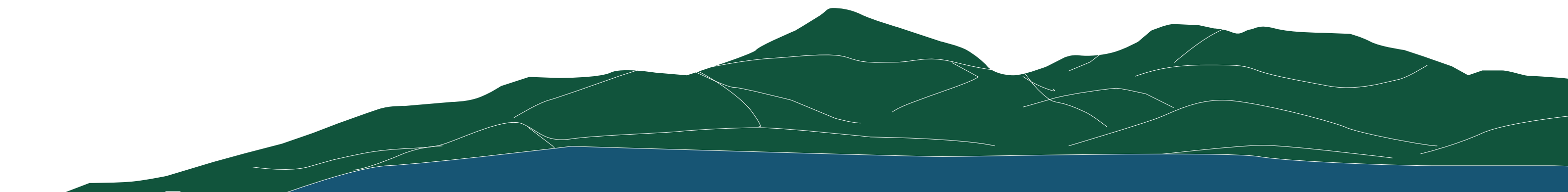


January 2018

Annacloy & Teconnaught Village Renewal Plan

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council





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Unique rural setting



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Annacloy and Teconnaught Aerial View

01 | Introduction

The Village Renewal Plan has been developed by the community in conjunction with Newry, Mourne and Down District Council to meet the requirements of the Rural Development Programme for Northern Ireland 2014-2020.

Ove Arup and Partners (Arup) was appointed as the consultancy team to facilitate the delivery of the Village Renewal Plan for Annacloy and Teconnaught. This Village Renewal Plan has been facilitated by a stakeholder workshop. The outcome of this is a Village Renewal Plan which includes a range of projects and initiatives that we believe will have a real impact on the area.

The Village Renewal Plan was funded under Priority 6 (LEADER) of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs and the European Union, and Newry, Mourne and Down District Council.

The Rural Development Programme uses the LEADER approach which adopts a community led model to assist rural communities to improve the quality of life and economic prosperity in their local area, through the allocation of funds based on local need. Village Renewal and Development is an important element of the Rural Development Programme.

The Village Plan is a working document that requires the support of the community and in many cases the community working in partnership with other agencies and statutory bodies.

It should be noted that the progressing of a Village Plan' under the Rural Development Programme does not mean that the settlement or area, to which the 'Village Plan' applies, is designated as a village in the settlement hierarchy as identified in the current development plans that apply to the District (i.e. the Banbridge/Newry and Mourne Area Plan 2015, and the Ards and Down Area Plan 2015) or in the Council's new Local Development Plan for the District, which is currently under preparation.

It is important to note that some projects and initiatives set out within the action plan may be subject to future feasibility studies and analysis, detailed design, landowner agreements, statutory approvals and available funding.





Greencastle Village Core | Credit - Greencastlecodown.org

02 | Context

Village Location

Annacloy and Teconnaught are small villages situated in rural Co. Down. Located between Ballynahinch and Downpatrick. The villages act as key commuter settlements serving its nearby employment hubs. The villages rest along the Annacloy River and primarily comprises residential and small pockets of commercial land use. Annacloy and Teconnaught act as thoroughfare settlements and therefore their development is primarily concentrated along the Annacloy road which links Ballynahinch with Downpatrick. Annacloy and Teconnaught provides and conserves a unique visual experience offering intermittent views of vast open landscapes along with the rural village.

Village Character

Initially, the Annacloy river played a key role in the early development of the villages. The river provided an ideal setting for small industry such as the corn and flax mills which provided employment for the nearby village areas. Furthermore, the villages of Annacloy and Teconnaught also benefited from the nearby Quarry situated on the eastern periphery of the settlement. The grounds of Rossconor played a key early role in the development of Annacloy and Teconnaught. The grounds provided vast private lands and comprised multiple lodges, cottages and Rossconor House. As time progressed and industry declined, so too did the development of Annacloy Teconnaught, resultantly the village retracted from the banks of the Annacloy river and began to concentrate development at the Annacloy crossroads due to its location along the key transport corridor. Today, the villages maintain a similar morphology and expresses a ribbon-like form of development along the main Annacloy Road.



Greencastle Rural Setting

History and Development of the Village

Annacloy and Teconnaught have firmly established their settlements within the breath-taking and picturesque landscape of rural County Down with each of their historical development patterns reflecting those of a similar scale within the area at the time. The settlements used to their advantage the key lines of transport and communication that served the area to form and mould the morphology of their respective villages. By 1832, both areas of Annacloy and Teconnaught had established small pockets and linear stretches of development which in turn have grown to produce the settlements noticed today.

Throughout the period between 1846-1862 the surrounding rural area comprised a plethora of fort mounds and previous defensive ramparts and raths dating back to early medieval periods. Additionally, during this time the Rossonor Grounds comprised a sizable amount of land utilising the meandering Annacloy River to power the Flax and Corn Mills found within the southern eastern edge of Annacloy alongside the River. Building on this, the Annacloy River played an influential role in the early layout and form of the village due to access to water and energy to power the growing industry at the time.

As time progressed, by 1900-1907 development had shifted north in the village via the development of the Teconnaught School and the Church of the Holy Family RC creating a distinctive node, visually dominant and key pocket of development at a core forking junction at Teconnaught. As time progressed further between the period of 1905-1957 the village had consolidated its development patterns now comprises two distinctive settlements. The early development and morphology of the two areas has highly influenced the settlements present today to create a thriving rural community in the heart of rural County Down.

Today, the two development nodes have gradually lessened the spatial gap Annacloy and Teconnaught to shape a continuous rural and linear community.

Village Profile

Annacloy and Teconnaught are located within the Drumaness 2 Super Output Area (SOA) of rural Co. Down. The population of Annacloy and Teconnaught is growing at a faster rate than the NI average, with the population having grown an estimated 18% in ten years.

The Village has a high proportion of young people with 25% of the population aged under sixteen and a slightly lower proportion of over 65s, which represent 11% of the population.

According to the 2011 Census, 16% of the population of the Village and surrounding area stated that they had a long term health problem or disability that limited day to day activities, and 87% stated that they had good or very good general health. Whilst these statistics are indicative of a relatively healthy population, it is important that any physical improvements to the village consider the need to create accessible and inclusive environments.

The Village and surrounding area is characteristic of a healthy working population living and settling in the area, as reflected by a high proportion of economically active residents (73%), larger than average household size (3.2 per household), high owner occupied housing stock (40%), and a young and quickly growing population.

According to the Multiple Deprivation Index 2010, the area is within the top 30% least deprived areas in Northern Ireland, however it does lack in sufficient access to basic services, where it is placed in the top 15% most deprived areas in relation to this. This is characteristic of rural villages in this area, where residents have to travel further to access many services that are not available in the Village.



