

May 7th, 2024

Notice Of Meeting

You are requested to attend the Economy, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting to be held on **Monday, 13th May 2024** at **6:00 pm** in **Boardroom Council Offices Monaghan Row Newry.**

Committee Membership 2023 - 2024

Councillor M Ruane **Chairperson**

Councillor G Kearns **Deputy Chairperson**

Councillor T Andrews

Councillor C Bowsie

Councillor P Campbell

Councillor W Clarke

Councillor K Feehan

Councillor C Galbraith

Councillor G Hanna

Councillor C King

Councillor A McMurray

Councillor S Murphy

Councillor A Quinn

Councillor J Tinnelly

Councillor J Truesdale

Agenda

1.0 Apologies and Chairperson's remarks

2.0 Declarations of Interest

3.0 Action Sheet: Economy, Regeneration and Tourism

For Information

📎 *ERT Action Sheet - 15 April 2024.pdf*

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Presentations

4.0 Presentation from Co-Ownership

For Information

In attendance - Mark Graham

Presentation to follow

Notices of Motion

5.0 Cross Border Teaching Registration

📎 *Notice of Motion Cross Border Teaching Registration.pdf*

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Economy Growth & Tourism

6.0 Dublin-Belfast Economic Corridor (DBEC)

For Decision

📎 *Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor.pdf*

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7.0 Financial Assistance Call 1 - Good Relations

For Information

📎 *Financial Assistance Call 1 - Good Relations.pdf*

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📎 *Financial Assistance Call 1 - Good Relations Appendix 1.pdf*

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Items deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014

8.0 AONB AND Geopark - SLA's

For Decision

This item is deemed to be exempt under 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.

📄 *AONB and Geopark SLAs.pdf*

Not included

9.0 Labour Market Partnership (LMP) review of 2023/2024 Action Plan

For Information

This item is deemed to be exempt under 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.

📄 *Labour Market Partnership Review of 2023-2024 Action Plan.pdf*

Not included

Invitees

- Cllr Terry Andrews
- Cllr Callum Bowsie
- Fionnuala Branagh
- Cllr Jim Brennan
- Cllr Pete Byrne
- Mr Gerard Byrne
- Cllr Philip Campbell
- Mr Andrew Cassells
- Cllr William Clarke
- Cllr Laura Devlin
- Ms Louise Dillon
- Cllr Cadogan Enright
- Cllr Killian Feehan
- Cllr Doire Finn
- Cllr Aoife Finnegan
- Cllr Conor Galbraith
- Cllr Mark Gibbons
- Cllr Oonagh Hanlon
- Cllr Glyn Hanna
- Cllr Valerie Harte
- Cllr Roisin Howell
- Cllr Tierna Howie
- Cllr Jonathan Jackson
- Cllr Geraldine Kearns
- Miss Veronica Keegan
- Mrs Josephine Kelly
- Cllr Cathal King
- Cllr Mickey Larkin
- Cllr David Lee-Surginor
- Cllr Alan Lewis
- Cllr Oonagh Magennis
- Mr Conor Mallon
- Cllr Aidan Mathers
- Cllr Declan McAteer
- Cllr Leeanne McEvoy
- Ms Tracie McLoughlin
- Cllr Andrew McMurray
- Maureen/Joanne Morgan/Johnston
- Cllr Declan Murphy
- Cllr Kate Murphy
- Cllr Selina Murphy
- Cllr Siobhan O'Hare

Mr Andy Patterson
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Cllr Áine Quinn
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Cllr Henry Reilly
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Cllr Michael Rice
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Cllr Michael Ruane
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Cllr Gareth Sharvin
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Donna Starkey
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Sarah Taggart
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Cllr David Taylor
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Cllr Jarlath Tinnelly
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Cllr Jill Truesdale
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Mrs Marie Ward
.....

