



13 October 2022

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Development Committee to be held in The Chamber, Dungannon and by virtual means Council Offices, Circular Road, Dungannon, BT71 6DT on Thursday, 13 October 2022 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. Notice of Recording
This meeting will be webcast for live and subsequent broadcast on the Council's You Tube site [Live Broadcast Link](#)
2. Apologies
3. 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.
4. Chair's Business
5. Deputation: Knockmany Runners Club: Development of Lumfords Glen

Matters for Decision

- | | | |
|----|------------------------------------|---------|
| 6. | Development Report | 3 - 14 |
| 7. | Economic Development Report - OBFD | 15 - 32 |

Matters for Information

- | | | |
|----|--|-----------|
| 8 | Minutes of Development Committee held on 15 September 2022 | 33 - 50 |
| 9 | Air Quality Report 2022 | 51 - 128 |
| 10 | Live Here Love Here Small Grants Scheme 2022 | 129 - 140 |

11	Drinking Water Quality Report for Northern Ireland 2021	141 - 212
12	Economic Development Report - OBF	213 - 266

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

13. Economic Development Report – CBFD
14. Report on Funding and Accommodation Arrangements for RDP & Community Services Staff at Gortlowry House

Matters for Information

15. Confidential Minutes of Development Committee held on 15 September 2022

Report on	Development Report
Date of Meeting	Thursday 13 th October 2022
Reporting Officer	Claire Linney, Assistant Director of Development
Contact Officers	Philip Clarke - Community Services Manager, Oliver Morgan-Good Relations Manager, Michael McCrory - PCSP Manager, Caroline Sheehy – Burnavon Arts Manager, Brian McCormick Seamus Heaney Home Place Manager, Joanne Robinson – Hill of The O'Neill/Ranfurly House Manager

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

1	Purpose of Report									
1.1	<p>The purpose of this report is to update members and seek approval for the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rolling Community Grants• Chatty Places – Let’s Get Together• Community Grants Review - Festive Lights• Development Department Update									
2	Key Issues									
2.1	<p>Community Grants - Rolling Grants Programme 2022 – 2023</p> <p>Members are advised that the grants assessment panel are making the following recommendations to award grants under the Community Festival & Good Relations funds.</p> <table><tr><th>Grant</th><th>No. of groups awarded</th><th>Value of Grant Awards</th></tr><tr><td>Community Festival Fund</td><td>7</td><td>£4320</td></tr><tr><td>Good Relations Grant</td><td>1</td><td>£960</td></tr></table> <p>Please see attached in Appendix 1 grant award recommendations</p>	Grant	No. of groups awarded	Value of Grant Awards	Community Festival Fund	7	£4320	Good Relations Grant	1	£960
Grant	No. of groups awarded	Value of Grant Awards								
Community Festival Fund	7	£4320								
Good Relations Grant	1	£960								
2.2	<p>Chatty Places – Let’s Get Together</p> <p>Council, as part of its commitment to seek to provide support, where it can, to people through the current cost of living crisis, including social engagement in a warm, comfortable environment, is proposing to partner with Libraries NI on the provision of Chatty Places in our towns of Dungannon, Cookstown and Magherafelt.</p>									

2.3	<p>Chatty Places provides a warm social space for people to come and meet other people or to just sit and read a newspaper.</p> <p>Libraries NI is providing Chatty Place opportunities in the 3 main towns, over and above its existing provision (knit and knatter, tea and newspapers, reminiscence group, children's activities etc).</p> <p>It is proposed to provide the following Council locations, for a number of mornings a week to provide for the Chatty Places concept, with a view to rolling out further with partner organisations.</p> <p>Dungannon Library 1 morning per week, Hill of The O'Neill & Ranfurly House (café area) 2 mornings per week (proposed mornings: Thursday- library, Tues/Wednesday - Hill of The O'Neill & Ranfurly House).</p> <p>Cookstown Library 1 morning per week, 2 mornings per week taking place in the Hub, provided by the Hub (proposed mornings: Monday - Library, Tuesday/Thursday - Hub)</p> <p>Magherafelt Library 1 morning per week, Bridewell 2 mornings per week (proposed mornings: Friday Library, Wednesday/Thursday – Bridewell)</p> <p>All provision will be mornings 10.30 – 1pm</p> <p>Newspapers, magazines, mind activities, along with tea and coffee will be available.</p> <p>The cost for provision of the above items at Council location will be met within existing budget.</p> <p>Promotion of above will be undertaken direct by Council and through various groups including the Loneliness Network of which Council Aging Well Programme is a participant. The Chatty Places will seek to address social isolation as well as providing a warm space for people.</p> <p>It is proposed to run the above during November to end of February, pending usage.</p> <p>Community Grants Review Festive Lights</p> <p>As part of the 3 year Community Grant Review consultation was undertaken with local groups A full report on the review and the proposals for the new Community Grants policy for 2023 – 2024 will be brought to members at the November Development Committee.</p> <p>A key comment/issue from the review consultation was the pressure on groups to deliver on the Christmas Festive Lights. Currently there are 60 local community groups who partner with Council in the delivery of festive lights across the rural areas of the District. Council delivers for the 5 main towns. One of the key issues raised by groups is that it takes the full grant award, and match voluntary contribution from the wider community, to install the festive lights each year. This leaves no available funding for renewing or replacing stock. Council previously provided a small festive lights grant over and above the revenue support to allow for groups to add to or replace festive lights stock.</p> <p>It is proposed to do a similar investment in 2022, as a one-off fund for groups to purchase new or replacement Festive Lights including LED, solar, energy efficiency options. The investment to each group/ area would be based on a similar amount to</p>
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2.4	<p>the revenue allocation. This investment is to support groups to replace or add to their lights; including more energy efficiency forms. These range from £1250 to £3000 as per settlement size. The budget implications of this is £108,250 as a one off investment, subject to final approval process.</p> <p>See attached Festive Lights allocation as per Appendix 2.</p> <p>Development Update</p> <p><u>Community Support</u> Support is continuing to groups re community development activity.</p> <p>A review of community grants was undertaken, and proposed updates are being considered for the new grants policy.</p> <p><u>Good Relations</u> The Good Relations Plan continues to be delivered across the District.</p> <p>A Ukrainian Assistance Centre has been set up in Dungannon. This is proposed for a few weeks to allow people who have settled in this area to get access to mainstream services. The Centre has run for 2 weeks to date with around 80-85 people accessing this.</p> <p><u>PCSP</u> Please see attached minutes of the Partnership for information, Appendix 3.</p> <p><u>Burnavon Arts Centre, Seamus Heaney Homeplace, and Hill of O'Neill & Ranfurly House</u> Continuing to deliver a range of activities, events and performances, as per brochures and marketing.</p> <p>Partial works to the Burnavon auditorium were undertaken over the summer period, with the remaining upgrade to seating planned for spring/summer 2024 to allow for supply logistics and a time period with minimum impact to the facility.</p> <p><u>Regional and Minority Language</u> The programme is continuing to roll out across the District.</p>
4.1	<p>Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications</p> <p>Financial:</p> <p>Community Festivals Grants £4320, Good Relations Grants £960</p> <p>Christmas lights one off capital investment in lights; to be allocated from the Capital budget, £108,250, subject to final approval process.</p> <p>Human: NA</p>

	Risk Management: NA
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: NA
	Rural Needs Implications: NA
5	Recommendations
5.1	Members are recommended to; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Approve the Rolling Community Grants (ii) Approve the Chatty Places – Let's Get Together (iii) Approve the Community Grants Review Festive Lights Awards (iv) Note the Development Department Update
6	List of Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 Community Rolling Grant Awards Appendix 2 Community Grants Review Festive Lights Awards Appendix 3 PCSP Minutes

Appendix 1

Local Community Festival Grants - October 2022 (Maximum £1,200)

No	Organisation Name	Aim	Title Of Event/project	Band	Request	Award
1.	Magherafelt Browning Club ABOD	Community	Burns Night	7	£715	£480
2.	Maghera Parish Caring Association	Community	Music & Dance festival from by-Gone Days	7	£1200	£480
3.	Stewartstown Harps GFC	Community	Youth Tournament and Fun Day	5	£1200	£720
4.	Coagh Sports Centre	Community	Evening of Football Fun	5	£1160	£720
5.	Bellaghy Village Regeneration	Community	Bann Bonanza/Wild on the Bann	6	£1200	£600
6.	Augher/Clogher RBL	Community	Augher/Clogher Festival of Remembrance	6	£1200	£600
7.	Newmills Wildlife Garden	Community	Queens Award for Voluntary Service day	5	£1410	£720
Total					£4,320	

Ineligible (for follow up)

No	Organisation Name	Aim	Title Of Event/project	Request	Comments
	Woodlands + Market St Comm Wellbeing Service	Community	Inspired Exhibition	£1,200.00	Ineligible

Good Relations Grants - October 2022 (Maximum £1,200)

No	Organisation Name	Aim	Title Of Event/project	Band	Requested	Awarded
	Sollus School of Highland Dance	Historical Group	Heart of Ulster Highland Dance Competition	3	£1200	£960
				Total		£960

Bands	Score	%
7	30-39	40%
6	40-49	50%
5	50-59	60%
4	60-69	70%
3	70-79	80%
2	80-89	90%
1	90+	100%

Area	Organisation	Current Amount	Festive Lighting Asset/Stock Support 2022
Ackinduff/Cabragh	Kileeshil Community Centre	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
Ardboe	Ardboe Community Projects Ltd	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
Augher	Augher Development Association	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
Aughnacloy	Aughnacloy Development Association Ltd	£3,000.00	£3,000.00
Ballinderry	Ballinderry AOH	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
Ballygawley	Ballygawley Community Initiative Group	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
Ballylifford	Ballinderry Parish Church	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
Ballymaguigan	St Treas Ballymaguigan	£1,250.00	£1,250.00
Ballynakelly	Ballynakelly CPLC	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
Ballyronan	TABDA	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
Bellaghy	Bellaghy Village Regeneration	£3,000.00	£3,000.00
Benburb	Servite Trust NI	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
Brocagh	BADGER	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
Bush	Bush Community Cultural Group	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
Caledon	Caledon Regeneration Partnership	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
Cappagh	Cappagh Village Regeneration Ltd	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
Carland	Carland Area Regeneration Association	£1,250.00	£1,250.00
Carntogher	Carntogher Community Association	£1,250.00	£1,250.00
Castlecaulfield	Walker Memorial Primary School Parent Supp	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
Castledawson	Castledawson Community Parthership	£3,000.00	£3,000.00
Churchtown	Lissan Leisure Club	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
Clady	Bann Valley Community Group	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
Clogher	Clogher Development Association	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
Clonoe	Clonoe Rural Development Agency Ltd	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
Coagh	Coagh Sport Centre	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
Creagh	Creagh GFC	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
Culnady	Culnady Rural Development Group	£1,250.00	£1,250.00
Curran	Curran Heritage Culture and Community Asso	£1,250.00	£1,250.00
Desertmartin	Desertmartin Community Developments Ltd	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
Donaghmore	Donaghmore District Community Association	£3,000.00	£3,000.00
Draperstown	Workspace (Draperstown) Ltd	£3,000.00	£3,000.00
Drummullan	Coagh & Drummullan Network Group	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
Edendork	Edendork Regeneration Group	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
Eglish	Eglish Cross Community Group	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
Fivemiletown	Fivemiletown Chamber Of Commerce	£3,000.00	£3,000.00
Galbally	Galbally Youth & Community Association	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
Granville	Granville Development Association	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
Gulladuff	Termoneeny Community Association	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
Innishrush	The Four Town Rural Regeneration Group	£1,250.00	£1,250.00
Killyman	Killyman District Cultural Society	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
Knockloughrim	Knockloughrim Community Development Asso	£1,250.00	£1,250.00
Moneyneena	Moneyneena Community Group	£3,000.00	£3,000.00
Moneyneena	Moneyneena and District Development Init	£1,250.00	£1,250.00
Moortown	Loughshore Community Services	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
Moy	Charlemont & Moy Development Association	£3,000.00	£3,000.00
Moygashel	Moygashel Community & Cul Association	£2,500.00	£2,500.00
Newmills	Newmills Cultural Group	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
Orritor	Orritor Community Cultural Association	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
Pomeroy	Pomeroy Development Projects	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
Sandholes	Sandholes Community Group	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
Sixtowns	Sixtowns Cross Community Group	£1,250.00	£1,250.00
Stewartstown	Stewartstown Development Association	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
Swatragh	Granaghan and District Womens Group	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
Tamlaght	Tamlaght Presbyterian Church	£1,250.00	£1,250.00
Tamnamore	Tamnamore Community Development Associa	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
The Loup	Loup Womens Group	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
The Rock	Rock Community Group	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
Tobermore	Tobermore Community Projects	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
Tullyhogue	Desertcreatives	£1,250.00	£1,250.00
Upperlands	Upperlands Community Development Ltd	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
		£108,250.00	£108,250.00

Minutes of the meeting of Mid Ulster Policing and Community Safety Partnership held on Wednesday 25 May 2022 at 2.30pm in Council Chamber, Dungannon

Present: Councillor Clement Cuthbertson (Chair), Councillor Frances Burton, Councillor Cathal Mallaghan, Councillor Dominic Molloy, Councillor Trevor Wilson

Alexandra Black (Vice Chair), Julie McKeown

Sharon Crooks (NIHE), Michelle Grant (PBNI), Stephen Hind (NIFRS), Superintendent Stephen Murray (PSNI), Inspector Peter McNeill (PSNI), Leo Quinn (EA)

Apologies: Councillor Anne Forde, Councillor Christine McFlynn, Councillor John McNamee, Sue Chada, Grace Meerbeek, Hayley Wilson, Sergeant Simon Corr (PSNI), Sinead Dolan (YJA), Ryan McGee (EA), Inspector Kyle Lucas (PSNI),

In Attendance: Michael McCrory (PCSP Manager), Annette McGahan (PCSP Officer), Martina McCullagh (PCSP Assistant)

The Meeting commenced at 2.30pm.

PCSP232/22 WELCOME

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting.

PCSP233/22 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Members were reminded of their obligation in relation to declarations of interest.

PCSP234/22 MINUTES OF MID ULSTER POLICING & COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2022

The Minutes of Mid Ulster Policing and Community Safety Partnership meeting held on Wednesday 23 February 2022 were approved by Members.

Proposed by: Sharon Crooks

Seconded by: Councillor Dominic Molloy

PCSP235/22 MATTERS ARISING – PCSP226/22 – ‘NO DRINKING ZONES’ – RESPONSE FROM COUNCIL

The Chair advised that a meeting took place on Tuesday 5 April 2022 where it was agreed that Kieran Gordon, Assistant Director of Health, Leisure and Wellbeing Communities & Place and his team would carry out a ‘scoping exercise’ on current ‘No Drinking’ Zones and Signage displayed on Council properties across the District and identify any gaps. This report will be taken to the Development Committee when finalised. The report will be shared and an update provided to PCSP.

PCSP236/22 DoJ/NIPB JOINT COMMITTEE UPDATES

The PCSP Manager referred Members to the Joint Committee Business Update document and referred to the following areas;

- **Police Property Fund** – Small Grants Scheme – There are 6 applications from Mid Ulster area. These have not been scored yet due to the recent election and reappointment process of MLAs to the NIPB.
- **PCSP / PSNI Workshop** – This will take place on Tuesday 21 June 2022 in The Junction, Dungannon from 10am to 4pm.
- **PCSP Reconstitution 2023/2024** – Indicative Timeline – The next PCSP reconstitution will be triggered by the Local Election, which is due to take place in May 2023. The Partnership Committee within the NIPB must approve the timeline for the next reconstitution and it is expected that this will be brought to the Committee in June 2022.
- **ASB Legislation Review** – Work on the ASB legislation review continues via a multi-agency delivery group, exploring both legislative and non-legislative solutions to reducing ASB.

Members had no questions in relation to the update.

PCSP237/22 THEMATIC UPDATES

The PCSP Manager updated Members on each of the 3 Strategic Objectives, providing detailed information on Anti-Social Behaviour, Night-Time Economy and Vulnerable Victims of Crime which fall under Strategic Objective 2 to *Improve Community Safety*.

The PCSP Manager advised that meeting dates have been agreed for ASB, NTE and VVC Sub Groups. These dates will be circulated and Members will be asked to provide details of which Sub Groups they wish to participate within.

Members made the following comments;

Councillor Burton stressed the importance of PCSP attendance at engagement events as it is the ideal way to provide information to the public regarding the work of PCSP.

Councillor Burton requested that better feedback is provided when an issue has been highlighted as to what course of action has been taken by PSNI and if the action taken was a success.

Councillor Wilson raised the effectiveness and feasibility of the current CCTV provision across the district.

Councillor Molloy stated that a number of residents in Moy have requested that CCTV should be installed in the village given the increase in night time economy and the recent incidents of anti-social behaviour taking place.

Councillor Burton stated there is a need for CCTV in Fivemiletown and suggested that now may be the right time to review the overall CCTV provision across the District and asked if PSNI would be in a position to provide funding towards the cost.

In response, Superintendent Murray stated they are very supportive in the use of CCTV and would be in a position to provide some funding for hardware, but would not be able to provide long term funding for maintenance and monitoring.

PCSP238/22 TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THEMATIC GROUPS

The PCSP Manager referred to the 3 Thematic Groups; Anti-Social Behaviour, Night-Time Economy and Vulnerable Victims of Crime and advised Members that each group has its own Terms of Reference document.

The Terms of Reference provides details of the group's *main purpose; why it is a priority?; how success will be measured; chairing the meetings; venue and frequency of meetings; Action Plan and Membership*.

No amendments were requested by Members.

Councillor Wilson queried if the Chair for the Sub Group Meetings had to be the PCSP Chair as it would be quite a heavy workload for one person.

The PCSP Manager advised that the PCSP Chair would normally chair the Sub Group meetings, or in their absence the Vice Chair and in their absence the group could choose a chair.

The PCSP Manager advised that the following dates have been arranged for the first Sub Group Meetings, these will be circulated to Members.

- Night-Time Economy Sub Group – Wednesday 22 June 2022 at 2.30pm in Council Chamber, Cookstown
- Anti-Social Behaviour Sub Group – Wednesday 29 June 2022 at 2.30pm in Council Chamber, Dungannon
- Vulnerable Victims of Crime Sub Group – Wednesday 6 July 2022 at 2.30pm in Council Chamber, Dungannon

PCSP239/22 AMENDED MID ULSTER PCSP ACTION PLAN 2022-25

The PCSP Manager referred to the amended Mid Ulster PCSP Action Plan 2022/2025 and advised Members that all amendments have been made as agreed at the PCSP meeting held in February 2022. In addition, amendments to Outcome Based Accountability (OBA) indicators relating to Social Media have also been included.

PCSP240/22 ANNUAL REPORT 2021/2022

The PCSP Manager referred to the Annual Report for 2021/2022 and advised that the format used was provided by the DoJ and the NIPB. Members' approval was sought.

Members were happy to approve the Annual Report.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Firearm recovered in the Brantry area

The Chair raised concerns about the recent firearm recovered in the Brantry area which is similar to a firearm recovered in Windmill Woods and asked if these finds related to organised crime and if there has been an increase in organised crime. It is very worrying that firearms are being located, especially in public spaces.

Superintendent Murray stated that it is worrying, but reassured Members that both incidents are unrelated, they do not constitute a spike in organised crime and investigations are ongoing. It is very positive that the firearms were located and taken off the streets and can no longer pose a threat to anyone.

Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service

Stephen Hind advised Members that the Fire Service receive lots of requests to attend pre-schools, but due to financial constraints these visits have had to be curtailed. The target audience is Primary School P5 pupils, so getting this age group on board is the way forward. A 'Station Open Day' is being planned for the summer where there will be activities for Pre-School children up to and including young drivers. The Fire Service will also be attending a 'Classic Car and Tractor Show' which is taking place in Killyman on the 3 July 2022.

PCSP241/22 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

As this was Councillor Cuthbertson last meeting as PCSP Chair, Councillor Wilson expressed thanks for his work during the past year.

Alexandra Black, Vice Chair on behalf of the Independent Members thanked Councillor Cuthbertson for all his hard work and commitment during his time as PCSP Chair.

The Chair thanked everyone for their support throughout his time as Chair and thanked Alexandra Black for her commitments to the role of Vice Chair.

The next PCSP meeting will take place on Wednesday 7 September 2022 in Council Chamber, Dungannon at 2.30pm.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

The meeting ended at 3.20pm.

Report on	1. Covid19 Recovery Revitalisation Programme 2. Christmas Off Street Car Parking Charges - Dungannon & Magherafelt 3. Dungannon Traders Association Proposal
Date of Meeting	13 October 2022
Reporting Officer	Assistant Director of Economic Development, Tourism & Strategic Programmes

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 key activities as detailed below.
2.0	Background
2.1	Covid19 Recovery Revitalisation Programme Council previously received a letter of offer from the Department for Communities (DfC) for £1,452,000 to deliver Tranche 1 & Tranche 2 Business Support Grants plus an Active Travel Scheme. Tranche 1 & 2 Business Support Grants have all been allocated and completed. The Active Travel element is ongoing.
2.2	Christmas Off Street Car Parking Charges Dungannon and Magherafelt For the past seven years, a Christmas car parking scheme has been implemented in Dungannon and Magherafelt town centres to boost trading during the key Christmas period. Following positive feedback from businesses and the public, it is proposed to bring into effect a similar scheme this year to support the local retail sector.
2.3	Dungannon Traders Association Proposal Council received a proposal from Dungannon Traders Association via email on the 23 rd September 2022. The proposal requested that Council divert the budget allocated to the annual Heels on the Hill event to a new event on the 18 th December 2022 in Dungannon Town Centre.
3.0	Main Report

3.1	<p>Covid19 Recovery Revitalisation Programme.</p> <p>The Active Travel schemes are still progressing with more time required for the completion of the Clogher footpath scheme. Prolonged discussions have meant the estimated completion date of 31 October 2022 is not achievable and Council has requested DfC for an extension to the timeline to the end of this financial year.</p> <p>DfC has agreed to Council's request and furnished Council with a Letter of Variance granting an extension to the period of funding to 31 March 2023 as detailed in Appendix 1.</p>
3.2	<p>Christmas Off Street Car Parking Charges Dungannon and Magherafelt.</p> <p>As part of this year's Christmas Promotional Campaign, officers have considered options for a car-parking scheme in Dungannon and Magherafelt town centres. The proposed pricing arrangements are aimed at encouraging footfall and spend, boosting town centre trade during the critical festive trading period – one of the busiest times of the year. Following positive feedback from trader groups, it is proposed to implement a similar scheme to last year as follows:</p> <p>The first three hours parking for 10 pence in <u>all</u> Pay and Display Car Parks for a six-week period from Saturday 26 November 2022 to Saturday 7 January 2023. Total cost to Council of implementation is £24,000.</p> <p>The normal tariff is 40p for 1 hour (except for Central in Magherafelt, which has a tariff of 40p per three hours) and the proposed pricing arrangements are intended to boost town centre trade at one of the busiest times of the year. The very nominal fee of 10p for the first three hours is being charged to prevent "all day parkers" and ensure town centre car parks are available to visitors and shoppers.</p> <p>Car parks included in the scheme are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ann Street East, Castle Hill, Perry Street West and Scotch Street North in Dungannon. • Rainey Street, Union Road and Central in Magherafelt.
3.3	<p>Dungannon Traders Association Proposal</p> <p>The Heels on the Hill event is normally held in September annually in conjunction with Dungannon Traders Association. The event hasn't been held since 2019 as a result of the Covid pandemic and the Traders have advised that it wasn't possible to organise it this year either due to a number of factors. In more recent months, the development of "The Space" at Feeney's Lane, is now operational and is managed by Dungannon Enterprise Centre, in association with Dungannon Traders.</p> <p>Dungannon Traders Association have identified an opportunity to create a new event in the town and have submitted a request to Council (Appendix 2) to ask for the Council budget for the Heels on the Hill event (£5,500) be reassigned to</p>

	<p>allow them to host the proposed new event called “Dungannon Jingle Ball Run” on Sunday 18th December from 4pm – 7pm to bring footfall to the town.</p> <p>This event would be held in Market Square, Dungannon as opposed to the Hill of The O’Neill which the Traders envisage will have a bigger impact for both businesses and shoppers/community alike.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	<p>Financial:</p> <p>Covid19 Recovery Revitalisation Programme: DfC funding of £1,452,000 to be spent by March 2022. Letter of Variance attached on Appendix 1 providing an extension to complete the programme by 31 March 2023.</p> <p>Christmas Off Street Car Parking Charges Dungannon and Magherafelt: £24,000 available within the Economic Development Budget this financial year.</p> <p>Dungannon Traders Association Proposal: The Traders Association have requested Council to reassign its budget of £5,500 for the Heels on the Hill event towards Dungannon Traders new event entitled Dungannon Jingle Ball Run. There is no financial impact to Council to switch the funding from one event to the other as the funding remains available within the Economic Development Budget this financial year.</p>
	<p>Human:</p> <p>Covid19 Recovery Revitalisation Programme: Officers time managing funded projects.</p>
	<p>Risk Management:</p>
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	<p>Equality & Good Relations Implications: none identified</p>
	<p>Rural Needs Implications: none identified</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	<p>It is recommended that Members:</p> <p>Covid19 Recovery Revitalisation Programme</p> <p>Approve authority for the Chief Executive to sign DfC’s Covid-19 Recovery Programme Letter of Variance on Appendix 1, dated 9 September 2022, which grants an extension to the period of funding to 31 March 2023 and approve immediate return of Letter of Variance to DfC following the Development Committee Meeting in October 2022 to meet DfC’s response timeframe.</p>

5.2	<p>Christmas Off Street Car Parking Charges Dungannon and Magherafelt.</p> <p>Approve the temporary reduced tariff for the first 3 hours of 10 pence in all Off Street Pay & Display Car Parks in Dungannon and Magherafelt from Saturday 26 November 2022 to Saturday 7 January 2023 (6-week period) at a cost to Council of £24,000.</p>
5.3	<p>Dungannon Traders Association Proposal</p> <p>Approve the request from Dungannon Traders Association to reassign Council's budget this financial year totalling £5,500 from the Heels on the Hill event to the new Dungannon Jingle Ball Run event which is proposed will take place on Sunday 18th December from 4pm – 7pm.</p>
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	<p>Appendix 1 - Covid-19 Recovery Programme MUDC Letter of Variance – September 22</p> <p>Appendix 2 – Dungannon Traders Association Proposal</p>

APPENDIX 1

From: Sharon McGowan (By email)



Mr Adrian McCreesh
Chief Executive
Mid Ulster District Council

North West Development Office/West Team
2nd Floor
Boaz House
19 Scarffes Entry
Omagh
Co Tyrone
BT78 1JG

Telephone: (028) 82 2555506

Email: Sharon.McGowan@communities-ni.gov.uk

Our reference: CO1-20-11980

Date: 09 September 2022

Project Reference No	CO1-20-11980
Project Applicant	MID ULSTER DISTRICT COUNCIL
Project Title	COVID-19 RECOVERY REVITALISATION PROGRAMME
Total Funding	£1,452,000
Period of Funding	27 July 2020 to 31 December 2022 (as per letter issued by G. Murray Director of Regional Development Office 15 March 2022)
Organisation's Financial Systems and Controls Rating	Robust

Dear Adrian,

1. Revised Approval

The purpose of this letter is to effect certain amendments and variations to the Contract for Funding constituted by the letter dated 28th October 2020, the Letter of Variance dated 2nd March 2021, the Letter of Variance dated 26th August 2021, and the Letter of Variance dated 22nd March 2022 issued to Mid Ulster District Council for

the COVID-19 Recovery Revitalisation Programme. I am pleased to confirm that the period of funding has been extended to 31 March 2023. Accordingly upon the Organisation's acceptance of this letter as hereinafter provided the said Contract for Funding shall be amended and have effect as follows:

(i) The contract detail table, as above, is substituted to:

Project Reference No	CO1-20-11980
Project Applicant	MID ULSTER DISTRICT COUNCIL
Project Title	COVID-19 RECOVERY REVITALISATION PROGRAMME
Total Funding	£1,452,000
Period of Funding	27 July 2020 to 31 March 2023 (as per letter issued by G. Murray Director of Regional Development Office 17 August 2022)
Organisation's Financial Systems and Controls Rating	Robust

(ii) Annex B (2) is attached which updates projects and costs following agreement on active travel schemes with DfI. It is noted some re-profiling will be required as per monitoring report received 8/7/22.

(iii) A revised Annex E (2) is attached which changes the target dates for the key objectives from December 2023 to March 2024.

2. Acceptance

This letter is issued electronically by e-mail and, accordingly, if the Organisation is prepared to accept the variance to the original Contract for Funding, please return a scanned PDF copy of this letter duly signed and dated on behalf of the Organisation within one week from the date of this letter. Failure to return the acceptance within this period shall result in the offer being deemed as withdrawn.

3. Availability

The foregoing offer shall remain open a period of four weeks from the date of this letter. Failure to return a scanned PDF copy of this letter duly signed and dated on behalf of the Organisation within this period shall result in the offer being deemed as withdrawn.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Sharon McGowan".

Sharon McGowan
Deputy Director NWDO/West

4. OFFICIAL FUNDING ACCEPTANCE

Project Reference No	CO1-20-11980
Project Applicant	MID ULSTER DISTRICT COUNCIL
Project Title	COVID-19 RECOVERY REVITALISATION PROGRAMME
Amount of Funding	£1,452,000
Period of Funding	27 July 2020 to 31 March 2023 (as per letter issued by G. Murray Director of Regional Development Office 17 August 2022)

I _____ have authority **on behalf of**
(Name of Chief Executive in Block Capitals)

Name of Council

to accept the offer of funding set out in the letter dated 2 September 2022 and agree to deliver the above project on the terms and conditions therein.

Signed by
(Chief Executive)

Witnessed by
(Registered Office Bearer)

Name in Block Capitals

Name in Block Capitals

Date

Date

5. BANK DETAILS

Project Reference No	CO1-20-11980
Project Applicant	MID ULSTER DISTRICT COUNCIL
Project Title	COVID-19 RECOVERY REVITALISATION PROGRAMME
Amount of Funding	£1,452,000
Period of Funding	27 July 2020 to 31 March 2023 (as per letter issued by G. Murray Director of Regional Development Office 17 August 2022)

Please complete Bank details below.

Name of Organisation: _____

Name of Account: _____

Bank Name: _____

Bank Address: _____

Sort Code: _____ **Account Number:** _____

Signed by
(Chief Executive)

Witnessed by
(Registered Office Bearer)

Name in Block Capitals

Name in Block Capitals

Date

Date

ANNEX A

AREAS TO BE FUNDED UNDER TRANCHE 1 OF THE PROGRAMME

[illegible]

ANNEX B (2)

AREAS TO BE FUNDED UNDER TRANCHE 2 & 3 OF THE PROGRAMME

Item	Cost	Funding Stream (DfC, DAERA, DFI, Revenue)
COVID-19 Business Support Grant – Urban (PH2 & 3)	£376,000	DfC
Subtotal DfC	£376,000	
COVID-19 Business Support Grant – Rural (PH2)	£148,000	DAERA
Subtotal DAERA	£148,000	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coalisland Lighting scheme • Maghera Lighting scheme • Eglish Footpath • Clonoe Footpath • Clogher Footpath • Bellaghy Footpath (Design Brief) • OB 	£127,000 £42,5000 £117,000 £40,000 £85,000 £18,000 £35,500	DFI DFI DFI DFI DFI DFI DFI
Subtotal DFI	£465,000	
Professional Fees etc...	£34,000	DfC Revenue
Subtotal DfC Revenue	£34,000	
Total Capital Funding - Tranche 2 & 3	£989,000	
Total Revenue Funding - Tranche 2	£34,000	
Tranche 2 Total	£1,023,000	

COVID-19 RECOVERY REVITALISATION PROGRAMME

OBJECTIVES, OUTPUTS & OUTCOMES

Objectives

1. To support each district council to develop a costed Covid-19 Recovery Revitalisation Plan by September 2020. **This objective has now been met.**
2. By August 2020, each district council will have established or identified a suitable stakeholder engagement forum to support the delivery of its Covid-19 Revitalisation Plan. **This objective has now been met.**
3. To support each district council to deliver its Covid-19 Recovery Revitalisation Plan by March 2023.
4. By March 2024, 80% of businesses in scheme areas agree that the improvements to their businesses and other Capital purchase projects would encourage people to live, work, visit and invest in the area (by council).
5. By March 2024, 80% of people using the scheme areas agree that the improvements to the area would encourage people to live, work, visit and invest in the area (by council).
6. By March 2024, council schemes funded through this Programme will have positively impacted on efforts to see footfall levels returning to a level which is at least 70% of levels recorded prior to the public health crisis.
7. By March 2024, surveys completed by traders indicate that council schemes funded through this Programme will have positively impacted on efforts to see sales figures returning to a level which is at least 70% of levels recorded prior to the public health crisis.
8. By March 2024, attitudinal surveys indicate 80% of the public are satisfied with the measures taken in the Scheme areas to respond to safety issues raised by the Covid-19 pandemic.

9. By March 2024, attitudinal surveys indicate 70% of the public are satisfied with walking facilities in the Scheme area.
10. By March 2024, attitudinal surveys indicate 60% of the public agree that they are satisfied with cycling facilities in the Scheme area.
11. By March 2024, attitudinal surveys indicate 40% of the public agree that measures taken in the Scheme area would encourage people to change from car use to more environmentally friendly choices such as walking and cycling for journeys of under two miles.
12. By March 2024, grant fund measures in the Scheme area to demonstrate the benefits of low-emission fuel options.
13. By March 2024, the scheme area will have an increase in land used for active travel (i.e. extended footways, cycle ways, and connecting pathways) which connects people with key services and ensures accessibility for all including those with disabilities.

Outputs

Council Revitalisation Plans.

- Each council will provide a quantification of the outputs associated with their plan.

Outcomes

Outcome Delivery Plan - Outcome 10: We have created a place where people want to live and work, to visit and invest.

- New and improved physical infrastructure and environment in which opportunity can flourish in economic, social and cultural terms to develop our attractiveness as a home, place of business, and tourist destination.

- Bring communities together and deliver programmes that target social need through social, economic and physical regeneration of cities, towns and villages.
- Complete a range of Urban Regeneration Schemes in towns and cities across Northern Ireland to enhance our attractiveness as a home, place of business, and tourist destination.
- Develop strategic sites across Northern Ireland to provide new and improved physical infrastructure and environment.

Outcome Delivery Plan - Outcome 11: We connect people and opportunities through our infrastructure

- Achieve a shift from the private car to active travel modes such as walking and cycling
- Protect and enhance our 'green' and 'blue' infrastructure (parks, green spaces and street trees; ponds, streams and lakes) to define a sense of place and character within our communities, making it more attractive to walk and cycle to access key services with associated health and wellbeing outcomes and strengthening the resilience of our natural environment.
- Develop integrated sustainable drainage solutions to manage rainwater on the surface to protect against flooding.

APPENDIX 2

Dungannon Traders Proposal

23 September 2022

As you are aware, the first market at The Space on Market Square (Feeneys Lane) takes place on the 10th September. This market, Artisans @ the Space will be the first of many scheduled events over the next few months, all in aid of encouraging footfall back into Dungannon Town Centre. We have been working successfully with Dungannon Enterprise Centre, including Mid Ulster Council, in getting The Space established, usable and hopefully over the next few months, bringing footfall to the town and successfully reinvigorating the Town Centre.

Dungannon Traders Group, who for a number of years, have worked with Council to deliver a fashion show on Hill of The O'Neill, will be unable to organise the Heels on the Hill this year due to a number of factors. However, with the new Market and Event Space opportunity in the Town Centre itself, we recognise there is an opportunity to create a new event and would ask that the Council reassign the funds to a different proposal that will bring footfall to the town. This event would be held in Market Square as opposed to the Hill of The O'Neill and perhaps have a bigger impact for both traders and shoppers/community alike.

Proposal Title: The Dungannon Jingle ball Run

Proposed date for event: Sunday 18th December 4pm – 7pm

Description: 10,000 coloured plastic balls will be rolled down Castlehill Road (from the Orange Lodge to The Square Bar) Each ball is numbered and the first 10 balls over the line will win Mid Ulster Council shopping gift vouchers. Ball will be sold at several retail outlets throughout the town (£2 for one and £5 for three). Balls will be sold in advance of the day and prior to the event.

All the monies raise from the sale of the balls will be shared equally between three charities operating locally; St Vincent de Paul, The Vineyard Church and Zambia Education and Development (ZED).

On the day of the event, all the balls would be loaded onto a vintage tipping lorry located at the gate of the Dungannon Orange Lodge. At 6.30pm the ball would be released

It is planned that the event would be broadcast onto a large TV screen next to the Christmas tree at the town of Market Square.

It is proposed that Adrian Logan would compere the event and as part of the build up to the “ball drop”, various celebrities from the local sports club would attend to support the event. It is planned that there will be street entertainment, including school choirs and local musicians, at the steps of the top of Market Square next to the Christmas tree. All schools will be invited to participate in the entertainment. Permission will be sought from Ranfurley House to use the space for the entertainment.

A mobile wide screen TV will be placed at the top of Market Square and there will be a live feed from 2 cameras to the screen. The cameras will capture the entertainment and the ‘ball drop’ allowing everyone to see the event.

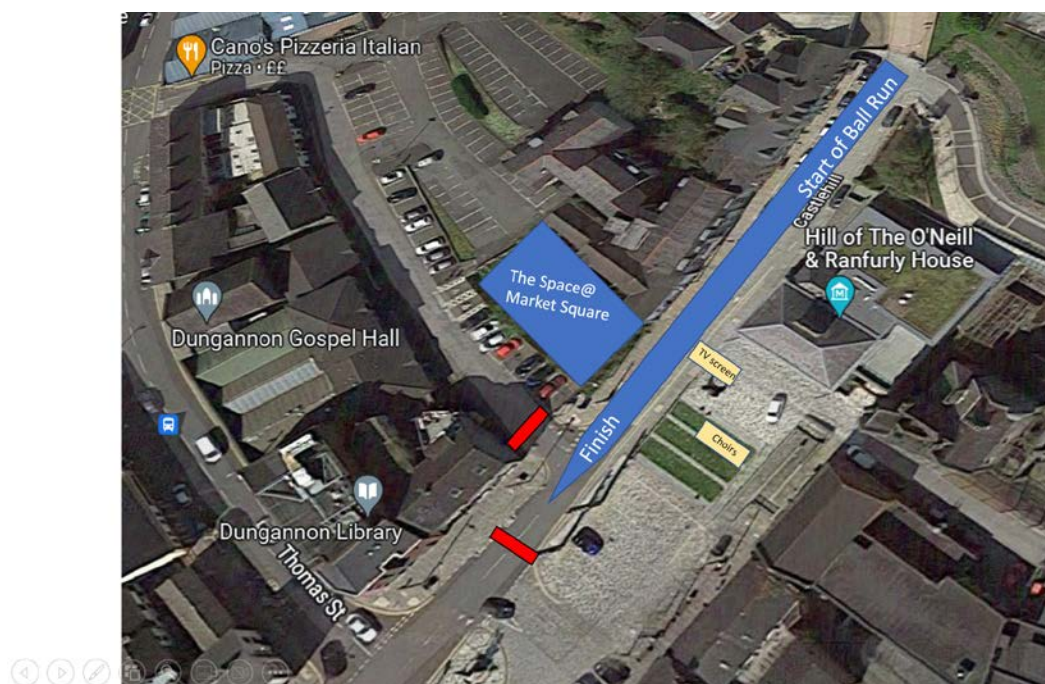
Dungannon Enterprise Centre will operate an “Eco Mania” Christmas market in the Space@Market Square on the Sunday and operate a stall for visitors to purchase balls on the day.



A similar event is run in Cork for the last 6 years and is extremely well attended.

Logistics: Dungannon Traders Group will work to deliver the event with the in-kind support of the staff of Dungannon Enterprise Centre. It is planned to employ the services of PR Rising to manage the provincewide marketing and PR on the event. On the day of the event, volunteers from Dungannon Traders Group, St Vincent De Paul, The Vineyard and ZED will manage the logistics. The management of Dungannon Enterprise Centre will co-ordinate all the volunteers.

The Castlehill will be closed for the day and the exit from Feeneys Lane onto Market Square. A DfI permit will be applied for if the event proceeds.



Outcome from the event: 2000 plus visitors to the town

Rationale for the event: The event will bring visitors to the town who may do Christmas shopping. This unique event should attract province wide publicity of Dungannon that can only benefit all.

Costings:**Expenditure**

10,000 Plastic balls	1000
Musical Entertainment and face painting	800
O/B cameras and large TV	3500
PA system	800
Compere and guests	1800
Crowd barriers, materials	600
Event insurance	800
Management, Advertising, Social Media,	3000
	12300

Funding

Mid Ulster Council	5500
Advertising	1800
Private sector sponsorship	5000
	12300

A sponsorship agreement of £1,000 in principle has been secured from McKinney Competitions and initial discussions are underway with Cavanagh Kelly Accountants, P.A Duffy, Dungannon Mini Mix and Corrigan Van Hire.

In-kind support is also being provided from the staff of Dungannon Enterprise Centre in the form of securing the sponsors, undertaking the accounting and verification of the sale of the balls, creating a video promotion and social media support.

Dungannon Traders Group are confident that the sponsorship target will be achieved, however if there is a shortfall, then it would be planned to not proceed with the large screen TV and live broadcast thereby reducing the expenditure by £3,500.

If the Council agree to reallocate the funds to the initiative, it will be recognised as a primary funder. The Council's logo will be on all advertising and promotional videos and the live feed TV screen on the day. The Chair of the Council will be invited talk at the event and to play a part in the countdown to the 'ball drop'.

The budget does not show the following in-kind contributions.

Organisation	Activity	In-kind amount
Dungannon Enterprise Centre	Securing the sponsors, undertaking the accounting and verification of the sale of the balls, creating a video promotion and social media support	£3000
Dungannon Traders Group	Volunteers to support event and sale of balls	£2000
Vineyard Church	Volunteers to support event	£1000
ST Vincent De Paul	Volunteers to support event	£1000
ZED	Volunteers to support event	£1000
Local schools	Schools choirs and entertainment	£1000

Minutes of Meeting of the Development Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 15 September 2022 in the Council Offices, Ballyronan Road, Magherafelt and by Virtual Means

Members Present

Councillor Clarke, Chair

Councillors Corry, Doris*, Elattar*, Kerr*, McNamee*, Martin*, Milne, Molloy, Monteith*, Quinn*

Officers in Attendance

Mr Black, Strategic Director of Communities and Place
Mr Gordon, Assistant Director of Health, Leisure and Wellbeing
Ms Linney**, Assistant Director of Development
Ms McKeown**, Assistant Director of Economic Development, Tourism and Strategic Programmes
Mr John Kennedy**, ICT Support
Mrs Grogan, Democratic Services Officer

Others in Attendance

Deputation: Start360 – Kathleen Grego

* Denotes Members present in remote attendance

** Denotes Officers present by remote means

*** Denotes Others present by remote means

The meeting commenced at 7 pm.

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

D127/22 Notice of Recording

This meeting will be webcast for live and subsequent broadcast on the Council's YouTube site.

D128/22 Apologies

Councillors Black, Ashton, Burton, Cuddy, Wilson.

D129/22 Declarations of Interest

The Chair, Councillor Clarke reminded Members of their responsibility with regard to declaration of interest drawing attention in particular to agenda item on grants. He stated that if Members had already declared the interest it did not need reiterated.

D130/22 Chair's Business

Councillor Molloy wished to raise the issue of Railway Park Dungannon and Ballysaggart Lough. He said that there had been DEA meetings which other members here tonight also attended up until September 2021 and checking through the minutes there had been proposals that the work at Ballysaggart Lough would be going to tender Spring this year and had checked through different papers and was disappointed to see that there has been no movement since. He said that he was aware that the retaining wall at Ballysaggart was almost complete but would like to see an update and possibly to reinstate those DEA meetings for both Railway Park and Ballysaggart Lough project to see where we are currently at in relation to the reservoir work at Ballysaggart Lough.

The AD: Development referring to Railway Park advised that her team were still working away and that Railway Park DEA meetings were going to be handed over to her remit and advised that these would be instigated again. She said that the designs were ongoing in terms of the actual Railway Park concept which was being finalised at the moment and anticipated this being brought to the next DEA meeting which will be arranged ASAP. With regards to the reservoirs she advised that she was linking in with AD: HL&W and his team so that the two departments can work together.

The SD: Communities and Place advised that the DEA meetings would be pulled back together again. He said that there was obviously a sequencing issue relating to Ballysaggart Lough and Railway Park and would be linking in with SD: Environment as she was the senior officer responsible in respect of Ballysaggart Lough and Railway Park sitting under his remit. He said that it was important that the two were tied together as Ballysaggart Lough works needed to be completed before progressing with the Railway Park project.

Councillor Molloy said that he appreciated that there were personnel changes within SMT and would appreciate if this could be progressed.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that DEA meetings for Ballysaggart Lough and Railway Park be reinstated.

Councillor Monteith declared an interest in Ballysaggart Lough.

Councillor Monteith concurred with Councillor Molloy's comments and said that once again these two projects had completely fallen of the radar as far as elected members were concerned. He said that it had taken the initiation of DEA meetings to get any head of steam up again and good to see it progressing.

He referred to Ann Street, Dungannon and advised that there had been a DEA meeting at the beginning of the summer and great anticipation for announcements etc. and now we are still none the wiser and no further on and requested that a DEA meeting be arranged as a matter of urgency as these are three projects within Dungannon which keep rumbling on and the community was losing all faith in this organisation.

The SD: Communities and Place reassured member from an Officer's prospective that work has not fallen of the radar as work is ongoing but will bring to members attention so they are aware of the progress which has been made.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that a DEA meeting be arranged with regards to Ann Street, Dungannon as a matter of urgency.

Councillor Quinn asked that an invite be extended to Ms Máire Coyle from Dungannon to present to a future Development Committee meeting. Ms Coyle has developed a fantastic initiative in taking autistic children to restaurants right across the country but particularly Mid Ulster which allows parents to "bring your own food scheme" for the children. Children with autism going to a restaurant is not an easy experience, especially when they react to different surroundings, sounds, atmospheres and textures of food etc. Ms Coyle has designed a fantastic initiative to help parents with autistic children enjoy some family time.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that an invite be extended to Ms Máire Coyle to attend a future Development Committee meeting to provide an update to committee on her initiative of "bring your own food scheme" to restaurants for autistic children.

D131/22 Deputation: Start360

The Chair welcomed to the committee Ms Kathleen Grego from Start 360 and invited her to address the committee (appendix).

Ms Grego advised that Start360 is one of the leading providers of support services to young people, offenders, and families across Northern Ireland providing a range of services and interventions in the areas of Health, Justice and Employability. Their mission statement is that 'Change Starts Here' and our vision is 'Every Person Stronger'.

In 2020-21 financial year, the group worked with over 20,009 people across all age groups and have offices across Northern Ireland – Belfast, Ballymena, Lurgan, Derry/Londonderry, and in the three prisons – Maghaberry, Magilligan and Hydebank College. The organisation currently employ approx. 85 staff, delivering 26 services across all 5 Trust Areas.

Start360 connections within Mid Ulster include joint working on key objectives with:

- PCSP
- Councils
- PSNI
- Schools
- Colleges
- Youth Service
- Community and Sporting organisations
- Traveller Thematic Group
- Staff training and awareness sessions

- Responding to identified need

The Chair thanked Ms Grego for her very informative presentation and sought Members comments.

Councillor Corry thanked Ms Grego for her very good presentation and alluded to comment made regarding a couple of items raised. She referred to base for Start360 in Dungannon and the impact of drugs for parents and children as well as younger people in the area and how drugs has escalated now to smaller towns, villages and rural areas. She enquired how people from rural areas could reach out to Start360.

Ms Grego advised that Start360 connection team worked in a lot of rural areas and would be very happy to come to where is required. She said that if there was a requirement to connect in with the team there could be an opportunity to arrange an open night within the area and invite parents etc. which took place in Ballymena with the Minister in attendance recently to meet a group of parents of adult substance users to talk to them about what needs they had. She said that she would be happy to accommodate anyone which feels the need to reach out and would be more than happy to hold virtual meetings or come into the area to try and provide support. She said that the day to day services work in all areas except the Southern Trust as this is covered by another provider but all work together and there was opportunity to work together as a multi-agency approach to it.

Councillor Doris thanked Ms Grego for her presentation and she said that she wouldn't feel right if she didn't acknowledge Conor McHugh tonight. She said that Conor was from the Dungannon area and was a volunteer which worked with Start360 and had reached out to her a numerous occasions to see how things were and wished to acknowledge the importance he had within the community whilst working through the organisation.

Ms Grego advised that Conor came through the organisation as a service user and then his journey proceeded with them as a staff member before progressing to a different job. She said that Conor was an absolute star and was fortunate enough to be at his wedding 3 days before lockdown hit and everyone had a great day and was devastating for the organisation his passing has had.

Councillor Doris said that she hoped his legacy would live on in the work which Start360 were currently doing now.

Ms Grego advised that the organisation were currently working with his family dedicating a Conor McHugh room within their building for therapeutic works.

Councillor Doris said that would be a great way to honor Conor and hoped to touch base with Start360 in the future around Neighbourhood Renewal for Dungannon and Coalisland areas.

The Chair thanked Ms Grego for her attendance tonight at which she withdrew from the meeting at 7.18 pm.

Matters for Decision

D132/22 Development Report

The AD: Development presented previously circulated report which provided update and sought approval on the following:

- **Rolling Community Grants – Rolling Grants Programme 2022-2023 –**
Rolling Grants Programme 2022-2023 recommendations
- **CCTV, Moy –** Inclusion of new CCTV Hardware
- **Seamus Heaney HomePlace Faber and Faber License Agreement –**
Extension to license and Inclusion of Open Ground Elements
- **Peace Plus Partnership and Plan –** Note update
- **Bellaghy Bawn Literary Residential Project –** Note update
- **Development Plan Update –** Note update

It was

Proposed by Molloy
Seconded by Milne and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the following:

- **Community Grants – Rolling Grants Programme 2022-2023**

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the allocation of the Community Grants as recommended in appendix 1 of the Officers report.

