

November 9th, 2022

Notice Of Meeting

You are requested to attend the Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting to be held on **Monday, 14th November 2022** at **6:00 pm** in **Chamber Monaghan Row / via Teams**.

Committee Membership 2022 - 2023

Councillor R Burgess **Chairperson**

Councillor D Curran **Deputy Chairperson**

Councillor T Andrews

Councillor W Clarke

Councillor C Enright

Councillor G Hanna

Councillor V Harte

Councillor R Howell

Councillor M Larkin

Councillor D Lee-Surginor

Councillor R Mulgrew

Councillor H Reilly

Councillor M Ruane

Councillor G Stokes

Agenda

- 1.0 Apologies and Chairperson's Remarks
- 2.0 Declarations of Interest.
- 3.0 Action Sheet: Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting - 10 October 2022. (Attached)

[ERT Committee Action Sheet - Oct 2022.pdf](#)

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Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration Items

- 4.0 DeCourcy Place / Church Street EI Scheme - approval for appointment. (Attached)

[ERT Report - DeCourcy Place & Church St EIS.pdf](#)

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- 5.0 Ring of Gullion Landscape Partnership Scheme - TAP Visit. (Attached)

[ERT Report - Ring of Gullion Landscape Partnership TAP Visit.pdf](#)

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- 6.0 TEDxDownpatrick Event Sponsorship. (Attached)

[ERT Report - TEDxDownpatrick Event sponsorship.pdf](#)

Page 9

- 7.0 Woodland Trust - Works at Delamont - Service Level Agreement. (Attached)

[ERT Report - Woodland Trust - Works at Delamont SLA.pdf](#)

Page 12

- 8.0 Greenway Feasibility Studies. (Attached)

[ERT Report - Greenway Feasibility Studies.pdf](#)

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[Appx Greenway Feasibility Studies - Newry & Crotlieve Cllrs Mtg Report 27.09.22.pdf](#)

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Exempt Information Items

- 9.0 St Patrick's Day Parade 2023. (Attached)

