

May 5th, 2020

Notice Of Meeting

You are invited to attend the Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting to be held on **Monday, 11th November 2019 at 5:00 pm** in **Boardroom District Council Offices Monaghan Row Newry.**

Councillor R Mulgrew

Councillor D Curran

Councillor T Andrews

Councillor R Burgess

Councillor W Clarke

Councillor C Enright

Councillor O Hanlon

Councillor G Hanna

Councillor V Harte

Councillor M Larkin

Councillor D McAteer

Councillor A McMurray

Councillor H Reilly

Councillor M Ruane

Councillor G Stokes

Agenda

1.0 Apologies and Chairmans remarks.

2.0 Declarations of Interest.

3.0 Action Sheet: Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting - Monday 14 October 2019. (Attached)

 *ERT Action Sheet OCTOBER 19.pdf*

Page 1

Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration Items

4.0 Yes you Can : Women in Business. (Attached)

 *ERT Report - Yes You Can - Women in Business.pdf*

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5.0 Warrenpoint Marina. (Attached)

 *Rpt re - Warrenpoint Marina Project.pdf*

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6.0 International Relations Forum. (Attached)

 *Rpt re - International Relations Strategy.pdf*

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7.0 EU Culture Co-operation Programme - Ring of Gullion. (Attached)

 *Rpt re - Coperation Culture EU application Application.pdf*

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Building Control & Regulations

8.0 Variation fee for place approval for Civil Marriages and Civil Partnerships. (Attached)

 *ERT Report - Variation fee for Marriages and Partnerships.pdf*

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9.0 Closing Order. (Attached)

 *ERT Report - Bay of Bengal Closing Order.pdf*

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Tourism, Culture and Events Items

10.0 Tourism Events Programme. (Attached)


 *Rpt re - Tourism Events Programme 2020.21.pdf*

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Exempt Information Items

11.0 Visitor Servicing Review. (Attached)

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

 *RESTRICTED ERT Report - Visitor Servicing Review.pdf*

Not included

Notices of Motion

12.0 The following Notice of Motion has come forward for consideration in the name of Councillor P Brown: re: 5G Communications.:

"This Council notes the concerns associated with the roll out of 5G across Northern Ireland and undertakes to carry out a comprehensive and detailed report analysing the risks and benefits of 5G roll out within the District, considering all available evidence and information in doing so. This report will then be tabled at a future meeting for Members to express their support or opposition to 5G".

 *Notice of Motion - 5G Communications.pdf*

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For Noting

13.0 Planning Performance Figures - October 2019. (Attached)

 *Planning Performance Figures October 2019.pdf*

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14.0 Business Rates Review Response. (Attached)

 *ERT Report - Rates Review Consultation Response.pdf*

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 *Appx - NMDDC Response to Business Rates Review Consultation.pdf*

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15.0 Brexit Forum. (Attached)

 *Action Sheet - Brexit Forum Mtg - 18.10.19.pdf*

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16.0 ERT Business Plan 2019/20 - Mid Year Assessment. (Attached)

 *ERT Report Mid Year Assessment Business Plan 2019-20.pdf*

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17.0 ERT Historic Action Tracker Sheet. (Attached)

18.0 Scheme of delegation. (Attached)

 *Scheme of Delegation for Nov 2019 ERT.pdf*

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19.0 5G Communications. (Attached)

 *Report re 5G Communications.pdf*

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Invitees

Cllr Terry Andrews

Cllr Patrick Brown

Cllr Robert Burgess

Cllr Pete Byrne

Mr Gerard 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 Hugh Gallagher

Cllr Mark Gibbons

Cllr Oonagh Hanlon

Cllr Glyn Hanna

Cllr Valerie Harte

Cllr Terry Hearty

Cllr Roisin Howell

Mr Colum Jackson

Mrs Sheila Kieran

Cllr Liz Kimmins

Cllr Mickey Larkin

Miss Mary Lennon

Cllr Alan Lewis

Mr Michael Lipsett

Sandra Magee

Cllr Oonagh Magennis

Mr Conor Mallon

Cllr Gavin Malone

Cllr Cathy Mason

Colette McAteer

Cllr Declan McAteer

Aoife McCreesh

Cllr Leeanne McEvoy

Jonathan McGilly

Cllr Harold McKee

Patricia McKeever

Cllr Karen McKevitt

Cllr Andrew McMurray

Mr Roland Moore

Margaret Morrow
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Cllr Roisin Mulgrew
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Cllr Barra Ó Muirí
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Linda O'Hare
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Cllr Gerry O'Hare
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Cllr Kathryn Owen
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Mr Andy Patterson
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Cllr Henry Reilly
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Cllr Michael Ruane
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Cllr Michael Savage
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Cllr Gareth Sharvin
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Donna Starkey
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Cllr Gary Stokes
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Sarah Taggart
.....
Cllr David Taylor
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Cllr Jarlath Tinnelly
.....
Cllr John Trainor
.....
Central Support Unit
.....
Cllr William Walker
.....
Mrs Marie Ward
.....

ACTION SHEETENTERPRISE REGENERATION & TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETINGMONDAY 14 October 2019

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
ERT/137/2019	URBAN REGENERATION FORWARD WORK PLAN	<p>(a) Council approve the updated 'Outline Urban Regeneration Public Realm Work Plan Oct 2019' to allow continued lobbying of DFC in regards their Newry Mourne and Down budget allocations.</p> <p>(b) Council work with the Department for Communities to agree Regeneration intervention measures are required in each of the 5 settlements (Saintfield, Killyleagh, Castlewellan, Bessbrook and Rostrevor) with a population of between 2,500 and 5,000 in the district over the next 5 years.</p> <p>(c) Council Officials to liaise with the relevant Departments regarding funding to regenerate Newcastle Harbour and surfacing of Harbour Road Kilkeel.</p>	J McGilly	Council officials continue to liaise closely with DFC across all regeneration elements within the Outline Regeneration Plan.	N
ERT/138/2019	CARLINGFORD LOUGH GREENWAY	<p>(a) The Council proceed to commence the PQQ contractor procurement stage for the Northern section of the Carlingford Lough Greenway.</p> <p>(b) Council Officers to update Councillor</p>	J McGilly	Carlingford Lough Greenway 12 week PAN Planning process commenced in Oct 2019 with contractor procurement to get	N

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		McMurray regarding plans for Greenways at Comber/Downpatrick.		underway in Nov 2019.	
ERT/139/2019	DOWNPATRICK REGENERATION PROJECT (FORMER PSNI STATION)	<p>(a) Council Officers proceed to work with Department for Communities in conjunction with Strategic Investment Board to draft a Development brief and issue to the market through public advertisement</p> <p>(b) Convene a stakeholder engagement group made up of Downpatrick DEA Councillors, Business representatives for the Town Centre and relevant Public Agencies to input guide the process to include a Breakfast Launch before Christmas.</p>	J McGilly	Working Group to meet in early December 2019. Public Consultation thereafter. Preparation	N
ERT/140/2019	SMALL BUSINESS SALES & EXPORTING PROGRAMME	To procure and implement a Small Business Sales and Exporting Programme that will support at least 20 SME businesses to increase sales to markets outside of NI (particularly GB and South of Ireland), and raise awareness of the Newry, Mourne and Down area as an attractive location for business development and investment.	J McGilly	Ongoing- Procurement process to be completed for appointment of delivery agent	N
ERT/141/2019	DAERA RURAL SMALL BUSINESS GRANTS SCHEME	<p>(a) To sign and accept a contract for funding for implementation of the programme</p> <p>(b) To agree implementation in the DAERA rural grants scheme for businesses, as per the timescales above</p>	J McGilly	On-going. LoO received for administration grant aid support. Rural Grant scheme to open 18 th Nov 19	N

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
ERT/142/2019	NI BUSINESS START PROGRAMME	<p>(a) Participate in a new Business Start Up Collaborative programme with other NI Councils and collaboratively submit a funding application for ERDF Jobs and Growth.</p> <p>(b) LCCC will continue as Lead Council of the New Programme if the funding application is successful for the period 01 April 2021 to 31 March 2023.</p> <p>(c) To enter into a new Collaborative agreement which sets out the governance arrangement for the new programme, subject to review by Council's legal representatives.</p> <p>(d) Agree the proposed outcomes and associated financials for the New Programme, accepting that these are subject to change as a result of funding application, assessment and Letter of Offer (any amendments will be reported through Council)</p>	J McGilly	On-going – Application to be submitted by Dec 19	N
ERT/143/2019	SLA: QUEENS UNIVERSITY	To establish a Service Level Agreement with the Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork (CAF) to provide an integrated landscape study for what is believed to be part of the ancient roadway (Slighe Miodhluachr) which runs from the northern road, Tara Co Meath, to Armagh with sections through the NMD District	J McGilly	Ongoing	N

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
ERT/144/2019	MIPIM PROPERTY CONFERENCE 2020	<p>The Council as a partner in the Belfast Region City Deal, make a contribution in the sum of £15,000 towards the delivery of investment opportunity at the MIPIM Conference to be held from 10-12 March 2020 in Cannes France, plus make available a sum of £6,000 in respect of travel and accommodation for the Council delegation who will attend the event which will include Chairman of Council, Chief Executive and 1 No. Director.</p> <p>It was also agreed Council Officials contact the owners of Mourne Park Estate Kilkeel regarding the possible inclusion of this site in the portfolio for presentation at MIPIM.</p>	C Mallon	Awaiting confirmation of costs for preparation of brochure to be completed 30.11.19	N
ERT/145/2019	FFNI 5G COMMUNICATIONS	<p>(a) Council Officers to review the health impacts of 5G and seek further guidance from the Public Health England, DCMS, OFCOM and other relevant authorities to carry out a comprehensive and detailed report analysing the risks and benefits of 5G roll out within the District.</p> <p>(b) To authorise FFNI c/o NMDDC, to submit a bid(s) for appropriate funding for 5G on behalf of participating Councils subject to appropriate environmental and health impact assessments.</p> <p>(c) To commit up to £10k NMDDC funding to the co-ordination of a 5G community and funding applications.</p>	J McGilly	Awaiting further funding call.	N

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		(d) To allow NMD, as host of FFNI, to spend the total of such aggregated funding in the pursuit of increasing 5g rollout throughout our communities.			
ERT/146/2019	FFNI GIGABIT PROMOTION VOUCHER	<p>(a) The Council to contribute up to £25,000 towards the cost of designing and operating a pilot voucher promotion scheme to secure up to £4m of DCMS vouchers for Northern Ireland subject to Consortium members agreeing.</p> <p>(b) To work with officers to identify two appropriate communities in our region to be a part of the pilot.</p> <p>(c) To approve NMDDC to appoint a suitable consultant to assist with implementation and delivery of the pilot.</p>	J McGilly	In progress through the FFNI Consortium	N
ERT/147/2019	DEPT OF FINANCE CONSULTATION RE: 2019 REVIEW OF BUSINESS RATES	<p>(a) Council Officers engage with local business representatives, including the local Chamber of Commerce, Newry Bid to establish the concerns they have with the rates review and include these in the Council's formal response to the consultation</p> <p>(b) Officers in Corporate Services Directorate consider the implications of the rates review for the Council and advise ERT Officers of any concerns that should be included in the response to the consultation</p>	J McGilly	In progress - Response to be completed by 11 th November	N

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		(c) Further to the completion of recommendations (a) and (b) above, Council Officers develop a composite formal response to the consultation before the deadline of 11 th November 2019.			
ERT/148/2019	EAST BORDER REGION : CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME LEUVEN BELGUIM 5-8 NOV 2019	To appoint the Director of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism to attend the East Border Region Capacity Building Programme from 5-8 November 2019 in Leuven Belgium at an estimated cost of £650.	C Mallon	Completed	Y
ERT/149/2019	REVIEW OF DESIGNATED SITES: STREET TRADING	<p>To rescind Street Trading designations at the following locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Quay Street, Strangford (b) The Square, Hilltown (c) Windmill Gardens, Ballynahinch (d) Flying Horse, Downpatrick (e) Glebetown Drive, Downpatrick (f) De Courcey Way, Dundrum (g) Comber Road Estate, Killyleagh (h) Osborne Drive, Shrigley (i) Greencastle Street Kilkeel <p>To retain the existing conditions for the Trading pitch at Knockchree Avenue Kilkeel.</p> <p>To retain the trading pitch at The Square Warrenpoint, but enforce trading conditions, ie, removal of vehicle after trading, prevention of trading beyond the designated pitch and enforcement of trading hours currently 11pm. Officers to monitor this trading pitch for a 6</p>	C Jackson	<p>Adverts to be placed in the local press week beginning 11 Nov, informing the public of our intentions. Trading pitches to be rescinded in Dec 2019.</p> <p>Monitoring process to commence from 25 Oct to 16 Dec 2019.</p>	<p>N</p> <p>No</p>

