



August 5th, 2016

Notice Of Meeting

You are invited to attend the Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee meeting to be held on **Monday, 8th August 2016** at **3:00 pm** in the **Boardroom District Council Offices Monaghan Row Newry.**

Chair: Cllr R Burgess

Vice: Cllr D Curran

Members: Cllr T Andrews Cllr N Bailie

Cllr P Brown Cllr W Clarke

Cllr S Ennis Cllr G Hanna

Cllr H Harvey Cllr T Hearty

Cllr D McAteer Cllr B Quinn

Cllr M Ruane Cllr G Stokes

Cllr Tinnelly

Agenda

- 1) **Apologies**
- 2) **Declarations of Interest.**
- 3) **Action Sheet - Minutes of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting - Monday 13 June 2016. (Copy enclosed)**

Action Sheet ERT - June 2016.pdf

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Presentations

- 4) **Presentation from Mr Andy Patterson Tourism NI re: Learning Journey.**

Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration Items

- 5) **NIBSP Report - proposed interim programme. (Copy enclosed)**

Rpt re NIBSP Report for proposed interim programme.pdf

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- 6) **PLATO Programme. (Copy enclosed)**

Rpt re PLATO programme.pdf

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- 7) **Warrenpoint Municipal Park Heritage Lottery Fund Regeneration Project. (Copy enclosed)**

Rpt re Wpoint Municipal Park.pdf

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- 8) **Funding - Derrymore House & Estate. (Copy enclosed)**

Rpt re Derrymore.pdf

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- 9) **RDP Village Plans. (Copy enclosed)**

10) Masterplans. (Copy enclosed)

Rpt re Masterplans.pdf

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Tourism, Culture and Events Items

11) Camlough Lake Rehabilitation Contract and future development at Camlough Lake. (Copy enclosed)

Rpt re Camlough Lake.pdf

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12) Learning Journey to Scotland and initiatives going forward. (Copy enclosed)

Rpt re Tourism Study Visit.pdf

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For Noting

13) Slieve Gullion User Group Meetings - Monday 20 June 2016 and Monday 1 August 2016. (Copy enclosed)

Rpt re Slieve Gullion - Forward Planning Meetings (20 June 2016 and 1 August 2016).pdf

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14) Warrenpoint Public Realm Task & Finish Steering Group Committee Meeting - 22 June 2016. (Copy enclosed)

Rpt re Warrenpoint PR Scheme Steering Group Mtg.pdf

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15) Trade Engagement Tour Operator. (Copy enclosed)

Rpt re Tour Operator and Industry Engagement.pdf

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Invitees

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Cllr. William Walker	william.walker@nmandd.org
Mrs. Marie Ward	marie.ward@downdc.gov.uk

ACTION SHEET – ENTERPRISE REGENERATION & TOURISM COMMITTEE – MONDAY 13 JUNE 2016

AGENDA ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION BY DIRECTOR – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed
ERT/94/2016	Newry Arts Centre Refurbishment	Ms M Ward to seek clarification from Council's Estates Section regarding a proposal to install a flat roof as opposed to a pitched roof as part of the refurbishment scheme at Newry Arts Centre.	Estates have clarified that a flat roof will allow for an increase in the falls with additional valley gutters. Planning approval has been acquired for a flat roof. A pitched roof would also need planning approval and would render the top floor rooms unusable.
ERT/95/2016	Commencement Time for ERT Committee Meetings	Meetings of the ERT Committee to commence at 3pm and 5pm on an alternating basis each month.	L Dillon – noted.
ERT/96/2016	Terms of Reference ERT	To approve the Terms of Reference for the ERT Committee.	

ERT/97/2016	Castlewellan Forest Park Task & Finish Project Board Meeting (20 May 16)	The Council invite 1 No. representative from each of the following bodies to sit on the Castlewellan Forest Park Task & Finish Project Board: Mourne Heritage Trust Forest Service Northern Ireland Castlewellan Futures Project	Invitations have been forwarded to the three bodies along with background reading in preparation for the September meeting.
ERT/98/2016	Social Enterprise Programme (SLA)	To extend the current Service Level Agreement regarding the Social Enterprise Programme with NMEA in association with Down Business Centre for a further 4 months to allow the finalisation of the collaborative agreement to be put in place, as per Report dated 13 June 2016 from Mr J McGilly Assist Director ERT.	Extension to the Social Enterprise Programme SLA in progress.
ERT/99/2016	Ring of Gullion AONB Mourne AONB (ASCENT)	To proceed as follows as per Report dated 23 May 2016 from Mr D Rice ROG Landscape Partnership Scheme Manager: 1) Sign and return letter of offer once issued. 2) Council to recruit Part Time Finance/Admin post as detailed in the application 3) Applicant partners Mourne Heritage Trust to manage and recruit 2 No. Part Time Path Maintenance posts as detailed in the application form.	Ongoing

ERT/100/2016	Public Realm Scheme (Irish St Downpatrick)	<p>To proceed as follows as per Report dated 6 June 2016 from Ms M Quinn Project Dev Manager:</p> <p>a) Council works with Transport NI to put in place the new arrangements to deliver the scheme and set up the Steering Group to involve Elected Members, local traders, etc, and agree Transport NI will employ the Contractor to implement the scheme.</p> <p>b) Council to grant approval to spend £20,000 over the current financial year (as per budget) to commence design work up to the level required for Department for Communities approval of funding and submission of planning.</p> <p>c) Council commits to allocating £110,000 in budget for 2017/18 to allow the scheme to progress through the necessary Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) stages required to ensure delivery in 2017/18.</p> <p>d) Members pointed out that given the ongoing traffic congestion problems in Irish Street Downpatrick, that Transport NI should be requested to provide a progress report to Council on a quarterly basis.</p>	<p>Irish Street public Realm scheme - Memorandum of Understanding prepared to formalise agreement between Council and Transport NI. Design Consultants to be appointed in Mid-September.</p>
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ERT/101/2016	Heritage Lottery Fund	<p>To approve the prioritization of applications to the Heritage Lottery Fund for the financial year 2016/2017/2018 as follows, as per Report dated 13 June 2016 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism:</p> <p>(a) Warrenpoint Municipal Park Castlewellan Forest Park Township Scheme – Downpatrick Chambre House – Slieve Gullion (to coincide with the NIRDP 2014-2020 Priority 6 Rural Tourism Scheme)</p> <p>(b) The Council to consider other (non HLF) sources of funding in respect of Abbey Parkland, Annalong Harbour and Newcastle Harbour.</p> <p>(c) The situation in respect of the Abbey Parkland be referred to the Active & Healthy Communities Department (Parks & Open Spaces Section) for review and exploration.</p> <p>(d) Advise the Active & Healthy Communities Department of the potential to develop a community led project in respect of Annalong Harbour with a view to an appropriate officer from that Department making contact with the community there.</p> <p>(e) To agree the following as raised by Members:</p> <p>(i) The Council site at Middle Bank Albert Basin</p>	<p>Projects are being prioritised as per report. And note issue regarding Warrenpoint Baths as included.</p> <p>Item resting with Jonathan McGilly</p> <p>Matter was referred to AHC department by email on 11th July 2016.</p> <p>Matter was referred to AHC department by email on 11th July 2016.</p> <p>Matter was referred to</p>
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		<p>Newry to be kept under consideration in terms of availing of potential funding under the Heritage Lottery Fund.</p> <p>(ii) Mourne DEA Councillors to be provided with regular update reports regarding issues concerning the gate and pontoon at Annalong Harbour and the regeneration of Newcastle Harbour.</p> <p>(iii) Council Officials to investigate reports of a car nearly entering the pontoon at Annalong Harbour.</p> <p>(iv) Council Officials to investigate if the Northern Ireland Harbour Authority would be in a position to assist in the upgrading of Annalong and Newcastle Harbours.</p>	<p>Mr E Curtis on 11th July 2016 as directed by J McGilly .</p> <p>Matter referred to Tourism Department- Michelle McKeown as directed by J McGilly .</p> <p>Matter referred to Tourism Department- Michelle McKeown-as directed by J McGilly</p> <p>Matter referred to Tourism Department- Michelle McKeown as directed by J McGilly</p>
ERT/102/2016	Warrenpoint Public Realm Scheme Task & Finish Steering Group (25 May 16)	<p>To approve the following recommendations which arose from the Warrenpoint Public Realm Scheme Task & Finish Steering Group Meeting held on 25 May 2016:</p> <p>1) Council Officers to follow up with Transport NI to establish if works to address poor reinstatement of paths at Duke Street can be added to the planned carriageway resurfacing programme in the wider town centre streets.</p>	<p>1.) Council officials have made contact with TNI</p> <p>2.) Public Realm steering Com Mtg set-up with TNI</p> <p>3.) Action carried out by Contractor</p> <p>4.) TNI Street Lighting have</p>

		<p>2) Council Officers to follow up with Transport NI issues regarding concerns relating to the proposed Dock Street Puffin Crossing.</p> <p>3) Public Realm Contractor to be mindful of areas being fenced off, where there is very little visually left still to be done, in order that the area available for carparking is being maximized.</p> <p>4) Council Officers to follow up with Transport NI Street Lighting to establish if they can address the poor quality of lighting which currently exists in Duke Street.</p> <p>5) Council Officers along with DFC to call a meeting of the local Councillors and Trader representatives in late June 2016 to discuss the proposed 2017/18 Revitalization Shop Front Scheme.</p> <p>6) Council Officers continue to meet with Transport NI and adopting authorities to ensure that structures are in place for the long term maintenance of the Scheme and how the replacement spare materials will be treated.</p>	<p>been approached on this issue</p> <p>5.) Meeting still to be arranged and will now be held in late August 2016.</p> <p>6.) Council officials continuing to work closely with TNI.</p>
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ERT/103/2016	Trees in the Park Project	To approve, in principle, for Light 2000 Rostrevor Community Group to undertake a project within Kilbroney Park under the direction/supervision of Council Officials, involving the protection of existing trees, planting of new trees and publicising the project outcomes, as per Report dated 13 June 2016 from Ms M Keown Assistant Tourism Dev Officer.	Meeting with group took place on 27th July 2016, ongoing progress, trees to be planted November 2016.
ERT/104/2016	Marine Taskforce Group	<p>It was agreed, as follows, as per Report dated 13 June 2016 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism:</p> <p>(i) Council Officials explore how an audit of the beaches across the District could be undertaken and report back to Council via a future meeting.</p> <p>(ii) To seek clarification on why litter control has been removed from the brief of the Marine Taskforce Group, given the concerns Members have regarding current litter control at beaches.</p> <p>(iii) A draft Terms of Reference be drawn up and circulated at the next meeting of the next Marine Task Force Group.</p>	Ongoing

ERT/105/2016	Beaches – Newcastle and Warrenpoint	The Council submit a Marine Licence Application for Warrenpoint, Newcastle and Rostrevor.	Ongoing
ERT/106/2016	Single Tender Action: Festival Young at Art	Closed Session Item To approve the recommendation contained in Report dated 13 June from Ms A Magill ERT Dept, regarding sole providers for Giant Adventures Arts and Cultural Animation for Festivals.	
ERT/107/2016	Proposals re: Killeavey Castle	Closed Session Item To approve the recommendation contained in Report dated 13 June 2016 from Ms M Ward Director ERT, regarding proposals for Killeavey Castle, subject to satisfactory legal agreements, valuations and satisfactory grant approvals.	
ERT/108/2016	Game of Thrones – Marketing Campaign	To note Report dated 13 June 2016 from Mr M Mohan Tourism Dev Officer regarding Game of Thrones Marketing Campaign. Officials to address the following issues: a) Arrange for cleansing of the areas within the District where Game of Thrones is filmed. This to be raised with the Council's Cleansing Dept and with other relevant agencies. b) Council Officials to contact Transport NI requesting provision of adequate signage to	

		direct visitors travelling into the District from the Belfast area.	
ERT/109/2016	Request for Financial Support – Kilkeel Orange Order	It was noted the Council did not have available funding to allocate towards the Twelfth tourism flagship event in Kilkeel 2016 but that the Council would support this event in an `in kind' basis, where possible, including examining the provision of portaloos.	
ERT/110/2016	Small Grants Programmes – Greenways Competition	<p>Relevant Council Officials to examine:</p> <p>a) The possibility of opening former railway lines for greenways.</p> <p>b) The provision of financial assistance to the Newry Maritime Association towards events being held to mark the Retriever and Connemara maritime disasters.</p>	<p>a) awaiting decision by DRD on Small Grants scheme competition in September 2016, then apply for phase 2 of the scheme for selected railway lines</p> <p>b) there is ENTRUST funding available for interpretative panels from the Greenway Project for Greenway / Victoria Lock. Catherine Murphy will contact all partners involved in the Greenway for ideas including Newry Maritime Ass (no funding however for events)</p>

ERT/111/2016	NMD Tourism Strategy Development	To note Report dated 13 June 2016 from Ms M Ward Director ERT regarding the Newry Mourne & Down Tourism Strategy, with regard to new timelines as outlined at 2.0 in the said Report.	
END		*****	

Agenda Item:	
Report to:	Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Subject:	Northern Ireland Business Start Programme (NIBSP) – Interim Programme
Date:	Monday 8 th August 2016
Reporting Officer:	Marie Ward, Director Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism
Contact Officer:	Martin Patterson, Enterprise Development Officer

Decisions Required

For consideration

1.0 Purpose and Background

As agreed previously by Newry, Mourne and Down District Council, Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council submitted a collaborative funding bid to the ERDF Investment for Growth & Jobs Programme (2014-2020) on behalf of the 11 Councils in Northern Ireland for the delivery of a Northern Ireland wide business start-up programme (NIBSP). This new programme has been delayed until at least spring 2017 due to the Invest NI timeline for assessment of the application and completion of the economic appraisal which is ongoing.

With the current business start up programme ceasing in October 2016 and Invest NI unable to extend the initial contract due to procurement regulations, the 11 Councils need to put in place an interim programme to ensure continuity. Relevant Council officials have been working on this interim programme solution for a number of months and have the finance within the transfer of function budget to implement the interim programme on a temporary basis.

2.0 Key Issue

An interim business start up programme needs to be implemented in N Ireland commencing October 2016 managed by the NIBSP Working Group which is represented by all 11 Councils. This should run for up to a maximum of 12 months to ensure provision of a programme until the new one is agreed.

The main elements of the programme are management, call centre handling, data collection, local delivery of business plans and monitoring. These activities will have relevant service level agreements in place and financed on an individual Council basis.

