



August 4th, 2015

Notice Of Meeting

You are invited to attend the Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee meeting to be held on **Monday, 10th August 2015** at **6:00 pm** in the **Boardroom District Council Offices Monaghan Row, Newry.**

Chair: Cllr D Curran

Vice: Cllr R Mulgrew

Members:

Cllr T Andrews	Cllr R Burgess
Cllr W Clarke	Cllr G Donnelly
Cllr S Ennis	Cllr G Hanna
Cllr V Harte	Cllr H Harvey
Cllr T Hearty	Cllr D McAteer
Cllr M Ruane	Cllr G Stokes
Cllr B Quinn	

Agenda

- 1) **Apologies**
- 2) **Deputations**
- 3) **Action Sheet - Minutes of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting - Monday 8 June 2015. (Copy enclosed)**

[Action Sheet June 2015.pdf](#)

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- 4) **Presentation by Mr John McGrillen CEO Tourism NI.**

Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration Items

- 5) **ESF Programme Match Funding. (Copy enclosed)**

Item 5 is deemed to be restricted by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public, may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

[ESF Programme Match Funding.pdf](#)

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- 6) **Social Entrepreneurship Programme. (Copy circulated)**

Item 6 is deemed to be restricted by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public, may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

[Social Entrepreneurship Programme.pdf](#)

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- 7) **Regional Start Initiative. (Copy circulated)**

8) **NILGA re: Dairy Farming and related Milk Industry. (Copy circulated)**

NILGA re dairy farm & related milk industry.pdf

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9) **Tendering re: Public Realm - Warrenpoint and Newry. (Copy circulated)**

Item 9 is deemed to be restricted by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public, may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

W'point Public Realm Steering Committee Meeting 02.07.15.pdf

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Newry Cathedral Corridor Public Realm Scheme.pdf

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Tourism, Culture and Events Items

10) **Irish Open Golf Event - Statistics and moving forward.**

11) **Geotourism. (Copy circulated)**

Item 11 is deemed to be restricted by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public, may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

Geotourism.pdf

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12) **Events budget.**

13) **Tourism Strategy Task and Finish Project Board. (Copy circulated)**

14) Tourism Destinations Web Data Management Systems Contract. (Copy circulated)

Item 14 is deemed to be restricted by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public, may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

Tourism Destinations Web Data Management Systems.pdf

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Enterprise Employment and Regeneration - For noting

15) Warrenpoint Park. (Copy circulated)

Item 15 is deemed to be restricted by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public, may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

Warrenpoint Park HLF.pdf

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16) Derrymore Estate Partnership. (Copy circulated)

Derrymore Estate Partnership.pdf

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17) Broadband Connection Voucher Scheme. (Copy circulated)

Broadband Scheme.pdf

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18) DEL Jobs Fair. (Copy circulated)

DEL NM&DDC Jobs Fair.pdf

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19) Launch of the Economic Development Strategy. (Copy to follow)

Tourism Culture and Events - For noting

20)

Update re: Cultural Events 2015.

21) **Letter of Offer re: St Patrick's Festival Plan. (Copy to follow)**

22) **Louth/Newry, Mourne & Down Committee Report. (Copy circulated)**

Louth and Newry Mourne Down Committee Meeting - 16 June 2015.pdf

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23) **Report of Slieve Gullion Briefing Meeting held on 19 June 2015 re: Giant Lair and Camlough Dam Valve Tower. (Copy circulateed)**

Slieve Gullion DEA Briefing Meeting.pdf

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24) **Mr Mark H Durkan Minister for Department of the Environment re: Funding from NIEA for AONBs. (Copy circulated)**

Letter from Minister Durkan re NIEA funding for AONBs.pdf

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25) **IRRV Northern Ireland Conference (1 October 2015) Belfast. (Copy circulated)**

IRRV Conference 2015.pdf

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Invitees

Cllr. Terry Andrews	terry.andrews@downdc.gov.uk
Cllr. Naomi Bailie	naomi.bailie@nmandd.org
Cllr. Patrick Brown	patrick.brown@nmandd.org
Cllr. Robert Burgess	robert.burgess@downdc.gov.uk
Cllr. Stephen Burns	stephen.burns@downdc.gov.uk
Cllr. Michael Carr	michael.carr@newryandmourne.gov.uk
Cllr. charlie casey	charlie.casey@newryandmourne.gov.uk
Cllr. Patrick Clarke	patrick.clarke@downdc.gov.uk
Cllr. Garth Craig	garth.craig@downdc.gov.uk
Cllr. Dermot Curran	dermot.curran@downdc.gov.uk
Mr. Eddie Curtis	eddie.curtis@newryandmourne.gov.uk
Cllr. Laura Devlin	laura.devlin@downdc.gov.uk
Ms. Louise Dillon	louise.dillon@newryandmourne.gov.uk
Cllr. Geraldine Donnelly	geraldine.donnelly@newryandmourne.gov.uk
Cllr. Sean Doran	sean.doran@newryandmourne.gov.uk
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Mr. Patrick Green	patrick.green@downdc.gov.uk
Cllr. Glyn Hanna	glyn.hanna@nmandd.org
Mr. Liam Hannaway	liam.hannaway@nmandd.org
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Cllr. Terry Hearty	terry.hearty@newryandmourne.gov.uk
Cllr. David Hyland	david.hyland@newryandmourne.gov.uk
Mrs. Shiela Kieran	sheila.kieran@newryandmourne.gov.uk
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Cllr. Mickey Larkin	micky.larkin@nmandd.org
Mr. Michael Lipsett	michael.lipsett@downdc.gov.uk
Cllr. Kate Loughran	kate.loughran@newryandmourne.gov.uk
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Cllr. Pol O'Gribin	pol.ogribin@nmandd.org

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

ACTION SHEET- ENTERPRISE REGENERATION & TOURISM COMMITTEE – MONDAY 8 JUNE 2015

AGENDA ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION BY DIRECTOR – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed
ERT/34/2015	Vesting of Camlough Lake	To initiate the vesting process of Camlough Lake.	Actioned
ERT/34/2015	Letter of congratulations	A letter of congratulations be sent to the organisers of the Crooked Lake Triathlon.	Actioned by L Dillon Democratic Services Officer
ERT/36/2015	Beyond Project	To approve in principle, an application being made to the EU Investing for Growth and Jobs Programme 2014-2020 for a future Beyond Network and incorporating a continuing business intelligence function to include further business database and MIS development.	Actioned
ERT/37/2015	Economic Regeneration and Investment Strategy	To adopt the Newry Mourne & Down District Council Economic Regeneration and Investment Strategy.	Actioned
ERT/38/2015	Make it Local initiative	To approve the initiation, development and implementation of a high profile district wide 'Make it Local' campaign To undertake a pilot scheme To facilitate (if appropriate) a student to work with the Steering	In Progress

AGENDA ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION BY DIRECTOR – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed
		Committee and Officers on the formulation and delivery of the scheme.	
ERT/39/2015	Transfer of DSD Functions to Council	<p>(1) NMDDC to develop a detailed paper on skills and tasks required to carry out research and analysis and draft a detailed strategy for tackling disadvantage and regeneration.</p> <p>(2) Officials meet with DSD to explore a secondment arrangement for suitably experienced staff to complete task at (1) above – this should not exceed the equivalent of 2 full-time staff.</p>	In Progress
ERT/40/2015	Warrenpoint Town Park	<p>It was agreed that due to the time constraints in terms of funding and planning applications, the Council support in principle, the following recommendation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Submit planning application based on the most up to date proposal which seeks to reduce the size of the current tennis court area to one full size court and develop the space for other games with a removable fence. - Re-profile current development budget and utilise an under-used budget to pay the current consultancy team additional monies to meet funder's requirements that more detail is added to Interpretation Plan. - Council to provide additional match funding to this project, in the sum of £75,000, to secure the round two application to Heritage Lottery Fund. Attempts to secure External Funding in this sum will be made 	Actioned

AGENDA ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION BY DIRECTOR – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed
		over the life of the project delivery phase.	
ERT/40/2015	Warrenpoitn Park	<p>It was agreed should Councillors have any issues regarding the Warrenpoint Park Heritage Lottery Regeneration Project that the contact Ms Marie Ward Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism.</p> <p>It was agreed Officials to examine Elected Member attendance at meetings regarding Council led projects/programmes.</p>	Actioned
ERT/41/2015	Natural Environment Fund Applications	<p>To note the following Reports, and that a recommendation will be tabled at the SPR Committee Meeting regarding Council representation on the Strangford Lough & Lecale Partnership and other bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms T Hamill Ring of Gullion AONB Officer dated 19 May 2015 - Ms C Nolan Manager SLLP dated 8 June 2015 regarding applications to the Natural Environment Fund. 	Actioned
ERT/41/2015	Funding for AONBs	<p>A letter be sent to the Minister for DOE seeking clarification on future funding for AONBs.</p> <p>A letter be sent to MEPs seeking clarification on European funding for AONBs.</p>	<p>Actioned .Reply received. On agenda.</p> <p>Not actioned. Letter being drafted.</p>

AGENDA ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION BY DIRECTOR – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed
ERT/42/2015	Derrymore Estate Partnership	<p>To note the following recommendation which was agreed at the Newry & Mourne District Council Meeting on 30 March 2015:</p> <p>“On completion of appropriate consultation for the Derrymore Estate Regeneration Project, efforts should focus on preparation of a space and place funding application, and any other funding applications that would be appropriate for Derrymore House and Estate.”</p> <p>It was also agreed that local representatives be involved in all meetings regarding the Derrymore Estate Regeneration Project.</p>	Actioned
ERT/43/2015	Superfast Broadband Scheme	To note progress on the Superfast Broadband Voucher Scheme and approve progress to implementation stage and sign Service Level Agreement with Belfast City Council.	Actioned
ERT/44/2015	Non Domestic Business Rates	<p>It was agreed:</p> <p>(a) To provide an information leaflet and circulate it via email and social media to the Council’s business databases providing the current position on non-domestic (business) rates valuation and process of appeal. In addition, request on this email if the recipients would attend an information seminar if it was set up in their area.</p> <p>(b) Contact LPS for a detailed breakdown of the District in order to obtain accurate information on the Council’s current position in terms of business rating.</p> <p>(c) Organise two information sessions in Newry and Downpatrick</p>	<p>Actioned</p> <p>Written confirmation received from Land and Property Services (LPS) Commissioner, Alan Bronte (attached) agreeing to provide resources and</p>

AGENDA ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION BY DIRECTOR – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed
		<p>event at Albert Basin.</p> <p>(c) The Council to issue invitations to main commemoration event.</p> <p>(d) Nomination of 6 Members from ERT Committee to sit on a working group with Council officials to work up detail of Famine Commemoration and supporting events and agree through the ERT Committee.</p> <p>It was also agreed that subject to approval at the Council Meeting on Monday 6 July 2015, the appointment of 6 No. Members of the ERT Committee to the Working Group to be made on the following basis, and details of nominated Members to be forwarded to the Democratic Services Manager:</p> <p>Sinn Fein 2 members SDLP 2 members DUP 1 member UUP 1 member</p>	
ERT/53/2015	Gran Fondo Giro d'Italia	<p>a) To note the use of Dree Hill Car Park, Slieve Croob, Dromara as a hydration stop</p> <p>b) To note the use of Spelga Dam Car Park as a hydration stop.</p>	Complete

AGENDA ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION BY DIRECTOR – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed
		<p>c) In the event improvement works scheduled for Spelga Dam Car Park were not complete, Council to secure the site and to indemnify for use as a hydration stop.</p> <p>d) Provision of industrial size wheelie bins, as required, at Dree Hill, Spelga Dam, St Johns Church Car Park, Hilltown and Dromara Football Club Grounds, Dromara.</p> <p>e) Cleaning and removal of wheelie bins at the 4 locations</p> <p>f) Provision of Council staff to distribute refreshments at Dree Hill, Hilltown and Spelga Dam.</p> <p>g) Council staff to erect, and dismantle, route signage.</p> <p>h) Access to Warrenpoint Town Hall, or other suitable venue, for Volunteer Hub.</p> <p>Council to assist in distribution of information leaflets to residents businesses and Chamber and attendance at Community meetings as appropriate</p>	
ERT/55/2015	Benedict Keily Weekend Festival	To note correspondence as no appointments were made to attend this event .	Actioned

AGENDA ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION BY DIRECTOR – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed
ERT/56/2015	Legacy re Irish Open Golf Event	An item be included for discussion on the next meeting of the Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting to be held on Monday 10 August 2015, and the forthcoming Working Group meeting, to discuss the legacy of the Irish Open Golf event, when all relevant data and information will be available.	On agenda
ERT/57/2015	Irish Festival Milwaukee	It was agreed the Chairperson of Council attend the final days of the Irish Festival in Milwaukee and the beginning of the Milwaukee Hurling Club 20th Anniversary Celebration events, from a15 – 22 August 2015, in order to maximise the potential benefits for the Council arising from both events.	Actioned
ERT/59/2015	East Border Region Political Study Visit Brussels	To appoint 3 member of the East Border Region and an advisor, to attend the EBR Political Study Visit to the Leuven Institute Brussels, from 14-16 September 2015 at a total cost to Council in the sum of £1,500.	Actioned
ERT/60/2015	Licence re Café at Sean Hollywood Arts Centre Newry	To accept the recommendation contained in the Report from Ms A Magill Assistant Director Arts Culture Museum dated 8 June 2015 regarding Café Franchise Licence extension at Sean Hollywood Arts Centre.	Actioned
Council Meeting – June 2015	Grand Fondo	A Letter of congratulations to be sent to the Mourne Heritage Trust on their organisation for the Grand Fondo event.	Actioned by L Dillon Democratic Services Officer

AGENDA ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION BY DIRECTOR – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed
END.			

