Councillor Milne referred to previous discussions and that a bus shelter could be installed for a trial period.

The Head of Technical Services advised that there is an item within the procedural guide in that if a bus shelter is installed and there are reports of anti social behaviour then Council reserve the right to remove the shelter within a 12 month period. The officer advised that further discussion and DEA meetings can be arranged in respect of applications on list tonight which are not at an approval stage.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor N McAleer and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers to put on hold the following bus shelter applications until further discussions/DEA meetings have been held -

- Main St, Benburb
- Innishrush, Portglenone
- Main Street/William Street, Bellaghy
- Meenagh Park, Coalisland

- English View, Ballinderry

Matters for Information

E165/21 Minutes of Environment Committee held on 11 May 2021

Members noted minutes of Environment Committee held on 11 May 2021.

Councillor Burton referred to discussions last month in relation to the charge for collection of a second brown bin and advised that she had received further representation on this matter. The Councillor stated that some people bought a second brown bin before the policy came into place and that the new policy is now causing an issue as people are trying their best to recycle what should go in the brown bin and ensure that it is dealt with properly. Councillor Burton stated that there have been instances of dumping into a neighbouring field which causes tensions between neighbours and that cattle and horses have died in the past due to eating cut grass. Councillor Burton stated during discussions last month it was advised that it would be 2022 before the policy could be reviewed and felt that something should be put in place for those who are struggling.

The Head of Environmental Services stated he understood the point being made but that no one was being forced to pay the charge and that excess garden waste can either be taken to a recycling centre or Council can provide a home composting unit free of charge. The officer highlighted that some have already paid the annual charge and therefore the earliest the policy Council be reviewed would be March 2022.

Councillor Burton stated that those who bought a second bin are not happy that one will not now be collected. The Councillor stated that food waste can attract vermin and in that regard some people do not feel a composter is an option. The Councillor stated that she uses her brown bin as much as possible but that she knows of some people who don't.

Councillor Burton requested that Council write to DfI/Rivers Agency in relation to White Lough, Aughnacloy. The Councillor stated that a lot of money has been spent at this location developing paths for walking etc however there is a high volume of litter with no bins currently. Councillor Burton felt that given the money spent there should be bins at this location whether these are bought and installed by the Department or Council installs the bins and charges the Department she felt it would greatly improve the facility.

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers to write to DfI/Rivers Agency in relation to the installation of bins at White Lough, Aughnacloy.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated he had also received further representation in relation to brown bins and that the question that he was being asked was whether excess brown bin material can be put into the black bin. The Councillor stated he recognised that this would have a negative effect on landfill figures and asked if officers would be happy with this taking place.

The Head of Environmental Services stated officers would not be content with excess brown bin material being deposited in the black bin. The officer highlighted the rationale for the charge which came about following a campaign to divert food waste from the black bin to the brown bin and to shift the primary purpose of the brown bin from garden waste to food waste. The officer advised that one brown bin should be adequate for food waste and waste from an average sized garden for a fortnight. The officer stated it was a matter for Members if they want to review the policy previously agreed.

Councillor Cuthbertson proposed that the policy is reviewed. The Councillor referred to the officers comments in relation to those who have already paid and that he did not imagine this would amount to too many people and that, depending on the outcome of the review that issue could be addressed.

Councillor Graham stated she had also received representation in relation to brown bins and referred to the officer comments that people have the option on whether they want to pay. The Councillor stated she disagreed with this as people have paid for an additional bin which now won't be collected and don't always have room for a home composter. Councillor Graham stated that pensioners may not be able to pay the additional charge and further to this may not be able to take their bins to a recycling centre for disposal. Councillor Graham stated she had also been asked that as black and brown bins are collected together what difference does it make what goes in either bin.

Councillor Burton seconded Councillor Cuthbertson's proposal.

Councillor B McGuigan stated that costings should also be included in the review.

The Head of Environmental Services advised that a review would be undertaken and addressed the point raised by Councillor Graham in relation to the collection of black and brown bin material. The officer stated that black and brown bin material is collected in separate vehicles and taken to separate processors therefore the material put in each bin did matter.

Councillor Cuthbertson asked if it was possible for the review to come back to next month's committee meeting.

The Chair, Councillor Brown stated that the timeframe was tight before the next committee meeting but that officers would try.

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers to undertake a review (to include costings) of the policy in relation to the charge for collection of a second brown bin.

Councillor Burton left the meeting at 7.55 pm.

Councillor Wilson stated that under Chair's Business last month he had raised issue regarding Davagh Mountain Bike Trails and that he understood this matter would now be taken through the Policy and Resources Committee. Councillor Wilson

stated at last month's meeting he also asked for clarification on the role of Covid Marshals and what role they play.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised there were confidential issues in relation to Davagh Mountain Bike Trails and that he would deal with that matter later in the meeting.

In relation to Covid Marshalling, the Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that Council works closely with the PSNI through a Memorandum of Understanding and that this arrangement has been working well. Members were advised that Council stays in contact with PSNI and that roles and responsibilities are worked through on a daily basis. The Director advised that the Environmental Health team have been upfront in dealing with businesses and providing as much guidance to them as they can with regards regulations and that this has been well received.

Councillor Wilson stated it was not a criticism of Environmental Health staff who have been excellent on the ground. The Councillor referred to the Director's comments in which it was advised there is a good working relationship with PSNI and that there have been a number of instances in which the Police have blamed Council on issues and that he will raise the matter further through the PCSP.

Councillor McNamee asked for an update regarding access to the Electoral Office.

The Head of Building Control stated that the Electoral Office have given an indication that their offices will be re-opening in early July but that the length of the appointment time will be short and it will therefore take some time for officers to get caught up.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated that from 1 July there will be no one on the Electoral Register as there is a review happening and everyone will have to re-register.

E166/21 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.

E167/21 Consultation on Extended Producer Responsibility for Packaging

Members noted previously circulated report which advised of a recent UK wide consultation on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Packaging Waste by DAERA, DEFRA and the Scottish and Welsh Governments.

Councillor Glasgow stated he welcomed the content of the report but erred caution on the consequences that may not be seen. The Councillor stated that whilst there is income to be gained a watchful eye should be kept to ensure Councils are not left with materials no one else wants and will cost to get rid of.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure stated it was seismic what is being proposed and reference to businesses becoming responsible for single use cups and food packaging. The Director stated that this is a big part of the litter issue Council is trying to address on a daily basis.

The Head of Environmental Services stated that both consultations are game changers if they come into effect as outlined. The officer stated that the Extended Producer Responsibility is significant in that producers will become responsible for the costs of collection, sorting and recycling of packaging waste including litter collection. The impact assessment states that this could correspond to £35 million coming back to Councils as payments from October 2023. In relation to the Deposit Return Scheme, this relates to drinks containers such as cans, plastic and glass bottles and that a deposit can be obtained of approximately 20p per container. The aim of the scheme is to improve recycling whilst reducing littering. The Head of Environmental Services stated that there is some potential for downsides but that this needs to be weighed up against the money coming in from the Extended Producer Responsibility Scheme.

The Chair, Councillor Brown asked if there was any cost implication to Council and when the schemes will commence.

The Head of Environmental Services advised that the Extended Producer Responsibility Scheme is proposed for 2023 and the Deposit Return Scheme for 2024. The officer advised that the cost will be borne by the producer which will ultimately be passed on to the consumer but that the benefit for Council will be the recycling payments from October 2023 if implemented as outlined in consultation.

E168/21 Consultation on Introducing a Deposit Return Scheme (DRS)

Members noted previously circulated report which advised of a recent consultation on the introduction of a Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

E169/21 Building Control Workload

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

E170/21 Entertainment Licensing Applications

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

E171/21 Building Control Service Improvement Plan 2021-22

Members noted previously circulated report which detailed the Building Control Service Improvement Plan for 2021/22.

E172/21 Environmental Health Service Improvement Plan 2021-22

Members noted previously circulated report which detailed the Environmental Health Service Improvement Plan for 2021/22.

E173/21 Technical Services Service Improvement Plan 2021-22

Members noted previously circulated report which detailed the Technical Services Service Improvement Plan for 2021/22.

Councillor S McGuigan referred to the risk regarding staff shortages within the plan and stated he was aware of the section being a couple of members of staff short and asked if the risk was significant otherwise.

The Head of Technical Services advised that there was a small team dealing with capital projects and that two graduate engineers have recently left the section. The officer advised that the process is ongoing to replace these staff and it is hoped that the positions will be filled by August/September but that this is six months out of the 2021/22 year being two staff down whilst trying to deal with a large volume of capital projects.

Live broadcast ended at 8.04 pm.

Local Government (NI) Act 2014 - Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor S McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor Graham 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 E174/21 to E185/21.

Matters for Decision

- E174/21 Confidential Chair's Business
- E175/21 Award of Contracts for Landfill Site Related Services
- E176/21 Installation of Memorial Tree on Council Property
- E177/21 Tender Report for Heating Upgrades at Council Properties
- E178/21 Entertainment Licensing – Tropicana Inns

Matters for Information

- E179/21 Confidential Minutes of Environment Committee held on 11 May 2021
- E180/21 Off Street Car Parking: Annual Income Update
- E181/21 Update on Former Railway Track Lands, Coalisland
- E182/21 Affordable Warmth SLA and Energy Efficiency Advice Service
- E183/21 Capital Framework – ICT Contracts Update
- E184/21 Capital Framework – IST Contracts Update
- E185/21 Capital Projects – Scoping Contracts Update

E186/21 Duration of Meeting

The meeting was called for 7.00 pm and ended at 8.45 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 I will ask each member to confirm whether they are for or against the proposal or abstaining
- 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 - apologies and then roll call of all other Members in attendance.

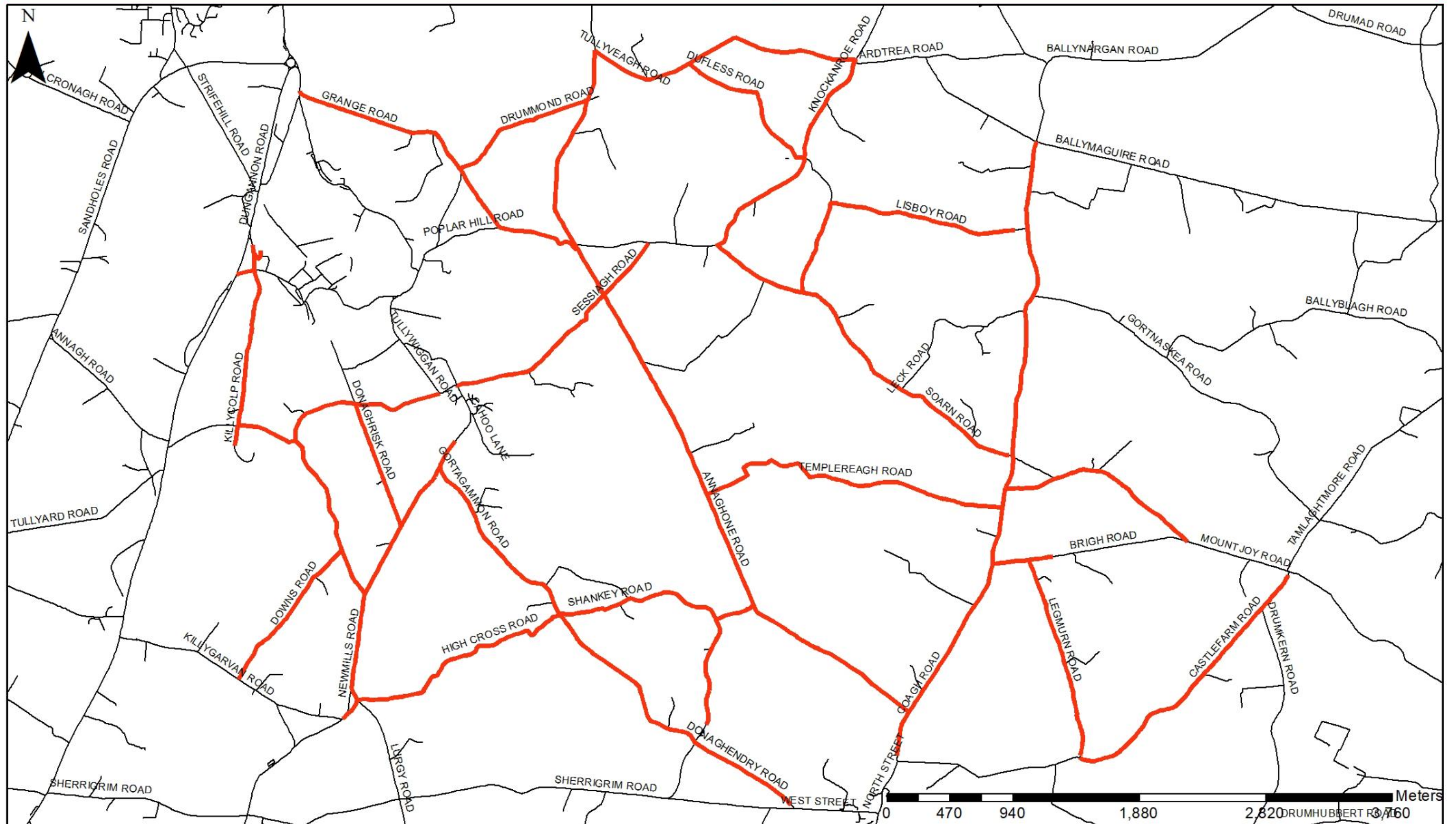
Report on	Update on Refuse Collection/Route Optimisation
Date of Meeting	5 th July 2021
Reporting Officer	Mark McAdoo, Head of Environmental Services
Contact Officer	Tony Law, Cleansing Operations Service Manager

