

**Minutes of Meeting of the Development Committee of Mid Ulster District Council
held on Wednesday 4 December 2024 in the Council Offices, Ballyronan Road,
Magherafelt and by Virtual means**

Members Present

Councillor Gildernew, Chair

Councillors Bell, W Buchanan, F Burton, Clarke*, Corry,
Forde, McLernon*, McNamee, McQuade*, Milne*, Molloy*,
Monteith*, Quinn*, Wilson

**Officers in
Attendance**

Mr Black, Strategic Director of Communities & Place
(SD: C&P)
Mr Gordon, Assistant Director of Health, Leisure and
Wellbeing (AD: HL&W)**
Ms Linney, Assistant Director of Development (AD: DEV)**
Mr McCreedy, Strategic Programmes Service Manager
(SPSM)
Ms McKeown, Tourism Service Manager (TSM)
Ms Spence, Economic Regeneration Service Manager
(ERSM)
Mr Kelso, ICT
Mrs Grogan, Committee and Member Services Officer

**Others in
Attendance**

Deputation: Shopmobility
Mr Mark Farquhar***

* 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.

In the absence of the Chair and Deputy Chair, Councillor Gildernew took the Chair for the meeting.

The Chair, Councillor Gildernew welcomed everyone to the meeting and those watching the meeting through the Live Broadcast. Councillor Gildernew in introducing the meeting detailed the operational arrangements for transacting the business of the committee by referring to Annex A to this minute.

D200/24 Notice of Recording

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

D201/24 Apologies

Councillor Black.

D202/24 Declaration of Interests

The Chair, Councillor Gildernew reminded Members of their responsibility with regard to declaration of interest.

Councillor McNamee declared an interest in Shopmobility.

Councillor McLernon declared an interest in Shopmobility.

Councillor Forde declared an interest in Shopmobility.

Councillor F Burton declared an interest in Agewell.

Councillor Corry declared an interest in Agewell.

D203/24 Deputation – Shopmobility

The Chair advised that Mr Mark Farquhar from Shopmobility was in attendance to provide an overhead presentation to members and invited him to address the committee. (appendix 1).

Mr Farquhar advised that Shopmobility was based in Mid Ulster from 2010 which covered Cookstown, Dungannon, Magherafelt and Gobility.

Shopmobility is part of the accessibility chain which included transport providers; medical referrals; access to home, services and shops and Shopmobility equipment. It offers accessibility, independence, equality, wellness and partnership working with hospitals and networking with agencies. Users include End of Life Care, people with broken limbs, cancer (chemo rehab) patients, amputations, COPD, arthritis, heart attack/stroke and hip/knee replacement patients which supports them with travel, shopping, medical appointments, leisure facilities and visiting friends.

Shopmobility provide over 200 pieces of equipment from paediatric wheelchairs, walking aids, powered scooters up to 36 stone, transit wheelchairs for dementia patients, manual self-propelled wheelchairs, portable scooters for transporting, accessible ramps and Elevated leg rests for adapting to broking limbs.

Mr Farquhar stated that there was a high demand for equipment as there were over 1100 members with Shopmobility Mid Ulster. These included Aging Population & more referrals from NHS, 200+ wheelchairs and scooters, 15 years of continued growth in demand, 21% of population disabled and 44% growth in demand since 2019 (Pre Covid). The service has increased dramatically year on year to date.

There is an urgent need for additional care funding and costs to cover contractual obligations e.g. salaries and rent. The impact results in: Increased Isolation, Economic Impact on Local business, Disruption to Social Networks, Strain on Emergency Services, Reduced Community Engagement and Limited Access to Essential services.

Mr Farquhar advised that he works in collaboration with Council around disability access which was becoming a huge part of his work in trying to make the infrastructure accessible. As an excess auditor he helps to support Council staff around providing audit reports on capital projects which was a huge part of his work. This takes place 3 to 4 days per month in terms of workload and was surprising the number of sites he visits for any of the new projects which come through the Disability Forum. On that work Mr Farquhar provides advice and drawings with architects, design teams and planners and visits sites during building and the construction phase providing advice on dropped kerbs and parking bays etc which are continually missed of plans and by contractors. He stated that this was a good oversight and independent audit report providing advice to Council staff on access funding and providing advice to various legs of the department which can be challenging and takes a lot of work due to changing staff within Council. He advised that this was all about making Mid Ulster accessible and making things adaptable to suit our older and disabled people.

The Chair thanked Mr Farquhar for his presentation and stated that it was an invaluable service and none of us knew when we or family members may need it. She said that it may be an opportunity for Council to look at it in terms of the rate setting process and community grants. The Chair enquired if there could be an opportunity to facilitate conversations with the Trusts to see if they could contribute towards the project also.

Councillor McLernon thanked Mr Farquhar for his presentation this evening which clearly demonstrated the importance of this service in Mid Ulster and looked forward to seeing it continue.

Councillor F Burton said that it was literally heartbreaking to hear that the crunch time has come and through her work with Community Transport she was aware the work Mr Farquhar was carrying out to support people that has access and disability problems. The member said that there was a massive need for this service and when he provided information at the end of the presentation about being an Access Auditor, we as a Council benefit from that and when she had sought his advice on rural problems, he had always been very helpful and supportive. The member enquired what would be the best thing that Mid Ulster Council could do to support the service. In terms of the Health Service and people attending appointments where they have to use the service, enquired if there was any data to show how frequently they had to attend health referrals. The member had met Mr Farquhar at Balmoral show in May and was great to see scooters available for people to use otherwise they would have been sitting at home basically only for this service. She said that anything that Council

could do to try and get people around the table like Ministers or health people to see if anything can be achieved as it was widely accepted that people should have the same opportunity that suffer from a disability and have the same access to get out. She referred to a CDM meeting where one of the team had indicated that loneliness was recognised as basically a killer as it took people down that much and felt that there was a great need to make sure that this service does not fall by the wayside. The member was aware that Community Transport had went through a similar scenario last year and felt that it was important that this service continues for people who really need it. As a rural Councillor she was aware of people living in those areas having no other access to travel for hospital appointments. The member asked Mr Farquhar if there was anything that Council could do right away, it would be useful to have feedback and also supported the Chair in her comments regarding opportunities for funding through grants and rate setting as it was about time that this was really looked at.