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

For Noting

10.0 Update re: Business Development Programme. (Attached)

[ERT Report - Business Development Programme Update.pdf](#) Page 23

11.0 DBEC Strategy Document. (Attached)

[ERT Report - DBEC Strategy Document.pdf](#) Page 29

[Appx DBEC Strategy Executive Summary.pdf](#) Page 35

12.0 Downpatrick Regeneration Working Group Report - 28 September 2022. (Attached)

[ERT Report - Downpatrick Regen Working Group - Oct 2022.pdf](#) Page 50

[Appx. Downpatrick Regen Working Group - 28 Sept 2022.pdf](#) Page 53

13.0 Economic Forum Report - 20 October 2022. (Attached)

[ERT Report - Economic Forum.pdf](#) Page 57

[Appx 1. Economic Forum Report 20.10.2022.pdf](#) Page 64

[Appx 2. Economic Forum Discussion Paper.pdf](#) Page 68

14.0 ERT Historic Action Tracker Sheet. (Attached)

[ERT Historic Action Tracker Sheet - for Nov Mtg 2022.pdf](#) Page 73

15.0 Update re: Labour Market Partnership. (Attached)

[ERT Report - Labour Market Partnership Update.pdf](#) Page 77

[Appx. Labour Market Partnership Report 13.10.22.pdf](#) Page 80

16.0 Planning Performance Figures - September and October 2022. (Attached)

[Planning Performance Report Sept 2022.pdf](#) Page 85

[Planning Performance Report Oct 2022.pdf](#) Page 90

Invitees

Cllr Terry Andrews
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Cllr Jim Brennan
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Cllr Robert Burgess
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Cllr Pete Byrne
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Mr Gerard Byrne
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Cllr Charlie Casey
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Mr Andrew Cassells
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Cllr William Clarke
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Mrs Linda Cummins
.....
Cllr Dermot Curran
.....
Cllr Laura Devlin
.....
Ms Louise Dillon
.....
Cllr Cadogan Enright
.....
Cllr Aoife Finnegan
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Cllr Hugh Gallagher
.....
Cllr Mark Gibbons
.....
Cllr Oonagh Hanlon
.....
Cllr Glyn Hanna
.....
Cllr Valerie Harte
.....
Cllr Roisin Howell
.....
Ms Catherine Hughes
.....
Mr Colum Jackson
.....
Mrs Josephine Kelly
.....
Mrs Sheila Kieran
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Cllr Mickey Larkin
.....
Cllr David Lee-Surginor
.....
Cllr Alan Lewis
.....
Mr Michael Lipsett
.....
Cllr Oonagh Magennis
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Mr Conor Mallon
.....
Cllr Gavin Malone
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Colette McAteer
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Cllr Declan McAteer
.....
Cllr Leanne McEvoy
.....
Jonathan McGilly
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Cllr Harold McKee
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Patricia McKeever
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Cllr Karen McKevitt
.....
Cllr Andrew McMurray
.....
Cllr Roisin Mulgrew
.....
Cllr Declan Murphy
.....
Cllr Barra Ó Muirí
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Cllr Gerry O'Hare
.....
Cllr Kathryn Owen
.....
Mr Andy Patterson
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Cllr Henry Reilly
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Cllr Michael Rice
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Cllr Michael Ruane
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Cllr Michael Savage
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Cllr Gareth Sharvin
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Donna Starkey
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Cllr Gary Stokes
.....
Sarah Taggart
.....
Cllr David Taylor
.....
Cllr Jarlath Tinnelly
.....
Cllr John Trainor
.....
Central Support Unit
.....
Mrs Marie Ward
.....

ACTION SHEETENTERPRISE REGENERATION & TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETINGMONDAY 10 OCTOBER 2022

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
ERT/155/2022	SYMPATHY	To request the Chairperson of Council to send a letter of condolences to Donegal County Council on the tragic events in Creeslough.	L Dillon	Letter prepared and will be sent along with Books of Condolences.	Y
ERT/158/2022	CRISIS WITHIN THE PRIVATE RENTAL SECTOR LIVING OVER SHOPS	To note Report dated 10 October 2022 from Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism regarding a Notice of Motion on Crisis within the Private Rental Sector Living Over the Shops.	C Mallon	Complete	Y
ERT/159/2022	SMALL SETTLEMENT SCHEME	a) Following consideration of the Consultation Responses by the Task and Finish Steering Groupings on the Concept Designs, Council now proceeds to obtain relevant statutory approvals and submit planning applications for the proposed Bessbrook, Castlewellan, Rostrevor and Saintfield Environmental Improvement Schemes.	J McGilly	Work in progress	y

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		<p>b) Proceed to the procurement of Framework Consultants & Contractors for delivery against the EI Schemes.</p> <p>c) To progress required procurements for delivery against the actions agreed under each of the 7 Revitalisation schemes and all elements of the programme.</p>			

Report to:	Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Date of Meeting:	Monday 14 th November 2022
Subject:	Downpatrick Regeneration: De Courcy Place regeneration project and Church St Environmental Improvement Scheme
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Jonathan McGilly, Assistant Director, Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Aveen McVeigh, Regeneration, Business Support and 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> To approve the recommendations in 3.1 of this report.</p> <p><u>Background</u> Council, with funding support from DFC, have been progressing a revitalisation Scheme for Church Street Downpatrick, for which an action plan is currently being implemented. One of the actions agreed to take forward was the progression of a concept design for an Environmental Improvement (EI) scheme for Church Street, including DeCourcy Place.</p>
2.0	Key issues
2.1	<p>The concept design was presented to the Project Steering Group and DfC in September 2022. The concept design is representative of the following phases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • De Courcy Place – regeneration project • Church St - Environmental Improvement Scheme (Phase I and Phase II) <p><u>De Courcy Place – regeneration project</u> DfC have invited Council to submit a funding application for DeCourcy Place for implementation of Capital works in 23/24.</p> <p>The next steps for the progression of this scheme are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appointment of a consultancy Team for the progression of the concept design through to detailed design - RIBA Stage 3 (design development and planning application) • A funding application to DFC for implementation of the capital works – approx. £360k

