

December 17th, 2020

Notice Of Meeting

You are invited to attend the Strategy Policy and Resources Committee Meeting to be held on **Thursday, 17th December 2020 at 6:00 pm** in **Microsoft Teams**.

The Members of the Strategy Policy and Resources Committee are:-

Chair: Councillor G Sharvin

Vice Chair: Councillor O Hanlon

Members: Councillor P Brown

Councillor P Byrne

Councillor S Doran

Councillor C Enright

Councillor H Gallagher

Councillor R Howell

Councillor A Lewis

Councillor H McKee

Councillor O Magennis

Councillor D Murphy

Councillor B Ó Muirí

Councillor M Savage


Councillor W Walker

Agenda

1.0 Introduction and Apologies

2.0 Declarations of Interest

3.0 Action Sheet arising from SPR Committee Meeting held on Thursday 12 November 2020 & Special SPR Meeting held on Tuesday 1 December 2020

 *SPR-Action Sheet.pdf*

Page 1

 *Special SPR-Action Sheet arising from 1 December 2020.pdf*

Page 6

Corporate Planning and Policy

4.0 Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Corporate Plan 2021-2023

 *Corporate Plan 2021-23_.pdf*

Page 7

 *NMD Corporate Plan 2021-23 (Final).pdf*


Page 10

For Noting

5.0 Action Sheet for Albert Basin Task and Finish Working Group Meeting – 19 November 2020

 *Albert Basin Park Report.pdf*

Page 31

 *AB Action Sheet - 19 November 2020.pdf*

Page 33

6.0 Performance and Improvement Update

 *SPR Cover Report Update on Performance and Improvement.pdf*

Page 37

 *Appendix 1 Correspondence NIAO.pdf*

Page 41


 *Appendix 2 Correspondence LGPIWG.pdf*

Page 42

 *Appendix 3 Correspondence DfC.pdf*

Page 45

7.0 Minutes of Newry CCR PB Meeting - 12.11.2020 & 10.12.2020

 *Minutes of Newry CCR PB Mtg - 12.11.2020.pdf*

Page 47

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

8.0 Planning Advisory Consultant

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

 **Planning Advisory Consultant.pdf**


Not included

 **Appendix 1 - Business Case - Planning Consultant.pdf**

Not included

9.0 COVID-19 – Impact on Leisure Services Update

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

 **Leisure Facilities COVID-19 Impact Update Dec 2020.pdf**

Not included

10.0 Carlingford Lough Greenway

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

 **Carlingford Lough Greenway.pdf**


Not included

11.0 Conacre Agreements

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

 **Conacre lettings.pdf**

Not included

 **SPR - 17th December 2020 - Maps 1 - 6 Conacre lettings.pdf**

Not included

12.0 Health Cash Plan

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

 *Employer Funded Health Cash Plan for Employees.pdf*

Not included

13.0 PHA Report

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

 *Request from PHA - Covid-19 Testing Facility.pdf*

Not included

14.0 Surplus Assets Update

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

 *Surplus Assets Update.pdf*

Not included

15.0 Multi-Council Tender – Provision of Insurance Services for the Eastern Sub Region – Approval

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

 *Multi Council Insurance Service Provider (003).pdf*

Not included

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

16.0 SFWG Action Sheet

 *SFWG - Action Sheet 14 12 2020.pdf*

Not included

Invitees

Cllr Terry Andrews

Mr Alan Beggs

Ms Kate Bingham

Cllr Patrick Brown

Cllr Robert Burgess

Cllr Pete Byrne

Mrs Dorinnia Carville

Cllr charlie casey

Cllr William Clarke

Cllr Dermot Curran

Cllr Laura Devlin

Ms Louise Dillon

Cllr Sean Doran

Cllr Cadogan Enright

Cllr Aoife Finnegan

Cllr Hugh Gallagher

Cllr Mark Gibbons

Cllr Oonagh Hanlon

Cllr Glyn Hanna

Cllr Valerie Harte

Cllr Roisin Howell

Cllr Mickey Larkin

Cllr Alan Lewis

Mr Michael Lipsett

Mrs Regina Mackin

Cllr Oonagh Magennis

Mr Conor Mallon

Cllr Gavin Malone

Cllr Cathy Mason

Mr Johnny Mc Bride

Colette McAteer

Cllr Declan McAteer

Cllr Leeanne McEvoy

Cllr Harold McKee

Cllr Karen McKevitt

Cllr Andrew McMurray

Catrina Miskelly

Mr Ken Montgomery

Cllr Roisin Mulgrew

Cllr Declan Murphy

Cllr Barra Ó Muirí

Mr Fearghal O'Connor

Linda O'Hare
.....
Cllr Gerry O'Hare
.....
Cllr Kathryn Owen
.....
Colin Quinn
.....
Cllr Henry Reilly
.....
Cllr Michael Ruane
.....
Cllr Michael Savage
.....
Cllr Gareth Sharvin
.....
Cllr Gary Stokes
.....
Sarah Taggart
.....
Paul Tamati
.....
Cllr David Taylor
.....
Cllr Jarlath Tinnelly
.....
Cllr John Trainor
.....
Cllr William Walker
.....
Mrs Marie Ward
.....

ACTION SHEET – STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING (SPR) – T H U R S D A Y 12 NOVEMBER 2020

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
SPR/160/2020	Request to use Monaghan Row	It was agreed to proceed with reviewing the accommodation at Monaghan Row to determine if there is any current/future office space that could be used the Trust and for officers to continue to liaise with the Trust on the assumption of receiving a commercial rent for the letting of office space.	C Quinn	Approved	N
SPR/165/2020	Action Sheets of the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meetings held on 15 October 2020 & Special Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on Friday 23 October 2020.	It was agreed that the action sheet from the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meetings held on 15 October 2020 & Special Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee held on 23 October 2020, be noted, and actions removed as marked with SPR/160/2020 - Request to use Monaghan Row to remain on the action sheet.	D Carville/ C Quinn	Noted	Y
SPR/166/2020	NOM Referred from Council Meeting 2 November 2020 – Stand Alone Women's Sub-Committee	It was agreed to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To establish a 'Women's Working Group' and; • Officers prepare a Terms of Reference which sets out the working group's scope, purpose and proposed membership. 	D Carville	Noted	Y
SPR/167/2020	Draft Policies – Naming Council Facilities/Artworks & Sculptures/Tree Planting	It was agreed that Members approve the draft policies, associated guidelines and procedures and application forms.	R Mackin	Approved	Y

SPR/168/2020	Council's Statutory Advertising	<p>Members agreed to continue to use the services of the Council's appointed Advertisement Agency under the current ESPO Framework Agreement for Advertising Solutions to produce, manage and place advertisements in the local weekly press titles on behalf of the Council thus ensuring the Council's corporate identity is protected and geographical spread, reach and value for money can be achieved.</p> <p>It was also agreed that consideration be given to using online newspapers to get the message out digitally and to ensure the advertising provider is doing this.</p>	R Mackin	Agreed	Y
SPR/169/2020	Request from PHA for National Testing Partnership venue in Newry (Walk in test facility)	It was agreed that Members agree to offer PHA additional space at Albert Basin for a temporary structure/s for a minimum of 3 months (with possible extension).	C Quinn	Agreed	Y
SPR/170/2020	Minutes of Newry City Centre Regeneration Programme Board Meeting – 20 October 2020	It was agreed to note the contents of the report.	D Carville/C Mallon	Noted	Y
<u>ITEMS RESTRICTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 1 OF SCHEDULE 6 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (NI) 2014</u>					

SPR/171/2020	Surplus Asset Update	<p>It was agreed to approve the following recommendations:</p> <p>3.1 Members to note the content of this Report and associated Appendices.</p> <p>3.2 Members approval to formally proceed with the sale of Newry Sports Centre to the Southern Regional College, for the value stated in the officer's report, on receipt of SRC receiving their business case approval.</p> <p>3.3 Members approval to formally proceed with the sale of the following surplus assets to bidders listed at the values stated in the officer's report, which were on the open market between 29th September – 3rd November 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play Area at Ashtree Cottages, Newry • Former Refuse Disposal Site, Coreagh, Newry • Lockkeepers Cottage, Newry • Play Area at Crown Villas, Crieve, Newry <p>3.4 Members approval for the next stages of the conveyancing process listed in 3.3 to proceed immediately.</p> <p>3.5 Members formal approval to commence the D1 process for the following surplus assets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Clock Recreation Area Shrigley • Lands at Mourne Esplanade, Kilkeel, BT34 4DB and • It was agreed that the Play area at the Bleary Bungalows Newry decision be deferred for 1 month. 	C Quinn	Agreed	Y
SPR/172/2020	Emergency Business Plans October 2020 – March 2021	<p>It was agreed that members approve the following recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief Executive's Departmental Emergency Business Plans October 2020 – March 2021. • Corporate Services Emergency Business Plans October 2020 – March 2021 	M Ward	Approved	Y

SPR/173/2020	Office for Products Safety & Standards Funding offer	It was agreed that Elected Members agree to the recruitment of an Environmental Officer until 31 March 2021 to carry out the work as detailed in the report.	E Devlin	Agreed	Y
SPR/174/2020	Stage 2 Traffic Transport & Car Parking	It was agreed that Elected Members agree to consider the contents of the report and approve the recommendation to appoint White Young Green via the Councils Multi-Disciplinary Framework to undertake a desk top analysis of walking, cycling and public transport arrangements that exist within Newry, to identify opportunities to improve multimodal transport, and to undertake consultation with key stakeholders in regard to same.	C Mallon	Agreed	Y
SPR/175/2020	Proposed Planning Department Structure.	It was agreed that Elected Members agree the new Planning Department Structure in Appendix 1 allowing all the positions to be filled permanently through the necessary recruitment processes.	C Mallon	Agreed	Y
SPR/176/2020	Albert Basin City Park – Governance Structures	It was agreed to approve the following recommendations: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 15-Arce City Park Project at the Albert Basin in Newry becomes part of the Newry City Centre Regeneration Scheme Project and associated governance arrangements as per appendix 1. 2. The Albert Basin Task and Finish Working Group being discontinued, and the project progressed as per the above point 1 recommendation. 3. The Stakeholder Forum for the Albert Basin continue to meet as required. 	M Lipsett	Agreed	Y
SPR/177/2020	Management Accounts to 30 September 2020	It was agreed to note the content of the officer's report.	D Carville	Noted	Y