- **CCTV, Moy**

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the inclusion of any new CCTV hardware at Moy into the Councils existing monitoring and recording contract.

- **Seamus Heaney HomePlace Faber and Faber License Agreement**

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the extension to the Faber & Faber license relating to Seamus Heaney HomePlace and the inclusion of the Open Ground elements.

- **Peace Plus Partnership and Plan**

Note update.

- **Bellaghy Bawn Literary Residential Project**

Note update.

- **Development Plan Update**

Note update.

D133/22 Capital Discretionary Grant

The AD: Development presented previously circulated report and sought approval for the Capital Discretionary Grant.

As the total number of applications has exceeded the total annual budget available (capital fund £150,000), the following options were being presented for consideration:

- Option 1 – Allocate maximum award to the top scoring groups until budget is exhausted
- Option 2 – Allocate a proportion of funding to each eligible group based on their ranked score
- Option 3 – Equally split of funding across all 5 eligible applicants

Councillor McNamee said that he was under the impression that funding was carried over from last year, that being the case, are Council in a position to fund all these groups because to dilute the funding wasn't what it was set for originally.

Councillor McNamee referred to Clogher Valley Rugby Club application and said that he was aware of a previous conversion regarding the Club being in a different Council area and sought clarification.

The AD: Development said that as it was a yearly fund, any previous year underspend would revert into the Council reserves. Should Members wish to 'top up' this fund in year, a recommendation from the development committee would be required to go to Policy & Resources Committee seeking an in year allocation from the reserves of the remaining balance which was not fully utilised from previous years, to be used to support the actions which were initially agreed by this committee in relation to about the Discretionary Grant Scheme.

In response to query regarding Clogher Valley Rugby Club, the AD: Development advised that in the past the Club was funded by Dungannon legacy Council and under a phase with the LAG group (old rural programme) it was decided that it fell into the Fermanagh & Omagh district due to its location, so it actually went on address and location rather than beneficiaries. She said that there has been some confusion in relation to the club over the past number of years with Officers having analysis with the club and engagement with Fermanagh and Omagh and has decided that due to the club confirming 80% of their beneficiaries are from Mid Ulster, that it would remain within the Mid Ulster area in terms of community grants if members are in agreement. She said that it was unknown how it would be with Rural Development going forward and Officers will be liaising with Fermanagh & Omagh with regards to that to make sure the groups are not disadvantaged and that they remain in one area for one set of funding only.

Councillor Monteith proposed to recommend to P&R committee to release reserves to allocate a balance of £100k to the existing fund to allow an allocation of £50k for all eligible groups. Councillor Monteith commented that some of the groups were not able to move forward with their plans due to the pandemic and therefore should not be penalised as it was hard enough for groups to try and put projects together. He said that the whole ethos of the funding was to be as accommodating as possible and help people get over the line and should not be penalising due to the fact they weren't shovel ready or ready to go when the other four groups are ready to go.

Councillor Kerr seconded Councillor Monteith's proposal and said that it was a great opportunity to send it back to P&R and get the five projects an equal amount. He said that it was great to see three projects from the Torrent area.

Councillor Doris concurred with previous comments and said that it was great to see funding going towards those clubs as it would have a positive impact.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith
Seconded by Councillor Doris and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to seek recommendation from P&R committee to release a one off £100,000 allocation from reserves to the current discretionary grant scheme to allow the maximum allocation to be applied to all 5 eligible groups.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith
Seconded by Councillor Kerr and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve all of the applications to their full £50,000 and seek recommendation from P&R committee to release a one off £100,000 allocation from reserves to the current discretionary grant scheme to allow the maximum allocation to be applied to all 5 eligible groups.

D134/22 Sports Representative Grants

The AD: HL&W presented previously circulated report and sought approval for the Sports Grant allocations as recommended within appendix 1 of the report.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Molloy and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the Sport allocations as outlined within appendix 1 of the report.

D135/22 NIEA Challenge Fund

The AD: HL&W presented previously circulated report to update on the successful application to NIEA Challenge Fund to produce a detailed Feasibility Study and to seek approval to appoint suitably qualified personnel/company for the delivery of same.

Councillor Doris advised that she would be happy to propose the recommendation. She said that there had been a great onsite meeting held with AD: HL&W and SD: Communities and Place a month ago and was great to see all the ideas as there was an awful lot of potential in the area which just hasn't been tapped into yet.

Councillor Kerr said that he would be happy to second the recommendation. He said that he welcomed what was before us again but would like to reaffirm that there was a need to push on with the project. A huge majority of the Cappagh proposed project is within the Mid Ulster District Council's boundary and there was a need to invite press and other stakeholders as this was in the Council's purgatory for a number of years.

He proposed that Council sit down with representatives from Cappagh Regeneration within the next six weeks and try and continue to get the local groups and communities' aspirations into realities.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to arrange a meeting between Council and representatives from Cappagh Regeneration within the next six weeks to try and get local groups and communities aspirations.

The SD: Communities and Place advised that he would be happy to pick that up and concurred with Councillor Doris regarding the site visit with Altmore/Cappagh group and ongoing work which was going to be completed through the NIEA funding. He said that the group was going to be heavily engaged as one of the principle stakeholders and assured that members that there would be ongoing engagement with that group as moving forward with the NIEA project implementation.

Councillor Monteith advised that he was at the meeting in Cappagh and that the potential at the site was unreal but felt that it was taking a long time to take it to fruition and needs to be taken over the line as it has been on the radar for years from the legacy Dungannon days.

Councillor Quinn concurred with previous comments regarding Cappagh and agreed that it has been talked about for possibly a decade. He said that it was a place of natural beauty and there was a need to get it over the line as it seemed to be going round and around. He praised the people in the area for getting things done and would welcome the development on site hopefully sooner rather than later.

Proposed by Councillor Doris
Seconded by Councillor Kerr and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that approval be granted for the acceptance of the letter of offer from NIEA and to grant approvals to appoint suitably qualified personnel/company following Council's procurement process.

D136/22 Ulster Way

The AD: HL&W presented previously circulated report to update Council on the current insurance for Ulster Way and to seek permission to enter into a Permissive

Path Agreement with one number landowner for the lands to the north east of Eagles Rock, Moydamlaght Forest.

Proposed by Councillor Corry
Seconded by Councillor Milne and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to grant permission to enter into a Permissive Path Agreement with one number land owner on the lands to the north east of Moydamlaght Forest.

D137/22 The Regulation of Cosmetic Treatments in Northern Ireland

The AD: HL&W presented previously circulated report to inform of request from The Local Authority Health and Safety Liaison Group (HSLG) seeking Council's written support to request better regulation of cosmetic treatments in Northern Ireland, along with the introduction of a licensing scheme for non-surgical cosmetic procedures.

Councillor Doris welcomed this as she felt it was sad to see people feeling under pressure to get fillers and Botox due to social media posts. She felt that there was a rise in these sort of procedures and was concerned due to a lot of unqualified people providing these treatments as it was unknown sometimes what's in these products and welcomed the regulations.

Proposed by Councillor Doris
Seconded by Councillor Corry and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to support the Local Authority Health and Safety Liaison Group's request and to agree to send a letter to the Health Minister to ask for better regulation of cosmetic treatments in Northern Ireland along with the introduction of a licensing scheme for non-surgical cosmetic procedures.

D138/22 Consultation on The Food Hygiene Rating (Online Display) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2023

The AD: HL&W presented previously circulated report to inform members about the Food Standards Agency's Consultation on The Food Hygiene Rating (Online Display) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2023 and sought any comments/ amendments from Members on the enclosed Mid Ulster District Council's draft response.

Proposed by Councillor Milne
Seconded by Councillor Corry and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the enclosed draft consultation response to the consultation on The Food Hygiene Rating (Online Display) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2023.

D139/22 Review of Commissioner for Older People Northern Ireland

The AD: HL&W presented previously circulated report to inform Members about the Commissioner for Older People Northern Ireland review and seek any comments/amendments on the enclosed Mid Ulster District Council draft response.

Councillor Corry commended officers on a good report which raised a lot of good points. She said that older people had a really tough time over Covid and now the issue of the rising costs associated with the cost of living and felt there was good coverage relating to mental wellness and also accessing GPs and the fear of contacting GPs and possibly letting things go on longer than necessary. In relation to communication and social media, she said that she was aware of everyone hyping things up, but felt that older people preferred the old method of face to face and something kind of communication in their hands.

Councillor Corry proposed to send a request to meet the Commissioner or Age Friendly Co-ordinator and to include some of our relevant groups to include Agewell, Mid Ulster Loneliness Network and Mid Ulster Seniors Network.

Seconded by Councillor Doris.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to send a request to meet the Commissioner or Age Friendly Co-ordinator, to include some of our relevant groups to include Agewell, Mid Ulster Loneliness Network and Mid Ulster Seniors Network.

Councillor Doris advised that she had been in contact with the Evergreen Club based at the Cornmill in Coalisland. She said that they had just got back up and running after Covid and now there is issues with the cost of living in relation to cost of travelling i.e. fuel and issues relating to accessing transport to the Club. She said that she would appreciate if the relevant Officers would liaise with the Group to see if there was any kind of funding which could be accessed as it was vitally important for people within the rural areas as this was sometimes their lifeline.

Proposed by Councillor Corry
Seconded by Councillor Doris and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the enclosed draft response on the Commissioner for Older People Northern Ireland review.

D140/22 Service Level Agreement

The AD: HL&W presented previously circulated report asking Members to consider a formal request from the Battery Harbour Management Company (BHMC) for a review to be conducted on their community Service Level Agreement (SLA).

Councillor Quinn said that he would be happy to support the recommendation as there was great work being done by the organisation and also agreed with AD: HL&W comments around the possible review of SLAs to make sure we are getting value for money and that the funding allocated to these groups is enough to cover costs.

Proposed by Councillor Quinn
Seconded by Councillor Kerr and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to grant approval for the amendment of the financial outlay associated with the current annual Service Level Agreement with the Battery Harbour Management Company to reflect a total annual payment of £16,011 (*increase of £6,086 on previous agreement*).

D141/22 Economic Development Report – OBFD

The AD: Economic Development, Tourism and Strategic Programmes presented previously circulated report which provided an update on the following:

- **Giant Spirit Awards 2022**
- **Travel & Tourism Awards 2022**
- **Brown Signage Audit in the Mid Ulster Area**
- **Annual Contribution to Lough Neagh Partnership (2022-2023) – Draft Service Level Agreement**
- **Social Enterprise NI: Council Membership 2022/23**
- **Future Business Start Provision Research**
- **Coalisland Christmas Lights Switch-On Event 2022**

It was

Proposed by Councillor Monteith
Seconded by Councillor Milne and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the key activities as listed below in the Economic Development Report – OBFD.

- **Giant Spirit Awards 2022**

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council to approve the attendance of the Council Chair, Tourism Manager and Seamus Heaney HomePlace Manager at the Giant Spirit Awards 2022 in Slieve Donard Resort & Spa, Newcastle on 6th October 2022 at a cost of £65 + Vat per person.

Councillor Doris commended Mary McGee on her nomination.

- **Travel & Tourism Awards 2022**

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council to approve the attendance of the Council Chair and one or two Managers representing Council's nominated projects at the Travel & Tourism Awards 2022 taking place at the Slieve Donard Resort & Spa, Newcastle on 14th October 2022 at a cost of £170 + Vat per person, subject to Council's projects being shortlisted.

- **Brown Signage Audit in the Mid Ulster Area**

Councillor Kerr welcomed the audit on the brown signs as it was a great opportunity to see what was needed in local areas as there were many tourist attractions within the Mid Ulster District Council area and any revamp of the scheme will hopefully heighten the interest for local tourists.

Councillor Monteith sought clarification as a matter of principle regarding the brown signage and enquired why this Council was paying for this when it should be the remit of TourismNI and TransportNI and contributions from them

The AD: EDT&SP advised that neither Transport NI or Tourism NI hold any form of database of brown signs within the Mid Ulster area and there is no intention on their part to fund a brown signage audit at this time. If Council wish to have more up to data on the brown signs which currently exist in our area, and review what's missing or needs removed/replaced etc, then Council will have to funding the initiative ourselves.

Councillor Monteith enquired if there were any gaps and if Council would be paying for them.

The AD: EDT&SP said if there were gaps in the signage that this would be brought back to committee for review. When individuals apply to Council for brown signage, Council liaise with Transport NI and Tourism NI but ultimately it is the applicant who pays for the signage. She noted however, that if Council was the applicant, and wanted signage installed for a new facility, then we would have to pay for that ourselves.

The Chair said that this has been a long time coming and away behind where we should be and up to this Council to take it forward.

Councillor Monteith said that once again we were going out to consultation and would have concerns. He said that fair enough but it was not our role or responsibility as this scheme was brought together by two organisations and now this Council seems to be doing their work.

Councillor Doris felt the whole system around brown signage was nonsense because it was under roads, it is meant to direct traffic away to avoid traffic jams from businesses. She said that she did try to lobby with the previous Minister for the Economy at the time to see if DfE could take this on instead of DfI but did not receive a response to her request. She said that it may be worthwhile looking into this again to see if there could be some lobbying done regarding DfE taking this on instead of Roads. She said that she does not feel comfortable and had raised it in many tourism groups on why this Council has to go out to source staff and pay £5,000 to an outside organisation to audit what brown tourism signage we have.

Councillor Quinn concurred with comments made by Councillors Monteith and Doris regarding Brown Signage.

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council to approve to seek competitive quotations for a suitably qualified organisation to complete a full brown signage audit of the Mid Ulster District. Provision has been made in the Council's Tourism budget for this work, with costs estimated to be in the region of £5,000 + Vat.

- **Annual Contribution to Lough Neagh Partnership (2022-2023) – Draft Service Level Agreement**

Councillor Milne advised that he had a meeting with Lough Neagh Partnership today as a representative from the Council and proposed that the group make a presentation to committee. He said that the group are seeking an increase in funding for the next 3 to 5 years and felt that this was a good time to have it in the event of changes being made, the changes which would have to be made to the rate adjustments.

Proposed by Councillor Milne
Seconded by Councillor Corry and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that Lough Neagh Partnership be invited to attend a future meeting of Development Committee meeting to provide members with an overview of their organisation.

The AD: Economic Development, Tourism and Strategic Programmes said that she would be happy for an invite to be forwarded to LNP to discuss future plans.

Councillor Milne referred to the dredging of the Blackwater and the possibility of this Council taking the lead on it. He enquired if tenders had been sought yet.

The AD: Economic Development, Tourism and Strategic Programmes advised that discussions were ongoing internally and said that it was anticipated to bring a report back to Council recommending the way forward. She noted however, that discussions were also taking place with our colleagues in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council as the Blackwater runs between both areas. She assured members that Officers had been working behind the scenes to progress matters with colleagues in Lough Neagh Partnership.

He agreed with Councillors Milne and Monteith regarding a number of these projects being in the pipeline for a number of years as it was nearly two years this has come to the attention of Mid Ulster Council. We need to get the issue of the dredging of the Blackwater sorted ASAP. He said that one of the arguments he has is that it impedes Lough Neagh Rescue and its volunteers from reaching someone which was in distress and would welcome any progress on the matter as soon as possible.

Councillor Kerr said that he had requested previously a scoping study for Castlebay and Brocagh area and enquired if there was any update and if not proposed that a report be brought back to the next committee.

Proposed by Councillor Kerr
Seconded by Councillor Quinn and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that a report on the Scoping Study for Castlebay and Brocagh be brought back to the next committee.

Councillor Doris following on from Councillor Milne's comments regarding Lough Neagh requested that this report be brought back next month if possible as it has been dragging on and on. She said that there seems to be good will being now shown from the Minister of DfI to get something done and would urge the importance of receiving the report next month and not before Christmas and before we know it, it will be next summer again.

Councillor Quinn said that it was important to get the matter of dredging at Blackwater sorted as people were sick and tired of raising it. He said that this was a matter between life and death and there was no way of getting through to Stormont and urged that the Council get behind this.

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council to approve:

- i) Council's annual contribution to Lough Neagh Partnership (LNP) for 2022/23 of £22,000 and release the full payment to LNP subject to Council being provided with the requisite documentation as detailed in the Service Level Agreement.
- ii) Mid Ulster District Council's Service Level Agreement with Lough Neagh Partnership for the financial year 2022/23 on Appendix 2.
- iii) That it be recommended to Council that Lough Neagh Partnership be invited to attend a future meeting of Development Committee meeting to provide members with an overview of their organisation.
- iv) That it be recommended to Council that a report on the Scoping Study for Castlebay and Brocagh be brought back to the next committee.

• **Social Enterprise NI: Council Membership 2022/23**

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council to approve that Mid Ulster District Council renew its membership of Social Enterprise NI for 2022/23 at a cost of £500.

• **Future Business Start Provision Research**

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council to approve for up to £8,000 to be set aside to resource technical assistance to support work to progress research into the future delivery of business start provision, with this allocation only to be drawn down as required.

• **Coalisland Christmas Lights Switch-On Event 2022**

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council to approve financial support to the CRAIC Theatre Company in Coalisland to the value of £4,200 to

deliver the Coalisland Christmas Lights Switch-on event in 2022, subject to Officers being satisfied with the proposals submitted.

Councillor Kerr welcomed the funding for Christmas Lights and also towards CRAIC Theatre as it was a tremendous night in the Coalisland calendar

Councillor Doris welcomed new lights for Coalisland and asked that the redundant lights from Coalisland be allocated to Stewartstown and Newmills as they did not have a lot of equipment.

She also enquired if there was any way the Council could support communities with erecting Christmas lights and some groups have better structures and support for doing so than other smaller villages and towns.

The AD: Development said that this would be looked at. She said that one thing that the Council does is look at insurance matters which can be linked to other villages and share that detail. She said that approximately 50 villages that are putting up the lights, but anticipate looking at some kind of support for LED structure and an energy efficient model and any group which needs support should liaise with Officers and they would be happy to work with them.

Councillor Quinn said that it was good to see the Christmas tree in Coalisland this year and was looking forward to the festivities.

Matters for Information

D142/22 Minutes of Development Committee held on 6 July 2022.

Members noted Minutes of Development Committee held on 6 July 2022.

D143/22 Food Service Plan for 2022/2023

Members noted update on the Environmental Health Unit Food Service Plan 2022/2023.

D144/22 Economic Development Report – OBFI

Members noted previously circulated report which provided an update on the following:

- European Heritage Open Days 2022
- Cookstown Continental Market Evaluation Report 2022
- Granville Industrial Estate, Dungannon

Councillor Molloy referred to item welcomed progress which was proposed resurfacing and improvements on the Granville Road and Granville Industrial Estate. He said that a lot of meetings had taken place with previous Minister along with other representatives from Council and DfI personnel looking and seeing the issues. He said that he was aware of work being carried out on the Granville Road by a private

landowner who enhanced corners and improved sightlines and now a golden opportunity now to make that road better and safer especially for pedestrians using Granville Industrial Estate.

He said that he was approached by a number of taxi firms within Dungannon town asking that Council look at what can be provided in terms of providing a taxi rank in the town. He asked that this be looked at on what can be provided, with the possibility of utilising the Events Space in Market Square for allocated spaces for taxis that use the town centre.

Proposed by Councillor Molloy
Seconded by Councillor Monteith

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to look at options within Dungannon town centre for the implementation of a taxi rank.

Councillor Monteith concurred with Councillor Molloy regarding Granville and said although this was a good news story there was still work to be done regarding safety of pedestrians who utilise the walkway.

Councillor Monteith referred to the Cleaner Neighbourhood plan around dog fouling. He said that in other Council areas there is Dog Friendly Parks which are fantastic and asked that Officers of this Council investigate the same for this Council area.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith
Seconded by Councillor Corry and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to investigate the possibility of creating a Dog Friendly Park where owners can take their pets for leisure.

The SD: Communities and Place advised that this can be looked at as part of other schemes.

Councillor Elattar agreed with Councillor Monteith's proposal and said that Dog Friendly Parks are very popular. She was aware of people travelling as far as Antrim to utilise these parks and would be fantastic if Mid Ulster could do the same as we had a lot of open space that could be used.

Live broadcast ended at 8.21 pm.

Local Government (NI) Act 2014 – Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor Molloy
Seconded by Councillor Corry and

Resolved In accordance with Section 42, Part 1 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 D145/22 to D148/22

Matters for Decision

- D145/22 Tender to Supply Willow to Greenvale Leisure Centre
D146/22 Economic Development Report – CBFD
D147/22 Mid-South West Region Growth Deal Report

Matters for Information

- D148/22 Development Committee Confidential Minutes of
Meeting held on Tuesday 6 July 2022

D149/22 Duration of Meeting

The meeting commenced at 7pm and concluded at 8.40 pm.

Chair _____

Date _____

Annex A – Introductory Remarks from the Chairperson

Good evening and welcome to the Council's [Policy & Resources/Environment/Development] Committee in the Chamber, [Dungannon/Magherafelt] and virtually.

I specifically welcome the public watching us through the Live Broadcast. The Live Broadcast will run for the period of our Open Business but will end just before we move into Confidential Business. I let you know before this happens.

Just some housekeeping before we commence. Can I remind you:-

- If you have joined the meeting remotely please keep your audio on mute unless invited to speak and then turn it off when finished speaking
- Keep your video on at all times, unless you have bandwidth or internet connection issues, where you are advised to try turning your video off
- If you wish to speak please raise your hand in the meeting or on screen and keep raised until observed by an Officer or myself
- Should we need to take a vote this evening please raise your hand in the normal way and keep raised until advised to lower it
- When invited to speak please introduce yourself by name to the meeting
- For any member attending remotely, if you declare an interest in an item, please turn off your video and keep your audio on mute for the duration of the item
- If referring to a specific report please reference the report, page or slide being referred to
- Lastly, I remind the public and press that taking photographs of proceedings or using any means to enable anyone not present to see or hear proceedings, or making a simultaneous oral report of the proceedings are not permitted

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

Report on	Air Quality Report 2022
Date of Meeting	13 th October 2022
Reporting Officer	Kieran Gordon, Assistant Director Health, Leisure & Wellbeing
Contact Officer	Conor Breslin, Principal Environmental Health Officer

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update members on the current air quality in the Mid Ulster District Council area, and of the ongoing monitoring currently being undertaken in relation to this.
2.0	Background
2.1	Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) provides the framework within which air quality is managed by Northern Ireland's local authorities. The LAQM process places an obligation on all local authorities to regularly review and assess air quality in their areas, and to determine whether air quality objectives are likely to be achieved.
2.2	In Northern Ireland, Local Authorities report annually on air quality within their districts via Progress Reports (enclosed within Appendix A for the 21/22 year).
2.3	Air Quality Progress Reports have been submitted by the former Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough Council, Cookstown District Council, and Magherafelt District Council since 2002 and more recently since 2015 via Mid Ulster District Council.
2.4	These initially looked at a number of pollutants listed under European Directives and examined whether air quality objectives were likely to be met in each of the three districts. A list of the pollutants and the relevant air quality objectives are set out in Appendix B of this report.
2.5	After the initial assessment it was determined that air quality objectives for four of these seven pollutants would be comfortably met within each of the three Districts. However, it was felt that further examination would need to be undertaken for the remaining three pollutants.
2.6	These pollutants were Nitrogen Dioxide (NO ₂), Sulphur Dioxide (SO ₂) and PM10. For a number of years, the levels of SO ₂ and PM10 were monitored at areas identified as worst-case scenarios in each of the Districts. These areas were chosen due to the relatively high number of solid fuel burning properties near by the monitoring sites. After several years of monitoring, it was found that all the areas chosen were well within the air quality objectives and were extremely unlikely to exceed the objectives in the future. As a result, monitoring was discontinued for these two pollutants. The only remaining pollutant that is routinely monitored in the Mid Ulster District is Nitrogen dioxide.

2.7	If a local authority finds any places where the objectives are not likely to be achieved, it must declare an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) at this location. This area could be just one or two streets, or it could be much bigger.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Monitoring for NO ₂ takes place along the roads that are more heavily congested throughout the District. This generally occurs along the main North-South transport route identified in the Local Development Plan 2030 – Draft Plan Strategy. The roads in question link the three main towns of Magherafelt, Cookstown and Dungannon. Two of the smaller villages that this traffic passes through are also monitoring sites, namely Moneymore and Moy. The chosen sites tend to be located close to residential dwellings at points where the traffic is slowing down or idling at busy junctions or traffic lights.
3.2	There were previously five AQMA's declared for NO ₂ in this District, two of which have been revoked due to improvements in the air quality at these locations. Ongoing monitoring has shown continued exceedances of the air quality objective for NO ₂ at two of the AQMA's.
3.3	The third AQMA in Magherafelt Town Centre has now shown no exceedances at any of the six monitoring sites for four straight years with all results being below 36µg/m ³ . It was anticipated that the Magherafelt AQMA could be revoked if the air quality monitoring showed improved results within air quality objectives for the third consecutive year. While the results continue to show compliance at this location, the impacts of Covid-19 mean that a further year's results will need to be considered before any decision is taken.
3.4	It could be argued that the improvement in the air quality at Magherafelt is most likely linked to the construction of the A31 Magherafelt by-pass. The by-pass consists of a 5.9km single carriageway to the east of Magherafelt town, and now diverts a lot of the through traffic that previously passed through the town centre around the outskirts of the town.
3.5	Diffusion Tube monitoring at locations within the AQMA's in Dungannon and Moy has demonstrated that there are 2 sites where NO ₂ levels continue to exceed the objective limit of 40ug/m ³ , namely Newell Road, Dungannon and Charlemont Street in Moy.
3.6	Diffusion tube monitoring at eight locations along the main thoroughfare in Cookstown and Moneymore did not demonstrate any exceedances of the air quality objective. This is probably due to the wide-open nature of the streets in question. Routine monitoring will continue at these locations.
3.7	The report also considers the likely impacts of any new developments on air quality within the District. These are dealt with through the planning process where applicant for particular processes will be asked to forward an air quality appraisal for their proposal detailing its potential impact on air quality in the district.
3.8	Further information and access to the reports are also publicly accessible via the following website: https://www.airqualityni.co.uk/
3.9	A meeting to review the air quality issues in the District will be coordinated in the coming months. Invites will be issued out to stakeholders from other agencies and elected Members.

4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: £10,250 (of which 50% grant funded) – included within existing 22/23 revenue budgets.
	Human: Officer time – approx. 255 staff hours per annum.
	Risk Management: Considered in line with relevant policies and procedures.
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 contents of this report.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix A: Air Quality Progress Report 2022
6.2	Appendix B: Air Quality Objectives for Local Air Quality Monitoring in Northern Ireland



Comhairle Ceantair
Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster
District Council

2022 Air Quality Progress Report

In fulfilment of Environment (Northern Ireland) Order 2002



Date: August 2022

Local Air Quality Management

Information	Mid Ulster District Council
Local Authority Officer	Conor Breslin
Department	Communities and Place Department
Address	Council Offices, Burn Road, Cookstown
Telephone	03000 132 132
E-mail	conor.breslin@midulstercouncil.org
Report Reference Number	AQ/MUDC/2022
Date	September 2022

Executive Summary

Mid Ulster District Council undertakes non-automatic monitoring for NO₂ in a number of towns and villages across the District. These are generally located close to the centres of the towns and villages along the main North to South A29 road transport system. This road runs from the North to the South of Northern Ireland and connects the three main towns in the District of Magherafelt, Cookstown and Dungannon.

There were previously five AQMA's declared for NO₂ in the District, two of which have been revoked due to improvements in the air quality at these locations. Ongoing monitoring has shown continued exceedances of the air quality objective for NO₂ at two of the AQMA's.

The third AQMA in Magherafelt Town Centre has now shown no exceedances at any of the six monitoring sites for four straight years with all results being below 36µg/m³. It was hoped that Mid Ulster would be in a position to revoke the Magherafelt AQMA if the air quality monitoring showed results within air quality objectives for the third consecutive year. While the results continue to show compliance at this location, the impacts of Covid-19 mean that a further year's results will need to be considered.

The improvement in the air quality at Magherafelt is most likely linked to the construction of the A31 Magherafelt by-pass. The by-pass consists of a 5.9km single carriageway to the east of Magherafelt town, and now diverts a lot of the through traffic that previously passed through the town centre around the outskirts of the town.

Diffusion Tube monitoring at locations within the AQMA's in Dungannon and Moy has demonstrated that there are 2 sites where NO₂ levels continue to

exceed the objective limit of $40\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, namely Newell Road, Dungannon and Charlemont Street in Moy.

Diffusion tube monitoring at eight locations along the main thoroughfare in Cookstown and Moneymore did not demonstrate any exceedances of the air quality objective limit. Routine monitoring of these locations will continue to help monitor trends in the air quality at these locations.

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	i
1 Introduction	1
1.1 Description of Local Authority Area	1
1.2 Purpose of Progress Report.....	3
1.3 Air Quality Objectives.....	3
1.4 Summary of Previous Review and Assessments	2
2 New Monitoring Data.....	6
2.1 Summary of Monitoring Undertaken.....	6
2.1.1 Automatic Monitoring Sites	6
2.1.2 Non-Automatic Monitoring Sites	6
2.2 Comparison of Monitoring Results with Air Quality Objectives	22
2.2.1 Nitrogen Dioxide (NO ₂)	22
2.2.2 Particulate Matter (PM ₁₀)	38
2.2.3 Sulphur Dioxide (SO ₂).....	38
2.2.4 Benzene.....	38
2.2.5 Other Pollutants Monitored	38
2.2.6 Summary of Compliance with AQS Objectives	38
3 New Local Developments	39
3.1 Road Traffic Sources	39
3.2 Other Transport Sources	40
3.3 Industrial Sources	40
3.4 Commercial and Domestic Sources	41
3.5 New Developments with Fugitive or Uncontrolled Sources	41
4 Local / Regional Air Quality Strategy	42
5 Planning Applications.....	42
6 Air Quality Planning Policies	46
7 Local Transport Plans and Strategies	48
9 Implementation of Action Plans.....	51
10 Conclusions and Proposed Actions.....	55
10.1 Conclusions from New Monitoring Data	55
10.2 Conclusions relating to New Local Developments.....	55
10.3 Other Conclusions	55
10.4 Proposed Actions.....	55
11 References.....	55
Appendix A: QA/QC Data	56
QA/QC Diffusion Tube Monitoring	58

Diffusion Tube Annualisation 58

Diffusion Tube Bias Adjustment Factors 58

NO₂ Fall-off with Distance from the Road..... 59

Appendix B: Impact of COVID-19 upon LAQM.....61

List of Figures

Figure 1.1 –Map of AQMA Boundary at Church Street/ King Street Magherafelt.....	3
Figure 1.2 – Map of AQMA Boundary Newell Road, Dungannon.....	4
Figure 1.3 – Map of AQMA Boundary Charlemont Street, Moy.....	5
Figure 2.2 – Map(s) of Non-Automatic Monitoring Sites	8
Figure 2.2.1 Map Overview of Magherafelt Town Centre	8
Figure. 2.2.2 Map Showing Location of Diffusion Tubes in Magherafelt Town Centre along Church St. and King St.....	9
Figure 2.2.3- Overview of Air Quality Monitoring Sites in Moneymore.....	10
Figure. 2.2.4 Overview of Air Quality Monitoring Sites in Cookstown.....	11
Figure 2.2.5. Monitoring Locations at William Street and James Street.....	12
Figure 2.2.6. Monitoring Locations at Church Street and Killymoon Street.....	12
Figure 2.2.7 Overview of Monitoring Locations in Dungannon.....	13
Figure 2.2.8. Position of Monitoring Site at Newell Road, Dungannon.....	14
Figure 2.2.9. Overview of Monitoring Locations in Moy.....	15
Figure 2.2.10 Showing National Bias Adjustment Factor for Socotec Didcot.....	22
Fig 2.2.11 Showing National Bias Adjustment Factor for Somerset Scientific Services.....	23
Figure 2.41 Six Year Trend at 30 Church Street, Magherafelt.....	33
Figure 2.42 Six Year Trend at 12 Church Street, Magherafelt.....	34
Figure 2.43 Six Year Trend at Newell Road, Dungannon.....	35
Figure 2.44 Six Year Trend at Dunclare Way, Dungannon.....	35
Figure 2.45 Six Year Trend at Charlemont Street, Moy.....	36
Figure 2.46 Six Year Trend for Killyman Road, Moy.....	37

List of Tables

Table 1.1 – Air Quality Objectives included in Regulations for the purpose of LAQM in Northern Ireland.....	1
Table 2.2 – Details of Non-Automatic Monitoring Sites.....	16
Table 2.5 – Results of NO ₂ Diffusion Tubes 2021.....	25
Table 2.6 – Results of NO ₂ Diffusion Tubes (2017 to 2021).....	30
Table 3.21 Planning Applications for Industrial Sources.....	40
Table 3.41 Planning Applications for Fugitive Sources.....	41
Table 5.1 Planning Applications for Other Industrial Sources.....	42
Table 5.2 Planning Applications for Residential Properties.....	43
Table 5.3 Planning Applications for Commercial Activities.....	45

Appendices

Appendix A: Quality Assurance / Quality Control (QA/QC) Data.....	58
Appendix B: Impact of COVID-19 upon LAQM.....	61

1 Introduction

1.1 Description of Local Authority Area

The Mid Ulster District straddles two counties running from Swatragh in the north to Fivemiletown in the south and from the Sperrin Mountains in the west to Lough Neagh in the east. It comprises of an area of 1955km² with a varied landscape and a diverse mix of rural and urban communities. It is characterised by its rural nature, given the large proportion of households which are located in the small towns, villages and countryside.

Demographics

Mid Ulster is the 6th most populous District in Northern Ireland with a population of 150,293. This is an increase of 8.4% since the 2011 census (Census 2021). The population is an ageing one with a greater proportion of people aged over 64 than in previous years. Another marked demographic feature of our District is the relatively high migrant population. 9% of the population was born outside the UK and ROI, as opposed to a Northern Ireland average figure of 7%

This trend can partly be explained by the success of the agri-food industry in attracting migrant labour, particularly in and around the Dungannon area. The average household size is 2.76 people per household. This is the highest of all the 11 Local Government Districts. Mid Ulster has 15% of its population living in a household with more than 5 people compared to a Northern Ireland average of 9%.

Mid Ulster is also a very rural District with 72% of the population living in a rural area, as defined by the inter-departmental rural urban definition group. This definition of rural means that everywhere in the District is classed as rural apart from Cookstown, Dungannon, Magherafelt and Coalisland. Additionally, 40% of households are located with the countryside.

Economic Trend

Unemployment levels in Mid Ulster are in line with the Northern Ireland average of just under 5% (Census 2011). The District is significantly more dependent on the construction and manufacturing sectors than the rest of Northern Ireland. For instance, 27.5% of all jobs in Mid Ulster are in manufacturing and 8% are in construction, compared to regional figures of 11% and 4.2% respectively (Census for Employment, NISRA, July 2014). The high prevalence of manufacturing is in part linked to a thriving minerals industry in the District, particularly the extraction of sand and gravel. As a spin off to this extraction activity, there is a very strong manufacturing sector specialising in crushing and screening equipment. It has been estimated that Northern Ireland provides 40% of the world's mobile screening and crushing equipment and undoubtedly, a large proportion of this is supplied by companies within Mid Ulster.

Infrastructure

In terms of infrastructure, the A29 which runs throughout Northern Ireland from north to south, is the spine of the District and the main transport corridor. The A29 also connects the 3 main towns in the District, or what may be referred to as the three main “hubs” i.e., Cookstown, Dungannon and Magherafelt. Of these 3 towns, Dungannon and Cookstown are classed as “medium towns” by NISRA due to having a population of more than 10,000 whilst Magherafelt is considered a “small town.”

The A4 which is an important east-west transport corridor also runs through the southern part of the District as does the A5 which is the main link between Dublin/ROI and the northwest of Northern Ireland. The A6 runs through the northern portion of the District, and this is a vital corridor which connects the two main cities in Northern Ireland. Travel times from some parts of Mid Ulster to an A&E hospital is over 50 minutes, making the need for improved roads and infrastructure a significant priority.

Environment

Mid Ulster is home to some of the most picturesque and high value landscapes in Northern Ireland. A significant portion of the northern half of the District is included within the Sperrin Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, including the summit of Slieve Gallion which is a prominent feature in the Mid Ulster landscape. The Clogher Valley

is also an area of high scenic importance and in addition to important landscapes, Mid Ulster is also home to numerous important habitats including Lough Neagh, Lough Beg and Slieve Beagh, all of which are internationally important habitats.

1.2 Purpose of Progress Report

This report fulfils the requirements of the Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) process as set out in the Environment (Northern Ireland) Order 2002, the Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland 2007 and the relevant Policy and Technical Guidance documents. The LAQM process places an obligation on all local authorities to regularly review and assess air quality in their areas, and to determine whether the air quality objectives are likely to be achieved. Where exceedances are considered likely, the local authority must then declare an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) and prepare an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) setting out the measures it intends to put in place in pursuit of the objectives.

For Local Authorities in Northern Ireland, Progress Reports are required in the intervening years between the three-yearly Updating and Screening Assessment reports. Their purpose is to maintain continuity in the LAQM process.

They are not intended to be as detailed as Updating and Screening Assessment Reports, or to require as much effort. However, if the Progress Report identifies the risk of exceedance of an Air Quality Objective, the Local Authority (LA) should undertake a Detailed Assessment immediately, and not wait until the next round of Review and Assessment.

1.3 Air Quality Objectives

The air quality objectives applicable to LAQM in Northern Ireland are set out in the Air Quality Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003, Statutory Rules of Northern Ireland 2003, no. 342, and are shown in Table 1.1. This table shows the objectives in units of micrograms per cubic metre $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (milligrams per cubic metre, mg/m^3 for carbon monoxide) with the number of exceedances in each year that are permitted (where applicable).

Table 1.1 – Air Quality Objectives included in Regulations for the purpose of LAQM in Northern Ireland

Pollutant	Air Quality Objective		Date to be achieved by
	Concentration	Measured as	
Benzene	16.25 µg/m ³	Running annual mean	31.12.2003
	3.25 µg/m ³	Running annual mean	31.12.2010
1,3-butadiene	2.25 µg/m ³	Running annual mean	31.12.2003
Carbon monoxide	10 mg/m ³	Running 8-hour mean	31.12.2003
Lead	0.50 µg/m ³	Annual mean	31.12.2004
	0.25 µg/m ³	Annual mean	31.12.2008
Nitrogen dioxide	200 µg/m ³ not to be exceeded more than 18 times a year	1-hour mean	31.12.2005
	40 µg/m ³	Annual mean	31.12.2005
Particulate matter (PM ₁₀) (gravimetric)	50 µg/m ³ , not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year	24-hour mean	31.12.2004
	40 µg/m ³	Annual mean	31.12.2004
Sulphur dioxide	350 µg/m ³ , not to be exceeded more than 24 times a year	1-hour mean	31.12.2004
	125 µg/m ³ , not to be exceeded more than 3 times a year	24-hour mean	31.12.2004
	266 µg/m ³ , not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year	15-minute mean	31.12.2005

1.4 Summary of Previous Review and Assessments

The Updating and Screening Assessment of 2015 was the first Report submitted on behalf of the newly established Mid Ulster District Council. Previous reports submitted by both Dungannon and South Tyrone borough Council, and by Magherafelt District Council had identified a number of problematic areas in relation to areas where the air quality objective of $40\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ for Nitrogen dioxide (NO_2) was exceeded. Routine air quality monitoring for Nitrogen Dioxide using diffusion tubes had identified the exceedances of this objective. As a result of this monitoring a number of Air Quality Management (AQMA's) were established in various areas throughout the District. There has been a total of five AQMA's declared within the Mid Ulster area since routine monitoring began. Four of these were located in the former Dungannon and South Tyrone Borough and one in the former Magherafelt District. However, following improvements in the air quality in two of these AQMA's for three successive years during which time the air quality objective was not exceeded the AQMA for these areas were revoked.

The AQMA's were revoked for the following areas:

1. Church Street, Dungannon
2. Stewartstown Road, Coalisland.

There are still three remaining AQMA's in the District located at the following locations:

1. Newell Road, Dungannon.
2. Charlemont Street, Moy.
3. Church Street & King Street, Magherafelt.

It is hoped to revoke the Magherafelt AQMA soon.

Figure 1.1 –Map of AQMA Boundary at Church Street/ King Street Magherafelt

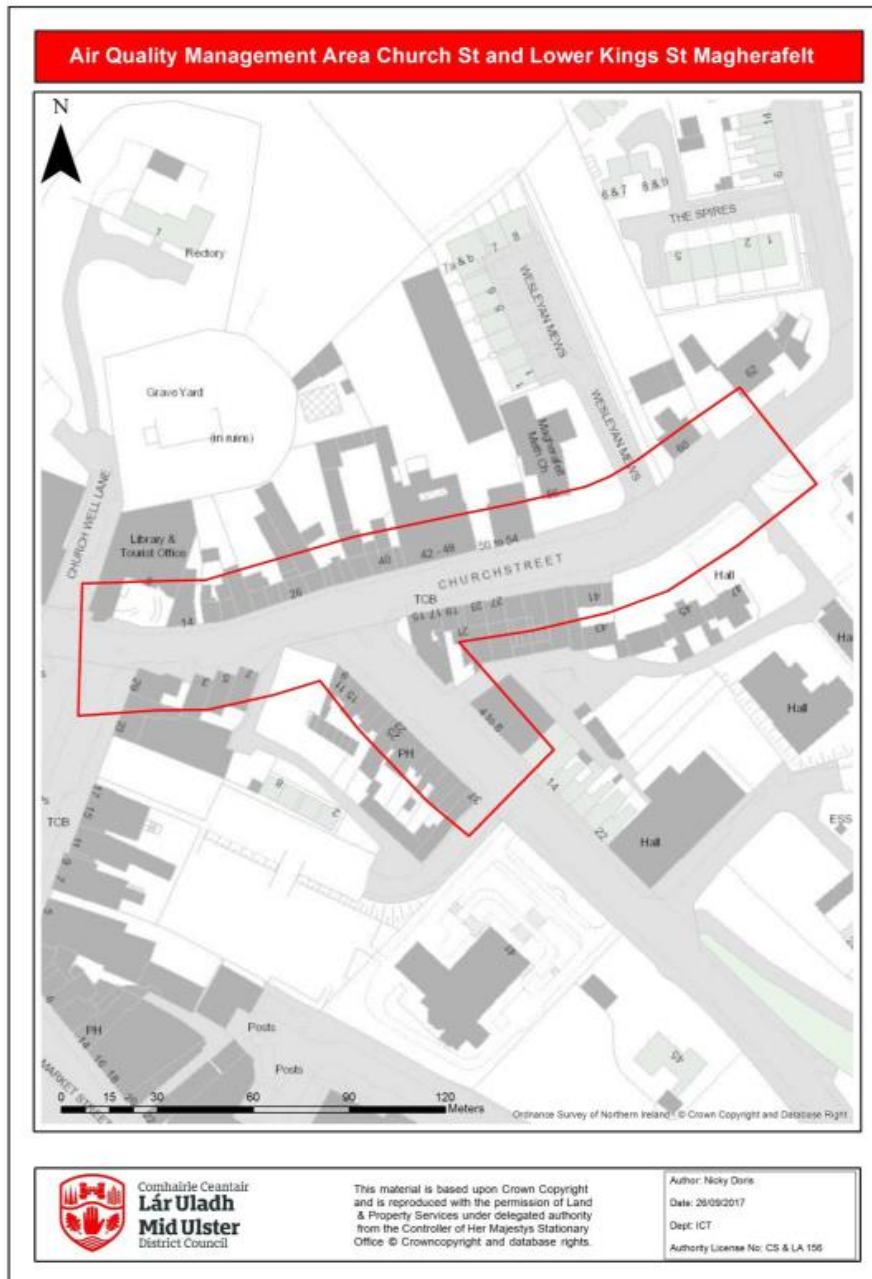


Figure 1.2 – Map of AQMA Boundary Newell Road, Dungannon

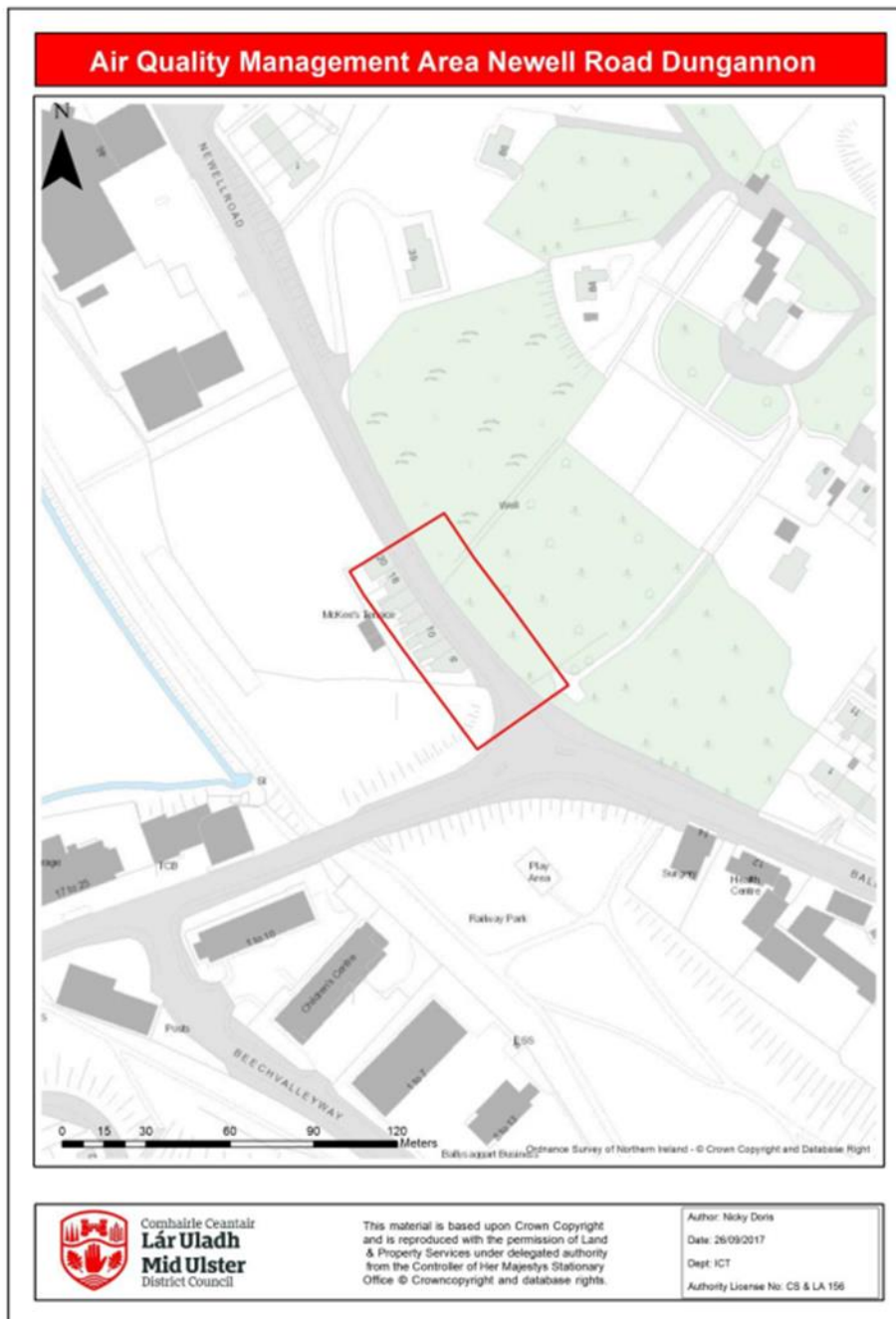
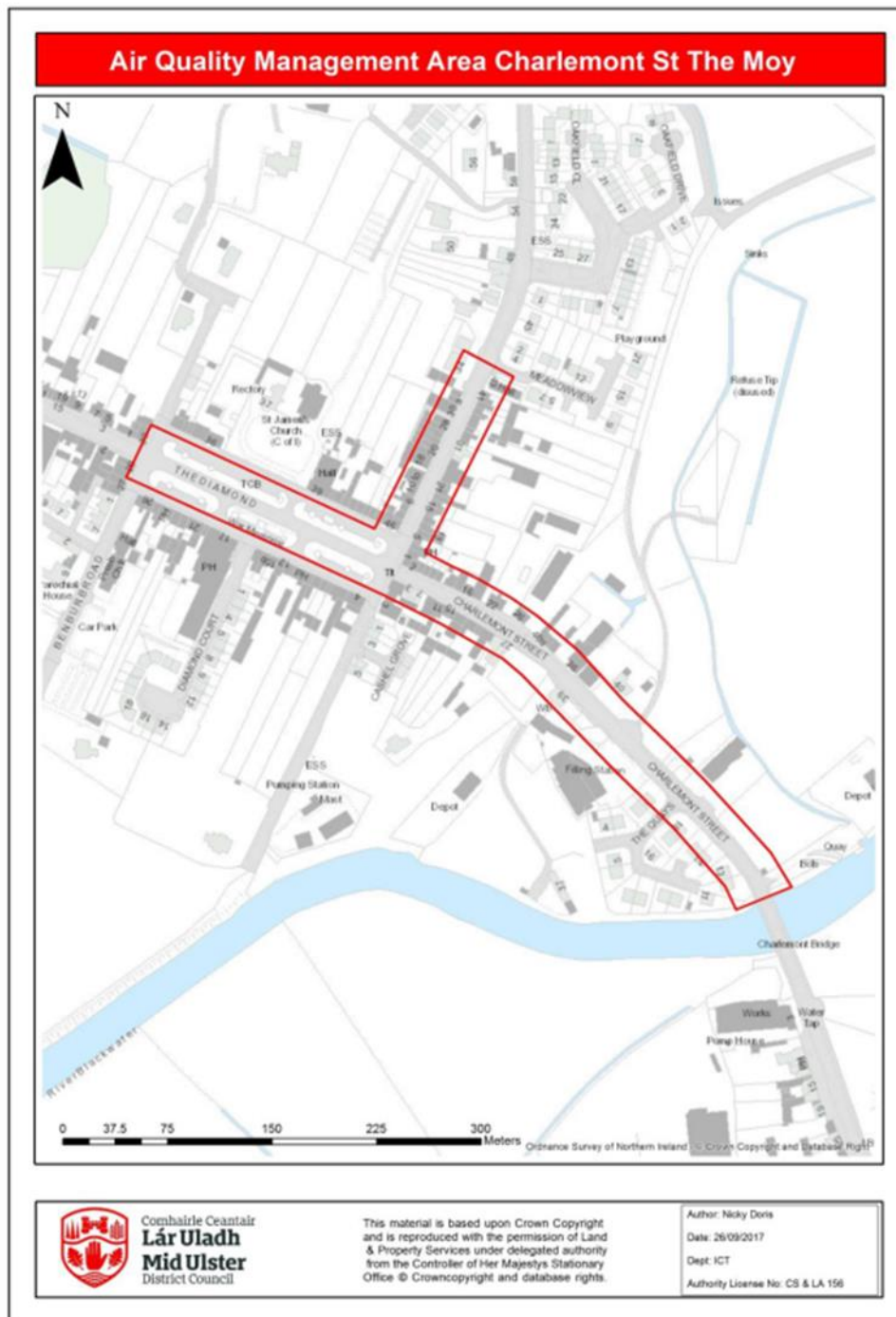


Figure 1.3 – Map of AQMA Boundary Charlemont Street, Moy



2 New Monitoring Data

2.1 Summary of Monitoring Undertaken

2.1.1 Automatic Monitoring Sites

There are no automatic monitoring sites in the Mid Ulster Council area. All monitoring is undertaken by diffusion tube at present.

