



10 February 2022

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Development Committee to be held in The Chamber, Magherafelt and by virtual means Council Offices, Ballyronan Road, Magherafelt, BT45 6EN on Thursday, 10 February 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 : MEGA

Matters for Decision

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| 6. Development Report | 3 - 40 |
| 7. Sports Representative Grants | 41 - 44 |
| 8. Health, Leisure & Wellbeing Scale of Charges 2022/23 | 45 - 68 |
| 9. Corporate Events 2022 | 69 - 74 |
| 10. Extension to the Partnership Liaison Officer post shared between Councils and HSENI | 75 - 78 |
| 11. Additional Funding from the Office of Product Safety and Standards | 79 - 84 |

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| 12. | Economic Development Report - OBFD | 85 - 170 |
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Matters for Information

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| 13 | Minutes of Development Committee held on Thursday 13 January 2022 | 171 - 186 |
| 14 | Update on Master Plan for lands at Mullagh Road, Maghera | 187 - 194 |
| 15 | Economic Development Report - OBFi | 195 - 212 |

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

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| 16. | Tender for Children's Play Park facilities |
| 17. | Appointment of an Additional Public Analyst |
| 18. | Economic Development Report - CBFD |

Matters for Information

- | | |
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| 19. | Confidential Minutes of Development Committee held on Thursday 13 January 2022 |
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Report on	Development Report
Date of Meeting	10 th February 2022
Reporting Officer	Claire Linney, Assistant Director of Development, Tony McCance, Head of Arts and Culture
Contact Officers	Philip Clarke - Community Services Manager, Oliver Morgan-Good Relations Manager, Michael McCrory - PCSP Manager, Martina Totten Strategic Development Coordinator, Caroline Sheehy – Burnavon Arts Centre, Brian McCormick Seamus Heaney Home Place, Joanne Robinson – Hill of The O'Neill & Ranfurly House

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	Community Grants - to agree the rolling grant awards - Local Community Festivals, Good Relations, and the Strategic Events.
1.2	DFC Emergency funding – to approve the additional DFC emergency funding for the provision of the social supermarket concept.
1.3	Seamus Heaney Home Place – to approve the new pricing plan for Seamus Heaney Homeplace and Open Ground
1.4	Good Relations Plan 2022- 2023 – to approve the plan for submission for funding under The Executive Office TBUC strategy.
1.5	Community Access and Inclusion - Accessible Benches Support – to agree the awards for accessible benches to community facilities
1.6	DfC Real Living Wage Salary Uplift for the Welfare Reform Support Project – to approve the direct transfer of finance through the community support programme.
1.7	Generalist Advice Contract - Approval is sought for the tender award for the advice service.
1.8	Development - to update on Development
2.0	Background
2.1	Community Grants – Council annually delivers an open call for its main grants; and then delivers a number of rolling community grant programmes; Good Relations and Local Community Festivals. Council also annually delivers the Decade of Anniversaries Grant.

2.2	DFC Emergency Funding - A further contribution of £74,580.89 has been provided to Council for the provision of social supermarket(s).
2.3	Seamus Heaney Home Place and Open Ground – Pricing Schedule. As part of the new development of Open Ground a review of the full pricing plan for the Seamus Heaney Homeplace and Open Ground has taken place.
2.4	Good Relations Plan 2022- 2023 – Council annually submits a plan for submission for funding under The Executive Office TBUC strategy.
2.5	Community Access and Inclusion - Accessible Benches Support – Council agreed to support funding support for accessible benches to community facilities.
2.6	Welfare Reform Support DfC Real Living Wage Salary Uplift – DfC are through a letter of variance under the Community Support Programme is providing an uplift amount of £10,357.47 funding related to the 3 Welfare Reform Support Advisors as part of their welfare support project. This agreement is directly between DfC And the advice provider.
2.7	General Advice Service – A public procurement tender exercise for the renewal of the Generalist Advice Contract was launched before Christmas seeking competent service providers to deliver against set performance indicators specification.
2.8	Development Update - Community Support, Good Relations, Culture, Arts, Heritage, Strategic Community Development, and PCSP.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Community Grants - The Good Relations grant is a rolling programme – 2 applications received and recommended for awards total £1920. Community Festival – 1 application for submission for award of £720. Strategic Events – one application was received and awarded £3,000 See grant award recommendations in Appendix 1 for approval.
3.2	DFC Emergency Funding - A further contribution of £74,580.89 has been provided to Council for the provision of social supermarket(s). It is proposed that the allocation go to the main foodbanks, pro rata as per previous model based on area and demand. Magherafelt £16,000 Cookstown £16,000 Dungannon £16,000 Coalisland £8600 Maghera £8600 Clogher Valley £8600
3.3	Seamus Heaney Homeplace and Open Ground pricing plan – It was proposed by Council in 2016 that a review of the Seamus Heaney Homeplace pricing plan would take place after a 3 year period, however due to Covid 19 this was delayed. The review which has been completed has compared and contrasted the various costs and charges that currently apply to facilities of a similar nature and national standing

	<p>to Seamus Heaney HomePlace. Thus the pricing proposal for admissions to the exhibition is competitively priced against other visitor attractions (see Appendix 3).</p> <p>According to the Northern Ireland Visitor Attraction Survey 2020, carried out by Tourism Statistics Branch (NISRA), the average price of an admission for an adult to a visitor attraction in NI is £14.04, and child is £6.86.</p> <p>The experience at Seamus Heaney HomePlace is comparable to, and indeed exceeds, any other attraction in NI and further afield so its admission charge should reflect this whilst remaining competitive.</p> <p>Open Ground is a new addition to the Seamus Heaney HomePlace offering. While this can be experienced free of charge, the revised pricing structure proposes incorporating a paid for fully guided experience, delivered by trained HomePlace staff.</p> <p>It is proposed that the pricing policy would be for a 3 year period, to be reviewed in line with the market.</p> <p>The proposed pricing plan is attached in Appendix. 2</p>
3.4	Good Relations Plan 2022 -2023 – the proposed plan is attached in Appendix 3
3.5	<p>Community Access and Inclusion - Accessible Outdoor Seating Support – Council proposes to provide benches and funding to support community groups provide accessible outdoor seating benches at community owned facilities. A total of 44 application were return before the deadline. There were 40 who successfully met the conditions; of which 28 are seeking direct Council provision of seating and 12 seeking the available financial assistance of up to £500. A further 4 are ineligible as did not meet the key criteria of the fund “The benches are to be installed at community owned community facilities”. Please refer to Appendix 4 for support/awards.</p>
3.6	<p>Welfare Reform Support DfC Real Living Wage Salary Uplift - DfC Minister made a public commitment on 15 December to a ‘fair funding’ approach to supporting the critical work delivered by our Voluntary and Community Sector here. It includes the posts directly funded by DFC through the Welfare Reform Mitigations package (Welfare Reform Advice element within DFC Community Support to Council). Approval is sought to award the uplift amount of £10,357.47 to MIDAS/STEP who host the Welfare Reform programme for DFC and is managed and monitored by DFC.</p>
3.7	<p>Generalist Advice Service - Following a public procurement tender exercise for the renewal of the Generalist Advice Contract the successful tender has been awarded to Mid Ulster Advice Service STEP. There was only one tender received and after an assessment of quality and price of the conditions of the tender specification, they have been awarded the contract at a value of £229,273 for a 3 year period based on annual review by Council.</p>
3.8	<p>Development</p> <p>Community Support</p>

	<p>The community grants will open Monday 21st March, grant aid clinics will be organised to support groups.</p> <p>The Community Support team is currently working with groups in the delivery of their grants and in other development activity.</p> <p>Good Relations</p> <p>Good Relations is continuing to deliver the Plan for 2021 – 2022.</p> <p>Peace IV Local Action Plan – the programme is complete a part from the Shared Space Towns Project. Follow up activity re finalising claims and monitoring with SEUPB is taking place.</p> <p>PCSP –Ongoing as guided by the PCSP Partnership.</p> <p>Burnavon, Seamus Heaney Homeplace, and Hill of The O'Neill and Ranfurly House continue to deliver in line with requirements. Programme development is taking place across all facilities.</p> <p>Irish language development is ongoing, regarding the delivery of partner community programmes and delivery of the Irish Language service plan.</p> <p>The new heritage strategy development is due to commence, upon the appointment of independent support.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p><u>Financial & Human Resources Implications</u></p> <p>Good Relations £1,920</p> <p>Community Festivals £720</p> <p>Strategic Events £3,000</p> <p>DfC Emergency funding £74,580.89</p> <p>Good Relations Plan 2022- 2023 – as per programme budget and TEO successful funding contribution.</p> <p>Community Access and Inclusion - Accessible Benches Support awards up to £30,000 for Council provided (community allocated and others to be placed by Council) and £6000 awards to groups.</p> <p>DfC Real Living Wage Uplift for Welfare Reform £10,357.47</p> <p>Generalist Advice Service Annual contract award £229,732</p> <p><u>Professional Support</u></p> <p>None</p>

4.2	<u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u> None
4.3	<u>Risk Management Implications</u> None
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Community Grants - to agree the rolling grant awards - Local Community Festivals, Good Relations, and the Strategic Events.
5.2	DFC Emergency funding – to approve the additional DFC emergency funding allocation for the provision of the social supermarket concept.
5.3	SHHP – to approve the new pricing plan for Seamus Heaney Homeplace and Open Ground.
5.4	Good Relations Plan 2022- 2023 – to approve the plan for submission for funding under The Executive Office TBUC strategy.
5.5	Community Access and Inclusion - Accessible Benches Support – to agree the awards for accessible benches for community facilities.
5.6	DfC Real Living Wage Salary Uplift for the Welfare Reform Support Project – to approve the direct transfer of finance through the community support programme.
5.7	Generalist Advice Contract - Approval is sought for the tender award for the advice service.
5.8	Development - to update on Development.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	<p>Appendix 1 Grant awards.</p> <p>Appendix 2 - Seamus Heaney Homeplace and Open Ground pricing plan</p> <p>Appendix 3 Good Relations Plan 2022- 2023</p> <p>Appendix 4 - Community Access and Inclusion - Accessible Benches Support awards</p>

Appendix 1

Good Relations Grant – February 2022 (Maximum £1200)

No	Organisation Name	Aim	Title Of Event/project	Band	Requested	Awarded
1	BC Wolves	Community	Basketball for Community	3	£1,200	960
2	Sperrin Kidz and Sperrin Youth Choir	Community	Musicianship Training	3	£1,200	960

Bands Score Award %

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%

Community Festivals Grant – February 2022 (Maximum £1200)

No	Organisation Name	Aim	Title Of Event/project	Band	Requested	Awarded
1	Desertcreatives	Cultural	Queen's Platinum Jubilee	5	£1,200	£720

Strategic Events Grant 2021-22

No	Organisation Name	Aim	Title Of Event/project	Band	Requested	Awarded
1	Cookstown Ancient Order of Hibernians	Cultural	St Patricks Day Festival	6	£4,200	£3,000

Score Band Award

30-39	7	£2,000
40-49	6	£3,000
50-59	5	£4,000
60-69	4	£5,000
70-79	3	£6,000
80-89	2	£7,000
90+	1	£8,000

Appendix 2 PROPOSED ADMISSION CHARGES FOR SEAMUS HEANEY HOMEPLACE EXHIBITION from April 2022

	Current Prices- from Sep 2016	Proposed Prices from April 2022
Adult	£7	£10
Child (7 and under)	Free	Free
Child (8 to 16)	£4.50	£6
Family (2 adults & up to 3 children)	£19	£24
Concessions	£4.50 Essential companions/care givers for those with disabilities have free entry	£6.50 Essential companions/care givers for those with disabilities have free entry
Group bookings (10 people or more, excludes schools)	10% discount	10% discount
School groups	£3 per child Accompanying teachers free.	£3 per child Accompanying teachers free.
Tour Operator Rate- per person	£6	£9
Open Ground Guiding Experience- adult	N/A	£20, which includes admission to exhibition
Open Ground Guiding Experience- child- 8-16	N/A	£15, which includes admission to exhibition
Open Ground Guiding Experience- child- Tour Operator Rate, per person	N/A	£17, which includes admission to exhibition
Open Ground Guiding Experience- child- Concession Rate, per person	N/A	£16, which includes admission to exhibition

Pricing: Comparable Attractions

Comparable attractions in terms of size, significance, theme, together with a similar dwell time.

	Adult	Child	Family	Concession
Robbie Burns Birthplace Museum	£11.50	£8.50	£27	£8.50
Jane Austin Centre	£12	£5.00 Under 5 free	£29	Senior £11 Student £9
Roald Dahl Museum	£7.40	£4.90 (5-18) Under 5 free	£21 (2 adults and up to 3 children)	£4.90 (students, people aged 60 or over & those with disabilities – carers go free)
The Gobbins	£20	£14.50	£42 (2 adults and up to 3 children)	£14.50 (Under 16, Seniors, Students) Registered carers free.
Titanic Belfast	£19.50	£8.75 (5-15) Under 5 free	£48 (2 adults & 2 children)	Senior 60+, Student 16+ £15.50(Mon to Fri only)
Museum of Literature Ireland	€10	€8 Under 3 free	€23	€8 senior/student
Crumlin Road Gaol	£12	£7.50 (5-15)	£30 (2 adults & 2 children)	£10
Giant's Causeway	£13	£6.50	£32.50	

Appendix 3



DISTRICT COUNCIL GOOD RELATIONS PROGRAMME

2022/23 ACTION PLAN

District Council: Mid Ulster District Council

Chief Executive Officer: Mr Adrian McCreesh



Appendix 1

1.1 Programme information

Number of programmes	12
Name/role/contact details of all staff responsible for programme management	Oliver Morgan GRM Oliver.morgan@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 24605
Officer 1	Sean McElhatton GRO (4 days) Sean.mcelhatton@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 22507
Officer 2	Sean Henry (3 days) Sean.henry@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 23703
Officer 3	Paula Kelly GRO Paula.kelly@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 24605
Officer 4	Good Relations Assistant (3 days) Danielle McCann Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 24608

1.3 Claim deadlines

It is extremely important that all claims for expenditure are made promptly and that full expenditure is claimed for within six weeks of the end of the financial year. The claim deadlines for 22/23 are as follows:

- Quarter 1 to be with TEO no later than end of July 2022
- Quarter 2 to be with TEO no later than end of October 2022
- Quarter 3 to be with TEO no later than the end of January 2023
- Quarter 4 to be with TEO no later than 11th June 2023.

1.2 Financial information

Name/contact details for staff responsible for financial management of programme	(Principal Contact) Oliver Morgan GRM management Oliver.morgan@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 24605
(Alternative Contact)	Albert Hogg Finance Manager Albert.hogg@midulstercouncil.org Tel: 03000 132 132 Ext: 23306

	100%	75%
Total cost	£413,864	£310,398
Total programme costs	£227,864	£170,898
Total staff costs	£186,000.00	£139,500
Staff cost breakdown		
Officer 1 (4 days)	£34,813.00	£26,109.75
Officer 2 (3 days)	£25,779.00	£19,334.25
Officer 3 (5 days)	£43,851.00	£32,888.25
GR Manager (5 days)	£53,180.00	£39,885.00
Assistant (3 days scale 5)	£17,697.00	£13,272.75
Administration £10,680 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mileage £3000 • Office £3000 • Learning and development – provided by Council corporate • Advertising & Promotion & administration £4680 (public advertisement grants) 75% £8010		

Section 2

2.01 PROGRAMME NAME	
Children & Young People Diversity Programme	MUC01

2.02 KEY WORDS	Diversity through Art – children’s programme			
2.03 Contact details for programme staff	Oliver Morgan			
2.04 Total budgeted cost of programme (100%)	£15,000			
2.05 Total target no. of participants	Direct	500	Indirect	500
2.06 Budgeted unit cost of programme	£30			
2.07 Targeted participant background analysis	As per population estimate 60% Catholic, 30% Protestant, 10% BME/Other 50% Female 50% Male			
2.08 Name and post code of Programme HQ	Location	MUDC	Postcode	BT71 6DT
2.09 Names and post codes for main areas of programme impact	Location	Dungannon	Postcode	BT71 6LJ/6LS/4AA/4NW
	Location	Cookstown	Postcode	BT80 8PQ/8QB
	Location	Magherafelt	Postcode	BT45 6AX/5DB/6HQ
2.1 Programme plan – what difference do we want to make?				
2.11 T:BUC Key Priority	Our Children & Young People			
2.12 T:BUC Outcome	Improved attitudes between children and young people from different backgrounds			
2.13 Project Level Outcome – This should relate to the Survey Question on the TEO outcomes spreadsheet.	An increase in the number of participants who have a greater understanding of diversity. An increase in the number of wider school community who have a greater understanding of diversity.			
2.14 Additional Project level Outcomes (optional)				
2.15 Link to good relations audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to the Good Relations Audit 2021 • Piloted under Peace IV and very successful response 			
2.16 Complementarity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Planning Mid Ulster • Peace Plus programme in development • TBUC Regional Programme • CRC Regional programme • EA Shared Education 			

2.17 Programme summary information 2021/22	<p>The following outcomes have been delivered upon within this programme in the year 2020/21:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The percentage of children who believe they have a greater understanding of diversity • The percentage of young people who have or would not have experienced other traditional cultures • The percentage of wider school community who have a greater understanding of diversity. <p>GR officers have been working with schools across the District for a number of years and in 2021/22 it is planned to deliver programmes specific for each of the school sectors post primary and primary.</p>
Project	<p>The aim will be to engage small primary schools to provide an insight into cultural diversity of the region. Target focus will be the year 10/11 looking at the transfer from individual primary schools to large post primary and the magnitude of diversity on range at large campuses.</p> <p>Facilitators will deliver workshops based on different cultures</p> <p>Up to 20 primary schools will be engaged across Mid Ulster, with the potential to link primary schools where possible.</p> <p>Primary schools will concentrate on the urban towns Dungannon, Cookstown and Magherafelt, and secondary towns Coalisland and Magherafelt, and rural areas with larger numbers of migrant and BME communities.</p> <p>A number of sessions across the schools with a targeted number of children and young people including migrant children. A number of workshops delivered across the programmes (different number of workshops per programme depending upon need re numbers engaging).</p> <p>Activities delivered will include diversity around us, diversity of culture and expression, our changing environment. – Creative Facilitator to be procured e.g. - ArtsEkta, IGAGU, Gathering Drum, Ten Minutes More</p>

2.01 PROGRAMME NAME	
Children and Young People – Young people and Children Engaging Via Sport	MUC02
2.02 KEY WORDS	DIVERSE YOUTH

2.03 Contact details for programme staff	Oliver Morgan			
2.04 Total budgeted cost of programme (100%)	£15,000			
2.05 Total target no. of participants	Direct	200	Indirect	416
2.06 Budgeted unit cost of programme	£75			
2.07 Targeted participant background analysis	As per population estimate 60% Catholic, 30% Protestant, 10% BME/Other 50% Female 50% Male			
2.08 Name and post code of Programme HQ	Location	MUDC	Postcode	BT71 6DT
2.09 Names and post codes for main areas of programme impact	Location	Dungannon	Postcode	BT68/69/70/71/75/76/77/78
	Location	Cookstown	Postcode	BT70/79/80
	Location	Magherafelt	Postcode	BT41/44/45/46/51
2.1 Programme plan – what difference do we want to make?				
2.11 T:BUC Key Priority	Our Children & Young People			
2.12 T:BUC Outcome	Children engaging together via play			
2.13 Project Level Outcome – This should relate to the Survey Question on the TEO outcomes spreadsheet.	An increase in the percentage of young people who regularly socialise or play sport with people from a different religious community			
2.14 Additional Project level Outcomes (optional)				
2.15 Link to good relations audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to the Good Relations Audit 2021 			
2.16 Complementarity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Planning Mid Ulster Peace Plus programme in development TBUC Regional Programme CRC Regional programme EA Shared Education 			
2.17 Programme summary information 2021/22	An increase in a number of people in our areas engaged in shared activity through arts, drama or sport.			

	GR officers will work in communities to engage young people and bring them together through arts, drama, music, sports and civic leadership focused activities.
Project 1	<p>Project –Engage the bespoke sports cross community engagement programme</p> <p>Budget £15,000 (Peace Players Executive Office tailored cross community programme).</p> <p>A project that will deliver across the region target 24 young people aged 16 – 24 yrs to participate in a training leadership course based on utilising sport to target segregation and sectarianism in detached and unattached youth across Mid Ulster.</p> <p>The programme will involve upskilling 24 young people to return to their areas and through voluntary sport sessions to reduce feelings of isolation and segregation. The programme will include a teacher training and capacity building component. The sessions will be designed to closely align with the academic curriculum for Personal Development and Mutual Understanding (PDMU).</p> <p>The young people will then delivery to 4 partnerships (5 week programme on integrated good relations through sport games, conversations and team building activities) between 8 primary schools - classes (primary 6 & 7) (3/4 controlled and 3/4 maintained), 2 in each of the 3 main regional towns in the Mid-Ulster Council area: Cookstown, Dungannon and Magherafelt plus 2 more. Based on an average class size of 25, this will mean the project will work with at least 200 children from partner schools. In addition the project will seek to build the capacity of 8 teachers, two from each of the partner schools/classes. Based on the assumption that each direct project beneficiary will have a positive influence on 2 other people, the project will have a positive impact on an additional 416 indirect beneficiaries</p>

2.01 PROGRAMME NAME	
Children and Young People - MU Post Primary Schools Cross Community Programme	MUC03
2.02 KEY WORDS	DIVERSE SHARED YOUTH
2.03 Contact details for programme staff	Oliver Morgan
2.04 Total budgeted cost of programme (100%)	£22,000

2.05 Total target no. of participants	Direct	250	Indirect	500
2.06 Budgeted unit cost of programme	£88			
2.07 Targeted participant background analysis	As per population estimate 60% Catholic, 30% Protestant, 10% BME/Other 50% Female 50% Male			
2.08 Name and post code of Programme HQ	Location	MUDC	Postcode	BT71 6DT
2.09 Names and post codes for main areas of programme impact	Location	Dungannon	Postcode	BT71 4AA, BT70 2LY, BT71 6LJ, BT71 4NW, BT70 3HE, BT71 6EG, BT71 6DS, BT69 6DX, BT75 0SB, BT71 6LS
	Location	Cookstown	Postcode	BT80 8PQ, BT80 8QB
	Location	Magherafelt	Postcode	BT45 6AF, BT45 7AF, BT45 6HQ, BT46 5BN, BT45 6NR, BT45 6AX
2.1 Programme plan – what difference do we want to make?				
2.11 T:BUC Key Priority	Our Children and Young People			
2.12 T:BUC Outcome	Improved attitudes between children and young people from different backgrounds			
2.13 Project Level Outcome – This should relate to the Survey Question on the TEO outcomes spreadsheet.	An increase in the number of participants who are more favourable towards people from the Catholic community. An increase in the number of participants who are more favourable towards people from the Protestant Community.			
2.14 Additional Project level Outcomes (optional)	An increase in the number of participants who are more favourable towards people from a different background.			
2.15 Link to good relations audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to the Good Relations Audit 2021 			
2.16 Complementarity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Planning Mid Ulster Peace Plus programme in development TBUC Regional Programme CRC Regional programme 			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EA Shared Education
2.17 Programme summary information 2021/22	Increase in number of participants who feel more comfortable socialising or working with people from another community background
Project	<p>Project - £22,000 School/Youth Resilience Development –</p> <p>A project that will bring young people together from across diverse schools to develop coaching skills that will support younger children and mentoring within schools</p> <p>A specialised facilitator will work across the 20 post primary schools. Schools will be clustered to ensure a diverse range of young people work together in receipt of the coaching and mentoring support.</p> <p>The sessions will allow for direct engagement of the young people together from different schools (in literacy and numeracy) and then direct engagement with younger children to support their development</p> <p>All post primary across the District - 250 young people participating through school partnerships</p> <p>Over 500 young people will be supported indirectly from the programme.</p>

2.01 PROGRAMME NAME				
Children and Young People – MU Youth Voice PARTNER PROJECT PROMOTER EA YOUTH			MUC04	
2.02 KEY WORDS	DIVERSE YOUTH SHARED			
2.03 Contact details for programme staff	Oliver Morgan			
2.04 Total budgeted cost of programme (100%)	£15,000			
2.05 Total target no. of participants	Direct	24 young people aged 16-24yrs /100	Indirect	1000

2.06 Budgeted unit cost of programme	£120		
2.07 Targeted participant background analysis	As per population estimate 60% Catholic, 30% Protestant, 10% BME/Other 50% Female 50% Male		
2.08 Name and post code of Programme HQ	Location	MUDC	Postcode BT71 6DT
2.09 Names and post codes for main areas of programme impact	Location	Dungannon	Postcode BT68/69/70/71/75/76/77/78
	Location	Cookstown	Postcode BT70/79/80
	Location	Magherafelt	Postcode BT41/44/45/46/51
2.1 Programme plan – what difference do we want to make?			
2.11 T:BUC Key Priority	Our Children and Young People		
2.12 T:BUC Outcome	Improved attitudes between children and young people from different backgrounds		
2.13 Project Level Outcome – This should relate to the Survey Question on the TEO outcomes spreadsheet.	An increase in the number of participants who are more favourable towards people from the Catholic community. An increase in the number of participants who are more favourable towards people from the Protestant Community.		
2.14 Additional Project level Outcomes (optional)	An increase in the number of participants who are more favourable towards people from an ethnic minority background.		
2.15 Link to good relations audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to the Good Relations Audit 2021 		
2.16 Complementarity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Planning Mid Ulster Peace Plus programme in development TBUC Regional Programme CRC Regional programme EA Shared Education 		
2.17 Programme summary information 2021/22			
Project 1			
Project 2	Project - £12,000 - The Youth voice Forum works to empower young people to participate actively in society to improve their own lives by representing and advocating their needs and interests and those of their		

	<p>organisations. In the current uncertain political and social context that affects young people, they can be powerful catalysts for positive change and contributors of innovative solutions.</p> <p>To overcome the challenges faced by young people, the project will create-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Greater youth participation 2. Stronger youth organisations 3. Increased youth autonomy and inclusion. <p>This specific project will create a Mid Ulster based regional youth forum. The forum will consist of a minimum 24 young persons aged 16 years to 21 years, who interact regularly with their close friendship group, sharing detail. The project will reflect the Mid Ulster region with youth representatives from across the Mid Ulster region. The project level outcome being an 'improvement in attitudes between children & young people from different backgrounds.</p> <p>Support for young people campaign and work through small project fund to support £3000</p>
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2.01 PROGRAMME NAME				
Shared Community - Good Relations Small Grant Programme				MUC05
2.02 KEY WORDS	DIVERSE SHARED			
2.03 Contact details for programme staff	Oliver Morgan			
2.04 Total budgeted cost of programme (100%)	£40,864 (up to £1200 per group with 30 approx. per group participating x 40-50 groups)			
2.05 Total target no. of participants	Direct	1,500	Indirect	3,000
2.06 Budgeted unit cost of programme	£27			

2.07 Targeted participant background analysis	As per population estimate 60% Catholic, 30% Protestant, 10% BME/Other 50% Female 50% Male		
2.08 Name and post code of Programme HQ	Location	MUDC	Postcode BT71 6DT
2.09 Names and post codes for main areas of programme impact	Location	Dungannon	Postcode BT68/69/70/71/75/76/77/78
	Location	Cookstown	Postcode BT70/79/80
	Location	Magherafelt	Postcode BT41/44/45/46/51
	Location		Postcode
2.1 Programme plan – what difference do we want to make?			
2.11 T:BUC Key Priority	Our Shared Community		
2.12 T:BUC Outcome	Increased use of shared space & services		
2.13 Project Level Outcome – This should relate to the Survey Question on the TEO outcomes spreadsheet.	An increase in percentage of people who consider the area they live as welcoming to all communities.		
2.14 Additional Project level Outcomes (optional)			
2.15 Link to good relations audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to the Good Relations Audit 2021 		
2.16 Complementarity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Planning Mid Ulster • Peace Plus programme in development • TBUC Regional Programme • CRC Regional programme • EA Shared Education 		
2.17 Programme summary information 2021/22	<p>The grant programme has been running consistently for a number of years and was redeveloped in 18/19 to increase the use of programmes that could further enhance more shared space within Mid Ulster District Council area through activities and outcomes as noted below:</p> <p>% increase in community attitudes and perception of using and accessing shared activities in spaces. % increase in communities seeking funding and participation in good relations.</p>		

	<p>A small grants programme will be managed by Mid Ulster District Council Programme will encourage community groups to come together to deliver good relations activities and shared space development.</p> <p>Approx. 20 – 30 small grants will be awarded to community organisations for shared space activity delivered over the year.</p> <p>A maximum grant up to £1,200 will be available</p> <p>Contribution towards strategic events grants programme to support range of good relations criteria re. Outreach for diversity and engagement of communities across the District see cultural expression.</p> <p>GR officers to continually engage with strategic partner projects and in partnership with the strategic community events grant with average 15 – 20 groups seeking to deliver events in partnership with good relations to develop diversity in cross community outreach and or migrant and new communities.</p> <p>GR Officers will engage with facilitators in areas where capacity is low and support groups develop and deliver projects particularly at key times of the year to engage people together.</p>
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2.01 PROGRAMME NAME				
Shared Community - Shared History and Decade of Anniversaries Programme				MUC06
2.02 KEY WORDS	SHARED CULTURE DIVERSE			
2.03 Contact details for programme staff	Oliver Morgan			
2.04 Total budgeted cost of programme (100%)	£20,000			
2.05 Total target no. of participants	Direct	360	Indirect	1000
2.06 Budgeted unit cost of programme	£55			
2.07 Targeted participant background analysis	As per population estimate 60% Catholic, 30% Protestant, 10% BME/Other 50% Female 50% Male			

2.08 Name and post code of Programme HQ	Location	MUDC	Postcode	BT71 6DT
2.09 Names and post codes for main areas of programme impact	Location	Mid Ulster Wide	Postcode	
	Location	Dungannon	Postcode	BT68/69/70/71/75/76/77/78
	Location	Cookstown	Postcode	BT70/79/80
	Location	Magherafelt	Postcode	BT41/44/45/46/51
2.1 Programme plan – what difference do we want to make?				
2.11 T:BUC Key Priority	Our Shared Community			
2.12 T:BUC Outcome	Increased use of shared space and services			
2.13 Project Level Outcome – This should relate to the Survey Question on the TEO outcomes spreadsheet.	An increase in percentage of people who consider the area they live as welcoming to all communities.			
2.14 Additional Project level Outcomes (optional)				
2.15 Link to good relations audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to the Good Relations Audit 2021 			
2.16 Complementarity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Planning Mid Ulster Peace Plus programme in development TBUC Regional Programme CRC Regional programme 			
2.17 Programme summary information 2021/22	<p>The Decade of Anniversaries grant programme and series of lectures has been delivered for a number of years. The grant programme increased understanding of our shared history within Mid Ulster District Council area through activities and outcomes as noted below:</p> <p>% increase in the number of participants engaging in ethical commemorations around Decade of Anniversaries</p> <p>% increase in communities seeking funding and participation in good relations.</p> <p>GR Officers will work with local communities interested in acknowledging the Decade of Anniversaries through the Community Relations Council / Heritage Lottery Fund principles of shared understanding of our history in shared locations.</p>			

	<p>A budget of £2,000 grant support will be available for programmes of activity up to £15,000 to be matched 50% by the delivery group. The 50/50 funding model works well and builds capacity within community groups</p> <p>A Decade of Anniversaries lecture series will be delivered across the District – 4-5 lectures across the District linking historians £5,000</p> <p>15 community based activities delivered 4-5 lectures delivered across the District</p>
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2.01 PROGRAMME NAME				
Shared Community - Shared Spaces				MUC07
2.02 KEY WORDS	RURAL SHARED Communities			
2.03 Contact details for programme staff	Oliver Morgan			
2.04 Total budgeted cost of programme (100%)	£20,000			
2.05 Total target no. of participants	Direct	100	Indirect	200
2.06 Budgeted unit cost of programme	£200			
2.07 Targeted participant background analysis	As per population estimate 60% Catholic, 30% Protestant, 10% BME/Other 50% Female 50% Male			
2.08 Name and post code of Programme HQ	Location	MUDC	Postcode	BT71 6DT
2.09 Names and post codes for main areas of programme impact	Location	Mid Ulster Wide	Postcode	
	Location	Dungannon	Postcode	BT68/69/70/71/75/76/77/78
	Location	Cookstown	Postcode	BT70/79/80

	Location	Magherafelt	Postcode	BT41/44/45/46/51
2.1 Programme plan – what difference do we want to make?				
2.11 T:BUC Key Priority	Our Shared Community			
2.12 T:BUC Outcome	Increased use of shared space and services			
2.13 Project Level Outcome – This should relate to the Survey Question on the TEO outcomes spreadsheet.	<p>An increase in percentage of people who consider the area they live in as welcoming to all communities.</p> <p>An increase in the number of participants who feel more comfortable using shared spaces and services traditionally associated with people from another community background.</p>			
2.14 Additional Project level Outcomes (optional)				
2.15 Link to good relations audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to the Good Relations Audit 2021 			
2.16 Complementarity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Planning Mid Ulster • Peace Plus programme in development • TBUC Regional Programme • CRC Regional programme 			
2.17 Programme summary information 2021/22	<p>GR will work with a facilitator to engage 100 people in a cross community programme focusing on an in-depth support for employability (with element of greater awareness of our surrounding areas and environment via environmental awareness and sustainability and biodiversity).</p> <p>Key elements of delivery will include: Personal Development Confidence building Employability sector and skills and links to relevant training and support Engagement in employability skills from applications, interviews etc Customer care, engagement, team building</p> <p>Other key elements will include for cross community engagement and development friendships and team building re</p>			

	<p>Environmental awareness and biodiversity sessions Cultural awareness</p> <p>Specialist support will be procured to support facilitate and deliver the project.</p> <p>Key component to target disaffected by legacy of the conflict and rural isolation, and covid (including those losing jobs later in life with great experience but lower skill level for engaging again in employability sector), engaging them to participate in active society through area based environmental improvement projects improving employability and resilience.</p>
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2.01 PROGRAMME NAME				
Shared Community - Clergy and Churches Leadership and Engagement			MUC08	
2.02 KEY WORDS	SHARED DIVERSE			
2.03 Contact details for programme staff	Oliver Morgan			
2.04 Total budgeted cost of programme (100%)	£5,000			
2.05 Total target no. of participants	Direct	200	Indirect	300
2.06 Budgeted unit cost of programme	£25			
2.07 Targeted participant background analysis	As per population estimate 60% Catholic, 30% Protestant, 10% BME/Other 50% Female 50% Male			
2.08 Name and post code of Programme HQ	Location	MUDC	Postcode	BT71 6DT
2.09 Names and post codes for main areas of programme impact	Location	Mid Ulster Wide	Postcode	
	Location	Dungannon	Postcode	BT68/69/70/71/75/76/77/78
	Location	Cookstown	Postcode	BT70/79/80
	Location	Magherafelt	Postcode	BT41/44/45/46/51

2.1 Programme plan – what difference do we want to make?	
2.11 T:BUC Key Priority	Our Shared Community
2.12 T:BUC Outcome	Increased use of shared space and services
2.13 Project Level Outcome – This should relate to the Survey Question on the TEO outcomes spreadsheet.	An increase in percentage of people who consider the area they live as welcoming to all communities.
2.14 Additional Project level Outcomes (optional)	
2.15 Link to good relations audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to the Good Relations Audit 2021
2.16 Complementarity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Planning Mid Ulster • Peace Plus programme in development • TBUC Regional Programme • CRC Regional programme
2.17 Programme summary information 2021/22	<p>The engagement of the Clergy and Churches fora to deliver faith based activities and events across Mid Ulster.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater level of church leadership and lay participation across the district on difficult issues for people in our society. <p>The Groups include: Churches Forum Cookstown and Dungannon and Mid Ulster Clergy Forum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mid Ulster Clergy Together Forum – in the development of a programme of activities addressing diversity, respect for culture, social inclusion and anti-poverty. Activities will involve Forum focused activities, engagement activities with local schools and engagement in wider community GR activities / events. • Cookstown Churches Forum – in the development of an annual programme of talks, visits and events that address enhanced understanding and collective awareness of local issues, between lay people from different Church traditions. • Dungannon Churches Area Forum - in the development of an annual programme of talks, visits and events that address enhanced understanding and collective awareness of local issues, between lay people from different Church traditions.

2.01 PROGRAMME NAME				
Our Safe Community - Responding to Local Community Issues			MUC09	
2.02 KEY WORDS	YOUTH SAFE			
2.03 Contact details for programme staff	Oliver Morgan			
2.04 Total budgeted cost of programme (100%)	work with PCSP			
2.05 Total target no. of participants	Direct	50	Indirect	100
2.06 Budgeted unit cost of programme	£0			
2.07 Targeted participant background analysis	As per population estimate 60% Catholic, 30% Protestant, 10% BME/Other 50% Female 50% Male			
2.08 Name and post code of Programme HQ	Location	MUDC	Postcode	BT71 6DT
2.09 Names and post codes for main areas of programme impact	Location	Dungannon	Postcode	BT68/69/70/71/75/76/77/78
	Location	Cookstown	Postcode	BT70/79/80
	Location	Magherafelt	Postcode	BT41/44/45/46/51
2.1 Programme plan – what difference do we want to make?				
2.11 T:BUC Key Priority	Our Safe Community			
2.12 T:BUC Outcome	A community where places and spaces are safe for all.			
2.13 Project Level Outcome – This should relate to the Survey Question on the TEO outcomes spreadsheet.	An increase in the percentage of participants who see town centres as safe and welcoming places for people from all walks of life.			