SPR/178/2020	Update on Council Finances	It was agreed to note the content of the officer's report.	D Carville	Noted	Y
SPR/179/2020	Update on Brexit Planning	It was agreed to note the content of the officer's report.	D Carville	Noted	Y
SPR/180/2020	Strategic Finance Working Group Action Sheet – 9 November 2020.	It was agreed to note the contents of the Strategic Finance Working Group Action Sheet – 9 November 2020.	D Carville	Noted	Y
SPR/181/2020	Bann Road Playing Fields, Castlewellan – Lease issue	It was agreed to note the content of the officer's report.	F O'Connor	Noted	Y
SPR/182/2020	Judicial Review Costs – McCreesh Park, Newry	It was agreed that Elected Members approve payment of the negotiated amount approved, as detailed in the officer's report.	F O'Connor	Approved	Y

END

ACTION SHEET – SPECIAL STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING (SPR) – T U E S D A Y 1 DECEMBER 2020**ITEMS RESTRICTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 1 OF SCHEDULE 6 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (NI) 2014**

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
SPR/185/2020	Trade Union Dispute/Terms and Condition of Employment	<p>It was agreed to approve the following recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That Members note the discussions which had taken place as set out in Appendices 1-4. • That Members approve, in principle, for ratification at full Council, the MS proposal which would mean all Drivers and Loader/Operatives move onto the same JD with effect from 1st December 2020; based on the previously evaluated legacy Newry and Mourne District Council job descriptions LGV category C Driver (post 126) and Refuse Loader (post 189). The material impact of this would be that Refuse Operatives from the former Down Council will move from Scale 2 to Scale 3 and Refuse Drivers from the former Down Council will move from Scale 3 to Scale 4. Those working in the former Newry and Mourne Council area are already employed on Scale 3 & 4 respectively. This will be agreed without prejudice to further discussions/negotiations in relation to the legal standing of the Down District Council Single Status Agreement. • That Members agree, in principle, to make available the necessary resources through paid release; to support the delivery of the agreed programme of work to the end of March 2021 relating to negotiations on Terms and Conditions; which will be brought back through SPRC. 	D Carville/ M Ward	In progress	N

Report to:	Strategy and Policy Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	17 December 2020
Subject:	Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Corporate Plan 2021-2023
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Regina Mackin, Assistant Director of Corporate Planning and Policy
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Regina Mackin, Assistant Director of Corporate Planning and Policy

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

For decision	x	For noting only	
---------------------	----------	------------------------	--

1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	Newry, Mourne and Down District Council has developed its Corporate Plan 2021- 2023 which covers the final 2 years of the second term of Council and details the key strategic objectives and actions over this period. The development of the Corporate Plan was informed by an extensive stakeholder engagement process. The document is closely aligned to the Programme for Government outcomes and the Newry, Mourne and Down Community Plan Outcomes.
1.2	This Corporate Plan builds on the progress and achievements of the Council's first Corporate Plan 2015-19 and this new Plan will guide Council activities and allocation of resources over this period.
2.0	Key issues
2.1	Our Mission as a Council the next 2 years is: <i>"To support and advocate for a welcoming District which is progressive, healthy and sustainable, providing better economic environmental and social outcomes for all".</i>
2.2	In pursuing our Mission, we will be guided by three values which are fundamental to everything we do: Accountable - <i>We will be accountable for how we plan for and use resources sustainably.</i> Collaborative - <i>We will work in partnership with others.</i> Transparent - <i>We will be transparent in how we make decisions.</i>
2.3	To enable Council to achieve its Mission and realise its Vision by listening to and delivering on the priorities identified by stakeholders, Council will focus on 8 Strategic Objectives for this 2-year period. We will:

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Invest in and support new and growing businesses, job creation and employment skills. 2. Continue to improve the health and wellbeing of everyone in the district and reduce health inequalities. 3. Enhance, protect and promote our environment. 4. Support sustainable forms of tourism which value our environment and cultural heritage. 5. Enable and support people to engage in inclusive and diverse activities in their communities. 6. Promote the revitalisation of our city, towns, villages and rural communities. 7. Provide accessible, high-quality and integrated services through continuous improvement. 8. Advocate with others for the benefit of all people of the District.
2.4	The Corporate Plan details the Key Actions and Measures of Success against each Strategic Objective. These actions will be delivered in collaboration and in partnership with a range of stakeholders.
2.5	The Councils 41 Elected Members and its Committee and Management Structure ensures sound governance, ownership and scrutiny in the decision-making process across the whole organisation. Performance against delivery of the Corporate Plan 2021 -2023 will be regularly monitored and reviewed in relation to the key plans and strategies which support the achievement of the Corporate Plan.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	Councils' Strategy Policy and Resource Committee is asked to consider the draft Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Corporate Plan 2021-2023.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	Financial and resources implications will be addressed within the ongoing delivery of the Corporate Plan through the individual Directorate Plans.
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p>

	<p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>
5.3	<p><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)
6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	Appendices
	Appendix 1: Draft Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Corporate Plan 2021-2023
8.0	Background Documents
	None

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

10

Phlean Corparáideach 2021-2023 Corporate Plan 2021-2023



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

Proud of our past. Building our future together.

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
Corporate Plan 2021-2023



Front Cover: Craigmore Viaduct

Foreword



Councillor
Laura Devlin
Chairperson



Marie Ward
Chief Executive

Welcome to Newry, Mourne and Down District Council's Corporate Plan 2021-23.

As one of the largest councils in Northern Ireland we go forward with an ambitious agenda to further develop our area and enhance the reputation of our district as a great place to live, work and visit.

While the Covid-19 pandemic has, and will continue to have an impact for everyone, our strategic location provides an opportunity for business development, local and international investment, promotion of cross-border initiatives, as well as establishing us as a premier tourism destination.

As one of six local councils to secure the first ever billion-pound City Deal agreement, we will help build our economy through more localised and focused investment decision-making.

During this period, we will continue to place great emphasis on regeneration for our city, towns and villages, delivering on key projects such as building new conferencing and enhanced theatre facilities as well as bringing much needed hotel and Grade A office accommodation to our area.

As a forward-looking Council we remain committed to fostering international relationships to promote friendship and understanding and stimulate the exchange of knowledge and experiences in economic development, tourism, education, culture, sustainable environmental initiatives and youth exchange.

Over the next two years we will encourage our citizens to improve their health and wellbeing to enhance their quality of life by becoming more active and enjoying the many facilities and green and open spaces our District has to offer.

We plan to transform and modernise the way our Council provides accessible as well as value for money services. Our Neighbourhood Services transformation project will deliver improved service and citizen experience and work towards delivering on the 2030 target of 65% of municipal waste being recycled. We will also use the latest digital technologies to make it easier for citizens to engage with us and ensure we use our resources efficiently and effectively.

So, it promises to be an exciting period going forward with its many challenges and opportunities as we continue to deliver on the Council's ambitious plans while working together and advocating on your behalf to make Newry Mourne and Down a great place to live, work and visit.

Councillor Laura Devlin
Council Chairperson

Marie Ward
Chief Executive

Contents

06

Executive
Summary

08

Introduction

10

Our Corporate Plan
Why We Need It

12

Our Vision,
Mission and Values

14

Our District
A Profile

20

Our Council
Our Performance

22

Our Plan
How We Developed
the Corporate Plan

26

Our Way Forward
What We Want
to Achieve

28

Our Key Actions
What We Will Do

32

Our Council
How We Govern

34

Our Elected
Members

38

Appendix



Slieve Donard Newcastle

Executive Summary

Our mission as a council for the next two years is:

“To support and advocate for a welcoming district which is progressive, healthy and sustainable, providing better economic, environmental and social outcomes for all”.

In pursuing our mission, we will be guided by three values which are fundamental to everything we do:

Accountable

We will be accountable for how we plan for and use resources sustainably

Collaborative

We will work in partnership with others

Transparent

We will be transparent in how we make decisions



To enable us achieve our mission and realise our vision we will focus on the following eight strategic objectives over the next two years:

We will:

1. Invest in and support new and growing businesses, job creation and employment skills
2. Continue to improve the health and wellbeing of everyone in the district and reduce health inequalities
3. Enhance, protect and promote our environment
4. Support sustainable forms of tourism which value our environment and cultural heritage
5. Enable and support people to engage in inclusive and diverse activities in their communities
6. Promote the revitalisation of our city, towns, villages and rural communities
7. Provide accessible, high-quality and integrated services through continuous improvement
8. Advocate with others for the benefit of all people of the district.

By the end of this two-year period we aim to see:

- An increase in infrastructure investment that enables the future economic growth of the district
- Enhanced investment in the sustainable tourism offering
- More people participating in targeted health programmes to encourage healthier lifestyles
- Ongoing reduction in municipal waste sent to landfill
- A new civic centre as well as new conferencing and enhanced theatre facilities
- Empowered communities influencing local services and development
- A transformed council in terms of service provision and delivery
- A powerful and influential council which continues to advocate for all its citizens.

Our key actions for 2021-23 are detailed on pages 28-31.

This is Newry, Mourne and Down District Council's Corporate Plan for the two-year period 2021-23 which builds on the progress and achievements of our first five years.

During our first five years we established a new governance and organisational structure, delivered major new facilities and projects for the benefit of residents and visitors, facilitated agreement with partners on the Community Plan, secured major City Deal investment for the future and began work on publishing

While we acknowledge the Covid-19 pandemic may be a continuing feature and have an impact upon Council services, this new Corporate Plan will continue to guide our activities and how we allocate our resources over the next two years. In doing so we will work closely with all our partners in government and with the private, voluntary and community sectors and strive to provide our staff with the development support and resources needed to provide better outcomes and high-quality services for all.



Our Corporate Plan

Why We Need It

The draft Programme for Government contains strategic outcomes which, taken together, set a clear direction of travel and enable continuous improvement on the essential components of societal wellbeing. They touch on every aspect of government, including the attainment of good health and education, economic success and confident and peaceful communities.

A key feature of the draft Programme for Government is its dependence on collaborative working between organisations and groups, whether in the public, voluntary, or private sectors.

The draft Programme for Government outcomes for the whole region are reflected within the district's Community Plan. Our Community Plan, 'Living Well Together', was agreed by the Council, public service providers, government departments and partners in the business, voluntary and community sectors.