Holy Family Church



Business Park



Community Centre



Community Centre Plaque



Holy Family Primary School



Annacloy Road



Parish Hall



McMullan's Bar

Future Development

The Ards and Down Area Plan (ADAP) suggests that the purpose of the settlement limit is to restrict further ribbon development along the main road that runs through the Village, and connects Ballynahinch and Downpatrick. The Annacloy River Corridor is identified as a LLPA, and is recognised as being of potential value as a wildlife corridor, an important landscape feature for the village, and having the potential for public access/riverside recreation area. LLPAs are specially protected areas, identified for their unique contribution to the landscape and new development should seek to protect or enhance their unique character and setting for the Village.

Present Development

Single Dwelling Development Pressure

It is important that this plan takes into account any new or proposed developments so that the future needs of new residents can also be taken into consideration in the plan development.

There is development pressure for single dwellings in the countryside in the area surrounding the Village, as evidenced by the large number of planning applications in the area. There are also proposals for two larger housing developments within the village:

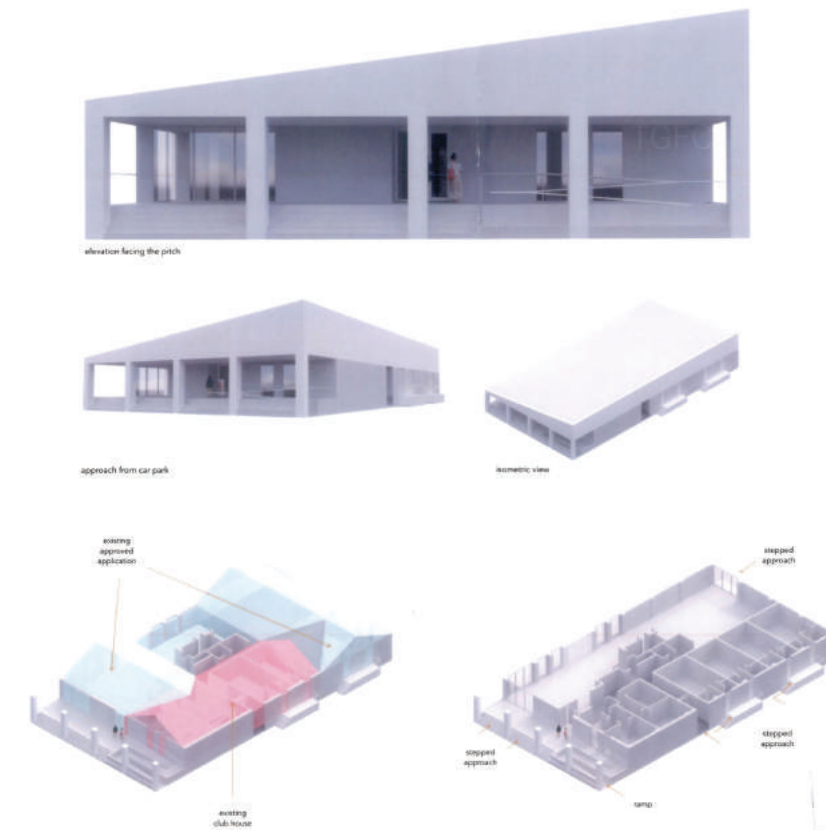
Planning Reference: R/2015/0153/O. Status: Granted.

Proposed housing development of 18 no. homes with improvements, adjacent to Holy Family School, Drumconagher Road, Annacloy, Downpatrick.

Planning Ref. R/2006/0153/F. Status: Granted

Proposed housing development consisting of 23 no. homes. Lands to the south of the junction of Teconnaught and Drumconagher Road, Annacloy.

These new developments will increase the population in the area, as well as the pressure on any local services provided in the area, such as the school, childcare etc.



Teconnaught GFC Redevelopment | Planning App : LA07/2015/0410/F



Residential Development

03 | Policy Analysis

3.1 Planning Policy

Regional Development Strategy 2035 'Building a Better Future'

The Regional Development Strategy (RDS) is a statutory plan, and sets the spatial vision for the region up to the year 2035. One of the central aims of the RDS is to support our towns, villages and rural communities to maximise their potential.

Our rural areas including our towns and villages have a key role in supporting economic growth. They offer opportunities in terms of their potential for growth in new sectors, the provision of rural recreation and tourism, their attractiveness as places to invest, live and work, and their role as a reservoir of natural resources and highly valued landscapes (RDS, p19)

The RDS sets out Strategic Guidance for the economic, society and the environment. RG7 highlights the need to support rural renaissance which is about revitalising the centres of small towns and villages so that they meet the immediate needs of the communities they serve.

The RDS emphasises the need to sustain rural communities living in smaller settlements and the open countryside and to improve accessibility for rural communities.

Strategic Planning Policy Statement (SPPS) 'Shaping a Better Future'

development of the region, which it defines as "meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs".

The policy objectives for development in the countryside are to:

- manage growth to achieve appropriate and sustainable patterns of development which supports a vibrant rural community;
- conserve the landscape and natural resources of the rural area and to protect it from excessive, inappropriate or obtrusive development and from the actual or potential effects of pollution;
- facilitate development which contributes to a sustainable rural economy; and
- promote high standards in the design, siting and landscaping of development.

Ards and Down Area Plan 2015 (ADAP)

The Ards and Down Area Plan (ADAP) was adopted in March 2009 and sets a number of site specific statutory policies relevant to Annacloy and Teconnaught village that should be taken into consideration by developers, landowners, the Council and the local community in the forward planning of the Village.

ADAP identifies one Local Landscape Policy Area within the village which focuses along the Annacloy River Corridor to protect the environmental quality, integrity and character of the area.

Living Well Together: Newry, Mourne and Down District Council's Community Plan (2016)

Community planning is a new function of Councils here in Northern Ireland since the reorganisation of local government in 2014. Councils have a requirement to create a Community Planning Partnership for their District whose role is to work in collaboration with all partners to achieve the aspirations of the Community Plan.

The overarching principles of the Plan are ensuring effective community engagement in the planning and delivery of services, utilising the strengths and resilience within communities, promoting equality and tackling inequality, adopting a preventative approach, driving efficiency and performance improvement, supporting a sustainable approach to development, holding each other as partners to account for delivering the community plan outcomes in collaboration and creating a Partnership Board responsible for monitoring and directing impact.

Emerging Local Development Plan

The Local Development Plan (LDP) will deliver a 15-year plan framework to support economic and social needs in the District, in line with regional strategies and policies, while providing the delivery of sustainable development. The new Local Development Plan will be the key consideration in the determination of planning applications for the development or use of land in the Council area. The next stage of the LDP process is the publication of the preferred options paper which will contain a series of options for dealing with key issues in the District, as well as the Council's justification for its proposed approach. The POP will indicate the Council's preferred options for growth and development in the District. The POP will be subject to public consultation. It is at this stage in the plan preparation process, that the public and stakeholders will have their first opportunity to put forward views and influence the LDP.



3.2 Other Strategies, Plans and Initiatives

This plan seeks to align with wider strategies and plans for the District, taking into account the importance of the Mourne Mountains in encouraging tourism and economic development into the area, and finding areas of complementarity where different stakeholders could work together to deliver such shared ideas and projects. Below is a snapshot of the strategies and plans that have been taken into consideration in the development of the Annacloy and Teconnaught Village Plan.

