

August 10th, 2023

### **Notice Of Meeting**

You are requested to attend the Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting to be held on **Monday, 14th August 2023** at **6:00 pm** in **Boardroom Council Offices Monaghan Row Newry**.

### **Committee Membership 2023 - 2024**

Councillor M Ruane **Chairperson**

Councillor G Kearns **Deputy Chairperson**

Councillor T Andrews

Councillor C Bowsie

Councillor P Campbell

Councillor W Clarke

Councillor C Galbraith

Councillor G Hanna

Councillor C King

Councillor D Lee-Surginor

Councillor S Murphy

Councillor A Quinn

Councillor M Savage

Councillor J Tinnelly

Councillor J Truesdale

# Agenda

**1.0 Apologies and Chairperson's remarks.**

**2.0 Declarations of Interest.**

**3.0 Action Sheet: Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting - June 2023. (Attached)**

 *ERT Action Sheet - June 2023.pdf*

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## *Notices of Motion*

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**4.0 C/131/2023 - Notice of Motion re: Disposable Barbeques. (Attached)**

 *ERT Report - Notice of Motion - Proposed Ban of Disposable BBQs.pdf*

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## *Economy Growth & Tourism*

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**5.0 Consumer Trade Shows 2023 - 2024. (Attached)**

 *ERT Report - Consumer Trade shows 2023-2024.pdf*

*Page 12*

**6.0 Digital Transformation Flexible Fund. (Attached)**

 *ERT Report - Digital Transformation Flexible Fund (DTFF).pdf*

*Page 15*

**7.0 Downpatrick Living High Street Framework. (Attached)**

 *ERT Report - Downpatrick Living High Street Framework.pdf*

*Page 18*

**8.0 Financial Assistance. (Attached)**

 *ERT Report - Financial Assistance.pdf*

*Page 21*

**9.0 Labour Market Partnership. (Attached)**

 *ERT Report - Labour Market Partnership .pdf*

*Page 24*

**10.0 Museum Accreditation. (Attached)**

 *ERT Report - Museums Accreditation.pdf*

*Page 27*

 *Appx. Museums Accreditation Newry Mourne Down.pdf*

*Page 31*

## 11.0 DAERA Funding for AONBs & MPAs. (Attached)

 *ERT Report - DAERA Funding for AONBs & MPAs.pdf*

*Page 61*

## 12.0 PEACE Plus Programme Action Plan. (Attached)

 *ERT Report - PEACE Plus Programme Action Plan.pdf*

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 *Appx. PEACE Plus Executive Summary.pdf*

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### ***Restricted - For Decision***

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## 13.0 Additional Campsite Security. (Attached)

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

 *ERT Report - Additional Campsite Security.pdf*

*Not included*

## 14.0 AONB Service Level Agreements. (Attached)

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

 *ERT Report - AONB Service Level Agreements .pdf*

*Not included*

## 15.0 Cross Border M1 Axis Business Improvement Programme. (Attached)

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

 *ERT Report - Cross Border M1 Axis Buisness Improvment Programme.pdf*

*Not included*

## 16.0 National Trust SLA Extension - Murlough Beach. (Attached)

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

 *ERT Report - National Trust SLA Extension - Murlough Beach .pdf*

*Not included*

## 17.0 Newry Chamber Music - Service Level Agreement. (Attached)

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

 **ERT Report - Newry Chamber Music Service Level Agreement.pdf**

**Not included**

## 18.0 St Patrick's Day Community Parade Newry. (Attached)

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

 **ERT Report - St Patrick's Day Community Parade Newry.pdf**

**Not included**

 **Appx. St Patrick's Day Community Parade Full Business Case - RESTRICTED.pdf**

**Not included**

## 19.0 Warrenpoint Front Shore Public Realm Scheme. (Attached)

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

 **ERT Report - Warrenpoint Front Shore Public Realm Scheme .pdf**

**Not included**

 **Appx. Warrenpoint Front Shore Public Realm Business Case RESTRICTED.pdf**

**Not included**

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***Restricted - For Noting***

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## 20.0 Eats & Beats Festival Sponsorship 2023. (Attached)

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

 **ERT Report - Eats & Beats Festival Sponsorship 2023.pdf**

**Not included**

## 21.0 Halloween & Christmas Events Funding. (Attached)

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



excluded during this item of business.

 *ERT Report - Halloween Christmas Events 2023.pdf*

*Not included*

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***For Noting***

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**22.0 Business Development Programmes - Update. (Attached)**

 *ERT Report - Business Development Programme Update.pdf*

*Page 69*

**23.0 ERT Historic Action Tracker Sheet. (Attached)**

 *ERT Historic Action Tracker Sheet - for August 2023 Mtg.pdf*

*Page 75*

**24.0 Interim Business Mentor Support Programme - Update.  
(Attached)**

 *ERT Report - Interim Business Mentor Support Programme Update.pdf*

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**25.0 Little Free Library Boxes- Kilbroney Park. (Attached)**

 *ERT Report - Little Free Library Boxes - Kilbroney Park.pdf*

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# Invitees

Cllr Terry Andrews

Cllr Callum Bowsie

Cllr Jim Brennan

Cllr Pete Byrne

Mr Gerard Byrne

Cllr Philip Campbell

Mr Andrew Cassells

Cllr William Clarke

Mrs Linda Cummins

Cllr Laura Devlin

Ms Louise Dillon

Cllr Cadogan Enright

Cllr Doire Finn

Cllr Aoife Finnegan

Cllr Conor Galbraith

Cllr Mark Gibbons

Cllr Oonagh Hanlon

Cllr Glyn Hanna

Cllr Valerie Harte

Cllr Roisin Howell

Cllr Jonathan Jackson

Cllr Geraldine Kearns

Cllr Tierna Kelly

Cllr Cathal King

Cllr Mickey Larkin

Cllr David Lee-Surginor

Cllr Alan Lewis

Cllr Oonagh Magennis

Mr Conor Mallon

Cllr Aidan Mathers

Cllr Declan McAteer

Cllr Leeanne McEvoy

Jonathan McGilly

Ms Tracie McLoughlin

Cllr Andrew McMurray

Cllr Declan Murphy

Cllr Kate Murphy

Cllr Selina Murphy

Cllr Siobhan O'Hare

Mr Andy Patterson

Cllr Áine Quinn

Cllr Henry Reilly

Cllr Michael Rice  
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Cllr Michael Ruane  
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Cllr Michael Savage  
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Cllr Gareth Sharvin  
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Donna Starkey  
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Sarah Taggart  
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Cllr David Taylor  
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Cllr Jarlath Tinnelly  
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Cllr Jill Truesdale  
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Mrs Marie Ward  
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ACTION SHEET

ENTERPRISE REGENERATION & TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY 12 JUNE 2023

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
ERT/065/2023	ERT COMMITTEE -TERMS OF REFERENCE	To adopt the proposed changes as detailed in Appendix 1 – Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Terms of Reference.	C Mallon	Noted	Y
ERT/066/2023	START TIMES FOR ERT COMMITTEE MEETINGS JUNE 2023 – MAY 2024	The start time for ERT Committee Meetings from June 2023 - May 2024 will be 6.00 pm.	C Mallon	Noted	Y
ERT/067/2023	ERT DIRECTORATE BUSINESS PLANS	To approve the ERT Directorate Business Plans.	C Mallon	Noted	Y

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
ERT/068/2023	NOTICE OF MOTION RE: INVEST NI	<p>To adopt the Notice of Motion.</p> <p>To note the report and ensure as the Invest NI review is implemented, robust structures and processes of engagement are put in place to ensure progress is made against the key priorities outlined in the Notice of Motion.</p>	J McGilly	WIP	y
ERT/069/2023	NOTICE OF MOTION RE: DOWNPATRICK TOWN	<p>To adopt the Notice of Motion.</p> <p>a) To agree the content of the Report, in particular the projects already implemented and those in planning and development phase and the role of the Downpatrick Regeneration Working Group as agreed by full Council.</p> <p>b) To note the completion of the MAG / DfC Living High Street Toolkit in June and the formal launch in Autumn 2023.</p> <p>c) Council Officials will present the outcomes of the MAG / DfC "co-designed" Living High Street Toolkit, as the framework / masterplan for regeneration of Downpatrick Town Centre, at the ERT Committee Meeting in August 2023.</p>	J McGilly	WIP progress report on August ERT agenda	y

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
ERT/070/2023	NOTICE OF MOTION RE: VAT FOR HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM SECTOR	<p>To adopt the Notice of Motion.</p> <p>a) Council write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer stating:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This Council unequivocally supports our hospitality and tourism sector and its vital contribution to the District's economy.</li> <li>This Council puts on record our frustration that the recently announced Spring Budget failed to provide a lifeline to the Hospitality Sector by reducing the VAT rate.</li> <li>This Council calls for the issue to be reconsidered given the ever increasing rate of inflation and the fact that the Republic of Ireland's VAT rate for Hospitality and Tourism is 9% compared to our rate of 20%.</li> </ul> <p>b) Council write to all 18 MPs calling on each to lobby for this much needed reduction in VAT.</p>	A Patterson	In progress	y
ERT/071/2022	ARTISAN MARKETS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To note the annual attendance figures at the Artisan Markets and review market activity in Autumn.</li> <li>To note the delivery of a market in Slieve Gullion</li> </ul>	J McGilly	Work in progress	y