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		<p>week period and be granted authority to refer to a hearing if deemed necessary to do so.</p> <p>Officers discuss issues raised regarding the number of trading pitches in Kilkeel and report back to the Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee, where appropriate.</p>			
ERT/150/2019	TOURISM PARTNERSHIP MARKETING FUND	Council open the Tourism Partnership Marketing Fund through the Financial Assistance Programme to support local tourism businesses to promote their offering and the wider-district in Spring and Summer 2020	A Patterson	In progress	Y
ERT/151/2019	CLUSTER & TOURISM BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME	To appoint a suitable provider through the Tourism NI Framework to deliver an ongoing Programme to support to tourism businesses who have been engaged in developing visitor experiences	A Patterson	In progress	Y
ERT/152/2019	WARRENPOINT BATHS	<p>(Exempt information item)</p> <p>To progress a full repairing and insuring Lease, at market value, in respect of Warrenpoint Baths with the existing tenant, with the tenant being responsible for maintaining and insuring the site, and any future works on the site in agreement with Council.</p>	A Patterson	In progress	Y

Report to:	Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Date of Meeting:	Monday 11 th November 2019
Subject:	Yes You Can – Women in Business Programme
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Jonathan McGilly, Assistant Director, Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Martin Patterson, Regeneration and Business Support Development Officer

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

For decision	<input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/>	For noting only	<input type="checkbox"/>
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1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	<p><u>Purpose</u></p> <p>To seek approval from the Council to continue with year 2 of the 'Yes You Can' Women in Business Programme as per agreed Service Level Agreement with all 11 Northern Ireland Councils. Year 1 of the 3-year programme has been implemented successfully.</p> <p><u>Background</u></p> <p>The Northern Ireland Women's Enterprise Challenge (NIWEC) is a collaboration between the 11 Councils, Invest NI and Women in Business NI. The aim of NIWEC is to promote female enterprise, increase the numbers of women considering starting a business and encourage existing female entrepreneurs to grow their businesses. This collaboration is an opportunity to work together, to pilot a range of projects and to impact on female enterprise throughout Northern Ireland.</p> <p>11 Councils already collaborate in the NI Business Start Up Programme and have key responsibility for enterprise promotion, business start-up and the growth of locally focused small business. The NIWEC factors in existing provision, so that any new female focused initiatives will add value or enhance participation in existing mainstream programmes, rather than compete with them.</p> <p>Women in Business NI are a business network that specialises in female specific support through networks, events and programmes. It is a social</p>

	<p>enterprise and a charity, originally founded by a group of female entrepreneurs and with the support of Invest NI, 15 years ago.</p> <p>NIWEC is a collaboration that is the result of a unique situation. An American Entrepreneur originally from Northern Ireland, made a substantial financial commitment to WIB to enable them to develop business support initiatives specifically targeting female entrepreneurs.</p> <p>Invest NI approached local Councils to consider whether they could consider a partnership approach to supporting female entrepreneurship and contribute financially to extend the reach and duration of any female specific business support initiatives.</p> <p>The programme was agreed to be run over a 3-year period from 2018 to be reviewed annually. Newry, Mourne and Down agreed in October 2018 to support and participate in the programme and year 1 is now complete. The Council now need to consider the year 2 contribution to continue the programme activity.</p>
2.0	Key issues
2.1	<p>Programme outputs provided throughout the District include business boot camps, direct mentoring support, residential, conference, development of local female networks and dragons den pitching session to win funding.</p> <p>The total cost for the programme over a three-year period is £600,000. WIB have secured £200,000 and Invest NI have committed to contributing £200,000. This leaves a balance of £200,000 to be split equally among the 11 councils resulting in the following proposed contributions:</p> <p>Year 1 individual council contribution - £6,162</p> <p>Year 2 individual council contribution - £6,122</p> <p>Year 3 individual council contribution - £5,895</p> <p>Summary of outputs and participants for Year 1 completed for Newry, Mourne and Down District Council are as follows –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Imagine It Boot Camp – 22 participants • Explore It programme – currently recruiting participants • Sell It Today residential – 4 participants • Local networking events – 15 participants • Conference and Dragons Den event – 6 participants • On-going support for female entrepreneurship activity
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	Council approve the continuing participation in ‘The NI Woman in Enterprise Challenge 2018-2021’ at a cost of £6,122 for Year 2.

	Following an assessment of Year 2 outputs a decision to progress in year 3 will be brought to this Committee for further consideration.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	£6,122 and is available in the Council transfer of function budget.
5.0	Equality and good relations implications
5.1	The programme will be advertised and marketed through all mediums and is accessible, inclusive and open to all rural businesses within the District.
6.0	Rural Proofing implications
6.1	Recipients will include rural businesses and individuals and the programme will have a positive impact on rural enterprise throughout the District. A rural needs assessment has been completed.
7.0	Appendices
	N/A
8.0	Background Documents
	N/A

Report to:	Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Date of Meeting:	Monday 11 th November 2019
Subject:	Warrenpoint Marina project
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Jonathan McGilly, Assistant Director, Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Martin Patterson, Regeneration and Business Support Development Officer

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

For decision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	For noting only	<input type="checkbox"/>
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1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	<p><u>Purpose</u></p> <p>To seek approval from the Council;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To update the business case and economic appraisal for the Warrenpoint Marina project, to ensure issues of displacement are addressed and economic viability of the project is updated. • To explore funding options that would enable implementation of the project <p><u>Background</u></p> <p>The Council have for several years planned to develop a boating marina in Warrenpoint in partnership with Warrenpoint Harbour Authority. Planning permission was in place (2012 – 2017) to build a 200 berth Marina and this facilitated an application for funding to the Interreg cross border fund. This funding application was not successful due to potential displacement in Carlingford Lough with other berthing facilities.</p> <p>The Planning Approval expired in 2017; it was previously agreed to resubmit the planning application to keep the project live. A subsequent Pre-Application Notice (PAN) was submitted to Planning in 2018, and a public consultation meeting on the planning application took place in June 2018.</p>

2.0	Key issues
2.1	<p>To progress the project through a full planning application, Consultancy support will be required. The cost of this is approx. £60,000 - £80,000, including the completion of surveys, the update of surveys and reports completed for the 2012 Planning Application. This will require the appointment of a multi-disciplinary marine consultancy team to develop and submit the full application to Planning Service for consideration.</p> <p>The process will involve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewing and updating the existing documentation from the previous planning application, which includes: existing technical study, surveys, licences, site location maps and drawings, assessments and formal consultations with relevant stakeholders • Completion of new surveys / reports that may be required with a new planning application • Updating the Environmental Statement which requires an Environmental Impact Assessment • Application fee of approximately £12,000, <p><u>Issues</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous funding application submitted for implementation of the project failed on the basis of displacement. This reason still exists and will need to be addressed in the updating of the project business case and economic appraisal. • There will be a requirement to update the economic appraisal and business case which were completed in 2011 • Given the changes in planning there may be additional reports / surveys that may be required • No immediate funding opportunities are currently identified for the development of the project
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	<p>It is recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To update the business case and Economic Appraisal (EA) for the Warrenpoint Marina project, to ensure issues of displacement are addressed and economic viability of the project is updated. • To explore funding options that would enable implementation of the project • Report back to this committee the outcome of the updated EA and funding options
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	<p>For the update of the business case and economic appraisal is approx. £20,000.</p>

5.0	Equality and good relations implications
5.1	The proposal if complete will be advertised and marketed through all mediums and is accessible, inclusive and open to all rural businesses within the District.
6.0	Rural Proofing implications
6.1	Users of the proposed facilities will include rural businesses and individuals and the programme will have a positive impact on rural enterprise throughout the District. A rural needs assessment has been completed.
7.0	Appendices
	Warrenpoint Marina - Business Case
8.0	Background Documents
	N/A

Approval to Commence Procurement - £5,000 < £30,000

Responsible Directorate

Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism

Proposed Purchase – Nature of Goods/Services

Update of the existing business case and green book economic appraisal for the development of a boating marina in Warrenpoint, County Down

1. Purpose of the purchase and outline of the requirement

The Council have for several years planned to develop a boating marina in Warrenpoint in partnership with Warrenpoint Harbour Authority. Planning permission was in place (2012 – 2017) to build a 200 berth Marina and this facilitated an application for funding. A PAN 1 planning application has been submitted to commence the process of a new planning application. To inform this process it is recommended that the Council update the existing green book economic appraisal and business plan

2. Timetable for delivery

2019/20 financial year

3. Assessment of Options including a short evaluation of cost and benefits

Option 1 – Do nothing

Option 2 – Appoint an appropriate team to update the existing business case and economic appraisal – best value for money as it will inform on option 3

Option 3 – Submit a full planning application with associated documents which may cost £60k - £80k

4. Recommended preferred option

Option 2 - Appoint a appropriate team to update the existing economic appraisal and business plan for a boating marina in Warrenpoint

5. Estimated Costs Excluding VAT

Up to £20,000

6. Proposed Procurement Method

Undertaking an RFQ to appoint an appropriate team

Is or will there be any perceived cross EU Border interest for this requirement?: Yes ☒ No ☐

7. Financing

Account Code – 1177

Cost Centre Code – 2071

Project Code (if applicable) -

8. Approval to Commence Procurement Completed by

Name: Martin Patterson

Position: Regeneration and Business Support Development Officer

Date: Tuesday 5th November 2019

(

APPROVALS

Budget Holder:

Date

Assistant Director /
Director:

Date

(Assistant Director approval up to £15k / Director Approval above £15K)

Report to:	Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Date of Meeting:	11 November 2019
Subject:	International Relations Strategy Paper
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Jonathan McGilly, Assistant Director of Enterprise, Employment & Regeneration
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Amanda Smyth Head of Regeneration and Business Development

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

For decision	x	For noting only	
1.0	Purpose and Background		
1.1	<p><u>Purpose</u></p> <p>To seek Committee approval for the International Relations Strategy as attached in Appendix 1.</p> <p><u>Background</u></p> <p>Following discussions of the International Relations Forum, Members requested that Council should develop an International Relations Strategy for approval by ERT Committee.</p> <p>The purpose of the International Relations Strategy is to enable NMDDC to maximise economic development opportunities in markets outside Northern Ireland and to ensure that our resources and priorities are appropriately focused and aligned with the overarching strategic vision to drive economic growth across the district, thereby contributing directly to the objectives of our Corporate and Community Plans. The International Relations Strategy describes NMDDC's approach to our international market development and provides a framework for evaluating and assessing future activity.</p>		
2.0	Key issues		
2.1	<p>Council has an opportunity to participate in a wide range of activities in markets outside Northern Ireland aimed at developing trade, foreign direct investment, tourism, educational, cultural, sporting and heritage linkages.</p> <p>Developing international linkages requires a significant investment in time, money and staff resource. A clear focus and careful selection is critical to ensure that our efforts deliver worthwhile outcomes for our citizens and businesses across the district. To enable Council to best focus its resources on those opportunities that will provide the greatest return on investment,</p>		

	<p>Council has created a framework to assess and select priority markets and proposed new International Relations partnerships/activities based on the following prioritisation:</p> <p><u>Essential Criterion:</u></p> <p>Evidence of firm commitment and active involvement by local government officials in the external market to build and develop International Relations. This is likely to take the form of an agreement signed by Newry Mourne and Down District Council and by an appropriate counterpart government organisation in the external market.</p> <p><u>Primary criteria:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Trade potential ○ Foreign Direct Investment potential ○ Tourism potential ○ Potential for Student/Education & skills transfer links <p><u>Secondary criteria:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Potential for Cultural Linkages ○ Civic outcomes ○ Ease of doing business <p>Given NMDDC's need to prioritise our resources and outcomes focus, any newly proposed international relations partnerships will need to satisfy the essential criterion and at least two primary criteria before they will be taken forward for consideration, research and further development by Council staff.</p> <p>The framework will also provide a useful basis for Council staff to monitor and measure ongoing performance and to demonstrate results and impact. It is therefore likely that the framework will also be used to evaluate existing international linkages and decide whether these should be continued, re-focused or stood down.</p> <p>The International Relations Strategy also recognises the importance of developing strong partnerships with the Executive Office, Invest NI, Tourism NI, InterTradelreland, the FE colleges, Newry Chamber and other stakeholders with a shared mission to create: "...a welcoming District which is progressive, healthy and sustainable, providing better economic, environmental and social outcomes for all".</p>
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	To recommend that Council approves the International Relations Strategy attached as Appendix 1.

4.0	Resource implications
4.1	While there are no specific resource implications associated with Council's approval of this International Relations Strategy, there will be budget and resource implications for future International Relations activity that may emerge from the strategy. These will be submitted separately for future Committee approval.
5.0	Equality and good relations implications
5.1	Having considered the proposal, it is not anticipated that this will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations.
6.0	Rural Proofing implications
6.1	All necessary considerations have been addressed.
7.0	Appendices
	Appendix 1: International Relations Strategy Paper. Appendix 2: International Relations Forum Action Sheet from Oct 2019 meeting
8.0	Background Documents N/A

Newry Mourne and Down District Council International Relations Strategy Oct 2019

1.0 Introduction

Through our Community Plan and Corporate Plan, Newry Mourne and Down District Council (NMDDC) has committed to an ambition to grow our economy and position our region as a competitive location to start and grow a business, to live, work, visit, trade with and invest in. This International Relations Strategy will complement and support the delivery of this vision.

