

November 8th, 2024

Notice Of Meeting

You are requested to attend the Economy, Regeneration & Tourism Committee meeting to be held on Monday, 11th November 2024 at 6:00 pm in Council Chamber, O' Hagan House, Monaghan Row, Newry.

Committee Membership 2024-2025

Councillor A Lewis **Chairperson**

Councillor W Clarke **Deputy Chairperson**

Councillor T Andrews

Councillor K Feehan

Councillor C Galbraith

Councillor M Gibbons

Councillor G Hanna

Councillor O Hanlon

Councillor V Harte

Councillor G Kearns

Councillor D Lee-Surginor

Councillor S Murphy

Councillor A Quinn

Councillor M Ruane

Councillor J Truesdale

Agenda

1.0 Apologies and Chairperson's Remarks

2.0 Declarations of Interest

Presentation

3.0 Eoin Magennis, Ulster University Economic Policy Centre

For Noting

4.0 Action Sheet of the Economy, Regeneration and Tourism Committee Meeting held on 14th October 2024

For Information

📎 *ERT Historic Action Tracker & Oct 2024 Action Sheet.pdf*

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For Discussion/Decision

5.0 Mid Year Review of ERT Business Plans 2024-25

For Decision

📎 *ERT Report - Mid Year Assessment of Business Plans 2024-25.pdf*

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📎 *Appx Economy Regeneration and Tourism Mid Year Assessment Business Plan 2024-25.pdf*

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Regeneration

6.0 Development Naming, Postal Numbering & Erection of Nameplates Policy

For Decision

📎 *ERT Report - Development Naming, Postal Numbering and Erection of Nameplates Policy.pdf*

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📎 *Appx. Development Naming, Postal Numbering and Erection of Nameplates Policy and Procedures.pdf*

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Economy Growth & Tourism

7.0 Belfast City and Regional Place Partnership

For Decision

📎 *ERT Report - Belfast City and Region Place Partnership.pdf*

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8.0 Economics Development Strategy

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.

 **ERT Report - Economic Development Strategy.pdf**

Not included

 **Appx - Economic Development Strategy Business Case.pdf**

Not included

9.0 Go Succeed Programme

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.

 **ERT Report - Go Succeed programme.pdf**

Not included

10.0 Make it Local Campaign

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.

 **ERT Report - Make it Local campaign.pdf**

Not included

 **Appx - Make it Local Campaign Business Case.pdf**

Not included

11.0 St Patrick's Avenue

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.

 **ERT Report - St Patrick's Avenue.pdf**

Not included

 **Appx - St Patrick's Avenue Business Case.pdf**

Not included

12.0 Review of Financial Assistance

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.

 **ERT report - Financial Assistance Review.pdf**

Not included


 **Appx - Financial Assistance Review.pdf**

Not included

For Noting

13.0 Digital Transformation Flexible Fund Update

For Information

 **ERT Report - DTFF Update.pdf**

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 **Appx - DTFF Update.pdf**

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14.0 Removal of Ballykinlar Hut

For Information

 **ERT Report - Removal of Ballykinlar Hut.pdf**

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Invitees

Cllr Terry Andrews

Cllr Callum Bowsie

Ms Michelle Boyle

Fionnuala Branagh

Cllr Jim Brennan

Ms Sonya Burns

Cllr Pete Byrne

Mr Gerard Byrne

Cllr Philip Campbell

Cllr William Clarke

Cllr Laura Devlin

Ms Louise Dillon

Cllr Cadogan Enright

Cllr Killian Feehan

Cllr Doire Finn

Cllr Aoife Finnegan

Ms Joanne Fleming

Cllr Conor Galbraith

Cllr Mark Gibbons

Cllr Oonagh Hanlon

Cllr Glyn Hanna

Cllr Valerie Harte

Cllr Roisin Howell

Cllr Tierna Howie

Ms Catherine Hughes

Cllr Jonathan Jackson

Cllr Geraldine Kearns

Miss Veronica Keegan

Mrs Josephine Kelly

Mrs Sheila Kieran

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

Jonathan McGilly

Cllr Andrew McMurray

Ms Aveen McVeigh

Maureen/Joanne Morgan/Johnston
.....
Cllr Declan Murphy
.....
Sinead Murphy
.....
Cllr Kate Murphy
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Cllr Selina Murphy
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Cllr Siobhan O'Hare
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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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Nicola Stranney
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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
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Cllr Helena Young
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ACTION SHEET

ECONOMY, REGENERATION & TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY 11 MARCH 2024

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/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.- 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.	C Mallon	Work in progress	N
END					

ACTION SHEETECONOMY, REGENERATION & TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETINGMONDAY 15 APRIL 2024

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
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.	A Smyth	Work in progress	N
END					

ACTION SHEETECONOMY, REGENERATION & TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETINGMONDAY 10 JUNE 2024

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
ERT/060/2024	Church Street and DeCourcy Place Public Realm	The following was agreed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council to progress the scheme and submit a planning application. • Council Officers progress a Business Case (internal) and 	A Smyth	Ongoing – planning application submitted	N

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		(external) to Department for Communities for funding. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council engage County Down Rural Community Network to assist with a public perception survey for Church Street and DeCourcy Place through the existing Service Level Agreement (SLA). 			
END					

ACTION SHEET

ECONOMY, REGENERATION & TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY 12 AUGUST 2024

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
ERT/069/2024	Castlewellan Forest Park – Café and mobile vendor provision	it was agreed that the Council undertake a tender process to appoint a suitably experienced operator to deliver catering services at Castlewellan Forest Park as set out in section 2.1 of the officer's report.	A Smyth	In progress – tender being issued	N

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
ERT/073/2024	Rural Business Development Scheme 2024/25	it was agreed to approve the delivery of a new Rural Business Development Scheme for 2024/25.	C Mallon	Rural Business Grants scheme opened on 16 th Oct, closing for applications on 8 th November.	Y
END					

ACTION SHEET

ECONOMY, REGENERATION & TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2024

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
ERT/080/2024	Down County Museum Café	it was agreed that Council undertake a tender process to appoint a suitably experienced operator to deliver catering services at Down County Museum.	A Smyth	In progress	N

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
ERT/084/2024	Sub Regional Economic Plans	it was agreed that the Council engage Newry and Mourne Enterprise Agency and Down Business Centre through a Service Level Agreement to scope and shape a concept paper and proposals on relevant investment areas aligned to a sub-regional economic action plan.	A Smyth	In progress	N
ERT/087/2024	Small Settlement Schemes	the following was agreed: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Council Officials engage with the Scheme Funding Departments to identify options to utilise the unallocated budget within scheme eligibility criteria.• To agree utilisation of unallocated budget reported back to Economy Regeneration and Tourism Committee.	A Smyth	In progress	N
ERT/089/2024	Cross Border Teaching Registration	it was agreed for the Council to await the findings from the All-Island Labour Market Mobility and engage with cross border stakeholders to support the progression of recommended actions to harmonise the registration process for teachers.	A Smyth	In progress	N
END					

ACTION SHEETECONOMY, REGENERATION & TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETINGMONDAY 14 OCTOBER 2024

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
ERT/092/2024	Action sheet of ERT Committee meeting held 9 September 2024	It was agreed to note the action sheet	C Mallon		Y
ERT/093/2024	Local Economic Partnerships / Town and City Centre Taskforce	It was agreed that the Council agree the membership and progress the establishment of the Taskforce as set out in the report.	A Smyth	ToR received from DfE on the LEP Partnership, which is to be established by Dec 2024.	N
ERT/094/2024	Newry Canoe Trail – IWAI	It was agreed that Council provides agreement for IWAI to undertake the planning and phased development of a canoe trail including canoe steps along the Newry Canal owned by NMDDC subject to conditions outlined in section 2.1 of the report.	A Smyth	In Progress	N

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
ERT/095/2024	Peace Plus Theme 1.1	<p>The following was recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agree the minutes of the Peaceplus partnership 29th August 2024 and 19th September 2024 and develop and deliver training aimed at the Voluntary and Community sector on how to identify and apply for tenders.• Note that SEUPB have issued an approval letter to confirm that Council's application under Theme 1.1 was approved for grant funding, and a formal letter of offer would follow within 8 weeks.• Approve accepting and signing the Letter of Offer and Partnership Agreement upon receipt from SEUPB.	A Smyth	Further updated provided at Nov 24 ERT	Y