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To recommend the sale of local craft alcohol products (unopened) at Artisan Markets, as per Licensing (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 – Local Producer’s licence; sales not on licensed premises Article 52D of the Licensing (NI) Order 1996.</li> </ul>			
ERT/072/2023	NI ENTERPRISE SUPPORT SERVICE PROGRAMME	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To note the update provided on the development of a NI Enterpr9ise Support Service Programme.</li> <li>To approve that Council enters into a formal partnership agreement with the lead Council, subject to a successful funding bid to enable delivery of the programme.</li> <li>Pavement Cafes (3 year Licence)</li> <li>Postal Numbering Certificates</li> </ul>	J McGilly	Work in progress	y
ERT/073/2023	BALLYKINLAR HUT RELOCATION	To approve the recommendations regarding the Ballykinlar Hut project as set out in above Report.	A Patterson	In progress	y
ERT/074/2023	BATHING WATER OPERATOR – SANDY BOTTOM WARRENPOINT	Council act as Bathing Water Operator for Sandy Bottom Warrenpoint.	A Patterson	In progress	y

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
ERT/075/2023	IRELAND GOLF TOUR OPERATOR ASSOCIATION	To approve Council sponsorship in the sum of £5,500 to the Ireland Golf Tour Operators Association National Golf Tourism and Gala Irish Golf Awards in October 2023.	A Patterson	In progress	y
ERT/076/2023	VISITOR SAFETY ADVISORY GROUP MEMBERSHIP	To approve Council membership of the Visitor Safety Advisory Group at an annual cost of £1,150.	A Patterson	In progress	y
ERT/077/2023	(EXEMPT) UPDATE RE: SMALL SETTLEMENTS SCHEME	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Available revitalisation funding is allocated to the below action plans to enable the delivery of identified reserve projects: (a) -Meigh (b) -Newtownhamilton (c) -Strangford / Killough</li> <li>Council enter into an agreement with DFI that establishes agreement for placement of planters at various locations throughout Dundrum village on DFI lands.</li> <li>Council establish a formal agreement with Dundrum Village Association, to acknowledge the purchase of planters by Council, that ownership of the planters will pass to Dundrum Village Association and outline that Dundrum Village Association will after completion of the revitalisation</li> </ul>	J McGilly	Implementation of SSS ongoing as per recommendations	y



Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		<p>scheme, assume full responsibility for the planter boxes. The Agreement will pass on Council's responsibilities under the terms of the agreement with DFI to Dundrum Village Association.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council to 'note' the update on the 4 EI Schemes, with a further report brought back following conclusion of the Tender Stage.</li> </ul>			
ERT/078/2023	(EXEMPT) AONB & GEOPARK ENVIRONMENTAL FUND BUSINESS CASE	<p>a) To note Council have submitted a funding application to NIEA Environment Fund 2023 -28 for provision of Management for the Ring of Gullion and Strangford &amp; Lecale AONBs; and the Strangford Lough, Murlough and Carlingford Lough MPAs.</p> <p>b) Subject to a successful funding application Council approve the Business Case for 5-year implementation of the core programmes and proceed to carry out the required procurement exercises in line with budgets available</p>	J McGilly	WIP	y

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
ERT/079/2023	(EXEMPT) CARLINGFORD LOUGH GREENWAY – BUSINESS CASE STAGE 1 WORKS	<p>a) Members approve the Business Case for the Carlingford Lough Greenway `Site Investigation Study`.</p> <p>b) Members note the Letter Of Offer from DFI Blue Green Fund.</p> <p>c) Members approve the overall Business Case and proceed with procurement exercises as required for the delivery of Carlingford Lough Greenway project.</p> <p>d) Council `note` the update on progress and programme for the scheme.</p>	J McGilly	Work in progress	y
ERT/080/2023	(EXEMPT) THRID PARTY TICKET SALES	To approve the commission rates outlined in this report to third-party ticket sales for groups using Council's arts venues for performances & arts productions via the Council's Box Office.	A Patterson	In progress	y
ERT/081/2023	(EXEMPT) TOURISM EVENTS SUPPLIERS	To approve business cases to appoint successful suppliers via a procurement process to deliver on key aspects of Council's annual Tourism Events	A Patterson	In progress	y

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		programme as set out in this report.			
ERT/082/2023	(EXEMPT) ULSTER RALLY CHAMPTIONSHIPS	Council enter into a sponsorship agreement with the event promoters as detailed in above Report.	A Patterson	In progress	y
		*****			

<b>Report to:</b>	Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Committee
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> August 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	Notice of Motion: Disposable Barbeques Ref: C/131/2023
<b>Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):</b>	Andrew Patterson Assistant Director, ERT
<b>Contact Officer (Including Job Title):</b>	James Loughran Tourism Facilities Development Manager

<b>For decision</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>For noting only</b>	
<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose and Background</b>		
1.1	<p><u>Purpose</u> To approve the recommendations as set out in section 3.1 of this report on the Notice of Motion on the use of disposable BBQs.</p> <p><u>Background</u> At the Council meeting in July 2023 the following motion was received from Councillor Clarke and seconded by Councillor Truesdale:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "Council notes with concern the damage caused by the irresponsible use of disposable barbecues to some council facilities as well as to vulnerable environmental areas;</li> <li>• In response to the situation, Council should explore options to reduce the use of disposable barbecues in all Council facilities and on Council land which is deemed to be environmentally sensitive;</li> <li>• Council should also seek to develop an awareness programme in partnership with relevant stakeholders to highlight the potential harm that disposable barbecues can cause to sensitive environmental areas".</li> </ul> <p>The Motion was referred to the Enterprise, Regeneration &amp; Tourism Committee in accordance with Standing Orders.</p>		
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Key issues</b>		
2.1	<p>Throughout 2022 the NI Fire &amp; Rescue Service (NIFRS) responded to 1,239 preventable wildfires across Northern Ireland. NIFRS has stated that all of these were caused by human behaviour, either intentionally or through the improper / careless use of barbeques, cigarettes and open fires. Such fires are proven to have a catastrophic effect on wildlife habitats, property and air quality. The latest data from the UK Home Office suggests that about 4% of accidental primary fires can be robustly linked to barbecue use.</p> <p>In addition to the link to wildfires, disposable BBQs also pose a significant environmental threat in the form of unrecyclable waste. It is estimated that over 1 million disposable BBQs are sold in the UK annually. With an average weight of 600g, this equates to over 600 tonnes of single-use unrecyclable waste.</p>		

	<p>A rise in global temperatures is causing forested and heathland areas to build up increasing amounts of dry detritus. Add to this the ready availability of low cost disposable BBQs and the risk of wildfire rises exponentially. Disposable BBQs take a considerable period to cool down so people often place these into bins whilst still hot or leave them behind to cool unattended. A number of supermarkets have removed disposable BBQs from sale. Other more sustainable re-useable gas BBQs are readily available at an affordable price.</p> <p>Council powers to completely ban the use of disposable BBQs at all Council facilities and on Council land which may be deemed environmentally sensitive would be reliant on different aspects of current legislation (e.g. legacy byelaws which are in place for certain sites only); and on the availability of enforcement staff to enforce a ban. Clear localised signage and public messaging can be implemented to encourage the majority of visitors to reduce the use of disposable barbecues. In addition to a public awareness campaign, officers can also input into the review of Council byelaws and enforcement requirements which is due to be scheduled.</p> <p>The areas of the highest risk from wildlife are in natural habitats and in uncontrolled environments (e.g. within the three AONBs) and on land not owned by Council. Officers can work with partner stakeholders via existing multi-agency forums and constituted groups (e.g. AONB &amp; Landscape Partnerships, Wildfire Recovery Groups, etc) to develop awareness programmes and public messaging on the potential harm that disposable barbecues can cause to sensitive environmental areas. Officers can update members on the progress made in implementing these actions.</p>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
3.1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Approval that the Council adopts the motion on the irresponsible use of disposable barbecues.</li> <li>2. Approval that officers explore options to reduce the use of disposable barbecues in all Council facilities and on Council land which is deemed to be environmentally sensitive.</li> <li>3. Approval that officers develop an awareness programme in partnership with relevant stakeholders to highlight the potential harm that disposable barbecues can cause to sensitive environmental areas.</li> </ol>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Resource implications</b>
4.1	The resource requirement for public awareness campaigns and signage will be met via existing Council budgets.
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)</b>
5.1	<p><b><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></b></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><b><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></b></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>

	The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.3	<b><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></b>	<b><i>N/A</i></b>
	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"/>
	Consultation period will be 12 weeks	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<i>Rationale:</i>	
6.0	<b>Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)</b>	
6.1	Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service	
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	If yes, please complete the following: Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.0	<b>Appendices</b>	
	N/a	
8.0	<b>Background Documents</b>	
	N/a	

<b>Report to:</b>	Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> August 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	Consumer Trade Shows 2023-2024
<b>Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):</b>	Andy Patterson, Assistant Director, ERT
<b>Contact Officer (Including Job Title):</b>	Michelle Boyle, Head of Product Development and Visitor Experience