Agenda Item:	
Report to:	Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Subject:	Regional Start Initiative
Date:	Monday 10 August 2015
Reporting Officer:	Marie Ward, Director Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism
Contact Officer:	Jonathan McGilly Assistant Director - Enterprise, Employment & Regeneration

Decisions Required

To note/agree etc the contents of the report and approve recommendations at Section 3

1.0	<p>Purpose and Background</p> <p>As part of LGR, powers in relation to delivery of the Regional Start Initiative transferred to Council on 1st April 15. As an interim measure, Council's have been delivering this service through an extension to ENI's contract from 01 April 15 to 22nd October 2015, to enable Council's to devise a new programme structure which will be tendered.</p> <p>Council's on a NI wide basis through a Joint Council working group have been progressing this, and now with an Economic Appraisal and Business Plan in place with a proposed recommendation for a new RSI programme structure, Councils are now in a position to move to tender for a single regional RSI programme.</p> <p>The recommended model of delivery for a future RSI programme, as recommended in the Economic Appraisal is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To deliver RSI through a single, regional contract with a single, central services support team, • To consider mechanisms for developing the RSI model over time into a more comprehensive range of support with more flexible delivery arrangements.
2.0	<p>Key Issue</p> <p>Delivery of RSI is a new function of Council. The existing contract will cease on 22nd October 2015. Council now need to progress with putting in place the delivery structure to ensure a continued service is available for new business starts within the District, and to ensure that this new delivery structure will deliver on the PfG target which is linked to the DETI Transferred budget for RSI. The tendering period for a new RSI programme is estimated to be 2 months, therefore a contract for a new regional RSI programme needs to proceed to tender in August 2015.</p>
3.0	<p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To deliver RSI through a single, regional contract with a single, central services support team, • To consider mechanisms for developing the RSI model over time into a more comprehensive range of support with more flexible delivery arrangements.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on the above recommended delivery model: To sign a legal agreement with LCCC (Contractual non incorporated joint venture), subject to consultation with Council's legal adviser, which provides delegated authority to Lisburn City and Castlereagh Council to take the lead in tendering for and managing a Regional Contract, and a submitting an application to DETI ERDF Jobs and Growth Programme 2014-2020, for funding towards delivery of the RSI programme, on behalf of the other participating Councils, (Contact will include service delivery, marketing, CRM, and ERDF application) • Newry, Mourne and Down District Council to design and tender for the delivery of a short term - locally focused Business Start Programme, to be funded through the transferred functions budget, which will ensure a continued service is in place between 22nd Oct 15 when the current RSI programme ends, and date the new ERDF funded Regional RSI programme commences. • Newry, Mourne and Down District Council to consider options for locally focused bolt on programmes that could be delivered to support the future Regional Start-a-Business programme.
4.0	<p>Resource Implications All costs associated with the above recommendation have been budgeted for.</p>
5.0	<p>Appendices N/A</p>

the voice of local government



Mr Liam Hannaway
Chief Executive
Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
District Council Offices
Monaghan Row
Newry
BT35 8DJ

9/14/15

30th July 2015

Dear Liam,

I am writing to you regarding the growing fragility of the local dairy and related milk production industry, worth £1 billion to NI's economy.

Following consideration by NILGA, including elected members participating in the Association's Rural Development Working Group, it has been requested that we write to all NI's Councils so that each may consider the following proposal.

"This council supports all creative, political and practical efforts to sustain the 3,000 + jobs, community well being and over £1 billion economic gain provided by the Dairy Farm and Milk Production industry. We support the development of dynamic research to consider the viability of intervention:

- (i) Legislative regulation of retailers for milk supplier and consumer protection such as that which prevails in other EU nations, and**
- (ii) Price banding to provide commodity security for dairy farms together with the fair and transparent transfer of any resulting benefits to farmers."**

I look forward to your Council's response as soon as possible in view of the all Council, socio- economic importance of this matter.

NILGA's Rural Development Working Group will convene in August and take cognisance of the views of all responding local authorities.


Yours sincerely,

**Derek McCallan
Chief Executive**

Comhairle Ceantair an Iúir
Mhúrn agus an Dúin
Newry, Mourne and Down
District Council

Date 03 AUG 2015

Chief Executive
Liam Hannaway



CC. Cllr Naomi Bailie, Chairperson of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council



Agenda Item:	Item 12
Report to:	Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Subject:	2015/16 Events Budget re-profiling
Date:	Monday 8 June 2015
Reporting Officer:	Marie Ward, Director Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism
Contact Officer:	Mark Mohan, Senior Tourism Initiatives Manager

Decisions Required

To approve the proposed re-profiling of the events budget 2015-16

1.0	<p>Purpose and Background Newry Mourne and Down council has recently played host to two major events within the district, namely The Irish Open Golf Championship and the Grand Fonda Cycle Race. Due to their timing, these 2 events have been delivered outside of the budget estimate process for the current year 2015/16, and to that end a re-profiling of the events budget is necessary</p>																										
2.0	<p>Key Issues It is proposed to re-profile the Events budget as follows:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Council run events</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Re-profiled Budget</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Original Budget</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Festival of Flight</td> <td>£82,035 + (TourismNI £25,000 BE Aerospace £19,000 Chamber £4,500) Tot £130,535</td> <td>£69,300</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hallowtides</td> <td>£30,000</td> <td>£30,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mourne International Walking Festival</td> <td>£5,000</td> <td>£15,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>St Patricks Festival (Downpatrick)</td> <td>£47,250 + (Tourism NI £39,560). Tot £86,810</td> <td>£47,250</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chriskindle</td> <td>£8,991</td> <td>£8,991</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Downpatrick Clown festival</td> <td>£13,500</td> <td>£13,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ballynahinch Harvest & Country Living Festival</td> <td>£10,000</td> <td>£10,000</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Council run events	Re-profiled Budget	Original Budget	Festival of Flight	£82,035 + (TourismNI £25,000 BE Aerospace £19,000 Chamber £4,500) Tot £130,535	£69,300	Hallowtides	£30,000	£30,000	Mourne International Walking Festival	£5,000	£15,000	St Patricks Festival (Downpatrick)	£47,250 + (Tourism NI £39,560). Tot £86,810	£47,250	Chriskindle	£8,991	£8,991	Downpatrick Clown festival	£13,500	£13,500	Ballynahinch Harvest & Country Living Festival	£10,000	£10,000
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Civic Pride Initiative	£13,500	£13,500
Curragh Event	£3,600	£3,600
District Arts Committee – Sean Hollywood	£1,250	£1,250
Fireworks (5 Electoral Areas)	£10,000	£10,000
Good Food Cycle	£2,430	£2,430
Newry City Day/ Water Festival	£15,000	£15,000
Newry City Triathlon	£5,000	£5,000
Newry Festival - Halloween	£30,000	£30,000
Newry St. Patricks Day Festival	£29,981	£36,000
Ross Bi-Centenary celebrations	£9,000	£9,000
RSPBANI – Ulster Piping Festival	£27,000	£27,000
Sports Development – Committee Sean Hollywood	£1,250	£1,250
Switch On Events - Christmas	£9,450	£9,450
Ulster Cross Country Race - Kilbroney	£4,500	£4,500
Willey Malley Soccer Tournament	£4,500	£4,500
Environmental Services (Clean Ups)	£9,000	£9,000
Sub Total	£372,237	£375,521
Non-Council Supported Events		
Circuit of Ireland	£30,113	£35,000

	Euromeet Conference	£15,000	£15,000
	International Equestrian Endurance Event	£0	£5,000
	Ballynahinch Game & Market Fayre (Montalto)	£0	£25,000
	Irish Golf Tour Operators Association Conference	£10,000	£10,000
	Sub Total	£55,113	£90,000
	Other Events		
	Irish Open	£30,831	£0
	Grand Fonda (Marketing)	£7,340	£0
	Sub Total	£38,171	£0
	TOTALS	£465,521	£465,521
3.0	Recommendation To approve the proposed re-profiling of the events budget 2015-16		
4.0	Resource Implications Budget has been reallocated within existing resources. Refer to Blue line entries		
5.0	Appendices N/A		

Agenda Item:	
Report to:	Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Subject:	Report of Tourism Strategy Task and Finish Project Board held on Tuesday 28 July 2015
Date:	Monday 3 rd August 2015
Reporting Officer:	Marie Ward, Director Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism
Contact Officer:	Marie Ward, Director Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism

Decisions Required	
To note the contents of the report and recommendations	
1.0	Purpose and Background To provide an update to the Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Committee on the Tourism Strategy Task and Finish Project Board.
2.0	Key Issue It is recognised that marketing and partnership with strategic bodies and the business community is essential to enable delivery of the Newry, Mourne and Down area as a tourism destination of choice.
3.0	Recommendations: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Councillors to be offered World Host Training 2. Review of the Visitor Information Centres to be undertaken as part of tourism strategy development 3. Councillors from the Tourism Strategy Task and Finish Project Board to attend a study tour to Tourism Ireland to look at the wider marketing context. Cost not to exceed £1000
4.0	Resource Implications Costs not to exceed £1000
5.0	Appendices Report of Tourism Strategy Task and Finish Project Board held on Tuesday 28 July 2015

Enc

Report of Tourism Strategy Task and Finish Project Board held on Tuesday 28 July 2015 at 12.15pm in Training Room, Monaghan Row Offices, Newry

In attendance: Marie Ward
Michelle Boyle
Mark Mohan
Councillor Terry Hearty
Councillor Dermot Curran
Councillor Brian Quinn
Councillor Glyn Hanna
Councillor Robert Burgess

Apologies: Councillor William Clarke

1. Appointment of Councillor Terry Hearty as Chair of Tourism Strategy Task and Finish Project Board
2. Terms of reference were adopted
3. Strategic context – noted
4. Review of tourism, marketing and communication programme
 - a. Issue – coach tours to the area
 - b. Issue – tourism stands who attends and how manned – presentation of stands
Look towards Councillor involvement in tourism stands/trailer. Agreed: Councillors to be offered World Host training
 - c. Marketing is the key issue that needs to be addressed
 - d. Actual engagement with suppliers
 - e. Liaison and contact with Tourism NI
 - f. What are we selling/what is the product e.g. heritage/outdoor activities
 - g. Agreed: Events Strategy is going to be key
 - h. Tourism Information Panels – maintenance and location to be reviewed
 - i. To review location of future meetings for Tourism Strategy Task and Finish Project Board
 - j. Recognition that budgets are restricted and ability to delivery needs to be managed in partnership with business community
5. Visitor Information Centres
 - a. Agreed: a review should take place
 - b. Service provision and how it is provided
 - c. Provision of information and how it is provided
6. Exchange rate is an issue for the area
 - a. Businesses need to show value for money
 - b. Tourism NI to show how there is value for money
7. Business Development/Rural Development Strategy are connected to tourism

8. Accommodation study to be presented to September ERT Committee
9. Destination Forums
 - a. Mourne Mountains and Ring of Gullion Forum
 - b. Strangford Lough and Lecale Partnership Forum
 - c. St Patricks Centre Forum
 - d. Agreed: Members of Tourism Strategy Task and Finish Project Board to attend these Forums for engagement with businesses
10. Proposal to ERT Committee - Tourism Strategy Task and Finish Project Board visit Tourism Ireland

Signed: **Marie Ward**
Director Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism

Agenda Item:	
Report to:	Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Subject:	Derrymore Estate Partnership: Meetings held 26 th June 2015 and 24 th July 2015 re Space and Place funding application
Date:	Monday 10 th August 2015
Reporting Officer:	Marie Ward, Director Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism
Contact Officer:	Amanda Smyth, Enterprise Development Officer

Decisions Required

- To note the contents of the report and recommendations at Section 3

1.0 Purpose and Background

To provide an update to the Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Committee on the Derrymore Estate Partnership Committee. This Partnership includes National Trust as site owners, Friends of Derrymore Committee and Council. This Partnership was established in 2013 with the remit of developing and progressing projects which will in the long term regenerate and enhance the Derrymore Estate for the benefit of the local communities that surround Derrymore Estate, and the wider District

2.0 Key Issue

The Partnership from 2014 have been working toward the submission of a Space and Place funding application which was submitted on 28th July 2015. Council will learn of the success of this stage 1 application in January 2016, and if successful will be invited to submit a stage 2 application before the deadline of 29th April 2016.

Outcomes of stage 2 applications will be advised in May/June 2016 with projects to be completed by June 2018.

The focus of the application is on the below projects:

Provision & Improvement of Recreation

- Development of new pathways to provide themed walking trails around the perimeter of the site and an upgrade to existing pathway network
- Provision of a Natural Play area and provision of natural play items within the woodland and at designated parts of the walking trail
- Provision of interpretation and seating at designation viewing points

Provision of Access and Car parking (required with intensification of site usage)

- Creating a one-way system through the Estate and extending the existing car park

The Project is valued at £395,000 with a request to Space and Place for £350,000.