Brexit (in whatever shape or form it finally takes) will bring a vastly different context to our international relations work and present significant challenges for our future economic growth. The uncertainty created by the decision to leave the European Union adds additional impetus to NMDDC's need to establish a new strategy that will give structure and focus to our efforts to build and strengthen our International Relations.

This International Relations Strategy updates and supersedes the International Relations Framework and Policy documents from October 2016.

1.1 Purpose and scope

The purpose of this International Relations Strategy is to ensure that NMDDC is optimally positioned on the international stage to realise our ambitions, and that our resources and priorities are aligned with the overarching strategic vision to drive economic growth across the district, thereby contributing to Northern Ireland's draft Programme for Government and NMDDC's Corporate Plan.

1.2 A Partnership Model

Success in achieving economic benefit from our International Relations work will be dependent on strong collaboration with a range of partners including the Executive Office, Invest NI, Tourism NI, InterTradeIreland, the FE colleges, Newry Chamber and a range of bodies with shared ambitions to boost external sales and attract investment, tourism and students.

This strategy recognises the work that other partners are undertaking, alongside their strategies and ambitions for growth. At its core is the recognition that NMDDC has a key role to play in promoting our region to complement and add value to the work of these partners, rather than compete against them or duplicate their activities.

1.3 Policy Context

Northern Ireland's draft Programme for Government, draft Industrial (Economic) Strategy and the Executive's International Relations Strategy provide a regional vision and outcome framework for Northern Ireland's societal, economic and international relations.

The draft Programme for Government 2016-2021 focuses on achieving 14 strategic outcomes which the Executive determine best describe the society we wish to have. These align strongly with our own Community and Corporate Plans and our new vision:

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

In 2014 the Executive published an International Relations Strategy with the objective of enhancing Northern Ireland's international credibility and developing mutually beneficial relationships with targeted countries, regions and organisations to secure investment, trade, tourism, students and to exchange knowledge and expertise.

This focused on North America, Europe, Asia/Middle East, and South America, with the Executive's International priorities identified as follows:

- Establishing government to government relations
- Trade and investment;
- Tourism;
- Education & Skills links;
- Research and Technology development; and
- Promoting sport and cultural opportunities.

NMDDC's International Strategy shares these high-level objectives, albeit with a sharper focus on those areas and priority markets that will deliver the best social and economic outcomes for our district.

1.4 Council Policy

There is a comprehensive range of existing and planned activities within NMDDC's various strategies and plans which cover key areas of economic development, tourism, employability and skills, arts, culture, regeneration and investment and which are well aligned to the draft Programme for Government.

A robust, focused International Relations Strategy will contribute to achieving our vision as a welcoming, successful place where people seek to live, work, visit, study, trade and invest.

2.0 External Context – why international relations are important for NMDDC

2.1 Trade

The NI Economic Strategy notes that export led growth is a key economic driver, citing a need to both grow exports and diversify into new markets. Export focused firms enjoy higher levels of innovation, skills and productivity, are less susceptible to downturns in domestic markets and are therefore more resilient.

Sales data from Invest NI companies in Newry Mourne and Down for 2018, shows that the concentration of key markets is relatively narrow, with USA £396m (25%), GB £319m (20%), Northern Ireland £239m (15%) Republic of Ireland £160m (10%) and EU markets £158m (10%) accounting for over 80% of total sales of £1.58bn.

Invest NI Companies

Sales by Destination

Newry, Mourne & Down 2018*



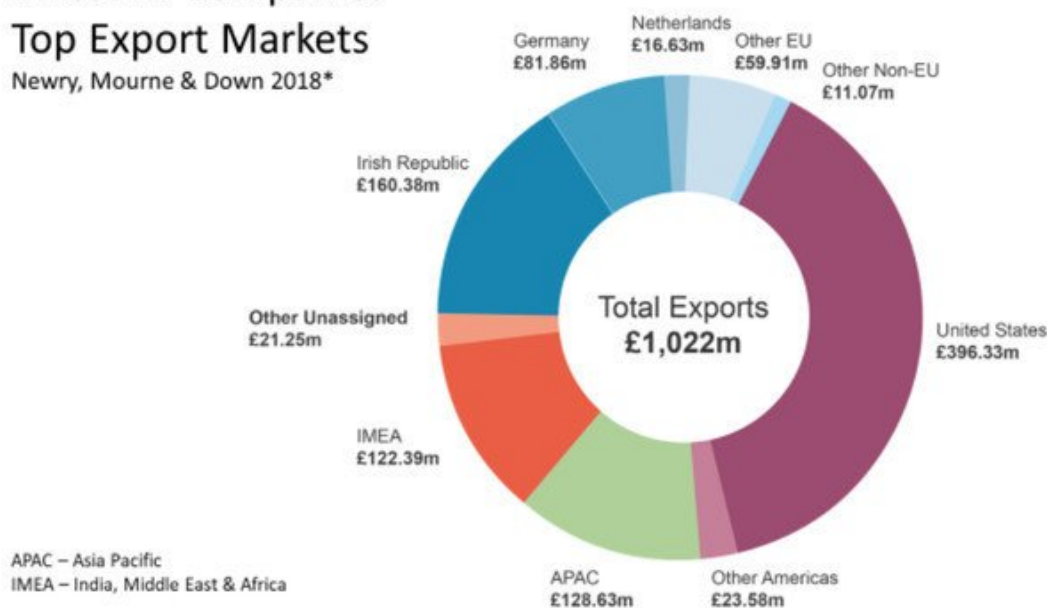
*Exports data cover businesses supported by Invest NI with headquarters in Newry, Mourne and Down

If we exclude NI and GB, a more detailed breakdown of export sales for NMDDC is as follows:

Invest NI Companies

Top Export Markets

Newry, Mourne & Down 2018*



*Exports data cover businesses supported by Invest NI with headquarters in Newry, Mourne and Down

The plan to leave the European Union in October 2019 has created significant uncertainty in terms of prospects for economic growth and attracting investment. Even at this late stage, there is still no real clarity regarding our future access to the EU single market. However, the evidence clearly demonstrates that **GB, Republic of Ireland, EU and USA will remain key, priority markets for Northern Ireland and NMDDC businesses even after Brexit.**

Since micro businesses and SMEs are among those most vulnerable to the significant challenges arising from Brexit, and given our border location, it is proposed that, as a priority, Council will work with key partners to refocus support and develop new solutions to help our small firms win new sales in the key GB and ROI markets.

Similarly, NMDDC will continue its current collaboration with county councils in Dublin, Belfast, Louth, Lisburn & Castlereagh, Meath, Armagh Banbridge & Craigavon and Fingal to develop a strategy and specific actions to promote and exploit new opportunities from a new initiative to develop an Eastern Economic Corridor for Ireland. This joint initiative will seek to identify opportunities for future economic growth through a new corridor operating as a key gateway to GB, EU and international markets.

In summary, NMDDC's International Relations Strategy must be flexible and agile enough to respond to the emerging changes and impacts of Brexit and exploit any new trading relationships that result in the coming years.

2.2 Tourism

The Executive and Tourism NI have an ambitious vision to achieve by 2020 a £1bn contribution to the economy and 4.5m visitors per year. As outlined in NMDDC's own Tourism Strategy and draft Corporate Plan, attracting visitors from outside NI is a key corporate priority for NMDDC and therefore is also an important element of this draft International Relations Strategy.

Growing tourism numbers and increasing tourism spending is an NMDDC objective that requires international marketing through our partners in Tourism Ireland and Tourism NI. Our Tourism strategy has identified the need to create *EPIC* moments and a focus on “*Mountains Myths and Maritime*” as key themes for our region. The strategy includes actions to continue to work with our strategic partners to target key markets in GB, ROI and overseas.

3.0 Developing International Relations – our approach

3.1 Our Role

NMDDC is one of many important stakeholders, including private companies, tourist bodies, Newry Chamber, Invest NI, InterTradelreland, and further education institutions who have a role to play in enhancing our international relations profile. NMDDC can deliver the greatest impact and added value for trade & investment, tourism and education by leveraging our resources towards shared outcomes with our partners, co-operating where appropriate and utilising our civic leadership functions to open opportunities and access to influencers on a scale that is beyond what these partners could achieve alone.

Therefore, our role must be complementary, working alongside our partners in Northern Ireland and in target markets in a structured, ‘joined up’ approach. Our partners play a valuable role in NMDDC’s growth and our positioning in markets outside Northern Ireland. These organisations include the private sector, Invest NI, InterTradelreland, Tourism NI, Tourism Ireland and NI Connections (Diaspora), amongst many others. Complementing their activity and amplifying its impact is a core role of the Council. Sustained, meaningful collaboration and partnership working is a core principle of our Community and Corporate Plans and is fundamental to the success of this International Relations Strategy. We will work with partners to ensure our role contributes to theirs for the benefit of our region and to ensure our collective resources are deployed towards delivering shared economic outcomes.

3.2 Strengthening our relationships

Building successful international relations takes time, resources and concerted effort. Within this context we have identified the following priorities:

- Develop further our International partnerships and recent Friendship Agreement with the Changchun City and wider Jilin Province of Northeast China.
- Support our micro and small businesses to build their capability to sell outside Northern Ireland and to develop new opportunities for them in GB and the Republic of Ireland.
- We are open to new, emerging opportunities from other international markets but will assess each opportunity on its own merits and potential to deliver economic benefit to our region and contribute to our wider Corporate Strategy.
- We will also seek to assess, repurpose and refocus our activities with other key international partners where we have existing links, specifically Kirovsk and North Carolina.

Maximising our current relationships however will take priority. The recent signing of a Friendship Agreement with Changchun represents a significant opportunity to build new links with the world’s second largest economy. Maximising the outcomes from these agreements will be our immediate focus, to ensure that the resources and effort to date to create and build these important links are developed further and focused on translating our work into real, tangible economic benefits for our district.

3.3 Civic Leadership

In addition to playing a convening and complementary role with our partners, we have an important civic role to play in international relations, enabling and facilitating access to key influencers and networks. In addition, the role of NMDDC in outward visits and in hosting delegations that visit our region has been recognised by our partners as vitally important. Recognising the ongoing work by local stakeholders across our district to develop international relations and linkages, we will continue to support these efforts through our attendance at key events. We will ensure our elected members play a key civic leadership role where their involvement supports our strategic objectives.

We will shape and actively participate in our region's Economic Forum, drawing together all relevant parties, to define our district wide economic strategy and priorities, and to drive actions against these.

3.4 Diaspora

There are many influential people across the world who were born and/or grew up in Newry Mourne and Down and who share an affinity towards our district. In addition, there are many other individuals who are 'friends' of the city, having lived, worked or studied here over the past decades. It is important for us to engage this diaspora and identify both business and cultural opportunities for NMDDC that emerge from these connections.

We will collaborate with Invest NI to explore and take advantage of new diaspora opportunities through the NI Connections initiative and related programme of events and activities.

3.5 New Market Opportunities

While we will focus on maximising the relationships we already hold with Changchun, new international opportunities for partnership working will likely emerge in future. These opportunities, which could be generated either by our work, or via our partners through their own activities, will require research and investigation and measured assessment to determine value to our district and our residents. We will research and evaluate any new opportunity against a range of economic, tourism, cultural, educational and operational factors before taking any decision to invest further or to commit resources to market development.

3.6 Promoting Trade and Investment

- We will work with Invest NI and other partners to build the confidence and capability of our SMEs to sell outside Northern Ireland, help them find new external market opportunities and increase external sales. As part of this, we will explore the possibility of developing new Export Skills workshops targeted at non-Invest NI businesses to help prepare our SMEs to consider exporting for the first time and build their capability to develop new markets overseas.
- We will work with Invest NI to determine and action the most effective channels to maximise trade and inward investment to NMDDC.
- We will partner with Invest NI on relevant trade missions and support non-Invest NI client companies with high growth potential to enter new markets.

3.7 Attracting Visitors & Tourism

We have developed an ambitious Tourism Strategy for our region and must ensure that NMDDC provides a rich, positive experience through our culture, arts, heritage, leisure and events provision so that visitors leave with a positive experience, a desire to share those experiences and a wish to return.

- We will work closely with Tourism NI and Tourism Ireland to support their promotional efforts outside NI and ensure NMDDC benefits from international marketing campaigns to attract more visitors to our district.
- We will use our own International Relations activities to create greater awareness of NMDDC's unique natural beauty and rich cultural heritage, aligned to our Mountains Myths and Maritime theme.

3.8 Creating Strong Cultural and Social Linkages

- Council also recognises the value in building international relations that will exploit and strengthen cultural linkages with selected markets overseas aimed at delivering positive social outcomes for our citizens. These could include heritage, arts, music and sporting linkages.
- It is acknowledged that in cases where other organisations may be best placed to take the lead in developing cultural and social linkages, Council will need to identify a clear "value added" role to justify its active involvement.

3.9 Measuring and Reporting Outcomes

Whilst vital for international relations work, success cannot be measured solely on the volume of activity undertaken. Visits, actions and activities do not necessarily produce value in and of themselves - value is achieved via the economic and social benefits and outcomes that result from the activities the Council undertakes.