2.1.2 Non-Automatic Monitoring Sites

Mid Ulster District Council monitors 22 separate locations for Nitrogen dioxide NO₂. This is done using 43 tubes which are changed on a monthly basis. The tubes located in the Air Quality Management Areas are in triplicate while single tubes are used to monitor other locations.

In 2021 a new monitoring location was introduced in a residential area close to the Granville Business Park. This was introduced as a response to local residents' issues among which were concerns regarding through traffic in the area.

The Urban Background site in Magherafelt was also changed from Wesleyan Mews to Marriot House due some problems regarding the removal of tubes in 2020. There were some minor issues throughout the year regarding the replacement of lampposts with new LED ones which led to interruptions at several of the sites with the tubes being removed at the time the lampposts were replaced, and then having to source new tube mountings etc. when this was noticed.

The Air quality monitoring takes place along the roads that are more heavily congested throughout the District. This generally occurs along the main North-South transport route identified in the Local Development Plan 2030 – Draft Plan Strategy. The roads in question link the three main towns of Magherafelt, Cookstown and Dungannon. Two of the smaller villages that this traffic passes through are also monitoring sites, namely Moneymore and Moy. The chosen sites tend to be located close to residential dwellings at points where the traffic is slowing down or idling at busy junctions or traffic lights.

Laboratories Used

The laboratory that supplied and analysed the tubes was also changed mid-year as the contract for this service was renewed. The laboratory used for the first 8 months of the year was Socotec Laboratories Didcot. The tubes were prepared by spiking acetone: triethanolamine (T.E.A.) (50:50) onto the grids prior to the tubes being assembled. The tubes were desorbed with distilled water and the extract analysed using a segmented flow autoanalyser with ultraviolet detection.

The laboratory used for the last 4 months of the year was Somerset Scientific Services. These are the laboratories The methodology used was 20% T.E.A. in water.

Laboratory Quality Assurance

AIR is an independent analytical proficiency-testing (PT) scheme, operated by LGC Standards and supported by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE). AIR PT is a new scheme, started in April 2014, which combined two long running PT schemes: LGC Standards STACKS PT scheme and HSE WASP PT scheme.

Defra and the Devolved Administrations advise that diffusion tubes used for Local Air Quality Management should be obtained from laboratories that have demonstrated satisfactory performance in the AIR PT scheme. Laboratory performance in AIR PT is also assessed, by the National Physical Laboratory (NPL), alongside laboratory data from the monthly NPL Field Intercomparison Exercise carried out at Marylebone Road, central London. The information is used to help the laboratories to identify if they have problems and may assist devising measures to improve their performance and forms part of work for Defra and the Devolved Administrations under the Local Air Quality Management Services Contract.

For the Air PT rounds of testing from May/ Jun 2020 to May/ June 2022 (AR037- AR050) both laboratories scored 100% on six out of seven rounds. For the remaining round Socotec scored 87.5% (AR045), and Somerset Scientific Services scored 75% (AR049). From their participation in this scheme and the results obtained we can safely assume that the laboratories show a satisfactory performance level.

Figure 2.2 – Map(s) of Non-Automatic Monitoring Sites

Fig.2.2.1 Map Overview of Magherafelt Town Centre

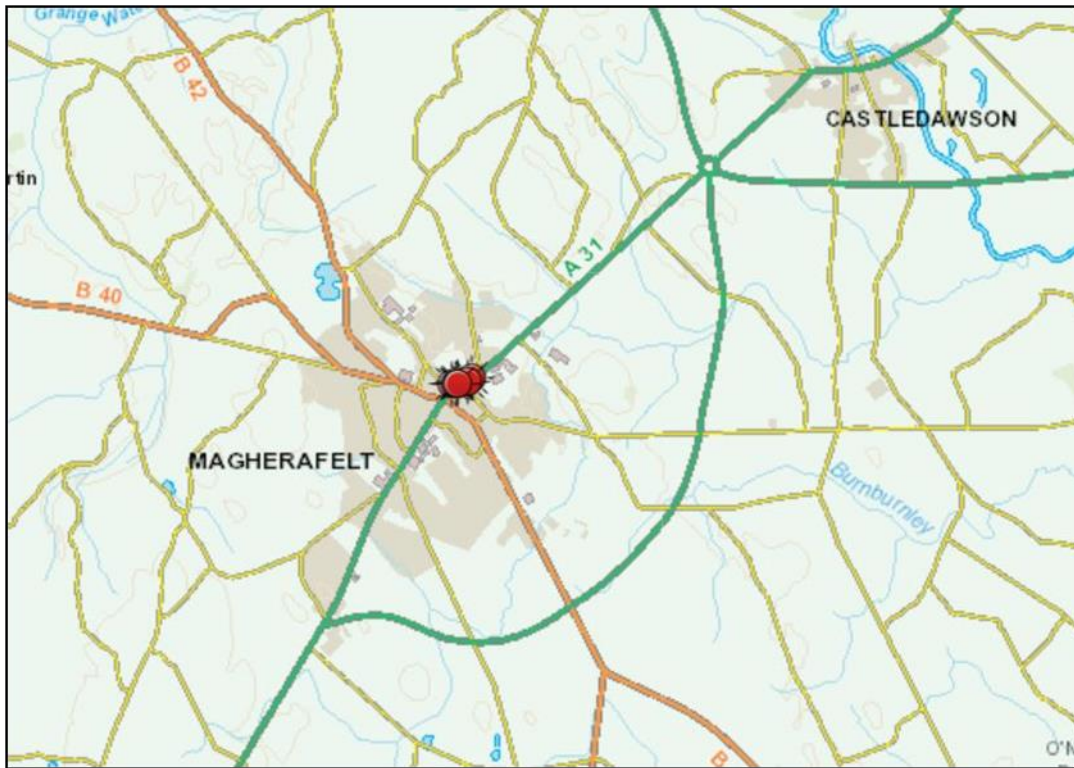


Figure 2.2.1 shows that the monitoring tubes are clustered in the town centre along the previous main thoroughfare of the A31 (route shown in green). The new Magherafelt bypass is also shown in green, and it can be seen that this loops around Magherafelt to the South and is now the main route for all through traffic.

Fig. 2.2.2 Map Showing Location of Diffusion Tubes in Magherafelt Town Centre along Church St. and King St



The air quality monitoring sites for Magherafelt are shown above. It can be seen that the monitoring sites are located in the Church Street/ King Street areas in the centre of the town. These sites correspond with the AQMA area for the town outlined in Figure 1.1. Routine monitoring of other areas in the Magherafelt town centre in previous years indicated compliance with the air quality objective. Consequently, the focus of the monitoring is now within the AQMA. The new urban background location can be seen at Marriott House to the top right-hand side of the map.

Fig. 2.2.3- Overview of Air Quality Monitoring Sites in Moneymore



The village of Moneymore receives a lot of through traffic from Cookstown to Magherafelt, and from Cookstown to the north coast. The air quality monitoring sites in Moneymore are located close to residential properties on the main roads into and out of the village, and in the cases of the Stonard Street and Conyngham Street locations along inclines where traffic is likely to be moving slowly.

The sites shown are from top to bottom Smith Street, Lawford Street, Conyngham Street and Stonard Street.

Fig. 2.2.4 Overview of Air Quality Monitoring Sites in Cookstown

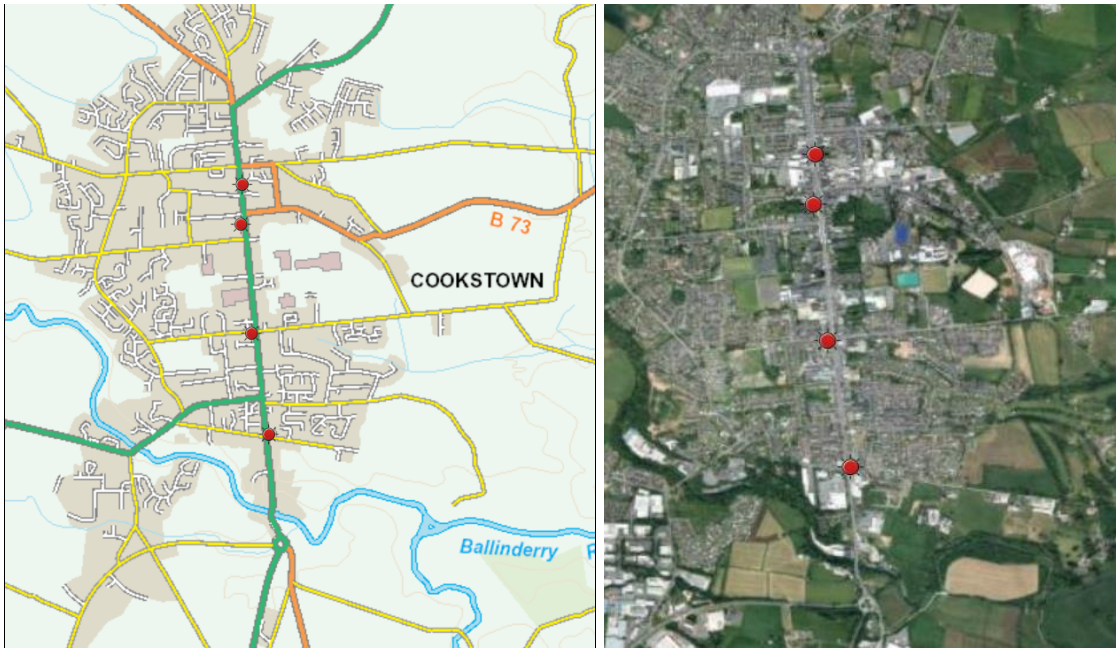


Fig. 2.2.4 above shows the monitoring site locations along Cookstown's main thoroughfare. As can be seen the sites are located close to busy road junctions and traffic lights where high volumes of traffic will frequently be idling.

Fig. 2.2.5. Monitoring Locations at William Street and James Street



Figure 2.2.5 above shows the town centre monitoring locations along the town centre area of Cookstown in the main retail area of the town.

Fig. 2.2.6. Monitoring Locations at Church Street and Killymoon Street



Figure 2.2.5 above shows the town centre monitoring locations at the busy Church Street junction (top) and at the traffic lights beside the Sweep Road Asda/ McDonald's development.

Fig. 2.2.7 Overview of Monitoring Locations in Dungannon

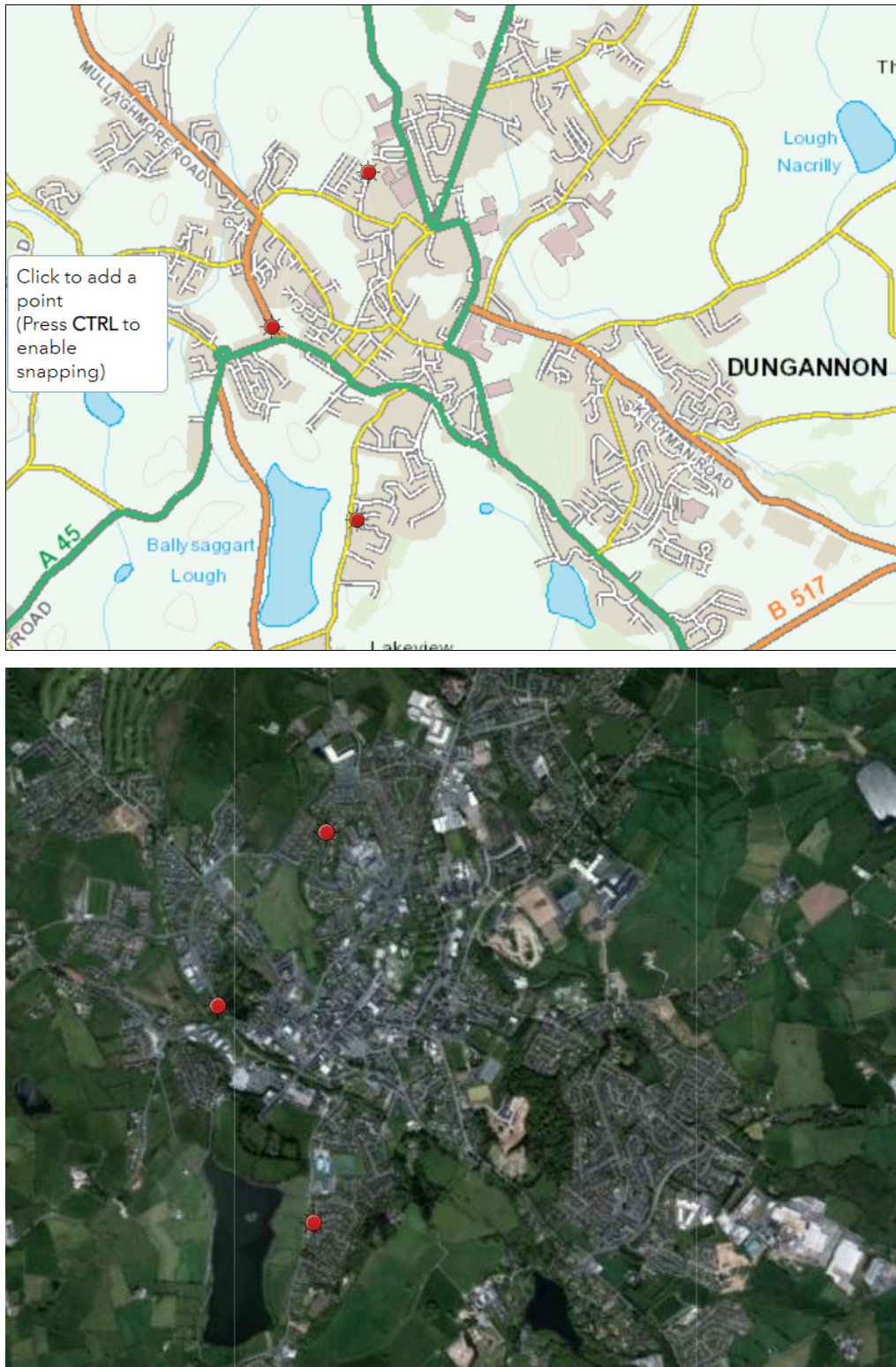


Fig. 2.2.7. shows the three monitoring sites in Dungannon showing from top to bottom sites at Ardgannon, Newell Road, and Dunclare Way.

Fig. 2.2.8. Position of Monitoring Site at Newell Road, Dungannon



Fig.2.2.8. shows the location of the monitoring site at the AQMA on Newell Road. The site is framed by terraced houses on one side and a steep bank on the other. The route is along the main thoroughfare through the town from North to South. The proximity of the receptors to the main road can clearly be seen in the photograph.

Fig. 2.2.9. Overview of Monitoring Locations in Moy

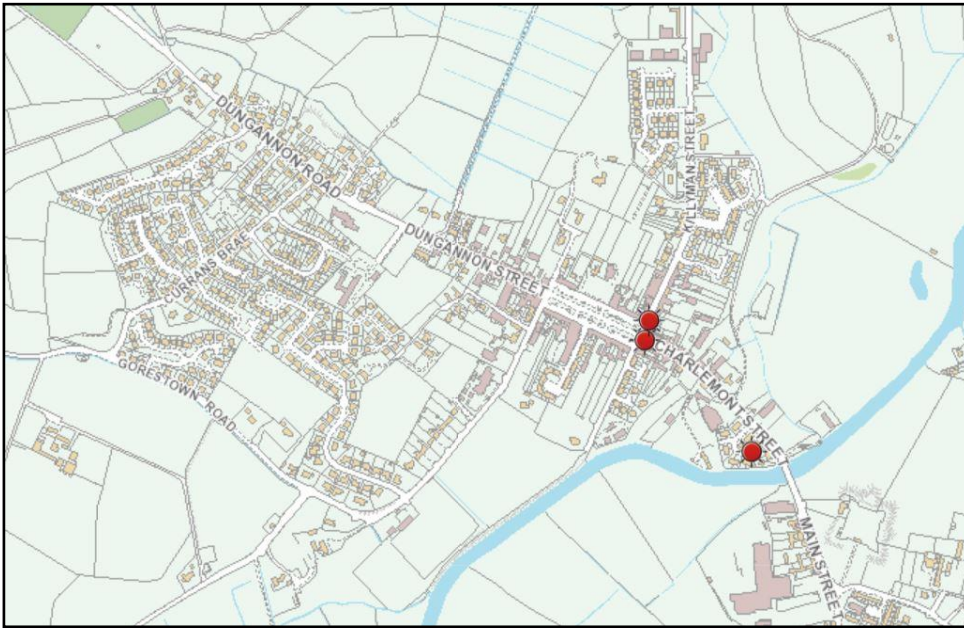


Fig. 2.2.10. shows the three monitoring sites in the village of Moy along the main Armagh to Dungannon Road.



The air quality monitoring sites for Moy are shown above.

The Charlemont Street site is shown at the junction of Charlemont Street running into the Square. The Killyman Street site (top site in Map) is located at a busy traffic light junction feeding into the main Square as well. These two sites are located within the AQMA. The urban background site located in the Quays residential area is also shown.

Table 2.2 – Details of Non-Automatic Monitoring Sites

Site ID	Site Name	Site Type	X OS Grid Reference	Y OS Grid Reference	Site Height (m)	Pollutants Monitored	In AQMA?	Is Monitoring Co-located with a Continuous Analyser (Y/N)	Relevant Exposure? (Y/N with distance (m) from monitoring site to relevant exposure)	Distance to Kerb of Nearest Road (m) (N/A if not applicable)	Does this Location Represent Worst-Case Exposure?
M2	22 Church St, Magherafelt	Roadside	289771	390728	2.5	NO ₂	Y	N	Y	<5m	Y
M9	12 Church St, Magherafelt	Roadside	289745	390722	2.5	NO ₂	Y	N	Y	<5m	Y
M10	30 Church St, Magherafelt	Roadside	289794	390735	2.5	NO ₂	Y	N	Y	<5m	Y

Site ID	Site Name	Site Type	X OS Grid Reference	Y OS Grid Reference	Site Height (m)	Pollutants Monitored	In AQMA?	Is Monitoring Co-located with a Continuous Analyser (Y/N)	Relevant Exposure? (Y/N with distance (m) from monitoring site to relevant exposure)	Distance to Kerb of Nearest Road (m) (N/A if not applicable)	Does this Location Represent Worst-Case Exposure?
M11	27 King St, Magherafelt	Roadside	289798	390706	2.5	NO ₂	Y	N	Y	<5m	Y
M13	47 Church St, Magherafelt	Roadside	289903	390778	2.5	NO ₂	Y	N	Y	<5m	Y
M23	47 Church St, Magherafelt	Roadside	289860	390734	2.5	NO ₂	Y	N	Y	<5m	Y
M24	Marriott House, Magherafelt	Urban Background	290012	390944	2.5	NO ₂	N	N	Y(<10m)	>50m	Y

Site ID	Site Name	Site Type	X OS Grid Reference	Y OS Grid Reference	Site Height (m)	Pollutants Monitored	In AQMA?	Is Monitoring Co-located with a Continuous Analyser (Y/N)	Relevant Exposure? (Y/N with distance (m) from monitoring site to relevant exposure)	Distance to Kerb of Nearest Road (m) (N/A if not applicable)	Does this Location Represent Worst-Case Exposure?
D1	Ardgannon, Dungannon	Urban Background	279576	363173	2.5	NO ₂	N	N	Y(<10m)	>50m	Y
D2	Newell Rd, Dungannon	Roadside	279139	362445	2.5	NO ₂	Y	N	Y(<1m)	2m	Y
D3	Charlemont St, Moy	Roadside	284969	356128	2.5	NO ₂	Y	N	Y(<1m)	2m	Y
D4	Killyman St, Moy	Roadside	284984	356161	2.5	NO ₂	Y	N	Y(<10m)	2m	Y
D5	The Quays, Moy	Suburban	285171	355922	2.5	NO ₂	N	N	Y(<1m)	3m	Y

Site ID	Site Name	Site Type	X OS Grid Reference	Y OS Grid Reference	Site Height (m)	Pollutants Monitored	In AQMA?	Is Monitoring Co-located with a Continuous Analyser (Y/N)	Relevant Exposure? (Y/N with distance (m) from monitoring site to relevant exposure)	Distance to Kerb of Nearest Road (m) (N/A if not applicable)	Does this Location Represent Worst-Case Exposure?
D6	Dunclare Way, Dungannon	Urban Background	279568	361548	2.5	NO ₂	N	N	Y(<1m)	2.5m	Y
D7	Eskragh Road, Dungannon	Roadside	277660	361492	2.5	NO ₂	N	N	Y(<10m)	1m	Y
C1	Lawford St, Moneymore	Kerbside	285770	383510	2.5	NO ₂	N	N	Y(<1m)	2m	Y
C8	Smith St, Moneymore	Roadside	285813	383458	2.5	NO ₂	N	N	Y(<1m)	3m	Y

Site ID	Site Name	Site Type	X OS Grid Reference	Y OS Grid Reference	Site Height (m)	Pollutants Monitored	In AQMA?	Is Monitoring Co-located with a Continuous Analyser (Y/N)	Relevant Exposure? (Y/N with distance (m) from monitoring site to relevant exposure)	Distance to Kerb of Nearest Road (m) (N/A if not applicable)	Does this Location Represent Worst-Case Exposure?
C10	Conyngham St Moneymore	Kerbside	285759	383333	2.5	NO ₂	N	N	Y(<1m)	3m	Y
C11	Stonard St Moneymore	Roadside	285874	383341	2.5	NO ₂	N	N	Y(<1m)	2m	Y
C2	William St Cookstown	Kerbside	281071	378445	2.5	NO ₂	N	N	Y(<2m)	1m	Y
C5	Killymoon St, Cookstown	Kerbside	281053	378197	2.5	NO ₂	N	N	Y(<6m)	1m	Y

Site ID	Site Name	Site Type	X OS Grid Reference	Y OS Grid Reference	Site Height (m)	Pollutants Monitored	In AQMA?	Is Monitoring Co-located with a Continuous Analyser (Y/N)	Relevant Exposure? (Y/N with distance (m) from monitoring site to relevant exposure)	Distance to Kerb of Nearest Road (m) (N/A if not applicable)	Does this Location Represent Worst-Case Exposure?
C4	Church St, Cookstown	Kerbside	281121	377537	2.5	NO ₂	N	N	Y(<1m)	2m	Y
C3	James St, Cookstown	Roadside	281225	376939	2.5	NO ₂	N	N	Y(<4m)	2m	Y

2.2 Comparison of Monitoring Results with Air Quality Objectives

2.2.1 Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂)

Throughout the period of this monitoring there was little interruption to the air quality monitoring schedule except for continuing staff shortages due to illness and staff covering other posts. However, some sites were affected by the installation of new LED lighting and the loss of the diffusion tubes when some of the lampposts mounting the diffusion tubes were replaced.

Automatic Monitoring Data

There is no automatic monitoring data for the Mid Ulster District Council area.

Diffusion Tube Monitoring Data

The results for the diffusion tube monitoring are shown in Table 2.5 below. The results have been bias adjusted in accordance with the National Diffusion Tube Bias Adjustment Factor Spreadsheet (Version Number 06/22).

Fig 2.210 Showing National Bias Adjustment Factor for Socotec Didcot.

National Diffusion Tube Bias Adjustment Factor Spreadsheet					Spreadsheet Version Number: 06/22						
Follow the steps below in the correct order to show the results of relevant co-location studies								This spreadsheet will be updated at the end of September 2022			
Data only apply to tubes exposed monthly and are not suitable for correcting individual short-term monitoring periods								LAQM Helpdesk Website			
Whenever presenting adjusted data, you should state the adjustment factor used and the version of the spreadsheet											
This spreadsheet will be updated every few months: the factors may therefore be subject to change. This should not discourage their immediate use.											
The LAQM Helpdesk is operated on behalf of Defra and the Devolved Administrations by Bureau Veritas, in conjunction with contract partners AECOM and the National Physical Laboratory.					Spreadsheet maintained by the National Physical Laboratory. Original compiled by Air Quality Consultants Ltd.						
Step 1:		Step 2:	Step 3:	Step 4:							
Select the Laboratory that Analyses Your Tubes from the Drop-Down List		Select a Preparation Method from the Drop-Down List	Select a Year from the Drop-Down List	Where there is only one study for a chosen combination, you should use the adjustment factor shown with caution. Where there is more than one study, use the overall factor ³ shown in blue at the foot of the final column.							
If a laboratory is not shown, we have no data for this laboratory.		If a preparation method is not shown, we have no data for this method at this laboratory	If a year is not shown, we have no data ²	If you have your own co-location study then see footnote ⁴ . If uncertain what to do then contact the Local Air Quality Management Helpdesk at LAQMHelpdesk@bureauveritas.com or 0800 0327953							
Analysed By ¹		Method ² To undo your selection, choose (All) from the pop-up list	Year ³ To undo your selection, choose (All)	Site Type	Local Authority	Length of Study (months)	Diffusion Tube Mean Conc. (Dm) (µg/m ³)	Automatic Monitor Mean Conc. (Cm) (µg/m ³)	Bias (B)	Tube Precision ⁵	Bias Adjustment Factor (A) (Cm/Dm)
SOCOTEC Didcot		50% TEA in acetone	2021		Overall Factor ³ (25 studies)				Use		0.78

Fig 2.211 Showing National Bias Adjustment Factor for Somerset Scientific Services

National Diffusion Tube Bias Adjustment Factor Spreadsheet					Spreadsheet Version Number: 06/22					
<p>Follow the steps below in the correct order to show the results of relevant co-location studies</p> <p>Data only apply to tubes exposed monthly and are not suitable for correcting individual short-term monitoring periods</p> <p>Whenever presenting adjusted data, you should state the adjustment factor used and the version of the spreadsheet</p> <p>This spreadsheet will be updated every few months: the factors may therefore be subject to change. This should not discourage their immediate use.</p>								<p>This spreadsheet will be updated at the end of September 2022</p> <p>LAQM Helpdesk Website</p>		
<p>The LAQM Helpdesk is operated on behalf of Defra and the Devolved Administrations by Bureau Veritas, in conjunction with contract partners AECOM and the National Physical Laboratory.</p>					<p>Spreadsheet maintained by the National Physical Laboratory. Original compiled by Air Quality Consultants Ltd.</p>					
Step 1:		Step 2:	Step 3:	Step 4:						
Select the Laboratory that Analyses Your Tubes from the Drop-Down List		Select a Preparation Method from the Drop-Down List	Select a Year from the Drop-Down List	Where there is only one study for a chosen combination, you should use the adjustment factor shown with caution. Where there is more than one study, use the overall factor ³ shown in blue at the foot of the final column.						
If a laboratory is not shown, we have no data for this laboratory.		If a preparation method is not shown, we have no data for this method at this laboratory.	If a year is not shown, we have no data ²	If you have your own co-location study then see footnote ³ . If uncertain what to do then contact the Local Air Quality Management Helpdesk at LAQMHelpdesk@bureauveritas.com or 0800 0327953						
Analysed By ¹	Method ²	Year ²	Site Type	Local Authority	Length of Study (months)	Diffusion Tube Mean Conc. (Dm) (µg/m ³)	Automatic Monitor Mean Conc. (Cm) (µg/m ³)	Bias (B)	Tube Precision ⁵	Bias Adjustment Factor (A) (Cm/Dm)
Somerset County Council	20% TEA in water	2021	UB	Bristol City Council	11	24	20	18.8%	G	0.84
Somerset County Council	20% TEA in water	2021	R	Bristol City Council	12	67	50	33.6%	G	0.75
Somerset County Council	20% TEA in water	2021	R	Bristol City Council	11	27	30	-9.7%	G	1.11
Somerset County Council	20% TEA in water	2021	R	Bristol City Council	12	33	31	5.9%	G	0.94
Somerset County Council	20% TEA in water	2021	UB	Bristol City Council	12	19	17	9.4%	G	0.91
Somerset County Council	20% TEA in water	2021	R	Bristol City Council	11	36	32	12.3%	G	0.89
Somerset County Council	20% TEA in water	2021	KS	Bristol City Council	12	34	24	39.5%	G	0.72
Somerset County Council	20% TEA in water	2021	R	Wiltshire Council	12	28	27	4.5%	G	0.96
Somerset County Council	20% TEA in water	2021	R	Wiltshire Council	12	32	27	18.2%	G	0.85
Overall Factor ³ (11 studies)								Use	0.86	

As can be seen from the above figures the Bias Adjustment chosen for Socotec Didcot was 0.78 and the Bias Adjustment chosen for Somerset Scientific Services was 0.86.

Given that the diffusion tube supplier was changed during the calendar year, the process of bias adjustment is more complex than described than normal. As such, a single bias adjustment factor, either locally or nationally derived, is no longer applicable.

Using Box 7.14 of LAQM-TG16- April we had to apply the two separate bias factors across the relevant periods of exposure for each laboratory. A weighted average relative to the two exposure periods was calculated to determine the final annual mean NO₂ concentration.

Example

As an example, Site D1 Ardgannon had 8 months (Jan-Aug) where the analysis was conducted by Socotec, and 4 months where the analysis was conducted by Somerset Scientific (Sept- Dec).

Therefore:

Annual mean NO₂ concentration = (8-month period average * 8-month bias factor * 8/12) + (4-month period average * 4-month bias factor * 4/12)

The average of the first 8 months ($12.44\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)

Bias adjustment first 8 months (0.78)

The average of the last four months ($13.74\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)

Bias adjustment of last 4 months (0.86)

Annual Mean NO_2 concentration= $(12.44\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3 * 0.78 * 8/12) + (13.74\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3 * 0.86 * 4/12)$

Therefore, the bias adjusted figure for this site is **$10.4\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$** .

This method was repeated for all sites with the 12-month figure amended according to how many months data were available e.g., if 11 months available figures were divided by 11 rather than 12.

Table 2.5 – Results of NO₂ Diffusion Tubes 2021

Site ID	Location	Site Type	Within AQMA?	Triplicate or Co-located Tube	Full Calendar Year Data Capture 2021 (Number of Months)	2021 Annual Mean Concentration (µg/m ³) – Bias Adjustment factor = 0.78 & 0.86 ^b
M2	22 Church St, Magherafelt	Roadside	Y	Triplicate	11	31.7
M9	12 Church St, Magherafelt	Roadside	Y	Triplicate	11	25.9
M10	30 Church St, Magherafelt	Roadside	Y	Triplicate	9	35.2
M11	27 King St, Magherafelt	Roadside	Y	Triplicate	7	17.2
M13	47 Church St, Magherafelt	Roadside	Y	Triplicate	8	18.8
M23	47 Church St, Magherafelt	Roadside	Y	Triplicate	10	25.5

Site ID	Location	Site Type	Within AQMA?	Triplicate or Co-located Tube	Full Calendar Year Data Capture 2021 (Number of Months)	2021 Annual Mean Concentration ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) – Bias Adjustment factor = 0.78 & 0.86 ^b
M24	Marriott House, Magherafelt	Urban Background	N	Triplicate	10	8.6
D1	Ardgannon, Dungannon	Urban Background	N	Single	12	10.4
D2	Newell Rd, Dungannon	Roadside	Y	Triplicate	12	45.1
D3	Charlemont St, Moy	Roadside	Y	Triplicate	12	47.2
D4	Killyman St, Moy	Roadside	Y	Triplicate	12	21.7
D5	The Quays, Moy	Suburban	N	Single	12	7.6
D6	Dunclare Way, Dungannon	Urban Background	N	Single	12	6.8

Site ID	Location	Site Type	Within AQMA?	Triplicate or Co-located Tube	Full Calendar Year Data Capture 2021 (Number of Months)	2021 Annual Mean Concentration ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) – Bias Adjustment factor = 0.78 & 0.86 ^b
D7	Eskragh Road, Dungannon	Roadside	N	Single	3	10.5
C1	Lawford St, Moneymore	Kerbside	N	Single	11	29.3
C8	Smith St, Moneymore	Roadside	N	Single	10	20.5
C10	Conyngham St Moneymore	Kerbside	N	Single	11	11.4
C11	Stonard St Moneymore	Roadside	N	Single	10	24.2
C2	William St Cookstown	Kerbside	N	Single	11	21.9

Site ID	Location	Site Type	Within AQMA?	Triplicate or Co-located Tube	Full Calendar Year Data Capture 2021 (Number of Months)	2021 Annual Mean Concentration ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) – Bias Adjustment factor = 0.78 & 0.86 ^b
C5	Killymoon St, Cookstown	Kerbside	N	Single	11	18.8
C4	Church St, Cookstown	Kerbside	N	Single	10	19.9
C3	James St, Cookstown	Roadside	N	Single	10	24.9

In bold, exceedance of the NO₂ annual mean AQS objective of 40 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

Underlined, annual mean > 60 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, indicating a potential exceedance of the NO₂ hourly mean AQS objective

^a Means should be “annualised” as in Boxes 7.9 and 7.10 of LAQM.TG16, if full calendar year data capture is less than 75%

^b If an exceedance is measured at a monitoring site not representative of public exposure, NO₂ concentration at the nearest relevant exposure should be estimated based on the [NO₂ fall-off with distance calculator](#), and results should be discussed in a specific section. The procedure is also explained in paragraphs 7.77 to 7.79 of LAQM.TG16.

2021 Results

From Table 2.5 it can be seen that in general air quality at the monitored sites across the District remains good and well within the $40\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ air quality objective. Within the three AQMA's the one in Magherafelt (6 sites) has now gone 4 years since a site returned an exceedance of the objective. This AQMA would have been revoked last year but for the fact that the results were obtained when the traffic levels had drastically reduced due to the pandemic. Mid Ulster Council will likely move to revoke this AQMA in the near future. It is likely that the Magherafelt By-pass as expected has contribute greatly to the reduction in levels within the town centre area by reducing the levels of through traffic and associated congestion.

The AQMA's in Dungannon and Moy continue to show exceedances of the objective even in the Covid year of 2020. While there has been a steady decline in levels since 2016 the AQMA's are unlikely to be revoked in the near future.

Table 2.6 – Results of NO₂ Diffusion Tubes (2017 to 2021)

Site ID	Site Type	Within AQMA?	Annual Mean Concentration (µg/m ³) – Adjusted for Bias ^a					
			2016 (Bias Adjustment Factor 0.92)	2017 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.89)	2018 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.76)	2019 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.77)	2020 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.77)	2021 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.78 & 0.86)
M2	Roadside	Y	47	37	35	35	28	32
M9	Roadside	Y	46	35	30	31	25	26
M10	Roadside	Y	52	41	35	27	31	35
M11	Roadside	Y	33	28	24	22	18	17
M13	Roadside	Y	28	25	23	19	15	19
M23	Roadside	Y	0	0	33	29	21	26
M24	Urban Background	N	0	0	0	10	8	9

Site ID	Site Type	Within AQMA?	Annual Mean Concentration ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) – Adjusted for Bias ^a					
			2016 (Bias Adjustment Factor 0.92)	2017 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.89)	2018 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.76)	2019 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.77)	2020 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.77)	2021 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.78 & 0.86)
D1	Urban Background	N	11	10	12	11	9	10
D2	Roadside	Y	58	50	50	54	42	45
D3	Roadside	Y	61	57	55	55	46	47
D4	Roadside	Y	29	26	26	26	20	22
D5	Suburban	N	9	7	8	8	7	8
D6	Urban Background	N	10	7	9	9	7	7
D7	Roadside	N	0	0	0	0	0	10
C1	Kerbside	N	35	35	35	33	26	29
C8	Roadside	N	21	22	25	24	19	20

Site ID	Site Type	Within AQMA?	Annual Mean Concentration ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) – Adjusted for Bias ^a					
			2016 (Bias Adjustment Factor 0.92)	2017 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.89)	2018 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.76)	2019 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.77)	2020 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.77)	2021 (Bias Adjustment Factor = 0.78 & 0.86)
C10	Kerbside	N	15	14	17	13	13	11
C11	Roadside	N	34	34	37	27	27	24
C2	Kerbside	N	21	22	25	26	26	22
C5	Kerbside	N	32	32	30	27	27	19
C4	Kerbside	N	29	26	26	24	24	20
C3	Roadside	N	32	31	31	27	27	25

In bold, exceedance of the NO₂ annual mean AQS objective of 40 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

Underlined, annual mean > 60 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, indicating a potential exceedance of the NO₂ hourly mean AQS objective

^a Means should be “annualised” as in Boxes 7.9 and 7.10 of LAQM.TG16, if full calendar year data capture is less than 75%

Figure 2.4 – Trends in Annual Mean Nitrogen Dioxide Concentrations Measured at Diffusion Tube Monitoring Sites

There is a consistent trend at nearly all the monitoring sites across the Mid Ulster District. There has been a steady downwards trend since 2016 with most years continuing this trend. The Covid-19 pandemic of 2020 sharpened the rate of decline due to the massive decrease in traffic due to lockdown. Results for 2021 are generally slightly higher than for 2020 due to an increase in traffic to more normal pre pandemic times. However, these results are still part of a general ongoing decline since 2016. It will be interesting to see if this continues on into 2022 when traffic levels may have increased further from 2021 levels. To demonstrate this trend a number of sites from within the AQMA's have been chosen along within one of the Urban Background sites for comparison purposes.

Fig 2.41 Six Year Trend at 30 Church Street, Magherafelt

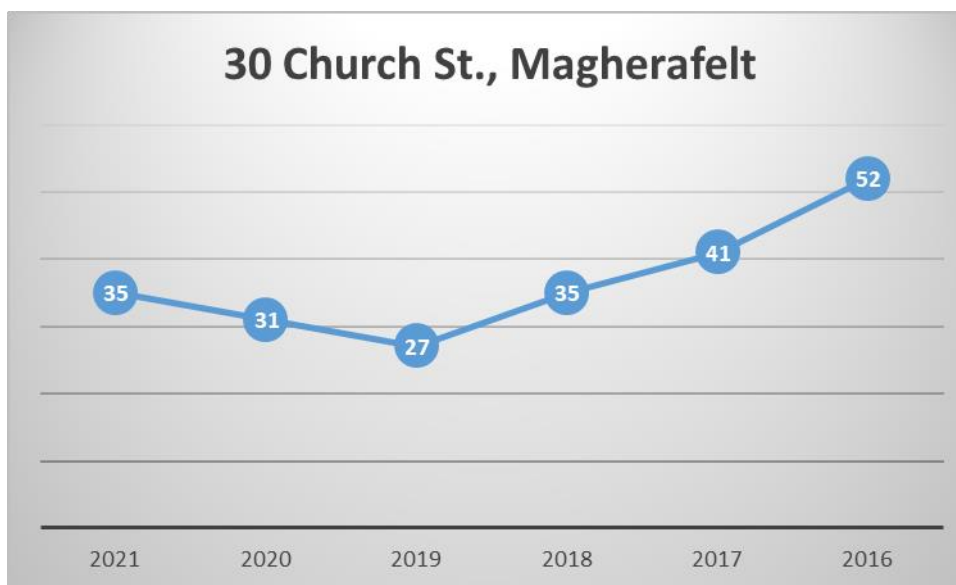
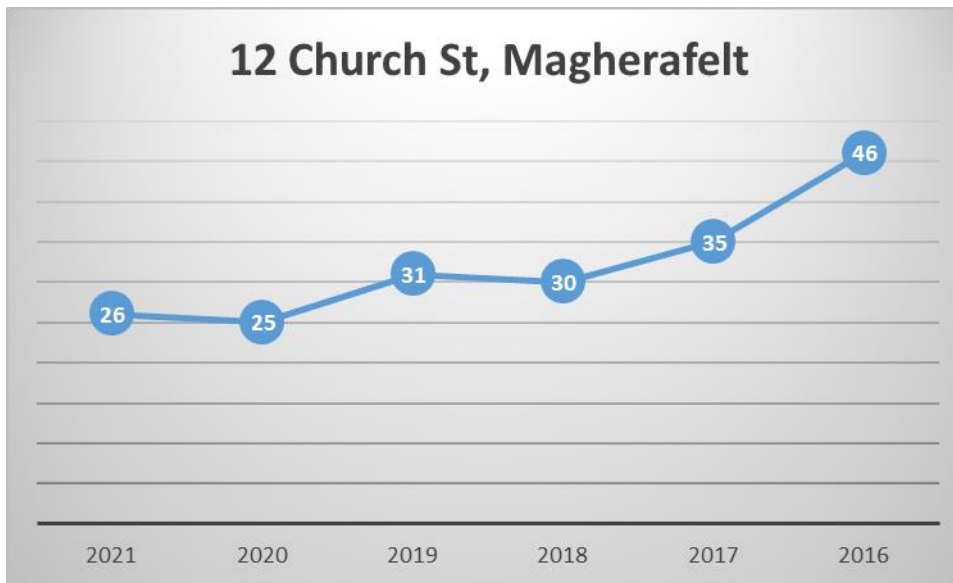
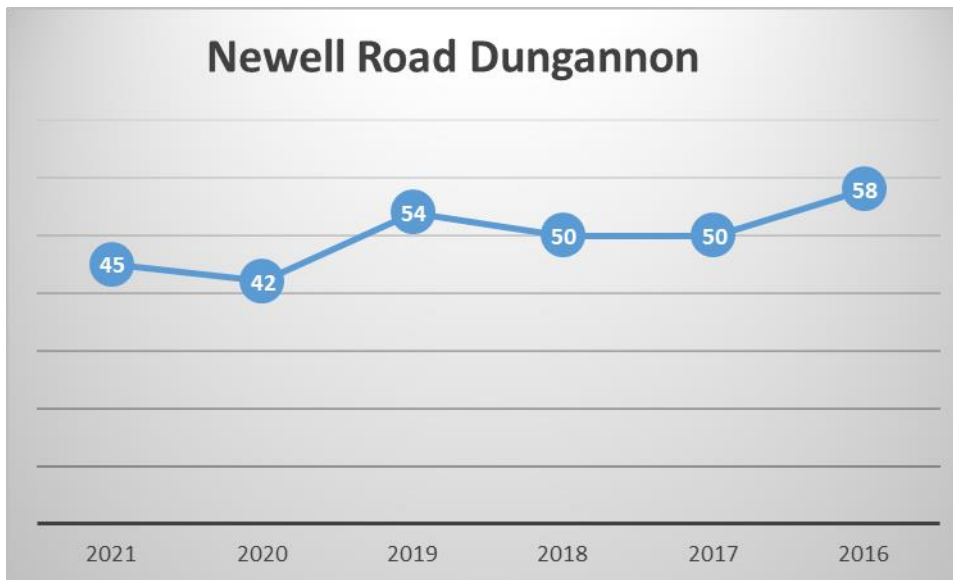


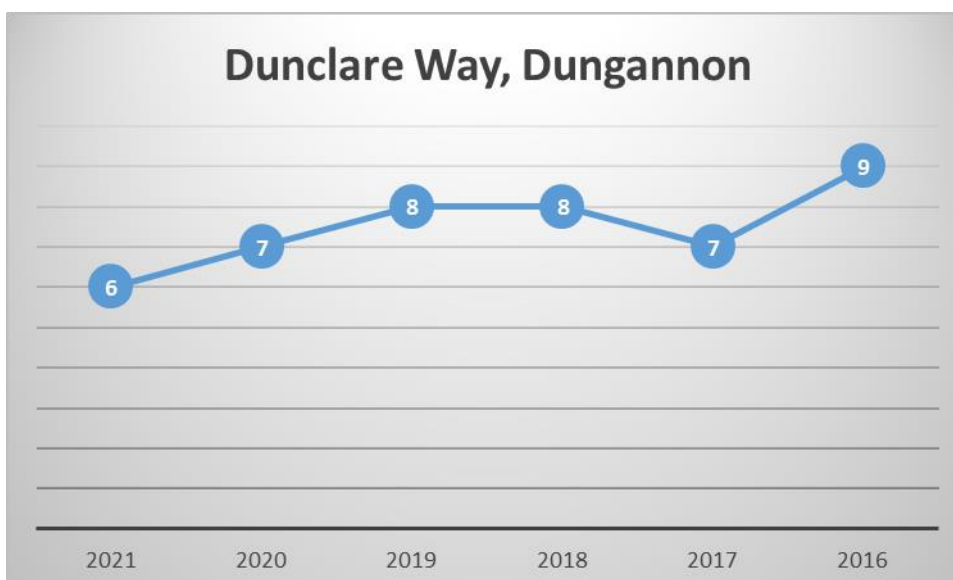
Figure 2.41 shows the monitoring results at the site in Magherafelt AQMA which consistently showed the highest levels of NO₂. Unusually this was one of the few sites to show a slight increase in NO₂ in 2020 compared with 2019. The level of result for 2021 is more in line with 2018 levels. It would appear the 2019 level was significantly lower than normal although it is unclear why this may be the case.

Fig. 2.42 Six Year Trend at 12 Church Street, Magherafelt

The two graphs above show six-year trends within the AQMA in Magherafelt town centre. These are two of the locations that have consistently shown the highest levels within the AQMA. The graph shows a trend downwards from values which exceeded the air quality objective in 2016 to having no exceedances for the last four years at 30 Church Street, and no exceedances at 12 Church Street for the last five years. Some caution must be taken for the figures for 2020 and 2021 due to Covid impacts. There has now been no exceedances within the AQMA at any monitoring point for four years. Mid Ulster District Council hopes to be able to revoke this AQMA soon.

Fig 2.43 Six Year Trend at Newell Road, Dungannon

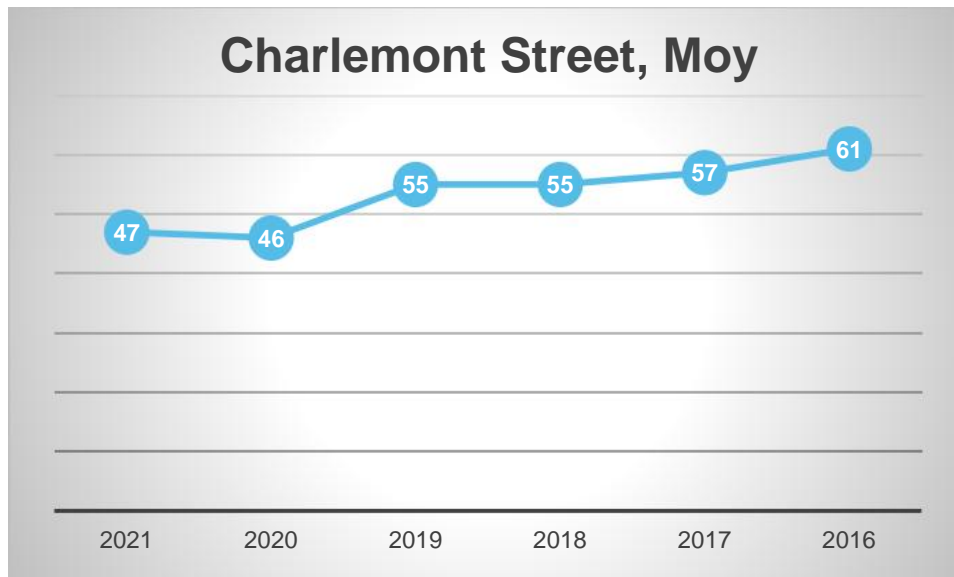
The trend for the Newell Road AQMA has been one of a gradual reduction. It is disappointing that even in a period with Covid restrictions that the air quality at this spot exceeds the Air Quality Objective. It is believed that this stretch of road is affected by the canyoning effect of tall houses on one side and a steep bank on the other which elevate pollution levels beyond what they would be if the site was more open.

Fig. 2.44 Six Year Trend at Dunclare Way, Dungannon.

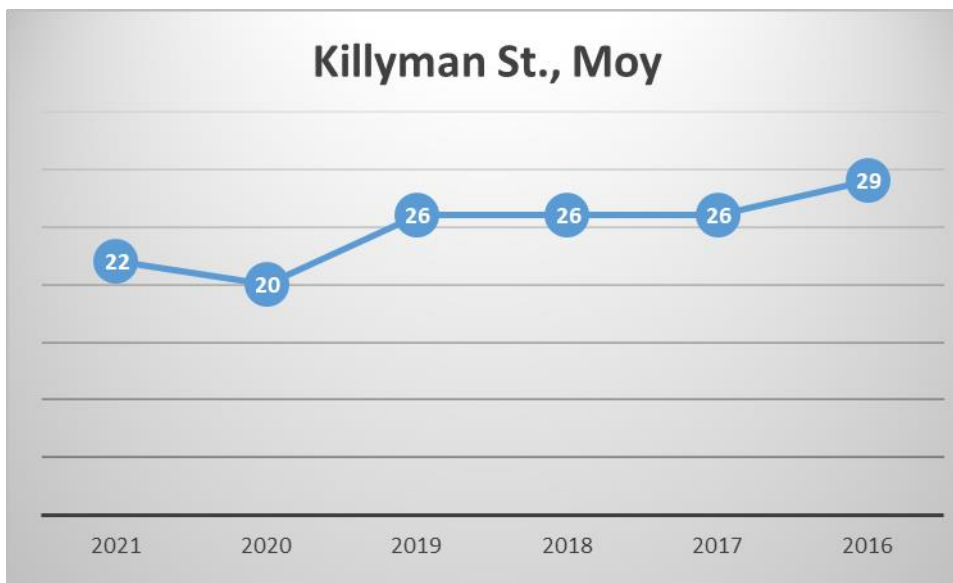
The urban background monitoring site at Dunclare Way, Dungannon provides an interesting comparison with the Newell Road site. It is located over 50m away from the main arterial route through the town. Background levels have been under $10\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ for each

of the six years and continue to show a gradual decline in line with generally improving air quality throughout the District.