NMDDC Corporate Plan 2015-2019

The Newry Mourne and Down District Council Corporate Plan for 2015-2019 aims to envisage a new era for the District. The plan strives to strike a balance between the ambitions of the district whilst taking account of key issues which can influence the future of the district area and its population. Additionally, the corporate plan aims to create opportunities for local people and local communities to thrive by supporting sustainable economic growth over time and helping them to lead fulfilling lifestyles. The visionary stance of the strategy aims to create a district that is that is attractive to visit and do business, where people and communities can unlock their enterprising spirit as well as play their part in contributing to its social and economic development along with a district that facilitates and encourages healthy lifestyles. By 2019, the corporate plan will aspire to create a premier tourism destination for the island of Ireland, attract investment and support the creation of new jobs and support the improved health and well-being of its people.

Economic Regeneration & Investment Strategy 2015-2020

The Strategy aims to develop the Newry, Mourne and Down region to be recognised as a vibrant, dynamic and connected region of enterprise and economic growth; a place of sustainable natural beauty and a premier tourist destination encompassing excellence in culture and arts and enabling and creating opportunities for all. The Strategy is developed around five themes: 1.) Economic Development, 2.) Tourism Development, Marketing, Promotion and Events, 3.) Urban Development and Regeneration, 4.) Rural Development and Regeneration, 5.) Arts, Culture and Heritage. The strategy aims to develop a synergy between the five themes that need to be developed in the period to 2020. Within each theme we have a number of strategic priorities which will be delivered against.

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Tourism Strategy 2017-2022

The Tourism Strategy for Newry, Mourne and Down aims to maximise tourism growth for the district area by adopting a new and fresh approach that recognises the distinctive elements and strengths which sets the district apart to other destinations. The Tourism Strategy focuses on a key thematic headline 'Mountains, Myths and Maritime' which outline the core elements that shape a distinctive and strong image for Newry, Mourne and Down.

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Sports Facility Strategy (October 2016)

The purpose of the Strategy is to identify the strategic need for Sports facilities in Newry, Mourne and Down District Council. This is one of 11 Local Strategies to be developed in the context of the NI-wide work.

A consistent approach to developing the Local Strategies has been undertaken. The same methodology for applying supply and demand standards for sports halls, swimming pools and health and fitness facilities have been used in all 11 Local Authority Strategies and agreed with Sport NI.

The Strategy rationale is to develop a framework for the future prioritisation and development of sports facilities, based on identified need, increasing participation, addressing health inequalities and other local specific factors. The focus of the facilities analysis has been sports halls of 3 courts or above (except those on education sites), pools of 20 m and above, health and fitness suites of 20 stations and above and full size artificial grass pitches (AGPs), together with other facilities specific to each local area.

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Play Strategy 2017-2022

The purpose of the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Play Strategy is to establish an effective strategic framework for decision making as it relates to the development, maintenance and roll-out of play opportunities (both fixed and non-fixed) across the district.

At the core of the strategy is a recognition that play is a natural, fundamental part of children and young people's lives that supports growth and development, enhances health and well-being, supports social and intellectual development, and enables children and young people to develop essential life skills. Importantly for children, play is fun.

Department for Infrastructure Strategic Plan for Greenways (July 2016)

The purpose of this strategic plan is to explore the potential for the development of greenways. An extensive and connected Greenway Network can deliver environmental, social and economic benefit to a village while also increasing physical wellbeing. The Comber to Downpatrick proposed Greenway passes to the east of the village



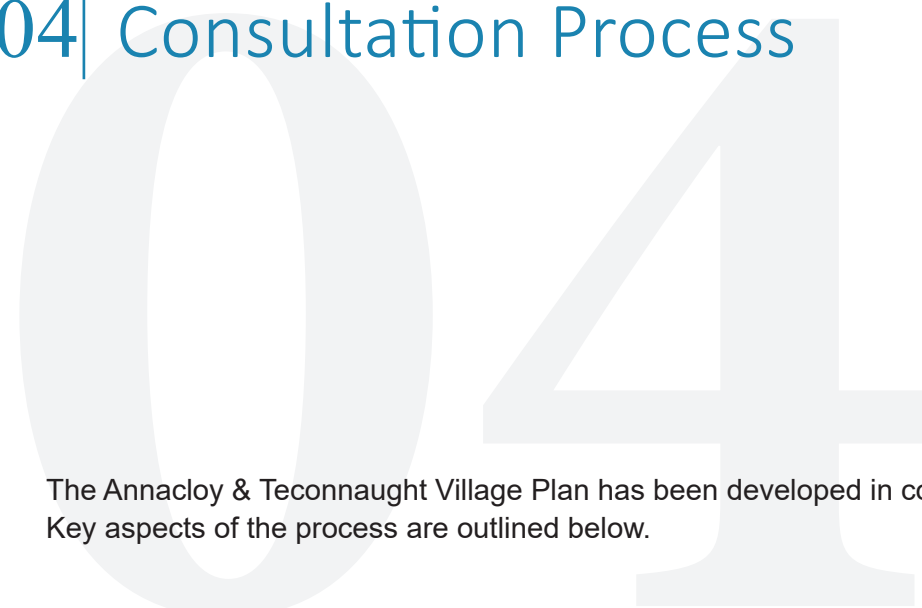


- Coastal Path
- NI Future Greenways Network
- Mourne and R.O.G. Public Art Trail
- MCDR Trail
- MCDR Links
- MCDR stop off sites
- On coastal path route
- Close proximity to path route
- Visitor Walking Hub



Surrounding Rural Landscape

04 | Consultation Process



The Annacloy & Teconnaught Village Plan has been developed in collaboration with the local community. Key aspects of the process are outlined below.

Community walkabout

A community walkabout took place in Annacloy and Teconnaught on 23rd May 2017 with representatives of the Council, the consultant team, and members of the local community. During this time a site survey was carried out to understand the background and context of the Village, key assets, issues and potential ideas of how the Village could be improved.

Community Event

A public consultation event for Annacloy and Teconnaught Village Renewal Plan was held on the evening of the 28th of September 2017 in the Parish Hall, Teconnaught. The purpose of the event was to present the findings of the desktop research, site walkabout, together with draft proposals for actions and priorities for tackling the issues identified by the local community and village analysis work.

The event was publicly advertised via the Council's website and social media. Council officers also distributed details of the event to community and voluntary groups in the area, and a public advertisement was placed in the newspaper.

This draft Village Plan was then prepared and published for public consultation in January 2018.



Consultation Venue - Parish Hall, Teconnaught

PRIORITY PROJECTS

1. FOOTPATH TO GAEIC PITCH / RIVERLACK. ? PLAS PARK @ PITCH.
2. DEVELOPMENT ROSSCORNOCK PITCH - FOOTPATH - WALKING AREA / FOOTBALL PARK. - LINK WITH TECONNAUGHT GFC. - GREENWAY LINK.
- 3.