<b>For decision</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>For noting only</b>	
<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose and Background</b>		
1.1	<p><u>Purpose</u> To approve the recommendations as set out in section 3.1 of this report on officer attendance at tourism trade/consumer shows in conjunction with Tourism NI and Tourism Ireland to support the tourism industry and promote the destination.</p> <p><u>Background</u> If approved, Council officers will be attending these events with Tourism Northern Ireland and Tourism Ireland representatives. Council will have space for one member of staff to attend.</p>		
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Key issues</b>		
2.1	<p>It is proposed that council officers attend the following shows to support the tourism industry within the destination. As per of the Council's ongoing marketing activity the following trade/consumer shows represent an opportunity to showcase our district and to engage with both prospective visitors and inbound tour operators.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International Golf Travel Market (IGTM) – Lisbon – October 2023</li> <li>• Flavours of Ireland – London – October 2023</li> <li>• Golf Ireland Convention – Derry – October 2023</li> <li>• Irish Golf tour operator Association conference – Newcastle – October 2023</li> <li>• World Travel Market – London – November 2023</li> <li>• Ireland meet Germanys Workshop – Frankfurt – November 2023</li> <li>• Incoming tour operators Association workshop – Armagh – November 2023</li> <li>• Dublin holiday World – Dublin – January 2024</li> <li>• Celtic Connections – Glasgow – January 2024</li> <li>• Britain &amp; Ireland Market Place – London – January 2024</li> <li>• Incoming Tour Operators Association Ireland Workshop Dublin – March 2024</li> </ul>		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nordic Workshop – Copenhagen – March 2024</li> <li>• TNI Meet the Buyer – Belfast - April 2024</li> <li>• Balmoral Show – Balmoral Park – May 2024</li> <li>• North American Golf Convention – June 2024</li> </ul> <p>Other opportunities may arise in partnership with Tourism NI or Tourism Ireland which Council will consider. The estimated cost to attend is £7,000.</p>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
3.1	Approval to attend tourism trade/consumer shows in conjunction with Tourism NI and Tourism Ireland to support the tourism industry and promote the destination.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Resource implications</b>
4.1	The required budget for shows that will take place within this 2023/24FY has been profiled within current ERT Departmental budgets. The budget requirement for shows in the 2024/25FY will be included in 24/25 estimates, subject to approval.
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)</b>
5.1	<p><b><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></b></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><b><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></b></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><b><i>Proposal initiating consultation – N/a</i></b></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>



	<div>Consultation period will be 12 weeks<input type="checkbox"/></div> <div>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided)<input type="checkbox"/></div> <div>Rationale:</div>
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)
6.1	<div>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</div> <div>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></div> <div>If yes, please complete the following:</div> <div>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed<input type="checkbox"/></div>
7.0	Appendices
	N/A
8.0	Background Documents
	N/A

<b>Report to:</b>	Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> August 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	Digital Transformation Flexible Fund (DTFF)
<b>Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):</b>	Andy Patterson Assistant Director, ERT
<b>Contact Officer (Including Job Title):</b>	Michael Forster - FFNI Operations Lead

<b>For decision</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>For noting only</b>	
<b>1.0</b>	<p><u>Purpose</u> To approve recommendations as set out in section 3.1 in this report authorising the FFNI Operations team to procure a delivery agent which will assist with the rollout of the Digital Transformation Flexible Fund (DTFF).</p> <p><u>Background</u> The appointed delivery agent will manage the DTFF briefing sessions that will be delivered across Northern Ireland and will also support the assessment of grants funded under DTFF.</p>		
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Key Issues</b></p> <p>DTFF will provide a capital grant fund, aimed at supporting small and micro businesses, including those in rural areas, to be active in digital transformation. It will provide the financial support to invest in capital equipment (hardware, software/ bespoke system development) in advanced digital technologies/tools.</p> <p>The Outline Business Case for the DTFF Programme is currently going through central government departments for approval and the programme is expected to go live in Autumn 2023. Through the FFNI Consortium approach led by NMDDC, the Operations Team require delivery agents to manage DTFF briefing sessions and provide technical assistance for assessment of funding application forms.</p>		
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>		
3.1	Approval for officers to procure and appoint suitable delivery agents and external expertise to deliver the Digital Transformation Flexible Fund.		
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Resource implications</b>		
	There is no further cost to Council with regards to the procurement of DTFF delivery agents. All Council partners within the FFNI Consortium including		

	NMDDC have already approved the revenue contributions required to operate the programme.
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)</b>
5.1	<p><b><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></b></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><b><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></b></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><b><i>Proposal initiating consultation – N/a</i></b></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> N/A</p>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)</b>
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>
<b>7.0</b>	<b>Appendices</b>
	n/a
<b>8.0</b>	<b>Background Documents</b>
	<p>Once the project is fully approved, briefing sessions will be organised for all elected members to allow them disseminate information to their constituents / local businesses.</p>

<b>Report to:</b>	Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	Monday 14 August 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	Downpatrick Living High Streets Framework
<b>Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):</b>	Andy Patterson, Assistant Director, ERT
<b>Contact Officer (Including Job Title):</b>	Ciara Toman, Project Support Officer Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration

<b>For decision</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>For noting only</b>	
<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose and Background</b>		
1.1	<p><u>Purpose</u> To approve the recommendations set out in section 3.1 of this report on the launch of the Living High Street Framework for Downpatrick in September 2023.</p> <p><u>Background</u> In August 2022 ERT Committee approved the establishment of the Downpatrick Regeneration Working Group with the key aim to develop and oversee the implementation of regeneration priorities identified as part of stakeholder engagement and new emerging priorities.</p>		
<b>2.0</b>	<b><u>Key Issues</u></b>		
<b>2.1</b>	<p>The Regeneration Working Group have been working with the Ministerial Advisory Group (MAG), Council, and the Department for Communities to complete the Living High Street Craft Kit pilot.</p> <p>The aim was to use the pilot to look at the challenges faced by traditional high streets and to identify priorities that could help rejuvenate Downpatrick if funding was to become available. The Craft Kit was used to help the community to develop a shared understanding of their needs and unique assets in Downpatrick through a series of five workshops and a public event.</p> <p>Several strategies, actions and projects have emerged though the co-designed process, including improved communications and marketing; maximising the potential of existing assets; activating and connecting streets and spaces, etc.</p> <p>The Living High Streets Framework will put Downpatrick in the best possible position to take advantage of future funding opportunities. The framework will cover cultural activities and events; public realm and environmental initiatives; development and restoration projects; the existing masterplan and the incorporation of new fresh ideas as driven by local stakeholders.</p>		

	<p>The Living High Street Framework will be launched on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023. The working Group in partnership with DfC and Council have been actively exploring funding opportunities in short term and medium term. Meetings have been held with potential funders and work is underway to explore how applications can be developed to deliver projects identified through the development of the Framework.</p> <p>DfC have identified funds in the current year for project delivery and are working with Council to develop funding streams to progress project development and delivery for next financial year, all of which will align to the framework and be agreed via the Working Group.</p>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
3.1	Approval for the Living High Street Framework to be adopted by Council as the new regeneration masterplan for Downpatrick.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Resource implications</b>
4.1	Council match funding may be required to deliver future projects. Reports will be tabled with members as relevant.
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)</b>
5.1	<p><b><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></b></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><b><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></b></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><b><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></b></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><i>Rationale:</i> <input type="checkbox"/></p>
6.0	<b>Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)</b>
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	<b>Appendices</b>
	None
8.0	<b>Background Documents</b>
	Downpatrick Living High Streets Framework (available on request from Contact Officer).

<b>Report to:</b>	Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> August 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	Financial Assistance
<b>Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):</b>	Andy Patterson Assistant Director, ERT
<b>Contact Officer (Including Job Title):</b>	Sonya Burns – Head of Programmes Ciara Burns – Project Coordinator

		For decision	X	For noting only	
<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose and Background</b>				
1.1	<p><u>Purpose</u> To approve recommendations as set out in section 3.1 of this report on Financial Assistance grant awards.</p> <p><u>Background</u> The Financial Assistance Call 3 2023-24 included the following themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facility Management Agreements (FMA)</li> <li>• Sports Facility Expression of Interest</li> </ul>				
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Key issues</b>				
2.1	<p>The FMA theme was a closed funding call and only one application was received and assessed. The EoI Sports Expression of Interest is still ongoing at the time of writing this report.</p> <p>An appeal panel meeting took place on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2023 in relation to Call 2 where nine appeal requests from stage 2 applicants were received. Two applications (4754 and 4626) upon review the panel decided the scores were not reasonable and upheld the decision to award funding based on their new scores. Sports Programmes theme 4754 and PCSP 4626 are recommended for funding. Letters of offer to be issued as per process to the FMA 4863 and Sports Programmes 4754 and PCSP 4626 (with a Pre-Letter of Offer condition to be approved by the budget holder) funding to be allocated from theme budget.</p>				
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>				
3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approve the FMA award to 4963 value of £4,900</li> <li>• Approve appeal panel recommendations of upheld and not upheld. This includes awarding Sports Programmes theme 4754 £2,500 (scored and ranked) and PCSP 4626 £2,000 are recommended for funding.</li> <li>• Pre-letter of offer conditions must be met for project 4626 prior to issue full letter of offer.</li> </ul>				