It is acknowledged that to achieve meaningful economic, civil and social outcomes from international activities requires time, persistence and long-term commitment. This is especially true of emerging markets such as China. By focussing all international relations work towards achieving the relevant outcomes defined in our Corporate Plan, we will be able to maximise the return on investment against achievable goals that align and contribute to the wider strategic objectives the Council is seeking to achieve.

Defining clear goals in collaboration with our partners is critical to ensuring joint ownership, alignment of effort and for measuring impact in the longer term.

Obvious indicators could include:

- Increase in the level of trade with and investment from target markets.
- Improvement in attractiveness of NMDDC as a destination - greater visitor numbers and spend.
- Increase in the number of international students and exchange programmes to our region.

Our proposed programme of International Relations activities work will be presented to the International Relations and Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism (ERT) Committees for review and approval, with regular progress update reports also presented.

4.0 International Relations – Priority Actions

International Relations activities will include the following actions to maximise the value we can provide.

- For 2019/20 our focus will be to consolidate our good work to date in developing new opportunities in China and will be based on the draft programme of activities outlined in Appendix A.
- We will undertake a review of our existing International Relations activities (e.g. Kirovsk, Russia and Southern Pines, USA) and assess each against their continued value and benefit to NMDDC's strategic objectives, with a view to withdrawing, refocusing or continuing.
- We will bring forward new programmes to support micro businesses and SMEs to develop new business and sales in the priority GB and Republic of Ireland markets.
- We will collaborate with Councils in NI and ROI to develop and exploit opportunities for Ireland's Eastern Economic Corridor.
- We will explore the potential to develop an Export Skills programme to help prepare SMEs to consider exporting for the first time and build their capability to develop new markets overseas.
- We will engage with our global diaspora to build a network of friends and ambassadors who will promote our region and bring inward trade and investment opportunities. Through *Northern Irish Connections*, we will actively collaborate with and support Invest NI in its actions to strengthen and leverage NMDDC's international linkages.
- We will adopt an assessment framework that evaluates existing and proposed new International Relations partnerships/activities based on the following prioritisation:

Essential Criterion:

Evidence of firm commitment and active involvement by local government officials in the reciprocal external market to build and develop International Relations. This is likely to take the form of an agreement signed by Newry Mourne and Down District Council and by an appropriate counterpart government organisation in the external market.

Primary criteria:

- Trade potential
- Foreign Direct Investment potential
- Tourism potential
- Potential for Student/Education & skills transfer links

Secondary criteria:

- Potential for Cultural Linkages
- Civic outcomes
- Ease of doing business

Given NMDDC's need to prioritise our outcomes focus, any newly proposed international relations partnerships will need to satisfy the essential criterion and at least two primary criteria before they will be taken forward for consideration, research and further development by Council staff.

- We will work closely on an ongoing basis with our partners to assess measurement against targets, achievement of outcomes and NMDDC's contribution to these.
- We will engage with our stakeholders on an annual basis to review international relations activities and review objectives.
- We will review our International Relations work programme activities annually and publish an International Relations report tracking outputs and progress towards identified social and economic outcomes.

4.1 Conclusion

Strong and proactive International Relations are an important enabler to deliver on NMDDC's (and Northern Ireland's) strategic ambitions and will support the achievement of our Corporate Plan outcomes. Our international relations work, focused and targeted correctly, and delivered in collaboration with our strategic partners, will contribute to increasing external sales, external investment and tourism across the district from GB, Ireland and international markets. Success will depend on careful, focused market selection and long-term commitment to co-ordinated, collaborative activity with partners to deliver economic and social outcomes that benefit our businesses and citizens across the district.

Appendix A:

Proposed Programme of events for China for 2019

23-24 September 2019

Changchun Municipal Committee and Foreign Affairs Office delegation – inward visit to Newry Mourne and Down.

October 2019

Southern Regional College, student exchange visit to China. As part of the Exchange Agreement - 14 students from the College will be visiting Beijing, Jilin University, Jilin University of Languages, and Changchun Vocation College.

2020 (Actual dates yet to be confirmed)

Northern Ireland Innovation Mission to China (Changchun & Shenyang)

NMDDC will lead the delegation to Changchun and Belfast City Council will lead the delegation to Shenyang

Invest NI will provide in-market support for this visit by organising 1:1 meetings for participating businesses and stakeholders.

ACTION SHEET
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS FORUM MEETING
22nd October 2019

Attending:-

Councillor K McKeivitt (Chairperson)
Councillor R Burgess
Councillor M Ruane
Councillor J Tinnelly

Apologies: Councillor G Stokes

Conor Mallon
Jonathan McGilly
Martin Robinson
Andy Patterson
Amanda Smyth

SUBJECT	ACTIONS
Friendship Arrangement with China	Members were advised that Council have been working with Belfast City Council, Invest NI and NI Bureau in China to lead a business innovation mission to Changchun and Shenyang in November 2019 to coincide with the China International Import Expo. Invest NI have been engaging with businesses however have been unable to secure business commitment due to short lead in time. It is now proposed to postpone the business mission to 2020. Council will continue working with INI and NI Bureau in China to organise the Business Mission and will bring back further details to members when developed.
International Relations Policy	International Relations Policy was presented to members, which is setting the context for future International relationships and activity. The Policy sets out that International activity should be based on primary criteria. Potential for Trade, Foreign direct Investment, Tourism, Educational & Skills Transfer Links. Comments from Members:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key to partnership model is also the private sector. • Commitment from the International partner is required and should ideally be a government who is actively involved. This should be essential criteria in establishing an international partnership. • KPI's are essential for international relationships i.e. trade, economic return, tourism. • Acknowledge merit also of cultural & heritage links.
Actions:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strategy to be amended in light of member comments and tabled at ERT for approval 2. Future relations with Russia and Sothern Pines, Pinehurst and Aberdeen should be tested against agreed International Relations Policy 3. Any future proposals for International Relations activity should be considered against the agreed International Relations Policy.

Report to:	Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Date of Meeting:	Monday 11 th November 2019
Subject:	NMDDC/Ring of Gullion AONB application to Creative Europe – Culture Sup-Programme category 1- Smaller scale cooperation projects.
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Jonathan McGilly, Assistant Director Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Therese Hamill (Ring of Gullion AONB Officer)

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			<p><u>Purpose</u> Seeking approval to develop a project, and if feasible, submit a funding application to Creative Europe – Culture Sup-Programme category 1- Smaller scale cooperation projects for an artist in resident's project with Mayo and Norway. The application would be a 3 year project starting September 2020 with a grant of €120,000 - 60% of the total eligible costs. (Total cost would be €200,000)</p> <p><u>Background</u> The Ring of Gullion and its hinterland is recognized as an exceptional cultural region with a unique intangible heritage that includes music, song, poetry, language, oral literature, placenames, mythological tales, traditional knowledge and crafts.</p> <p>This project will engage with community and artist groups in the Ring of Gullion, Mulranny in Mayo and Norway to form a partnership and submit an application into the Creative Europe – Culture Sup-Programme category 1- Smaller scale cooperation projects on the 27th November 2019.</p>
2.0			Key issues
2.1			<p>In order to develop the application a partnership approach is required to create a project which involves the exchange of cultural players between Ring of Gullion, Norway and Mayo</p> <p>This project would aim to promote cultural heritage as a source of inspiration and strengthen the interaction between the cultural heritage sector and other creative sectors. The project will highlight the importance</p>

	<p>of transmission of cultural heritage as a resource from the past to future generations.</p> <p>Activities can include artistic creation, including co-creations and co-productions, which are then performed or exhibited and toured between the three countries. The project would also include training in audience development and interaction with local communities.</p> <p>The Ring of Gullion Partnership have worked with St Mary's Primary School, Mullaghbawn Community Association and ROGA artists to host community members and pupils and staff from Mulranny Primary School in October for a very successful two days visit around the Wild Goats and Goatmen of south Armagh. It is proposed to build on the outcomes and links made from this visit to create a bigger project.</p> <p>The Ring of Gullion Partnership have also engaged with partners in Norway through the ASCENT project. The Heathland Centre at Lygra use artists to raise awareness of traditional methods of farming, weaving and homemade food production. The partnership would propose linking up with the Heathland Centre as part of this project as it would be a good fit with the landscape and culture of the Ring of Gullion and Mulranny.</p>
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	<p>Explore the possibility of applying to the Creative Europe – Culture Sup-Programme category 1- Smaller scale cooperation projects for an artist in residents project with Mayo and Norway.</p> <p>If feasible, submit an application to the Creative Europe – Culture Sup-Programme category 1- Smaller scale cooperation projects, by the deadline of 27th November 2019.</p>
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	<p>If the project is successful 40% financial contribution would be required: Total cost - €200,000 60% Grant - €120,000 40% match funding requirement / Council contribution €60,000 over 3 years / €20,000 per year.</p>
5.0	Equality and good relations implications
5.1	<p>Having considered the proposal it is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations.</p>
6.0	Rural Proofing implications
6.1	<p>Having considered the proposal it is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon rural proofing.</p> <p>The implementation of this project will have a positive impact on this rural area of our district.</p>

7.0	Appendices
	N/A
8.0	<p>Background Documents - Available on Request</p> <p>Ring of Gullion AONB Management Action Plan 2017-2022- https://www.ringofgullion.org/publication/ring-gullion-aonb-management-plan-2017-2021/ https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/sites/eacea-site/files/guidelines_eacea_32-2019_coop_2020.pdf - application guidelines. https://www.ringofgullion.org/projects/the-old-irish-goats-of-south-armagh/ - more info on the goats and visit from Mulranny group. https://www.ringofgullion.org/projects/ascent/ - ASCENT project.</p>

Report To:	Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Date of Meeting:	11 November 2019
Subject:	Variation fee for Place Approval for Civil Marriages and Civil Partnerships
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Colum Jackson, Assistant Director, Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Department
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Fintan Quinn, Head of Services, Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Department

For decision	X	For noting only																					
1.0	Purpose and Background:																						
1.1	<p><u>Purpose</u> Members are asked to consider the introduction of a £50 administration fee for the variation of a licence for Civil Marriages and Civil Partnerships.</p> <p><u>Background</u> Under Section 26 of the Marriage Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003 and under Section 34 of the Civil Partnership Act 2004, the Council may charge a fee for the processing and variation of an application for Place Approvals.</p> <p>A fee determined for variation of a place approval shall not exceed the amount which reasonable represents the costs incurred or to be incurred by the authority in respect of that application for variation of a place approval.</p>																						
2.0	Key issues																						
2.1	<p><u>Application Process</u></p> <p>(i) Business support – validating applications, processing money, issuing receipts, filing applications, issuing amended approval, plus associated corporate costs.</p> <p>(2 Hours associated)</p> <table><tr><td>Item</td><td>Item</td><td>Value</td><td>Rate</td><td>Cost</td></tr><tr><td>Administration</td><td>Hours</td><td>2</td><td>£16.38</td><td>£32.76</td></tr><tr><td>Stationary etc</td><td>Cost</td><td></td><td></td><td>£10.00</td></tr><tr><td></td><td colspan="3">Estimated Total Cost for a Variation of a 3 Year Place Approval</td><td>£42.76</td></tr></table>			Item	Item	Value	Rate	Cost	Administration	Hours	2	£16.38	£32.76	Stationary etc	Cost			£10.00		Estimated Total Cost for a Variation of a 3 Year Place Approval			£42.76
Item	Item	Value	Rate	Cost																			
Administration	Hours	2	£16.38	£32.76																			
Stationary etc	Cost			£10.00																			
	Estimated Total Cost for a Variation of a 3 Year Place Approval			£42.76																			

	The entire cost of issuing a variation for Place Approval for Civil Marriages and Civil Partnerships should not be borne by the ratepayer it should be borne by the applicant.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	<p>It is agreed:</p> <p>A review of the proposed fees should be carried out every 3 years. The next review should be carried out in November 2022 or before this date if circumstances change.</p> <p>Recommendation to approve a variation fee of £50.00 for 3 Year Place Approval for Civil Marriages and Civil Partnerships.</p>
4.0	Resource Implications
4.1	In considering the cost implication to administer variation of 3 year Place Approvals for Civil Marriages and Civil Partnerships we need to consider the cost of administering the variation process.
5.0	Equality and Good Relations Implications
5.1	N/A
6.0	Rural Proofing Implications
6.1	The recommendation has been considered within the scope of the Rural Needs Act and the proposal has not been subject to a rural needs impact assessment.
7.0	Appendices
	N/A
8.0	Background Documents
	N/A

Report To:	Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Date of Meeting:	11 th November 2019
Subject:	Closing Order - Bay of Bengal, Kilkeel
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Colum Jackson, Assistant Director, Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Department
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Fintan Quinn, Head of Services, Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Department