2.14 Additional Project level Outcomes (optional)	Increase in the number of people who feel a sense of belonging to their neighbourhood and the wider area
2.15 Link to good relations audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to the Good Relations Audit 2021
2.16 Complementarity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Planning Mid Ulster • Peace Plus programme in development • TBUC Regional Programme • CRC Regional programme • PCSP
2.17 Programme summary information 2021/22	<p>GR officers will support PCSP regarding issues identified in local communities along with our partners (recorded instances, members, PCSP, PSNI, NIHE, Probation Board, and Youth justice Agency etc.) to provide a multi-agency approach to keep spaces and communities safe and accessible and open to all.</p> <p>The activities will be both proactive and reactive in nature. Where there are known yearly issues arising then a proactive approach will be taken with local people to seek to avoid issues reoccurring. .</p> <p>GR officers will work alongside Council's sports development staff to support young people particularly during summer months and link diversionary programmes into areas and communities with Council sports development e.g. MUSA Cookstown, Dungannon, Magherafelt, Maghera, Coalisland.</p> <p>6 reactionary support activities working in a multi-agency approach.</p> <p>6 proactive initiatives working within a multi-agency approach.</p>

2.01 PROGRAMME NAME					
Our Safe Community -Enabling Good Relations and Safe Communities			MUC10		
2.02 KEY WORDS	POVERTY SOCIAL INCLUSION				
2.03 Contact details for programme staff	Oliver Morgan				
2.04 Total budgeted cost of programme (100%)	£20,000				
2.05 Total target no. of participants	Direct	600	Indirect	1000	
2.06 Budgeted unit cost of programme	£33				
2.07 Targeted participant background analysis	As per population estimate 60% Catholic, 30% Protestant, 10% BME/Other 50% Female 50% Male				
2.08 Name and post code of Programme	Location	MUDC	Postcode	BT71 6DT	
2.09 Names and post codes for main areas of programme impact	Location	Dungannon	Postcode	BT68/69/70/71/75/76/77/78	
	Location	Cookstown	Postcode	BT70/79/80	
	Location	Magherafelt	Postcode	BT41/44/45/46/51	
2.1 Programme plan – what difference do we want to make?					
2.11 T:BUC Key Priority	Our Safe Community				
2.12 T:BUC Outcome	A community where places and spaces are safe for all.				
2.13 Project Level Outcome – This should relate to the Survey Question on the TEO outcomes spreadsheet.	An increase in the percentage of participants who see town centres as safe and welcoming places for people from all walks of life.				
2.14 Additional Project level Outcomes (optional)					
2.15 Link to good relations audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Refer to the Good Relations Audit 2021Refer to Community Planning Mid Ulster Anti Poverty Plan and link to DFC – Government poverty plan				
2.16 Complementarity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Community Planning Mid Ulster				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peace Plus programme in development • TBUC Regional Programme • CRC Regional programme
2.17 Programme summary information 2021/22	<p>Outcomes to improve upon: Increase in the number of people who feel a sense of belonging to their neighbourhood and the wider area Increase the number of people who can access anti-poverty charities across Mid Ulster through a partnership approach</p> <p>Targeting those areas most in poverty due to the impact of the troubles and level of opportunity lost.</p> <p>GR Officers will work collectively with local foodbanks and food charities in our main towns to work together to support communities suffering from poverty and impact of the Troubles.</p> <p>Work with up to 12 foodbanks and food charities across the District in our main towns.</p> <p>Facilitating a network of the foodbanks across the region to support continuing to work together and maximise limited resources to those most vulnerable. During Covid 19 the quick and effective response to the community need by the partner foodbanks was recognised by agencies. The foodbanks through previous support and engagement had developed partnership models in all the main towns to ensure all people from diverse communities were supported maximising partner resources.</p> <p>Reconnecting communities together after impact of Covid and Brexit and support these to engage together – up to 6 groups/ estates engaged</p>

2.01 PROGRAMME NAME	
Our Cultural Expression - Celebrating Cultural Diversity of Ulster Scots & Irish	MUC11
2.02 KEY WORDS	CULTURE DIVERSE MUSIC

2.03 Contact details for programme staff	Oliver Morgan			
2.04 Total budgeted cost of programme (100%)	£30,000			
2.05 Total target no. of participants	Direct	3,000	Indirect	2,000
2.06 Budgeted unit cost of programme	£10			
2.07 Targeted participant background analysis	As per population estimate 60% Catholic, 30% Protestant, 10% BME/Other 50% Female 50% Male			
2.08 Name and post code of Programme HQ	Location	MUDC	Postcode	BT71 6DT
2.09 Names and post codes for main areas of programme impact	Location	Dungannon	Postcode	BT68/69/70/71/75/76/77/78
	Location	Cookstown	Postcode	BT70/79/80
	Location	Magherafelt	Postcode	BT41/44/45/46/51
2.1 Programme plan – what difference do we want to make?				
2.11 T:BUC Key Priority	Our Cultural Expression			
2.12 T:BUC Outcome	Cultural diversity is celebrated			
2.13 Project Level Outcome – This should relate to the Survey Question on the TEO outcomes spreadsheet.	<p>An increase in the percentage who think that the culture and traditions of the Catholic Community add to the richness and diversity of Northern Ireland.</p> <p>An increase in the percentage who think that the culture and traditions of the Protestant Community add to the richness and diversity of Northern Ireland.</p>			
2.14 Additional Project level Outcomes (optional)	<p>Increase in the number of people who believe they have a greater appreciation and increased understanding or their own culture and our shared traditions.</p> <p>Increased belief that culture can play a vital part in continuing to support communities in collaborating together.</p>			
2.15 Link to good relations audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to the Good Relations Audit 2021 			
2.16 Complementarity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Planning Mid Ulster Peace Plus programme in development TBUC Regional Programme 			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CRC Regional programme
2.17 Programme summary information 2021/22	<p>Reaching out to the wider community through engagement in cultural activities / events including the following (match and partner culture & arts in all activities below)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. £8,000 - budget and linking with cross border Heritage and cross border literary programme.. Linking Clans of O'Neill and all communities engaging 100 people. 2. £5,000 - Ulster Scots cultural promotion (Andy Mc Gregor piping music programme). 3. £5,000 - Pipe Band Championships (Cookstown) – engaging young people from diverse communities and promoting piping tradition 4. £6000 – Cultural Music in Schools programme -working with primary schools in the Cookstown area since 2007 and more recently has extended into the Magherafelt and Dungannon area, teaching children traditional music skills (guitar, tin whistle, banjo, mandolin and flute). 5. £4000 – Charlie Donnelly Winter School 6. £2000 – partner engagement on cultural arts with Arts <p>Multiple organisations linked to cultural events to work together. Delivery of the following projects;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. O'Neill projects x 2 linked to heritage weekends 2. Ulster Scots Cultural expression programme, using piping 3. Annual Pipe Band Championships event in Cookstown, in partnership with RPBANI - 2,000 people attending 4. Traditional Music in Schools, this programme will work with 30 schools teaching traditional music skills 5. Charlie Donnelly Winter School Looking at Poets and literary profiles of those who fought in conflict and engaging cross community dialogue 6. Good Relations officers to engage with the Arts regarding delivery of the arts and culture strategy to seek to support cultural expression and diversity across the District. Work alongside arts, literary and heritage on above and also on key activities in the 3 facilities on cultural expression via the arts & performances.
2.01 PROGRAMME NAME	
Our Cultural Expression - Supporting BME Communities	MUC12
2.02 KEY WORDS	DIVERSE SOCIAL INCLUSION CULTURE
2.03 Contact details for programme staff	Oliver Morgan /Paula Kelly

2.04 Total budgeted cost of programme (100%)	£25,000			
2.05 Total target no. of participants	Direct	500	Indirect	2000
2.06 Budgeted unit cost of programme	£50			
2.07 Targeted participant background analysis	As per population estimate 60% Catholic, 30% Protestant, 10% BME/Other 50% Female 50% Male			
2.08 Name and post code of Programme HQ	Location	MUDC	Postcode	BT71 6DT
2.09 Names and post codes for main areas of programme impact	Location	Dungannon	Postcode	BT68/69/70/71/75/76/77/78
	Location	Cookstown	Postcode	BT70/79/80
	Location	Magherafelt	Postcode	BT41/44/45/46/51
2.1 Programme plan – what difference do we want to make?				
2.11 T:BUC Key Priority	Our Cultural Expression			
2.12 T:BUC Outcome	Increased sense of community belonging			
2.13 Project Level Outcome – This should relate to the Survey Question on the TEO outcomes spreadsheet.	An increase in the percentage of participants who feel a sense of belonging to their neighbourhood.			
2.14 Additional Project level Outcomes (optional)	An increase in the percentage of participants who feel a sense of belonging to Northern Ireland as a whole.			
2.15 Link to good relations audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to the Good Relations Audit 2021 			
2.16 Complementarity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Planning Mid Ulster Peace Plus programme in development TBUC Regional Programme CRC Regional programme Mid Ulster Arts and Heritage 			
2.17 Programme summary information 2021/22	Outcomes to improve upon:			

	<p>% increase in targeted work within Section 75 groupings allowing further engagement of marginalised groups within Mid Ulster</p> <p>Good relations Officers will build on the good work delivered to date through STEP, an Tearmann (Traveller Support Group) and the local migrant community groups (East Timorese Community Association, Lithuanian Folk Group, ant The Polish Association), working in partnership to support inclusion and integration of migrants, BME communities and travellers across Mid Ulster. Good Relations Officers continue to liaise with honorary consuls to develop actions and projects that can contribute to good integration at a local level.</p>
Project 1	<p>Project £10,000 BME support</p> <p>The Good Relations Officer will work with partners (STEP and An Tearmann) in the development of programmes and activities to assist in the support for migrants, BME communities and travellers across Mid Ulster to promote and encourage respect for diversity, culture and integration.</p>
Project 2	<p>Project £15,000 Engaging diverse and new communities</p> <p>Develop a series of support programmes that will provide direct support to a number of migrant groups and refugees and asylum seekers now situated within Mid Ulster. Engagement with Honorary Consuls and agencies to engage diverse communities.</p> <p>GR work with the Intercultural Education Service (EA) with pupils from our target communities: Traveller; Newcomer; Asylum-Seekers; Refugees and Roma.</p> <p>Support Section 75 groups to participate in an active life within Mid Ulster</p> <p>GR officers will work with a series of marginalised groups including LGBT+, disability groups and Women's groups to encourage more inclusion and equality. Engage partner organisations within these sectors to deliver meaningful programmes that can change attitudes toward the more marginalised within our society.</p> <p>Deliver a promotional campaign to address diversity and respect for diversity.</p>

Section 3

Action Plan Programme Outcome Summary Table 2022/23

Code (2.02)	Key Priority (2.11)	T:BUC Outcome (2.12)	Project Level Outcome – difference between baseline and end of project(2.2)		No. direct participants (2.05)	Total Cost (2.04)	Post Code (2.09)
			Number	%			

Section 4

T:BUC Strategic Outcome

	C&YP	Shared community	Safe community	Cultural Expression	DCGRP Total
Total no. of programmes	4	4	2	2	12
Total no. of direct participants	1050	2416	650	3,500	7,616
Unit cost of programme activity	64	35	31	15	30
Total cost of programmes	67,000	85,864	20,000	55,000	227,864

Appendix 4

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACCESSIBLE AND INCLUSION - ACCESSIBLE OUTDOOR SEATING BENCHES 2021-2022			
	ORGANISATION NAME	DIRECT PROVISION BY COUNCIL	REQUEST FOR FUNDING UP TO £500
1	Ballymacal True Blues Flute Band	Yes	
2	Brocagh & District Regeneration Ltd	Yes	
3	Cookstown RBL	Yes	
4	Dr Moutray Memorial RBP 163	Yes	
5	Grant Simpson Association Dergina	Yes	
6	Kilcronaghan Centre Association	Yes	
7	Kildress Wolfe Tones GFC	Yes	
8	Kilnaslee Community Group	Yes	
9	MHS Heritage & Culture Ltd		Yes
10	Moneyneena & Dist. Dev. Initiative	Yes	
11	Moygashel Comm & Cultural Assoc.		Yes
12	Sixtowns Cross Community Group	Yes	
13	Watty Graham's GAC, Glen	Yes	
14	Granahan & District Women's Group	Yes	
15	Logues Hill Clay Pigeon Club	Yes	
16	Pomeroy Orange Lodge No. 325		Yes

17	Naomh Colm Baile na Scríne GLC	Yes	
18	Pomeroy True Blues LOL 293		Yes
19	Bawn Silver Band	Yes	
20	St Finbarr's Hurling Club	Yes	
21	Augharan Pipe Band	Yes	
22	Drumnacross LOL 303		Yes
23	The Open Door Complex	Yes	
24	Cavanakeeran Community Association		Yes
25	Killyman & District Cultural Group		Yes
26	Benburb Memorial Pipe Band	Yes	
27	Tullymeadow Community Association	Yes	
28	Leckagh Neighbourhood Partnership		Yes
29	St Malachy's GAC		Yes
30	Glengeeragh Pipe Band	Yes	
31	Castledawson RBL		Yes
32	St John Boso Community Association		Yes
33	Thornhill True Blues LOL 294		Yes
34	Order of Mary Servite Trust Benburb Priory	Yes	
35	Donaghmore Horticulture Society	Yes	
36	Rock Community Association	Yes	
37	Stewartstown & Dist Environmental Outreach	Yes	

38	Desertcreatives	Yes	
39	St Coleman's Parish Community Group	Yes	
40	Benburb Presbyterian Church	Yes	
	Ineligible (no community location for access)		
	Friends of Stewarstown Primary School		
	Friends of Magherafelt High School		
	The Craft Class St Swithin's		
	Cookstown High School PTFA		

Report on	Sports Representative Grants
Date of Meeting:	10 th February 2022
Reporting Officer	Kieran Gordon, Assistant Director Health, Leisure & Wellbeing
Contact Officer	Leigh Gilmore, Participation Manager Margaret McCammon Community Development 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 present to Members the proposed community grant allocations for the range of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sports Representative Grant - Team and Individuals (January 2022)
2.0	Background
2.1	The Sports Representative Grants (Individual and Team) is a continuous rolling programme.
2.2	Previously in January 2022, Members approved the recommendation for the period up to December 2021.
2.3	Eligibility criteria compliance was completed by officers followed by grant programme assessment.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Detailed analysis of the proposed grant awards are attached with Appendix A for information.
3.2	Summary detail is as follows: The Sports Representative Grant: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 Individual application was received during this period 0 Team applications were received during this period Proposal to award a total of £475 in respect of the above individual application.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: The Sports Representative Grant is a continuous rolling programme with an annual allocation for 2021/2022 of £15,000; however £8,000 was allocated in June 2021 to Small Sports Grants leaving a revised budget of £7,000.

	£2,275 was approved in September, £1,650 In October, £650 in November; £200 in December, £250 in January leaving a balance of £1,975. Should the grant recommendation contained within this report be approved, £1,500 remains available to be allocated for the remainder of this financial year until March 2022.
	Human: Officer time.
	Risk Management: In line with Council 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 and give approval for the sports grant allocations as recommended within this report.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix A: Grant recipients and amount of grant award.

Appendix A: Grant recipients and amount of grant award.

Sportsperson Representative on eligible cost to a max of £250

Name		Project Title	Amount Requested	Band	Amount Awarded
Travis	Harkness	2022 UCI Walmart Cyclo-cross World Championships	£250	1	£250
Emily	Maneely	British Shooting Schools Pistol Championship - National Final	£250	2	£225
Total					£475

Band	Amount
1	£250.00
2	£225.00
3	£200.00
4	£175.00
5	£150.00

Sportsperson Representative on eligible cost to a max of £500

Name		Project Title	Amount Requested	Band	Amount Awarded
Total					£0

Band	Amount
1	£500.00
2	£450.00
3	£400.00
4	£350.00

Report on	Health, Leisure & Wellbeing Scale of Charges 2022/23
Date of Meeting	10 th February 2022
Reporting Officer	Kieran Gordon, Assistant Director Health, Leisure & Wellbeing
Contact Officer	John Howard, Leisure and Business Development Manager

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To provide information to Members on the proposed Scale of Charges April 2022 – March 2023 for the Health, Leisure and Wellbeing service area and to seek approval to implement from 1 st April 2022.
2.0	Background
2.1	The Council agreed a new organisational structure in July 2021 which resulted in a series of changes to the then Council structure. Arising from the amendments to the Council structure was the creation of a new service area fully inclusive of previous standalone services involving Environmental Health, Events, Leisure and Parks.
2.2	This report seeks to consolidate all the fees and charges across the new service area into one document in which all previous Council approvals from the creation of Mid Ulster District Council in 2015 to present relating to pricing/charging.
2.3	Previously in January 2015, approval was given for the approach to deliver harmonised fees, charges and concession pricing for the commencement of the new Mid Ulster District Council in April 2015. This included approval for an approach to groupings that would be eligible for concession pricing along with the mechanism for promotional pricing (based on market conditions) – see below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>“Management have the discretion (agreed by the Director) to apply discounted pricing packages, varied times and activities in order to market less attractive facilities, low usage periods and to promote Sports Development and Health and Wellbeing initiatives.”</i>
2.4	All fees and charges that are proposed for the April 2022 – March 2023 year within the Health, Leisure & Wellbeing service area are detailed in appendix A.

3.0	Main Report
3.1	Members should note that all fees and charges detailed within Appendix A are reflective of previous relevant Council reports pertaining to charging and the subsequent approvals previously applied for the various service areas of Environmental Health, Leisure and Parks.
3.2	There is a variety of legislation enforced by Councils which regulates environmental controls whereby a permit, licence or registration is required to legally operate. There are a number of charges and fixed penalties whereby Council has discretion to set the level of charge or fixed penalty within the parameters of applicable legislation and previously in November 2014, Members considered and agreed the approach for the new Mid Ulster District Council forming in April 2015.
3.3	Except for a few areas (outlined below), it is proposed to have a price freeze and not to apply any additional inflationary annual price increase to any charges for the period April 2022 – March 2023.
3.4	<p>Points for consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Pool Lifeguard Qualification <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Proposal for the implementation of an amended course fee from £210 to £260 to cover the rising costs of the course materials and the administration in processing these applications. This proposed increase in course fee will seek to balance the cost of running this service and to bring Mid Ulster District Council in line with other council areas but still aiming to ensure the price remains competitive and to be perceived as value for money. <p>Future Analysis Required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1:1 Swimming lessons, gymnastics, dance, Tobermore Golf Centre memberships and personal training within fitness suites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Decision deferred pending wider consideration of delivery methods; pricing and options to be brought back to a future Development Committee meeting.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	<p>Financial: The 2022/2023 budget setting approach for income has been based on the scale of charges approach outlined in Appendix A – ongoing risk associated with achievement of 2022/23 annual income targets based on the ongoing covid 19 pandemic. The proposed scale of charges structure for 2022/2023 seeks to balance affordability with cost of providing the service; Cost recovery and maintenance of income has been considered as far as reasonably possible.</p> <p>Covid 19 has drastically impacted on income from all leisure and parks facilities and activities within the Council. Users had very limited ability to participate in sporting</p>

	and recreational activity at various points during 2021/2022 due to restrictions that have been placed upon services and it is not yet know if any restrictions will continue to impact into the April 2022 to March 2023 year.
	Human: Officer time – to make staff aware of the scale of charges and to update and configure literature and computerised till systems. Officer time required to discharge the functions will remain regardless of fees.
	Risk Management: In line with Council policies and procedures and will continue to ensure a more robust and standardised approach to fees and charges across Environmental Health, Leisure and Parks services and facilities.
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: It is not anticipated that the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity and good relations.
	Rural Needs Implications: The proposal and recommendations tabled for consideration do not fall within an activity subject to Section 1 (1) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016.
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	<p>To note the contents of this report and approve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix A: Health, Leisure & Wellbeing Scale of Charges 2022/23 • The adoption of the proposals outlined in section 3.4 for the National Pool Lifeguard Qualification • Discretionary pricing flexibility to continue to be considered as and when required under the Scheme of Delegation to allow scope for sales promotions, official Council supported events, member service issues, site specific usage trends, etc
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	Appendix A: Health, Leisure & Wellbeing Scale of Charges 2022/23

Product	2021/22 Pricing	2022/23 Pricing	Concession	Commercial	VAT	Notes
Memberships						
Memberships (DD)						
Adult All Inclusive	£29.95	£29.95			SR	
Adult Gym & Classes Only	£20.00	£20.00			SR	Available in MLC, MUSA and MSA only
Concession All Inclusive	£14.98	£14.98			SR	
Concession Gym & Classes Only	£10.00	£10.00			SR	Available in MLC, MUSA and MSA only
Corporate All Inclusive	£22.50	£22.50			SR	
Lead Household	£31.67	£31.67			SR	12 month agreement term. Inclusive of 2 adults (aged 19 or older) and unlimited children aged 18 years old or younger (at the time of registration)
Mid Ulster Swim Academy	£20.40	£20.40			Ex	
Move More Programme	£14.98	£14.98			SR	
MUDC Staff All Inclusive	£15.00	£15.00			SR	
Student All Inclusive	£21.00	£21.00			SR	
Memberships (Cash Payments, 3 Months)						
Adult All Inclusive	£89.85	£89.85			SR	
Adult Gym & Classes Only	£60.00	£60.00			SR	Available in MLC, MUSA and MSA only
Concession All Inclusive	£44.94	£44.94			SR	
Concession Gym & Classes Only	£30.00	£30.00			SR	Available in MLC, MUSA and MSA only
Corporate All Inclusive	£67.50	£67.50			SR	
MUDC Staff All Inclusive	£45.00	£45.00			SR	

Student All Inclusive	£63.00	£63.00			SR	
Move More All Inclusive	£30.00	£30.00			SR	12 weeks
PARS All Inclusive	£30.00	£30.00			SR	12 weeks
Memberships (Cash Payments, 6 Months)						
Adult All Inclusive	£179.70	£179.70			SR	
Adult Gym & Classes Only	£120.00	£120.00			SR	Available in MLC, MUSA and MSA only
Concession All Inclusive	£89.85	£89.85			SR	
Concession Gym & Classes Only	£60.00	£60.00			SR	Available in MLC, MUSA and MSA only
Corporate All Inclusive	£135.00	£135.00			SR	
MUDC Staff All Inclusive	£90.00	£90.00			SR	
Student All Inclusive	£126.00	£126.00			SR	
Memberships (Cash Payments, 12 Months)						
Adult All Inclusive	£359.40	£359.40			SR	
Adult Gym & Classes Only	£240.00	£240.00			SR	Available in MLC, MUSA and MSA only
Concession All Inclusive	£179.70	£179.70			SR	
Concession Gym & Classes Only	£120.00	£120.00			SR	Available in MLC, MUSA and MSA only
Corporate All Inclusive	£270.00	£270.00			SR	
Lead Household	£380.00	£380.00			SR	Inclusive of 2 adults (aged 19 or older) and unlimited children aged 18 years old or younger (at the time of registration)
Household Additional Adult					SR	

Household Additional Child					SR	
MUDC Staff All Inclusive	£180.00	£180.00			SR	
Student All Inclusive	£252.00	£252.00			SR	
Wetside						
Pools						
Adult Swim	£3.75	£3.75	Y	N	SR	
Family Swim (2 Adults And 2 Children, 1 Adult and 3 Children)	£10.00	£10.00	N	N	SR	
School Swim (Including Instructor)	£1.30	£1.30	N	N	Ex	
Swimming Gala (25m, hourly rate) Sites: CLC, DLC	£77.50	£77.50	N	N	SR SOL Possible	
Swimming Gala (50m, hourly rate) Site: GLC	£133.30	£133.30	N	N	SR SOL Possible	
Small Pool (Hourly)	£33.00	£33.00	N	Y	SR SOL Possible	
Local District Clubs: Main Pool	£47.40	£47.40	N	Y	SR SOL Possible	
All Other Bookings: Main Pool	£160.00	£160.00	N	Y	SR SOL Possible	
Local District Clubs: 25m Lane	£7.90	£7.90	N	Y	SR SOL Possible	
All Other Bookings: 25m Lane	£25.00	£25.00	N	Y	SR SOL Possible	
Local District Clubs: 50m Lane	£15.80	£15.80	N	Y	SR SOL Possible	
All Other Bookings: 50m Lane	£40.00	£40.00	N	Y	SR SOL Possible	
Swim Ulster Bookings 25m Lane	N/A	£25.00	N	Y		Discount based on the pro-rata of the approved rates by the percentage of coaching spaces that are made available to the 3 x Mid Ulster District based swim clubs
Swim Ulster Bookings 50m Lane	N/A	£40.00	N	Y		Discount based on the pro-rata of the approved rates by the percentage of coaching spaces that are made available to the 3 x Mid Ulster District based swim clubs

Health Suite						
Adult (Inc. Swim)	£6.40	£6.40	Y	N	SR	
Adult (Maghera - No Swim)	£4.10	£4.10	Y	N	SR	

School Health Suite (Group Rate)	£1.20		N	N	SR	
Pool Classes & Courses						
NPLQ	£210.00	£260.00	N	N	Ex	Included the cost of the examination package and admin fees
Rookie Lifeguard	£6.40	£6.40	N	N	Ex	
Survive and Save	£6.40 & £26.00 certification	£6.40 & £26.00 certification	N	N	Ex	
Mid Ulster Swim Academy	£6.25	£6.25	N	N	Ex	
Adult Swimming Lessons	£9.50	£9.50	N	N	Ex	
1:1 Lesson 30mins	N/A	£15.00	N	N	Ex	
2:1 Lesson (30mins)	N/A	£20.00	N	N	Ex	
Gym & Fitness						
Adult Induction	£25.00	£25.00	Y	N	Ex	
Casual Adult	£6.00	£6.00	Y	N	SR	
Casual School	£2.00	£2.00	N	N	SR	
Gym and Health Suite	£8.30	£8.30	Y	N	SR	
Gym and Health Suite (no pool)	£6.30	£6.30		N	SR	
Personal Trainer (Single) (60mins)	N/A	£25.00	N	N	Ex	Contracted member
Personal Trainer (Single) (60mins)	N/A	£30.00	N	N	Ex	Non-contracted member
Personal Trainer (Double) (60mins)	N/A	£30.00	N	N	Ex	Two contracted members

Personal Trainer (Double) (60mins)	N/A	£35.00	N	N	Ex	One contracted member and one non contracted member
Personal Trainer (Double) (60mins)	N/A	£40.00	N	N	Ex	Two non-contracted member
Gym (Limited Facility)- Gortgonis, MSA, MUSA						
Adult Induction	£25.00	£25.00	Y	N	Ex	
Casual Adult	£2.60	£2.60	Y	N	SR	
Discount Card (10 Sessions)	£20.60	£20.60	Y	N	SR	
Classes						
Classes	£5.00	£5.00	Y	N	Ex	
Virtual Classes	£3.00	£3.00	Y	N	Ex	
Schools	£1.10	£1.10	N	N	Ex	
Indoor Sports						
All Activities: per badminton court (per hour)						
Adult	£7.50	£7.50	Y	Y	SR	
School	£2.60	£2.60	N	N	SR	
Bowls	£10.30	£10.30	Y	Y	SR SOL Possible	
Martial Arts	£10.30	£10.30	Y	Y	SR SOL Possible	
All Activities: 4 badminton courts (per hour)						

Adult	£30.00	£30.00	Y	N	SR	
School	£10.40	£10.40	N	N	SR	
Non Commercial Full Hall	£63.00	£63.00	N	Y	Ex	
Non Commercial Half Hall	£44.00	£44.00	N	Y	Ex	
Non Commercial Full Hall Before 6pm	£47.60	£47.60	N	Y	Ex	
Non Commercial Half Hall Before 6pm	£31.10	£31.10	N	Y	Ex	
Squash/Handball/Racquetball (Per Hour)						
Squash/Handball/Racquetball Court	£5.70	£5.70	Y	N	SR	
School	£2.00	£2.00	N	N	SR	
Table Tennis (Per Hour)						
Adult	£5.70	£5.70	Y	N	SR	
School	£2.00	£2.00	N	N	SR	
Ten Pin Bowling (Per 30 Minutes)						
Per Lane	£7.90	£7.90	Y	Y	SR	
School	£5.20	£5.20	N	N	SR	
Birthday Parties & Soft Play						
Soft Play						

Child	£3.10	£3.25	N	N	SR	
Birthday Parties						
Bouncy Castle Party	£65.00	£65.00	N	N	SR	
Party Room Hire: Cat A	£15.00	£15.00	N	Y	Ex	
Party Room Hire: Cat B	£10.00	£10.00	N	Y	Ex	
Party Room Hire: Cat C	£8.00	£8.00	N	Y	Ex	
Classes/ Courses						
Gymnastics	£2.50	£2.50	N	N	Ex	
Dance Session	£3.70	£3.70	N	N	Ex	
Scheme Per Session	£2.60	£2.60	N	N	Ex	
Scheme Card 10 Sessions	£20.60	£20.60	N	N	Ex	
Golf						
Driving Range Balls (60)	£4.00	£4.00	N	N	SR	
Par 3	£2.70	£2.70	Y	N	SR	
Putting Green	£1.70	£1.70	Y	N	SR	
Golf Club Hire	£0.70	£0.70	N	N	SR	

Golf Coaching						
Standard Golf Lesson 30mins	£15.50	£15.50	N	N	Ex	
Standard Golf Lesson 45mins	£23.20	£23.20	N	N	Ex	
Standard Golf Lesson 60mins	£31.00	£31.00	N	N	Ex	
Trackman Golf Lesson 30mins	£18.50	£18.50	N	N	Ex	
Trackman Golf Lesson 60mins	£37.10	£37.10	N	N	Ex	
Golf Coaching Balls	£2.90	£2.90	N	N	Ex	
Group Lessons						
Group Golf Lesson	£35.00	£35.00	N	N	Ex	6 x 2 hour lessons.
Junior Golf Academy	£2.60	£2.60	N	N	Ex	1.5 hours lessons
Academy Golf Ball Pack	£1.60	£1.60	N	N	Ex	3 x golf balls (resale)
Junior Golf Camp	£41.20	£41.20	N	N	Ex	3 x day camp (full days)
School/ Youth Group Lessons	£15.50	£15.50	N	N	Ex	
Misc						
Meeting Rooms						
Meeting Room Hire: Cat A	£15.00	£15.00	Y	Y	Ex	
Meeting Room Hire: Cat B	£10.00	£10.00	Y	Y	Ex	
Meeting Room Hire: Cat C	£8.00	£8.00	Y	Y	Ex	

Spectator						
Spectator (Applied At Management Discretion)	£1.10	£1.10	Y	N	SR	

Participation Pricing						
Active Recreation Plan	£1.00	£1.00			Ex	
Summer Camps	£25.00	£25.00			Ex	Dance Gymnastics Tennis etc (£5 per day)
Canoeing	£45.00	£45.00			Ex	

Product	2021/22 Pricing	202/23 Pricing	Conces sion	Commercial	Off Peak Price M-F before 6pm, Sat & Sun	Concession	Commercial	VAT	Notes
Indoor Pitches									

MINI PITCHES
(Indoor, per Hour)

Mini pitch	£30.90	£30.90	Y	Y	£15.50	N	Y	SR	
Badminton Court	£7.10	£7.10	Y	Y	£3.50	N	Y	SR	

MAXI PITCHES
(Indoor, per Hour)

Maxi pitch (4 tennis courts)	£51.50	£51.50	Y	Y	£25.80	N	Y	SR	
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FULL PITCH
(Indoor, per Hour)

Full pitch (12 tennis courts) - per hour	£154.50	£154.50	Y	Y	£77.30	N	Y	SR	
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INDOOR TENNIS COURT (Indoor, per Hour)

Tennis Court	£15.50	£15.50	Y	Y	£7.80	N	Y	SR	
Birthday Party - inflatable & sports games	£41.20	£41.20	N	N				SR	
Table Tennis	£5.80	£5.80	Y	N				SR	
Outdoor Pitches									

3G/4G Pitches

Match Bookings (2 Hours)

Soccer/Rugby Match Adult	£51.50	£51.50	Y	Y				SR	
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Outdoor Leisure

Soccer/Rugby Match Adult with lights	£72.10	£72.10	Y	Y				SR	
Gaelic Match Adult Price	£72.10	£72.10	Y	Y				SR	
Gaelic Match Adult with lights	£92.70	£92.70	Y	Y				SR	

Training Bookings
(per Hour)

Soccer/Rugby Training Adult	£30.90	£30.90	Y	Y				SR	
Soccer/Rugby Training Adult with lights	£41.20	£41.20	Y	Y				SR	
Gaelic Training Adult	£41.20	£41.20	Y	Y				SR	
Gaelic Training Adult with lights	£54.10	£54.10	Y	Y				SR	

Multi-Use Games
Area

Without Lights	£25.80	£25.80	Y	Y				SR	
With Lights	£31.00	£31.00	Y	Y				SR	

Outdoor Astro Turf

Adult - per hour	£27.50	£27.50		Y				SR	
Priority Group - per hour (up to 6.00pm Monday to Friday)	£13.80	£13.80		Y				SR	

Outdoor Pitches
(per match)

Adult Match	£37.10	£37.10	Y	Y				SR	
Adult Match with Lights	£69.00	£69.00	Y	Y				SR	

Tennis (per hour)

Adult	£6.20	£6.20		Y				SR	
Priority Group - per hour (up to 6.00pm Monday to Friday)	£3.10	£3.10		Y				SR	
Clubs: Adult (2 tennis courts - coached session)	£6.00	£6.00		Y	£3.00			Ex	
Athletics Track and Field									
Casual Track use Adult	£2.60	£2.60	Y	N				SR	
Synthetic Full Track: Adult Group / Event	£41.20	£41.20	Y	Y				SR	
Cinder Track (per hour)	£13.40	£13.40	Y	Y				SR	
Cinder Track & Lights Floodlight (per hour)	£19.00	£19.00	Y	Y				SR	
Other Outdoor									

Bowling Green

Casual Adult	£3.60	£3.60	Y	N				SR	
Season Ticket Adult	£42.20	£42.20	Y	N				SR	
Club Rent (Season Hire)	£1,442.00	£1,442.00	N	N				Ex	

Cricket Wicket – Club Rent

Cricket Wicket – Club Rent (Season Hire)	£530.00	£530.00						Ex	
Senior (grass)	£47.90	£47.90		Y				SR	

Junior (grass)	£26.80	£26.80		Y				SR	
Synthetic wicket	£19.00	£19.00	Y	Y				SR	
Product	2021/22 Pricing	2022/23 Pricing	Conces sion	Commercial	Off Peak Price M-F before 6pm, Sat & Sun	Concession		VAT	
Pitch Hire: Special Events									
Per pitch (up to 8 hours)	£113.00	£113.00	N	Y				SR	
Per pitch (up to 4 hours)	£59.50	£59.50	N	Y				SR	