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
ERT/096/2024	MHCLG – Community and Place Funding	<p>The following was recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Subject to funding approval members agree to progress the necessary procurements and appointments to progress the projects with the available funding.• Members approve the attached business case for<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Regeneration Showcase events○ Decals for Bin Lorries○ Accessible beaches• Approval to engage with MAE Murray Foundation regarding delivery of accessible beach enhancements at Cranfield and Tyrella.	A Smyth	Funding awarded as per application and delivery of projects underway.	Y

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
ERT/097/2024	Touring in the Trees	<p>The following was recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council approve the operation of the Touring in the Trees' site at Castlewellan Forest Park from January 2025 under the same terms and conditions, and opening hours as the existing caravan parks. • The 'Touring in the Trees' site will be bookable on the existing Castlewellan Camp Manager system and charges will be reflective of similar facilities. 	A Smyth	In progress	Y
ERT/098/2024	Tree Tops Walk proposal	<p>The following was recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To agree the Letter of Intent at Appendix 1. • To arrange a familiarisation visit with key stakeholder to the Treetop Walks experience at Avondale, Co Wicklow. 	A Smyth	In progress	N
ERT/099/2024	Castlewellan Forest park Gates	It was agreed to note that Council will engage a specialised consultant to advise on repair options for the gates at the entrance of Castlewellan Forest Park and seek statutory approval for a preferred option.	A Smyth	In progress	Y

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
ERT/100/2024	Building Control 6 x monthly report	It was agreed to note the content of the report.	J McGilly		Y
ERT/101/2024	DBEC Update	It was agreed to note the update provided.	C Mallon	In progress	Y
ERT/102/2024	Licensing 6 x monthly report	It was agreed to note the content of the report. It was agreed that an update report regarding street signs be tabled at a future committee meeting.	J McGilly	In progress	N
END					

Report to:	Economy, Regeneration & Tourism Committee
Date of Meeting:	Monday 11 th November 2024
Subject:	Mid Year Assessment of ERT Directorate Business Plan 2024-25
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Conor Mallon Director – Economy, Regeneration and Tourism
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Conor Mallon Director – Economy, Regeneration and Tourism

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

<input type="checkbox"/>	For decision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	For noting only	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.0	Purpose and Background					
1.1	Directorate Business Plans form an essential part of the Council’s Business Planning and Performance Management Framework, which drives and provides assurance that corporate objectives are being delivered.					
1.2	Directorate Business Plans demonstrate how planned activity during 2024-25 will contribute to the achievement of strategic outcomes in relation to the Community Plan, Corporate Plan, Performance Improvement Plan and other key strategies.					
2.0	Key issues					
2.1	A Mid Year Assessment of each Directorate Business Plan has been undertaken in order to provide an overview of progress between April-September 2024. This exercise is an important part of the Council’s statutory obligations to strengthen the way performance is monitored, reviewed and reported at all levels across the organisation.					
2.2	The Mid Year Assessment of the ERT Directorate Business Plan is outlined at Appendix 1.					
3.0	Recommendations					
3.1	To consider and approve: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Mid Year Assessment of the ERT Directorate Business Plan 2024-25 					
4.0	Resource implications					
4.1	There are no financial resource implications within this report.					
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)					
5.1	<i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i>					
	It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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> Consultation not required.</p>
6.0	<p>Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)</p>
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	<p>Appendices</p>
	<p>Appendix 1 – Mid Year Assessment of the ERT Directorate Business Plan 2024-25</p>
8.0	<p>Background Documents</p>
	<p>Directorate Business Plan 2024-25</p>

Economy, Regeneration and Tourism Directorate

Mid-Year Assessment Business Plan 2024-25

Introduction

This report provides an overview of progress in delivering the Economy, Regeneration and Tourism Business Plan 2024-25 between April-September 2024, across the following service areas:

- Economic Development
- Regeneration
- Tourism Development and Promotion
- Tourism Facilities Management and Development
- Arts and Culture
- Events
- Heritage
- Grants & Funding
- AONB Management
- Planning Development Management and Control
- Local Development Plan
- Building Control
- Licencing
- International Relations

The delivery of the Economy, Regeneration and Tourism Directorate Business Plan 2024-25 supports the achievement of the following corporate objectives, and performance has been tracked using the legend below.

Support the continued growth and development of our local economy




Protect and enhance our environment to secure a sustainable future

Support regenerative tourism opportunities which promote our culture, heritage and environment

Develop and revitalise our district

Deliver sustainable services

Legend

Status	
	Target or objective achieved / on track to be achieved
	Target or objective partially achieved / likely to be achieved / subject to delay
	Target or objective not achieved / unlikely to be achieved

Directorate objectives, supporting actions and measures of success

Key Directorate Objectives

Economy, Growth and Tourism –

Work with partners to lead the implementation of the Economic, Regeneration and Investment Strategy to support the development of the local economy and infrastructure to ensure the district is competitive and attractive to investors and residents.

Work with partners to lead the implementation of the Tourism Strategy. Lead the development and implementation of Culture and Arts Strategy and delivery of improved and new tourism assets

Regeneration –

A statutory duty to apply the Building Regulations to support regeneration and economic development across the district and the licencing obligations of Council.

Provide a robust, efficient and responsive development management service within the Council Planning Department to support regeneration and economic development across the district.

Progress the preparation and delivery of the Local Development Plan in accordance with the agreed timeframe to determine future land use planning policy across the district

Provide a robust, efficient and effective planning enforcement function within the Council Planning Department to address breaches of planning control.

Department : All

(Plans = 'Economy, Regeneration & Tourism')

Thursday 31st of October 2024

Economy, Growth & Tourism			
ERT1 : Engage & collaborate with key stakeholders to support economic growth and prosperity across the district			
Number of jobs promoted through business start-up activity (statutory)	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div>170</div> <div>Amber * 1</div>	<div>—</div>
Notes:	1 69 jobs were created between April and September 2024. Go Succeed offers 3 types of plans (Basic, Enterprise Action and Business). This accounts for 41% of the annual target		
Number of jobs created and businesses supported through Council programmes	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div></div> <div>Green * 1</div>	<div>—</div>
Notes:	1 Between April and September 2024 there were 8 social enterprises engaged with 8 new social enterprise jobs created. 69 new jobs were created through Business Start Up Activity with 179 Businesses supported to progress growth and scaling ambitions		
Amount of investment secured by the Council	<div>Target</div> <div>Actual</div>	<div>Yes</div> <div>Yes * 1</div>	<div>—</div>
Notes:	1 Council secured £192,650 from DfE for Multiply, LMP LoO received in August for £522,963.29 application submitted to DfC for Kilkeel Revit £22,000, application submitted to UKSPF £942,457.00. Application submitted to DfC for £26880 for Childminding academy		
Implementation of Go Succeed – entrepreneurial support service (community outreach, diagnostic, mentoring, masterclasses, grants, peer to peer networks). (CWB)	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div></div> <div>Green * 1</div>	<div>—</div>
Notes:	1 Direct Contract award issued to SENTINUS via Community Outreach for Go Succeed. Masterclasses and workshops continue either in person and online. Council has engaged with Full Circle to assist with the administration of grants.		
Develop an engagement stakeholder forum to strengthen, support and build resilience communication with the private sector (CPP)	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div></div> <div>Green * 1</div>	<div>—</div>
Notes:	1 Report presented to ERT in September to establish a group.		
Implementation of LMP 24/25 action plan to improve employability and skills via engagement with business and education (subject to funding) (CWB) (CPP)	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div></div> <div>Green * 1</div>	<div>—</div>
Notes:	1 NMD LMP received funding for operational spend on 28 August and have since commenced operational delivery to include Enterprise Pathway Programme; Transport Employability Academy; Employer Engagement Events; Upskilling for Growth Programmes and Employment Pathway event. Remaining initiatives as outline in 24/25 Action Plan will be delivered over the course of 24/25 Q3 and Q4, in addition to Q1 of 25/26. Engagement with businesses, education and training providers and key stakeholders has continued since Q1 24/25.		
Engage with Council partners on the development of business support service/programme post March 2025.	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div></div> <div>Green * 1</div>	<div>—</div>