Maximum cost details for one year programme implementation

1. CRM Data Management - Belfast City Council £17,000
2. Marketing Digital Only Campaign – Derry and Strabane District Council £5,000
3. Interim Manager (already approved in May 2016 by Council) – Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council £2,440

	<p>4. Call Centre and Business Plan assessments - Invest NI (no cost)</p> <p>5. Programme implementation and business plans £85,000; this to be procured by each individual Council. Our relevant Council officials will explore how this could be delivered through the proposed collaborative agreement between Newry and Mourne Enterprise Agency and Down Business Centre.</p> <p>All of the above programme activity will continue to be managed by the 11 Council Working Group and delivered locally in the District with Newry, Mourne and Down District Council represented by relevant Council officials.</p>
3.0	<p>Recommendation</p> <p>It is recommended that Newry, Mourne and Down District Council implement an Interim Business Start Up Programme (detailed above) commencing 22nd October 2016 for up to a maximum of 12 months at a maximum total cost of £109,440.</p>
4.0	<p>Resource Implications</p> <p>£109,440 total cost and budget is in place. Staff time required.</p>
5.0	<p>Equality and good relations implications</p> <p>This programme has an open door policy to all applicants and meets all of the criteria.</p>
6.0	<p>Appendices</p> <p>N/A</p>

Agenda Item:	
Report to:	Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Subject:	PLATO Cross Border Business Programme
Date:	Monday 8 th August 2016
Reporting Officer:	Marie Ward, Director Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism
Contact Officer:	Martin Patterson, Enterprise Development Officer

Decisions Required

For consideration

1.0 Purpose and Background

PLATO is a non-profit business-to business support network for Owner-managers who wish to successfully develop their businesses through a highly successful business development programme. PLATO is based on a network principle where large companies, both multinational and indigenous Northern Irish/Irish companies, known as parent companies help small businesses in their District. Each parent company releases two executives on a part-time basis to facilitate meetings to address different business topics. The core principle of PLATO is peer-learning provided in a cost effective, entrepreneur-led environment. It provides practical training, business counselling and support so that SME managers acquire the skills necessary to help their businesses grow and prosper, whilst developing strategic business alliances.

The benefits to Newry, Mourne and Down Council in being part of this cross border network has been identified in the past with a long legacy of cross-border business networking between Louth, Newry and Mourne PLATO (early 1990s) and PLATO Blackwater involving Armagh and Monaghan (early 1990s) and PLATO EBR funded under Interreg IVA (2012-2015). More recently (post-2015) SMEs from the Borough have engaged directly in the current Programme (Louth and Monaghan Networks) recognising there is a demand for cross-border networking and developing strategic alliances.

2.0 Key Issue

Newry, Mourne and Down Council have been proactive in providing support to SME's in the District, however there are evident opportunities to grow the businesses through an already proven network Model.

Officers are proposing the formation of a Group of 20 businesses across the District taking in approximately 5 from Republic of Ireland which creates a cross/border working group. In Monetary Terms the value received from the Parent Companies has been costed at €200K per company through in-kind contribution.

	<p>Subject to funding approval, the initial group could be recruited and meeting by Autumn 2016/Winter 2017 and would run for a total of one year.</p> <p>Once formed there will also be opportunities for the group to strategically network with other PLATO EBR groups already in existence, benefits to this are sharing of information, resources, businesses opportunities and export potential.</p> <p>The Programme Manager is already exploring funding potential on trans-national programmes and if the Council is part of this model, it would be included in much larger scale projects if applications are successful in the future. The wider regions of this PLATO group would include Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council as the only current Council in Northern Ireland and the Border region of Cavan, Lough, Meath and Monaghan with Monaghan remaining Lead Partner overall.</p> <p>Programme partners already signed up are County Councils from Meath, Monaghan, Louth and Cavan and Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Council.</p> <p>Match funding to the programme is represented by up to 30% of costs provided by the parent companies and €300 contribution by participating businesses.</p> <p><u>Programme outputs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to 20 companies going through the 12-month programme. • Up to 20 companies engaged in strategic cross-border/all-island networking. • Customised management and development training programme oriented for growth of those companies. • Fostering relationships with larger companies in the region. • Outputs for companies - increased sales, engaged in innovation (R&D), growth-focused on actions not just strategy; opportunity to increase numbers employed/number of jobs. Increased efficiencies for companies. Companies note the value of the programme providing soft supports of sounding board (peer companies can assist companies with decision making), network, accountability of your peers in group and mentoring. • Funder recognition on PLATO EBR platforms e.g. website, printed materials and presentations. <p>Further information can be found on www.platoebr.com</p>
3.0	<p>Recommendation</p> <p>It is recommended that Newry, Mourne and Down District Council agree funding of up to a total of £16,000 to implement the Plato Programme in the District.</p>
4.0	<p>Resource Implications</p> <p>Budget is in place.</p>

5.0	Equality and good relations implications This programme has an open door policy to all applicants and meets all of the criteria.
6.0	Appendices N/A

Report to:	Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Date of Meeting:	8 th August 2016
Subject:	Warrenpoint Municipal Park Heritage Lottery Fund Regeneration Project.
Reporting Officer:	Marie Ward Director Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism
Contact Officer:	Shirley Keenan Project Development Officer Enterprise Employment and Regeneration

Decisions required:

- 1) To note Letter of Offer from Heritage Lottery Fund dated 4th July 2016 and to provide approval in respect of the following;
 - (A) Agree to the said Letter of Offer and pre-conditions required by HLF;
 - (B) Implementation of the said project as per the project application and requirements of funder, including approval to –
 - (i) Recruit project staff;
 - (ii) Appoint consultancy team as per Delivery Phase of original tender;
 - (iii) Prepare tender documentation and procure contractor;
- 2) Approve that said project will report to ERT via the project steering group which is already in existence.

1.0**Purpose and Background:**

1.1

The Warrenpoint Municipal Park Heritage Lottery Fund Regeneration Project is part funded by the National Lottery through the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) Parks for People Programme. During the Development phase (following a round one application submitted in August 2013) Council were required to submit a further application (a round two application) to HLF with detailed plans, proposals and costs in order to secure funding to proceed to the Delivery Phase. The round two application was submitted in December 2015 with project costs in the region of £1,489,000. Grant Aid is £850,000 Council is required to match fund the project over a period of 5 years, external funding will also be sought.

The round two application has been successful with Grant Aid being awarded to Council and HLF have now forwarded a Letter of Offer to Council in respect of the project.

This project will enhance an already popular asset and will contribute to unlocking the tourism potential of the area which should increase visitor numbers resulting in social and economic benefits for the local community, at the same time contributing to making the District a Premier Tourism Destination in line with the Council Corporate Plan.

The Capital Works (indicative) time line is as follows (although same is subject to change);

July – September 2016;

- Start up meetings and documentation approval with HLF;
- Appointment of Consultancy Team;
- Review and update of Project Execution Plan, Health and Safety Strategy and Construction Strategy;
- Co-ordination of Architectural, Structural and Building Design;

October- December 2016;

- Procurement of Main Contractor;

January – August 2016

- Capital Works Programme;

	The Activity and Engagement programme will be implemented from September 2016. This is a five year programme.
2.0	Key issues:
2.1	Officers will now be required to liaise with HLF and implement the project within HLF time frames, therefore approval is required in respect of same.
3.0	Recommendations:
3.1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To note Letter of Offer from Heritage Lottery Fund dated 4th July 2016 and to provide approval in respect of the following; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (A) Agree to the said Letter of Offer and pre-conditions required by HLF; (B) Implementation of the said project as per the project application and requirements of funder, including approval to – <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Recruit project staff; (ii) Appoint consultancy team as per Delivery Phase of original tender; (iii) Prepare tender documentation and procure contractor; 2) Approve that said project will report to ERT via the project steering group which is already in existence.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	The project budgets are in place and noted on said letter of offer.
5.0	Equality and good relations implications:
5.1	Through the delivery and implementation of this project , the Council will have due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity between the nine equality categories. Council will also seek to promote Good Relations between people of different Religious Belief, Political Opinion and Ethnic Origin.
6.0	Appendices Available on request:
	Appendix I: Letter dated 4 th July 2016 from Heritage Lottery Fund.

Agenda Item:	
Report to:	Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Subject:	Derrymore
Date:	
Reporting Officer:	Marie Ward, Director Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism
Contact Officer:	Chris McCarney, Enterprise Development Officer

Decisions Required

The council prepares two funding applications for EU RDP programme and Sport NI for infrastructure investment in Derrymore House & Estate.

The council re- allocates the £50,000 existing budget reserved as match funding for the unsuccessful Space & Place to secure the technical assistance support required to prepare the two funding applications.

1.0 Purpose and Background

The Derrymore Partnership includes National Trust as site owners, Friends of Derrymore Committee and the Council. This Partnership was established in 2013 to secure investment and the development of the estate for the principle benefit of the local communities in Camlough and Bessbrook but also as a valuable recreation facility for Newry City and the wider District.

At their meeting on 28 July 2016, the Derrymore Partnership agreed that funding applications should be developed for the: -

EU Rural Development Programme – Business Investment theme

- The refurbishment of Derrymore House to provide Tea Room and toilets
- Meeting and display area to accommodate heritage displays and heritage talks
- The development of heritage trails to Bessbrook and bespoke training for guides

Sport NI – Capital Infrastructure

- The development of a path around the estate with km markers
- Couch to 5k event every Saturday morning

2.0 Key Issues

The preparation of the two applications will require technical assistance from a number of technical experts: -

Sport NI Application –

- Engineering drawings for new and existing paths to comply with accessibility and Section 75 criteria for Sport NI.
- Engagement workshops with schools, youth groups to target girls over 16yrs and people suffering from obesity to use the facilities in the Derrymore Estate to promote a more active and healthy lifestyle.
- Planning Application fees

	<p><i>RDP Business Theme</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey of Derrymore House and develop a Bill of Quantities to include in tender pack for procurement of contractor. • Scoping study of the market feasibility for the different elements of the overall business proposal - heritage tours, family events, vintage tea room and community healthy lifestyle hub. • Preparation of 5 year business plan for “preferred mix” of business elements in Derrymore House & Estate that provides overall financial viability, creates the maximum number of new jobs and maximises the number of “out of state visitors”. • Planning application fees
3.0	<p>Recommendations</p> <p>The council prepares two funding applications for EU RDP programme and Sport NI for infrastructure investment in Derrymore House & Estate.</p> <p>The council re- allocates up to £10,000 from the existing budget of £50,000 reserved as match funding for the unsuccessful Space & Place to secure the technical assistance support required to prepare the two funding applications.</p>
4.0	<p>Resource Implications</p> <p>The council has already approved a financial contribution in 2016/17 of £50,000 as match funding for the unsuccessful Space & Place project) will be required and has already been proposed within the rate estimates.</p>
5.0	<p>Appendices</p>

Agenda Item:	
Report to:	Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Subject:	RDP – Village Plans
Date:	27 July 2016
Reporting Officer:	Marie Ward, Director Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism
Contact Officer:	Chris McCarney, Enterprise Development Officer

Decisions Required

Request to submit an application from Council to EU RDP programme for the development of new Village Plans and updating existing village plans.

The Council starts the procurement process for competent organisation to work with the council to deliver consultation events for the development of 20 new/updated village plans and carry out initial development work on 8 potential projects to be funded under the Village Renewal Scheme.

1.0 Purpose and Background

There are 105 settlements identified across the new council area. Approximately 50% of all settlements and villages have a Village Integrated Plan funded under the last RDP programme or are catered for under the South East Coast Master Plan.

The current LAG strategy has a grant budget of £40,000 to develop 8 new Village Plans across the district. However there are potentially another 50 settlements that may request a Village Plan. In the first batch of Expression of Interests received by the LAG, **two groups** have requested new Village Plans and **five community groups** have requested that their current village plan is updated.

The rules of the Rural Development Programme issued by DAERA require that all applicants, **including council**, complete the full procurement process and select the successful contractor/ supplier **before the formal application** is submitted to the RDP Programme.

2.0 Key Issues

There are a number of issues that need discussed by the Council and Mourne Gullion & Lecale RDP to allow progress to be made: -

The current RDP budget of £40,000 will not allow the development of a new village plans for the remaining 52 settlements and potentially a further 10 community groups who wish to update their village plan. The 13 village plans developed under the last RDP programme costed in the range of £8,000 - £12,000 each.

3.0 Recommendations

In order to progress the development of new and updated village plans for at least 20 rural communities across the district the following recommendations are submitted to council and the LAG for approval: -

Agreed Village Plan Template - In consultation with DEA Officers, local groups and stakeholders a template for a satisfactory village plan has been priced at approx. £2,700. This template concentrates on: -

1. The delivery of an effective community consultation event
2. Development of a list of development projects that have wide support in the local community
3. Provision of 10 copies of the village plan for the group and a pdf copy that can be easily printed and photocopied.
4. An A1 map of village with development projects illustrated that can be displayed in a local community venue.

Village plans developed in-house The plans will be delivered by the Council's Economic Development Officer supported by an organisation competent in community consultation to keep costs to a minimum and maximise the number of groups benefiting from the project.

Community Driven - The village planning process and delivery of local regeneration projects must be driven by the local community. Therefore only groups that actually attend a mandatory funding workshop, complete an Expression of Interest requesting a new or revised village plan within 7 days of the final Mandatory Workshop on the 10 August will be eligible for support.

Eligible RDP Project – The council will not develop a village plan for a settlement unless there is at least one potential project identified eligible for support under the Village Renewal Scheme.

Start Procurement – The council starts the procurement process based on a budget of £54,000 for a competent organisation to work with the council to deliver consultation events for the development of 20 new/updated village plans and carry out initial development work on 8 potential projects to be funded under the Village Renewal Scheme on the basis that: -

Council SP&R Committee approves amendments to the council's procurement policy to allow procurement on RDP projects to proceed without the required budget fully under council control.

4.0	Resource Implications The overall project budget is estimated at £54,000 which is eligible for grant aid at 75% of eligible costs from the Rural Development Programme capped at £40,000. Therefore the total match funding required is £14,000. However the actual hours of staff time contributed to the project by the Economic Development Officer is estimated at £11,000. The match funding required from Council to deliver 20 new / updated village plans will be capped at £3,000.
5.0	Appendices Not applicable

Agenda Item:	[This is the number the item will be given]
Report to:	Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Subject:	Masterplans
Date:	8 August 2016
Reporting Officer:	Jonathan McGilly, Assistant Director of EER
Contact Officer:	

Decisions Required

To consider recommendations outlined in 3.0 to 3.5 and agree a way forward.