<b>4.0</b>	<b>Resource implications</b>
4.1	<b>Revenue:</b> Funding will be allocated from internal budget and the PCSP Council Budget.
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)</b>
5.1	<p><b><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></b></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><b><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></b></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><b><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></b></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>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)</b>
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>

	Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.0	<b>Appendices</b>	
	N/A	
8.0	<b>Background Documents</b>	
	N/A	

<b>Report to:</b>	Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Committee
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> August 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	Labour Market Partnership (LMP) Update
<b>Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):</b>	Andy Patterson Assistant Director ERT
<b>Contact Officer (Including Job Title):</b>	Aveen McVeigh Head of Regeneration and Business Development

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

<b>For decision</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>For noting only</b>		
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<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose and Background</b>
1.1	<p><u>Purpose</u> To approve the recommendations set out in section 3.1 of this report on progressing NMD Labour Market Partnership initiatives in this financial year.</p> <p><u>Background</u> Employability NI, led by Department for Communities (DfC), is the new approach to helping unemployed individuals to get back into work. The governance of Employability NI includes the establishment of Labour Market Partnerships (LMPs), one in each District Council area.</p> <p>Council established a Labour Market Partnership for NMD. The aim of the local Labour Market Partnership is to deliver initiatives that assist those identified as unemployed, underemployed, or economically inactive to move into employment or closer to the labour market.</p> <p>Council is providing the administrative support and governance for the local LMP.</p>
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Key issues</b>
2.1	<p>The LMP members comprise of Industry, Chambers, Local Enterprise Agencies, Regional Colleges, Area Learning Co-ordinators, and Education Authority. Council received a Letter of Offer for funding in December 2022 to deliver the 2022-23 Action Plan, the LMP were able to deliver a range of initiatives in the Action Plan that were dedicated to supporting job seekers and employers in the NMDDC area.</p> <p>The range of initiatives and events supported those unemployed or economically inactive to move closer to or into the labour market and to upskill and access meaningful employment. Whilst showcasing the district as a great place to live and work.</p>

	Council presented 23/24 action plan to DfC for consideration in April 2023. DfC paused funding for all LMPs in Northern Ireland due to budget constraints, but this has now been reinstated. Council received a LoO for delivery of the 2023/24 action plan at the end of July 2023. Recruitment for personnel to deliver the plan is underway.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
3.1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Approval to accept the Department for Communities (DfC) Letter of Offer for delivery of the 2023/24 LMP Action Plan.</li> <li>2. Approval to undertake procurement processes and award SLA funding to appoint external delivery agents to implement the range of initiatives in the 2023/24 LMP Action Plan.</li> </ol>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Resource implications</b>
4.1	LMP Activity is 100% funded by DfC. 23/24 grant award valued at £524,373.
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)</b>
5.1	<p><b><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></b></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><b><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></b></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><b><i>Proposal initiating consultation – N/a</i></b></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>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)</b>
6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<b>7.0</b>	<b>Appendices</b>
<b>8.0</b>	<b>Background Documents</b>
	<p>Available on request from contact Officer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NMD LMP Action reports from meetings 22/23</li> <li>• NMD LMP Summary of 22/23 Action Plan</li> <li>• NMD LMP 23/24 Action Plan</li> </ul>

<b>Report to:</b>	Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> August 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	Museums Accreditation – NMD
<b>Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):</b>	Andrew Patterson, Assistant Director, ERT
<b>Contact Officer (Including Job Title):</b>	Noreen Cunningham, Head of Service, Culture, Arts, Heritage and Events

For decision	x	For noting only	
<b>1.0</b>			<b>Purpose and Background</b>
1.1			<p><u>Purpose</u> To approve the recommendations set out in section 3.1 of this report on the NMD Museums' Forward Plan.</p> <p><u>Background</u> NMD Museums requires its policies for Accreditation approved by Council, for Down County Museum and Newry and Mourne Museum to reapply for Accreditation in October 2023.</p> <p>The 2023 – 2026 Accreditation policies and plans comprise of seven joint and eight individual policies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. NMD Museum's Forward Plan, Loans Policy and Procedure, Documentation Policy Statement, Documentation Procedural Manual, Sustainability Policy Statement, Access Policy, and Volunteer Policy.</li> <li>2. Down County Museums and Newry and Mourne Museum's Collection Development Policy, Documentation Plan, Collections Care and Conservation Policy Statement and Collections Care and Conservation Plan.</li> </ol>
<b>2.0</b>			<b>Key issues</b>
2.1			<p>Museum Accreditation is a quality standard scheme that helps guide museums to be the best they can be for current and future users. The Scheme is regarded as one of the most innovative and effective developments in the museum sector and has led the way in raising museum standards. There are currently more than 1,700 museums participating in the Scheme throughout the UK. The Scheme is managed locally by the Northern Ireland Museums Council.</p> <p>The scheme is managed as a Partnership between the Arts Council England, the Welsh Government, Museums Galleries Scotland, and Northern Ireland Museums Council.</p>

	<p>NMD Museums requires the approval of Council for policies and plans (2023 – 2026) to meet the Accreditation Standard when the reapplication is made in October 2023. These are listed below with brief overview for Committee information. An information session was held for Councillors on 2<sup>nd</sup> August and following on from this the policies and procedures were made available to view on request.</p> <p>Joint NMD Museums policies and plans:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Forward Plan - Sets out the aims and objectives of both NMD Museums as an integrated service and of each of the two Museums from 2023 until 2026.</li> <li>2. Loans Policy and Procedure details how the Museums lends and borrow objects for the purpose of public display and research.</li> <li>3. The Documentation Policy Statement outlines the professional standards of documentation in use by the Museums.</li> <li>4. The Documentation Procedural Manual is designed to be used by NMD Museums staff and volunteers involved in the documentation of the Museum Collections.</li> <li>5. Environmental Sustainability Policy Statement outlines the Museum's standards in relation to the protection of the environment.</li> <li>6. Volunteer Policy outlines the framework within which the Museums offer practical experience of working in a museum.</li> <li>7. The Access Policy Statement outlines the Museum's strategies in maximizing access to the Museums and their collections.</li> </ol> <p>Individual Museum's policies and plans:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Collections Development Policy outlines the scope and ethical framework for the collection and disposal of artefacts.</li> <li>2. Documentation Plan outlines how the Museums will improve their documentation system and tackle backlogs.</li> <li>3. Collections Care and Conservation Policy Statement sets out the approach to the care and conservation of the collections and describes the improvements which will be made over time and how these will be prioritised.</li> <li>4. Collections Care and Conservation Plan sets out the Museum's strategy for the care and conservation of the collections in its care.</li> </ol> <p>Each Museum also has an Emergency Plan.</p>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
3.1	Approval of the NMD Museums 2023-2026 Accreditation policies and plans to the Northern Ireland Museums Council as a central part of the Council's Museums Accreditation application in October 2023.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Resource implications</b>
4.1	There are no resource implications. The budget requirement for the ongoing work of the museums will be profiled as part of the annual rates setting process.

<b>5.0</b>	<b>Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)</b>
5.1	<p><b><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></b></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><b><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></b></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><b><i>Proposal initiating consultation – N/a</i></b></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>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)</b>
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>



	Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7.0	<b>Appendices</b> Appendix 1 – Museum Accreditation	
8.0	<b>Background Documents</b>	
	n/a	



IARSMALANNA IMD  
NMD MUSEUMS

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# ACCREDITATION 2023

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## Museum Accreditation

The scheme is managed as a Partnership between Arts Council England, the Welsh Government, Museums Galleries Scotland and Northern Ireland Museums Council. It is run for museums and galleries of all sizes and types across the UK.

The online application portal is hosted and managed by Arts Council England on behalf of the UK Accreditation Partners.

# BENEFITS OF ACCREDITATION

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- Helps museums to improve their management, governance, collections care, and public engagement by providing clear guidelines and best practices.
- Enhances the reputation and credibility of museums by showing that they are accountable, transparent, and professional.
- Increase the confidence and trust of the public, funders, donors, and partners in the value and impact of museums.
- Opens up new opportunities for funding, collaboration, networking, and advocacy for museums.
- Foster a culture of continuous learning and development within museums and across the sector.



## Accreditation documentation

NMD Museums requires its policies and plans for Accreditation approved by Council, to enable Down County Museum and Newry and Mourne Museum to reapply for Accreditation in October 2023.

The 2023 – 2026 Accreditation policies and plans comprise 7 joint documents and 8 individual documents:-

1. NMD Museum's Forward Plan, Loans Policy and Procedure, Documentation Policy Statement, Documentation Procedural Manual, Sustainability Policy Statement, Access Policy, and Volunteer Policy.
2. Down County Museums and Newry and Mourne Museum's Collection Development Policy, Documentation Plan, Collections Care and Conservation Policy Statement and Collections Care and Conservation Plan.

Both Museums also have detailed Emergency Plans.

# Mission Statement NMD Museums

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## Vision

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To preserve and promote our past, enriching our present and building our future together.