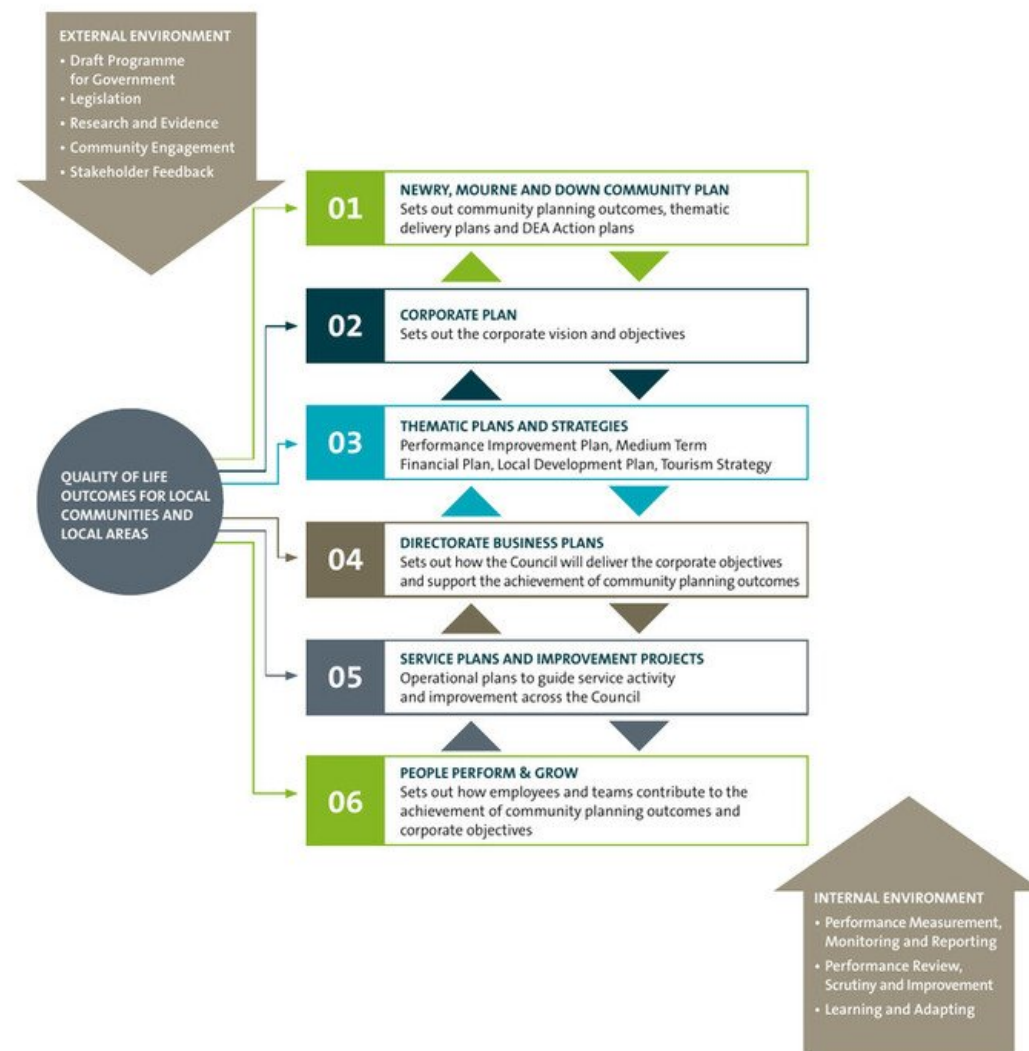
The Community Plan partners are committed to playing a full and active role in delivering the following outcomes:

- All people in Newry, Mourne and Down get a good start in life and fulfil their lifelong potential
- All people in Newry, Mourne and Down enjoy good health and wellbeing
- All people in Newry, Mourne and Down benefit from prosperous communities
- All people in Newry, Mourne and Down benefit from a clean, quality and sustainable environment
- All people in Newry, Mourne and Down live in respectful, safe and vibrant communities.

In preparing our Corporate Plan 2021-2023 we have sought to maximise linkages with the draft Programme for Government, and how best the Council can contribute to achieving the outcomes set out within our Community Plan.

As such, the Council's Business Planning and Performance Management Framework drives and provides assurance that community planning outcomes, corporate priorities and performance improvement objectives are being delivered.

The following illustrates how the priorities set out within our Corporate Plan are reflected within business plans and service plans to ensure the entire organisation is working towards corporately defined objectives.



Our Vision, Mission and Values

We are ambitious and want our district to become one of the most desirable and best places to live, work, invest in and visit.

We want to:

- Create opportunities for local people and our communities to thrive by supporting economic development which is sustainable and helps them lead fulfilling lives
- Enable our district to grow to be a place which is attractive and welcoming to visit and do business in
- Promote and facilitate healthier and more active lifestyles
- Support communities to be cohesive and safe, and people to be actively engaged in civic life
- Enhance, protect and promote our environment for the enjoyment of today's residents and visitors and for the benefit of future generations
- Provide modern, affordable and accessible facilities and services which offer a better quality of life for all – especially those people and places which need more support than others.

To achieve our vision, we will work collaboratively with all our partners and stakeholders in the public, private, community and voluntary sectors through Community Planning, with our local government colleagues both north and south of the border and with central government departments.

Our mission as a Council is:

“To support and advocate for a welcoming district which is progressive, healthy and sustainable, providing better economic, environmental and social outcomes for all”.

In pursuing our mission, we will be guided by three values which are fundamental to everything we do:

Accountable

We will be accountable for how we plan for and use resources sustainably

Collaborative

We will work in partnership with others

Transparent

We will be transparent in how we make decisions



Our District

A Profile

Newry, Mourne and Down district has the third largest population of council areas in Northern Ireland. It is strategically located on the important eastern A1/M1 economic corridor with 150 kilometres of coastline and is an attractive area for business investment, both local and international.

We are within one hour travelling distance from Dublin and Belfast, with close proximity to two major airports, a deep-water port, and transport routes which link us throughout Ireland and to Great Britain.

Our district has many strengths that make it an attractive place to live, work and invest in. However, our district also faces many challenges that are both common across the region as well as unique to our area. A profile of our district is detailed below under the five outcomes of the Community Plan. The following statistics reflect the position as of October 2020.



Prosperous Communities



Economy

Employment Rate of
73.6%
in 2019

In 2018, **3%**
of 18-24 year olds in
NMD claiming jobseekers
allowance plus out-of-work
universal credit

1,289,821
nights spent on
overnight trips (2018)
resulting in an estimated
tourism spend of
£69,345,336

8,865
VAT and/or PAYE
Registered Businesses
in 2020

Business by Sector

Newry,
Mourne
& Down



Agriculture



Construction



Production
(Including
Manufacturing)



Services

Northern
Ireland



Safe & Vibrant Communities



Community

72%

of residents agree that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together

94%

of residents feel safe in the district during the day, **87% of residents feel safe** in the district after dark

69%

of residents feel they have a say on things happening or how services are run in their local area

15%

of participants said they had participated in or attended an arts, heritage or culture activity / event in the last 12 months

Sustainable Environment



Environment

86%

of residents stated that recycling is important to them

Currently recycle

53.7%

of all our waste 2019/ 2020

One of the lowest levels

of waste to landfill across all NI councils

3

AONBs covering approximately **55.7%** of the district

4 RAMSAR (wetlands) sites

3 Special Protection Areas

11 Special Areas of Conservation

62 Areas of Special Scientific Interest and

2 National Nature Reserves

3,309

applicants were on the NIHE waiting list at 31 March 2020

654

applications for new residential properties have been approved between April 2017 and March 2018

1,669

houses built in NMD Urban Housing Monitoring Area between April 2018 and Oct 2019.

Health & Wellbeing



18

Health & Wellbeing

79%

of residents feel they are in very good or good health

78%

of residents are physically active at least once a week for 30 minutes

NMD Residents scored **7.7 out of 10** in relation to their satisfaction with their mental health / emotional wellbeing

Male Life Expectancy in NMD in 2016-18 was **78.9 years**, and **77.5 years** for males living in the 20% most deprived areas of the district

Female Life Expectancy in NMD in 2016-18 was **83.1 years**, and **82.4 years** for females living in the 20% most deprived areas of the district



Lifelong Potential

Connectivity

9%

of premises in NMD
unable to get at least
10Mbit/s download speed
1Mbit/s upload speed

There are

3,062 km

of public road across NMD



Education

In 2019,

13%

16 - 64 year olds
had no qualifications

56.5%

of school leavers achieved
2+ A-levels (or equivalent)
(2018/19)

In 2018/19

71.9%

of school leavers
achieved at least 5 GCSE's
grades A*-C (or equivalent)
including GCSE English
and GCSE Maths



Deprivation

In 2017, NMD had the

3rd highest

level of Super Output
Areas (SOAs) within the top
100 most deprived areas
within NI

In total

23

of the SOAs in
NMD are within the **top
25%** (NI) for Multiple
Deprivation rank. This is
out of a total of **84** SOAs
within the district

4 of the 5

highest ranked SOAs in
NI for **income deprivation**
come from within NMD

Our Council

Our Performance

From 2015, the Council made significant progress in delivering the Corporate Plan. Our performance to date has helped us to identify new corporate objectives, supporting actions and measures of success.