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submission and securement of full planning approval • Once funding is secured a paper will be presented to ERT to secure the necessary match funding of De Courcy Place regeneration project <p><u>Church St - Environmental Improvement Scheme</u> The next step for the progression of this scheme is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appointment of a consultancy Team for the progression of the concept design through to detailed design - RIBA Stage 3 during 2023/2024 (design development and planning application). The scheme taken forward in two phases: Church Street to Pillarwell Lane, and Pillarwell lane to the roundabout. • Application for funding submitted to DfC for delivery of phase 1 capital works during 2024/2025 financial year. Phase II will be taken forward later, subject to a further business case and funding application. • A paper will be presented to a future meeting of ERT regarding the progression of Church Street EI Phase I & II.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	<p><u>DeCourcy Place Regeneration</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To approve the appointment integrated design team through Council’s procurement framework to manage DeCourcy Place Regeneration from concept design through to detailed design - RIBA Stage 3 (design development and planning application), at a Capital cost of £25,000 2. To submit a funding application to DfC for DeCourcy Place Regeneration and report back to ERT on the outcome
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	<p><u>De Courcy Place – regeneration project</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget currently requested - £25,000 to be included in the Capital budget for concept design through to detailed design - RIBA Stage 3 (design development and planning application).
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></p> <p>The project did not have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>

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

Report to:	Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Date of Meeting:	Monday 14 th November 2022
Subject:	Ring of Gullion Landscape Partnership Scheme Legacy Phase – Traditional Arts Partnership Exchange Visit
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Jonathan McGilly, Assistant Director Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Darren Rice AONB and Geopark Manager

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

For decision	X	For noting only	
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1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	<p><u>Purpose</u> To approve a contribution to the Traditional Arts Partnership of £2,000 towards their 2022 attendance at music exchange visits.</p> <p><u>Background</u> The Ring of Gullion Landscape Partnership Scheme ran from 2012-2013 (development phase), 2014-2019 (Delivery phase), and from 2020-2029 the legacy phase is being implemented.</p> <p>The ten year work plan was submitted to the funders and approved.</p> <p>The Ring of Gullion Traditional Arts Partnership (TAP) have been part of the scheme since it first started its development phase. During the delivery phase TAP took part in four exchange trips, an integral part of the scheme. It was agreed the that TAP would continue to receive support under the 10-year legacy phase of the project, with support offered against activities that align to the LPS.</p>
2.0	Key issues
	Attendance at exchange trips was a key element detailed within the ten-year legacy plan. It proposed that the LPS legacy phase continues to support the Traditional Arts Partnership in their attendance at music exchange visits. A contribution of £2,000 against travel costs of flights and accommodation required to support the 2022 exchange visit to Spain.
3.0	Recommendations

3.1	To approve a contribution to the Traditional Arts Partnership of £2,000 towards their 2022 attendance at music exchange visits.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	This has been budgeted for with the funding from NLHF for the Ring of Gullion Landscape Partnership Legacy Phase.
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>
5.3	<p><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)

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

Report to:	Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Date of Meeting:	Monday 14 th November 2022
Subject:	TEDx Downpatrick
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Jonathan McGilly, Assistant Director, Enterprise, Employment and 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	<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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of sponsorship to the TEDxDownpatrick “making it count” event of £2,000. Sponsorship for the event is c/o event Curator Catherine Murnin. <p><u>Background</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A TEDx event is a local gathering where live TED-like talks and performances are shared with the community. This is the first TEDx event to be secured for the Council area. The theme for TEDxDownpatrick is “Make it Count” TEDx Downpatrick is on Friday 31st March 2023 in the St Patrick’s Centre, Downpatrick from 9.30am – 4pm. The event will attract at least 100 attendees to activity engage and participate in the “Make it Count” inspirational talks The event provides a suite of short, carefully prepared talks, demonstrations and performances that are idea-focused, and cover a wide range of subjects to foster learning, inspiration and wonder – and provoke conversations that matter A TEDx event is organised and delivered by volunteers from the local community, and has no commercial, religious or political agenda. Its goal is to spark conversation, connection and community. TEDxDownpatrick has its own event page on the TEDx platform, which went live at the end of October 2022. Already there has been significant interest across social media platforms, including LinkedIn, Twitter and Facebook as well as various networks eg Ulster Alumni and Supporters Association, Newry Chamber, Irish Business Organisation, Women in Business NI and Women’s Inspire Network.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Radio and TV coverage in the run up to and post event will promote event sponsorship.
2.0	Key issues
2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The curator for the TEDxDownpatrick event has approached Council with the opportunity for sponsorship The event will bring together people with different ideas and experiences and celebrate ways to "Make it Count" in sharing the stories about the lives they lead. A range of speakers have been secured that will speaking about "making it count" in their lives through sport, careers, businesses, disability Cost of the event is £8150 Approx £3,000 will be raised through ticket sales Sponsorships have been requested / secured from Newry Chamber, Ulster University, local businesses, Down Business Connect A request to Council has been received for the position of Headline sponsor at a cost of £2,000
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of sponsorship to the TEDxDownpatrick "making it count" event of £2,000. Sponsorship for the event is c/o event Curator Catherine Murnin.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	£2000 from existing revenue budgets
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></p> <p>The project did not have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>