3.0 Recommendations: 26th June meeting

- E Mason to prepare a letter from National Trust re ownership of Derrymore which can be submitted with the Space and Place application.
- A Smyth to prepare a draft Partnership Agreement to be considered at the next Partnership meeting

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Final Draft of the Space and Place Stage 1 Application to be considered at the next Partnership meeting, prior to submission to Space and Place for the application deadline of 7th August 2015 <p>Recommendations: 24th July meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreement on content of Stage 1 Space and Place Application, and submission of application and all supporting documentation ahead of 7th August 2015 deadline • Draft partnership Agreement as required by Space and Place to be signed by all partners (National Trust, Friends of Derrymore and NMDDC) • Director for Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism to be invited to a future Partnership meeting
4.0	<p>Resource Implications</p> <p>There is no financial commitment to Council for submission of Space and Place Application. If application is approved at Stage 1, and approved at Stage 2, a financial contribution in 2016/17 (approx £50,000) will be required and has already been proposed within the rate estimates.</p>
5.0	<p>Appendices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report of meeting with Friends of Derrymore & National Trust held on 26th June 15 • Report of meeting with Friends of Derrymore & National Trust held 24th July 15

Enc

Report of meeting with Friends of Derrymore and National Trust held on Friday 26th June 2015 at 10am in Derrymore House

In attendance: Cllr K Loughran
Mrs A Smyth
Mr T Jennings (FOD)
Mr E Mason (National Trust)

Apologies: Mr M Lynch
Mrs P Lynch
Cllr R Mulgrew

Mrs A Smyth stated that the focus of the meeting was to consider a first draft of the Stage 1 Space and Place application, which had been circulated at the meeting, together with guidance notes on the Space and Place application requirements. For the purpose of updating Cllr Loughran, Mrs A Smyth provided an update on the work undertaken through the Partnership to date, the proposed phased projects which the Partnership hoped to progress, and the funding options that were being considered.

Space and Place Stage 1: The Partnership considered the first draft and provided comment on same. It was agreed that any further comments to be made are e-mailed to A Smyth so they can be incorporated into a draft 2 and circulated ahead of the next Partnership meeting. An additional element to be included was an Interpretation and orientation point, erected in the car park, which could display bio diversity information, interesting fact of the month etc, for the purpose of promoting capacity and educational opportunities as part of the project. It was agreed that the project elements to be included in the Phase 1 project were as follows:

- Pathway Development
- Natural Play Development
- Car Park Extension and one way system (with people counters)
- Seating and viewing areas
- Landscaping
- Interpretation and Orientation point

A Smyth advised that as part of the requirements of stage 1 submission, the following documents will be required: a Partnership Agreement and correspondence from National Trust confirming that they are the site owners, and are agreeable to the options of a lease or Development Agreement to NMDDC if funding is secured and the project is to proceed. Neither of these options is required in advance of the project starting.

Recommendations and Action points

- **E Mason to prepare a letter from National Trust re ownership of Derrymore which can be submitted with the application.**
- **A Smyth to prepare a draft Partnership Agreement to be considered at the next Partnership meeting**
- **A Final Draft of the Space and Place Stage 1 Application to be considered at the next Partnership meeting, prior to submission to Space and Place for the application deadline of 7th August 2015**

Date of Next Meeting: **Friday 24th July 2015 at 10am in Derrymore House**

Signed: Amanda Smyth
Enterprise Development Officer

Report of meeting with Friends of Derrymore and National Trust held on Friday 24th July 2015 at 10am in Derrymore House

In attendance: Cllr Mulgrew
Cllr Loughran
Mrs A Smyth
Mr D Rice
Ms T Hamill
Mr T Jennings (FOD)
Mr M Lynch (FOD)
Mrs P Lynch (FOD)
Ms R McComb (Bessbrook Community Residents Association)

Apologies: Mr Edward Mason (National Trust)

Stage 1 Application: Mrs A Smyth stated that the focus of the meeting was to consider the final draft of the Stage 1 Space and Place application which had been circulated for comment in advance of the meeting on Friday 17th July 15. Following feedback on application, A Smyth advised that comments would be noted in a revised application and submitted online to Space and Place by Tuesday 28th July 2015.

Supporting documentation: Mrs A Smyth circulated for members information a list of supporting documentation which will be submitted with the Stage 1 Application.

Mrs A Smyth circulated a draft Partnership agreement for comment & discussion. This Partnership Agreement is a requirement of Space and Place application. Agreement was made to sign this agreement and submit with the application. If there are any amendments required identified through the application process, these can be incorporated and a revised version resigned.

National trust Letter to NMDDC: National Trust has prepared a letter re site ownership that will be submitted with the application. This does not bind the Council or National Trust into any legal agreement regarding leases, but confirms a willingness to put one in place subject to terms and conditions if grant aid was secured.

Evidence File: Following submission of a stage 1 application, In order to prepare for the next stage, which is application site visit, Mrs A Smyth circulated a "Evidence File list" which outlines additional evidence which can be used to support the need for the project. Partners were asked to consider this list, and to comment on any further evidence which should be added. Some evidence was outstanding and were allocated to members for actioning ahead of the next meeting. As a Stage 1 site visit assessment is expected between September and November 2015. the evidence file should be compiled and ready by end of August 2015 / early September.

Future Events at Derrymore: Cllr Mulgrew spoke of a large scale event supported by Council taking place in Ballynahince, and suggested that Derrymore was an ideal venue for this event in the future, and others such as it. It was suggested that efforts should be made to promote Derrymore as an events venue to Council and other external bodies.

Next Partnership Meeting: It was proposed that the new Director of Enterprise, Regeneration and Development, Mrs Marie Ward is invited to the next / a future Partnership meeting to provide a tour of Derrymore facilities and allow the Partnership to discuss their regeneration plans for the Estate.

AOB: Friends of Derrymore have been successful in securing £2,500 through NMDDC Community Festivals Fund for an event in December 2015. It was agreed that a few members meet in advance of the next monthly Partnership meetings to start planning for this project. (T Jennings / R Mulgrew / T Hamill)

Recommendations and Action points

- **Agreement on content of Stage 1 Space and Place Application, and submission of application and all supporting documentation ahead of 7th August 2015 deadline**
- **Draft partnership Agreement as required by Space and Place to be signed by all partners (National Trust, Friends of Derrymore and NMDDC)**
- **Director for Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism to be invited to a future Partnership meeting**

Date of Next Meeting: TBC

Signed: Amanda Smyth
Enterprise Development Officer

Agenda Item:	
Report to:	Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Subject:	Broadband Connection Voucher Scheme
Date:	Monday 10 August 2015
Reporting Officer:	Jonathan McGilly - Assistant Director - Enterprise, Employment & Regeneration
Contact Officers:	Michael Forster – Business Support Officer

For noting only – Broadband Connection Scheme Update

To note - Companies in Newry, Mourne and Down District are being urged to apply now for grants of up to £3,000 to improve their current broadband service.

1.0 Purpose and Background

Many companies experiencing limitations with their current service or those needing to significantly expand their capacity can now get help with installation of the most suitable equipment to upgrade their current broadband connection. Companies applying to the Super Connected Voucher Scheme receive support of up to £3,000 each to pay for the equipment and installation costs. Companies only have to pay the VAT charged and the monthly line rental to the service provider, following identification and installation of the most appropriate technology solution, whether via fixed line fibre, or a range of broadcast options.

2.0 Key Issues

Marketing and Promotion

A marketing campaign has been developed consisting of a formal launch by Chairperson Cllr Naomi Bailie on 30 June 2015 in Newry and Downpatrick. Adverts were also placed in all 7 district wide papers inviting local businesses to apply for the scheme. Promotion via business chambers, social media (Facebook, Twitter and Google+) and the Beyond network is currently on-going.

Progress to date

To date over 45 businesses have contacted officers expressing an interest in the scheme. Information has been provided on how to apply and many of these have contacted the registered suppliers to obtain quotes and upgrade recommendations. (Interactive Map:

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=ztqYu5CiZu6U.kMDIn7PXTRfM>)

Future Promotion

Briefing sessions are being held across the district to encourage local businesses to make use of the scheme. There has been interest across the whole district but emphasis has been placed on those businesses looking to cluster together particularly in rural areas. The scheme suits those businesses that cannot achieve an adequate connection due to their rural location and distance from the exchange. Many however are also waiting on the [Northern Ireland Broadband Improvement Project](#) to see if their area will become fibre enabled before applying for a connection voucher.

The next phase of the marketing strategy is to contact all local community groups and

	<p>networks to inform of the scheme (including Golf Clubs, Yacht Clubs Footballs Clubs etc)</p> <p>Further adverts to be in the press around January 2016 to remind businesses of the scheme.</p>
3.0	Recommendations Could Councillors please promote the scheme to any businesses that they are in contact with particularly those rural businesses that are affected by poor internet connections speeds and ask them to contact Michael Forster (Downpatrick Office) or Martin Patterson (Newry Office) email: connectionvouchers@nmandd.org
4.0	Resource Implications No further resource implications
5.0	Appendices N/A



Connection Voucher Scheme

The Broadband Connection Vouchers Scheme will allow Local Small to Medium size Enterprises (SMEs) and social enterprises (with less than 249 employees) to claim grants of up to £3,000 to cover installation of a super-fast broadband service to improve and enhance the way they do business.

What are the benefits?

- A more reliable service
- Business growth through increased competitiveness in local and international markets
- Better communication with partners, suppliers, customers and staff
- Reduced costs through more efficient working
- Improved data storage and accessibility
- Faster upload and download for large files.

Eligibility – 4 key rules

- Valid SME in the postcode area
- New connection must introduce a step change in performance - i.e standard broadband to Fibre or better.
- Voucher must fund eligible costs only
- New connection must be from a registered supplier

About the grant

- Covers many types of connection
- Can only cover connection cost (excl VAT)
- No funding for recurring charges or subscriptions

How to apply

- Check your eligibility
- Get a quote from a registered supplier (attached below)
- Complete the application and submit along with a quote
- Apply online via: <https://ssl.belfastcity.gov.uk/scb/>

For more information, please contact Michael Forster (Downpatrick) or Martin Patterson (Newry) in Newry, Mourne and Down District Council on Tel: 028 4461 0856 or email: connectionvouchers@nmandd.org. Alternatively you can contact the Connection Voucher Team in Belfast City Council on Tel: 0800 587 4695, web: www.belfastcity.gov.uk/connectionvouchers e-mail: connectionvouchers@belfastcity.gov.uk

Agenda Item:	
Report to:	Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Subject:	The Department for Employment and Learning (DEL) Jobs Fair (supported by Newry, Mourne and Down DC)
Date:	10 August 2015
Reporting Officer:	Marie Ward, Director Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism
Contact Officer:	Martin Patterson, Enterprise Development Officer

Decisions Required

For noting only

1.0	<p>Purpose and Background</p> <p>Information relating to a major one day Job Fair to be held in the Canal Court Hotel, Newry on Thursday 10th September 2015.</p>
2.0	<p>Key Issue</p> <p>The Department for Employment and Learning (DEL) with support from Newry, Mourne and Down District Council are hosting a Job Fair in the Canal Court, Newry on the 10th September 2015. The event is built on success year after year. Last year the event attracted 52 employers and 16 support organisations (including the Council) and there were over 800 jobs available on the day and it is expected to repeat this at the forthcoming event.</p> <p>Previous partnership working between the Council and DEL in employer events has been extremely successful and DEL is very keen to work as partners in the forthcoming Job fair. The partnership is an opportunity to promote economic development in our District and meets with our Councils Corporate and Department objectives. Our Council will benefit from all promotion and marketing opportunities, e.g. our Council logo will be on all marketing material, e-flyers, banners, brochures, flyers and in newspaper articles. It will also provide us with opportunity to reach out to new employers and increase the opportunities available to job seekers.</p> <p>Our Chairperson will have a formal role and all Councillors will be integrally involved with the event.</p>
3.0	<p>Recommendation</p> <p>For noting</p>

4.0	Resource Implications Newry and Mourne and Down District Council to be represented by our Human Resources team at a dedicated stand for the event. Our Chairperson will have a specific role in terms of the official opening of the event and all elected representatives will be invited. Our ERT Department will also be represented.
5.0	Appendices N/A

Agenda Item:	
Report to:	Marie Ward, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism
Subject:	St Patrick's Festival – Downpatrick 2016-18
Date:	Monday 8 June 2015
Reporting Officer:	Marie Ward, Director Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism
Contact Officer:	Mark Mohan, Senior Tourism Initiatives Manager

Decisions Required	
For Noting.	
1.0	<p>Purpose and Background</p> <p>St Patrick has been identified as a key signature project by TourismNI that will give stand out for Northern Ireland in out of state tourism markets. Downpatrick and Armagh have been identified as the core hubs for this product. To that end the two councils of Newry Mourne and Down and Armagh Banbridge and Craigavon have made an application to TourismNI to draw financial support for the development of St Patrick's festivals in Downpatrick and Armagh for the next 3 years 2016-2018. This application has been successful and both councils are now in receipt of a Letter of Offer to the collective value of £293,446.</p>
2.0	<p>Key Issues</p> <p>A festival development team comprising of tourism/events staff from both councils, TourismNI, Tourism Ireland and key private sector industry has been established to deliver on this project.</p>
3.0	<p>Resource Implications</p> <p>Matching funds have been allocated in current budgets to deliver an enhanced St Patrick's Festival in Downpatrick in 2016. £47,250 + Tourism NI £39,560. Total Spend £86,810</p>
4.0	<p>Appendices</p> <p>N/A</p>

Agenda Item:	
Report to:	Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Subject:	Joint Committee of Elected Members between Newry, Mourne and Down District Council, and Louth County Council - Report of Meeting held Tuesday 16 June 2015
Date:	Monday 10 th August 2015
Reporting Officer:	Marie Ward, Director Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism
Contact Officer:	Angela Powell, Administration Manager