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## Mission

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To COLLECT, CARE for and RESEARCH our rich cultural heritage to support continued understanding of our history, culture and environment.

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To CONNECT residents and visitors to our collections, place and history through dynamic and inclusive exhibitions and activities.

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To CELEBRATE our unique places and identities.

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# FORWARD PLAN

New Forward Plan links in with the 5 strands in the Council's strategy

- Place Making, Education, Economic, Health and Well Being and Society and Community

Also takes cognizance of 2021  
Museum Review recommendations

Consultation with stakeholders June  
2023





# Placemaking

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## AIMS

Develop a sense of place through the collections

- Maintain Accreditation Standard

Make the Museums vibrant and inspiring places

- Exhibitions, events and activities

Develop Museums as heritage assets

- Managing and caring for historic buildings and maximise their potential as heritage assets





# Education

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## AIMS

Develop knowledge, understanding and connection to Council district through heritage and collections

- Maintain and develop and maintain a formal Education programme
- Develop potential of handling collection
- Promote access and awareness of the service
- Publications and research
- Informal learning



# Economic

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## AIMS

Contribute to and enhance the tourism offer in the Council district

- Act as a gateway to other heritage and tourism offerings including the Mourne Gullion Strangford UNESCO Geopark
- Enhance the facilities as part of the visitor experience
- Promote Museums as tourism offer

To explore opportunities for generating income

- Review existing pricing structure
- Hire of facilities
- Review and develop shop merchandise
- Identify funding opportunities





# Health and Well Being

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## AIMS

### Staff Well Being

- Integration of NMD Museums Service
- Develop and support potential of NMD Museums Staff

### Sustainability

- Improve sustainability of NMD Museums
- Promote sustainability

### Improve quality of life

- Increase NMD Staff awareness and confidence about special needs and dementia
- Develop and maintain programmes for targeted groups
- Develop partnerships with support networks and groups



# Society and Community

## AIMS

To increase impact of NMD Museums for all the community

- Regular communication through a range of media to reach a wider audience
- Harness support networks
- Response to collections queries

## Accessibility and Inclusivity

- To reach out to the local community providing a Museum Service
- Evaluate what NMD Museums do and adapt as appropriate
- Increased community engagement
- Increase accessibility to Museum Collection

# JOINT POLICIES AND PLANS

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## NMD Museums Loans Policy and Procedure

NMD Museums borrows and lends objects for the purpose of public display and research, to:

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1. make its Collections available to a wide and diverse audience
2. promote understanding of the history and material and cultural heritage of the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area
3. enhance the reputation of NMD Museums and foster relationships with other cultural institutions

NMD Museums are committed to providing the widest possible engagement with and access to its collections within their statutory responsibility to preserve the collections in the long-term by minimising possible risks of damage or loss.



## Access Policy

**We aim to provide all members of our community and visitors with the resources to explore Newry, Mourne and Down's rich cultural heritage.**

1. Physical Access
2. Intellectual and community access
3. We also aim to provide access to visitor facilities for the widest possible number of people.
4. Recruitment, staff training and development

### **Implement recommendations from 2021 NIMC Access Audits (Access Matters) for both Museums**

DCM - restoration of courtyard surface and accessible pathway, improvements to toilets, improvements to our brochure and map to increase accessibility, enhanced provision of induction loop systems at welcome points

NMM – Reconfigure Reception

# Sustainability Policy Statement

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NMD Museums operates within the scope of the Council's Environmental Statement and its forthcoming Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan and Climate Adaptation Plan.

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NMD Museums will consider sustainability in all its actions.

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NMD Museums will address sustainability issues in an open manner and maintain close links with relevant authorities, regulatory agencies, research institutes, the local community and all relevant stakeholders to improve and protect our local and global environment.



# Documentation Policy Statement

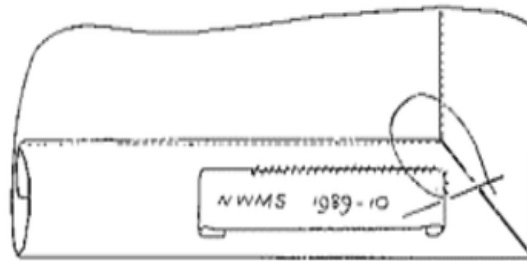
This policy outlines NMD Museum's approach to its collection documentation.

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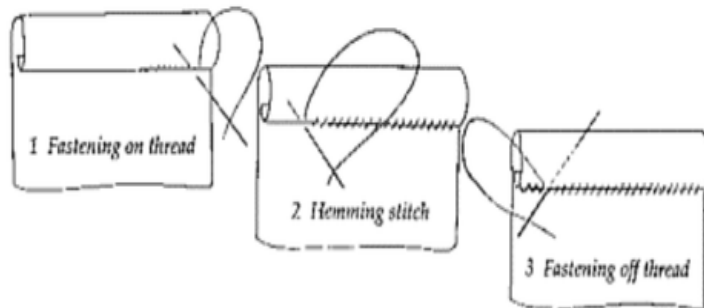
Documentation is all the information a museum holds about an object in its collection including what the object is, where it came from, how it should be stored and where it is stored or displayed. Documentation underpins every aspect of museum activity. Recording collection information is central to being accountable for the collections, their accessibility, management, research, study and use.

This policy is designed to ensure our collections documentation provides useful and useable information, linked to the Mission Statement of NMD Museums, and that our activities meet ethical commitments and legal requirements.

# Documentation Procedural Manual



*Flat tape label attached to underside of textile*



*Hemming stitch: method of working*

Diagrams by Jean Glover

The Documentation Procedural Manual is designed to be used by NMD Museums staff and volunteers involved in the documentation of the Museum Collections. It describes the procedures involved in Object Entry, Acquisition and Accessioning, Location and Movement Control, Inventory, Cataloguing, Object Exit, Loans In and Loans Out as set out in SPECTRUM 5.1. The Manual also outlines procedures and techniques used in the labelling and marking of objects.

The Documentation Procedural Manual should be used in conjunction with the Collections Development Plan and Documentation Plan of each respective Museum.

# NMD Museums Volunteer Policy



NMD Museums will provide practical experience of working in a Museum for people who wish to pursue a career in the museum or heritage sector. NMD Museums has a full complement of staff and volunteers will only provide assistance and not undertake any core duties of paid members of staff.



We will provide experience in the following area – care and management of collections and research.



Before commencing their role, volunteers will sign a **Volunteer Agreement** with NMD Museums outlining the areas of work or projects in which they will be involved, duration of role, management and supervision and work pattern.



The volunteer agreement is binding in honour only and is not intended to be a legally binding contract between parties.

# Individual Plans and Policies

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## Collections Development Policy - DCM

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The collection currently comprises over 13,000 individual items . There is a large photographic archive photographs, negatives, and slides.

Historically the collecting remit for the Museum covered the whole of county Down however following an organisational restructure into NMD Museums and strategic review, the collecting remit has been revised to reflect the area covered by the museum's governing body; NMDDC. Within the area covered by Council and as part of NMD Museums, Down County Museum provides a local museums service for Downpatrick and its hinterland ranging from but not limited to, Saintfield, Strangford, Newcastle, Castlewellan and Ballynahinch (the legacy Down District Council area).

At Curatorial discretion, items of significant interest may be accepted from areas within county Down that do not fall within the area administered by NMDDC

# Themes for Future Collecting and Themes and Priorities for Rationalisation and Disposal

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To ensure that sufficient time and resources are devoted to caring for, researching, and understanding the collection by curatorial staff, immediate future collecting will be temporarily suspended.

At the Curatorial team's discretion, items will only be accepted via public donation if they are of significant historical interest or in identified areas of weakness within the collection.

To optimise storage space and increase accessibility to the collection, the Museum will de-accession items that fall under the following themes:

- Generic and duplicate objects, items that are broken or in poor condition, items that fall outside either the current or previous collecting, photography equipment and textile collections

In addition, the museum will seek to reduce the number of items on loan with a view to maximising access to its own collection.



## Collections Development Policy - NMM

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The Collection comprises over 14,000 items donated mainly by members of the public.

The Museum is committed to ensuring that its Collection is representative of the entire area covered by Newry, south Armagh and south Down and will, therefore, add to the Collection artefacts from the towns, villages and rural communities of this area.

The Collections Development Policy of the Museum will also respect the historic hinterland of Newry. A number of towns, villages and local communities which were historically within the hinterland of Newry e.g. Rathfriland, Poyntzpass, Markethill and Omeath are now outside the boundaries of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council. Using curatorial discretion, the Museum may collect artefacts from these areas.

# Themes for Future Collecting and Themes and Priorities for Rationalisation and Disposal

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The collecting remit of the Museum aims to record, preserve, display and interpret the social, cultural and political heritage of the Newry and Mourne area. This objective is realised through its collecting themes which includes material relating to the Irish language and Ulster Scots. Modern experiences of life in the Border area (Newry, south Armagh and south Down), including the Troubles. Material relating to the LGBTQ+ community in Newry and Mourne etc

The Museum will endeavour to collect material representing aspects of contemporary culture, social life and political changes.