Fig 2.45 Six Year Trend at Charlemont Street, Moy



The six-year trend at Charlemont Street in Moy shows a similarity to that of the other AQMA at Newell Road in Dungannon. The monitoring site is at a busy set of traffic lights on an incline. The site has shown a gradual decline from 2016 when it had a result of $61\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ to $55\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ in 2019. The site showed a reduction to $46\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ in 2020. Encouragingly this figure only rose to $47\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ in 2021 so it is hoped that the overall downward trend will be maintained in the years following the global pandemic. However, despite the downward trend the site consistently exceeds the $40\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ air quality objective.

Fig. 2.46 Six Year Trend for Killyman Road, Moy

The trend chart for the Killyman Road in Moy is like many of the other trend charts throughout the District. The overall trend is down since 2016 from 29 µg/m³ in 2016 to 2021 when it was 22 µg/m³ with a low of 20 µg/m³ in 2020 reflecting the reduction in traffic due to the Covid-19 pandemic. It is hoped that the overall downward trend will continue. All the results for this site which is in the AQMA for Moy are well within the air quality objective of 40 µg/m³. This is despite it being located less than 35m from the site at Charlemont Street which has consistently breached the air quality objective.

2.2.2 Particulate Matter (PM₁₀)

Mid Ulster District Council does not monitor for particulate matter PM₁₀.

2.2.3 Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂)

Mid Ulster District Council does not monitor for Sulphur Dioxide SO₂.

2.2.4 Benzene

Mid Ulster District Council does not monitor for Benzene.

2.2.5 Other Pollutants Monitored

Mid Ulster District Council does not monitor for other pollutants.

2.2.6 Summary of Compliance with AQS Objectives

Mid Ulster District Council has examined the results from monitoring in the district. Concentrations outside of the AQMA are all below the objectives at relevant locations, therefore there is no need to proceed to a Detailed Assessment.

3 New Local Developments

3.1 Road Traffic Sources

There are three new major road projects in the Mid Ulster District Council area currently proposed, or recently completed.

The 14.7km Randalstown to Castledawson scheme opened in May 2021. Mid Ulster District Council

Details of the air quality assessment undertaken for this development are available at the hyperlink below:

<https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/infrastructure/a6-toome-bypass-environmental-statement-volume-1.pdf>

The air quality assessments undertaken for the A29 Cookstown by-pass can be found at the link below.

<https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/infrastructure/sar-report-cookstown-bypass-2021.pdf>

The air quality assessment for the A5 Western Transport corridor part of which runs through the District can be found at the link below.

<https://www.a5wtc.com/Environmental-Consultation-2022>

In general, it can be said that these schemes will improve air quality in the district by reducing areas of urban congestion. This is best illustrated by the Magherafelt By-pass which has resulted in an improvement in air quality in the town centre since its construction.

Mid Ulster District Council has assessed new/proposed roads meeting the criteria in Table 7.1 of Chapter 7 of LAQM.TG16 and concluded that it will not be necessary to proceed to a Detailed Assessment.

3.2 Other Transport Sources

There are no large, airports, ports or railways located in the Mid Ulster District at present.

Industrial Sources

The agricultural planning applications below were all considered with air quality assessments being submitted in support of the relevant proposals. Further industrial applications are outlined in the planning section (S.5) where an air quality assessment may have been requested as part of the planning process.

Table 3.21 Planning Applications for Industrial Sources

Planning Reference	Application	Location
LA09/2019/1546/F	Proposed No1 pullet rearing poultry shed with 1No. feed bin a storage shed and associated site works (Poultry shed to contain 32000 Pullets)	Land 250m Southwest of 1 Grillagh Road Maghera
LA09/2020/1001/F	Proposed 2No. replacement pig sheds with 2 feed bins and associated site works (pig sheds to contain 120 120 sows giving a total site capacity of 160)	Lands at 53 Dunnabraggy Road Cookstown
LA09/2021/0010/F	Proposed free range poultry shed with 2 feed bins, a storage shed, standby generator building and associated site works. (Poultry shed to contain 16000 free range hens)	Lands off Glendavagh Road 100m West of 142 Minterburn Road Caledon
LA09/2021/0100/F	An application under section 54 of The Planning Act (N.I.) 2011 to vary the wording of condition No.4 (parking and service areas) of approval M/2014/0567/F for an in vessel composting facility (IVCF)	Lands at Northway Mushrooms 24m South of 17 Aghnagar Road Ballygawley
LA09/2020/0374/F	Proposed free range poultry unit with meal silo and litter store.	210m NW of 39b Annaghmore Road Castledawson BT45 8DN
LA09/2020/1258/F	Proposed free range poultry shed with 2 feed bins a storage shed a standby generator building and associated site works (Poultry shed to contain 16000 free range egg laying hens)	Land 250m West of 56 Carnteel Road Aughnacloy
LA09/2021/0219/F	Proposed free range poultry shed with 4 feed bins 2 storage sheds, a standby generator building and associated site works (poultry shed to contain 32000 Free range egg laying hens)	Land 150m Northwest of 59 Stilago Road Eglishe Dungannon
LA09/2019/0202/F	Proposed poultry shed with 2No. feed bins, a storage shed and associated site works (Poultry shed to contain 5,000 Barn House Egg Laying Hens (AQIA))	Land 200m East of 107 Drummurrer Lane Coalisland Dungannon

3.3 Commercial and Domestic Sources

No new commercial or domestic sources were identified since the last Updating and Screening Assessment.

3.4 New Developments with Fugitive or Uncontrolled Sources

Environmental Health Department commented on the planning application below in regard to fugitive emissions.

Table 3.41 Planning Applications for Fugitive Sources

Planning Reference	Application	Location
LA09/2020/0736/F	Proposed phase 4 extension to existing quarry for sand and gravel extraction	380m North West of 290 Drum Road, Cookstown

Mid Ulster District Council confirms that there are no new or newly identified local developments which may have an impact on air quality within the Local Authority area.

Mid Ulster District Council confirms that all the following have been considered:

- **Road traffic sources**
- **Other transport sources**
- **Industrial sources**
- **Commercial and domestic sources**
- **New developments with fugitive or uncontrolled sources.**

4 Local / Regional Air Quality Strategy

5 Planning Applications

The Environmental Health Department are consulted on a range of planning applications where their input is considered necessary. They consider the applications in relation to noise, air quality, contaminated land, and odour. Environmental Health may request that assessments are submitted in relation to these where they believe an application has the potential to impact on residential amenity. The following is a list of approved applications considered by Environmental Health in 2021. Some other applications have been considered in previous a previous chapter of this Progress Report.

Table 5.1 Planning Applications for Other Industrial Sources

Planning Reference	Application	Location
LA09/2020/1174/F	Proposed extension & alterations to existing boning hall amenity area.	Linden Foods Unit 26 Granville Industrial Estate Dungannon
LA09/2020/1535/F	Proposed extension to factory and office to provide additional storage and circulation space amid the Covid 19 crisis.	John Mackle Ltd Factory Site Moygashel 33 Main Road Dungannon
LA09/2020/0121/F	Proposed new factory building, car parking and all associated site works.	Lands 85m Northeast of 100 Coleraine Road, Maghera
LA09/2020/0943/F	Expansion of established engineering business to facilitate a programme of social distancing.	42 Tullyodonnell Road The Rock Dungannon
LA09/2020/0983/F	Water quality improvement project at existing cheese processing factory including a shed to contain a reverse osmosis unit & 2 no 250,000l water tanks within a 3.1m high bund area	Lands at 141 Moneymore Road Dunman Bridge Cookstown
LA09/2020/0507/F	Proposed replacement timber engineering workshop and office accommodation	36 Rossmore Road Dungannon BT71 4BJ
LA09/2020/1673/F	Proposed industrial unit	221m SE of 24 Lisgorgan Lane Upperlands Maghera BT46 5TE.
LA09/2018/1283/F	Retention of engineering workshops, increased curtilage and hard standing including temporary carpark, bulk LPG gas tank, toilets and changing building and loading area	200 Annagher Road Coalisland
LA09/2019/0559/F	Expansion of established engineering business comprising of new workshop, extension to existing yard & new storage	Lands at 31b Tullyreavy Road Cookstown

	yard to rear of 33 Tullyreavy Road, Cookstown	
LA09/2019/1057/F	Proposed construction of new factory inclusive of a fabrication and cutting shed, a fitting shed, and office block with associated site works	Site adjacent and South of Ardboe Business Park Kilmascally Road Ardboe Dungannon
LA09/2017/0319/F	The relocation of 2 chimney stacks approved under ref. M/2011/0126/F and the retention of 4 further chimney stacks to facilitate spraying within existing approved building. All flues to discharge 6 metres above the existing ridge line. (Revised Odour Impact Assessment received)	70m South of 177 Annagher Road Dungannon
LA09/2020/0938/F	New manufacturing plant for the production of paving flags including mixer platform, silos & conveyor feed from existing batching plant	2 Lisnamuck Road Tobermore
LA09/2019/0965/F	Extension to provide new welding bay facilities for the assembly of structural frames which will be used in Aviation Ground Support Vehicles-Class B3 General Industrial (revised description and plans	Northwest corner of former Tyrone Crystal complex 115 Coalisland Road Dungannon
LA09/2021/0373/F	Proposed site For food production unit(factory) dry goods storage/ fridge and freezer cold storage and new access to carriageway.	300m Northwest of 160 Tanderagee Road Pomeroy Dungannon
LA09/2021/0190/F	Proposed fabrication and manufacturing of steel and timber portable buildings and all associated site works	Opposite TES Group Kilcronagh Business Park Cookstown
LA09/2021/0517/F	Proposed industrial development consisting of 11 units	Approx 185m West of 60 Ballyronan Road Magherafelt
LA09/2020/1534/F	4No. Industrial / Commercial Units	Lands Adjacent to A45 Service Station 212 Ballynakilly Road Dungannon.

Table 5.2 Planning Applications for Residential Properties

Planning Reference	Application	Location
LA09/2020/1223/O	Proposed private housing development (renewal of LA09/2017/0373/O)	North and West of 47 Coash Road Ballynakelly Dungannon
LA09/2020/1403/F	Change of house type to include single storey sunroom to rear of house & change from single storey entrance projection to two storey entrance projection	Coolreaghs Manor North of 3 Coolreaghs Road Cookstown
LA09/2020/0689/F	Housing Development (12 no Units) and associated site works	Land adjacent to 4A Ballyheifer Road Magherafelt BT45 5EQ

LA09/2020/1464/F	Proposed residential development comprising of 8 detached dwellings & associated site works	Development lands at 14 Moneymore Road situated adjacent & Southwest of Oakvale Manor
LA09/2019/0730/O	Proposed housing development	Land immediately N.E. of St Patrick's Primary School Pomeroy Road Donaghmore
LA09/2020/0632/F	Proposed residential development comprising of 11 no detached units, creation of new accesses on Tobermore Road and Fern Drive, private amenity space and landscaping	lands 40metres North of 11 Desertmartin Road Magherafelt Co. Derry BT45 5HD
LA09/2020/0523/O	Proposed residential development	Lands between Lindsayville and Ballyneill Road and to the rear of 122-128 Shore Road and to the rear of 1-6 Lovedale Ballyronan
LA09/2018/0945/F	Housing Development (79 no dwellings) to include 15no detached and 64no semi-detached dwellings	Land to the SE of No 1 Park Lane Killyfaddy Road Magherafelt
LA09/2019/0229/F	Housing development consisting of 6 no detached 2 storey dwellings, 28 no semi-detached 2 storey dwellings, 2 no semi-detached single storey dwellings, 2 no detached single storey dwellings along with right hand turning lane & associated site works & private treatment plant	South & Adjacent to Abbeyvale Mullinahoe Road Ardboe Co. Tyrone
LA09/2017/1366/F	Residential Development for 52 units	20 Dungannon Road Cookstown
LA09/2020/0537/F	Housing development comprising of 14 no. semi-detached dwellings, 7 no. block of 3 dwellings,	Killymeal House and Adjacent lands Killymeal Road Dungannon
LA09/2020/0759/F	Proposed housing development consisting of 8 dwellings (4 Semi-detached and 4 detached) with associated access	Lands adjacent to 121 Ruskey Road The Loup
LA09/2020/0521/F	Proposed Residential Development of 30no Semi-Detached & 7 no Detached Dwellings with associated access, Roads, Footway, Landscaping & Parking	Site Between Nos 6 & 8a Drumearn Road and to the rear of Nos 1 1a & 1b Killycurragh Road Orritor Cookstown
LA09/2019/0144/F	Proposed housing development comprising of 2 no. detached dwellings and 14. No. Semi-detached (total16 units).	Lands opposite No.9 Strifehill Road Cookstown.
LA09/2020/0839/F	Construction of 49 social housing units comprising 45 two storey houses, 4 no. bungalows, associated site works and landscaping	Lands 62m S.W. of 5 Old Eglis Road Dungannon.

Table 5.3 Planning Applications for Commercial Activities

Planning Reference	Application	Location
LA09/2020/1325/F	Redevelopment of Phoenix Integrated Primary School and nursery unit to include the replacement of existing temporary school accommodation	Phoenix Integrated Primary School 80 Fountain Road Cookstown
LA09/2020/1612/F	A new " Learning and development centre" for Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service (NIFRS) for the training of NIFRS employees	Lands South of Desertcreat Road East of A29 Dungannon Road and Northwest of Downs Road Desertcreat Cookstown
LA09/2019/0597/O	Proposed mixed use development on lands to rear of 114 Bush Road. Development to include Community Centre and Multi Use Games Area, Fuel Filling Station and Shop, Small Business Units and Residential Development for bespoke 'one-off' houses.	Lands to the rear of 114 Bush Road Dungannon
LA09/2021/0311/F	Replacement vehicle workshop to provide facilities for applicant to maintain vehicles linked with his business	40a Agharan Road Dungannon BT71 4HG.

6 Air Quality Planning Policies

Mid Ulster District Council's Local Development Plan 2030 (Draft Plan Strategy) prioritises a number of issues which relate to both air quality and transportation issues throughout the District.

Chapter 4 outlines the growth strategy and spatial planning framework for the District. This spatial planning framework has been considered in formulating the subject planning policy within this Plan and will act as a guide when preparing the Local Policies Plan.

The air quality improvements necessary are outlined within SPF8 and SPF 9 of the document. This outlines the Council's commitment to improving the infrastructure along the main A29 North to South transportation link. It also highlights the importance of moving individuals away from private cars and other forms of transport, and highlights planning considerations to be given to encourage greater cycling and pedestrian movement within the main towns and villages.

SPF 8 – Encourage improvements to public and private transportation provision including railway lines and upgrading of the road network.

In Mid Ulster public transport is essential for those people who do not have access to the private car. At present, there are limited services across the District, although the links to Belfast along the main northwest and southwest transport corridors are reasonably strong. It is therefore important that encouragement is given to local services particularly transport which can help to link up our family of settlements to the Ulster Bus Translink provision along the key transport corridors.

This means ensuring that new development for housing estate developments or when improvements are made to existing streets, consideration is given to allowing sufficient movement for local buses. Also, in the interest of promoting sustainable transport, consideration needs to be given to providing safe environs for the pedestrian and cyclist. This does not necessarily mean the provision of dedicated cycle ways as it can often be achieved through careful design of roads and promotion of safer routes, particularly when it comes to children travelling to school.

We best link public transport to land use by adopting a town centre first approach to the development of new shops, leisure, and other uses which people need to travel to.

In selecting land use zonings, particularly in our towns, consideration will be given to overall accessibility, with greater priority given to land within walking distance of town centres and other services followed by sites with good links to public transport.

In looking at travel times and the connectivity between our hubs and settlements we are keen to ensure opportunities for improvements to transportation are not lost and therefore, we will protect disused railways from development that would prejudice their future use. We will also protect the Ulster Canal and a Blueway along the River Bann. We will also protect the riverbanks of our other main rivers to ensure that the possibility of riverside walkways and cycle ways is not lost for future generations.

By designing for public transport and encouraging walking and cycling this will also lead to improvements for private transport as a result of taking people off the road.

SPF 9 – Facilitate improvements to the A29 which acts as the transportation spine and link between Mid Ulster’s hubs and other trunk roads crossing the District.

For the three hubs of Cookstown, Dungannon and Magherafelt to act as a cluster it is essential that travel times between these settlements are reduced. This means there is a need to bring forward improvements to the A29 and A31.

We remain committed to the provision of a by-pass around Cookstown and Dungannon and will use our powers to protect any road line identified for development. We also recognise that as opportunities arise, new road schemes such as road widening, straightening and provision of overtaking lanes will also help to improve connectivity and help people move across the District quicker in order to connect with the southwest and northwest transport corridor but also directly to Dublin and the north coast.

The importance of improvement to the A29 should not be underestimated as it is critical to address the existing problem of heavy traffic choosing rural routes along the lough shore in order to avoid congestion in Cookstown and Dungannon.

The importance of the more rural roads such as the A505 should not be forgotten for the remoter rural communities where travel times to essential acute hospital services are greatest.

7 Local Transport Plans and Strategies

Mid Ulster District Council's Local Development Plan 2030 (Draft Plan Strategy) prioritises a number of issues which relate to transportation issues throughout the District.

These are outlined below

TRANSPORTATION

Overview

Good quality transport infrastructure is fundamental to achieving sustainable growth and vibrant communities within Mid Ulster. In terms of travel to work, the vast majority of our working population travel by private car, however the majority of our employed population also work within the District. By contrast only a very small percentage of the working population travel to work by public transport. There is a high reliance on the private car as Mid Ulster is a predominantly rural population, with limited access to public transport and a complete absence of railways.

Given the dispersed nature of Mid Ulster's rural population, access to transportation is a key element in developing vibrant rural communities and will assist in alleviating social isolation. Regarding health and well-being, Mid Ulster residents have an average 50-minute travel time to the nearest acute hospital. This demonstrates the importance of improving the local road network in Mid Ulster.

Therefore, the focus is on developing the key and link transportation corridors between the three main hubs of Dungannon, Cookstown and Magherafelt, the two local towns of Maghera and Coalisland and the rural hinterland. Mid Ulster will identify the routes of future infrastructure works to upgrade the A29 trunk road and will think of safeguarding other protected routes within our District.

Regional Policy Context

The Regional Development Strategy 2035 (RDS) advocates managing our road and rail space in a more efficient way and this is to be achieved through a number of key objectives. These are improving connectivity, maximising the potential of the Regional Strategic Transport Network, improving social exclusion and accessibility and road safety. The RDS establishes the three main towns have the potential to form a cluster

and are well positioned on key transport corridors.

Strategic planning policy aims to encourage greater integration of transportation within land use planning. The strategic objectives focus on promoting sustainable transport choices such as walking and cycling and providing more facilities for cyclists. The SPPS also focuses on reducing the reliance on the private car through appropriate car parking policies. To achieve this Local Development Plans are expected to consider transportation in the allocation of land use, and zoning of housing land. Consideration should also be given to new transport schemes, opportunities from disused railways, provision of car parking and protected routes.

Community Plan

Our Community Plan recognises the importance of the roads and public transport infrastructure to facilitate the movement of goods and people particularly between the 'Mid Ulster Urban Cluster' of Cookstown, Dungannon and Magherafelt and the rural hinterland. A key issue identified is the heavy reliance on the private car in Mid Ulster. Key outcomes of the Community Plan are that we are better connected through appropriate infrastructure and we increasingly value our environment and enhance it for our children. This aim shall be met through two main objectives: improving the rural and urban road network and providing facilities that encourage more sustainable modes of transport.

A key objective of improving the roads network will be facilitated by the development of the Strategic Road Network (the A29-A31, A4, A5 and A6) including by-passes for the three main hubs. Within Mid Ulster there is a high proportion of rural dwellers and our Community Plan recognises the need to maintain the local roads network to allow those living in rural communities to access goods and services both in the hubs and local villages.

In terms of sustainable transport, our Community Plan encourages active travel and greater public transport use and this can be achieved by implementing Park & Ride at strategic sites and investigating the feasibility of restoring rail links to and from Mid Ulster. In rural areas the objective is to pilot an 'Integrated Transport Scheme' for rural dwellers and businesses. Also, to develop an Intra-Town Transit System to include shuttle bus, cycling and walking links.

Our Transportation Strategy

Our approach for transportation is to facilitate a strategy that suits the needs of Mid Ulster as a rural District. The guiding principle is a focus on improving connectivity for both rural and urban dwellers. This will be centred on by-passes around the three main towns, and the villages of Moneymore and Moy, with a focus on improving the A29 spine road. The success of clustering services across our hubs is dependent on improving connectivity and reducing travel time. Critical to this are new by-passes for Cookstown and Dungannon. In turn this will reduce congestion in the town centres making them safer and a better environment for shopping and economic activity. We also wish to see a by-pass for Fivemiletown and the Clogher valley villages to improve travel times along the A5 Ulster Connaught corridor, and delivery of the A4 improvements through Mid Ulster. We will also continue to support tight planning controls along these roads in line with regional protected route policy.

8 Implementation of Action Plans

Measure No.	Measure	EU Category	EU Class	Lead Authority	Key Performance Indicator	Target Pollution Reduction in the AQMA	Update
1	Investigate potential for traffic control systems leading to and within AQMA	Traffic Management	UTC, Congestion management , traffic reduction	TransportNI	Reduction in Charlemont AQMA NO ₂ levels.	To be determined and dependent on proposed changes	Transport NI contacted re potential improvements
2	Ensure potential air quality issues are assessed with new developments before problems arise through consultation with the Planning Department	Policy Guidance and Development Control	Air Quality Planning and Policy Guidance	MUDC	Air Quality Assessments submitted through planning process for certain developments.	Development of appropriate response for planning consultations in line with up-to-date guidance	Air Quality issues considered in all planning consultation responses. See details in previous Chapters of Progress Report.
3	Investigate the potential of requiring a number of electric charging points to be included in certain developments, through consultation with the Planning Department	Policy Guidance and Development Control	Air Quality Planning and Policy Guidance	MUDC	Increase in number of charging points. Currently 20 charge points Sept. 2022	Development of appropriate response for planning consultations in line with up-to-date guidance	Data available from https://data-midulster.opendata.arcgis.com/datasets/midulster::mid-ulster-district-council-echarging-points-/explore?location=54.718888%2C-6.689293%2C10.71

Measure No.	Measure	EU Category	EU Class	Lead Authority	Key Performance Indicator	Target Pollution Reduction in the AQMA	Update
4	Prepare information leaflets on how to help improve air quality and reduce exposure	Promoting Travel Alternatives Transport and Planning Infrastructure	Promotion of cycling Promotion of walking School Travel & Workplace Travel Planning	MUDC DEARA	To be determined	Investigating the feasibility of restoring rail links to and from Mid Ulster. Pilot an 'Integrated Transport Scheme' for rural dwellers and businesses. To develop an Intra-Town Transit System to include shuttle bus, cycling and walking links.	Mid Ulster District Council Local Development Plan 2030
5	Control of emissions from Part C processes	Environmental Permits	Air Quality Planning and Policy Guidance	MUDC	Meet inspection target in line with DEARA requirements	Compliance with KPI	83 premises permitted and subject of annual inspection regime.
6	Investigation of air quality nuisance complaints, inclusion appropriate action to resolve the problem	No EU category/ classification	No EU category/ classification	MUDC	85% of complaints to be responded to within 3 days	Compliance with KPI	Ongoing
7	Identify, map, and promote use of electric vehicle recharging points within Council area.	Promoting Low Emission Transport	Other	MUDC Local Business/town Centre forum	Map produced and available on council website	Unable to determine	Data available at https://data-midulster.opendata.arcgis.com/datasets/midulster::mid-ulster-district-council-echarging-points-/explore?location=54.718888%2C-6.689293%2C10.71

Measure No.	Measure	EU Category	EU Class	Lead Authority	Key Performance Indicator	Target Pollution Reduction in the AQMA	Update
8	Enforcement of the Clean Air Act with regards to industrial smoke	No EU category/ classification	No EU category/ classification	MUDC	Number of complaints received.	Ongoing	10 complaints received in previous 12 months.
9	Encourage the installation and of new and bicycle stands at large supermarkets located in the District and will promote the use of existing bicycle stands	Promoting Travel Alternatives	Promotion of cycling	MUDC Local Business town Centre forum	Increase in number of bike stands	Unable to determine	Ongoing
10	Ensure that bicycle stands are available at all council buildings	Promoting Travel Alternatives	Promotion of cycling	MUDC	Increase in number of bike stands	Unable to determine	Current Cycle to Work scheme available for staff to access.
11	Investigate fleet improvements of Council owned vehicles	Vehicle Fleet Efficiency	Vehicle Retrofitting Programme	MUDC	Selection of vehicles which meet or exceed EU emission requirements at time of purchase.	Not yet determined	Ongoing. Council has in addition purchased 4 electric vans this year.
12	Annual engagement event to educate and raise awareness regarding air quality. Also, to find joint working opportunities	Public Information	Promotion campaigns and advertisements	MUDC	To be determined	Development of leaflets and information on Council website.	Data available at: https://www.visitmidulster.com/things-to-do/walking-and-hiking

Measure No.	Measure	EU Category	EU Class	Lead Authority	Key Performance Indicator	Target Pollution Reduction in the AQMA	Update
13	Investigation potential for marked walking and routes within towns	Promoting Travel Alternatives	Promotion of walking	MUDC	Increase in number of walking routes within towns	Unable to determine	Data available at: https://www.visitmidulster.com/things-to-do/walking-and-hiking

9 Conclusions and Proposed Actions

9.1 Conclusions from New Monitoring Data

This year's new monitoring data indicates compliance with air quality objectives at areas monitored outside of the AQMA's. It also shows compliance with air quality objectives at the Magherafelt AQMA. However, exceedances were still noted at the Dungannon and Moy AQMA's. Based on this year's results there is no need to proceed to a detailed assessment based on this year's new monitoring data.

9.2 Conclusions relating to New Local Developments

No new sources with relevant exposure have been identified through Assessment. Therefore, it is not considered necessary to proceed to a 'Detailed Assessment' based on potential sources.

9.3 Other Conclusions

This monitoring year saw a gradual return to normality from the Covid-19 pandemic. It is anticipated that as more people return to the traditional working environment traffic levels will rise, and levels of NO₂ will increase to pre-pandemic levels again.

9.4 Proposed Actions

New monitoring data has not identified the need to progress to a detailed assessment for any pollutant. The monitoring data has indicated that there are no changes required to the existing AQMA's within the District at this stage. Air Quality at the Magherafelt AQMA has complied with air quality objectives for the fourth successive year and it is hoped to revoke this AQMA in the near future if a fifth successive year is obtained.

This is a welcome step in the improvement of air quality within the District. Mid Ulster District Council's next course of action is to continue to monitor pollutants at their current locations and submit a Progress Report in 2023.

10References

1. Local Air Quality Management Technical Guidance (TG16) April 2021- Department of the Agriculture, Environment & Rural Affairs.
2. Local Development Plan 2030 (Draft Plan Strategy) February 2019

11 Appendices

Appendix A: Quality Assurance / Quality Control (QA/QC) Data

Appendix B: Impact of COVID-19 upon LAQM

Appendix A: QA/QC Data

QA/QC Diffusion Tube Monitoring

The results have been bias adjusted in accordance with the National Diffusion Tube Bias Adjustment Factor Spreadsheet (Version Number 06/22).

Diffusion Tube Annualisation

The diffusion tube annualisation data is presented on P.59 of this report along with all monthly results from all of the sites. This spreadsheet is taken from the Bureau Veritas diffusion tube data processing tool Version 2: March 2022.

All diffusion tube monitoring locations within Mid Ulster District Council area recorded data capture of 75% therefore it was not required to annualise any monitoring data. In addition, any sites with a data capture below 25% do not require annualisation.

Diffusion Tube Bias Adjustment Factors

Mid Ulster District Council have applied a national bias adjustment factor of 0.78 & 0.86 to the 2021 monitoring data. A summary of bias adjustment factors used by Mid Ulster District Council over the past five years is presented in Table A.1.

The NO₂ tubes for Mid Ulster District Council were analysed by two different laboratories in the course of 2021 due to a new contract being awarded. The first eight months were supplied and analysed by the Socotec Laboratory and the final four months were analysed by Somerset Scientific Services.

Socotec based in Didcot, Oxfordshire. The tubes were analysed using Socotec's standard operating procedure ANU/SOP/1015. This method meets the guidelines set out in DEFRA's 'Diffusion Tubes for Ambient NO₂ Monitoring: Practical Guidance.'

The tubes were prepared by spiking acetone:triethanolamine (50:50) onto the grids prior to the tubes being assembled. The tubes were desorbed with distilled water and the extract analysed using a segmented flow autoanalyser with ultraviolet detection.

The national bias adjustment figures were selected for both Socotec and Somerset Scientific.

These figures were derived from the national bias adjustment spreadsheet version 06/22.

Table A.1 – Bias Adjustment Factor

Using Box 7.14 of LAQM-TG16- April we had to apply the two separate bias factors across the relevant periods of exposure for each laboratory. A weighted average relative to the two exposure periods was calculated to determine the final annual mean NO₂ concentration. This is fully explained on P22 & P.23 of the main report.

Year	Local or National	If National, Version of National Spreadsheet	Adjustment Factor
2021	National	06/22	0.78 & 0.86
2020	National	09/20	0.77
2019	National	06/19	0.77
2018	National	09/18	0.76
2017	National	06/17	0.89

NO₂ Fall-off with Distance from the Road

No diffusion tube NO₂ monitoring locations within Mid Ulster District Council required distance correction during 2021.

Table A.2 – Annualisation Summary (concentrations presented in $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)

Appendix B: Impact of COVID-19 upon LAQM

COVID-19 has had a significant impact on society. Inevitably, COVID-19 has also had an impact on the environment, with implications to air quality at local, regional, and national scales. COVID-19 has continued to present various challenges for Local Authorities with respect to undertaking their statutory LAQM duties in the 2021 reporting year.

Despite the challenges that the pandemic has given rise to, it has also provided Local Authorities and other organisations with an opportunity to quantify the air quality impacts associated with wide-scale and extreme intervention and changes in behaviour such as reduced road traffic and working from home.

Mid Ulster District Council maintained their air quality monitoring duties changing the diffusion tubes for each month throughout 2021. One of the biggest challenges faced by the authority in this period was that a number of people who would normally change the tubes were ill and at the same time alternative arrangements had to be made for changing them from a limited staff availability. There was generally an increase in the number of complaints received across the Environmental Health function meaning a greater workload than normal being borne by fewer people.

This obviously presented difficulties in performing the air quality duties in as timely a manner as previously. The situation with Covid -19 and air quality gradually returned to a more normal working pattern as the year progressed.

Appendix B

Air Quality Objectives for Local Air Quality Monitoring in Northern Ireland

Pollutant	Air Quality Objective		Date to be achieved by
	Concentration	Measured as	
Benzene	16.25 µg/m ³	Running annual mean	31.12.2003
	3.25 µg/m ³	Running annual mean	31.12.2010
1,3-butadiene	2.25 µg/m ³	Running annual mean	31.12.2003
Carbon monoxide	10 mg/m ³	Running 8-hour mean	31.12.2003
Lead	0.50 µg/m ³	Annual mean	31.12.2004
	0.25 µg/m ³	Annual mean	31.12.2008
Nitrogen dioxide	200 µg/m ³ not to be exceeded more than 18 times a year	1-hour mean	31.12.2005
	40 µg/m ³	Annual mean	31.12.2005
Particulate matter (PM ₁₀) (gravimetric)	50 µg/m ³ , not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year	24-hour mean	31.12.2004
	40 µg/m ³	Annual mean	31.12.2004
Sulphur dioxide	350 µg/m ³ , not to be exceeded more than 24 times a year	1-hour mean	31.12.2004
	125 µg/m ³ , not to be exceeded more than 3 times a year	24-hour mean	31.12.2004
	266 µg/m ³ , not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year	15-minute mean	31.12.2005

Report on	Live Here Love Here Small Grants Scheme 2022
Date of Meeting	13 th October 2022
Reporting Officer	Kieran Gordon, Assistant Director Health, Leisure & Wellbeing
Contact Officer	Anne Caldwell, Principal Environmental Health Officer

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To provide information on the successful applications that were awarded funding for the 2022 Mid Ulster District Council Live Here Love Here, Small Grants Scheme.
2.0	Background
2.1	Mid Ulster District Council contributes to the Live Here Love Here campaign. Included within this campaign is a grant scheme that aims to support and encourage responsible behaviours to improve the environmental standards across the Mid Ulster District Council area and also across Northern Ireland. The Small Grants Scheme is a partnership between 10 Local Councils, Northern Ireland Housing Executive, McAdam and Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful.
2.2	Council has supported this grants scheme for a number of years and more recently in December 2021, Members at the Environment Committee resolved to give a renewed commitment for a £21,000 per annum contribution for a 3 year period from April 2022 – March 2024 (minute reference: E295/21).
2.3	Members are reminded that 50% (£10,500) of this annual Council contribution is returned specifically to the Mid Ulster Council area each year through the successful applicants to the small grants programme. The remaining funding of the grant programme is supplemented by funding from other organisations.
2.4	Mid Ulster District Council in partnership with Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful and other organisations launched the 2022 Small Grants Scheme on 11 th April 2022. The scheme forms part of a wider programme aimed at promoting civic pride within communities and improving environmental quality. Details of successful grant recipients are enclosed within Appendix A.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The primary focus of the Small Grants Scheme is to equip and support volunteers and community groups to deliver practical environmental action in their locality.
3.2	It aims to support communities to meet the following objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the quality of their local environment by reducing littering and dog fouling through community action. • Enhance the environmental management of a local area.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to the development of civic pride within a community with a focus on environmental improvement. • Improve the health and wellbeing of communities whilst helping to improve and/or maintain public spaces. • Encourage actions and projects that enable Pollution Solutions, Biodiversity Recovery and Climate Action. • Support environmentally focused actions that help support people impacted through reduced contact with society.
3.3	<p>Applications to the Small Grants Scheme should demonstrate the following three central themes that form part of the Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful's Strategic Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Action • Biodiversity Recovery • Pollution Solutions
3.4	<p>Grants are available from £500 to £3000. The small grants scheme is open to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unconstituted groups • Volunteer, community groups and NGOs • All schools and third level education organisations • Youth groups, sports clubs, churches • Not for Profit Organisations
3.4	<p>All applications require to demonstrate engagement with the wider community.</p>
3.5	<p>Within the Mid Ulster District Council area, 22 applications were submitted this year and therefore were assessed. The proposed projects were considered in terms of showing engagement with volunteers and community groups to deliver practical action and assessed in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental/Community outcomes • Meeting objectives • Project goals • Project need • Volunteer involvement • Community benefit • Long term impact
3.6	<p>Funding was awarded to 10 projects within the Mid Ulster area that met the scheme criteria. The total grant amount allocated to the successful projects within Mid Ulster was £16,498. Council made a funding contribution to the scheme of £10,500. The remainder of the funding was met by another participating funding partner, McAdam.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	<p>Financial: Covered within the Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful Membership and included within Council's revenue budgets for the 22/23 year. In December 2021 Council approved £21k per annum funding for a further 3 years, 50% which comes back to Council through a small grants programme. (Minute reference: E295/21).</p>
	<p>Human: Officer time to review all applications and assess in accordance with scheme criteria so to facilitate and assist with the evaluation panel</p>

	Risk Management: This scheme is administered and managed through Live Here Love Here governance processes.
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 contents of this report.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix A: Grant recipients and amount of grant award Appendix B: Grant guidance notes Appendix C: LHLH & MUDC Impact Card

Appendix A
MUDC Small Grants Scheme
Projects Awarded Funding – 2022

Group	Project	Funding Allocated £
Magherafelt District LOL No. 3	Natural Recovery	1400
Hillhead Terrace Residents	Tidy up and enhance grass embankment	1200
Magherafelt District Junior LOL No. 80	Wild and Free	580
Lough Neagh Partnership	Ballyronan Marina wildflower and tree planting programme	2998
Rainey Endowed	Wildflower Meadow	1030
Castledawson Village Community Association	Castledawson Bloom	1300
Oranbeg Community	Rewilding Oranbeg	1450
Sandholes Community Group	Sandholes Community Biodiversity Recovery and Climate Action Project	640
Augher St. Macartan's	Augher takes Environmental Action through our Nature Trail Project	2900
Caledon Community Centre	Environmental Awakening at Caledon Community Centre	3000



Small Grants Scheme 2022 Application Guidance Notes

Thank you to all the partners who make the Small Grants Scheme possible



Belfast
City Council



Derry City & Strabane
District Council
Comhairle Chathair
Dhoire & Cheantar
an tSratha Báin
Derry Cittie & Stràbane
Destrìck Council



Fermanagh & Omagh
District Council
Comhairle Ceantair
Fhear Manach agus na hÓmaí



Mid & East
Antrim
Borough Council



Comhairle Ceantair
Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster
District Council



Comhairle Ceantair
an Iúir, Mhúrn
agus an Dúin
Newry, Mourne
and Down
District Council

Housing
Executive

Live Here Love Here is managed by Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful

Email: smallgrants@liveherelovehere.org

Web: www.liveherelovehere.org

YouTube: <http://bit.ly/LHLHYoutube>

Thank you for your interest in the Live Here Love Here Small Grants Scheme.
You are strongly advised to read all the guidance notes before you complete an application.

The Live Here Love Here Small Grants Scheme forms part of a wider programme aimed at promoting civic pride within communities and improving environmental quality. The Small Grants Scheme is a partnership between 10 Local Councils, Northern Ireland Housing Executive, McAdam and Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful.

The Small Grants Scheme is about encouraging practical, local action towards building more sustainable communities. The scheme will support communities to:

- Contribute to the development of civic pride within a community with a focus on environmental improvement.
- Encourage actions and projects that enable Pollution Solutions, Biodiversity Recovery and Climate Action (see below).
- Enhance the environmental management of a local area.
- Improve the health and wellbeing of communities whilst helping to improve and/or maintain public spaces.
- Improve the quality of their local environment by reducing littering and dog fouling through Community Action.
- Support environmentally focused actions that help support people impacted through reduced contact with society.

Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful’s Strategic Plan is built around three central themes to help deliver change that is both sustainable and lasting. Applications to the Small Grants Scheme should demonstrate how they reflect these themes:

<u>Climate Action</u>	<u>Biodiversity Recovery</u>	<u>Pollution Solutions</u>
<i>To ensure we reverse the devastating impacts that the climate emergency is having on our planet.</i>	<i>Lead a recovery in our biodiversity. It is critical that we protect our green spaces and encourage growth of native flowers and trees that supports our delicate eco-system.</i>	<i>Support real behaviour change in how people view the issues of littering and waste. Moreover, change the way businesses package and produce their goods for us as consumers.</i>

1. Value of grants awarded

Grants are available between **£500 - £3000**. The average grant awarded is around £1,200.
Grants are available to cover 100% of costs.

2. Eligibility

The Live Here Love Here Small Grants Scheme is open to:

- Unconstituted groups
- Volunteer, community groups and NGOs
- *All schools and third level education organisations
- *Youth groups, sports clubs, churches
- Not for Profit Organisations

*Engagement with the wider community is required.

Schools/Colleges/Universities are eligible to apply to the [School Pollinator Garden Grants](#) for £3000-£12000 support. Applications are open 4th to 28th April. Please only apply to the Small Grant Scheme for support if your project requires less than £3000.

Applications are particularly welcome from groups who have not previously received support through the Live Here Love Here Small Grants Scheme.

One application will be considered per group and track record of previous grant recipients will be taken into consideration during the judging process.

Each applicant organisation can submit only one application with the exception that an applicant may also be named as a partner in a second collaborative bid.

Funding is only available in Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council to projects located in Northern Ireland Housing Executive areas.

3. What type of projects will the scheme consider?

Proposed projects must engage volunteers and community groups to deliver **practical action** and must meet one or more of the following **objectives**:

- (a) Contribute to the development of civic pride within a community with a focus on environmental improvement.
- (b) Encourage actions and projects that enable Pollution Solutions, Biodiversity Recovery and Climate Action.
- (c) Enhance the environmental management of a local area.
- (d) Improve the health and wellbeing of communities whilst helping to improve and/or maintain public spaces.
- (e) Improve the quality of their local environment by reducing littering and dog fouling through community action.
- (f) Support environmentally focused actions that help support people impacted through reduced contact with society.

Applicants should note projects do not need to meet all the objectives but in your application you should strongly indicate those objectives that they do meet.

On site workshops and/or training may be funded if it demonstrates that the project meets the Small Grants Scheme objectives and will upskill and benefit the wider community.

Projects will be assessed in the following areas:

- (1) environmental/community outcomes (2) meeting objectives (3) project goals
- (4) project need (5) volunteer involvement (6) community benefit (7) long term impact

4. What the scheme will not fund:

The primary focus of the Live Here Love Here Small Grants Scheme is to equip and support volunteers and community groups to deliver practical environmental action in their locality.

While the items below may be part of your project, the Live Here Love Here Small Grants Scheme will **not** fund these items:

- Project running costs – salaries, insurance, mileage, office overheads
- Non environmental interests - party political activities, promotion of religion
- Costs for events – holiday schemes, catering, volunteer expenses
- Professional fees more than 50% of an awarded grant
- Structures requiring maintenance from a local authority – e.g., on-street dog bins & recycling facilities.
- Items that cannot/will not be stored in a community facility.
- Litterpicking equipment – please apply to the **Adopt a Spot** programme by downloading the Live Here Love Here app and requesting to Adopt A Spot.

5. Application Process

Completed applications must be submitted by 12 noon on Monday 9th May 2022.

Please complete your application online at www.livehereandlovehere.org/smallgrants

Applications should be made by a person who will be directly involved with the delivery of the project as funding information can only be shared with successful projects. A second contact within your group is required at application stage to ensure we can contact your group throughout the grant process.

One application will be eligible from each profile on the Live Here love Here website.

The online application is the preferred method for application. Only in exceptional circumstances can we accept applications via another format. If you have any queries or difficulties, please email: smallgrants@livehereandlovehere.org

Evidence of quotes are not needed at the application stage but must be uploaded with grant claim.

All projects should be scalable in proportion to the amount of funding allocated.

You will receive an email confirming the receipt of your application and Live Here Love Here will contact you directly when your application has been assessed.

The judging panel's decision is final. There is no appeals process.

Landowner Permission

It is your responsibility to ensure that all permissions, consents and legal requirements are complied with before you commence your project.

Insurance

It is your responsibility to ensure that all activities site works, assets purchased and installed arising from this project are properly and fully insured for public, employee or any other liability. Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful does not have in place insurance or other arrangements to indemnify you, your employees or other volunteers in respect of any legal liability arising from any act or omission in the fulfilling of the work covered by this grant.

6. PROJECT DELIVERY

Your project must start within two months of receipt of a Letter of Offer. Live Here Love Here reserves the right to withdraw the offer if your project does not start within this timeframe or if there is unacceptable progress with your project.

Site Visits

During project delivery, the Live Here Love Here team may contact participating groups to arrange site visits to monitor the progress of their project. Similarly, after you confirm your project is complete, we may arrange a site visit to verify completion and expenditure.

In accepting a grant, you agree to facilitate these visits and provide all information requested in a timely manner. We may also seek your help in developing publicity materials to assist in promoting the grants in future years.

7. CLAIMING YOUR GRANT

All financial expenditure must take place and grant claims submitted **online** by noon on **31st January 2023**.

Any receipts/invoices forwarded after this date will not be reimbursed.

Information about the online claim process will be circulated to the successful project during May.

Where deemed necessary, applicants will be able to claim 80% of funding upfront with the final 20% paid on receipt of a completed and satisfactory summary report. This will be approved only where any relevant additional information has been supplied to Live Here Love Here. Any discrepancies will not be paid until/unless they are resolved to the satisfaction of Live Here Love Here.

Ensuring Value for Money

- No quotes are required for items or services under £100
- Two written quotes are required for items or services £100 to £3,000

Receipts/invoices and proof of expenditure must be submitted with ALL claims for ALL items purchased. **Failure to comply may result in grant funding being withheld or withdrawn.**

Important Dates for the Live Here Love Here Small Grants Scheme:

Application Stage	Deadline
Fund Opens	11 th April 2022
Fund closes for applications	9 th May 2022
Project Completed & Financial Claims Submitted	31st January 2023

If you have any questions in connection with the grant process, please contact Live Here Love Here.

Email: smallgrants@livehereandlovehere.org

Free Carbon Literacy Training for Schools and Communities

Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful are offering free Carbon Literacy training for schools and communities funded by Department of Environment, Agriculture and Rural Affairs. Carbon Literacy training consists of 8-10 hours of learning, delivered over three or four sessions via a blended learning experience, including live virtual sessions and self-study activities.

The course will develop an awareness of how climate change is affecting us now and will continue to affect us in the future unless we take urgent action. The course also looks at climate justice issues across the globe and explores how we can begin to discuss climate change with colleagues, families and friends.

Community groups and schools are encouraged to attend a course to map their carbon footprint and gain an understanding of and motivation to, reducing personal and community carbon emissions

For details please go to the [Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful website](#)

CHANGING THE WORLD — ONE PROJECT AT A TIME



Comhairle Ceantair
Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster
District Council

SMALL GRANTS SCHEME

A key pillar of the Live Here Love Here programme, the Small Grant Scheme provides support to grassroots projects to build community capacity and civic pride in the areas that need it the most.

22	
applications received	
10	
projects funded	
£55,729	
amount requested	
£10,500	
amount awarded by council	
£5,998	
additional funding by partners	

Mid Ulster District Council data for 2022-2023



George Seviour and Vicky Seviour-Crockett
Ambassadors for Mid Ulster District Council

92	
Adopt A Spots	
2	
Adopt A Spot Volunteer Ambassadors	
15	
Big Spring Clean events	
Additional campaign partners	

ADDITIONAL INVESTMENTS

CLIMATE CHALLENGE FUND (UKCRF)

5	
projects funded	
£21,200	
amount awarded	

SCHOOL POLLINATOR GARDEN GRANTS (DAERA)

30	
projects funded	
£227,719	
funding awarded	

BOTTOM LINE	
£21,000	total council invested in Live Here Love Here
£254,917	total additional funds for projects across council area
1,113%	return on investment (ROI)



Clare Hassan, St Pius X College
Winner of Community Award - Hidden Gem

MEDIA CAMPAIGN	
REACH	
1.4m+	3.3m+
Facebook	YouTube
567k	
TikTok (NEW)	
82%	65%
of Northern Ireland TV audience	prompted awareness of Live Here, Love Here campaign

Report on	Drinking Water Quality Report for Northern Ireland 2021
Date of Meeting	13 th October 2022
Reporting Officer	Kieran Gordon, Assistant Director Health, Leisure & Wellbeing
Contact Officer	Anne Caldwell, Principal Environmental Health Officer

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To provide information on the recently published Drinking Water Quality Report for Northern Ireland 2021.
2.0	Background
2.1	The Drinking Water Inspectorate (DWI) recently published their annual report on Drinking Water Quality in Northern Ireland 2021 during September 2022. The report is attached at Appendix A.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	For monitoring purposes NI Water's supply area is divided into water supply zones. These are areas serving not more than 100,000 people, each of which are normally supplied from a single water supply source or combination of sources. There are areas where owing to topography and dispersal of population, it is not practicable to provide a mains water supply. In Northern Ireland over 99% of the population receive their drinking water from Northern Ireland Water Limited (NI Water). The remainder is served by private water supplies. This report provides an independent assessment of drinking water quality of both public and private supplies for the calendar year 2021.
3.2	In a number of cases, water supply zones overlap council boundaries and therefore the information does not mirror the council boundary exactly but relates to a zone determined by the Drinking Water Inspectorate.
3.3	The information is based on samples taken randomly in each water supply zone and from planned samples at authorised supply points. Due to the nature of random sampling, there may be fluctuations in water quality across the water supply zones.
3.4	The report also details capital works programmes affecting the council area which directly related to water quality during the reporting period.
3.5	Overall public drinking water quality for 2021 remained high with 99.88% compliance, a decrease from 2020 (99.94%) and the same as 2017. Compliance at private water supplies, at 99.19%, slightly decreased from 2020 (99.24%) and 2019 (99.29%).
3.6	Safe, clean drinking water is critical for our health and wellbeing, to support business and grow the economy. In 2021, with varying levels of COVID-19 restrictions, the flexibilities

	approved by DWI in 2020 continued. A return to full consumer tap sampling occurred in June 2021.
3.7	Small variations in water quality compliance performance occur across Northern Ireland. This reflects the need to continue to invest in and to maintain water treatment works, and to improve the water mains network.
3.8	Reports are available via the following website: https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/drinking-water-quality-northern-ireland
3.9	Drinking water quality tables detailing non-compliance of individual water supply zones, by parameter are available via the following website: https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/drinking-water-quality-tables
3.10	Anyone can check the water quality in their area including hardness and dishwasher settings, by accessing the below website and entering in their full postcode: https://www.niwater.com/water-quality-results/
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: None anticipated at this juncture.
	Human: None anticipated at this juncture.
	Risk Management: None anticipated at this juncture.
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 contents of this report.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix A: Annual Report on Drinking Water Quality in Northern Ireland 2021 Appendix B: Drinking Water Quality in Northern Ireland, 2021

Drinking Water Quality in Northern Ireland, 2021

A Report by the Drinking Water Inspectorate for Northern Ireland



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



Northern Ireland Environment Agency

Drinking Water Quality in Northern Ireland, 2021

A Report by the Drinking Water Inspectorate for Northern Ireland

**Published by Northern Ireland Environment Agency
September 2022**

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Foreword

I am pleased to present the 26th annual report on the quality of drinking water in Northern Ireland. The Drinking Water Inspectorate's (DWI's) primary role is to protect public health through effective drinking water regulation. This report provides an independent assessment of drinking water quality of both public and private supplies for the calendar year 2021 and meets the publication requirements of The Water (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019.