	Notes:	1 Engagement with Belfast City Council and UKSPF has been positive regarding an extension to Go Succeed post 2025. An outcome is expected in November 2024.
Lead the secretariat and work in partnership with all member councils and universities of DBEC to deliver on the strategic aims and actions plans for the corridor. (CWB) (CPP)	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div>Green *1</div> <div>—</div>
	Notes:	1 NMDDC on behalf of the DBEC Partnership (8 Councils & 2 Universities) provide a key role in progressing actions as per the DBEC Governance Structure organising, servicing, and progressing actions from DBEC Director, CEO, and Political Advisory Group Steering Group meeting. Key activities progress across 3 core themes focusing on Sustainable and innovation-led growth, Skills Development and Engagement & brand development.
Support local business development and growth via a range of initiatives including artisan markets, social economy, marketing initiatives, events, international relations and digital engagement. (CWB)	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div>Green *1</div> <div>—</div>
	Notes:	1 Artisan Markets are hosted monthly in Newcastle, Downpatrick and Newry. Make it Local campaign was delivered in Newcastle to coincide with Eats and Beats and Amgen Irish Open. Social Enterprises are supported via NMEA (SLA). Digital engagement is via ezines and Fbook.
Liaise and work with Invest NI on the implementation of Decarbonisation project. (CWB) (SCC)	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div>Green *1</div> <div>—</div>
	Notes:	1 Event hosted on 19th June with over 40 stakeholders and businesses represented
Progress Skills, Employability and innovation pillars under BRCD. (CWB) (CPP)	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div>Green *1</div> <div>—</div>
	Notes:	1 Board meetings continue under BRCD.
Development and management of the Digital Transformation Flexible Fund under FFNI across all Councils providing financial assistance for Digital Transformation in micros/small businesses. (CWB) (SCC)	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div>Green *1</div> <div>—</div>
	Notes:	1 • DTFF is an important programme delivered right across all of Northern Ireland. It has been designed to stimulate Digital Transformation and innovation in our small and micro businesses. These types of business generally do not have the capital reserves or resources to start to experiment, prototype and deliver new products or services using new and emerging technologies. • DTFF officially launched in November 2023 and to date has delivered three successful calls. The project is due to run until March 2026 with a further 4 calls planned. • To date the project has issued 172 Letters of Offer with an average grant of £15k. The estimated value of all Letters of Offer from Calls 1-3 is approx. £2.5m. • Within the NMDDC area the project has funded approx. 300K to local businesses allowing them to introduce emerging technologies as part of their digital transformational plans. • DTFF compliments and aligns with a number of other projects in the Digital and Innovation pillars and is an important step forward in Councils positioning their intent to drive their local economies with an increasing focus on innovation support for our local businesses.
Facilitation of Mobile Action plan NI implementation on behalf of 11 NI councils (CWB) (SCC)	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div>Green *1</div> <div>—</div>

	Notes:	<p>1 • In June 2022, DfE, NILGA and OFCOM launched the Mobile Action Plan for Northern Ireland (MAPNI) to break down the barriers to mobile deployment across the Northern Ireland. • FFNI was nominated by Solace to represent all Councils. • FFNI requested that each local authority nominate digital champions to assist mobile operators at a local level following the Wireless Infrastructure Strategy and DSIT guidance. • In Sept 23 following FFNI engagement with each local authority, all Councils have nominated Digital Champions and this subgroup is led and coordinated by FFNI. • This group has met regularly to discuss current barriers to deployment and best practice around infrastructure and regeneration which is a key priority for economic growth across of local authorities and central government. • Under the Mobile Action Plan, FFNI officers within Newry, Mourne and Down currently sit on the Northern Ireland Barrier Busting (NIBBT) Oversight group, the communications subgroup, the planning subgroup and the public assets subgroup which meet regularly with other key stakeholders across central government and the mobile industry. • An elected member's best practice guide and awareness event is currently being planned by the Communications Subgroup and led by NILGA and Mobile UK to inform on the local authority role and importance of connectivity (Advanced Wireless and Fibre).</p>		
ERT2 : Deliver infrastructure improvements across our rural and urban settlements				
Amount of investment secured by the Council		Target		
		Progress	Green ¹	—
	Notes:	<p>1 An application to UKSPF Community and Place was submitted . Engagement continues with DfC regarding future projects. Church Street and DeCourcy Place planning was submitted in September. Kilkeel Feasibility Study received and a Revit scheme will be delivered by March 2025 £22,000.</p>		
Number of urban and rural regeneration initiatives delivered		Target		
		Progress	Green ¹	—
	Notes:	<p>1 EI schemes were complete in Saintfield, Rostrevor, Bessbrook and Castlewellan. 7 Settlements received capital investment. SSS will close in March 2025. DfC/DAERA/DfI are reviewing a funding stream for future regeneration projects.</p>		
Implementation of the PEACEPLUS Local Community Regeneration and Transformation theme. (CWB) (CPP)		Target		
		Progress	—	—
Continue to progress the delivery of Belfast Region City Deal tourism and regeneration projects: • Newry City centre regeneration • Mourne Mountains Gateway Project • Regional Innovation Hub		Target		
		Progress	Green ¹	—
	Notes:	<p>1 Council awaits a decision on planning on Theatre and Conference Centre and Civic Centre. Council will progress with an OBC for Regional Innovation Hub. Mourne Mountains Gateway Project pre planning continues along with community/business engagement.</p>		
Review and update regeneration plans		Target		
		Progress	Green ¹	—
	Notes:	<p>1 Officers review masterplans bi annually. Engagement will continue inline with LEP development and implementation.</p>		
Progress the Downpatrick Regeneration in line with the Living High Streets Toolkit.		Target		
		Progress	Green ¹	—

	Notes:	<p>1 In April Hamilton Architects gave a presentation to DRWG of possible options available for the former PSNI Irish Street Development. Engagement meeting was held on the 29 May. DFC are finalising the development brief with the aim to go out to market early 2025. No 39 Irish Street building has been demolished and is to be redeveloped as part of the former PSNI Irish Street development. Skate & pump track public consultation was held in July, the track has been re-designed and procurement finalised. The appointed contractor will be onsite very soon and the completion date remains 31 March 2025. Lynn Doyle Entrance upgrade started mid-July but is currently on hold due to concern about the wall safety, a structural survey is required DFI to speak to Council Building Control Department. Church Street & De Courcy Place Public Realm, two Planning applications submitted 9th September and the business cases are just being finalised. Paper going to Nov ERT meeting. DRWG meet with representatives from Asda, and they confirmed that they have submitted planning permission for a new larger store and will re-instate the petrol station as part of this new build. Downtime Festival took place over the summer and Cllr Campbell worked closely with the museum and closed the Mall off and used as an events space. New Schemes moving forward with UK Shared Prosperity Funding, paper going to ERT Nov. - St Patrick's Avenue, Street Character Restoration - The Grove/St Patrick's Square environmental improvements The Old Trust building on Market Street - Down Business Centre are working on securing this property DFI are currently carrying out improvement to the 3 traffic lights on Market Street, Night-time work. Then resurfacing work will begin on Market Street – due to be completed 31 Oct. DFI will resurface Irish Street in the next few weeks. DFI have upgraded lighting along Church Street and resurfaced the lower end of Church Street. DFC funding DFI to upgrade lighting to the value of £25k on English Street – date to be confirmed. One year review has been carried out by MAG on the Downpatrick Living High Street Framework and several recommendations have been identified. The review is still confidential at this stage.</p>		
Complete final phase of the Carlingford Lough Greenway		Target		
		Progress	Green * 1	—
	Notes:	<p>1 Carlingford Lough Greenway Contractors 'AG Wilson Ltd' were the successfully appointed Supplier to deliver the Northern Boardwalk Sections. Following their appointment in March 2024 a Design & Build process was undertaken from April to July 2024. A big aspect of this was NIEA Sign-off being worked through and finally achieved in August 2024. Onsite works are now underway up until early 2025, with key Clearance Works having been completed and Piling, Fabrication and Installation works having been commenced. On completion a total of 1.1 km of Piled Boardwalk will have been installed, a total of 1.7 km of Northern Greenway created and the overall Carlingford Lough Greenway from Newry to Carlingford will have been completed providing an overall 20 km of Active Travel Greenway.</p>		
ERT 3 : Efficient and effective provision of financial assistance to support our communities, businesses and the delivery of council services				
Number of capacity building programmes delivered to community and businesses		Target		
		Progress	Amber * 1	—
	Notes:	1 127 attendees across 4 workshops		
The delivery of internal and external funding programme - DTFF (CWB) (CPP) (SCC)		Target		
		Progress	Green * 1	—