For decision	X	For noting only	
1.0		Purpose and Background:	
1.1		<p><u>Purpose:</u> To seek approval for recommendations in Section 3.0</p> <p><u>Background:</u> The Council received complaints of noise and disturbance in the early hours of the morning arising from patrons attending hot food premises at Newcastle Street, Kilkeel, known as the Bay of Bengal. Two complaints were received by our Environmental Health Department on 5th October 2018 & 13th November 2018. On both occasions an Environmental Health Officer contacted the owner of the premises and advised of the complaints received by the Council.</p> <p>The powers of the Council are laid out in Legislation under: The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (NI) Order 1985.</p> <p>The legislation requires the Council to consider all relevant circumstances when determining to make a Closing Order.</p>	
2.0		Key issues	
2.1		<p>Legislation, Under the legislation, a council may make an Order with respect to any premises in its district if it is satisfied that it is desirable to do so to prevent residents in the neighbourhood of the premises being unreasonably disturbed either by persons resorting to the premises or by the use of the premises for the supply of meals or refreshments.</p> <p>A Closing Order shall be an order specifying individual premises and prohibiting the use of the premises for the supply to or consumption by the public of meals and refreshments between such hours as may be specified in the order.</p> <p>The hours specified in a closing order shall commence not earlier than midnight and finish not later than 5 am.</p>	

	<p>Complaints</p> <p>The Environmental Health Department have received complaints in relation to these premises. The complaints were forwarded to the Licensing Section for attention. A Licensing Officer visited the premises on 24th May 2019 and advised the occupier of complaints received. Further correspondence was received from the complaintive which preceded monitoring of the area on two occasions, 23rd September 2019 & 13th October 2019, between the hours of 00.30am and 2.00am. On both occasions, officers observed noise and disturbance arising from patrons attending the premises. Again the owner of the premises was made aware of the ongoing complaints and the evidence gathered by our Licensing staff.</p>
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	<p>To recommend that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Council shall serve a Notice of its intention to make a Closing Order to have the premises closed from 12 midnight each day. b) The Notice shall be served upon the premises known as Bay of Bengal, Newcastle Street, Kilkeel
4.0	Resource Implications
4.1	<p>Should the Council propose to make a closing order, the following procedures must be adhered to: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal notification to the keeper of the premises of its intention to do so. • The owner will be offered the opportunity to make representation to the Council by way of a Hearing if he chooses to do so. • The preparation and undertaking of a Hearing for any representations received if required. • If the owner decides not to respond to the Notice, the Council may proceed with the Closing Order.
5.0	Equality and Good Relations Implications
5.1	If the Closing Order is adhered to it will have a positive impact upon the local residents.
6.0	Rural Proofing Implications
6.1	The recommendation has been considered within the scope of the Rural Needs Act and the proposal has not been subject to a rural needs impact assessment.
7.0	Appendices
	N/A
8.0	<p>Background Documents – Available on request:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Legislation. B. Procedures for making a closing order

Report to:	Economic Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Date of Meeting:	Monday 11 th November 2019
Subject:	Tourism Events Programme 2020/21
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Andy Patterson - Assistant Director Tourism, Culture and Events
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Andy Patterson - Assistant Director Tourism, Culture and Events

For decision	X	For noting only	
1.0		Purpose and Background	
1.1		<p><u>Purpose</u></p> <p>This paper provides detail on the proposed Tourism Events Programme in 2020/21, and recommendations for a support programme to increase the knowledge and capacity of tourism event organisers from the community and voluntary sectors.</p> <p><u>Background</u></p> <p>Council commissioned a review of the annual Tourism Events Programme in summer 2019 in order to assess the economic impact of the programme and to establish recommendations for a new Events Programme in the 2020/21 Financial Year.</p>	
2.0		Key issues	
2.1		<p>Following the review of the Tourism Events Programme, the following points were established:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 120 tourism festivals and events are currently delivered directly or with the support of the Council's Tourism Events Programme, at a total spend of £1,200,000 excluding staff costs. 60% of the expenditure is on Council delivered and funded events, and 40% is distributed to the sector through grant aid and SLAs. There is a good mix of arts, activity tourism and broader cultural events. Visitor research commissioned by the Council shows that the majority of events are aimed at family audiences; 11% of visitors were from outside of the district. The economic impact generated by visitors in the last financial year was estimated at £9.7million. The Council grant funding support to event organisers in the last Financial Year through financial assistance calls was £340,659. Over the period 2016-2019, Tourism NI invested £272,000 in events in the district. 	

<p>2.2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The independent sector is vibrant with an estimated 235 organisations responsible for the delivery of tourism events across the district. These are primarily voluntary organisations, although there are a number of groups that employ professional staff and which have the capacity to develop. • The review identified festivals that have the capacity to grow significantly and which have the potential to drive more international visits and attract additional investment from other funders. <p><u>Emerging Themes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The review recognised the Council's exceptionally strong commitment to culture and tourism embedded in the Corporate Plan, Tourism Strategy, and forthcoming Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategy. • The review also highlighted the success of the Giant Adventures series of Flagship Events that has helped to increase the profile of the district as an event destination and that has created a strong foundation to grow from. The Council has an experienced events team capable of producing high quality tourism events. • The District has a number of opportunities to host Major Events which will involve working more closely with partners such as Tourism NI and the Arts Council NI. The Council is also planning its own year-long cultural celebration which provides a context for the development of new Signature Events.
<p>2.3</p>	<p><u>Developing a Future Events Plan</u></p> <p>The vision for events in NMDDC is for a portfolio of distinctive Major, Signature, and Growth Events that meet the ambition of the District to be a premier tourism destination, known for its authentic cultural experiences.</p> <p>This portfolio of events across the District will deliver on a range of strategic cultural, social and economic outcomes for the Council, lever inward investment and support resident's creativity, enterprise and wellbeing.</p> <p>The Tourism, Culture and Events Section will focus on supporting Major, Signature and Growth events with the most potential to attract inward investment and to drive out-of-state visits. This will be complimented by an Event Support Programme to build the ambition and capacity of the sector at the local level, supporting them to develop the quality, reach and value of their events and inspiring new people, including young people, to become cultural producers.</p>

3.0	<p>Recommendations</p>
3.1	<p>It is recommended:</p> <p>To approve the Tourism Events Programme for 2020/21 and implement all of the recommendations below, including undertaking the necessary procurement exercises and agreement of Service Level Agreements in relation to event delivery:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduce a new Tourism Events Support Programme – to provide training initiatives and to support capacity building of the events sector in NMD. 2. Introduce a new initiative to celebrate the best of our food and drink at our festivals and events. The council will undertake the necessary procurements to appoint a food and drink provider to deliver this initiative. 3. Council to continue with the next stage of growth of the very successful Giant Adventure series of Flagship events. This will include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Refocusing Footsteps in the Forest as a week-long 'Enchanted Forest' event in Slieve Gullion Forest Park. The council will undertake the necessary procurements to appoint a Creative Producer to deliver the strategic development of the project, help to secure partnerships and resources, and oversees the production of the event. Proposals for the new festival will be tabled with members once developed. b) Grow Wake the Giant to be the centrepiece event of an extended outdoor arts festival through increased partnerships, community engagement and arts development. The festival will include an enhanced parade and a street-arts programme. The council will undertake the necessary procurements to appoint an established arts company as artistic directors to deliver the event in partnership with the Council. c) Enhance the Festival of Flight to celebrate the story of Harry Ferguson and the importance of Collins Aerospace in the district through increasing the scale of the event and in introducing greater STEAM elements of the event in the Arts combined with Science Technology Engineering and Maths. d) Continue to enhance the annual St Patrick's Day Festivals across the District with support from external agencies and working with colleagues in the AHC department in securing T-Buc funding for the events in Newry and Downpatrick (secured at £67k for the 2020 festival).

	<p>4. Council to support the next stage of development of several Growth Events that have been identified as having the potential to significantly grow their size, reach, and economic impact to the district. This will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Skiffies Festival - Officers within the ERT and AHC departments to work with the Down Coastal Rowing Association, Sport NI and stakeholders to develop the Skiffies Festival and the coastal rowing offering. b) Council to continue to support the growth and development of the DownTime Festival and Ballynahinch Harvest Festival. c) Officers to develop proposals for a new Newry Arts Festival by engaging with arts groups and professionals from Newry and the district, to be delivered alongside the redevelopment of Newry Town Hall and the Sean Hollywood Arts Centre. <p>5. In the 2020/21 Tourism Events Programme Council will not directly deliver events such as the Newry Triathlon or Mourne Walking Festival. Provision for activity tourism events has been included in the Council's Financial Assistance 2020-2021 which opened for applications on 4th November 2019.</p> <p>6. All requests for event grant support will be directed through the Council's Financial Assistance Programme. Any requests for Council grant support for over £15,000 will require a comprehensive economic appraisal to be submitted for Council consideration.</p> <p>Council delivery and support of Golf, Forest Park initiatives, Halloween and Christmas events to continue as in previous financial years.</p>
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	A budget of £1.2 million will be allocated to the delivery of the Tourism Events Programme within the ERT Department budget as in previous financial years, subject to approval through the rates process. The budget includes £195k for the Financial Assistance Prog call.
5.0	Equality and good relations implications
5.1	It is not anticipated the recommendation will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity and good relations.
6.0	Rural Proofing implications
6.1	The recommendation has been considered within the scope of the Rural Needs Act and the proposal has not been subject to rural needs impact assessment.
7.0	Appendices
	Appendix 1 – Tourism Events Programme 2020/21
8.0	Background Documents
	N/a

Tourism Event	Event Date 2019 (TBC)	Budget 2019/20	Budget 2020/21
Tourism Events Financial Assistance Funding Call	-	£195,000	£195,000
Events Support Programme - for event organisers	-	New proposal	£25,000
Food & drink provision - Taste the Island	-	New proposal	£25,000
Giant Adventures - Flagship Events			
Footsteps in the Forest (Gullion)	Autumn 2020	£85,000	£150,000
Festival of Flight (Newcastle)	Sat 20 June 2020	£120,000	£150,000
Wake the Giant (Warrenpoint):	Sat 29 - Sun 30 August 2020	£100,000	£150,000
St Patricks Day 2021 (Newry and Downpatrick) <i>£68k T-BUC Grant Funding confirmed.</i>	Wednesday 17 March 2021	£170,000	£150,000
Growth Events			
DownTime Festival Downpatrick	June-2020	£30,000	£30,000
Skiffies Festival (Delamont C/P)	31st July - 2nd August 2020	£40,000	£40,000
Ballynahinch Harvest Festival	October 2020	£30,000	£30,000
Newry Arts Festival - Development/Scoping Plan	-	New proposal	Provision within ERT budget
Golf Tourism			
Newry Mourne and Down Golf Summer Trophy	Autumn 2020	£25,000	£25,000
Newry Mourne and Down Golf Junior Trophy	August 2020	£15,000	£15,000
Activity Tourism Events	-	£55,000	Provision within Financial Assistance Programme

Tourism Event	Event Date 2019 (TBC)	Budget 2019/20	Budget 2020/21
Halloween & Christmas Events			
Hallowtides Newcastle Halloween Newry	October 2020	£80,000	£80,000
Halloween events Crossmaglen, Warrenpoint, Kilkeel, Ballynahinch, Downpatrick	October 2020	£25,000	£25,000
Christmas Switch on Events Newry and Downpatrick	November 2020	£30,000	£30,000
Christmas switch on events Crossmaglen, Warrenpoint, Kilkeel, Ballynahinch, Newcastle	November 2020	£25,000	£25,000
Forest Park Events			
Narnia Festival	Fri 15 - Sun 17 November 2019	£20,000	£10,000
Forest Park Activities (Winter Solstice and Lunasa - Slieve Gullion)	August & December 2019	£15,000	£15,000
Major Bid for Events	TBC	£115,000	£30,000
Total Events Programme Budget		£1,200,000	£1,200,000

Council Meeting 7th October 2019

The following Notice of Motion came forward for consideration in the name of Councillor Brown:

"This Council notes the concerns associated with the roll out of 5G across Northern Ireland and undertakes to carry out a comprehensive and detailed report analysing the risks and benefits of 5G roll out within the District, considering all available evidence and information in doing so. This report will then be tabled at a future meeting for Members to express their support or opposition to 5G".

