

<b>Report on</b>	Development Report
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2025
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Claire Linney, Assistant Director of Development
<b>Contact Officers</b>	Catherine Fox – Arts Development Manager, Cathy Brown – Seamus Heaney HomePlace Manager, Martina Totten – Social Inclusion Manager, Denise Smith – Diversity & Integration Development Manager

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

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	<p>The purpose of this report is to update members and seek approval for the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Grants</li> <li>• Irish Language Policy Review</li> <li>• Coalisland Canal Heritage Signage</li> <li>• Development Department -Update</li> </ul>
<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	<p><b>Community Grants Approvals</b> Community grants for approval under the rolling Sports Representative Grant (Individuals) with a total of 3 proposed awards total of £600, are attached at <b>Appendix 1</b> for approval.</p>
2.2	<p><b>Irish Language Policy Review</b> A review was completed of Council Irish Language Policy as part of the policy delivery. The updated policy, and equality screening has been reviewed through the Minority Languages Working Group and the Corporate Good Relations Working Group. Please see attached the updated policy at <b>Appendix 2</b> for consideration and approval. The final policy will be publicly available to all members and residents in dual language English and Irish.</p>
2.3	<p><b>Coalisland Canal Heritage Signage</b> A number of meetings have been held with a range of groups and schools in the Coalisland area regarding the heritage signage along the route of the canal. The groups and schools who have engaged are: Friends of Coalisland Museum and Heritage Centre, Coalisland &amp; District Development Association, Rural Coalisland Canal Towpath Action Group, Community Group, Newmill's Wildlife Gardening Club, Inland Waterways Association of Ireland, St John's Primary School Kingsisland, St Patrick's Primary School Annaghmore. They have worked together to compile the heritage, environmental and ecological information proposed for the signage as follows:</p>

Sign 1 - Start of Canal: How, when, and why the canal was built  
Sign 2 - Gortgonis Road: Macks Lock history and usage & the types of barges  
Sign 3 - Gortgonis Road: The Wee Lock & how locks worked  
Sign 4 - Moor Bridge: The wildlife/species of the area  
Sign 5 - Moor Bridge Car Park: Linking the canal to the Torrent & information on the historic scheduled monument (NIEA) and transportation history  
Sign 6 - Reenaderry Car Park: Links to the Blackwater, Ulster Canal, Lough Neagh and beyond

It is proposed that the signage proceed as per above.

## 2.4 **Development Update**

### Neighbourhood Development

The community investment (grant) clinics have commenced across the District as per the previous schedule.

### Social Inclusion

Coalisland Canal – capital works have commenced on the 3<sup>rd</sup> area of the path. Works are still in progress to complete early 2026.

Railway Park – as per previous update, the ICT team is to be appointed at present to go to December Environment committee.

Moy Recreation – A response from NIEA remains outstanding, engagement is taking place to try to move this forward.

Gortgonis legals remain with the 4 solicitor teams for finalising. An updated design for the scheme has been completed, as per DEA guidance. Final engagement with IFA is taking place to ensure it meets requirements before user engagement.

### Good Relations & Peace

The Good Relations Plan projects are all at delivery stage and continuous monitoring ongoing.

The Ending Violence Against Women and Girls grants are being evaluated as they complete. Officers are working with TEO regarding the additional momentum funding that is coming to Council as agreed at Committee in November.

The Peace Programmes are all progressing with a joint networking event between all delivery partners taking place on 1<sup>st</sup> December at Burnavon. The final 3 programmes are being procured to commence delivery in January 2026.

TRAAD capital scheme – As previous the ICT team is being appointed at present to develop the detailed design.

### Pomeroy Forest Centre and Magical Trails

Branding and a delivery plan are being finalised for the site, which will be delivered alongside the magical forest trail which continue to be busy. The Centre has now received its Entertainment License and is currently applying for a Cinema License. The Centre will also be tendering for a catering service for the venue, which will sit alongside the Woodies Café which is popular with visitors.

A Halloween Event was held on 31<sup>st</sup> October with 130 children in attendance. The annual Santa's Magical Trail is being planned from 5<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> December in partnership with the local community who manages the event.