Decisions Required											
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1.0	<p>Purpose and Background</p> <p>To provide an update to the Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Committee on the meeting of the Joint Committee of Elected Members between Newry, Mourne and Down District Council, and Louth County Council - Report of Meeting held Tuesday 16 June 2015</p>										
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	<p>5. <u>Election of Joint Chair</u></p> <p>Councillor D McAteer was duly elected as Joint Chair for Newry, Mourne and Down and Councillor Corrigan declared Joint Chair for Louth County Council for a period of one year.</p> <p>It was agreed consideration be given by Officials to amending Standing Order to include procedures for future election of Joint Chairs.</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>E Curtis / P Donnelly</p> <p>6. <u>Greenway Application</u></p> <p>It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Breathnach and seconded by Councillor McAteer that a jointly submitted application for Phase II and III be made by Newry, Mourne and Down District Council and Louth County Council.</p> <p>Noted</p>
<p>4.0</p>	<p>Resource Implications</p>
<p>5.0</p>	<p>Appendices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report of meeting held Tuesday 16 June 2015

Enc

Report of meeting with Friends of Derrymore and National Trust held on Friday 26th June 2015 at 10am in Derrymore House

In attendance: Cllr K Loughran
Mrs A Smyth
Mr T Jennings (FOD)
Mr E Mason (National Trust)

Apologies: Mr M Lynch
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Cllr R Mulgrew

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Recommendations and Action points

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- **A Final Draft of the Space and Place Stage 1 Application to be considered at the next Partnership meeting, prior to submission to Space and Place for the application deadline of 7th August 2015**

Date of Next Meeting: **Friday 24th July 2015 at 10am in Derrymore House**

Signed: Amanda Smyth
Enterprise Development Officer

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Date of Next Meeting: TBC

Signed: Amanda Smyth
Enterprise Development Officer



**Joint Committee of Elected Members between
Newry, Mourne and Down District Council, and Louth County Council**

**Report of Meeting held Tuesday 16 June 2015, 2.00pm,
The Council Chamber, Louth County Council Offices, Dundalk**

**In the chair: Councillor D Breathnach, LCC (Joint Chair) (Item 1 – 4)
Councillor E Corrigan, LCC (Joint Chair) (Item 5 – 9)**

**Present: Councillor D McAteer, NMDDC
Councillor T Hearty NMDDC
Councillor W Walker NMDDC
Councillor C Enright NMDDC
Councillor J Loughran, LCC
Councillor P McGeough, LCC
Councillor A Cassidy, LCC
Councillor R Culhane, LCC
Councillor C Markey LCC
Councillor D Minogue LCC**

**Officials: Ms J Martin, Chief Executive, LCC
Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive NMDDC
Mr E Curtis Director NMDDC
Mr P Donnelly, Acting Director LCC
Ms M Ward, Director NMDDC
Mr C O'Rourke, Director NMDDC
Mr J McGilly, Asst. Director NMDDC
Ms C Murphy, Rights of Way Officer NMDDC
Ms A Powell, NMDDC (notes)**

Invited Guest: Ms D Hughes, EBR

1. Welcome and Apologies:

**Apologies: Councillor D Curran, NMDDC
Councillor M Ruane, NMDDC
Councillor G Donnelly NMDDC
Councillor R Mulgrew NMDDC
Councillor K McAteer NMDDC
Councillor T Byrne, LCC**

Mr F Pentony, Director, LCC
Mr J McGuinness, Director, LCC
Ms M T Daly, Director, LCC
Ms B Woods, Director, LC
Mr M Lipsett, Director DDC

Meeting Chair

Councillors agreed that the meeting be Chaired to the point of agreeing Standing Order by outgoing Joint Chair Councillor Breathnach. On agreement of the content of the Standing Order, it was further proposed that election of new Joint Chairs be carried out during the meeting.

2. Report of Louth/Newry and Mourne Joint Committee Meeting held on 18th February 2015 (attached)

The report was approved on the proposal of Councillor McAteer and seconded by Councillor Culhane.

3. Matters Arising

NRA Toll Charges

Most recent correspondence circulated with the agenda. It was agreed that P Donnelly write again to NRA to invite representatives to a future meeting of the Joint Committee and also to ask they consider credit card payments in sterling be accepted on the proposal of Councillor Corrigan and seconded by Councillor Culhane.

Famine Event

L Hannaway informed that it has been confirmed that the National Famine Commemoration Event will be in Newry on Saturday 26 September 2015.

Southern Relief Road

E Curtis informed that the application had been submitted by Transport NI and that an outcome should be available by end of summer period.

Urban Development Plan Funding

E Curtis informed that this action from the previous meeting had been carried out by G McGivern and that an update report on progress would be provided.

St Patrick's Camino Project

Unfortunately the group were unable to attend meeting today to provide proposed presentation on walk from Downpatrick to Dundalk, however the group will be invited to provide a short presentation to the next meeting.

4. Agreement and adoption of revised Standing Order

A further revised version of Standing Order document following suggestions from the last meeting was circulated with the Agenda which sets out proposed meeting structures for the Joint Committee from 1 April 2015.

Futher amendments agreed were as follows –

No. 4) Recording of Meeting Attendance -

- For elected members who do not attend meetings it was suggested their party should be asked to replace them. The term was clarified that in Louth County Council nominees are made by “Municipal District” and not area leader.

No. 5) Election of Committee

- It was proposed by Councillor Corrigan and seconded by Councillor Breathnach that the term change suggested in the previous report to Chairperson and Vice Chairperson be reverted to original term of Joint Chair.

No. 9) Admissions of Public and Media

- On the proposal of Councillor Corrigan and seconded by Councillor Enright it was agreed that the media be allowed to attend meetings.

Election of Joint Chairs

The Standing Order was duly agreed on above amendments. Following this agreement, election of Joint Chairs were carried out by role call. On this Councillor D McAteer was duly elected as Joint Chair for Newry, Mourne and Down.

Louth County Council received a tied vote of 3 each for Councillor Breathnach and Councillor Corrigan. The two names were then put into a ‘hat’ and Councillor Corrigan declared Joint Chair for Louth County Council on being drawn out by guest speaker Dette Hughes.

It was agreed consideration be given by Officials to amending Standing Order to include procedures for future election of Joint Chairs.

Councillor Corrigan took over the meeting as Joint Chair at this point.

5. Brief overview of Joint Committee and background to MOU

L Hannaway provided a brief overview on background to the MOU and concept of developing the Eastern Corridor and importance of industry in the region. The Committee focus is to develop joint policies and action plan and promote joint representation of the area.

J Martin informed members that the MOU shows a commitment to developing the region in terms of tourism through a joint marketing approach.

Councillor Culhane proposed that tour operators be invited to a meeting. Councillor Hearty agreed the region should be promoted and we need to find out what tour operators want. Councillor Cassidy added that increase in visitor services is required. Councillor McAteer suggested MOU revisited with EU partners to request help with funding.

Councillor Breathnach suggested that Joint Chairs need to be involved in day to day activities promoting the region. Councillor Walker referred to recent workshop attended by over 100 tour operators in Slieve Donard where relevant information was collected which could inform this Committee.

Councillor Corrigan agreed members should become involved and bring suggestions to workshop being planned in September. Councillor Enright suggested that Roads Service be invited to a meeting to discuss issues such as Direct bus licence.

6. Overview of current funding opportunities eg – Interreg V / Peace IV

Dette Hughes, EBR attended the meeting and gave a presentation which included an overview of current and upcoming EU Funding opportunities, current projects and those recently completed.

7. Example project – Greenway (presentation – C Murphy)

Catherine Murphy, Countryside Rights of Way Officer from Newry, Mourne and Down District Council provided a presentation on proposed project. Potential application to both EU Peace 4 and Interreg funding streams for next phase of the Greenway Project was discussed.

It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Breathnach and seconded by Councillor McAteer that a jointly submitted application for Phase II and III be made by Newry, Mourne and Down District Council and Louth County Council.

**8. Date of ½ day workshop (Wednesday 16 September 2015, 1- 4pm, Location TBC)
New date proposed is Wednesday 7 October 2015, 10am – 2pm, Location:
Crossmaglen Community Centre**

**9. Date of next meeting – Wednesday 30 September 2015, 2pm, Location TBC
New date proposed is Wednesday 14 October 2015, 2pm – 4pm, Location: Training
Room, Monaghan Row Offices, Newry**

RECOMMENDATIONS**Action**

1.	<u>NRA Toll Charges</u> It was agreed that P Donnelly write again to NRA to invite representatives to a future meeting of the Joint Committee and also to ask they consider credit card payments in sterling be accepted on the proposal of Councillor Corrigan and seconded by Councillor Culhane.	P Donnelly
2.	<u>Urban Development Plan Funding</u> E Curtis informed that this action from the previous meeting had been carried out by G McGivern and that an update report on progress would be provided.	E Curtis
3.	<u>St Patrick's Camino Project</u> It was agreed to invite Seamus Crossan from St Patrick's Camino Project to provide a short presentation to the next meeting.	E Curtis
4.	<u>Standing Order Review</u> On agreement of a number of further amendments the reviewed standing order was adopted for implementation.	Noted
5.	<u>Election of Joint Chair</u> Councillor D McAteer was duly elected as Joint Chair for Newry, Mourne and Down and Councillor Corrigan declared Joint Chair for Louth County Council for a period of one year. It was agreed consideration be given by Officials to amending Standing Order to include procedures for future election of Joint Chairs.	Noted E Curtis / P Donnelly
6.	<u>Greenway Application</u> It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Breathnach and seconded by Councillor McAteer that a jointly submitted application for Phase II and III be made by Newry, Mourne and Down District Council and Louth County Council.	Noted

There being no further business the meeting ended at 4.05 p.m.

Signed:

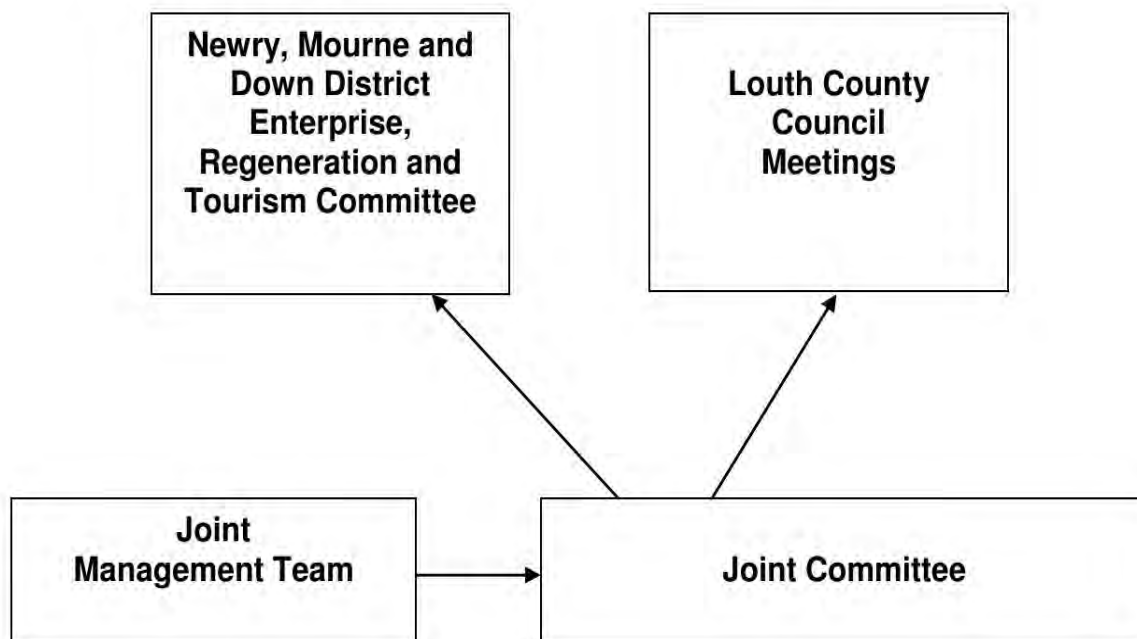
Eddie Curtis
Director
Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

Paddy Donnelly
Acting Director
Louth County Council

Standing Order

Summary of combined operation and delivery arrangements for Joint Committee Meetings between Newry Mourne and Down District Council and Louth County Council

1) Reporting Procedure:



2) Committee Arrangements

Committee	Frequency / notice	Location /Time of Meetings	Quorum	Membership	Chairperson
Joint Committee	Quarterly {6 days notice of meeting}	Rotate between both Civic Buildings or an agreed location	6 Elected Members (minimum of 3 from each jurisdiction)	- Elected members 9 Louth County Council 9 Newry, Mourne and Down District Council	Chairperson - Elected by Joint Committee

Revised – ~~for consideration~~agreed at meeting 16.6.15

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3) Councillor Attendance

Any Councillor from Newry, Mourne and Down or the Louth County Council may attend “Joint Committee” meetings as an observer, however may not partake in voting procedures if not already a member of the Joint Committee.

4) Recording of Meeting Attendance

An attendance register shall be used to record members present at meetings. Secretariat support will be provided by the Council from which the Chairperson represents.

For elected members who do not attend meetings their party (in the case of Newry Mourne and Down)/ (~~area leader~~Municipal District in the case of Louth County Council) should be asked to replace them.

5) Election of Committee

The Committee will be elected by the respective Councils for the term of the office of the respective Councils. The two Joint Chairpersons will be elected by the Joint Committee at its Annual General Meeting. ~~The Vice Chairperson will be elected by the Joint Committee also at the Annual General Meeting.~~ One position to be filled by a Councillor from the Louth County Councillors and the other position from Newry, Mourne and Down. These will be rotated on ~~an~~ an annual meeting basis with each position held for one year only.