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1. Live Applications

MONTH 2019/20	NEW APPLICATIONS	LIVE APPLICATIONS	LIVE APPLICATIONS OVER 12 MONTHS
April	177	1,173	269
May	192	1,196	266
June	155	1,184	264
July	139	1,157	250
August	127	1,108	249
September	110	1,026	241
October	155	981	234

2. Live Applications by length of time in system

Month 2019/20	Under 6 months	Between 6 and 12 months	Between 12 and 18 months	Between 18 and 24 months	Over 24 months	Total
April	701	203	89	60	120	1,173
May	718	212	81	61	124	1,196
June	718	202	86	57	121	1,184
July	664	243	76	51	123	1,157
August	632	227	77	44	128	1,108
September	574	211	70	45	126	1,026
October	534	213	80	39	115	981

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3. Live applications per Case Officer

Month 2019/20	Average number of Applications per Case Officer
April	78
May	79
June	73
July	76
August	76
September	76
October	67

4. Decisions issued per month

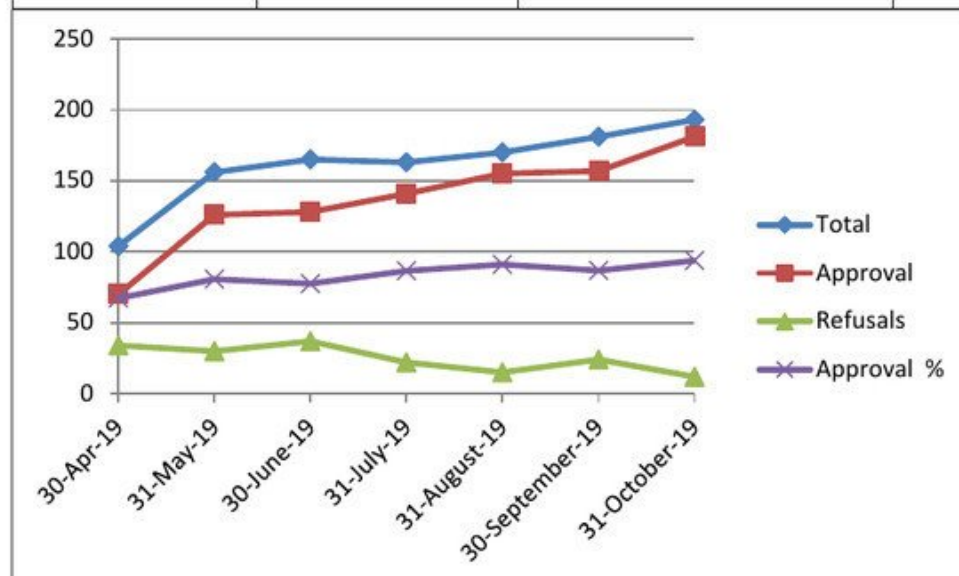
Month 2019/20	Number of Decisions Issued	Number of Decisions Issued under delegated authority
April	104	95
May	156	152
June	165	148
July	163	157
August	170	142
September	181	158
October	193	185

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5. Decisions Issued YTD

Month 2019/20	Number of Decisions Issued	Breakdown of Decisions	
April	104	Approvals (70)	67%
		Refusals (34)	33%
May	260	Approvals (196)	75%
		Refusals (64)	25%
June	425	Approvals (324)	76%
		Refusals (101)	24%
July	588	Approvals (465)	79%
		Refusals (123)	21%
August	758	Approvals (620)	82%
		Refusals (138)	18%
September	939	Approvals (777)	83%
		Refusals (162)	17%
October	1132	Approvals (958)	85%
		Refusals (174)	15%



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6. Enforcement Live cases

Month 2019/20	<=1yr	1-2 yrs	2-3 yrs	3-4 yrs	4-5 yrs	5+yrs	Total
April	329	230	183	79	63	179	1,063
May	308	247	174	85	62	178	1,054
June	286	249	171	83	61	174	1,024
July	283	261	166	83	60	170	1,023
August	264	256	179	81	55	175	1,010
September	248	264	179	89	45	174	999
October	240	260	169	84	38	164	955

7. Planning Committee

Month	Number of Applications presented to Committee	Number of Applications Determined by Committee	Number of Applications Withdrawn/ Deferred for future meeting	Number of Officer recommendation overturned
10 April 2019	17	11	6	5
29 May 2019	15	12	3	5
26 June 2019	16	13	3	3
24 July 2019	27	18	9	8
21 August 2019	34	29	5	5
18 September 2019	17	12	5	6
16 October 2019	15	12	3	3
Totals	141	107	34	35

8. Appeals

Planning Appeal Commission Decisions issued during October 2019

Area	Number of current appeals	Number of decisions issued	Number of decisions Allowed	Number of decisions Dismissed	Withdrawn
Newry & Mourne	21	4	3	1	0
Down	24	5	3	2	0
TOTAL	45	9	6	3	0

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Statutory targets monthly update - April 2019 - September 2019 (unvalidated management information)

Newry, Mourne and Down

Major applications (target of 30 weeks)					Local applications (target of 15 weeks)				Cases concluded (target of 39 weeks)					
	Number recieved	Number decided/ withdrawn ¹	Average processing time ²	% of cases processed within 30 weeks		Number recieved	Number decided/ withdrawn ¹	Average processing time ²	% of cases processed within 15 weeks		Number opened	Number brought to conclusion ³	"70%" conclusion time ³	% of cases concluded within 39 weeks
April	3	1	51.8	0.0%		161	81	22.0	22.2%		28	66	192.0	30.3%
May	1	1	600.0	0.0%		151	138	21.1	28.3%		29	36	85.4	44.4%
June	2	3	230.8	33.3%		123	145	24.6	22.1%		25	48	114.7	37.5%
July	0	-	0.0	0.0%		109	151	20.0	36.4%		41	43	168.6	30.2%
August	1	2	55.4	50.0%		99	159	22.2	29.6%		24	42	83.5	47.6%
September	1	1	321.0	0.0%		115	166	22.4	24.1%		33	35	185.7	40.0%
October	0	-	0.0	0.0%		0	-	0.0	0.0%		0	-	0.0	0.0%
November	0	-	0.0	0.0%		0	-	0.0	0.0%		0	-	0.0	0.0%
December	0	-	0.0	0.0%		0	-	0.0	0.0%		0	-	0.0	0.0%
January	0	-	0.0	0.0%		0	-	0.0	0.0%		0	-	0.0	0.0%
February	0	-	0.0	0.0%		0	-	0.0	0.0%		0	-	0.0	0.0%
March	0	-	0.0	0.0%		0	-	0.0	0.0%		0	-	0.0	0.0%
Year to date	8	8	162.4	25.0%		758	840	22.0	27.5%		180	270	130.4	37.4%

Source: NI Planning Portal

Notes:

1. CLUDS, TPOS, NMCS and PADS/PANs have been excluded from all applications figures

2. The time taken to process a decision/withdrawal is calculated from the date on which an application is deemed valid to the date on which the decision is issued, or the application is withdrawn. The median is used for the average processing time as any extreme values have the potential to inflate the mean, leading to a result that may not be considered as "typical".

3. The time taken to conclude an enforcement case is calculated from the date on which the complaint is received to the earliest date of the following: a notice is issued; proceedings commence; a planning application is received; or a case is closed. The value at 70% is determined by sorting data from its lowest to highest values and then taking the data point at the 70th percentile of the sequence.

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Report to:	Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Date of Meeting:	Monday 11 November 2019
Subject:	Business Rate Review – Consultation response
Reporting Officer	Conor Mallon – Director Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism
Contact Officer	Jonathan McGilly – Assistant Director, Enterprise, Employment & Regeneration

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><u>Purpose</u> To note the Councils consultation response to the Business Rates review consultation exercise.</p> <p><u>Background</u> Department of Finance has launched a consultation seeking views on how the current Business rates system can be reviewed in light of the challenges and changes to our city and town centres.</p>	
2.0	Key issues	
2.1	Business rates are a vital component of income raised to fund public services so the consultation is set within the context of how the system can change to be fairer and more equitable however maintaining a similar level of revenue.	
3.0	Recommendations	
3.1	Note the content of the report.	
4.0	Resource implications	
4.1	None	
5.0	Equality and good relations implications	
5.1	All implications considered	
6.0	Rural Proofing implications	
6.1	All implications considered	
7.0	Appendices	
	Consultation response	
8.0	Background Documents	
	none	

NEWRY MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL REPSONSE TO BUSINESS RATES REVIEW CONSULTATION

1. How can revenues from district and regional rates be raised in a way that is fair and equitable and without placing an unacceptable burden on business ratepayers?

NMD believes that it is essential all rates are collected. This is key to optimise revenue from rates. Ensuring 100% rates collection should be a target for Land and Property Services (LPS) and we believe this can be achieved by introducing greater transparency in the system, and increased co-operation with Local Authorities on this.

NMD would also advocate that LPS needs to be more accountable to local councils for its collection performance along with the costs levied on councils for write-offs, collection and other matters. NMD believes a partnership approach between councils and LPS can be developed, to assist with 'policing' of rates evasion, utilising the skills of building control and other council staff on a contractual basis.

The use of performance indicators as a mechanism to improve collection rates and the piloting of projects with councils to identify evasion is to be encouraged.

NMD would support more regular revaluation reviews that are programmed and clearly published in advance. We believe the introduction of legislation is necessary to provide certainty and ensure the revaluations happen as a matter of course, rather than requiring a ministerial decision.

This will ensure valuations reflect changes in the local economy particularly in urban centres where investments can change footfall patterns in the short and medium term.

2. What ways can be found to widen the tax base that could facilitate a lower level of business rates?

NMD fully supports the widening of the tax base to allow the overall tax burden to be better mitigated among existing taxpayers. Steps should be taken to:

- Ensure that the collection rate is increased, along with cost savings in the collection process, more intense inspection of properties and greater use of data sharing with councils and other bodies such as utility companies, the Electoral Office and the Post Office/Royal Mail.
- Bring more bodies into the scope of the rating system (bearing in mind equity and proportionality) by considering how charities, manufacturing and Industry and agriculture is rated.
- Carry out a comprehensive review of all reliefs with a new structure that is more reflective of ability to pay. A new relief and exemption policy should focus on interventions which will assist in widening the tax base, foster enterprise and development and support those ratepayers whose ability to pay is less.

NMD agrees that principles for rating reliefs should be definitive, including:

- The purpose must be clearly stated
- Reliefs should be time bound, with well-defined timescales
- Reliefs should be targeted – for example, at specific sectors, ability to pay or economic growth

- The need for reliefs should be regularly evaluated (every 3-5 years) including assessments of whether they are achieving their desired purpose and impact

To address the imbalance and reflect an more equitable spread consideration should be given to review of sectors that attract relief and exemption to explore how the rate burden could be more evenly spread.

3. How can a fair distribution between district rates and regional rates be sustained?

NMD welcomes this consultation and the direct engagement of Department officials. Council can demonstrate how it could benefit from a greater proportion of the regional rate by allowing them to direct local investment. This will require localisation options as part of a complete overhaul of the rating system. Therefore, NMD would propose that at the conclusion of the consultation process a central – local government summit should be held to co-design a new formula which promotes local council investment in key strategic projects and services via a new rates model.

NMD believe that increases in the regional rate puts additional pressure on councils to strike low district rates to mitigate against this. We support retention of the Rates Support Grant in the current climate as being crucial to the local economy and sustainable employment in most council areas across NI.

4. How can a fair distribution between non-domestic and domestic rates be sustained?

NMD asserts that a power to strike separate domestic and non-domestic rates can help improve the economic prospects of council areas, particularly towns and cities, and would enable councils to tailor rates to local needs. This would, for example, enable councils to lower their non-domestic rate to act as an incentive for investment or achieve other local priorities. It was noted that such a power would enable a council to set one rate across the district should it wish to do so, which was seen as positive, with consequent support for removal of the conversion factor. A choice of this nature being made available for further discussion would be welcomed.

NMD would therefore recommend that, in future, growth/conversion factors should not be mandatory, but rather should be a guide only, thus allowing councils greater flexibility to set rates according to locally developed priorities.

5. What reliefs and supports are necessary and might be introduced, changed or ended, targeted in line with Executive priorities and recognising ability to pay?

NMD believes that all forms of business with a property should pay a proportionate element of the rating burden.

Through our work with NILGA Councils have explored other models and in Scotland; the “[Barclay Review](#)” includes measures to support economic growth, measures to improve ratepayer experience and administration of the system and measures to increase fairness and a level playing field. A similar review and new thinking should be explored. There are over 80 exemptions and reliefs – some from the 1930’s. We would therefore propose that a review and impact assessment on the removal of or change to these exemptions be carried out to provide solid evidence to policy makers before a decision is made.

NMD in collaboration with our economic partners are best placed to understand the business environment in our area and as such are best placed to determine if any reliefs should be applied locally to support local development and local business or mitigate against local problems. These could include the following potential relief criteria which complement Council strategy and the programme for Government

1. decline and reinvigorate rural areas or town centres,
2. support the establishment of start up businesses
3. support the establishment of enterprise zones in a specific area
4. support businesses in the event of localised hardship

We would also draw attention to the administrative impact or cost of introducing such reliefs which would require further investigation. We would also assert that any change in local rating policy must be subject to a comprehensive consultation with local businesses.

NMD would propose that consideration is given to the introduction of a business growth relief to allow rates relief to be applied if businesses occupy new premises for a period of time and linked to job creation and increased productivity. This will support small business growth but also encourage building transformation in areas in decline and stimulate the construction sector.

NMD believes that [charities and churches](#) should share some level of rates, based on ability to pay, in a similar manner to the system in place in England, pro rata based on annual accounts. A review of the charity reliefs should be undertaken and the definition of a charity should be explored and redefined as NMD believes the interpretation of a Charity has become stretched. Charities and churches build asset bases as a result of donations from individuals and prudent investment of these funds, a luxury not afforded to many small retailers and businesses that pay the largest share of rates. The Charity Commission holds figures for charity income and this information could be used as a reliable source of information to assist with this process.

A similar review needs to take place across other sectors where rate relief is the norm.

6. What alternative taxation options should be considered to complement or partially replace property based non-domestic rates and to allow for lower levels of revenue from business rates?

The level of business rates in Northern Ireland is higher than elsewhere in the UK, NMD would support the examination of other potential revenue raising methods outside the rates system as an alternative to business rates.

Due to changing business models and practices, NMD would support a review to ensure the fair distribution of rates among industrial sectors, based on their contribution to employment, economic growth and impact on the environment.