Mr Farquhar advised that an application had been made earlier in the year for Council's Strategic Funding but were unsuccessful. He said that immediate funds were required to keep the doors open as there was an imminent threat to the service's existence. This threat is immediate and Shopmobility had never been in this situation before. He said that there were two parts to the member's question, firstly immediate funding is required and where this can be obtained from to keep the service open even to the end of this financial year and to look at a long-term sustainable solution, which was something that has been looked at over the years. Unfortunately, when Stormont went down there was no way of liaising with Ministers but had met the Minister twice this year and although he was supportive, nothing has got over the line yet. The key thing going forward would be the link in with Health and unfortunately there has been no inroads, Shopmobility has tried over the years when Stormont was up and running but could get nowhere. Health held no stats over the years to send referrals towards the group, but he has a lot of stats available, bearing in mind 100% of users were disabled and have health issues. Mr Farquhar advised that long term sustainability was important around the collaboration with Health.

Councillor McNamee wished to commend Mr Farquhar for all the work he does as no-one knows as much as himself as he sits on the committee. The member stated that Council has to do all within their power to help the service continue on the strengths that it's in at the minute and not to dilute it in any way. The member referred to the 200 pieces of available equipment which was remarkable and should be very proud to have it in Mid Ulster.

Councillor McNamee advised that he would like to speak further on the matter in confidential business.

The Chair agreed that further discussions could take place in confidential business.

The Chair thanked Mr Mark Farquhar for attending the meeting tonight and he withdrew from the meeting at 7.22 pm.

D204/24 Chair's Business

None.

Matters for Decision

D205/24 Development Report

The Assistant Director of Development (AD: DEV) presented previously circulated report which sought approval for the following –

- Community Grants – Irish Language Seachtain na Gaelige Grant Awards
- Social Supermarket Coordination Programme & Foodbank Resource Allocations
- Welfare Reform Support Project Funding
- Development Department - Update

Councillor Corry said that she would be happy to propose the report as it was good overall. She wished to mention funding towards Seachtain na Gaelige and Coiste Forbartha Charn Tóchair which were two rural communities, and this money will be of a huge benefit and the communities will be very grateful. She also referred to Social Supermarket funding towards Maghera Cross Community Link and said that this was very much welcomed as she knows the group personally who do great work for some of the most vulnerable.

Councillor McNamee said that he would be happy to second the report, especially Social Supermarket funding as it was a huge help coming up to Christmas for those mostly in need.

Councillor F Burton said that she was delighted to see the amount of money coming through the Social Supermarket. The member enquired if this was something that people had to apply for or was this for people that Council has worked with in the past. She referred to Fivemiletown group who were really instrumental during Covid and questioned whether they were left off, did not apply or indeed entitled to funding. The member said that there was a difference in the amount of money allocated especially within rural areas and enquired whether this was down to how many residents reside in that area or how does the money be divvied out.

The AD: DEV advised that the groups on the list were ones that Council worked with, but an expression of interest had been circulated to make sure that no-one who is a emergency foodbank had been missed out in the District. She noted that Fivemiletown group had worked with Council and did great work, but not at the moment, and that they did have the opportunity to submit an expression of interest. The allocation was based on urban and rural population and number of users /demand for each of the foodbanks. The usage of the foodbanks are monitored continuously via the groups and Officers carry out their own monitoring throughout the year. If any new group comes in, they provide their own statistics and are then monitored.

Councillor F Burton said that last year that some of the groups on the list had been contacted, one of the rural areas were approached from people looking support from Cookstown and they were able to refer them back to some of the other groups on this list within that area. The member advised that some of these groups were asked right across Mid Ulster and enquired if Council advertises this call.

The AD: Dev clarified that the foodbanks are not advertised; it had been considered but it would be too overwhelming as there was a lot of referrals already. Council and DFC both support the foodbanks and funding is based on them working together as a network. There may be a scenario that one foodbank may focus on food, another on oil or electric support and they work together.

Councillor Quinn declared an interest in SVP Coalisland as part of the money is shared with SVP in Clonoe.

Councillor Quinn advised that he has been involved with SVP for a long time and money is put to great use. He said that it was a case now that sadly many people depend on charities and foodbanks which was heartbreaking but the list involving these 11 groups who carry out work for the communities was unbelievable. He stated that the foodbank in Coalisland does a lot for the community.

Proposed by Councillor Corry
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to –

- Approve the Irish Language Seachtain na Gaelige Grant Awards.
- Approve the Social Supermarket Coordination Programme & Foodbank Resource Allocations.
- Approve the Welfare Reform Support Project Funding.
- Note the Development Department - Update.

D206/24 Grant Aid Policy 2025/26

The Assistant Director of Development (AD: DEV) presented previously circulated report which sought approval for the following:

- Updates and changes to the Grant Aid Policy for 2025/26
- Grant Aid Programme Timetable for 2025/26

The AD: DEV wished to bring to members attention that this policy was similar to what has happened previously but a few amendments; it was planned to amalgamate all the grants into one document and within one section of Council to provide a clear direction of which grant to apply for and avoid confusion. Grants are to be submitted earlier, it is proposed to reduce the time for applications from 6 weeks to 4 weeks and this allows letters of offer to go out earlier. It was also proposed that there are two open calls only as there is never any funding left in the budget. The date of closure for the grants will be 14th February and not 17th March, this will be communicated to the groups. Ongoing work has been continuing with our Audit Officer and External Auditor

to see how we take forward good governance whilst reducing administration for community groups as referenced in the report.

The Chair said that it made sense to reduce governance for community groups especially if documents have been held from previous years or registered with the Charity Commission. She said that this would be beneficial for community groups as they can struggle and would be more accessible for them.