~~TECONNAUGHT~~ Co DOWN

Teconnaught





Holy Cross Church | credit : Catherine McCallum

05 | Site Analysis



Strengths

- Community Spirit - *integrated working, collaboration and engagement*
- Strategic location - *situated between Ballynahinch and Downpatrick*
- Setting - *unique and picturesque landscape with distinctive rural views*
- Sporting Provision- *contain an adequate supply of sporting amenities*
- Landmark - *the Church provides a key landmark and enables orientation as a focal point*
- Historical Railway - *historical disused railway line connecting Annacloy with Crossgar and Downpatrick*
- Form - *expresses a linear form with distinctive nodes and gateway sites*
- LLPA - *the River Quoile passes through the village and protected via a local landscape policy area*



Weaknesses

- Lighting - *lack of continuous lighting reduces safety level*
- Safety - *Poor sense of visual surveillance due to village layout hinders safety*
- Inadequate Bus Shelters - *dated shelters impact the visual quality of the village*
- Traffic - *main arterial road creates a heavy traffic flow and speeding*
- Road Crossings - *lack of safe road crossings throughout the village*
- Surfacing - *tired paving and pedestrian friendly infrastructure*
- Speeding - *concerns over pedestrian safety due to speeding and traffic flow*
- Accessibility - *lack of off road scenic walking trails*
- Seating - *lack of seating provision throughout the village hinders pedestrian walkability.*
- Play Provision - *No play park facilities*



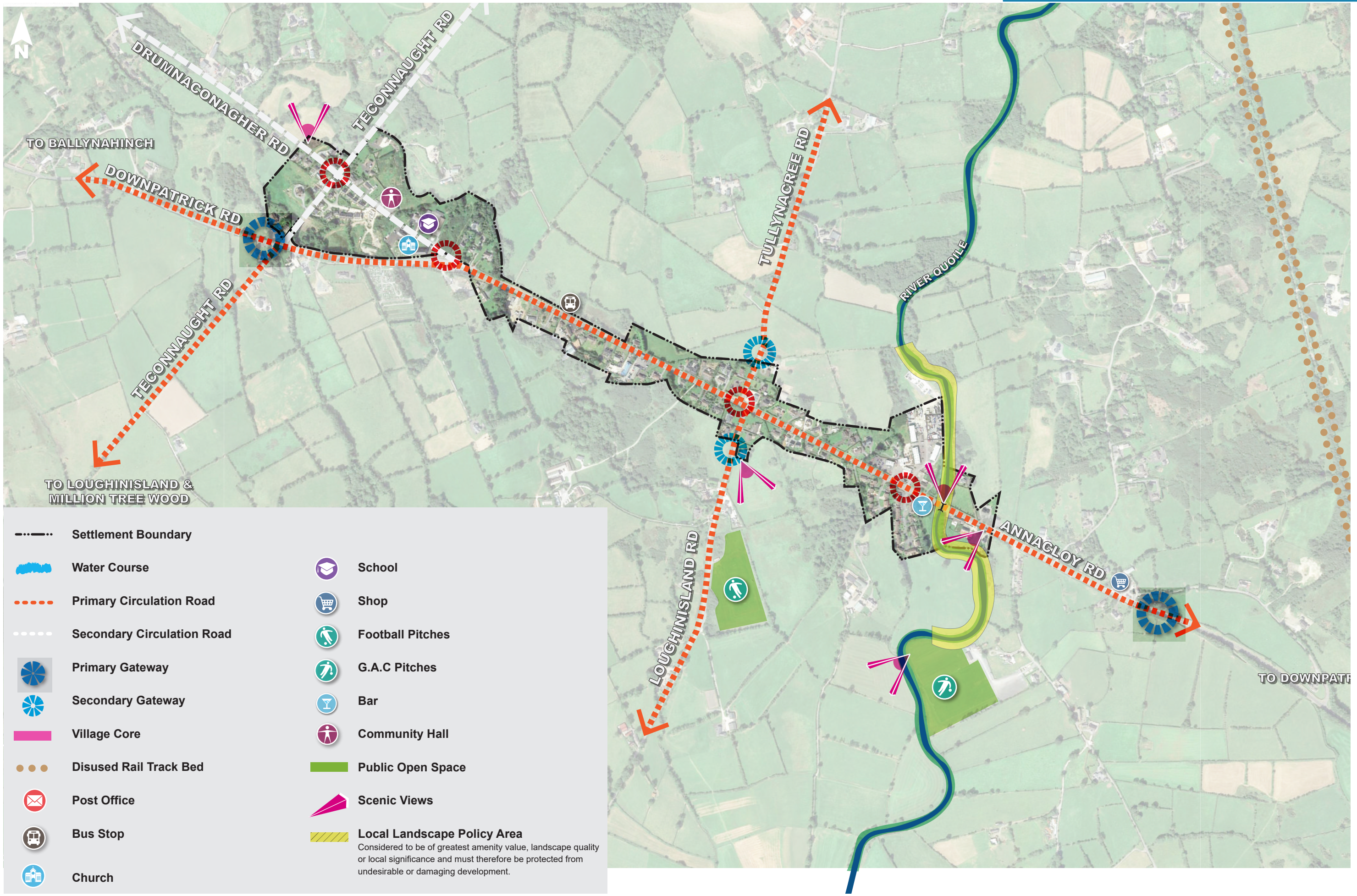
Opportunities

- E.I. Scheme - *improvements to the public realm throughout the village including planting and seating*
- Walkable Infrastructure - *improvements to the condition of paving, footpaths and crossing points*
- Church Realm - *revitalisation of space around the exterior of the church grounds*
- Gateway Improvements - *new signage to create a village presence and a sense of place*
- Improved Signage - *improve the quality, safety and connectivity for local residents and visitors*
- Traffic Calming - *traffic calming measures throughout the village*
- Walking Routes - *off road walking routes linking up key resources to the village core*
- Historical Railway Potential - *explore the railway potential as a community greenway with safe connections.*
- River Accessibility - *pedestrian walkway along the river and to the GAA club*
- Community Centre - *potential for creating a community hub for both villages to utilise*
- Play Provision - *create a quality play park for use by residents, wider catchment and visitors*



Threats

- Potential lack in funding - *sourcing to support and maintain the projects*
- Development - *ensuring development is sensitive to the character of the village*