In Northern Ireland over 99% of the population receive their drinking water from Northern Ireland Water Limited (NI Water). The remainder is served by private water supplies.

Overall public drinking water quality for 2021 remained high with 99.88% compliance, a decrease from 2020 (99.94%) and the same as 2017. Compliance at private water supplies, at 99.19%, slightly decreased from 2020 (99.24%) and 2019 (99.29%).

Safe, clean drinking water is critical for our health and wellbeing, to support business and grow the economy. In 2021, with varying levels of COVID-19 restrictions, the flexibilities approved by DWI in 2020 continued. A return to full consumer tap sampling occurred in June 2021.

Lead was the parameter with the lowest compliance in 2021, at 98.08%. Although compliance varies due to the random nature of sampling, this is a decrease on recent years. NI Water continues to implement its lead strategy and proactive replacement programme. A wider issue exists however, within internal lead pipework in properties constructed before 1970.

NI Water's new Price Control (PC21) capital investment programme commenced, with publication of the Utility Regulator's Final Determination in May 2021. DWI continues to work with all stakeholders to ensure the effective prioritisation of investment in drinking water quality in areas where there is greatest need.

Enforcement action is taken where necessary, and in 2021, one new Notice was issued against NI Water to implement effective treatment for recurring aluminium contraventions at a water treatment works. NI Water commenced construction on a major capital investment programme (£12m) to improve water quality at Derg WTW as required by DWI, to comply with regulatory limits for the herbicide MCPA. The first prosecution of NI Water for a drinking water quality offence was also completed in 2021 in relation to the supply of water unfit for human consumption in the Meigh area of Newry in 2018.

As well as domestic properties, commercial businesses, and public buildings such as food producers, hospitals and health care premises use private drinking water supplies. Notwithstanding some rescheduling of samples due to COVID-19 restrictions, private water supply monitoring returned to normal in 2021, and I am pleased to report that the 99.99% of scheduled sampling was completed to meet DWI's regulatory duty. I take this opportunity to recognise and thank council staff, for their contribution in achieving this target and for their ongoing work in the completion of risk assessments on behalf of DWI.

We launched a [Single Well Application](#) in 2021 providing bespoke guidance to owners and users of private water supplies on areas such as source protection and treatment options.

Looking ahead, challenges continue as we strive to tackle climate change and work towards net zero. We will continue to work with stakeholders and engage with NI Water on innovative, low carbon treatment solutions to ensure continued, high quality drinking water for Northern Ireland.

I trust you will find this report a useful reference.



Catriona Davis
Chief Inspector of Drinking Water
September 2022

Contents

Executive Summary	1
--------------------------	----------

Section 1 - Public Water Supplies

Part 1 - Drinking Water Quality

Public Water Supplies – Key Facts	6
Drinking Water Quality Testing	7
Sampling and Analyses Frequencies	7
Overall Drinking Water Quality	7
Water Quality at Consumers Taps	9
Domestic Dwellings Distribution Systems	13
Public Buildings Distribution Systems	13
Consumer Contacts	13
Consumer Advice	17

Part 2 - The Drinking Water Cycle

The Drinking Water Cycle	19
Catchments	19
Water Treatment	20
Distribution	24
Events and Risk Management	26
Regulatory Control	27
Future Investment in Drinking Water Quality	28

Section 2 - Private Water Supplies

Private Drinking Water Supplies – Key Facts	30
Private Drinking Water Supplies	31
Register of Supplies	32
Monitoring of Supplies	33
Risk Assessment	34
Overall Drinking Water Quality	35
Factors Affecting Drinking Water Quality	37
Actions in the Event of Failure	39
Single Private Well Web Application	40

Annexes

Annex 1 - Glossary	42
Annex 2 - Events	46
Annex 3 - Technical Audit Programme	52
Annex 4 - Enforcement Action	53

Useful Information	55
---------------------------	-----------

Request for Feedback	56
-----------------------------	-----------

List of Tables and Figures

Section 1 - Public Water Supplies

Part 1 - Drinking Water Quality

Table Number

1.1	Number of Sites in Service in 2021	7
1.2	Overall Drinking Water Quality in 2021	8
1.3	Consumer Tap Compliance 2021	10
1.4	Water Quality Contacts received by NI Water in 2021	15

Figure Number

1.1	Overall Drinking Water Quality, 2017-2021	9
1.2	Lead Leaflet	11
1.3	Percentage of Regulatory Tests Meeting the Lead Standard 2017-2021	11
1.4	Percentage of Regulatory Tests Meeting the Odour & Taste Standards 2017-2021	12
1.5	Consumer Contacts and Concerns received by NI Water in 2021	16
1.6	Looking After Water in Your Home Guide	17

Part 2 - The Drinking Water Cycle

Table Number

2.1	Pesticides Detected above the Regulatory Limit, 2017-2021	20
2.2	Water Quality at Water Treatment Works, 2021	21
2.3	Water Quality Indicators within the Distribution System, 2021	24

Figure Number

2.1	Clarification Stage	21
2.2	Backwashing a Filter	21
2.3	Percentage Compliance for Aluminium & THMs at Consumers' Taps, 2017-2021	23
2.4	Service Reservoir	24
2.5	Percentage Compliance of Coliform Bacteria at Service Reservoirs, 2017-2021	25
2.6	Percentage Compliance of Iron in Distribution, 2017-2021	25
2.7	New Mains Installation	26
2.8	Derg WTW Construction Works	28

Section 2 - Private Water Supplies

Table Number

1.1	Numbers and Types of Private Water Supplies in 2021	33
1.2	Overall Water Quality in Private Water Supplies in 2021	35

Figure Number

1.1	NI Water Mains Network (and no water supply areas)	31
1.2	Categories of Private Water Supplies in Northern Ireland in 2021	32
1.3	Distribution of Registered Private Water Supplies by Council Area in 2021	34
1.4	Comparison of Compliance in Private Water Supplies, 2017-2021	36
1.5	Categories of Non-Compliant Private Water Sites in 2021	37

Executive Summary

This is the 26th report in a series published by the Drinking Water Inspectorate (DWI) in Northern Ireland, acting in our role as the drinking water quality regulator for both public and private water supplies.

The report provides an independent assessment of the quality of drinking water provided by NI Water Limited (NI Water). It also presents details of the quality of private water supplies for which we have a regulatory responsibility and undertake a monitoring programme.

COVID-19

COVID-19 continued to have an impact, albeit less significant, on the monitoring of the quality of drinking water supplies across Northern Ireland in 2021. The flexibility provided to NI Water by DWI in March 2020, in relation to consumer tap sampling remains in place where challenges are presented as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2021, the impact of periods of restricted access to domestic properties resulted in a reduced number of samples being collected for specific parameters that are only monitored at consumers' taps. This shortfall in regulatory sampling by NI Water was approved by DWI in advance, and hence no enforcement action was taken as it was beyond the company's control. Private water supplies monitoring was completed for 99.99% of scheduled parameters in 2021.

Public Water Supplies

In 2021 the overall public drinking water compliance remained high at 99.88%, a decrease from 2020 (99.94%). The 0.12% non-compliance relates to 111 tests that failed to meet the required standard. Compliance at consumers' taps, measured either directly or through surrogate zonal sampling, depending on COVID-19 restrictions, also remained high at 99.82%, again, lower than 2020 (99.91%). However, of the 43 regulatory parameters tested, 15 did not achieve full compliance. Those parameters failing to meet full compliance were: Lead, Total Trihalomethanes, Odour, Nickel, Iron, Taste, *Clostridium perfringens*, Aluminium, Coliform bacteria, Enterococci, Manganese, Turbidity, Hydrogen ion (pH), *E.coli* and Other Pesticides – individual (MCPA).

The parameter with the lowest reported compliance in 2021 was Lead at 98.08%. Compliance with the lead standard remains an issue in properties built before 1970 as even when NI Water replace pipework to the property boundary, failures can result due to lead pipework within the property. NI Water continues to implement its lead strategy to effectively manage the risk to public health.

Contraventions of microbiological parameters may indicate a failure in the treatment process or a breach in the integrity of the water supply system. An overall microbiological compliance figure at consumers' taps of 99.92% was reported in 2021 compared to 99.94% in 2020. Coliform bacteria were detected in four samples, with *Clostridium perfringens* and Enterococci both detected in one sample each. It is considered that the improved compliance recorded for 2020 may be partly due to the reduced consumer tap sampling. The reintroduction of the consumer tap sampling in 2021, may have resulted in the decrease in compliance, which is more reflective of the actual water being consumed. Several of the metal parameters must be sampled at the consumer tap (copper, nickel and lead), and due to the periods of restrictions, it

was mainly these parameters that constituted the shortfall in 2021. A full return to consumer tap sampling was implemented by NI Water in June 2021.

All contraventions must be investigated by NI Water and may in some cases be traced to distribution systems in domestic dwellings or within public buildings. In 2021, five such reports related to internal plumbing systems in domestic properties, all of which were due to lead. NI Water investigated the cause of the contraventions and issued letters to consumers offering appropriate advice to protect public health. 22 of the 851 samples collected from public buildings (schools, hospitals, restaurants etc) contravened standards, including Aluminium, Iron, Lead, Nickel, Odour, Taste, Total Trihalomethanes, Coliform bacteria and Turbidity standards. We issue letters of advice to owners of public buildings as the first step in achieving compliance. Where required, follow up action may be taken to ensure compliance is achieved in public buildings.

The total number of water quality events (Annex 2) that occurred in 2021 was slightly higher than in 2020, with 40 events reported to us by NI Water. Of these, we categorised one as Major, two as Serious, 19 as Significant, seven as Minor and 11 as Not Significant.

The Major event related to a high number of consumer contacts regarding the taste and odour of their mains water supply and contraventions of the taste and odour parameters in the final water from Carmoney WTW. Of the two Serious events, one related to contraventions of taste and odour parameters and associated consumer complaints following operational work on a water main in the Armagh area. The second related to the high demand in the network due to the prolonged period of warm, dry weather which was exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. NI Water declared a Category 1 incident, with alternative supplies and tankering required to maintain supply following a major trunk main burst in the Antrim area. Fifteen of the 19 Significant events reported related to 11 water treatment works and were primarily related to difficulties with the treatment process or a lack of effective treatment. The other four Significant events occurred in the distribution network.

To enable us to evaluate consumer confidence in the quality of drinking water, we receive information relating to consumer concerns and complaints from NI Water. The total number of consumer contacts reported in 2021 was 7,305 compared to 5,993 in 2020, an increase of 21.9%. Of the complaints received by NI Water, 64.8% related to the visual appearance of the water, a slight decrease from 2020 (65.1%).

Where necessary, we take enforcement action (Annex 4), to secure remedial action within specified timeframes. One of the Notices issued by DWI led to the commencement by NI Water of a major capital investment at Derg WTW in July 2021. The planned work, costing over £12 million, will also improve the removal of organics and improve the quality of the water supplied to over 40,000 people in the Tyrone area. NI Water also continued to work to develop the most appropriate treatment solution to comply with the two Notices which we issued in 2020 in relation to the individual pesticide MCPA contraventions and taste and odour contraventions at Ballinrees WTWs.

One new Notice was issued by us in 2021 in relation to ongoing contraventions of the regulatory standard for Aluminium at Drumaroad WTW. A treatment system must be installed and operational to ensure compliance with the Aluminium standard by 30 April 2025.

DWI completed the first prosecution of NI Water for the supply of water which was unfit for human consumption. The offence related to an incident in the Meigh area of Newry in July-August 2018, when the mains supply was contaminated with oil, resulting in 43 properties being affected, giving rise to taste and odour complaints. The Regulations require that there is 'no abnormal change' and that the water is 'acceptable to the consumer'. NI Water pleaded guilty to the offence on 19 July 2021 and received a conditional discharge for a period of twelve months.

Private Water Supplies

The same drinking water quality standards apply for private water supplies as for the public water supply. Although less than 1% of the population receives water from a private supply, many more are exposed to them through their use in both commercial activities and public buildings. A number of premises in Northern Ireland that have a private supply also have a mains supply. Private supplies are used as an alternative to, or in conjunction with the public supply for a range of activities including food processing, holiday accommodation, and public buildings, including hospitals and care homes. Over 80% of the private water supplies registered with DWI are classified as commercial or public supplies, a number of which are used for economic reasons.

During 2021 our private water supply sampling programme monitored 171 sites, with six new sites being registered during that period. A total of ten sites were removed as they were taken out of supply or no longer met the criteria for registration. Samples at private water supplies are collected by local councils' Environmental Health staff, acting on our behalf.

Overall compliance for 2021 is reported as 99.19%, a slight decrease from 99.24% reported for 2020. The regulatory requirements were not met on 97 occasions for 17 parameters, namely: Coliform bacteria, Enterococci, *E. coli*, *Clostridium perfringens*, Arsenic, Manganese, Hydrogen ion (pH), Copper, Sulphate, Nickel, Iron, Sodium, Turbidity, Nitrate, Nitrite, Individual pesticides (Clopyralid and Metribuzin) and Radon.

Full compliance was achieved for 71% (121 sites) of the private water supplies tested in 2021. Of the 50 sites which did not comply with the regulatory standards, 32% (16 sites) contravened microbiological standards; 54% (27 sites) chemical standards; and 14% (seven sites) failed to comply with both microbiological and chemical standards.

The presence of micro-organisms in a private water supply is indicative of contamination of the water either at source or at some point within the distribution system. In particular, the detection of *E. coli* or enterococci bacteria specifically indicates faecal contamination of a water supply and can be a risk to public health. These faecal indicators were found to be present in 24 supplies during 2021; 13 small shared domestic supplies with no disinfection treatment and 11 commercial / public supplies, six of which had disinfection treatment in place at the time of sampling.

Iron and manganese continue to be chemical parameters with a high incidence of non-compliance at private supplies. In 2021, 16 sites were found to have contraventions for either iron or manganese or both. There was also one nickel and one copper contravention detected at separate sites in 2021. Two individual pesticide contraventions, for Clopyralid and Metribuzin, were also identified at private water supplies in 2021.

All contraventions at private water supply sites are investigated and action taken dependent on the severity of the failure. In 2021, of the 97 contraventions identified, 71 (29 microbiological; 42 chemical) were notified to the PHA for health advice; resulting in new restrictions on water usage at two sites to protect public health.

We continue to work with owners and users of private water supplies and Environmental Health staff in local councils to ensure the risk assessment of private water supply sites is progressed to bring the remaining supplies into compliance. Priority is given to advancing improvements in water quality through provision of advice and guidance, agreeing action plans (particularly at the larger commercial / public sites) and promotion of drinking water safety plans for the ongoing management of these supplies. However, where necessary we may take formal action to secure compliance to ensure a safe, clean supply of drinking water from private supplies.

In October 2021, a new [Single Well Application](#) was published on the DAERA website. This provides bespoke advice and guidance to owners / users of private water supplies based on completion of a questionnaire on topics such as source protection and treatment. It also provides a report on the recommendations for each supply.

Looking Forward

The Department and NIEA's key priorities are Green Growth and Climate Change. The effects of human activity on the environment and the fresh water sources that are abstracted to produce our drinking water are becoming more evident. There are increasing pressures on the security of small private drinking water supplies with more extreme temperatures and the impacts of climate change. The need to secure the provision of a resilient public water supply into the future as well as the need to achieve net zero is driving the need for more innovative, lower carbon treatment solutions to be identified by NI Water.

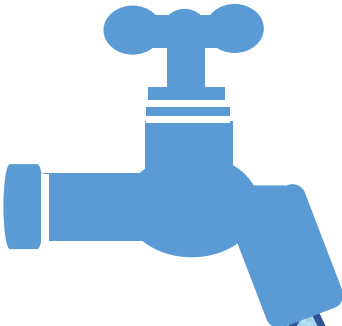
As the drinking water quality regulator, we are committed to collaborating with all stakeholders in the development and implementation of policies and strategies to secure the future of a high quality, safe and sustainable supply of drinking water for all of Northern Ireland for future generations.



Public Water Supplies

Key Facts

% Compliance



Overall compliance
99.88%

Overall micro compliance
99.92%

Consumer tap compliance
99.82%

Copper
100%

E. coli
99.98%

Manganese
99.80%

Enterococci
99.77%

Aluminium
99.65%

Iron
98.35%

Nickel
99.23%

Lead
98.08%

Supply System

24 water treatment works

289 Service Reservoirs

55 water supply zones

24 Supply Points

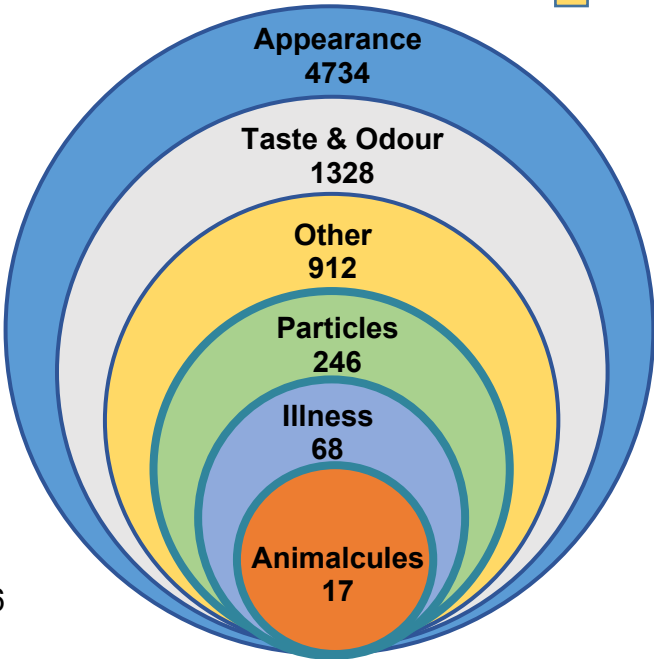
15 Parameters <100% compliance

22 Public building failures

Discoloured water main issue of concern

Consumer Complaints

21.9%



Drinking Water Quality

NI Water is a government-owned company with sole responsibility for supplying and distributing public drinking water throughout Northern Ireland.

Drinking Water Quality Testing

During 2021, NI Water sampled drinking water across Northern Ireland to test for compliance with the standards in The Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2017. The regulations require sampling programmes to be in place to ensure that water quality is monitored at: water treatment works (WTWs); service reservoirs (SRs); supply points¹; and consumers' taps in water supply zones (WSZs). A summary of the number of sites that were in service in 2021 is shown in Table 1.1.

In 2021, 95,661 tests were carried out for a range of different parameters. A description of each parameter and its regulatory limit (or prescribed concentration or value [PCV]) is available on our [website](#).

Table 1.1: Number of sites in service in 2021

Sites	No. in service
Water treatment works	24
Service reservoirs	289
Supply points ¹	24
Water supply zones	55

Sampling and Analyses Frequencies

NI Water is required to meet specified sampling frequencies in demonstrating the wholesomeness of drinking water supplies. We undertake an assessment of these requirements throughout the water supply chain: at WTWs; SRs; and WSZs.

During 2021, we identified a shortfall of 524 individual tests. The shortfall mainly occurred at Consumer Taps in WSZs due to the COVID-19 sampling restrictions. This represents a significant sampling and analyses shortfall for 2021. However, this was an improvement on 2020 and it was approved in advance by DWI, hence no action will be taken in relation to this shortfall.

Overall Drinking Water Quality

Compliance with the quality standards is important as contraventions may indicate a failure in the treatment process or a breach in the integrity of the water supply system which could pose a potential risk to human health. It also ensures that water meets aesthetic standards and is acceptable to consumers.

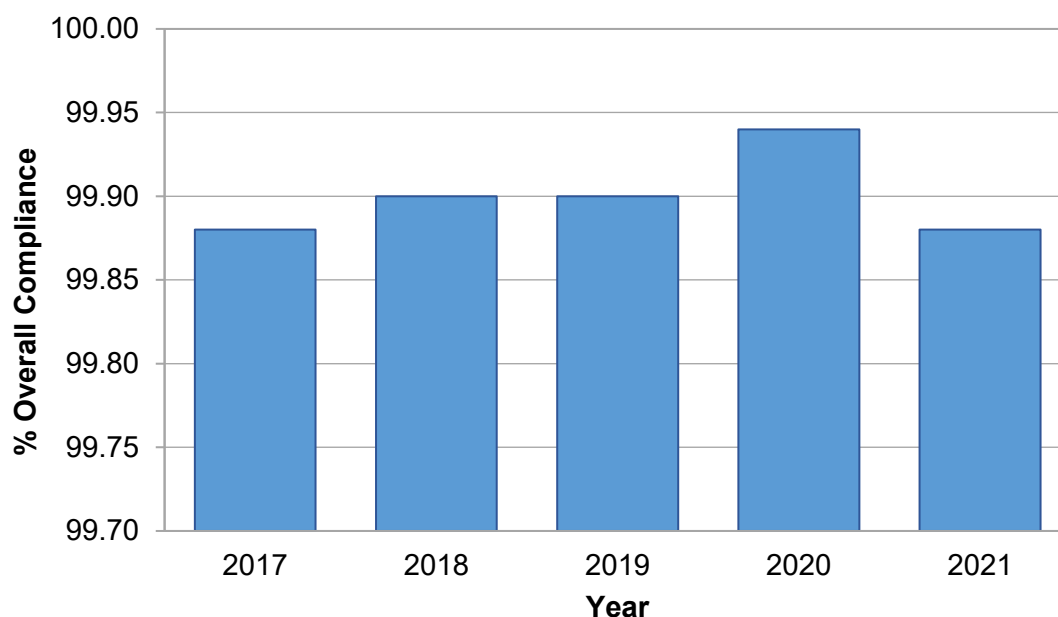
Of the 95,661 tests we used to assess overall compliance, 111 (0.12%) contravened the regulatory standards compared to 59 (0.06%) from 91,581 tests in 2020. Table 1.2 provides further information on these contraventions. It should be noted that the sampling programme continued to be disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic during 2021, but much less so than for 2020.

¹ a point, other than a consumer's tap, authorised for the taking of samples for compliance with the Regulations

Table 1.2: Overall Drinking Water Quality in 2021

	No. of Tests	No. of Tests not Meeting the Standards	% Compliance
Water Leaving Water Treatment Works (WTWs)			
<i>E. coli</i>	6252	0	
Coliform bacteria	6252	2	
Microbiological Total	12504	2	99.98
Nitrite	236	0	
Turbidity	6252	5	
Chemical Total	6488	5	99.92
Total (Microbiological and Chemical)	18992	7	99.96
Water in Service Reservoirs (SRs)			
<i>E. coli</i>	13972	1	
Coliform bacteria	13972	16	
Total (Microbiological)	27944	17	99.94
Water at Consumers' Taps or Supply Points (WSZs)			
<i>E. coli</i>	5520	1	
Coliform bacteria	5520	18	
Enterococci	432	1	
<i>Clostridium perfringens</i>	236	1	
Microbiological Total	11708	21	99.82
Zone Chemical Analysis	26586	64	
Supply Point Chemical Analysis	10431	2	
Chemical Total	37017	66	99.82
Total (Microbiological and Chemical)	48725	87	99.82
Overall Water Quality			
Overall Microbiological Quality	52156	40	99.92
Overall Chemical Quality	43505	71	99.84
Overall Drinking Water Quality	95661	111	99.88

The results confirm that overall drinking water quality in 2021, for the key parameters monitored at water treatment works, service reservoirs and consumers' taps remains high at 99.88%. Although this is a lower overall compliance than last year (99.94%), the figure for 2020 was higher than anticipated due to the changes in the sampling programme because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Figure 1.1 illustrates the percentage compliance over the last five years.

Figure 1.1: Overall Drinking Water Quality, 2017 – 2021

Water Quality at Consumers' Taps

To assess the quality of water that is being supplied to consumers, we assess results of regulatory samples taken by NI Water from consumers' taps. Table 1.3 shows the percentage compliance for 34 of the Schedule 1 (directive and national) parameters and nine of the Schedule 2 (indicator) parameters. Drinking water quality compliance at consumers' taps was 99.82% in 2021, representing a lower level of compliance than in 2020 (99.91%). However, the figure for 2020 was higher than anticipated due to the changes in the sampling programme because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Fifteen parameters did not achieve full compliance at consumers' taps in 2021: Lead, Total Trihalomethanes, Odour, Nickel, Iron, Taste, *Clostridium perfringens*, Aluminium, Coliform bacteria, Enterococci, Manganese, Turbidity, Hydrogen ion (pH), *E. coli* and Other Pesticides.

Table 1.3: Consumer Tap Compliance 2021

Parameter	No. of Samples	No. of Tests not Meeting the Standards	% Compliance
Schedule 1 (Directive and National parameters)			
Lead	261	5	98.08
Total Trihalomethanes	432	4	99.07
Odour	2004	17	99.15
Nickel	259	2	99.23
Iron	2004	13	99.35
Taste	2004	10	99.50
Aluminium	2004	7	99.65
Enterococci	432	1	99.77
Manganese	2004	4	99.80
Turbidity	2004	1	99.95
<i>E. coli</i>	5520	1	99.98
Other Pesticides	8967	2	99.98
1,2 dichloroethane	236	0	100.00
Antimony	432	0	100.00
Arsenic	432	0	100.00
Benzene	236	0	100.00
Benzo(a)pyrene	432	0	100.00
Boron	432	0	100.00
Bromate	432	0	100.00
Cadmium	432	0	100.00
Chromium	432	0	100.00
Colour	2003	0	100.00
Copper	260	0	100.00
Cyanide	236	0	100.00
Fluoride	431	0	100.00
Mercury	432	0	100.00
Nitrate	431	0	100.00
Nitrite	431	0	100.00
PAH - Sum of four substances	432	0	100.00
Pesticides - Total Substances	236	0	100.00
Selenium	432	0	100.00
Sodium	432	0	100.00
Tetrachloroethene & Trichloroethene Sum	236	0	100.00
Tetrachloromethane	236	0	100.00
Total (Schedule 1)	37619	67	99.82
Schedule 2 (Indicator parameters)			
<i>Clostridium perfringens</i>	236	1	99.58
Coliform bacteria	5520	18	99.67
Hydrogen Ion (pH)	2004	1	99.95
Ammonium	432	0	100.00
Chloride	431	0	100.00
Conductivity	2004	0	100.00
Sulphate	431	0	100.00
Indicative Dose	24	0	100.00
Tritium	24	0	100.00
Total (Schedule 2)	11106	20	99.82
Overall Total	48725	87	99.82

Chemical/Physical Quality

COVID-19 Restrictions

Due to the ongoing limitations in accessing domestic properties in 2021 there was a significant reduction in samples taken for copper, lead and nickel as these are samples that must be taken at consumer taps. Approximately 60% of the scheduled samples were taken for these parameters. Lead was the parameter with the lowest level of compliance in 2021.

Lead

In 2021, the Lead compliance was 98.08% compared to full compliance in 2020. However, less than 30% of the scheduled lead samples were taken in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic as these samples must be taken at consumer taps. Compliance with the lead standard is still an issue in properties built before 1970 so it is important that NI Water continue to implement its lead strategy to effectively manage the risk to public health.

When a sample has contravened the standard and NI Water's investigation finds the property's service pipe contains lead, it notifies the consumer. It is the owner's decision whether or not to replace their supply pipe and any other lead pipes within the property. A customer advice leaflet "[Lead in Drinking Water](#)" (Figure 1.2) can also be found on NI Water's website.

The Regulations require NI Water to treat the water to reduce the risk of the concentration of lead being greater than 10 µg/l. NI Water has a Lead Strategy in place to deliver improved compliance for lead.

Looking at the overall trend in lead compliance in Figure 1.3, there has been a gradual trend upwards since 2017. Notwithstanding the increased compliance, potentially due to reduced sampling in 2020, the decrease experienced in 2021 indicates that a significant amount of work is still required to ensure compliance improves in the future.

Figure 1.2 Lead Leaflet

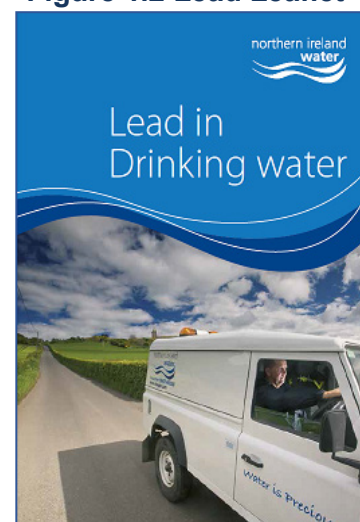
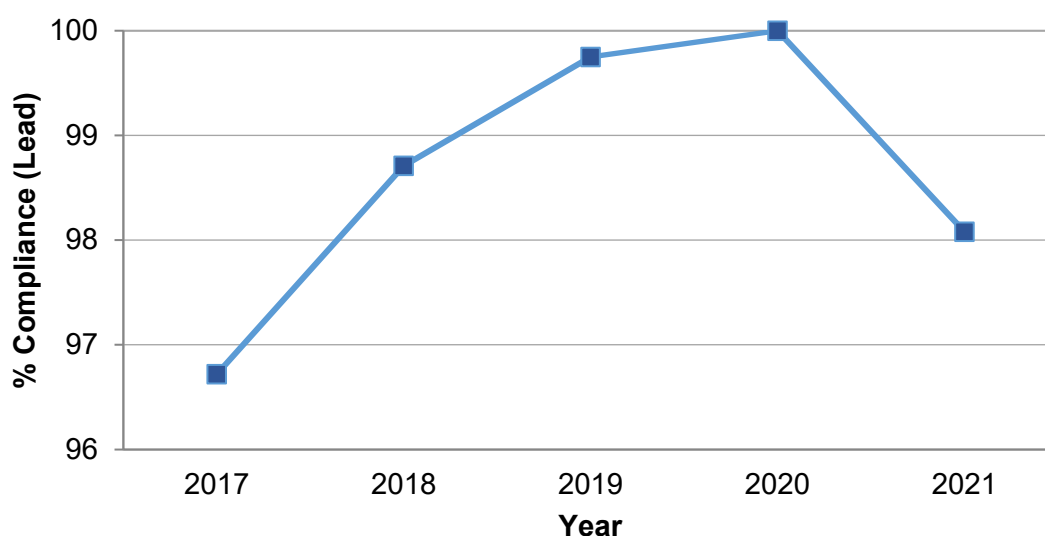


Figure 1.3: Percentage of Regulatory Tests Meeting the Lead Standard, 2017 – 2021



Trihalomethanes (THMs)

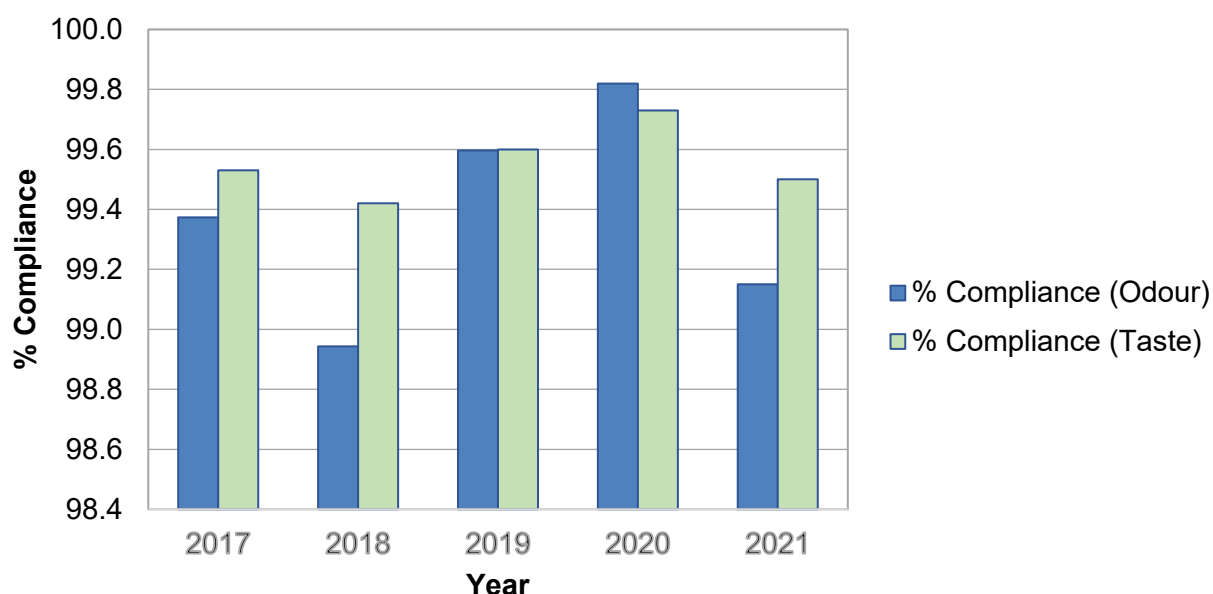
In 2021, the THMs compliance was 99.07% compared to full compliance in 2020. Further discussion on THMs is contained in Part 2 of this section.

Odour & Taste

The regulatory requirement for odour and taste is “Acceptable to consumers and no abnormal change”. DWI has issued guidance to NI Water on the interpretation of this regulatory requirement.

In 2021, odour compliance was 99.15% and taste compliance 99.50%, a decrease on the 2020 compliance (odour compliance 99.82% and taste compliance 99.73%). Odour and taste compliance over the last five years is shown in Figure 1.4. There is further information on odour and taste in the “Consumer Contacts” section later in this part of the report.

Figure 1.4: Percentage of Regulatory Tests Meeting the Odour & Taste Standards, 2017 – 2021



Nickel

In 2021, there was an increase in Nickel compliance to 99.23% compared to the 97.50% achieved in 2020. However due to the reduced number of samples taken for nickel in 2020 and 2021, this only reflects a difference between three contraventions in 2020 and two contraventions in 2021. Nickel may occur naturally in some ground waters but is rarely found in the mains water supply. Contraventions of the standard (20 µg/l) do occur occasionally, and the main source of nickel in drinking water is leaching from modern taps and other plumbing fittings.

Iron

The regulatory standard for iron is set for aesthetic reasons as levels above this can give rise to discoloured water. Corrosion of iron water mains is the most common reason for contraventions.

In 2021, there was a slight decrease in iron compliance to 99.35% from the 99.56% achieved in 2020.

The contraventions of the standard were mostly due to the build-up, and subsequent disturbance, of deposits found within water mains. Where this is identified, there are a number of remedial measures which NI Water carry out. Figure 2.6 in Part 2 provides iron compliance figures for the last five years.

Aluminium

In 2021, the aluminium compliance improved to 99.65% compared to the 2020 figure of 99.29%. Further discussion on aluminium is contained in Part 2 of this section.

Other pesticides – MCPA

The pesticide 2-methyl-4-chlorophenoxyacetic acid (MCPA) is a powerful, selective, widely used herbicide. MCPA is used in agriculture to control broad-leaf weeds and rushes. There was 99.98% compliance in 2021, a higher figure than for 2020 (99.94%). Further discussion on pesticides including MCPA is contained in Part 2 of this section.

Microbiological Quality

The overall safety of drinking water at consumers' taps in 2021 is confirmed with a 99.82% microbiological compliance (Table 1.2 refers). This is a decrease in compliance from the 99.94% reported in 2020. However, the figure for 2020 was higher than anticipated due to the changes in the sampling programme because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Clostridium perfringens were found in one sample taken in 2021 (99.58% compliance), the same as for 2020. After investigation by NI Water, the cause was not determined.

Enterococci were detected in one of the 432 samples taken at consumers' taps by NI Water. The presence of bacterium such as enterococci is indicative of faecal contamination and should not be found in any drinking water sample. *E. coli* were also detected in this sample requiring a "Do Not Use" notice to be issued by NI Water on the advice of the Public Health Agency (PHA). It is likely that contamination of an outside tap caused these bacteriological contraventions.

Domestic Dwellings Distribution Systems

NI Water's investigation into contraventions must determine if they are due to the internal distribution systems within domestic dwellings. Where this is identified it must inform the owner with details of the failure and provide appropriate advice in relation to actions the owner may take to rectify the contravention and protect public health. The investigations, where appropriate, should also ensure consumers' internal plumbing is compliant with The Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009.

NI Water reported five contraventions for 2021, due to the internal plumbing within domestic properties. All five contraventions were for the lead parameter. These contraventions were investigated by NI Water and letters sent to consumers advising them of the contraventions and offering appropriate advice to protect public health.

Public Buildings Distribution Systems

At premises where water is made available to members of the public (such as schools, hospitals or restaurants) there were 851 samples taken during 2021. Of these, 22 samples contravened the Aluminium, Iron, Lead, Nickel, Odour, Taste, Total Trihalomethanes, Coliform bacteria and Turbidity standards.

NI Water must take appropriate action to rectify the failure where it is attributable to either the water supplied by it or is a contravention of the Water Fittings Regulations. For any other failures within such premises, we are required to follow-up with the owners under The Water Supply (Domestic Distribution Systems) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2010. In line with our enforcement policy, an advisory letter is initially issued. If we assess the failure as likely to recur, or if it constitutes a potential risk to human health, a notice may be served on the owner to undertake the necessary actions to protect public health and bring the supply back into compliance.

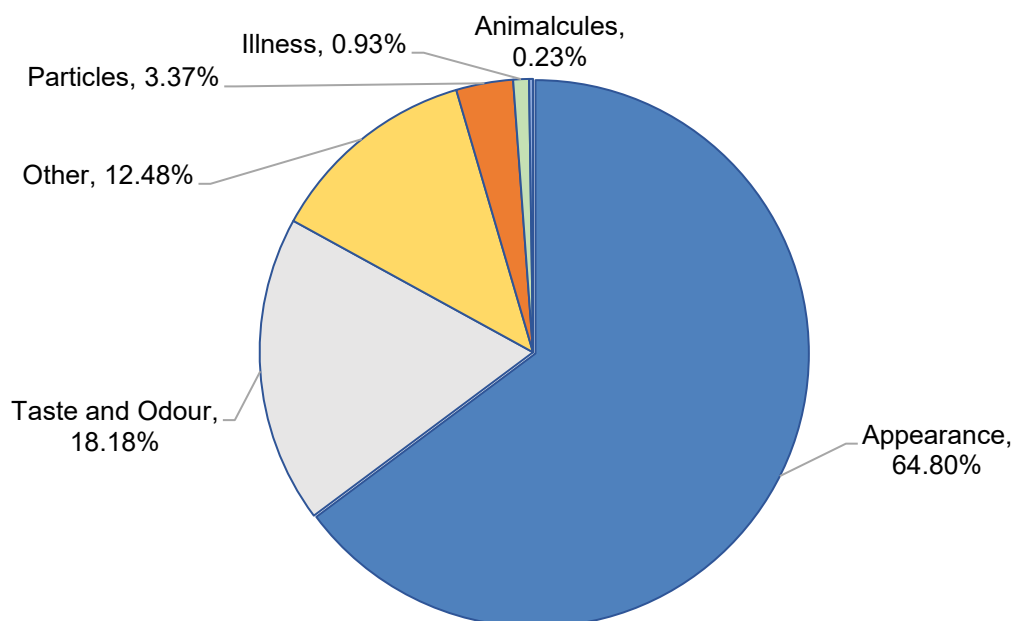
Consumer Contacts

NI Water provides us with consumer contact information to help us assess consumers' satisfaction of their drinking water quality (Table 1.4 refers). The total number of consumer contacts reported in 2021 was 7,305 compared to 5,993 in 2020, an increase of 1,312 (21.9%). We will continue to monitor the trends in consumer concerns.

Table 1.4: Water Quality Contacts received by NI Water in 2021

Contact Category	Contact Sub-Category	Number of Contacts
Appearance	Colour	3220
	General	76
	Hardness	7
	Stained Washing	6
	White - Air	866
	White - Chalk	559
Taste and Odour	Chlorinous	730
	Earthy/Musty	187
	Other	306
	Petrol/Diesel	58
	TCP	47
Illness		68
Particles		246
Animalcules		17
Boil Water Notice		0
Other	Water Quality Concern - Campaigns	1
	Water Quality Concern - Incident Related	8
	Water Quality Concern - Lifestyle	0
	Water Quality Concern - Pets/Animals	6
	Water Quality Concern - Sample	473
	Water Quality Concern - Lead	400
	Water Quality (No Concern) Fluoride	0
	Water Quality (No Concern) Other Information	7
	Water Quality (No Concern) Water Hardness	8
	Water Quality (No Concern) Water Quality Report	9
TOTAL		7305

The highest percentage of contacts and concerns continued to relate to the appearance of drinking water, with 64.8% in 2021 (65.1% in 2020). This is illustrated in Figure 1.5.

Figure 1.5: Consumer Contacts and Concerns received by NI Water in 2021

Appearance

Within the overall appearance categories there are a number of different sub-categories that are a cause of concern for consumers.

Colour

In 2021, as in every year, the majority of appearance concerns (68%) related to discoloured water. The most common cause of discoloured water concerns is an orange, brown or black discoloration caused by suspended particles of iron (orange/brown) and manganese (black).

Iron discolouration may occur through natural iron present in the raw water passing through inadequate treatment, from the treatment process, or from corrosion of cast-iron distribution mains. Manganese is naturally present in some raw waters and may not be fully removed if treatment is inadequate.

White Water

'White water' is mainly caused by air dissolved in the water, making it appear cloudy or milky white. It can be caused by internal plumbing, burst water mains or when NI Water has been carrying out maintenance work on pipes. Where air is the cause, the cloudy appearance will clear in a glass of water from the bottom up.

Another cause of white water may be chalk. Chalk has a white powdery appearance and is made up of natural minerals found in water which forms what is known as 'hardness'. A glass of water containing chalk will take up to an hour to clear from the top downwards, leaving fine white sediment in the bottom of the glass.

'White water' accounted for 30.1% of appearance concerns in 2021.

Taste and Odour

All water sources contain naturally occurring minerals. Water also contains dissolved gases, such as oxygen and carbon dioxide, which give tap water a characteristic taste. One substance, which is added to drinking water for disinfection, is chlorine, and this can give rise to consumer complaints (see next section on Chlorinous).

Other taste and odours should not be present in drinking water for aesthetic reasons e.g. TCP or earthy/musty, or for health reasons e.g. petrol/diesel.

Taste and odour complaints accounted for 18.2% of the total consumer contacts in 2021 which was similar to 2020 (18.9%).

Chlorinous

Some individuals are more sensitive than others to the taste and odour of chlorine which is used to maintain hygienic conditions within the water supply network. 55% of taste and odour consumer contacts in 2021 were related to a chlorinous taste and odour in the water (49% in 2020). This marks a further increase in chlorinous taste and odour complaints. NI Water should investigate the reasons why more than half of all taste and odour complaints are related to a chlorinous taste and odour and the continuing upward trend.

Consumer Advice

Figure 1.6: Looking after Water Your Home Guide



A useful consumer guide, (Figure 1.6) '[Looking after water in your home](#)', was produced by the water industry to help you maintain and enjoy the quality of tap water once it enters your home.

It contains a number of household tips, from how to reduce unwanted taste and odours and address appearance issues, to advice on water filters and storage tanks.

Section 1
Public Water Supplies

Part 2
The Drinking Water Cycle



Part 2

The Drinking Water Cycle

- Catchment: There were 11 MCPA detections in 2021 compared to 18 in 2020
- Events: There was one Major, two Serious and 19 Significant Events reported in 2021
- The monitoring of the effectiveness of disinfection at Water Treatment Works demonstrated a high level of compliance in 2021.
- Regarding Process Control Parameters, Trihalomethanes (THMs) had a lower level of compliance than aluminium in 2021

This part of the report details our assessment of how NI Water manages the drinking water cycle, from the **catchment** to the **treatment** processes at Water Treatment Works (WTWs), through Service Reservoirs (SRs) and into the **distribution network** to supply **consumers**. It also summarises the risk management approach adopted by NI Water in ensuring that water supplies remain safe and wholesome throughout their journey to homes and businesses.

Catchments

NI Water mainly abstracts its raw water from 38 sources including rivers and loughs (55.5%), impounding reservoirs (44.4%), and one borehole which supplies a small population on Rathlin Island (0.1%).

A risk assessment of the catchment must be completed as part of the overall 'source to tap' approach. NI Water liaises with the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) and a range of other stakeholders through Water Catchment Partnerships to identify and put mitigations in place to manage risks within the catchment. The Catchment Management Plans developed by NI Water throughout PC15 are due to be implemented in PC21. Where catchment solutions alone are unable to reduce the risks sufficiently, NI Water must ensure that it has appropriate treatment processes in place.

As the potential list of contaminants within catchments is diverse, it must risk assess each catchment individually to determine the specific risks and identify appropriate mitigations to reduce or adequately control the risks. Where a risk is identified, NI Water must consider if water quality monitoring is required within the catchment and at its abstraction points.

This monitoring plays an important role in providing information on the risks within the catchment and for the operational management of WTWs to ensure treatment processes provide an effective barrier against the identified levels of contaminants.

Pesticides

During 2021, 38 individual pesticides were monitored by NI Water under its sampling programmes. There are two separate sampling programmes in place. The compliance programme is based on the set regulatory frequencies required to be monitored by NI Water for

assessing compliance. There is also the operational programme to identify potential risks and assist in the operation of its treatment processes.

Within the compliance programme there were 236 samples taken for pesticides giving a total of 8,967 individual determinations (shortfall of one sample for Fenpropimorph). In 2021, two regulatory samples contravened the standard for MCPA – one at Clay Lake WTW and one at Derg WTW.

Where contraventions arise, DWI may require NI Water to implement enhanced operational sampling to monitor an ongoing risk. During 2021, within the operational programme, NI Water reported nine MCPA contraventions. Five of these were at Derg WTW, where enhanced monitoring is ongoing and DWI has a Notice in place requiring NI Water to install treatment to achieve compliance with the regulatory limit for MCPA in the final water. Two of the nine contraventions were recorded at Clay Lake WTW, one at Carmoney WTW, and one at Glenhordial WTW. A Notice previously in place relating to remedial works at Glenhordial WTW was completed in February 2019 and results from this works is being be closely monitored, with further action taken if deemed necessary. Although there were no contraventions at Ballinrees WTW in 2021, a Notice is in place following the 12 contraventions for MCPA in 2017 which requires remedial works to be completed within a timeframe agreed with DWI.

WTWs with contraventions for pesticides, both regulatory and operational, from 2017 to 2021 are summarised within Table 2.1.

There was a total of 11 MCPA contraventions reported from both compliance and operational sampling in 2021, a decrease on the 18 contraventions in 2020. There was also one Mecoprop (MCP) contravention reported.

Table 2.1: Pesticides Detected above the Regulatory Limit, 2017 – 2021

Water Treatment Works		2021	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
		MCPA	MCP	MCPA	MCPA	MCPA	MCPA
W1701P	Ballinrees						12
W2308P	Castor Bay						
W2509	Clay Lake	3		2			
W2802	Carran Hill						
W4301	Carmoney	1		2			
W4501	Derg	6	1	12	12	5	6
W4541	Glenhordial	1		1	1		4
W4701	Killyhevlin			1			
All WTWs		11	1	18	13	5	22

Water Treatment

Water treatment processes normally include the physical removal of potential contaminants by using chemical coagulation/flocculation, clarification (Figure 2.1), and filtration. Filters require periodic backwashing to operate effectively (Figure 2.2). Additional treatments such as ozone dosing and GAC (Granular Activated Carbon) filtration or PAC (Powdered Activated Carbon)

dosing can also be required to remove unpleasant tastes and odours, and for pesticide reduction. The final stage of treatment is disinfection.

An important measure of the effectiveness of treatment is the assessment of the water quality throughout the treatment process and the quality of the final water leaving the works.

Figure 2.1: Clarification Stage



Figure 2.2: Backwashing a Filter



In Table 2.2, results are outlined for two sets of parameters that are used to assess the effectiveness of water treatment processes: process control parameters; and disinfection parameters.

Table 2.2: Water Quality at Water Treatment Works, 2021

Parameters	Place of Sampling	Total No. of Tests in 2021	No. of Tests not Meeting the Standards in 2021	% of Tests Meeting the Standards	
				2021	2020
Process Control Parameters					
Aluminium	WSZ	2004	7	99.65	99.29
Trihalomethanes	WSZ	432	4	99.07	100.00
Disinfection Parameters					
Coliform bacteria	WTW	6252	2	99.97	99.97
<i>E. coli</i>	WTW	6252	0	100.00	100.00
Turbidity	WTW	6252	5	99.92	99.94
Indicator Parameter					
<i>Clostridium perfringens</i>	WTW	236	1	99.58	99.58

WSZ = Water Supply Zone (consumer tap sample)

Process Control Parameters

Process control parameters are used to measure the effectiveness of treatment and are based on a selection of chemical parameters relevant to the processes in place at the WTWs.

In 2021, results from the compliance monitoring programme, shown in Table 2.2, reported non-compliances for both of the process control parameters, aluminium and trihalomethanes (THMs).

Aluminium

Aluminium compliance, which is measured at consumers' taps, was higher in 2021 with seven regulatory contraventions (0.35%) reported compared to 13 (0.71%) in 2020. Figure 2.3 displays the levels of aluminium compliance over the last five years.

Operational sample results and outputs from on-line monitors often highlight elevated aluminium levels at WTW before they become apparent in distribution. In many cases the remedial measures taken by NI Water in response to these early detections prevent, or limit the impact of, water quality events.

Overall, there were five Significant events at four WTWs in 2021 relating to elevated levels of aluminium – see Annex 2 for details. This is an improving picture compared to the nine Significant events at five WTWs in 2020. Although these events do not always directly correlate with regulatory contraventions at consumers' taps at the time of the event, they can lead to the accumulation of aluminium in the distribution system and contribute to contraventions at a later date.