Car Park Hire

Half Day	£57.20	£57.20	N	Y				Ex	
Full Day	£101.00	£101.00	N	Y				Ex	

Parks

Product	2021/22 Pricing	2022/23 Pricing	VAT	Notes
Marina Fees				
Boat Park - Annual Storage per vessel	£365.00	£365.00	SR	
Boat Park - Canoe Storage (Club) Summer Season per vessel	£10.00	£10.00	SR	
Boat Park - Daily Storage per vessel	£9.45	£9.45	SR	
Boat Park - Dinghy Storage (Club) Summer Season per vessel	£15.00	£15.00	SR	
Boat Park - Empty Trailer Storage Annual	£55.00	£55.00	SR	
Boat Park - Empty Trailer Storage Seasonal (6 months)	£30.00	£30.00	SR	
Boat Park - Summer Storage per vessel (Apr-Sept)	£210.00	£210.00	SR	
Boat Park - Weekly Storage per vessel	£52.50	£52.50	SR	
Boat Park - Winter Storage per vessel (Oct-Mar)	£210.00	£210.00	SR	
Deposit - Keys Jetty & Boat Yard	£20.00	£20.00	Ex	
Deposit - Swipe card	£20.00	£20.00	Ex	
Electricity Card - £1 Credit	£1.00	£1.00	SR	
Electricity Card - £5.00 Credit	£5.00	£5.00	SR	
Electricity Card - 10kw Credit	£2.65	£2.65	SR	
Electricity Smart Card Top Up	£1.00	£1.00	SR	Minimum top up £1
Mooring - Annual Permit (vessel greater than 60ft)	£1,050.00	£1,050.00	SR	
Mooring - Annual Permit (vessel requires 1 berth)	£415.00	£415.00	SR	
Mooring - Annual Permit (vessel requires 2 berths)	£790.00	£790.00	SR	
Mooring - Daily Mooring per Vessel (1 berth)	£11.00	£11.00	SR	
Mooring - Daily Mooring per Vessel (2 berths)	£19.00	£19.00	SR	
Mooring - Early Discount **APRIL-JUNE**	Deduct £10.00	Deduct £10.00	SR	Early Payment Discount
Mooring - Monthly Permit (1 berth)	£145.00	£145.00	SR	
Mooring - Monthly Permit (2 berths)	£265.00	£265.00	SR	
Mooring - Season Permit (vessel requires 1 berth)	£240.00	£240.00	SR	
Mooring - Season Permit (vessel requires 2 berths)	£458.00	£458.00	SR	
Mooring - Seasonal Permit *NEW BOAT INTRO OFFER* (1 berth)	£180.00	£180.00	SR	
Mooring - Seasonal Permit *NEW BOAT INTRO OFFER* (2 berths)	£344.00	£344.00	SR	
Mooring - Weekly Permit (1 berth)	£58.00	£58.00	SR	
Mooring - Weekly Permit (2 berths)	£105.00	£105.00	SR	
Slipway - Annual Use of Slipway	£100.00	£100.00	SR	
Slipway - Club/Group use of slipways	£12.50	£12.50	SR	
Slipway - Daily Launching per Vessel	£10.00	£10.00	SR	
Slipway - Seasonal Use of Slipway	£60.00	£60.00	SR	
Campsite Fees				
Touring and Camping - Cancellation Admin Fee	£5.00	£5.00	5%	Ballyronan, Dungannon & Roundlake
Touring and Camping - Use of Sluice Room Only	£5.00	£5.00	SR	Ballyronan, Dungannon & Roundlake
Touring and Camping (Half Day Stay)	£13.75	£13.75	5%	Ballyronan, Dungannon & Roundlake
Touring and Camping (Hard Standing Pitch with Electric)	£27.50	£27.50	5%	Ballyronan, Dungannon & Roundlake
Touring and Camping (Tent Pitch - No Electric)	£14.50	£14.50	5%	Ballyronan, Dungannon & Roundlake
Miscellaneous - Laundry Income	£1.00	£1.00	SR	Ballyronan & Dungannon
Deposits - Swipe Card	£5.00	£5.00	SR	
Houseboat Hire (per night)	£120.00	£120.00	5%	
Water sports Fees				
Water Sports - Canoe Course	£40.00	£40.00	SR	
Water Sports - Canoe Taster Session	£10.00	£10.00	SR	
Observatory & Forest Trails Fees				
Car Park Charge (per hour) first hour free	£0.45	£0.45	Ex	
Exhibition Tour Adult	£5.00	£5.00	Ex	
Exhibition Tour Concession (over 60 & under 16)	£3.50	£3.50	Ex	
OM Odyssey Projection Show	£3.00	£3.00	Ex	
Davagh Forest Trails - Bike Hire Provider	£50.00	£50.00	SR	
Blessingbourne FMBT - Car Park Income	£5.00	£5.00	SR	
Allotments Fees				
Allotments - Full Plot (Castledawson)	£30.00	£30.00	SR	
Allotments - Full Plot (Nunnery Hill)	£50.00	£50.00	SR	
Allotments - Half Plot (Nunnery Hill)	£30.00	£30.00	SR	
Allotments - Keyholder Deposit	£10.00	£10.00	SR	
Allotments - Raised Bed Large (Ballygawley)	£5.00	£5.00	SR	

Allotments - Raised Bed Small (Ballygawley)	£3.00	£3.00	SR	
Deposits - Keyholder	£10.00	£10.00	SR	
Angling Fees				
Angling - (Coarse) Adult (concession)	£3.00	£3.00	SR	
Angling - (Coarse) Adult Day Ticket (Bank Only)	£5.00	£5.00	SR	
Angling - (Coarse) Adult Group Rates (Events/Competitions/Return all fish)	£4.00	£4.00	SR	
Angling - (Coarse) Junior day ticket (Bank Only)	£3.00	£3.00	SR	
Angling - (Coarse) Junior Group Rate (Events/Competitions/Return all fish)	£2.00	£2.00	SR	
Angling - 3 Fish Sporting Bank Ticket (Concession)	£12.50	£12.50	SR	
Angling - 3 Fish Sporting Boat Ticket	£16.50	£16.50	SR	
Angling - 3 Fish Sporting Boat Ticket (Concession)	£14.50	£14.50	SR	
Angling - 4 Fish Bank Sporting Ticket	£18.50	£18.50	SR	
Angling - 4 Fish Boat Sporting Ticket	£20.50	£20.50	SR	
Angling - Catch & Release Bank	£10.50	£10.50	SR	
Angling - Catch & Release Boat	£12.50	£12.50	SR	
Angling - Coarse Angling Equipment Hire (Fishing rod/Pole/Landing net)	£5.00	£5.00	SR	
Angling - Coarse Fishing Tuition Adult (Equipment Excluded)	£9.00	£9.00	SR	
Angling - Coarse Fishing Tuition Junior (Equipment Excluded)	£5.00	£5.00	SR	
Angling - Fish Offers	£0.00	£0.00	SR	
Angling - Fly Fishing Tuition Adult	£15.50	£15.50	SR	
Angling - Fly Fishing Tuition Junior	£10.50	£10.50	SR	
Angling - Group Rate 11-15 Anglers	£17.00	£17.00	SR	
Angling - Group Rate 16-20 Anglers	£15.00	£15.00	SR	
Angling - Group Rate 21+ Anglers	£13.00	£13.00	SR	
Angling - Group Rate 5-10 Anglers	£19.00	£19.00	SR	
Angling - Group Rate Charity Rate	£13.00	£13.00	SR	
Angling - Junior Catch & Release Bank (Under 18)	£5.50	£5.50	SR	
Angling - Junior Catch & Release Boat (Under 18)	£7.50	£7.50	SR	
Angling -3 Fish Sporting Bank Ticket	£14.50	£14.50	SR	
Room Hire Fees				
Miscellaneous - Conference Suite/Display Boards	£105.00	£105.00	SR	
Miscellaneous - Room Hire	£15.00	£0.00	SR	
Deposits - Keyholder	£10.00	£10.00	SR	
Room Hire - Annual (Club Rate) Ballyronan	£200.00	£200.00	SR	
Room Hire - Changing Block per day (Clubs/Groups)	£7.90	£7.90	SR	
Events Fees				
Events - Large Event Space Hire	£100.00	£100.00	SR	
Events - Small Event Space Hire	£10.00	£10.00	SR	
Outdoor Recreation & Miscellaneous Fees				
Tennis - Adult 1 hour court hire	£6.00	£6.00	SR	
Tennis - Junior 1 hour court hire	£3.00	£3.00	SR	
Tennis - Tennis Racquet hire	£1.00	£1.00	SR	
BBQ - 1 Ring	£8.00	£8.00	SR	
BBQ - 2 Rings	£15.00	£15.00	SR	
Wi-Fi - Day Voucher £1.00	£1.00	£1.00	SR	
Wi-Fi - Weekly Voucher £7	£7.00	£7.00	SR	

Commercial/Non-Commercial Classification

There are a range of variables and differing definitions for Commercial and Non-Commercial organisations and therefore for the purposes of the Leisure and Parks Pricing application, the following definitions and criteria will be applied in order to establish the appropriate definition of a group or organisations.

Non-Commercial Organisations - can be part of the public sector, the community and voluntary sector or the charitable sector who aim to provide products and services to the community however they will not make a profit. However, there are some groups, organisations and initiatives that could define themselves as Non-Commercial but nonetheless operate with the intentions of making a profit and therefore a criteria needs be established to ensure adherence to the definition.

To determine any eligibility issues as a Non-Commercial organisation, if required the following documentation should be requested as proof of this:

1. Charitable Organisation Numbers.
2. Vat Registration Numbers.
3. Any membership fee information.
4. Copy of most recent AGM minutes and Committee members.
5. Copy of most recent audited accounts.
6. Any affiliations to relevant governing body.
7. Previous facilities hire information.

Groups or organisations that cannot prove their eligibility for Non Commercial rates based on the above criteria will then be considered Commercial and the Commercial rate options will apply.

Environmental Health

Product	2021/22 Fee	2022/23 Fee	Notes
Amusement Permits			
Application / Annual Renewal	£250.00	£250.00	
Caravan Site Licence			
One off application fee	£10.00	£10.00	
Cosmetic piercing, tattooing, semi-permanent makeup and electrolysis			
One off registration fee	£50.00	£50.00	
Dog Charges			
Unwanted dog	£15	£15	
Stray collection	£30	£30	
Dog Licence full	£12.50	£12.50	
Dog Licence reduced fee	£5	£5	
Kennel fee per night (after 1st night)	£15	£15	
Food Hygiene Rating Scheme			
Requests for revisit under the Food Hygiene Rating Scheme (per visit)	£150.00	£150.00	
Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN's)			
Litter Fixed Penalty Notice	£80.00	£80.00	
Dog Fouling Penalty Notice	£50.00	£50.00	
High Hedges			
Complaint Fee	£250.00	£250.00	
Housing			
PTO Fitness Inspections	£50.00	£50.00	To landlord
Pavement Café Licences			
Granting initial licence and annual renewal thereafter	£0.00	£0.00	To be kept under review as initially zero charge applied in order to promote pavement cafes culture.
Pollution Prevention and Control (PPC) Permits			
Permit application charges			
Standard charge	£1,821 per activity	£1,821 per activity	
Reduced charge for certain activities	£175 per activity	£175 per activity	
PVR I and II combined	£309	£309	
Vehicle refinishers	£314	£314	
Standard subsistence charges			
Low	£840 per activity	£840 per activity	
Medium	£1,229 per activity	£1,229 per activity	
High	£1,616 per activity	£1,616 per activity	
Reduced subsistence charge for certain activities	£175	£175	
PVR I and II combined	£272	£272	
Vehicle refinishers	£314	£314	
Variation charges			
Standard charge	£1,165	£1,165	
Reduced charge for certain activities	£115	£115	
Transfer charges			
Transfer of whole permit - standard charge	£180	£180	
Transfer of whole permit - reduced charge for certain activities	£18	£18	
Transfer of part permit - standard charge	£543	£543	
Transfer of part permit - reduced charge for certain activities	£54	£54	
Additional fee for operating without a permit			

Standard charge	£1,428	£1,428	
Reduced charge for certain activities	£86	£86	
Late payment fee	£59	£59.00	
Road Closures for Special Events			
Small Community and Not for Profit	£0.00	£0.00	Generally only pay the cost recovery of the public notice advertisement for the event as the administrative fee is waived.
Commercial Events	£415.00	£415.00	
Filming on a Public Road	£415.00	£415.00	
Societies Lotteries			
Registration of a society	£35.00	£35.00	
Annual Renewal of Registration	£17.50	£17.50	
Street Trading			
One year Stationary / Mobile Street trading licence	£205.00	£205.00	
Temporary street trading licence	£55.00	£55.00	
Variation of Conditions on licence	£70.00	£70.00	
Temporary trading licence for civic event	£25.00	£25.00	

Report on	Corporate Events 2022
Date of Meeting	10th February 2022
Reporting Officer	Kieran Gordon, Assistant Director Health, Leisure & Wellbeing
Contact Officer	Sharon Arbuthnot, Events 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 proposed Mid Ulster District Council Corporate Events Programme for April 2022 – March 2023 and to seek approval to proceed at risk in light of the changing circumstances with the covid-19 pandemic.
1.2	In light of the covid pandemic and due to the corporate events programme being “on hold” since March 2020, an opportunity exists to review the current portfolio of council corporate events within the wider tourism and economic context along with their capacity to deliver against key corporate objectives. Approval is sought to procure and engage specialist support to conduct a review and make recommendations for future consideration by Members.
2.0	Background
2.1	Corporate events help contribute to increased footfall and visitor numbers across our district which can help stimulate the growth of tourism and other businesses in our town centers and villages linking with our Regeneration Action Plan.
2.2	In addition to the direct impacts, events can also have indirect impacts on our local community. The social benefits are less visible, but they are just important. Events can raise community pride, teach people new experiences, strengthen relationships and bring communities together.
2.3	Each year, a programme of events is normally brought forward to the Development Committee, approved and then delivered however with the onset of the covid-19 pandemic in March 2020, the “normal” Mid Ulster District Council corporate events programme has been on hold.
2.4	As society takes some tentative steps again back to a position pre-covid, the evolving situation will continued to be monitored, to include intensive communication with Councils corporate Health and Safety team in addition to regular discussions with other Councils’ events team across NI. The continued outcome from these meetings is a collective approach in the delivery of safe corporate event throughout the eleven districts.

2.5	<p>In prior years, without the instrumental support of other departments within Mid Ulster District Council, it would be impossible to provide the high standard of events that have been previously delivered. This continued support will be crucial moving forward as this paper sets out the proposed approach to corporate events for 2022.</p>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>Covid guidance regarding outdoor gathering and events are continuing to evolve but at the time of writing this report they include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong recommendations to take a Rapid Lateral Flow test before attending an indoor or outdoor event or gathering. • For the determination of the maximum number of people permitted to attend an outdoor gathering, in a non-domestic setting, the organiser or operator must carry out a risk assessment. • Outdoor gatherings of 30 people or fewer do not need a risk assessment. • The organiser must also take all reasonable measures to limit the risk of transmission of the coronavirus. • A person responsible for organising a gathering must, if requested to do so by a relevant person, provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ a copy of the risk assessment and ➢ an account of the reasonable measures taken • Where possible, attendees should maintain social distancing, as well as good hand and respiratory hygiene practices.
3.2	<p>The COVID Certification scheme was launched in Northern Ireland and since 29th November 2021, proof of COVID status has been required for access to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor events with 4,000 or more attendees with some or all of the audience not normally seated. • Events where more than 10,000 people will be present regardless of whether they are seated. • Exemptions to the scheme include an event held at an outdoor public place with no fixed entry points and for which neither tickets nor payment are required.
3.3	<p>A risk-based approach must remain when planning for physical events again. The main points to consider include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are still risks with proceedings with large events, which is not only a potential risk to the residents who may attend the event, but also to Council staff, contractors, artists, statutory authorities and agencies who collaborate with Council to deliver the corporate event plan. • Council is not in control of the external factors and in this fluid environment these could change with little or no notice; with this brings financial risks for Council. • Events may need to be delivered differently for safety reasons; the expectations of our residents/visitors and staff will need to be managed.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the current climate with staff shortages, large events could add additional pressures to town centre businesses. • Events budgets may be under pressure to comply with additional operational and health and safety costs which could increase expenditure. Event infrastructure and equipment may also have increased to shortages. • The Covid Certification scheme in Northern Ireland must also be taken into consideration and how this could impact the events on enclosed sites if implemented.
3.4	The proposal within this paper is to start to recommence the annual corporate events plan as agreed in prior years and that is to be considered with recognition that steps need to be taken to encourage target audiences to return along with aiming to rebuild the confidence within communities that covid mitigation controls are being implemented in a focused manner so far as reasonably practicable.
3.5	Events planning will also involve engagement with relevant stakeholders and also seek to incorporate any relevant actions within Council's Disability Action Plan 2021-2026.
3.6	The proposed schedule of corporate events is enclosed within the appendix. It should be noted to Members that this proposed schedule is similar in nature to those approved by Members in the years preceding the covid pandemic in March 2020.
3.7	Due to the nature of many of the events, planning needs to commence as soon as possible and in many cases, procurement exercises need to be conducted along with application for any statutory approvals, ie. road closures. It should be noted to Members that in order to proceed with the planning and execution of these events, elements of the event planning will need to currently proceed "at risk" and should any of the events need to be scaled back or cancelled with consideration of the covid restrictions (if any) at any given time, then Council may not have any recourse over any expenditure that has been incurred. Officers plan to take all reasonable steps to ensure financial risks are mitigated so far as reasonably practicable and will engage the support and advice of Council's procurement and insurance team.
3.8	Additionally, in light of the covid pandemic and due to the corporate events programme being "on hold" since March 2020, an opportunity exists to review the current portfolio of council corporate events within the wider tourism and economic context along with their capacity to deliver against key corporate objectives. Approval is sought to procure and engage specialist support to conduct a review and make recommendations for future consideration by Members.
3.9	<p>This review is intended to focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A review the current portfolio of Council corporate events and their capacity to deliver against key corporate objectives • Identify issues, challenges and approach for Mid Ulster District Council in the delivery of its corporate events

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore how Council can grow existing events, identify new areas for growth with targets and explore partnership opportunities, including financial and funding opportunities. • Review requirements - both human and financial - required to support the delivery of the portfolio of Council corporate events • Clear identification of 'best fit' future trends and market requirements
	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	<p>Financial: Delivered within departmental budget allocation. However, increased expenditure may be incurred with implementing and managing any covid mitigation controls if required, ie. additional stewarding,etc. Elements of the event planning is proposed to currently proceed "at risk" with expenditure to be incurred and should any of the events need to be scaled back or cancelled with consideration of the covid restrictions (if any) at any given time, then Council may not have any recourse over any expenditure that has been incurred.</p>
	<p>Human: Can be derived within existing Council staffing resources, however mitigation factors need to be considered, ie. staff absences due to isolation,etc</p>
	<p>Risk Management: Risk Assessments to be continually reviewed with assistance from Council Corporate Health & Safety team. Covid legislation and guidance will be closely monitored and implemented where necessary. Assessing each event will need to be considered on its individual merits and potential controls will be dependent on the level of the covid transmission in the community at that time.</p>
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/A
	Rural Needs Implications: N/A
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	<p>To note the contents of this report and give approval for officers to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) proceed "at risk" with the enclosed schedule of corporate events for 2022. (b) procure and engage specialist support to conduct a review on the current portfolio of corporate events and make recommendations for future consideration by Members
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix A: Proposed Corporate Events Schedule for 2022

Appendix A: Proposed Corporate Events Schedule for 2022

Date of Event	Name of Event	Location
28-29 May 2022	Continental Market	Cookstown
18 June 2022	Tafelta	Magherafelt TC
24 June 2022	Coalisland Summer Event	Coalisland
13 August 2022	Walled Garden Event	Maghera
19/20 August 2022	Lumarina	Ballyronan
28 October 2022	Dungannon Halloween	Dungannon
31 October 2022	Maghera Halloween Hooley	Maghera Leisure Centre
31 October 2022	Maghera Fireworks	Maghera
29 October 2022	MUSA Halloween	MUSA
31 October 2022	Coalisland Halloween	TBC
25 November 2022	Cookstown Switch On	Cookstown
26 November 2022	Dungannon Switch On	Dungannon
25/26 November 2022	Dungannon Magical Kingdom	Hill of The O'Neill
26 November 2022	Magherafelt Christmas Lights Switch On	Magherafelt
25-26 November 2022	Magherafelt Market	Magherafelt
03 December 2022	Maghera Switch On	Maghera
04 December 2022	Coalisland Christmas Lights	Coalisland

**** Dates may be subject to change****

Report on	Extension to the Partnership Liaison Officer post shared between Councils and HSENI
Date of Meeting	10 th February 2022
Reporting Officer	Kieran Gordon, Assistant Director Health, Leisure & Wellbeing
Contact Officer	Melanie Patterson, 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 Members with information on the extension to the Partnership Liaison Officer post between the Health and Safety Executive for Northern Ireland (HSENI) and Councils and to seek approval to continue with Mid Ulster District Council's financial contribution until 31 st March 2024.
2.0	Background
2.1	Previously in September 2018, Members at the Environment Committee resolved to approve annual funding towards a 'Partnership Liaison Officer' post (minute reference E248/18). This is a shared resource between all eleven Councils within Northern Ireland and the HSENI.
2.2	Since 2002, Councils have contributed to a jointly funded post to facilitate an effective working partnership between the stakeholders. The role was developed to allow the aims and objectives outlined in the HELANI strategy for workplace Health and Safety to be brought forward and to ensure the operational delivery " <i>Saving lives not stopping them</i> ".
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council are the employing authority for the Partnership Liaison Officer and they recover the overall cost of the post equally from all eleven Councils within Northern Ireland and the HSENI.
3.2	The current cost to Mid Ulster District Council is £4,500 per annum and provision has been made each year within the annual Environmental Health departmental budget.
3.3	Previously in September 2018, it was noted that the funding contribution would be for an initial period of two years until 31 st March 2021.
3.4	However, due to unforeseen circumstances during the recruitment process, there was a delay in filling the position following the stakeholder's agreement in 2018.

	As a result, the current post holder only took up the appointment with Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council on 21st July 2020. The position was filled as a two year fixed term secondment with the possibility of an extension. Mid Ulster District Council did not start to contribute its funding share until the post holder was in place - 21 st July 2020.
3.5	Therefore, Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council have confirmed in writing that the post holder has been extended until 31 st March 2024 and seek confirmation from Councils that their funding contribution will continue.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: £4,500 per year – within current annual Environmental Health budget.
	Human: N/A
	Risk Management: N/A
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/A
	Rural Needs Implications: N/A
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	To note the contents of this report and give approval to continue with the provision of annual funding towards the Partnership Liaison Officer until 31 st March 2024.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix A: Correspondence received from Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council.



Our Ref: AD-03/RWH/EH

26 January 2022

Dear Sir/Madam

Health and Safety Partnership Liaison Officer Post

As you will be aware the post of Partnership Liaison Officer (PLO) is a joint resource created to ensure the effective partnership working relationships and operational delivery of the joint Health and Safety strategy between the local authorities across Northern Ireland and the HSENI.

You will recall that at its inception, the funding of the post was on a 50/50 basis, with the then 26 district Councils covering the 50% on a shared basis and the HSENI covering the other 50%. The former Eastern Group Environmental Health Committee and more recently Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council was the employing Council for this post and it remains on the structure within the Environmental Health Service Unit.

The post has been occupied by Paddy McVerry since July 2020 via a 2-year Interchange Secondment, with the possibility of extension. Taking into account feedback from the post holder and the fact the partners have been impacted by significant organizational changes and financial constraints, it was decided to review the overall effectiveness of the post.

Given that the post has been occupied through the Pandemic, the post has offered and supported a different role of what was maybe anticipated. The PLO has been a significant benefit to the Councils by providing a point of contact between The Executive Office and other groups dealing with the pandemic. It has afforded the Health and Safety Liaison Group to filter information, advice, data and statistics through the post which has eased the burden for everyone at this difficult time.

Hopefully with COVID restrictions beginning to ease, the PLO will begin to build on the partnerships between HSENI and Councils to deliver on the required Health and Safety needs across the Province.

It is therefore recommended that this post be offered as a 2-year extension to the current contract.

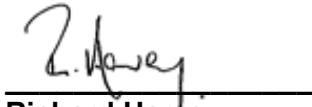
In order to progress this post, the following requirements have been identified:

- All 12 partners (11 Councils and HSENI) must be committed to the post.
- Costs associated with the post must be divided equally amongst the 12 partners.
- HSENI will continue to host the PLO in Ladas Drive and give day-to-day management support (dependent on COVID requirements for home working).
- Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council will continue to be the employing authority and recover costs as before.
- A review of the effectiveness of the PLO will be conducted in the second year to inform whether the post should continue and if so in what form.

In order for me to progress this matter further, can I ask that by return you confirm support for the post until the end of the 2023/2024 financial year, during which time the Health and Safety panel will conduct a review of the post and make future recommendations.

Should you wish to discuss the above in more detail please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Harvey', is written over a horizontal line.

Richard Harvey
Head of Service (Environmental Health)

Report on	Additional Funding from the Office of Product Safety and Standards
Date of Meeting	10th February 2022
Reporting Officer	Kieran Gordon, Assistant Director Health, Leisure & Wellbeing
Contact Officer	Monica McDonnell, 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 Members with information on additional funding that is available to Council from the Office of Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) to undertake a project on Construction Products and to seek approval to accept the funding letter of offer.
2.0	Background
2.1	The Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) was created in January 2018 by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy to deliver consumer protection and to support business confidence, productivity and growth.
2.2	The OPSS is the national regulator for all consumer products, except for vehicles, medicines and food. The OPSS is also the national regulator for legal metrology, ensuring weighing and measuring instruments are accurate and reliable. As an established national product regulator with relevant expertise, OPSS has recently become the national regulator for construction products, operating as a Joint Unit, accountable to the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) for its construction products function.
2.3	The OPSS works with local, national and international regulators, with consumer representatives and with businesses to deliver effective protections and to support compliance. This includes the District Councils in Northern Ireland.
2.4	Previously in October 2021, Members at the Environment Committee approved that Mid Ulster District Council enter in to a service level agreement with associated funding for product safety related work (minute reference E229/21). As stated in the previous report, Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council has been appointed as the Grant Recipient for the purpose of administering funding from the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy to the other 10 District Councils. This is part of a UK wide approach to ensure only safe and compliant, non-food consumer goods enter the UK market; and to meet the provisions of the EU Withdrawal Agreement and Northern Ireland Protocol.

3.0	Main Report
3.1	In December 2021, the Office of Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) issued an offer of grant funding to each individual District Council up until the end of March 2022. This offer of funding was made to assist Northern Ireland District Councils with delivery of an OPSS project entitled ' <i>NI Construction Products Sector: Project 1- Local company data gathering project</i> '.
3.2	The purpose of this project is to carry out a detailed research process on companies that manufacture and/or trade in Construction Products within the local District Council area. The aim is to collate an accurate, comprehensive and up to date overview of the relevant companies within each District Council area.
3.3	The OPSS will provide Mid Ulster District Council with funding up to a maximum of £9,999 to cover the cost of additional staffing resources employed to deliver this project and any traveling costs associated with the project. The project is to be completed by the 31st March 2022.
3.4	This project can be delivered within existing staffing resource with Council's Environmental Health Department, until the end of March 2022.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: No additional cost to Council – claims can be made up to a maximum of £9,999 and evidenced costs will be reimbursed to Council.
	Human: Officer time to undertake required project and to submit grant claims.
	Risk Management: Considered in line with Council policies and procedures.
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/A
	Rural Needs Implications: N/A
5.0	Recommendation
5.1	To note the contents of this report and give approval for Council to accept the letter of offer and funding of up to £9,999 from the OPSS to complete this identified project, and that the attached award letter between Mid Ulster District Council and the OPSS is signed and returned to the OPSS.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix A: Letter of Offer



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

Attn: **Monica McDonnell**

By email to Monica.McDonnell@midulstercouncil.org

Date: **14 January 2022**

Your ref: **MMcD/MUDC**

Our ref: **OPSS/GA/FL**

Dear Madam,

Award of contract for the delivery of OPSS project entitled 'NI Construction Products Sector: Project 1 - Local company data gathering project'

Following your proposal for the delivery of **OPSS project entitled 'NI Construction Products Sector: Project 1 - Local company data gathering project'** to the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy's Office for Product Safety and Standards, we are pleased to award this contract to you.

This letter (Award Letter) and its Annexes set out the terms of the contract between **The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy's Office for Product Safety and Standards** as the Customer and **Mid Ulster District Council** as the Supplier for the provision of the Services. Unless the context otherwise requires, capitalised expressions used in this Award Letter have the same meanings as in the terms and conditions of contract set out in Annex 1 to this Award Letter (the "**Conditions**"). In the event of any conflict between this Award Letter and the Conditions, this Award Letter shall prevail. Please do not attach any Supplier terms and conditions to this Award Letter as they will not be accepted by the Customer and may delay the conclusion of the Agreement.

For the purposes of the Agreement, the Customer and the Supplier agree as follows:

- 1) The Services shall be performed as set out in **Annex 2**.
- 2) The charges for the Services shall be as set out **Annex 2**.
- 3) Not used.
- 4) The Term shall commence on **14 January 2022** and the Expiry Date shall be **31 March 2022**.
 - The address for notices of the Parties are:

Customer

**Office for Product Safety and Standards, 1 Victoria Street,
London, SW1H 0ET**
Attention: **Francis Loughran**
Email: **Francis.Loughran@beis.gov.uk**

Supplier

Environmental Health Department (Dungannon Office)
Mid Ulster District Council
Circular Road, Dungannon
BT71 6DT
Attention: **Monica McDonnell**
Email: Monica.McDonnell@midulstercouncil.org

- 5) The following persons are Key Personnel for the purposes of the Agreement:

Name Francis Loughran
Name Monica McDonnell

Implementation Manager
Environmental Health Office, Dungannon

- 6) The Customer may require the Supplier to ensure that any person employed in the provision of the Services has undertaken a Disclosure and Barring Service check. The Supplier shall ensure that no person who discloses that he/she has a conviction that is relevant to the nature of the Services, relevant to the work of the Customer, or is of a type otherwise advised by the Customer (each such conviction a “**Relevant Conviction**”), or is found by the Supplier to have a Relevant Conviction (whether as a result of a police check, a Disclosure and Barring Service check or otherwise) is employed or engaged in the provision of any part of the Services.

Payment

All invoices must be sent, quoting a valid purchase order number (PO Number), to: opss.resourcing@beis.gov.uk Within [10] working days of receipt of your countersigned copy of this letter, we will send you a unique PO Number. You must be in receipt of a valid PO Number before submitting an invoice.

To avoid delay in payment it is important that the invoice is compliant and that it includes a valid PO Number, PO Number item number (if applicable) and the details (name and telephone number) of your customer contact (i.e. Contract Manager). Non-compliant invoices will be sent back to you, which may lead to a delay in payment. If you have a query regarding an outstanding payment please contact our Accounts Payable section either by email to opss.resourcing@beis.gov.uk or by telephone 0121 345 2160 between 09:00-17:00 Monday to Friday.

Liaison

For general liaison, your contact will continue to be **Francis.Loughran@beis.gov.uk** or, in their absence, **Gillian.Asbury@beis.gov.uk**.

We thank you for your co-operation to date and look forward to forging a successful working relationship resulting in a smooth and successful delivery of the Services. Please confirm your acceptance of the award of this contract by signing and returning the enclosed copy of this letter to **Inti.Mushtaq@beis.gov.uk** at the above address **within [7] days** from the date of this letter. No other form of acknowledgement will be accepted. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications relating to this contract.

Yours faithfully,

Signed for and on behalf of the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy's Office for Product Safety and Standards

Name:

Signature:

Date:

We accept the terms set out in this letter and its **Annexes**, including the Conditions.

Signed for and on behalf of [*insert name of Supplier*]

Name: *[insert name]*
[insert job title]

Signature:

Date:

Annex 1

Terms and Conditions of Contract for Services



DPF33 Short Form
Terms and Condition

Annex 2

Charges and Proposal

Local Company Data Gathering Project

1. **Name of District Council:** Mid Ulster District Council
2. **Manager responsible overseeing deliver of project:** Monica McDonnell
3. **Name of Project:** NI Construction Products Sector: Project 1 - Local company data gathering project
4. **Project Description:** Carrying out a detailed research process on companies that manufacture and/or trade in construction products within the local District Council area.
5. **Objectives:** To compile detailed and up to date information that will be used to guide and support the activities of EHNI teams, and which will be shared with OPSS and other government departments stakeholder teams. Key information gathering objectives are outlined in the attached information gathering template.
6. **Resource requirement:** Mid Ulster District Council will require funding of up to £9,999 to cover the cost of additional staffing resources employed to deliver this project and any traveling costs associated with the project.
7. **Expenditure on salaries:** Confirmation that claims for salary costs will be limited to the cost of that staffing resource to the district council
8. **Project Timeline:** The funding will only be used to cover the activity for the period up to 31 March 2022.

Report on	1. Promotions and Shows 2022-2023 2. Association of Town Centre Management (ATCM) Membership Renewal 2022-2023 3. Consultation: Statutory Performance Improvement Indicators /Standards 4. Town Centres Cleansing 5. Mid Ulster Labour Market Partnership (LMP)
Reporting Officer	10 February 2022
Contact Officer	Assistant Director of Economy, 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	Promotions and Shows 2022-2023 The tourism team despite Covid continue to work in association with Tourism NI, Tourism Ireland and other strategic partners to maximise tourism promotion of our key attractions, experiences and businesses targeting core ROI, UK & US markets. These promotions are now delivered in a hybrid format with in some cases a virtual only platform while in others there may be a period of time in market and a virtual option for those not attending in person. In some cases the format of these events are yet to be finalised for 2022 – 2023, however, it is hoped with the lifting of Covid restrictions we will be back in market in the latter part of this year.
2.2	ATCM Membership Renewal 2022-2023 ATCM is a respected voice for town and city management at both a European and wider global level. They are a not-for-profit organisation with members across the public, private and third sectors. They include key stakeholders and thought leaders who develop and implement shared visions, strategies and action plans

<p>2.3</p> <p>2.4</p> <p>2.5</p>	<p>for town and city centres throughout the UK and Ireland.</p> <p>Consultation: Statutory Performance Improvement Indicators /Standards Under the Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards Order (Northern Ireland) 2015), statutory performance indicators and standards have been set as part of the performance improvement arrangements for district Councils. Performance measures have been specified for the functions of: Economic Development (specifically, in this case, Business Start), Planning and Waste management, on which to report annually, as part of the performance improvement arrangements for district Councils. The aim of the performance measures is to promote the improvement of service delivery for the functions specified. As detailed on Appendix 2, Consultation Responses are to be submitted by 28 February 2022.</p> <p>Town Centres Cleansing At the Development Committee in December 2021, it was approved that a company be appointed to deep cleanse the 5 towns within Mid Ulster.</p> <p>Mid Ulster Labour Market Partnership (LMP) Council previously agreed to participate in the development and delivery of a Local Labour Market Partnership (LMP) under the Employability NI Programme led by the Department for Communities. The aim of LMPs is to improve employability outcomes and labour market conditions locally by working through coordinated, collaborative, multiagency partnerships. It is the Council's intention that the Mid Ulster LMP will be industry-led; developing and delivering activities relating to skills development, training and employability programmes in the local area.</p>
<p>3.0</p>	<p>Main Report</p>
<p>3.1</p>	<p>Promotions and Shows 2022-2023 The key shows and events the tourism team plan to attend are listed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ European Tourism Association Britain & Ireland Marketplace, 1st February 2022 (online) ○ Meet the Buyer, 31st March 2022 ○ Explore GB, 22nd March 2022 (format tbc) ○ Clogher Valley Show, July 2022 (format tbc) ○ Great Days Out, Autumn 2022, targeting the domestic market group business (format tbc) ○ Irish Tour Operators Association workshop, November 2022 (format tbc) ○ World Travel Market, London, November 2022 (format tbc) ○ Holiday World, Dublin, January 2023 (in show) ○ Celtic Connections, Glasgow, January 2023 (format tbc) ○ Meet the Industry, networking across domestic tourism operators, January 2023

	<p>Hosting familiarisation trips for media, influencers and tour operators to promote our new product, newly developed tourism experiences, Taste Mid Ulster programme, and associated developments.</p>
3.2	<p>ATCM Membership Renewal 2022-2023</p> <p>ATCM Membership is renewed on an annual basis is now due, totalling £570. Invoice attached on Appendix 1. The benefits for Council membership include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Events delivered in relation to Town and City Centre Management - Platform for knowledge exchange in Town and City Centre Management - Access to written resources in Town and City Centre Management - Regular Covid-19 updates for each region - Access to virtual webinars
3.3	<p>Consultation: Statutory Performance Improvement Indicators /Standards</p> <p>The current Statutory Order requires the reporting of ‘the number of jobs promoted through business start-up activity (defined as ‘the delivery of client led business plans under the Council-led Northern Ireland Business Start Up Programme or successor programmes’).</p> <p>Council agrees the proposed targets and associated performance indicators outlined in relation to the Mid Ulster District are appropriate only for the final year of the NIBSUP i.e. 2022/23. However, the targets and performance indicators post-March 2023 must be re-shaped to ensure they reflect the range of outputs of the new support offering.</p> <p>Council would urge the Departments for the Economy and Communities, and also Invest NI, to work collaboratively with Council Working Groups and SOLACE during the design process for this new entrepreneurship support programme, which must include the development of new, relevant and appropriate targets and indicators, and also to ensure that resources are also secured to support its delivery.</p> <p>Note: Council’s draft Consultation Response (Appendix 3) has also been presented to the Policy and Resources Committee on 3 February 2022, as it relates to Performance Management.</p>
3.4	<p>Town Centres Cleansing</p> <p>As our high streets emerge from the pandemic, it was agreed that Council would undertake a deep cleansing programme within our 5 towns. In drafting a specification to seek quotes, the Regeneration Managers worked with colleagues in Environmental Services who have responsibility to maintain the tidiness of our streets. (The actual cleansing of streets across the district is the responsibility of DFI and not Council).</p> <p>Periodically when budget is available, Council undertakes the deep cleansing of the paved areas within our large town public realm areas. Tarmac areas are not included for deep cleansing, as this type of surface should be power washed in</p>

order to maintain it. If Council wish to undertake this work, then it will be a matter for the Environment Committee to consider and budget for accordingly.

The Economic Development team has prepared a procurement specification to deep cleanse the Public Realm paved areas in Dungannon, Cookstown and Magherafelt. Members should note that as Coalisland Public Realm has not been handed over to Council yet, it is still the responsibility of the existing contractor. In Maghera, which has not had a Public Realm scheme delivered, the current areas is majority of tarmac and any paved area would not withstand this type of deep cleansing, hence one of the reasons for the proposed new Public Realm Scheme.

Maps have been prepared (**Appendix 4**) outlining the proposed areas to be deep cleansed in the 3 towns and officers have liaised with the relevant DEA Councillors to agree the defined areas.

A budget in the region of £15,000 was approved at the December 2021 Development Committee. Quotations will be sought for the deep cleansing of the 3 large towns of Dungannon, Cookstown and Magherafelt. Members should note a budget to deep cleanse these towns is available this year, as money has been diverted to undertake the works, given there was an underspend in Council's events budget this year, as a result of the Covid pandemic.

3.5

Mid Ulster Labour Market Partnership (LMP)

Mid Ulster Council, in February 2021 agreed to participate as a key stakeholder in the planning and development of Labour Market Partnerships (LMPs), which will coordinate activities relating to skills development, training and employability programmes in Mid Ulster. The Mid Ulster LMP is industry-led comprising senior business leaders representing all of our key industry sectors across Mid Ulster as well as representatives from the Education Sector, Invest NI, DfC, Trade Union, Mid Ulster Strategic Community Forum and nominated elected members.

