

Appendix A

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

Policy on celebratory bonfires and beacons

1. Title

The policy acknowledges celebratory bonfires and beacons as an important aspect of community celebration and tradition.

2. Statement

Council approves this policy and any associated implementation as a commitment to work with communities, agencies and individuals to address potential environmental and social impact of celebratory bonfires and beacons.

3. Aim

The aim of this policy is to build on the Council's civic leadership role and give appropriate consideration and recognition to celebratory bonfires and beacons as an important aspect of community celebration and tradition within the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area.

4. Scope

- 4.1 The policy applies to bonfires and beacons associated with community celebrations and traditions.
- 4.2 The policy excludes bonfires associated with domestic activities such as those related to gardening or building sites.
- 4.3 While this is a corporate policy, implementation of the policy will be primarily delivered through two directorates, namely Active and Healthy Communities and Regulatory and Technical Services.
- 4.4 The scope of the policy will extend to providing advice, training, codes of practice, mediation, identification of appropriate bonfire / beacon sites, relevant promotion of diversionary activities, and enforcement where necessary.

5. Related Policies

There are a number of legislative controls existing under Waste Management, Roads, Clean Air and Public Health legislation which apply directly to bonfires including:

- Clean Air (NI) Order 1981
- The Litter Order (NI) 1994
- The Waste and Contaminated Land (NI) Order 1997
- Road (NI) Order 1993

6. Policy Owner(s)

Director of Active and Healthy Communities
Director of Regulatory and Technical Services
Liam Hannaway, Chief Executive

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7. Contact details in regard of this policy are:

Director of Active and Healthy Communities
Director of Regulatory and Technical Services

8. Policy Authorisation

Committee / Council considered on 22nd June 2015

Committee / Council authorised on 7th August 2015

9. Policy Effective Date 7th August 2015

10. Policy Review Date

The policy will be reviewed in line with the Council's agreed policy review cycle i.e. every 4 years (as per Council's Equality Scheme commitment 4.31).

11. Implementation

The associated implementation will be guided as per the scope of the policy outlined in section 4, taking specific cognisance of section 4.4.

12. Equality Impact Assessment

The policy has been equality screened and it is recommended it not be subject to an equality impact assessment.