Councillor Wilson said that he had a few concerns and referred to 2.1(g) and felt that if they were awarded a grant within 3 years, it should be cut down to 2 years. His reasoning for this was when he read the rest of the report, he believed that there was an opportunity here for someone to commit fraud and referred to statement within report where it states that grants of £3,500 or under would be paid upfront and not be asking for any invoices and 10% of what applies. The member couldn't recall the exact number of applicants which applied last year but approximately 450 applications had been received and looking at 45 groups with money being paid upfront with no invoices being submitted, felt that this was wrong. He stated that this may not be a huge issue for groups as he has worked with some of them and was not a huge ask to load some invoices as this was an easy task to do and this would be beneficial as it would be on file.

The AD: Dev said that Officers intention was trying to make it easier for groups and working with the Auditor to see how simplified it could be. She said that the decision on the invoices was up to members who work with groups. Officers are aware that the advance process is confusing for groups and also puts additional administration on the team. They were proposing to put out at 100% for small grants similar to what the old Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough Council used to do. The AD: DEV advised that this worked well in the past and the Auditor was content with that. It was felt that not submitting invoices would be easier for groups but also appreciated that members who work with groups would know best if it was too onerous or ok and Officers would be happy to reconsider.

The Chair advised that she did work closely with groups and would have a good knowledge and history of the groups listed anyway. She felt that the policy as presented was fair enough and would definitely help groups and remove their burden as they know what was expected of them.

The AD: Dev clarified that the 10% was on random selection.

The Strategic Director of Communities & Place (SD: C&P) clarified that the monitoring process that has been suggested was for grants up to £20k, Officers would carry out verification visits only on 10% of completed projects. Officers would seek data and information from 100% of the applicants which would include their invoices and bank statements against listed expenditure against their application. The evaluation of the projects performance and outcomes against aims and objectives and identifying any areas for improvement.

Councillor Wilson advised that he was referring to the lower grant up to £3,500k and under.

Councillor Corry said that she would be happy propose the recommendation as these were groups that Council already work with. The member advised that some of these groups may not be tech savvy and would make it a bit easier for them and if anyone had concerns, then spot checks could be carried out by Officers.

Councillor McNamee seconded the report. The member enquired if there would be any community awareness events being held to make groups aware of the changes.

Councillor Forde concurred with Councillor Wilson's concerns and said if a group was requesting £750, then it would be acceptable to request three invoices and only a matter of checking to see if they were relevant. The member advised that she worked with dozens of groups all over and some would say that they could change and spend the money on something else, and she would advise them that they must spend the money on what it was allocated for. The member said that she would be concerned that when groups acquire the money that they will spend it on something else and may create more of a problem. The member referred to comment about taking so long to check the invoices and asked if it was really a huge issue.

The AD: Dev advised that it was not an issue for Officers to check the invoicing and that would be no problem, it was to make it as easy as possible for groups. She stated that there was no issue in terms of invoicing but if not onerous on the groups to provide an invoice, then not onerous on Council either.

The SD: C&P said that it would be useful if a decision could be taken this evening if members were comfortable doing that. He referred to part he was quoting from where policy states that all grant recipients irrespective of the value needs to upload their invoices, but Officers will only do spot check verifications on 10% of them. The SD: C&P suggestion to the committee would be to go with the decision which would be no change and groups upload their documentation, with Officers carrying out the 10% verification visits.

Proposed by Councillor Corry
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to –

- Approve Grant Aid Policy for 2025/26.
- Approve Grant Aid Programme Timetable for 2025/26.

D207/24 Ending Violence Against Women and Young Girls

The Assistant Director of Development (AD: DEV) presented previously circulated report to update members on recent correspondence from The Executive Office (TEO) in terms of the role of Council in supporting the implementation of the recently published strategic framework to end violence against women and girls and associated two-year delivery plan.

Councillor Corry said that she would be happy to propose the recommendation due to the level of violence against women and girls. She felt that this was a good project

and something we really need to be tackling. In the last 4 years 24 women had been murdered in the North, it's one of the most dangerous areas in Europe for women and girls, with 7 of those women being killed this year and 4 in the space of six weeks. The member knew one lady who was murdered and lived not too far from where she worked and felt that this was definitely a problem which needs tackled. She hoped that we can make a huge difference in our local area and across the board.

Councillor McNamee seconded the proposal and said that this had come on the back of Councillor Carney's Notice of Motion from the last Council meeting.

Proposed by Councillor Corry
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to –

- Note the intention of The Executive Office to bring forward proposals to provide funding to Councils to support the implementation of recently published Strategic Framework to end violence against women.
- Agree the related Council resource requirements in terms of putting in place the necessary grant funding processes.
- Agree to TEO proposal that Council adopt a lead role for the allocation of strand 1 funding (reference 3.4) to support Mid Ulster – Wide Programme over 25/26 year.
- Agree that officers develop and deliver a momentum programme as identified at Section 3.7.
- Give delegated authority to the Chief Executive to accept any letter of offer from TEO in relation to the 2024/2025 momentum fund and 2025/2026 change fund project.

D208/24 Extension of the Service Level Agreement with Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council

The Assistant Director of Health, Leisure & Wellbeing (AD: HL&W) presented previously circulated report to seek Council approval for the renewal of a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council (ABC) for the provision of Health Inequalities work for the period April 2024 – March 2026.

Councillor F Burton said that the report outlined the different work areas including Clogher Day Centre and other day centres across the area and also Brantry Association and Sure Start. The member referred to McCreedy Mill in Aughnacloy who run a day centre for vulnerable people and asked if they were part of the process or could they be part of it going forward.

The AD: HL&W advised that we did have a Health & Inequalities Officer, and he could certainly investigate if the member wished to provide him with the relevant information outside committee. He said that he could get the relevant staff member to link in with those groups to see if it was feasible or not.

