

Report on	The Heart of Ancient Ulster Landscape Partnership Scheme (HoAULP) – Progress Report
Reporting Officer	Michael Browne
Contact Officer	Mary McKeown

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 the council on the Heart of Ancient Ulster Landscape Partnership Scheme. (HoAULP)
2.0	Background
2.1	Mid Ulster District Council in partnership with Fermanagh and Omagh District Council have been granted £85,000 for Round 2 Development of a Heart Of Ancient Ulster Landscape Scheme that has been given approval by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) through its Landscape Partnership (LP) programme.
2.2	The project aims to help protect one of the most significant areas of archaeological interest in the middle of Northern Ireland, stretching from Broughderg to Carrickmore down to Pomeroy. The Scheme also intends to help protect and restore unique natural upland blanket and raised bog. There will be strong community involvement focus, together with large educational and conservation skills development. The landscape is unique within the United Kingdom in that it has very low levels of light pollution and provides a great opportunity to create the first Dark Sky Heritage Park in Northern Ireland.
2.3	A development grant of £85,000 has been awarded by HLF to enable Mid Ulster District Council and Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, to develop its plans and seek final approval for the full grant amount of £2,002,300 at a later date.
2.4	The Heart of Ancient Ulster Landscape Partnership Scheme (HoAULP) has currently developed a Landscape Character Area Plan (LCAP): a fully budgeted five-year programme, which forms the core of the Round 2 application which was submitted to Heritage Lottery on 2 nd December 2018.
3.0	Main Report

3.1	Work has been compiled for the LCAP, a draft of which was submitted to HLF on 7th September 2018. The final copy was submitted to HLF on 2 nd December 2018.
3.2	The LCAP is now in the local assessment stage 2 process. The London Committee of HLF will assess the Round 2 submission in March 2019 and notify shortly thereafter.
3.3	The Development Officer and Administration Officer ceased employment on 2 nd December 2018.
3.4	MUDC is the lead partner in the project and will need to provide continued support during the Round 2 assessment phase, Dec 2018 – March 2019.
Other Considerations	
4.1	<p><u>Financial & Human Resources Implications</u></p> <p>Current staff ceased employment on 2nd December 2018, therefore it is essential that line of communication between all partners and HLF is kept open. The Head of Tourism Michael Browne will now oversee the project.</p>
4.2	<p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>N/A</p>
4.3	<p><u>Risk Management Implications</u></p> <p>N/A</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)

5.1	For information
Documents Attached & References	
	N/A