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 route optimisation and changes to the refuse collection service.
2.0	Background
2.1	As members will be aware Environmental Services is involved in an ongoing programme of route optimisation and changes to refuse collection service delivery across the district.
2.2	This transformation programme primarily involves the roll-out from the north to south of the district of one-armed collection vehicles (OAVs) to empty bins on rural roads. These currently operate in the legacy Magherafelt area and part of the legacy Cookstown area. Following delivery of additional OAVs further expansion of this type of collection is taking place in rural areas to the south and west of Cookstown over the following two months.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>In the coming weeks around 4,000 households (in rural areas to the south and west of Cookstown) will have all their bins collected by a one-armed vehicle (OAV) specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From w/c 28th June approximately 3,200 households which already have their black and blue bins collected by a one-armed vehicle will have this collection method extended to their brown bins and; • From w/c 16th August a further 700 households will see all their bins collected by a one-armed vehicle for the first time (as per maps and list of roads attached).
3.2	<p>We are communicating with these residents directly with a letter delivered to their homes informing them of the change to the method of collection. The letter explains in text and with images how to present bins for collection by a one-armed vehicle and also includes a link to our website where they can view a video with step-by-step advice.</p> <p>The video is available at www.midulstercouncil.org/onearmedvehicle</p> <p>For these residents, there are no changes to their collection days, only to the method of collection. However for a limited number of residents the change to one-armed vehicle collection will also mean a change to the week on which their brown bin is collected</p>

3.4	<p>For approximately 300 homes, their brown bins will now be collected along with their blue bins, instead of their black bins. The actual day of the collection will remain the same.</p> <p>As well as a letter delivered directly to their homes informing them of the change to the method of collection, these residents will also receive a special bin label stating how to correctly present the bin for collection and a collection calendar showing the switch in their brown bin collection week. Given the biggest change is to a small number of residents, broad, untargeted communication (e.g. via social media) is likely to be counter-productive and direct communication as described is the best and preferred method.</p>
3.5	<p>On a separate issue members are reminded that refuse collections due to take place on Monday 12th July will take place instead on Saturday 10th July. The relevant households are being notified of this via a bin hanger (copy attached) being distributed w/c 28th June.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	<p>Financial: This latest phase of route optimization, which is on a smaller scale to that implemented previously, will not lead to a reduction in vehicles or a resultant saving in maintenance and fuel costs. However OAV collections can be more efficient than that by standard refuse collection vehicles (if bins are presently correctly by residents as requested) and it is hoped this efficiency will enable the growing number of households in the district to be serviced without an increase in budget i.e. doing more with the same level of resource.</p>
	<p>Human: It is important to highlight that there are no staff savings associated with the OAV roll out because the single loaders previously utilized on vehicles on rural routes are being redeployed to standard refuse collection vehicles on built up/urban routes where previously only one loader was deployed but where two are now required due to the continued increase in new houses/additional developments i.e. a rebalancing of resource.</p>
	<p>Risk Management: It is vital to reinforce the primary purpose of OAVs is the health and safety of operatives who will no longer be exposed to the hazard of collecting bins on busy rural roads.</p>
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	<p>Equality & Good Relations Implications: None</p>
	<p>Rural Needs Implications: OAV collections are only suitable/carried out on rural roads and this requires the resident to present their bins in a particular manner as described in the communications provided.</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	<p>Members are asked to note the contents of this report.</p>
6.0	Attachment(s)
6.1	<p>Maps and list of roads showing areas being serviced by OAV vehicle for the first time</p>
6.2	<p>Letter and refuse collection calendar being distributed to affected residents</p>
6.3	<p>Bin hanger for July holiday arrangements.</p>

MR9 Thursday Map



Comhairle Ceantair
Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster
District Council

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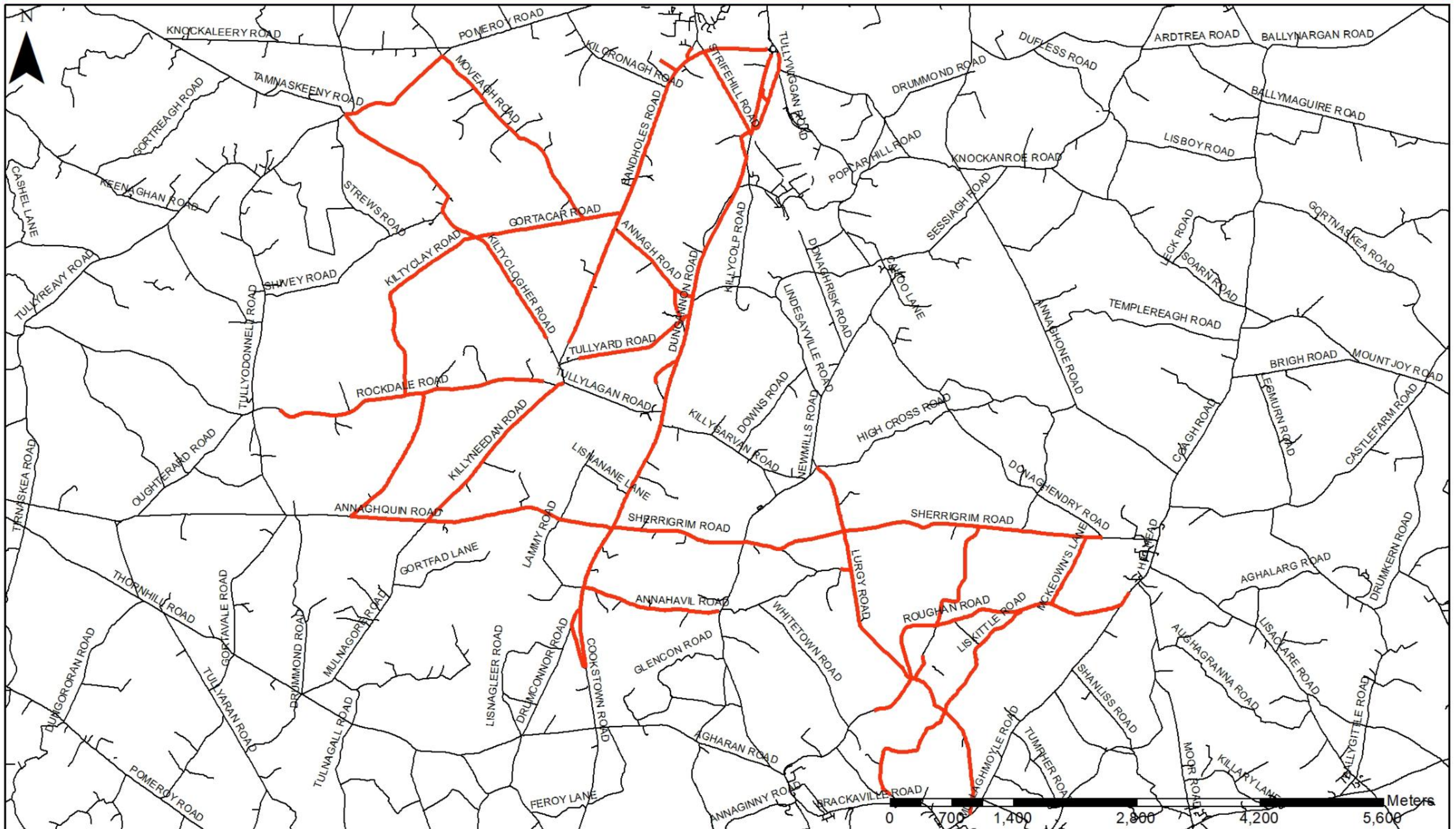
Author: D. Richardson

Date: 09/06/2021

Dept: Environmental Services

Authority License No: CS & LA 156

MR9 Friday Map



Comhairle Ceantair
Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster
District Council

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Author: D. Richardson

Date: 23/06/2021

Dept: Environmental Services

Authority License No: CS & LA 156

List of roads to receive OAV bin collections for first time from w/c 16th August

Thursday collection

Dufless Road *
Tullyveagh Road *
Knockanroe Road *
Drummond Road
Grange Road
Killycolp Road
Sessiagh Road
Donaghrisk Road
Downs Road
Newmills Road
High Cross Road
Shankey Road
Gortagammon Road
Annaghone Road
Templereagh Road
Soarn Road *
Lisboy Road *
Donaghendry Road
Legmurn Road
Castlefarm Road
16 -144 Coagh Road *part road
1-9 Brigh Road

Friday collection

Sandholes Road
31a, 65 – 172 Dungannon Road
90 -119 Cookstown Road *
Annahavil Road *
Sherrigrim Road *
Mullaghmoyle Road * No's 83,86,87,92
Roughan Road *
Liskittle Road *
Lurgy Road *
Blacktown Road No's 30 & 31*
Tullaghmore Road *
Tullaghbeg Road *
Strifehill Road
Tullyard Road
Ballynakilly Road
Annaghquinn Road
Killyneedan Road
Finvey Lane

Gortacar Road
Moveagh Road
Kiltyclogher Road
Kiltyclay Road
Killyneedan Road
Rockdale Road
1-3 Tullywiggan Road
Ardcumber Road
Riverdale Drive

*Indicates change of brown bin week collection i.e. from black week to a blue week



Comhairle Ceantair
Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster
District Council

Dear Resident

A change to your brown bin collection week and to how we collect your bins

We are making some changes to your brown bin collection and to how your bins are collected from week beginning 16th August.

From that date:

- Your brown bin will now be collected along with your blue bin, not your black bin (your black bin collection week remains the same)

A calendar is enclosed which shows that your brown bin and blue bin are now being collected on the same week.

We will also be using a 'one-armed vehicle' to empty all of your bins.

This means that we need your help and assistance to present the bins for collection in a slightly different way, as detailed below and shown on the photos overleaf.

In order to help ensure that your bins can be collected as efficiently as possible:

- Make sure the handles of your bin are facing away from the road and towards your property
- Place your bin within 2.5m or 8ft of the roadside
- Make sure your bin isn't tight up against a wall, fence or hedge
- If you have 2 bins being collected on the same day, place them slightly apart (approx. 0.3m or 1ft) to give the vehicle's arm enough space to work correctly.