NMD believes that an online sales tax should be considered at this time in an attempt to level the playing field with traditional retailers in our Town and Cities.

While a tourist tax has been discussed by some NMD does not believe this should be considered as the Council is working with Government agencies and the sector to grow Tourism and while progress is being made, an additional tax being imposed at this stage could prove counter productive. If the anticipated growth is realised rates income would follow as businesses grow and develop.

During consultation events on the review of business rates, and our discussions with key partners the issue of rates on agriculture businesses was raised, the idea of land tax was raised however this would require careful consideration in parallel to any proposals to impose rates on Agricultural buildings as raised at question 2 above. The agriculture sector is exposed to dramatic economic fluctuations and in light of this any review needs to bear in mind the sector performs a vital role in maintaining the environment some many of us enjoy and take as a "given" so this contribution to the wider benefit of the residents and tourist alike needs to be given careful consideration given the significant high levels of small farms in this area and across NI that are not as sustainable as the farm business model prevalent elsewhere in UK.

**ACTION SHEET
BREXIT FORUM MEETING
18th October 2019**

Attending:-
Councillor M Larkin (in the chair)
Councillor H Reilly
Councillor D Taylor

Apologies: Councillor G Stokes
Kelly McNiff

Conor Mallon
Jonathan McGilly
Eoin Devlin
Sinead Murphy
Sandra Magee

SUBJECT	ACTIONS
Update on Export Health Certification Preparations	<p>Eoin Devlin and Sinead Murphy gave an update on the implications that Brexit would have on the export of animal, fish, egg or dairy products.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eoin advised that DAERA have responsibility to issue Export Health Certificates for the above products leaving NI to go inside EU and outside EU. He stated that DAERA would receive funding to enable them to implement the Export Health Checks, this would be done via SLA with Council. He stated that DAERA had organised Stakeholder Events, which they had attended, these were directed at companies working within the food & fish industry. Sinead advised that 1 Export Health Certificate would have to be issued per product per destination (ie point to point) and these would have to be certified by a registered Vet Practice. In reality, the issuing of these Export Health Certificates would mean that fresh meat

	<p>product would no longer be allowed to go from North to South of the Border, it would need to be a frozen product.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eoin concluded that it was difficult to assess exact demand nor the impact it would have on their service provision, as food safety regimes and other workload needs to continue at the same time regardless of the implementation of additional requirements under Brexit. He added that they had extended temporary contracts of employment of existing staff and were in the process of trying to recruit additional staff within Environmental Services as well as securing premises in Kilkeel and kit out with the necessary Traces IT system (required for fish trade) in anticipation of Brexit.
Update on Council No Deal Preparedness Plan	<p>Conor Mallon circulated a Council No Deal Preparedness Plan, prepared by Kelly McNiff. He advised that this paper was produced in response to The Yellowhammer Plan that the UK government had been forced to release as part of their no deal planning.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> He advised that the key issue is that there will be a daily requirement for every Department to report through to a Local Government Liaison Officer any issues, they encounter, on service delivery. The Liaison Officer will produce a Situation Report which will be forwarded to Emergency Planning, to DfC and onward to Westminster.
Update on Council Engagement with wider Business Community	<p>Jonathan McGilly circulated a Brexit Forum Update Paper.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jonathan advised that ERT have been working with the Marketing Department establishing a Brexit link on the corporate website which offers local businesses real time support and Government updates on Brexit as it becomes available.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He stated that ERT also continue to signpost external organisations and referring businesses to our support partners especially Invest NI, InterTrade Ireland, NI Chamber and the Newry Chamber of Commerce and Trade. • Jonathan advised that due to the dynamic nature of the Brexit process and regular updates from the Government, signposting to these organisations provides greater accuracy and up to date information through a central portal. • He concluded by saying ERT continue to engage and provide a presence at workshops, events, etc to discuss implications re: VAT, Tax, Business Strategy, employing EU Workers etc. He stated that larger businesses may have a Brexit plan but smaller businesses may not have had that luxury. However, there would be a 21-month transition period, once Brexit deal had been agreed and this would allow businesses time to work out the implications of the specific Brexit deal.
Request for Urgent Meeting of Emergency Planning Committee once exact Brexit Deal had been finalised	RECOMMENDATION: It was agreed that an urgent Meeting of the Emergency Planning Committee be convened once exact Brexit Deal has been agreed.

Report to:	Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Date of Meeting:	Monday 11 th November 2019
Subject:	Mid Year Assessment of ERT Directorate Business Plan 2019-20
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Conor Mallon Director, Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Conor Mallon Director, Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism

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	<u>Purpose</u> Directorate Business Plans are an essential part of the Council's Business Planning and Performance Management Framework, which drives and provides assurance that corporate priorities are being delivered.	
1.2	<u>Background</u> The Business Plans demonstrate how planned activity during 2019-20 will contribute to the achievement of strategic outcomes in relation to the Community Plan, Corporate Plan, Performance Improvement Plan and other key strategies.	
2.0	Key issues	
2.1	A Mid Year Assessment of each Business Plan has been undertaken in order to provide an overview of progress between April-September 2019. This exercise is an important part of the Council's statutory obligations to strengthen the way performance is monitored, reviewed and reported across the organisation.	
2.2	The Mid Year Assessment of the ERT Directorate is outlined at Appendix 1.	
3.0	Recommendations	
3.1	To consider and agree: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Mid Year Assessment of the ERT Business Plan 2019-20 	
4.0	Resource implications	
4.1	There are no resource implications contained within this report.	

5.0	Equality and good relations implications
5.1	There are no equality or good relations implications arising from this report. However, specific actions and projects within the Directorate Business Plan may be subject to their own statutory equality screening.
6.0	Rural Proofing implications
6.1	There are no rural proofing implications contained within this report. However, specific actions and projects within the Directorate Business Plan may be subject to their own statutory rural needs impact assessment.
7.0	Appendices
7.1	Appendix 1 - Mid Year Assessment of the ERT Business Plan 2019-20
8.0	Background Documents – Available on request. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ERT Business Plan 2019-20

HISTORIC
ACTION TRACKER SHEET
ENTERPRISE REGENERATION AND TOURISM COMMITTEE
(For Noting at ERT November 2019)

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	REFERRED TO	ACTION TAKEN	REMOVE FROM ACTION SHEET Y/N
		NOVEMBER 2016			
ERT/178/2016	Caravan and Campsite Management	(a) To agree a join process between Council and Forest Service to appoint external expertise to prepare the Business Rationale and Specification to seek competent providers for the management of Tollymore, Castlewellan and Kilbroney Park Caravan/ Camping provision with the option to consider some additional tourism recreational services which would enhance the tourism offering. (b) To revert to Council with the completed Business Rational and Specification prior to progressing to seek Expression of Interest.	A Patterson	Under consideration.	Y
		OCTOBER 2017			
ERT/191/2017	CAMLOUGH LAKE – LAND RELATED MATTERS	<u>Closed Session Item</u>	A Patterson	Ongoing	N

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	REFERRED TO	ACTION TAKEN	REMOVE FROM ACTION SHEET Y/N
		<p>(a) To enter into negotiations with Richardson Estate to settle any outstanding mortgage they hold pertaining to Camlough Lake</p> <p>To complete detail design and submit planning associated with multi purpose building at Camlough Lake to assist in informing land acquisition requirements</p>			
		<u>DECEMBER 2017</u>			
ERT/218/2017	ARDGLASS HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT	<p>(a) To contribute £25k (25%) to Local Harbour Development Group to complete a business case for Harbour Development and wider regeneration projects.</p> <p>(b) That the Group contribute 10% overall costs.</p> <p>(c) That the Group secure remaining (65%) budget from external source i.e. FLAG.</p>	J McGilly	Work in progress. Meeting has been held with Permanent Secretary. DAERA's proposed way forward has been communicated to Council via November 2018 ERT Committee. Chief Executive has	N

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	REFERRED TO	ACTION TAKEN	REMOVE FROM ACTION SHEET Y/N
		(d) That a Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Officer support the Group in their work.		communicated concerns to DAERA seeking an urgent meeting.	
		MARCH 2018			
ERT/044/2018	FORKHILL FORMER BARRACKS SITE	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Council Officials continue to work closely with DFC to ensure that Councils interest in the site is maintained and any follow up Business Cases are completed and submitted to the Department for Communities. 2. Council Officials and DEA reps on the Forkhill Site Development 	J McGilly	<p>Ongoing/Work in Progress Planning application in for playarea approved in Jan 2019. Onsite works to commence in Feb 19.</p> <p>Working with NIHE re next steps.</p>	N

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	REFERRED TO	ACTION TAKEN	REMOVE FROM ACTION SHEET Y/N
		Steering Group to liaise closely with DFC and any other registered government departments to ensure that a balanced mixed use development of the site takes place.		Local consultation to be undertaken by CDRCN on proposed future use of the remainder of the site October /Nov 2019 with report to be brought back to Steering group	
		AUGUST 2018			
ERT/122/2018	DOWNPATRICK REGENERATION PROJECT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council offices continue to progress land purchase to include the additional property at No.39 Irish Street which is adjacent to Former Police Station. Officers explore with relevant government departments any issues that may arise due to Heritage Merit of the site As the site was purchased on the basis that the link road not being included in the brief. DEA Cllrs request via DEA officers a meeting with Transport NI 	J McGilly	Remaining land purchased. Report to October ERT recommending next steps	N

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	REFERRED TO	ACTION TAKEN	REMOVE FROM ACTION SHEET Y/N
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Officers bring back to council via ERT suitable governance structures for the project 			
		September 2018			
ERT/139/2018	AONBs UPDATE – RING OF GULLION, STRANGFORD LOUGH & LECALÉ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry out an independent review of the management of the Ring of Gullion and Strangford Lough & Lecale AONBs, and the relationship between NMDDC and ANDBC in managing Strangford Lough & Lecale AONB. Review the management of the relationship between NMDDC and Mourne Heritage Trust in managing the Mourne AONB. Assess the relationship of the aspiring Geopark and the AONBs. Through the AONBs much of the Geopark requirements are being delivered. Remove any references to changes to staffing and major projects contained in the AONBs Update Report dated 10 September 2018. 	J McGilly	<p>New staff structure agreed SPR Seotember 2019</p> <p>Review of management plans ongoing</p>	N

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	REFERRED TO	ACTION TAKEN	REMOVE FROM ACTION SHEET Y/N
		November 2018			
ERT/176/2018	BREXIT FORUM	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Council compile a list of Brexit technical notice and issue Council website. 2. These notices to be tabled at future meetings of Brexit Forum. 3. Council signpost Businesses accordingly to relevant agencies that can support Businesses work through technical notice detail and implications for their business. 4. UU present at the next forum meeting on the various scenarios and implications. 5. Council continue to liaise with INI regulatory potential of lands at Carnbane. 	J McGilly	Ongoing.	N
		MARCH 2019			
ERT/043/2019	NEWRY CANAL PROJECT LOCK 5 AND 6	<p>a) Council transfer any underspend from the Lock No.5 Restoration to Lock No.6 Restoration Project.</p> <p>(b) Subject to budget transfer, Council carry out the required survey/design</p>	J McGilly	Works ongoing in regards to Lock No.5 – expected completion in late summer 2019 (additional Schedule	N

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	REFERRED TO	ACTION TAKEN	REMOVE FROM ACTION SHEET Y/N
		studies and actual contractual works for restoration now required to Lock No.6.		Monument Consent being obtained) Condition survey work now underway (May 2019) Recommended works to be completed October2019	
ERT/044/2019	SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS ARTISAN MARKETS NEWCASTLE & DOWNPATRICK	<p>(a) To approve the renewal of the Service Level Agreements with Down Community Collective and Unit T to deliver 10 Artisan markets in each location in the 2019/20 financial year.</p> <p>(b) Council Officials to update Councillor McAteer regarding a date for Warrenpoint Market as part of the ongoing Revitalisation Project for Warrenpoint.</p> <p>(c) Council Officials to investigate the option of supporting an Artisan market</p>	J McGilly	<p>(a) Completed</p> <p>(b) Completed – see below</p> <p>(c) Review of the markets and paper on future options tabled at Sept Ert, currently being implemented</p>	N

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	REFERRED TO	ACTION TAKEN	REMOVE FROM ACTION SHEET Y/N
		in Saintfield.			
		JUNE 2019			
ERT/066/2019	ERT BUSINESS PLAN 2019-20	<p>Request the SPR Department to examine concerns regarding the Council's Procurement Policy and the effect this is having on businesses.</p> <p>To note Report dated 10 June 2019 from Ms M Ward Director of ERT and approve the Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Business Plan 2019-2020.</p>	C Mallon	Ongoing	Y
ERT/073/2019	LOCAL FULL FIBRE NETWORK: FUNDING BID	<p>(a) Council Officers be authorised to sign the Letter of Offer, on behalf of the consortium, for £15 million of funding from the Department for Digital Culture Media & Sport (DCMS), under the Department's LFFN Challenge Programme.</p> <p>(b) Council Officers be authorised to operate the procurements on behalf of</p>	J McGilly	Programme implementation ongoing	N