1.0	<p>Purpose and Background</p> <p>Following recommendation from May 2016 ERT Committee an elected member workshop was held on 29/06/16 to consider draft priority Action Plans for each of the 4no. Masterplans across the district:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Newry City (ii) SE Coast (Warrenpoint, Kilkeel, Newcastle) (iii) Downpatrick (iv) Ballynahinch <p>Each Masterplan fits a vision for the urban centres and lists a series of key action for each area. In most Plans their actions vary between internal and external projects and range in values from small revenue based projects of £50k to large capital projects valued to millions.</p> <p>The Masterplans have all been developed since 2011 and outline a 15-20 year vision.</p>
2.0	<p>Key Issue</p> <p>In order to achieve results for the Plan it is essential to have some form of shorter term prioritised action Plan to assist Council and other delivery agents to Plan for project implementation by way of setting budgets, agreeing funding applications and allocating human resources to drive forward recommendations.</p> <p>Key issue at hand is to agree for each Masterplan a set of key priorities to ensure projects are delivered by 2020, this will assist Council in setting budgets and HR Plans of the intervening years. In order to do so it is essential all elected members get an overview of the demands across the district and based on that make decisions and agree on a mechanism to drive forward implementation.</p>
3.0	<p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1 Action Plans are tabled for discussion at relevant DEA meeting to which all Councillors be invited. 3.2 Revised Action Plans following DEA consultation are tabled at Council via ERT Committee in September/October 2016. 3.3 Strategic Council Projects arising from the Plans be reported on via Strategic Projects Working Group. 3.4 All other Projects be reported via ERT Committee with a note of progress against each of the projects at 3.3 above. 3.5 Report to relevant DEAs every 6 months against progress on each of the Plans relevant to DEA.

	3.6 Community Planning Structures of Thematic Working Groups be used to engage as necessary with public bodies to progress individual external projects that Council cannot deliver/are not empowered to deliver.
4.0	Resource Implications Budgets are set for 16/17 activity and Plans will be used to inform budgeting process in subsequent years.
5.0	Equality and good relations implications. Action Plans developed with due regard to equality and good relations to ensure effective and equal delivery of output to citizens across the district.
6.0	Appendices App.1 Attached - Report of 29/06/16 workshop

**Report of Workshop to discuss Masterplan Priority Action Plans held on Wednesday 29 June 2016
at 2.00pm in the Training Room, Monaghan Row Council Offices, Newry**

In Attendance:

Councillor T Andrews	Councillor N Bailie
Councillor P Brown	Councillor R Burgess
Councillor M Carr	Councillor D Curran
Councillor C Enright	Councillor H Harvey
Councillor T Hearty	Councillor D Hyland
Councillor G Sharvin	Councillor J Trainor
Councillor W Walker	

Mrs M Ward	Mr J McGilly
Mrs M Quinn	Mr S Crossey
Mr M Patterson	Mrs N Smyth
Mrs M Morrow	

Mr D Mulholland	Mr R O'Rawe
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Apologies:

Councillor C Casey	Councillor P Clarke
Councillor W Clarke	Councillor G Craig
Councillor L Devlin	Councillor G Hanna
Councillor V Harte	Councillor M Larkin
Councillor K Loughran	Councillor D McAteer
Councillor R Mulgrew	Councillor M Murnin
Councillor B Quinn	Councillor M Ruane
Councillor G Stokes	

Mr M Lipsett	Mr C O'Rourke
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1. Introduction and overview by Marie Ward

Mrs M Ward gave an introduction and details on work which had taken place to date. She said the Action Plans had been developed based on officers assessment of likely resources required balanced against what is likely to be available.

Mrs Ward said the low turnout of Elected Members was due to overrun of the Planning Committee Meeting and a further workshop may be held in August if required.

The key aim was to agree from the previously agreed Masterplans and related action plans the key projects to be prioritised for delivery up to 2020.

2. Presentations by Officers on Masterplan progress to date and draft Priority Action Plans up to 2020

Presentations were made by Natasha Smyth on the South East Coast Action Plan, Margaret Quinn on Ballynahinch and Downpatrick Action Plans and Martin Patterson on the Newry City Action Plan.

The draft Priority Actions Plans for South East Coast, Ballynahinch, Downpatrick and Newry City, which were previously circulated, were marked noted.

Mrs Ward summed up and said today's workshop was to look at the masterplans not village plans. The workshop was then opened up for discussion by Elected Members.

3. Open discussion facilitated by Richard O'Rawe

Mr R O'Rawe then invited Elected Members to put forward their thoughts and any concerns they may have in relation to the draft Priority Action Plans.

The following points were made:-

- Issues with traffic congestion in Downpatrick
- The need to include the Down Coastal Walking Group and a link with North Down and Louth – this could be completed in small chunks by each DEA
- Equivalent to the Southern Relief Road exist in the Downpatrick area and have not be delivered upon such as the Eastern Distributor Road, Inner t
- Town one way system (these are in the Downpatrick Action Plan under "Transportation" but need to be detailed)
- Traders need to be consulted on what type of commercial business investments could be attracted to Downpatrick
- Village Plans – plans are in place and are awaiting applications through Rural Development Programme later this year. These will be brought back to the DEAs
- The Masterplans and Area Plan need to be linked as there is a serious housing crisis in Newry
- No major play area in Newry City
- Planning permission for the Marina at Warrenpoint may expire shortly – what will be done about this
- Make a major park in Newry a priority and take forward on the Middle Bank site (by email from Councillor Stokes)

Mrs Ward said all Masterplans need to be prioritised. Each of the Masterplans have in excess of 30 actions and what was required was a prioritisation that allowed Council, with its partners, to plan delivery of a realistic action plan for the life of the Council that was based on realistic allocation of financial and human resources. There is a need for accountability and this can be seen on the Action Plans which identify which Council Official is responsible for each project.

Mrs Ward said internal projects will require Council funding so the future rates processes will be challenging as projects will require prioritisation.

Mr Mulholland advised some projects required the Southern Relief Road to be prioritised therefore, when this is dealt with, Council can then return to those projects. He said the Action Plans detailed a huge amount of projects and Council Officials had done a fantastic job however he added that there needed to be realistic ideas of what can be achieved.

Discussion followed on how the Action Plans would be progressed and the following was agreed:-

- **Action Plans to be tabled for discussion at the relevant DEA with all interested Councillors invited to attend each DEA**
- **Revised Action Plans then to be tabled at ERT Committee Meeting for consideration.**
- **Once Action Plans were agreed the following reporting lines would be used:-**
 - (i) Strategic Projects to be reported to Council via Strategic Projects Working Group**
 - (ii) All other projects to be reported via ERT Committee with a note of (i) above included in report**
 - (iii) Report to relevant DEA every six months to update on progress**
 - (iv) Community Plan Structures be used to engage with public agencies on delivery of non-Council projects identified in Masterplans**

Mrs Ward concluded the workshop by thanking Council Officers for their work on the Action Plans.

Agenda Item:	Camlough Lake Rehabilitation Programme
Report to:	Economic Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Subject:	Camlough Lake Rehabilitation Contract and future development at Camlough Lake
Date:	1 July 2016
Reporting Officer:	Marie Ward
Contact Officer:	Michelle Boyle

Decisions Required

1. To consider Governance procedures for the Council and local users groups moving forward and make a recommendation to the ERT committee
2. To review the vesting map
3. To obtain an update on the timescale of vesting and update at the next meeting
4. To consider funding opportunities for any future developments at Camlough Lake
5. To determine if the Contractor can remove large boulders along the boardwalk which have emerged when the levels are low

1.0	<p>Purpose and Background</p> <p>The legacy Council of NMDC provided Secretariat for the Camlough Lake Sub Committee which overseen the recreational use at Camlough Lake and had been involved in discussion regarding the Rehabilitation Contract at the Lake.</p> <p>The Rehabilitation Contract jointly funded by NI Water and Council, project managed by NI Water commenced in May 16 on site.</p> <p>The purpose of the meeting is to update members and local user groups on the contract progress and also discuss future development at the lake, post contract completion</p>
2.0	<p>Key Issues</p> <p>The rehabilitation programme works are due for completion in Spring 2017.</p> <p>The Council have agreed to vest the lake and some lands to facilitate access, maintenance and future development.</p> <p>Future development opportunities need to be considered to avail of funding opportunities</p>
3.0	<p>Recommendations</p> <p>As per decisions required</p>
4.0	<p>Equality and good relations implications</p> <p>The Equality Impact will be assessed as the project is ongoing.</p>
5.0	<p>Appendices</p>

	Report of the Slieve Gullion Councillors and Camlough Lake Representatives meeting held on 23 June 2016 regarding Rehabilitation Contract and future development at Camlough Lake
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Report of Slieve Gullion area Councillors and Camlough Lake representatives, meeting to discuss Camlough Lake held on Thursday 23rd June 2016 in the Sean Hollywood Arts Centre, Newry.

In the chair:	Councillor K Loughran	
In attendance:	Councillor M Larkin	
	Councillor R Mulgrew	
	Mr C Murphy	
	Mr D Murphy	
	Ms A McCourt	
	Mr M McCourt	
	Mr O McGauley	
	Ms P McParland	
	Mr G Briggs	AECOM
	Mr S Crossey	NMDDC
	Mrs C Keaney	NMDDC
	Mrs M Boyle	NMDDC
	Mrs M Ward	NMDDC
Apologies:	Mrs C Murphy	
	Mr F McShane	
	Councillor D Taylor	

Councillor Loughran began by welcoming everyone to the meeting.

1. Camlough Lake Rehabilitation Contract

Mr Crossey gave the background to the meeting and introduced Mr Briggs from AECOM to give a presentation. Mr Briggs went on to give a detailed presentation on the progress of site works currently taking place at Camlough Lake (copy of presentation attached).

Mr D Murphy asked if the large boulders emerging along the boardwalk with reduced water levels could be removed. Mr Briggs confirmed he would discuss with the contractor and determine if this could be undertaken when levels are low.

Mr Briggs raised some concerns at the number of youths congregating at the lake at night time. Whilst he advised no vandalism has taken place it was a construction site and should not be entered by any unauthorized persons.

Mr C Murphy raised the underwater extraction system which emerged with the low water levels and could it not have been retained? Mr Briggs advised it could have been costly and would not have been available for people to see when levels return to the normal level. The structure has been very well photographed and all the stones have been retained if they could be used for any purpose in the future.

2. Camlough Lake Future Development

Marie Ward joined the meeting for this item

Mr C Murphy highlighted the need to investigate potential funding for the lake. He stressed the urgency in speaking to potential funders / agencies now when the works are being carried out so that any issues such as land acquisitions, legal issues etc are complete while the lake is under construction.

Mrs Ward advised Council were focused on driving tourism in the area and confirmed Camlough Lake was one of their key locations. She added Council were currently working on a new tourism strategy and the Masterplan of 2011 which highlights a number of key recommendations has been a key document to inform the Strategy.

Mrs McParland expressed her frustration at years of working on a voluntary level at Camlough Lake and years later there is still no agreement on issues such as land. The boundary for vesting was discussed and agreed M Boyle to review.

Mrs Ward advised she understood the frustration and indicated the vesting has been agreed by the Council and she would bring an update on timescales to the next meeting advising it can be a lengthy process.

The ongoing committee structure was discussed and Mrs Ward highlighted the need for local involvement in future development at the lake. Mrs Ward advised she would review the Governance procedures with the Council and bring a recommendation to the Economic Regeneration and Tourism Committee.

There being no further business the meeting concluded.

Signed: Mrs Michelle Boyle
Tourism Development Officer
MB/CK

Project Governance Structure

Reporting Hierarchy

FULL COUNCIL

Council Committee
(Cllrs)
Enterprise Regeneration
Tourism Committee

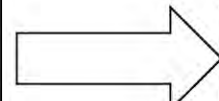
Chief Executive
Liam Hannaway

Director of Enterprise
Regeneration & Tourism
Marie Ward
Assistant Director Tourism,
Culture & Events
Vacant

Project Officer
M Boyle

Camlough Task & Finish Group

Councillors:	Others – 1 rep from each
P Byrne	Camlough Comm. Association
T Hearty	Lake end Water Ski Club
M Larkin	Camlough & District Angling
K Loughran	Camlough Canoe Club
R Mulgrew	Newry Triathlon Club
B O Muiri	Camlough Lake Triathlon/ Camlough Lake Water Festival
D Taylor	Camlough Heritage Society
	Camlough Lake conservation
	Ring of Gullion AONB



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Terms of Reference (DRAFT)

Camlough Lake Task and Finish Project Board

Membership:

Elected Members ;

At the Economic, Regeneration and Tourism Committee on 8 August 2016 it was considered that seven Slieve Gullion councillors would be elected to sit on this board.

The elected members are as follows;

Councillor P Byrne, Councillor T Hearty, Councillor K Loughran, Councillor M Larkin, Councillor R Mulgrew, Councillor B O Muiri, Councillor Robert D Taylor.

Other Members;

Membership of the board are comprised of individuals/ representatives of organisations relevant to the project. Members are selected based upon their knowledge and/or expertise in a given subject matter and/or their relevance to this project.

In the event that a topic or issue arises and the board feels same is outside the expertise of the members the board will seek the advice of external experts.

It is recognised that board membership may grow as the project progresses.

Purpose:

The Camlough Lake Task and Finish Project Board is tasked with developing a vision, identifying projects, prioritising and making funding bid(s) to relevant funders.

Reporting Arrangements:

Reports of the work of this Task and Finish Project Board will be presented to the Economic, Regeneration and Tourism Committee with recommendations for approval included, as and when required.

Frequency of Meetings:

The board will meet bi-monthly.

Chair :

The chair of the board will be elected from among the elected members and will rotate on annual basis.

Behaviour of Members:

Members of the board agree to show respect to others in meetings and not use bullying behaviour or harass any person.

Confidentially:

All board members are advised that information discussed in closed meetings should always be treated as confidential.

All board members are further reminded to store any information securely and remain mindful that the Council at times requires a "safe space" to develop ideas, debate live issues and reach decisions away from external interference or scrutiny. This information has been provided to you in your role as a Member to the Project Task and Finish Board, the information is privileged and strictly not for disclosure to any third party at this time.

Project Sub-Groups:

The board will identify project sub-groups if required. These sub-groups will be tasked with assisting the board in developing specific projects relevant to Camlough Lake and the overall vision the board develops for the Lake. A member of the main project board will chair any project sub-group introduced. The board will provide each sub-group with a Terms of Reference.