You can see a short video of a one-armed vehicle collection on our web site:

www.midulstercouncil.org/onearmedvehicle.

Your assistance in setting your bins out in the best way is greatly appreciated and will contribute to a smooth switch to the one-armed vehicle collection system.

Please remember also to continue to leave your bins out by 7.30am on your collection day.

If you have any queries or questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us on 03000 132 132, E: environmentalservices@midulstercouncil.org.

Yours sincerely

Tony Law
Cleansing Operations Services Manager

Setting Your Bin Out Correctly For Collection By Our One Armed Vehicle

Watch our video at www.midulstercouncil.org/onearmedvehicle



Make sure the handles of your bin are facing away from the road and towards your property and that your bin isn't tight up against a wall, fence or hedge.

Make sure your bin is within 2.5m or 8ft of the roadside.



If you have 2 bins being collected on the same day, place them slightly apart (approx. 0.3m or 1ft) to give the vehicle's arm enough space to work correctly.

Please note blue and brown have been used for these examples, black and brown may be your fortnightly combination.

Your brown bin collection week is changing...

From week commencing 16 August 2021, your brown bin collections are changing:

- Your brown bin will now be collected along with your blue bin, not your black bin
- Your black bin collection week remains the same
- The calendar on the reverse of this card will show you when your brown bin is now being collected.

Please follow the guidelines included in your letter for setting out your bin for collection by a 'one armed vehicle' or visit www.midulstercouncil.org/onearmedvehicle

Please remember to leave your bins out on their collection days by 7.30am.

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District Council


























Your bin collections are changing...

To help you get used to the new collection scheme, the calendar below shows what colour bin(s) will be collected on which week for the next few months.

If you are in any doubt, don't forget you can check your collection day on line at **midulstercouncil.org – Bins & Recycling** or why not download the **Bin-ovation App** to remind you? The app will also help you to remember what you can put in your blue, brown and black bins.



 Blue bin Collection
  Black bin Collection
  Brown bin Collection

AUGUST 2021	SEPTEMBER 2021	OCTOBER 2021	NOVEMBER 2021
Thursday 19  	Thursday 2  	Thursday 7 	Thursday 4 
Thursday 26 	Thursday 9 	Thursday 14  	Thursday 11  
	Thursday 16  	Thursday 21 	Thursday 18 
	Thursday 23 	Thursday 28  	Thursday 25  
	Thursday 30  		


























Your bin collections are changing...

To help you get used to the new collection scheme, the calendar below shows what colour bin(s) will be collected on which week for the next few months.

If you are in any doubt, don't forget you can check your collection day on line at **midulstercouncil.org – Bins & Recycling** or why not download the **Bin-ovation App** to remind you? The app will also help you to remember what you can put in your blue, brown and black bins.



 Blue bin Collection
  Black bin Collection
  Brown bin Collection

AUGUST 2021	SEPTEMBER 2021	OCTOBER 2021	NOVEMBER 2021
Friday 20  	Friday 3  	Friday 1  	Friday 5 
Friday 27 	Friday 10 	Friday 8 	Friday 12  
	Friday 17  	Friday 15  	Friday 19 
	Friday 24 	Friday 22 	Friday 26  
		Friday 29  	



Bin Collection Information

Bins due to be collected on
Monday 12th July 2021
will be collected instead on
Saturday 10th July 2021.

Bins due to be collected on
Tuesday 13th July 2021
will be collected as normal.

**Please remember to leave your
bins out for collection by 7.30am.**



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District Council

Bin Hangers July 2021.indd 1

07/06/2021 11:25



Together We Recycle

Please recycle the following in your blue bin

	mixed paper		corrugated cardboard
	newspapers & magazines		cardboard
	Books		telephone directories
	aerosols		plastic packaging
	food tins & drink cans		plastics
	large tins		plastic bottles
	mixed glass bottles & jars		cartons

Did you know?

If you have / buy a second blue bin, both
will be collected on your blue bin day.

www.midulstercouncil.org/recycling

Bin Hangers July 2021.indd 2

07/06/2021 11:25

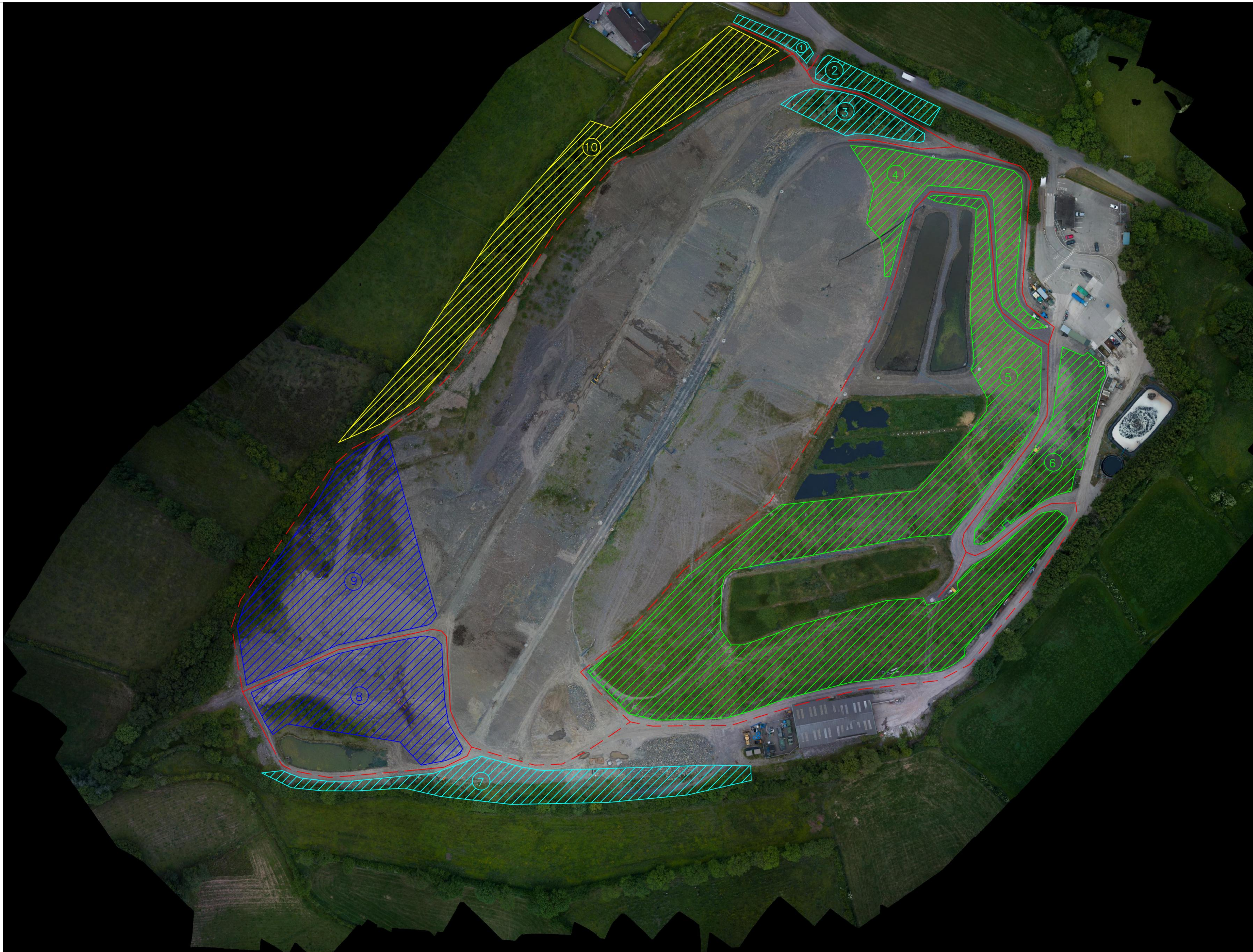
Report on	Tree Planting Scheme at Tullyvar Landfill Site
Date of Meeting	5 th July 2021
Reporting Officer	Mark McAdoo, Head of Environmental Services
Contact Officer	Karl McGowan, Waste Disposal & Contracts Manager

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 inform members of the recent planting of a new native broadleaf woodland at Tullyvar Landfill Site with grant funding from the DAERA Forest Expansion Scheme.		
2.0	Background		
2.1	Tullyvar landfill site stopped accepting waste in October 2018 and was subsequently capped in 2019/20. The capped area along with other unused areas of the site provided over 4 hectares of available space suitable for tree planting.		
2.2	The Forest Expansion Scheme, which is operated by the Forest Service, provides up to 100% of approved woodland creation costs in addition to a further 2 years of maintenance costs. The scheme is open to all landowners with a minimum of 3 hectares of available space. A successful application was made for Tullyvar landfill.		
3.0	Main Report		
3.1	Under the scheme/application a new native broadleaf woodland was established at site in May using locally sown and grown trees. The woodland comprises approx. 4.4 Hectares of woodland as shown (in areas 1 to 9) of the attached map. The area adds to existing areas of forest already on-site (area 10) and the existing wetlands.		
3.2	The trees were specifically chosen to have shallow roots so as to prevent damage to the capping membranes; 12 different native species were planted as follows:		
	Downy Birch	Wild Cherry	Guelder Rose
	Silver Birch	Aspen	Willow
	Alder	Hazel	Scots Pine
	Rowan	Crab Apple	Small Leaved Lime
3.3	The trees were planted in single species circular clusters (2,000 stems per ha) with varied spacing to make the woodland look as natural as possible, with meandering paths throughout and perimeter access retained. Trees are protected with recycled clear plastic spiral guards and a cane and the Scots Pine protected using mesh guards with two canes. There is approx. 20% open space within the woodland that will incorporate access tracks and open glades throughout.		

3.4	Now that the planting has been completed there will be an ongoing maintenance programme for the next 3 years including replacement of dead or dying trees and hand weeding as necessary.																
3.5	<p>The Council partnered with the consultants Indiwoods who prepared the application for funding and are also responsible for the planting and maintenance of the woodland for the first 3 years. Indiwoods had previously been involved with the establishment of similar woodlands at Ballymacombs and Magheraglass landfill sites. A summary of the planting across all three sites is detailed in the table below:</p> <table><tr><td>Landfill Site</td><td>No. Trees Planted</td><td>Area Covered (ha)</td><td>Cost/Funding (£)</td></tr><tr><td>Ballymacombs</td><td>13,200</td><td>6.1</td><td>26,432</td></tr><tr><td>Magheraglass</td><td>11,200</td><td>5.6</td><td>23,980</td></tr><tr><td>Tullyvar</td><td>8,800</td><td>4.4</td><td>20,232</td></tr></table>	Landfill Site	No. Trees Planted	Area Covered (ha)	Cost/Funding (£)	Ballymacombs	13,200	6.1	26,432	Magheraglass	11,200	5.6	23,980	Tullyvar	8,800	4.4	20,232
Landfill Site	No. Trees Planted	Area Covered (ha)	Cost/Funding (£)														
Ballymacombs	13,200	6.1	26,432														
Magheraglass	11,200	5.6	23,980														
Tullyvar	8,800	4.4	20,232														
3.6	The use of capped landfill sites to establish new woodlands in the Mid Ulster area has been of great benefit to the local environment and biodiversity and will also enable the Council to offset over 5,000 tonnes of carbon per annum. This will help the Councils towards meeting its new Corporate Improvement Objective <i>“to reduce the environmental impacts of our own activities and contribute to the improvement of the wider environment through local action”</i> .																
3.7	An opportunity to work with the Woodland Trust on carbon credits was also proposed by Indiwoods. This would have involved the Council selling the carbon credits accrued from its woodlands to the Woodland Trust. In order to be eligible, the woodland would have to be considered as a long term woodland project and although it can be managed and thinned during its lifetime, it needs to be thought of as woodland for perpetuity. A payment of approx. £10,000 may have been possible, however it was felt that more appropriate to retain the carbon credits so as to assist the Council in meeting its own its Corporate Improvement Objectives.																
4.0	Other Considerations																
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications																
	<p>Financial:</p> <p>The total capital costs for the Tullyvar woodland are:</p> <p>Tree Planting - £15,834.60</p> <p>Year 2 Maintenance - £2,298</p> <p>Year 3 Maintenance - £2,100</p> <p>Total - £20,232.60</p> <p>This was 100% funded by Forest Service under the Forest Expansion Scheme.</p>																
	<p>Human:</p> <p>Some officer time on the Council side was required for project management duties e.g. liaising with consultants, attending site meetings, authorising payments etc.</p>																
	<p>Risk Management:</p> <p>None</p>																

4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: None
	Rural Needs Implications: None
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are requested to note the content of this report.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Tullyvar Forest Expansion Scheme Woodland Areas Drawing
6.2	Tullyvar Tree Planting Pictures



General Notes

Survey created on 16-06-2020 for Mid Ulster District Co. by Aquila UAS Ltd using a UAV System. The topographical survey data contained within has been produced from a digital surface model derived from UAV photogrammetric modelling. Caution should be adopted near dense vegetation, tall buildings and narrow ditches. This survey should not be used for setting out. Use dimensioned data only.