	Notes:	1 • DTFF is an important programme delivered right across all of Northern Ireland. It has been designed to stimulate Digital Transformation and innovation in our small and micro businesses. These types of business generally do not have the capital reserves or resources to start to experiment, prototype and deliver new products or services using new and emerging technologies. • DTFF officially launched in November 2023 and to date has delivered three successful calls. The project is due to run until March 2026 with a further 4 calls planned. • To date the project has issued 172 Letters of Offer with an average grant of £15k. The estimated value of all Letters of Offer from Calls 1-3 is approx. £2.5m. • Within the NMDDC area the project has funded approx. 300K to local businesses allowing them to introduce emerging technologies as part of their digital transformational plans. • DTFF compliments and aligns with a number of other projects in the Digital and Innovation pillars and is an important step forward in Councils positioning their intent to drive their local economies with an increasing focus on innovation support for our local businesses.
The delivery of internal and external funding programme - Financial Assistance (FA)	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div> <div>Green ¹</div> <div>—</div>	
	Notes:	1 All calls for financial assistance completed through rates. External funding calls continuing.
The delivery of internal and external funding programme - Service Level Agreements	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div> <div>Green ¹</div> <div>—</div>	
	Notes:	1 NMDDC issued SLAs to NMEA to deliver Innovate Accelerate and Social Enterprise to support local businesses and Social Enterprises. NMDDC issued SLA to Downpatrick Community Collective to deliver 3 artisan markets.
The delivery of internal and external funding programme - Facility Management Agreements	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div> <div>Green ¹</div> <div>—</div>	
	Notes:	1 all issued
The delivery of internal and external funding programme - Tourism Accommodation	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div> <div>Amber ¹</div> <div>—</div>	
	Notes:	1 Ongoing subsidy control approvals being sought
The delivery of internal and external funding programme - Flood Funding Schemes (Enhanced & Hardship Schemes)	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div> <div>Green ¹</div> <div>—</div>	
	Notes:	1 Letters of offer issued and claims ongoing
The delivery of internal and external funding programme - Grade A Office Accommodation	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div> <div>Green ¹</div> <div>—</div>	
	Notes:	1 Ongoing subsidy control approvals being sought
Review of FA and SLA's including review of processes and procedures. (CWB)	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div> <div>Green ¹</div> <div>—</div>	
	Notes:	1 FA Review completed and results to be presented
Capacity building within community and business sectors. (CWB) (CPP)	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div> <div>Green ¹</div> <div>—</div>	
	Notes:	1 Workshops on FA and Flood delivered
Implementation of the Local Co-designed Peace Plus Action Plan. (CWB) (CPP) (SCC)	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div> <div>Green ¹</div> <div>—</div>	
	Notes:	1 Action plan approved by SEUPB

	Notes:	<p>1 • DTFF is an important programme delivered right across all of Northern Ireland. It has been designed to stimulate Digital Transformation and innovation in our small and micro businesses. These types of business generally do not have the capital reserves or resources to start to experiment, prototype and deliver new products or services using new and emerging technologies. • DTFF officially launched in November 2023 and to date has delivered three successful calls. The project is due to run until March 2026 with a further 4 calls planned. • To date the project has issued 172 Letters of Offer with an average grant of £15k. The estimated value of all Letters of Offer from Calls 1-3 is approx. £2.5m. • Within the NMDDC area the project has funded approx. 300K to local businesses allowing them to introduce emerging technologies as part of their digital transformational plans. • DTFF compliments and aligns with a number of other projects in the Digital and Innovation pillars and is an important step forward in Councils positioning their intent to drive their local economies with an increasing focus on innovation support for our local businesses.</p>		
The delivery of internal and external funding programme - Financial Assistance (FA)		Target		
		Progress	Green * 1	—
	Notes:	1 All calls for financial assistance completed through rates. External funding calls continuing.		
The delivery of internal and external funding programme - Service Level Agreements		Target		
		Progress	Green * 1	—
	Notes:	1 NMDDC issued SLAs to NMEA to deliver Innovate Accelerate and Social Enterprise to support local businesses and Social Enterprises. NMDDC issued SLA to Downpatrick Community Collective to deliver 3 artisan markets.		
The delivery of internal and external funding programme - Facility Management Agreements		Target		
		Progress	Green * 1	—
	Notes:	1 all issued		
The delivery of internal and external funding programme - Tourism Accommodation		Target		
		Progress	Amber * 1	—
	Notes:	1 Ongoing subsidy control approvals being sought		
The delivery of internal and external funding programme - Flood Funding Schemes (Enhanced & Hardship Schemes)		Target		
		Progress	Green * 1	—
	Notes:	1 Letters of offer issued and claims ongoing		
The delivery of internal and external funding programme - Grade A Office Accommodation		Target		
		Progress	Green * 1	—
	Notes:	1 Ongoing subsidy control approvals being sought		
Review of FA and SLA's including review of processes and procedures. (CWB)		Target		
		Progress	Green * 1	—
	Notes:	1 FA Review completed and results to be presented		
Capacity building within community and business sectors. (CWB) (CPP)		Target		
		Progress	Green * 1	—
	Notes:	1 Workshops on FA and Flood delivered		
Implementation of the Local Co-designed Peace Plus Action Plan. (CWB) (CPP) (SCC)		Target		
		Progress	Green * 1	—
	Notes:	1 Action plan approved by SEUPB		

ERT4 : Deliver a sustainable tourism approach which supports local communities livelihoods and the environment			
Visitor spend (£)	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div></div> <div>Green * 1</div>	<div></div> <div>—</div>
Notes:	1 The spend for NMD in 2023 was £79,172,950. NISRA has advised due to methodology changing this will be our based		
Volume of overnight stays in the district	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div></div> <div>Green * 1</div>	<div></div> <div>—</div>
Notes:	1 The volume of overnight stays to NMD reported by NISRA in 2023 was 482,981. Due to a change in methodology NISRA have advised 2023 should be the baseline year.		
Visitor satisfaction	<div>Target</div> <div>Actual</div>	<div>83%%</div> <div>76%% * 1</div>	<div></div> <div>—</div>
Notes:	1 In response to this feedback Council has put in place a mobile vendors service across sites which includes a new service at Kilbroney to provide tea/coffee in the carpark to address queues in the cafe. A new cafe provision will be in place at Castlewellan Forest park next year with works already underway. Council also has design concepts in development at both Delamont and Kilbroney which includes interpretation and the Castlewellan Forest Park restoration project due to be completed in May 2025 includes interpretation and signage		
Investment into tourism capital projects	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div></div> <div>Green * 1</div>	<div></div> <div>—</div>
Notes:	1 The Council has an ongoing programme of investment. The Fallows Walking Trail completed in the period with all signage and waymarking in place. Total investment £1.4million. Other projects including Narnia and Delamont are preparatory phase with investment of £80,000		
Launch & commence delivery of the new Tourism Strategy 2024 - 2029 (CWB) (GPP)	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div></div> <div>Amber * 1</div>	<div></div> <div>—</div>
Notes:	1 The Strategy has been adopted by Council and work is ongoing, however the formal launch is delayed whilst the Brand is finalised.		
Continue to invest in and deliver major Sustainable Tourism Capital projects that will attract visitors to NI and the district (CWB) (SCC)	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div></div> <div>—</div>	<div></div> <div>—</div>
Promote collection of new visitor experiences which focus on outdoor adventure, food and drink and Heritage and Culture.	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div></div> <div>Green * 1</div>	<div></div> <div>—</div>
Notes:	1 The Mourne Mountains & Ring of Gullion region has promoted its food, drink, culture, heritage, and adventure experiences through various initiatives. In April 2024, 70 key stakeholders, tour operators, destination management companies and influencers attended the launch of new outdoor and adventure experiences, with guests sampling at least four activities. This reinforced the region's appeal as a top adventure tourism destination. Digital marketing campaigns targeting the ROI, showcasing food and drink, outdoor, and cultural experiences, alongside a dedicated campaign for the Amgen Irish Open. In partnership with Tourism Ireland and Tourism Northern Ireland, 20 familiarisation trips were arranged for travel operators, journalists, and influencers.		
Continue the delivery of Councils Arts, Culture and Heritage strategy.	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div></div> <div>Amber * 1</div>	<div></div> <div>—</div>