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

Report to:	Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Date of Meeting:	Monday 14 th November 2022
Subject:	Woodland Trust – Works at Delamont SLA AONB and Geopark
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Jonathan McGilly, Assistant Director Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration.
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Darren Rice AONB and Geopark Manager

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

For decision	x	For noting only	
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1.0	Purpose and Background						
1.1	<p><u>Purpose</u></p> <p>To seek members approval for the establishment of an SLA with the Woodland Trust for undertaking works to address invasive plant species in Delamont Country Park.</p> <p><u>Background</u></p> <p>Delamont Country Park is located approx. 2km SW of the town of Killyleagh, Co. Down, between the A22 and the shores of Strangford Lough (Quoile estuary). It is a c.80ha listed Historic Park/Garden/Demesne made up of pastureland, parkland and mature woodland with more recent broadleaf plantations. The park is owned by Newry Mourne & Down District Council and the Education Authority.</p> <p>The c.30ha of existing woodland on the site was surveyed in 2021 with a Woodland Restoration Management Plan produced. The survey found that three separate woodland compartments totalling c.7.71ha are threatened with rhododendron, laurel and pockets of other non-native invasive plant species such as snowberry, privet and fuchsia. This is severely inhibiting the natural regeneration of native tree species, negatively impacting the structural and species diversity within the understory.</p> <p>The three woodland compartments are as follows:</p> <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>1) Long Walk</td> <td>1.68 ha</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2) House Woods</td> <td>4.15 ha</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3) Kinnegar Wood</td> <td>1.88 ha</td> </tr> </table>	1) Long Walk	1.68 ha	2) House Woods	4.15 ha	3) Kinnegar Wood	1.88 ha
1) Long Walk	1.68 ha						
2) House Woods	4.15 ha						
3) Kinnegar Wood	1.88 ha						
2.0	Key issues						
2.1	To approve the establishment of an SLA with the Woodland Trust for undertaking the below project / works; The project was developed by the Woodland Trust who						

	<p>have in turn carried out a value for money exercise across 6 suppliers; The project is detailed with</p> <p>The SLA will cover 80% of the costs of the following works, with the Woodland Trust meeting the remaining 20%:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal and disposal of all invasive plant species with a particular focus on rhododendron and laurel from all woodland compartments listed above • Spot treatment of any adjacent areas of invasive species • Follow-up treatments of all invasive plant species with a particular focus in rhododendron during 2023 and 2024 within all woodland compartments listed above <p>The successful supplier has provided a detailed methodology and planned work programme.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The health & safety of members of the public/regular walkers, children and park staff on the site will be taken into highest consideration. • Appropriate signage, compartment closures and all other aspects of the general public safety during work operations will be the responsibility of the contractor and must be detailed in the Operational Risk Assessment submitted by the successful applicant. • Pollution is also a concern with parts of the site located within or adjacent to designated or protected areas such as SAC, SPA, RAMSAR, ASSI, ancient woodland, etc. Spill kits must be carried in onsite machinery, biodegradable chain oil used for chainsaw equipment and appropriate PPE worn. Again, this must be detailed in an Operational Risk Assessment. • A high degree of care will be taken to minimise any collateral damage to other trees, shrubs during both felling and extraction operations. • All built heritage, including the rath located within House Woods and indeed all other site infrastructure including buildings, roads, laneways, paths, stone walls, fences, signage, etc., will not be damaged or impacted in any way. • Any stump treatment and follow-up spraying works will be carried out with a glyphosate-based herbicide by skilled operators with the relevant, up to date certifications with appropriate PPE kit.
<p>3.0</p>	<p>Recommendations</p>
<p>3.1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To approve the establishment of an SLA with the Woodland Trust for undertaking works to address invasive plant species in Delamont. The value of the SLA is for a maximum of £41,000.
<p>4.0</p>	<p>Resource implications</p>
<p>4.1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within existing budgets from the NIEA In-Year fund to the AONB and Geopark programme of works.