Areas to be planted with trees with good screening characteristics

- 1 - 250m²
- 2 - 700m²
- 3 - 1030m²
- 7 - 3240m²

Areas to be planted with shallow root ball trees

- 4 - 2700m²
- 5 - 16190m²
- 6 - 2280m²

Areas to be planted with trees that can the poor soil conditions in this area - heavy boulder clay

- 8 - 4690m²
- 9 - 7350m²

Existing native woodland (Yellow)

- 10 - 5620m²

Integral roads & paths, total area = 3680m²

Linking roads & paths (Dashed Line)
Total area = 4850m²

No.	Revision/Issue	Date



Project Name and Address
Tullyvar LFS

UAV Survey
1m Contours

Project	AQ200602	Sheet
Date	17.06.2020	200602-01
Scale	1:1000@A1	

Tullyvar Tree Planting Pictures



Picture showing the preparation of old clay borrow pit / stockpile areas with a bulldozer and tracked excavator (left). Picture showing the levelling of approx. 300mm of topsoil across the prepared slopes (right).



Pictures showing the hand planting of the trees across the site with 8800 trees planted over approx. 5 days then staked with a cane and protected with plastic guards.



Pictures showing areas at the Northern (right) and Southern (left) perimeters of the site following planting.

Report on	Building Control Workload
Date of Meeting	5 th July 2021
Reporting Officer	William Wilkinson

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

1.0	Purpose of Report		
1.1	To provide Members with an update on the workload analysis for Building Control across Mid-Ulster District Council.		
2.0	Background		
2.1	<p>Building Control applications are received in three different forms:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a Full Applications - submitted with detailed working drawings. b Building Notices - minor work not usually requiring detailed plans, e.g. provision of insulation to roof space, etc. c Regularisation Applications – where work has been carried out without an approval, an application must be submitted for retrospective approval. 		
3.0	Main Report		
3.1	Workload Analysis	June 2021	Accumulative 2021/22
	Total number of Applications	155	555
	Full plans applications received	67	200
	Building Notices applications received	83	315
	Regularisation applications received	5	40
	Estimated value of works submitted	£18,485,297	£40,637,749
	Number of inspections carried out by Building Control Officers	692	1907

	Commencements	136	479
	Domestic Dwellings	58	179
	Domestic alterations and Extensions	63	260
	Non-Domestic work	15	40
	Completions	93	326
	Domestic Dwellings	39	116
	Domestic alterations and Extensions	43	182
	Non-Domestic work	11	28
	Property Certificates Received	181	556
3.2	As previously indicated, the Building Control Department have continued to provide a full service to the Public as required during the Covid-19 Pandemic.		
3.3	It should be noted from the Workload Analysis in 3.1, that the full range of applications are being received and administered in accordance with our procedures and performance criteria.		
3.4	It can also be noted that the demand for the service has increased over the past number of months and Building Regulation applications submitted are now at pre pandemic levels.		
3.5	All inspections are now being carried out as requested subject to a risk assessment being completed.		
4.0	Other Considerations		
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications		
	Financial: Within Current Resources		
	Human: Within Current Resources		
	Risk Management: None		
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments		

	Equality & Good Relations Implications: None
	Rural Needs Implications: None
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are requested to note the content of this report.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 - List of significant applications received by the Building Control Service

Significant Developments June 2021

Applicant	Location of Development	Details of Development	Estimated value of development
ARC Construction NI Ltd	Unit F1 Kilcronagh Business Park, Cookstown	Erection of Workshop & Offices (Floor Area 2243 m2) B.C. fee - £6,938	£1,428,000
Cornerstone Contractors	Killycush Court, Dungannon.	Erection of 16 Dwellings (Ave Floor Area 110m2) B.C. fee - £3,591	£1,154,430
Mr W Drennan	Units F, G & H, 24a Lisgorgan Lane, Upperlands. .	Erection of Storage Units B.C. fee - £5,975	£1,152,105
CARSM Properties Ltd	3 Cookstown Business Park, Cookstown. .	Extension & Alterations to a Factory B.C. fee - £4,185	£748,340
Eurosprings (Ireland) Limited	Unit 6, 127 Ballynakilly Road, Coalisland. .	Extension to a Storage Building (Floor Area 1174m2) B.C. fee - £3,450	£601,088

Report on	Entertainment Licensing Applications
Date of Meeting	5 th July 2021
Reporting Officer	William Wilkinson

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 Entertainment Licensing applications across Mid Ulster District Council.
2.0	Background
2.1	The Council has responsibility for licensing places of entertainment in accordance with The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (NI) Order 1985.
2.2	Entertainment Licensing applications are received on a continued basis across the District.
2.3	Statutory consultations are carried out with PSNI and NIFRS for each Entertainment Licence application (grant or renewal) submitted.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	As previously agreed a list of applications for all grant/renewal of Entertainment Licences in Mid Ulster District Council is attached (see Appendix 1). The number of applications received on a monthly basis will vary depending on the date of expiry of the current licence.
3.2	<p>Each application is accompanied by the following documentation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 A current Fire Risk Assessment detailing the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) means of escape from premises (b) management responsibilities for day to day safety aspects (c) details of review on an annual basis <p>The fire risk assessment submitted is audited by the inspecting officer.</p> 2 Electrical certification is required for the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) General electrical installation (b) Emergency lighting system (c) Fire alarm system 3 Details of current public liability insurance for premises

	4 Copy of public advertisement in local press
3.3	Following the application for the Grant/Renewal of an Entertainment Licence being submitted and validated, an inspection is carried out to ensure that the premises are in compliance with all relevant guidance and legislation.
3.4	<p>Areas which would be inspected are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Means of escape from the venue i.e. Final Exit Doors and Easy Opening Devices are satisfactory and escape routes are free from obstruction etc. 2. All floor, wall, and ceiling coverings are in compliance and in good condition 3. All firefighting equipment are correctly positioned and serviced as required 4. The general condition of the premises is satisfactory 5. All management documentation is in place
3.5	Entertainment licensing applications have continued to be processed where possible including statutory consultations with external bodies as required by legislation.
3.6	Licences have been issued where inspections had been completed and all points requiring attention have been addressed.
3.7	Inspection of venues have re-commenced where it is possible to do so and specifically where issues in relation to the current Covid-19 Guidance can be achieved.
3.8	In addition, within the correspondence to all licensees which accompanies newly issued licences, it is highlighted that on re-opening of their premises, the numbers permitted will be reduced in line with current Government Guidance regarding Covid-19.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: Within Current Resources
	Human: Within Current Resources
	Risk Management: None

4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: None
	Rural Needs Implications: None
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are requested to note the content of this report.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 – Schedule of applications received for the Grant/Renewal of Entertainment Licences.
6.2	Appendix 2 – Schedule of Entertainment Licence applications which have been granted/renewed.

Schedule of applications Received for the Grant/Renewal of Entertainment Licences in June 2021

Name of Applicant	Name of Premises	Address of Premises	Type of Licence	Days and Hours proposed	Max Number of Patrons
R Paul	Maghera Presbyterian Church Hall	7 Meeting House Avenue Maghera	14 Unspecified Days	Monday To Saturday From 17.00 To 00.00	360
L Forbes	LJ's Tavern	62 Rainey Street, Magherafelt	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 11.00 To 01.00 Sunday From 12.00 To 00.00	180
C McGlone	Cosy Inn	36 Rainey Street, Magherafelt		Monday To Saturday From 11.30 To 01.30 Sunday From 12.30 To 00.30	70

Appendix 1

Name of Applicant	Name of Premises	Address of Premises	Type of Licence	Days and Hours proposed	Max Number of Patrons
M Roulston	Ardara Country House	8 Gortade Road, Maghera	Annual	Monday To Sunday From 18.00 To 01.00	100
E O'Neill	Coalisland Parochial Centre	12 Stewartstown Road, Coalisland	14 Unspecified Days	Monday To Sunday From 19.30 To 01.30	600
W Dallas	Coagh United Football Club	11 Ballinderry Bridge Road, Cookstown	Annual	Monday To Sunday From 11.30 To 23.00	100
G Walls	St Mary's Parochial Hall	53 Knockagin Road, Desertmartin	14 Unspecified Days	Monday To Sunday From 09.00 To 02.00	320
Tobermore Community Projects	McKinney Memorial Hall	33 Main Street, Tobermore	14 Unspecified Days	Monday To Sunday From 08.00 To 01.00	270
B O'Hanlon	Todds Leap Activity Centre	30 Todds Leap Road, Ballygawley	Annual	Monday To Sunday From 18.00 To 22.30	88

Schedule of applications Issued for the Grant/Renewal of Entertainment Licences/Place approval in June 2021

Name of Applicant	Name of Premises	Address of Premises	Type Of Licence	Days and Hours Granted
P Quinn	The Marquee @ The Old Rectory	38 Trewmount Road, Dungannon	Any 14 Unspecified Days	Monday To Thursday From: 13.00 To 00.00 Friday To Saturday From 13.00 To 01.00 Sunday 13.00 To 00.00
R Elder	The Wesleyan Hall	Main Street, Fivemiletown	Any 14 Unspecified Days	Monday To Sunday From 09.00 To 01.00
E Quinn	The Tailor's House	50 Main Street, Ballygawley	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 11.30 To 01.00 Sunday From 12.00 To 23.30

Name of Applicant	Name of Premises	Address of Premises	Type Of Licence	Days and Hours Granted
W McCarroll	Dungannon Golf Club	34 Springfield Lane, Dungannon	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 12.00 To 23.30 Sunday From 12.00 To 22.30
V Daly	The Ryandale	16-18 The Square, Moy	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 11.00 To 01.00 Sunday From 12.30 To 00.00
A McHenry	The Elk	38-40 Hillhead Road, Toomebridge	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 11.30 To 02.00 Sunday From 12.00 To 01.00

Name of Applicant	Name of Premises	Address of Premises	Type Of Licence	Days and Hours Granted
H & T McGlone	Secrets Nightclub & Dorman's Bar	15-17 Queen Street, Magherafelt	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 11.30 To 02.00 Sunday From 12.30 To 01.30
C McNally	The Hogan Stand	32A Moneyneany Road, Draperstown	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 11.00 To 01.00 Sunday From 12.30 To 00.00
D Gordon	The Hawthorn Inn	54 Kilrea Road, Portglenone	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 11.30 To 01.00 Sunday From 12.30 To 22.00