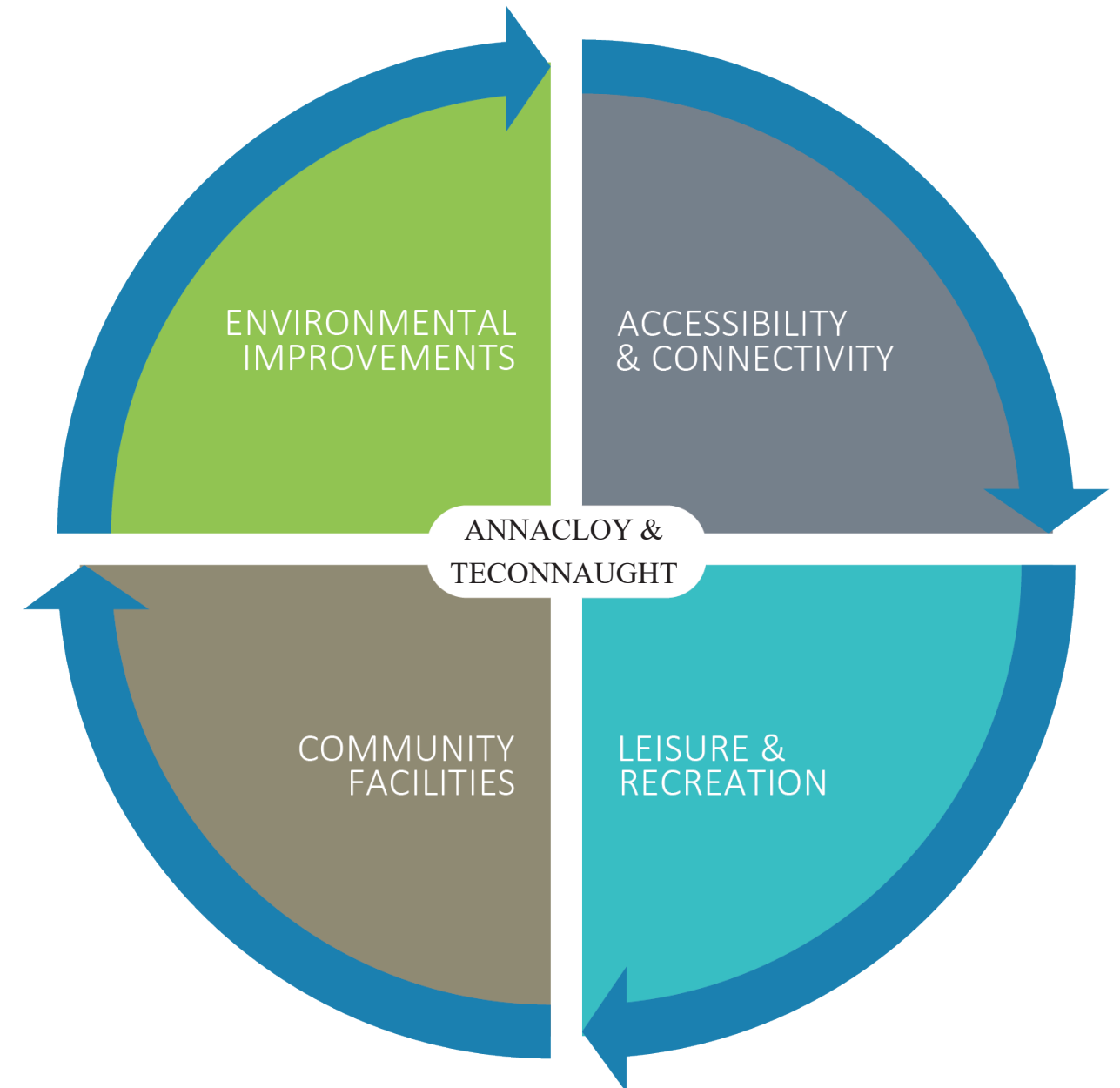
- Settlement Boundary
- Water Course
- Primary Circulation Road
- Secondary Circulation Road
- Primary Gateway
- Secondary Gateway
- Village Core
- Disused Rail Track Bed
- Post Office
- Bus Stop
- Church
- School
- Shop
- Football Pitches
- G.A.C Pitches
- Bar
- Community Hall
- Public Open Space
- Scenic Views
- Local Landscape Policy Area
Considered to be of greatest amenity value, landscape quality or local significance and must therefore be protected from undesirable or damaging development.

06 Opportunities

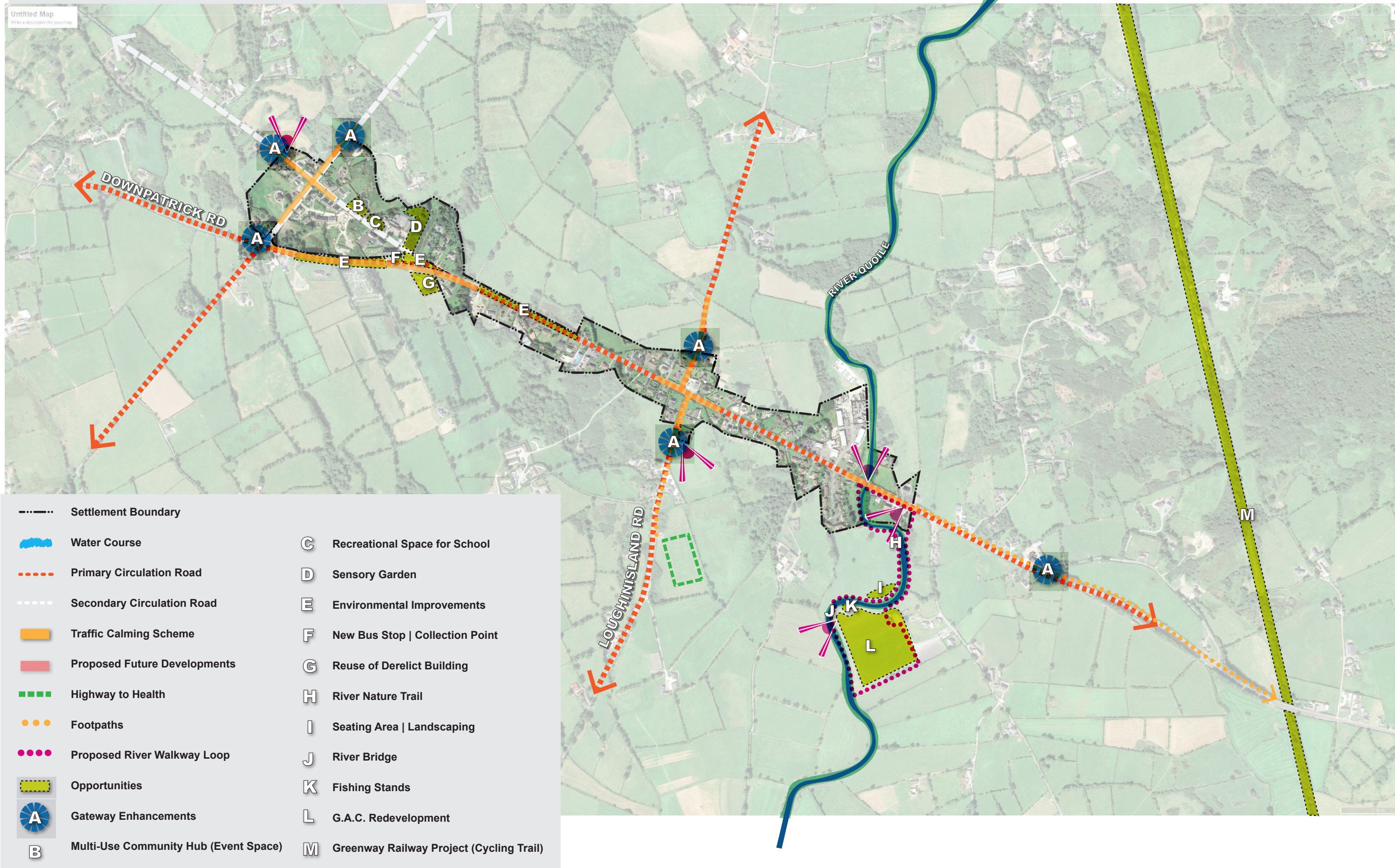
Following consultation with the community of Annacloy and Teconnaught, various projects have been identified that could contribute to the social and physical renewal of Annacloy and Teconnaught. The projects outlined in this draft plan are aspirations which are achievable with the relevant support. Constraints will face all the projects identified such as land ownership, funding and the requirement for statutory consents. However, such constraints can be addressed and overcome through dedicated and ongoing work by the community and other key stakeholders.