ACTION SHEETECONOMY, REGENERATION & TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETINGMONDAY 11 MARCH 2024

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
ERT/025/2024	PEACE PLUS Theme 1.1	<p>It was agreed that the Committee accept the recommendations of the Peace Partnership to proceed with the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Theme 1 – to include 11 projects and 6 reserve projects in the Local Authority Co-designed PEACEPLUS resubmission. - Theme 2 – to include the 14 projects and 3 reserve projects in the Local Authority Co-designed PEACEPLUS resubmission. - Resubmission of the Co-design Local Authority Action Plan to SEUPB. 	S Burns	Action plan submitted to SEUPB.	Y
ERT/027/2024	Artist in Residence and Arts Bursary Schemes 2024-2025	<p>It was agreed to approve the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To appoint an Artist in Residence and establish an SLA as detailed in the Officer's Report for the delivery of an Artist in Residence. - To continue to award the Artist Bursaries and Individual Artist Grants through a selection process for 2024/2025 	M Boyle	Work in progress	N

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		It was also agreed that Officers would review the hours of opening within Down Arts Centre to potentially include Saturday opening hours.	M Boyle	Work in progress	N
ERT/030/2024	Tourism Events Programme	<p>The following was agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To approve the Annual Tourism Events Program as detailed in Appendix 1 - To approve the undertaking of the necessary procurements and appointment of suppliers for the delivery of major festivals in the Annual Tourism Events Programme. - To approve to issue 4 Letters of Offer to names groups as detailed in the Officer's Report. - To undertake a review of Event Programme options for 2025/2026 Financial Year. 	M Boyle	Work in progress	N
ERT/032/2024	Down GAA Support for Peace Plus Application	<p>The following was agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Officers continue to consider options for the future of the hut structure in advance of March 2025 and report back to Members. - That the contents of the Ballykinlar hut will be retained by the Council for use in future exhibitions at suitable locations. 	C Mallon	Work in progress	N

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council notes the application for the Down County Board Multi-Sports Hub at the Ballykinlar site through Financial Assistance. - Unfortunately, Council are not in a position to support Down County Board's Centre of Participation, Wellbeing and Shared Learning Hub as their application to Peace Plus is in direct competition with Council's Wellbeing Hub in Warrenpoint. 			
END					

ACTION SHEET

ECONOMY, REGENERATION & TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY 15 APRIL 2024

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
ERT/035/2024	Action sheet Economy, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting Monday 15 April 2024	It was agreed to note the action sheet.	C Mallon	Noted	Y

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
ERT/036/2024	Notice Of Motion C/059/2024 – Democratic Improvements in Council Financial Assistance Programme	<p>the following was agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to note the content of the report. that members agree that Council have implemented a consistent Financial Assistance process since Council adopted the policy at AHC on 21 March 2019 and Full Council on 1 April 2019. Members agree that further capacity building is undertaken to work with groups in areas where applications are low in number. that the policy and procedure of the financial assistance is reviewed, and a paper brought back to committee 	C Mallon	Work in progress	N
ERT/037/2024	Small Settlements Scheme	<p>the following was agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to accept the DFC/DFI/DEARA Letter of Offer Extension until the 30 June 2024 (4 EI Schemes) and 30 September 2024 (7 Revitalisation Schemes). that subject to confirmation of funding availability, proceed with elements of Rostrevor EI Scheme Phase 2. 	J McGilly	Work in progress	Y
ERT/038/2024	Tourism Accommodation Grant Fund	it was agreed to proceed with the Financial Assistance capital grant programme as outlined in section 2.1.	M Boyle	Work in progress	N
ERT/039/2024	Financial Assistance Call 1	<p>the following was agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to approve the attached appendices for revenue projects and issue letter of 	C Mallon	Actioned	Y

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		<p>offers post Council ratification and Call in.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-letter of offer conditions met prior to issue of full letter of offer issued and where this is not satisfied budget to be re-allocated. 			
ERT/040/2024	Tourism Strategy 2024-2029	it was agreed to note the consultation analyses recommendations in Appendix 1 and to Approve the Tourism Strategy 2024 – 2029 as Appendix 2.	M Boyle	Actioned	Y
ERT/041/2024	Signage Tender 2024	it was agreed to consider the contents of the report and approve the business case proposal (Appendix 1) to tender for street nameplates.	J McGilly	Work in Progress	
ERT/042/2024	Tourism Events Procurement	it was agreed to note the contents of the report.	M Boyle	Actioned	Y
ERT/043/2024	Building Control 6 Monthly Report	it was agreed to note the Building Control 6 Monthly Report 01 September – 29 February 2024.	C Mallon	Noted	Y
ERT/044/2024	Carlingford Lough Greenway Update	it was agreed to note the letter of offer now received from the shared Islands Fund totalling €1.5 million and to note the update on completed scheme procurement and current programme.	J McGilly	Noted	Y
ERT/045/2024	Licensing 6 Monthly Report	it was agreed to note the Licensing 6 Monthly Report dated 01 September 2023 – 31 March 2024.	C Mallon	Noted	Y
END					