	Notes:	1 The recent filling of a number of key vacant posts in the CAHE team will allow improved delivery of the actions set out in the Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategy		
Continue to support the delivery of the new Newry Arts, Theatre and Conference facility and develop options for Operating Model		Target		
		Progress	Amber ¹	—
	Notes:	1 Engagement is ongoing with the Arts sector but the delay in securing planning permission is impacting on the delivery of the new Theatre.		
Develop a range of engagement opportunities with the Arts Sector		Target		
		Progress	Amber ¹	—
	Notes:	1 The recently secured funding for district wide arts festival will provide an opportunity for engagement with the Arts Sector		
Deliver and review the Tourism events programme and maximise opportunities from the Irish Open. (CWB)		Target		
		Progress	Green ¹	—
	Notes:	1 Successful delivery of the 2024 events programme including the Irish Open fringe events in Newcastle. The review of the tourism events programme was presented to members on 29th October 2024		
Review and implementation of NMD Museum forward plans.		Target		
		Progress	Amber ¹	—
	Notes:	1 The forward plans for the museum will be reviewed and implemented with the appointment of the two new Curators (currently going through the pre-appointment process).		
Increase accessibility to museums through engagement programme with community and visitors.		Target		
		Progress	Amber ¹	—
	Notes:	1 A vibrant, accessible and busy engagement programme is being delivered in Newry Museum. The Education Officer in Down Museum is currently being recruited and once this is completed, a similar programme will be delivered in Down Museum.		
ERT5 : Protect and enhance the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty across the District				
Visitor spend (£)		Target		
		Progress	Green ¹	—
	Notes:	1 The spend for NMD in 2023 was £79,172,950. NISRA has advised due to methodology changing this will be our baseline		
Volume of overnight stays in the district		Target		
		Progress	Green ¹	—
	Notes:	1 The volume of overnight stays to NMD reported by NISRA in 2023 was 482,981. Due to a change in methodology NISRA have advised 2023 should be the baseline year.		
Visitor satisfaction		Target	83%	
		Actual	76% ¹	—
	Notes:	1 In response to this feedback Council has put in place a mobile vendors service across sites which includes a new service at Kilbroney to provide tea/coffee in the carpark to address queues in the cafe. A new cafe provision will be in place at Castlewellan Forest park next year with works already underway. Council also has design concepts in development at both Delamont and Kilbroney which includes interpretation and the Castlewellan Forest Park restoration project due to be completed in May 2025 includes interpretation and signage		

Investment into tourism capital projects		<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div></div> <div>Green +1</div>	<div></div> <div>—</div>
	Notes:	1 The Council has an ongoing programme of investment. The Fallows Walking Trail completed in the period with all signage and waymarking in place. Total investment £1.4million. Other projects including Namia and Delamont are preparatory phase with investment of £80,000		
Management of the Ring of Gullion and Strangford & Lecale AONBs through implementation of NI Environment Fund projects focusing on 1) Nature and Climate Recovery: Building Ecological and Climate Resilience, Landscape, water, habitats, species and earth science. 2) Connecting People with the Environment: Connecting with the natural environment, understanding it and taking action to have a positive effect on it (SCC)		<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div></div> <div>Green +1</div>	<div></div> <div>—</div>
	Notes:	1 From April to September 2024, the Ring of Gullion and Strangford & Lecale AONBs achieved significant progress through NI Environment Fund projects. Key activities included conducting partnership meetings, forums, and steering group sessions as planned; delivering programmed training (WeBs), species recordings and tree nursery management etc. We engaged the public at various festivals and events, focusing on nature and climate recovery across landscapes, water bodies, habitats, species, and earth sciences. The Slieve Gullion upland trail network was maintained, several public communications were published, and enhancements to the Tyrella dune erosion project were completed. Efforts to tackle litter continued in collaboration with communities via a loan scheme of equipment, and the Aids to Navigation report for Strangford Lough was finalised. These initiatives cultivated a deeper community connection with the natural environment, fostering engagement and environmental stewardship.		
Development and implementation of the Geo Park plan Continued stewardship of Landscape partnership legacy programme (CPP) (SCC)		<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div></div> <div>Green +1</div>	<div></div> <div>—</div>
	Notes:	1 Geo Park management and promotion continues. Officers attended management meetings. We continue to support the Landscape Partnership legacy programme in line the ten year Legacy Plan (Lúnasa Festival and Partners Projects).		
Identifying opportunities, collaborating and developing funding applications aligned to Council corporate priorities (SCC)		<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div></div> <div>Green +1</div>	<div></div> <div>—</div>
	Notes:	1 We have identified funding opportunities aligned with Council priorities, including submitting applications to Peace Plus 5.1 and 5.2 for a peatlands project in Gullion and Mourne, and a coastal marine project. We also secured 100% funding for trail development and maintenance along the Lecale Way.		
Continued stewardship of Landscape partnership legacy programme (SCC)		<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div></div> <div>Green +1</div>	<div></div> <div>—</div>
	Notes:	1 We continue to support the Landscape Partnership legacy programme in line the ten year Legacy Plan (Lúnasa Festival and Partners Projects)		
Regeneration				
ERT6 : A statutory duty to apply the Building Regulations and licensing obligations of Council				
Maintain the percentage time for processing Domestic BC applications within 21 days to 82%		<div>Target</div> <div>Actual</div>	<div>82%</div> <div>87%</div>	<div>82%</div> <div>—</div>
Maintain the percentage time for processing Commercial BC applications within 35 days to 82%		<div>Target</div> <div>Actual</div>	<div>82%</div> <div>84%</div>	<div>82%</div> <div>—</div>

Maintain the percentage time for processing all application returns within 14 days to 86%	Target	86%	86%
	Actual	95%	—
Increase number of online applications by a further 5%	Target	5%	5%
	Actual	50%	—
Maintain the processing times of BC applications. (SCC)	Target		
	Progress	Green	—
Engage with regional partners and Department for Infrastructure in relation to regulations to ensure continued alignment to emerging requirements of sustainability. (SCC)	Target		
	Progress	—	—
Engage with partners internal and external to ensure an efficient and effective licencing department.	Target		
	Progress	—	—
Implement public realm schemes in Warrenpoint, Downpatrick, Saintfield, Castlewellan, Bessbrook and Rostrevor (SCC)	Target		
	Progress	Green ^{* 1}	—
Notes:	1 schemes completed, final defects to be completed after 1 year		
Complete Cross Border Greenway (SCC)	Target		
	Progress	—	—
ERT7 : Provide a robust, efficient and responsive development management service within the Council Planning Department			
Average processing time for local planning applications of 15 weeks	Target	15	15
	Actual	43.1 ^{* 1}	—
Notes:	1 During Q1 2024-25, the average processing time for local planning applications was 43.1 weeks which is above the regional average of 19.0 weeks. When compared to Q1 2023-24, this represents an increase of 14.5 weeks for Newry, Mourne and Down.		
Average processing time for major planning applications of 30 weeks	Target	30	30
	Actual	118.5 ^{* 1}	—
Notes:	1 During Q1 2024-25, the average processing time for major planning applications was 118.5 weeks which is above the regional average of 38.6 weeks. When compared to Q1 2023-24 however, this represents a decrease of 394.5 weeks for Newry, Mourne and Down.		
Reduce the number of planning applications in the system for more than 12 months to 150	Target	150	150
	Actual	397 ^{* 1}	—
Notes:	1 As at 30 June 2024, Newry, Mourne and Down had 397 planning applications in the system for 12 months or more. This represents an increase of 45 applications when compared to March 2024 and 157 applications when compared to 30 June 2023. A reduction of 247 applications is required to achieve the annual target.		
Reduce the number of planning applications in the system for less than 12 months to 700	Target	700	700
	Actual	1108 ^{* 1}	—
Notes:	1 As at 30 June 2024, Newry, Mourne and Down had 1,108 planning applications in the system for 12 months or less. This represents a decrease of 46 applications when compared to 31 March 2024 and an increase of 84 applications when compared to 30 June 2023. A reduction of 408 applications is required to achieve the annual target.		