Signatures:

Camlough Dam Refurbishment

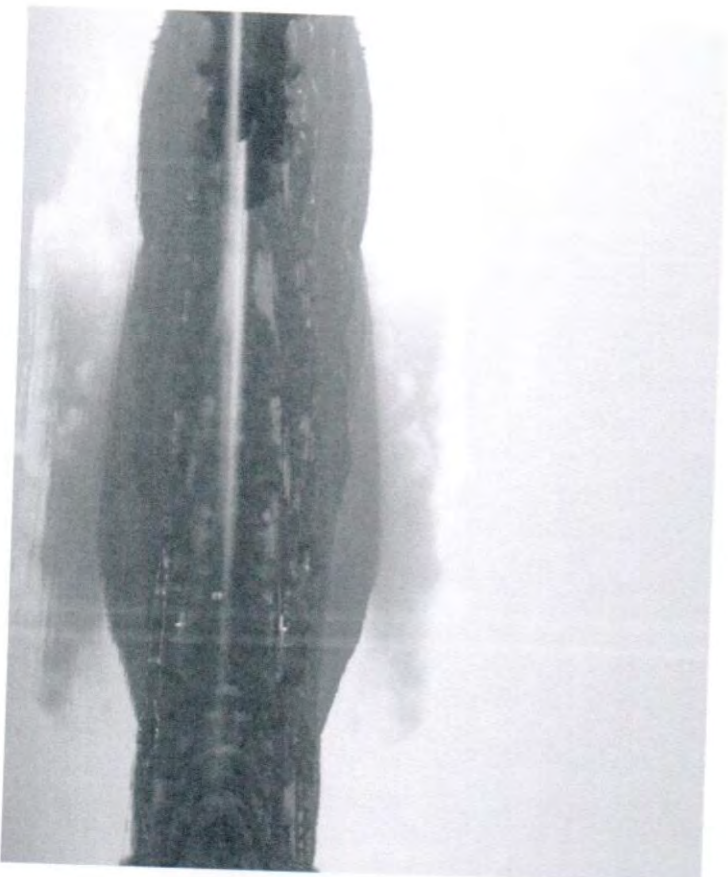
Gareth Briggs – AECOM

June 2016



Presentation Overview

- **Procurement & Planning**
- **Overview of the Construction Works**
- **Construction Programme**
- **Construction Progress**



Procurement and Planning



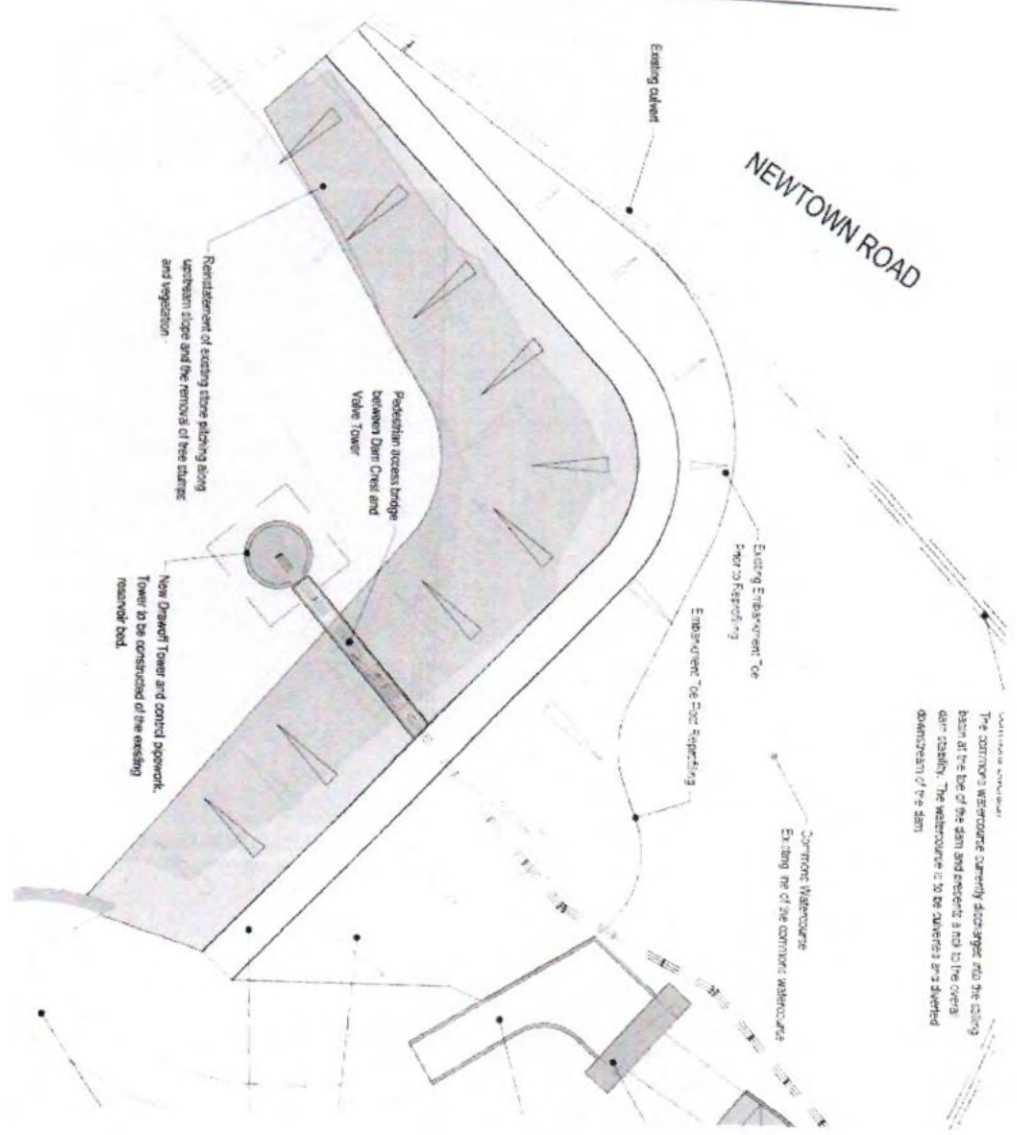
Procurement and Planning

- Procurement
 - Procurement Process through NI Water Framework
 - 3Nr Tenders received
 - BSG identified as Most Economically Favourable Tenderer
- Planning
 - Planning Application lodged November 2015
 - NIEA and DARD Rivers Agency submitted requests for additional information.
 - Permission Received May 2016

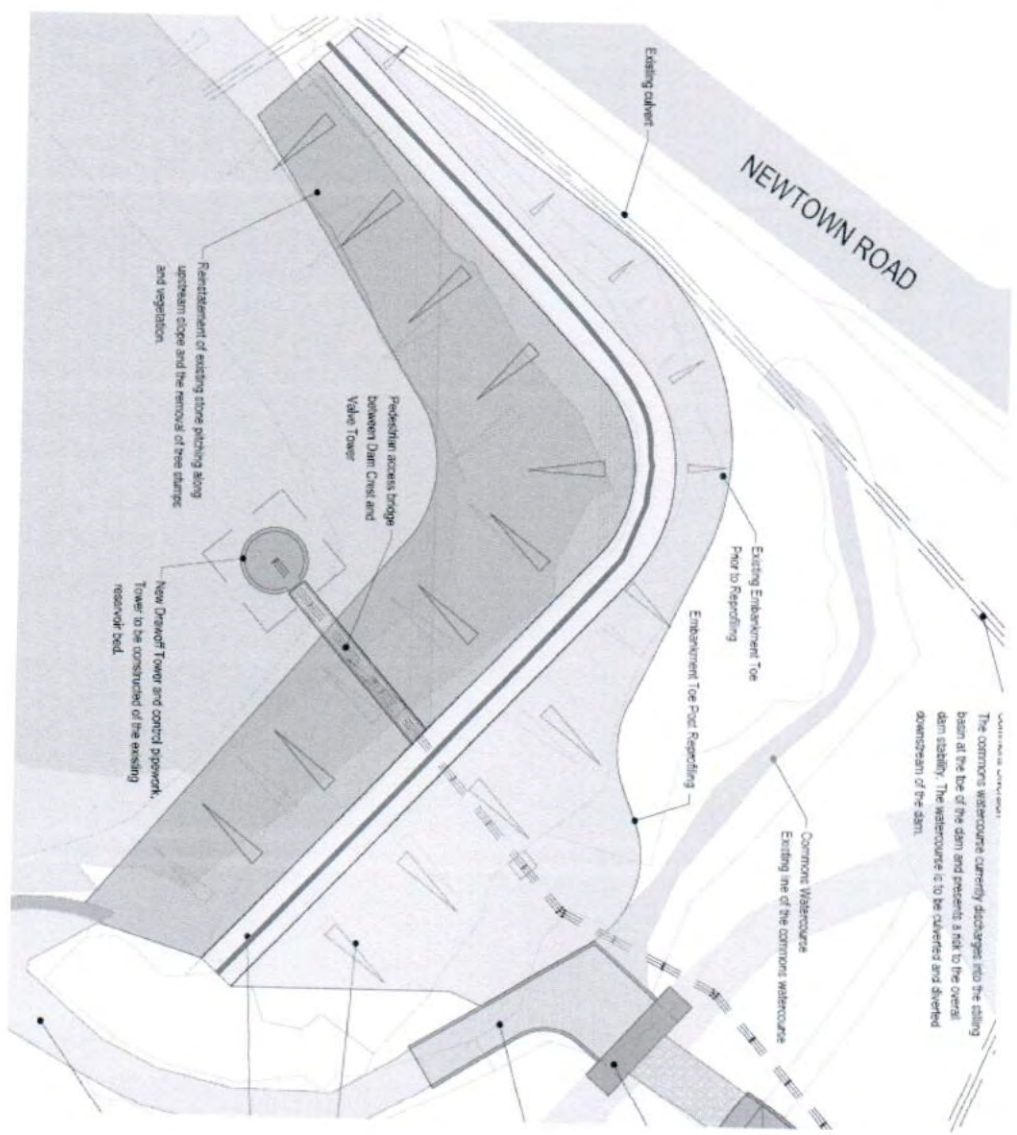
Overview of Works



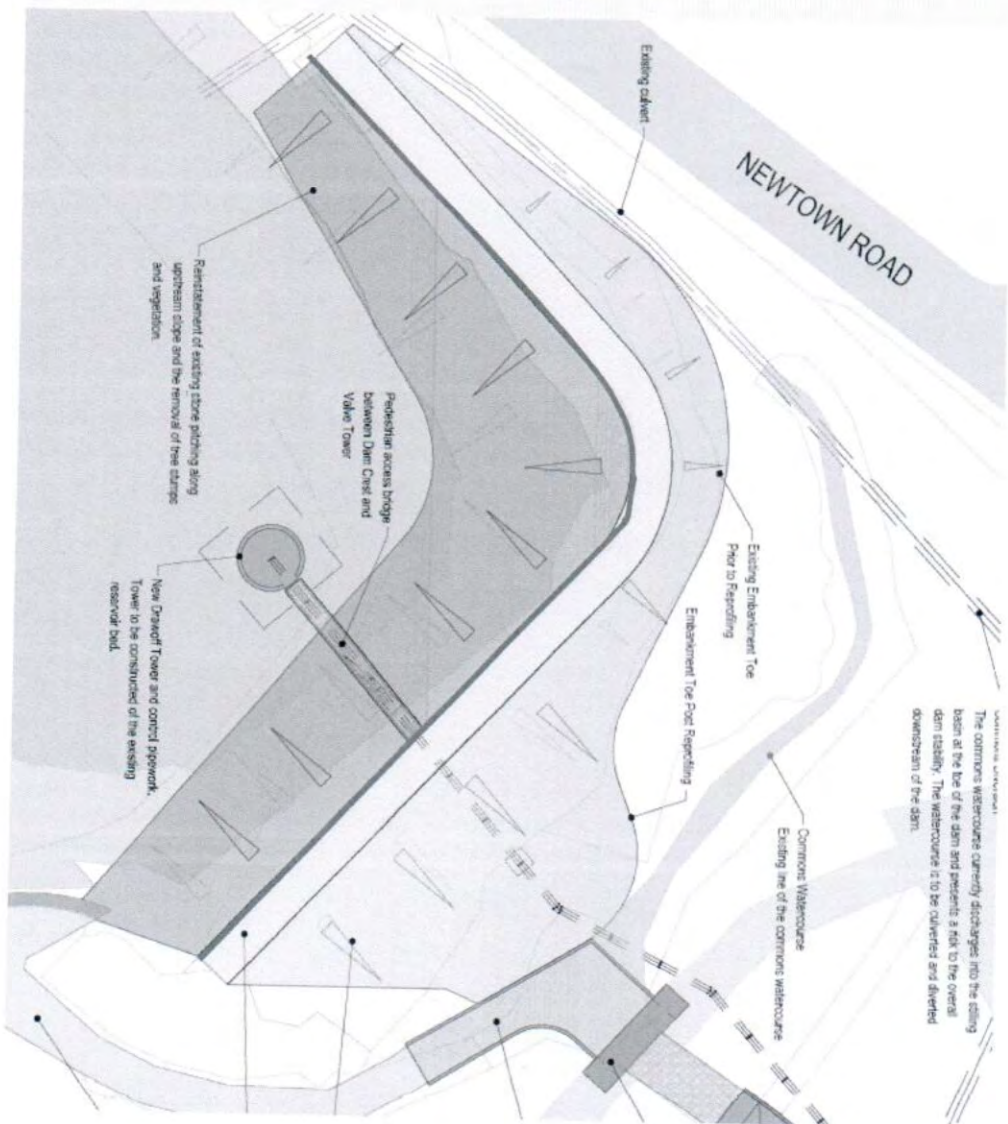
Overview of Construction Works



- **Overview of Construction Works**
- Sheet piled dam core to reduce seepage and improve stability