The opportunities presented in this plan range from enhancement to gateways, to an improved village centre and the potential to reconnect the Village. The following illustrated opportunities are identified by the community as priority projects. Each project has the opportunity to bring environmental improvements, enhanced accessibility and connectivity, leisure and recreation provision and/or improved community facilities to the village and the community. Additional project opportunities are detailed in the action plan towards the end of the plan.

Please note that all illustrations within this plan are conceptual. Any improvements to Annacloy and Teconnaught will require the development of detailed designs through consultation with local businesses and residents.



ANNACLOY & TECCONAUGHT OPPORTUNITIES



06 Opportunities

A | GATEWAY ENHANCEMENTS

This project will visually improve the arrival into the village whilst raising awareness to drivers that they are entering a built-up area. The village comprises four key entry points located at the Downpatrick and Annacloy Roads with minor gateways at the Molly Road.

These gateway sites are tired and in need of attention. By improving the standard and quality of wayfinding and welcome signage alongside improved landscaping, planting and boundary treatment the village gateway has the potential to be visually attractive whilst calming traffic upon entry.

In order to successfully implement this project, further work is needed to establish the exact location and design of the gateway features. This should be combined effort between the community and statutory bodies. Identifying an appropriate funding source is important so that the scale and design can be matched accordingly. The Department for Infrastructure will be an important consultee in relation to the siting of the gateway features beside the public highway.



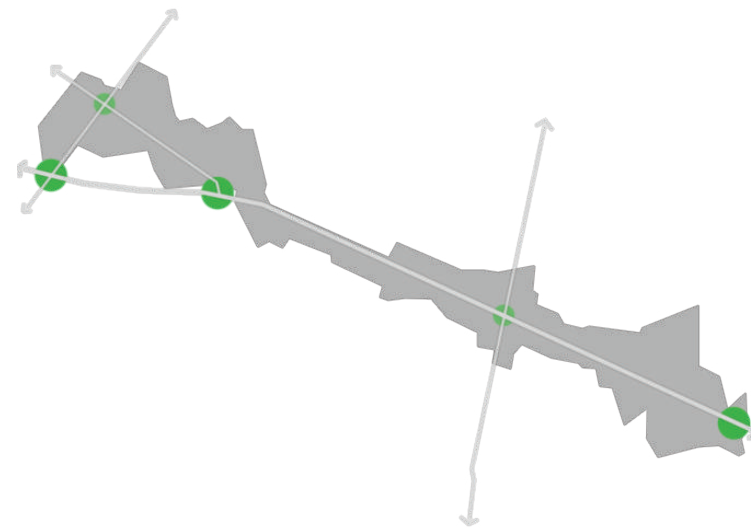
Downpatrick Road Gateway



Improved Environmental Quality



Landmark Gateway Signage



ENHANCING THE GATEWAY

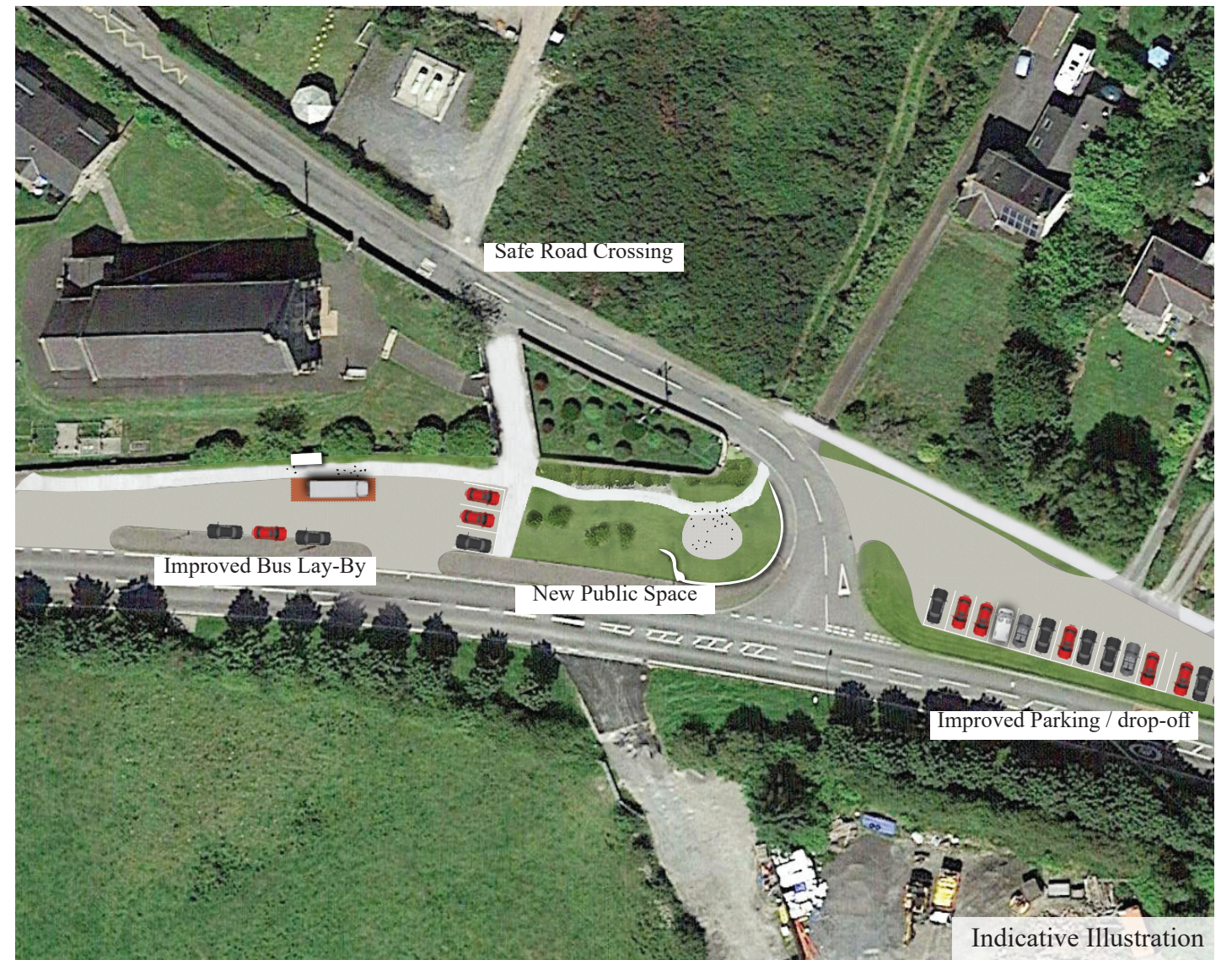
The quality of the physical environment has the ability to express the character of the village. A project which aims to enhance the physical landscape to revitalise the unique and picturesque setting of the village.

B | ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AT VILLAGE GREEN

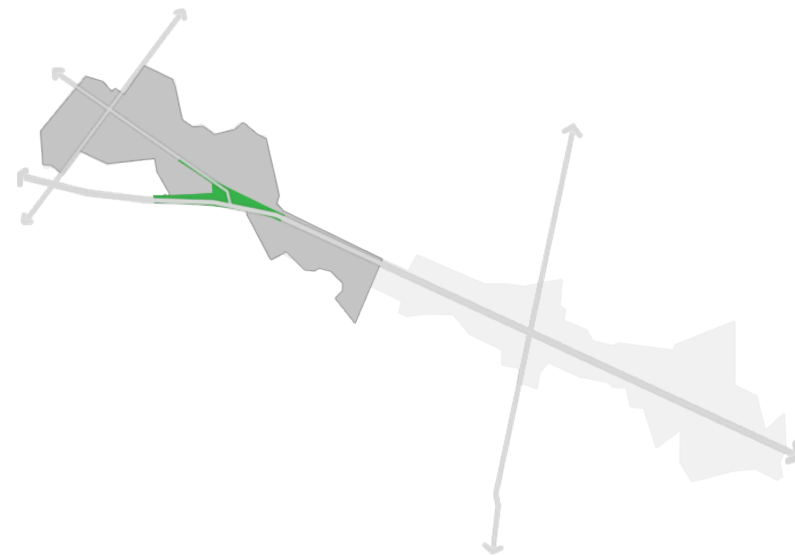
The village expresses a highly passionate, engaging and close-knit community enriched in local culture, history and heritage, although the physical landscape and built fabric is in need of attention in order to visually uplift the character of the village.

The village green space fronting the Holy Family Church plays a key role in expressing pride within the community. The village green space located at the junction of Drumnaconagher and Annacloy Road would greatly benefit from high quality landscaping, vibrant floral planting and enhanced boundary treatment alongside a possible sculpture to create an animated village space. Additionally, improvements to public realm such as the installation of seating and improved road crossing and bus pick-up provision would help create a more inclusive village core.

In order to successfully implement this project, further consultation with the community and key stakeholders would need to be undertaken. The feasibility of the project should then be explored further including indicative costs. Detailed design would need to be undertaken and statutory approvals / funding would need to be secured.



Indicative Illustration



PHYSICAL IMPROVEMENTS

High quality environmental improvements play an important role in creating a focal point in a village. Both pedestrians and road users are provided with a sense of arrival by the effective use of lighting.



Green / Public Space



Improved Bus Lay-By

C | TRAFFIC CALMING

This project aims to safeguard and protect levels of pedestrian safety throughout the village by improving access and connectivity through safer road crossings and traffic calming measures. A major concern for many rural settlements similar to Annacloy and Teconnaught is the intensity of traffic and speeding. The central and linear core of Annacloy and Teconnaught acts as a key focal point for the village, although due to the road network, traffic flow dominates this space.

Traffic calming and improved pedestrian crossing points are needed. The environmental improvement scheme and gateways outlined previously will help with traffic calming. Building on this, safer road crossing initiatives such as a Puffin Crossing at the village core and pelican crossing at the village primary school will create a much safer environment.

To progress this project, ongoing consultation with the Department for Infrastructure will be needed to raise awareness and seek support to address the issue.



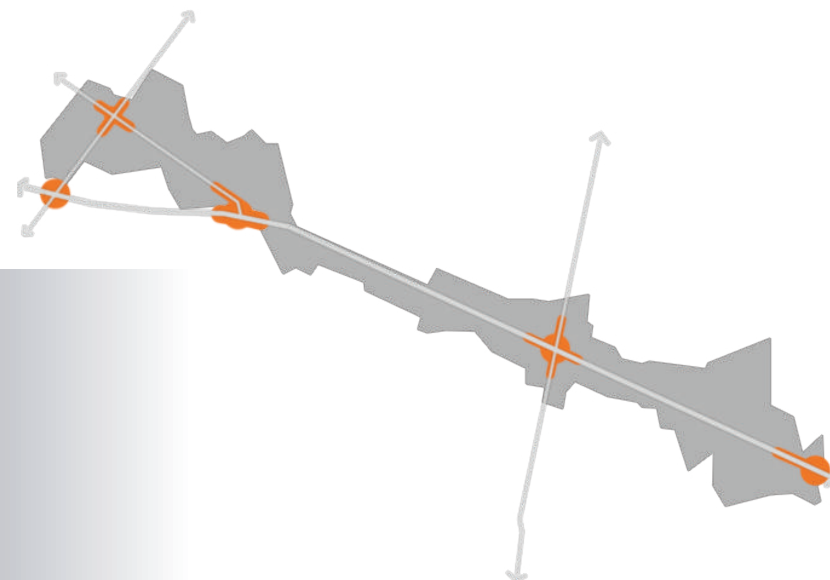
Improved Speed Limit Signage



Improved Traffic Calming



Safer Road Crossing



ENHANCING ACCESSIBILITY & CONNECTIVITY

Safety and connectivity are crucially important for community mobility, therefore a project which strengthens the key linkages within the village will improve levels of community safety



Traffic Calming Measure

D | G.A.C REDEVELOPMENT, RIVER WALK & HIGHWAY TO HEALTH

A project to increase the provision for sporting, leisure, social and recreational facilities within the village ranging from an improved sports pavilion to a new community HUB with further aspirations to link the project to the Rossc Connor playing fields via a pedestrian footbridge over the Annacloy River. Building on this, the GAA are in partnership with the local school to secure long term lease from NMDDC for the Rossc Connor playing fields for extended community use. The project will target the immediate and wider community population of the village by increasing the quality and standard of community and sporting facilities within Annacloy and Teconnaught. The village comprises an active, passionate and vibrant population, therefore it is important to facilitate their needs and requirements.