Corporate Priority	Progress	Status Trend
 Become one of the premier tourist destinations on the island of Ireland	Implementation of Tourism Strategy underway 11% increase in visitor numbers 44% increase in visitor spend 22% increase in visitor dwell time Application for Global Geopark status for the Mourne Gullion Strangford submitted	😊 ▲ ▲ ▲ 😊
 Attract investment and support the creation of new jobs	988 new jobs promoted and 979 new business starts supported through business start up activity City Deal for the Belfast Region secured 82% decrease in the number of Job Seekers Allowance claimants Regeneration and Economic Development Strategy launched Production of Local Development Plan underway	😊 😊 ▲ 😊 😊
 Support improved health and wellbeing outcomes	Newry and Down Leisure Centres open Implementation of the Sports Facility and Play Strategies underway 25% increase in attendances at Council leisure facilities 4 new play parks open, 4 play parks transformed and 19 parks upgraded	😊 😊 ▲ 😊
 Protect our natural and built environment	Aghnagun and Drumanakelly landfill sites closed Increase of 14.8% in the rate of recycling, to 53.7% 86.9% reduction in the amount of waste going to landfill, to 2,131 tonnes 22% reduction in black bin waste, 25% increase in blue bin waste and 133% increase in brown bin waste Downpatrick Household Recycling Centre open Camlough Lake flood defences complete	😊 ▲ ▲ ▲ 😊 😊

Corporate Priority	Progress	Status Trend
 Lead the regeneration of our urban and rural areas	The restoration of Warrenpoint Town Park complete Implementation of 5 Masterplans underway Environmental improvement and revitalisation schemes in Downpatrick, Newry and Warrenpoint complete Processing time for local planning applications improved by 14 weeks Processing time for major planning applications increased by 37.6 weeks	😊 😊 😊 ▲ ▼
 Advocate on your behalf specifically in relation to those things that matter most to you	Newry, Mourne and Down achieved age friendly status from the World Health Organisation 9% increase in premises with superfast broadband, to 82% £15m awarded to FFNI Consortium to improve digital infrastructure** Review of community planning structures complete	😊 ▲ 😊 😊
 Empower and improve the capacity of our communities	Implementation of Community Plan underway Seven DEA forums established and delivery of Local Action Plans ongoing Review of community centres complete £5.7m awarded to 1,900 applications through the Financial Assistance Scheme 27% increase in the number of successful applications to the Financial Assistance Scheme	😊 😊 😊 😊 ▲
 Transform and modernise the Council, providing accessible as well as value for money services	87% of residents are satisfied with the Council 75% of residents believe Newry, Mourne and Down is a good place to live Slight reduction in employee absenteeism Compliance with the statutory Duty of Improvement IIP / CSE accreditation not progressed	😊 😊 ▶ 😊 ☹️

**FFNI: Newry, Mourne and Down District Council hosts the Full Fibre Northern Ireland Consortium.

LEGEND

- 😊 Target or action achieved
- 😊 Target or action partially achieved
- ☹️ Target or action not achieved

TREND

- ▲ Performance has improved
- ▶ Performance is similar to the previous years
- ▼ Performance has declined

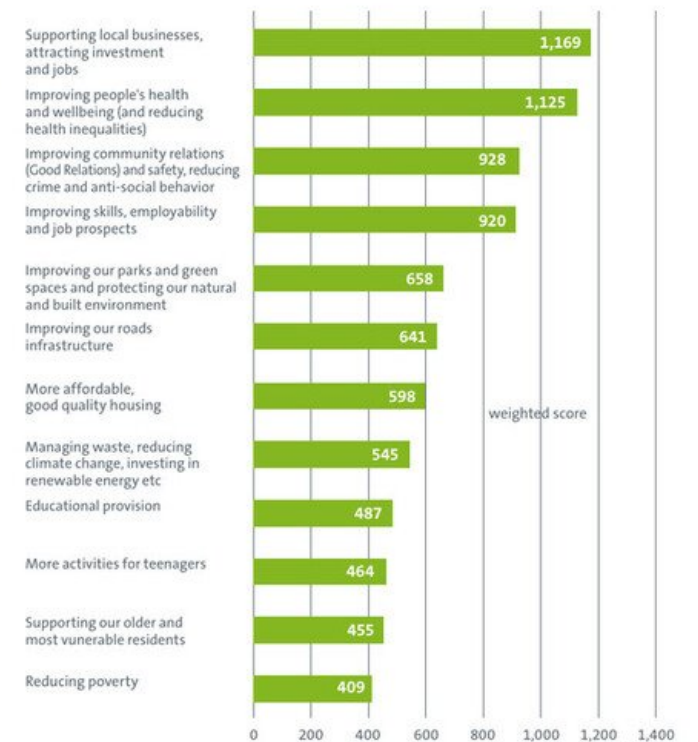
Our Plan

How We Developed the Corporate Plan

As a Council we are committed to engaging with our residents and stakeholders in our district. This Corporate Plan has been informed by an extensive engagement process undertaken in a three-phased approach.

In the first phase of our engagement, residents were surveyed and asked how we are delivering on our duties. The survey undertaken in September 2018 was based on a representative sample of residents aged 16+ with quotas applied for age, gender, social class and electoral wards. The survey also highlighted the priorities that are important to our residents. Priorities for our residents included supporting local business, improving our public spaces and affordable housing.

Priorities for improving local area... (most important)



Furthermore, 87% of residents in our district are satisfied with the work of our Council.



In the second phase, a comprehensive consultation exercise, independently facilitated by Community Places, took place in early 2019 with a series of 25 meetings held with a wide range of stakeholders. The District Electoral Area forums, elected representatives, Council employees, representatives from the business and youth sectors and Older People's Forum all informed the findings of the plan. The draft plan has been subject to a 12-week public consultation.

Consultees were asked their views on:

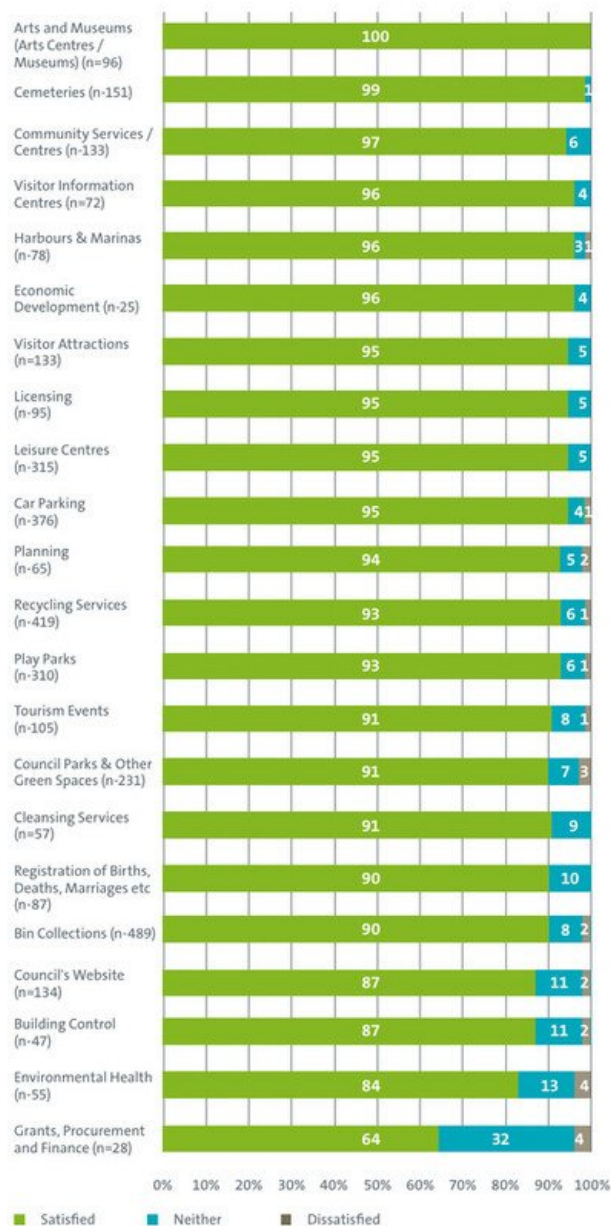
- The needs for the district
- The impact of the current corporate objectives over the first term of Council
- What the objectives and priority actions should be for the next four years.

The wide-ranging discussions largely mirrored the residents' survey findings undertaken in the first phase of the engagement process.

Issues raised included the need to:

- Continue to attract economic investment
- Create business growth and job creation
- Sustain tourism development
- Continue the support for physical and mental health and wellbeing initiatives
- Build the capacity of local community representatives and volunteers
- Protect our environment and its assets.

Satisfaction with Council Services



Participants were asked to what extent the 8 strategic objectives of the draft corporate plan are still important, given the impact of COVID



In Autumn 2020 in response to the Covid-19 Pandemic and its impact on council service delivery, a third consultation exercise was undertaken. Online focus Groups were held with a representative sample of residents as well as an online survey which was promoted on Councils social media platforms. Participants were asked their views on a number of issues including if the proposed corporate objectives originally identified were still deemed to be relevant in the current climate and areas of concern during this time.

Our Way Forward

What We Want To Achieve

To achieve our mission and realise our vision by listening to and delivering on the priorities identified by our stakeholders, we have adopted the following eight strategic objectives. They are aligned to the five themes of the Community Plan and will be delivered in collaboration and partnership with a range of stakeholders.

Ben Crom Reservoir

We will:



Invest in and support new and growing businesses, job creation and employment skills

We will facilitate investment by new and growing businesses while contributing to the further development of workforce skills to retain existing and attract new industries.



Continue to improve the health and wellbeing of everyone in the district and reduce health inequalities

We will help to reduce health inequalities and improve the quality of life for all by contributing fully to programmes, services, facilities and amenities.



Enhance, protect and promote our environment

We will contribute to tackling climate breakdown and reducing harmful impacts on the environment while enabling residents and visitors to enjoy our rich natural and built heritage.



Support sustainable forms of tourism which value our environment and cultural heritage

We will support and advocate for increased investment and development in tourism which promotes our unique assets and increases visitor satisfaction and spend.



Enable and support people to engage in inclusive and diverse activities in their communities

We will encourage people to play an active part in civic life in all its forms and develop the capacity of communities, particularly those in greatest need, to attract the right support to address needs and sustain valued projects and facilities.



Promote the revitalisation of our city, towns, villages and rural communities

We will work with residents, businesses and our partners in regeneration to further develop desirable places to live, work, invest in and visit across the district.



Provide accessible, high-quality and integrated services through continuous improvement

We will build a high performing Council, fit for the future, that delivers efficient and effective services for the benefit of all.



Advocate with others for the benefit of all people of the district

We will lobby and campaign with government and others to attract investment, develop modern infrastructure across the district, address needs and improve the quality of life for all.

Our Key Actions

What We Will Do

To enable the Council to deliver on its eight strategic objectives the following key actions have been identified.

Over the next two years the principal projects Council aims to progress delivery upon are:

- New Theatre and Conference Centre in Newry
- New Civic Centre
- Downpatrick Regeneration
- Newcastle Centre
- Community Centre provision in Warrenpoint and Camlough
- 15 Acre Albert Basin Park
- Local Development Plan Strategy
- Organisational Transformation
- Progress Projects contained within the Belfast Region City Deal (BRCD) including skills and innovation.

Strategic Objectives

Key Actions

Measures of Success

1.

Invest in and support new and growing businesses, job creation and employment skills.

We will facilitate investment by new and growing businesses while contributing to the further development of workforce skills to retain existing and attract new industries.

Provide a programme of support that will increase growth and investment for new and established businesses across the district.

Work with partners to enhance employability and skills, provide quality jobs for all our citizens and meet the needs of our businesses.

Maximise the district's location as a cross-border gateway to Great Britain, Ireland and international markets.