Continual review of service to ensure statutory targets are achieved.	Target		
	Progress	Amber * 1	—
Notes:	1 Reports ongoing to SMT and SPR around service review etc		
Engagement with stakeholders to ensure a collaborative approach to development management service (CPP)	Target		
	Progress	Amber * 1	—
Notes:	1 ongoing, workshop planned Q4		
Capacity building across the sector to better understand the challenges within the planning service and role of consultees. (CPP)	Target		
	Progress	Amber * 1	—
Notes:	1 ongoing work with agents and applicants etc		
ERT8 : Progress the preparation and delivery of the Local Development Plan (LDP) in accordance with the agreed timeframe to direct future land use across the district.			
Progress against agreed timetable.	Target		
	Progress	Green	—
Engage with key stakeholders to ensure the LDP is fully reflective of local development requirements and aligns to planning policy. (CPP) (SCC)	Target		
	Progress	Green * 1	—
Notes:	1 ongoing engagement and members workshops		
Ensure the LDP is reflective of Councils key strategic priorities as reflected in key strategies. (CPP)	Target		
	Progress	Green	—
ERT9 : Provide a robust, efficient and effective planning enforcement function within the Council planning department to address breaches of planning control.			
70% of planning enforcement cases are processed within 39 weeks	Target	70%	70%
	Actual	40.8%	—
Reduce the number of enforcement cases in the system for more than 12 months to 450	Target	450	450
	Actual	598	—
Delivery against the statutory targets (SCC)	Target		
	Progress	Red * 1	—
Notes:	1 Statutory targets not met		
Engage with key stakeholders around regulations and the impact of noncompliance on planning policy. (CPP)	Target		
	Progress	Amber * 1	—
Notes:	1 ongoing engagement		

Report to:	Economy, Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Date of Meeting:	Monday 11 November 2024
Subject:	Development Naming, Postal Numbering and Erection of Nameplates Policy
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Jonathan McGilly, Assistant Director of Regeneration
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Paula Hughes, Senior Licensing Officer

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 Development Naming, Postal Numbering and Erection of Nameplates Policy.</p> <p><u>Background</u> The Council's Licensing Section set down Policies for dealing with Development Naming, Postal Numbering and Erection of Nameplates.</p> <p>The powers of the Council are laid out in Legislation under: Article 11 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1995.</p> <p>Council to review Policies every 4 years.</p>
2.0	Key issues
2.1	<p>The following Policy is set down for review:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Development Naming, Postal Numbering and Erection of Nameplates Policy
2.2	<p>Further to a tribunal decision in relation to the disclosure of dual-language survey results and advice obtained regarding data protection, it was recommended 'Not to disclose the breakdown of the dual language survey results'. As a result, there are no changes to Development Naming, Postal Numbering and Erection of Nameplates Policy.</p> <p>The Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area contains a lot of rural areas, and when applying the 'motivated intruder test' publication of results may lead to the</p>

	identification of individuals where there are small consultation numbers, or where local knowledge could be used to identify household responses.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	To consider and approve the attached Development Naming, Postal Numbering and Erection of Nameplates Policy
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of existing policy documents • Preparation of amendments.
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input 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 checked="" 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>

	<i>Rationale:</i>
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	Appendices
	Appx - Development Naming, Postal Numbering and Erection of Nameplates Policy
8.0	Background Documents
	n/a



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

Development Naming, Postal Numbering and Erection of Nameplates Policy

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

Economy, Regeneration and Tourism Department

Dated: 11 November 2024

1.0 Policy Statement

- 1.1 To provide for easy identification of premises by postal services, emergency and delivery services, utility providers and the general public. To ensure signage and naming provisions are delivered in a fair and equitable manner.
- 1.2 To have regard for the protection and promotion of minority languages.

2.0 Policy Aims and Objectives

- 2.1 To assist with way-finding, to strengthen 'pride-in-place', to capture and reflect local townland names/local geographical features/historical feature/events/cultures etc. thereby safeguarding local history and traditional place names for future generations.
- 2.2 To control inappropriate references and suggestions, duplication, disassociation of 'name-to-place' and business interests. To avoid names that are capable of misinterpretation or phonetically similar or which could cause offence. To assist Developers/Agents or other interested parties in choosing an appropriate name.
- 2.3 To facilitate the proper preservation and signposting of Irish and Ulster-Scots place-names and the naming of new housing developments.
- 2.4 To provide a consistent approach to the naming/re-naming of streets across the whole District Council area.
- 2.5 The Council shall allocate a budget for the erection of new road nameplates. This budget must be appropriate and should be kept under review based on the previous year's expenditure.
- 2.6 The Council have delegated powers of decision making to the Director of the Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Department. For the purpose of the implementation of this policy objective, the Director shall implement the principles of progressive realisation when making a decision, in other words the Director shall consider the aspirational policy objectives when making a decision, but to do so in a way that will take into consideration any views expressed by the residents/public/councillors.

3.0 Scope

- 3.1 The statutory basis for this Policy is contained within Article 11 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1995. It empowers Council's to authorise street names within its area of control. This Order provides for Street naming; Street numbering and the provision of Street signs. It also gives Councils the discretionary power to erect dual language Street signs or secondary nameplates in a language other than English.

- 3.2 In carrying out research for this Policy, the Council has considered the St. Andrews/Good Friday Agreement; The European Charter for Regional and Minority Languages (ratified March 2011); Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 and Legal opinion.

4.0 Naming of New Streets / Developments

4.1 Purpose

To provide guidelines for the naming of new streets or developments. Proposals linked to traditional place names will be favourably received. Suggested names that have the support of local historic/cultural or community groups will be encouraged.

4.2 Criteria

To maintain the rich cultural heritage of the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area, in naming a street the criteria below must be followed: -

1. Shall express the name in English.
2. Reflect the local townland name, or a local geographical/topographical feature or social, or historical feature.
3. Shall not incorporate a person's name unless it is in keeping with the point (2) above.
4. The prefix of the name can only be the same as an existing street or road name prefix in the locality if it is accessed from that street or road.
5. To avoid confusion over addresses the name should not sound similar to an existing street or road name in that locality.
6. Although not prescriptive or exhaustive the running order/hierarchy should follow an easily understood pattern: -

Road / Street / Avenue / Drive / View / Lane / Close / Alley.

- 4.3 The erected nameplate shall express the name in English; and may express that name in any other language, in accordance with the Council's Bilingualism Policy and parts 6.1-6.5 of its Dual Language Street Nameplates Criteria.
- 4.4 The local townland name shall be placed at the bottom of all new nameplates. Single language townland names shall be provided on single language nameplates and dual-language townland names shall be placed on all new dual language nameplates.
- 4.5 The name of the street cannot be used for the purposes of any statutory provision in a language other than English.
- 4.6 Building Names are not controlled by Legislation and do not form part of this Policy.

5.0 Existing Streets - Renaming Streets or Renumbering Buildings

5.1 Purpose

To provide guidance on the renaming or renumbering of existing streets/roads in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (NI) Order 1995.

5.2 Criteria

The renaming or renumbering of existing streets will normally only be considered in the following circumstances: -

1. Where a street name has been 'lost' – 'lost' means there is NO verifiable record of the street name.
2. To reinstate a traditional or incorrectly spelt name – Spelling to be verified against Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland data in the first instance. Where a spelling cannot be verified by Ordnance Survey of NI, it may be referred to Queens University Place Names of Northern Ireland data.
3. Where the Emergency Services have reported problems in identifying/locating the street.
4. Where Mail Delivery services or other Statutory Bodies have reported difficulties in locating a street.
5. To remove any confusion with similar street names in the locality.
6. Upon receipt of a petition, signed by not less than 50% of the residents of a street/road to change the name.

The process of renaming of streets and renumbering of buildings shall be in accordance with sections 1-16 of the council's Change of Name of Street or Road Procedure.

6.0 Dual Language Street Nameplates

6.1 Purpose

To provide guidance for the provision of dual-language street nameplate expressing the name of the street in a language other than English, in accordance with the Council's Bilingualism Policy to both existing and new streets.

6.2 Legal Requirement

The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (NI) Order 1995 Article 11 provides for street naming, street numbering and the provision of street nameplates. It also gives Councils the **discretionary** power to erect dual language street nameplates or secondary nameplates in a language other than English.

6.3 Criteria

- Have regard of any views on the matter expressed by occupiers of the street.
- For the purposes of this policy residents shall be taken to be a person who resides in a dwelling (one person per dwelling over the age of 18) (including a house, flat, maisonette or house in multiple occupancy (HMO)) located on the street, plus the owner or tenant in actual possession of commercial premises, but not employees within such premises.
- An Elected member can submit a request for a dual-language nameplate on behalf of residents in their electoral area'. (Elected members shall provide the name and address of the resident(s) who they are submitting the request on behalf of.)
- The name of the street cannot be used for the purposes of any statutory provision in a language other than English.

6.4 The provision of dual-language street nameplates will normally only be considered in the following circumstances:

6.4.1 In the case of new developments/streets, where the Council has received a request from the developer to do so.

6.4.2 Where a request has been received from the developer per. 6.4.1 above, the council shall consult with the relevant DEA councillors for consent. Where no consensus is reached, the request will be brought before the Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism committee for decision.

6.4.3 In the case of existing streets, where the Council has received a request in accordance with the criteria above.

6.4.4 Where a dual-language street nameplate is to be erected, only the traditional and correct forms of the place-name shall be used.