Report to:	Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Date of Meeting:	13 th May 2024
Subject:	Notice of Motion C/082/2024 Cross Border Teaching Registration
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Aveen McVeigh Head of Regeneration and Business Development
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Aveen McVeigh Head of Regeneration and Business Development

Confirm how this Report should be treated by placing an x in either:-

For decision	x	For noting only	
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1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	<p><u>Purpose</u> To approve recommendations set out in section 3.1 of this report.</p> <p><u>Background</u> A Notice of Motion C/082/2024 Cross Border Teaching Registration - Councillor Feehan: "Newry, Mourne and Down District Council recognises the challenges faced by teaching graduates in securing permanent teachings posts in Northern Ireland, further recognises the obstacles faced by Northern teachers seeking to secure registration and employment in the Republic and commits to pursuing the submission of a bid to the Shared Island Unit, in conjunction with Louth and Monaghan County Councils, for a review of cross-border teaching registration and employment practises."</p>
2.0	Key issues
2.1	<p>Through the development and implementation of Action Plans for the Newry, Mourne and Down Labour Market Partnership (NMD LMP, Council has made significant progress in improving the employability outcomes and labour market conditions of Newry, Mourne and Down residents.</p> <p>Council completed a review of the strategic aims of the district's workforce (2024-2027) under Labour Market Partnership in February 2024 in preparation for the 24/25 LMP Action Plan. The aim of the Labour Market Partnership is to deliver initiatives that assist those identified as unemployed, underemployed, or economically inactive to move into employment or closer to the labour market.</p>
3.0	Recommendations

3.1	Council will engage through the LMP to review and identify opportunities for synergies between key stakeholders, including the Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor in respect of cross-border teaching registration and employment practices.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	Within 2024/25 resources.
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>
5.3	<p><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i> NA</p>
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)

6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	Appendices
	N/A
8.0	Background Documents
	N/A

Report to:	Economy Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Date of Meeting:	13 th May 2024
Subject:	Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor Partnership: Update
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Conor Mallon Director
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Amanda Smyth Programme Manager - DBEC

For decision	X	For noting only	
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1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	<p><u>Purpose</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To note the update provided against the Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor Partnership <p><u>Background</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor (DBEC) Partnership is a local Government network formed by eight Councils and two universities located along the Dublin – Belfast Economic Corridor. The DBEC Strategy and Action Plan outlines the vision of Partnership as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> “DBEC to be a leading economic corridor in Europe, achieving sustainable growth through collaborative R&D, a highly skilled workforce and enabling infrastructure”. Newry, Mourne and Down District Council are the current lead Council on behalf of the DBEC partnership and will progress actions as agreed through the DBEC Government structure. A Governance structure is in place and operational as defined in the Partnerships Collaboration Agreement. Below sets out a brief overview against key activities bring progressed under the below themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable and Innovation led growth Skills Development Engagement and brand development
2.0	Key issues
2.1	<p><u>Sustainable and Innovation led Growth</u></p> <p>DBEC are progressing 3 project concepts under this area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transformation Innovation Support Networks Sustainable Solutions for attaining a circular economy Cluster Development: Offshore wind supply chain <p><u>Transformation Innovation Support Networks</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This project seeks to progress recommendations outlined in a study that assessed the feasibility for a network on transformative innovation hubs along the Dublin to Belfast Economic Corridor An outline business case (OBC) will examine the best way forward for an innovation support programme, to be established along the economic corridor,