Proposed by Councillor Bell
Seconded by Councillor W Buchanan and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to note the content of the report and approve the signing of the renewal of the Service Level Agreement with Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council for the provision of Health Inequalities work for the period April 2024 – March 2026.

D209/24 Department for the Economy Sub-Regional Economic Plan

The Strategic Programmes Service Manager (SPSM) presented previously circulated report to update members on the Department for the Economy's recently published Sub-Regional Economic Plan.

Proposed by Councillor Clarke
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to –

- Note content of the report
- Approve the Mid Ulster Labour Market Partnership as the delivery vehicle/structure to base the Local Economic Partnership (LEP).
- Approve the proposed LEP membership as detailed in the report noting that membership will be kept under review to ensure that it remains appropriate for the priority work areas agreed.

Matters for Information

D210/24 Minutes of Development Committee held on 14 November 2024

Members noted Minutes of Development Committee held on 14 November 2024.

Councillor McLernon drew reference to D188/24 where she had raised the issue of life saving equipment being damaged along the Coalisland Canal towpath and enquired if Officers had the opportunity to provide any figures in relation to her request or solutions to deter this happening.

The Assistant Director of Health, Leisure & Wellbeing (AD: HL&W) advised that from August 2022 to mid-November 2024 there was a report of 299 items needing replaced at a cost of over £11k, which was replacing the housing and throwlines. He said that various measures were being investigated but there was no quick fix on this and currently looking at educational measures and signage also. He advised that there was a lot of pros and cons with different solutions in the marketplace as there was a need to have a lot of this valuable equipment to be accessible and easy to obtain if someone was in difficulty. He felt that there needed to be a huge educational piece to reinforce how valuable these pieces of equipment were, with a number of measures being investigated by Officers presently. It was anticipated to bring these forward specifically for Coalisland Canal and other water recreational sites and was something

that was really high up on the agenda as teams were regularly attending these sites and replacing these items. The AD: HL&W encouraged members and community advocates to continually raise issues within local communities and Officers to find a resolution as quickly as possible.

Councillor Wilson drew attention to D194/24 and referred to issue which he had raised previously regarding discussions with the Hockey Club and also the Pitches Strategy. The member said that these discussions were to take place before last month's meeting and were put off and brought forward to this month. He was aware that Pitches Strategy was being raised at the next item and would deal with that there but would be interested to hear how discussions were going with the Hockey Club.

The Strategic Director of Communities & Place (SD: C&P) said that it was his understanding that the request was to bring a report back in relation to update on where we were with Year 1 of the Pitches Strategy and on the back of that may lead onto conversations in relation to hockey and hockey investment, however he once again advised that any further investment will need to be picked up as part of the review of the Capital programme.

Councillor Wilson said that this was not his understanding as he continually raised the matter and if this had of been the issue it would have been brought to his attention and also the rest of the committee's attention.

D211/24 Pitches and Recreational Spaces Strategy Year 1 Update

Members noted update on the progress to date in relation to the Pitches and Recreational Spaces Strategy.

Councillor Wilson said he had concerns with the Pitches Strategy as figures produced were not particularly accurate and was speaking solely on hockey where it states there were 12 pitches across the district within Mid Ulster. The member said that he would love to know where the 12 pitches were and could be something that could be teased out at the meeting with Council officials.

Councillor F Burton referred to partnership with Aughnacloy College, Education Authority and Ulster Rugby. The member felt that it would be important to keep pursuing this to get it over the line and every night she goes past the lite up pitch it's so busy with young lads who hopefully become up and coming footballers. The gymnasium is really needed to encourage Rugby people to stick with it in the border town of Aughnacloy. The member was hopeful that all the ducks could be lined up for the planning application, sorted and approved and anything that Council could do to support it would be appreciated to push ahead with this.

Councillor Corry thanked Officers and staff involved in the Pitches Strategy as she was aware of all the hard work which has gone into it. The member referred to Draperstown Celtic club who had really seen the benefit of it and were more than grateful as their pitch regularly flooded and really were appreciative.

Councillor F Burton referred to Castlecaulfield and said that it was great to see the potential that was there and also wished to thank Officers and the team.

D212/24 Economic Development, Tourism and Strategic Programmes Report - OBFi

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on the following key activities –

- Mid Ulster Labour Market Partnership (LMP) Minutes 06.09.24
- Mid Ulster LMP – Multiply Programme Update
- Evaluation of Mid Ulster LMP Social Employment Academies 2022-2023
- Tourism Trade Engagement Events October 2024

The live broadcast ended at 7.38 pm.

Local Government (NI) Act 2014 – Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Burton and

Resolved In accordance with Section 42, Part 1 Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014 that Members of the public 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 D213/24 to D

Matters for Decision

- D213/24 Tender for Ageing Well Project
D214/24 Tender for Play Park Facilities
D215/24 Mid Ulster Labour Market Partnership (LMP) – NEETS Wellbeing and Employability Programme Tender Report
D203/24 Shopmobility (continued)

Matters for Information

- D216/24 Confidential Minutes of Development Committee held on 14 November 2024
D217/24 Town Centre Wi-Fi

D218/24 Duration of Meeting

The meeting was called for 7pm and ended at 8.30 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, [Cookstown/Magherafelt] and virtually.

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

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

- If you have joined the meeting remotely, please keep your audio on mute unless invited to speak and then turn it off when finished speaking
- Keep your video on at all times, unless you have bandwidth or internet connection issues, where you are advised to try turning your video off
- If you wish to speak please raise your hand in the meeting or on screen and keep raised until observed by an Officer or myself
- Should we need to take a vote this evening I will ask each member to confirm whether they are for or against the proposal or abstaining
- 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 - apologies and then roll call of all other Members in attendance.