To make best use of the Museum's resources and facilities, the following collecting areas are closed:

- Bottles from local mineral water companies, programmes from local performing arts organisations for which the Museum already possesses two copies, blacksmith's tools. models e.g. buildings, vehicles or ships with specific conservation, storage or display requirements



# Documentation Plan - DCM

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The aim of the Documentation Plan is to:

1. Digitise records
2. Resolve the documentation backlog so that the museum meets the Spectrum 5.1 Inventory standard.
3. Allow the museum to complete a comprehensive collections review (a formal assessment of the collection that follows a stated methodology), which will be the first stage of addressing 'gap' areas and then rationalising the collection.

The main workload during the period of this Plan will be in the area of retrospective documentation, and therefore working towards the standard for the Inventory Procedure, is a priority addressed by this Documentation Plan.

Through implementation of this plan the Museum will:

1. Address a documentation backlog by breaking down the 'backlog' into manageable projects.
2. Maintain professional standards in documentation procedures and collection information and ensure no future backlog occurs.
3. Improve accuracy, usability and security of documentation.
4. Undertake more focused collections development as 'gap areas' will be identified.
5. Rationalise the collection which will make space available for new donations and acquisitions.

# Documentation Plan - NMM

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Improving the Museum's documentation system and enhancing the information it contains is an ongoing process.

The storage facilities at the Museum are undergoing redevelopment, including refurbishment of stores and re-packing of artefacts. This will enhance the implementation of documentation procedures.

This Plan will be updated regularly so that progress made is celebrated and new objectives are set.

The Museum will work to meet and maintain Spectrum Standard for Documentation.

Museum staff will continue to work with MODES Association to ensure the software is up-to-date in order to maximise its potential and allow annual updates to the online database.

The Museum has a cataloguing backlog in the Collection. Adhering to Spectrum Minimum Standards, a programme to eliminate the backlog will be put in place.

# Collections Care and Conservation Policy - DCM

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The collections held by Down County Museum are at the core of the museum service and the role it plays in the community.

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A full collection condition overview of the Museum Collection was undertaken in Spring 2023. This report includes a full assessment of the condition and composition of the Museum's collection in storage and on display and will be used to produce a bespoke long-term Conservation and Management Plan for the Down County Museum collection.

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The Museum monitors storage and display areas using a combination of Eltek and HOBO Data Loggers. These systems monitor relative humidity (RH) and temperature. Spot checks for visible light and ultra-violet radiation are taken using hand-held readers as and when required.

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The Museum has a pest management programme.

## Collections Care and Conservation Policy - NMM

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The collections held by Newry and Mourne Museum are at the core of the museum service and the unique role it plays in the community

A full collections condition overview of the Museum Collection, including artefacts on loan, was undertaken in 2013. This has been updated to include additions up to Spring of 2023. This overview sets out the Museum's approach to the care and conservation of the collections in its care and describes the improvements which will be made over time to improve collections care and conservation at the Museum and how these will be prioritised. Within this plan Care and Conservation Records are compiled to record conservation requirements for individual artefacts and collections.

The Museum monitors storage and display areas using the Hanwell Environmental Monitoring System, supplemented by hand-held meters as required. This system monitors relative humidity (RH), temperature, visible light and ultra-violet radiation (UV).

The Museum has a pest management programme.

## Collections Care and Conservation Plan - DCM

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Included in the Collections Care and Conservation Plan are details of the Collections Condition Overview which was undertaken in early 2023.

The second stage of this is commissioning a detailed 25-year Conservation and Maintenance Plan for –

1. Intervention Conservation Treatment Plan
2. Collection Storage Plan
3. Collection Display/Exhibition

Also detailed in Plan is Provision of Suitable Building and its care as primary artefact, Environmental monitoring and Control, housekeeping, storage and display, Handling, moving and transport, Professional Care and Conservation and Planned programme of care.



## Collections Care and Conservation Plan - NMM

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This Collections Care and Conservation Plan sets out the Museum's strategy for the care and conservation of the collections in its care.

This Collections Condition Overview is the result of a survey of the collections at the Museum aimed at gathering information to inform the development of a Conservation Plan for the Museum Collection. Within the overview the collection is divided into categories by media and each category is divided into sub-categories comprising the main elements within each category.

Each sub-category is prioritised for conservation on a scale High, Medium and Low. The Museum or Curatorial Priority for conservation is based on the following criteria:

1. Value/importance to the Museum Collection (local/national heritage)
2. Value to exhibition programme (access)
3. Value to research (access)
4. Vulnerability of artefact (conservation requirements)

# Emergency plans

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A confidential document which is regularly reviewed.

The plan details procedures and guidelines to be followed in the event of an emergency, enabling the Emergency Management Team (EMT) to act swiftly to minimize damage to the buildings and their contents.

Each Museum is committed to ensuring the safety and security of its staff and the public at all times; risk management has been carried out.

<b>Report to:</b>	Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Committee
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> August 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	DAERA funding for AONBs and MPAs
<b>Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):</b>	Andy Patterson Assistant Director, ERT
<b>Contact Officer (Including Job Title):</b>	Aveen McVeigh Head of Regeneration and Business Development

<b>For decision</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>For noting only</b>	
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<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose and Background</b>
1.1	<p><u>Purpose</u> To approve recommendations set out in section 3.1 of this report on DAERA funding for Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) and Marine Protected Areas (MPAs).</p> <p><u>Background</u> Council applied to DAERA for a programme of key environmental activities to be delivered across The Ring of Gullion and Strangford &amp; Lecale AONBs; and the Strangford Lough, Murlough and Carlingford Lough MPAs. A funding offer has now been received from DAERA.</p>
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Key issues</b>
2.1	<p>The Ring of Gullion and Strangford &amp; Lecale AONBs; and the Strangford Lough, Murlough and Carlingford Lough MPAs (RGSLL) will fund a range of initiatives through Building Ecological and Climate Resilience and Connecting People with the Environment. RGSLL will deliver against environmental obligations in various strategy, policy and legislation.</p> <p>RGSLL will help to improve wellbeing for all by providing healthy landscapes for communities to enjoy and creating places where people want to live, work and visit. Management for the Ring of Gullion and Strangford &amp; Lecale AONBs; and the Strangford Lough, Murlough and Carlingford Lough MPAs will implement measurable key environmental outcomes.</p>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
3.1	Council approval to accept a Letter of Offer from DAERA for funding of the Ring of Gullion and Strangford & Lecale AONBs; and the Strangford Lough, Murlough and Carlingford Lough MPAs 2023 – 2028.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Resource implications</b>



4.1	Grant award for 23/24 valued at £291,520, Council has provision in the 23/24 budget to match fund the project at 50%.
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)</b>
5.1	<p><b><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></b></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><b><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></b></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><b><i>Proposal initiating consultation N/a</i></b></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>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)</b>
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>

	<div>If yes, please complete the following:</div> <div>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></div>
7.0	Appendices
	N/A
8.0	Background Documents
	N/A

<b>Report to:</b>	Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> August 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	Peace Plus Programme Action Plan.
<b>Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):</b>	Andy Patterson Assistant Director, ERT
<b>Contact Officer (Including Job Title):</b>	Sonya Burns – Head of Programmes Sarah McClory – Project Coordinator

For decision	X	For noting only	
<b>1.0</b>		<b>Purpose and Background</b>	
1.1		<p><u>Purpose</u> To approve recommendations set out in section 3.1 of this report on the NMDDC Peace Plus programme Action Plan.</p> <p><u>Background</u> The Peace Plus programme comprises six themes and encompasses 22 investment areas. Theme 1 focuses on Building Peaceful and Thriving Communities. Under this theme, Investment Area 1.1 supports the creation of Co-Designed Local Community Peace Action Plans. This enables and empowers local community partnerships to self-determine and deliver priority projects on a cross-community basis; which will result in improved, shared, and inclusive local services, facilities and spaces; and make a significant and lasting contribution to peace and reconciliation.</p>	
<b>2.0</b>		<b>Key issues</b>	
2.1		<p>The Newry, Mourne &amp; Down District Council (NMDDC) Action Plan 'Thriving Together' has been developed by the PEACEPLUS Partnership, utilising a co-design approach involving comprehensive engagement with the local community and other key stakeholders including statutory providers, public bodies, businesses, and Council DEA (District Electoral Area) Forums.</p> <p>Delivered over a three-year period (2024 – 2027), the Plan will be supported by a budget of approx. €8.6 million (or approx. £7.5 million). Across this period 8,646 participants will be engaged in the delivery of the Action Plan.</p> <p>The NMD PEACEPLUS Partnership recommended at the July Partnership Meeting that the Action Plan be submitted to SEUPB for the September 2023 deadline. There will be a five-month scoring process before a Letter of Offer will be issued. Due to the delivery gap between the programmes Officers will commence engagement work</p>	

	with communities and a mapping exercise for each aspect of delivery to ensure when the letter of offer is received there is maximum delivery time.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
3.1	Approval to progress the submission of the NMDDC Action Plan 'Thriving Together' to SEUPB.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Resource implications</b>
4.1	<b>Revenue/Payroll:</b> 100% funding by SEUPB <b>Capital:</b> 100% funding by SEUPB
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)</b>
5.1	<i><b>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</b></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	<i><b>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</b></i>  Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  If yes, please complete the following:  The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/>  The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/>
5.3	<i><b>Proposal initiating consultation – N/a</b></i>  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"/>  Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/>  Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/>  <i>Rationale:</i>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)</b>

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

## Executive Summary

The PEACEPLUS programme comprises six themes and encompasses 22 investment areas. Theme 1 focuses on Building Peaceful and Thriving Communities. Under this theme, Investment Area 1.1 supports the creation of Co-Designed Local Community Peace Action Plans. This enables and empowers local community partnerships to self-determine and deliver priority projects on a cross-community basis; which will result in improved, shared, and inclusive local services, facilities and spaces; and make a significant and lasting contribution to peace and reconciliation.