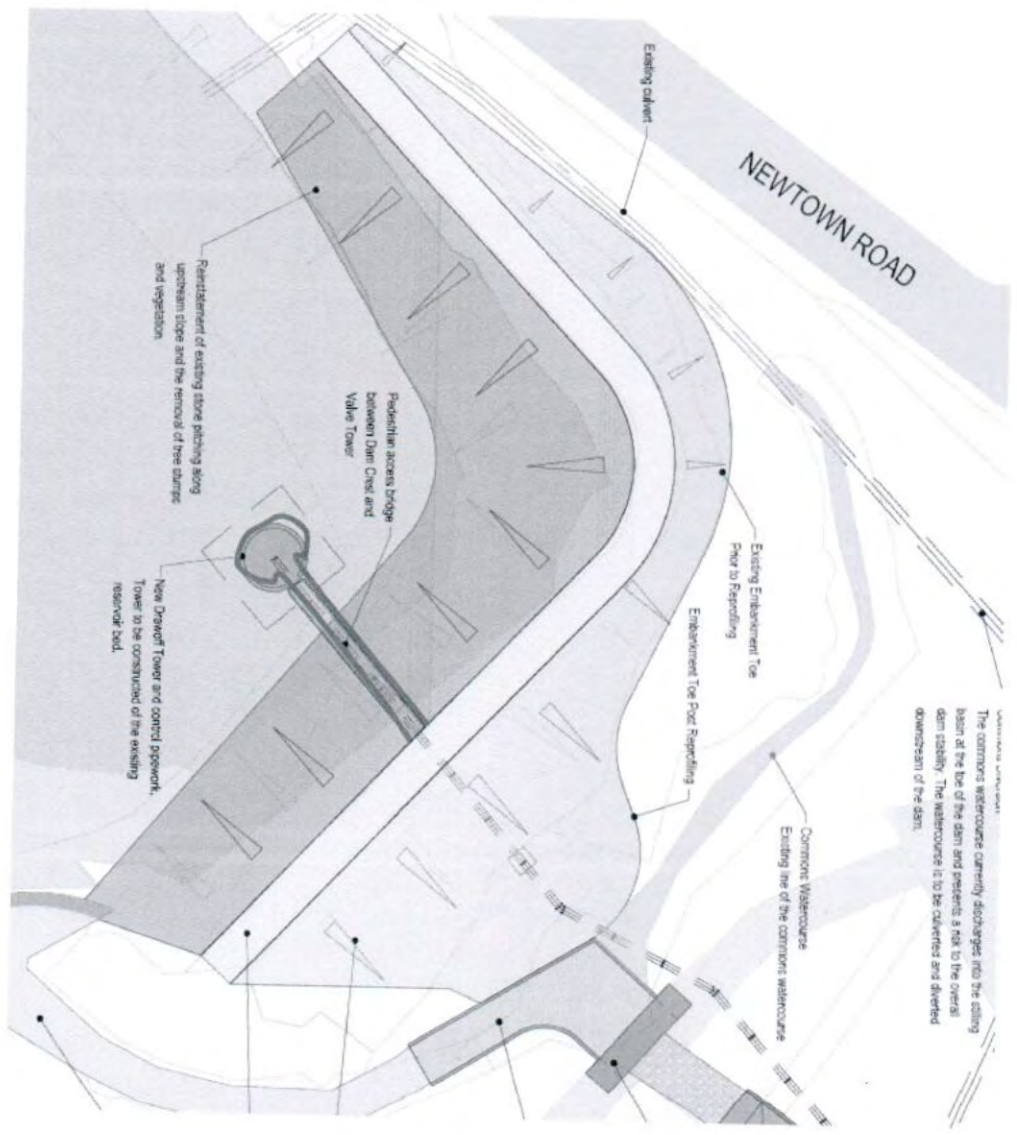


- **Overview of Construction Works**
- Sheet piled dam core to reduce seepage and improve stability
- Upstream wave wall to prevent overtopping



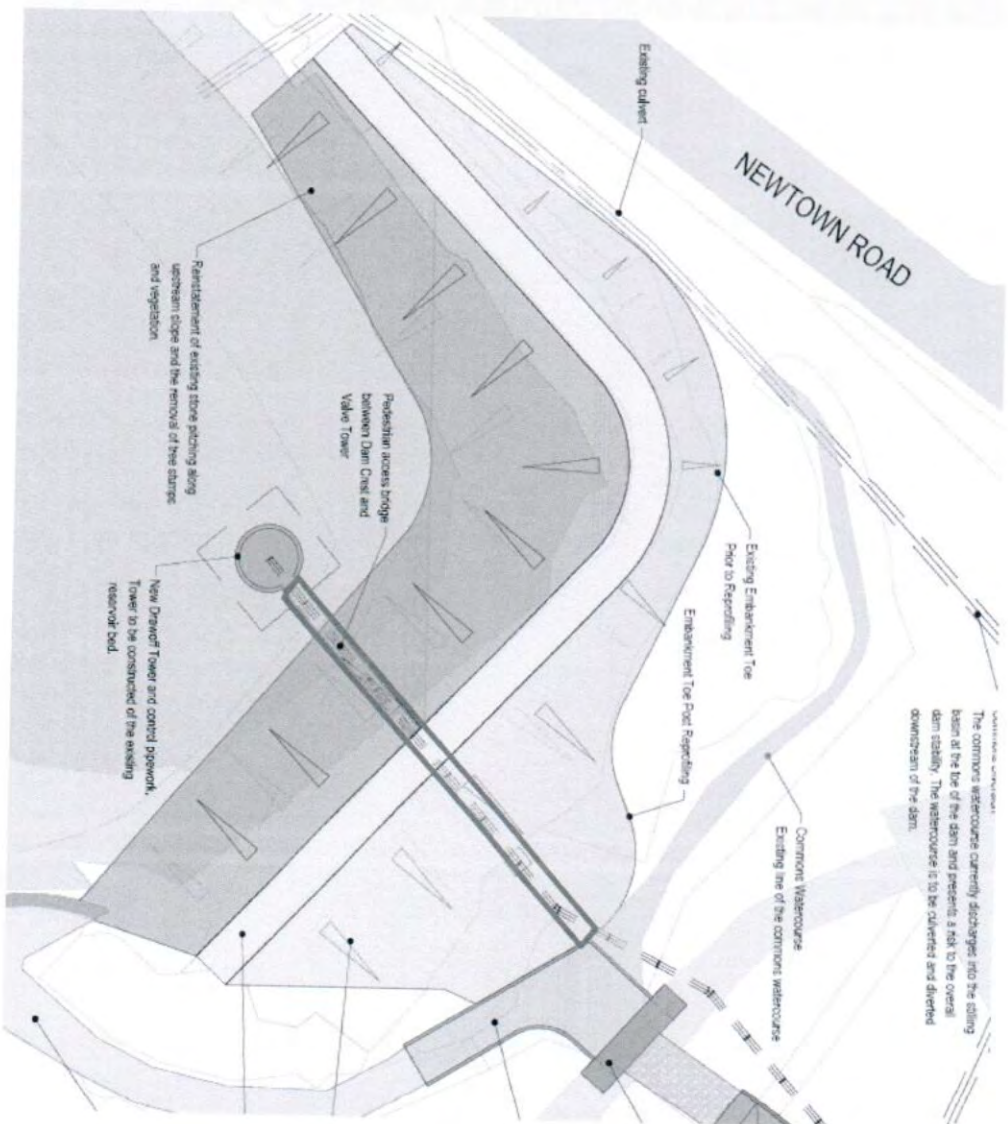
Overview of Construction Works

- Sheet piled dam core to reduce seepage and improve stability
- Upstream wave wall to prevent overtopping
- New valve tower and access bridge to replace the collapsed structure and provide upstream control to pipework



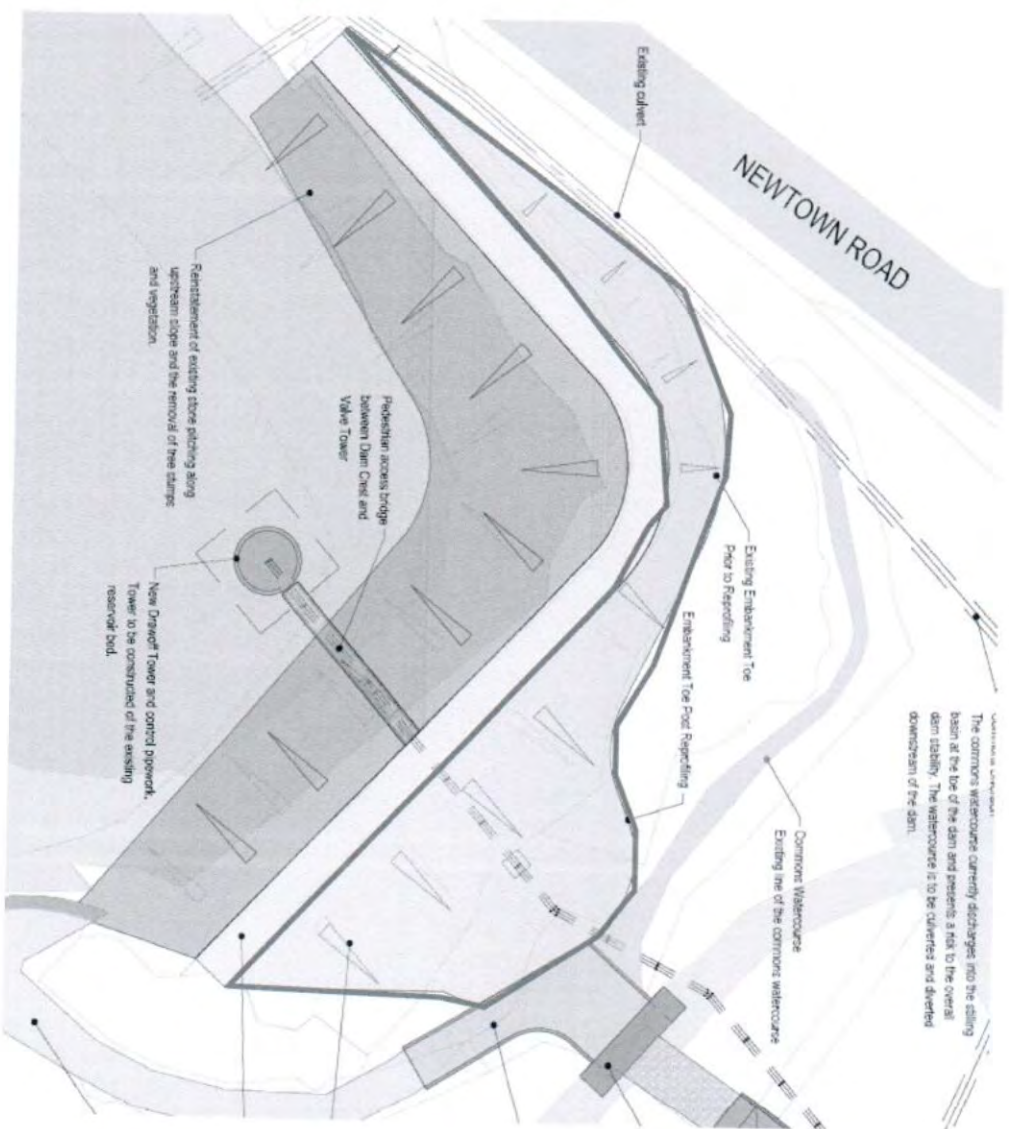
Overview of Construction Works

- Sheet piled dam core to reduce seepage and improve stability
- Upstream wave wall to prevent overtopping
- New valve tower and access bridge to replace the collapsed structure and provide upstream control to pipework
- Relining of drawoff pipework through the dam



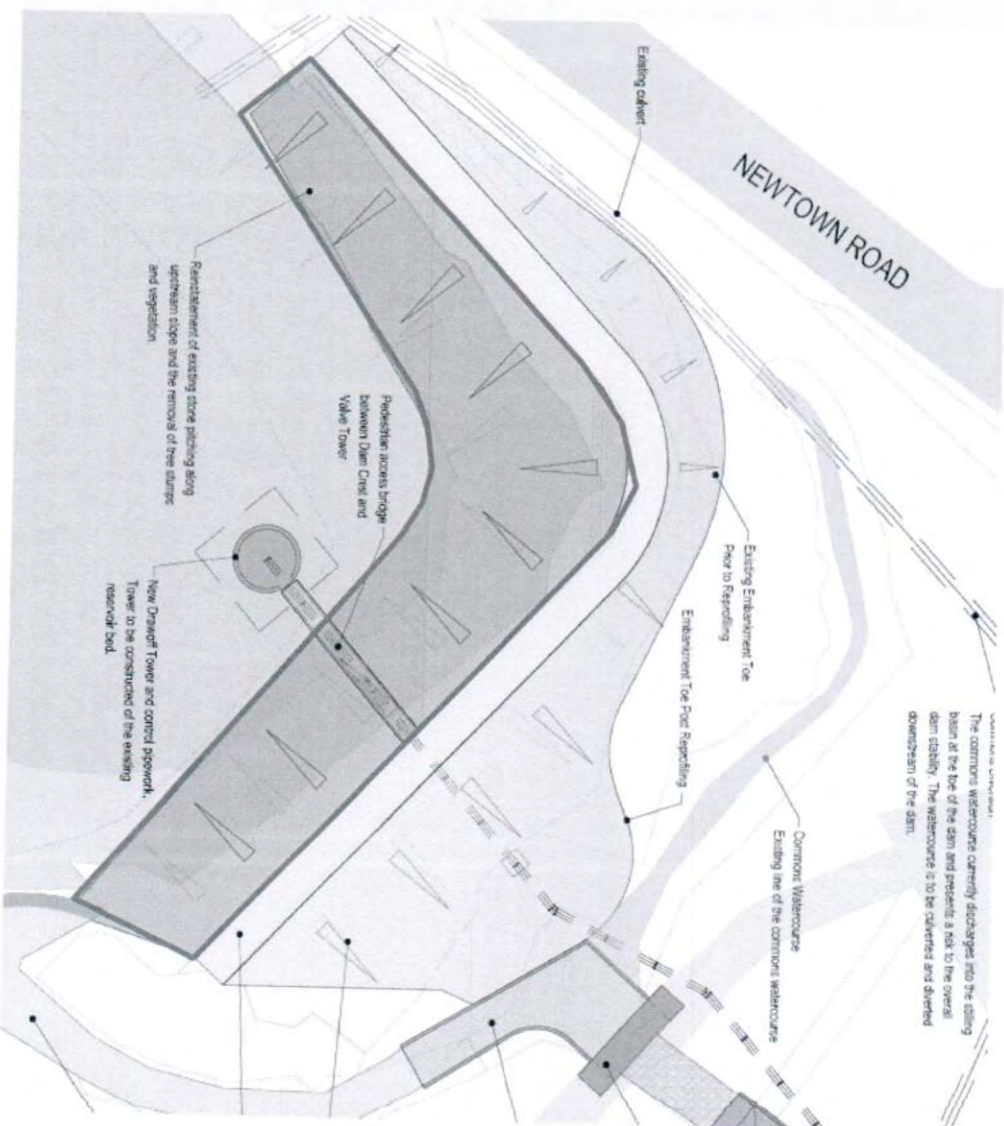
Overview of Construction Works

- Sheet piled dam core to reduce seepage and improve stability
- Upstream wave wall to prevent overtopping
- New valve tower and access bridge to replace the collapsed structure and provide upstream control to pipework
- Relining of drawoff pipework through the dam
- Raising of the dam crest and profiling of the downstream slope