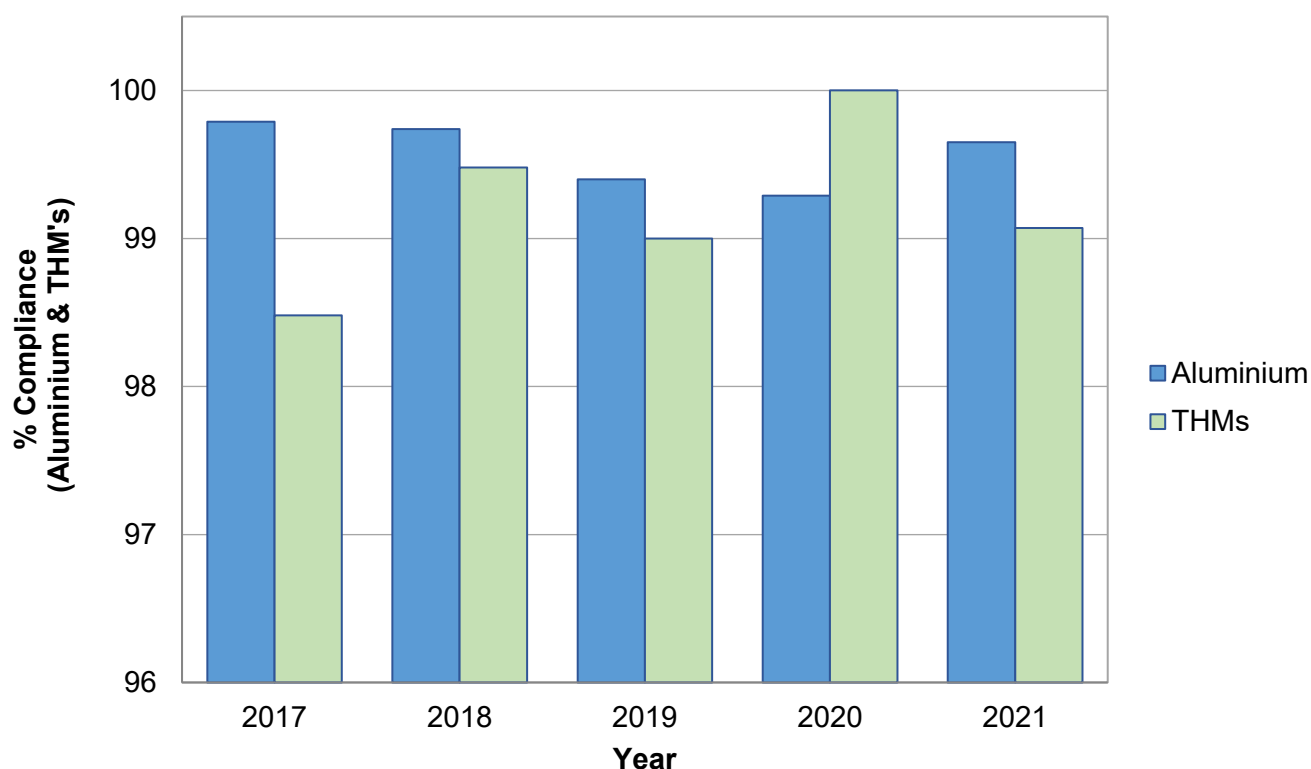
It is pleasing to note the improved compliance for aluminium in 2021 following the previous downward trend over a number of years. NI Water must continue to review its operational practices at its treatment works and take whatever measures are necessary to ensure this level of compliance is maintained or enhanced. Improvements to the treatment processes at WTWs which have been identified for funding in the PC21 Price Control Process should result in an improving level of aluminium compliance over the next five years.

Trihalomethanes (THMs)

THMs are a group of disinfection by-products that form when naturally occurring organic substances combine with chlorine, which is added to disinfect the water and make it safe to drink. There are a number of reasons for THM non-compliance including: the quality of the raw water; the performance of the WTWs; the condition of the networks; and the length of time water spends in the distribution system (residence time). Effective and well managed treatment processes reduce the levels of these organics, which are directly related to the level of THMs that occur in the final water.

THM compliance was 99.07% in 2021 compared to the full compliance achieved in 2020. However, as THM levels are known to increase in the distribution system, and contraventions often occur at or near the end of distribution systems, the decreased sampling at consumer taps due to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 is likely to have contributed to the 100% compliance. Figure 2.3 displays the levels of THM compliance over the last five years.

NI Water must ensure that good operational practices prevail within the catchments and at WTWs. It is also important that there is careful management of the storage levels in service reservoirs and the distribution network is adequately maintained to control the formation of THMs.

Figure 2.3: Percentage Compliance for Aluminium & THMs at Consumers' Taps, 2017 – 2021

Disinfection Parameters

The parameters, coliform bacteria, *E. coli* and turbidity (Table 2.2 refers) demonstrate the effectiveness of disinfection and pathogen removal. Effective disinfection is fundamental to the treatment process in order to safeguard consumers from the risk of microbiological organisms being present in drinking water. Testing for *E. coli* and coliform bacteria at WTWs provides assurance of adequate treatment and the provision of safe, clean drinking water. In 2021, NI Water reported 100% compliance for *E. coli* and 99.97% compliance for coliform bacteria at its WTWs (consistent with 2020).

Turbidity is caused by finely suspended particles in the water which must be reduced to below 1 NTU to enable adequate disinfection to take place. There was a slight decrease in compliance with the turbidity standard in 2021 (99.92% compared to 99.94% in 2020). Five turbidity contraventions occurred at four WTWs in 2021. Of these, the two contraventions at Castor Bay WTW were assessed as being a Significant event. This event also involved an aluminium contravention following treatment difficulties.

Indicator Parameter

Clostridium perfringens

Clostridium perfringens can be used in association with other parameters to assess the effectiveness of the water treatment processes. This organism is a spore-forming bacterium that is exceptionally resistant to unfavourable conditions in the water environment such as extremes of temperature and pH; and disinfection by chlorination.

In 2021, of the 236 tests carried out for *Clostridium perfringens*, one contravened the standard. NI Water investigated but was unable to determine a cause for this contravention.

Distribution

The water distribution network in Northern Ireland is extensive, consisting of 289 service reservoirs (SRs) and 26,958 km of mains pipe. Water mains transfer drinking water from the WTWs to service reservoirs and onwards to the consumer. Service reservoirs provide storage close to the point of distribution to help ensure that sufficient water is available to meet the varying demands of consumers.

In Table 2.3, two measures are used to assess the water quality within a distribution system: reservoir integrity and distribution networks.

Table 2.3: Water Quality Indicators within the Distribution System, 2021

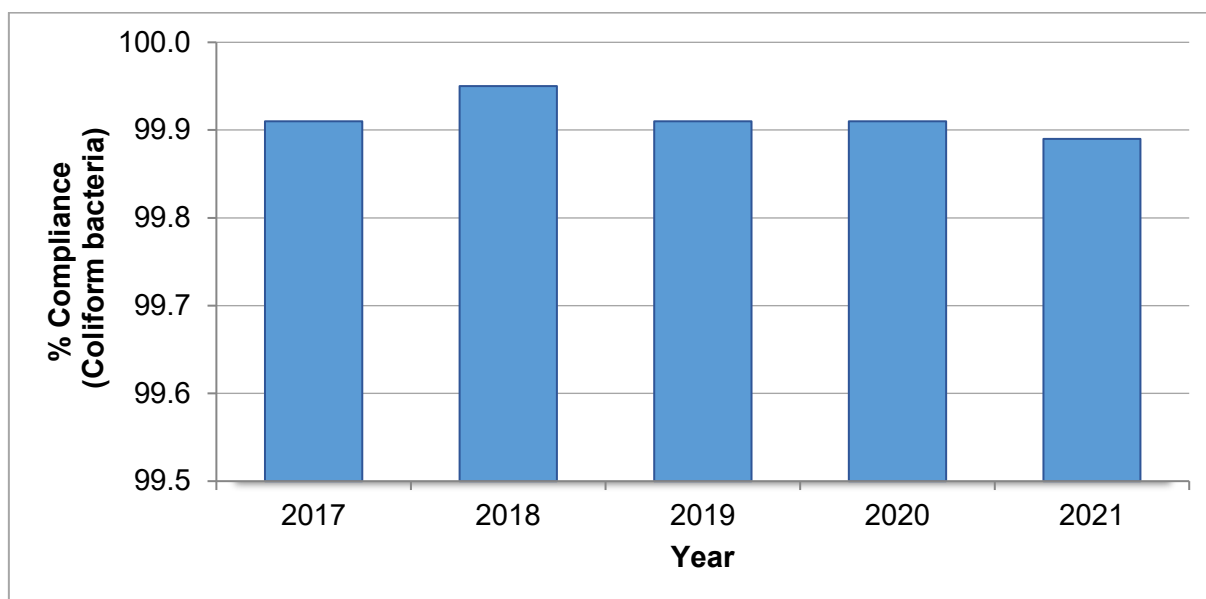
Parameters	Place of Sampling	No. of Tests in 2021	No. of Tests not Meeting the Standards in 2021	% of Tests Meeting the Standards in 2021	% of Tests Meeting the Standards in 2020
Reservoir Integrity					
Coliform bacteria	SR	13972	16	99.89	99.91
<i>E. coli</i>	SR	13972	1	99.99	100.00
Distribution Networks					
Turbidity	WSZ	2004	1	99.95	100.00
Iron	WSZ	2004	13	99.35	99.56
Manganese	WSZ	2004	4	99.80	100.00

Service Reservoirs

Samples are collected weekly at every service reservoir in Northern Ireland. One such Service Reservoir is shown in Figure 2.4. It is a regulatory requirement that at least 95% of samples collected annually from each reservoir are free from coliform bacteria. The 289 reservoirs sampled in 2021 all met this requirement. Figure 2.5 shows coliform bacteria compliance was 99.89% in 2021, a slight decrease compared to 2020 (99.91%). Coliform bacteria were detected on 16 occasions at 15 different service reservoirs. *E. coli* was detected at one service reservoir on one occasion in 2021 compared to full compliance in 2020.

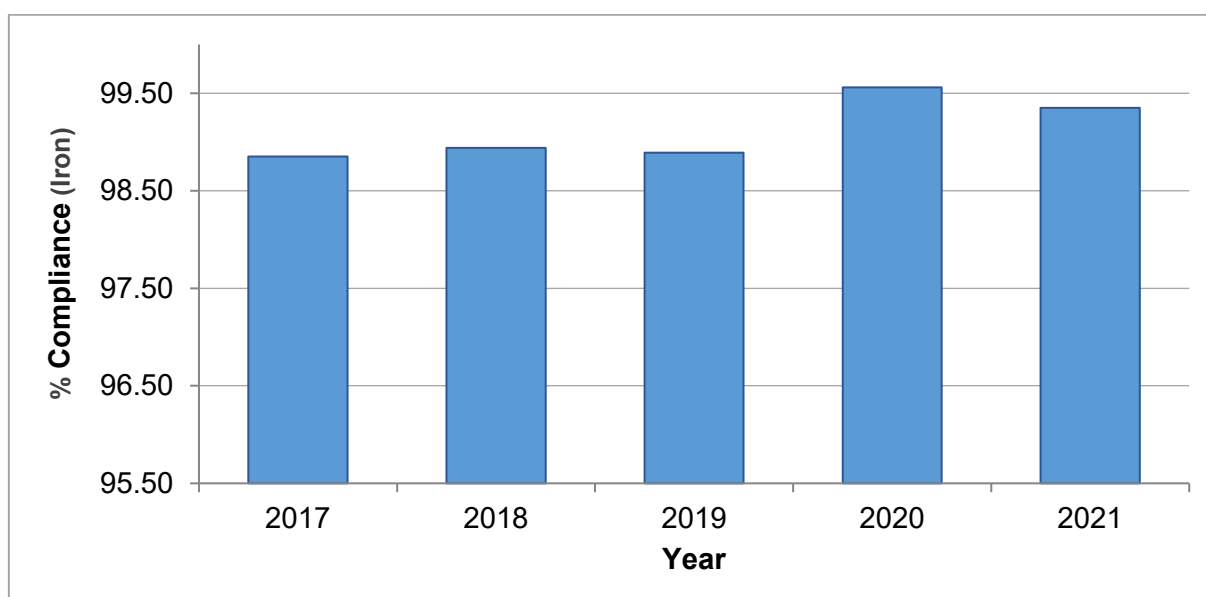
Figure 2.4: Service Reservoir



Figure 2.5: Percentage Compliance of Coliform Bacteria at Service Reservoirs, 2017 – 2021

Water Mains

In 2021 a total of 2,004 samples taken from consumers' taps were tested for iron, manganese and turbidity. Of these, 13 (0.65%) contravened the regulatory standard for iron of 200 µg/l. This reflects a slight decrease in compliance from 2020 when there were eight (0.44%) contraventions reported as illustrated in Figure 2.6. Four (0.20%) contravened the regulatory standard for manganese of 50 µg/l compared to full compliance in 2020. There was one (0.05%) sample which contravened the turbidity standard compared to no contraventions in 2020. As contraventions of these three parameters are closely related to the mains network, it is likely that the decreased sampling at consumer taps in 2020 and 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic contributed to these higher than normal compliance figures.

Figure 2.6: Percentage Compliance of Iron in Distribution, 2017 – 2021

Many of the mains delivering water to consumers' taps are made of cast iron and the deterioration of older mains may result in consumers receiving discoloured drinking water due to the presence of iron and manganese. NI Water has an ongoing Water Mains Rehabilitation Programme and this enables corrective action to be taken on a priority basis to improve the water quality being supplied to consumers. New mains are also installed or upgraded as required for new developments. A typical new mains installation is shown in Figure 2.7.

Figure 2.7: New mains installation



Photo courtesy of NI Water

Events and Risk Management

Drinking Water Quality Events

NI Water inform us of events that have affected, or are likely to affect, drinking water quality or sufficiency, and subsequently where there may be a risk to consumers' health. Each event is assessed into one of five categories based on increasing severity: Not Significant, Minor, Significant, Serious or Major. It is important that lessons are learnt from events and any necessary remedial action is undertaken. For events categorised as Significant or above the risk assessments in place for each water supply system are required to be reviewed.

40 events were reported to us in 2021. Of these, we categorised one as Major; two as Serious; 19 as Significant; seven as Minor; and eleven as Not Significant.

The Major event involved a high level of consumer contacts regarding the taste and odour of their mains water supply and contraventions of the taste and odour parameters in the final water from Carmoney WTW. DWI issued questionnaires to consumers in relation to this event. The investigation is ongoing.

The first Serious event involved a number of consumer contacts regarding the taste and odour of the mains water supply in the Drumbreda and St Brigid's Hill area of Armagh. Contraventions of the taste and odour parameters occurred. DWI issued questionnaires to consumers in relation to this event. The investigation is ongoing.

The other Serious event was the high water demand in the network due to a period of particularly warm and dry conditions and exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. A NI Water Category 1 Incident was declared. Alternative water supplies including asset to asset tankering was required to maintain supply.

There were 15 Significant events at 11 WTWs (Altnahinch; Ballinrees; Carmoney; Castor Bay; Clay Lake; Derg; Dorisland; Drumaroad; Dungonnell; Forked Bridge; and Glenhordial) in 2021. The majority of these events were due to treatment difficulties or lack of adequate treatment. Two events involved disinfection issues. The others related to aluminium; individual pesticides (MCPA and MCPP); iron; manganese; odour & taste; THMs and turbidity contraventions.

The other four Significant events occurred in the distribution network: high levels of iron affecting five properties in Dromore; recurring coliform bacteria contraventions which led to “Boil Water before Use until Further Notice” advice being issued to four properties in Douglas Bridge; recurring coliform bacteria contraventions which led to “Boil Water before Use until Further Notice” advice being issued to two properties in Lurgan; and recurring coliform bacteria contraventions which led to “Boil Water before Use until Further Notice” advice being issued to six properties in Cookstown.

Annex 2 provides further information on the one Major, two Serious and nineteen Significant events in 2021.

Risk Management

As part of the drinking water safety plan (DWSP) approach, NI Water is required to carry out a risk assessment of each water supply system. Informed by the information generated from the catchment risk assessment, this supports the ‘source to tap’ approach in the management and control of the potential risks. The assessments must be kept under review, to ensure ongoing risks are adequately controlled and any new or emerging risks are properly identified. We monitor these plans to ensure, where risks are identified, there are control measures in place to ensure the protection of public health. There are 23 risk assessments in place covering all of NI Water’s drinking water supplies.

Regulatory Control

The Technical Audit Process

DWI normally conducts a risk based technical audit programme to check NI Water’s compliance with statutory obligations and best practice. However, in 2021, due to COVID-19 restrictions, site visits were suspended to protect critical NI Water staff and ensure continued operation of WTWs. An audit of the Laboratory Information Management System was carried out remotely. This is detailed in Annex 3.

Enforcement Action

In order to protect, maintain and improve drinking water supplies, NI Water’s large capital investment needs are prioritised through the Price Control Process (PC). The PC15 (2015 - 2021) investment programme completed in March 2021 and the PC21 (2021 - 2027) capital investment programme commenced in April 2021.

Although it is better to be able to plan investment through the PC process, there are occasions when it is necessary for DWI to take enforcement action against NI Water to secure compliance and protect public health.

During 2021, three Regulation 31(4) Notices issued under The Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2017 (the Regulations) were ongoing; and one new Regulation 31(4) Notice was issued.

Figure 2.8: Derg WTW Construction Works

The details of these enforcements are contained in Annex 4. One of the Notices issued by DWI, as included in the Pesticides section of this report (page 19), led to the commencement by NI Water of a major capital investment at Derg WTW (circa £12m) in July 2021. This is primarily required to upgrade the works and ensure future compliance with the regulatory limits for the pesticide MCPA. DWI monitors the progress of this project through site visits to gain assurance that the Statutory Notice will be complied with. Figure 2.8 shows the construction work at the Derg WTW.



Photo courtesy of NI Water

Also 2021, DWI completed the first prosecution of NI Water for the supply of water which was unfit for human consumption. The offence related to an incident in the Meigh area of Newry in July-August 2018, when the mains supply was contaminated with oil, resulting in 43 properties being affected, giving rise to taste and odour complaints. The Regulations require that there is 'no abnormal change' and that the water is 'acceptable to the consumer'. NI Water pleaded guilty to the offence in July 2021 and received a conditional discharge for a period of twelve months.

Future Investment in Drinking Water Quality

In identifying the capital investment needs for the PC21 business plan, NI Water submitted nine applications to DWI requesting independent support for the need for investment to improve water quality at WTWs. The approval of the nine requests by DWI provided the Utility Regulator with independent verification that this investment was required for the protection of public health. This enabled it to allocate the funding to NI Water within the PC21 Final Determination which was published in May 2021.

In identifying the capital investment needs for the PC21 business plan, NI Water adopted a new approach to assessing the required treatment solutions, with the procurement of a number of mobile pilot plants. These are capable of running a range of large scale, on site trials on innovative treatment solutions to identify the effectiveness of proposed treatment processes prior to large capital investment projects commencing. It provides confidence that the selected option will work at each specific site whilst identifying more carbon neutral solutions for water treatment, thereby contributing to the company's net zero targets. We fully support this approach and will continue to work closely with NI Water in working to contribute to climate change targets.

We acknowledge the financial constraints within NI Water's funding model and support the need for sufficient long-term funding to ensure public health protection and economic development. We must ensure that the provision of safe, clean drinking water remains a key priority for NI Water.

Section 2

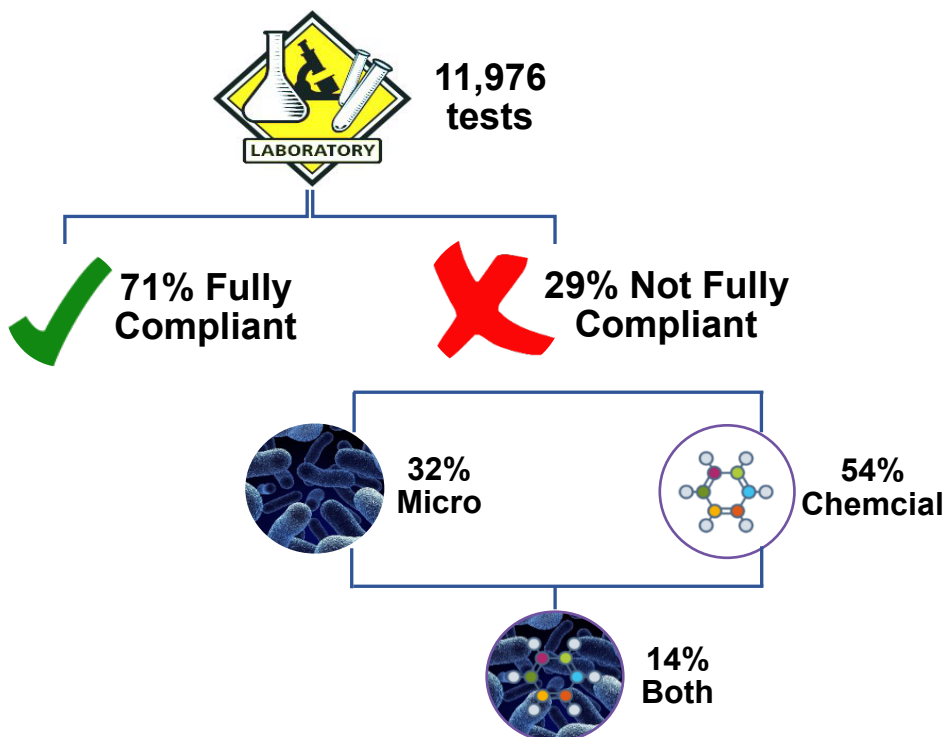
Private Water Supplies



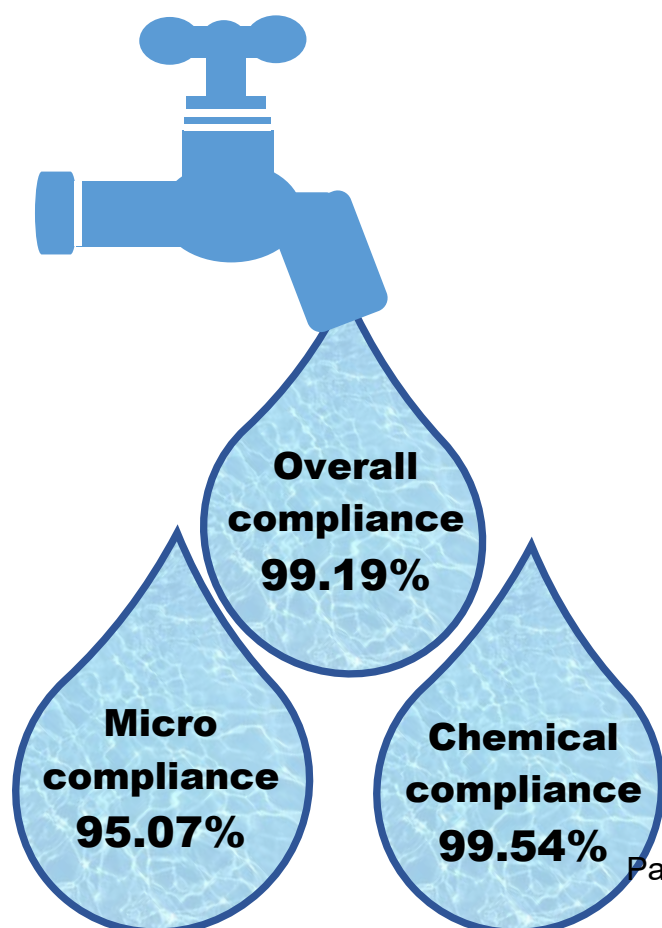
Private Water Supplies

Key Facts

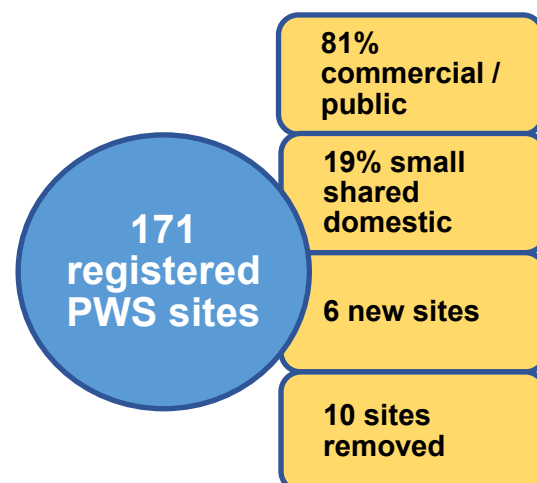
Monitoring Programme



% Compliance



Site Status



Actions

Restrictions removed at 5 sites

Restrictions applied at 2 sites

Advice provided on 390 queries

24 local council Environmental Health staff trained

65 site risk assessments completed / progressed

99.99 % of scheduled samples collected

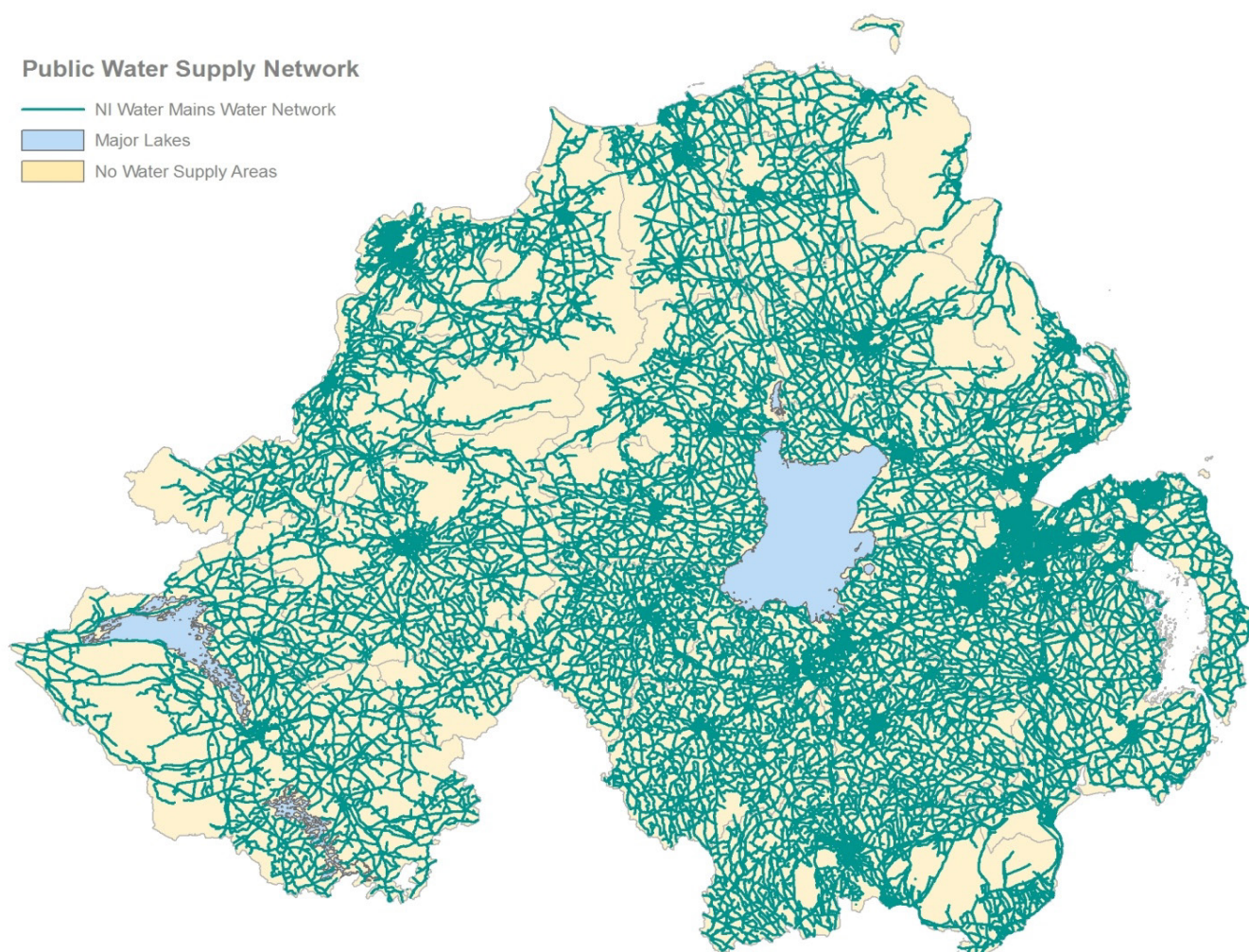
Section 2

Private Drinking Water Supplies

NI Water supplies drinking water to over 99% of the Northern Ireland population; the remainder is served by private water supplies. The spatial distribution of the NI Water mains water network is shown in Figure 1.1. The premises in areas beyond the extent of the NI Water network and therefore with no mains water supply are typically domestic properties. The properties in these areas are served by private water supplies.

Consumers often assume the water they are drinking is from the public water supply. However, although the number of people directly served by a private supply may be small, many more people are exposed to them through their use in both commercial activities and public buildings. Despite a mains water network being available, some businesses utilise groundwater as a sustainable and more economically viable option.

Figure 1.1: NI Water Mains Network (and no water supply areas)



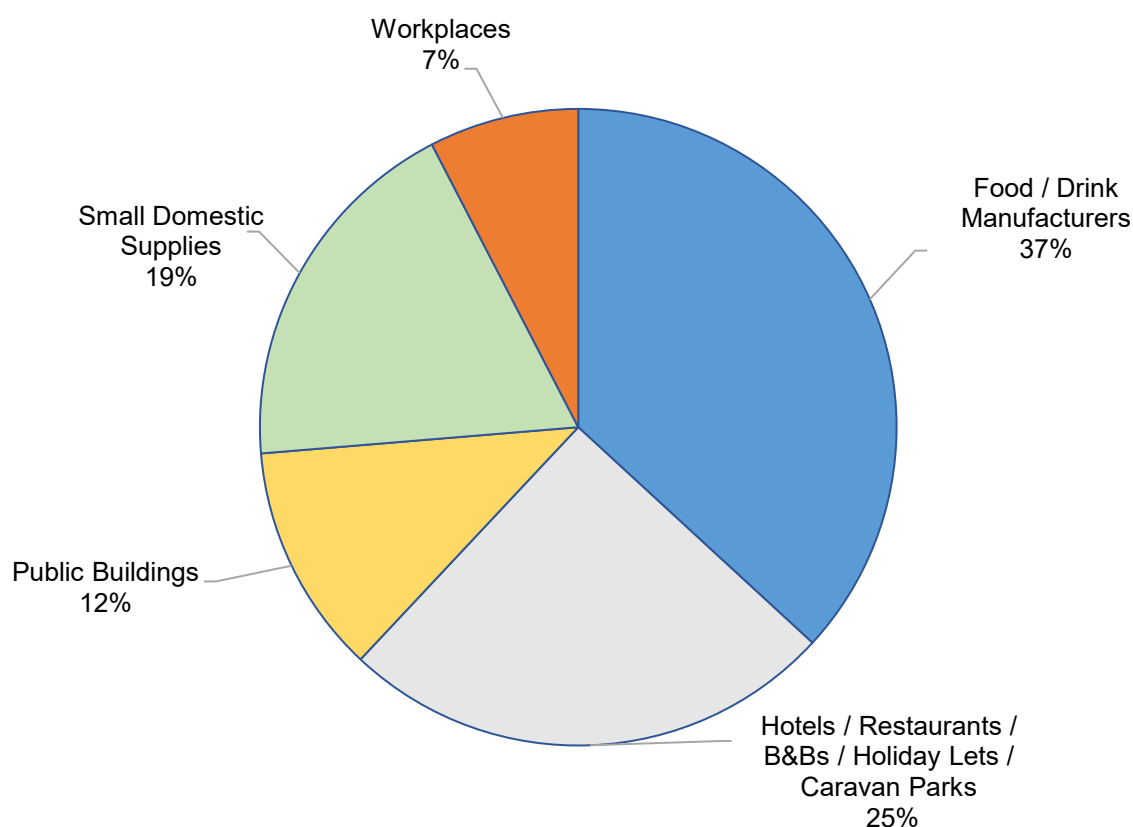
Private water supplies are often used as an alternative to, or in conjunction, with the public water supply depending on the nature of the site. In some circumstances, a particular composition of water is required as an ingredient for a food product or perhaps a significant volume is required which is beyond the capacity of the existing mains water network. Private water supplies are found at a range of sites such as:

- food and drink manufacturers;
- public buildings including hospitals, workplaces and universities; and
- within the hospitality industry such as hotels, restaurants and tourist accommodation.

Register of Supplies

There was a total of 171 private water supplies on our register in 2021 which required monitoring under The Private Water Supplies Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2017. The categories of these supplies are presented in Figure 1.2. In addition to those summarised below, it is estimated there are approximately a further 1,200 supplies to single private dwellings which are not required to be monitored under the Regulations. These supplies are sampled by the Environmental Health Departments of local councils on request.

Figure 1.2: Categories of Private Water Supplies in Northern Ireland in 2021



Private water supplies may be drawn from either surface or groundwater sources. Surface sources can include streams, rivers and reservoirs while groundwater sources include wells, boreholes and springs. In 2021, 99.4% of registered private supplies in Northern Ireland were from groundwater sources, most commonly, boreholes. A properly installed and tested borehole typically provides a greater sustainable yield of groundwater.

Monitoring of Supplies

An annual sampling programme is in place for all registered supplies. The frequency of the sampling and the range of parameters tested for are determined by the volume of water used and the type of the supply, i.e., commercial, public or domestic. Samples at private water supplies are collected by Environmental Health Departments of local councils, acting on our behalf. Each sampling officer can only collect samples once they have completed the relevant training by the DWI. The 2021 sampling programme included premises using private water supplies in all eleven council areas.

Of the 171 private water supplies on our monitoring schedule for 2021, 81% were commercial or public supplies and 19% were small domestic supplies (groupings of two or more houses). A breakdown of the numbers and sizes of private water supplies in 2021 is shown in Table 1.1.

Table 1.1: Numbers and Types of Private Water Supplies in 2021

Types of Private Water Supplies Volume (m ³ /day)	Number of Supplies	Frequency of Sampling (per annum)
(i) Commercial / Public Supplies		
>1000 ≤2000	2	10
>100 ≤1000	22	4
>10 ≤100	51	2
≤10	64	1
(ii) Small Domestic Supplies (two or more dwellings)		
≤10	32	1
TOTAL	171	

During 2021, ten sites were removed from the sampling programme as they no longer met the criteria to be registered (i.e. no longer used for human consumption or supply no longer used in production). Sites were reclassified as necessary throughout the year if the use, volume, or distribution was altered (and subsequently the analytical requirements and sampling frequency were altered as required). In addition, a total of six new supplies registered with us, these were:

- four food / drink manufacturers; and
- two small domestic supplies serving two or more properties.

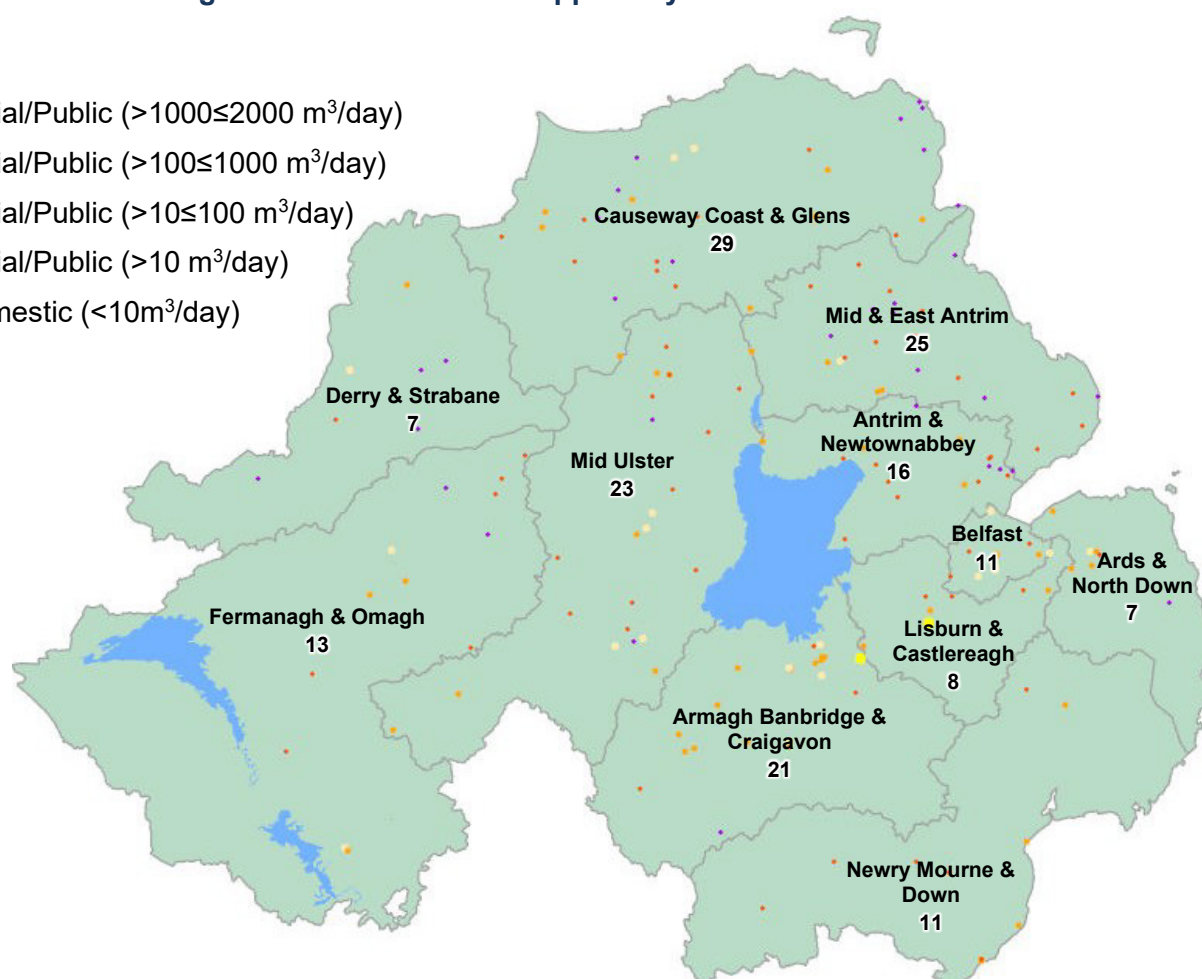
Although the sampling frequency for compliance sampling is set within the Regulations, many supplementary samples are taken throughout the year during follow-up investigations. If the circumstances warrant additional sampling, the DWI assist site owners through additional testing to either help in identifying the location of a water quality issue or to confirm the water quality issue has been remediated. In addition, where necessary, sites can be put on an increased sampling frequency for a set period of time to monitor any parameters identified as a risk in the supply. During 2021, a total of 104 such samples were collected. The results of the individual tests of these samples are not included in the calculation of the overall compliance for private water supplies as they are not a regulatory duty.

A breakdown of registered supplies in Northern Ireland in 2021, categorised by size, is shown in Figure 1.3. All registered supplies can be found on the [DAERA iHub viewer](#).

Figure 1.3: Distribution of Registered Private Water Supplies by Council Area in 2021

Supply Type

- Commercial/Public (>1000≤2000 m³/day)
- Commercial/Public (>100≤1000 m³/day)
- Commercial/Public (>10≤100 m³/day)
- Commercial/Public (>10 m³/day)
- Small Domestic (<10m³/day)



■ The number of private water supplies in each council area (due to the small scale of the map all sites are not distinguishable)

Risk Assessment

The Regulations require a risk assessment to be carried out for each registered supply to identify areas where there may be potential risks to the water quality. This assessment includes the whole private water supply system, from its source to the most representative point where the water is used. These assessments are required to follow the same standard (BS:EN 15975-2:2013¹) as is used for the risk assessment of the public water supply.

The risk assessments of private water supplies are undertaken by Environmental Health Departments of local councils, acting on our behalf. Following the roll out of a web-based application in 2019, Environmental Health staff continue to complete risk assessments of private water supplies using this tool. This ensures consistency of approach by all staff across all types of sites. Each officer can only risk assess a private water supply once they have completed the relevant training by the DWI. Annual formal training sessions and ad hoc guidance is provided to councils. In 2021, approximately 65 risk assessments were progressed or completed on the new web application.

¹ BS:EN 15975-2: Concerning security of drinking water supply, guidelines for risk and crisis management

The information gathered through the risk assessment process is used to provide sites with an action plan to mitigate identified risks and to assist sites with the ongoing management of their water supplies. It can also be used to fine-tune the monitoring programme for each site as it can identify additional analysis required.

Overall Drinking Water Quality

Drinking water regulations in Northern Ireland apply equivalent water quality standards to private water supplies as to public water supplies. The regulations provide flexibility and enable reduced monitoring of some parameters where certain criteria are met and a risk assessment confirms there is no risk to human health. In 2021 this flexibility was used and although the number of private water supplies registered with us in 2021 is broadly consistent with that in 2020, the overall number of parameters analysed was lower than in the previous year.

The results in Table 1.2 show that, out of a total of 11,976 tests carried out in 2021, 99.19% met the regulatory standards. The regulatory requirements were not met on 97 occasions for 17 parameters, namely: Coliform bacteria, Enterococci, *E. coli*, *Clostridium perfringens*, Arsenic, Manganese, Hydrogen ion (pH), Copper, Sulphate, Nickel, Iron, Sodium, Turbidity, Nitrate, Nitrite, Individual pesticides (Clopyralid and Metribuzin) and Radon.

Table 1.2: Overall Water Quality in Private Water Supplies in 2021

Parameters	Determinations in 2021		
	Total Number of Tests	Number of Tests not Meeting the Standards	% Compliance
Coliform bacteria	302	21	93.05
Enterococci	173	11	93.64
<i>E. coli</i>	302	11	96.36
<i>Clostridium perfringens</i>	135	2	98.52
Microbiological Total	912	45	95.07
Arsenic*	27	2	92.59
Manganese	264	19	92.80
Sodium*	59	4	93.22
Copper*	33	1	96.97
Hydrogen ion (pH)	302	9	97.02
Sulphate*	36	1	97.22
Nickel*	36	1	97.22
Iron	265	6	97.74
Turbidity	302	3	99.01
Nitrate	135	1	99.26
Nitrite	136	1	99.26
Individual pesticides	7289	2	99.97
Other parameters	1971	0	100.00
Chemical Total	10855	50	99.54
Radon	105	2	98.10
Radioactivity	104	0	100.00
Radiochemical	209	2	99.04
Overall Total	11976	97	99.19

* Parameters on reduced monitoring frequency

Under the Regulations, the sampling frequency and suites of parameters analysed at a private water supply may be adjusted based on previous test results and any identified risks. Consequently, many commercial / public supplies were analysed for a reduced suite of chemical parameters from 2012 to 2017. A review was implemented in 2018 to verify the reduced analysis and all supplies were returned to their full monitoring requirements for a three-year period, to re-evaluate the potential risk. Following a review of the monitoring data, a reduction in parameters was reintroduced for 2021 using a risk-based approach to determine the required analysis on a site-by-site basis. Where a parameter has historically failed or is greater than 30% of the parametric concentration value, it is retained and its inclusion in the monitoring programme will be reviewed again on an annual basis.

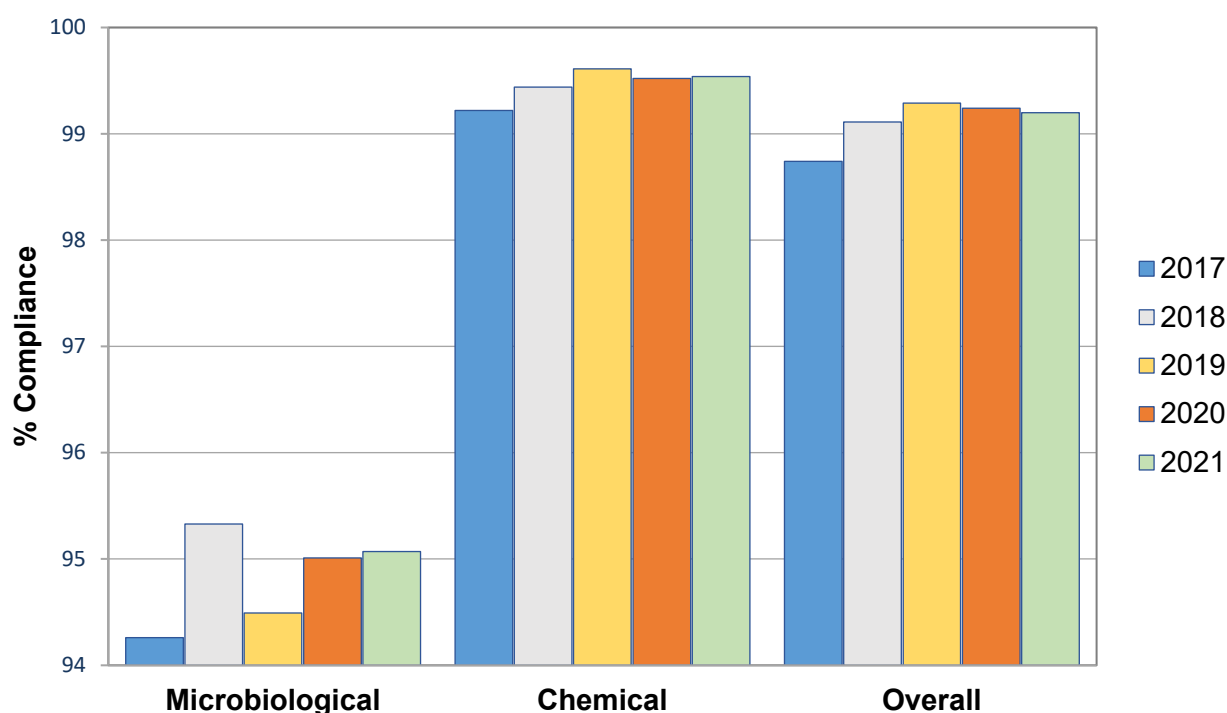
A different approach was adopted for radon as its risk has been determined independently via Public Health England and the British Geological Survey in support of our monitoring results. Where no risk was identified and results were historically stable, monitoring for radon was removed with a review to be conducted through a check sample after five years.

Microbiological contraventions account for 45 (46.4%) of the 97 contraventions at private water supplies in 2021. There has been an increase in the level of overall microbiological compliance which is reported as 95.07% in 2021 compared to 95.01% in 2020 though it remains below the peak of 95.33% reported in 2018, as illustrated in Figure 1.4.

Contraventions of the chemical standards have been reported for a range of parameters listed in Table 1.2. Overall, the number of chemical contraventions decreased from 65 in 2020 to 50 in 2021. Consequently, there was a marginal increase in chemical compliance for 2021, 99.54% compared with 99.52% in 2020, also illustrated in Figure 1.4.

As with previous years, where the chemical standards have not been met, they relate mainly to contraventions for hydrogen ion, iron, manganese and sodium.

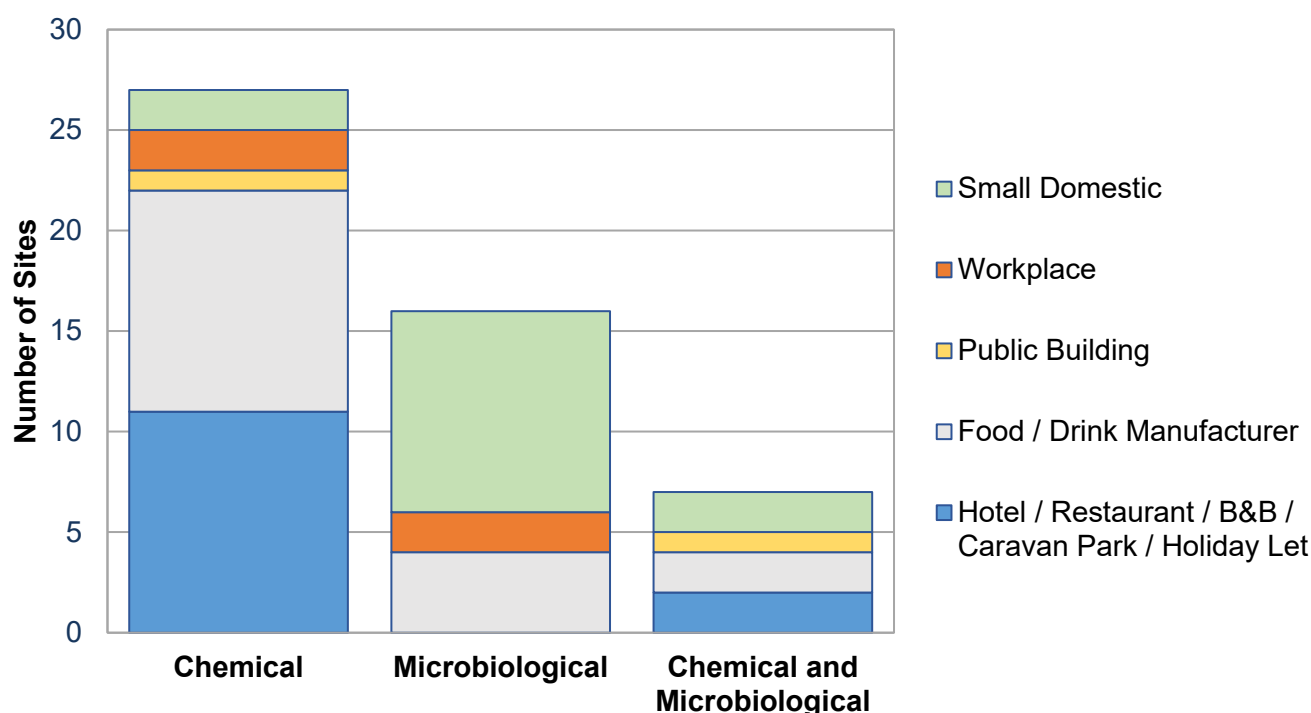
Figure 1.4: Comparison of Compliance in Private Water Supplies, 2017 – 2021



Full compliance was achieved for 71% (121 sites) of the private water supplies tested in 2021. Of the 50 sites which did not comply with the regulatory standards, 32% (16 sites) contravened microbiological standards; 54% (27 sites) chemical standards; and 14% (seven sites) failed to comply with both microbiological and chemical standards.

The categories of these non-compliant sites, presented in Figure 1.5, show that 85% chemical only contraventions occurred at commercial / public sites such as food / drink manufacturers, hotels, or holiday lets whereas for the microbiological only contraventions 38% were at small shared domestic supplies and 62% were at commercial/public sites.

Figure 1.5: Categories of Non-Compliant Private Water Supply Sites in 2021



The significance of each contravention not only depends on the category or size of the sites but often, more importantly, on the purpose for which the water is used at the sites. In summary, for the 50 sites which did not comply with all the drinking water quality standards in 2021:

- 35 use the private water supply as the primary source of drinking water;
- four use the private water supply as an ingredient in food or drink;
- nine use the private water supply for the washing of equipment and surfaces in contact with food or drink; and,
- two use the private water supply for personal hygiene.