The Newry, Mourne & Down District Council (NMDDC) Action Plan 'Thriving Together' has been developed by the PEACEPLUS Partnership, utilising a co-design approach involving comprehensive engagement with the local community and other key stakeholders including statutory providers, public bodies, businesses, and Council DEA (District Electoral Area) Forums.

The Plan focuses on a targeted and locally based response to the specific needs identified during the Plan's development, on meaningful and purposeful engagement, and on engaging people from different socio-economic and community backgrounds, with special consideration given to under-represented groups.

The Plan also aligns with the Council's Community Plan and other key strategies (e.g. Good Relations and Corporate Plans) while building on the legacy and experience of previous PEACE programmes delivered by the Council.

Delivered over a three year period (2024 – 2027), the Plan will be supported by a budget of approx. €8.6 million (or approx. £7.5 million). Across this period 8,646 participants will be engaged in the delivery of the Action Plan.

The implementation of the Plan will be led by NMDDC as the lead partner. It will involve a mixed delivery approach consisting of partner delivery, competitive tendering (contracts) and direct delivery by Council PEACE Officers. The delivery of the Plan will be overseen by the PEACEPLUS partnership – consisting of 27 members made up of nine NMD District Councillors, six statutory representatives and 12 social partners.

The Action Plan is based around three thematic strands, set out by SEUPB under Theme 1.1 of the PEACE PLUS programme. These are:

1. Local Community Regeneration and Transformation
2. Thriving and Peaceful Communities
3. Building Respect for all Cultural Identities

Following guidance provided by SEUPB, 20 priority projects will be delivered through the Action Plan (see table overleaf).

### **Strand 1 - Local Community Regeneration and Transformation**

This strand focuses on empowering local people to regenerate and transform their communities on a cross-community basis. The five identified priority projects focus on assistance to transform and reimage areas, enhancing existing community facilities, the development of new shared outdoor spaces, a community navigation programme to facilitate increased levels of cross community mobility, and co-designed cross community place making plans. There will be small scale capital investments under this strand to enhance existing facilities and develop shared outdoor spaces.

## Strand 2 - Thriving and Peaceful Communities

This strand focuses on thriving and peaceful communities. The eight identified priority projects encompass a broad range of initiatives focused on capacity building, leadership development, cross community relationship building interaction and engagement, social and emotional support, events and festivals and community justice interventions.

## Strand 3 – Celebrating Cultures and Diversity

This strand focuses on cultural diversity and in increasing understanding of and respect for cultural identities. There will be a dedicated Social Inclusion Officer responsible for the development and monitoring of relationships and needs of minority and newcomer communities (incl. the Traveller community) throughout the Council area. Six other priority projects will focus on minority community support, progressive conflict resolution, civic leadership and empowerment, themes diversity festivals, responsive peace building, and shared history and culture.

### Action Plan Overview and Priority Projects

Strand 1	Strand 2	Strand 3
Local Community Regeneration and Transformation	Thriving and Peaceful Communities	Building Respect for all Cultural Identities
1. Transformation and Reimaging	6. Capacity Building and Engagement	14. Social Inclusion Officer (minority and newcomer communities)
2. Enhancement of Existing Community Facilities	7. Leadership Development	15. Minority Community Support
3. Shared Outdoor Spaces	8. Collaborative Interaction	16. Progressive Conflict Resolution
4. Community Navigation	9. Community Action	17. Civic Leadership and Empowerment
5. Co-designed Cross Community Place Making Plans	10. Events and Festivals	18. Themed Diversity Festivals
	11. Social and Emotional Support	19. Responsive Peace Building
	12. Social Prescribing	20. Shared History and Culture
	13. Community Justice Interventions	
Budget: £2.972 million	Budget: £2.972 million	Budget: £1,486 million
Target Participants: 1,296	Target Participants: 4,970	Target Participants: 2,380
Resources: 1 FT Peace Officer, 1 PT Estates Officer	Resources: 1.5 Peace Officer	Resources: 0.5 Peace Officer
Delivery Mechanisms: Officer led, competitive tendering (contract)	Delivery Mechanisms: Officer led, competitive tendering (contract), partner delivery	Delivery Mechanisms: Officer led, competitive tendering (contract), partner delivery

<b>Report to:</b>	Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Committee
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> August 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	Update on NMD Business Development Programmes
<b>Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):</b>	Andy Patterson Assistant Director, ERT
<b>Contact Officer (Including Job Title):</b>	Elaine McAlinden Regeneration and Business Support and Development Officer

<b>For decision</b>	<b>For noting only</b>	<b>X</b>
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1.0	<b>Purpose and Background</b>												
1.1	<p><u>Purpose</u> To note the contents of this report on business development initiatives.</p> <p><u>Background</u> From 2018 to March 2023, Council provided business support services for business start up and growth. The programme was funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), Invest NI and Newry, Mourne and Down District Council.</p> <p>The following programmes were supported through this funding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• NMD Business Growth</li><li>• Tender for Growth</li><li>• Digital Growth</li><li>• Sales Accelerator</li><li>• Digital Surge Programme</li><li>• Go for It</li></ul> <p>Across the above 6 programmes, from 2018 – March 2023, Council will have drawn down £1.2 million of funding, and delivered support to approx. 1308 businesses, and produced approx. 1650 business plans.</p>												
2.0	<b>Key issues</b>												
2.1	<p><u>Summary of delivery across the above programmes</u></p> <table><tr><th></th><th><b>Delivery To Date – from programmes commenced</b></th><th><b>Delivery April 22 – March 23</b></th></tr><tr><td>Existing Businesses Supported –Business Growth Programmes</td><td>1327</td><td>362</td></tr><tr><td>Mentoring Days Delivered – Business Growth Programmes</td><td>2584</td><td>913.20</td></tr><tr><td>Jobs Created</td><td>466</td><td>184</td></tr></table>		<b>Delivery To Date – from programmes commenced</b>	<b>Delivery April 22 – March 23</b>	Existing Businesses Supported –Business Growth Programmes	1327	362	Mentoring Days Delivered – Business Growth Programmes	2584	913.20	Jobs Created	466	184
	<b>Delivery To Date – from programmes commenced</b>	<b>Delivery April 22 – March 23</b>											
Existing Businesses Supported –Business Growth Programmes	1327	362											
Mentoring Days Delivered – Business Growth Programmes	2584	913.20											
Jobs Created	466	184											



Workshops / Events / Programmes delivered – Business Growth Programmes	116 workshops	45 workshops
Meet the Buyer	2	1
Trade Mission	2	1
Business Plans Approved (via Go for It)	/	311
Jobs Promoted (via Go for It)	/	187

### Go for It – NI Business Start-Up

The NI Business Start-Up Programme continues to support those wishing to establish a new business.

Assistance includes:

- Support with a business start-up business advisor
- Access to focused workshops on relevant topics
- Completion of a business plan for the business start-up proposal.

Between April 2022 and March 2023, 311 participants were supported to develop business plans, equating to the creation of 187 new jobs. This exceeds Council's annual statutory job creation target of 155 new jobs, reinforcing our reputation as one of the most entrepreneurial regions in NI.

GO FOR IT			
	Target (22/23)	Actual April 22/March 23	% Achieved
Business Plans Approved	312	311	100%
Jobs Promoted (Stat Target)	155	187	121%
Business Start-ups supported	187	187	100%

The Go for It NI Programme delivery contract has been extended for a period of 6 months from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023. Council is working in collaboration with all Councils in NI on the development and implementation of business support service (Northern Ireland Entrepreneurship Support Service) up to 2025.

### NMD Business Growth (October 2018 – March 2023)

Programme delivery closed on 31 March 2023 for this bespoke mentoring programme.

Assistance included:

- Business Diagnostics
- 1-2-1 Mentoring sessions
- Workshops
- Thematic Programmes

The Programme engaged directly with 849 local businesses and provided mentoring support to 758 local businesses from the District.

	Target (up to March 2023)	Actual to date – up to March 2023	% Achieved	<b>Delivery April 22 – March 23</b>
Businesses Supported	740	758	100%	133
Mentoring Days Delivered	1145	1168	102%	220
Workshops	30	30	100%	1
Thematic Programmes	10	19	190%	4

### **Digital Growth Programme (January 2020 – March 2023)**

The Programme was a joint initiative between Council and Ards and North Down Borough Council, the Programme closed in March 2023.