Shopmobility

MID ULSTER

Helping to make Mid Ulster Accessible

Meeting with Mid Ulster District Council

Wednesday 4th December 2024



Who is Shopmobility? Shopmobility Mid Ulster

Cookstown | Dungannon | Magherafelt | Gobility



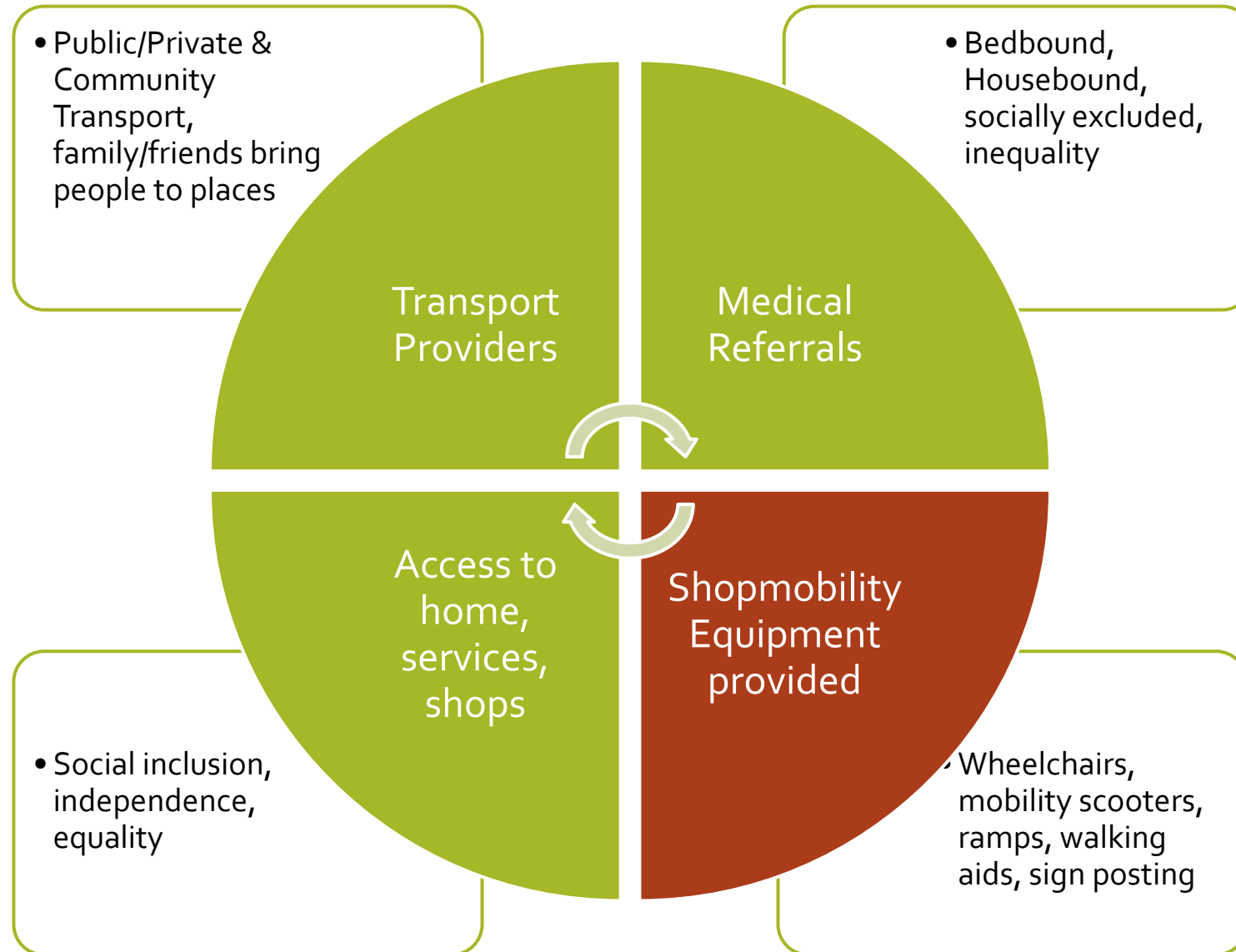
Comhairle Ceantair
Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster
District Council



Department for
Infrastructure
www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk



What is Shopmobility? – Part of the accessibility chain



What is Shopmobility? - Equipment, Advice & Support



Accessibility

- Access to shops, leisure, community & medical facilities
- Final link in transport chain



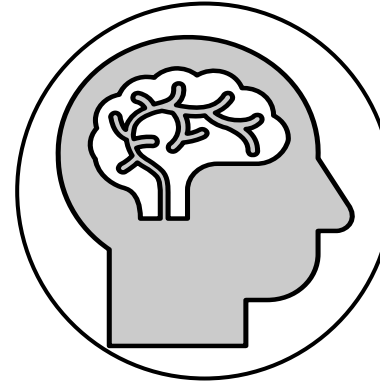
Independence

- Mobility equipment provides opportunity to get around independently



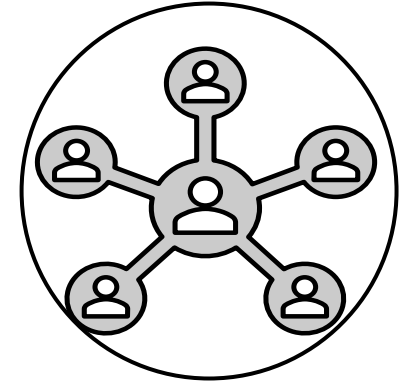
Equality

- Opportunities to shop
- Access to services
- Attend medical appointments



Wellness

- Mental, physical, emotional health supported during difficult times
- Social Inclusion



Partnership

- Disability Access Audits
- Networking and partnership working with agencies and hospital



Who uses Shopmobility?