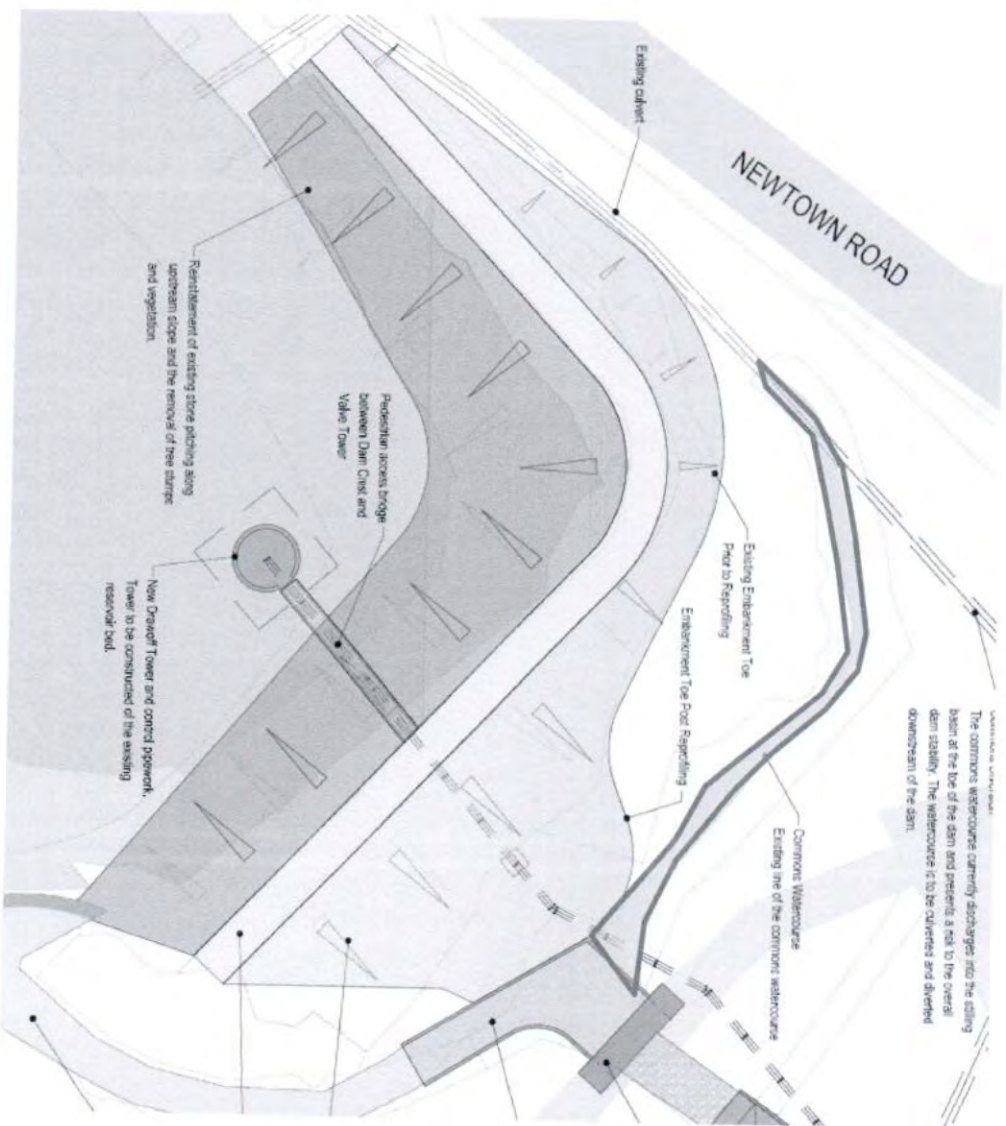
Overview of Construction Works

- Sheet piled dam core to reduce seepage and improve stability
- Upstream wave wall to prevent overtopping
- New valve tower and access bridge to replace the collapsed structure and provide upstream control to pipework
- Relining of drawoff pipework through the dam
- Raising of the dam crest and profiling of the downstream slope
- Repairs to the upstream slope



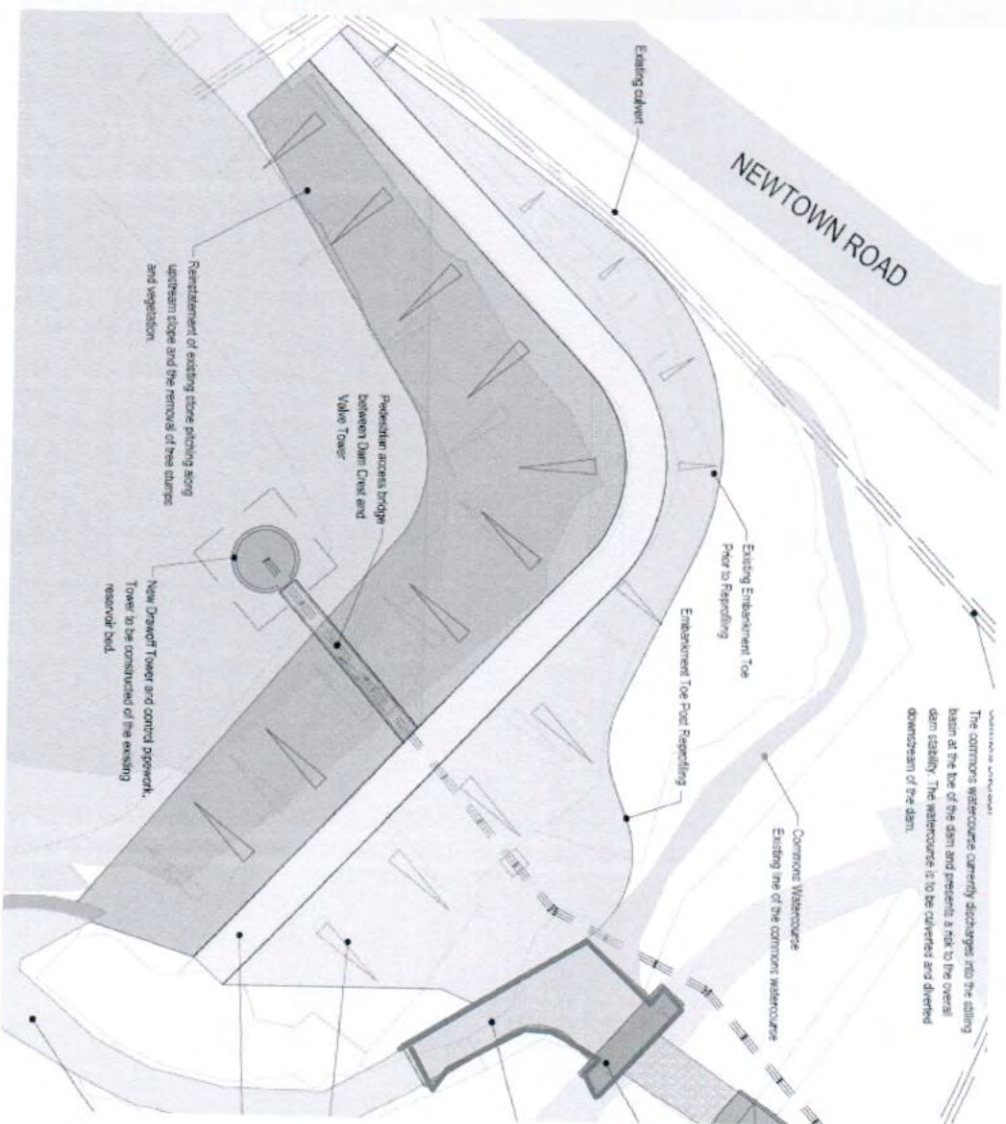
Overview of Construction Works

- Sheet piled dam core to reduce seepage and improve stability
- Upstream wave wall to prevent overtopping
- New valve tower and access bridge to replace the collapsed structure and provide upstream control to pipework
- Relining of drawoff pipework through the dam
- Raising of the dam crest and profiling of the downstream slope
- Repairs to the upstream slope
- Diversions to the commons watercourse



Overview of Construction Works

- Sheet piled dam core to reduce seepage and improve stability
- Upstream wave wall to prevent overtopping
- New valve tower and access bridge to replace the collapsed structure and provide upstream control to pipework
- Relining of drawoff pipework through the dam
- Raising of the dam crest and profiling of the downstream slope
- Repairs to the upstream slope
- Diversions to the commons watercourse
- New downstream stilling basin, and access bridge



Programme

AECOM

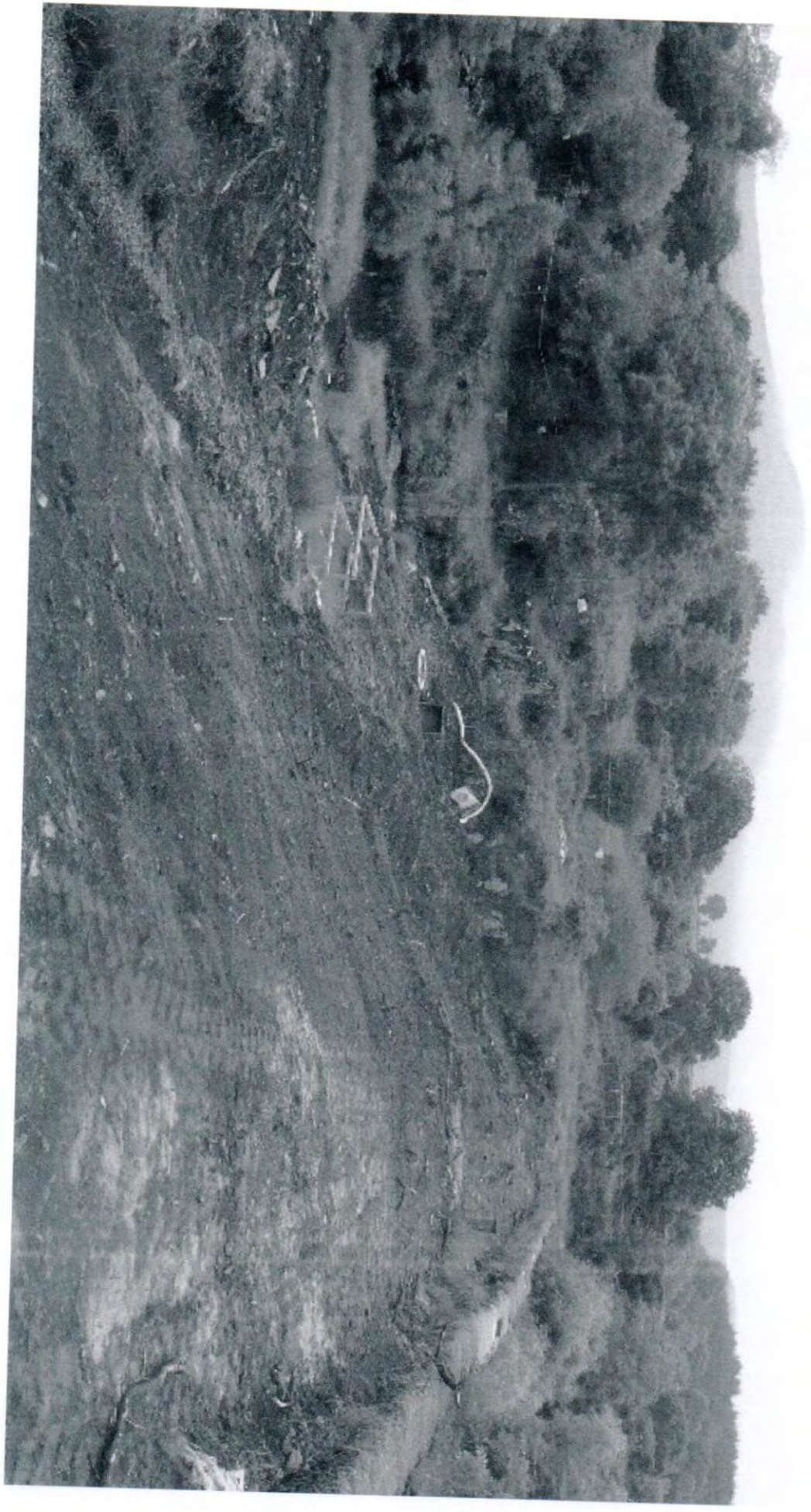


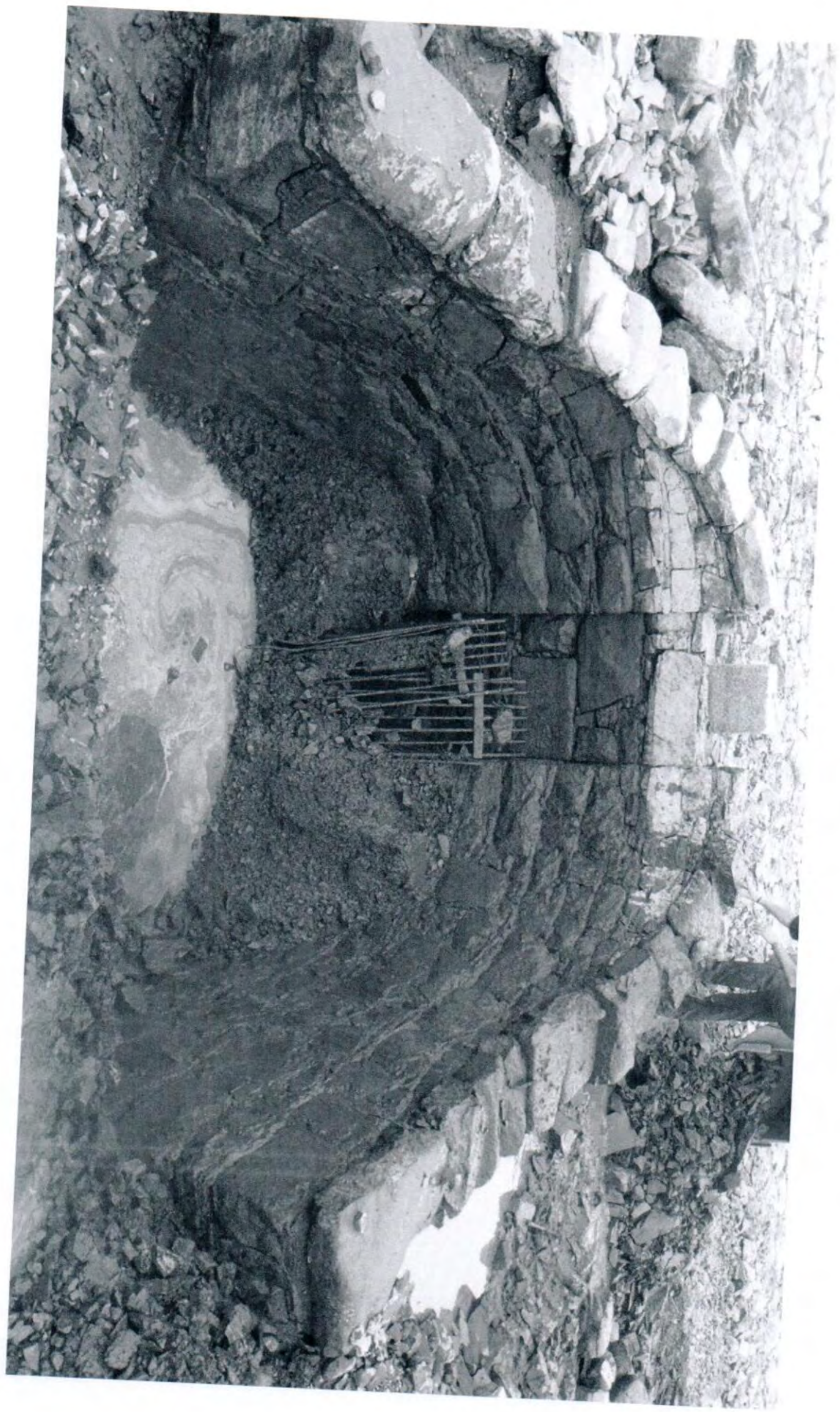
Construction Progress











Agenda Item:	[This is the number the item will be given]
Report to:	Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Subject:	Tourism business development opportunities arising from the recent Council-led study visit to Inverness/Loch Ness and Speyside
Date:	Monday 8 th August 2016
Reporting Officer:	Andy Patterson, Tourism NI Regional Manager – Newry, Mourne & Down
Contact Officer:	As above.