Factors Affecting Drinking Water Quality

Different aspects of the water supply chain contributed to the microbiological and chemical water quality contraventions reported in 2021 such as: catchment (including source protection); treatment; distribution; and sampling point (tap) issues. Until mid-2021, many premises remained temporarily closed or operated reduced hours due to varying degrees of COVID-19

restrictions. To assist sites, we published [Guidance](#) to help ensure water quality was maintained when the water supply within the buildings was returned to its normal use. Monitoring of private water supplies was kept constantly under review and adapted to account for any operational changes within businesses or access restrictions at domestic dwellings. Communication with supply owners focused on risk management and ensuring effective controls were in place, especially with a lower turnover of supply, or in some cases an increase in usage to meet the increasing demand on production. Although some restrictions continued to apply into 2021, the more consistent operation of businesses compared to 2020, meant there were no water quality issues identified as a result of temporary closures.

Micro-Organisms

The presence of micro-organisms in a private water supply is indicative of contamination of the water either at source or at some point within the distribution system. In particular, the detection of *E. coli* or enterococci bacteria specifically indicates faecal contamination of a water supply and can be a risk to public health. These faecal indicators were found to be present in 24 supplies during 2021, 13 small shared domestic supplies with no disinfection treatment and 11 commercial / public supplies, six of which had disinfection treatment in place at the time of sampling.

Rural water supplies in the vicinity of where animals graze or manure is spread are most at risk. This is particularly prevalent at times of heavy rainfall when water may run directly off farmland and carry micro-organisms into unprotected private supplies. Guidance on source protection is available in the [Private Water Supplies Technical Manual](#).

Poor microbiological quality also highlights where there is a lack of suitable treatment, or the treatment installed is not being operated and maintained appropriately. The quality of the raw water is a key element in selecting the correct treatment for a private water supply which may require pre-treatment prior to disinfection.

Metals

Although some brackish groundwaters contain sodium, elevated levels in water supplies are usually related to water softening processes. The regulatory standard is set for aesthetic reasons as elevated levels may give rise to taste problems. In 2021, four sites reported contraventions for sodium, all of which had water softening treatment processes.

Some groundwaters may contain elevated levels of naturally occurring iron and manganese. Iron levels can also be raised due to deterioration of cast iron pipe work and / or storage tanks within the distribution system. High levels of iron and manganese may affect the appearance, taste or smell of the water resulting in turbidity, colour, taste, and odour contraventions and discoloration or staining of water fittings. It can also affect treatment systems, such as ultra-violet lamps due to metal deposits causing a reduction in their effectiveness for disinfection. Sites are advised to routinely purge wells / boreholes, clean out storage tanks and flush through pipe work or, where required, replace parts of their distribution network to reduce the levels of iron in their supplies. In 2021, 16 sites reported contraventions for one or both of these metals.

Lead, and other heavy metals such as nickel and copper, are usually detected at elevated levels due to corrosion of pipe work or fittings, especially if the source water is naturally acidic, and / or due to the use of inappropriate fixtures and fittings. The Regulations specify that only

products and substances approved for use with drinking water supplies should be used. The Drinking Water Inspectorate for England and Wales has published a list of [approved products](#) which are tested and approved under [Regulation 5](#).

There were no lead contraventions in 2021; however, one site had a copper contravention and one site had a nickel contravention.

Pesticides

There were two individual pesticide contraventions in 2021: Clopyralid, a herbicide used for controlling broad-leaved weeds such as docks and creeping thistle in grassland; and Metribuzin, a herbicide used to control weeds in crops. These contraventions were likely due to the inappropriate storage or use of pesticides in the vicinity of the sources. In addition to these contraventions, trace levels of a range of individual pesticides, below the regulatory limit of 0.10 µg/l, were also detected at 33 sites.

Actions in the Event of Failure

Contraventions are investigated through site visits conducted by Environmental Health staff and the collection of follow up samples. Depending on the nature and significance of the contraventions, it may also be necessary for us to conduct a site inspection. Site inspections ensure owners / users of the supply are provided with practical advice on source protection and treatment options and best practice for the management of their water supply to reduce the potential risks of contamination.

Any contraventions at supplies, where the water is used as an ingredient in food production or as drinking water, and that are considered as a potential risk to human health, are reported to the Public Health Agency (PHA) for appropriate health advice. Where necessary, the Regulations contain a provision to issue Notices which can be used to restrict or prohibit the use of a supply.

Out of the 97 contraventions identified in 2021, 71 were notified to PHA for advice: 29 microbiological and 42 chemical. As a consequence, new restrictions on the use of the private water supply were put in place at one site to protect public health. In addition, restrictions on use were initiated at two sites as a result of unacceptable odour and elevated iron.

These restrictions of private water supplies can include switching to, or blending with, the public water supply (where this is available), 'Boil Water Before Use' notifications, and 'Do Not Use' instructions.

Removal of these restrictions requires investigation into the cause of the water quality contravention, completion of work to remedy any issues identified and the achievement of two consecutive satisfactory resamples. Accordingly, the restrictions were removed at five sites.

We continue to work with the owners and users of private water supplies and Environmental Health staff to bring the remaining supplies into compliance. Priority is given to advancing improvements to the water quality through provision of advice and guidance; agreeing action plans (particularly at the larger commercial / public sites); and promotion of Drinking Water Safety Plans (DWSP) for the ongoing management of these supplies.

We have a duty to ensure compliance with the water quality standards in The Private Water Supplies Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2017. Our approach, where there is no known health risk, is initially through informal negotiations. However, where necessary, we may take formal enforcement action to secure compliance and ensure a safe, clean supply of drinking water from private water supplies.

Single Private Well Web Application

The DWI routinely provides advice and guidance to the owners / users of all private water supplies across Northern Ireland. However, currently limited information is available on the estimated 1,200 single dwellings in Northern Ireland, mainly in rural and remote areas, served by a private water supply.

In October 2021, a new [Single Well Application](#) was published on the DAERA website. Owners of single private wells (private water supply to a single private dwelling) can now complete a short online assessment to find out more about potential risks to their water supply and to help identify measures to reduce the risks and improve the quality of water.

Through the application, single private well owners answer a series of questions specific to their private water supply related to common issues including the appearance and odour of the water, the sufficiency of the water supply, the protection surrounding the well and the location of the well in relation to activities which can pose a risk of contamination to the water supply such as animal grazing, septic tanks and storage of fuel and pesticides. Once the assessment has been completed and submitted the owner will be provided with guidance and recommendations on how to improve and protect the quality of their water based on their inputs.

The application has been developed principally to raise awareness of the risks of using a single private well and provide bespoke advice and guidance to owners / users with recommendations to improve water quality and therefore public health protection. However, it is hoped that it will also provide a greater insight into the current status of single private wells in Northern Ireland.

Annexes

Annex 1 Glossary

Annex 2 Events

Annex 3 Technical Audit Programme

Annex 4 Enforcement Action



Annex 1

Glossary and Definition of Terms

Abstraction Point	The point at which water is abstracted from a lake, river or groundwater source for the purposes of drinking water production.
Aesthetic	Associated with the senses of taste, smell and sight.
Animalcule	A tiny or microscopic life form.
Atrazine (total)	A man-made compound used as a herbicide in agriculture. 'Total' includes the relevant metabolites, degradation and reaction products.
Catchment	The area of land that drains into a watercourse.
Clarification	A process employed during drinking water treatment to assist in the removal of suspended solids and particulate matter.
Clopyralid	An herbicide used for controlling broad-leaved weeds such as docks and creeping thistle in grassland.
<i>Clostridium perfringens</i>	A spore-forming bacterium which is exceptionally resistant to unfavourable conditions in the water environment.
Coagulation	A process employed during drinking water treatment to assist in the removal of particulate matter.
Coliform bacteria	A group of bacteria which may be faecal or environmental in origin.
Contravention	A breach of the regulatory requirement.
Cryptosporidium oocyst	A protozoan parasite.
Determination	An analysis for a specific parameter.
Distribution Network	The system of mains water pipes bringing water from a water treatment works to service reservoirs and onwards to the consumer.
Drinking Water Protected Areas	Raw water sources from which water is abstracted for the production of drinking water.
Drinking Water Quality Standards	The prescribed concentrations or values listed in the Regulations.
Drinking Water Safety Plan (DWSP)	A comprehensive risk assessment and risk management approach that encompasses all steps in water supply from catchment to consumer.

Enterococci	A sub-group of faecal streptococci commonly found in the faeces of humans and warm-blooded animals.
<i>Escherichia coli</i> (<i>E. coli</i>)	A type of faecal coliform bacteria commonly found in the intestines of animals and humans. The presence of <i>E. coli</i> in water is a strong indication of recent sewage or animal waste contamination.
Event	A situation affecting, or with the potential to affect, drinking water quality.
Faecal Coliform	A sub-group of coliforms, almost exclusively faecal in origin.
Faecal Indicators	A group of organisms that indicate the presence of faecal contamination of a water supply eg <i>E.coli</i> .
Fenpropimorph	A fungicide used to control various fungal pathogens.
Filtration	The separation of suspended particulate matter from a fluid.
Flocculation	A process where colloids come out of suspension in the form of a floc.
Granular Activated Carbon (GAC)	An absorbent filtration media used to remove trace organic compounds from water.
Groundwater	Water from aquifers or other underground sources.
Hydrogen ion (pH)	The degree of acidity of the water. A pH of 7 is neutral; values below 7 are acidic and above 7 are alkaline. A low pH water may result in pipe corrosion. This is corrected by adding alkali during water treatment.
Impounding reservoir	A raw water source from which water is abstracted for the purposes of drinking water production.
Incident	An event where there has been a demonstrable deterioration in the quality of drinking water.
Indicator Parameter	Something that is measured to check that the control measures, such as water treatment, are working effectively.
Leaching	To lose, or cause to lose, soluble substances by the action of a percolating liquid.
MCPA	An herbicide used for controlling broad-leaved weeds in grass or cereal crops.
Mecoprop (MCP)	A herbicide used for controlling broad-leaved weeds in grass or cereal crops.
Metribuzin	A broad-spectrum herbicide for control of certain grasses and broadleaf weeds.

Microbiological	Associated with the study of microbes.
m ³ /d	Cubic metres per day.
MI/D	Megalitres per day (one million litres per day).
µg/l	Micrograms per litre (one millionth of a gram per litre).
Parameters	The substances, organisms and properties listed in Schedules 1 and 2, and regulation 2 of the Regulations.
Pathogen	An organism which causes disease.
PC15	The third price control process whereby funding was allocated to NI Water by the Utility Regulator for the 2015 to 2021 period.
PC21	The fourth price control process whereby funding was allocated to NI Water by the Utility Regulator for the 2021 to 2027 period.
Pesticides	Any fungicide, herbicide, insecticide or related product (excluding medicines) used for the control of pests or diseases.
Phenanthrene	A polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH) which may be used in the production of pesticides.
Powder Activated Carbon (PAC)	An adsorbent media typically used to remove taste and odour compounds during a water treatment process.
Price Control Process (PC)	The process for the funding of NI Water by the Utility Regulator for a set period.
Prescribed Concentration or Value (PCV)	The numerical value assigned to drinking water standards, defining the maximal or minimal legal concentration or value of a parameter.
Raw Water	Water prior to receiving treatment abstracted for the purpose of drinking water provision.
Remedial Action	The action taken to improve a situation.
Residence Time	The period of time treated water spends in clear water tank, service reservoir or other storage facility.
Service Reservoir	A water tower, tank or other reservoir used for the storage of treated water within the distribution system.
Supply Point	A point, other than a consumer's tap, authorised for the taking of samples for compliance with the Regulations.

Trihalomethanes (THMs)	A group of organic substances comprising, for the purposes of the Regulations, four substances: trichloromethane (also known as chloroform), tribromomethane (also known as bromoform), dibromochloromethane and bromodichloromethane.
Turbidity	Turbidity is the measure of relative clarity of a liquid.
Water Catchment Partnership	The Water Catchment Partnership (WCP) was established in 2013 to help address significant water quality issues in Northern Ireland related to pesticides.
Water Supply Zone	A pre-defined area of supply used for establishing sampling frequencies, compliance with standards and information to be made publicly available.
Water Treatment Works	A facility that produces drinking water from a raw water source.
Wholesome/Wholesomeness	A concept of water quality which is defined by reference to standards and other requirements set out in the Regulations.

Annex 2 – Events

Major Drinking Water Quality Events in 2021

Date of Major Event	Area and Estimate of Population/ Properties Potentially Affected	Nature and Cause of Serious Event	Associated Council Area(s)
03/02/21 – 17/02/21	Carmony WTW (56,781 population)	A high level of consumer contacts regarding the taste and odour or their mains water supply and contraventions of the taste and odour parameters in the final water from Carmony WTW. DWI issued questionnaires to consumers in relation to this event. The investigation is ongoing.	Derry City and Strabane District

Serious Drinking Water Quality Events in 2021

Date of Serious Event	Area and Estimate of Population/ Properties Potentially Affected	Nature and Cause of Serious Event	Associated Council Area(s)
31/01/21 – 16/02/21	Drumbreda and St Brigids Hill area, Armagh (152 properties)	Following operational work on the main, there were consumer contacts regarding the taste and odour or their mains water supply. Contraventions of the taste and odour parameters occurred. DWI issued questionnaires to consumers in relation to this event. The investigation is ongoing.	Armagh City Banbridge and Craigavon District
15/07/21 – 28/07/21	Northern Ireland (1.9 million)	High water demand in the network due to a period of particularly warm and dry conditions and exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. A NI Water Category 1 Incident was declared. Alternative water supplies including asset to asset tankering was required.	All

Significant Drinking Water Quality Events in 2021

Date of Significant Event	Area and Estimate of Population/ Properties Potentially Affected	Nature and Cause of Significant Event	Associated Council Area(s)
11/01/21 – 19/01/21	Dorisland WTW (137,083 population)	Elevated levels of aluminium occurred in the works final water due to a level probe fault following a plant shutdown which led to treatment difficulties.	Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough; Belfast City; and Mid & East Antrim Borough.
02/03/21 – 03/03/21	Drummaroad WTW (446,519 population)	A contravention of the aluminium parameter occurred in the works final water. Following an investigation, NI Water was unable to identify the cause of the contravention. A Regulation 31(4) Notice was issued by DWI on 8 July 2021 in respect of aluminium contraventions at Drummaroad WTW.	Belfast City; Lisburn & Castlereagh City; Newry, Mourne & Down District; and North Down & Ards Borough.
23/03/21 - Present	Lower Quilly Road, Dromore (5 properties)	Samples taken in response to consumer complaints contravened the iron standard (including results above the Health Notification Value) due to the condition of the iron mains. Mains replacement scheduled for January 2023.	Newry, Mourne & Down District
27/03/21 – 28/03/21	Castor Bay WTW (367,276 population)	Contraventions of the aluminium and turbidity parameters occurred following a plant shutdown which caused a fault in the Programmable Logic Controller (PLC) which led to treatment difficulties.	Armagh City Banbridge and Craigavon District; Belfast City; Lisburn & Castlereagh City; Mid-Ulster District; and Newry, Mourne & Down District
28/04/21 – 28/04/21	Drummaroad WTW (446,519 population)	The works was manually shutdown for approximately two hours following a failure of the disinfection system. A faulty component was replaced and the works successfully restarted. Disinfection was maintained in the distribution system.	Belfast City; Lisburn & Castlereagh City; Newry, Mourne & Down District; and North Down & Ards Borough.

Significant Drinking Water Quality Events in 2021

Date of Significant Event	Area and Estimate of Population/ Properties Potentially Affected	Nature and Cause of Significant Event	Associated Council Area(s)
29/04/21 – 05/05/21	Glenhordial WTW (12,030 population)	A contravention of the individual pesticide standard for MCPA (2-methyl-4-chlorophenoxyacetic acid) occurred in the works final water. The pesticide removal treatment was not in operation at the time of this event.	Fermanagh & Omagh District.
03/05/21 – 05/05/21	Derg WTW (41,638 population)	A contravention of the individual pesticide standard for MCPP (Mecoprop - methylchlorophenoxypropionic acid) occurred in the works final water due to insufficient treatment. A Regulation 31(4) Notice has been issued by DWI in respect of pesticide contraventions and as a result NI Water is currently carrying out a major upgrade to this water treatment works.	Derry City & Strabane District and Fermanagh & Omagh District.
10/05/21 – 12/05/21	Forked Bridge WTW (91,353 population)	There was a loss of chlorine residual and contravention of the manganese standard following a loading valve fault which caused over dosing of a de-chlorinating agent at Castor Bay WTW which supplies the final water to Forked Bridge WTW.	Armagh City Banbridge and Craigavon District; Belfast City; Lisburn & Castlereagh City; Mid-Ulster District; and Newry, Mourne & Down District
11/05/21 – 06/10/21	Derg WTW (41,638 population)	Contraventions of the individual pesticide standard for MCPA occurred in the works final water due to insufficient treatment. A Regulation 31(4) Notice has been issued by DWI in respect of pesticide contraventions and as a result NI Water is currently carrying out a major upgrade to this water treatment works.	Derry City & Strabane District and Fermanagh & Omagh District.
26/05/21 – 15/06/21	Clay lake WTW (9,881 population)	Contraventions of the individual pesticide standard for MCPA occurred in the works final water. Clay Lake WTW has pesticide removal treatment in place which is normally effective at reducing MCPA levels to below the regulatory limit. The filter media for pesticide reduction has been replaced.	Armagh City Banbridge and Craigavon District

Significant Drinking Water Quality Events in 2021

Date of Significant Event	Area and Estimate of Population/ Properties Potentially Affected	Nature and Cause of Significant Event	Associated Council Area(s)
08/06/21 – 19/09/21	Ballinrees WTW (119,579 population)	Contraventions of the taste and odour parameters occurred in the works final water and related distribution due to insufficient treatment. Consumer complaints regarding Taste & Odour in the Ballinrees WTW supply area were received by NI Water. A Regulation 31(4) Notice has been issued by DWI in relation to taste and odour contraventions at Ballinrees WTW.	Causeway Coast & Glens Borough & Derry City & Strabane District
06/07/21 – 15/07/21	Carmoney WTW (56,781 population)	A contravention of the individual pesticide standard for MCPA occurred in the works final water. Carmoney WTW has pesticide removal treatment in place which is normally effective at reducing MCPA levels to below the regulatory limit. However the level of the pesticide in the raw water was very high on this occasion and the treatment was insufficient to reduce the level to the required standard.	Derry City & Strabane District
24/07/21 – 02/08/21	Clay lake WTW (9,881 population)	Contraventions of the aluminium, iron, manganese and turbidity parameters occurred in the works final water. The aluminium and manganese results were above the relevant Health Notification Values. These contraventions occurred when the works was operating at an increased capacity and following tankering into the Clear Water Tank during the Serious high network demand event.	Armagh City Banbridge and Craigavon District

Significant Drinking Water Quality Events in 2021

Date of Significant Event	Area and Estimate of Population/ Properties Potentially Affected	Nature and Cause of Significant Event	Associated Council Area(s)
18/08/21 – 26/08/21	Beagh Road, Douglas Bridge (4 properties)	Recurring coliform bacteria contraventions led to “Boil Water before Use until Further Notice” advice being issued to four properties. The contraventions occurred following a burst main and operational activity to install a valve to help locate the burst. It is probable that contamination of the main was due to the burst or occurred during the operational work. A number of contraventions of the Water Fittings Regulations were identified requiring action by the consumers.	Derry City & Strabane District
24/08/21- 01/09/21	Brett Avenue, Lurgan (3 properties)	Recurring coliform bacteria contraventions led to “Boil Water before Use until Further Notice” advice being issued to two properties. The initial sample was taken in response to a consumer complaint of odour. Water Fittings inspections identified internal issues at the two properties which may have caused the recurring contraventions.	Armagh City Banbridge and Craigavon District
31/08/21 – 19/10/21	Dungonnell WTW (28,345 population)	Contraventions of the Total Trihalomethanes (THMs) parameter occurred in the works final water and the related distribution system. The treatment process was not optimised for organics removal at the time of this event. Improvement work in relation to THMs at Dungonnell WTW is included in the PC21 work plan.	Mid & East Antrim Borough

Significant Drinking Water Quality Events in 2021

Date of Significant Event	Area and Estimate of Population/ Properties Potentially Affected	Nature and Cause of Significant Event	Associated Council Area(s)
10/09/21 – 18/09/21	Ballynakilly Road, Cookstown (6 properties)	Recurring coliform bacteria contraventions led to “Boil Water before Use until Further Notice” advice being issued to six properties. The contraventions occurred after operational activity to repair a valve. It is probable that the main was contaminated during the operational work. DWI notes in response to the contraventions that chlorine was boosted and the main was flushed. A number of contraventions of the Water Fittings Regulations were identified requiring action by the consumers.	Mid-Ulster District
20/09/21 – 21/09/21	Altnahinch WTW (33,400 population)	A contravention of the Total Trihalomethanes (THMs) parameter occurred in the works final water. The treatment process was not optimised for organics removal at the time of this event due to issues with pH control. Improvement work in relation to THMs at Altnahinch WTW is included in the PC21 work plan.	Causeway Coast & Glens Borough
28/10/21 – 12/11/21	Drumaroad WTW (446,519 population)	Contraventions of the aluminium parameter occurred in the works final water due to difficulties with the treatment process. A Regulation 31(4) Notice was issued by DWI on 8 July 2021 in respect of aluminium contraventions at Drumaroad WTW.	Belfast City; Lisburn & Castlereagh City; Newry, Mourne & Down District; and North Down & Ards Borough.

Annex 3

Technical Audit Programme

In 2021, the on-site technical audit inspection programme had to be suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic. One audit was completed virtually:

- An audit of the Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS)

Table 3.1: Summary of the 2021 Inspection Programme

Date of Audit	Location	Audit Activity	Number of Recommendations ¹	Number of Suggestions ²
02/12/21	Laboratory Information Management System	To check that data is adequately managed by the 'Laboratory Information Management System'.	4	3

¹ Recommendations are made where, in our opinion, action is required to avoid a foreseeable risk or a breach of a regulatory duty. If such a breach occurs, then we may consider 'enforcement action'. A formal written response from NI Water is required.

² Suggestions are made in relation to matters which relate to best practice.

Annex 4

Enforcement Action

The DWI Section of the [DAERA website](#) publishes details of all Enforcement actions.

Table 4.1: Summary of Enforcement Actions 2021

Type of Enforcement	Water Treatment Works (WTW)	Reason for Notice	Summary
Regulation 31(4) Notice 2020/001	Derg WTW	Contravention of the regulatory standard for the herbicide, MCPA	Requires NI water to install and have operational, a treatment system at Derg WTW that is effective in the removal or reduction of MCPA to achieve a final water result that meets the maximum regulatory limit of MCPA of 0.10µg/l by 31 March 2022. An amendment was issued in February 2022 to provide NI Water with an additional 12 months to complete the required treatment upgrade by 31 March 2023.
Regulation 31(4) Notice 2020/002	Ballinrees WTW	Contravention of the regulatory standard for the herbicide, MCPA	Requires NI Water to install and have operational, a treatment system at Ballinrees WTW that is effective in the removal or reduction of MCPA to achieve a final water result that meets the maximum regulatory limit of MCPA of 0.10µg/l 2020 by 22 December 2023. This was issued on 17 December 2020 following the revocation of Regulation 31(4) Notice 03/19 on the same date.
Regulation 31(4) Notice 2020/003	Ballinrees WTW	Contravention of the regulatory standards for Taste and Odour	Requires NI Water to install and have operational, a treatment system at Ballinrees WTW that is proven to be effective in the treatment of taste and odour parameters to achieve a final water and consumer tap result that is acceptable to the consumer and there is no abnormal change by 22 December 2023. This was issued on 17 December 2020.
Regulation 31(4) Notice 2021/001	Drumaroad WTW	Contravention of the regulatory standard for Aluminium	Regulation 31(4) Notice 2021/001 issued on 8 July 2021 requires NI Water to install and have operational, a treatment system at Drumaroad WTW that is proven to be effective in the removal or reduction of Aluminium to achieve a final water result that meets the maximum regulatory limit of Aluminium of 200 µg/l by 30 April 2025.

Table 4.2: Summary of Prosecution Action 2021

Type of Enforcement	Detail of Offence	Reason for Action	Summary
Prosecution: Article 110 - The Water and Sewerage Services (Northern Ireland) Order 2006 -	Supply of water that was unfit for human consumption	In July – August 2018 a section of the mains water supply in the Meigh area of Newry was contaminated with oil. This affected 43 properties and resulted in complaints relating to taste and odour	The Regulations require that there is ‘no abnormal change’ and that the water is ‘acceptable to the consumer’. NI Water pleaded guilty to the offence on 19 July 2021 and received a conditional discharge for a period of 12 months.

Useful Information

(To access the information click on the links below)

[Regulatory Framework](#) – provides details and links to current legislation relating to drinking water quality.

[Drinking Water Quality Tables](#) – provides details of drinking water compliance within individual water supply zones and council areas.

Drinking Water Advice and Guidance for [Public](#) and [Private](#) Supplies – provides a list of links for consumers and professionals requiring further information on drinking water quality.

[Useful Contacts](#) – provides a list of organisations and contact details related to drinking water.

Request for Feedback on this Report

Did you find what you were looking for?

The Drinking Water Inspectorate is constantly aiming to improve the standard of information provided in this report.

Any views or opinions you may have would be highly valued by us and we would greatly appreciate your feedback.

Any feedback can be provided by either

Email: dwi@daera-ni.gov.uk

or

Post: **Drinking Water Inspectorate
Northern Ireland Environment Agency
Klondyke Building
Cromac Avenue
Gasworks Business Park
Malone Lower
BELFAST
BT7 2JA**

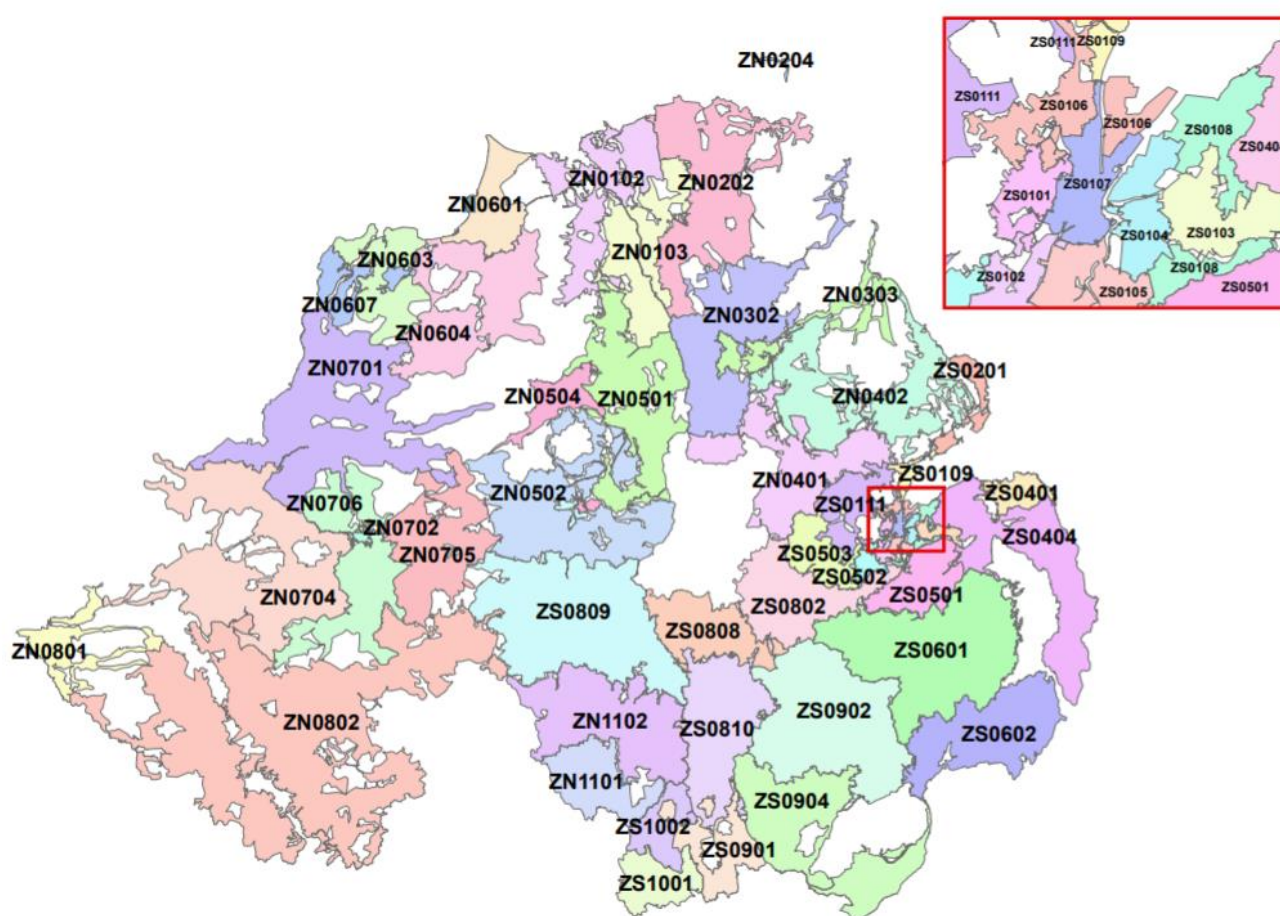
Drinking Water Inspectorate for Northern Ireland
Resource Efficiency Division
Northern Ireland Environment Agency
Klondyke Building
Cromac Avenue
Gasworks Business Park
Malone Lower
Belfast BT7 2JA
Tel: 028 9056 9282
Email: DWI@daera-ni.gov.uk
Email: privatewatersupplies@daera-ni.gov.uk
www.daera-ni.gov.uk



Drinking Water Quality Tables

The following tables provide detail of where full compliance with the regulatory standards has not been met in the individual water supply zones. The tables present, by parameter, all the contraventions and the ‘% compliance’ that occurred in water supply zones and at supply points at water treatment works during 2021. The map in Figure 1 shows the water supply zones from which samples are collected across Northern Ireland. These will, when used in conjunction with the information in the parameter tables that follow, allow the reader to have a more local focus on water quality issues.

Figure 1: Map showing Water Supply Zones across Northern Ireland in 2021



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Table 1: Water Supply Zones within each Council area in 2021

Council	Water Supply Zones*	
Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough	ZN0302 - Dungonnell Glarryford ZN0401 - Dunore Point Antrim ZN0402 - Killylane Ballynure ZS0106 - Dunore Belfast North	ZS0109 - Dorisland Whiteabbey ZS0111 - Dunore Point HydePark ZS0503 - Forked Bridge Stoneyford
Ards and North Down Borough	ZS0108 - Belfast Purdysburn ZS0405 - Drumaroad Ards West ZS0406 - Drumaroad Portaferry ZS0407 - Drumaroad Bangor West	ZS0408 - Drumaroad Bangor East ZS0501 - Drumaroad Lisburn ZS0601 - Drumaroad Ballynahinch
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough	ZN1101 - Clay Lake Keady ZN1102 - Seagahan Armagh ZS0810 - Castor Bay Tandragee ZS0811 - Castor Bay Portadown	ZS0812 - Castor Bay Craigvon East ZS0814 - Castor Bay Moira ZS0902 - Fofanny Dromore ZS0904 - Fofanny Mourne
Belfast City	ZS0101 - Dunore Ballygomartin North ZS0102 - Dunore Ballygomartin South ZS0103 - Belfast Ballyhanwood ZS0104 - Belfast Breda North ZS0105 - Belfast Breda South ZS0106 - Dunore Belfast North ZS0107 - Belfast Oldpark	ZS0108 - Belfast Purdysburn ZS0109 - Dorisland Whiteabbey ZS0111 - Dunore Point HydePark ZS0405 - Drumaroad Ards West ZS0501 - Drumaroad Lisburn ZS0502 - Forked Bridge Dunmurry ZS0503 - Forked Bridge Stoneyford
Causeway Coast and Glens Borough	ZN0102 - Ballinrees West ZN0103 - Ballinrees East ZN0202 - Altnahinch Bushmills ZN0204 - Rathlin Island ZN0302 - Dungonnell Glarryford	ZN0501 - Moyola Magherafelt ZN0601 - Ballinrees Limavady ZN0603 - Carmoney Eglinton ZN0604 - Caugh Hill Dungiven ZN0607 - Corrody Derry
Derry City and Strabane District	ZN0603 - Carmoney Eglinton ZN0604 - Caugh Hill Dungiven ZN0607 - Corrody Derry	ZN0701 - Derg Strabane ZN0704 - Lough Bradan Drumquin
Fermanagh and Omagh District	ZN0701 - Derg Strabane ZN0702 - Glenhordial Omagh ZN0704 - Lough Bradan Drumquin ZN0705 - Lough Macrory Beragh	ZN0706 - Lough Macrory Killyclogher ZN0801 - Belleek Garrison ZN0803 - Killyhevlin West ZN0804 - Killyhevlin East
Lisburn and Castlereagh City	ZN0401 - Dunore Point Antrim ZS0103 - Belfast Ballyhanwood ZS0108 - Belfast Purdysburn ZS0111 - Dunore Point HydePark ZS0405 - Drumaroad Ards West ZS0501 - Drumaroad Lisburn	ZS0502 - Forked Bridge Dunmurry ZS0503 - Forked Bridge Stoneyford ZS0601 - Drumaroad Ballynahinch ZS0814 - Castor Bay Moira ZS0902 - Fofanny Dromore
Mid and East Antrim Borough	ZN0302 - Dungonnell Glarryford ZN0303 - Dunore Point Ballymena ZN0401 - Dunore Point Antrim	ZN0402 - Killylane Ballynure ZS0109 - Dorisland Whiteabbey ZS0201 - Dorisland Carrick
Mid Ulster District	ZN0103 - Ballinrees East ZN0501 - Moyola Magherafelt ZN0502 - Lough Fea Cookstown ZN0504 - Moyola Unagh Morneal ZN0705 - Lough Macrory Beragh	ZN0706 - Lough Macrory Killyclogher ZN0804 - Killyhevlin East ZN1102 - Seagahan Armagh ZS0809 - Castor Bay Dungannon ZS0811 - Castor Bay Portadown
Newry, Mourne and Down District	ZN1101 - Clay Lake Keady ZS0501 - Drumaroad Lisburn ZS0601 - Drumaroad Ballynahinch ZS0602 - Drumaroad Downpatrick ZS0810 - Castor Bay Tandragee	ZS0901 - Castor Bay Newry West ZS0902 - Fofanny Dromore ZS0904 - Fofanny Mourne ZS1001 - Carran Hill Crossmaglen ZS1002 - Carran Hill Camly

* excludes water supply zones with fewer than 40 properties within the council area.

Water Quality in Water Supply Zones in 2021

Table 2: % Compliance – Aluminium

Sampling Location - Zones	Number of Samples	Number of Non-compliant Tests	% Compliance
ZN0303 - Dunore Point Ballymena	52	1	98.08
ZN0701 - Derg Strabane	36	1	97.22
ZS0105 - Belfast Breda South	52	1	98.08
ZS0602 - Drumaroad Downpatrick	36	1	97.22
ZS0809 - Castor Bay Dungannon	52	1	98.08
ZS0814 - Castor Bay Moira	36	1	97.22
ZS1001 - Carran Hill Crossmaglen	24	1	95.83
All other zones	1716	0	100.00
Overall	2004	7	99.65

Table 3: % Compliance – Coliform bacteria

Sampling Location - Zones	Number of Samples	Number of Non-compliant Tests	% Compliance
ZN0103 - Ballinrees East	72	1	98.61
ZN0401 - Dunore Point Antrim	168	1	99.40
ZN0502 - Lough Fea Cookstown	72	1	98.61
ZN0601 - Ballinrees Limavady	60	3	95.00
ZN0603 - Carmoney Eglinton	144	2	98.61
ZN0701 - Derg Strabane	108	2	98.14
ZS0102 - Dunore Ballygomartin South	132	1	99.24
ZS0106 - Dunore Belfast North	132	2	98.48
ZS0111 - Dunore Point Hyde Park	96	2	97.92
ZS0405 - Drumaroad Ards West	180	1	99.44
ZS0503 - Forked Bridge Stoneyford	72	1	98.61
ZS0812 - Castor Bay Craigavon East	132	1	99.24
All other zones	4152	0	100.00
Overall	5520	18	99.67

Table 4: % Compliance – *Clostridium perfringens*

Sampling Location – Supply Point	Number of Samples	Number of Non-compliant Tests	% Compliance
W4306 – Caugh Hill	8	1	87.50
All other supply points	228	0	100.00
Overall	236	1	99.58

Table 5: % Compliance – *E-coli*

Sampling Location – Supply Point	Number of Samples	Number of Non-compliant Tests	% Compliance
ZN0103 – Ballinrees East	72	1	98.61
All other zones	5448	0	100.00
Overall	5520	1	99.98

Table 6: % Compliance – Enterococci

Sampling Location - Zones	Number of Samples	Number of Non-compliant Tests	% Compliance
ZN0103 - Ballinrees East	8	1	87.50
All other zones	424	0	100.00
Overall	432	1	99.77

Table 7: % Compliance – Hydrogen Ion

Sampling Location – Supply Point	Number of Samples	Number of Non-compliant Tests	% Compliance
ZS0814 – Castor Bay Moira	36	1	99.99
All other supply points	1968	0	100.00
Overall	2004	1	99.95

Table 8: % Compliance – Iron

Sampling Location - Zones	Number of Samples	Number of Non-compliant Tests	% Compliance
ZN0303 - Dunore Point Ballymena	52	1	98.08
ZN0402 - Killylane Ballynure	52	1	98.08
ZN0604 - Caugh Hill Dungiven	24	1	95.83
ZN607 - Corrody Derry	52	1	98.08
ZN0701 - Derg Strabane	36	1	97.22
ZN0706 - Lough Macrory Killyclogher	24	1	95.83
ZN1102 - Seagahan Armagh	36	1	97.22
ZS0201 - Dorisland Carrick	36	1	97.22
ZS0809 - Castor Bay Dungannon	52	2	96.15
ZS0811 - Castor Bay Portadown	52	1	98.08
ZS0812 - Castor Bay Craigavon East	52	1	98.08
ZS1001 - Carran Hill Crossmaglen	24	1	95.83
All other zones	1512	0	100.00
Overall	2004	13	99.35

Table 9: % Compliance – Lead

Sampling Location – Supply Point	Number of Samples	Number of Non-compliant Tests	% Compliance
ZS0406 – Drumaroad Portaferry	5	1	80.00
ZS0810 - Castor Bay Tandragee	6	1	83.33
ZS0811 - Castor Bay Portadown	4	2	50.00
ZS0902 - Fofanny Dromore	4	1	75.00
All other zones	242	0	100.00
Overall	261	5	98.08

Table 10: % Compliance – Manganese

Sampling Location – Supply Point	Number of Samples	Number of Non-compliant Tests	% Compliance
ZN0701 - Derg Strabane	36	1	97.22
ZN0602 - Drumaroad Downpatrick	36	1	97.22
ZN0809 - Castor Bay Dungannon	52	1	98.08
ZN0811 - Castor Bay Portadown	52	1	98.08
All other zones	1828	0	100.00
Overall	2004	4	99.80

Table 11: % Compliance – Nickel

Sampling Location - Zones	Number of Samples	Number of Non-compliant Tests	% Compliance
ZS0101 - Dunore Ballygomartin North	5	1	80.00
ZS0103 - Belfast Ballyhanwood	5	1	80.00
All other zones	249	0	100.00
Overall	259	2	99.23

Table 12: % Compliance – Odour

Sampling Location - Zones	Number of Samples	Number of Non-compliant Tests	% Compliance
ZN0102 - Ballinrees West	52	5	90.38
ZN0402 - Killylane Ballynure	52	1	98.08
ZN0603 - Carmoney Eglinton	52	1	98.08
ZN0704 - Lough Bradan Drumquin	24	1	95.83
ZN1102 - Seagahan Armagh	36	3	91.67
ZS0601 - Drumaroad Ballynahinch	52	1	98.08
ZS0809 - Castor Bay Dungannon	52	1	98.08
ZS0810 - Castor Bay Tandragee	52	1	98.08
ZS0811 - Castor Bay Portadown	52	1	98.08
ZS0814 - Castor Bay Moira	36	1	97.22
ZS0904 - Fofanny Mourne	52	1	98.08
All other zones	1492	0	100.00
Overall	2004	17	99.15

Table 13: % Compliance – Pesticides Other

Sampling Location – Supply Point	Number of Samples	Number of Non-compliant Tests	% Compliance
W2509 - Clay Lake WTW	8	1	87.50
W4501 - Derg WTW	8	1	87.50
All other supply points	8951	0	100.00
Overall	8967	2	99.98

*All pesticides other than aldrin, dieldrin, heptachlor and heptachlor epoxide for which a waiver is granted

Table 14: % Compliance – Taste

Sampling Location - Zones	Number of Samples	Number of Non-compliant Tests	% Compliance
ZN0102 - Ballinrees West	52	4	92.31
ZN0204 - Rathlin Island	4	2	50.00
ZN0502 - Lough Fea Cookstown	24	1	95.83
ZN0704 - Lough Bradan Drumquin	24	1	95.83
ZN1102 - Seagahan Armagh	36	1	97.22
ZS0811 - Castor Bay Portadown	52	1	98.08
All other zones	1812	0	100.00
Overall	2004	10	99.50

Table 15: % Compliance – Total Trihalomethanes

Sampling Location – Supply Point	Number of Samples	Number of Non-compliant Tests	% Compliance
ZN0302 - Dungonnell Glarryford	8	1	87.50
ZN0607 - Corrody Derry	8	1	87.50
ZN0701 - Derg Strabane	8	1	87.50
ZN0704 - Lough Bradan Drumquin	8	1	87.50
All other zones	400	0	100.00
Overall	432	4	99.07

Table 16: % Compliance – Turbidity

Sampling Location – Supply Point	Number of Samples	Number of Non-compliant Tests	% Compliance
ZS0809 - Castor Bay Dungannon	52	1	98.08
All other zones	1952	0	100.00
Overall	2004	1	99.95

Report on	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gearing for Growth Seminar - 20 October 2022 2. TRPSI Rural Business Development Grant Scheme 2022 3. Tourism Development Group Minutes on 29 June 2022 4. European Heritage Open Days 5. The Shared Island Fund 6. Blackwater River Update Report
Date of Meeting	13 October 2022
Reporting Officer	Assistant Director – Economic Development, Tourism & Strategic Programmes

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 key activities as detailed below.
2.0	Background
2.1	<p>Gearing for Growth Seminar – 20 October 2022</p> <p>As part of their contract for delivery of the 'Gearing for Growth' business mentoring programme, Workspace Enterprises Ltd are required to deliver an enterprise-themed seminar before November 2022.</p>
2.2	<p>TRPSI Rural Business Development Grant Scheme 2022</p> <p>The Rural Micro Business Development Grant Scheme is funded through DAERA's Tackling Rural Poverty and Social Isolation programme (TRPSI). This year's Scheme opened for applications on 4 May and closed on 31 May 2022.</p>
2.3	<p>Tourism Development Group Minutes on 29 June 2022</p> <p>The Tourism Development Group (TDG) was established to create a working forum between Council and private sector businesses. The TDG will assist with policy development and support the implementation of Council's Tourism Strategy and associated work in order to create economic growth, increase visitor numbers and create employment. The group meet on a bi-monthly basis and as per the</p>

	agreed Terms of Reference all business will be reported to Council through the Development Committee.
2.4	<p>European Heritage Open Days</p> <p>The Bridewell, Magherafelt and US Grant Ancestral Homestead, Ballygawley provided Living History tours for European Heritage Open Days on 9, 10 and 11 September 2022. This annual event celebrating local architecture, history and culture, takes place across Europe. Northern Ireland European Heritage Open Days are run by the Department for Communities with support of the Council of Europe and the European Commission.</p>
2.5	<p>The Shared Island Fund</p> <p>The Irish Government has committed to making €500 million in capital funding available to 2025 for investment in collaborative north/south projects, including infrastructure aimed at building a more connected Ireland.</p> <p>Mid Ulster District Council partnered in 4 collaborative cross border bids to the Shared Island Fund. The submission of applications to the Shared Island Fund was a competitive process and the closing date for applications was 5pm on Friday 3rd June 2022.</p>
2.6	<p>Blackwater River Update Report</p> <p>Members will be aware of the recently completed Blackwater River Feasibility Study Report completed by Lough Neagh Partnership, which was commissioned by Mid Ulster Council to explore potential opportunities to develop the Blackwater River and its environs.</p>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>Gearing for Growth Seminar - 20 October 2022</p> <p>Workspace Enterprises Ltd plan to deliver a seminar to be held at CDE premises (Cookstown) on the morning of Thursday 20 October 2022. This is for Mid Ulster's micro and small enterprises (eligible target group as stipulated by Council's funding partners Invest NI and EU/ERDF). The topic will be showing businesses what is required to prepare for and embrace change and how to integrate the management of change into a business. Keynote speakers will include Tony Convery (host) and a change management expert guest speaker, as well as providing an opportunity for other Mid Ulster businesses to showcase their 'change' journey and learnings. These will include Cormac Diamond (BlocBlinds), Lorna Robinson (Cloughbane) and Sharron McHugh (Molly and Me). Further details will be circulated to Members once finalised.</p>
3.2	<p>TRPSI Rural Business Development Grant Scheme 2022</p> <p>This Scheme is targeted at the rural micro business sector and provides capital grant aid of up to £4,999 funded at 50% of eligible costs. Mid Ulster Council had an original funding allocation of £140,000 for this year's scheme.</p>

204 applications were received before the closing date. Eligibility checks were carried out on applications received before they were assessed and scored. 136 applications were successful after the assessment process was completed. A request was made to DAERA to uplift their funding to fund the 136 schemes to the value of £429,902.22 and they have agreed to this and instructed Council to proceed. Council has issued 136 Letters of Offer to the successful candidates totalling £429,902.22 by 9 September 2022.

Delegated authority was previously granted to the Chief Executive to sign and issue the letters of offer approved under the Scheme. A full list of grant recipients is attached for Member's information in **Appendix 1**.

3.3 **Tourism Development Group Minutes on 29 June 2022**

Mid Ulster Tourism Development Group (TDG) minutes of 29 June 2022 is enclosed on **Appendix 2A** and Officer TDG Cluster Report of 29 June 2022 is attached on **Appendix 2B**

3.4 **European Heritage Open Days**

The Bridewell, Magherafelt and US Grant Ancestral Homestead, Ballygawley provided Living History tours for European Heritage Open Days from 9 – 11 September 2022.

- Friday 9 September – 113 Local primary schools children visited the Bridewell where Living History characters provided an interactive tour of what life would have been like in the 1804 Courthouse and Gaol Cells, a visit to the old Graveyard before going to the library to discover photographs and talk on the history of Magherafelt town.





- Saturday 10 September – The Bridewell was brought back to life with living history tours, allowing visitors the opportunity to experience life in the original cells and participate in activities in the exercise yard before a walk around the adjoining graveyard. Tours took place every hour throughout the day and for the first year were fully booked.
- Sunday 11 September – Living history tours took place every 30 minutes giving visitors an experience into the lives of the Simpsons, the ancestors of Ulysses Grant, General and 18th President of the United States of America.

Over 22 sites in Mid Ulster as listed on **Appendix 3** were open for visits during the weekend with many of them booked out. All sites were promoted via Visit Mid Ulster and Mid Ulster District Council social media channels. All the above events were free of charge.

3.5 The Shared Island Fund

The €5 million scheme is being funded through the ROI Government's Shared Island Fund and supports the development of new joint investment projects by cross-border Local Authority partnerships to deliver on agreed regional development goals and the Shared Island dimension of the National Development Plan. The scheme enables Local Authorities to partner on a cross-border basis to bring new projects through feasibility or pre-planning stages, with a maximum amount of €250,000 per project awarded.

On Thursday 29th September 2022 Taoiseach Micheál Martin announced that more than €4.3m (£3.8m) in funding has been awarded to 25 projects. Members will recall that Mid Ulster District Council agreed to partner in four cross-border applications to the Shared Island Fund Local Authority Development Fund.