Name of Applicant	Name of Premises	Address of Premises	Type Of Licence	Days and Hours Granted
M Regan	The Market Inn	25-27 St. Patrick's Street, Draperstown	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 11.30 To 01.00 Sunday From 12.30 To 00.00
M Gribbin	Moyola Park Golf Club	15 Curran Road, Castledawson	Annual	Monday To Sunday From 10.00 To 23.00
P Kidd	St Martin's GAC	51 Londfield Road, Desertmartin	Annual	Monday To Sunday From 13.00 To 01.00
R & J O'Kane	The Flax	27 King Street, Magherafelt	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 11.30 To 01.00 Sunday From 12.30 To 00.00

Name of Applicant	Name of Premises	Address of Premises	Type Of Licence	Days and Hours Granted
D Friel	Friels Bar & Restaurant	2-4 Kilrea Road, Swatragh	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 11.30 To 01.00 Sunday From 12.00 To 00.30
M T Molloy	The Oak Leaf Restaurant	31 Glenshane Road, Maghera	Annual	Monday To Thursday From 12.00 To 00.00 Friday To Sunday From 12.00 To 01.00
A McCall	St Joseph's Grammar School	58 Castlecaulfield Road, Dungannon	Any 14 Unspecified Days	Monday To Sunday From 09.00 To 23.00
Rev J Gates	Magherafelt Parish Centre	24 King Street, Magherafelt	Annual	Monday To Sunday From 09.00 To 01.00

Name of Applicant	Name of Premises	Address of Premises	Type Of Licence	Days and Hours Granted
Mid Ulster District Council	The Bridewell	6 Church Street, Magherafelt	Annual	Monday To Sunday From 09.00 To 00.00
Rev Msgnr A Dolan	St Mary's Parochial Hall	1 Tamlaghtduff Park, Bellaghy	Annual	Monday To Sunday From 10.00 To 01.00
A McGuckin	MacFlynn Suite	75 Castledawson Road, Magherafelt	Annual	Monday -To Saturday From 08.00 To 23.00 Sunday From 08.00 To 21.00
Carntogher Communits Association	An Coire	132A Tirkane Road, Maghera	Annual	Monday To Sunday From 09.00 To 01.00
Rev J Fox	Parochial Centre	153 Aughrim Road, Toomebridge	Any 14 Unspecified Days	Monday To Sunday From 12.00 To 00.00

Name of Applicant	Name of Premises	Address of Premises	Type Of Licence	Days and Hours Granted
Mr R Diamond	WolfeTones GAA Social Club	30 Ballyscullion Road, Bellaghy	Annual	Monday To Thursday From 10.00 To 23.00 Friday To Saturday From 10.00 To 01.00 Sunday From 10.00 To 23.00
M P Doyle	The Shepherd's Rest	220 Sixtowns Road, Draperstown	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 08.00 To 01.00 Sunday From 12.00 To 00.00

Name of Applicant	Name of Premises	Address of Premises	Type Of Licence	Days and Hours Granted
R Flanigan	Rainey Old Boys Rugby FC	7 Meadowbank Road, Magherafelt	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 17.00 To 01.00 Sunday From 17.00 To 00.00
K Regan	Regans Bar	17A Hall Street, Maghera	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 11.30 To 01.00 Sunday From 12.30 To 00.00

Name of Applicant	Name of Premises	Address of Premises	Type Of Licence	Days and Hours Granted
P McKenna	McKenna's Bar	2-4 Glen Road, Maghera	Annual	Monday To Wednesday From 11.30 To 23.30 Thursday To Saturday From 11.30 To 01.30 Sunday From 12.30 To 00.30
J Clarke	St Oliver Plunkett Hall	232 Mayogall Road, Portglenone	Any 14 Unspecified Days	Monday To Sunday From 12.00 To 01.00
S Doherty	Fallaghloon AOH Community Hall	189 Glen Road, Maghera	Annual	Monday To Sunday From 09.00 To 01.00
The Rector & Select Vestry	Woods Parish Hall	64 Carralooan Road, Magherafelt	Any 14 Unspecified Days	Monday To Saturday From 17.00 To 01.00 Sunday From 17.00 To 00.00

Name of Applicant	Name of Premises	Address of Premises	Type Of Licence	Days and Hours Granted
Upperlands Community Development	The Linenhall Centre	67 Kilrea Road, Upperlands	Annual	Monday To Sunday From 10.00 To 02.00
K Bradley	Walsh's Hotel	53 Main Street, Maghera	Annual	Monday To Thursday From 11.30 To 01.00 Friday To Sunday From 11.30 To 02.00
M O'Kane & A M Crawford	McMasters Bar	27 Main Street, Maghera	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 11.30 To 01.00 Sunday From 12.30 To 00.00

Name of Applicant	Name of Premises	Address of Premises	Type Of Licence	Days and Hours Granted
D Williamson	Fivemiletown RBL	163 Ballagh Road, Fivemiletown	Annual	Monday To Thursday From 13.00 To 00.00 Friday To Saturday From 13.00 To 00.00 Sunday From 19.00 To 23.00
R Murphy	Magherafelt Masonic Club	17 Hospital Road, Magherafelt	Annual	Monday To Friday From 20.00 To 01.00 Saturday From 11.00 To 00.00
T Birt	St John Bosco YC	3 Culbane Road, Portglenone	Annual	Monday To Sunday From 08.00 To 01.00

Name of Applicant	Name of Premises	Address of Premises	Type Of Licence	Days and Hours Granted
J Hamilton	Pomeroy Presbyterian Church Hall	1 Edendoit Road, Pomeroy	Any 14 Unspecified Days	Monday To Sunday From 18.00 To 00.00
M McKenna	St Colm's GAC Social Club	6 Corrick Road, Draperstown	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 11.00 To 01.00 Sunday From 12.00 To 00.00
M Loughran	The Perfect Pint	40 Main Street Fivemiletown	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 11.30 To 01.00 Sunday From 12.00 To 00.00

Name of Applicant	Name of Premises	Address of Premises	Type Of Licence	Days and Hours Granted
R Patton	Dungannon Rugby Football Club	36 Moy Road, Dungannon	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 11.00 To 23.00 Sunday From 11.00 To 23.00
W McCracken	Desertcreat Church Hall	4 Desertcreat Road, Cookstown	Any 14 Unspecified Days	Monday To Saturday From 11.00 To 23.00 Sunday From 11.00 To 023.00

Name of Applicant	Name of Premises	Address of Premises	Type Of Licence	Days and Hours Granted
S J Houston	The Loft Bar & Restaurant	991 Tullyvar Road, Aughnacloy	Annual	Monday To Thursday From 10.00 To 23.30 Friday To Saturday From 10.00 To 01.30 Sunday From 10.00 To 23.00
A McHenry	The Elk - Outdoor Entertainment Licence	38-40 Hillhead Road, Toomebridge	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 11.30 To 23.00 Sunday 12:00 To 23:00
M McAleer	Slatequarry Community Centre	113 Edendoit Road, Pomeroy	Any 14 Unspecified Days	Monday To Sunday From 09.00 To 01.00
E Bell	The Four Corners	1 Mulaghmoyle Road, Coalisland	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 11.00 To 01.00 Sunday From 12.00 To 01.00

Name of Applicant	Name of Premises	Address of Premises	Type Of Licence	Days and Hours Granted
S Coulter	The Rathmore Bar	125-127 Main Street, Clogher	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 11.30 To 01.30 Sunday From 12.00 To 22.00
E Cassidy	Gormleys Bar	3 Church Street, Ballygawley	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 11.30 To 00.30 Sunday From 12.00 To 22.00
B Heron	Evergreen Social Club	27 Moss Road, Coosktown	Annual	Monday To Saturday From 19.30 To 23.30 Sunday From 11.30 To 22.30

Report on	Digitisation of Building Control Files
Date of Meeting	5 th July 2021
Reporting Officer	William Wilkinson

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 advise Members on the completion of the digitisation of records within the Building Control Department.
2.0	Background
2.1	The Environment Committee approved the appointment of a qualified contractor on 8 th January 2019 to carry out the digitisation of Building Control files which were being stored in Cookstown, Dungannon and Magherafelt. The value of the tender approved was £53,930 with approximately 31,000 files which were proposed to be digitised by the 31 st March 2021.
2.2	The Building Control files which were archived and dated back to 1973 contained vast amounts of paper documentation and subsequently required large areas of storage to securely accommodate the files in question. In addition, it was difficult to locate and extradite specific information from a particular file when required.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Following the approval of the Digitising Programme, the Building Control Staff located in Cookstown, Dungannon and Magherafelt Officers worked through approximately 31,000 files to extensively cleanse the existing files prior to digitisation to remove the paperwork and documentation within each file which was no longer deemed necessary to retain.
3.2	The cleansing exercise permitted the Department to optimise the number of files that were digitised for the agreed tender sum and result in the best value for money.
3.3	The number of files collected and digitised by the appointed contractor, Scan House, is summarised as follows:

	<table><tr><th>Date of Collection by Scan House</th><th>Number of Files</th><th>Net Expenditure</th></tr><tr><td>February 2019</td><td>5,196 Files</td><td>£7,764.39</td></tr><tr><td>June 2019</td><td>7,522 Files</td><td>£14,227.70</td></tr><tr><td>March 2020</td><td>7,855 Files</td><td>£14,573.89</td></tr><tr><td>December 2020</td><td>5,392 Files</td><td>£8,292.00</td></tr><tr><td>March 2021</td><td>5,370 Files</td><td>£8,806.26</td></tr><tr><td>TOTAL</td><td>31,335 Files</td><td>£53,664.24</td></tr></table>	Date of Collection by Scan House	Number of Files	Net Expenditure	February 2019	5,196 Files	£7,764.39	June 2019	7,522 Files	£14,227.70	March 2020	7,855 Files	£14,573.89	December 2020	5,392 Files	£8,292.00	March 2021	5,370 Files	£8,806.26	TOTAL	31,335 Files	£53,664.24
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TOTAL	31,335 Files	£53,664.24																				
3.4	It should also be noted that an additional 335 files were digitised within the contract with the expenditure being £265.76 below value of the successful tender price.																					
3.5	Digitised files were received back from Scan House in the format of an encrypted memory stick, with the referenced content uploaded to the Building Control hard drive by the IT Department.																					
3.6	The digitised records, which have been completed, are of a high standard with the quality of digitising similar and in some cases enhanced in comparison to the quality of the original documents.																					
3.7	The outcome of the digitisation process results in the files being stored electronically thereby eliminating the need to have large areas of space specifically dedicated to the storage of hard copy files.																					
3.8	The accessibility to the digitised files is quick and easy as all files are clearly referenced within the system allowing for information to be electronically accessed or printed where necessary.																					
3.9	From 1 st January 2018, all new Building Control applications are digitised as work proceeds with all approved drawings, inspection notes, communications and relevant documentation being scanned onto the Tascomi platform.																					
3.10	There are still approximately 15,000 files within the 3 offices which would benefit from digitising in the future and may be the subject of a future digitisation project depending on funding being identified.																					
4.0	Other Considerations																					
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications																					
	Financial: Within Tender costs as agreed																					
	Human: Within current resources																					
	Risk Management: The digitisation of Building Control files will provide a more secure medium of storage and reduce storage needs within the department.																					

4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/a
	Rural Needs Implications: N/a
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	That Members note the content of this report.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	None.

Report on	The application of The Houses in Multiple Occupation Act (Northern Ireland) 2016
Date of Meeting	5 th July 2021
Reporting Officer	Fiona McClements

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	The purpose of the report is to provide an update on the implementation of the Houses in Multiple Occupation Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 "2016 Act" within Mid Ulster District Council.
2.0	Background
2.1	Members will be aware that responsibility for HMO's was transferred to local Councils in April 2019 with the introduction of a new licensing regime. Any existing registrations under the old NIHE Registration Scheme were deemed to be licenced at the point of transfer. Licences are issued for a 5-year period with standard conditions.
2.2	Belfast City Council's HMO Unit administer the licensing scheme on behalf of all 11 Northern Ireland Councils.
3.0	Main Report
	<u>HMO Licences</u>
3.1	<p>Pursuant to the 2016 Act, the Council may only grant a licence if it is satisfied that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the occupation of the living accommodation as an HMO would not constitute a breach of planning control; b) the owner, and any managing agent of it, are fit and proper persons; c) the proposed management arrangements are satisfactory; d) the granting of the licence will not result in overprovision of HMOs in the locality; e) the living accommodation is fit for human habitation and - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) is suitable for occupation as an HMO by the number of persons to be specified in the licence, or (ii) can be made so suitable by including conditions in the licence.
3.2	Section 20 of the 2016 Act states where the holder of a HMO licence makes an application for renewal, the council must apply the above provisions except for (a) and (d); namely whether the use is a breach of planning control or would result in overprovision.