### Burnavon Arts Centre

The current season is well underway with sold out shows and Christmas performances for schools.

To promote Ulster Scots Week - An Ulster-Scots Exhibition, on loan from the Ulster-Scots Agency is currently on display in the exhibition space (first floor) of the Burnavon. The exhibition is free to visit throughout the month of November 2025. An Ulster-Scots ceilidh with Alastair Scott Ceilidh Band and a talk by Angeline King are planned for Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2025.

The annual Christmas Concert featuring Malachi Cush, the Traditional Music in schools' group and Cookstown youth Choir is now sold out.

Programming for April – September 2026 is currently underway. The next brochure will land with customers at the end of March 2026. All shows and workshops can be viewed and booked through [www.burnavon.com](http://www.burnavon.com)

### Seamus Heaney HomePlace

HomePlace Arts Programme continues to sell well, and the Centre hosted one of 4 UK wide launches for the publication of The Poems of Seamus Heaney in conjunction with Faber & Faber and the Estate of Seamus Heaney. The new collection is selling well in the Centre shop.

Education visits have been strong this season and our popular Art Day will be hosted next month to attract school groups who are doing Art A-Level.

The new Arts Programme brochure will be launched at the end of next month.

### Hill of The O'Neill & Ranfurly House

Donaghmore Historical Society hosted its sold-out event 'Echoes from the Barley Field' on Dungannon workhouse, history and memory talk which took place on Monday 10 November in the Square Box.

A representative from Hill of The O'Neill & Ranfurly House attended the 2025 GNI MAG Awards as a finalist in the category 'A Day to Remember' which took place on Saturday 15 November 2025 at the Crowne Plaza Belfast. These awards celebrate individuals and organisations making a significant impact in the LGBTQIA+ community.

The Christmas Grotto will run from Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December to Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December with a Sensory/ASD Friendly session scheduled for Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December.

	<p>To assist the public with Council’s online services an I-pad has been installed at Hill of The O’Neill &amp; Ranfurly House Reception for public use.</p> <p>All events and workshops are available at <a href="http://www.hilloftheoneill.com/whats-on/events">www.hilloftheoneill.com/whats-on/events</a>.</p> <p><u>Regional and Minority Language</u> Officers are currently implementing programmes and projects included in the Action Plan for 25-26 and are assisting the groups in delivery of activities.</p> <p>'An Mhaidin Ghaelach/ Irish Language Social Group' was set to conclude on 18<sup>th</sup> November; such was the success of this term that an additional two weeks have been arranged which will conclude with a C�oisir na Nollag/Christmas Party with Irish language carol singing on 2<sup>nd</sup> December. The Group will reconvene for another 10-week term post-Christmas commencing 13<sup>th</sup> January 2026.</p> <p>Officers are currently consulting with Community Development and Grants Team on the rollout of the new and revised Community Investment Programme 2026-29.</p> <p>Irish language Santa visit provision is available by request from Hill of The O’Neill.</p> <p><u>PCSP</u> Minutes for information – none.</p>
<p><b>3.1</b></p>	<p><b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b></p> <p>Financial:</p> <p>Community Grants</p> <p>�600 Sports Representative Grants</p> <p>Human:</p> <p>NA</p> <p>Risk Management:</p> <p>NA</p>
<p><b>3.2</b></p>	<p><b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b></p> <p>Equality &amp; Good Relations Implications:</p> <p>The Irish Language reviewed policy has been subjected to an equality screening. The process led to the policy being referred to a meeting of the Council’s Good Relations Working in November 2025 where the equality screening mitigations were considered and agreed.</p> <p>Rural Needs Implications:</p> <p>NA</p>

<b>4</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
4.1	Members are recommended to;  I. Approve £600 grants allocation - Sports Representative Grants II. Approve the Irish Language Policy III. Approve concepts for the Coalisland Canal Heritage Signage IV. Note the Development Department update.
<b>5</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
	<b>Appendix 1:</b> Community Grant Awards <b>Appendix 2:</b> Updated Irish Language Policy