	<p>promoting transformational innovation in businesses through the existing innovation hub network.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The OBC will also examine the best way forward to deliver on the Feasibility Study findings that DBEC should seek to establish four specialised innovation hubs to meet the need for specialised physical space and equipment to support the opportunity for transformational innovation and growth identified through the study • A funding Concept proposal to progress this initiative has been made to Enterprise Ireland, Smart Regional Innovation Enterprise Scheme <p><u>Sustainable Solutions for attaining a circular economy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This project seeks to progress recommendations outlined in a study that assessed the feasibility for a network of circular economy hubs in Dublin, Belfast and along the corridor between the two capital cities. • An outline business case (OBC) will examine the best way forward to shape what a joint-up cross border connected circular economy may look like, that will progress opportunities to drive innovation in the circular flow of waste, along the corridor • The OBC will seek to shape the development of Connected Circular Economy Hubs, as the catalyst to enabling the transition of DBEC to a circular economy at the pace and scale required • It is intended that this project will be included in a funding bid to SEUPB Peace Plus, theme 6.1 <p><u>Cluster Development: Offshore wind supply chain</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This project seeks to explore the opportunity for formation of a joint approach to developing an offshore wind supply chain operating between Dublin and Belfast/Larne, serving developments along the eastern shoreline • A feasibility study will consider the most feasible option(s) to add value, including building upon work underway via existing networks/ clusters and related regional and national strategies/policies • A funding application to progress this initiative has been made to IntertradeIreland Synergy Fund <p><u>Funding Opportunities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A range of funding opportunities are currently being explored. Over the coming months the Partnership will progress opportunities for development of actions aligned to funding opportunities that can assist the delivery of the DBEC Action Plan
2.2	<p><u>Skills Development</u></p> <p>DBEC are progressing 2 project concepts under this area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross Border skills programme • Skills Research Audit <p><u>Cross Border Skills Programme</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The primary focus of this programme will be on providing upskilling, reskilling, and new skill opportunities to meet the labour requirement of the region, against the following pathways: advanced manufacturing, engineering, green skills/construction and digital

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The lead on the bid is Southern Regional College, supported by a working group of key partners • A funding application is underway, to be submitted to SEUPB Peace Plus Theme 2.3 in early May 2024 <p><u>Skills Research Audit</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The supply of skills and labour is a key challenge for businesses operating along the Dublin to Belfast Corridor. • Ulster University and Dublin City University have undertaken a piece of work which will draw recommendations and insights relevant to DBEC, identifying where gaps exist for intelligence and potential for DBEC to have a corridor-wide future remit. • An executive summary of this research is available upon request
<p>2.3</p>	<p><u>Engagement and Brand development</u> DBEC are progressing 4 project concepts under this area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Event – Elevating FinTech • Event – DBEC Ambition • Brand Development • Engagement <p><u>Elevating Fintech: The Fintech Corridor Exchange event</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The FinTech Corridor are hosting an international exchange visit with the American Transaction Processors Coalition (ATPC). The purpose of the event is around building connectivity, driving transatlantic workforce development • DBEC Partnership, as part of this visit will host the delegation for a ½ day event – focused on building awareness of the DBEC investment proposition • The event is scheduled to take place on 15th May 2025 <p><u>DBEC Ambition: A world leading economic corridor - Event</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This event will seek to elevate DBEC, creating greater understanding of the importance of the corridor, showcasing the ambition and opportunity to be an economic driver for the Island, and enabling a platform to hear from strategic stakeholders, and private sector businesses on what the shape and outcomes of the DBEC should be • The event content, speakers and agenda are currently being drafted; it is anticipated that the event will be take place late September / early October 2024 <p><u>Brand Development,</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DBEC Partnership are working with a comms partner on an evolution of the DBEC brand, including development of a brand pack and key messaging document • A DBEC Investment proposition will also be compiled, to communicate the investment strengths and opportunities available across the corridor, and to start to build international connections and engagements. <p><u>Engagement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DBEC Officers and Directors are rolling out an engagement process with key stakeholders across the corridor; this process will continue over the coming months, to build engagement, awareness of the Partnership, and to establish strong networks that will support delivery against the DBEC ambition.
<p>3.0</p>	<p>Recommendations</p>
<p>3.1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To note the update provided against the Dublin Belfast economic Corridor Partnership

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To approve that Council, as the administrative lead for the DBEC Partnership progress two procurement processes as detailed below. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Feasibility Study for Cluster Development: Offshore wind supply chain (subject to funding approval) ○ External consultancy support for development of bid to Peace Plus theme 6.1: Strategic Planning and Engagement
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	All associated costs available within DBEC Budget - therefore no additional cost to Council
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>
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6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)
6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	Appendices
	1. Action Sheet – Political Advisory group meeting – March 2024
8.0	Background Documents
	N/a



Appendix 1

Action Sheet & Record of Meeting

DBEC Political Advisory Group (PAG), Thursday 28 March 2024, 10:30am, Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council offices, The Chamber, The Palace Demesne, Armagh, BT60 4EL

In Attendance

- Cllr Ronan McLaughlin, Belfast City Council
- Cllr Kevin Savage, Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon District Council
- Cllr Pete Byrne, Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
- Mayor Adrian Henchy, Fingal County Council
- Cllr Bernie Conlon, Louth County Council
- Cllr Sean Kelly, Louth County Council