3.3	When considering the fitness of an applicant the Council must have regard to any offences concerning fraud / dishonesty, violence, drugs, human trafficking, firearms, sexual offences, unlawful discrimination in, or in connection with, the carrying on of any business; or any provision of the law relating to housing or of landlord and tenant law. It also permits the Council to take into account any other matter which the council considers to be relevant.						
3.4	Appendix 1 details those properties currently licenced as HMOs within Mid Ulster District Council area.						
3.5	The HMO Unit has rejected two new licence applications pursuant to Sections 8(2)(a) and Section 9 "Breach of planning control".						
	<u>Inspections</u>						
3.6	Table 1 below details the number of inspections undertaken by the HMO.						
	<p><i>Table 1</i></p> <table> <tr> <th>Year</th><th>Number of inspections</th></tr> <tr> <td>2019/2020</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr> <td>2020/2021</td><td>27</td></tr> </table>	Year	Number of inspections	2019/2020	20	2020/2021	27
Year	Number of inspections						
2019/2020	20						
2020/2021	27						
4.0	Other Considerations						
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications						
	Financial: None. The cost of assessing licence application and officer inspections are provided for via the licence fee. The licensing scheme is operated on a cost neutral basis.						
	Human: No issues associated with this report.						
	Risk Management: N/a						
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments						
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/a						
	Rural Needs Implications: N/a						
5.0	Recommendation(s)						
5.1	Members to note the content of the report and be advised that the HMO manager from Belfast CC will be providing an update at the meeting on the roll out of HMO licensing within Mid Ulster District council area.						
6.0	Documents Attached & References						
6.1	Appendix 1 – List of licenced HMO properties within Mid Ulster District Council area.						

Appendix 1 – Licenced HMO properties within Mid Ulster District Council area

Address	Ward	Expiry Date
7 CASTLE MEADOWS, CASTLEDAWSON, LONDONDERRY, BT45 8JX	BALLYMAGUIGAN	14/01/2026
12 CIRCULAR ROAD, DUNGANNON, TYRONE, BT71 6BE	KILLYMEAL	14/01/2026
4 TOBERMORE ROAD, DRAPERSTOWN, LONDONDERRY, BT45 7AG	DRAPERSTOWN	12/01/2026
13 WILLIAM STREET, DUNGANNON, TYRONE, BT70 1DX	BALLYSAGGART	15/02/2024
35A UNION STREET, COOKSTOWN, TYRONE, BT80 8NN	COOKSTOWN EAST	07/03/2022
6 THE SQUARE, MOY, TYRONE, BT71 7SG	MOY	16/11/2023
57 PARKANAU ROAD, DUNGANNON, TYRONE, BT70 3AA	CASTLECAULFIELD	04/05/2022
16A OLDTOWN STREET, COOKSTOWN, TYRONE, BT80 8EF	COOKSTOWN WEST	24/02/2024
5 NENAGH PLACE, MONEYMORE, LONDONDERRY, BT45 7EZ	THE LOUP	13/11/2023
4 NENAGH PLACE, MONEYMORE, LONDONDERRY, BT45 7EZ	THE LOUP	13/11/2023
19 MANOR CLOSE, MAGHERAFELT, LONDONDERRY, BT45 6QB	COOLSHINNY	24/09/2023
6 KILLYMAN ROAD, DUNGANNON, TYRONE, BT71 6DH	KILLYMEAL	23/07/2023
9 GLENMONT PARK, DUNGANNON, TYRONE, BT71 7BB	BALLYSAGGART	11/08/2021
12 DUNGANNON STREET, MOY, TYRONE, BT71 7SH	MOY	25/03/2024
45 DRUMCOO GREEN, DUNGANNON, TYRONE, BT71 4AN	MULLAGHMORE	05/07/2023
74 DONAGHMORE ROAD, DUNGANNON, TYRONE, BT70 1HB	BALLYSAGGART	19/03/2024
60 DONAGHMORE ROAD, DUNGANNON, TYRONE, BT70 1HB	BALLYSAGGART	13/09/2022
23 BELMOUNT, DUNGANNON, TYRONE, BT71 6BP	MOYGASHEL	03/04/2023
31 BELMOUNT, DUNGANNON, TYRONE, BT71 6BP	MOYGASHEL	Renewal application pending determination*
3 OAKS ROAD, DUNGANNON, TYRONE, BT71 4AR	KILLYMEAL	Renewal application

		pending determination*
64 LAMBFIELD DRIVE, DUNGANNON, TYRONE, BT71 6GG	MULLAGHMORE	Renewal application pending determination*
UNION BUILDINGS, 2, UNION PLACE, DUNGANNON, TYRONE, BT70 1DL	BALLYSAGGART	Renewal application pending determination*
74 DUNAVON PARK, DUNGANNON, TYRONE, BT71 6SQ	MULLAGHMORE	Renewal application pending determination*
UNION BUILDINGS, 3, UNION PLACE, DUNGANNON, TYRONE, BT70 1DL	BALLYSAGGART	Renewal application pending determination*

*Where an application to renew a licence is made before the existing licence expires, the existing licence has effect until the application is determined.

Report on	Correspondence received from the Food standards Agency in relation to the Covid-19 recovery plan for local authority delivery of food law controls
Date of Meeting	5 th July 2021
Reporting Officer	Fiona McClements

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 elected members on correspondence which has been received from the Food standards Agency in relation to the Covid-19 recovery plan for local authority delivery of food law controls.
2.0	Background
2.1	From the start of the Covid-19 pandemic the Food Standards Agency (FSA) have been in regular contact with Local Government in respect of Food control priorities in relation to the various changes in Covid related guidance across the food landscape.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	In order to assist Councils in prioritising support for the COVID-19 related work and to take account of the various lockdowns and relaxations in relation to food businesses, the FSA have circulated over a number of months communications outlining priorities in relation to Food Control.
3.2	The latest communication attached at Appendix 1 from the CEO of the FSA thanks the Councils for their work in safeguarding their communities and helping to control the spread of the disease.
3.3	The letter refers to the Food Control Recovery Plan and provides a framework for re-starting the Food Control delivery system taking a measured and risk based approach that ensures that resources are targeted where they add greatest value.
3.4	The letter urges each council to ensure that the resources required to deliver the food control programme remain in place or returned to Food Control if temporarily redeployed elsewhere.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications

	Financial: Within existing budget.
	Human: Within existing EH staffing.
	Risk Management: N/a
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/a
	Rural Needs Implications: N/a
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	To note the content of the report.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	None

**From Emily Miles**

Chief Executive

Emily.Miles@food.gov.uk

To Chief Executives of local authorities in Northern Ireland

21 June 2021

Dear Chief Executive,

COVID-19 - recovery plan for local authority delivery of food law controls

At its meeting on 26 May the Food Standards Agency (FSA) Board paid tribute to the hard work and sustained commitment of local authority officers to protecting public health at the local level during the coronavirus pandemic. I wanted to let you know that, and to add my own thanks for the efforts of your teams since March last year in safeguarding your communities and controlling the spread of the disease. This letter draws your attention to the FSA's most recent guidance and advice to local authorities on food controls which is in the form of a recovery plan.

During the time of immense pressure on your resources the FSA has been agile in revising our guidance and advice to local authorities on delivery of food controls so that you could address the wider and unprecedented challenges being faced. Now that we are well along the roadmap back to a more normal life, it is important that the focus is progressively shifted back to delivery of food law regulatory controls. These controls ensure business compliance with food law requirements and are key to safeguarding public health and consumer protection in relation to food.

I would, therefore, like to draw your attention to the recovery plan that the FSA has developed for achieving this. The plan sets out guidance and advice to local authorities for recovery over the period from 1 July 2021 to 2023/24. The FSA wrote to food teams in all local authorities in Northern Ireland about this on 16 June and copies of that letter and the recovery plan are appended.

The plan provides a framework for re-starting the delivery system taking a measured and risk-based approach that ensures resources are targeted where they add greatest value. It also ensures more routine operation of the Food Hygiene Rating Scheme which is important for your local businesses and consumers. The planned interventions and other activities specified are the minimum that local authorities need to undertake to fulfil their statutory duties in relation to food, so I wanted to ask for your support in following the guidance and advice.

10 A-C Clarendon Road
Belfast, BT1 3BG
T: 0330 332 7149
Email: Emily.Miles@food.gov.uk

FOOD HYGIENE RATING[food.gov.uk/ratings](https://www.food.gov.uk/ratings)For information on the FSA's Privacy Policy, click [here](#).For further information on how we handle your personal data please click [here](#) or enter: <https://www.food.gov.uk/about-us/privacy-notice-private-office-correspondence> into your web browser.

In order for your authority to deliver this, I would urge you to take steps to ensure that the resources required are in place and are protected for the future. Please note that where local authorities have the resources to do so, we advise that they move at a faster pace than that set out in the plan.

The plan takes account of feedback received during development from local authority colleagues through the national focus groups and regional food liaison groups. They considered that the plan provides the most pragmatic and practical way to re-start the system and I hope that you will agree with that. At the more strategic level, we shared the plan with the MHCLG led cross-Government Regulatory Services Review Task & Finish Group and the COVID-19 Compliance Working Group, and the local authority colleagues on these Groups were positive about the approach. I should also add that through the Task and Finish Group, the FSA is fully engaged in discussions regarding the pressures facing local authority regulatory services and committed to finding ways to try to alleviate this challenge.

We will be monitoring delivery against the expectations and timelines set out within the plan through our established engagement mechanisms and by regular assessment of Food Hygiene Rating Scheme data where appropriate and also data from end year returns for 2021/22 and 2022/23. We are very aware that for some local authorities, particularly those areas of sustained transmission where staff will still be heavily involved in public health work, delivery may be challenging, and we stand ready to provide what support we can to help. The approach we will take will reflect the challenges that individual authorities are facing and the differing circumstances that COVID-19 may create at a local level during the recovery period. Where necessary, I will be in touch at chief executive level to explore with you whether the FSA can offer any specific support or assistance to your authority.

In the meantime, I would stress that it is really important that we are alerted as early as possible if you are unable to deliver against the plan. If this is the case at any point during the recovery period, I would ask that your food team contact us at executive.support@food.gov.uk. This will enable us to consider together the risks this is posing and agree any follow-up action and support we can provide at the first opportunity.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Emily Miles'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the bottom.

Emily Miles

Report on	Bus Shelters Update
Date of Meeting	5 th July 2021
Reporting Officer	Raymond Lowry

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 current bus shelter status.
2.0	Background
2.1	Council is empowered under the Local Government Miscellaneous Provisions (NI) Order 1985, with the consent of the department to erect and maintain on any road within the district of the council, shelters for the protection from the weather or persons waiting to enter public service vehicles. Bus shelters are erected following local representations. They are provided, particularly for those who have to use public services who may have to stand out in the inclement weather.
2.2.	Following the bus shelter collaborative workshop held in March 2020, the bus shelter process was discussed and agreed at the Council meeting held on the 27 th March 2020. Members are advised in a monthly report of progress made on the various applications that have been lodged with the department.
2.3	Due to the Covid-19 pandemic progress has been delayed with unavailability of staff and priority of workloads within the various departments involved in dealing with the shelter installation. MUDC / DfI Roads have met (through "Microsoft Teams") to discuss a selection of these projects and will continue to carry out similar meetings to progress shelter applications.
2.4	Members to note current Procedural guide approved by Council March 2021 (see Appendix 1).