End of life care

Huge demand in recent years

Broken limbs

Cancer (Chemo rehab)

Amputations

COPD

Arthritis

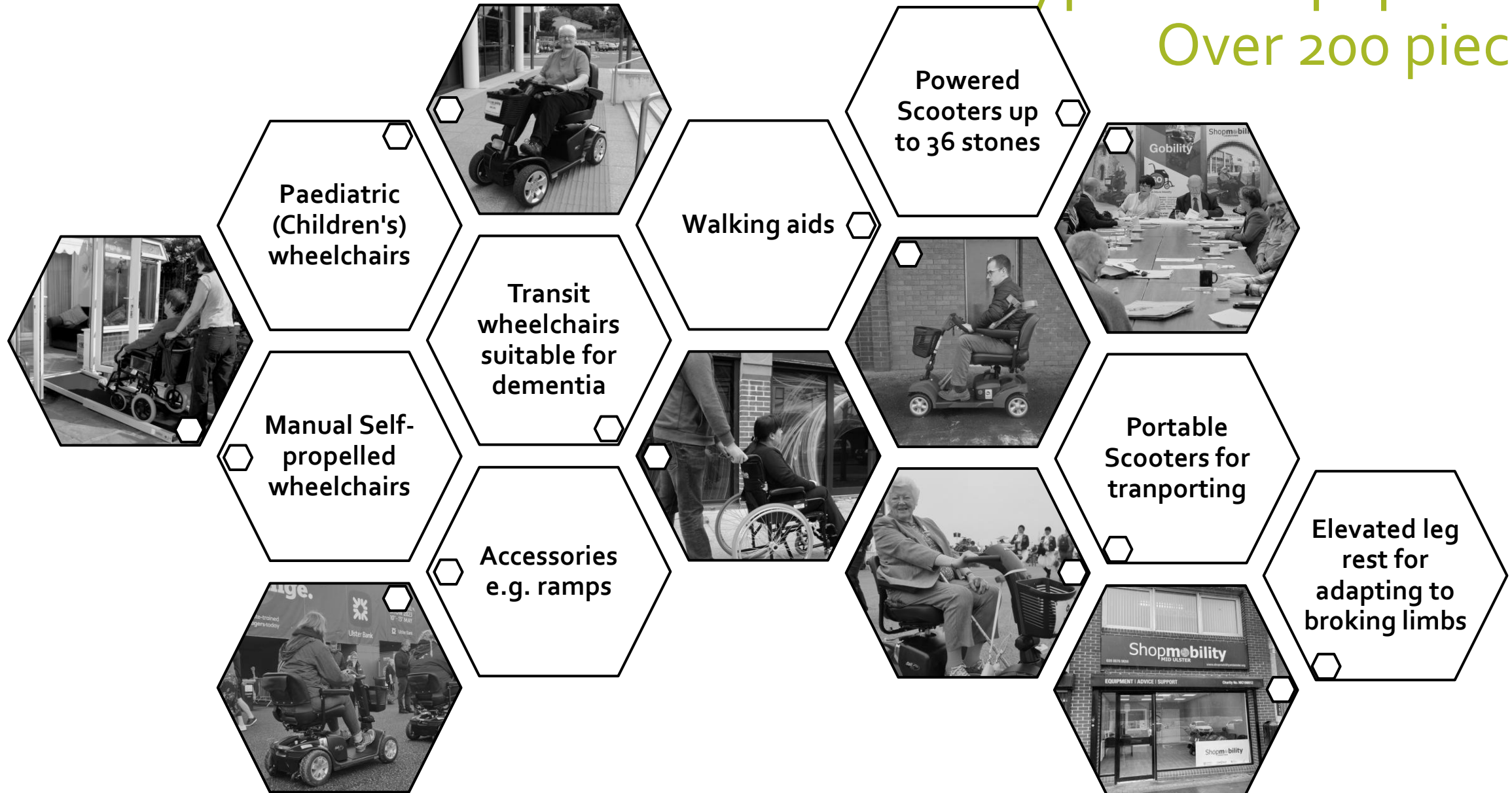
Heart Attack / Stroke

Hip/knee replacement

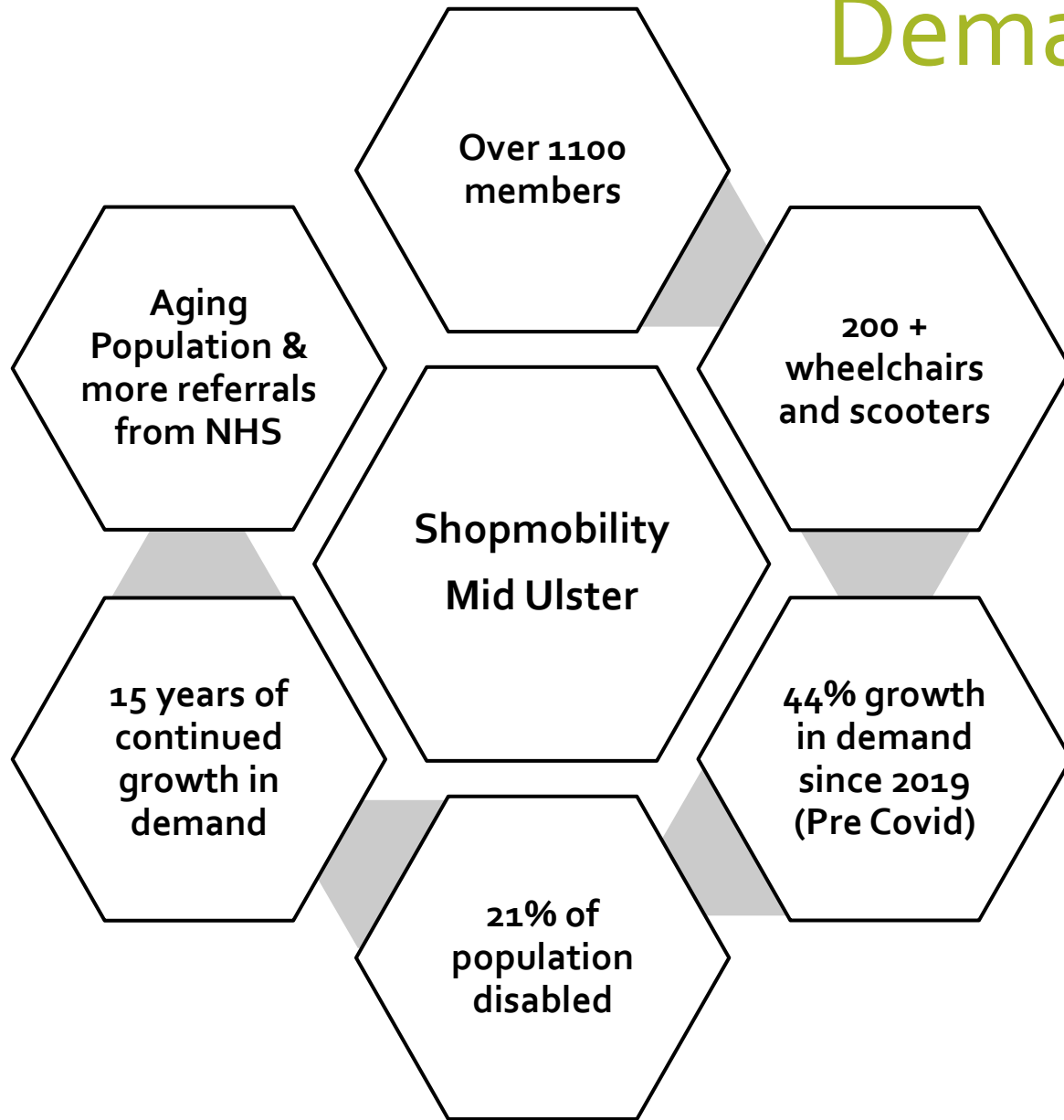


Types of Equipment

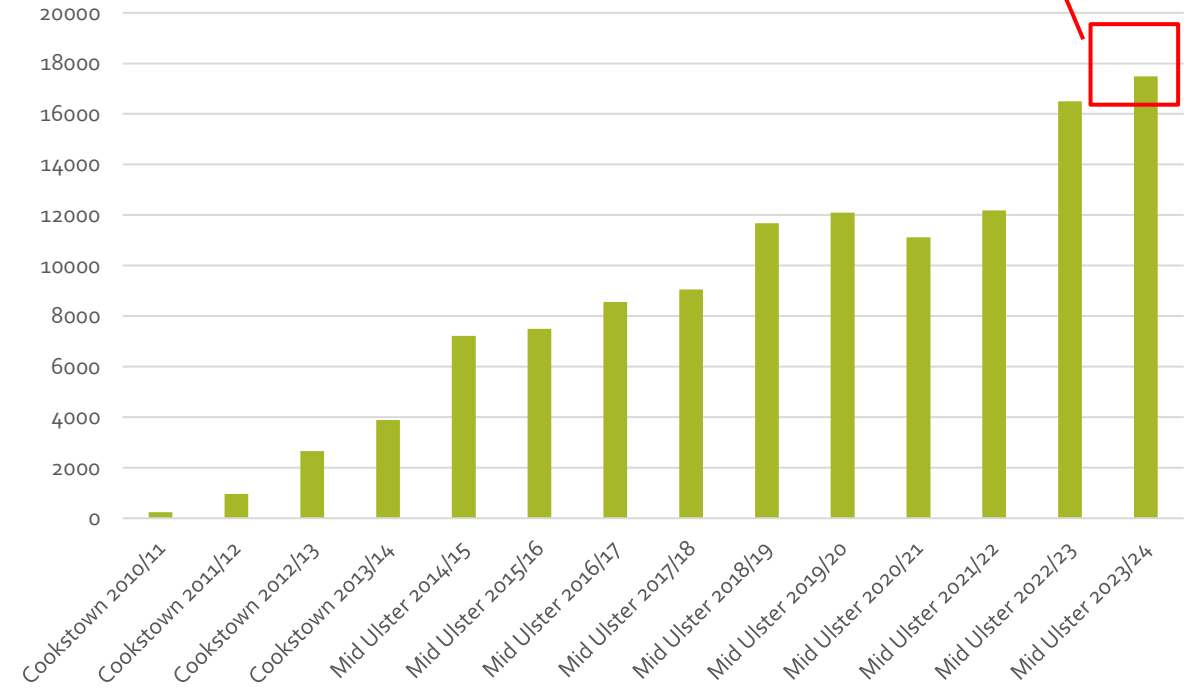
Over 200 pieces



Demand



Shopmobility Mid Ulster Total Usage Year on Year



Case Studies

Matilda

- 7-Year-old child Bi-lateral Hip displacia Chromozome, 17q12 micro, duplication Bi lateral hearing loss, Hyper mobility Dysplastic pulmonary valve.
- Unable to walk, unable to get home from hospital
- Waiting on wheelchair from NHS – Shopmobility loaned wheelchair



David

- 63 year old from accident in Portadown
- Amputated arm and leg
- Hospital bound for over 6 weeks
- Due to be sent home without any wheelchair – bed bound
- Shopmobility Mid Ulster provided wheelchair and ramp same day.

Trevor

- 68-Year-old male with Acute cerebellar ataxia.
- This is sudden inability to coordinate muscle movement due to disease.
- Founding member of Cookstown Parkrun and Completed 95 parkruns running
- Wanted to finish 100th Park runs
- Borrowed scooter to complete his 100th Park run and raise awareness for Acute cerebellar Ataxia
- Uses mobility scooter daily around house and town.