6) Order of Business

- Declaration of Interest
- Confirmation of Minutes
- Minutes of Committee Meetings for Noting
- Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

Revised – ~~for consideration~~agreed at meeting 16.6.15

- Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Councils
- Notices of Motion and Question (must be submitted in writing to one of the Chief Executives at least 10 working days in advance of the meeting).
- Correspondence (circulated with agenda where possible)
- Report of Joint Committee meetings are circulated to respective Councils Statutory meetings

7) Special Meetings

The Committee may hold a special meeting at any time to consider any business of special importance or urgency. A special meeting may be called by a decision of the Committee at an ordinary or special meeting or by the Chair of the committee in consultation with the Chief Executive Officers.

8) Conduct of Business

The business of the meeting shall be conducted without undue formality and in a spirit of co-operation and efficiency and subject to the ruling of the chair of the Committee. Decisions will be taken by a simple majority of the members present with the chairperson of the Committee having a casting vote in the event of a tied vote. The Code of Conduct for Councillors will be adhered to by both Councillors including official declaration of conflict of interests where required.

Items proposed to be taken “in committee” will be determined by the Chairperson with advice from the Chief Executives.

Revised – ~~for consideration~~agreed at meeting 16.6.15

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9) Admissions of Public and Media

The public or media may ~~not~~ attend the Joint Committee meetings. ~~However regular press statements will be sent to the media regarding issues as decided by the Chairperson.~~

- 10) The Committee may establish working groups, or stakeholder fora, to include representation from statutory bodies, to advise on areas of mutual interest.

~~For consideration~~Agreed at Louth/ Newry, Mourne Down District Council Joint Committee Meeting – 16.6.15

Agenda Item:	Slieve Gullion Briefing Meeting re. Giants Lair and Camlough Dam Valve Tower held on 19 June 2015
Report to:	Economic Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Subject:	Giants Lair and Camlough Dam Valve Tower
Date:	3 August 2015
Reporting Officer:	Marie Ward
Contact Officer:	Michelle Boyle

Decisions Required

1. Council write to Sticky Fingers to advise them that there is no requirement for a shop at this time in Slieve Gullion, however should this change in the future that as per council policy, expressions of interest will be sought.
2. Council write to Sticky Fingers to request that with immediate effect they cease and desist from organising school tours to the Giant's Lair.
3. Council write to the 3 schools that have booked tours in July 2015 advising them that while Sticky Fingers are no longer conducting tours, the Giant's Lair facility and the play park are open to all and are free of charge.
4. Council to look at options and costings for improving on site toilet facilities.
5. Council to get prices from local bus companies for providing a shuttle service from Meigh 7 days per week from 12.00 – 4.00pm.
6. Council to get a definitive date from Forestry Department as to when it is due to re-open.
7. Council to request all keys for the hobbit houses back from Sticky Fingers.
8. All coins left at the fairy doors in the Giant's Lair are to be collected by council staff each evening and every month all money collected to be donated to a children's charity, all details to be posted on the Council facebook page.
9. Camlough Dam - Recommended design no. 3.3 which is a valve tower

platform without superstructure in agreement with NI Water	
1.0	Purpose and Background Slieve Gullion briefing meeting to address issues pertaining to The Giants Lair and Valve Tower Structure at Camlough Dam
2.0	Key Issues Additional programme of activity at The Giants Lair and impact on facilities Design requirements for value tower at Camlough Dam
3.0	Recommendations As per decisions required
4.0	Resource Implications Ongoing revenue cost associated with Giants Lair Council have included a capital budget for Camlough Dam Rehabilitation programme
5.0	Appendices Slieve Gullion Briefing report attached Camlough Dam – Valve tower option report attached

Report of meeting of Slieve Gullion DEA Councillors to discuss the proposed programme of activity from Sticky Fingers for the Giants Lair held on Friday 19 June 2015 at 10.00am in the Hawthorn Suite, Slieve Gullion Courtyard.

Present: Councillor R Mulgrew (Chair)
Councillor K Loughran
Councillor G Donnelly
Councillor M Larkin
Mrs M Ward
Mrs M Boyle
Mrs J McCann
Mr P Brannigan
Mrs P McKeever

Apologies: Mr K Scullion

Mrs Ward gave a brief background to the meeting stating that she and Mrs Boyle had met with Ms Grainne Powell, Sticky Fingers on Monday 15 June 2015. At the meeting Mrs Ward informed Ms Powell that all trading that had been taking place from the hobbit house adjacent to the childrens play park was to cease with immediate effect.

General discussion took place and the following points were raised:

- A new council employee is taking up position on 27 June working Saturdays and Sundays from 12.00 noon to 4.00pm, it would be ideal to be based in the Hobbit House.
- Slieve Gullion is an ideal location from which to promote the entire district to visitors travelling from ROI.
- There is currently no licence for trading from the hobbit house, and any future decision to trade will need proper planning.

- Forestry Service have offered Council 2 trading pitches with any profit staying with Council.

Concerns had been raised regarding organised tours by Sticky Fingers and the impact on facilities such as parking and toilets.

There was unanimous agreement that this type of activity could have a detrimental effect on Council and any future tours should be cancelled. Mrs McCann advised that there were 3 school tours booked in for July, Councillor Mulgrew stated that a letter should be written to these schools stating that while Sticky Fingers are no longer conducting tours, the Giant's Lair facility and the play park are open to all and are free of charge.

With regard to the limited provision of toilet facilities on site, Mrs Ward is to look at options and costings for improving this.

Lack of car parking spaces continues to be a problem particularly at weekends and during holiday periods. Providing a shuttle bus from Murphy's car park in Meigh could be an option in the short term. Prices are to be sought from local bus companies for providing a shuttle service 7 days per week from 12.00 – 4.00pm.

The forest drive remains closed, Mrs Ward to get a definitive date from Forestry as when it is to re-open.

With regard any coins that are being left at the fairy doors, it was agreed that at the end of each day, council staff collect all coins and at the end of each month all money collected is donated to a children's charity, all details to be put on Council's facebook page.

Mrs McCann stated that Sticky Fingers currently have the keys of all the hobbit houses, Council to request keys back. There are 5 hobbit houses, 3 of which have been assembled and are on the Giants Lair site, the other 2 are still flat packed. Forestry Service have advised that these 2 can be placed in the play park area. Mr Brannigan advised that there is only planning permission for 3 hobbit houses and planning permission would be needed to erect the remaining 2.

All works on the Giant's Lair project are due to be completed by 30 June 2015. Council are withholding a budget until all works including snagging list have been completed.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1. Council write to Sticky Fingers to advise them that there is no requirement for a shop at this time in Slieve Gullion, however should this change in the future that as per council policy, expressions of interest will be sought.**
- 2. Council write to Sticky Fingers to request that with immediate effect they cease and desist from organising school tours to the Giant's Lair.**
- 3. Council write to the 3 schools that have booked tours in July 2015 advising them that while Sticky Fingers are no longer conducting tours, the Giant's Lair facility and the play park are open to all and are free of charge.**
- 4. Council to look at options and costings for improving on site toilet facilities.**
- 5. Council to get prices from local bus companies for providing a shuttle service from Meigh 7 days per week from 12.00 – 4.00pm.**
- 6. Council to get a definitive date from Forestry Department as to when it is due to re-open.**
- 7. Council to request all keys for the hobbit houses back from Sticky Fingers.**
- 8. All coins left at the fairy doors in the Giant's Lair are to be collected by council staff each evening and every month all money collected to be donated to a children's charity, all details to be posted on the Council facebook page.**

Item 2 – Camlough Lake

Mrs Boyle stated that the lake will be closed for a period of 4 weeks at the end of August for temporary works to take place, after which potentially it will re-open until the end of the year. Major works are to commence at the start of January 2016 when the lake will be closed for a period of 12 – 18 months. All users of the lake have been notified of this.

Mrs Boyle circulated a Valve Tower – Outline Design Report undertaken by AECOM on 18 June 2015 on Camlough Dam (copy attached). The purpose of the report was to help inform key design considerations that need to be made on the proposed valve tower arrangement at Camlough Dam.

General discussion took place and it was agreed that design no. 3.3 was the recommended option subject to agreement with NI Water.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. It was recommended to propose design no. 3.3 which is a valve tower platform without superstructure.**

Michelle Boyle

Tourism Development Officer

MB/PMcK

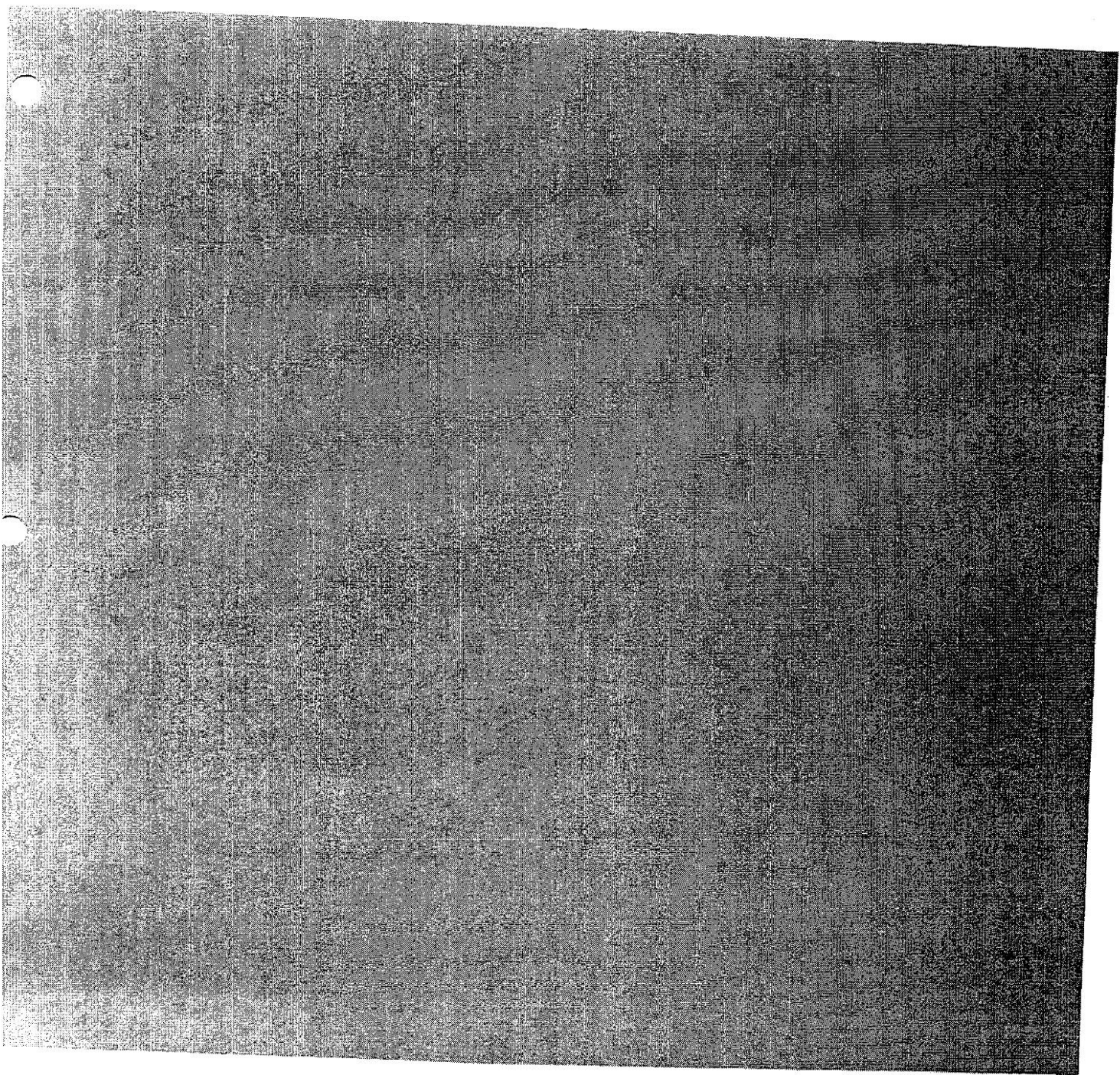


Northern Ireland Water
Newry Mourne and Down District Council

18 June 2015

Camlough Dam

Valve Tower – Outline Design Report



Prepared by:
Gareth Briggs
Associate Civil Engineer

Checked by:
David McKillen
Technical Director

Approved by:
David McKillen
Technical Director

Camlough Dam – Valve Tower Outline Design Report

Rev No	Comments	Checked by	Approved by	Date
1				

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The conclusions and recommendations contained in this Report are based upon information provided by others and upon the assumption that all relevant information has been provided by those parties from whom it has been requested and that such information is accurate. Information obtained by AECOM has not been independently verified by AECOM, unless otherwise stated in the Report.

The methodology adopted and the sources of information used by AECOM in providing its services are outlined in this Report. The work described in this Report was undertaken between **December 2014** and **June 2015** and is based on the conditions encountered and the information available during the said period of time. The scope of this Report and the services are accordingly factually limited by these circumstances.

Where assessments of works or costs identified in this Report are made, such assessments are based upon the information available at the time and where appropriate are subject to further investigations or information which may become available.

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Unless otherwise stated in this Report, the assessments made assume that the sites and facilities will continue to be used for their current purpose without significant changes.