The redevelopment of facilities within Teconnaught G.A.C will cater for social, leisure and cross community facilities within the village to create a dynamic, functional and vibrant space for the people of Annacloy and Teconnaught. Additionally, the project will deliver a high quality linkage between the village core and GAC through the creation of the Quiole River Walk with further connections to link the Highway to Health around the existing soccer field within the settlement.

In order to successfully implement this project, further consultation with the community and key stakeholders would need to be undertaken. The feasibility of the project should



Teconnaught G.A.C



River Walk & Highway to Health



Teconnaught G.A.C



Improved Sports Pavilion



CREATING RECREATIONAL SPACES

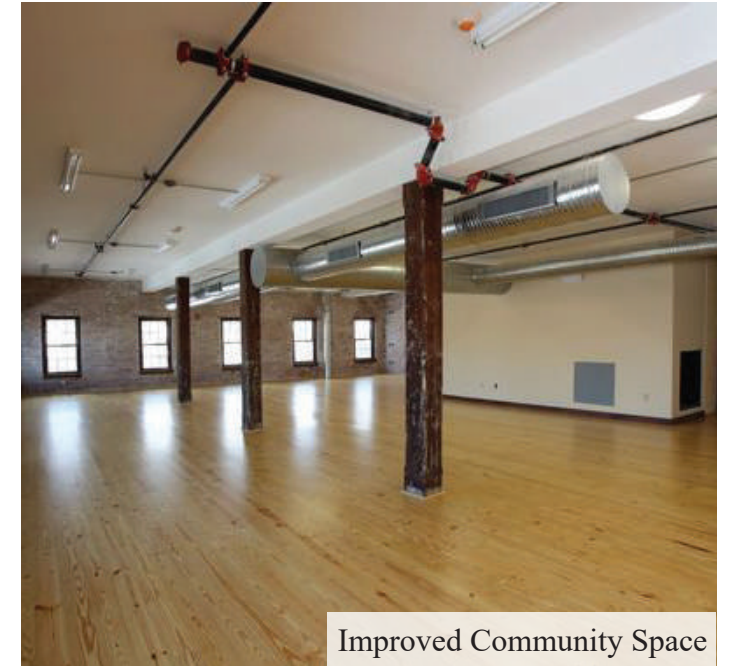
Enhancing recreational space within the village to provide all residents and visitors with the opportunity to benefit from quality open space.

E | COMMUNITY CENTRE

A project to enhance the community facilities within the village by enhancing the existing community centre within Annacloy and Teconnaught. Currently, the community centre fronting the Drumnaconagher Road, is in urgent need of enhancement and refurbishment to mirror the activity and level of use within the centre.

The reuse and refurbishment of the existing community centre would not only reinvigorate the building itself but breathe life into the surrounding area and community. The project will include the creation of a flexible, shared and dynamic space on the existing car park site to cater for community events whilst still retaining the use as a car park when no events are taking place. Additionally, the community centre will benefit through high quality facade treatment alongside enhanced floral planting and boundary treatment.

In order to successfully implement this project, further consultation with the community and key stakeholders would need to be undertaken. The feasibility of the project should then be explored further including indicative costs. Detailed design would need to be undertaken and statutory approvals / funding would need to be secured.



PROVIDING QUALITY SPACE

An initiative which aims to enhance, improve and benefit the community by providing a project to harnesses the vibrancy and activity of the village.

07 | IMPLEMENTATION

This plan is designed to improve the social and economic fabric of the area. The Village Renewal Plan provides an indication of the key tasks which need to be undertaken to progress specific projects. This often includes detailed scheme design, preparation of the business case and funding application, and in some cases further feasibility and analysis.

The source of funding will often dictate the order in which tasks need to be undertaken, for example the Rural Development Programme expects all statutory consents to be place before the funding application is submitted. There are potential sources of funding available for the projects and initiatives set out within this Village Renewal Plan. It is important to note that reference to potential funding is a guidance only. Other funding opportunities may become available during the lifetime of this plan, and all projects will be subject to appropriate eligibility checks, application and assessment procedures as set by each funding body.

The draft Acton Plan (Secton 08) provides an indication of the priority level of each project based on discussions with key stakeholders during plan preparation. Alongside this, a lead delivery agent and key stakeholders have also been noted. There may also be other interested groups who should be engaged during project implementation or those whose agreement must be sought, such as a private landowners or statutory bodies. It is also important to recognise that priorities may change as funding opportunities become available.



08 | ACTION PLAN

	Regeneration Initiative	Priority Level H- High M-Medium L- Low	Timeframe for Delivery Short (0-3 years) Medium (3-9 years) Long (9+ years)	Stakeholders	Potential Funding Source
A	Gateway Enhancements	H	S	TNI, Dfl, NMDDC, Com	NMDDC, DfC, BIG, RDP
B	Multi-Use Community HUB (Event Space)	M	S-M	Priv, Com, NMDDC	DfC, BIG, HLF, Fundraising, RDP
C	Recreational Space for School	M	S-M	Priv, Com, NMDDC	Fundraising, NMDDC, BIG, HLF, RDP
D	Sensory Garden	M	S	Priv, Com, NMDDC	BIG, HLF, NMDDC, RDP, DfC
E	Environmental Improvements	H	S	DfC, NMDDC, Com, TNI, Dfl	RDP, BIG, HLF, DfC, NMDDC
F	New Bus Stop / Collection Point	H	S	TNI, Dfl, NMDDC, Com	TNI, Dfl, NMDDC, RDP, BIG
G	Reuse of Derelict Buildings	M	S-M	Priv, NMDDC, Com	RDP, BIG, HLF, NMDDC
H	River Nature Trail	L	M	NMDDC, NIEA, Com	RDP, BIG
I	Seating Area / Landscaping	M	S	NMDDC, Com	RDP, BIG, HLF, NMDDC
J	River Bridge	L	M-L	NIEA, NMDDC, Com	Dfl, NMDDC, RDP, BIG
K	Fishing Stands	M	S	NMDDC, Com	Fundraising, RDP, BIG, NMDDC
L	G.A.C Redevelopment	H	S-M-L	GAC, Com, NMDDC	RDP, SNI, BIG, HLF, NMDDC
M	Greenway Railway Project (Cycling Trail)	L	S-M-L	Dfl, NMDDC, Com	Dfl
N	Identify suitable site for community-led play park facilities	M	S	Priv, Com, GAC	-

Com	Community Groups
Dfl	Department for Infrastructure
DAERA	Department for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
NMDDC	Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
NIHE	Northern Ireland Housing Executive
RDP	Rural Development Programme
BIG	BIG Lottery Funding
HLF	Heritage Lottery Funding
AC	Arts Council
Priv	Private Landowners
TNI	Transport NI
CDRCN	Co. Down Rural Community Network
PSNI	Police Service Northern Ireland
SNI	Sport NI
NIW	Northern Ireland Water
NIEA	Northern Ireland Environment Agency
HLF	Heritage Lottery Funding

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This report takes into account the particular instructions and requirements of our client.

It is not intended for and should not be relied upon by any third party and no responsibility is undertaken to any third party.

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