Decisions Required

To note the contents of this paper and to approve the recommendation that:

- a) a **digital tourism webinar initiative** is brought forward for delivery to local tourism businesses in partnership with Tourism NI; and
- b) The merits of **Tourism Business Improvement Districts (TBIDs)** as a model for private-sector led destination development should be scoped as part of the ongoing development of the Newry, Mourne & Down Tourism Strategy.

1.0 Purpose and Background

Following the recent council-led Study Visit to Inverness/Loch Ness and Speyside, on 14-16 June 2016, this report focuses on two key aspects of the visit that have proved to be very successful initiatives in helping to support and grow tourism businesses in the Inverness and Loch Ness area and wider Highlands region of Scotland.

The study visit itself included a comprehensive schedule of meetings with leading tourism stakeholders in the Highlands region of Scotland, where tourism generates £411m Gross Value Added (GVA) and supports 29,000 jobs in the local economy (please see appendix 1 for a full visit itinerary).

Supporting private-sector led, competitive tourism businesses has been key to the success of tourism in this part of Scotland. Collaboration is widely used to create growth by helping to improve visitor experiences and to exploit market opportunities. The **Inverness & Loch Ness Tourism Business Improvement District (TBID)** is an excellent example of how a private-sector led, collaborative approach can be channelled to sustain and grow tourism in a region.

Maximising the opportunities that digital technology offers is another cross cutting theme that is considered a critical success factor in the growth of the tourism industry in Scotland. As in Northern Ireland, challenges exist in Scotland in the availability of broadband in rural areas, but also in the ability of small tourism businesses to use digital technology to drive sales, open new markets, reduce costs and increase productivity. Highlands and Islands Enterprise address these challenges in part through their **'Tune into Tourism' series of live interactive webinars**.

2.0 Key Issues

Digital Tourism Webinars

The Challenge:

- Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) produces a huge volume of market insights, data and research that aims to support the growth of tourism businesses, and to ensure they are 'digitally enabled'.
- However, HIE found that small tourism businesses in particular do not have the time or resources available to commit to undertaking business development activities, or in attending seminars and training programmes, etc. within normal working hours (when guests and visitors are the priority).
- HIE also identified a need to share best-practice learnings and insights from leading tourism businesses within the industry in Scotland. There was a need to develop opportunities for more peer-to-peer knowledge transfer, and for closer working partnerships to be fostered.
- HIE wanted to capture the best-practice learnings, business support advice and market insights to ensure this valuable information could be easily accessed by tourism businesses for future reference.

Solution:

- HIE's 'Tune into Tourism' webinar programme is key to connecting tourism businesses and facilitating them with the information they need to grow. Each webinar is broadcast live, lasts for around 45 mins and attracts 300 businesses to take part on average.
- Businesses are surveyed as part of the planning for each season of webinars to ensure the topics covered are relevant and topical - and are focused on tourism business growth.
- Crucially, the webinars are broadcast in the evenings at times that suit businesses to tune in, i.e. 7pm onwards. They are presented by a well-known BBC Scotland presenter and produced by an external producer. The format of each webinar includes interviews with best-in-class local tourism businesses who are very willing to share their experiences and impart their knowledge.
- This peer-to-peer sharing of experiences is very popular with participants, who can submit their questions live online. Each webinar is recorded and posted on HIE's Youtube channel to allow businesses to watch again.
- Each 'season' includes six webinars broadcast at two week intervals, and feedback is very positive from participants. The last season of webinars took place in April and May 2016, and included topics such as:
 - I. Understanding digital tourism - why this is crucial for your business
 - II. Understanding the digital tourist - put yourself in their shoes
 - III. Website MOT - promote, engage and attract more visitors
 - IV. Best in class - case studies from success stories
 - V. Future proofing - trends and market leaders
 - VI. Content creation - storytelling and building a brand

	<p>Results:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In their last series of webinars HIE had an average of 300 local tourism businesses take part in each broadcast. The feedback from these businesses has been very positive, particularly in relation to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the ease of access in taking part, i.e. participants did not have to leave their premises; ○ the timing of each broadcast – in the evenings when businesses have time to participate fully; ○ the opportunity to ask live questions and interact with best-in-class peers and tourism experts; ○ the opportunity to ‘watch again’ via HIE’s YouTube channel. <p>It is proposed that a similar webinar programme should be produced and delivered, in partnership between the Council and Tourism NI, to an audience of local tourism businesses within the Newry, Mourne and Down area.</p>
3.0	<p>Recommendations</p> <p>To note the contents of this paper and to approve the recommendation that: a digital tourism webinar initiative is brought forward for delivery to local tourism businesses in partnership with Tourism NI.</p>
4.0	<p>Resource Implications</p> <p>This webinar programme will cost approximately £60,000 to produce and it is proposed that the production costs would be funded jointly between Tourism NI and the Council. In addition, these costs could be shared further if other Local Authorities wanted to utilise this approach to support tourism businesses within their respective Local Authority areas.</p>
5.0	<p>Equality and Good Relations implications</p> <p>It is proposed that a selection of tourism businesses from across the Council area would be chosen to take part in the webinar programme, and that these businesses would be representative of the different sectors within the industry including, tourist accommodation, transport, hospitality, tour guiding, etc.</p>
6.0	<p>Appendices</p> <p>Appendix 1 – study visit itinerary.</p>

Appendix 1 – Study Visit Itinerary

Study visit to Inverness/Loch Ness and Speyside, 14-16 June 2016 - by tourism stakeholders from Newry, Mourne & Down District

14 June	Locations	Activity	Main topics of interest	Contact
12.45	Inverness	Meeting at Highlands & Islands Enterprise (HIE) + lunch courtesy of HIE http://www.hie.co.uk/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies for rural economic development & regeneration • Tourism strategy and project priorities • Public-private partnerships for tourism/ DMO support 	Chris Taylor, Head of Tourism & Food
		Inverness & Loch Ness TBID http://www.visitinvernesslochness.com/trade/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment, governance and funding of the TBID • Relationships with other bodies • Implementation structures • Activities to date 	Graeme Ambrose, CEO
15.00		Scottish Natural Heritage http://www.snh.gov.uk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategy and priorities • Establishment and operation of National Parks • Countryside recreation projects 	Maren Ebeling, Tourism Officer
19.00	Grantown on Spey	Meeting with Cairngorms Business Partnership www.visitcairngorms.com/membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evolution of the organisation • Partnership working • Overview of outdoor activities • Accommodation/ activity packaging, • Food & Drink promotion 	Mark Tate, CEO
15 June				
09.00	Cairngorm	Cairngorm Mountain - www.cairngormmountain.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mountain uplift development/use • Conservation issues 	Ross Coulter, Marketing Manager
11.00	Loch Morlich	Glenmore Lodge www.glenmorelodge.org.uk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of outdoor recreation in the Cairngorms • Training programmes 	Vicky Smith, Communications Manager
13.30	Loch an Eilein	Rothiemurchus Estate http://www.rothiemurchus.net/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation and conservation on a private estate in National Park 	Julian Orsi, Countryside Manager

15.30	Grantown on Spey	Cairngorm National Park Authority - http://cairngorms.co.uk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of the Park • Overview of operations and funding • Relationships and partnerships • Park management • Conservation and customer experience (inc interpretation) • Cairngorm Tourism Partnership 	Murray Ferguson, Director of Planning & Rural Development
17.00	Grantown on Spey	Forestry Commission Scotland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FCS Recreation Strategy and its implementation in the Highlands • Mountain biking and footpath management 	Jack Mackay, Recreation & Tourism Manager, Inverness, Ross & Skye Forest District
19.00	Grantown on Spey	Meeting with Moray Speyside Tourism http://www.morayspeyside.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tourism strategy for Moray • Structure and governance of Moray Speyside Tourism • Partnership working • Thematic marketing, including food and drink • Accommodation/ activity packaging 	Margery McLennan, Director of Moray Chamber of Commerce, which runs MST
16 June				
08.30	Lower Speyside/ Moray	ACE Adventures, Findhorn www.aceadventures.co.uk Malt Whisky Trail - www.maltwhiskytrail.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The activity tourism offering • Viewing (but not visiting) 	

Agenda Item:	Report of meeting of Slieve Gullion DEA Councillors, Forestry Dept., Clanrye Group re Forward Planning for Slieve Gullion held on 25 January 2016 in the Hawthorne Suite, Slieve Gullion.
Report to:	Economic Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Subject:	Forward Planning Slieve Gullion
Date:	5 July 2016
Reporting Officer:	Marie Ward
Contact Officer:	Michelle Boyle

Decisions Required

- 1. To clarify with SMT regarding the appointment of a design team to oversee the new toilet block project**
- 2. Update on the – “Footsteps in the Forest” event noted**
- 3. To erect temporary signs on the Aghadavoyle Road to urge traffic to drive slowly**

1.0	Purpose and Background Slieve Gullion briefing meeting initiate planning for 2016 season at slieve Gullion
2.0	Key Issues Consideration of operational arrangements for 2016 to enhance visitor experience
3.0	Recommendations As per decisions required
4.0	Resource Implications Ongoing revenue cost associated with Slieve Gullion
5.0	Appendices Report of meeting of Slieve Gullion DEA Councillors, Forestry Dept., Clanrye Group re Forward Planning for Slieve Gullion held on 20 June 2016 in the Hawthorne Suite, Slieve Gullion.

Report of Slieve Gullion Forward Planning meeting held on Monday 20th June 2016 at 10am in the Hawthorn Suite, Slieve Gullion

In the chair: Councillor Micky Larkin

In attendance: Councillor Terry Hearty
Councillor Kate Loughran
Councillor Roisin Mulgrew
Mrs Cathy Keaney
Mrs Julie McCann
Mrs Asleainn McGill
Mrs Michelle McKeown
Mrs Marie Ward
Mr Darren Rice
Liam Devine

Apologies: Councillor Pete Burns
Mrs Michelle Boyle

Councillor Larkin began by welcoming everyone to the meeting.

Mrs McCann confirmed school tours had been very popular and confirmed 25 tours had taken place already in June. She advised family tours had not worked so well, and indicated cost could have been a factor (£6 per person). In going forward for next years season Mrs McCann suggested reviewing cost.

Councillor Larkin asked for an update on the toilet block. Mrs Ward advised resources in-house are stretched and it may be necessary to bring in a Design Team to progress this project. Mrs Ward confirmed she would take it to management team in the first instance.

A discussion took place on the issue of the water tank. Mr Devine advised there had been issues in the past few weeks but confirmed every effort was being made to resolve the situation. He confirmed work was currently being done to widen the pipe carrying the water to the tank and confirmed this should rectify the situation.

Mr Devine confirmed 400 tickets had been sold for the cinema night and that a further 100 was still available.

Mrs Ward brought the committees attention to an outdoor event due to take place in Slieve Gullion in August – “Footsteps in the Forest”. She advised that due to a water festival event due to take place in Newry on the Sunday the dates would need to be changed to the Friday 26th & Saturday 27th August.

Mrs McGill gave a detailed overview of the event, she advised herself and Mr Rice had been working closely with a production company and expressed her enthusiasm at the programme of entertainment that has been planned so far.

Mrs McGill advised visiting creatures in full costume would be descending on Slieve Gullion Forest Park from other key areas in the district and placed at various locations within the park. In addition, a section of the car park will be allocated to food and drink incorporating the Year of Food & Drink.

Mrs McGill highlighted the importance of promoting the event as early on as possible. She advised there was an excellent mix of production however suggested if anyone had any ideas to get in touch.

Mrs Ward advised that the biggest concern was managing numbers. Mrs McCann confirmed it would be managed and controlled by a ticketed system on arrival.

It was agreed that the carpark would be closed to cars and Mrs McCann agreed to look at disabled parking. Mr Devine suggested using Clanrye chained area for disabled parking.

Mr Rice asked would it be possible to have a tent / marquee erected on a flat area in the walled garden. Mr Devine agreed to arrange.

Councillor Mulgrew suggested getting local businesses to further enhance the whole experience.

A discussion took place on the park & ride bus travelling on the Aghadavoyle Road – it was recommended signs be erected in an attempt to slow traffic down

There being no further business the meeting concluded

Agenda Item:	Report of meeting of Slieve Gullion DEA Councillors, Forestry Dept., Clanrye Group re Forward Planning for Slieve Gullion held on 1 August 2016
Report to:	Economic Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Subject:	Forward Planning Slieve Gullion
Date:	1 August 2016
Reporting Officer:	Marie Ward
Contact Officer:	Michelle Boyle

Decisions Required

4. Agree recommended location proposed by officials and outline design for toilet block/amenity at Slieve Gullion to facilitate detailed design to be prepared for consideration.