Officers:

- Marie Ward, CEO, Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
- Joan Martin, CEO, Louth County Council
- Roger Wilson, CEO, Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council
- David Burns, CEO, Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council
- Martin Murray, Deputy CEO, Meath County Council
- Caroline Leonard, Interim Director, Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council
- John Quinlivan, Director of Economic, Enterprise, Tourism & Cultural Development, Fingal County Council.
- Thomas McEvoy, Director of Service | Louth County Council
- Professor Eoin Magennis, University of Ulster
- Deiric O Broin, Dublin City University
- Amanda Smyth, DBEC Programme Manager
- Elaine McAlinden, DBEC Partnership Officer

Apologies

- Cllr Eric Hanvey, Belfast City Council
- Cllr Margaret Tinsley, Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon District Council
- Cllr Ryan Carlin, Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council
- Cllr Allan Ewart, Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council
- Cllr Michelle Guy, Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council
- Cllr Howard Mahony, Fingal County Council
- Cllr Stephen McKee, Meath County Council
- Cllr Alan Tobin, Meath County Council
- Lord Mayor Daithi De Roiste, Dublin City Council
- Cllr Alison Gilliland, Dublin City Council
- Professor Malachy O'Neill, University of Ulster
- Professor Duncan Morrow, University of Ulster
- Professor President Daire Keogh, Dublin City University

- Conor Mallon, Director of Enterprise, Tourism and Regeneration, Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
- Donal Rogan, Director of Regeneration & Growth, Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council
- Des Foley, Director of Services | Planning & Development | Economic, Enterprise & Tourism Development, Meath County Council
- John Walsh, CEO, Belfast City Council
- John Greer, Director of Economic Development, Belfast City Council
- Ann-Marie Farrelly, CEO, Fingal County Council
- Kieran Kehoe, CEO, Meath County Council
- Richard Shakespeare, CEO, Dublin City Council
- Mary MacSweeney, Director of Enterprise and Development, Dublin City Council

Agenda Items	Decisions
<p>Meeting Chair: Councillor Pete Byrne, Newry, Mourne and Down District Council</p>	
<p>1. Welcome and Apologies</p>	<p>The Chairperson welcomed all to the meeting and apologies were noted as listed above.</p> <p>Cllr Byrne extended a thank you to Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council for hosting the meeting at the Palace Building, Armagh.</p>
<p>2. Action Sheet: DBEC Political Advisory Group meeting: 28th March 2024.</p>	<p>No Matters Arising.</p> <p>On the proposal of Cllr Bernie Conlon, seconded by Cllr Ronan McLaughlin, it was agreed to approve the Action Sheet of the previous meeting held in Ulster University, Belfast on the 14 December 2023.</p>
<p>3. DBEC Event Sept 2024</p>	<p><i>Katie Doran, Managing Director and Matthew Jeffrey, Client Director from Lanyon Communication joined the meeting online at 10.40am.</i></p> <p>An update on the progression of DBEC Communications and Marketing Plan was provided as follows: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Brand Development</u> <p>K. Doran / M. Jeffrey presented options on the evolution and development of the DBEC Logo which included, colour palettes, map styling, report covers, infographic styling, website and social media visuals.</p> <p>PAG noted that the core concept of the DBEC logo and brand remained the same but that the DBEC branding had been updated and matured with a refreshed look and feel. PAG members further noted that the aim of this work is to ensure that all creative marketing collateral for the DBEC brand is consistent.</p> <p>Action: R Wilson requested that the proposed branding is circulated to allow Council partners to feedback with any further comments following the meeting.</p>

- DBEC Key Messaging

K. Doran / M. Jeffrey presented a key messaging framework (external and internal) mapping out an economic narrative that can be applied across all stakeholder engagement, strategic marketing, and PR / social media activities.

Action: To circulate the key messaging document to PAG members.

- Stakeholder Engagement

K. Doran / M. Jeffrey presented an overview of the key target stakeholders across industry, academia, local and central government, policy makers and investor audiences.

PAG members noted that the aim of this piece of work is to refine the relevant target audiences, identify the key untapped partnerships and strategic relations which could be of future use to DBEC, particularly as spokespeople for marketing campaigns, as voices on social media and speakers at the DBEC launch event.

- DBEC Launch Event (Draft Plan)

K. Doran / M. Jeffrey tabled a draft plan for a one-day conference event, identifying proposed event content, theme, speakers, a conference plan and suggested panel sessions.