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

	Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/>
7.0	Appendices
	n/a
8.0	Background Documents
	n/a

Report to:	Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee
Date of Meeting:	Monday 14 th November 2022
Subject:	Consideration of Feasibility Studies for proposed 'Newry City' and 'Newry to Warrenpoint/Rostrevor' Greenways-Active Travel Routes
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Jonathan McGilly, Assistant Director Enterprise, Employment & Regeneration
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Seamus Crossey – Project 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> To seek approval for the recommendations as set out in Section 3.1</p> <p><u>Background</u> ERT were previously informed that The Department for Infrastructure (DFI) issued an annual call to Councils, for 'Greenway and Active Travel Projects' in 2021 and confirmed that they would like to work with Council on taking forward its applications for;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Newry City Greenway – Feasibility Study - Newry to Warrenpoint/Rostrevor Greenway – Feasibility Study <p>Consultants were appointed in early 2022, an engagement process was then undertaken during the spring and summer and a final draft report was presented to a joint meeting of Crotlieve and Newry DEA Councillors in late September 2022.</p>
2.0	Key issues
2.1	<p>During the process of undertaking the Feasibility Studies, Council and its consultants engaged with key stakeholders and looked at the existing site conditions broken down across various sections over each of the study areas.</p> <p>On the 'Newry City Greenway' Study the overall intention of trying to consider a linkage between the Canal Towpath and Carlingford Lough Greenway, looked at the individual sections of;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WIN to Canal Quay Bridge (New Street) - Canal Quay Bridge to Sugar Island Bridge - Sugar Island Bridge to Needham Bridge

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Needham Bridge to Ballybot Bridge] - Ballybot Bridge to Dublin Bridge/William Street <p>On the 'Newry to Warrenpoint/Rostrevor' Study the individual sections examined were;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Victoria Lock to proposed Narrow Water Bridge - Proposed Narrow Water Bridge to Warrenpoint Town Centre - Warrenpoint Dual Carriageway - Warrenpoint to Rostrevor (Via main road and Right of Way Routes) <p>Once views were obtained and existing ground/route conditions known, short-, medium- and long-term objectives were put forward in each study.</p> <p>Following presentation of the draft reports and consideration of the recommendations by the respective DEA Councillors groupings it was agreed that both formed a good starting point on which to now base future funding bids to move forward with sectional projects from each of the study areas.</p>
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	Members agree the 'Newry City Greenway' and 'Newry to Warrenpoint/Rostrevor Greenway/Active Travel' Feasibility Studies as presented to the representative DEA Cllr Groupings on 27 Sept 2022.
3.2	Members approve the development of the elements identified in both studies and to seek relevant funding from DFI Active Travel and others to proceed to further project design stages.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	<p>DFI have provided a 50% match funding (£17,500) contribution, with respective Council match funding of £17,500 under its Capital programme in 2022/23.</p> <p>No further funding required at this stage.</p>
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p>

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6.0	<p>Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)</p>
6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	<p>Appendices</p>
	<p>Appx 1. Report of the joint Newry City and Crotleive Cllr Meeting held on 29th September 2022, to review the draft 'Newry City' and 'Newry to Warrenpoint/Rostrevor' Greenways-Active Travel Routes Feasibility Studies.</p>
8.0	<p>Background Documents</p>
	<p>Draft Feasibility Studies for proposed 'Newry City' and 'Newry to Warrenpoint/Rostrevor' Greenways-Active Travel Routes (<i>available on request</i>)</p>

Title of Working Group/Forum: Meeting of Crotlieve DEA and Newry DEA Councillors on consideration of draft Feasibility Studies for proposed 'Newry City' and 'Newry to Warrenpoint/Rostrevor' Greenways-Active Travel Routes

Date/time/venue: Tuesday 27th September 2022 at 2.00pm via Microsoft Teams

Cllrs present: Cllr M Savage, Cllr D McAteer, Cllr J Tinnelly, Cllr K McKeivitt

Other Attending: K O'Sullivan, (McAdam Design Consultants), S Crossey, J McGilly and E Keaveney (NMDDC)

Apologies for non-attendance: Cllr Ruane, Cllr Gibbons, Cllr Casey, Cllr Harte, Cllr Mulgrew, Cllr Stokes