6.4.5 Where a simple majority of responding residents have indicated that they are in favour of the erection of a dual -language street nameplate, then the proposal will be presented to the Director of the Economy, Regeneration and Tourism Department for consideration recommending that the dual-language street nameplate is erected. The Director having considered the request may agree to permit or not permit the erection of the nameplate.

6.4.6 The local townland name shall be placed at the bottom of all new nameplates. Single language townland names shall be provided on single language nameplates and dual-language townland names shall be placed on all new dual language nameplates.

7.0 Enforcement and Complaints Handling

7.1 Purpose

1. Where it is necessary to consider enforcement action to ensure the display of the correct names and numbers, action will be taken under Article 11 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (NI) Order 1995.
2. Where complaints regarding street nameplates and numbering are received, these shall be investigated and actioned in accordance with the complaints procedure.

7.2 Criteria

The following actions shall be considered for enforcement: -

1. Obscuring of nameplates.
2. Removing or defacing of nameplates.
3. Erection of a nameplate showing the street name different to the approved name.
4. No building number displayed.

8.0 Related Policies/Strategies/Legal Requirements

1. Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Bilingualism Policy and Procedures
2. Department of Transport Circular Roads
3. DCAL Strategy to Enhance and Protect the Development of the Irish Language 2015-2035
4. DCAL Strategy to Enhance and Develop the Ulster-Scots Language, Heritage and Culture 2015-2035.
5. Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1995

9.0 Definitions

- 9.1 Street – includes Road, Street, Avenue, Drive, Lane, Close, Gardens, Alley or other similar suffix.

10. Policy Owner

Mr. Conor Mallon, Director of Economy, Regeneration and Tourism Department

Contact details in regard of this policy are:

Mr Jonathan McGilly
 Assistant Director of Economy, Regeneration and Tourism
 Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
 O'Hagan House
 Monaghan Row
 Newry, BT35 8DJ

Telephone: 0330 137 4000

11. Policy Authorisation

Development Committee Meeting Authorised on	11 November 2024
Council Authorised on	02 December 2024

12. Policy Effective Date – 02nd December 2024

13. Policy Review Date – 02nd December 2028 (or sooner as required)

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).

14. Equality Screening

This policy has been screened in accordance with the provision of Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998. The outcome of the equality screening is that the Gaming and Amusement Policy will not be subject to an equality impact assessment (with no mitigating measures required).

15. Rural Impact Assessment

The Policy has been subject to rural needs assessment.

Report to:	Economy, Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Date of Meeting:	Monday 11 November 2024
Subject:	Belfast City and Region Place Partnership
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Conor Mallon Director: Economy, Regeneration and Tourism
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Amanda Smyth Assistant Director: Economy, Growth and Tourism

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 membership with Belfast City & Region Place Partnership for 2025/26 period at the cost outlined in section 4 of the report.</p> <p><u>Background</u> The Belfast City & Region Place Partnership brings together key public, private and third sector representatives who are all passionate about creating places and presenting a compelling vision for our future where people want to live, study, work, visit and invest.</p> <p>By collaborating across multiple sectors and bringing together local authorities, developers and professionals from various industries, the Partnership is able to showcase the region's expanding portfolio of transformative opportunities.</p>
2.0	Key issues
2.1	<p>The Belfast City & Region Place Partnership is delivering an annual place-based promotional programme to help ensure that the Belfast region is positioned to continue attracting investment and delivering sustainable, inclusive growth.</p> <p>Membership of the Partnership includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investment Focused Events: Presence at international real estate investment conferences, UKREiiF 2025 and MIPIM 2025, to showcase the Belfast region to a global audience. • Engagement & Advocacy: An engagement and advocacy programme will facilitate two way conversations with policy makers and showcase real estate opportunities to the investor community. It will positively position the Belfast region as a place that's open for business and investment • Research: Research aligned to the impact of real estate investment to inform the city and wider city region proposition and narrative • Communications: Media engagement reinforcing positive messaging around the Belfast region's investment proposition through international marketing and communication campaigns, targeting the national and international real estate investment and development community.

	<p>Programme Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • continue to build collaboration and partnership in the city and wider region; • continue to promote and market the Belfast region outside Northern Ireland; • increase engagement and advocacy with key stakeholders, in particular investors and government; • support delivery of the Belfast Region City Deal programme of investment by attracting collaborative partners; • deliver our shared ambition to drive inclusive, sustainable growth. <p>In addition, BRCD Partner package includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 x delegate passes to UKREiIF 2025 and access to reduced rate delegated passes • 2 x delegate passes to MIPIM 2025 • Invitation to join dedicated investment showcase in Dublin / London • Participation in dedicated BRCD showcase • Opportunity to promote investment and regeneration activities through BCRPP marketing activities
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	To approve membership with Belfast City & Region Place Partnership for 2025/26 period at the cost outlined in section 4 of the report.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	Annual membership cost of the Belfast City & Region Place Partnership is £15,000 which has been considered as part of the 2025/26 rate estimate proposals.
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 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 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></p>
6.0	<p>Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)</p>
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 type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	<p>Appendices</p>
	<p>n/a</p>
8.0	<p>Background Documents</p>
	<p>n/a</p>

Report to:	Economy, Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Date of Meeting:	Monday 11 th November 2024
Subject:	Digital Transformation Flexible Fund (DTFF)
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Amanda Smyth Assistant Director: Economy, Growth and Tourism
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Michael Forster FFNI Operations Lead

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

For decision	For noting only	x
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1.0	<p><u>Purpose</u></p> <p>To provide an update to elected members on the £7.5m Digital Transformation Flexible Fund grant (DTFF).</p> <p>This is a key project within the City and Growth deals digital ecosystem and is managed and administrated by Newry, Mourne and Down District Council on behalf of all Councils in Northern Ireland under the FFNI Consortium.</p> <p><u>Background</u></p> <p>DTFF is an important programme delivered right across all of Northern Ireland. It has been designed to stimulate Digital Transformation and innovation in our small and micro businesses. These types of business generally do not have the capital reserves or resources to start to experiment, prototype and deliver new products or services using new and emerging technologies.</p> <p>The focus of the fund is purely on innovative technologies, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Smart environments and the Internet of Things (sensors)• Simulation, process automation and additive manufacturing (robotics)• Big data and analytics• Immersive technologies (Virtual and Augmented reality)• Artificial Intelligence and machine learning• Blockchain technologies and more <p>DTFF compliments and aligns with a number of other important projects in the Digital and Innovation pillars and is an important step forward in Councils</p>
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	positioning their intent to drive their local economies – with an increasing focus on innovation support for our local businesses.												
2	Key Issues												
2.1	<p>Progress to date:</p> <p>DTFF officially launched in November 2023 and to date has delivered three successful calls. The project is due to run until March 2026 with a further 4 calls planned.</p> <p>The latest call has seen a significant uplift in the number of applications and the quality of applications submitted to the programme has increased resulting in a higher number of Letters of Offer being issued to successful businesses.</p> <p>NMDDC officials continue to work with all Councils through Go Succeed and external stakeholders such as Digital Catapult, FE Colleges, Universities and Invest NI, to ensure local businesses continue to make use of the DTFF grant to realise their digital transformation ambitions.</p> <p>In terms of successful applications, the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area has placed 3rd out of the 11 Council regions after Belfast City Council and Mid Ulster district Council areas. There is also a much stronger response than originally estimated in the outline business from a rural businesses perspective across all Councils.</p> <table><tr><th>Stage</th><th>Call 1 - Nov23</th><th>Call 2 - Mar24</th><th>Call 3 – June 24</th></tr><tr><td>Expressions of Interest received</td><td>135 Rural 67 / Urban 68</td><td>207 Rural 93 / Urban 114 (53% increase from Call 1)</td><td>246 Rural 107 / Urban 139 (82% increase from Call 1)</td></tr><tr><td>Eligible to submit a full application. Eligibility – Digital Transformation</td><td>108</td><td>153 (41% increase from Call 1)</td><td>178 (64% increase from Call 1) (16% increase from Call 2)</td></tr></table>	Stage	Call 1 - Nov23	Call 2 - Mar24	Call 3 – June 24	Expressions of Interest received	135 Rural 67 / Urban 68	207 Rural 93 / Urban 114 (53% increase from Call 1)	246 Rural 107 / Urban 139 (82% increase from Call 1)	Eligible to submit a full application. Eligibility – Digital Transformation	108	153 (41% increase from Call 1)	178 (64% increase from Call 1) (16% increase from Call 2)
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	Flexible Fund (dtff.co.uk)			
	Full Applications received	63 29 Rural / 34 Urban	78 34 Rural / 44 Urban (23% increase from Call 1)	122 50 Rural / 72 Urban (93% increase from call 1) (56% increase from call 2)
	Letters of Offer issued Scoring assessment completed by QUB and all Councils.	45 NMDDC area: 5 - £65k	37 NMDDC area: 5 - £70k (-17% decrease from Call 1) Quality of applications for this call was lower. Applicants also requesting operational items (laptops, printers etc which DTFF cannot fund.)	89 NMDDC Area: 10 - £161k (97% increase from call 1) (140% increase from call 2)
	Value	£533,467.10	£610,251.50	£1,432,396.24
2.2	Examples of projects funded so far have included applications for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The use of Virtual Reality for architectural concept design, training, Health and Safety use cases and motion traction suits. Robotics for packing, laser cutting and welding. Artificial Intelligence Induced Manufacturing and AI Data platforms. Digital Twins – using 3D scanning software, LIDAR and photonics to create digital copies of a physical assets e.g. buildings or machinery etc. Big Data – to predict and forecast customer trends and analyse sales to provide data driven decision making. 			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IoT and Advanced wireless sensors on food production lines along with predictive maintenance of machinery. SMART building management i.e. sensors for heating, humidity control, monitoring factory lines.
3.0	Recommendations
	<p>To note the contents of the report providing an update on delivery of the Digital Transformation Fund (DTFF)</p> <p>To note that Call 4 of the DTFF is due to launch in March 2025 and Expressions of Interest are currently open: www.dtff.co.uk</p>
4.0	Resource implications
	N/A - The revenue element is funded through each of the FFNI Consortium partners (all Councils). Revenue contributions from all Councils have already been approved up to March 2026.
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 <input type="checkbox"/></p>