PAG / Officers in attendance followed up with comments as follows: -

- Target audiences for the DBEC Event - Members highlighted the importance of early engagement with the private sector and other key stakeholders prior to the event – so partners are aware of the vision and ambition of DBEC ahead of receipt of event invite
- Engagement with Ministers is important – potential attendance at event from Economy Ministers
- Event content to focus on showcasing the corridor, and the importance of collaborative working in progressing cross-border opportunities
- In promoting the event, need clear messaging around the focus of the event, importance of attendance and what the event seeks to deliver for its target audiences
- Some concern was noted on a full day event which may struggle to retain audience for the full programme, particularly with breakout sessions after lunch.
- Important to include skills as an element across the workshop/breakout themes
- The options outlined for the two keynote speakers were noted: Senator Joe Kennedy III – US Special Envoy for NI and Maroš Šefčovič – Vice President of European Commission. It was agreed that exploratory communication should be investigated on speaker availability as outlined and that future correspondence would be followed up directly with Councils for feedback and then brought back to Lanyon.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The event will be a platform for showcasing the corridor, building collaboration, and demonstrating the ambitions and what deliverables look like • Event an opportunity to demonstrate alignment to City and growth Deals <p>The following was noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Venue is to be the ICC, Belfast. • Date options to be explored for Sept 2024 and Oct 2024. <p>K. Doran / M. Jeffrey from Lanyon Communication logged off from the meeting at 11:27am</p>
<p>4. Update on delivery against Action Plan.</p>	<p>Following an update on delivery against key actions underway PAG noted and agreed the following:</p> <p>1. <u>Project Development and Funding Bids</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Funding Bid to Peace Plus 6.1: Strategic Planning and Engagement</u> <p>PAG members noted the development of a funding bid to SEUPB focusing on the below core areas; detail subject to amendments / development following ongoing discussion with partners, SEUPB and further detail on the funding call being available.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Progression of Circular Economy Hub Feasibility Study 2. Availability of investor ready development lands 3. A cross border policy framework that delivers a highly skilled and mobile cross border labour market 4. DBEC Investment Proposition. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Funding Bid to Peace Plus 2.3: Skills Development "Cross border Skills Corridor"</u> <p>PAG Members noted the progress with the submission of an application, led by Southern Regional College, and noted that applications to this call must be received no later than 5pm on Wednesday 8th May 2024.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Funding Bid to Enterprise Ireland (EI)</u> <p>PAG members noted progress with the submission of an application to EI: Smart Regions Enterprise Innovation Scheme against Stream 4 – Feasibility and Priming Grants. The application will focus on delivery of 2 x Outline Business Cases and a pilot programme, progressing on recommendations from the KPMG Feasibility Study. PAG members noted that applications to this call must be received by 31st March 2024.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Funding Bid to InterTradeIreland: Synergy Fund</u> <p>PAG members noted progression of a funding bid to InterTradeIreland, led by DBEC, to explore the formation of an Off Shore Wind Cluster along the East Coast/DBEC Corridor.</p>