Agenda Item Number	Subject	Agreed way forward (if matter requires Committee/Council approval, a separate Report should be compiled and submitted to Committee)	Lead Officer	Actions taken/Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
2	Overview of background and timeframe for the project	<p>S Crossey outlined that the Department for Infrastructure (DFI) issued an annual call to Councils, for 'Greenway and Active Travel Projects' in 2021 and confirmed that they would like to work with Council on taking forward its applications for;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Newry City Greenway – Feasibility Study - Newry to Warrenpoint/Rostrevor Greenway – Feasibility Study <p>Consultants were appointed in early 2022, an engagement process was then undertaken during the spring</p>	S Crossey	<p>Spring 2022: Consultants familiarising themselves with both projects and undertaking an initial desk top review.</p> <p>Spring / Summer 2022: Public Engagement with stakeholders in relation to both schemes.</p> <p>August/September 2022: Consultants considered all information obtained during the process and then formulating draft feasibility studies.</p>	N

		and summer and a final draft report of the Feasibility Studies is being presented to todays joint meeting of Crotlieve and Newry DEA Councillors.		September/October/November 2022: Presentation/Ratification of draft studies to/by Council and then finalisation for submission to the funder.	
3	Overview by McAdam Design on the draft Feasibility Studies.	<p>K O'Sullivan on behalf of McAdam Design Consultants then delivered a presentation to the meeting.</p> <p>He outlined that during the process of undertaking the Feasibility Studies, there had been engagement with stakeholders as well as looking at the existing site conditions broken down across various sections over each of the study areas.</p> <p>He added that on the 'Newry City Greenway' Study the overall intention of trying to consider a linkage between the end of Canal Towpath and start of Carlingford Lough Greenway through the City Centre, looked at the individual sections of;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -WIN to Canal Quay Bridge (New St) -Canal Quay Bridge to Sugar Island Bridge -Sugar Island Bridge to Needham Bridge -Needham Bridge to Ballybot Bridge -Ballybot Bridge to Dublin Bridge/William Street 	S Crossey		y

		<p>On the 'Newry to Warrenpoint/Rostrevor' Study the individual sections examined were;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Victoria Lock to proposed Narrow Water Bridge - Proposed Narrow Water Bridge to Warrenpoint Town Centre - Warrenpoint Dual Carriageway - Warrenpoint to Rostrevor (Via main road and Right of Way Routes) <p>The presentation went through the different route options looking at the opportunities and constraints within each study area. It concluded by sharing the conclusions and recommendations from each report.</p>			
<p>4</p>	<p>Follow-Up Discussion, Agreement and Way Forward/Next Steps</p>	<p>Key issues raised during the follow-up feedback were;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agreement that the reports have logically put forward the reality of the options of moving forward or not in each section - The short-term quick wins in relation to better signage, crossings and layout are vital to maintain the momentum of the projects - While not always having the width and requirements for a 	<p>S Crossey</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Council accept the 'Newry City Greenway' and 'Newry to Warrenpoint/Rostrevor Greenway/Active Travel' Feasibility Studies as presented to the representative DEA Cllr Groupings. 2. Council now take forward elements of both studies to seek relevant funding from DFI Active Travel and others to proceed to further project 	<p>N</p>

		<p>typical greenway, sections can still deliver active travel benefits if properly designed/delivered.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stakeholders with a particular interest in both studies, should be provided with a copy of the reports when ratified. 		design stages.	
5	AOB	N/A	S Crossey		N

Signed: S Crossey (Lead Officer)