In September 2021, Council approved the appointment of "Food for Thought", an industry-specialist consulting team, to assist Mid Ulster LMP to undertake a strategic assessment of the local labour market and develop an Interim Employability Action Plan. The Action Plan for 2022-23 must be submitted to the Department for Communities (DfC) for assessment by 25th February 2022.

In the meantime DfC has issued a Letter of Offer to for £50,471.40 in respect of Administration and set-up costs incurred in the current financial year (see **Appendix 6**). This will cover professional fees for the development of the Employability Action Plan 2022-23, technical support, office and ICT equipment, as well as stationery and recruitment costs for a dedicated LMP staff resource (at no cost to the Council). In order to forward plan for LMP delivery in the next financial year, it is recommended to Members to allocate £16k to immediately procure external professional support in 2021/22 to assist preparation and development of specifications for initiatives outlined in the draft Interim Employability Action Plan 2022-23.

Furthermore, the Department for the Economy (DfE) has issued a Letter of Offer for £50k towards the LMP up until March 2023 (see **Appendix 7**). It is planned to

	<p>use the DfE funding to support delivery of the Interim Employability Action Plan 2022-23 and this has been reflected in the budget.</p> <p>At the most recent meeting of the Mid Ulster LMP on 25th January 2022, members agreed the draft Interim Employability Action Plan for 2022-23 and budget based on what is considered deliverable within the timeframe.</p> <p>A copy of the draft Interim Action Plan 2022-23 is included at Appendix 5, which identifies a number of Themes, Aims and Key Activities, which are evidence based and focussed on outcomes, which improve employability and labour market conditions across the Mid Ulster region.</p> <p>It is recommended that Council approve the draft Interim Employability Action Plan 2022-23 for submission to the Department for Communities. Following approval, a letter of offer should be forthcoming to enable the Mid Ulster LMP to deliver its plan. It is the intention to report on a regular basis to Council on the work of the Mid Ulster LMP.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
4.1	<p>Financial:</p> <p>Promotions and Shows 2022-2023 Budget £12,000 (amount identified in Tourism Budget) to cover all promotions and shows.</p> <p>ATCM Membership Renewal 2022-2023 Budget £570 (within economic development budget)</p> <p>Town Centres Cleansing Budget approved in the region of £15,000. May be subject to variance.</p> <p>Labour Market Partnerships (LMPs) LMP activity is 100% funded by DfC. Council are submitting a bid for £468,375, which encompasses £374,700 of operational costs and £93,675 of administration costs for the year 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.</p> <p>Council is in receipt of a letter of offer for £50,471.40 from DfC in respect of LMP Administration and set-up costs in the current financial year 2021-22. Subject to Members approval, £16,000 has been provisionally ring-fenced to support the development of specifications for the range of initiatives outlined in the draft Interim Mid Ulster Employability Action Plan 2022-23.</p> <p>Council is in receipt of a letter of offer for £50k from DfE to support the work of the LMP up to 31st March 2023.</p>
	<p>Human:</p> <p>Promotions and Shows 2022-2023 Staff travel, overnight accommodation and all associated eligible expenses for staff travelling.</p>

	<p>Labour Market Partnerships (LMPs) Officers time.</p>
	<p>Risk Management:</p> <p>Labour Market Partnerships (LMPs) The risk level is mitigated as LMP activity is 100% externally funded. A staff team will be appointed initially for 1 year (to be reviewed thereafter, subject to funding) to oversee the delivery of the Interim Action Plan in adherence with Council policies and procedures.</p> <p>Consultant(s) assisting with delivery of actions for the LMP will be managed on a weekly basis against a delivery framework and timeline.</p>
4.2	<p>Screening & Impact Assessments</p> <p>Promotions and Shows 2022-2023 Mid Ulster Council is committed to the promotion of equality of opportunity in all its activities with a focus on all citizens living within the Mid Ulster.</p> <p>Labour Market Partnerships (LMPs) One of the key advantages of the LMP approach to improving employability is that it will enable Council to target resources on specific groups, including those with particular access issues and barriers, which currently prevent them from accessing training and employment opportunities.</p>
	<p>Equality & Good Relations Implications:</p> <p>Labour Market Partnerships (LMPs) It is not anticipated the Interim Action Plan will have an adverse impact upon equality or good relations.</p>
4.3	<p>Rural Needs Implications:</p> <p>Labour Market Partnerships (LMPs) To be considered.</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
	<p>It is recommended that Members:</p>
5.1	<p>Promotions and Shows 2022-2023</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Note the contents of this report; Approve permission for staff to attend all the aforementioned promotions and shows in 2022/2023.
5.2	<p>ATCM Membership Renewal 2022-2023 Approve Council's renewal membership with ATCM for 2022-2023 at a cost of £570 (excluding Vat).</p>

5.3	<p>Consultation: Statutory Performance Improvement Indicators/Standards</p> <p>Approve Council's draft response to the Consultation, subject to any comments from the Policy and Resources Committee (3 Feb 2022) and seek permission to submit to Department for Communities by 28 February 2022.</p>
5.4	<p>Town Centres Cleansing</p> <p>5.4.1 Note the contents of the report.</p> <p>5.4.2 Approve the deep cleansing of paved areas in Dungannon, Cookstown and Magherafelt as defined on the maps on Appendix 4.</p> <p>5.4.3 Approve that Council proceed to procure the services required immediately to allow the works to be completed in this financial year at a cost in the region of £15,000. Subject to existing economic development budgets in 2021/22 being available, permission is sought to have the flexibility to increase the budget, if needed, should the said works cost in excess of the estimates, taking due care not to exceed tender threshold limits.</p>
5.5	<p>Mid Ulster Labour Market Partnership (LMP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve the draft Interim Mid Ulster Employability Action Plan 2022-23 for submission to the Department for Communities (DfC). • In the event Council receives a funding offer from DfC to support LMP activity in 2022-23 to approve delegated authority be awarded to the Chief Executive to accept the Letter of Offer and proceed immediately to procure external delivery agents to implement the range of initiatives outlined in the draft Interim Mid Ulster Employability Action Plan 2022-23. • Approve a Letter of Offer for £50,471.40 from the Department for DfC for Administration costs 2021-22 and authorise the Chief Executive to sign and return the form. • Approve an allocation of £16k within Administration and set-up costs in 2021-22 to immediately procure professional technical to support the development of specifications for the range of initiatives outlined in the draft Interim Mid Ulster Employability Action Plan 2022-23. • Approve retrospectively a Letter of Offer for £50k from the Department for the Economy (DfE) and authorise the Chief Executive to sign and return the form by 8th February 2022.
6.0	<p>Documents Attached & References</p>

	<p>Appendix 1- ATCM Invoice for 2022-2023</p> <p>Appendix 2 – Consultation: The Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2022</p> <p>Appendix 3 – Council's draft response to the consultation on The Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2022, in respect of Economic Development (specifically Business Start)</p> <p>Appendix 4 – Town Maps Defining the Deep Cleansing Areas</p> <p>Appendix 5 – Draft Interim Mid Ulster Employability Action Plan 2022-23.</p> <p>Appendix 6 – LMP Letter of Offer from the Department for Communities (DfC)</p> <p>Appendix 7 – LMP Letter of Offer from the Department for the Economy (DfE)</p>
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PO Box 242
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TN16 9EU

VAT Reg No: 629241833
Telephone: 44 (0) 300 330 0980
Email: accounts@atcm.org



Mid Ulster District Council
FAO Mary Mc Cullagh, Town Strategy
Burn Road
Cookstown
Co Tyrone
BT80 8DT
VAT Reg No:

Invoice Number: 82222

Invoice Date: 20/01/2022

Order Number:

Our Ref: COOKSTO

Quant Details

1.00 2022 Full Band 1 Membership

Unit	Net	VAT	VAT
570.00	570.00	20.00	114.00

Terms: 21 days from invoice date - please ensure invoice number is quoted on payment

BACS Details

Bank: Lloyds TSB
Account Name: Ass Twn Centre Man
Sort Code: 30-92-32
Account Number: 01440295

Total Net Amount (£) 570.00

Total VAT Amount (£) 114.00

Invoice Total (£) 684.00



Department for

Communities

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Depairtment fur

Commonities

www.communities-ni.gov.uk

The Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2022

SCOPE OF CONSULTATION	
SCOPE OF THIS CONSULTATION	This consultation seeks views on proposed amendments to the Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015 (“the 2015 Order”) to take account of proposed changes to the current Department for the Economy DfE performance indicator and standards included in the 2015 Order.
GEOGRAPHICAL SCOPE	These proposed amendments relate to Northern Ireland only.

BASIC INFORMATION

This consultation covers proposals by the Department for the Economy (DfE) to amend the current (DfE) performance indicator and standards included within the Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015.

The proposed amendments cover revisions to the Performance Indicator and Standards placed on councils in relation to DfE's policy area of job promotion through a business plan development programme.

BODY/BODIES RESPONSIBLE FOR CONSULTATION	This consultation is being undertaken by the Local Government & Housing Regulation Division in the Department for Communities (DfC) (which is the responsible department for specifying, under s89 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014, local government performance indicators and standards). However the policy in respect of these proposed amendments is the responsibility of DfE.
DURATION	This consultation is open from 21 December 2021 to 28 February 2022.
ENQUIRIES	<p>For any enquiries about the consultation please email the Department at: lgpdconsultations@communities-ni.gov.uk</p> <p>or write to: Local Government Performance Indicators and Standards Consultation, Department for Communities, Local Government & Housing Regulation Division, Level 4, Causeway Exchange, 1-7 Bedford Street, Town Parks, Belfast, BT2 7EG</p>

HOW TO RESPOND

Please email your consultation response to:

lgpdconsultations@communities-ni.gov.uk

or post to:

Local Government Performance Indicators and Standards Consultation
Department for Communities,
Local Government & Housing Regulation Division,
Level 4,
Causeway Exchange,
1-7 Bedford Street,
Town Parks,
Belfast,
BT2 7EG

When you reply it would be very useful if you could confirm whether you are replying as an individual or submitting an official response on behalf of an organisation.

If you are replying on behalf of an organisation please include:

- your name,
- your position in the organisation (if applicable),
- the name of your organisation,
- an address (including postcode),
- an email address.

CONSULTATION RESPONSE	<p>We will consider the responses received and publish an outcome report on the Departmental website.</p> <p>In line with good practice and sustainable development, this document has been published electronically.</p>
ACCESSIBILITY	<p>A range of alternative formats are available upon request from this Department.</p> <p>Please email the Department at: lgpdconsultations@communities-ni.gov.uk</p> <p>Or write to:</p> <p>Local Government Performance Indicators and Standards Consultation, Department for Communities, Local Government & Housing Regulation Division, Level 4, Causeway Exchange, 1–7 Bedford Street, Town Parks, Belfast, BT2 7EG.</p>

HOW WE CONSULT	
CONSULTATION PRINCIPLES	The consultation is being conducted in line with the Fresh Start Agreement (Appendix F6 – Eight Steps to Good Practice in Public Consultation - Engagement). These eight steps give clear guidance to Northern Ireland departments on conducting consultations.
FEEDBACK ON THE CONSULTATION PROCESS	<p>We value your feedback on how well we consult. If you have any comments about the consultation process (as opposed to comments about the issues which are the subject of the consultation), including if you consider that the consultation does not adhere to the values expressed in the Eight Steps to Good Practice in Public Consultation - Engagement or that the process could be improved, please address them to:</p> <p>Local Government Performance Indicators and Standards Consultation, Department for Communities, Local Government & Housing Regulation Division, Level 4, Causeway Exchange, Town Parks1–7 Bedford Street, Belfast, BT2 7EG</p> <p>Email: lgpdconsultations@communities-ni.gov.uk</p> <p>Please title your correspondence as “Feedback on the Consultation Process”.</p>

**PRIVACY, CONFIDENTIALITY
AND ACCESS TO
CONSULTATION RESPONSES**

For this consultation, we may publish all responses except for those where the respondent indicates that they are an individual acting in a private capacity (e.g. a member of the public). All responses from organisations and individuals responding in a professional capacity may be published. We will remove names, email addresses and telephone numbers from these responses; but apart from this we will publish them in full. For more information about what we do with personal data please see our consultation privacy notice.

Your response, and all other responses to this consultation, may be disclosed on request in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR); however all disclosures will be in line with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulations (EU) 2016/679.

If you want the information that you provide to be treated as confidential it would be helpful if you could explain to us why you regard the information you have provided as confidential, so that this may be considered should the Department receive a request for the information under the FOIA or EIR.

DfC is the data controller in respect of any personal data that you provide and DfC's privacy notice, which gives details of your rights in respect of the handling of your personal data, can be found at: **<https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/dfc-privacy-notice>**.

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1. Purpose of the Consultation - Scope and timeframe

- 1.1 This consultation covers proposals to amend the Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015 (the 2015 Order) to include the Department for the Economy's (DfE) proposed revised performance indicator and standards in respect of economic development.
- 1.2 The proposed amendments cover revisions to the performance indicator and standards placed on councils

in relation to DfE's policy area of job promotion through a business plan development programme.

- 1.3 The closing date for submitting responses is 28 February 2022.
- 1.4 The Department will consider and respond to comments it receives during this consultation.
- 1.5 Responses are invited to this consultation about any aspect set out in this paper.

2. Introduction

- 2.1 Part 12 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 (the 2014 Act) put in place a framework to support continuous improvement in the delivery of council services, in the context of strategic objectives and issues that are important to those who receive the services. Councils are required to gather information to assess improvements in their services and to report annually on their performance against indicators which they have either set themselves or that have been set by departments.
- 2.2 Section 89 of the 2014 Act allows the Department for Communities (DfC), by Order, to specify performance indicators and standards for councils in order to improve the exercise of their functions. This can include performance indicators and standards which other Departments deem relevant and have requested DfC to include within such an Order.

- 2.3 The Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015 (the 2015 Order), which is currently in operation, was made under section 89 of the 2014 Act. The 2015 Order acts as the legislative vehicle for 3 other departments to set performance indicators and standards for councils, being:

- the Department for the Economy (DfE) – in respect of business start-up activity
- the Department for Infrastructure (DfI) – in respect of planning
- the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) – in respect of waste management

- 2.4 DfE has requested that its performance indicator and related standards in the 2015 Order be amended.

3. Background

- 3.1 The current Economic Development Indicator included in the 2015 Order relates to the number of jobs promoted through business start-up support. This is a calculated figure based on the number of client-led business plans created through the Northern Ireland Business Start-Up Programme (NIBSUP), also known as the Go for It (GFI) programme.
- 3.2 The job promotion standards, in the 2015 Order, were developed from a five-area model by DfE in conjunction with Invest NI, informed by an economic appraisal on the Regional Start Initiative (RSI, forerunner to NIBSUP), which set rates for each area based on their potential to deliver. The key variable in this model is the number of business plans approved, to which a conversion rate is applied to determine job creation figures.
- 3.3 When the Transfer of Functions to local government took place in April 2015, DfE set the job targets based on the 2011-2015 Programme for Government (PfG) target, to create 6500 local jobs, or 1625 jobs per year, which was then split across each council area, approximately following the RSI programme split. These targets have remained in place since that date.
- 3.4 The new GFI programme, which began on 1 April 2021, recently received approval from Invest NI for funding under the European Regional Development Funding (ERDF) measure for Local Economic Development (LED). Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council will be the council lead for this GFI programme. As a consequence of this new programme being introduced, the 2015 Order needs amended.

4. Details of proposed amendments

- 4.1 This section contains details on the proposed amendments to the 2015 Order. A draft of the Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2022 and related Statutory Guidance have been prepared (see Annex A and B respectively) and we would welcome comments on both these drafts.
- 4.2 This consultation proposes to retain the current Economic Development indicator at this time, and to amend the standards to reflect the outcome of research undertaken and agreed with councils in 2019. The Economic Development indicator of number of jobs created remains in line with the draft PfG and draft Industrial Strategy. Additionally, the primary focus of support under the European Regional Development Funding (ERDF) measure for Local Economic Development is job creation and interventions supported by the Measure will need to deliver against this.
- 4.3 The proposed revised standards are based on an independent review of the NIBSUP/ GFI job target figures commissioned by the councils in 2018. The review proposed a new rationale for allocating job creation targets by council area, using data such as recent business start programmes in Northern Ireland, NI Statistic and

Research Agency data for NI job creation by council Area, Global Entrepreneurship Monitor data for job creation by council area and DfE Data for job creation by council area.

- 4.4 The data compiled was then used to create a Proportionality Formula that could be applied to each Council area to produce a jobs target range for each area. The following three indices are used:
- the proportion of NI Small Businesses within Council Areas
 - the proportion of NI Micro Enterprises within Council Areas
 - the proportion of NI Business Births by Council Area
- 4.5 Each of the 11 councils considered the proposed figures for their respective area and the agreed standards were provided to DfE by the GFI administration team for the purpose of replacing the existing statutory targets.
- 4.6 Details of the proposed standards, by council area, can be found in the draft amendment Order (see Annex A).
- 4.7 DfE confirmed with the GFI team prior to this consultation that the targets remain appropriate and current for use as Statutory Standards. They will remain under review.

4.8 DfE acknowledges that in the future there may be developments in approach around indicators of local economic development and business start-up in line with wider developments in the policy ecosystem, and looks forward to working in partnership with local government as future policy direction is developed. In particular, while the current proposed standards relate directly to activity funded through the GFI programme, there will be a range of activity undertaken by Councils that support new businesses that is not necessarily reflected in the current figures. DfE would be keen to understand and reflect this wider activity through future standard-setting, based

on appropriate research and data. It is, however, important to update the current standards now, based on the available data, to align with the GFI programme which commenced in April 2021.

4.9 Finally, the use of business plans created through the programme as a proxy for jobs created is retained in the current proposal, as this also aligns to the approach in the GFI programme. Future research in the appropriate measure to be used to either approximate or verify jobs created is an area that DfE will be interested in exploring in any future review.

5. Impact Assessments

5.1 As DfE is responsible for the policy relating to the proposed amendments it has completed all the required impact assessments. Copies of these can be found at <https://www.economy-ni.gov.uk/publications/impact-assessments-consultation-local-government-order-2015>.

5.2 DfE has confirmed that it considers that the draft Order does not contain proposals to change policy in a

substantive way, therefore, no adverse impact on the categories of person in section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 are identified.

5.3 DfE has confirmed that it has not conducted a regulatory impact assessment as the proposed changes will have no regulatory impact.

5.3 DfE has confirmed that it considers that the proposed amendments in the draft Order will not have any differential impact on people living in rural areas.

6. Human Rights

- 6.1 The Department believes that the proposals set out in the draft Order are compatible with the Human Rights Act 1998.

Annex A

STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2022 No.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2022

Made - - - - - *XXst/nd/rd/th Month 2022*
Coming into operation - - - *X XXst/nd/rd/th Month 2022*

The Department for Communities⁽¹⁾ makes the following Order in exercise of the powers conferred by section 89(1) of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014⁽²⁾ and now vested in it⁽³⁾.

In accordance with section 89(2) of that Act, the Department has consulted councils and such associations or bodies representative of councils, such associations or bodies representative of officers of councils and such other persons or bodies as appear to the Department to be appropriate.

Citation and commencement

1. This Order shall be cited as The Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2022 and shall come into operation on XXst/nd/rd/th Month 2022.

Amendment of The Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015

2. The Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015⁽⁴⁾ shall be amended in accordance with Article 3.

3. For Schedules 1 (economic development indicators) and 2 (economic development standards) of the Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015 substitute Schedules 1 and 2 within the Schedule.

(1) Formerly known as the Department for Social Development; see the Departments Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 c.5 (NI).

(2) 2014 c. 8 (N.I.)

(3) See S.R. 2016 No. 76, Article 8 of and Schedule 5 to the Departments (Transfer of Functions) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016 transferred functions to the Department for Communities which were previously exercisable by the Department of the Environment

(4) S.R. 2015 No. 327

“SCHEDULE 1

Article 2

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INDICATORS

Council	Indicator reference number	Indicator
All councils	ED 1	The number of jobs promoted through business start-up activity ⁽¹⁾

(1) Business start-up activity means the delivery of client led business plans under the Council-led Northern Ireland Business Start-up Programme (NIBSUP) or successor programmes.

SCHEDULE 2

Article 2

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

<i>Council</i>	<i>Standard reference number</i>	<i>Standard</i>
	EDS 1	To promote in each financial year the following number of jobs through business start-up activity ⁽¹⁾
Antrim and Newtownabbey		80
Ards and North Down		123
Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon		182
Belfast		325
Causeway Coast and Glens		128
Derry and Strabane		140
Fermanagh and Omagh		170
Lisburn and Castlereagh		116
Mid and East Antrim		111
Mid Ulster		153
Newry, Mourne and Down		173

(1) Business start-up activity means the delivery of client led business plans under the Council-led Northern Ireland Business Start-up Programme (NIBSUP) or successor programmes”

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

This Order amends The Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015 by updating Schedules 1 (economic development indicators) and 2 (economic development standards).

Annex B

DRAFT GUIDANCE

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PERFORMANCE INDICATORS AND STANDARDS

1. The statutory performance indicator and standards have been set by the Department for the Economy (DfE) as part of the governance and performance management arrangements for the economic development functions transferred to local government in 2015. It is critical to ensure that these functions are carried out, and are seen to be carried out, in a clear, fair and consistent manner and that best practice is applied across the district councils.

2. The Indicator and Standards have been prepared under the Northern Ireland Business Start-Up Programme (NIBSUP), also known as the Go for It (GFI) programme. In order to ensure consistency and reliability of performance data, reporting on the performance indicator and standards will be carried out centrally by Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council as GFI coordinating team and reported to DfE. DfE will publish or arrange for this performance data to be published on an annual basis.

3. This will allow for accurate comparison between Councils across performance indicators and standards and will provide the DfE Minister and the public with assurance over the performance. Central reporting will also ensure that DfE continues to meet its statutory obligations under the Code of Practice for Official Statistics when reporting performance at the Regional level.

DATA COLLECTION ARRANGEMENTS

Northern Ireland Go For It Programme 1 April 2021 – 31 March 2023

4. The GFI team will submit monthly data lists to DfE within 5 working days of the end of each month, in relation to

- the number of business plans completed for each Council area within Northern Ireland
- the number of equivalent jobs promoted within each Council area

REPORTING AND MONITORING

5. The reporting and monitoring arrangements are as follows:

- Invest NI will audit a random sample of all transactions associated with Business Start including initial meetings, workshops and business plans
- The GFI team has its own internal audit procedure which is undertaken on a 20% basis of all transactions and quality of business plans
- The GFI team produces a monthly report for Invest NI by way of ensuring compliance with data integrity, funding and quality of business plans
- Performance of individual council areas will be tracked and documented on a monthly basis forming the basis of monthly meetings between Invest NI and the GFI team.
- Validation of monthly quantity of Business plans will be completed by an external agency on an annual basis

VALIDATION OF DATA

6. The data validation arrangements are as follows:

- The GFI team will conduct quality validation on 20% of the plans produced each month
- The plans will be selected at random from the final agreed monthly file.
- The key areas of validation will be in keeping with the Terms of Reference agreed with Invest NI and the validation process will:
 - ensure that the plan includes a robust set of financial projections consistent with the project described in the plan
 - ensure that analysis of the plans (specifically financial information) identifies any significant issues and specific commentary should be made where issues exist
 - ensure the plan is evidenced-based, with a minimum of 10% of the first year's sales justified in the market section. This should be supported with customer names and contract values
- In addition, the validation process will be used to identify best practice
- A summary of the validation will be prepared by the GFI team each month and be made available to Invest NI and Councils.

Available in alternative formats.

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Appendix 3

Report on	Council draft response to Department for the Economy consultation on proposals to amend performance indicator and standards in the Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015
Date of Meeting	Thursday 3 rd February 2022
Reporting Officer	P Moffett, Assistant Director: Org. Development, Strategy & Performance
Contact Officer	L Jenkins, Performance & Quality Officer

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

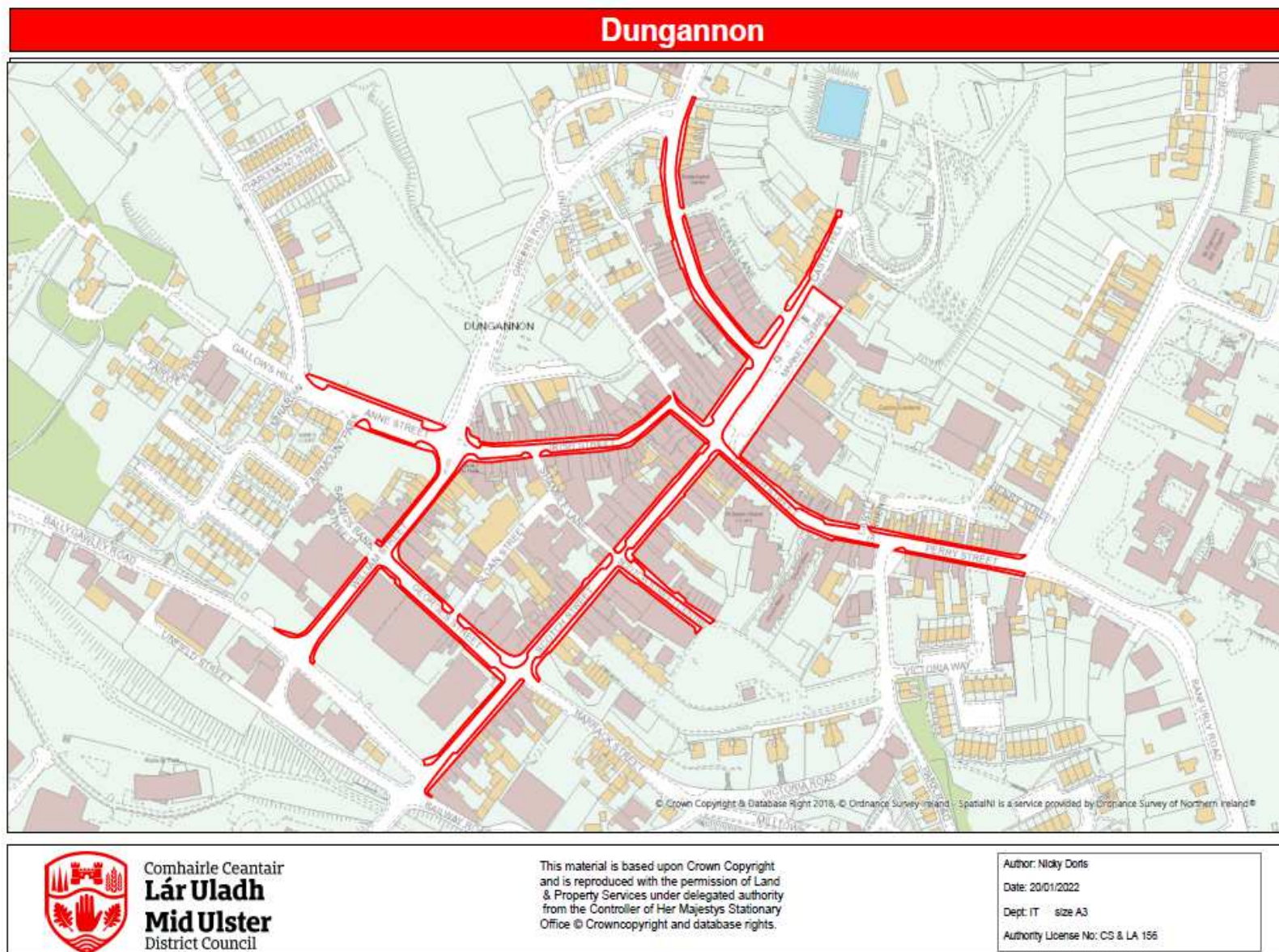
1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To inform members on Council's response to the consultation that covers proposals by the Department for the Economy (DfE) to amend the current (DfE) performance indicator and standards included within the Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015 to include the Department for the Economy's (DfE) proposed revised performance indicator and standards in respect of economic development).
2.0	Background
2.1	<p>Statutory Performance Improvement Indicators /Standards.</p> <p>Under the Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards Order (Northern Ireland) 2015), statutory performance indicators and standards have been set as part of the performance improvement arrangements for district councils. Performance measures have been specified for the functions of: Economic Development, Planning and Waste management, on which to report annually, as part of the performance improvement arrangements for district councils. The aim of the performance measures is to promote the improvement of service delivery for the functions specified.</p>
2.2.	<p>Proposals to Amend the Order in Respect of Economic Development</p> <p>The Department for Communities has commenced a consultation on proposals to amend the Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015 to include the Department for the Economy's (DfE) proposed revised performance indicator and standards in respect of Economic Development (refer to Appendix One - The Local Government (Performance</p>

	<p>Indicators and Standards) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2022). The proposed amendments cover revisions to the performance indicator and standards placed on councils in relation to DfE's policy area of job promotion through a business plan development programme. This consultation closes on 28 February 2022.</p> <p>The consultation is being undertaken by the Local Government & Housing Regulation Division in the Department for Communities (DfC) (which is the responsible department for specifying, under s89 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014, local government performance indicators and standards). However the policy in respect of these proposed amendments is the responsibility of DfE.</p>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>Context of proposals to change the Orders' standards (jobs promotion) - following on from the Capaxo Review (June 2020)</p> <p>Mid Ulster District Council welcomes the Department for the Economy (DfE) proposals to amend the current (DfE) performance indicator and standards, (refer to Appendix Two). Included within the Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015 (hereby referred to as the Order) in relation to DfE's policy area of job promotion through a business plan development programme. The proposals to change the Orders standards follow on from the Capaxo Review (June 2020 – an independent review commissioned by Councils of the Northern Ireland Business Start Up Programme (NISUPB), also known as the Go For it Programme (GFI) target figures). The review had proposed a new rationale for allocating job creation targets by Council area using a broad range of data to create a proportionality formula that could be applied to each Council area to produce a jobs target range for each area.</p> <p>The proposed standards aim to amend and hence reduce Mid Ulster's statutory standard to 153 jobs (job creation) from April 2022, from the current standard of 210 contained within the Order since 2015. Council have supported the revised targets as they more accurately reflect the changed economic realities of the sub-region, including high employment and the loss of migrant population.</p>
3.2	<p>Delivery Start Up Support Model Post March 2023.</p> <p>With NIBSUP ending in March 2023, significant work is being undertaken to identify and scope mechanisms for future delivery. In 2021, an initial review was undertaken to consider what the future business start-up support model should comprise, based on good practice research from other locations. Over recent months the 11 Councils have been working on an Options Analysis and Belfast City Council (acting as lead) has commissioned research to inform the delivery of business start-up support post-2023 and undertake a Business Case for this. Looking ahead, there is a case for substantive change to the approach to both the delivery and the performance measurement of future mechanisms of support.</p> <p>This case for change is also driven by the new business funding and support landscape and also significant new policy imperatives, including the ambitions</p>

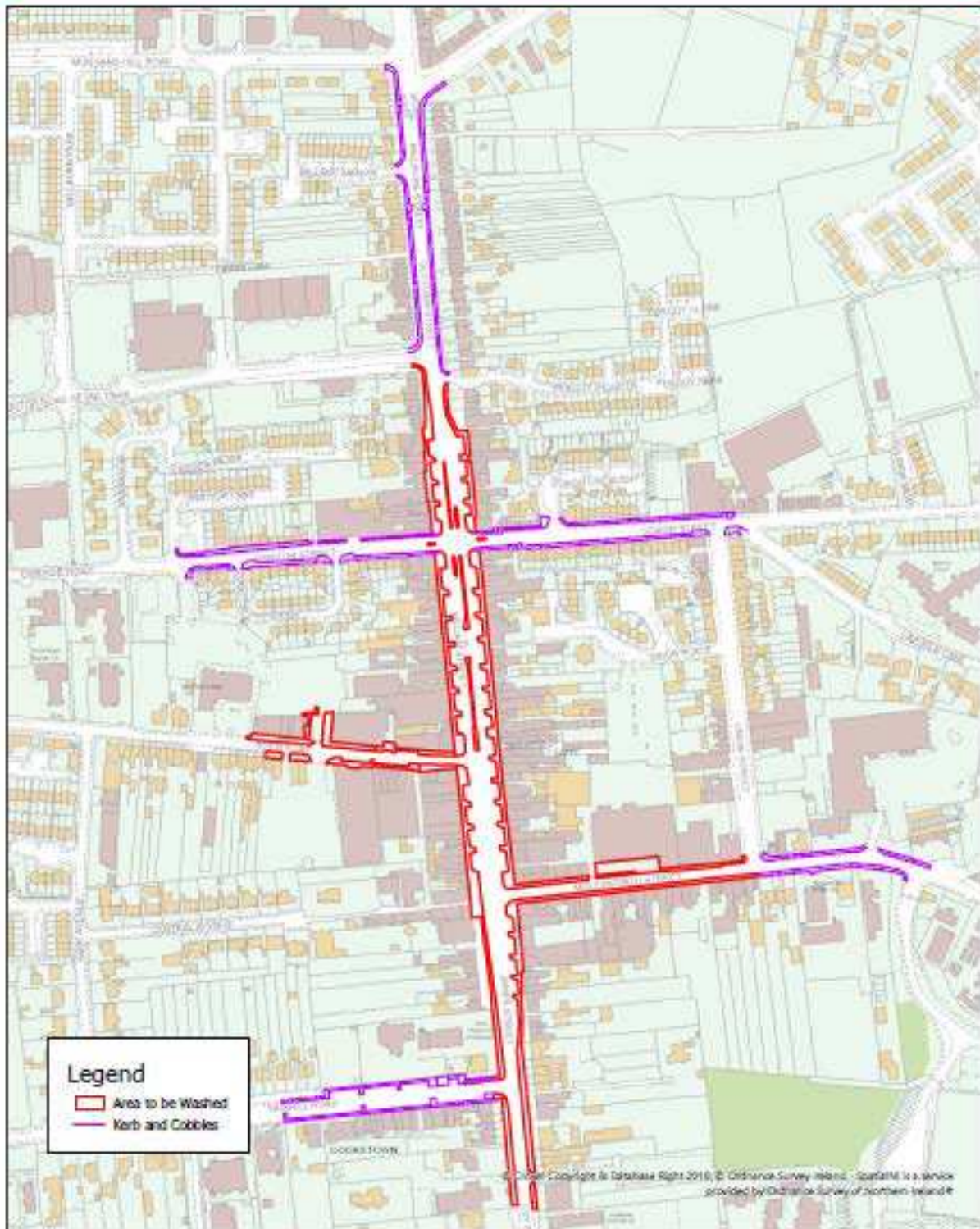
3.3	<p>articulated in DfE's '10x Economy Vision', highlighting the importance of fostering a culture of entrepreneurship and supporting new business development, DfE's Recovery Action Plan, the City/Growth Deals, and in DfC's own policy arena, the focus of Employability NI on establishing local Labour Market Partnerships in each Council area.</p> <p>Targets and Performance Indicators Post March 2023</p> <p>The current Statutory Order requires the reporting of 'the number of jobs promoted through business start-up activity (defined as 'the delivery of client led business plans under the Council-led Northern Ireland Business Start Up Programme or successor programmes'). Council agrees the proposed targets and associated performance indicators outlined in relation to the Mid Ulster District are appropriate only for the final year of the NIBSUP i.e. 2022/23. However, the targets and performance indicators post-March 2023, must be re-shaped to ensure they reflect the range of outputs of the new support offering.</p> <p>Council would urge the Departments for the Economy and Communities, and also Invest NI, to work collaboratively with Council Working Groups and SOLACE during the design process for this new entrepreneurship support programme, which must include the development of new, relevant and appropriate targets and indicators, and also to ensure that resources are also secured to support its delivery.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: N/A
	Human: N/A
4.2	<u>Screening & Impact Statements</u>
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/A
	Rural Needs Implications: N/A
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members reflect on and adopt the Council's draft response to the consultation to amend the current (DfE) performance indicator and standards included within the Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards) Order (NI) 2015 to include the Department for the Economy's (DfE) proposed revised performance indicator and standards for economic development specific to Mid Ulster district
6.0	Documents Attached & References

	<p>Appendix One: Consultation The Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2022</p> <p>Appendix Two: Council's response to the consultation on The Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2022, in respect of Economic Development</p>
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Appendix 4



Cookstown



Comhairle Ceantair
Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster
District Council

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Magherafelt



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District Council

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Comhairle Ceantair
Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster
District Council

Appendix 5

Mid Ulster Labour Market Partnership

2022-23 Action Plan

February 2022

Draft v1



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1. Executive Summary

1.1. Introduction

1. Mid Ulster is one the most entrepreneurial regions in Northern Ireland - home to over 9,200 locally grown businesses and representing the highest concentration of enterprise outside of Belfast.
2. Almost twice as many people in Mid Ulster are employed in the manufacturing sector than is the case in any other council region, making Mid Ulster the manufacturing centre of Northern Ireland, with key sub-sectors including advanced manufacturing, engineering, agri-food and construction.
3. As a highly progressive and ambitious local authority, Mid Ulster District Council (MUDC) supports its industries with clear priorities established in its Corporate and Economic Development plans. The Council recognises that people and skills are the lifeblood of a thriving business sector, and employability and skills development sit centre-stage in its strategic planning.
4. In 2017 the Council launched the Mid Ulster Skills Forum – an industry-led multi-stakeholder skills collaboration network that was a first of its kind in Northern Ireland. The development & implementation of its Skills Action Plan (Figure 1) led to the Council winning the 2018 NILGA award for the Best Enterprise Initiative.