Where field investigations are carried out, these have been restricted to a level of detail required to meet the stated objectives of the services. The results of any measurements taken may vary spatially or with time and further confirmatory measurements should be made after any significant delay in issuing this Report.

Costs may vary outside the ranges quoted. Whilst cost estimates are provided for individual issues in this Report these are based upon information at the time which can be incomplete. Cost estimates for such issues may therefore vary from those provided. Where costs are supplied, these estimates should be considered in aggregate only. No reliance should be made in relation to any division of aggregate costs, including in relation to any issue, site or other subdivision.

No allowance has been made for changes in prices or exchange rates or changes in any other conditions which may result in price fluctuations in the future. Where assessments of works or costs necessary to achieve compliance have been made, these are based upon measures which, in AECOM's experience, could normally be negotiated with the relevant authorities under present legislation and enforcement practice, assuming a pro-active and reasonable approach by site management.

Forecast cost estimates do not include such costs associated with any negotiations, appeals or other non-technical actions associated with the agreement on measures to meet the requirements of the authorities, nor are potential business loss and interruption costs considered that may be incurred as part of any technical measures.

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1 Purpose of the report

The purpose of this report is to help inform the key design considerations that need to be made by Northern Ireland Water (NI Water) and Newry Mourne and Down District Council (NMDDC) on the proposed valve tower arrangement at Camlough Dam. While the requirement for a new valve tower, and the ultimate responsibility for its design is the responsibility of the All Reservoirs Panel Engineer, as client organisations, funders and future operators both NI Water and NMDDC have an input into design characteristics that may influence the operation of the structure. These design inputs may impact on the maintenance requirements, aesthetic appearance and the health and safety risks that the structure may pose to the operators and general public.

2 Drawoff Tower Requirements

2.1 Existing drawoff and scour facilities

NI Water currently abstract water from Camlough Dam through a 13" pipe which passes beneath the dam embankment and continues to a distance of over 200m into the reservoir. Historically it is understood that this pipeline had a number of valve towers within the reservoir that could be used to control the flow into this pipework upstream of the embankment. These valve towers are no longer present and are understood to have collapsed during the mid 1900s. There is therefore no method of controlling the inflow into the pipework. The only control mechanism is through an underground valve chamber downstream of the embankment.

There is also a 24" scour pipe which passes below the main reservoir at approximately mid span of the main embankment to a position approximately 15m upstream of the dam crest. This pipe also historically had a valve tower which would have been used to control the inlet to the scour pipe. However, as with the other towers this has collapsed some time ago. The remains of the structure and the associated bridge pier are visible at low water level. Figure 1 shows a plan of the existing pipework arrangement and approximate locations of historic valve towers.

Without upstream control both pipes pose a significant risk to the long term integrity of the reservoir embankment. At present these pipes are pressurised below the embankment and a structural failure of the pipework could trigger the internal erosion of the earth-fill embankment material, which could lead to catastrophic failure of the structure.

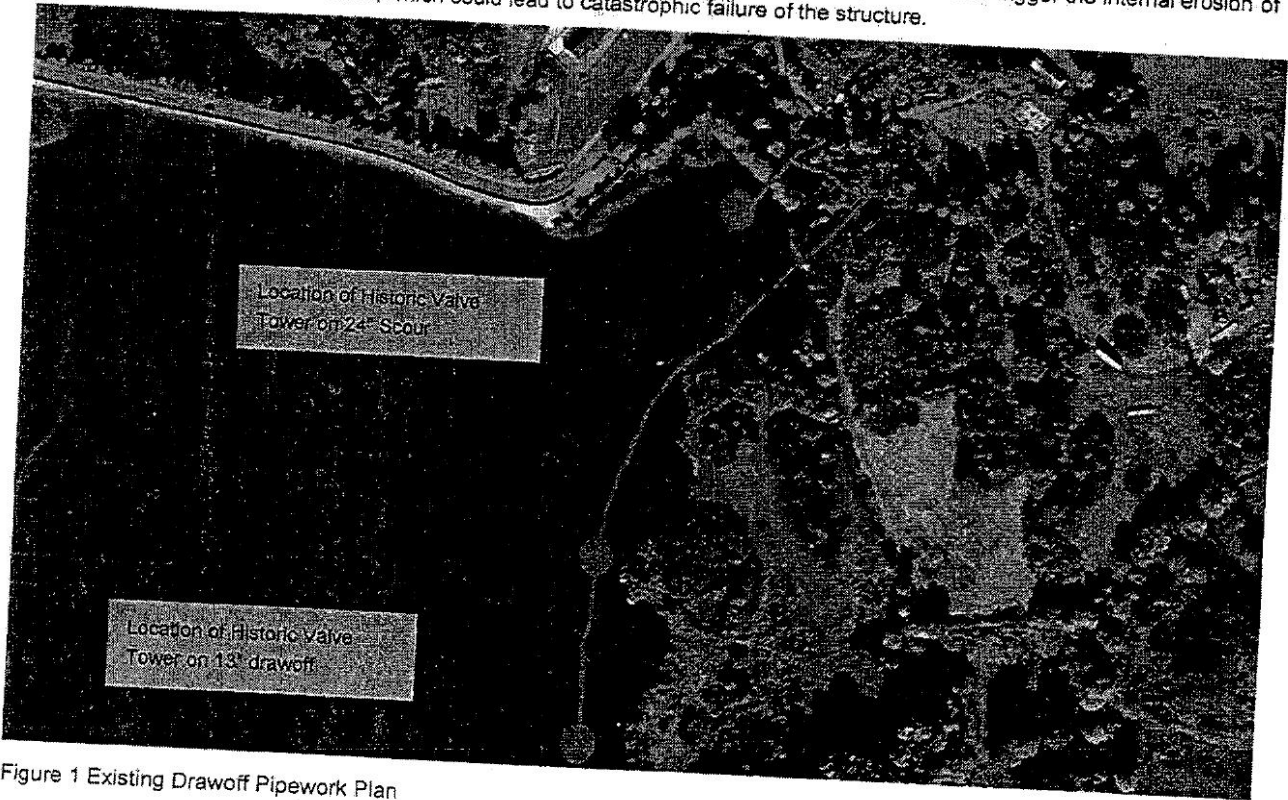


Figure 1 Existing Drawoff Pipework Plan

AECOM

Camkough Dam - Drawoff Tower - Outline Design Report

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2.2 Section 10 Report recommendations

The Section 10 Inspection Report completed by the All Reservoirs Panel Engineer in November 2013 identified that there is no form of control on the drawoff pipework and made recommendations under Section 10(6) of the Reservoirs Act that *"The draw off arrangements including the pipes under the dam should be investigated both in terms of normal and emergency drawdown"*.

2.3 Feasibility study recommendations

The feasibility study completed in February 2014 recommended that the scour and drawoff facilities should include a new reinforced concrete drawoff tower, complete with valves and pipework, located at the upstream toe of the main embankment and connected to the crest by a pedestrian access bridge.

The feasibility report also recommends that the 13" diameter supply main should be sealed with grout or concrete to abandon it and reduce the risk of a future collapse of the pipework below the dam.

3 Review of Outline Design Considerations

This section of the report outlines what are considered to be the key design options associated with the provision of the valve tower that require input from NI Water and NMDDC.

3.1 Operational and access requirements

As these options can impact on the operation and maintenance of the valve tower the operational regime must be considered. The likely operational and maintenance related access requirements of the proposed valve tower will include:

- Access to operate drawoff valves to maintain a water supply to Camlough Water Treatment Works. The frequency of this operation will be dependent on the water levels within the reservoir. Droughts, pollution incidents or water quality issues may require changes to the drawoff arrangement (i.e., opening and closure of valves at various levels) but it is not expected that access would be required more frequently than once per week. At the workshop of 17th June it was indicated by NI Water staff that the water supply drawoff may cease as early as mid-2017 which would allow valves at this stage to be closed permanently and negate any operational attendances for water supply purposes.
- Access to operate the scour valve to maintain a top up supply to Bessbrook Pond and the Newry Canal. During the workshop of 17th June NMDDC staff indicated that this operation is very infrequent.
- Access to operate the scour valve to lower the reservoir for maintenance purposes. This is likely to be an infrequent operation.
- Access to operate the scour valve to lower the reservoir for emergency purposes to relieve pressure on the dam embankment. This is likely to be a very infrequent operation.
- Access to test the operation of all the valves within the valve tower. It is likely that this operation will be at least bi-annually.
- Access to inspect the valves, pipework and structure of the valve tower. This is likely to be at least an annual operation, although may be more frequent in the initial period following commissioning.

Notwithstanding the above access requirements the valves and operational spindles must be protected from vandalism and misuse. The inappropriate operation of the valves could result in downstream flooding, environmental damage and, if water levels were dropped too quickly damage the integrity of the embankment. The valves and headstock or spindles must therefore have an appropriate level of security to prevent misuse.

3.2 Design Considerations

The following sub sections review a number of the key design options that need to be considered to allow the final design to be completed. In some instances the decisions have been made during the workshop of 17th June and these have been recorded here for record purposes. The options should be considered alongside a review of drawings CLDS.URS.Z6.01.DR.CE.1000 and CLDS.URS.Z6.01.DR.CE.1001 included within Appendix 1.

3.2.1 Location and depth

The plan location of the proposed valve tower is to be in the approximate location of the historic valve tower on the 24" pipe. The valve tower needs to make a connection to the existing pipework in this area and other locations in the vicinity are not likely to provide any significant advantage over this location. It should also be noted that the depth of the existing 24" pipework is also a constraint on the depth of the valve tower.

At this stage no alternative options are being considered for the plan location or depth of the valve tower.

3.2.2 Valve provision

The minimum requirements for the valve provision within the valve tower would be a scour valve capable of lowering the reservoir at an appropriate rate in an emergency (typically 0.5m per day), and the drawoff valves appropriately sized to maintain

the supply drawoff to Camlough Water Treatment Works. At the design workshop of 17th June the following design decisions were confirmed;

- 2Nr drawoff valves are to be provided for water supply purposes. The drawoff valves are to be located at appropriate levels to ensure that the upper valve operates fully over the top 1m of draw down (valve level approximately 1.5m below top water level) with the second drawoff approximately 2m lower.
- Guard valves are to be provided with each valve to assist with future maintenance and testing.
- Both drawoff valves are to be screened. The outline design at present is to use a low velocity screen which significantly reduces the risk to swimmers. However these screens are expensive a further consideration is to be given to the maintenance requirements and alternative options.
- A low level scour pipe is to be provided at the base of the valve tower. The scour valve is to be screened as it can be used to augment water supply during low flows. However the screen is to be a coarser screen as its depth presents a reduced risk to swimmers and too fine a screen may risk blockage of what is fundamentally a safety valve.

All internal pipework is to be ductile iron, the valve and pipework provision (excluding the intake screens) is represented within the isometric view in Figure 2.

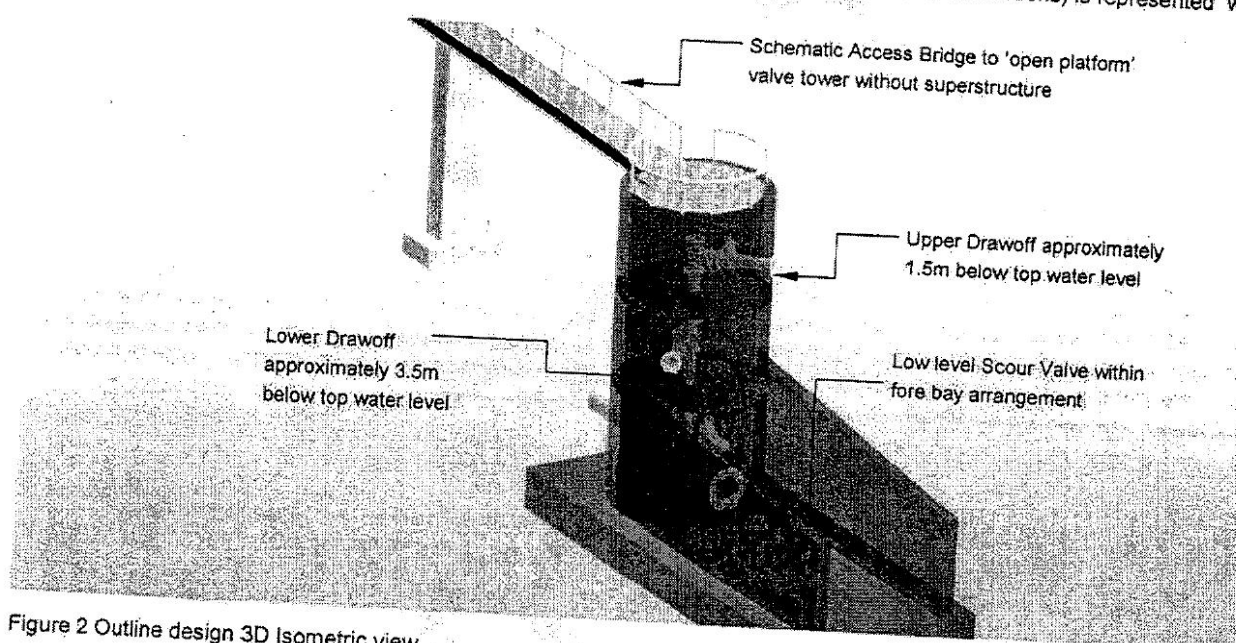


Figure 2 Outline design 3D Isometric view

3.2.3 Internal access provision

Regardless of the superstructure provision the valve tower will be a confined space under the current legislation and access should only be by appropriately trained and experienced personnel. Access to the lower valves for inspection, maintenance or replacement will be controlled via a winch access, either in the form of tripod supported winch or from a structure supported in a davit socket within the tower structure. Regardless of this requirement it is also proposed to provide a ladder access to the base of the valve tower as this can significantly improve the access experience for the operator. Warning signage is to be provided under the manhole access or within the superstructure to highlight the confined space nature of the space.