Secure investment in infrastructure that enables the future economic growth of the district.

Through the BRCD partnership, implement a series of (1) skills and employment and (2) digital and innovation programmes to meet the needs of the region.

Number of jobs created and businesses supported through Council programmes.

Number of jobs promoted through business start-up activity.

Amount of investment secured by Council.

2.

Continue to improve the health and wellbeing of everyone in the district and reduce health inequalities.

We will help to reduce health inequalities and improve the quality of life for all by contributing fully to programmes, services, facilities and amenities.

Promoting healthier lifestyles including increased physical activity levels, diet and emotional wellbeing.

Continue to implement the leisure facilities and Play Strategy for the district.

Develop and implement a Sports Development and Open Spaces Strategy for the district.

Number of people participating in targeted health programmes.

Attendance at free play sessions.

Number of attendances at Council indoor leisure facilities.

3.

Enhance, protect and promote our environment.

We will contribute to tackling climate breakdown and reducing harmful impacts on the environment, while enabling residents and visitors to enjoy our rich natural and built heritage.

Develop a Circular Economy Plan for the district to make best use of our waste and resources.

Develop and implement a strategic plan for controlling environmental crime.

Develop and implement the Local Development Plan.

Develop a Local Climate Change Adaption Plan. Implement priority projects identified within AONB action plans and protect our biodiversity.

Level of street cleanliness across the district (Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful Cleanliness Index).

65% of municipal waste recycled by 2030.

Level of compliance with Sustainable Development Duty.

Strategic Objectives	Key Actions	Measures of Success
<p>4.</p> <p>Support sustainable forms of tourism which value our environment and cultural heritage.</p> <p>We will support and advocate for increased investment and development of tourism which promotes our unique assets and increases visitor satisfaction and spend.</p>	<p>Develop the tourism proposition for the district in line with Tourism NI's Experience Brand.</p> <p>Work with Tourism NI, Tourism Ireland, government departments, and the private sector to grow the economic impact of the tourism industry and to address barriers to growth.</p> <p>Invest in major tourism capital projects that will attract international visitors to NI and the district.</p> <p>Implement a Sustainable Tourism Growth Plan to ensure responsible development of our tourism offering with respect to environmental, social and economic considerations.</p> <p>Continue to develop the district's bid to achieve the UNESCO Global Geopark designation by summer 2021.</p>	<p>Increased visitor spend.</p> <p>Increased overnight stays.</p> <p>Increased visitor satisfaction.</p>
<p>5.</p> <p>Enable and support people to engage in inclusive and diverse activities in their communities.</p> <p>We will encourage people to play an active part in civic life in all its forms and develop the capacity of communities, particularly those in greatest need, to attract the right support to address needs and sustain valued projects and facilities.</p>	<p>Through the process of community planning provide opportunities for communities to have a voice in shaping local services and local areas.</p> <p>Engage and involve partners and communities in developing the district through the implementation of the Community Plan.</p> <p>Develop and implement a Community Facilities Strategy.</p> <p>Promote sustainable and empowered communities through the implementation of the Council Financial Assistance Scheme.</p>	<p>Percentage of residents who agree that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together.</p> <p>Percentage of residents who agree that the Council consults with and listens to the views of local people.</p> <p>Percentage of residents who feel they can have a say on how services are delivered in their local area.</p> <p>Number and percentage of financial assistance projects funded and successfully delivered.</p>
<p>6.</p> <p>Promote the revitalisation of our city, towns, villages and rural communities.</p> <p>We will work with residents, businesses and our partners in regeneration to further develop desirable places to live, work, invest in and visit across the district.</p>	<p>Progress the Belfast Region City Deal, ensuring inclusive economic growth for the region.</p> <p>Implement priority projects identified within masterplans and village plans.</p> <p>Establish a new civic centre, theatre and conference facility that will revitalise Newry City and the wider district.</p> <p>Develop a car parking strategy in line with strategic regeneration development needs and sustainability.</p> <p>Progress Downpatrick Regeneration.</p>	<p>Progress against key BRCD projects.</p> <p>Number of Public Realm Schemes delivered.</p> <p>Increased business growth and employment.</p>

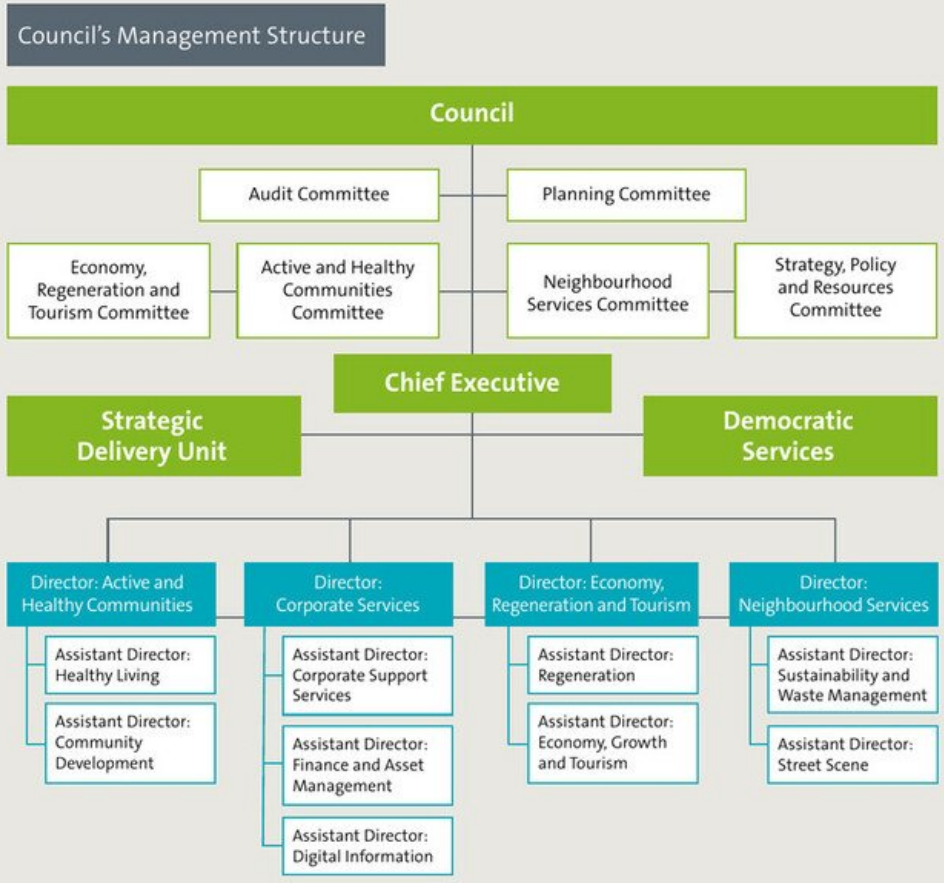
Strategic Objectives	Key Actions	Measures of Success
<p>7.</p> <p>Provide accessible, high-quality and integrated services through continuous improvement.</p> <p>We will build a high performing Council, fit for the future that delivers efficient and effective services for the benefit of all.</p>	<p>Introduce new, efficient and innovative ways to transform and improve the way we plan, manage and deliver services.</p> <p>Develop a robust and reliable evidence base to inform decision making, policy development and service provision.</p> <p>Effectively manage performance and align individual contribution with corporate objectives and better outcomes for all.</p> <p>Support elected members in their leadership role.</p> <p>Implement a new neighbourhood model of providing cleansing and maintenance services.</p>	<p>Increased citizen satisfaction.</p> <p>Compliance with Duty of Improvement.</p>
<p>8.</p> <p>Advocate with others for the benefit of all people of the district.</p> <p>We will lobby and campaign with government and others to attract investment, develop modern infrastructure across the district, address needs and improve the quality of life for all.</p>	<p>Work with partners to implement the Community Plan and deliver better outcomes/ improve the quality of life for all.</p> <p>Support elected members in their advocacy role around key local actions.</p>	<p>Compliance with the Duty of Community Planning / monitor delivery of outcomes with partners.</p> <p>Percentage of residents who are satisfied with their local areas as a place to live.</p>

Our Council

How We Govern

The Council's 41 elected members and its committee and management structure ensures sound governance, ownership and scrutiny in the decision-making process across the entire organisation.

The committee and management structure demonstrates how the decision-making process is implemented in Council as follows:



Reviewing performance and reporting progress to elected members and other key stakeholders is very important as it facilitates transparency, accountability and improvement in everything the Council does. The Council regularly monitors performance in relation to the implementation of key plans and strategies, which supports the achievement and delivery of the Corporate Plan.

These include the Performance Improvement Plan and Directorate Business Plans. The Council publishes an Annual Performance Improvement Plan which is independently audited.

The governance arrangements to develop, monitor, report and review the Council's progress in implementing the Corporate Plan 2021-2023 are outlined below:

Governance Arrangements

Full Council	Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee	Senior Management Team
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approval of the Corporate Plan• Annual performance assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scrutiny, challenge and approval of the Corporate Plan• Annual performance assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lead the development and implementation of the Corporate Plan• Annual performance assessment

There are also ongoing reviews of performance at directorate and service levels within Council.