	<p>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)</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:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	Appendices
	DTFF Flyer
8.0	Background Documents
	n/a



Digital Transformation Flexible Fund



The Digital Transformation Flexible Fund (DTFF) is a demand led grant scheme aimed at establishing a Northern Ireland wide fund to stimulate digital innovation.

It seeks to address the financial barriers to the adoption of advanced digital technologies to achieve business transformation amongst small and micro-businesses.

Funding Available:

The DTFF will enable the purchasing of capital equipment and/or resources for 'off the shelf' software solutions and/or bespoke system development, based on the following advanced digital technologies:



Smart technologies/smart environments, the Internet of Things (IoT) and simulation



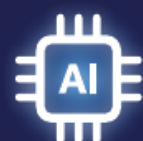
Process automation via robotics/cobotics, additive manufacturing



Big-data and analytics



Immersive Technologies (AR/VR/MR/Haptics)



Artificial intelligence and machine learning



Horizontal and vertical system integration, distributed ledger systems/blockchain technologies



dtff.co.uk

**£5,000 -
£20,000**

Eligible businesses can access between £5,000 to £20,000 ex VAT to cover up to 70% of the total value of an investment project.

30%

All applicants will be required to provide 30% matched co-investment of the overall project costs.

Applicant Eligibility:

Businesses wishing to access the Digital Transformation Flexible Fund must:

- Be based in Northern Ireland and operate within 1 of the 11 local Council areas;
- Be a small or micro-business;
- Be VAT registered;
- Be actively trading for a minimum of 12 months;
- Have a Digital Transformation Plan or equivalent;
- Be centred on one or more of the six advanced digital technologies.

The Programme is open to all sectors with the exception of primary agriculture, forestry and fisheries.



For more information and how to apply, please scan the QR code or visit us online.

dtff.co.uk
0330 137 4052
dtff@nmandd.org

The Digital Transformation Flexible Fund (DTFF) is delivered by all local authorities in Northern Ireland under the Full Fibre Northern Ireland Consortium (FFNI) and supported by Invest NI. The project is part funded by the NI Executive, UK Government, Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) and all local authorities in Northern Ireland.



**Northern Ireland
Executive**
www.northernireland.gov.uk



Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**
www.daera-ni.gov.uk



UK Government



**Invest
Northern
Ireland**



**Antrim and
Newtownabbey
BOROUGH COUNCIL**



**Ards and
North Down
Borough Council**



**Armagh City
Banbridge & Craigavon
Borough Council**



**Belfast
City Council**



**Causeway
Coast & Glens
Borough Council**



City of Derry
www.derry.gov.uk



**Fermanagh & Omagh
District Council**
Comhairle Ceantair
Fhear Manach agus an Ómaí



**Lisburn &
Castlereagh
City Council**



**Mid & East
Antrim
Borough Council**



**Mid Ulster
District Council**
Comhairle Ceantair
Lár Uladh



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

Report to:	Economy, Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Date of Meeting:	Monday 11 November 2024
Subject:	Removal of the Ballykinlar Hut from Down County Museum
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Amanda Smyth Assistant Director: Economy, Growth and Tourism
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Catriona Regan Head of Culture Arts and Tourism

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

For decision	For noting only	X
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1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	<p><u>Purpose</u> To advise members of the Expression of Interest process for the removal of Ballykinlar Hut.</p> <p><u>Background</u> The Ballykinlar Hut was an EU Peace IV funded project that involved the recreation and interpretation of a 1910s era timber hut from Ballykinlar Camp in the courtyard of Down County Museum. The site of the original hut was excavated after its removal and many finds were collected for future display. The recreation of the hut at the museum provided a safe, weatherproof and accessible building to display material from the different eras and inhabitants of the hut from 1910 to the present.</p>
2.0	Key issues
2.1	<p>As a funded project and temporary structure, the Ballykinlar Hut Project was designed and constructed with a limited lifespan. Down County Museum is located in a listed building, (an 18th Century Gaol), and planning permission for the project was timebound due to the heritage status of the site. The intention at the end of the project was to identify an organisation that with take on the ownership and responsibility of removing and reusing the Hut and its contents.</p> <p>The Hut will have a legacy through its removal to another site within the NMDDC area. The artefacts which are a part of the museum collection, may be used in future related displays, articles and other outputs. Additionally, a publication featuring the stories of the inhabitants of the huts will be published.</p> <p>Council agreed in June 2023 (ERT/073/2023) to undertake a process to identify a group to remove and reuse the hut and its contents. The museum staff plan to undertake an Expression of Interest exercise to have the hut removed in a safe and</p>

cost-effective manner by a suitable interested party before the end of the 24/25 financial year and reused as an exhibition for public benefit. This will be assessed through an Expression of Interest process.

An expression of interest document with scoring criteria has been prepared with the support of an independent consultant, who will also be a member of the scoring panel. The Expression of Interest will be advertised in November.

Requirements

The Council would like to find a suitable organisation to remove and relocate the Ballykinlar Hut from Down County Museum, Downpatrick to ensure its ongoing public benefit to residents and visitors to the NMDDC area.

The successful organisation will:

1. Be a not-for-profit organisation preferably a registered charity.
2. Have good governance structures in place.
3. Be a sustainable organisation with good financial planning and management.
4. Have the full support of its board and/or membership for acquiring and maintaining the Ballykinlar Hut
5. Have an appropriate site for the Ballykinlar Hut, within the NMDDC area, which is either fully owned by the organisation or secured for a period of at least 20 years.
6. Have a track record of successfully delivering projects.

The successful organisation will need to submit a full project plan for approval prior to commencing any work on site. This will include:-

1. £5 million Public Liability Insurance Certificate.
2. Health and Safety arrangements.
3. Risk Assessments.
4. Fire Risk Assessments.
5. Propose a management group who will have project oversight and delegate responsibility from the governing body to implement the project, authorise spend related to the project and complete all necessary monitoring and evaluation of the project.
6. Work up detailed and costed plans for removal of the Ballykinlar Hut to their premises.
7. Have in place, or be seeking, the necessary permissions to build the hut at their premises.
8. Have the finances available or be able to raise the finances to relocate the hut and to maintain and resource the plans for the Hut going forward.

Scope of the Project

- Remove the structure and the contents of the hut.
- Alternatively, interested parties can declare an interest in the structure only.
- Preference will be given to parties who are able to find a future purpose for both the structure and its contents.
- Parties interested in the contents only will not be considered eligible.

	<p>Timescales</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertise of Expression of interest 18th November 2024 • Returns submitted by 9th December 2024 • Removal of all structure and equipment must have taken place by end March 2025.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	To note the Expression of Interest process for the removal of Ballykinlar Hut.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	None
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 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 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><input type="checkbox"/></p>

	Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided)
	<i>Rationale:</i>
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 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