5. To consider minor aesthetic improvements to the attendant hut

1.0	Purpose and Background Slieve Gullion briefing meeting initiate planning for 2016 season at slieve Gullion
2.0	Key Issues Consideration of toilet block / amenity location and concept design to enhance visitor experience
3.0	Recommendations As per decisions required
4.0	Resource Implications Capital provision available in this financial year
5.0	Equality Assessment All necessary consideration will be taken account of as part of detailed design
6.0	Appendices Report of meeting of Slieve Gullion DEA Councillors, Forestry Dept., Clanrye Group re Forward Planning for Slieve Gullion held on 1 August 2016 at Slieve Gullion.

Report of Slieve Gullion Forward Planning meeting held on Monday 1 August 2016 at 10am at the carpark at Slieve Gullion

In the chair: Councillor Micky Larkin

In Attendance: Councillor Kate Loughran
Councillor Roisin Mulgrew
Councillor Terry Hearty
Mrs M Boyle
Mr Paul Brannigan
Ms Sarah Hagan – Clanyre

Apologies: Councillor Pete Byrne
Mrs Marie Ward
Mr Mark Parker – Forest Service
Mr Dawson Jones – Forest Service

1. New toilet block /Amenity facility

M Boyle reminded members budget available in the current financial year to provide this facility.

The Council are currently in the process of appointing a design team and to assist this process would seek to have the preferred location agreed.

Mrs Boyle also advised the new provision would include office accommodation for park staff, storage for the new Mule and provision for the tourism information office in addition to male/female toilet facilities

A site location plan and outline plan for the building was circulated to all present

Paul Brannigan discussed the location adjacent to the existing office accommodation and storage unit of the Mule and outlined rationale for this location. Mr Brannigan advised this location would involve the loss of circa 10/12 parking spaces but highlighted it is hoped this would not have a major impact as the Council are hoping to purchase land which would provide an additional 170 spaces.

Councillor Mulgrew asked for an update. Mrs Boyle advised pre planning enquiry submitted and Planning have advised they are awaiting a response from Transport NI. Mrs Boyle advised she has discussed the project with Transport NI and they are suggesting a meeting with Planners to discuss the project. Council Officials are currently in the process of convening this meeting.

Members advised they are content with the proposed location of the new toilet block/amenity facility and initial outline design proposal

Mrs Mulgrew requested the current attendant hut is given a spruce up -give it also provides first aid facilities. Mrs Boyle undertook to review

There being no further business the meeting concluded.

Report to:	Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Date of Meeting:	Monday 8 August 2016
Subject:	Warrenpoint Public Realm Scheme (Church Street / The Square)
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Marie Ward, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Mr Jonathan McGilly - Assistant Director of Enterprise, Employment & Regeneration

Decisions required:	
1.0	Purpose and Background:
1.1	At noted at previous ERT meetings, the Council is now proceeding with the Warrenpoint Public Realm Scheme. As noted from the attached report of the Task & Finish Public Realm Steering Group held on 22 nd June 2016, the scheme will now be installing a new Puffin Crossing in Dock Street to protect pedestrian accessibility at the Crossing Point. (See attached Report)
2.0	Key issues:
2.1	Continue to work closely with WBR Chamber and its members throughout the process to ensure good communications are continued, so that everyone knows what is happening on overall programme delivery.
3.0	Recommendations:
3.1	<p>1.)_ TNI to erect information signage on the Church Street Puffin Crossing to remind pedestrians of how the new signaling works.</p> <p>2.)_ TNI to review the sequencing/timing of the Church Street Puffin Crossing lights and carry out further education through various media sources as to the operation of Puffin Crossings.</p> <p>3.)_ Agree to proceed with the Dock Street Puffin Crossing and work with TNI to see how the carriageway lining of the 3 lanes can be adjusted to bring more structure to the flow of traffic on the street.</p> <p>4.)_ TNI to continue to monitor traffic flow/parking on Dock Street, post the completion of the Public Realm Scheme.</p>
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	As per previously outlined at the ERTs meetings, Council had a 2015/16 and a 16/17 contribution for this scheme to match fund the monies on offer from the core DFC funder.
5.0	Equality and good relations implications:
5.1	In delivery of the scheme, the Council, DFC funder, consultants and contractor are fully mindful of the Section 75 legislation.
6.0	Appendices
	- Appendix I: Report of the Warrenpoint Public Realm Scheme Task & Finish Steering Committee meeting held on 22 nd June 2016.

Report of Warrenpoint Public Realm T&F Steering Committee (involves Crotlieve Cllrs) on 22nd June 2016 at 11.00am on site in Dock Street, Warrenpoint.

In Attendance:	Councillor M Ruane – WBR	Councillor D McAteer
Councillor M Carr	Mr J Boylan – WBR	Mr C McKenna - TNI
Mr S Crossey - NMDDC		

Apologies :	Councillor J Tinnelly	Mr R Preston
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1. Church Street Puffin Crossing

- Background to this issue is the on-going pedestrian safety and traffic flow concerns raised as to the changes made by TNI from conventional pedestrian crossing points to the new Puffin crossing points.
- Mr C McKenna from TNI gave an overview and demo of how the Puffin Crossing operates
- Following much discussion on the item, where councillors concerns were raised and dealt with, it was agreed that a mixture of new signage, monitoring the lights sequencing and on-going education on this upgrade thorough a range of media sources was required by TNI.

2. Proposed Dock Street Puffin Crossing

- Background to this issue was concerns that a new puffin crossing on Docks Street would add to traffic congestion in the town.
- Mr C McKenna from TNI explained that the existing crossing point is continually being blocked by vehicles and with additional disabled spaces being placed in the Square due to the relocation of the post office, this was going to become an even greater problem.
- He added that a zebra crossing would only add to the traffic build up on the street and a Puffin Crossing, would gave more control to the movement of people and flow of traffic on the street.
- Bigger issue of the 3 lanes not working properly and the illegal parking on Dock Street was discussed at length.
- Following must discussion, it was agreed to proceed with the Dock Street Puffin Crossing and work with TNI to see how the carriageway lining of the 3 lanes can be adjusted to bring more structure to the flow of traffic on the street.

Recommendations:

- 1.)_ TNI to erect information signage on the Church Street Puffin Crossing to remind pedestrians of how the new signaling works.**
- 2.)_ TNI to review the sequencing/timing of the Church Street Puffin Crossing lights and carry out further education through various media sources as to the operation of Puffin Crossings.**
- 3.)_ Agree to proceed with the Dock Street Puffin Crossing and work with TNI to see how the carriageway lining of the 3 lanes can be adjusted to bring more structure to the flow of traffic on the street.**
- 4.)_ TNI to continue to monitor traffic flow/parking on Dock Street, post the completion of the Public Realm Scheme.**

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 12.08pm

Report by: Seamus Crossey (Capital Projects Officer - ERR)

Report to be noted at August 2016 ERT meeting.

Agenda Item:	Tour Operator & Industry Engagement
Report to:	Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Subject:	Tour Operator & Industry Engagement
Date:	Monday 8 August 2016
Reporting Officer:	Mrs Marie Ward, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism
Contact Officer:	Mrs Wilma Warburton, Assistant Tourism Development Officer

Decision Required: For Noting

To provide an update on Tour Operator & Industry Engagement which has taken place to date by Council Tourism Officers for the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area.

1.0 Purpose and Background

It is a corporate aspiration of council to develop the district as the premier tourism destination of choice in Ireland and whilst we await our Tourism Strategy, we have attended a number of key industry engagements in order to promote Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area. These promotions have been undertaken through our current Tourism Destination brands of Mourne Mountains & Ring of Gullion, Strangford Lough and Saint Patrick's Country.

During these engagements, appointments are set up with Tour Operators and Officers have a 15 minute slot in a 'speed dating' scenario to speak one to one with Tour Operators. The purpose of these appointments is in order to showcase our area whilst meeting the needs of the Tour Operator and influencing their decision to conduct their business (and repeat business) in our area instead of travelling elsewhere.

Two of the main Tour Operator engagements which we have attended recently are the 'Incoming Tour Operators Association' (ITOA) and 'Meet The Buyer'. ITOA packages and promotes the various elements of the Irish Tourism product to market overseas, similarly 'Meet the Buyer' (organised by Tourism NI) literally gives us an opportunity to 'Meet the Buyer' who is putting together and promoting trips and itineraries to Northern Ireland and give us an opportunity to promote our area and the fantastic activities, accommodation, festival and events held here.

To date over 150 individual appointments with Tour Operators have been conducted by Council Tourism Officers, following the initial meeting, contact details and areas of particular interest are discussed and these are then followed up after the appointment. Follow up can result in business coming to the area, either through bus tours, Familiarisation Trips, group and individual visits and inclusion in Tour Operator itineraries.

Many Tour Operators are looking for something different, something quirky that stands us apart from other Destinations in Northern Ireland, and feedback from these events tells us that our area is becoming very popular and many Tour Operators want bespoke itineraries produced by us that they can replicate this for business use. They also appreciate having a contact in the area that can be a 'one stop shop' for them to receive accurate and reliable information from.

Below is an overview of appointments have been held to date with and the target markets they represent.

	Tour Operator	Target Market
1	A Touch of Ireland	Italy, Spain, France, Germany/Austria/Switzerland, Greece, United Kingdom (UK)
2	Abbey Group	Worldwide
3	Abbey Ireland	Ireland
4	Abbey Tours/Abbey Ireland	Worldwide
5	Adams & Butler	Worldwide
6	Advantage ICO	Worldwide
7	Alainn Tours	Worldwide
8	Albatross Group	Worldwide
9	APT	Europe
10	Aspects of Ireland	Europe
11	Axis Globe	Worldwide
12	Best of Scotland	UK
13	Boscolo Tours	Worldwide
14	Brendan Vacations	United States (US), Europe, Ireland
15	Cara Group Travel	Worldwide
16	Cashel Travel	Worldwide
17	Celtic Horizons Tours	Ireland, Canada, Mexico
18	CIE Tours	Ireland, UK
19	CIE Tours International	Worldwide
20	Creative Events	Worldwide
21	Crystal Travel and Tours	Worldwide
22	Custom Travel Network Inc	Worldwide
23	Detour	Worldwide
24	EBZ Irland	Worldwide
25	Eirebus DMC	USA, Canada, Australia, Germany, Scandinavia, Japan
26	Escape Travel	Worldwide
27	Eurobound	Europe
28	Excursion Ireland	Worldwide
29	Expedia	Worldwide
30	Faillte Ireland	Worldwide
31	FDM Travel	Worldwide
32	Feelgood Reisen	Worldwide
33	Gaeltacht Irland Reisen	Worldwide

34	Galtacht Irland Reisen	Worldwide
35	Gate 1 Travel	Worldwide
36	GCS	Worldwide
37	Grand Tours	Worldwide
38	Greatdays Travel	Worldwide
39	Hello Ireland Tours (HIT)	US, UK, Europe
40	Hogans Cottages	Worldwide
41	Holiday Ireland Hotels	Ireland, UK
42	House of Travel	Worldwide
43	Imagine Ireland	Worldwide
44	INTO Ireland Travel	US, Canada
45	Ireland at a Glimpse	Worldwide
46	Irish Tourism Group	Worldwide
47	Irish Welcome Tours	France, Germany, Switzerland, Holland, US, Nordics, Ireland
48	Journeys Connect	Worldwide
49	Kavanagh	Worldwide
50	Kneissel Touristk GMBH	Worldwide
51	Kulturreiser Europe	Worldwide
52	Kuoni Global Travel	Worldwide
53	Le Monde En VO	Worldwide
54	Le Monde En VO	Worldwide
55	Les Cars Moreau	Worldwide
56	Lighthouse Island	Worldwide
57	Logi Travel Group	Worldwide
58	Lynott Tours Inc.	Worldwide
59	Matthews Coaches	Worldwide
60	McKinlayKidd	Worldwide
61	Miki Travel Limited	Worldwide
62	Moloney & Kelly	North America, Australia
63	Odyssey International	Worldwide
64	Operation Europe	Worldwide
65	Outdoor Travel	Worldwide
66	Ovation Ireland	Ireland, UK
67	Pharos Reizen	Worldwide
68	Pharosreizen	Worldwide
69	Pierce Kavanagh Coaches	Ireland, UK
70	Premier Travel Group	Europe, US
71	Prima Reisen	Worldwide
72	Productive Travel	Worldwide
73	Rabbie's	Worldwide
74	Recess4Grownups	Worldwide
75	Royal Irish Tours	Worldwide
76	Sceptre Tours	Worldwide
77	Shamrock Adventures	Worldwide

	78	Shearings	Worldwide
	79	Shearings Holidays	Worldwide
	80	Sheenco Travel	Worldwide
	81	Specialised Travel Services	Worldwide
	82	Tenon Tours	Worldwide
	83	The Albatross Group	Worldwide
	84	Tour Providers	Worldwide
	85	Tourism Ireland	Worldwide
	86	Travel Choice	Europe, US
	87	Travel Plaza Europe	Worldwide
	88	TUI Spain	Worldwide
	89	Vagabond Tours	Europe, US
	90	Wallace Travel Group	Ireland, UK
	91	Wilderness Ireland	Worldwide
	92	Your Ireland Specialist	Worldwide
	93	ZeitRaume	Worldwide
2.0	<p>Key Issues</p> <p>In order to engage local businesses with the outlined opportunities Council Tourism officers and Tourism NI Officers have been proactive in engaging with and communicating with local industry in this regard.</p> <p>Appointments have been held with over 140 individual tourism businesses within the Council area and these have been very productive. Businesses have communicated back to us saying they are better informed regarding what Tourism NI and Council can do for them (eg marketing/promotion, workshops, masterclasses, social media engagement etc) and how the Council in particular can engage/help with general queries eg recycling, bin collections to promotion on the council Tourism websites and social media. These liaisons are very important as they inform businesses of the roles that each organisation has and how they can help their businesses.</p>		
3.0	<p>Recommendations</p> <p>The recommendation is that Tourism Officers continue to conduct Tour Operator and Industry appointments and communications and ensure that outcomes are contained within the Tourism Strategy and Action Plans.</p>		
4.0	<p>Resource Implications</p> <p>Any cost associated with this activity is placed within the estimates annually.</p>		
5.0	<p>Equality and Good Relations implications</p> <p>This activity is inclusive and does not exclude any business from within the Tourism and Service sectors engaging and participating with Council and other Tourism focused agencies.</p>		
6.0	<p>Appendices</p> <p>None</p>		