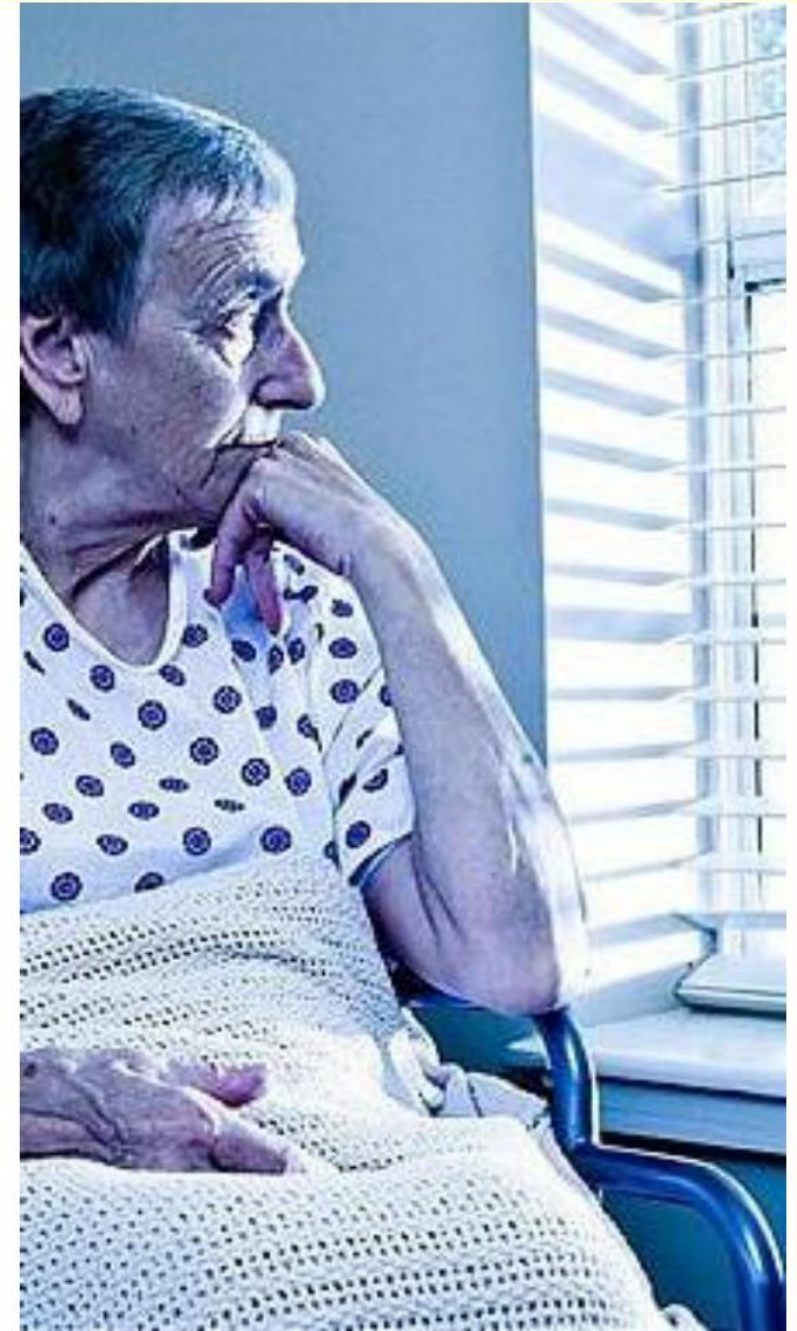
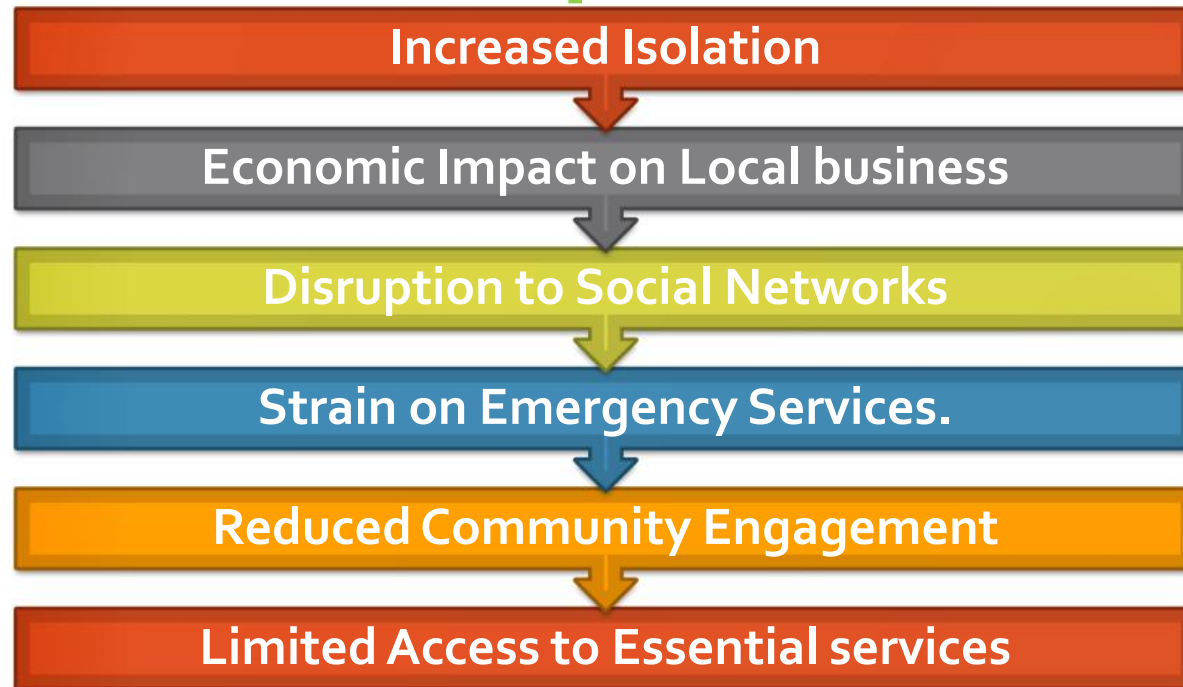
Brendan

- 67-Year-old male with Diabetes & amputated foot.
- Previous bus driver, unable to work and unable to get around town.
- Uses Shopmobility scooter daily to get around the town
- “Enjoys Fish & chips in the park to get his head showered”

Call to Action

- Urgent need for additional Core funding
- Costs to cover contractual obligations e.g. salaries and rent

Impact





Helping to
make Mid
Ulster
Accessible

THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
TIME
ANY
QUESTIONS?