	<p>Action: PAG members asked for an update on the funding applications to be provided to a future meeting of the PAG.</p> <p>2. <u>Elevating Fintech: The Fintech Corridor Exchange Event</u></p> <p>PAG members noted plans to host an international exchange visit with The Fintech Corridor at Killeavy Castle, outside Newry, on Wednesday 15th May. This event will form part of a wider Transatlantic Fintech Exchange hosted in Dublin and Belfast, over 3 days, between the 13th – 16th May.</p> <p>Action: Chair/Co-Chair to attend the Fintech International Exchange Event on the 15th May.</p> <p>3. <u>Skills Audit Research</u></p> <p>D O’Broin – DCU and E Magennis - UU provided an update on progress by UU/DCU on the skills research. PAG members noted that 30 consultations have been undertaken to date and that the final draft report would be presented to the Directors meeting on the 28th March.</p> <p>Action: A summary of the report and main findings to be circulated on completion.</p> <p>4. <u>Brand Development, Communications and Engagement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Communication and Engagement Programme <p>PAG members noted the strategic engagement programme that is currently under way with key stakeholders’ organisations along the Corridor to raise awareness of the Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor vision and ambitions, informing of key actions / programme areas underway and exploring areas for alignment and collaborative actions relevant to each partner.</p> <p>Particularly, noted the engagement with Government Departments to leverage support for DBEC events, projects and funding streams.</p> <p>Agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An update on progress will be provided at a future meeting.
<p>5. DBEC Governance and External Engagement</p>	<p>PAG members were referred to the content of the report previously circulated which provided an update on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Agreed Governance Structure of the DBEC Partnership. o Process for engaging additional stakeholders and partners o Current engagement with external stakeholders <p>On the proposal of Cllr Bernie Conlon, seconded by Cllr Ronan McLaughlin, it was agreed to note the content of the report on DBEC Governance & External Engagement.</p>
<p>6. Funding Landscape</p>	<p>PAG members were referred to the content of the report previously circulated which provided an overview on:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Funding Opportunities relevant to the Corridor ○ Current Funding avenues DBEC are engaging in. <p>On the proposal of Cllr Kevin Savage, seconded by Cllr Sean Kelly, it was agreed to note the content of the report on the Funding Landscape.</p>
<p>7. Next meeting</p>	<p>PAG members noted that the next scheduled meeting of the PAG is Thursday 27 June 2024. There are planned Council elections in the Southern Councils happening around this time which could mean that many of the PAG Members will be unavailable.</p> <p>Agreed: The next quarterly meeting of the Political Advisory Group will be postponed.</p> <p>Further agreed that the next meeting will take place in September 2024 at a venue in Fingal or Meath County Council areas. A date and venue will be circulated to all PAG members in due course.</p>

Cllr Pete Byrne closed the meeting at 12:10pm

For approval at next meeting of DBEC Political Advisory Group

Report to:	ERT
Date of Meeting:	13 May 2024
Subject:	Financial Assistance Call 1 – Good Relations
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Conor Mallon Director ERT
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Sonya Burns – Head of Grants & Funding

For decision		For noting only		X
1.0	Purpose and Background			
1.1	Call 1 for financial assistance 2024-2025 included the theme Good Relations. Attached is an amended report to bring the award up to £50,290			
2.0	Key issues			
2.1	<p>Pre-Letter of offer conditions/Clarifications Some projects will be required to submit documentation and pre letter of offer requirements, if the panel are content with the conditions, then a Letter of offer will be issued. If a project cannot fulfil the pre-LoO condition or provide satisfactory clarification then a letter of offer will not be issued and the next group on the scored and ranked list will be contacted (if applicable) or re-allocated.</p> <p>Score and rank There is sufficient budget available under this theme for all successful projects to be awarded.</p>			
3.0	Recommendations			
3.1	<p>Please see recommendations below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the attached appendices for Good Relations and issue letter of offer. Pre-letter of offer conditions met prior to issue of full letter of offer issued and where this is not satisfied budget to be re-allocated. 			
4.0	Resource implications			
4.1	<p>Revenue/Payroll: Funding will be allocated from an external funder.</p> <p>Capital:</p>			
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)			
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>			
5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>			

	<p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>
5.3	<p>Proposal initiating consultation</p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)
6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following: Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	Appendices
	Report on Call One – Good Relations
8.0	Background Documents

Good Relations Fund Financial Assistance 2024/25 Call 1 Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