Elected Members

Crotlieve



Mark Gibbons
Independent

mark.gibbons@nmandd.org
M: 07596 001 978



Karen McKevitt
SDLP

karen.mckevitt@nmandd.org
M: 07967 760 439



Mickey Ruane
Sinn Féin

michael.ruane@nmandd.org
M: 07764 320 317



Declan McAteer
SDLP

declan.mcateer@nmandd.org
T: 028 4177 2645
M: 07733 913 022



Gerry O'Hare
Sinn Féin

gerry.o'hare@nmandd.org
M: 07767 877 007



Jarlath Tinnelly
Independent

jarlath.tinnelly@nmandd.org
T: 028 4173 9170
M: 07710 531 815

Downpatrick



Dermot Curran
SDLP

dermot.curran@nmandd.org
T: 028 4484 1727
M: 07709 893 896



Oonagh Hanlon
Sinn Féin

oonagh.hanlon@nmandd.org
M: 07519 202 890



John Trainor
SDLP

john.trainor@nmandd.org
M: 07872 886 533



Cadogan Enright
Independent

cadogan.enright@nmandd.org
M: 07590 462 329



Gareth Sharvin
SDLP

gareth.sharvin@nmandd.org
M: 07568 528 384

Mournes



Willie Clarke
Sinn Féin

william.clarke@nmandd.org
M: 07762 242 345



Seán Doran
Sinn Féin

sean.doran@nmandd.org
M: 07513 008 344



Leeanne McEvoy
Sinn Féin

leeanne.mcevoy@nmandd.org
M: 07872 904 369



Laura Devlin
SDLP

laura.devlin@nmandd.org
M: 07834 220 952



Glyn Hanna
DUP

glyn.hanna@nmandd.org
T: 028 4176 3819 (DUP Office)
M: 07540 070 852



Harold McKee
UUP

harold.mckee@nmandd.org
M: 07435 750 077



Henry Reilly
Independent

henry.reilly@nmandd.org
T: 028 4176 2570
M: 07801 676 579

Newry



Charlie Casey
Sinn Féin

charlie.casey@nmandd.org
T: 028 3026 1693 (Sinn Féin Office)
M: 07764 320 312



Roisin Mulgrew
Sinn Féin

roisin.mulgrew@nmandd.org
M: 07719 106 871



Michael Savage
SDLP

michael.savage@nmandd.org
T: 028 3025 0009
M: 07808 530 704



Valerie Harte
Sinn Féin

valerie.harte@nmandd.org
T: 028 3026 1693 (Sinn Féin Office)
M: 07587 774 923



Gavin Malone
Independent

gavin.malone@nmandd.org
M: 07512 363 240



Gary Stokes
SDLP

gary.stokes@nmandd.org
M: 07952 179 855

Rowallane



Terry Andrews
SDLP

terry.andrews@nmandd.org
T: 028 4483 1308
M: 07879 998 559



Robert Burgess
UUP

robert.burgess@nmandd.org
T: 028 9751 0668
M: 07808 729 275



William Walker
DUP

william.walker@nmandd.org
T: 028 4482 1738
M: 07886 828 572



Patrick Brown
Alliance

patrick.brown@nmandd.org
M: 07971 783 252



Kathryn Owen
DUP

kathryn.owen@nmandd.org
M: 07947 187 240

Slieve Croob



Andrew McMurray
Alliance

andrew.mcmurray@nmandd.org
M: 07821 893 640



Roisin Howell
Sinn Féin

roisin.howell@nmandd.org
M: 07522 271 849



Cathy Mason
Sinn Féin

cathy.mason@nmandd.org
M: 07756 520 974



Hugh Gallagher
SDLP

hugh.gallagher@nmandd.org
M: 07793 983 552



Alan Lewis
UUP

alan.lewis@nmandd.org
M: 07707 058 195

Slieve Gullion



Pete Byrne
SDLP

pete.byrne@nmandd.org
T: 028 3086 8491
M: 00353 879 000 141



Micky Larkin
Sinn Féin

micky.larkin@nmandd.org
M: 07801 247 623



Declan Murphy
Sinn Féin

declan.murphy@nmandd.org
M: 00353 872 657265



David Taylor
UUP

david.taylor@nmandd.org
T: 028 3083 8014
M: 07733 913 021



Aoife Finnegan
Sinn Féin

aoife.finnegan@nmandd.org
M: 00353 871 141 388



Oonagh Magennis
Sinn Féin

oonagh.magennis@nmandd.org
M: 07853 230 586



Barra Ó Muirí
Sinn Féin

barra.omuirí@nmandd.org
T: 028 3086 1921
M: 07547 606 922

Appendix

29

Programme for Government Framework Outcomes Delivery Plan	Newry, Mourne and Down Community Plan Outcomes	Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Corporate Plan Objectives
<p>We enjoy long, healthy, active lives.</p> <p>We care for others and we help those in need.</p>	<p>All people in Newry, Mourne and Down enjoy good health and wellbeing.</p>	<p>Continue to improve the health and wellbeing of everyone in the district and reduce health inequalities.</p>
<p>We prosper through a strong, competitive, regionally balanced economy.</p> <p>We have more people working in better jobs.</p> <p>We have created a place where people want to live and work, to visit and invest.</p>	<p>All people in Newry, Mourne and Down benefit from prosperous communities.</p>	<p>Invest in and support new and growing businesses, job creation and employment skills.</p> <p>Support sustainable forms of tourism which value our environment and cultural heritage.</p> <p>Promote the revitalisation of our city, towns, villages and rural communities.</p>
<p>We live and work sustainably - protecting the environment.</p>	<p>All people in Newry, Mourne and Down benefit from a clean, quality and sustainable environment.</p>	<p>Enhance, protect and promote our environment.</p>
<p>We have a more equal society.</p> <p>We have a safe community where we respect the law and each other.</p> <p>We are a shared, welcoming and confident society that respects diversity.</p>	<p>All people in Newry, Mourne and Down live in respectful, safe and vibrant communities.</p>	<p>Enable and support people to engage in inclusive and diverse activities in their communities.</p>
<p>We are an innovative and creative society where people can fulfil their potential.</p> <p>We give our children and young people the best start in life.</p> <p>We connect people and opportunities through our infrastructure.</p>	<p>All people in Newry, Mourne and Down get a good start in life and fulfil their lifelong potential.</p>	<p>Provide accessible, high quality and integrated services through continuous improvement.</p> <p>Advocate with others for the benefit of all people of the district.</p>



Ag freastal ar an Dún agus Ard Mhacha Theas
Serving Down and South Armagh

T: 0330 127 4000
council@nmandd.org
www.newrymournedown.org

**Oifig an Iúir
Newry Office**
O'Hagan House
Monaghan Row
Newry BT35 8DJ

**Oifig Dhún Pádraig
Downpatrick Office**
Downshire Civic Centre
Downshire Estate, Ardglass Road
Downpatrick BT30 6GQ



Report to:	Strategy Policy and Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	17 December 2020
Subject:	Action Sheet for Albert Basin Task and Finish Working Group Meeting – 19 November 2020
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Michael Lipsett, Director of Active and Healthy Communities
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Paul Tamati, Assistant Director of Leisure and Sport

<table border="1"> <tr> <td>For decision</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>For noting only</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>		For decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	For noting only	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
For decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	For noting only	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
1.0	Purpose and Background				
1.1	The purpose of this report is to update the Strategy Policy and Resources on actions from the Albert Basin Task and Finish Group Working Group meeting held on 10 November 2020				
2.0	Key issues				
2.1	N/A				
3.0	Recommendations				
3.1	That the Strategy Policy and Resources Committee note the actions from the Albert Basin Task and Finish Working Group meeting held on 19 November 2020 at Appendix 1.				
4.0	Resource implications				
4.1	None				
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)				
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>				
5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>				

	<p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>
5.3	<p><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)
6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If no, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy / strategy / plan / public service is not influenced by rural needs <input type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	Appendices
	Appendix 1: Action Sheet of Albert Basin Task and Finish Working Group – 19 November 2020
8.0	Background Documents
	None

ALBERT BASIN TASK AND FINISH WORKING GROUP
THURSDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2020 AT 4PM
VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

In attendance: Paul Tamati, Assistant Director Leisure and Sport
 Conor Haughey, Head of Outdoor Leisure
 Colin Quinn, Assistant Director – Estates and Capital Projects
 Adrian Grimshaw, Project Director
 Councillor R Mulgrew (Chairperson ABWG)
 Councillor C Casey
 Councillor V Harte
 Councillor G Malone
 Councillor M Savage
 Councillor G Stokes
 Councillor D Taylor
 Mr B Clelland, Newry 2020
 Mr M McConville, Newry 2020
 Mr O McGauley
 Ms C Ruddy, Drumalane Quayside Community Association
 Ms S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager

Apologies: Apology received from Michael Lipsett, Director of Active & Healthy Communities

ACTIONS ARISING:

Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
1. Introduction and Apologies	Apology received from Michael Lipsett	ML		
2. Declarations of Interest	None.	PT		
3. Review of previous action sheet 20 August 2020	Actions were accepted. Proposed by Cllr Casey and seconded by Cllr Malone.	PT		

4. Public Consultation Publication	<p>P Tamati advised the public consultation publication is now available on Council's website and will help inform design teams. There will be further opportunity for stakeholders to comment on draft designs once established.</p> <p>Agreed: Public consultation to identify need agreed. Next stage would be appointment of design team.</p>	PT		
5. Project Governance Structures	<p>Agreed:</p> <p>P Tamati tabled the new governance structures for the Albert Basin City Park Project which reflected the project as the 6th strand to the Newry City Centre Regeneration Scheme (NCCRS) as agreed at SP&R Committee. Once ratified at full Council this structure will be reflected in any future NCCRS graphics.</p> <p>Cllr R Mulgrew advised the Albert Basin project was now on the same footing as every other aspect of the Newry City Centre Regeneration Scheme and whilst the Task and Finishing Working group would discontinue, the stakeholder forum would remain in place as the primary community sector forum for ongoing consultation on the project and this would be engaged with as and when necessary as deemed by the NCCRS programme board.</p> <p>The programme board for NCCRS to considered if a regular scheduled stakeholder forum engagement is required.</p>	PT		

	<p>In response to budget queries for the project P Tamati outlined that approximately 180k had been allocated to the project so far, 90k remains for the appointment of design team and economists and as and when further money is required for the project this will be allocated as per the Councils Strategic Finance Working Group, the Councils Capital Programme and via SP&R Committee approval process.</p> <p>Cllr M Savage reiterated Council's commitment to providing a 15-acre park on the Albert Basin site, a commitment to deliver phase 1 within the current Council term and reminded members of the working group that Councillors have responsibility to deliver projects within timeframes and legal frameworks. He stated when the design team was appointed, they would map out the other elements of when the scheme would be delivered and would provide a timetable to move the project forward.</p>	PT		
		AG		
6. Next Steps	<p>Agreed:</p> <p>Cllr R Mulgrew outlined that a number of next steps had been discussed under the previous item.</p> <p>In response to further queries on timescales P Tamati outlined that an indicative timeline was tabled at the previous working group meeting, once appointed the design team would establish a further detailed timeline for the project.</p> <p>Cllr R Mulgrew advised that request regarding timelines for the project would be submitted to the project board agenda for discussion at its first meeting.</p>	PT		

7. Any Other Business	R Mulgrew thanked all the members of the project board for their excellent work in getting the project to the stage it was at and looked forward to continuing to work with them and all other stakeholders as co-chair of the NCCR.			
------------------------------	--	--	--	--

Report to:	Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	17 December 2020
Subject:	Performance and Improvement Update
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Dorinnia Carville – Director: Corporate Services
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Kate Bingham – Head of Performance and Improvement

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

For decision	For noting only	X
1.0	Purpose and Background	
1.1	<p>Part 12 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014 requires District Councils to put in place arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the exercise of their functions. Through the Act, all District Councils have a statutory duty to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Produce and publish a Performance Improvement Plan before 30 June each year, outlining the key improvement objectives for the year ahead.• Produce and publish an Assessment of Performance before 30 September each year, demonstrating progress in delivering the previous year's performance improvement objectives, statutory performance indicators and standards for economic development, planning and waste management and self imposed performance indicators.• Facilitate the annual Performance Audit and Assessment which is carried out by the Northern Ireland Audit Office (NIAO), to determine whether the Council has effectively complied with Part 12 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014. The S95 report must be published by 30 November each year.	
2.0	Key issues	
2.1	<p>In response to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Department for Communities (DfC) confirmed that Councils were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not required to publish a Performance Improvement Plan for the 2020-21 financial year.• Required to produce the Assessment of Performance 2019-20. The Assessment of Performance 2019-20 for Newry, Mourne and Down was completed and published on the Council's website in line with the statutory timescale.• Required to facilitate the Performance Audit and Assessment, focusing primarily on the Assessment of Performance 2019-20. The NI Audit Office (NIAO) estimates that input will be around 30% of audits in previous years, which will be reflected in the reduced audit fee, as outlined in Appendix 1. The timescales for completing the Audit and Assessment have been extended and the fieldwork phase is currently underway at Newry, Mourne and Down. Feedback reports will be published by 31 March 2021.	