Assistance included:

- Support to local businesses on digital skills advice
- Support from experts in the industry (1-2-1 mentoring, workshops, and masterclasses)

	Target (up to March 2023)	Actual to date – up to March 2023	% Achieved	<b>Delivery April 22 – March 2023</b>
Businesses Supported	260	267	103%	73
Mentoring days Delivered	630	628.5	100%	232
Workshops	18	18	100%	1
Masterclasses	4	4	100%	1

### **Tender for Growth (June 2020 – March 2023)**

Programme delivery closed on 31 March 2023 for Tender for Growth.

Assistance included:

- Support to local businesses to develop their procurement processes
- Support to secure new contracts in both the public and private sector

169 businesses completed the programme.

	Target (up to March 2023)	Actual to date – up to March 2023	% Achieved	<b>Delivery April 22 – March 23</b>
Businesses Supported	170	169	99%	58
Mentoring days Delivered	481	471.75	98%	225.2
Workshops	10	10	100%	1

Meet the Buyer Events	2	2	100%	1
Job Creation	145	169	117%	123

### **Sales Accelerator Programme (September 2021 – March 2023)**

The Programme was a joint initiative between Council and Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council, the Programme closed in March 2023.

Assistance included:

- Trade focused mentoring
- Support to businesses to develop their sales capacity to grow sales in existing NI markets, Explore new and grow existing sales in GB and/or ROI.

	Target (up to March 2023)	Actual to date – up to March 2023	% Achieved	<b>Delivery April 2022 – March 2023</b>
Businesses Supported	120	118	98%	83
Mentoring days	320 days	315	98.45%	236
Trade Visits	2	2	100%	1

### **Digital Surge Programme**

The Digital Surge Programme is an NI wide Council initiative that aimed to improve productivity of local businesses by incorporating digital technologies into operational activity. The programme was led by Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council.

Assistance included:

- Diagnostic reports
- 1-2-1 mentoring support to provide a competitive advantage to participant businesses.
- Innovative workshops
- Digital Acceleration Plan

Timescale for delivery was 12 months with a 3-month extension. NMDDC target was to recruit 18 businesses, 20 businesses applied for support, with 15 businesses receiving support from the programme.

### **NMD Interim Business Mentor Support Programme**

Following the cessation of European Regional Development Funding, Council developed a Business Mentor Programme to ensure continuity of support to local businesses in the absence of European and UK Government funded programmes.

The Business Mentor Support Programme is 100% funded by Council and is aimed at businesses across the Council area that employ fewer than 50 full-time equivalent staff. The Programme will deliver 80 mentoring days. The mentoring will enhance participating businesses' skills, confidence, and abilities with the overall aim of enabling business growth.

As well mentoring support, the Programme will also deliver several skills development workshops on a range of specialist subjects such as Marketing and

	<p>Digital Marketing, Selling with Confidence and Identifying and Accessing External Finance to Fund Business Growth.</p> <p>Council has developed a contingency to ensure continuity of support services. The programme will deliver support up to September 2023; the programme can provide support to local businesses on a month-by-month basis up to the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 in the absence of UK Government funded Programmes.</p>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
3.1	To note the contents of this report.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Resource implications</b>
4.1	All programmes are being implemented within existing and approved budgets.
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)</b>
5.1	<p><b><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></b></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><b><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></b></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><b><i>Proposal initiating consultation – N/a</i></b></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>

<b>6.0</b>	<b>Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)</b>
6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<b>7.0</b>	<b>Appendices</b>
	N/A
<b>8.0</b>	<b>Background Documents</b>
	N/A

**HISTORIC****ACTION TRACKER SHEET****ENTERPRISE REGENERATION AND TOURISM COMMITTEE****(For Noting at ERT Meeting – 14 August 2023)**

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ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	REFERRED TO	ACTION TAKEN	REMOVE FROM ACTION SHEET Y/N
		<b>(MARCH 2023 )</b>			
ERT/051/2023	(EXEMPT) LABOUR MARKET PARTNERSHIP (LMP) 2023/24 ACTION PLAN	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To note that Council have prepared and submitted to DFC a Strategic Assessment and Action Plan for implementation of a programme of Employability and Skills initiative across the District for 2023/24. It is anticipated that this action plan will be approved by the Regional LMP in April 2023.</li> <li>2. To approve the attached business case for the implementation of the LMP Action Plan for 2023/24.</li> <li>3. To approve the next steps to progress the delivery of the LMP as set out in section 2.2 of the above Report, subject to funding approval.</li> </ol>	J McGilly	In Progress	y

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	REFERRED TO	ACTION TAKEN	REMOVE FROM ACTION SHEET Y/N
		(June 2023 – TO FOLLOW)			
		*****			



<b>Report to:</b>	Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> August 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	Interim Business Mentor Support Programme
<b>Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):</b>	Andy Patterson Assistant Director, ERT
<b>Contact Officer (Including Job Title):</b>	Martin Patterson – Regeneration and Business Support Officer

<b>For decision</b>	<b>For noting only</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose and Background</b>	
1.1	<p><u>Purpose</u> To note the contents of this report.</p> <p><u>Background</u> Newry Mourne and Down District Council has just launched a new business programme that will support local small to medium-sized businesses, encouraging growth. This is an interim programme with the intention to fill the gap between the previous European Funded Council business support programmes and the new Northern Ireland Enterprise Support Service (NIESS).</p> <p>The programme is fully funded by Newry Mourne and Down District Council and is aimed at businesses across the Council area that employ fewer than 50 full-time equivalent staff. The Programme will include the delivery of a total of 80 mentoring days supporting 40 businesses to enhance their skills, confidence, and abilities with the overall aim of enabling business growth.</p> <p>As well mentoring support, the Programme will also feature several skills development workshops on highly relevant topics such as Marketing and Digital Marketing and Selling with Confidence.</p>	
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Key issues</b>	
2.1	<p>The NMD Business Mentor Support Programme is for business owners/managers who wish to enhance their skills, confidence, and abilities with the overall aim of enabling business growth.</p> <p>The programme is free to participate in for eligible businesses and will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One to one expert mentoring support.</li> <li>• Group-based mentoring via four online workshops</li> </ul>	

	<p>The programme includes the delivery of a total of 80 mentoring days supporting 40 businesses and commences in mid-July 2023 and runs until the approximately the end of September 2023.</p> <p>The Key Outputs of the programme are as follows: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide practical business advice to overcome economic barriers and</li> <li>• To assist Business Owners to identify, target and exploit new business opportunities.</li> <li>• To make referrals to other relevant business support.</li> <li>• To provide opportunities to grow a business with Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area, with professional support.</li> <li>• FREE one to one tailored mentoring support moulded to the business specific needs – up to 14 hours.</li> <li>• Access to 4 online workshops events on             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Marketing and Digital Marketing on a shoestring</li> <li>◦ Selling with Confidence</li> <li>◦ Identifying and Accessing External Finance to Fund Business Growth</li> <li>◦ Finding and Retaining High Calibre People</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Networking opportunities with other SMEs.</li> <li>• Linkages with other business support initiatives.</li> </ul> <p>The programme is open to businesses in the Newry Mourne and Down Council area that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have been trading for more than 6 months.</li> <li>• Employ less than 50 full time equivalent staff.</li> <li>• Have job creation potential.</li> </ul> <p>For further details on the programme and to apply contact or e-mail <a href="mailto:stephanie@fullcircle.eu.com">stephanie@fullcircle.eu.com</a> and telephone 028 9069 1027 or alternatively to discuss contact the Councils Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration section on email <a href="mailto:business@nmandd.org">business@nmandd.org</a>.</p>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
3.1	To note the contents of this report.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Resource implications</b>
4.1	This programme will be implemented within existing and approved budgets.
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)</b>

5.1	<p><b><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></b></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><b><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></b></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><b><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></b></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	<b>Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)</b>
6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	<b>Appendices</b>
	N/A
8.0	<b>Background Documents</b>
	N/A

<b>Report to:</b>	Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Committee
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> August 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	Library Boxes – Kilbroney Park
<b>Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):</b>	Andy Patterson Assistant Director, ERT
<b>Contact Officer (Including Job Title):</b>	Michelle Boyle Head of Tourism, Product Development & Visitor Experience

For decision	For noting only	X
<b>1.0 Purpose and Background</b>		
1.1	<p><u>Purpose</u> To note the contents of this report on the installation of library boxes in Kilbroney Park.</p> <p><u>Background</u> The Council has received a request from a local community representative regarding the installation of two 'Free Library' boxes at the Friendship bench and reception at Kilbroney Park.</p>	
<b>2.0 Key issues</b>		
2.1	The Library boxes will be provided by the local community representative to the Council for installation. The books and boxes will be maintained by the local community representative. A similar initiative operates successfully in Warrenpoint Park. The initiative will operate on a pilot basis to assess demand and use of the resource and to assess any issue with maintenance which may arise.	
<b>3.0 Recommendations</b>		
3.1	To note the contents of this report.	
<b>4.0 Resource implications</b>		
4.1	N/a	
<b>5.0 Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)</b>		
5.1	<p><b><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></b></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><b><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></b></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><b><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></b> <span style="float: right;"><b><i>N/A</i></b></span></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	<b>Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)</b>
6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	<b>Appendices</b>
	N/a
8.0	<b>Background Documents</b>
	N/a