Open mesh floors are to be provided at a level relative to each drawoff valve to facilitate safe access and maintenance at valves. Handrails and gates are to be provided around the access opening at each floor to reduce the risk of falls from height when winches and fall arrest cables may not be taught as a result of the horizontal movement around the platform.

3.2.4 Access Bridge

The plan location of the proposed valve tower is approximately 15m from the dam crest. To create access from crest level a footbridge must be provided. The bridge does present some health and safety risks, as without comprehensive security gate and

fencing provision along the dam crest the public will be able to access the bridge structure. Combined with the deep water at this location, and the presence of drawoff valves in the vicinity may result in this being considered an unacceptable risk to the public.

At the design review workshop there was discussion on the option to remove the footbridge requirement and facilitate boat access. The primary objective of this option was to remove the risk to members of the public falling from the footbridge into the reservoir. However, the operational requirements and in particular the requirement to access the valves during an emergency rule this option out for further consideration.

Note that the structural form and aesthetics of the access bridge will be subject to additional outline design drawings, workshop and report.

3.2.5 Valve Tower Superstructure

The outline design to date has been developed on the assumption that the valve tower would terminate at crest level of the reservoir and that access would be via a security rated manhole access from the surface of the valve tower. It was felt that this option provided a number of advantages, namely:

- Reduces the visual impact of the structure in the sensitive environment in which it is to be constructed.
- The structure may provide a public / amenity feature and could be used as a viewing platform for some of the events which take place on the lough.
- The solution would be the least cost solution, especially if consideration was to be given to an architectural treatment of the tower structure (i.e. stone cladding).

In this option the operation of all valves would be from the top of the tower using valve keys through lockable security rated access covers.

As with the bridge structure the provision of a public space adjacent to deep water may be considered to be an unacceptable risk. The alternative provided at a number of existing NI water sites would be the provision of a valve tower super structure above water level with a security rated door access. This would not only limit the risk to the public but provide a dry and secure working environment for the operation of the valves. The most significant disadvantage of this option would be the additional cost of the provision of such a structure, especially if it was to be treated in an architectural stone cladding. Some examples of valve towers with, and without a superstructure are shown in Figures 3.1-3.3.

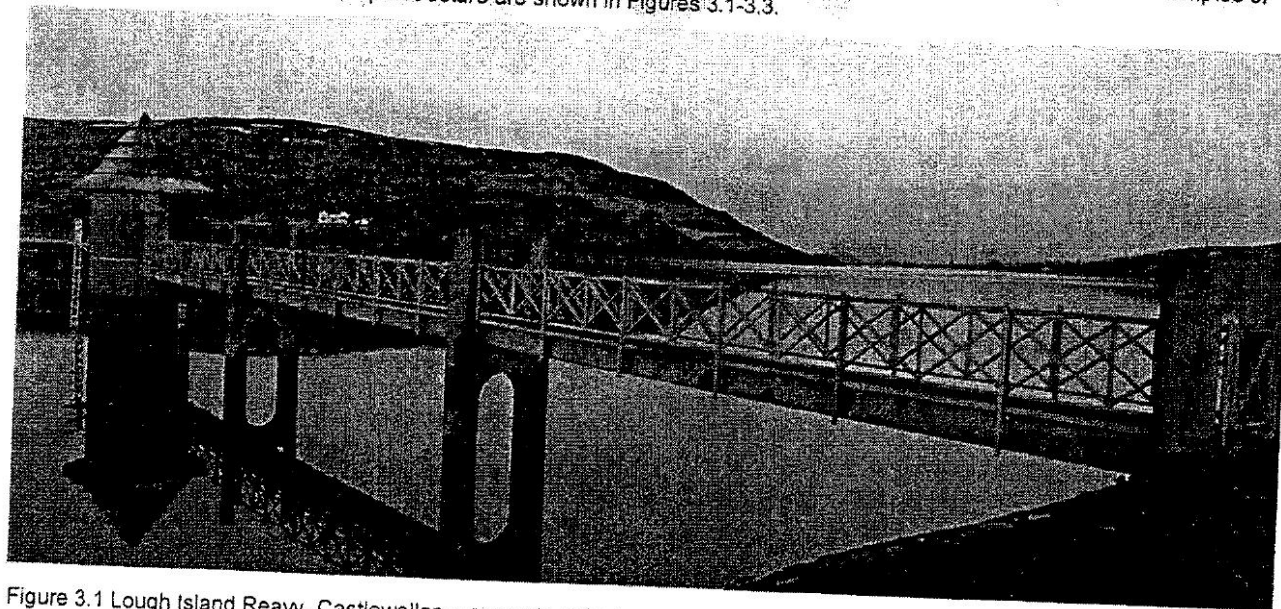


Figure 3.1 Lough Island Reavy, Castlewelan – concrete valve tower superstructure

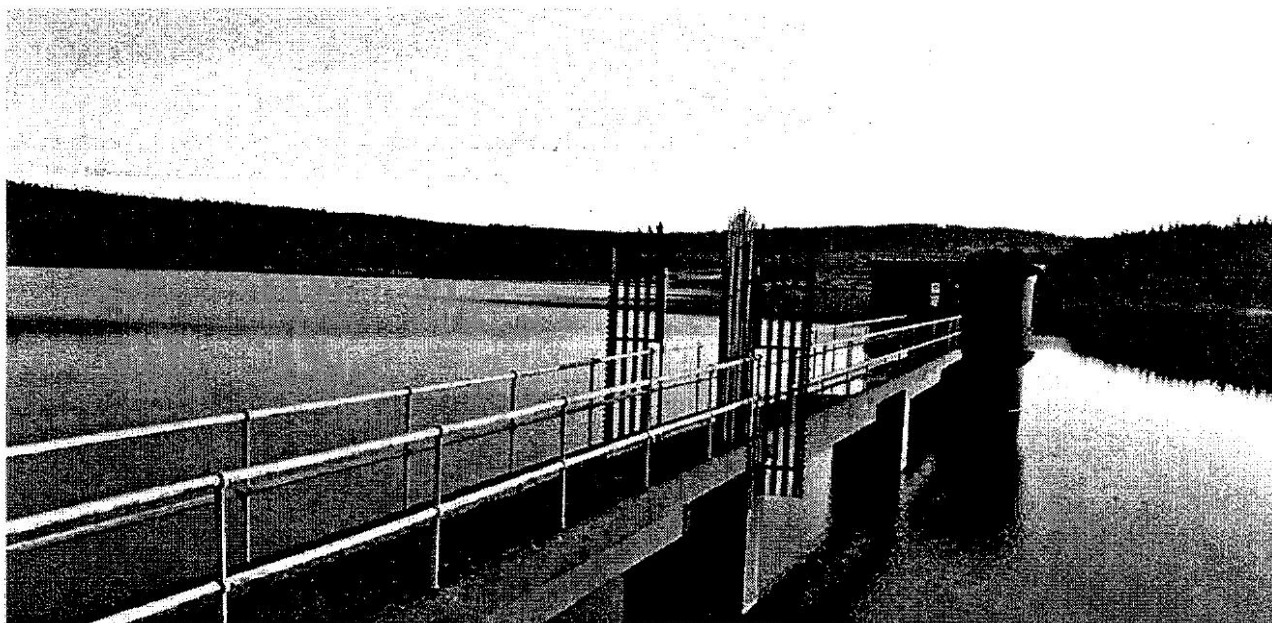


Figure 3.2 Killylane, Carrickfergus– concrete valve tower superstructure

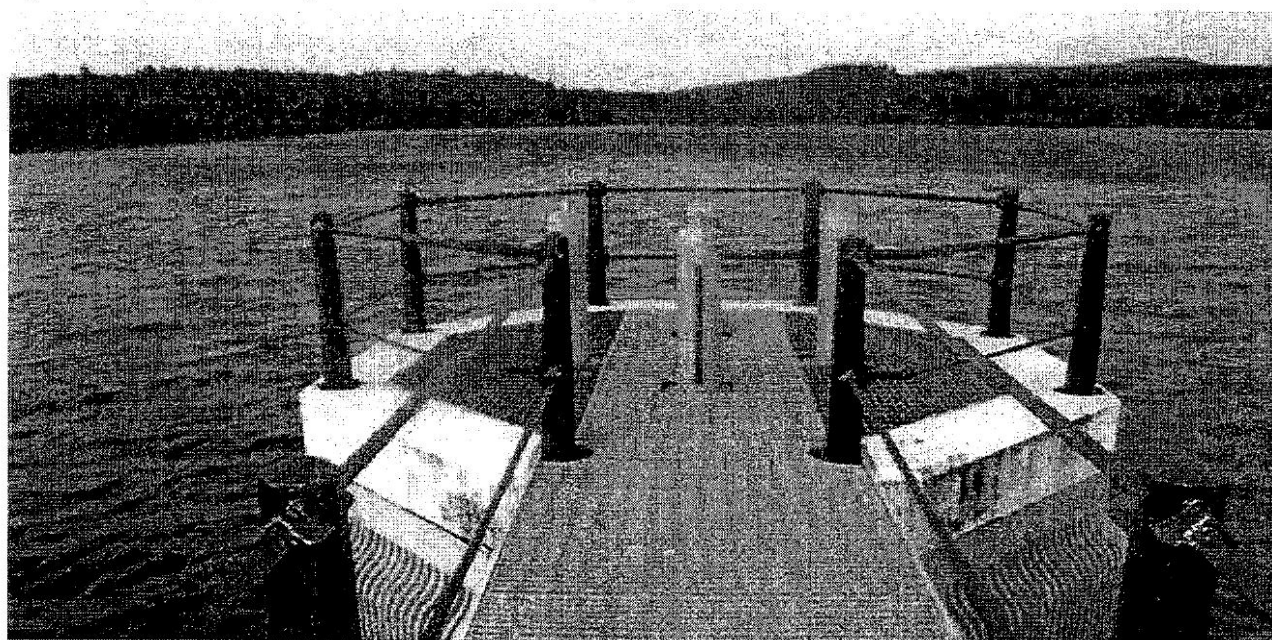


Figure 3.3 Woodburn, Carrickfergus– Valve tower platform without superstructure – note that at Camlough the central headstocks will not be required

3.2.6 Security fencing

There are options to reduce the risks to the public by preventing public access onto the footbridge, or to the valve tower by the provision of a comprehensive security gate arrangement and fencing along the dam crest and bridge hand railing. However, such provision is likely to be highly unsightly in such a popular amenity area. Some examples of security provisions at NI Water reservoirs are shown within Figures 4.1 and 4.2.

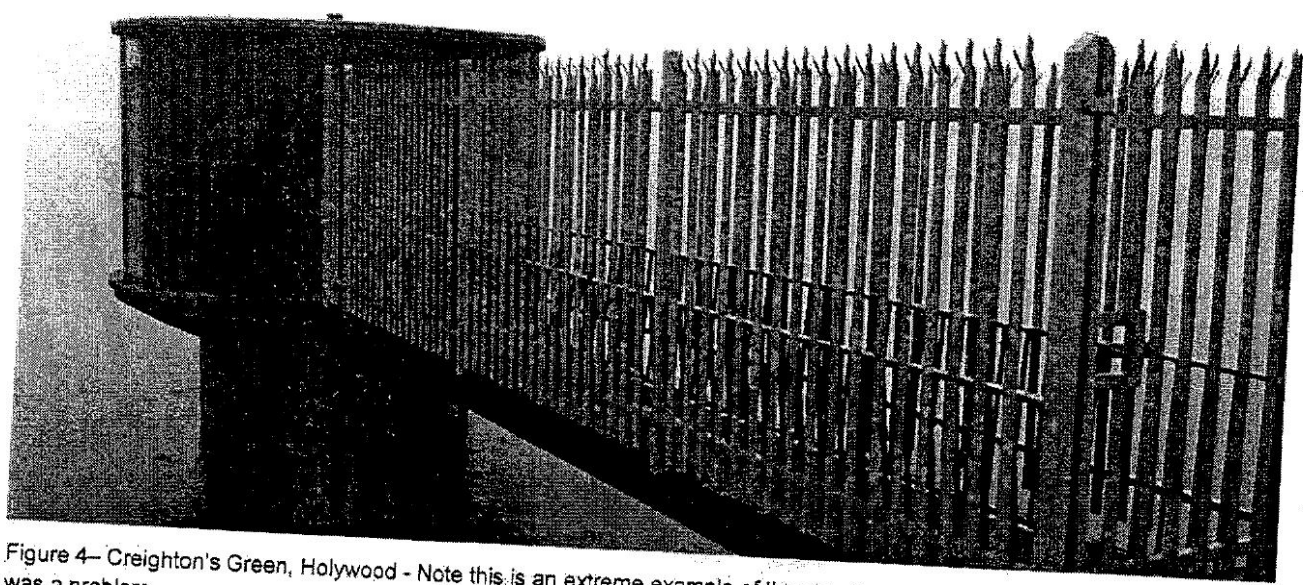


Figure 4- Creighton's Green, Holywood - Note this is an extreme example of the security provision required where vandalism was a problem