2.2	<p>The Local Government Performance Improvement Working Group (LGPIWG) which is chaired by a SOLACE representative, has been working closely with DfC and NIAO to consider the current legislative requirements, strengthen existing performance management arrangements and embed a culture of improvement across local government. On 20 October 2020, the LGPIWG issued a letter to the Department for Communities, highlighting the short, medium and long term issues which must be addressed, as outlined in Appendix 2.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short term: Clarification in relation to the scope, process and timeline for the Performance Audit and Assessment in 2020/21. • Medium term: Clarification on the scope, focus and timeline for the Performance Improvement Plan 2021/22, Assessment of Performance 2020/21 and Performance Audit and Assessment 2021/22. • Long term: Review of Part 12 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014 and the Performance Indicators and Standards Order 2015. <p>DfC issued a response on the 13 November 2020, confirming their intention to work with the LGPIWG to discuss future performance management arrangements and any subsequent amendments to Part 12 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014, as outlined in Appendix 3.</p>
2.3	<p>Strengthening existing performance management arrangements and embedding a culture of performance and improvement has gained momentum within Newry, Mourne and Down District Council. It is vital that performance is used a key driver to identify improvements and facilitate the delivery of effective, efficient and value for money services in the current and post COVID-19 environments.</p> <p>During 2020-21, Emergency Business Plans for each Directorate were developed to provide a mechanism to manage the Council's response to COVID-19, co-ordinate activity and plan ahead to support and anticipate business recovery. The implementation of these plans is well underway and will be reviewed in March/April 2021.</p> <p>The Corporate Plan 2021-23 has also been reviewed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and will be considered by the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee in December 2020. Preliminary work in relation to the development of the performance improvement objectives 2021-22 is also due to commence, in order to ensure the organisation is in a position to comply with the current requirements of the legislation.</p>
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	<p>To note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The update in relation to current and future performance management arrangements
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	The anticipated cost of the Performance Audit and Assessment is circa £7,000.
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)

5.1	<p>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</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>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>
5.3	<p>Proposal initiating consultation</p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i> Consultation not required.</p>
6.0	<p>Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)</p>
6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input 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	<p>Appendices</p> <p>Appendix 1: Correspondence NIAO to LGPIWG Appendix 2: Correspondence LGPIWG to DfC Appendix 3: Correspondence DfC to LGPIWG</p>
8.0	<p>Background Documents</p>

	Local Government Act (NI) 2014 (Part 12)
--	--



Patrick Barr
Director

Northern Ireland Audit Office

106 University Street

Belfast

BT7 1EU

Telephone : (028) 9025 1063

Fax : (028) 9025 1051

Email : patrick.barr@niauditoffice.gov.uk

www.niauditoffice.gov.uk

 [@NIAuditOffice](https://twitter.com/NIAuditOffice)

Anne Donaghy
Chair of SOLACE

Via email to: anne.Donaghy@midandeantrim.gov.uk

30 September 2020

Anne,

It was great to talk to you and the other forum members earlier this week – thank you for inviting me.

We agreed on the call that I would write to you laying out the primary focus of our audit approach this year and the fact that the reduced audit activity would be reflected in the fee charged to Councils.

Without going into too much detail here, the primary focus of our work will be the 2019-20 Self Assessment Report. We will not be looking at the performance improvement plans as, per communication from the Department, these are not required this year. The timescales for the completion of our work are currently being extended to allow for the necessary change in legislation (discussed on our call) to be completed. That said, for most Councils we still intend to begin our work in the coming weeks and will begin circulating our information requests once finalised.

In regard the fees, I mentioned that we estimate the input required this year will be in the region of 25% to 30% of the previous years' work. This will be reflected in a reduced fee – so we aim to charge Councils 25% to 30% of the performance improvement fee outlined in the audit strategy.

As I said on the call we recognise the impact that the current situation is having on Councils and how they have responded to the challenges they face. I look forward to working with you, and the other forum members, to ensure we complete our planned work as efficiently as possible this year, and ultimately make improvements to the wider performance improvement system as we progress.

Yours sincerely



PATRICK BARR
Director

Julie Broadway
 Department for Communities
 Causeway Exchange
 1-7 Bedford Street
 Belfast
 BT2 7EG

XX October 2020

Dear Julie,

I am writing to you as Chair of the Local Government Performance Improvement Working Group, on behalf of SOLACE NI.

I would like to thank you, Lynn McCracken and Kerri O'Neil for attending the most recent meeting of the Local Government Performance Improvement Working Group (PIWG) on Monday 28th September 2020. It was encouraging to hear details of the Department's 3-stage plan for moving forward with regards to performance improvement in local government. I believe that through strong partnership working, we can continue to build a culture of performance across local government in the coming years whilst navigating the long-term impacts of the COVID pandemic.

As you will recall, it was agreed that the PIWG would collectively identify the most appropriate steps to be taken in the short, medium and longer term to ensure that performance continues to maintain its valuable profile across the sector. The table below outlines some key actions that now need to be progressed.

Timeframe	Actions Required
Short Term (1 month)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarification and official correspondence on the scope, process and timeline for the Performance Audit and Assessment in 2020/21.
Medium Term (12 months)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarification on the scope and focus of the Performance Improvement Plan for 2021/22 and timeline for publication. Clarification on whether each Council must consult on the draft performance improvement objectives 2021/22 (or recovery objectives) and timeline for same. Clarification on the content of the Self-Assessment 2020/21, in the absence of the Performance Improvement Plan 2020/21. Clarification on the scope, process and timeline of the Performance Audit and Assessment 2021/22. Careful consideration of benchmarking in the current and post COVID-19 environments, specifically in relation to the nine statutory performance indicators and standards, as the statutory Waste targets have not yet been issued.
Long Term (24 months)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A full review of Part 12 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Performance Indicators and Standards Order should be reviewed alongside Part 12 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014.
--	--

As we move into the coming year it is vital for all stakeholders, including the Department for Communities, Northern Ireland Audit Office and local government to acknowledge that performance and improvement is a key driver for the delivery of effective, efficient and value for money services.

Over the last five years, local government has allocated a significant amount of time and resources to secure compliance with Part 12 of the Local Government Act and has raised the profile and impact of performance significantly. The process of embedding a culture of performance and improvement has gained substantial momentum across each of the 11 Councils and it is vital that this momentum continues to build.

Going forward, SOLACE envisages a clear and pivotal role for performance and improvement in the current and post COVID-19 environments, helping to address the financial challenges that the sector face and identify efficiency/income generating opportunities. Using performance as a key enabler to navigate our way through the pandemic will build on and strengthen the progress made to date within Councils. However, to be effective and responsive to the needs and aspirations of local communities and individual Councils, now is the right time to review, evaluate and streamline the legislation and guidance.

In addition to the steps outlined within the table above, there are a number of recommendations that the PIWG have outlined below, particularly for the 2021/22 year; these include:

- The group have previously highlighted that the current legislation requirements and statutory guidance on Council are time consuming, bureaucratic and resource intense. In light of changing circumstances, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, a more flexible approach is required, particularly around the definition of an 'improvement objective' for 2021/22 performance plans. Objectives will focus on recovery and delivering medium and long-term improvements for the communities we serve. These objectives will be unique to each Council area; therefore, a 'one-size-fits-all' approach will be ineffective. The audit and assessment process will need to take account of this flexibility.
- Whilst the annual cycle has played a key role in assisting Councils in mainstreaming/embedding performance and improvement, local government now calls for a more phased approach. The Performance Improvement Plan is a strategic document that forms part of the hierarchy of plans in place across each Council, and is directly aligned to the Corporate Plan and Community Plan. To remain strategic, the Performance Improvement Plan should change from an annual improvement plan to a minimum of a 2-year plan. This would allow for more realistic and tangible outcomes at a local level. A 2-year plan would also provide time to conduct a full review of Part 12 of the legislation.

- The formal consultation process should also take place on a biennial cycle. It should be noted however that councils engage on a continuous basis. Within that context, Council's should have the freedom to select and realign improvement objectives which matter most to both the organisation and local communities, focused on and responding to the internal and external environments that we face, as illustrated so pertinently by COVID-19.
- The audit cycle should be at a minimum every 2 years, with the annual Performance Self-Assessment serving as a light touch review each year, subject to the scrutiny of senior management teams and Elected Members. The effectiveness of this scrutiny process would be led by the Council and sector and would then form part of the more in depth NIAO Audit and Assessment.

I would appreciate your consideration of the points raised in this letter and am happy to further discuss any points you would like to raise. I will soon issue an invitation to you for the next PIWG meeting that is expected to take place in November.

I look forward to continuing to work with the Department in the coming months to agree and finalise a way forward that will guarantee that the momentum already established through the Performance Improvement Working Group over the last 5 years continues to develop across local government.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Anne Donaghy
Chief Executive
Mid and East Antrim Borough Council



**Level 4
Causeway Exchange
1-7 Bedford Street
Belfast
BT2 7EG**

Telephone: (028) 9051 5690
E-mail: Julie.Broadway@communities-ni.gov.uk
Your ref: TC/ab/LK
Our ref:
Date: 13 November 2020

Anne Donaghy
Chair of the Local Government Performance Improvement Working
Mid & East Antrim Borough Council
The Braid
1-29 Bridge Street
Ballymena
BT43 5EJ

Dear Anne

Performance Improvement in Local Government

Thank you for your letter dated 20 October 2020 and for the recommended actions set out within the letter.

