

Report on	Sliabh Beagh Public Engagement Consultation
Date of Meeting	5 July 2023
Reporting Officer	Assistant Director of Economic Development, Tourism & Strategic Programmes - Fiona McKeown

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To provide Members with an update on key activities as detailed above.
2.0	Background
2.1	Sliabh Beagh Shared Public Engagement Consultation <p>Sliabh Beagh is a special landscape with a wealth of natural and cultural assets which straddles North County Monaghan and counties Fermanagh and primarily the Clogher Valley in South Tyrone.</p> <p>The three partner councils (Mid Ulster Council, Monaghan County Council and Fermanagh & Omagh District Council) have demonstrated a commitment to collaboration and partnership by setting up the Sliabh Beagh Partnership Committee which represents the interests of communities, businesses, and local authorities. This Partnership, established in 2021 and facilitated by the local authorities, is working to advance shared projects which will benefit the entire Sliabh Beagh region. As part of this approach a successful Shared Island application for a feasibility study is currently being developed.</p>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Sliabh Beagh Shared Public Engagement Consultation <p>Monaghan County Council, together with Mid Ulster District Council and Fermanagh and Omagh District Council partnered in cross-border applications to the Shared Island Fund one of which was the Sliabh Beagh project.</p> <p>This purpose of this project is to develop a number of inter-connected tourism and outdoor recreation initiatives to build upon the existing services and facilities in the region.</p> <p>The project which is being led by Monaghan County Council has been awarded €145,475.</p> <p>Outdoor Recreation NI (ORNI) were appointed as consultants for the feasibility study. This study will look at developing walking, cycling and equestrian activity in the area, as well as signage and public art.</p>

	<p>ORNI will also investigate accommodation and ancillary services needs of the region.</p> <p>As part of the feasibility study, it involves public consultation which will take place on Thursday 27 July 2023 from 6pm – 9pm at the Sliabh Beagh Hotel, Knockatallon, Co. Monaghan. In addition to this an online survey will be made available via social media platforms and email.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: Within existing Shared Island budget to deliver the feasibility study
	Human: Tourism Officers' will deliver this event with Outdoor Recreation NI
	Risk Management: Not applicable.
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: Not applicable.
	Rural Needs Implications: Not applicable.
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Sliabh Beagh Public Engagement Consultation Note the content of the report and the date of the Sliabh Beagh Public Engagement Consultation on Thursday 27th July 2023 from 6pm – 9pm at the Sliabh Beagh Hotel, Knockatallon, Co.Monaghan
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	N/A