Figure 1: Mid Ulster Skills Forum & Skills Action Plan

5. One of the Skills Forum's most celebrated success stories has been the establishment of its highly successful spin-out - MEGA (Manufacturing and Engineering Growth and Advancement).
6. This award-winning collaborative growth network, led by some of the region's most capable industry leaders, has grown from 8 initial companies to a network of almost 65 companies, making it Northern Ireland's largest skills collaboration network, responsible for the creation of over 200 apprenticeships in the last two years.
7. In short, MUDC is no stranger to pioneering innovative approaches to skills development, and it is in this context the Council has launched its industry-led Labour Market Partnership in October 2021, as part of the Department for Communities' (DfC) Employability NI programme.



1.1.1. Background to the Labour Market Partnership

8. Employability NI (ENI) is DfC's new approach to the design, procurement and implementation of a fresh suite of employability provisions/initiatives to support people into meaningful employment.
9. Labour Market Partnership (LMP) is a key design strand of ENI, building collaborative multi-agency partnerships to:
 - Understand local market needs;
 - Improve employability outcomes;
 - Reduce economic inactivity.
 - Improve local labour market conditions; and
 - Design & deliver targeted interventions.
10. Food for Thought were appointed to assist MUDC with the development of its one-year LMP Employability Action Plan for 2022/23.

1.1.2. Purpose of this document

11. The purpose of this document is to summarise the findings of a strategic review undertaken between October and December 2021, and to set out Mid Ulster LMP's inaugural one-year action and proposed budget for 2022/23.
12. Subject to approval by the Council and DfC, this Action Plan will be implemented by Council officers and its appointed delivery partners under the oversight of the Mid Ulster LMP.

1.2. Approach to developing the Mid Ulster Labour Market Partnership 2023 Action Plan

13. Figure 2 sets out the approach taken to the development of the 2023 LMP action plan.

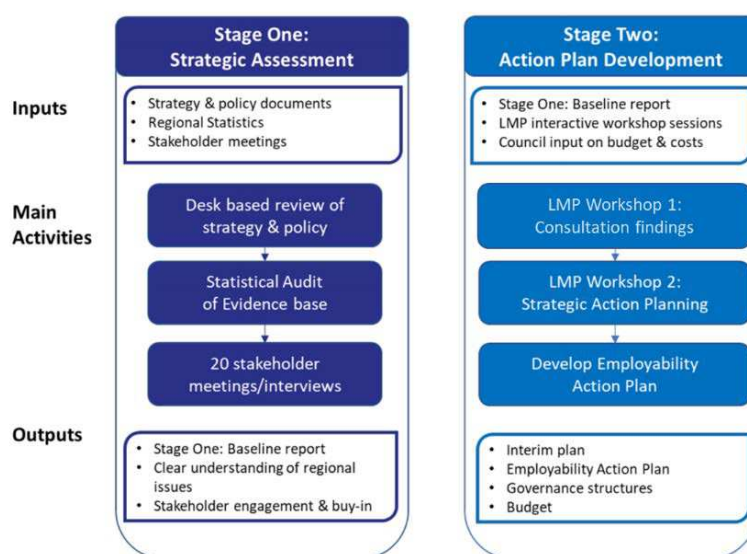


Figure 2: Mid Ulster LMP action plan approach

14. The plan has been developed through two key stages:

Stage One: Strategic Assessment – consisting of:

- a desk-based review of existing local and regional strategies and policies;
- a review of the statistical evidence relating to the health of the labour market and nature of economic activity in the Mid Ulster region; and
- a series of interviews with 35 senior leaders representing all relevant key stakeholders with an interest in the labour market and employability issues in the region.

Stage Two: Action Plan Development – building on the findings from Phase One, a series of workshops were held with the Mid Ulster LMP to:

- Understand emerging priorities and key themes;
- Perform a “turn the curve” review on key performance metrics to define relevant interventions that can deliver a positive impact and outcomes; and
- Agree a draft action plan and budget for approval.

15. The key outcomes and deliverables from this assessment process are the 2023 Employability Action Plan (see Section 6), and the associated 2023 LMP budget (See Section 7). A final outcome from the project will be the definition of governing sub-group structures and their associated terms of reference.

1.3. Constitution of the Mid Ulster Labour Market Partnership

16. Building on the success of its original Skills Forum, MUDC has designed its LMP as an industry-led initiative that is inclusive of all relevant government, education, and labour market stakeholders (see Figure 3 below).

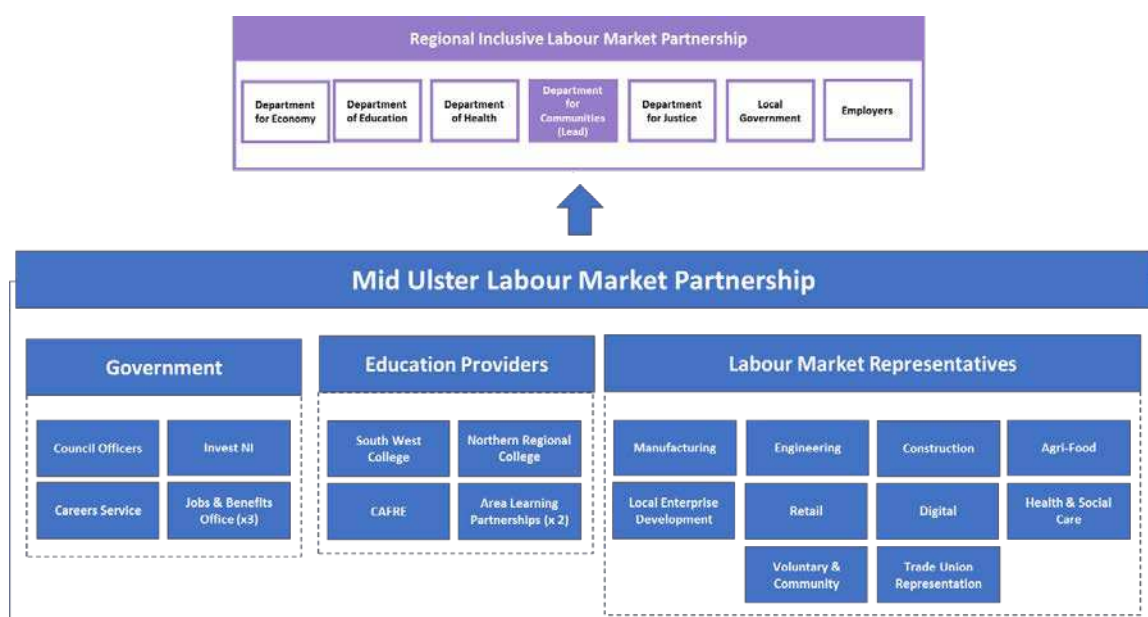


Figure 3: Mid Ulster Labour Market Partnership structure

17. The LMP is chaired and vice-chaired by two prominent industry leaders, and over half of the LMP members consist of representatives from all the major employment sectors in the region.
18. Mid Ulster benefits from a highly accomplished academic sector, and the LMP includes school teacher representation (through the two Area Learning Partnerships), and representation from the Further Education sector, including South West College (SWC), Northern Regional College (NRC), and the College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise (CAFRE).
19. Government representation includes Council officers from MUDC's economic development and community planning teams, along with representatives from Invest NI, Careers Service, and DfC's three Jobs and Benefits Offices (JBOs) located in the region.

1.4. Mid Ulster – a hardworking, economically active population

20. Figure 4 below illustrates the profile of Mid Ulster's working age population.

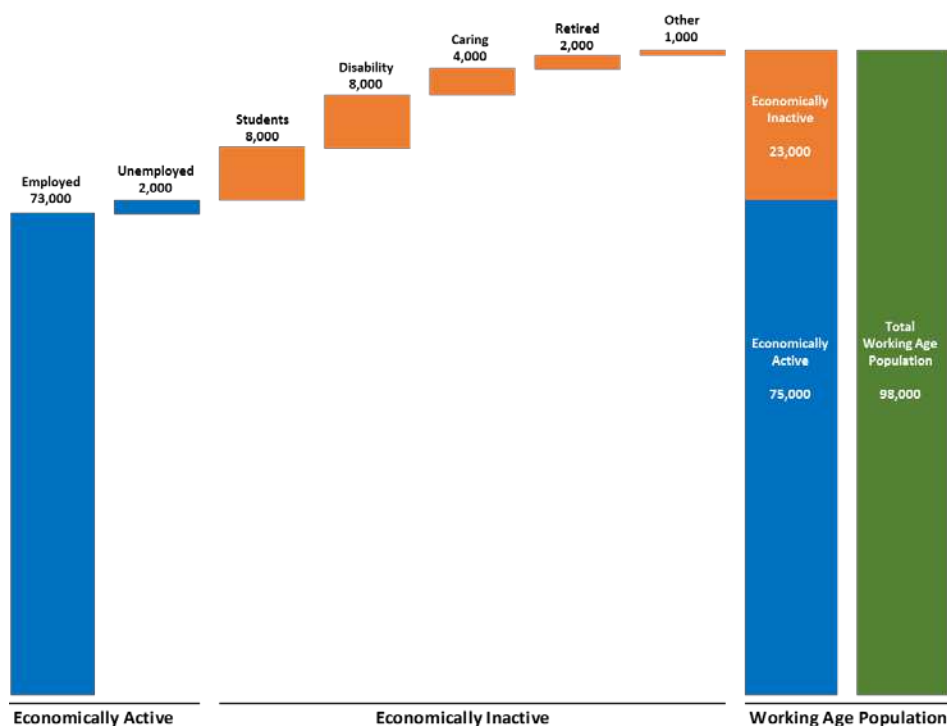


Figure 4: Mid Ulster's Working Age Population Profile

Economically active

21. Despite the setback from Covid-19, the region continues to have the third highest employment rate in Northern Ireland, with over 75% of the working population in employment.
22. Unemployment in the district has risen slightly as a result of Covid-19, but overall, the rate remains relatively low at an estimated 2.3%.

Economically inactive

23. 23.4% of the adult working age population are economically inactive, with over a third of that figure relating to the students living in the region (8,000 people).

24. The focus of the 2023 LMP action plan will be to:
- address the covid-19 related rise in unemployment and job benefit claimants; and
 - focus on the design and trial of new employability initiatives to further improve levels of economic activity and increase the employment pool in Mid Ulster.

1.5. Summary of the Strategic Action Plan for 2022-23

25. The Mid Ulster LMP has established an ambitious action plan for its inaugural year, requiring a budget of £518,375, of which £468,375 will be funded by DfC, and £50,000 will be funded from a complementary fund offered by the Department for the Economy (DfE) for 2023.
26. The LMP strategic action plan for 2022-23 is summarised under the three strategic priorities set out below.

Strategic Priority 1	To form and successfully deliver the functions of the local Labour Market Partnership
Key Activities:	SP1.1: Regular LMP meetings scheduled, and sub-structures defined with clear Terms of Reference.
	SP1.2: Management and administrative resource appointed by the Council.
	SP1.3: Invest in standardised regional statistical reporting to monitor LMP impact (UUEPC).
	SP1.4: Undertake a construction sector employability and skills review.
	SP1.5: Publish the LMP action plan.
	SP1.6: PR & Marketing activity to promote the LMP, launch initiatives, and celebrate key achievements via digital and non-digital channels.
	SP1.7: Annual employers survey as a local monitor of skills and labour demand.
	SP1.8: Annual survey of the LMP members to assess knowledge and satisfaction levels.
	SP1.9: Review the 2023 plan, & forward plan 2024-2026.

Strategic Priority 2	To improve employability outcomes and/or labour market conditions locally
Key Activities:	SP2.1: Appoint a Project Officer to support employer engagement and LMP programme delivery.
	SP2.2: Sector-focused Employability Academies co-designed between Industry and FE: manufacturing (4); Construction (2); Agri-food (2); H&SC (2); and Hospitality (2).
	SP2.3: HGV academy - support industry supply chains by addressing HGV driver shortages (Category C & E).
	SP2.4: Employer-led Disability Inclusion programme pilot to increase the number of disabled people in paid employment.
	SP2.5: NICMA approved Childminding basic training academy.
	SP2.6: Mid Ulster Careers & Employability Portal as a key shared resource to resolve the disconnects in the labour market.

Strategic Priority 3	To support delivery of Employability NI
Key Activities:	SP3.1: Map all existing employability and skills interventions available to MUDC employers.
	SP3.2: Improve employer & participant knowledge and access to existing employability and skills services.

2. Findings from the consultation process

2.1. Consultation scope

27. The original consultation plan to engage at least 20 key stakeholders was expanded to include over 30 stakeholder groups to ensure the LMP action planning process secured input from a broad range of perspectives from relevant parties with an interest in the labour market and employability issues in the Mid Ulster region. Figure 5 below summarises the stakeholder groups involved.

Extensive stakeholder engagement exercise completed on time in full



Figure 5: LMP stakeholder consultation groups

2.2. Key messages from employers

28. The predominant recurring theme from industry consultation focused on the growing “People Crisis” facing every sector in the region.
29. The main messages from industry confirmed that:
- Large numbers of jobs vacancies currently exist and are not being filled;
 - Businesses are having to decline customer orders due to the lack of people, resulting in a loss of revenue and a negative impact on the region’s productivity; and
 - Service sectors are under severe pressure – Health & Social Care, Hospitality, and Retail are caught in a vicious circle as lower staffing levels creates greater pressure on a reduced workforce, which in turn leads to increased absence and staff turnover.
30. Key contributing factors to these issues relate to:
- Loss of migrant workers – EU exit and changes in the foreign exchange rate has resulted in the loss of over 26% of the EU migrant workforce in Northern Ireland in the years running up to Brexit.¹ Moreover, as net emigration continues these resources are not being replaced.
 - Government Job Schemes are not aligned to employer’s needs – for example, JobStart is limited to:

¹ Labour Market Force reports

- 16-24 year olds, which are not the dominant age profile within Mid Ulster's economically inactive; and
- New post vacancies – when Mid Ulster employers are in desperate need to fill existing vacancies.
- Employers feel a lack of support in addressing the people crisis, and consider they are ill-informed as to the status and capabilities of the economically inactive:
 - “We have no engagement with JBOs” – a recent survey of over 60 local Mid Ulster businesses revealed that just 5% of companies said they were satisfied with the level of engagement from JBOs²; and
 - Industry representatives consider greater assistance is needed to employ people from backgrounds of long-term economic inactivity or with greater personal support needs. Employer awareness of existing support schemes such as Access to Work, Workable NI and WEP (Work Experience Programme) is low.
- Employers consider there is misalignment between industry needs and education and skills strategies, with employer-held perceptions that:
 - careers advice over-promotes university pathways;
 - alternative career paths are under-promoted, as they conflict with school budget pressures.
- Employers recognise that education and government bodies cannot track the pace of industry change without assistance, and that employers have a responsibility to provide resource and support to those involved in education, careers, and the economically inactive.

2.3. Key messages from employability and skills partners

31. The recurring theme from discussions with those stakeholders responsible for improving skills and employability outcomes focused on a need for Industry to provide clearer and more timely information on the skills needs within the employment sector.
32. Key findings from this stakeholder group conclude that:
 - Employer requirements change at a very fast pace – employers need to provide regular updates on skills demand and in a consistent format;
 - Employers need to invest in resources & digital content that will attract and inspire individuals to take up work;
 - Employers need to provide more meaningful engagement and mentoring to encourage individuals to participate and remain in employment; and
 - Employers need to offer realistic compensation - offering young person/apprentice rates will not attract 16-18 year old people into employment.

² MEGA, Post-Covid strategic action plan, Member's survey – 2021.

2.4. Mapping the labour market landscape

33. Having completed the consultation exercise, it is apparent that a number of disconnects exist between the major stakeholders that will need to be addressed if an LMP employability action plan is to be successful.

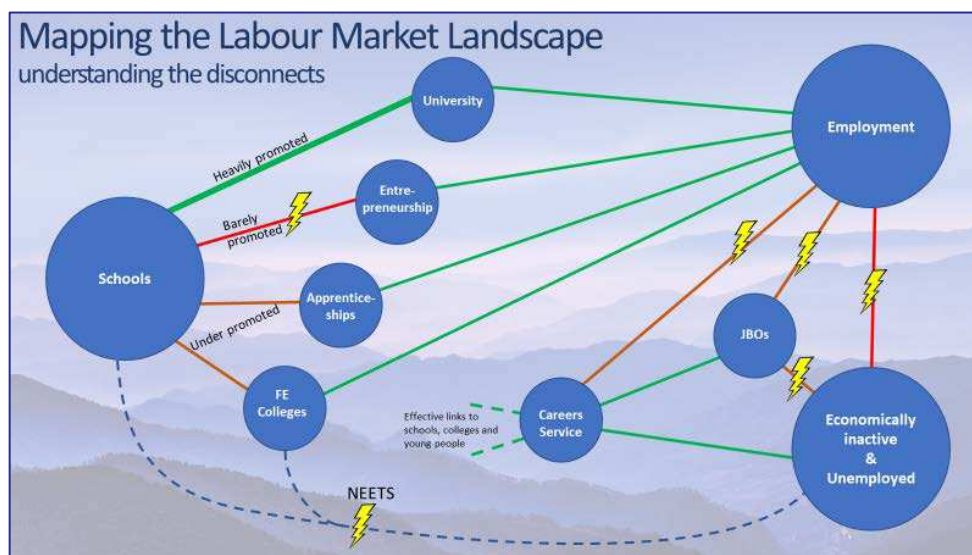


Figure 6: Disconnects in the labour skills and employability market

34. Whilst disconnects may have existed in the past, these have been significantly amplified during the Covid-19 pandemic. Mid Ulster LMP members have identified that improved use digital technology and online media channels in the form of an online careers and employability portal presents an opportunity to improve information flow and knowledge sharing across all parties engaged in the skills supply chain.

2.5. Summary of key findings from the consultation phase

35. In summary, the consultation phase of the LMP strategic planning process concludes in two key observations:
1. **Address the People Crisis** – the availability of people is a major constraining issue for Mid Ulster’s continued economic growth – the region is facing a people crisis that is already impacting on economic recovery; and
 2. **Improved connectivity and information flow** across the skills and employability supply chain is critical to support more effective collaboration on employability and skills issues.
36. These findings, combined with the outcome of the statistical audit and strategic review have helped shape the proposed LMP action plan for 2023.

3. Findings from the Statistical Audit

3.1. Overview of Mid Ulster

37. Mid Ulster is one the most entrepreneurial regions in Northern Ireland - home to over 9,200 locally grown businesses and representing the highest concentration of enterprise outside of Belfast.
38. Almost twice as many people in Mid Ulster are employed in the manufacturing sector than is the case in any other council region, making Mid Ulster the manufacturing centre of Northern Ireland, with key sub-sectors including advanced manufacturing, engineering, agri-food and construction.
39. This concentration of high growth manufacturing businesses has resulted in Mid Ulster experiencing the fastest pace of employee job creation of any council area in Northern Ireland, growing at 23.3% (11,384 new jobs) between 2014 and 2019 compared to a total Northern Ireland growth rate of 10.9%.
40. Figure 7 illustrates that job creation growth continued year on year for over ten consecutive years until the Covid-19 pandemic hit in early 2020.

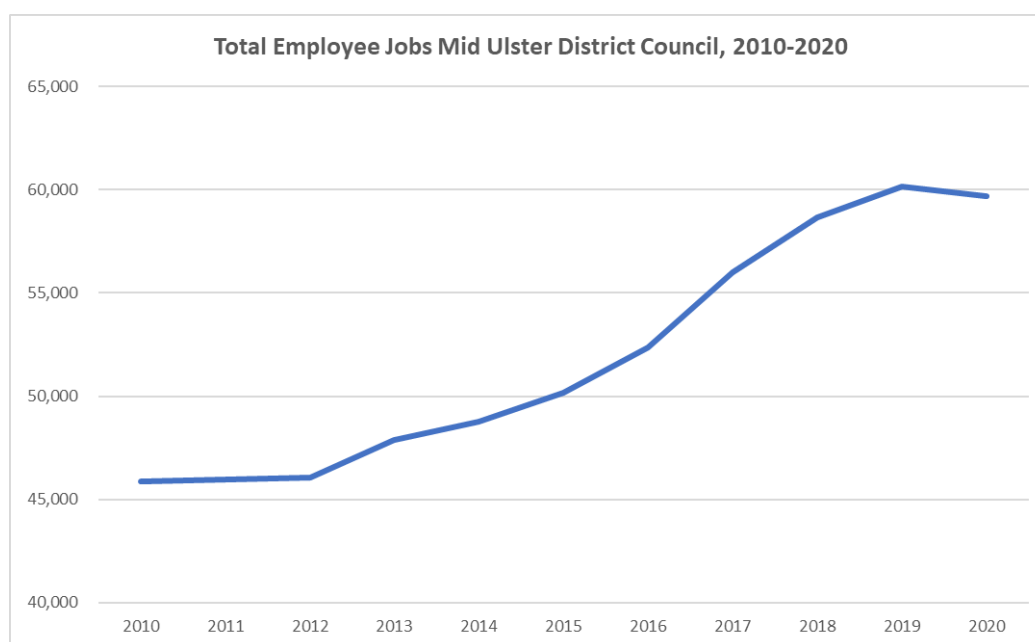


Figure 7: Mid Ulster Job Creation. Covid-19 has broken 10 consecutive years of growth

3.2. Profile of the Mid Ulster working population

3.2.1. Mid Ulster – a hardworking, economically active population

41. Figure 8 below illustrates the profile of the Mid Ulster working age population.

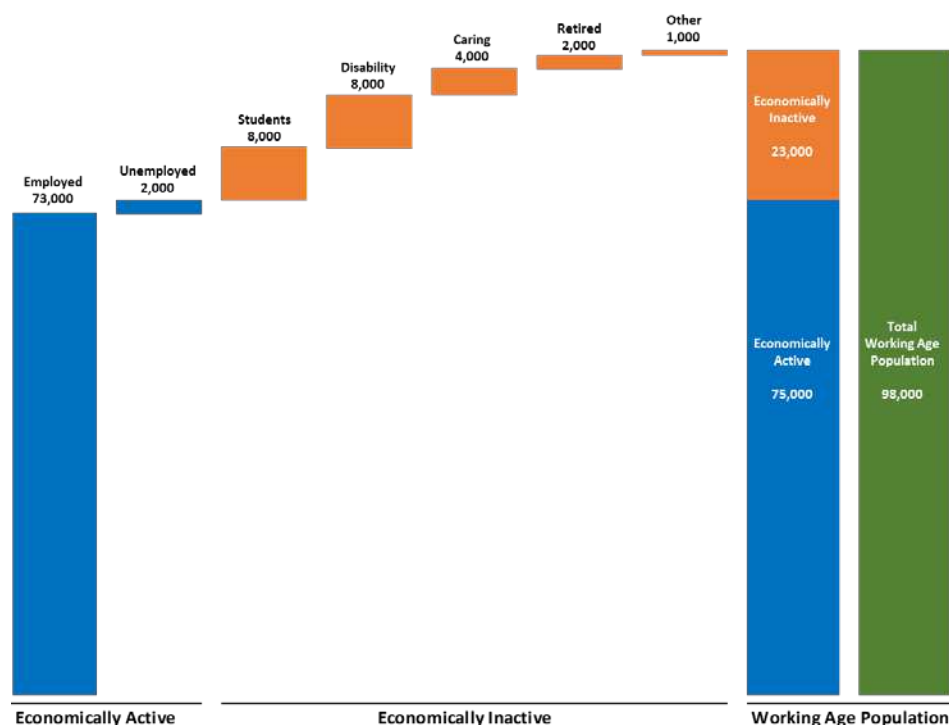


Figure 8: Mid Ulster's Working Age Population Profile

Economically active

42. Despite the set-back from Covid-19, the region continues to have the third highest employment rate in Northern Ireland, with over 75% of the working population in employment.
43. Unemployment in the district has risen slightly due to Covid, but overall the rate remains relatively low at an estimated 2.3%.

Economically inactive

44. 23.4% of the adult working age population are economically inactive, with over a third of that figure relating to the students living in the region (8,000 people).
45. Adjusted for students, the economic inactivity rate is just 15.3%, with the main drivers being:
- Health issues and disability – 8.2% (estimated 8,000 people);
 - Family caring commitments – 4.1% (estimated 4,000 people); and
 - Retired & other reasons – 3.0% (estimated 3,000 people).

3.3. Job claimants

46. As with other Council regions, Covid-19 caused a significant spike in job benefit claimant numbers in early 2020, when the claimant numbers rose from a pre-Covid baseline of 1,555 claimants to a peak of 4,120 in May 2020.

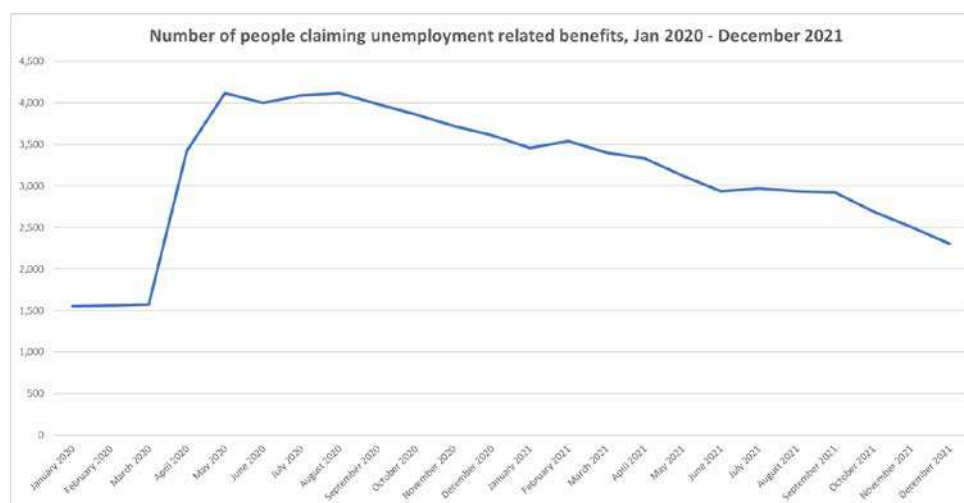


Figure 9: Mid Ulster Job Claimant numbers

47. Despite industry making a rapid recovery from the disruption caused by Covid-19, the job claimant numbers have remained persistently high. The ending of the Furlough scheme in September 2021 had no negative impact on employment and claimant numbers have continued to fall on a gradual basis.
48. It was noted during the consultation phase that one of the main contributing factors to the slow reduction in job claimant numbers has been removal of the enforcement of Universal Credit conditionality requirements. JBOs have been unable to use normal enforcement processes to encourage claimants to re-engage with employment, and although conditionality requirements were recently reintroduced in December 2021, it is understood that full enforcement has not yet recommenced.
49. As a result, the job claimant levels reported for December 2021 remain 48% above pre-covid levels (750 people). This persistently elevated job claimant number makes little sense in the context of a labour market that is struggling to fill vacancies. The Mid Ulster LMP has identified this issue as a priority focus point for its 2023 employability action plan.

3.4. Qualification achievements

50. Historically, Mid Ulster has consistently ranked as the Council region with the highest percentage of its residents having no formal qualifications.
51. However, as shown in Figure 10 overleaf, over the past five years the region has made significant progress, rising from a persistent ranking of being the Council with the highest percentage of working age residents with no qualifications, to an improved mid-table position of 7th place.

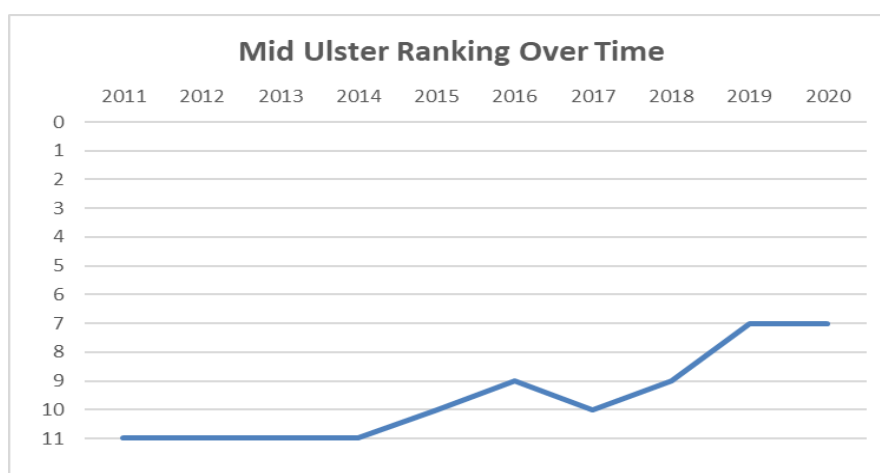


Figure 10: Mid Ulster Council District ranking for % no qualifications

52. This improvement is considered to be due to two main factors:
- the retirement of older workers who tend to have lower levels of formal qualifications having been educated in an era when many left school without sitting examinations; and
 - an upward trend in educational participation among young people, combined with the success of many of the support programmes now in place to ensure adults have the opportunity to acquire qualified skills.
53. Whilst Mid Ulster continues to have a relatively high proportion of adults with no qualifications at just over 13% of the population, this does not mean the workforce is unskilled and Mid Ulster's economic activity rate is better than might otherwise be expected owing to the strength of the manufacturing sector and the entrepreneurial business activity in the region.

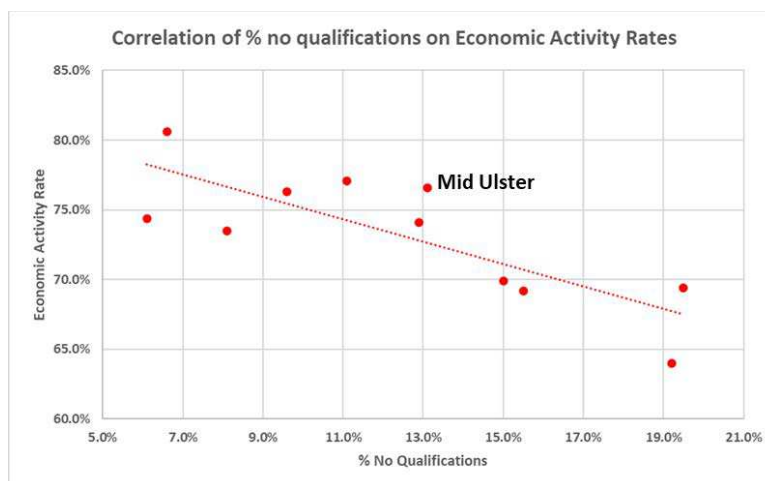


Figure 11: Correlation of economic activity and % no qualifications

3.5. Economic inactivity

3.5.1. Trends in economic inactivity over time

54. Figure 12 below shows the proportion of economically inactive residents in Mid Ulster had been showing signs of modest improvement in the years prior to the Covid-19 pandemic.

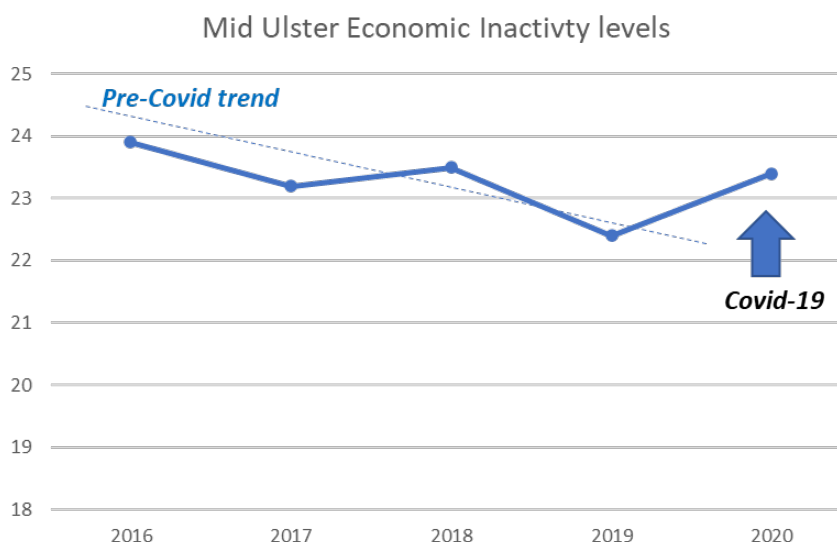


Figure 12: Mid Ulster economic inactivity rates

55. However, Covid-19 has interrupted that trend, causing a 1% increase in economic activity (from 22.4% to 23.4%) - the equivalent of a year-on-year increase of 4%.
56. That said, Mid Ulster continues to rank as the third most economically active region in the province with economic inactivity some 3.6% below the Northern Ireland average.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020 numbers	
Lisburn and Castlereagh	20.2%	22.3%	21.1%	17.4%	19.4%	18,000
Newry, Mourne and Down	24.3%	31.5%	31.0%	24.4%	22.9%	26,000
Mid Ulster	23.9%	23.2%	23.5%	22.4%	23.4%	23,000
Antrim and Newtownabbey	19.5%	19.5%	19.9%	20.6%	23.7%	21,000
Mid and East Antrim	23.9%	26.2%	25.5%	23.9%	25.6%	20,000
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	25.4%	24.9%	22.9%	25.7%	25.9%	34,000
Ards and North Down	22.5%	22.0%	25.5%	25.3%	26.5%	25,000
Belfast	26.1%	30.6%	32.7%	30.5%	30.1%	66,000
Causeway Coast and Glens	34.0%	33.8%	29.3%	29.9%	30.6%	26,000
Fermanagh and Omagh	29.7%	30.1%	27.0%	33.1%	30.8%	22,000
Derry City and Strabane	37.6%	36.9%	34.1%	30.4%	36.0%	34,000
NI	26.0%	27.6%	27.2%	26.2%	27.0%	314,000

Source: NISRA

57. This presents an interesting challenge for the Mid Ulster LMP. With some of the lowest rates in the province for unemployment and economic inactivity, novel solutions will be needed to safeguard and improve on what is a relatively strong starting position.

3.5.2. Age profile of the economically inactive (excluding students)

58. Figure 13 below shows the age profile of the economically inactive in Mid Ulster.

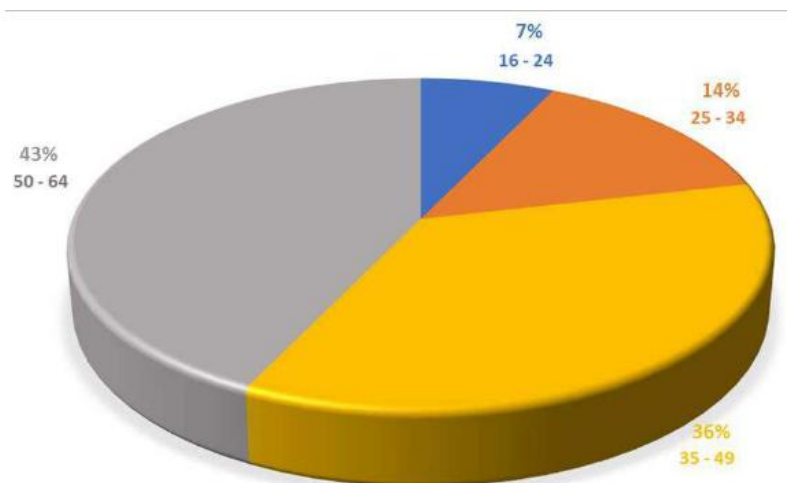


Figure 13: Age Profile of Mid Ulster's economically inactive (excluding students)³

59. Adjusted for students, 7% of Mid-Ulster's economically inactive are aged 16-24. This represents an estimated 1,000 young people – an important cohort of particular interest to the LMP action plan as there are long term benefits to be gained from interventions that engage this population at an early stage in an effort to reduce the economic inactivity trends in the longer term.
60. Half of Mid-Ulster's economically inactive are in the prime working age group of 25 to 49 (7,500 people). A high proportion of this category are likely to be constrained by caring commitments with dependent children or the elderly, with the balance mainly constrained by health related issues.
61. Just over 40% (6,500) of Mid Ulster's economically inactive are aged 50+. It is known from separate analysis that 2,000 of these residents are retired, and as such are less likely to be attracted back to the workplace. Of the remaining 4,500, whilst there will be many reasons for inactivity, it is probable that a higher proportion of these people will make up some of the estimated 8,000 Mid Ulster residents registered as economically inactive due to disability and ill-health.
62. As the LMP considers its plans to address economic inactivity, gaining improved insight into the profile of the people involved will be critical to the design of interventions targeted at specific population groups.

³ The 16 – 24 age group consists of 9,000 economically inactive – this has been adjusted based on a general assumption that the region's 8,000 students are all in that age bracket. In reality that will not be the case and makes no allowance for mature students, but for discussion purposes the difference is not likely to be material.

3.6. Economic Activity Gender Gap

63. In recent times, Mid Ulster's gender difference in economic activity had been slim - in 2018 it was just 2.7%.
64. However, as Figure 14 shows, this gap had started to grow pre-Covid, and Covid has subsequently driven a significant decrease in female economic activity, possibly as a result of unequal shouldering of responsibility for increased childcare requirements arising from Covid-19 lock-downs and home schooling, and shielding of vulnerable at-risk citizens with underlying health issues.