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	REFERRED TO	ACTION TAKEN	REMOVE FROM ACTION SHEET Y/N
		the consortium to deploy the funding.			
ERT/083/2019	NOTICE OF MOTION	To note a paper regarding Donard Demense Newcastle, will be tabled at the ERT Committee Meeting in due course.	A Patterson	In progress	N
		AUGUST 2019			
ERT/097/2019	BALLYNAHINCH BYPASS ART FEATURE	As a contribution to the Ballynahinch By pass the Council proceed as follows: (a) Provide agreement in principle that the Council will provide an Art Feature for installation on a site to be agreed on the Ballynahinch By-Pass (b) Procure an artist to undertake the necessary consultation on potential design proposals (c) Development of the art feature to concept design stage (d) Subject to the confirmation that the funding has been secured for the By pass and the road will be constructed, to undertake the fabrication of the Art Feature (subject to the necessary funding being secured in 2020/21 rate	J McGilly	Procurement for artist underway	N

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	REFERRED TO	ACTION TAKEN	REMOVE FROM ACTION SHEET Y/N
		estimates)			
ERT/099/2019	PUBLIC REALM SCHEME/ REVITALISATION PROJECT: IRISH STREET DOWNPATRICK	<p>(a) To note that the Irish Street public realm scheme is now Complete.</p> <p>(b) Council to work with a Steering Committee, representative of members and traders, to develop an action plan, outlining proposed revitalisation projects. Action Plan to be submitted to DFC in August, as an application for Revitalisation funding of approx. £100,000. Council to provide from existing budgets, £10,000 (10%) match funding contribution to the Irish Street Revitalisation project.</p> <p>NOTE: Arising from Council Mtg September 2019 it was agreed: To note Public Realm works are complete, in principle, at Irish Street Downpatrick, and traders to be updated accordingly in conjunction with Transport NI.</p>	J McGilly	<p>Revitalisation steering group established for development of action plan, project on track to complete march 2020</p> <p>Steering group appraised of remaining issue on PR Scheme</p>	N

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	REFERRED TO	ACTION TAKEN	REMOVE FROM ACTION SHEET Y/N
ERT/100/2019	NI APPRENTICESHIP WEEK	<p>(a) To accept the Terms of Reference for the NI Apprenticeship Week and to actively participate in the development and roll out of the first NI Apprenticeship week to take place between 3rd and 7th February 2020.</p> <p>(b) NMD District Council will work with stakeholders to plan a series of activities in the NMD and wider southern region. Any activity led by Council, will be funded via existing budgets.</p> <p>(c) Officers ensure that a wide range of stakeholders are identified in advance of NI Apprenticeship Week.</p>	J McGilly	On-going participation on NI Apprenticeship week Steering Group	N
		SEPTEMBER 2019			
ERT/116/2019	DRAGONS IN THE HILLS PROJECT	<p>(a) To provide a letter of support for the project for the funders.</p> <p>(b) To sign a Memorandum of Understanding to confirm and further develop the long-term partnership between Amphibian and Reptile</p>	J McGilly	On-going , funding application submitted.	N

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	REFERRED TO	ACTION TAKEN	REMOVE FROM ACTION SHEET Y/N
		<p>Groups of UK (ARG UK) and Newry, Mourne and Down District Council (NMDDC). This MoU has been checked by the legal team and they are happy that it is not binding and is for the purpose of developing projects.</p> <p>(c) If funding is successful, to work with HR Department regarding the hosting of a staff member who will have responsibility for project delivery.</p>			
ERT/117/2019	ARTISAN MARKET PROVISION	<p>It was agreed as follows based on facilitating one market in each DEA area:</p> <p>(a) Crotlieve</p> <p>Following the successful Pilot markets during summer 2019, a Service Level Agreement is entered into to deliver up to 4 markets in Warrenpoint within this financial year. SLA budget for 2019/20 for 4</p>	J McGilly	<p>On-going. SLA's in place as per Council approval.</p> <p>Scope underway to determine further market delivery in Newry, Rowallane and Slieve Gullion</p>	N

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	REFERRED TO	ACTION TAKEN	REMOVE FROM ACTION SHEET Y/N
		<p>markets is £2,000. The SLA to be reviewed for 2020/21 and subject to further consideration and approval.</p> <p>(b) Downpatrick The established market in Downpatrick continues to be supported by Council, with a SLA in place for £5,000 during 2019/20. This will be reviewed at the start of each financial year before contracts are renewed.</p> <p>(c) Mournes The established market in Newcastle continues to be supported by Council, with a SLA in place for £5,000 during 2019/20. This will be reviewed at the start of each financial year before contracts are renewed.</p> <p>(d) For the following DEA's, officers will engage with DEA Forums regarding Artisan Market</p>			

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	REFERRED TO	ACTION TAKEN	REMOVE FROM ACTION SHEET Y/N
		<p>provision in the following DEAs as outlined above:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Newry - Rowallane - Slieve Gullion <p>(e) Council Officers procure 8 marquees which would be used exclusively to support Artisan markets at a cost of £5,000 which is available within existing budgets, to ensure that marquees are always available for market use. Additional marquees can be borrowed, when required, from the Community Service section of Council.</p> <p>(f) Officials to bring back a report to the ERT Committee Meeting in October 2019 providing a financial breakdown regarding Artisan Markets.</p>			

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	REFERRED TO	ACTION TAKEN	REMOVE FROM ACTION SHEET Y/N
ERT/118/2019	APPLICATIONS: HERITAGE LOTTERY FUNDING LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP SCHEME (LPS) RE: STRANGFORD & LECALÉ AONB	(a) Officers to explore the possibility of applying to the National Lottery Heritage Fund for a Landscape Partnership Scheme (LPS) type project for the Strangford and Lecale AONB before March 2020. (b) If feasible, submit an EOI to the National Lottery Heritage Fund in 2020.	J McGilly	On-going	N
ERT/119/2019	PUBLIC REALM SCHEME PHASE III HILL STREET NEWRY	The Council accept the Letter of Offer from the Department for Communities (DFC) totalling £1.6 million and proceed to deliver the next stages of the Lower Hill Street Public Realm Scheme	J McGilly	Scheme proceeding to contractor procurement with award in Nov 2019 and onsite works to commence in Jan 2020.	N
ERT/120/2019	SLA: WOODLAND TRUST	The Council proceed and sign a Service Level Agreement with the Woodland Trust to cover the four-year project.	J McGilly	Completed	Y
ERT/121/2019	BELFAST CITY REGION DEAL (JOINT COUNCIL FORUM)	To nominate 4 No. Members from Newry Mourne and Down District	J McGilly	Completed	Y

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	REFERRED TO	ACTION TAKEN	REMOVE FROM ACTION SHEET Y/N
		<p>Council to sit on the City Deal Members Engagement Forum on the basis of the following structure:</p> <p>2: Sinn Fein 1: SDLP 1: Unionist</p> <p>To approve the following nominations from Sinn Fein and SDLP, and that 1 No. nomination from Unionists will follow:</p> <p>Sinn Fein: Councillor C Casey Sinn Fein: Councillor W Clarke SDLP: Councillor P Byrne</p> <p>(NB: UUP nominated Cllr R Burgess – as per email dated 10.09.2019 from Cllr D Taylor)</p>			
ERT/122/2019	DEVELOPMENT NAMING, POSTAL NUMBERING & ERECTION OF NAMEPLATES POLICY	To approve the Development Naming, Postal Numbering & Erection of Nameplates Policy.	C Jackson	Complete	Y

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	REFERRED TO	ACTION TAKEN	REMOVE FROM ACTION SHEET Y/N
ERT/123/2019	HERSTORY LIGHT FESTIVAL PROGRAMME OF EVENTS	The Council participate in the Herstory Light Festival 2020 and to programme a series of events, activities and light projections onto our arts venues and museums.	A Patterson	In Progress	Y
ERT/124/2019	AONB STRUCTURES	(Closed Session) To present a report to the SPR Committee Meeting in September 2019 setting out a proposal for a new staffing structure for AONBs.	J McGilly	Completed	Y
ERT/125/2019	EXTENSION TO RAILWAY LINE - BALLYDUGGAN DOWNPATRICK	(Closed Session) To proceed with a vesting application in relation to the Downpatrick and County Down Railway extension, and to utilise the necessary budgets to proceed with this process.	A Patterson	In Progress	Y

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	REFERRED TO	ACTION TAKEN	REMOVE FROM ACTION SHEET Y/N
ERT/126/2019	DUTCH BARGE – ALBERT BASIN	To approve the request by Silvery Light Sailing to operate a trial series of day sailings using their vessel Volharding to take place on the Albert Basin and Newry Canal on a pilot basis, from now until December 2019.	A Patterson	In Progress	Y
		(October 2019 to follow)			

Category 6

Any other decisions such as those with political, media or industrial relations implications that Directors consider Members should be aware of.

Info on event	Date of agreement/approval	Decision made by Director	Costs/requirements
Request to use Kilbroney Park Rostrevor for Kilbroney Vintage Show on Saturday 15 th June 2019	14.08.18	Approved	Insurance, Risk Assessments, Health & Safety, Plan of Area to be used etc.
Request to use Newry Canal Towpath for Newry Hospice Sponsored Walk on Sunday 14 th April 2019	01.04.19	Approved	Insurance, Risk Assessments, Health & Safety Plan etc.
Request to commence legal proceedings.	17.04.19	Approved	Failure to pay Penalty Charge Notice for breach of Energy Performance of Building Regulations
Request to commence legal proceedings.	19.04.19	Approved	Failure to pay Penalty Charge Notice for breach of Energy Performance of Building Regulations
Request to commence legal proceedings.	19.04.19	Approved	Failure to pay Penalty Charge Notice for breach of Energy Performance of Building Regulations
Request to use Albert Basin 30 th May - 2 nd June or Fri 7 th June - Sun 9 th June (date tbc)	29.04.19	Approved	Insurance, Risk Assessments, Health & Safety Plan etc
Request to use Albert Basin / Middle Bank 15 th Aug – 17 th August 2019 for 2019 Ulster Rally	09.05.19	Approved	Insurance, Risk Assessments, Health & Safety Plan etc
Issue letter to OU Shun, Changchun Foreign Affairs, confirming NMD participation in an NI Innovation Mission to the North East of China in Nov 2019	24.05.19	Approved	Requirements: confirmation required to progress arrangements
Request to commence legal proceedings	14.06.19	Approved	Failure to pay 5 Penalty Notices for breach of Energy Performance of

			Building Regulations on 5 properties.
Request to commence legal proceedings	07.05.19	Approved	Failure to pay Penalty Notice for breach of Energy Performance of Building Regulations - 5 Glen Villas
Request to commence legal proceedings	03.06.19	Approved	Failure to pay 2 Penalty Notices for breach of Energy Performance of Building Regulations – 112 Strangford Rd & 21 Castle Street
Request for use of Newry Canal for Duck Race on Sunday 29 th September 2019	29.07.19	Approved	Insurance, Risk Assessments, Health & Safety Plan and environmental considerations with regards to ensuring collection of 700 rubber ducks
Request to use middle for staff carparking during Christmas/new year period.	20.08.19		
Request to use Events Space, Hill Street, Newry for BID Promotion event	20.08.19	Approved	Insurance, Risk Assessments, Health & Safety Plan
Request to use Killough Beach for filming on 21 st October 2019	07.10.19	Approved	Subject to Insurance, Risk Assessments, Health & Safety Plan and considerations be given to conservation interests in the area.
Request to commence legal proceedings	21.10.19	Approved	Failure to pay penalty charge for breach of energy performance of building regulations

Request to instruct Legal Services to prosecute under the Welfare of Animals NI Act 2011	31.10.19	Approved	Prosecution: Section 9 (1) Welfare of Animals NI Act 2011
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Report to:	Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Date of Meeting:	Monday 11 th November 2019
Subject:	5G Communications
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title)	Conor Mallon Director, Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Jonathan McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise, Employment & Regeneration

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><u>Purpose</u></p> <p>Purpose is to advise Members of the decision agreed at the Council Meeting held on 4th November 2019 regarding 5G Communications.</p> <p>'Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee Meeting held on 14 October 2019 were adopted'</p> <p>See 3.1 for Recommendations contained within.</p>		
2.0	Key issues		
	n/a		
3.0	Recommendations		
3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Council Officers to review the health impacts of 5G and seek further guidance from the Public Health Authority, DCMS, OFCOM and other relevant authorities to carry out a comprehensive and detailed report analysing the risks and benefits of 5G roll out within the District. b) To authorise FFNI c/o NMDDC, to submit a bid(s) for appropriate funding for 5G on behalf of participating Councils subject to appropriate environmental and health impact assessments. c) To commit up to £10k NMDDC funding to the co-ordination of a 5G community and funding applications. d) To allow NMD, as host of FFNI, to spend the total of such aggregated funding in the pursuit of increasing 5g rollout throughout our communities. 		
4.0	Resource implications		

	n/a
5.0	Equality and good relations implications
	n/a
6.0	Rural Proofing implications
	n/a
7.0	Appendices
	n/a
8.0	Background Documents Minutes of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting 14 th October 2019 available on request. Minutes of Council Meeting held on 4 th November 2019 available on request.