Details of the submissions are below:-

1) Industrial Land / Enterprise Space

Collaboration to develop SME innovation clusters in Agri-food, Agri-Tech, and Advanced Manufacturing to support North/South collaborative networks

3.6	<p>through strategic investment in well planned industrial land and enterprise space.</p> <p>Five Local Authorities partnered in the bid; Monaghan County Council, Cavan County Council, Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, and Mid Ulster District Council.</p> <p>Lead Council: Monaghan County Council Total Amount Awarded: €250,000</p> <p>2) Sliabh Beagh Tourism & Outdoor Recreation Based Initiatives Collaboration to create a number of inter-connected tourism and outdoor recreation initiatives to build upon the existing services and facilities in the region.</p> <p>Three Councils partnered in the bid; Monaghan County Council, Mid Ulster District Council and Fermanagh and Omagh District Council.</p> <p>Lead Council: Monaghan County Council Total Amount Awarded: €145,475</p> <p>3) Tullaghoge Fort and Killahurk Ringfort The project will involve Feasibility Studies focusing on two associated Ringfort developments on each side of the border to transform a derelict Ringfort at Killahurk, near Carrigallen, Co. Leitrim, and for the development of a new pathway linking Tullaghoge Fort to Tullyhogue village, near Cookstown, Co Tyrone, along with the investigation of new innovative approaches to the interpretation of a recently discovered settlement there.</p> <p>Partners are Leitrim County Council and Mid Ulster District Council.</p> <p>Lead Partner: Leitrim County Council Total Amount Awarded: €110,000</p> <p>4) Ulster Canal The application to the Shared Island Development Funding for a Feasibility Study for the Northwards development of the Ulster Canal was not successful.</p> <p>The response from the Shared Island Fund will be considered at the next meeting of the ICBAN Management Board for discussion.</p> <p>Blackwater River Update Report At the Development Committee in September 2022, Members requested an update report be brought before Council in October 2022 to inform Members of progress especially in relation to dredging the mouth of the river. Such technical issues will</p>
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	be considered through Council's Environment Committee. Attached on Appendices 4A & 4B , is a copy of the Blackwater River Update Report & enclosures which Council's Head of Technical Services will present to the Environment Committee on 11 October 2022.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p>Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications</p> <p>Financial:</p> <p>Gearing for Growth Seminar - 20 October 2022: Provision has been made from within the overall Programme budget, which receives 80% funding from EU/ERDF and Invest NI and Council 20%.</p> <p>TRPSI Rural Business Development Grant Scheme 2022: Grant aid of £429,902.22 will be provided by DAERA. An administration budget of 10% of the funding allocation available will be provided to Council.</p> <p>Tourism Development Group Minutes on 29 June 2022: Within Council Budget</p> <p>European Heritage Open Days: Provision was made in the 2022/23 Tourism Development budget of £1,000.</p> <p>The Shared Island Fund</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Industrial Lands / Enterprise Space Council's Contribution of £10,000 has already been approved by Council. b) Sliabh Beagh Partnership Council's Contribution of £5,000 has already been approved by Council. c) Tullaghoge Fort and Killahurk Ringfort The project is 100% funded by the Shared Island Fund. <p>Human:</p> <p>Gearing for Growth Seminar - 20 October 2022: Officers time in working with Workspace Enterprises Ltd to ensure a successful event.</p> <p>TRPSI Rural Business Development Grant Scheme 2022: Officers time</p> <p>Tourism Development Group Minutes on 29 June 2022: Officers time</p> <p>The Shared Island Fund: Officers time</p> <p>Risk Management:</p> <p>TRPSI Rural Business Development Grant Scheme 2022: Council policies and procedures were adhered to in the roll out of this plan.</p>

4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	<p>Equality & Good Relations Implications:</p> <p>TRPSI Rural Business Development Grant Scheme 2022: Equality and Good Relations screening has been carried out prior to commencement of the Scheme.</p> <p>European Heritage Open Days: Council policies and procedures were adhered to in the roll out of this plan</p> <p>The Shared Island Fund: N/A at present. Equality and Good Relations screening will be carried out prior to commencement of projects, if funding is received.</p> <p>Rural Needs Implications:</p> <p>TRPSI Rural Business Development Grant Scheme 2022: Screening has been carried out prior to commencement of the Scheme.</p> <p>The Shared Island Fund: N/A at present. Rural Needs screening will be carried out prior to commencement of projects.</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	<p>It is recommended that Members;</p> <p>Gearing for Growth Seminar - 20 October 2022 Note update on Gearing for Growth Seminar (20 October 2022)</p> <p>5.2 TRPSI Rural Business Development Grant Scheme 2022 Note progress on the TRPSI Rural Business Development Grant Scheme 2022.</p> <p>5.3 Tourism Development Group Minutes on 29 June 2022. Note Tourism Development minutes dated 29 June 2022.</p> <p>5.4 European Heritage Open Days Note that 22 sites were open across Mid Ulster for visits during the weekend with many of them booked out.</p> <p>5.5 The Shared Island Fund Note that three successful partner submissions were made to the Shared Island Fund for the following initiatives:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Investment in well planned Industrial Land and Enterprise Space • Sliabh Beagh Tourism & Outdoor Recreation Based Initiative • Tullaghoge Fort and Killahurk Ringfort <p>Note the Ulster Canal application was not successful at this juncture.</p>

5.6	<p>Blackwater River Update Report</p> <p>Note the Blackwater River Update Report will be considered by the Environment Committee at its meeting on 11 October 2022. Copy of report enclosed for Members information on Appendices 4A & 4B.</p>
	<p>Documents Attached & References</p>
	<p>Appendix 1 - List of Successful Applicants under TRPSI Rural Business Development Grants Scheme 2022</p> <p>Appendix 2A – Minutes of Tourism Development Group Meeting - 29 June 2022</p> <p>Appendix 2B - Mid Ulster Council Tourism Development Group Officers Cluster Report – 29 June 2022</p> <p>Appendix 3 – European Heritage Open Days NI – Mid Ulster</p> <p>Appendix 4A - Blackwater River Update Report to Environment Committee on 11 Oct 2022</p> <p>Appendix 4B - Blackwater River Update – Appendices Document – 11 Oct 2022</p>

Appendix 1**Rural Business Development Grants Scheme (TRPSI) 2022 – Successful Applicants**

Organisation	Grant Award
C.P.R Clonoe Phone Repair	£849.50
Campervan Ireland Ltd	£4,999.00
Clogher Valley Guttering Ltd.	£588.77
Canavan Construction Ltd	£3,550.00
Wave the Animals LTD	£4,999.00
Cullear Engineering	£3,698.75
Adam Lyttle	£3,604.50
David A Scott Photography	£2,203.01
Mulgrew Construction & Utilities Ltd	£4,999.00
McErlean's Video	£2,540.95
Custom My Stuff	£2,187.49
Blossom Health NI	£3,764.50
Dreemore Gardening	£4,999.00
Wyse Bites	£1,192.14
Quinn Offsite Ltd	£4,999.00
All Spares	£4732.76
Big Tree Audio	£1,212.50
Dainty Robes	£4,999.00
Mid Ulster Metal Crafts	£4,999.00

Organisation	Grant Award
Origin Genetics Ltd	£4,731.18
GMT Metalworks Ltd	£4,999.00
Farrell Fencing Products Ltd	£4,999.00
Harkin's Pharmacy Ltd	£2,798.32
Lola and Stitch	£4,999.00
KAptured Moments	£1,730.00
Zen Therapies	£1,800.22
Homemade by Zoe	£649.01
Tir-Con Engineering Ltd	£4,999.00
Crucial Fabrications Ltd	£4,306.50
NorthPharma Consultancy Limited	£1,570.75
Glenshane Country Farm Ltd	£4,999.00
Larsplay Ltd	£4,050.00
Plant and Design Engineering	£4,999.00
Perfection by CMB	£1,370.00
Aughnacloy Autos	£1,317.00
Sean Rafferty	£3,989.99
Stephen McGuigan Duile Pottery	£2,161.59
Capa Ltd	£4,920.00
The Studio	£2,249.00
A1 Embroidery & Printing	£2,879.40

Organisation	Grant Award
AP MC Crory Engineering Ltd	£4,187.65
Mark Coyle Strength and Conditioning	£3,883.92
Valley Vehicle Repair	£3,975.00
Absolute Organic Wine Limited	£1,312.50
D McGorry haulage	£2,850.00
HES Engineering	£2,209.99
Speirs Landscapes	£3,623.50
Enhance Permanent Makeup By Rachael	£2,574.50
Specialist Concrete Solutions Ltd	£4,999.00
Tonagh Engineering Ltd	£2,465.00
RC Flat Roofing Systems Ltd	£4,999.00
Natrum Homeopathic Clinic & Dispensary	£4,250.00
CNC Ireland Ltd	£3,123.20
Thomas McVey (Dog Grooming)	£2,148.00
Ulster Ceramics Limited	£3,078.33
Rising PR	£1,756.01
JPS Netting Ltd	£4,999.00
Multitek Construction Ltd	£4,999.00
PM Boots	£1,697.27
TLC Grooming	£529.11
Electrotech Drives Ltd	£2,261.67

Organisation	Grant Award
SJ Conway Contracts & Plant Hire	£4,999.00
Oliver Corey Garages	£4,750.00
Property People Estate Agents	£4,625.75
Crushing Screening Parts Ltd	£4,999.00
Switch Electrics (Maghera) Ltd	£4,999.00
Tommy's Kitchen at Killymoon Castle	£3,618.00
Splash NI	£4,999.00
Pink Gate Design	£1,299.50
Digg for Success	£2,278.00
Annaginny Fishery Park Farm and Caravan Park	£1,914.58
PMA Trading	£3,337.50
Dynamic Equipment Ltd.	£4,999.00
Orla Rafferty Consulting	£2,098.00
SGK & Son 24HR Recovery Ltd	£551.28
Lennox Auto Services Ltd	£3,495.00
Kyle Davidson Tractor and Dump Trailer hire	£4,400.00
GMB Services (NI) Ltd	£4,969.70
Aecentus Ltd	£4,999.00
The Weatherbies	£2,393.52
NME Skin & Beauty	£4,999.00
Gerard O'Neill Engineering	£1,795.00

Organisation	Grant Award
ATF Buildings Ltd	£3,715.74
Torrent Credit Union Limited	£4,800.00
Brocagh Afterschool Club Ltd	£1,838.00
Architectural Timber Frames Ltd	£4,999.00
ML Dental Hygiene Clinic	£3,750.00
O'Gara Contracts Ltd	£4,999.00
Evander Hopper Design Ltd	£4,650.00
C & S Home Services NI Ltd	£4,050.00
Henry Murray Architectural services	£4,999.00
Weir & Co. (NI) Ltd	£4,825.00
Cutting Edge Prints Cookstown Ltd	£3,372.58
Heaney Brewing Company Ltd	£3,256.89
Devlin Glazing	£3,522.50
Blackhill Marquees	£4,794.50
David Preston Services	£3,183.97
Core Performance Gym	£2,058.50
Willow Moon Ireland	£954.00
Hills Agri Services	£4,999.00
CD Autorepairs	£3,354.00
Slatequarry Construction Ltd	£4,001.00
Carntogher Cabins	£4,999.00

Organisation	Grant Award
Vital Power Solutions LTD	£4,999.00
MC Music	£3,452.20
Bounce Abouts Ltd	£4,999.00
The Meadow Retreat	£4,999.00
Jimmy's Moy	£4,999.00
DTM Electrics Ltd	£1,838.26
Brenden Mulholland Plant Hire	£3,486.58
Sperrin Technical Laboratories Ltd	£3,932.50
Kirkpatrick Transport	£3,412.50
AMPM Flow & Energy Services Ltd	£694.00
Barran Yennie Peat Products	£4,999.00
LE Haslett & CO LTD	£4,999.00
Mid Ulster Pilates & Physiotherapy	£4,999.00
Precision Woodworks	£2,083.30
Home Cosmetics Ltd	£3,709.00
Harvey Hill Contracts Ltd	£988.11
Gary Davidson	£4,670.00
Philip Doyle Contracts	£1,917.26
Clear Sky Renewables Limited	£3,975.00
Gribbin Developments Ltd	£4,999.00
Wheelie Klean	£3,980.00

Organisation	Grant Award
Libre Interiors Ltd	£4,762.50
Gorestown Garden Products	£4,999.00
™ The Purist	£1,881.00
SOH Joinery	£3,735.95
R A Blair Ltd	£4,999.00
ECP Engineering Ltd	£4,576.50
Momentum Fitness	£3,827.51
Daly Mechanical Design	£4,999.00
TCS Contract Services	£2,594.00
Beyond Borders Film Limited	£2,588.50
Weir Bros Construction NI Ltd	£4,999.00
B-Bold (EU) Limited	£2,497.50
Successful Applicants	Total LoO Amount
136	£429,902.22

Appendix 2A

Minutes of Tourism Development Group Meeting dated 29th June 2022

Present

Hugh McCloy	Deputy Chair
Mary McKeown	Mid Ulster Council
Mary McGee	Mid Ulster Council
Charmain Bell	Mid Ulster Council
Grace Booth	Mid Ulster Council
Martha Beattie	Mid Ulster Council
Genevieve Bell	Mid Ulster Council
Norman Bell	Killymoon Castle
Richard Mulholland	Ballyscullion Park
Kieran Walsh	Walsh's Hotel
Simon Wiggins	South West College
Dermot Friel	Friel's Bar
Cathy O'Neill	Friel's Bar
Claire Murray	Deli on The Green
Cllr Niamh Doris	Mid Ulster Council
Cllr Sean Clarke	Mid Ulster Council

	DISCUSSION	ACTIONS
	<p>Welcome H McCloy chaired the meeting. Displayed minutes of meeting held on 12th April 2022 and briefly outlined contents for accuracy.</p> <p>Apologies Cllr Frances Burton, Mid Ulster Council Cllr Martin Kearney Mid Ulster Council Tanya Purvis, South West College Anne Birt-MacCartney, Northern Regional College Allison O'Keefe Mid Ulster Council Fiona McKeown Mid Ulster Council</p>	
1.	<p>Minutes of Meeting held on 12th April 2022 Circulated in advance of the meeting</p> <p><i>Proposed: Richard Mulholland Seconded: Dermot Friel</i></p>	

2.	Matters Arising N/A	
3.	Industry Update – TDG Members Friels Bar D Friel stated they submitted an application for Experiential Grant scheme with TNI for funding for Famine project. TNI facing budget constraints. Weekends are busy, up to 6 day week. Opened hen house out the back, good addition to property. Pizza offer at the weekends. C O'Neill contact from further two tour operators hoping to do business. Ballyscullion Park R Mulholland said that they had small tour groups, 16 people. Problems with getting people to stay in Mid Ulster. Tour group stay in bigger cities i.e. Derry and Belfast. Busy weekend with weddings. D Friel said the Hotel cluster group will promote stays in Mid Ulster. Cluster members to develop product. M McKeown, said she had a meeting with Game of Thrones in Banbridge. Game of Thrones tour business fluctuating with fuel prices affecting travelling. Walsh's Hotel K Walsh said the hotel business has peaks and quieter times. It is a challenge to get people to stay in Mid Ulster. They had their first hen party stay in the new pods. Electricity bills are very high. N Bell received feedback on the cost of hotels in Belfast and Dublin. He suggested that hotels in Mid Ulster should offer cheaper prices compared to cities to attract people to stay in Mid Ulster. Deli on the Green C Murray said they are still experiencing staffing issues, staff can't take their holidays. They may have to make a decision to close a couple of days during the week to allow staff to get their holidays. August is a busy month. Jubilee weekend was busy. 20% VAT in April has impacted the restaurant. Killymoon Castle N Bell said that tours are increasing, rise in small tour groups. Launch of WW2 tour and hidden heritage tour very	Address issue with travel time on buses with tour groups.

4.	<p>successful. He praised tourism staff in Council for their work on this and also highlighted the importance of networking with other local businesses to help encourage stays in Mid Ulster.</p> <p>M McGee said that ROI footfall is quiet in rural areas due to rising costs and fuel prices.</p> <p>M McKeown spoke to Esther Dobbins, National Trust Manager in Causeway. They can only take 4-5 coaches for their tours, encouraging this during off-peak times which has meant visitors have to stay an additional night.</p> <p>South West College S Wiggins said they were going to focus on recruitment of courses starting in September. Offering apprenticeships in catering and hospitality which gives the opportunity to earn and learn at the same time.</p> <p>Cllr S Clarkes asked how do you attract people into apprenticeships? The College needs to be more proactive in making it clear that there are opportunities in the hospitality sector. Cllr N Doris agreed with this point, highlighting that Travel and Tourism courses offer a lot of transferable skills.</p> <p>C Murray said educational institutes need to approach the industry to promote apprenticeships and there is now need for full time courses in hospitality. S Wiggins highlighted that students starting out in the industry do require at least 2 years to study before being ready to enter into the workplace.</p> <p>Embrace tours H McCloy said the wand making was successful. Outlook for next year, may be issues with travel & accommodation.</p> <p>Business Engagement Programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colin Neill webinar 'Facing the Challenges' • Unwinding time brand – training with McCadden • Tourism E-zine – monthly • A O'Keefe attended Royal Highland Show • Attending Clogher Valley Show (Tourism team have a stand) 	<p><i>Network with Mid Ulster to push tour operators down this way.</i></p>
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5.	Tourism Development Group Restructure M McGee said paper to go to Council for approval, lots of change in Council and need to review terms of reference. Feedback provided in next TDG meeting in Sept.	
6.	Cluster Reports Cluster reports circulated prior to meeting & shared on screen.	
6.1	<u>Seamus Heaney</u> No further comments	
6.2	<u>Archaeology, History & Heritage</u> G Bell said there was a fourth date added to the Hidden Heritage Tours. Poetry and prayer tour on 7 th July. The tour will leave from The Burnavon, go onto Ardboe cross, Washingbay and Benburb Priory. This has been promoted through social media and the Visit Mid Ulster website. The Hidden Heritage tour in Killymoon 18 th June, very successful. C Bell spoke with Dorothy, next tour is nearly fully booked.	
6.3	<u>Outdoor Activities</u> No further comments.	
6.4	<u>Taste Mid Ulster Cluster</u> M McGee said they will take on board S Wiggins apprenticeship programme. Mentoring and training planned with group of businesses, need for greater footfall.	M McGee to feed information back out to wider industry and filter through the cluster re apprenticeships
6.5	<u>NEW Clogher Valley Cluster</u> M McGee said groups of businesses in Clogher Valley have been successful in getting a collaborative growth programme funded - phase 1 4 businesses have submitted an application. Applications had been successful, businesses had received their Letter of Offer. The group are starting in next few weeks to appoint a facilitator to implement phase 1 scoping study. Heaney Cluster in phase 2. Recruitment of other businesses in Clogher valley into the cluster an output.	
7.	Visitor Monitoring Results Circulated prior to meeting & figures shared on screen.	

	<p>M McKeown said new monitors are in for Fivemiletown Roundlake, Solar Walk (installed on 12th Jan 22) had 6,195 people. Figures have all increased, based on a quarterly basis and Washingbay.</p>	
8.	<p>Brown Signage</p> <p>G Bell said a paper for brown signage audit has been put together for next Council meeting to seek approval to recruit a company to conduct an audit in Mid Ulster. An audit will be carried out on signs that are currently there and on what's missing. This will commence in Autumn and take a 6 month period to complete. G Bell has corresponded with transport NI.</p> <p>D Friel asked is this being done in any other Council areas in the North? G Bell responded that no, this isn't. This is being conducted in-house.</p> <p>Cllr S Clarke asked in relation to the Sperrins scenic route signage. M McKeown conducted an exercise with M McGuigan, through Sperrins partnership doing a new scenic driving route and added in experiences to include Beaghmore, Lissan House and Friel's bar in Swatragh. It was also noted that signs need removed from those B&B's that have closed down.</p> <p>H McCloy exited meeting at 11:20am.</p>	
9.	<p>Summer Marketing Campaign Update</p> <p>M McKeown said that during Covid TNi provided match funding to assist in our campaigns. However funding is now not available and it is back to existing core funding, with a smaller budget of £12,000 this season. M McKeown said we need a bigger budget for campaigns in autumn/winter.</p> <p>M McKeown highlighted that through our campaigns the most effective method is digital, we are able to measure visitors and numbers through the Facebook page able to measure visitors and numbers.</p> <p>Tourism worked alongside the Marketing & Communications to draw up the summer marketing campaign. This involved Stories from the Shore – Legends of the Lough, Lough Neagh and the Emigrants Walk. Council will partner with U105 to run competitions on social media and on the radio. This was an overnight stay in the new Ballyronan glamping pods. The campaign is running from 22nd June – through to July.</p>	

10.	<p>Digital advertising is running through to August.</p> <p>M McKeown also mentioned the redevelopment of Ballyronan. J Kerr was commissioned to do the video of the Lough Shore, boat tours, Jigsaw Farm, Lough Neagh stories and Seamus Heaney Open Ground walk.</p> <p>There is an influencer coming in July, and an online campaign and radio advertising.</p> <p>20 summer offers through TNI on our Visit Mid Ulster website.</p> <p>Any Other Business</p> <p>M McGee mentioned that the Carbon Literacy course would be pushed back to Autumn. M McKeown said that A O'Keefe would be attending the Tourism awards on behalf of Mid Ulster. A O'Keefe attended the Royal Highland Show, and commented that our outdoor products were strong.</p> <p>G Bell mentioned the Great Days Out event which will take place on 19th Oct in The Glenavon Hotel, previously this event has been very successful.</p> <p>M McGee highlighted the launch of Tourism awards (NI Giant spirits awards) on 29th June 2022 and wants to encourage businesses to enter. This has been promoted in the WhatsApp group.</p> <p>Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 7th September at 11am venue TBC.</p>	<p>G Bell to report back approval from council in September meeting.</p>
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Appendix 2B

Mid Ulster Council Tourism Development Group Officers Cluster Report – 29 June 2022

1. SEAMUS HEANEY CLUSTER – M MCGEE/C BELL

Lara Goodall Consulting has commenced delivering the Phase 2 Collaborative Growth Programme with this group.

Members have signed up to at least one of the sub-groups, which are:

- Governance & Recruitment; and
- Skills Development
- Business Development;
- Festivals / Events;
- Marketing & Comms;

These sub-group meetings are now established and initial meetings to agree actions plans have commenced.

Branding

Brand identity process is underway. Initial brand concepts have been developed and are to be reviewed and selected by the cluster members. Launch of the new brand will be scheduled for mid-September 2022.

Business Development

Drop-in sessions have commenced with the businesses with the first offering support to identify opportunities to access grant funded Innovation Support through Invest NI. A number of the cluster businesses (4) to date have taken advantage of this in terms of reviewing their pricing strategy, making a Rural Development Grant application, securing Intertrade Ireland's Digital Marketing Support, accessing Intertrade Ireland's Elevate programme and reviewing business TNI funding application.

Ezine

The team has developed a monthly newsletter that will keep members up to date on activities within the group and funding / training opportunities.

Governance

The sub-group has been established and is completing a Governance Health Check. This will then guide the development of an action plan to develop a Code of Good Governance for the MUTC.

2. ARCHAEOLOGY, HISTORY & HERITAGE CLUSTER – G BELL/M MCKEOWN

The cluster group met for the first face to face meeting in over 2 years at Killymoon Castle on Thursday 26th May 2022.

Presentation from the Planning Conservation Office of MUDC

Sarah McNamee from the Planning Conservation Office MUDC: Environment and Conservation Section within the Local Development Plan Team under Strategic Planning provided a very comprehensive presentation on her role within MUDC and her own interest in heritage. Sarah has a RSUA Certificate in Historic Building Conservation and is the current secretary for the NI Branch for the Institute of Historic Building Conservation (from 2016).

Sarah is available to provide advice and guidance around relevant heritage funding opportunities that become available.

Hidden Heritage Tours 2022

Hidden Heritage events have been arranged for 2022 and advertised through the Council social media. Numbers capped at 20. Bus leaves from the Burnavon, Cookstown and attendance at these events must be booked in advance.

- 18 June 2022 - Milky Bar Commando at Killymoon Castle
- 17th September 2022 - The Village of Ages, Donaghmore
- 8 October 2022 - The Emigrant's Walk, Carntogher mountain

Update from Cluster Members

Engagement remains very positive within the group and with doors back open again for most businesses, members are seeing an increase in bookings for the Summer season.

3. OUTDOOR & EVENTS CLUSTER – A O Keefe/ C Bell

Sperrins Hillwalking Festival

Following a procurement exercise Far and Wild have been appointed to plan, organise, deliver and manage a two-day walking event delivered over four different weekends during the months of September 22 and March 23 across the four Council areas within the Sperrins.

Far and Wild, in partnership with each Council, will be responsible to develop a programme for themed walks to include local heritage, photography etc. and will emphasise the walking/countryside experience.

A joint Sperrins Partnership marketing template will be used by each Council and to promote the Festival across their digital platforms and discovernorthernireland.com. Promotion will begin before the end of June. Bookings for each event will be made through Sperrins Partnership.

Mid Ulster Council Hill Walking event will take place 24 -25 September 2022

4. HOSPITALITY CLUSTER – CBELL/M MCGEE

The Taste Mid Ulster programme was successfully launched by Mr Paul McLean, Council Chair as part of The Banquet celebration on Hill of The O'Neill, Dungannon on Wednesday 27th April 2022.

We currently have 17 businesses from across Mid Ulster signed up to this programme.

We plan to roll out a barometer survey across our businesses to give us real time feedback from them and allow us to be more responsive to the good and bad news out there.

This will be complemented by a planned chef skills programme set to commence in the Autumn.

The development and launch of Taste Mid Ulster is very much Phase 1 of our work with these businesses, we plan to further develop and promote Taste Mid Ulster in this current year and into the future.

In spite of all this the sector is going through real difficulty at the minute, with a “perfect storm” of energy cost hikes, staff shortages, wage pressures, VAT and rates.

Colin Neil, Hospitality Ulster will join us and present to and advise this sector in a “Facing the Challenges” webinar on Tuesday 5th July at 10am.



Department for
Communities

ADD TO PLANNER



Saint Patrick's Chair & Well EHOD 2022

Augher

EHOD (European Heritage Open Days)

Clogher Parish invite you on a guided tour of Saint Patricks Chair & Well, in the picturesque wooded glen of Altadavin, Augher.

11 Sept 2022 Open 13:00 - 14:30

Free

BOOK NOW

MORE INFO

ADD TO PLANNER



Village Walk Clogher EHOD 2022

Clogher

EHOD (European Heritage Open Days)

Come and join us for walk around Clogher village.

9 Sept 2022 Open 19:00 - 21:00

Free

BOOK NOW

MORE INFO

ADD TO PLANNER



The Emigrant's Walk EHOD 2022

Maghera

EHOD (European Heritage Open Days)

The Emigrant's Walk - Taster tour & self guided walk on Saturday and Sunday at 10am

10 Sept 2022 to 11 Sept 2022 Open 10:00 - 17:00

Free

BOOK NOW

MORE INFO

ADD TO PLANNER



Benburb Priory and Benburb Castle Open Day EHOD 2022

Benburb

EHOD (European Heritage Open Days)

Opened In 1997 and opening again In 2022 is Benburb Priory and Benburb Castle. A great day with living history characters to engage with you and tell you the history of the castle.

10 Sept 2022 Open 10:00 - 16:00

Free

MORE INFO

ADD TO PLANNER



Clonfeacle Parish Church (St. Patrick's) Benburb for EHOD 2022

Benburb

EHOD (European Heritage Open Days)

Clonfeacle Parish Church (St Patrick's) Benburb is a Plantation church dating from 1618. It is one of the oldest churches in the Diocese of Armagh still in regular use.

10 Sept 2022 to 11 Sept 2022 Various Opening Times

Free

MORE INFO

ADD TO PLANNER



Katie's Cottage for EHOD 2022

Bellaghy

EHOD (European Heritage Open Days)

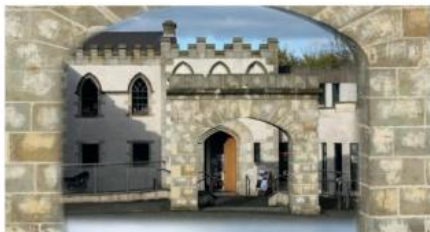
The cottage is a fine example of a vernacular building and is a rare one and a half storey Grade B+ listed thatched cottage circa 1830. It was fully restored and renovated to a high standard in 2016/2017.

11 Sept 2022 Open 12:00 - 18:00

Free

MORE INFO

ADD TO PLANNER



The Bridewell Living History Tours for EHOD 2022

Magherafelt

EHOD (European Heritage Open Days)

The Bridewell, an 1804 Courthouse and Gaol will be brought back to life with living history tours giving visitors the opportunity to experience life in the original cells of The Bridewell and participate in activities in the exercise yard!

10 Sept 2022 Open 09:30 - 17:00

Free

MORE INFO

ADD TO PLANNER



Lissan House for EHOD 2022

Cookstown

EHOD (European Heritage Open Days)

his EHOD, the house will be open for a free flow tour of the ground floor. A guide in each room will tell you something of that particular room, important contents and stories of the family characters who used to live and sleep under it's roof.

10 Sept 2022 to 11 Sept 2022 Open 11:00 - 15:00

Free

MORE INFO

ADD TO PLANNER



Tyrone Crafted Glass EHOD 2022

Coalisland

EHOD (European Heritage Open Days)

Tyrone Crafted Glass celebrate the legacy of the famous Tyrone Crystal factory which closed in 2010.

10 Sept 2022 to 11 Sept 2022 Open 12:00 - 15:00

Free

MORE INFO

ADD TO PLANNER



Wellbrook Beetling Mill EHOD 2022

Cookstown

EHOD (European Heritage Open Days)

Discover Northern Ireland's last working water-powered linen beetling mill.

10 Sept 2022 Open 12:00 - 17:00

Free

MORE INFO

ADD TO PLANNER



The Argory for EHOD 2022

Dungannon

EHOD (European Heritage Open Days)

Free flow self-guided tours of the house (with room guides manning the showrooms).

10 Sept 2022 Open 11:00 - 17:00

Free

MORE INFO

ADD TO PLANNER



Springhill for EHOD 2022

Moneymore

EHOD (European Heritage Open Days)

A pretty plantation home revealing a family home with portraits, furniture and decorative arts.

10 Sept 2022 Open 11:00 - 17:00

Free

MORE INFO

ADD TO PLANNER



Saint Michael's Parish Church for EHOD 2022

Clonee

EHOD (European Heritage Open Days)

Saint Michael's parish church is an historic building operating since the 15th Century.

10 Sept 2022 to 11 Sept 2022 Various Opening Times

Free

MORE INFO

ADD TO PLANNER



Tullahoge Fort for EHOD 2022

Tullyhogue

EHOD (European Heritage Open Days)

This magnificent hilltop enclosure came into historical prominence in the 11th century when it was a dynastic centre and inauguration place of the Cenel nEogain (later the O'Neills). It was the residence of the O'Hagans who, with the O'Cahans,...

10 Sept 2022 to 11 Sept 2022 Various Opening Times

Free

MORE INFO

ADD TO PLANNER



Coalisland Museum & Heritage Centre for EHOD 2022

Coalisland

EHOD (European Heritage Open Days)

Coalisland Museum & Heritage Centre introduces the remarkable history of this unique region.

10 Sept 2022 to 11 Sept 2022 Open 12:00 - 16:00

Free

MORE INFO

ADD TO PLANNER



Errigal Heritage Centre - Mullanacross EHOD 2022

Aughnacloy

EHOD (European Heritage Open Days)


Community voluntary organisation Truagh Development Association, will have guides on hand to provide information on the history of the area as you visit the region for European Heritage Open days.

10 Sept 2022 to 11 Sept 2022 Open 11:00 - 16:00

Free

MORE INFO

ADD TO PLANNER



Draperstown's Unique Heritage EHOD 2022

Draperstown
EHOD (European Heritage Open Days)


The three churches surrounding the planned central triangle will be open for visits on the afternoon of Saturday 10 September and visitors can also follow a self-guided audio trail around the village

10 Sept 2022 *Open 14:00 - 17:00*

Free

MORE INFO

ADD TO PLANNER



Saint Macartan's Church, (The Forth) for EHOD 2022

Aughier
EHOD (European Heritage Open Days)


Clogher Parish invite you on a guided tour of Saint Macartan's Church, Augher (The Forth Chapel).

10 Sept 2022 to 11 Sept 2022 *Open 15:00 - 16:30*

Free

MORE INFO

ADD TO PLANNER



Saint Michael's Parish Church for EHOD 2022

Clonoe
EHOD (European Heritage Open Days)


Saint Michael's parish church is an historic building operating since the 15th Century.

10 Sept 2022 to 11 Sept 2022 *Various Opening Times*

Free

MORE INFO

ADD TO PLANNER



Benburb Priory and Benburb Castle Open Day EHOD 2022

Benburb
EHOD (European Heritage Open Days)

Opened in 1997 and opening again in 2022 is Benburb Priory and Benburb Castle. A great day with living history characters to engage with you and tell you the history of the castle.

10 Sept 2022 *Open 10:00 - 16:00*

Free

MORE INFO

ADD TO PLANNER

prev 1 2



View Maps and Visitor Guides

View what Mid Ulster has to offer and some of the best things to see and do during a visit.

MORE INFO



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Sign up for the Mid Ulster newsletter for inspiration and travel tips.

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Note:

The following events were also included in EHOD 2022 and were submitted to Discover Northern Ireland after this report was generated. In total 24 events took place across Mid Ulster.

- Caledon Mill Beam Engine
- Caledon Wool Store
- Hill of the O'Neill and Ranfurly House Tours

Report on	River Blackwater Update
Date of Meeting	11 October 2022
Reporting Officer	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	To provide Members with an update on key activities as detailed below.
2.0	Background
2.1	<p>River Blackwater Feasibility Study The River Blackwater has its source to the north of Fivemiletown, and divides the Counties of Armagh, Tyrone and Monaghan, entering Lough Neagh at Maghery.</p> <p>The river flows into Lough Neagh, which is the biggest Lough in the UK and Ireland and is situated in the centre of Northern Ireland. The Lough has no navigation authority but has a marker system maintained at favour by the Department for Infrastructure.</p> <p>Blackwater Community Barge Project made a request to Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Council and Mid Ulster District Council to carry out a study that would present short term and long-term solutions for the Blackwater, address issues raised and realise the economic tourism potential of the river. A Report was brought to Council in May 2022 with a River Blackwater Feasibility Study.</p>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>River Blackwater Feasibility Study In October 2021, Council commissioned a Feasibility Study for the River Blackwater; the study looked at the economic and tourism potential along the river. The Study has been completed and contains a series of recommendations and indicative costs presented.</p> <p>The main points covered within the study include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of river boundary on relevant maps. • Identification of any special environmental and landscape features, character and designations associated with the River Blackwater.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of the main legal responsibilities for the river in terms of planning, boating, tourism development, navigation, water quality, flooding, dredging, waste disposal, and funding. • Context of previous River Blackwater studies and recommendations. • Details of current tourism and community activity along the River Blackwater • Consultation and feedback received from all relevant tourism stakeholders. • Stakeholder consultation and identification of technical requirements and cost estimates for dredging the mouth of the river and repeat maintenance costs. Requirements for Planning, NIEA, HED and dredged waste disposal permissions identified. • Assessment of connectivity between River Blackwater and Ulster Canal, Lough Neagh main towns that run along the river and Lough Neagh itself. • Provide recommendations for potential development projects along the river. • Identification of potential funding sources and lobbying opportunities for all potential river project work.
3.2	<p>On 27 June 2022 a group of senior staff from both Armagh Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council and Mid Ulster Borough Council met at Oxford Island Craigavon to discuss the issues of dredging the mouth of the river Blackwater as a first stage on one pilot action to develop the larger navigable part of the Blackwater River.</p> <p>There are two distinct channels by which the Blackwater River can access Lough Neagh to consider for potential dredging :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Straight to the river mouth where it opens into the Lough – The river is of navigational depth until it accesses the Lough, at which point, water clearance disappears and the channel is only few inches deep due to existing geology, rocks etc and the constant flow of storm drainage down the river settling when it meets with the greater water mass of Lough Neagh. This is obviously why Victorians decided to cut the Maghery Channel as part of the Canal Network at that time of construction. <p>Conclusion - Too Expensive, very regular clearing would be required, technical feasibility to complete is unknown until much more detailed survey and core samples would need to be taken across the silt/debris bank.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Maghery River Cutting, this is a 5 foot deep channel cut by the Victorians sometime around the turn of the century to enable canal traffic from Coalisland , Moy etc. The cutting itself is at or about 5 foot navigational depth, however the access into the Lough is severely silted and requires a channel cut to maintain accessibility for boat traffic.

	<p>Conclusion - Less expensive, Maghery Channel cut by the Victorians as the preferred access option at that time, less material to potentially remove to achieve a navigational channel.</p> <p>In practical terms, the Option 1 would technically be a shared enterprise with Armagh Banbridge and Craigavon Council given the District Boundaries meet in the middle of the River. With Option 2 – Armagh Banbridge and Craigavon Council are the principle authority as it is in their District. However we indicated at the June Officer meeting that MUDC would be prepared to assist through a Partnership Agreement or similar in seeking to move the project on. Both Councils need to move forward together.</p> <p>Armagh Banbridge and Craigavon Council have indicated that they would require further clarification about stepping into this space given the roles of DFI Rivers and Waterways Ireland. It is necessary to obtain some further assurances around this and potential for liability for any damage or issues going forward, along with continued responsibility for dredging in ad finitum. These issues have been previously flagged with DFI, with no real answers forthcoming.</p> <p>Potential Issues for Members to consider :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Least expensive and most achievable solution is to clear a channel at the end of the Maghery Cutting. 2. The cutting is in Armagh Banbridge and Craigavon Council territory and as such MUDC can assist and support through a Partnership Agreement but Armagh Banbridge and Craigavon must be prepared to come forward in these discussions. 3. Armagh Banbridge and Craigavon Council indicated they would like to see some legal viries why Council would undertake this work and not DFI / Rivers Agency / Waterways Ireland. 4. MUDC / Armagh Banbridge and Craigavon Council need assurances on ongoing liabilities and who keeps the dredged channel clear going forward. 5. There are some very technical assessments being demanded by NIEA even before anyone starts. 6. It is suggested that a DAERA / DFI steering group needs established to consider the issues and provide a clear basis for any action by Councils going forward as well as consider the plugging of the legislative gap to enable the normal Agencies to fulfil their statutory responsibilities.
	<p>Other Considerations</p>
<p>4.1</p>	<p>Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications</p>

	Financial: Required survey work at this stage will include a cost of approximately £40k.
	Human: Officer Time
	Risk Management: The environmental and technical requirements of the project will not be fully known until further survey work is undertaken.
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: As per Council policy.
	Rural Needs Implications: As per Council policy.
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	It is recommended that Members note the contents of the report and approve that officers progress undertaking required survey work subject to Armagh Banbridge and Craigavon Council agreeing to work in partnership and funding 50% of the cost of fees for legal and technical survey work required at this stage.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	Appendix 1 – Report for Lough Neagh Steering Group Appendix 2 – Summary update presentation

REPORT FOR LOUGH NEAGH BLACKWATER DREDGING STEERING GROUP 1/SEP/2022 G DARBY LNP

BACKGROUND

On 27 June 2022 a group of senior staff from both Armagh Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council and Mid Ulster Borough Council met at Oxford Island Craigavon to discuss the issues of dredging the mouth of the river Blackwater as a first stage one pilot action to develop the larger navigable part of the Blackwater River. This proposal will build on previous discussions between the Lough Neagh Partnership, the Department for Infrastructure and local stakeholders and local MLAs/MPs. After a number of presentations and discussions a way forward was agreed to commence in September 2022 after the summer recess. It was agreed that the tenders would be lead and coordinated by Mid Ulster District Council technical engineering section in September. This would be paid for upfront by Mid Ulster Council and then costs of two studies split between two Councils. The steering group would meet again at the end of Oct 2022.

WAY FORWARD

To progress this proposal MUDC will have to complete the following main actions (Please note, all these actions should be developed and implemented in consultation with NIEA and relevant stakeholders): It is important to note that Mark Levy from MUDC has already meet with Waterways Ireland engineering staff to get specifications for the bathymetry and chemical sampling tenders. Appendix One and two are LNP thoughts of tender specification requirements that may be of some help and assistance with cost estimates and recommended consultants

- a. Bathymetric survey of the project area to determine substrate depth and to quantify the volume of material to be removed (dredged) Sep 2022. See appendix One
- b. Based upon the above survey, prepare a sediment sampling programme and collect surface and at depth samples. These are required to quantify potential contaminant levels and to inform how the dredged material will be disposed. Timescale: Sep 2022. See appendix Two
- c. An extended Phase 1 habitat survey which is a core element of an ecological appraisal to highlight any potential ecological constraints to the proposal, as well as identifying opportunities for ecological enhancement. This is especially important in respect of the designation features of the River and Lough. Timescale: Oct 2022

- d. These three surveys in combination will provide sufficient data to inform the next set of report requirements. These specifications can be discussed at the Oct steering group meeting: (Timescale Nov – Dec 2022)
 - a. Habitat Regulation/ Appropriate Assessment Report
 - b. Waste management and disposal methodology
 - c. Implementation Environmental Management Plan
 - d. Habitat/Species impact mitigation measures
 - e. Cost
- e. Make formal applications to NIEA, Planners and other relevant permission bodies: Timescale: Jan 2023

OTHER AREAS

A separate Blackwater Development Study and Plan and Lough Neagh Strategic Review and Plan has been developed by MUDC and LNP. The steering group for the dredging of the Blackwater should be extended to include senior representatives from the three main relevant Departments and act as a formal Management and Coordination Body for the Lough and navigable rivers. It was suggested that the new group are to meet twice a year and the use the above two plans as working tools. This builds on the formal passing of Lough Neagh and Navigable River motions by all three of the main Councils and the recent greater interest shown by Minister O Dowd and DFI staff in Lough Neagh.

APPENDIX ONE: BATHOMETRY SURVEY

Tender Purpose

Mid Ulster District Council wish to procure the services of a competent contractor to undertake a single beam bathymetric survey on a section of the River Blackwater, N. Ireland in advance of planned dredging works to maintain and deepen a proposed navigation channel. (MUDC to provide map area at mouth of river and at Canal cut and see estimate of sand accumulation at both sites and estimate which is the best preferred site with least amount of material to be dredged, the best value and better navigation requirements.)

Suggested company :

Six-West Ltd

3c Heron Wharf

Heron Wharf Road

Belfast

Tel: 028 90731917

Email: info@six-west.com

Web: <https://six-west.com/service/survey/hydrographic-survey/>

Estimated Cost £2000 - £4000

APPENDIX TWO: SEDIMENT SAMPLING SURVEY REQUIREMENTS

Tender Purpose

Mid Ulster District Council are seeking tender submissions to undertake a geo-environmental Sediment and Water Sampling survey on a section of the River Blackwater, N. Ireland (Map indicating area at river mouth and Canal Cut to be provided to NIEA) in advance of planned dredging works to maintain and deepen the existing channel where it enters Lough Neagh. The Sediment and Water sampling exercise will involve both the onsite collection and off site chemical analysis of sediment and water samples for potential contaminants. The sediment samples will also undergo Particle Size Analysis (PSA).

Supplier Requirements

1. Prepare a sediment sampling plan **which must be endorsed by the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA)**. The sample plan will set out the sample locations as well as the specific biological, chemical and physical analysis requirements. At a minimum, sediment samples should be analysed for substances that are considered of most concern for the freshwater environment, those which have combined properties of persistence, toxicity and liability to bio accumulate including organotin compounds, heavy metals, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and oils.
2. Subject to the recommendations of the sediment sampling plan, complete a combination of 'sediment surface' and 'at depth' sampling within the dredge envelope. The 'at depth' samples will be determined from the results of a bathometric survey.
3. All samples, to be analysed by a Marine Management Organisation validated laboratory and compared against the Action 1 and Action 2 guidance values for sediment quality in the Northern Ireland Guidance: Dredging, Disposal and Aggregate Dredging, under Part 4 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (NIEA, 2012).
4. Production of a report and associated maps outlining the analysis findings measured against existing waste management and disposal parameters and protocols. The validated laboratory must also provide a chain of custody evidence in support of the analysis results to prove samples have been handled and stored correctly.

Note on sediment quality standards

The input of heavy and trace metals may cause contamination in aquatic sediments. Assessing the environmental importance of metal concentrations can be done by comparing collected sediment quality data to known background concentrations and sediment quality standards, however, there are currently no freshwater sediment quality standards for NI or UK.

Information and standards exist for marine systems and dredged material disposal. A set of quality standards, comparable to the marine ones, are those provided by the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME). These are commonly used, globally, on freshwater projects due to the absence of other aquatic sediment quality thresholds. The CCME provide freshwater sediment quality guidelines for the following metals; arsenic (As), cadmium (Cd), chromium (Cr), copper (Cu), mercury (Hg), lead (Pb) and zinc (Zn). These metals are given sediment quality guidelines due to their known ability at high enough concentrations to cause toxic effects to aquatic species. The CCME defines two assessment values:

1. Interim Sediment Quality Guidelines (ISQG) / Threshold effect level (TEL): This represents the concentration below which adverse biological effects are rarely expected to occur.
2. Probable effect level (PEL): The level above which adverse effects are expected to occur frequently.

Where there are no suitable freshwater sediment quality standards, marine standards will be utilised such as the Action Levels provided by CEFAS. Definitions for CEFAS action levels are provided below:

1. AL-1: contaminant concentrations where concerns over the quantity and nature of the material and characteristics of the receiving area need to be taken into account; and
2. AL-2: contaminant concentrations which will generally preclude disposal at sea.

For this proposal, it is recommended that samples are compared against the Action Level 1 and Action Level 2 guidance values for sediment quality in the Northern Ireland Guidance: Dredging, Disposal and Aggregate Dredging, under Part 4 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (NIEA, 2012) (see <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/northern-ireland-guidance-dredging-disposal-and-aggregate-dredging-under-part-4-marine-and-coastal>)

Note on sediment sampling methodology.

- A combination of '*sediment surface*' and '*at depth*' sampling will take place. The '*at depth*' samples will be determined from the results of a bathymetric survey but as an indication at this stage, they should be taken at depths of 1m and 3m below the substrate surface for all '*at depth*' sample locations.
- A sampling pattern will comprise 15 locations along the length of the canal and / or river mouth. The locations selected for analysis will determine the

presence of contaminants in the deposits. The selection criteria should be designed to maintain a representative coverage across the study area whilst also allowing for the distribution of contaminants within the deposit down to the likely dredging depth (dependent on the findings of the bathymetry survey as referenced above).

- Sediment samples will be analysed for substances that are considered of most concern for the freshwater environment, those which have combined properties of persistence, toxicity and liability to bioaccumulate. Samples should therefore be analysed for a range of determinants (organic matter content, metals, nutrients, polychlorinated biphenyls - PCBs, pesticides, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons - PAHs).

Suggested Company

RPS Consultancy

Estimated Cost

£5000 - £6000



Mid Ulster District Council

River Blackwater

Summary Update

27th June 2022

Page 252 of 266



Contents

- 1. Overview Map**
- 2. River Blackwater**
- 3. Maghery Canal**
- 4. Sandbank**
- 5. Summary of Costs**
- 6. Calculation of Costs**
- 7. Maps and Images**

Overview Map



Comhairle Ceantair
Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster
District Council

Three areas have been reviewed;

- The River Blackwater
- The sandbank located In Lough Neagh
- The Maghery Canal and canal entrance into Lough Neagh





River Blackwater Review

- Current navigation depth is 9-12ft (2.7m-3.6m)
- From advice from various specialists safe navigation is recommended at least 1.5m.
- Therefore there doesn't appear to be any issue along this section of the river.
- However, it would be important to complete a bathymetric survey to confirm navigation depths and ensure it is consistent across the width and length of the river.
- Based on current info there would be no dredging works required.





Maghery Canal Review

- Current navigation depth is 5ft (1.524m) along the canal.
- There is little freeboard in this section and it would be prudent to survey this but for consideration of costs 0.5m has been allowed for dredging.
- The section where the canal enters Lough Neagh has little navigation depth. DFI rivers hadn't completed investigation here but sand banks are evident in this section during navigation.
- Estimated dredging costs - £165k (3718m³) + dredging of the entrance channel (blue dashed line) estimate £300k
- A full bathometric survey will need completed to confirm the extent of works.



Sandbank Review

- Current navigation depth is 1-3ft (0.3m-0.9m)
- The sandbank is approx. 25,000m²
- From advice from various specialists safe navigation is recommended at least 1.5m.
- There would be two options;
 - Remove the entire sand bank Est cost of £3.6m (See table at end)
 - Cut a 20m wide navigation channel through the sand bank. Est cost £280k
- An important note to consider unless there is a significant traffic volume of large boats through the channel then it will continue to silt up and the dredging process will need repeated every 5-7 years.





Summary of Est Costs

Summary of Est Costs

- River Blackwater - £0.00
- Maghery Canal + entrance - £470k
- Sand bank – 20m navigation Channel - £280k
- Surveys - £38k + £20k for any others
- **Total - £808k + ICT fee Est £80k therefore project estimate is £900k approx.**

Surveys required would be the following and could be commenced now;

- HRA – I have been advised if full 3 stages are required then it could be in the region of £30k
- Bathometric survey - £5k - £8k (This will determine the volumes of material to be dredged to give a more accurate pre cost estimate.
- WAC Testing – Waste Acceptance Criteria to determine where is can be disposed. - £2k-4k



Background Calculation of Costs

Location	Overall Length	Chainage (m)	Section Length (m)	Width (m)	Adjusted Width (m)	Area m2	Existing Depth (m)	Proposed Depth (m)	Proposed Dredging Depth (m)	Volume m3	Excavate Disposal Rate per m3	Cost
River Black Water Green Line	880m					44,432m2	3		N/A	N/A	N/A	£0
Location	Overall Length	Chainage (m)	Section Length (m)	Width (m)	Adjusted Width (m)	Area m2	Existing Depth (m)	Proposed Depth (m)	Proposed Dredging Depth (m)	Volume m3	Excavate Disposal Rate per m3	Cost
Option 1- Dredge entire sand bank- Yellow Area						25,324m2	0.3	1.5	1.20	30389m3	£120	£3,646,656
Option 2- Cut a 20m channel through sand bank						1,926m2	0.3	1.5	1.20	2311m3	£120	£277,344
Location	Overall Length	Chainage (m)	Section Length (m)	Width (m)	Adjusted Width (m)	Area m2	Existing Depth (m)	Proposed Depth (m)	Proposed Dredging Depth (m)	Volume m3	Excavate Disposal Rate per m3	Cost
Maghery Canal Orange Line	470m	0-50	50	21	19	950	1.524	1.70	0.176	167.2	£120	£20,064
		50-100	50	16	14	700	1.524	1.70	0.176	123.2	£120	£14,784
		100-150	50	18	16	800	1.524	1.70	0.176	140.8	£120	£16,896
		150-200	50	22	20	1000	1.524	1.70	0.176	176	£120	£21,120
		200-250	50	18	16	800	1.524	1.70	0.176	140.8	£120	£16,896
		250-300	50	18	16	800	1.524	1.70	0.176	140.8	£120	£16,896
		300-350	50	16	14	700	1.524	1.70	0.176	123.2	£120	£14,784
		350-400	50	18	16	800	1.524	1.70	0.176	140.8	£120	£16,896
		400-450	50	18	16	800	1.524	1.70	0.176	140.8	£120	£16,896
		450-470	20	25	23	460	1.524	1.70	0.176	80.96	£120	£9,715
						7,810m2				1375m3		£164,947
Location	Overall Length	Chainage (m)	Section Length (m)	Width (m)	Adjusted Width (m)	Area m2	Existing Depth (m)	Proposed Depth (m)	Proposed Dredging Depth (m)	Volume m3	Excavate Disposal Rate per m3	Cost
Maghery Canal Entrance point to Lough Neagh see dashed blue line on map			250	20		5000	1	1.50	0.5	2500	£120	£300,000

*£120/m3 rate based on similar rates for dredging carried out by Waterways Ireland. The rate is dependent on the distance to the nearest waste facility.

NOTE - Consideration and risk should also be factored in that estimates exclude removal of potential rock.

Maps and Images



Comhairle Ceantair
Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster
District Council





Sandbank



Rock hazards



Currently limited/poor navigation guidance
Page 263 of 266