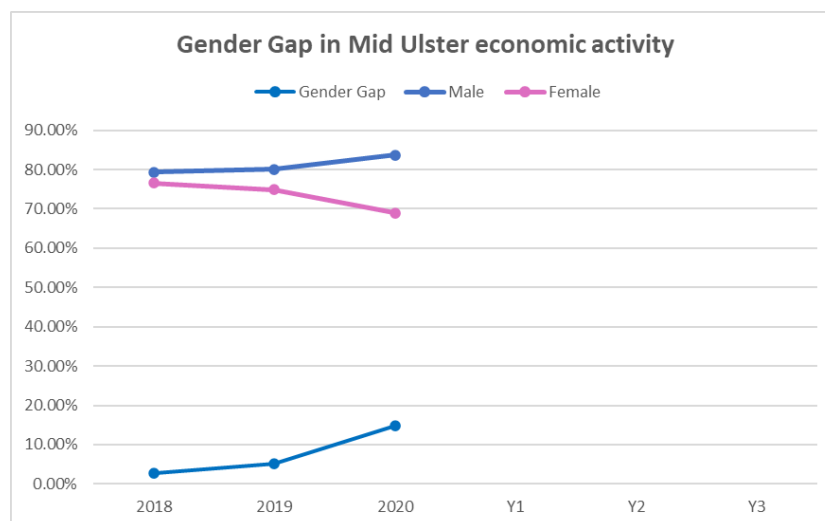


Figure 14: Mid Ulster's growing economic inactivity gender gap

65. In the same time period, male economic activity has increased, with the net effect of opening an almost 15% gap in economic inactivity between men and women in the region.
66. The 2023 employability plan may present an opportunity for the Mid Ulster LMP to encourage women to return to work, either through targeted recruitment to interventions that will support a return to work (e.g., sectoral academies), or by encouraging an improved provision of childcare in the region.

3.7. Disability Employment Gap

67. This review has conducted an analysis of the Disability Employment Gap across the eleven council regions – calculated as the difference in employment rates for those individuals with a recorded disability, compared to those with none.
68. Figure 15 overleaf shows this to be Mid Ulster's worst performing statistic, having the largest Disability Employment Gap of any region at 50.1%.

	Employment rate		
	People with disabilities	People without disabilities	Disability Employment Gap
Newry Mourne And Down	46.9%	80.6%	33.7%
Causeway Coast And Glens	40.9%	76.6%	35.7%
Mid And East Antrim	43.6%	79.9%	36.3%
Antrim And Newtownabbey	45.5%	82.0%	36.5%
Ards And North Down	43.1%	80.5%	37.4%
Lisburn And Castlereagh	46.3%	86.5%	40.2%
Fermanagh And Omagh	34.8%	76.3%	41.5%
Derry City And Strabane	33.8%	75.7%	41.9%
Belfast	32.7%	78.9%	46.2%
Armagh City Banbridge And Craigavon	35.6%	83.3%	47.7%
Mid Ulster	31.7%	81.8%	50.1%
Northern Ireland	38.1%	80.3%	42.2%
UK			27.9%

Figure 15: Mid Ulster's disability employment gap

69. An opportunity clearly exists for Mid Ulster to improve on this statistic, and there may be merit in collaborating with a higher performing Council region to benefit from any lessons that may be learned from successful interventions elsewhere. As a neighbouring Council region that shares access to NRC as a Further Education partner, Mid & East Antrim (the third best performing Council region in this field) may present a logical choice as a collaboration partner.

3.7.1. De-bunking manufacturing as a potential driver for DEG

70. Given that Mid Ulster employs almost twice as many people in the manufacturing sector than any other council region, an analysis was made to check for any correlation between the size of the manufacturing labour market (as potentially a more physically demanding / hazardous employment sector), and the disability employment gap.
71. On first review, figure 16a would indicate a strong correlation between the percentage of the workforce employed in manufacturing and the size of the Council region's disability gap

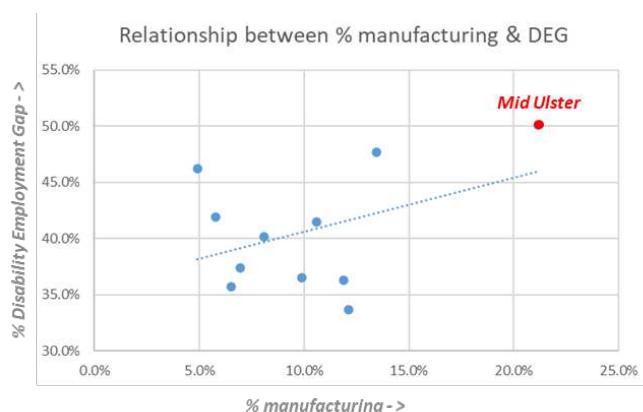


Figure 16a: % Manufacturing & DEG

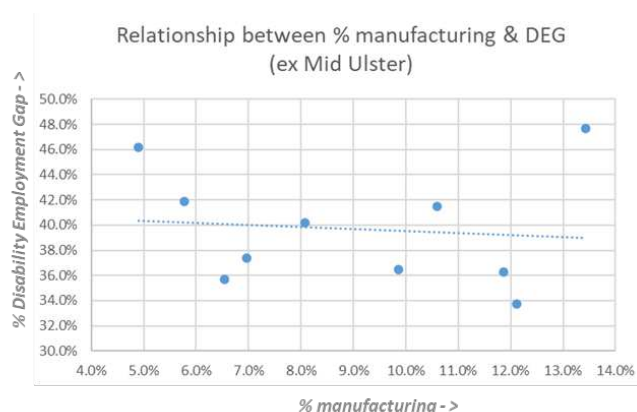


Figure 16b: % Manufacturing (Excluding Mid Ulster) & DEG

72. However, as Mid Ulster has both the highest percentage of its workforce employed in manufacturing, and also the highest Disability Employment Gap, Mid Ulster creates an outlying anomaly, which when removed would indicate there is no significant correlation between % manufacturing and the Disability Employment Gap (Figure 16b).

4. Summary of findings from the strategic assessment

4.1. Introduction

Labour market demand

73. Covid-19 has had a profound health and socio-economic impact on society over the past two years, and EU exit has simultaneously exerted additional stress factors, with Northern Ireland having lost at least 26% of its EU migrant workforce in the years running up to Brexit.⁴ Moreover, as net emigration continues these resources are not being replaced.
74. Access to people is now considered to be the single biggest threat to economic recovery. The effects are felt in virtually every sector, and the impact is immediately apparent in Mid Ulster. In the course of this consultation several sectors report ***they are already turning down customer orders*** or are at risk of not being able to fulfil customer orders in the future.
75. Left unchecked, the low availability of people and skills in the region may mean the next few years will prove challenging for many businesses in Mid Ulster. As a consequence the region is at risk of not realising its full economic potential, or in a worst-case scenario may face a further reduction in economic activity due to business relocation, scale-back, or closure if labour and skills availability issues cannot be addressed.

Employability and skills supply

76. Mid Ulster unemployment is currently low, but Covid-19 has had an impact and there are an additional 750 people on job benefit support compared to pre-Covid levels. Economic inactivity has also increased by 1% equating to almost 1,000 additional people no longer actively contributing to the economy. Interventions are necessary to “turn the curve” on these statistics if Mid Ulster is to course-correct towards positive economic recovery and growth.

4.2. Focusing on strategic outcomes

77. As a key strand in the delivery of Employability (NI), the aim of the Labour Market Partnership is to help improve employability outcomes and labour market conditions locally by working to develop relevant interventions that will impact on a number of relevant Programme for Government outcomes, including:
 - Outcome 3: ‘We have a more equal society’
 - Outcome 6: ‘We have more people working in better jobs’
 - Outcome 8: ‘We care for others and help those in need’
78. The Mid Ulster LMP action plan for 2023 has been defined using an Outcomes Based Approach to deliver against these strategic goals.

⁴ Labour Market Force reports

4.3. Mid Ulster LMP SWOT analysis

79. The SWOT analysis below summarises the findings from the Mid Ulster LMP strategic review.

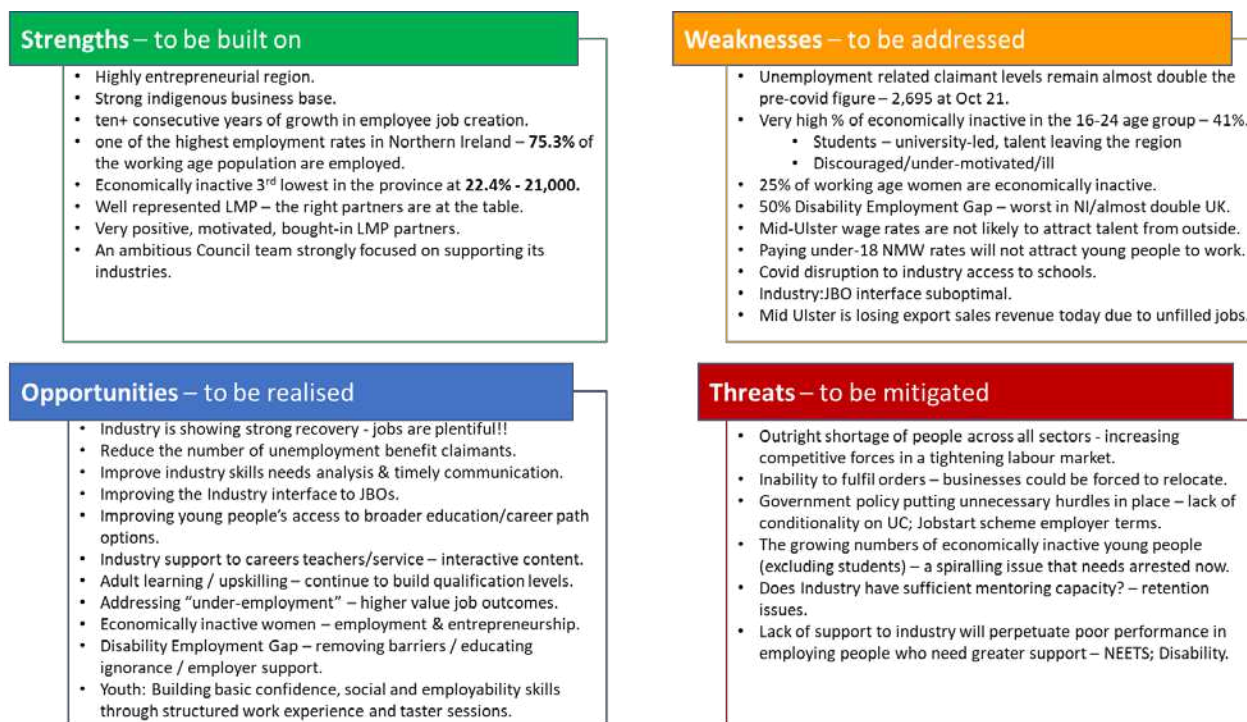


Figure 17: Mid Ulster LMP SWOT analysis

80. The 2023 action plan will focus on the development of interventions that meet the key findings summarised in the SWOT, whilst at the same time:

- avoiding duplication or overlap with existing local or regional initiatives;
- ensuring the need for any initiative is well evidenced;
- clearly defining how success will be measured;
- developing a plan that makes best utility of a finite budget across a very diverse LMP stakeholder group;
- ensuring the plan can be delivered in a year; and
- Ensuring the plan focuses on well-invested initiatives that target a select number of priority groups, with an expectation that other groups can be the focus of investment in action plans to follow in the future.

81. Mid Ulster LMP’s strategic priorities and key themes for 2022-23 are summarised in Figure 18 overleaf.



Figure 18: Mid Ulster LMP's strategic priorities and key themes for 2022-23

4.4. Defining the interventions - turning the curve

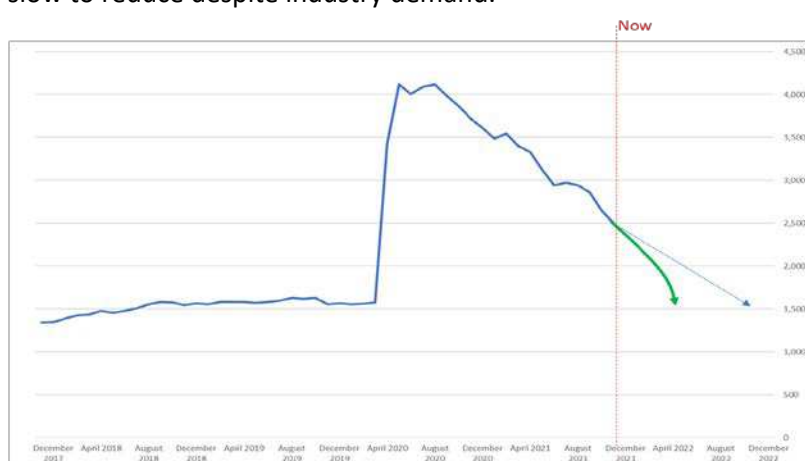
82. An outcome-based approach has been used to address the following local priorities in 2023.

4.4.1. Turning the curve on: Job Claimant numbers

83. The Mid Ulster labour market urgently needs to reverse the increase in job claimants arising from Covid-19.

1/ Understanding the baseline.

Covid-19 caused a spike in job claimant numbers, which has been slow to reduce despite industry demand.



Source: Nomis

2/What factors are causing the problem?

- UC conditionality has not been enforced.
- Reduced engagement with claimants.
- Disconnects in the labour market.
- Covid-19 causing people to re-evaluate priorities.

3/ What can be done?

- Enforce Universal Credit conditionality requirements.
- Sector focused employability academies to re-engage people in work.
- HGV academies to upskill.
- Sectoral specific deep-dive reviews.
- Development of improved access to careers and employability information.

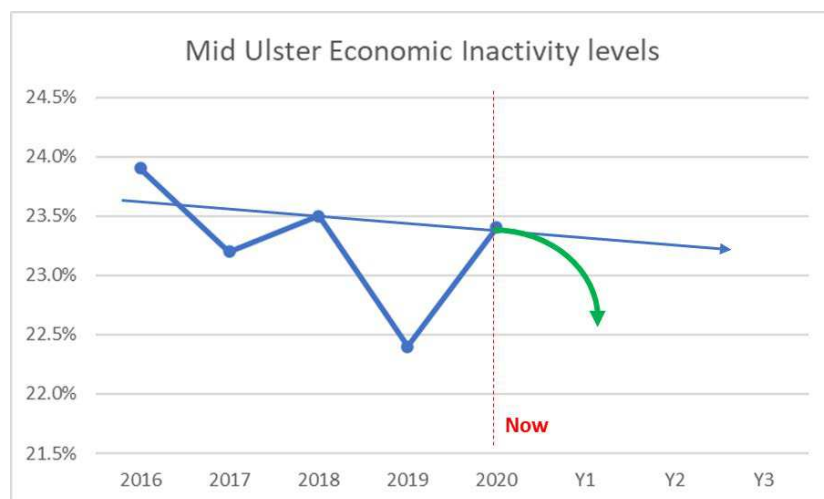
4/ How do we measure success?

- Reduction in # job claimants
- Improvement in Employment rate.
- Improvement in economic inactivity rates (excluding students).

4.4.2. Turning the curve on: Economic Inactivity

1/ Understanding the baseline.

Covid-19 caused a spike in economic inactivity, interrupting a previous trend of continuous improvement.



2/What factors are causing the problem?

- Covid-19 has caused:
 - An impact on quality of life – increased stress, anxiety, long-covid, and other health issues.
 - increases in caring responsibilities (shielding, home school).
 - people to re-evaluate life priorities possibly encouraging retirements.

3/ What can be done?

- Sector focused employability academies to encourage people to return to work.

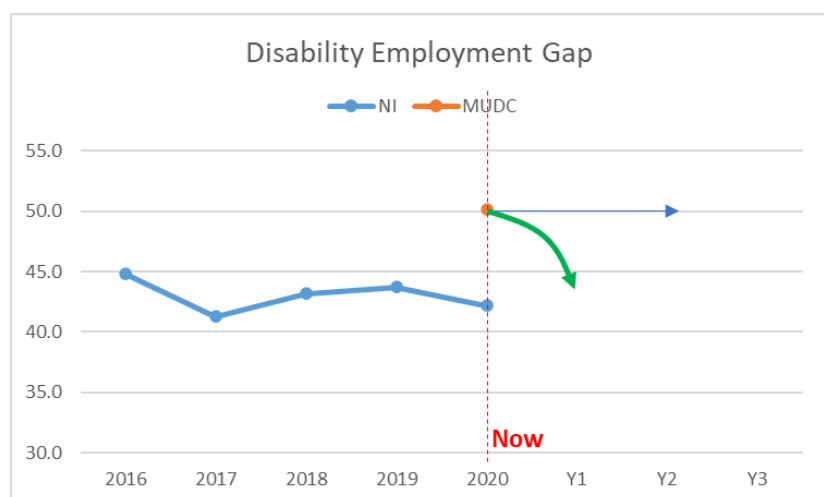
4/ How do we measure success?

- Improvement in economic inactivity rates (excluding students).

4.4.3. Turning the curve on: The Disability Employment Gap

1/ Understanding the baseline.

Mid Ulster has the highest disability employment gap of any Council region in Northern Ireland.



2/What factors are causing the problem?

- Covid-19 has caused an impact on quality of life – increased stress, anxiety, long-covid, and other health issues.
- Underlying employability issues for those individuals with long-term life-long health needs.
- Employer misperceptions and a poor understanding of available support mechanisms.

3/ What can be done?

- Engage employers on an employer-led disability employment programme.
- Engage sectoral expertise to educate employers on the existing supports available to business.
- Develop case studies and promote improved employer action to deliver a more equal society and help those in need.

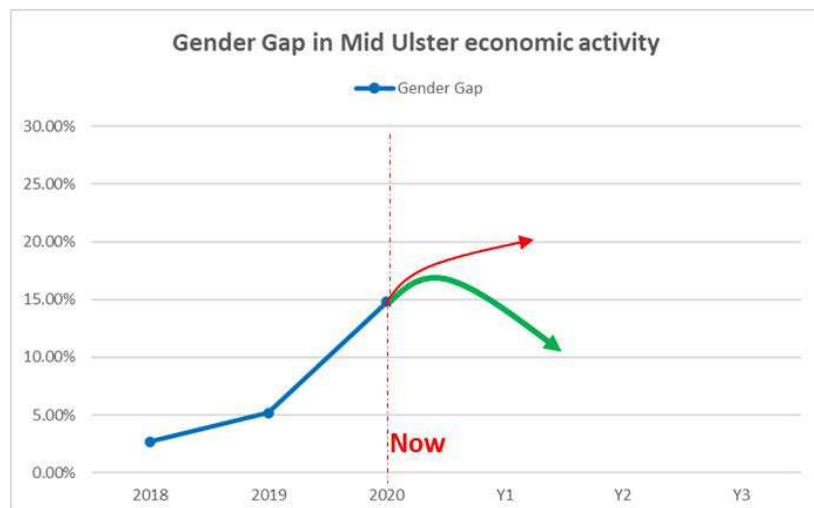
4/ How do we measure success?

- Reduction in the disability employment gap.
- Increased number of jobs held by individuals with long-term/life-long health needs.

4.4.4. Turning the curve on: The Economic Inactivity Gender Gap

1/ Understanding the baseline.

Mid Ulster has a growing gender gap in economic activity, which has reached 15%, having spiked by 10% - a 200% increase during the Covid-19 pandemic.



2/What factors are causing the problem?

- Covid-19 has caused an increase in caring responsibilities (shielding, home school).
- This may have led to a disproportionate impact on female economic activity - unequal distribution of caring responsibilities across genders.

3/ What can be done?

- Sector focused employability academies to encourage women to reskill and return to work.
- Female focused employability programmes.
- Female entrepreneurship programmes.
- Improved access to childcare.

4/ How do we measure success?

- Improvement in female economic activity levels leading to a reduction in the gender gap.

4.5. Developing a feasible 2023 action plan

84. In developing the 2023 action plan, the Mid Ulster LMP acknowledges the need to focus on the delivery of a discrete number of high-priority initiatives that are realistic and achievable in an inaugural year in which resources need to be appointed to new posts, and the LMP governance structures and sub-groups have to form and develop effective working relationships.
85. In this context, not all initiatives identified in the course of the strategic review have been taken through into the 2023 action plan, and a number of ideas will be reserved for the development of future action plans.

5. Mid Ulster LMP 2023 action plan

5.1. Alignment to strategic priorities

86. The Mid Ulster LMP action plan has been designed to align with the Strategic Priorities (SPs) defined by DfC in the development of the LMP programme, namely:
- **Strategic Priority 1** – To form and successfully deliver the functions of the local Labour Market Partnership for the area - actions & associated costs relating to the formation and administration of the LMP, and its ability to determine future labour market needs;
 - **Strategic Priority 2** – To improve employability outcomes and/or labour market conditions locally - Local initiatives to “turn the curve” and address specific points of need as identified in this strategic review; and
 - **Strategic Priority 3** – To support delivery of Employability NI - actions that can support the more effective delivery of Employability NI e.g., promotion and referral to existing regional initiatives.
87. A range of indicators have been selected to assess delivery under each of these strategic priorities.

5.2. Baseline information

88. The Mid Ulster LMP will impact on the following set of indicators from the baseline position stated below.

Strategic Priorities	Indicators to which Local LMP makes a contribution (Source)	2021/22 Baseline
Strategic Priority 1: To form and successfully deliver the functions of the local Labour Market Partnership for the area	Form local multi-agency partnership comprised of members from relevant stakeholders.	100% (LMP).
	Ensure effective attendance of the LMP members.	0%. Target: 80% (LMP).
	Development and effective delivery of local LMP Interim Action Plan to meet priority needs, by reviewing available statistical information and engaging key stakeholders.	0%. Target: 100% (LMP).
	Facilitated main partnership meetings and sub-group meetings.	4 LMP meetings. 0 sub-groups. Target: 6 main meetings; 3 subgroup meetings.
	LMP returns submitted on time and in order to DfC.	0%. Target: 100% (LMP).
	Recruit staff to manage the LMP.	0%. Target: 100% (LMP).

Strategic Priorities	Indicators to which Local LMP makes a contribution (Source)	2021/22 Baseline
	Secure standardised regional statistical reporting to assess and measure the outcomes and impact of the LMP (UUEPC).	0. Target: Bi-annual reporting.
Strategic Priority 2: To improve employability outcomes and/or labour market conditions locally	Increased Employment.	75.3% employed. 59,681 employee jobs. 2,305 claimants.
	Reduce Economic Inactivity.	23.4%.
	Increase Workforce Diversification.	50.1% Disability Employment Gap. 14.8% gender gap. 68.9% female economic activity.
	Increase uptake of employability / skills training programmes in manufacturing, agri-food, construction, health & social care, and hospitality.	Baseline: 0. Target: 230 participants engaged in LMP programmes.
Strategic Priority 3: To support delivery of Employability NI	Promotion of regional projects/initiatives and building confidence through locally based engagement.	No baseline. Target: 1 register of projects / initiatives developed and locally promoted. 100% LMP members better informed.
	Contribute to development of regional projects/initiatives.	No baseline. # of Mid Ulster initiatives adopted regionally.
	Contribute to public facing events and supporting effective engagement.	No baseline. Target: 1 job & careers fair. 300 careers fair participants.

6. Action Plan

Strategic Priority 1: To form and successfully deliver the functions of the local Labour Market Partnership for the area

Indicators: # LMP meetings (LMP).
 % LMP attendance (LMP).
 % LMP members with increased awareness of local employability and labour market issues (LMP).
 % LMP members who feel supported in their role (LMP).

Theme	Aim & Description	Key Activities	Start	End	Resource or cost	Performance Measures	Reporting Quarter
LMP delivery	Effective delivery of the LMP action plan through the formation of the LMP, and the sub-groups to oversee the 2023 action plan.	SPI.1: Regular LMP meetings scheduled, and sub-structures defined with clear Terms of Reference.	April 2022	Mar 2023	Staff Resource + SPI.1: £2,000 venue & catering costs.	How much did we do? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 x LMP meetings. • 3 x sub-group meetings. • 1 x published 2023 plan. • 1 x Sector skills review. • 1 employer skill survey. • 1 LMP annual review. • 1 x 3-year plan. 	1,2,3,4
Skills demand planning	Ensure the LMP is the single regional structure responsible for coordinating all employability and labour market initiatives in Mid Ulster.	SPI.2: Management and administrative resource appointed by the Council.			SPI.3: £10,000 UUEPC costs.	How well did we do it? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 80% attendance at LMP meetings. • Bi-annual reporting on regional employability and economic statistics. • Annual skills demand forecast. 	
PR	Undertake a construction sector specific review to identify and inform current and future employability and skills supply v employer demand to which future employability initiatives can be targeted.	SPI.3: Invest in standardised regional statistical reporting to monitor LMP impact (UUEPC datasets).			SPI.4: £15,000 Ext. consulting.	Is anyone better off? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% LMP members better informed. • 100% education sector informed on skills need. • 6 construction firms - skills needs mapped. • 100% LMP members feel supported in role. 	
Future LMP plan	An annual survey of employers will be undertaken to understand and inform education partners on skills demand, vacancies & future expected growth.	SPI.4: Undertake a construction sector employability and skills review.			SPI.5: £1,700 publication costs.		
	Increase public knowledge of the LMP through comprehensive and robust PR and Marketing campaigns (via both digital and non-digital platforms).	SPI.5: Publish the LMP action plan.			SPI.6: £5,000 Marketing & PR.		
	Review end of year progress & develop a new 3-year plan.	SPI.6: PR & Marketing activity to promote the LMP, launch initiatives, and celebrate key achievements via digital and non-digital channels.			SPI.7: £10,000 Ext. consulting.		
		SPI.7: Annual employers survey as a local monitor of skills and labour demand.			SPI.8: £15,000 Ext. consulting.		
		SPI.8: Annual survey of the LMP members to assess knowledge and satisfaction levels.			SPI.9: £15,000 Ext. consulting.		
		SPI.9: Review the 2023 plan, & forward plan 2024-2026.					

Strategic Priority 2: To improve employability outcomes and/or labour market conditions locally

Indicators: % Working age residents employed; % disability employment gap.
 # Of employee jobs; # of job benefit claimants.
 % Economic activity; % by gender; % gender gap.
 # Of participants engaged in LMP programmes.

Theme	Aim & Description	Key Activities	Start	End	Resource or cost	Performance Measures	Reporting Quarter
Address the People Crisis Improve diversity & inclusivity Improve employability	<p>Target a swift reduction in the number of job claimants and unemployed through sector focused employability academies to re-engage people in work.</p> <p>Address the chronic skills shortage in HGV drivers by investing in skills development.</p> <p>Improve diversity and inclusivity through targeted interventions to address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The disability employment gap – invest in an employer-led employability programme that aims to improve employer understanding of special needs and the support services available. Case studies will celebrate success. The gender gap in economic activity, by targeted marketing of the sectoral academies, and investing in NICMA-approved childcare training to increase the provision of affordable child care. <p>Improve employability outcomes by investing in technologies that help JBOs, Careers Service, Education providers and industry access Industry maintained careers and employability information.</p>	<p>SP2.1: Appoint a Project Officer to support employer engagement and LMP programme delivery.</p> <p>SP2.2: sector-focused Employability Academies co-designed between Industry and FE: manufacturing (4); Construction (2); Agri-food (2); H&SC (2); and Hospitality (2).</p> <p>SP2.3: HGV academy - support industry supply chains by addressing HGV driver shortages (Category C & E).</p> <p>SP2.4: Employer-led Disability Inclusion programme pilot to increase the number of disabled people in paid employment.</p> <p>SP2.5: NICMA approved Childminding basic training academy.</p> <p>SP2.6: Mid Ulster Careers & Employability Portal as a key shared resource to resolve the disconnects in the labour market.</p>	04/22	03/23	<p>Staff Resource + SP2.1: £40,000 council delivery resource.</p> <p>SP2.2: £130,000 delivery partner(s) costs.</p> <p>SP2.3: £0 - DfE funded.</p> <p>SP2.4: £30,000 delivery partner costs.</p> <p>SP2.5: £18,500 delivery partner costs.</p> <p>SP2.6: £80,000 (£20k design £35k build £15k digital content for 3 sectors. £10k online launch event.)</p>	<p>How much did we do?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 delivery officer appt. 12 x 4-week sectoral academies. 1 HGV academy delivered. 1 industry-led disability employment programme 1 childminding academy 1 online portal. <p>How well did we do it?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% delivery of the planned interventions. 60% academy success into job vacancies. <p>Is anyone better off?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 180 academy students - 108 into paid jobs. 15 HGV drivers trained. 15 disability persons into paid work. 20 childminders trained. 23 post primary schools, 3 FE colleges & 3 JBOs better engaged with 3 industry sectors. 	3,4

Strategic Priority 3: To support delivery of Employability NI

Indicators: # of registers of projects & initiatives promoted locally.
 # LMP members better informed of programmes.
 # LMP referrals to regional programmes & # participants on regional programmes (Apprenticeships NI, WEP, Access to Work, Workable NI etc).
 # of LMP initiatives adopted regionally.
 # of LMP promotion events and # of participants.

Theme	Aim & Description	Key Activities	Start	End	Resource or cost	Performance Measures	Reporting Quarter
Build understanding & promote uptake of existing schemes.	<p>Mid Ulster LMPs strategic review and stakeholder engagement exercise has evidenced that industry awareness of Employability NI and available support schemes is low.</p> <p>The LMP should build & maintain a register of all regional and local employability and skills delivery organisations and initiatives to provide stakeholders with a complete understanding of the existing support landscape.</p> <p>Promote the programmes and support / encourage employers and participants to access and implement the schemes – for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apprenticeships NI. • Access to Work. • Workable NI. • Work Experience Programme. 	<p>SP3.1: Map all existing employability and skills interventions available to MUDC employers.</p> <p>Define the purpose, scope, support offer, eligibility criteria.</p> <p>Nominated subgroup stakeholders to maintain the register on a quarterly basis.</p> <p>SP3.2: Improve employer & participant knowledge and access to existing employability and skills services by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • publishing the register on the MUDC website. • Host a jobs & careers fair to include Employability NI promotion. 	04/22	03/23	<p>Staff Resource +</p> <p>SP3.1: £10,000 Ext. consulting.</p> <p>SP3.2: £7,500 Job & careers fair.</p>	<p>How much did we do?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% of existing initiatives mapped. • 1 register of current initiatives developed. • 1 Job & Careers Fair held. <p>How well did we do it?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register updated 3 times in 2023 (quarterly update). • Register made available to stakeholders via MUDC website. • 80% of careers fair attendees satisfied. <p>Is anyone better off?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% of attending LMP members have a better understanding of existing support initiatives. • 100% of MUDC employers and key stakeholders able to access signposts towards Employability NI and other interventions. • 300 job fair participants with improved knowledge of employers & schemes. 30 jobs filled. 	

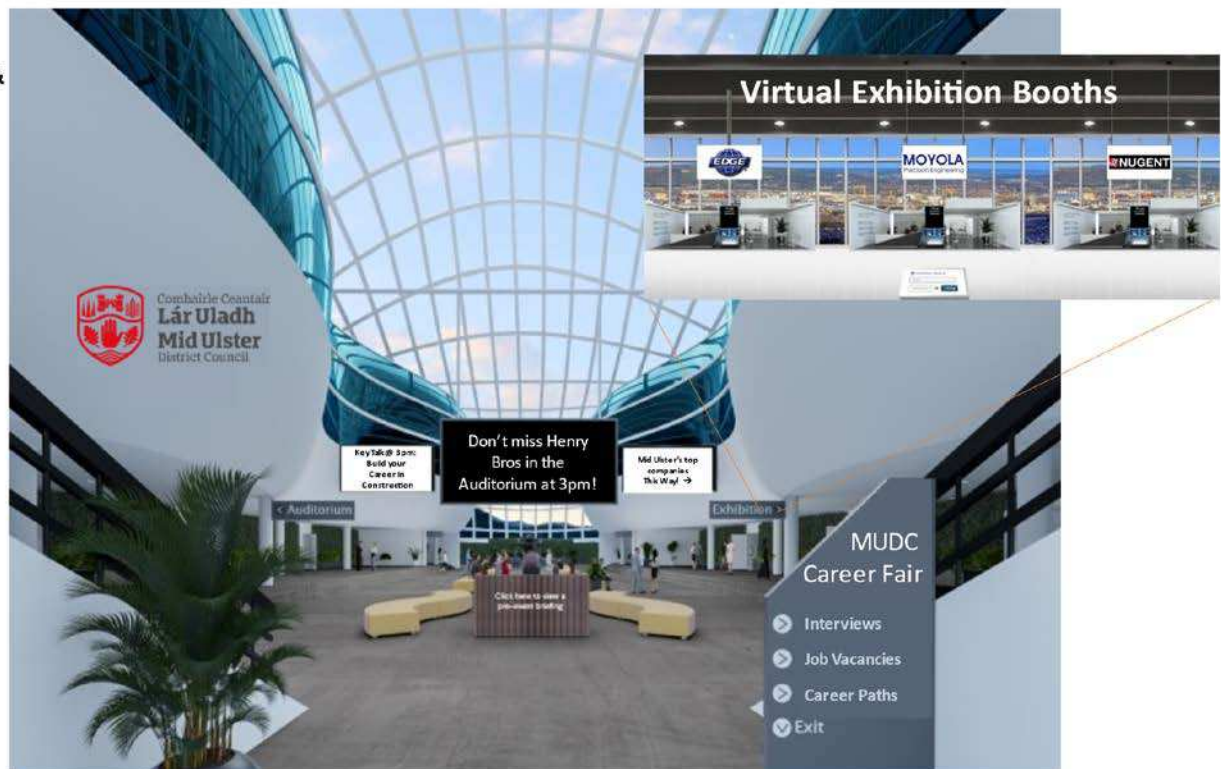
7. Budget

89. The proposed budget for Mid Ulster LMP's 2023 employability action plan is set out in the table below.

Total Administration e.g. Staff costs, running costs, mileage, printing and stationery	£93,675
Strategic Priority 1 - Form and successfully deliver the functions of the local Labour Market Partnership	
SP1.2: Venue, Catering & LMP sundry costs.	£2,000
SP1.3: Procure UUEPC statistical datasets to support the LMP.	£10,000
SP1.4: Construction Sector Skills Scoping Study.	£15,000
SP1.5: Improve awareness of LMP - publish LMP action plan.	£1,700
SP1.6: Promotion of LMP - PR, Marketing & Engagement.	£5,000
SP1.7: Annual employer labour and skills demand forecast.	£10,000
SP1.9: Review 2023 progress and create 3 year forward plan (2024 - 2026).	£15,000
Strategic Priority 2 - To improve employability outcomes and/or labour market conditions locally	
SP2.1: LMP Project Delivery Officer.	£40,000
SP2.2: Employment academies to address post-covid industry needs.	£130,000
SP2.3: HGV academy. <i>*DfE funded project</i>	£0
SP2.4: Employer-led Disability Inclusion Programme pilot.	£30,000
SP2.5: Child minder training academy.	£18,500
SP2.6 Mid Ulster Employment and Careers Portal (£80k).	£80,000
Strategic Priority 3 - To support delivery of Employability NI	
SP3.1: Map & maintain register of all current employability initiatives.	£10,000
SP3.2: Job & Careers Fair.	£7,500
Total Operational	£374,700
Total Spend	£468,375

8. Appendix One: Employability and careers portal concept

Employability &
Careers
Portal
Concept



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Mid Ulster District Council
Council Offices
Dungannon Office
Circular Road
Dungannon
BT71 6DT

Work & Wellbeing Division
Department for Communities
Design Centre
39 Corporation Street
Belfast
BT1 3BA
Email: LMP@communities-ni.gov.uk

Our reference: LMP/ENI/10/21

Date: 01 February 2022

Dear Chief Executive,

LOCAL LABOUR MARKET PARTNERSHIP (LMP) FUNDING 1st APRIL 2021 to 31st MARCH 2022 – LETTER OF OFFER

The Department for Communities is pleased to offer funding of £50,471.40 to Mid Ulster District Council for the costs associated with the local LMP for the period of 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022. The funding offer is for the total administration and set-up costs which is detailed in the attached budget schedule. The Council will be liable for any costs incurred not approved by the Department for Communities.

Specific conditions of the offer:

1. The funding provided is to be used solely for running the LMP.
2. This offer is governed by the conditions for LMPs funding as detailed in the LMP Financial Guidelines.
3. This offer is conditional on acceptance of and adherence to the terms and conditions contained in the LMP Funding Agreement.

Acceptance

Please complete the enclosed letter of acceptance with a copy of the budget attached within 4 weeks from the date on letter of Offer, and return it to:

Secretariat to Labour Market Partnerships
Work and Wellbeing Division
Department for Communities
Design Centre
39 Corporation Street
Belfast
BT1 3BA

Additionally an electronic copy can be sent via email to LMP@communities-ni.gov.uk.

The Department for Communities requires acceptance prior to authorising the LMP first quarter grant claim.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Conrad McConnell". The script is cursive and fluid.

Conrad McConnell

Director

LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE

Secretariat to Labour Market Partnerships
Work and Wellbeing Division
Department for Communities
Design Centre
39 Corporation Street
Belfast
BT1 3BA

Date

**LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE OF LABOUR MARKET PARTNERSHIP (LMP) FUNDING 1
APRIL 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022**

Mid Ulster District Council

This Council agrees the funding offer from the Department for Communities of £50,471.40 for the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022 to set up and administer the LMP in this Council, in line with the funding criteria.

The funding will be wholly, exclusively and necessarily incurred in the set-up and administration of the LMP as detailed in the budget schedule. The Council accept and agree to abide by the Terms and Conditions of the LMP Financial Guidelines and Funding Agreement.