3.0	Main Report																																																
3.1	<p>The following information headings will be covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• New applications made in the past month (see 3.2)• Progress on stages 2-4 application process (see 3.3)• Request for Council to move from stage 5 (see 3.4)• Progress update on stages 6-9 (see 3.5)• Neighbour Notification summary and detailed analysis (see 3.6)• Projects recommended for approval (3.7)• Projects recommended for withdrawal (see 3.8)• Shelters passed to Property Services for installation (3.9)• Progress update on stages 10-11 (see 3.10)• Update on statutory response times in relation to agreement on time related responses for application (see 3.11)• Other issues (see 3.12)																																																
3.2	New Applications made in the past month – None.																																																
3.3	Progress on stages 2-4 of the application process – see table in Appendix 1.																																																
3.4	Requests for Council to move from stage 5 of the application process – 1Nr application, Reenaderry Road, Reenaderry, to proceed to stage 5 of the application process this month.																																																
3.5	Progress update on stages 6-9 – the applications below have been discussed with a view to getting approval:																																																
3.6	<p>Summary of Neighbour Notifications</p> <p>Table 1 below is a summary of results for re-issued Neighbour notifications; Detailed analysis of each communication was presented in June 2021 Committee for information. Members to note decision in June Committee requested that further DEA discussion are to be organised for those listed 3.6.1 - 3.6.5 (red txt) Applications 3.6.6 - 3.6.10 to be progressed to next stage after ratification of Full Council on the 24th June 2021.</p> <p><i>Table 1</i></p> <table><tr><th>Point Nr</th><th>Shelter Location</th><th>Approved</th><th>Not Approved</th></tr><tr><td>3.6.1</td><td>Main St, Benburb</td><td></td><td>Not approved</td></tr><tr><td>3.6.2</td><td>Innishrush Village</td><td></td><td>Not Approved</td></tr><tr><td>3.6.3</td><td>Bellaghy, Main St/William St</td><td></td><td>Not Approved</td></tr><tr><td>3.6.4</td><td>Meenagh Park</td><td></td><td>Not Approved</td></tr><tr><td>3.6.5</td><td>Eglis View, Ballinderry</td><td></td><td>Not Approved</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>3.6.6</td><td>Cappagh Village</td><td>Approved</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>3.6.7</td><td>Seamus Heaney HomePlace</td><td>Approved</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>3.6.8</td><td>Knockcloghrim village</td><td>Approved</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>3.6.9</td><td>Annaghnaboe Rd</td><td>Approved</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>3.6.10</td><td>Whitebridge Rd</td><td>Approved</td><td></td></tr></table>	Point Nr	Shelter Location	Approved	Not Approved	3.6.1	Main St, Benburb		Not approved	3.6.2	Innishrush Village		Not Approved	3.6.3	Bellaghy, Main St/William St		Not Approved	3.6.4	Meenagh Park		Not Approved	3.6.5	Eglis View, Ballinderry		Not Approved					3.6.6	Cappagh Village	Approved		3.6.7	Seamus Heaney HomePlace	Approved		3.6.8	Knockcloghrim village	Approved		3.6.9	Annaghnaboe Rd	Approved		3.6.10	Whitebridge Rd	Approved	
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3.6.9	Annaghnaboe Rd	Approved																																															
3.6.10	Whitebridge Rd	Approved																																															

3.7	Projects noted below are recommended for approval – No Applications are currently being recommended for approval.		
3.8	Projects noted below are recommended for withdrawal – No applications are being recommended for withdrawal.		
3.9	Members to Note the following shelters as listed in Table 2 have been passed to Property Services for installation and currently being programmed for installation.		
	Table 2		
	Shelter Location	Current Status	Date passed to Property Services as approval
	Washingbay Road, Moor Road, Clonoe	Approved	17/12/2020 Final location to be agreed on site prior to installation instruction being given
	Brackaville, Coalisland	Approved	17/12/2020, Final location being agreed with applicant. Once agreed, information will be passed to Property Services
	Drummullan village	Replacement shelter with one side removed to allow safe access from existing footpath	21/10/2020 Delay in installation as a special cantilevered shelter had to be procured to meet site conditions. Delivery expected last week July 2021
	Moygashel Village	Approved	17/12/2020 Delay in installation as a special cantilevered shelter had to be procured to meet site conditions. Delivery expected last week July 2021
3.10	Progress update on stages 10-11 – Onr shelters installed since date of last meeting.		

3.11 **Progress on response times** – Agreed response times within 30 days with statutory agencies.

Statutory Agencies	Number requests sent	Reply <30 Days	Reply >30 Days
Translink	3	1	2
Education Authority	3	2	1
DfI Roads	0	0	0
NIHE	1	0	1

**Translink,
Responses Outstanding**

1. Mountjoy Road, Brocagh
2. Tullyhogue Village, Tullyhogue
3. Brough Road, Castledawson

**Education Authority,
Responses Outstanding**

1. Mountjoy Road, Brocagh
2. Brough Road, Castledawson
3. Coagh, road, Stewartstown

**NIHE
Responses Outstanding**

1. Innishrush Village

- **Interagency Meeting;** Statutory update meeting to be held 20 July 2021 with DFI Roads, Education Authority, NIHE and Translink, to discuss new Bus shelter locations, response times and any other issues.

3.12 **Other issues:** None to report.

4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: Within budget for Technical Services and Property services to action provision / installation costs within their budget.
	Risk Management: Non-delivery will have adverse impact of users of public transport.
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/a
	Rural Needs Implications: N/a
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members to note the content of the report on the progress made on bus shelters within the district.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 – March 2021 - Procedural guide
6.2	Appendix 2 – Progress table with comments

Procedural Guide on the Provision of Bus Shelters



1.0 Bus Shelters – Mid Ulster District Council

Council is empowered under the Local Government Miscellaneous Provisions (NI) Order 1985, with the consent of the Department for Infrastructure (DfI) to erect and maintain on any road within the district of the council, shelters for the protection from the weather or persons waiting to enter public service vehicles. Bus shelters are erected following local representations. They are provided, particularly for those who have to use public services who may have to stand out in the inclement weather.

1.1 PROCEDURAL STATEMENT

Council will erect a bus shelter where there is shown to be a need, providing the location does not present a safety or nuisance problem and adequate funding is available. Relocation of bus shelters should only take place as a result of either road alignment or the bus companies relocating their bus stops. All other cases of relocation should be resisted as long as there is an identified need for the shelter. Any relocation as a result of retail business / property owner request will only be considered if an alternative suitable location (distance restrictions will be considered) can be accommodated AND the retail business / property owner covers all associated costs for relocated shelter.

If there is any reported anti-social behaviour over a 12 month period at the location of a new/existing shelter the shelter location will be reviewed by Council with an option to remove the shelter and make good the existing surfaces.

1.2 CRITERIA FOR THE ERECTION OF A BUS SHELTER

1. Usage must be a minimum of 6 passengers over a period of a day and applications will be considered on a first come, first served basis, with Translink NI / Education Authority confirming this information. Less than 6 passengers will only be considered by a Council/DEA approval process.
2. The location must be at a recognised bus stop.
3. Following validation, the Council will canvass, by post, all property addresses within 50m frontage to the bus stop (25m either side) on the erection of the shelter, including the type of shelter.
4. At least 51% of the addresses surveyed must have no objections to the shelter.

NOTE - for the purposes of assessment where 51% (rounded to the nearest whole number) of property addresses that respond indicate that they are not in favour of the erection of a shelter, then the results of the survey will be forwarded to the Environment Committee for information confirming that the shelter will not be approved or erected.)

Appendix 1

5. There should be no Department for Infrastructure Roads objections on traffic grounds.
6. There must be sufficient budgetary provision available to provide the bus shelter.
7. All Survey results that do not meet the essential criteria to be reported to Council for consideration.
8. Once refused a request may not be considered for a further 12 month period from the original decision by Council.
9. Form TS/BSRF/01 to be completed and signed off by Head of Service.
10. Bus Shelter request to be approved by Environment Committee.

1.3 DESIGN OF BUS SHELTER

The Council endeavour to provide good quality, comfortable bus shelters purchased through the Procurement Department. Where appropriate they will endeavour to have bus shelters erected free of charge, other than services by Adshel.

1. All shelters within 30mph speed limits will have shelter in accordance with **Example A**, (as below).
2. All shelters outside 30mph speed limits will have shelter in accordance with **Example B**, (as below).

Council will consider in conservation areas the erection of shelters above this standard, but the cost of such shelters excluding erection and servicing costs shall not exceed £3000.00.



Example A, within
30mph speed limits,
Glazed shelter.



Example B, outside
30mph speed limits,
painted metal shelter.

1.4 REPLACEMENT OF BUS SHELTERS

Any defective shelters that require replacement as part of their life span to be replaced using location criteria and shelter design Examples A or B as noted above as part of the maintenance of the Council Estate .

1.5 PROVISION OF BUS SHELTERS – PROCESS

Stage 1: Send application form to person requesting Erection of Shelter.

Stage 2: Acknowledge receipt of request (in writing) – standard letter sent.

Stage 3: Carry out preliminary visit to investigate suitability of site.

Stage 4: Contact Translink / SELB / Private approved Coach Companies to confirm viability of erecting bus shelter i.e. recognised "Bus Stop", number and age of children, bus routes etc. 1st organisation to respond with numbers meeting the criteria i.e. 6 or more then proceed to next stage.

Note – shelters only provided at locations where it is confirmed a minimum of six people await / board buses.

Organisational Name	Contact Name	Contact Number	

Stage 5: Report to Environment Committee to seek Council approval/instruction.

Stage 6: Identify landowner e.g. Housing Executive, local farmer, etc. and obtain their written consent for erection of bus shelter and consult with adjoining properties (contact local Councillor and arrange site meeting if necessary). Elected members to be notified by email when letters are to be issued to neighbours for information purposes.

Stage 7: Send letters (with location maps) for approval/comments to DfI (Roads) / Water Service, PSNI, BT and NIE (arrange follow-up site meetings if necessary).

Stage 8: Sign and return DFI (Roads), Article 66, Consent/Schedule at least six days prior to erection of bus shelter.

Stage 9: Erect bus shelter – Example A or Example B (see 1.3).

Stage 10: Send request to GIS officer to have new asset plotted, and add to shelter register which is to be forwarded to Procurement Department, for insurance cover. Information to include erection/ maintenance/ ownership/ risk assessments / inspection regime / legal agreements between Council and the relevant landowners.

Stage 11: Report back to Council.

Date

Our Ref: MUDC/TS/BS/

The Occupier

Address 1

Address 2

Postcode

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Application for Provision of Bus Shelter at [Enter Location]

Mid Ulster District Council have received an application to erect a bus shelter at the above location and as noted in attached map (see Appendix 1).

The Council's Procedural Guide on the Provision of Bus Shelters outlines that validated applications are subject to neighbour notification. Those who meet the following criteria are eligible to register their preference on this matter:

- All property addresses within 50m frontage to the bus stop (25m either side) on the erection of the shelter, including the type of shelter

Our records indicate that this address is within 50m criteria and therefore subject to neighbour notification.

If approved Council would install Bus Shelter type **[Enter Bus Shelter Example A or B]** as detailed in Appendix 2.

On completion of this survey Council will provide a determination on this request on the basis of the majority preference as submitted. For approval to be considered, at least 51% (majority) of respondents must be in favour of the proposal.

Please read carefully the statements on the survey form attached. Tick your preferred option in the appropriate box, print your name and address and sign the document. The completed survey form(s) should be returned to this office by either:

- a. returning in Self Addressed Envelope provided, or
- b. emailing to Technicalservices@midulstercouncil.org

Forms received after **[Enter Day and Date]** will not be considered.

Thank you for your time completing this survey.