41 Applications received

35 Applications recommended for funding

85% of applications awarded

Amount requested from successful applicants **£51,215**

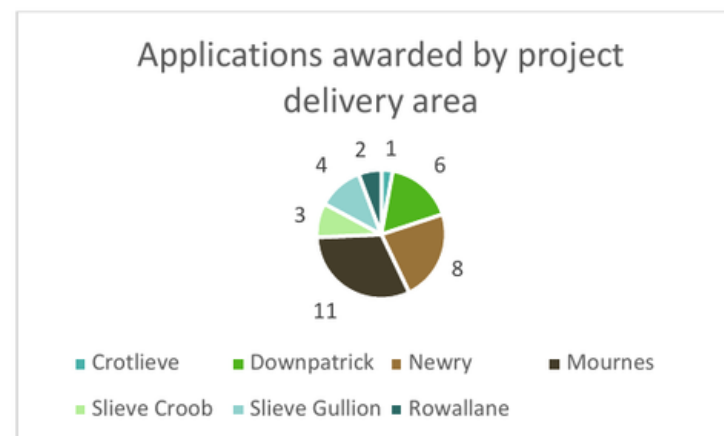
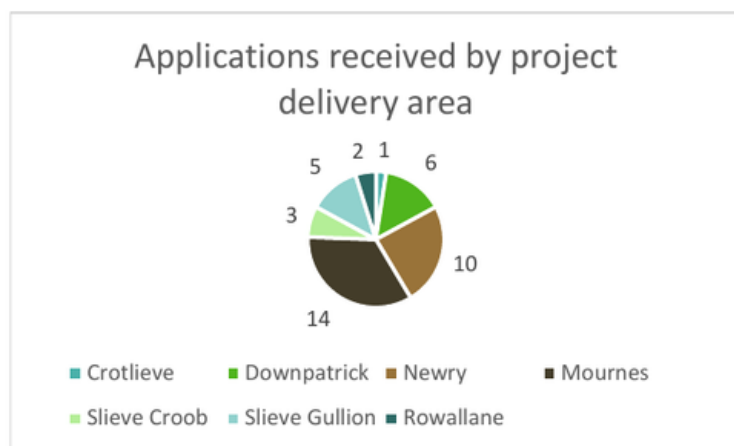
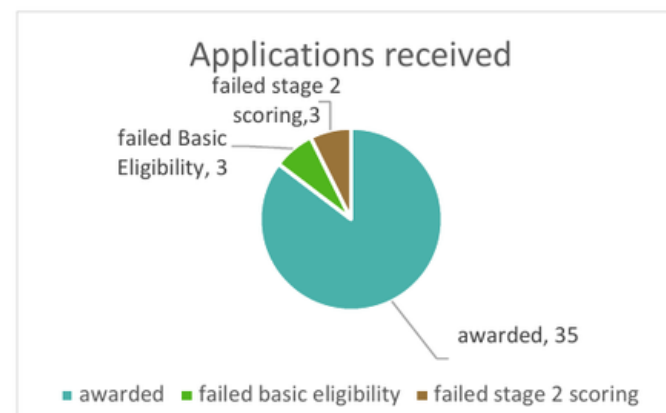
Total amount awarded **£50,290**

Of the 41 applications:

3 failed basic eligibility = 7.5%

3 Failed stage 2 scoring = 7.5%

35 Passed stage 2 and awarded = 85%



Breakdown of Applications per stage and final amount recommended for award.

Stage 1 = 3 Fail

Group	Passed basic eligibility
2024-1097	No
2024-1254	No
2024-1566	No

Stage 2 = 3 Fail

Group	Passed basic eligibility	Stage 2
2024-1199	Yes	No
2024-1241	Yes	No
2024-1247	Yes	No

Appendix

Stage 1 & 2 = 34 Passed & Recommended for Awarded

Group	Passed basic eligibility	Stage 2	Amount Recommended
2024-1105	Yes	Yes	£1,200.00
2024-1113	Yes	Yes	£1,200.00
2024-1117	Yes	Yes	£1,375.00
2024-1127	Yes	Yes	£1,500.00
2024-1129	Yes	Yes	£1,500.00
2024-1162	Yes	Yes	£1,200.00
2024-1165	Yes	Yes	£1,500.00
2024-1173	Yes	Yes	£1,500.00
2024-1178	Yes	Yes	£1,500.00
2024-1185	Yes	Yes	£1,500.00
2024-1202	Yes	Yes	£1,200.00
2024-1220	Yes	Yes	£1,500.00
2024-1242	Yes	Yes	£1,500.00
2024-1248	Yes	Yes	£1,500.00
2024-1250	Yes	Yes	£1,500.00
2024-1251	Yes	Yes	£1,500.00
2024-1263	Yes	Yes	£1,500.00
2024-1281	Yes	Yes	£1,350.00
2024-1291	Yes	Yes	£1,500.00
2024-1298	Yes	Yes	£1,375.00
2024-1325	Yes	Yes	£1,500.00
2024-1339	Yes	Yes	£1,375.00
2024-1367	Yes	Yes	£1400.00
2024-1399	Yes	Yes	£1,500.00
2024-1423	Yes	Yes	£1,125.00
2024-1446	Yes	Yes	£1,500.00
2024-1459	Yes	Yes	£1,500.00
2024-1470	Yes	Yes	£1,500.00
2024-1477	Yes	Yes	£1,500.00
2024-1485	Yes	Yes	£1,500.00
2024-1491	Yes	Yes	£1,500.00
2024-1522	Yes	Yes	£1,490.00
2024-1543	Yes	Yes	£1,500.00
2024-1549	Yes	Yes	£1,500.00
2024-1571	Yes	Yes	£1,500.00
			£50,290.00

END