Statement of Financial arrangements and control environment

I confirm the Council:

- has sound financial procedures and controls in place to govern the activities and expenditure of the LMP;
- will ensure all relevant documentation is retained to support all LMP expenditure claims;
- has arrangements in place to satisfy the requirement for providing assurance on the probity and proper use of funds;
- has effective Corporate Governance, Risk Management and operating policies referred to in the Financial Guidelines in place for the LMP; and
- will allow reasonable access to Council records relating to LMP transactions.

Signed.....

Date

Chief Executive, on behalf of Mid Ulster District Council

BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

DfC Reference No: LMP/ENI/10/21

Applicant Mid Ulster District Council

Amount of Funding £50,471.40

Period of Funding 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022

Please complete Bank details below:

Name of Organisation: _____

Billing Address: _____

Name of Account: _____

Bank Name: _____

Bank Address: _____

Sort Code: _____ Account Number: _____

Signed by (Chief Executive)

Name (Block Capitals)

Date



**LABOUR MARKET PARTNERSHIPS -
DEPARTMENT FOR ECONOMY
CONTRIBUTION FOR PILOT TO
DEVELOP REGIONAL SKILLS
ECOSYSTEM**

MID ULSTER COUNCIL

Letter of Offer

January 2022

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AGREEMENT

1. Parties

- (a) The DEPARTMENT FOR THE ECONOMY, and herein after called the “Department”; and
- (b) Mid Ulster Council and hereinafter known as the “Organisation”

2. Details of the Programme

- 2.1 The total funding allocation for the Organisation for financial years 2021/22 and 2022/23 is:

£50,000

- 2.2 The Department will fund the organisation to undertake the following objectives, with more information available at **Annex A:**

- 1. To conduct an assessment of skills provision in local area;**
- 2. To provide regular updates on skills gaps and issues at a local level; and**
- 3. To contribute to a Northern Ireland wide target to support 500 individuals to upskill or reskill into economically viable areas.**

- 2.3 The overarching objective of this intervention is for the development of a regional skills ecosystem, which can contribution to the implementation of the new Northern Ireland Skills Council.

- 2.4 These costs cover both administrative and operational costs incurred by the council in meeting the objectives outlined in sections 2.2.

- 2.5 This contribution has been made in addition to any contributions from the Department for Communities, with reporting through the Labour Market Partnership structures, primarily the Employability NI Programme Board.

3. Duration of Agreement

- 3.1 This Agreement covers the period from date of signature to 31 March 2023, unless otherwise determined in accordance with this Agreement.

4. Organisation's Status

- 4.1 In carrying out its obligations under this Agreement, the organisation is not acting as the agent of the Department. In other respects, the Organisation shall enter into Agreement with third parties as principal and not as agent of the Department and accordingly, shall not do or say anything that might lead any person to believe that the Organisation is acting as agent of the Department.
- 4.2 Nothing in this Agreement shall render the Department liable to indemnify the Organisation in respect of any liability of any kind incurred by them, but this disclaimer shall not be taken to exclude or limit any liability of the Department to the Organisation that may arise, by virtue of a breach of this Agreement by the Department, or any negligent act or omission on the part of the Department, its staff, or agents.

5. Organisation's Obligations

- 5.1 The Organisation shall carry out the programme in accordance with the provisions of **Annex A**. The Annexes to this Agreement shall be deemed to be incorporated in and form part of this Agreement.

- 5.2 The Organisation will continue to comply with all obligations and implement the provisions of all enactments, regulations, statutory provisions and working rules related to legislation as it pertains in Northern Ireland, in line with the broader conditions relevant to the establishment of the Labour Market Partnership.
- 5.3 Funding should be solely utilised for the purpose of meeting the objectives set out in section 2.2/Annex A. If the organisation is unable to meet these objectives, then the Department should be notified immediately.
- 5.4 Any organisation appointed to provide services on its behalf of the council and Labour Market Partnership to deliver against the objectives as set out, must be verified to ensure it has the capacity to deliver and has sufficient internal procedures to ensure all due propriety.

6. Observance of Legal Requirements

- 6.1 The Organisation shall not do or permit anything to be done which might cause a breach or infringement of the laws and regulations of Northern Ireland in the performance of this Agreement.
- 6.2 Without prejudice to Paragraph 6.1 in carrying out this Agreement, the Organisation shall comply with all applicable fair employment, equality of treatment and anti-discrimination legislation, including, in particular, the Employment (Northern Ireland) Order 2003, the Fair Employment and Treatment (Northern Ireland) Order 1998, the Sex Discrimination (Northern Ireland) Order 1976 and 1988, the Equal Pay Act (Northern Ireland) 1970, the Disability Discrimination Act 1995, the Race Relations (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, the Employment Relations (Northern Ireland) Order 2004, the Employment Equality (Age) Regulations (NI) 2006 and the Employment Rights (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 and shall use its best endeavours to

ensure that in its employment policies and practices and in the delivery of the services required of the Organisation under this agreement, it has due regard to the need to promote equality of treatment and opportunity between:

- Persons of different religious beliefs or political opinions;
- Men and women or married and unmarried persons;
- Persons with and without dependants (including women who are pregnant or on maternity leave and men on paternity leave);
- Persons of different racial groups (within the meaning of the Race Relations (Northern Ireland) Order 1997);
- Persons with and without a disability (within the meaning of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995);
- Persons of different ages; and
- Persons of differing sexual orientation.

6.3 The Organisation shall take all reasonable steps to ensure the observance of the provisions of the above Paragraph 6.2 by all servants, agents, employees, consultants and sub-contractors of the Organisation.

6.4 Where any of the Organisation's obligations under this Agreement are carried out by sub-Contractors, the Organisation shall take reasonable steps to ensure that in carrying out those obligations the sub-Contractors comply with the provisions of Paragraphs 6.1 and 6.2.

6.5 This Agreement shall in all respects be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of Northern Ireland and the parties hereby agree that the Courts of Northern Ireland shall have exclusive jurisdiction to hear and determine any disputes arising out of or in connection with this Agreement.

- 6.6 The Organisation shall not, without the prior consent in writing of the Department, assign or transfer this Agreement or any part, share or interest in it.
- 6.7 The Organisation shall, with regard to personal data collected in arranging and managing the courses, be expected to adhere to the requirements of the Data Protection Act (DPA) and the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

7. DfE Contact

- 7.1 Skills Division shall act, on behalf of the Department, to oversee the programme. Therefore any queries should be addressed to the mailbox at flexibleskills@economy-ni.gov.uk

8. Review and Contract

- 8.1 The Organisation shall obtain the Department's written consent to any proposed changes to each of the Programmes (including but not limited to start/end dates of the Programme, individual activities and associated costs).

9. Confidentiality

- 9.1 This Agreement and the terms and conditions contained therein shall be treated as confidential by the Organisation and should not be disclosed to any other person without the prior consent of the Department. The Department will not disclose any information relating to this Agreement, unless it is legally obliged to do so in order to comply with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 or any other legal obligation.

10. Corrupt Gifts or Payments

- 10.1 The Organisation shall not offer or give, or agree to give, to any person any gift or consideration of any kind as any inducement or reward for doing or refraining from doing, or having done or refrained from doing, any act in relation to the obtaining or execution of this or any other Agreement for Her Majesty's Service or for showing or refraining from showing any favour or disfavour to any person in relation to this or any such Agreement.

11. Funding and Accountability

- 11.1 It should be noted that the Eligible Expenditure under this agreement, as set out in **Annex A**, is for the full allocation.
- 11.2 For the purpose of securing the funding the Organisation will invoice the Department before the end of April 2022.

12. Funding Review

- 12.1 In respect of funding, if, at any time, the Organisation considers that it will be unable to spend any or all of the funding allocated, or identifies a possible overspend, it should declare this to the Department at the earliest possible date.
- 12.2 If at any stage during the course it is deemed that the planned outcomes are unlikely to be achieved, the Department has the right to reconsider the level of funding in line with the revised outcomes, e.g. on an apportionment basis. In this event, the Department will consult the Organisation prior to finalising any amendments.

13. Breach

- 13.1 Either party may terminate this Agreement with immediate effect in the event of a material breach of any of its terms by the other party. Such termination shall not affect any rights which the party terminating the Agreement may have against the other party in consequence of the breach.
- 13.2 In the event of a breach of any term of this Agreement the party not in any breach may, as an alternative to immediate termination, serve a notice on the party in breach requiring the breach to be remedied (if capable of remedy) within a period specified in the notice, not being later than three months. If the breach has not been remedied before the expiry of the specified period, the party not in breach may then terminate the Agreement under Paragraph 14.1.

14. Default

- 14.1 If at any time during this Agreement the Organisation is in breach of any of its obligations contained in this letter the Department shall be under no obligation to make any payment or further payment to funding and the Organisation shall, on demand, repay to the Department the full amount of the funding or such proportion thereof as the Department may at its discretion determine.

15. Accounts and Inspection

- 15.1 The Organisation shall maintain separate accounts for these courses. These accounts shall be retained for at least 7 years from the end of the financial year in which the last payment was made under this Agreement.
- 15.2 The Organisation shall permit duly authorised staff or agents of the Department or the Northern Ireland Audit Office to examine the accounts and other records at any reasonable time and shall furnish suitable oral or written explanation(s) if required. The Department reserves the right to have such

staff or agents carry out the examinations into the economy, efficiency and effectiveness with which the Organisation has used the Department resources in the performance of this Agreement. The Organisation shall have regard to the need for economy in all expenditure.

16. Force Majeure

- 16.1 Notwithstanding anything that is contained in this Agreement, neither party shall be liable for delay or failure to perform any obligation under the Agreement in so far as the performance of such obligation is prevented by an industrial dispute or by any other causes which are beyond the reasonable control of the affected party.

Signed: 

Name (CAPITALS): RAYMOND KELLY

TITLE: Skills Initiative Branch

(On behalf of the Department for the Economy)

Date: 27th January 2022

FORM OF ACCEPTANCE:

LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE OF LABOUR MARKET PARTNERSHIP FUNDING FROM
THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE ECONOMY 01 JANUARY 2022 TO 31 MARCH 2023

MID ULSTER COUNCIL

This Council agrees the funding offer from the Department for the Economy of £50,000 for the period 1 January 2022 to 31 March 2023 to deliver the skills related objectives set out in section 2.2 of the letter of offer, under the auspices of the labour market partnership established.

The funding will be wholly, exclusively and necessarily incurred in the set-up and achievement of those objectives, and the Council accept and agree to abide by the Terms and Conditions of the Letter of Offer

I confirm the Council:

- has sound financial procedures and controls in place to govern the activities and expenditure related to the skills element of the LMP;
- has arrangements in place to satisfy the requirement for providing assurance on the probity and proper use of funds;
- has effective Corporate Governance, Risk Management and operating policies referred to in the Financial Guidelines in place for the LMP; and
- will allow reasonable access to Council records relating to LMP transactions pertaining to skills.

Signed.....

Date

Chief Executive, on behalf of Mid Ulster Council

Signed:

Name: (CAPITALS)

Position:

Date:

Signed:

ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE

- I am pleased to advise that the Department is prepared to offer the following contribution to the Organisation's Labour Market Partnership, supporting the development of a regional skills ecosystem:

£50,000

- This funding will be used to achieve the following objectives:

#	Objective	Specific actions to achieve objective	How will the customer be better off? (i.e. Outcomes)
1.	To conduct an assessment of skills provision in local area	i. Identification of council specific skills interventions ii. Overlaps with other governmental programmes iii. Identification of gaps and areas for growth	<p>With multiple departments, agencies and local government offering skills solutions, a degree of duplication has occurred.</p> <p>Councils will conduct a review of all provision, and seek to maximise use of NI wide programmes, in order to better focus on local solutions to specific skills problems, saving resource by reducing duplication, and addressing real time issues with local skills interventions.</p> <p>Outcome: a more efficient skills system that offers localised solutions</p>
2.	To provide regular updates on skills gaps and issues at a local level	i. Quarterly returns from each LMP setting out skills issues raised by employers and other stakeholders ii. Annual review and assessment of skills gaps	<p>Granular skills data at a local level has been difficult to achieve. LMPs will work with their employers and other stakeholders to identify skills gaps and issues, for DfE to utilise as part of its Northern Ireland wide planning.</p> <p>Customers will benefit from an evidence based identification of skills gaps and an appropriate Departmental proactive and flexible response to meet these gaps</p> <p>Outcome: greater evidence base on localised skills needs.</p>
3.	To contribute to a Northern Ireland wide target to support 500 individuals to upskill or reskill into economically viable areas	i. Identify skills gaps, where no or insufficient provision exists ii. Work with DfE and delivery partners to develop solution	<p>While DfE, DfC and other agencies provide a wide range of skills solutions, councils can, and will, be placed to respond to local bespoke needs.</p> <p>By achieving this outcome, 500 individuals will receive upskilling support to train in areas that are economically viable for their local area.</p> <p>Outcome: a more skilled workforce.</p>

CUSTOMER SERVICE POLICY

The Organisation will deliver this programme in line with the Department's Declaration of Customer Service Policy:

1. This statement formally acknowledges that the quality we provide is of the highest priority to all Department staff. Through effective teamwork and maximum co-operation between all our staff we seek to maximise the benefits to the community from the services we offer.
2. The Department is committed to ensuring that all services are made as accessible as possible to all who seek to use them.
3. Department staff are committed to assisting customers and clients and to demonstrating that they care about their needs.
4. Department staff will provide a competent, helpful and friendly service to the highest professional standards.
5. At all times Department staff will seek to demonstrate a flexible responsive attitude to all customers and clients.
6. This policy will apply to customers inside and outside the Department.
7. The Department is committed to deliver and manage all its services and programmes in a way which is consistent with the policy of the Department for the Economy to promote equality of opportunity:
 - Between persons of different religious belief, political opinion, racial group, age, marital status or sexual orientation;

- Between men and women generally;
- Between persons with a disability and persons without; and
- Between persons with dependants and persons without.

The Department for the Economy is committed to delivering a quality service to its customers and to this end a customer complaints process has been put in place which is available at:

<https://www.economy-ni.gov.uk/dfe-complaints-procedure>

**Minutes of Meeting of the Development Committee of Mid Ulster District Council
held on Thursday 13 January 2022 in the Council Offices, Circular Road,
Dungannon and by Virtual Means**

Members Present

Councillor Molloy, Chair

Councillors Black*, Burton, Clarke*, Corry*, Cuddy, Doris*,
Elattar*, Kerr*, McNamee*, Milne*, Monteith*, Quinn* and
Wilson

**Officers in
Attendance**

Mr McCreesh, Chief Executive
Ms Campbell, Strategic Director of Environment
Mr Gordon, Assistant Director of Health, Leisure and
Wellbeing
Mr McCance, Head of Culture & Arts
Ms McKeown**, Assistant Director of Economic
Development, Tourism & Strategic Programmes
Mr Brown, ICT Support
Mrs Forde, Member Support Officer

**Others in
Attendance**

Cllr S McGuigan ***
Cllr Brown ***

* Denotes Members present in remote attendance

** Denotes Officers present by remote means

*** Denotes Others present by remote means

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm.

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

D001/22 Apologies

Councillor Ashton

Ms Linney**, Assistant Director of Development, Strategic Community Development

D002/22 Declarations of Interest

The Chair, Councillor Molloy reminded Members of their responsibility with regard to declaration of interest drawing particular attention to agenda items, 5, 9 and 16.

Councillor Elattar declared an interest in Ballinascreen Credit Union

Councillors Molloy and Monteith declared an interest in Dungannon Credit Union

Councillor Kerr declared an interest in Coalisland Credit Union

Councillor Clarke declared an interest in Kildress Credit Union

Councillor McNamee declared an interest in Ballinascreen Credit Union and Anrathdoo Credit Union

Councillor Burton declared an interest in Aughnacloy Credit Union

Councillor Clarke declared an interest in Broughderg Community Development Association

Councillor Doris declared an interest in Coalsiland Credit Union

Councillor Milne declared an interest in Bannvale Credit Union

Councillor Corry declared an interest Ballinascreen and Anrathdoo Credit Union

Councillor Wilson declared an interest in Fairhill & District Credit Union

Councillor Quinn declared an interest in Coalisland Credit Union

D003/22 Chair's Business

The Chair Councillor Molloy wished everyone a Happy New year.

Councillor Kerr raised the issue of the backlog of MOT, Driving and Theory tests and said that in Fermanagh there had been an initiative that DVLA staff had been available in libraries in an effort to work through appointments. He proposed that Council write to the DfI regarding the issue as well as exploring if they would host clinics in Mid Ulster similar to that held in Fermanagh and Omagh district.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy said that a similar issued had been raised at the Environment committee and it had been agreed to write to the Minister.

Councillor McNamee concurred.

Councillor Monteith seconded Councillor Kerr's proposal.

Proposed by Councillor Kerr
Seconded by Councillor Monteith and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that in the letter agreed by Environment Committee to write to the Minister of Department for Infrastructure regarding Driving & Theory testing that MOT testing also be included and

2 – Development Committee (13.1.22)

that the possibility of have DfI host clinics in local venues as took place in Fermanagh & Omagh district be explored.

Councillor McNamee said that due to Covid the Continental Market had been cancelled for two years and now that other organisations had started to plan events such as the North West and St Patrick's Day Council should do likewise. He said there was hopes that the end of the pandemic was coming and Council should now prepare for events as for example road closures had to be applied for the Continental Market.

Councillor Doris concurred with Councillor McNamee and said that she had attended the Continental Market every year and highlighted the Newell 10k as another event to be returned.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy said that the comments would be taken on board.

The AD: HL&W said that it was hoped to present a report to committee as officers were looking at the viability of all previous corporate events. He said that the dates were provisionally booked for the Continental Market but Council did have to consider the risk factor but would do all it could.

Councillor Burton said it was important for council to plan as best it can and expressed delight in the Dungannon Farmers Market and how well it was going. She also said it would be good to include Clogher Valley show in plans as it brings thousands to the area and it was a time, although still necessary to be mindful of Covid, for people to be encouraged to step out.

Councillor Wilson said that Cookstown 100 was celebrating its centenary and suggested that Council could do something extra for it this year. It was noted that the organization had received an award for best event regarding health and safety.

Councillor Wilson also reflected on driving through various parts of the district at Christmas time to view the festive lighting. He paid tribute to all who put up decorations and highlighted that Cookstown had received recognition in the top ten places to see at Christmas. He remarked that the trees used for the lighting had grown and it was now a key time to forward plan and look about replacing the lights and using the existing elsewhere.

In response the SD: Environment said this was part of the plan as officers had taken cognizance of the fact the lights were no longer sufficient and were proactive in plans.

Councillor Burton said that Council provide funding for smaller areas and some storms had destroyed lighting displays in Fivemiletown and if that could be considered for next year's as broken displays would need to be replaced. She said that festive lighting brings a 'feel good factor' to areas and Fivemiletown was the gateway to Mid Ulster from Fermanagh.

Councillor Milne said the main towns get their fair share of festive lighting whilst many community groups have to source funding on an annual basis. He said if there was any lights going spare Bellaghy would appreciate them.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy said that much work had been done in Moy and it had looked fantastic but unfortunately some lights had been destroyed through anti-social behavior.

Matters for Decision

D004/22 Update on DfC Access and Inclusion Programme 2021/2022

The Head of Culture & Arts presented the previously report providing an update on Department for Communities Access and Inclusion Programme 2021/2022.

It was noted that letters of offer had been received for

- Accessible Benches for Community venues throughout Mid Ulster District;
- Glenone Riverside Walk
- Newferry Accessible Parking and Picnic Tables

It was further noted that should the outstanding projects not receive funding in the current year they would carry forward to the next financial year.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson
Seconded by Councillor Kerr

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that

- (i) Note the update on the 2021/22 Department for Communities Access and Inclusion Funding Programme
- (ii) To seek approval to set up specific finance codes to incur expenditure for each project as detailed in section 3 of the report, where required.
- (iii) To seek approval to utilise the approved Council framework contractors, where required, to deliver the projects identified; and
- (iv) To seek approval to initiate a tender process to appoint suitably qualified contractors for the installation of projects as identified in section 3 of the report and where required.

D005/22 Community Development Report

The SD: Env presented the previously circulated report to provide an update on key activities and sought approval for the following

- Community Grants - to approve the Council grants policy 2022 – 2023; to agree the rolling grant awards - Local Community Festivals,
- Good Relations and Decade of Anniversaries
- Emergency Support funding – to approve the final allocation of the Emergency Support funding.
- Financial Inclusion Funding (Credit Unions Allocation) – to approve the allocation from DfC for its Financial Inclusion initiative to the affiliated network of Credit Unions across the district.

- Charlie Donnelly Winter school – to approve cooperation with the Charlie Donnelly Winter School and Council to Council linkages between Mid Ulster and Madrid with the municipality of Rivas Vaciamadrid, and Taranco region. Development - to update on Development.

Councillor Doris spoke of her work with the poverty plan through Credit Unions and how she had been taken aback by the lack of financial literacy within the community. She highlighted that people with credit card issues from university days were encountering problems securing mortgages. Councillor Doris highlighted the need for education in this area especially in schools and community groups for example Men's Shed. She highlighted the statistic that if you are in financial difficulty you are 20 times more likely to lose their life to suicide.

Councillor Corry concurred with Councillor Doris' comments. She also sought clarity in relation to Emergency Support Funding as to whether STEP, who had during the Covid period had difficulty with staffing would be able to meet the demand this would bring. In response the SD: Environment said that hopefully the situation of Covid improving this would ease the situation but Officers would report back to the Member.

- Community Grants

Proposed by Councillor Clarke
Seconded by Councilor Doris

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve Community Festival grant from rolling programme for 1 application received totally £840 as detailed in appendix 1 of the report.

- Emergency Support Funding

Proposed by Councillor Clarke
Seconded by Councilor Doris

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the final allocation of the Emergency Support funding and participate in the partner project to support families in need as outlined in the report.

- Financial Inclusion Funding (Credit Unions Allocation)

Proposed by Councillor Clarke
Seconded by Councilor Doris

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve allocation of £46,740 from DfC for its Financial Inclusion initiative to the affiliated network of Credit Unions cross the district as detailed in appendix 3 of the report.

- Charlie Donnelly Winter School

Proposed by Councillor Clarke

5 – Development Committee (13.1.22)

Seconded by Councilor Doris

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve cooperation with the Charlie Donnelly Winter School and Council to Council linkages between Mid Ulster and Madrid with the municipality of Rivas Vaciamadrid, and Tarancón region.

- Development Report

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to note the update on Development.

D006/22 Consultation Response: DfC Intermediate Rent Development of Policy and Model

The AD: D,SCD presented the previously circulated report outlining Council's response to the Department for Communities Intermediate Rent Development of Policy and Model: Consultation and sought approval for the response as outlined in the report.

Councillor Monteith welcomed the response but said that this may lead down a blind alley as he had serious concerns regarding who sets the private/social rent as it is becoming the case that social housing is more expensive than the private sector. He said there was also said that some limitations did not help people put down roots in a community. He said legislation was needed in the private sector as soon as possible in order that some of the practices and actions taking place is legislated against. He said his fear was that a lot of time and energy was being poured into the work and people would be sitting in the same situation next year. Councillor Monteith concluded that the action was long overdue but the reality is it does not address the issue of here and now which is raised constantly with Members.

Councillor Kerr concurred and said intervention and regulated rent control was needed especially in Dungannon and Coalisland highlighting that often landlords inflated the rent as a means of making the property unaffordable to the tenant. He concluded saying that the NI Housing Executive should be discouraged from selling to the private sector and that housing was a human right.

Councillor Corry thanked staff for the work on the response and said that eventually something was being done to tackle issue on rents. She said there was no mention of maintenance and repairs and asked that a line be included to determine responsibility.

Councillor Molloy said that some of the points link into the the 'Notice to Quit Periods' Consultation later in the agenda. He too said that he was familiar with rent increases forcing people out.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith
Seconded by Councillor Kerr

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the response.

D007/22 Regional Minority Language Bursary Programme and Irish Language Activity Funding Programme

The Head of Culture and Arts drew attention to the previously circulated report outlining the proposed Regional and Minority Language Bursary programme 2022/23 and Irish Language Activity Funding Programme 2022/23 and to seek approval from Council to publicly advertise both schemes

Councillor McNamee said he was happy to propose and hopefully this year would see a return of the Gaeltacht.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Kerr

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that

- (i) Subject to funding approval is granted to publicly advertise the 2022/23 Regional and Minority Language Bursary Programme
- (ii) Subject to funding approval is granted to issue a call for expressions of interest for proposed projects and initiatives under the Irish Language Activity Programme 2022/23.

D008/22 Purchasing Books for Resale at Seamus Heaney Homeplace

The Head of Culture and Arts drew attention to the previously circulated report requesting approval to purchase books for resale from Grantham Books Services as the sole Northern Ireland Distributor for Faber & Faber (Seamus Heaney's publishers)

Councillor Wilson asked about the process for determining the suppliers of gift products sold at Seamus Heaney HomePlace.

In response the Head of Culture and Arts said that a tender is carried out to identify product for resale within the facility. The process permitted suppliers of product to submit an application to a panel for assessment, and the panel would score applicant products and this would determine what products are sold through the gift shop at the facility. The Head of Culture and Arts stated that he would check with the facility as to the current arrangements and inform the member directly.

Councillor Cuddy said as a retailer he would get local people who write and publish books requesting that he sell them in the shop. He said often he would take a quantity and sell them on. He said people sometimes can find it difficult to get outlets to take the books and Council should support them as they can be both topical and varied and it would be good to have some sort of agreement.

In response the Head of Culture and Arts said that if those with specific product for resale could make contact with him in the first instance that he would advise accordingly and assist where possible.

Councillor Burton supported Councillor Cuddy stating that Council should facilitate as people take a great interest in books on local issues and places.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson
Seconded by Burton

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the Direct Award Contract for the purchase of Seamus Heaney book stock (for resale) from Grantham Books Services, as the sole distributor for Faber and Faber in Northern Ireland, for the next 3 year period from January 2022-to December 2024, and to avail of the 35% discount price of the book stock purchased from this source.

D009/22 Sports Representative Grants

The Assistant Director Health, Leisure & Wellbeing presented previously circulated report to present to Members the proposed community grant allocations for the Sports Representative Grant – Teams and Individuals (December 2021).

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Kerr

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to note the contents of the report and grant approval for the sports grant allocations as recommended to the value of one individual £250.

D010/22 Consultation DfC: Notice to Quit Periods for Private Tenancies

The AD: HLW drew attention to the previously circulated report outlining Council's response for submission in respect of the Department for Communities: Notice to Quit Periods for Private Tenancies.

Councillor Monteith said he appreciated the response but sometimes the reality on what is taking place on the ground is missed. He said many evictions are taking place and people asked to leave their homes for invalid reason and there is no advise available and that the cards is very much in favour of the landlord. He said Councillor Kerr had mentioned eviction by rent increase thus there is no letter to quit but the rent keeps climbing! Councillor Monteith concluded that the whole sector needed to be regulated and that local councils and or the NIHE needed the authority over the rental sector.

Councillor Elattar acknowledged that there had been problems for many years and that Minister Hargey had delivered initiatives to alleviate them but that the situation did not occur overnight and it would take a while to work through. She concluded that it was a good response to the consultation.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith
Seconded by Councillor Elattar

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the response as outlined in the report.

D011/22 Economic Development OBFD

The Assistant Director of Economic Development, Tourism & Strategic Programmes presented previously circulated report to provide members with an update on key activities and sought approval for the following:

- **High Street Task Force: Call For Evidence 2021:** The Northern Ireland Executive Office sought views on its initial findings and potential solutions for key issues facing our high streets. The High Street Task Force (HSTF), a group formed by The Executive Office has identified the challenges and issues that our high streets face. The HSTF has been seeking views on solutions to support our high streets and to contribute to the development of thriving and sustainable city, town and village centres.

Proposed by Councillor Burton
Seconded by Councillor Cuddy

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to Retrospectively Approve response to the High Street Task Force - Call for Evidence, which had to be submitted before the deadline of 6 December 2021. If any Member has further comments they wish to add, these should be forwarded to the Assistant Director of Economy, Tourism & Strategic Programmes by 20 January 2022, who will forward them on to The High Street Task Force.

- **Tourism Active Travel Projects:** In June 2021, Greenway and Active Travel Projects wrote to Council to advise of a funding initiative through Department of Infrastructure (DfI) to install active travel pods on existing or potential Greenway sites. An application was submitted in July 2021 to look at installing 6 active travel pods along the old railway lines, which take in our 6 main towns in the district. Following assessment of the application, a business case for the project was submitted to the value of £24,480 (excl. Vat). Council is currently awaiting the Letter of Offer.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy said he had not realised that the A29 to Coleraine was a Greenway.

Councillor Cuddy said that Councillor McKinney had highlighted if he left his home in Tobermore he could walk to the North coast but if he turned the other direction there is no footpaths at all.

The Chair Councillor Molloy said it was similar to Portadown where you would walk to the Irish Sea but that mid Tyrone had nothing.

Councillor Burton said that Council needed to push forward initiatives as safety was paramount and highlighted the example of the footpath at Eglishe.

Councillor Burton drew attention to the site at Fivemiletown Round Lake and said that Council had spent £1m but the paths around the lake were not in good shape and locally there was negative feedback and Council needed to strive to get this sorted.

Councillor Monteith said that he would be supportive but said that Council had lots of plans for urban parks and proposed that it be standard to incorporate active travel pods and it was essential to factor in at planning stages.

Councillor Kerr seconded the proposal

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that active travel pods be incorporated into future park developments.

Councillor Kerr in relation to Coalisland Canal (Gortgonis) asked if the benches would be accessible benches.

In response the Chair, Councillor Molloy said the matter was the next item of business,

Councillor Clarke said that the footpaths and greenways had also many historical connections and said you could walk from Draperstown to North Coast and if there was established footpaths in place would be maintained, but if it is no established footpaths then it is a problem. He said that DfI had a major role to play and highlighted the example of Ballyronan a major tourist attraction but there was no footpath to walk to it. He said that in driving forward projects it was imperative that DfI contribute.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy said that in relation to historical walks there was also the connection of the O'Neill's and the Flight of the Earls.

Proposed by Councillor Burton
Seconded by Councillor Cuddy

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to

- (i) Note the contents of the report;
- (ii) Approve the project subject to DfI signing off the Business Case.
- (iii) Subject to the business case being approved, and DfI issuing Council with a letter of offer, grant authority for the Chief Executive to sign and return the letter of offer and permit staff to initiate the relevant procurement process.

- **The Covid Recovery Small Settlements Regeneration Programme:**
Members were informed of the Covid Small Settlements Regeneration Programme at the November 2021 Committee meeting. Council has received further correspondence from the Department for Communities (DfC) (appendix 2A of the report) requesting submission of a draft Small Settlements Regeneration Plan by 12 noon on 21st December 2021 as detailed in appendix 2b of the report.

This Programme is being jointly funded by three government departments – DfC, DAERA and DfI and aims to realise a range of benefits including:

- Physical regeneration of small settlements in order to improve place making and aid recovery from Covid-19
- Improvements that encourage people to live, work, visit and invest in the area by 2022/23
- Improvements that enhance walking, cycling and other associated facilities within the scheme area by 2022/23.

Councillor Wilson thanked staff for their work and drew attention to appendix 1 and asked why Dungannon was in as a village.

In response the AD: EDT&SP advised that the area was outside the 30mph zone.

The SD: Environment said that the project was to link Ballysaggart Lough back to the Town Centre.

Councillor Kerr apologised for raising the issue prior and asked in relation to Coalisland Canal (Gortgonis) if the street furniture would include accessible benches.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy confirmed they would be.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson
Seconded by Councillor Burton

The Chief Executive thanked Members for paying tribute to staff and said the project had burned the midnight oil and whilst they had sought an extension it had only been given to the 2 January 2022. He said this was an intelligent piece of work and moving forward Council needed to have projects 'shelf ready'. The Chief Executive concluded that moving forward proposals would be brought for approval ad hoc in order that they were ready as funding became available.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy concurred.

Councillor Cuddy commended the work and said it had struck him the total cost is £2.3m which if funding bid was successful would be 90% funded externally which was excellent.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to

- (i) Retrospectively approve Council's draft Covid19 Small Settlements Regeneration Plan submitted to DfC on 21st December 2021;
- (ii) Approve that delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive to accept and sign a Letter of Offer from DfC to allow the projects to be progressed as soon as possible, given the tight timeframes for delivery;
- (iii) Note that a report will be brought to the P&R Committee in February 2022, to seek the necessary approvals for Council's match funding towards the schemes.

- **DfC Revitalisation Scheme 2021/2022 – Coalisland Town Centre:** The Department for Communities (DfC) had approved the Revitalisation scheme for Coalisland Town Centre to the value of £250,000, which followed after the completion of Coalisland Public Realm Scheme. DfC will provide 100% funding towards the scheme, with the proviso that all projects must be completed by 31st March 2022.

Councillor Kerr said he had been asked if Coalisland would get shopping bags for issue similar to Dungannon and Cookstown as this was a great way of advertising 'shop local'.

In response the AD: EDT&SP said that shopping bags would form part of the proposals to promote the town's new brand, once completed.

Proposed by Councillor Kerr
Seconded by Councillor McNamee

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to retrospectively approve for permission to be granted to the Chief Executive to sign the Letter of Variance from Department for Communities for £274,000, which includes the additional funding of £24,000.

- **Request from the Workspace Group:** It was noted that correspondence was received on 14 December 2021 from Ms Georgina Grieve, CEO, Workspace Group requesting Council support in relation to match funding for the 12-month extension to the ESF Programme starting April 2022 and running until March 2023.

It was noted that Council were awaiting the results of the Department of Economy's £8m bid to Westminster for funding before it finally committed its budget for this area of work.

Councillor Elattar said that it was not just Workspace which was impacted in this way but another negative impact of Brexit across the voluntary and community sector. She said there was no money forthcoming from Westminster although there had been a lot of talk about funding. She concluded she would propose the recommendation.

Councillor Corry said this was a direct result of Brexit and nothing had been heard about funding and on reading the document training and young people were going to be hit hard and there would be a major impact on Mid Ulster. Councillor Corry suggested that Council write to the Department of the Economy seeking an update in relation to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy concurred and asked the AD: EDT&SP to note.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to seek an update from the Department of the Economy in relation to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund

Declaration of Interest

Councillor Wilson declared an interest in Cookstown Enterprise Centre as they were involved in Workspace Programme

Councillors Cuddy and Molloy declared an interest in Dungannon Enterprise Centre.

Proposed by Councillor Elattar

Seconded by Councillor Corry

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to write to Ms Georgina Grieve, Workspace Group, providing a '*letter of support*' from Mid Ulster District Council regarding their deficits in funding to deliver ESF funded projects in 2022/23.

- **All Island Strategic Rail Review Consultation**

The Department for Infrastructure (DfI) is consulting on a document titled "All Island Strategic Rail Review". The consultation document considers and focuses on how the rail network on the island of Ireland can improve to promote sustainable connectivity into, and between, the major cities, enhance regional accessibility and support balanced regional development. This is a joint consultation with the Irish Government's Department of Transport.

Councillor Burton thanked the Officer team for compiling the response and asked if there had been any interaction with groups from ABC Council area as some board members reside in that area. She said this should be used as part of the communication to get the message out and encourage others to respond as many would hope to see the railway network back into the areas. She concluded that many residents drive to Dungannon then take the bus to Portadown for railway connections.

Councillor Corry thanked officers for the response and acknowledged there was massive gaps in the network highlighting areas such as Dungannon and Cookstown before you even reach the rural areas. She said there was much said about climate change and reducing the use of cars but people in rural areas did not have any other option as there was poor bus network and no rail network.

Councillor Monteith said the response was good work and concurred with Councillor Burton that this should be a launch pad for Council to get more involved in promoting a rail network in the area. The public who would buy in as the removal of the rail network was an act of complete vandalism both economically and socially. He said he thought it was the start of something useful and it should be central to Council policy to drive to get the railway network back and All Ireland rail network.

Councillor Burton said Council should be exact in what the possibilities are it does not stop in Dungannon if going to Fermanagh it needs to go through the Clogher Valley.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy said there is a tendency to look at what it was in past but there is the opportunity to look for new inventive as it would be starting from a blank page.

Councillor Quinn said it could not be envisioned that the railway network would come back as it was but if we could get a drive on and the Council behind it if we could get connectivity back to Dungannon and build on that to Fermanagh and Donegal it is big undertaking but Council should strive to do this.

Proposed by Councillor Cuddy
Seconded by Councillor Burton

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to consider Council's draft response to the All Island Strategic Rail Review and provide commentary as necessary to inform the final response to be submitted on behalf of Council by 21 January 2022.

Matters for Information

D012/22 Minutes of Development Committee held on 8 December 2021

Members noted Minutes of Development Committee held on 8 December 2021

Councillor Burton referred to D214/21 Deputation regarding Clogher Valley Rugby Club and clarified that the funding she had referred to had been SWARD.

Councillor Monteith drew attention to D226/21 Town Centre Cleaning and asked if there was any further progress.

In response the AD: EDT&SP advised that specifications were being drawn up and would be presented to February meeting.

Councillor Monteith said it was vital that all areas in the town were covered.

D013/22 Paws for Thought

Members noted previously circulated report.

