

<b>Report on</b>	Extension to Davagh Forest Service Level Agreement
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Thursday 11th November 2021
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Head of Parks
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Nigel Hill

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To review current Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Broughderg Area Development Association to include caretaker and cleansing duties within the OM Visitor Centre.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	Mid Ulster District Council Parks Service currently maintain seven Service Level Agreements with community based organisations in support of leisure and outdoor recreation services. The value of these service Level agreements range from £9,925 to £2,000 dependent on the scope of the services provided.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	Mid Ulster District Council have maintained a Service Level agreement with Broughderg Area Development Association (BADA) since 2015. Cookstown legacy Council established the original SLA in 2013 with the community group to assist with outdoor/external operational maintenance activities at Davagh Forest in support of the developing visitor facilities on site. Mid Ulster District Council currently allocate £6,000 annually to Broughderg Area Development Association (BADA) for agreed services. The close working partnership is off significant benefit to council in terms of local community commitment, support and supervision of one of our most remote visitor attractions.
3.2	June 2021 finally welcomed the long awaited opening of the OM Dark Skies Park and Observatory in Davagh Forest. The following months have enabled council to monitor and assess customer facing, support systems, and associated resources that underpin daily service delivery within the Dark Sky Centre. Back house services that include caretaker and cleansing duties have been provided over this period by council's visitor advisor staff, an arrangement which has now been reviewed and recognised as unsustainable given the existing visitor servicing demands on the current staff compliment.

3.3	A proposal to extend the current services provided by Broughderg Area Development Association to include caretaker and cleaning duties within the centre was presented to the community group for consideration. The agreement would provide on-site support services on a daily basis equating to 11 hours per week on a flexible rota. The calculated cost of this service equates to £104.50 per week/ £5,434 per annum.
3.4	The proposal to extend current community SLA arrangements to include additional duties within the centre will result in a total annual SLA payment of £11,434.00 to Broughderg Area Development Association. Council review all Service Level Agreements annually based on interim performance indicators, this ensures that service level objectives meet with council's satisfaction and monitored continuously.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b>
	Financial: Sufficient Service Level Agreement contributions have been ring fenced within the current financial year 2021/22 to accommodate the extended service.
	Human: N/A
	Risk Management: In conjunction with Council policy and procedures
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: In conjunction with Council policy and procedures
	Rural Needs Implications: In conjunction with Council policy and procedures
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	Members are asked to note the content of the report in relation to the extension of current duties and activities associated to the current Service Level Agreement with Broughderg Area Development Association.
5.2	Members approval is sought to extend on-site support services on a daily basis equating to 11 hours per week on a flexible rota. The calculated cost of this service equates to £104.50 per week/ £5,434 per annum.
5.3	Members approval is sought to amend the current annual Service Level Agreement with Broughderg Area Development Association to reflect a total annual SLA payment of £11,434.00 for services provided at davagh Forest and OM Dark Skies Park & Observatory.

<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
6.1	None