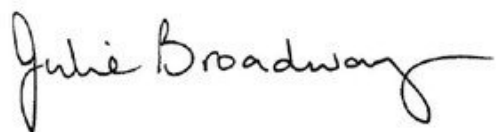
For the short term, the Department aims to bring forward legislation to regularise the legal position arising from the Minister's decision to set aside the requirement for Councils to produce and publish a Performance Improvement Plan for the current 2020/21 year.

For the medium term, we look forward to working with the Local Government Performance improvement Working Group to discuss the arrangements which should be put in place for performance improvement planning during the 2021/22 year, including proposed processes and timelines and whether any further legislation will be required to facilitate any proposed changes to arrangements.

In the longer term, and subject to the Minister's agreement, the Department will carry out a full review of Part 12 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014. Many of the additional recommendations in respect of performance improvement arrangements, set out in pages 2-3 of your letter, (e.g. the movement to 2-year plans and 2 year audit cycles) would be matters for the full review of Part 12, however, it is very useful to have these issues highlighted at this stage.

I look forward to continuing to work with the PIWG over the coming months.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julie Broadway". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Julie Broadway

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

**Minutes of Newry City Centre Regeneration Programme Board Meeting
held on Thursday 12th November 2020, 12 Noon
MS Teams**

In Attendance:Councillors

Councillor Pete Byrne - Chair
Councillor Roisin Mulgrew
Councillor Charlie Casey
Councillor Gavin Malone
Councillor Gary Stokes
Councillor David Taylor

NMDDC Officials

Conor Mallon, Director of Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism
Adrian Grimshaw, Project Director
Anthony McKay, Chief Planner
Jonathan McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise, Employment & Regeneration
Colin Quinn, Assistant Director, Estates and Capital Projects
Tracie McLoughlin, PA

External Participants

Damian Mulholland, Dept for Communities.

Apologies:

Cllr Walker Marie Ward Dorinnia Carville

**NCCR/31:- Minutes of Previous Meeting of Newry City Centre Regeneration
Project Board held on 20th October 2020****Agreed:**

On the proposal of Cllr R Mulgrew, seconded by Cllr P Byrne the Minutes were approved as a true and accurate account.

NCCR/32:- Consultation Terms of Reference

Option 7 of the Newry City Centre Regeneration Outline Business Case and associated approvals were ratified at Novembers Full Committee, including the agreed amendment to shape an extensive district wide public consultation on all aspects of the Newry City Centre Regeneration project.

In accordance with the Programme Boards action to develop the stakeholder engagement and communication strategy and with consideration to the agreed amendment, terms of reference have been prepared for a consultation facilitator to form part of a future request for quotation process.

The Programme Board was asked to consider and approve the terms of reference as circulated, including the stakeholder list.

The terms of reference notes the requirement for consultation as;

Step 1 – Initiation Meeting

Step 2 – Consultation, comprising;

- a) Stakeholder Workshop
- b) Public Consultations
- c) Online Survey

Step 3 – Initial Findings

Step 4 – Final Report.

The consultation phase is proposed as undertaken over a 4-week period, providing consultees with an opportunity to provide views on;

- Project elements comprising the programme, targeted outcomes and anticipated benefits;
- Project designs and opportunities to facilitate additional outcomes e.g. facilities or events;
- Challenges which may arise in delivery or operation of programme/ projects.

Agreed:

On the proposal of Cllr G Stokes, seconded by Cllr R Mulgrew it was agreed to approve the attached terms of reference to form part of a request for quotation process for the appointment of a consultation facilitator.

Members agreed on public consultation wording and targeted 4 week timescale. Agreed important to indicate as separate process from consultation for planning applications.

It was agreed to approve the Stakeholder Analysis with addition of Newry Parish/ Diocese of Dromore.

Cllr P Byrne asked that a timeline of communications between Council and Newry Parish and Diocese of Dromore be kept on record for the Project Board.

NCCR/33:- Social Media Infographic

The purpose of the circulated infographic is to supplement the recent Advert in the local press and to provide a summary of the benefits outlined in the Newry CCR Belfast Region City Deal OBC, the project composition, and timeline. It is proposed as a tool to promote better understanding of the Belfast Region City Deal benefits and elements of the scheme. The Programme Board was asked to consider the infographic for immediate use on Councils social media channels and in media/ print.

Agreed:

On the proposal of Cllr C Casey, seconded by Cllr D Taylor it was agreed by all that the circulated infographic would be used on Council's social media channels and in media/print, with the addition of the source of the various statistics noted.

NCCR/34:- Dates for Value Engineering Workshop and scheduling of Project Board

It was agreed future Project Board Meetings would be scheduled in advance of monthly SPR meetings to more closely link board recommendations with SPR decision.

It was agreed to arrange a date for a Value Engineering Workshop in advance of the December Project Board Meeting.

It was noted Cllr Pete Byrne's 6 month term as Chair of the Project Board had ended and Cllr Roisin Mulgrew's 6 month term will commence at the December meeting.

This concluded the business of the Meeting. The Meeting ended at 1pm

For approval at the Newry City Centre Regeneration Project Board Meeting 10th December 2020, thereafter ratified at the Strategy Policy and Resources Committee Meeting 17th December 2020.

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of Newry City Centre Regeneration Programme Board Meeting held on Thursday 10th December 2020, 2pm MS Teams/Chamber, Monaghan Row Newry

In Attendance:

Councillors

Councillor Roisin Mulgrew- Chair
Councillor Pete Byrne
Councillor Charlie Casey
Councillor Gary Stokes
Councillor William Walker

NMDDC Officials

Conor Mallon, Director of Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism
Adrian Grimshaw, Project Director
Anthony McKay, Chief Planner
Jonathan McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise, Employment & Regeneration
Colin Quinn, Assistant Director, Estates and Capital Projects
Tracie McLoughlin, PA

External Participants

Damian Mulholland, Dept for Communities.

Apologies:

Marie Ward Dorinnia Carville

NCCR/35:- Minutes of Previous Meeting of Newry City Centre Regeneration Project Board held on 12th November 2020

Agreed:

On the proposal of Cllr R Mulgrew, seconded by Cllr P Byrne the Minutes were approved as a true and accurate account.

NCCR/36:- Public Realm Report

D Mulholland asked that Section 2.1 of report be amended to read 'The Newry City Centre Regeneration Outline Business Case has made a funding request for the proposed public realm works from the Belfast City Region Deal via the Department for Communities'

C Mallon advised that Officers are liaising with DFI Active Travel Branch on the potential to integrate initiatives into the proposed Public Realm scheme.

Cllr Casey asked that consideration be given to a public events space at the front of the Town Hall/Arts Centre. Cllr Casey referred to drawings previously commissioned which included widening of the bridge to a 3 lane roadway.

Cllr Stokes agreed with Cllr Casey and asked that Upper Water Street be upgraded if there were any surplus funds. He stated he agreed with the Active Travel concepts but noted transportation will still be required to service to and from retail.

Cllr Byrne commented that the Town Hall and Cathedral areas will both be enhanced and complemented the proposed concepts.

Agreed:

It was agreed to Note the Report.

NCCR/37:- Value Engineering Workshop Report

Value Engineering Workshop took place on 2nd December 2020. Architects presented Members with potential value engineering options on the current design proposals for the Civic Hub and the Theatre/Conference projects.

Each value engineering option was presented in terms of its design impact and estimated saving, and included the potential risks, benefits and mitigating factors of selecting.

Eight value engineering options were presented across the Civic & Regional Hub and Theatre/ Conference facilities as noted below;

1. Agile working increase from 80/20 to 50/50 to increase 3rd party investment/ rental potential within the Civic Hub.
2. Reduce scope of works to Newry Town Hall
3. Reduce capacity of new theatre
4. Removal of ground floor atrium
5. Removal of loading bay and atrium connection
6. Targeted 7.5% reduction in floor area of the Theatre/ Conference
7. Removal of half fly tower
8. Targeted 25% reduction in building system/ fit out costs.

The Programme Board agreed to the selection of the following options and associated actions;

1. Agile working increase from 80/20 to 50/50 to increase the 3rd party investment/ rental potential within the Civic & Regional Hub approved subject to Advocacy Group/ staff feedback. In addition delivery team to consider 60/40 agile working ratio and report back to Programme Board. Budget offset of up to £1,8m.

2. Targeted 7.5% reduction in floor area of the Theatre/ Conference approved for further investigation by the project team on the impacts of the savings and report back to Programme Board. Estimated saving £850k.
3. Programme Board members instructed the project team to perform further research and stakeholder engagement to inform a decision around the inclusion of the Half Fly Tower and to report back to the Programme Board. Design to progress including the Half Fly Tower.
4. Targeted 25% reduction in building system costs approved for further investigation by the project team on the impacts of the savings and report back to Programme Board. Estimated saving £401k.

All other value engineering options noted were not approved.

Agreed:

On the proposal of Councillor Pete Byrne, seconded by Councillor Gary Stokes it was agreed to the approve recommendations from the Value Engineering Workshop held on 2nd December 2020:

- a) **Consider option of 60/40 agile working ratio within the Civic & Regional Hub and report back to Programme Board;**
- b) **Further investigate the targeted 7.5% reduction in floor area of the Theatre/ Conference and report back to Programme Board;**
- c) **Perform further research and stakeholder engagement to inform a decision around the inclusion of the Half Fly Tower and to report back to the Programme Board;**
- d) **Further investigate the targeted 25% reduction in building system costs and report back to Programme Board.**

NCCR/38:- Programme Board Membership

C Mallon suggested that members consider the current membership of the Programme Board and advise if any changes were proposed.

Agreed:

On the proposal of Councillor Charlie Casey, seconded by Councillor Pete Byrne it was agreed to approve membership of the Newry City Centre Regeneration Programme Board as continuing with current members and that the 6 individual Project Boards reporting, to the Programme Board would not include elected members.

This concluded the business of the Meeting. The Meeting ended at 2.45pm

Approved by Project Board 11th December 2020.
To be ratified at the Strategy Policy and Resources Committee Meeting 17th
December 2020