D014/22 Economic Development - OBF

Members noted update on key activities as detailed below:

- Coalisland Town Centre Forum Minutes 25.10.21
- Mid Ulster Enterprise Week 2021: Evaluation
- Mid Ulster Labour Market Partnership (LMP)
- Mid Ulster District Tourism Development Group

Live broadcast ended at 8.07 pm

Local Government (NI) Act 2014 – Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor Burton
Seconded by Councillor McNamee

14 – Development Committee (13.1.22)

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 D015/22 to D019/22

Matters for Decision

D015/22 Economic Development Report
D016/22 Consider letter of Officer from DfC regarding Dungannon Thomas Clarke's Project

Matters for Information

D017/22 Confidential Minutes of Development Committee held on 8 December 2021
D018/22 Mid South West Region Growth Deal

D019/22 Duration of Meeting

The meeting commenced at 7 pm and concluded at 8.25 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.

15 – Development Committee (13.1.22)

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	Update on Master Plan for lands at Mullagh Road, Maghera
Date of Meeting	10th February 2022
Reporting Officer	Kieran Gordon, Assistant Director Health, Leisure & Wellbeing
Contact Officer	Anne Reid, Parks & Countryside Development 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 following the appointment of Outdoor Recreation Northern Ireland (ORNI) to develop a Master Plan for the potential development of lands between Mullagh Road / Tobermore Road as an outdoor recreational green space for the Maghera area.
2.0	Background
2.1	In April 2021, Members approved a proposal to appoint a suitable qualified consultancy team to carry out a feasibility study into the development of lands at Mullagh Road, Maghera. (Minute Ref D065/21)
2.2	In October 2021, Members were made aware that following a procurement process, ORNI were appointed to carry out a feasibility study into the development of lands at Mullagh Road, Maghera. Minute Ref D187/21. Contained within the October 2021 committee report was a proposed approach with project timelines and the initial aspiration was to complete the works within 19 weeks with a target completion date of 31 st September 2022.
2.3	This report seeks to provide information on progress to date and amended timelines for this project.
3.0	Main Report

3.1	ORNI have started work on the project, in the form of desk research and fieldwork. Consultations (Key agencies, stakeholders, community and Council etc) are due to take place end January/beginning February 2022.																		
3.2	The overall deadline for completion is now projected to be April 2022 instead of end of January 2022.																		
3.3	Members may recognise the slippage from the projected timeframe as previously reported in October 2021. Regrettably, this has arisen from staffing capacity within ORNI, due to unforeseen circumstances.																		
	The following table outlines the revised project stages and timeframes:																		
	<table><tr><th>Stage</th><th>Details</th><th>Target Date</th></tr><tr><td>Step 1</td><td>Project Foundation Project Inception Meeting</td><td>Completed Nov 2021</td></tr><tr><td>Step 2</td><td>Current Position<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Desk Research• Fieldwork• Consultation</td><td>Completed January 2022 Completed January 2022 Target: February 2022</td></tr><tr><td>Step 3</td><td>Analysis and Initial Findings</td><td>Target: February 2022</td></tr><tr><td>Step 4</td><td>Concept Development</td><td>Target: March 2022</td></tr><tr><td>Step 5</td><td>Final Report</td><td>Target: April 2022</td></tr></table>	Stage	Details	Target Date	Step 1	Project Foundation Project Inception Meeting	Completed Nov 2021	Step 2	Current Position <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Desk Research• Fieldwork• Consultation	Completed January 2022 Completed January 2022 Target: February 2022	Step 3	Analysis and Initial Findings	Target: February 2022	Step 4	Concept Development	Target: March 2022	Step 5	Final Report	Target: April 2022
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Step 4	Concept Development	Target: March 2022																	
Step 5	Final Report	Target: April 2022																	
4.0	Other Considerations																		
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications																		
	Financial: Costs reported previously and within existing capital programme budget allocations																		
	Human: Existing staff resources will work alongside appointed consultancy team. No additional staffing resource required.																		
	Risk Management: Considered in conjunction with Council policies and procedures.																		
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments																		
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: Will be developed as part of the project and in conjunction with Council policies and procedures.																		
	Rural Needs Implications: Will be developed as part of the project and in conjunction with Council policies and procedures.																		

5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	To note the contents of this report.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix A: Project Details

Appendix A: Project Details for Master Plan/Business Case - Maghera Walkways

Step 1 – Project Foundation

Project Inception Meeting – Completed Nov 2021

ORNI convened an inception meeting with relevant representatives from Mid Ulster District Council to provide the opportunity to gain further insight into the vision and objectives of the project and the practicalities of the site.

ORNI understands the study area for this project is adjacent to an ongoing Council project to redevelop the former Maghera High School Site as a new mixed-use Enterprise Centre and Business Park. In addition, ORNI, understands there has been some previous opposition to this proposal due to a demand for a public green space.

Strategic Context - Completed December 2021

ORNI undertook an examination of the strategic context within which the site would operate. As part of this process, a detailed examination of the Plan's contribution to local and national policies was undertaken. This included but was not limited to:

- NI Government / Departmental Strategic aims and policy objectives
- Mid Ulster District Council – Corporate Plan, Community Plan, Outdoor Recreation Strategy, Parks and Play Strategy.

Step 2 – Current Position

It was essential that ORNI understood the current position of the site to identify deficiencies and will begin to develop recommendations to improve the current situation. This will provide the foundation for future steps.

Desk Research – Completed January 2022

ORNI have undertaken desk research of any existing studies and information relating to the site. This included but was not limited to:

- Public vs private land ownership
- Land use / management
- Constraints e.g. it is evident the site falls within a flood risk area
- Statutory designations – Built and Natural Heritage
- Plans for adjoining business park and Maghera Development Framework 2018
- Formal and Informal Recreation via external sources such as Strava Global Heat Maps and specialist activity websites / forums

Fieldwork – Completed January 2022

Informed by the aforementioned desk research, ORNI have undertaken fieldwork to identify and assess:

- Deficiencies in current provision
- Opportunities for development / positive control points
- Access points
- Supporting infrastructure carrying capacity e.g. approach roads, car parking, visitor services
- Current recreation offering e.g. trail network, signage, waymarking, interpretation
- Topography/ Ground Conditions

- Risks – e.g. Invasive species e.g. Japanese knotweed, anti-social behaviour, informal activity, dumping / hazardous material

Consultation – Target Date: February 2022

ORNI will undertake consultation at two levels:

(1) Key agencies and stakeholders

This consultation will further inform the findings from desk research and initial fieldwork. For example, consultation may be required as follows:

- Council staff (and appointed planners) – regarding proposals for the business park
- NED / HED – regarding natural and built heritage designations respectively
- DfI Roads – regarding access roads, new entrances, pedestrian crossing points
- Council Planning Dept – regarding all of above

(2) Assessment of need

The objective of this step is to identify the type and need for intervention at the site. This will ensure that proposed solutions are appropriate for the volume, needs and motivations of those who are most likely to engage with the site. ORNI believes projects of this nature can only be sustainable in the long-term if it is fully embraced by the local community. It is envisaged an indicative list of topics for the survey will include:

- Views on strengths and deficiencies in current position
- Identification of proposed interventions (facilities / activities / initiatives)
- Discussion around the anticipated demand and potential target audiences for proposed facilities and services

Key consultation approach will include one-to-one consultation with Council staff / elected Members, key stakeholders / local community representatives, online public meeting (due to COVID restrictions on gatherings) and an online survey. A summary review will provide the key themes identified through consultation.

Step 3 - Analysis and Initial Findings – Target Date: February 2022

ORNI will analyse the findings from the aforementioned steps and draw of international best practice and emerging trends in outdoor recreation to prepare an initial options presentation. This will include a SWOT analysis, consultation feedback, proposed vision, proposed priority visitor segments and spatial concept plan. The latter is a GIS map(s) outlining the interdependence of the key components e.g. recreation, biodiversity, built and cultural heritage, linkages to Maghera town. This presentation and facilitated discussion will allow the Council to provide feedback on the key components prior to ORNI working these up in detail within the development plan.

Step 4 - Concept Development – Target Date: March 2022

Following agreement on initial options, ORNI will undertake further investigations (including further fieldwork and consultation) to undertake a technical assessment of key components envisaged to be (as a minimum) core visitor hub area(s), outdoor recreation activities / trails), educational and social activities, traffic flow and parking.

This will be presented in a detailed Spatial Masterplan (which will demonstrate their interdependence) and be supported by commentary. To inform the preparation of costs, ORNI will avail of extensive database of benchmarked costs gained from previous similar projects. Many of ORNI's costed projects have externally verified by CPD or independent Quantity Surveyors and have been found to be accurate.

Rather than providing distinct 'either or' options, the development plan will include phased options with each phase building upon the other to deliver the vision over a timeline e.g. 3-5 years. Phases / options may include i.e. Do Nothing (Status Quo), Do Minimum, Phase 1, Phase 2 etc. The phases will be presented to provide short, medium and long-term options with benefits and outcomes clearly presented. Each component and therefore phase will be individually costed. Phasing will also be guided by an appraisal of current and forecast external funding opportunities. Recommendation of local business / social economy options to use the site will also be proposed.

Step 5 – Final Report – Target Date: April 2022

Prior to submitting the final draft report, ORNI will deliver a presentation of final recommendations and facilitate discussion. Mid Ulster District Council will be provided the opportunity to further comment on draft reports, and these will be reflected as appropriate in the final report.

Report on	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mid Ulster Economic Recovery and Growth Plan 2. Irish Central Border Area Network (ICBAN) Report 2021/22 3. NI Apprenticeship Week 2022 (NIAW 2022) 4. International Women's Events
Date of Meeting	10 February 2022
Reporting Officer	Assistant Director of Economy, 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>Mid Ulster Economic Recovery and Growth Plan</p> <p>At a meeting of the Development Committee in December 2021, Members were advised of the Sub-Regional Development Funding made available to Councils by Invest NI. This to resource research to identify possible future interventions, either collaboratively across Councils or at an individual Council level, which could be implemented from 2022-26 (subject to budgets) to ensure economic recovery is inclusive and regionally balanced.</p> <p>The window of opportunity to avail of the funding was extremely short with the call opening on 3 November 2021 and closing on 19 November 2021. This required Councils to procure a delivery organisation to complete all work by 28 February 2022. Mid Ulster Council, submitted a bid to develop a 'Mid Ulster Economic Recovery and Growth Plan' and received a Letter of Offer from Invest NI for £20,000. Council agreed to contribute an additional £5,000 towards this work to result in a total value of £25,000.</p>

2.2	<p>ICBAN Report (2021/22) ICBAN receives funding from 8 Councils from north and south (as listed below) who have provided a financial contribution towards ICBAN to support their work; these are Mid Ulster District Council, Fermanagh and Omagh Council, Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council and Monaghan, Donegal, Sligo, Leitrim and Cavan County Councils.</p>
2.3	<p>NI Apprenticeship Week (NIAW 2022) The Department for the Economy is facilitating the third annual Northern Ireland Apprenticeship Week, which will take place from Monday 7th to Friday 11th February 2022. This week will offer an opportunity through a dedicated week of virtual events and online promotional activity to demonstrate how apprenticeships work for individuals, businesses, communities and the wider economy.</p>
2.4	<p>International Women's Events Previously Council agreed that two International Women's Events be held within the 2021/22 financial year at a cost of up to £6,000, to be funded from Council's Economic Development Budget.</p>
3.0	<p>Main Report</p>
3.1	<p>Mid Ulster Economic Recovery and Growth Plan The Quotation specification was issued to eleven organisations on Friday 3 December 2021. The closing date and time for submission of Quotations was 12 Noon Friday 17 December 2021. Three organisations responded advising they would not be submitting a quotation, identifying an inability to complete all work outlined by the deadline (28 Feb 2022). No quotations were received by the quotation deadline.</p> <p>The Quotation specification was reviewed by Officers and reduced in scope and value (from £25,000 to £20,000) and reissued to the same eleven organisations on Wednesday 22 December 2021. The closing date and time for submission of Quotations was 12 Noon on Tuesday 11 January 2022. One quotation was received by the deadline. Following a query in relation to the date noted in the Quotation for the completion of the work, this organisation subsequently responded to advise they could not provide a sufficiently robust evidenced Report by 28 February 2022.</p> <p>The Quotation was re-issued a third time outlining an extended timeframe for completion of the work from 28 February to 16 March 2022, however, no responses were received.</p> <p>As a result of the very short funding timeframe provided by Invest NI to Council, it has not been possible to procure an organisation to complete the project by 16 March 2022. Officers liaised with Invest NI to request an extension to the</p>

	<p>timeframe but were advised this was not permissible, so unfortunately this project cannot proceed.</p>
3.2	<p>ICBAN Report (2021/22)</p> <p>As required by Council, ICBAN have submitted a report detailing initiatives undertaken in 2021/22. The delivery focus continues to be on areas to benefit member Councils.</p>
3.3	<p>NI Apprenticeship Week (NIAW 2022)</p> <p>There will be a programme of events taking place right across NI as part of the third annual Apprenticeship Week NI from Monday 7 to Friday 11 February 2022. The theme of NIAW2022 is <i>“Apprenticeship is your future”</i>.</p> <p>One of the main priorities of the industry-led MEGA Network is to increase the number of apprenticeships within the manufacturing and engineering sector in Mid Ulster. A survey completed in October 2021 identified that within 39 MEGA companies there are 643 current vacancies and the majority of these are within level 2 & 3 roles. South West College’s intake for September 2021 for level 2 apprenticeships dropped from 250 to 180. MEGA’s key target for 2022 is to promote apprenticeships at level 2 & 3 to ensure higher uptake for September 2022.</p> <p>As part of this year’s NIAW 2022 programme, Council agreed previously to make a financial contribution towards MEGA to assist them develop two 10-minute promotional videos to launch during Apprenticeship Week. The target audience includes students, teachers, parents and employers. The videos showcase a variety of footage from several manufacturing facilities throughout Mid Ulster and contain interviews and case studies. The videos will be available to watch online from 7 February 2022 at: midulstermega.com. The full events programme for NIAW 2022 can be viewed at: nidirect.gov.uk/articles/apprenticeship-week-events.</p>
3.4	<p>International Women’s Events</p> <p>The two International Women’s Events have been arranged and will take place as follows;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date: Tuesday 29 March 2022, 7pm Venue: Corrick House Hotel & Spa, Clogher • Date: Thursday 31 March 2022, 7pm Venue: Terrace Hotel, Magherafelt <p>This will be a high quality event, with a drinks reception on arrival, it will incorporate a range of inspiring speakers, and food will be provided at the end. Each guest will also receive a free small gift bag containing a number of artisan products from local suppliers.</p>

	<p>The event will be ticketed at £10 per head with proceeds being donated to the NI Air Ambulance. Each venue can accommodate approx. 100 guests. Tickets will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.</p> <p>The Council Chairman will officially open each event.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p>Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications</p> <p>Financial:</p> <p>Mid Ulster Economic Recovery and Growth Plan Invest NI had issued Council with a Letter of Offer for £20,000 towards this work</p> <p>Human:</p> <p>Risk Management: Mid Ulster Economic Recovery and Growth Plan Work had to be completed by end of March 2022. Due to the level of work required alongside the short timeframe to complete it in, Council were unsuccessful in procuring an organisation to undertake the assignment, despite undertaking 3 procurement exercises.</p>
4.2	<p>Screening & Impact Assessments n/a</p> <p>Equality & Good Relations Implications: n/a</p> <p>Rural Needs Implications: n/a</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	<p>It is recommended that Members:</p> <p>Mid Ulster Economic Recovery and Growth Plan Note update.</p>
5.2	<p>ICBAN Report (2021/22) Note ICBAN Report 2021/22</p>
5.3	<p>NI Apprenticeship Week (NIAW2022) Note update on NI Apprenticeship Week.</p>
5.4	<p>International Women's Events Note update.</p>
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	Appendix 1 – ICBAN Report 2021/22

Appendix 1

ICBAN Progress against Action Plan (01 April 2021 - 31 March 2022) PROGRESS REPORT FOR PERIOD 1 APRIL 2021 - 31 DECEMBER 2021

ICBAN TARGETS/OUTPUTS 2021/22	ACTIVITIES	PROGRESS
Platform for Cross Border Cooperation in the ICBAN Region.	<p>Facilitate and service Board Meetings, CEO/CM Meetings, other Sector Specific / Thematic Meetings</p> <p>Facilitate and service meetings with key stakeholders and assist in establishing better cross border working relationships and arrangements.</p>	<p>ICBAN Management Board Meetings were held on: 21st April 2021, 19th May 2021, 16th June 2021, 15th September 2021, 20th October 2021, 17th November 2021, 15th December 2021.</p> <p>ICBAN Annual General Meeting was held on: 17th November 2021</p> <p>Officer Group Meetings were held on: 13th April 2021, 11th May 2021, 09th June 2021, 06th September 2021, 12th October 2021, 09th November 2021, 08th December 2021.</p> <p>Meetings/Events from 01 April 2021 - 31st December 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Launch of East Border Region strategy, 23rd June 2021 ▪ Attendance at launch of PEACE Platform: 15th September 2021 ▪ Attendance at NPA Programme Project Closure Workshop: 16th September 2021 ▪ AEER's General Assembly and Annual Conference on 'Making the EU Green Deal work in Cross-Border Regions', 20th-22nd October 2021. ▪ NPA Annual Conference held in Sligo on 27th October 2021.
Contribute to the effective and efficient running of ICBAN.	<p>Ongoing operation of Internal Control System. Annual Financial Statement / Accounts.</p> <p>Supporting the employment of an Administrator.</p>	<p>Internal Control System: The Accounts and Audit Statement for 2020/21 were approved at the AGM on 17th November 2021.</p> <p>Executive Assistant employed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting the development and implementation of ICBAN's corporate aims and objectives, through the provision of administration and secretarial services. • Providing competent, reliable and efficient secretarial, administrative and support services for ICBAN. • Corporate Administration: arranging appointments and service meetings for the ICBAN Management Board and Sub-Committees, Working Groups and others as required.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial & Company Administration: including banking, payroll, Assets Register, procurement etc. Project Administration: maintaining a management information system for all project related documentation.
<p>Support the employment of the ICBAN CEO to lead the organisation moving forward.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leadership, management & development of ICBAN. Develop strategic focus of ICBAN in partnership with Member Councils. Maintain and grow ICBAN's position in cross border development and promote cross border cooperation. Communicating the benefits, successes and awareness of ICBAN within the region and beyond. Establish, develop & maintain robust structures and systems to ensure effective and efficient delivery of agreed outcomes. Report to the ICBAN Management Board. 	<p>CEO Principal Accountabilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acting as a figure head for ICBAN. Developing and managing new relationships with Councils (elected representatives & officials). Working with Partner Council Chief Executives and County Managers. Maintaining ICBAN's position in cross border development through effective influencing at community, local and central government level. Providing leadership, managing and developing the ICBAN operational team. Contributing to the development and implementation of strategic, operational and project plans, in partnership with ICBAN member Councils and other stakeholders as appropriate. Overseeing systems and procedures to ensure effective and efficient delivery of agreed outcomes. Facilitating collaboration between stakeholders in the field of strategic regional development in the cross-border area. Reporting to the Management Board. Managing public relations and maximising exposure to and awareness of ICBAN's work throughout the central border region. <p>Promoting cross border cooperation through - activities included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting with counterparts in the East Border Region Partnership and Centre for Cross Border Studies, regarding the Peace Plus consultation, and engaging with Shared Island Unit: 20th April 2021 Attendance at the Presentation of the results of the 1st Quarterly Survey on the Conditions for North-South and East-West Cooperation: 22nd April 2021 Meeting with Colm Markey MEP: 27th April 2021 Meeting with Waterways Ireland: 06th May 2021 Meeting with Shared Island Unit: 14th May 2021 Meeting with the Waterways Community: 26th May 2021 Meeting with InterTrade Ireland: 11th June 2021. Presentation to the Oireachtas Joint Committee for the Implementation of the Good Friday Agreement: 22nd June 2021 Meeting with the President, Vice President and Chair of the Board of Governors of Institute of Technology, Sligo: 29th June 2021. Attendance at CCBS workshop on "Border-proofing": Do we need to measure cross-border impacts of policy?: 14th September 2021 Meeting with ICRLD on rural regeneration projects development: 17th September 2021 Presentation to Fermanagh & Omagh District Council on Brexit: 20th September 2021 Attendance at ICRLD webinar on 'Changing Spatial Relationships between Home and Workplace': 22nd September 2021

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Meeting with South West College (06th October 2021) and Southern Regional College (18th October 2021) to discuss Border Hubs concept and cross-border opportunities.▪ Meeting with the Sinn Féin representatives to discuss the implementation of the FRP: 15th October 2021▪ Meeting with Senator Emer Currie: 19th October 2021▪ Meeting with UK Government Minister of State Conor Burns MP in Enniskillen. The Minister was asked to re-consider the UK’s participation in the future INTERREG programme as part of UK-EU negotiations, and to examine how a joint territorial fund could be created drawing upon the opportunities in both the Irish Government’s Shared Island Fund and the UK’s Shared Prosperity and Levelling-up Funds. The Minister has asked the CEO to outline this further in follow-up correspondence: this was then sent on 12th November 2021.▪ Meeting with Shared Island Unit: 18th November 2021▪ Meeting with the Project Manager of the BRIDE (Biodiversity Regeneration in a Dairying Environment) Project to discuss project implementation: 23rd November 2021▪ Meeting with the SEUPB to discuss the PEACE Plus Programme priorities: 23rd November 2021▪ Meeting with the Sinn Féin Policy Unit, 29th November 2021▪ Meeting with regional Fianna Fáil Senators, TDs and local representatives to discuss and promote the FRP: 30th November 2021▪ Meeting with Involve re All-Island Democratic Innovation Network: 01st December 2021▪ Meeting with regional colleges to discuss the Border Growth Hubs proposal and Human Capital Pillar of the FRP: 01st December 2021▪ Meeting with rivers/water quality stakeholders to discuss developmental opportunities: 02nd December 2021▪ CEO invited to participate as a panel member for the launch event of NESC report ‘Climate and Biodiversity Ambition: Shared Island as a Catalyst’: 08th December 2021.▪ Presentation to Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council’s Governance, Resources & Strategy Committee: 08th December 2021▪ Meeting with QUB Intern to discuss Ulster Canal Brief: 17th December 2021▪ Meeting with TASC to discuss roll-out of Border Transition Project: 16th December 2021 <p>On 23rd November 2021, ICBAN received a grant offer of €20,000 from the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) towards the organisation’s core costs.</p>						
Sustain Existing Jobs	Support the provision of a staff complement to enable ICBAN to achieve its goals. Projected: 3 full time	<div>ICBAN Secretariat:</div> <table><tr><td>Shane Campbell</td><td>CEO</td></tr><tr><td>Joanne Breen</td><td>Executive Assistant</td></tr><tr><td>Andy Hallewell</td><td>Innovation Officer</td></tr></table>	Shane Campbell	CEO	Joanne Breen	Executive Assistant	Andy Hallewell	Innovation Officer
Shane Campbell	CEO							
Joanne Breen	Executive Assistant							
Andy Hallewell	Innovation Officer							

<p>ICBAN Strategic Development Function</p>	<p>Digital Connectivity - Telecoms/High Speed Internet Provision</p> <p>Lobby for improved broadband connectivity investment</p> <p>Implement, monitor and report on recommendations outlined in the 'Fibre at Crossroads Part II Report</p> <p>Review NIAO Report on award of Project Stratum contract by July 2021. Progress and report on findings</p> <p>Brexit</p> <p>Progress cross border co-operation, monitor evolving developments and advise on responses to consultations in respect of Brexit and the NI Protocol.</p> <p>In collaboration with Queens University Belfast, complete research into the impact of Brexit and the NI Protocol on those living and working in the Central Border Region by November 2021.</p>	<p>The Northern Ireland Audit Office (NIAO) has finalised their report into the use of public monies on broadband infrastructure in NI, through BT. This request had originally been put to the Audit Office by ICBAN in 2018. The report was released on 17th June 2021.</p> <p>The challenges of home working / schooling during the public health crisis have featured in the report and NIAO had asked for any anecdotal evidence on frustrations with using and accessing broadband during lockdown. Examples from Mid Ulster have been cited (1.12 of report).</p> <p>ICBAN has asked the Stormont Public Accounts Committee to action a review of the key findings.</p> <p>ICBAN continues to monitor the roll-out of Project Stratum and welcome the commitment that over 37,000 premises in the three ICBAN NI Council areas will be passed as part of Project Stratum: (Fermanagh & Omagh District Council: 14,821; Mid Ulster District Council: 12,289; Armagh City Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council: 10,080).</p> <p>ICBAN keeps abreast of Brexit developments, through monitoring of current affairs and governmental updates. ICBAN has been submitting evidence to a number of committees and consultations and uses such opportunities to make representations on behalf of the Central Border Region.</p> <p>Together with a small team from Queen's University Belfast, ICBAN has been delivering 'The Border After Brexit' project. This project has enabled engagement with communities and stakeholders in the Central Border Region to consider the implications of Brexit and the NI Protocol.</p> <p>The objective is: <i>To facilitate the broad, fair, and inclusive representation of views from the border region that are otherwise overlooked or under-represented.</i></p> <p>'Temperature Gauge' blog series: From January 2021, QUB conducted a 'temperature gauge' on Brexit and the NI Protocol in which relevant media stories and events across these islands were reported on. This formed the basis of a Blog every six weeks, which summarised the main stories and occurrences. There were four Blogs for each of the following weeks: 1-5, 6-12, 13-18, and 19-25.</p> <p>Research element</p>
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	<p>Creative Industries & Tourism</p> <p>Boost the attractiveness of tourism destinations in Mid Ulster</p> <p>Progress development of literary tourism in Mid Ulster</p> <p>Report on the 'Business of Literature Zones' project (BLITZ)</p> <p>Develop a Marketing Framework within 5 Regional SMEs by 30 June 2021</p> <p>Support and engage with 5 Regional SMEs to develop new Immersive Technology concepts for 5 new products/services by June 2021</p>	<p>The online survey opened in April 2021 and closed at the end of June 2021 (see attached survey flyer). 403 responses were received to the survey against a target of 400. Five key stakeholder interviews were completed in August/September 2021.</p> <p>The final report, authored by Professor Katy Hayward and Dr. Milena Komarova was published on 22nd October. In advance of the report's release, Professor Hayward and Dr. Komarova presented the findings to the Management Board Members on 17th October 2021.</p> <p>The report has since been widely disseminated to key stakeholders, including all Councils' members, regional politicians, the NI Executive, the UK and Irish Governments and the EU. Both ICBAN and QUB delivered a presentation on the report to the Brexit Committee of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council on 20th September.</p> <p>The report has featured in local, regional and national media outlets, including BBC News Online (NI), BBC Online, The Irish News, News Letter, Irish Daily Mail, MailOnline, The Anglo Celt, Westmeath Examiner, ENP Newswire, UK in a changing Europe, BBC Tees, and Times Radio (Michael Portillo) to date.</p> <p>The EU INTERREG NPA funded BLITZ/ Spot-Lit Project is focused on the opportunities that local SMEs can derive from literary tourism. Monthly updates are provided to the ICBAN Management Board.</p> <p>ICBAN is committed through the strategic objectives of the RSF (Regional Strategic Framework, 2014) to work in partnership with Councils to promote and develop the attractiveness and economic benefit provided by tourism destinations across the Region. The development of Literary Tourism as a niche, yet strategically significant aspect of the tourism offering in the Region, encompasses the support and added value we can bring to Mid Ulster over and above its already well-developed product in the form of the Seamus Heaney Home Place.</p> <p>The Literary Tourism SME support element of the BLITZ project commenced in the Central Border Region (including Mid Ulster) in January 2020. This has led to a more extensive Product Incubation Programme of business mentoring and support, which commenced on 19th June 2020 and completed in August 2021. Seven SMEs are participating in the programme and are beneficiaries of monetary supports. Todd's Leap Activity Centre in Mid Ulster is one of the seven participants. As part of their product, the Patrick Farrell Festival was held on 25th July 2021. A writers' retreat has also been developed, a concept developed by Shirley Rocks and Eddie McClenaghan, that will offer sanctuary in peaceful log cabins to allow writers to create their own work and come together with like-minded writers. They will also be given the opportunity to explore the works of Patrick Farrell and other local writers.</p>
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	<p>Urban & Rural Development Cross Border Linkages - (Bringing Communities Together)</p> <p>Respond to opportunities for joint project working / development</p> <p>Facilitate and report on Cross Border Community Planning Forums</p> <p>Other EU Projects Identify funding for EU funding programmes</p> <p>Report on progress/implementation of the Digi-2 Market Project</p>	<p>Council Senior Officers' Forum Meetings of the member Council Directors on strategic cooperation were facilitated by ICBAN on 29th April 2021, 08th September 2021 and 24th November 2021 through the Council Senior Officers forum. The focus of these meetings was on high-level strategic factors in each jurisdiction; including updates on the Mid South West Growth Strategy, discussions on the progress of 'Framework of Regional Priorities for the Central Border Region' strategic document, funding opportunities, best practice projects, and the Region's mapping project etc.</p> <p>Involve NI - Public Participation Programme</p> <p>This project by Involve to build public participation capacity within the eight local authorities of the Central Border Region has been funded by DFA Reconciliation Fund. ICBAN are an Associate Partner. Its purpose has been to equip Councils to engage with the public in innovative ways across a range of issues, including on cross-border cooperation. It introduces a range of tools for public participation, along with guidance on how to embed those tools into Council decision-making processes. All member Councils have taken up places on the free programme, including MUDC.</p> <p>The development programme finished on 16th September. There will then be a final webinar to which all Board members and Councillors from all 8 member Councils will be invited in spring 2022.</p> <p>Border Transition Project On 23rd November 2021, ICBAN received a grant offer of €29,790 from the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) for delivery of the Border Transition Project. This is an innovative, intergenerational project that will bring together rural communities from both traditions and both sides of the border to engage in peace building through community-led climate action. Using the People's Transition methodology that enables communities to develop agreed and just outcomes in the long-term transition to a zero-carbon society, the communities will identify and develop solutions in their shared environment with key stakeholders and decision makers. The project is scheduled to commence in January 2022.</p> <p>ICBAN is a member of two consortiums that submitted proposals to the NPA Bridging Call in October 2021. ICBAN will be a full partner on one proposal and an associated partner on the other.</p> <p>Progress implementation of 'Digi-2-Market' Project</p> <p>A series of free online digital marketing webinars for SMEs have been held in November/December 2021. The key business theme for these seminars have been preparing SMEs for exportation of their goods and services and opportunities for participation .</p>
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	<p>Deliver a series of webinars to enable small businesses to take advantage of the AR and VR resources</p>	<p>ICBAN has organised two of these free webinars for SMEs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Search Engine Optimisation (SEO) training for small businesses selling on the Internet; • Automated Marketing processes for small businesses. <p>Details of all the webinars have been promoted and shared with Councils and businesses from across the Central Border Region:</p> <p><i>22nd November 2021: 'e-Exporting & Marketing' (3hrs)</i> E-Commerce, Mobile-Commerce & Social Commerce; How companies can sell online via these channels, the pros and cons of each, the international opportunities they present, how these channels / digital marketing efforts can attract international traffic and how to convert these leads into paying customers</p> <p><i>01st December 2021: Export Marketing Plan (3hrs)</i> How to create an effective export marketing plan and factors to consider such as foreign country selection, competitor landscape, channels, methods, timelines, budget etc.</p> <p><i>07th December 10am: Search Engine Optimisation (2hrs)</i> Improve the quality and quantity of website traffic to SME websites from search engines and enhance business visibility and brand awareness. This workshop will work with real life practical examples drawn from a selection of pre agreed participant companies. The level is aimed at entry level with a view to intermediate progression.</p> <p><i>9th December 2021: Automated Marketing (2hrs)</i> How to automate SME marketing efforts resulting in consistent and quality content being distributed to target customers while saving time - thus allowing SMEs to focus on other important business activities. This is a practical, industry-based session pitched at entry level in terms of e.g., Mailchimp and HubSpot but signposting towards intermediate progression for those SMEs wishing to develop their future capacity in this area.</p> <p><u>Digital City: The online gated business community</u></p> <p>The full launch of the website is now being planned to coincide with the final international webinar events for SMEs.</p> <p>A test version of the project website may be viewed now at: https://digi2market.eu/</p>
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	<p>Collective Advocacy on behalf of the Region</p> <p>Report on the promotion and implementation of The Framework of Regional Priorities for the Central Border region 2021-2027</p>	<p>The project final conference is scheduled for 26th-27th January 2022 in Coleraine.</p> <p>The Framework of Regional Priorities for the Central Border Region, 2021-2027' The Framework of Regional Priorities (FRP) strategy document provides a timely and important refresh of the Regional Strategic Framework (RSF) (2013 - 2027). This strategic initiative launched in March 2021 recognises the geopolitical, economic and social changes that have occurred since the publication of the RSF, initially due to Brexit, and subsequently due to climate change and COVID.</p> <p>This FRP is motivated by, and seeks to give effect to, ICBAN's vision of a region with a thriving and diversified economy that will be strengthened and sustained through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • encouraging investment in value-added industries and promoting innovation; • embracing new technologies and enhancing connectivity; • expanding knowledge capital; • enhancing quality of life; and • utilising the environment respectfully and responsibly. • <p>ICBAN continues to promote the FRP. Meetings have been held with key stakeholders, including all Member Councils' Senior Management and local political representatives, Shared Island Unit, Oireachtas Joint Committee for the Implementation of the Good Friday Agreement, Institute of Technology, Sligo, FE Colleges, Waterways Ireland, and InterTrade Ireland etc.</p> <p>The FRP Sub-Committee has been established with the aim of supporting the overall work programme of the ICBAN Management Board, in overseeing the implementation of the Framework of Regional Priorities (FRP) strategy. It is intended that this Sub-Committee will help bring an energy and impetus to the delivery of the regional priorities.</p> <p>This will be an oversight role that will 1) support and direct the operational efforts of staff, and 2) advise the Management Board on decisions relating to delivery of the FRP.</p> <p>The remit includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - helping identify and apply for financial supports for the implementation plans, - directing promotional plans, - reviewing research and reports, - enhancing engagement and buy-in from member Councils, - monitoring the operational programme, - and putting in place structures for engaging other regional and national stakeholders. <p>It is anticipated that the sub-committee would seek and attend meetings with stakeholders on key project developments, advocacy initiatives, and related issues for attention.</p>
	<p>FRP Subcommittee established</p>	

	Ongoing promotion Catalyst projects	<p>The Sub-Committee has met on 05th May 2021, 02nd June 2021, 23rd July 2021, 08th September 2021 and 07th October 2021. The next meeting is planned for 06th January 2022 and this will include a presentation/discussion with the Project Manager of the climate-friendly farming BRIDE Project.</p> <p>Two post-graduate students from Queen's University Belfast commenced their internships with ICBAN on 01st February 2021 and completed in May 2021. One intern has completed research on Farm to Fork: Strengthening and Developing Agri-Food Initiatives in the Central Border Region.</p> <p>The other has completed a Briefing Paper on the Implications of Brexit for ICBAN's 'Framework of Regional Priorities for the Central Border Region, 2021-2027'.</p> <p>An intern will commence work on the Ulster Canal restoration project in 2022.</p> <p>Catalyst Projects ICBAN has identified a shortlist of regional catalyst projects, that could further enable the Central Border Region to add value to its territorial assets.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Catalyst 1: Farm to Fork - strengthening the region's agriculture sector, food processing industry, catering firms and hospitality providers to collaboratively avail of new and emerging opportunities and sectoral trends; ▪ Catalyst 2: Greenways and Blueways - growing and connecting these vital pieces of infrastructure - to promote tourism and active travel; ▪ Catalyst 3: River Catchments Sustainability - working with all stakeholders across river catchments - from source to sea, to enhance water quality and to drive cross-sectoral projects that will strengthen the region's economic base; ▪ Catalyst 4: A Thriving Regional Bioeconomy - to build on Councils' work in this field through advancing research and development (R&D), upping regional skills capacity and enabling greater industrial and spatial collaboration; and ▪ Catalyst 5: International Mountain Biking Destination - to develop a connected / networked set of mountain-biking trails - capitalising on the region's topography and adding value to the existing suite of visitor attractions, while providing local communities with new amenities.
	Updates on progress in respect of Mid South West Growth Deal	<p>Mid South West Growth Deal</p> <p>Through the Council Senior Officers' Forum, ICBAN receives regular updates from the Officers of the three NI Councils included in the MSW Deal. The ICBAN CEO will meet with the Council Directors in the MSW group on 17th December.</p>

		Consultation responses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PEACE Plus Consultation Response (06th May 2021) ▪ DAERA Rural Policy Framework for NI (06th September 2021) ▪ Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council Draft Agriculture Strategy Consultation response (15th October 2021) ▪ DAERA draft Green Growth Strategy for Northern Ireland (21st December 2021)
Events / Promotion / Materials		<p>Updating Facebook, Twitter and the ICBAN website on project developments and promotion of project activities.</p> <p>A dedicated website and social media accounts have been created for the Spot-lit and Digi-2-Market project.</p> <p>A promotional programme has been devised to promote and disseminate the Framework of Regional Priorities.</p>
Cross Border Linkages - provide opportunities for shared learning & ensure a coherent impact of investment throughout the eligible area.	Continue to strengthen the working relationships with the East Border Region, and North West Region, to share learning and good practice	<p>ICBAN has continued to build effective working relationships with the other Cross-Border Groups in North West and East Border regions.</p> <p>ICBAN works very closely with the other Cross Border Groups, sharing information on a range of topical issues relating to cross-border working. Meetings are regularly held with East Border Region, North West Strategic Partnership Board, and Centre for Cross Border Studies and discussions include Peace Plus, engaging with Shared Island Unit, and rolling out their various regional development frameworks / strategies.</p>