If you have any queries on the above, please contact (Officer Name) in the Cookstown Office by email at (,,,,,,,) or by telephone on 03000 132 132 Ext: 24400.

Yours faithfully,



Raymond Lowry
Head of Technical Services

Encs.

Cc DEA Councillors



PROVISION OF BUS SHELTER – SURVEY FORM

1. **I HAVE NO OBJECTIONS** to have a Bus Shelter erected at **[Enter Location]**

☐

2. **I DO NOT WISH** to have a Bus Shelter erected at **[Enter Location]**

☐

If you have ticked this box please give reason for objection

Reason for Objection:

Name: _____
(CAPITALS)

Address: _____

Signature: _____

The Results of this survey will be available to view on the MUDC website
www.midulstercouncil.org under Council Meetings but should you wish to receive written
correspondence detailing the outcome of the survey please tick this box. ☐

Data Protection

In accordance with Data Protection Legislation, Mid Ulster District Council has a duty to protect any data we hold. The information you provide on this survey form will be used for the purposes of processing your survey and will not be shared to any third party unless law or regulation compels such a disclosure. Information will be retained in accordance with the Council's Retention and Disposal Policy.

Appendix 1

[Insert Map of proposed Bus Shelter location]

Appendix 2

BUS SHELTER TYPE

See below Example A - within 30mph speed limits, glazed shelter.



See below Example B - outside 30mph speed limits, painted metal shelter.



Table 1 – Applications awaiting formal application to be submitted (0nr)

No	Location	Stage	Status / Comment	Progress status
0				No new applications awaiting formal application

Table 2 – New applications received since last Committee (0nr)

0				No new applications since last Committee
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Table 3 – STAGES 2-4, (8nr)

1	Derryvale, Coalisland	3	Proposed location has been declined by Translink. Alternative sites being sought.	Site visit held, 08 February with DFI roads and Translink to agree site. Alternative location has been identified, Landowner to be identified as adjacent to existing field access. DFI roads to confirm.
2	Jordan Engineering, Benburb	4	Meeting to be organised with Cllr Burton on site to agree location	Site visit held, 08 February 2021 with DFI roads and Translink to review shelter location options. TS to discuss existing routes with EA, and discuss possible new location with landowner. Potential new application to be lodged by current applicant.
3	Brough Road, Castledawson (Private Application) - 2018/001	3	Application Form returned .	User numbers requested by Translink/EA . Translink Have reported 4nr passengers, EA to confirm numbers. Reported up to 21 passengers use the stop. Reminder sent to Translink for user numbers
4	Killeen Crossroads	4	Translink to provide alternative pick-up avoiding dangerous road crossing to Coole Road.	Translink now relocated their stop / pick up location and new shelter can be progressed at this location. Discussion with DFI Roads held and community engagement close out formal process. Neighbour notification to be issued following Council approval 24th June 2021.
5	Tirkane Road, Maghera	2	Application Form returned .	Site visit 08 April, identified site for shelter. User numbers to be revisited by Translink.
6	Coagh Rd, Stewartstown	3	New application	Application form signed and progressing with letters sent to Translink and EA to confirm user numbers
7	Annaghmore Rd, Clonoe	3	New application	Application form signed and progressing with letters sent to Translink and EA to confirm user numbers
8	Reenaderry Rd, Reenaderry	2	New application	Application form signed. Site visit took place on 05 May with applicant, User numbers confirmed by Translink, 16nr users. Request to move to stage 5

Table 4 – STAGES 5-8, (18 NR)

No	Location	Stage	Status / Comment	Progress status
1	Tullyhogue Village	6	Residents declined original location as will promote anti-social behaviour. Limited options for alternative sites that suit bus pick-ups.	New site identified within village. Site meeting took place with applicant and Translink. Travel directions and pick up numbers confirmed with EA and Translink still to respond. Reminder sent.
2	St Colmans Park, Moortown	6	Met applicant on site 9 October 2020, site agreed.	NIHE confirmed that they are the registered owner. Letter sent from applicant to Minister for comment on the requirement by NIHE to sell/ lease grounds. Confirmed land must be transferred by either lease or purchase, negotiations ongoing with applicant for potential alternative site.

3	Cappagh Village	8	Existing shelter in dangerous location, no footpath. Community request to have children lifted in the village. Limited turning space for buses in village.	Site meeting held on 01 December, new location has been agreed for the shelter. Local community group have discussed with adjacent neighbours who appear in favour of the proposed location. Landowner investigation underway. Neighbour notification returned 100%, to proceed following Council approval 24 June 2021
4	Whitebridge, Ballygawley	8	New request for shelter	Private Landowner identify. Site agreed with DFI Roads and EA. Neighbour notification returned approved to proceed following Council approval 24 June 2021
5	Glendavagh Road, Crilly, Aughnacloy - 2016/013	6	Application Form filled in during meeting with Cllr Burton	Site visit held 08 February 2021, with DFI roads. Site identified, subject to landowner agreement. Translink confirmed 0nr users, EA confirmed 6nr users. Site visit to be confirmed with EA and DFI roads for site location.
6	Church street , Cookstown	6	Site meeting held with applicant, user number requests issued toTranslink and EA	User numbers requested from Translink and EA. Translink responded to say they lift 20nr passengers. EA confirmed 10nr users. Site estate agent for adjacent vacant site to be consulted on shelter location. Reminders sent. Site meeting 08 April confirmed site for shelter subject to approval.
7	Kinrush Road/Battery Road Junction, Moortown	6	Original site limited space, alternative site to be confirmed.	Original location deemed not acceptable although alternative location has now been identified and progress to install shelter to programmed. TS programmed to discuss with DFI roads at next meeting and progress to instruct to install shelter.
8	Bellaghy, Overends layby	8	Proposed site at Overends Layby adjacent to recent EI scheme paved area.	Discussed with DFI roads and alternative 2no locations have been agreed. Translink to confirmed locations . Community engagement to complete to ensure all residents are in agreement to new shelter locations. Translink and DFI roads have confirmed they are content to move their stops and subject to reseedent engagement these can progress. Neighbour notification returned 50% approval, DEA meeting required to progress application.
9	Main Street, Bellaghy	8	Existing shelter removed, at chemist. Proposed new sites have been identified at Seamus Heaney HomePlace.	Discussed with DFI roads and alternative 2no locations have been agreed. Translink to confirmed locations . Community engagement to complete to ensure all residents are in agreement to new shelter locations. Translink and DFI roads have confirmed they are content to move their stops and subject to reseedent engagement these can progress. Neighbour notification returned 100% to proceed., following Council approval 24th June 2021.
10	Knockloughrim Village	8	Landowner unknown for proposed site. Further investigations underway to determine landowner.	Parks department have agreed location within their site. Nearest neighbour consultation returned, did meet required criteria to proceed following Council approval 24 June 2021
11	Kingsisland Primary School	6	Final confirmation from primary school required to progress.	Meeting to be held with school on exact location of shelter, location drawing circulated to school and church for final approval for shelter location. Meeting held with Primary school. A Planning application has been lodged to extend the school. (On hold subject to Planning decision)
12	Inishrush Village	8	Landowner clarified as NIHE.	NIHE to approve location for new shelter. Programme for delivery, subject to permission and legal agreements/ lands transfer from NIHE. Further update and community engagement to be confirmed. NIHE to consider if lands to be transferred to MUDC. Neighbour notification returned. DEA meeting required to progress application.
13	Magheracastle Road / Mountjoy Road, Brocagh	6	Pending withdrawal notification from applicant as proposed site on wrong side of the road for pick-up.	Report at next Council Site meeting held 3 August, site agreed, requests sent to Translink and EA for number confirmation. Reminders sent to both parties awaiting responses
14	Main street, Benburb	6	Site meeting held with Cllr Molloy, user number requests issued toTranslink and EA	User numbers requested from Translink and EA. Translink confirmed 25 passenger numbers. EA confirmed they lift no passengers at this stop. Landowner to be identified and neighbour notification returned. DEA meeting required to progress application.

15	Annaghoboe Road/ Washingbay Road Junction, Clonoe - 2017/006	8	Landowner approval required for siting of new shelter on Washingbay Road.	Landowner approval refused. Alternative site to be agreed. Programme to be confirmed when site identified. If new location cannot be agreed a paper will be brought back to Council to have the application withdrawn. Meeting with Translink 10th September and approval has been agreed for new site. Neighbour notification returned, proceed to next stages, following Council approval 24 June 2021
16	Goland Road/ Armaghlaghey Road, Ballygawley - 2016/015	6	Site and user numbers confirmed .	Translink users confirmed, 10nr. Location to be agreed with DFI roads./ Translink. Neighbour notification issued.
17	Eglis View, Ballinderry	8	Landowner content with siting of shelter on open space, identified	User numbers confirmed. Neighbour notification returned. DEA meeting required to progress application.
18	Meenagh Prk, Coalisland	8	DFI roads/Translink approved location beside existing bus stop	User number confirmed. Neighbour notification returned. DEA meeting required to progress application.

Table 5 – STAGE 9, (4NR),

No	Location	Stage	Status / Comment	Progress status
1	Drumullan	9	Translink and Education Authority to confirm user numbers to progress.	Existing shelter to be replaced with new shelter (minus one end piece) the removal of end piece will facility access from existing footpath thus meaning users will not have to egress onto public road to access the shelter. Progress - Property services instructed to proceed with replacement shelter. Design input required for location to complete, narrower sides required.
3	Credit Union, Moygashel	9	Site meeting between MUDC, Translink and Cllr Cuthbertson on 28-02-2020	Request sent to Translink to re-assess the passenger numbers in this location as requested by applicant. Neighbour notification approved shelter. Passed to property Services for installation. New design, narrower sides required.
3	Clonoe Crossroads	9	Relocation of existing shelter as too close to junction. Land search in progress to find alternative suitable site.	Discussion with DfI have indicated a suitable location can be accommodated and subject to community engagement should be able to install. DfI Roads to check pedestrian crossing points in the locality. Relocation agreed with Translink 11 September 2020, from Dormans Bar, 30m to housing entrance. Neighbour notification issued. and returned with approval for the bus shelter to proceed.
4	Brackaville, Four Seasons Bar, Coalisland	9	Limited space on existing footpaths. Translink deemed unsafe. New site required for shelter.	Discussions with DfI Roads have indicated that potential location can be facilitated pending community engagement. Translink have approved location subject to neighbour agreement to removal of hedging. Applicant to approach resident for permission. Currently agreeing final location on site with applicant. Nearest neighbour consultation did meet required criteria.

Table 5 – Stage 10-11 - Bus Shelters Installed (8nr)

No	Location	Stage	Status / Comment	Progress status
1	143 Omagh road, Ballygawley	10	Existing Bus stop/layby, report to committee required	Installed.

2	Millview/Dunnamore Road, Dunnamore	10	Location agreed, site, DFI Roads compliant for new location.	Installed.
3	Kildrum Estate, Galbally	10	New shelter provision at entrance to housing development.	Installed.
4	Thornhill Road, Pomeroy	10	Location opposite community Hall	Installed.
5	Killeenan Road/Camlough Road/Loughdoo Road	10	Proposal to locate shelter in Kildress GAC.	Installed.
6	Glebe Court, Castlecaulfield	10	Relocation of existing shelter, land ownership to be confirmed for new site.	Installed.
7	Culnady Village	10	Site approved in centre of village, located on DFI Roads lands.	Installed.
8	Stewartstown	10	Translink to provide Clear Channel shelter at this location. Available budget for Translink causing delay.	Installed.

Table 7 – Applications to be Withdrawn/ Re- visited (2Nr)

No	Location	Stage	Status / Comment	Progress status
1	Coole Road	Revisit application following Jan meeting	Re-open application	discussion with DfI Roads to be held in light of new agreed process principals. Report at next Council Meeting
2	Duffs Corner, Ardboe	Revisit application following Jan meeting	Withdrawn	Application withdrawn by applicant April Committee