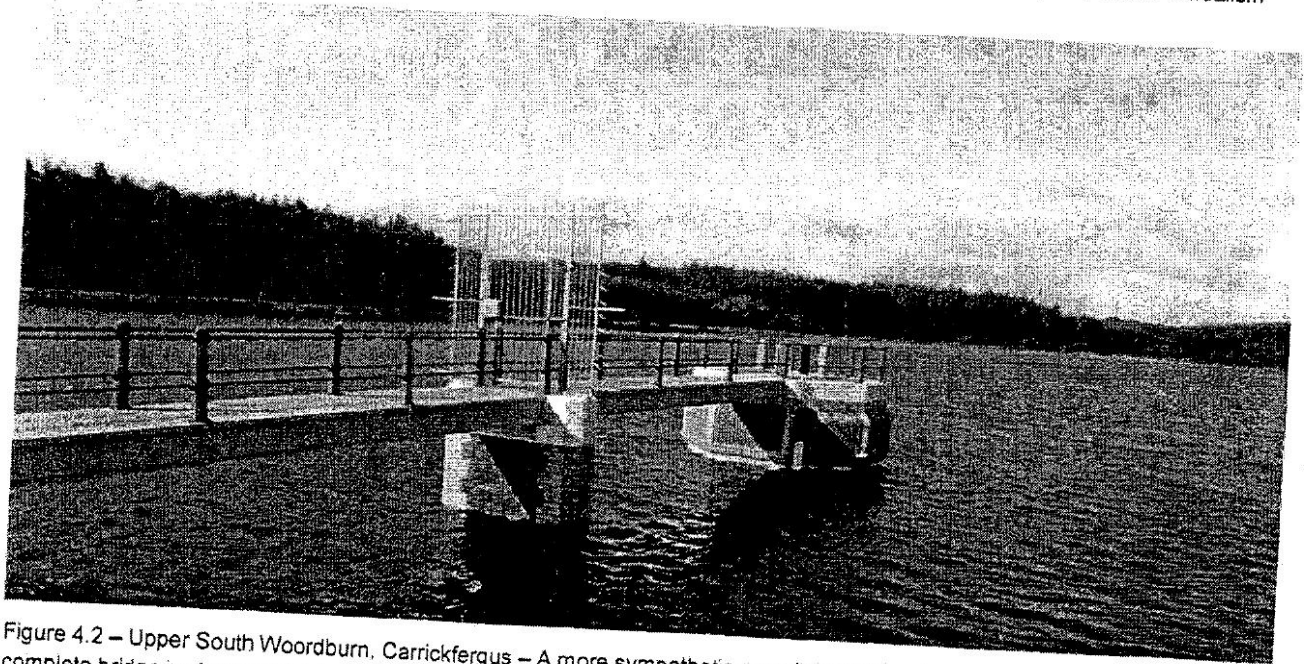


Figure 4.2 - Upper South Woodburn, Carrickfergus - A more sympathetic security structure, but does not prevent access the complete bridge and may not deter access to all

4 Discussion and Summary

The key decisions requiring a decision from NI Water or NMDDC fundamentally relate to whether public access can be provided onto the proposed access bridge and whether or not the valve tower structure has a superstructure above water level. Further discussion on each option is presented below.

4.1 Superstructure

The provision of a valve tower superstructure has security, health and safety and operational benefits. However, none of these benefits are considered overly significant. The security benefits provided by a superstructure can be achieved with security rated manhole covers on an open top tower, and the operational requirements outlined within Section 3.1 are not onerous enough to alone warrant the additional costs. The provision of a superstructure does not remove the risks associated with public accessing over deep water and indeed the bridge and tower structure are unlikely to present risks greater than those already present elsewhere on the site.

As a result the decision on the superstructure is largely related to aesthetics. Some may view the construction of a valve tower as an architectural feature in the area, while others may consider it to be visually obstructive. It is likely that, in order to satisfy planning requirements, the tower would need to be sympathetically clad in locally sourced stone which would increase the overall capital cost of the structure.

A detailed cost assessment has not been carried out but the addition of a superstructure could increase the cost the tower and bridge structure by around £50,000-£75,000, depending on the required architectural treatment.

Table 1 and Table 2 provide a residual health and safety risk assessment for the provision, or not, of the tower superstructure.

Risk	Description	Mitigation	Residual risk
Falls deep into water from the valve tower platform	Public or users may accidentally fall, or deliberately access the lake from dive from the valve tower platform. The risk is heightened due to the presence of drawoff valves below the water level.	The drawoff valves can be located in a manner to minimise the risk of injury to from public deliberately accessing the water from the platform. The drawoff valves can be provided with low velocity screens to minimise the risk to swimmers in the area.	Given the number of people that swim within Camlough it will be difficult to prevent water users from using the new structure as a platform to swim, from or to and regardless of whether access is provided or not safety provisions within the drawoff valves should be made. With these mitigations in place the residual risk is likely to be low.
Operation of valves without protection from the elements	Without a valve tower superstructure the operation of the valves will be from the open platform and not protected from the elements.	This is not an uncommon activity and the infrequent operational activities, as identified within this report suggest that further mitigation is not required.	Low
Vandalism of valves and pipework within the structure	The platform structure will include manhole access to the valves and chamber below. Vandals may attempt to operate the valves.	Terrorism rated security covers should be provided to all manholes which will prevent access.	low

Table 1 – No Valve Tower Superstructure, residual risk assessment

Risk	Description	Mitigation	Residual risk
Operation of valves without protection from the elements	Without a valve tower superstructure the operation of the valves will be from the open platform and not protected from the elements.	This is not an uncommon activity and the infrequent operational activities, as identified within this report suggest that further mitigation is not required.	Low
Vandalism of valves and pipework within the structure	Vandals may try to access the valve tower superstructure and gain access to the valves and chamber.	Terrorism rated security door covers should be provided to prevent access.	low

Table 2 –Valve Tower Superstructure, residual risk assessment

4.2 Security Provision

The current design assumes that the valve tower structure will be accessible to the public and no security provisions will be provided on the dam crest or access bridge. The assumptions made at outline design stage were that the bridge and tower platform could add to the overall amenity of the site; becoming a potential location for information boards and a viewpoint for the lake. At the design workshop concerns were raised that there are risks associated with the access provision as the bridge and tower structure are in deep water and concerns have been raised that the public will use it as a swimming amenity, or a location to dive from (although it should be noted that the platform will only be about 1m above the normal top water level and in reality may not be seen as a dive location). Swimmers in the vicinity of the tower also have risks associated with the operation of the drawoff valves – however these risks can be mitigated with the provision of modern low velocity screens

A review of the other features of the Camlough site at present would demonstrate that the risks posed by the valve tower platform access are very similar to those at the existing elevated gangway walkway along the Newtown Road and other areas of deep water adjacent to the dam crest and spillway.

The provision of a security fence arrangement, as outlined within Section 3.2.6 would need to be designed in as sympathetic manner as possible as they can be visually obtrusive. Due to the variation in water level the security arrangements will need to extend out the bridge structure to prevent access at lower water levels.

Tables 3 and 4 below provides a residual health and safety risk assessment for the provision, or not, of the tower superstructure.

Risk	Description	Mitigation	Residual risk
Falls deep into water from the valve tower platform or walkway	Public or users may accidentally fall, or deliberately access the lake from dive from the valve tower platform. The risk is heightened due to the presence of drawoff valves below the water level.	The drawoff valves can be located in a manner to minimise the risk of injury to from public deliberately accessing the water from the platform. The drawoff valves can be provided with low velocity screens to minimise the risk to swimmers in the area.	Given the number of people that swim within Camlough it will be difficult to prevent water users from using the new structure as a platform to swim, from or to and regardless of whether access is provided or not safety provisions within the drawoff valves should be made. With these mitigations in place the residual risk is likely to be low.

Table 3 – No security provision

Risk	Description	Mitigation	Residual risk
Falls deep into water from the valve tower platform or walkway.	Public or users may accidentally fall, or deliberately access the lake from dive from the valve tower platform. The risk is heightened due to the presence of drawoff valves below the water level.	The provision of appropriately design security fencing should prevent access to the structure and be seen to take all reasonable means to mitigate the risk.	Given the number of people that swim within Camalough it will be difficult to prevent water users from using the new structure as a platform to swim, from or to and regardless of whether security is provided or not – if it is provided it must be seen to have taken all reasonable means to prevent access and the provision itself must not be seen to cause an additional risk.

Table 4 –Security provision

4.3 Conclusion

The risks that the proposed structure pose to the public are not deemed to be significantly different from risks elsewhere at Camalough Lake, or other sites where deep water is present. Appropriate provision of life preservers and signage could satisfy the operator's requirements. However, the risks can be reduced to very low level by the provision of security fencing, albeit at a potential aesthetic, amenity and capital cost to the project. The operators must decide whether to accept and manage the risks or attempt to remove the risk.

**From the office of the
Minister of the Environment**



Department of the
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Your reference: ERT/10/2015

Our reference: INV196/2015

29th July 2015

Dear Marie

Thank you for your letter of 20 May 2015 regarding NIEA funding for the Mourne Heritage Trust (MHT), the Strangford Lough & Lecale Partnership (SLLP) and the Ring of Gullion Partnership (RoG) from April 2016.

I trust you will understand that since you wrote officials and I have been engaging where possible with these organisations and others who have been directly affected. I have focused on doing whatever I could, within the imposition of an extremely difficult budget, to ease the impacts of these cuts on them.

There are challenging times ahead for all of us and it has never been more important that we find innovative ways to work smarter together to deliver priority environmental outcomes and potential delivery models in the future. As part of this process, officials recently held a workshop on 28 July 2015 for a wide range of environment and heritage key stakeholders including Council, MHT, SLLP and RoG to take a strategic and holistic look at how best to deliver for the natural and built environment in the coming years. A further workshop will take place in early autumn.

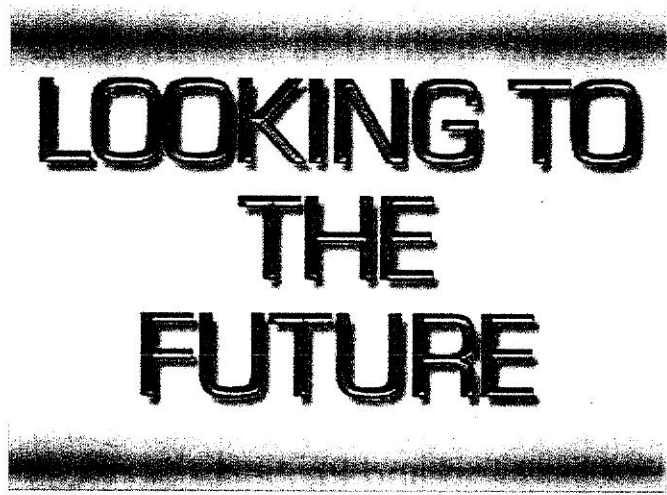
Collaboration and cooperation between eNGOs and others will be vital to achieving success and the Council will be a key player in this process. I would be happy to meet with you to hear your views and my diary secretary, Stephanie Lyons, will contact you to make the necessary arrangements.

Yours sincerely

MARK H DURKAN MLA
Minister of the Environment

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IRRV Northern Ireland



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IRRV in Northern Ireland is delighted to announce this major Conference, taking place at Malone House, Belfast, on the revised date of Thursday 1st October 2015. The conference is kindly sponsored by Anderson Anderson & Brown LLP.

This one day conference will discuss the impacts of local government reform and the issues facing Northern Ireland's new local authorities, rates reform and the revaluation, managing the Rate Product and the challenges facing Land and Property Services over the next five years.

We are delighted to advise that Arlene Foster MLA, Minister for Finance & Personnel, has been accepted our invitation to give the Ministerial Address to conference.

Conference sessions include :

- ❖ Ministerial Address : Arlene Foster MLA, Minister of Finance & Personnel (confirmed)
- ❖ The key issues facing local government in Northern Ireland : Richard Harbord, Immediate Past President, Institute of Revenues, Rating and Valuation (confirmed)
- ❖ Review of Business Rates : Brian McClure, Rating Policy Division, Department of Finance and Personnel (confirmed)
- ❖ Is Land Tax a Real Option for Reform? : David Magor OBE, Chief Executive, Institute of Revenues, Rating & Valuation (confirmed)
- ❖ Rate reform and Revaluation 2015 : Panel Session

- ❖ The reorganisation challenges facing the new Councils : Theresa Donaldson, Chief Executive, Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council (confirmed)
- ❖ 2020 Vision - the strategic road map for LPS : Colum Boyle, Chief Executive, Land & Property Services (confirmed)
- ❖ Managing the Rate Product : Mark McBride, Head of Finance and Performance, Belfast City Council (confirmed)
- ❖ “See, Hear and Speak Up” : Sean McAuley, Anderson Anderson and Brown LLP (confirmed)

The conference will be chaired by Kevin Stewart, IRRV President and will commence at 10am on Thursday 1st October (registration from 9.30am) and will end around 4pm.

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It is also extremely good value for money, with conference fees starting at less than £80 + VAT. This includes refreshments, lunch and conference materials. **Every fourth booking from the same organisation comes entirely free of charge.**

HOW TO BOOK : To encourage organisations to send a number of staff, every fourth full day delegate from the same organisation comes entirely free of charge. As places are limited, early booking is recommended. Please either fax the booking form to 01382 456029 or e-mail northern.ireland@irrv.org.uk. The IRRV regrets that, under normal circumstances, delegate fees cannot be refunded. However, delegate substitutions may be made at no cost at any time prior to the Conference, subject to these being notified to the Institute.



IRRV Northern Ireland Conference 2015

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