Report to:	Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Date of Meeting:	Monday 14 th November 2022
Subject:	Update on Business Development Programmes
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Jonathan McGilly, Assistant Director 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	For noting only	X
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1.0	Purpose and Background															
1.1	<p><u>Purpose</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To note the update provided under the following business development initiatives: Go for It, NMD Growth, Digital Growth, Tender for Growth, Sales Accelerator, Digital Surge and Rural Business Development grant Scheme <p><u>Background</u></p> <p>Newry, Mourne and Down District Council provide various business development programmes to assist local SME's in all aspects of business growth advice, for both start-up and existing businesses.</p> <p>The main programmes as outlined below are funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), Invest NI and Newry, Mourne and Down District Council.</p> <p>Eligibility for the business support and growth programmes are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Businesses with less than 50 employees Business who have the potential to create jobs. <p><u>Summary of delivery across the above programmes</u></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Delivery To Date – from programmes commenced</th> <th>Delivery April 22 – Sept 22</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Existing Businesses Supported –Business Growth Programmes</td> <td>1222 businesses</td> <td>248</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mentoring Days Delivered – Business Growth Programmes</td> <td>1416</td> <td>467.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jobs Created (Bus Growth)</td> <td>373.5</td> <td>92.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Workshops / Events / Programmes delivered</td> <td>116 workshops</td> <td>31 workshops</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Delivery To Date – from programmes commenced	Delivery April 22 – Sept 22	Existing Businesses Supported –Business Growth Programmes	1222 businesses	248	Mentoring Days Delivered – Business Growth Programmes	1416	467.5	Jobs Created (Bus Growth)	373.5	92.5	Workshops / Events / Programmes delivered	116 workshops	31 workshops
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2.1	<p>Go for It – NI Business Start-Up</p> <p>The NI Business Start-Up Programme continues to support those wishing to establish a new business. Support provided includes support with a business start-up business advisor, access to focused workshops on relevant topics, and completion of a business plan for the business start-up proposal.</p> <p>Recruitment and delivery continues to provide a seamless programme for participants with levels of enquires and engagement for the programme remaining high.</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="4" style="text-align: center;">GO FOR IT</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;">Target (22/23)</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Actual April 22 – Sept 22</th> <th style="text-align: center;">% Achieved</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Business Plans Approved</td> <td style="text-align: center;">312</td> <td style="text-align: center;">154</td> <td style="text-align: center;">49%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jobs Promoted (Stat Target)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">155</td> <td style="text-align: center;">92</td> <td style="text-align: center;">59%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Business Start ups</td> <td style="text-align: center;">187</td> <td style="text-align: center;">92</td> <td style="text-align: center;">49%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>NMD Business Growth (Oct 2018 – December 2022)</p> <p>Programme delivery is now 94% completed at the end of Sept 2022. Recruitment continues for this bespoke mentoring programme which has to date provided assistance to 736 local businesses from the NMDDC area.</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;">Target (up to Dec 2022)</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Actual to date – up to Sept 22</th> <th style="text-align: center;">% Achieved</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Delivery April 22 – Sept 22</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Businesses Supported</td> <td style="text-align: center;">740</td> <td style="text-align: center;">736</td> <td style="text-align: center;">99%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">105</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mentoring Days Delivered</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1145</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1052</td> <td style="text-align: center;">92%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">103.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Workshops</td> <td style="text-align: center;">30</td> <td style="text-align: center;">29</td> <td style="text-align: center;">97%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thematic Programmes</td> <td style="text-align: center;">10</td> <td style="text-align: center;">17</td> <td style="text-align: center;">170%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Job Creation</td> <td style="text-align: center;">470</td> <td style="text-align: center;">195</td> <td style="text-align: center;">41%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>INI Referrals</td> <td style="text-align: center;">40</td> <td style="text-align: center;">22</td> <td style="text-align: center;">55%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			GO FOR IT					Target (22/23)	Actual April 22 – Sept 22	% Achieved	Business Plans Approved	312	154	49%	Jobs Promoted (Stat Target)	155	92	59%	Business Start ups	187	92	49%		Target (up to Dec 2022)	Actual to date – up to Sept 22	% Achieved	Delivery April 22 – Sept 22	Businesses Supported	740	736	99%	105	Mentoring Days Delivered	1145	1052	92%	103.5	Workshops	30	29	97%	1	Thematic Programmes	10	17	170%	2	Job Creation	470	195	41%	7	INI Referrals	40	22	55%	4
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Stakeholder Signposting	100	70	70%	7
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Digital Growth (January 2020 – December 2022)

Programme recruitment and delivery continues with a view to providing essential tailored digital support for businesses. Digital Growth is currently 92% complete at the end of Sept 2022

	Target (up to Dec 2022)	Actual to date – up to Sept 22	% Achieved	Delivery April 22 – Sept 22
Businesses Supported	260	225	87%	42
Mentoring days Delivered	630	513	81%	116.5
Workshops	18	19	105%	3
Masterclasses	4	4	100%	1
Job Creation	185	77	42%	26
INI Referrals	20	9	45%	0

Tender for Growth (June 2020 – December 2022)

The programme which offers support to local businesses to develop their procurement processes and secure new contracts in both the public and private sector, is progressing well with 153 businesses having completed the programme fully.

Recruitments continues for the programme which is 90% completed at the end of Sept 2022

	Target (up to Dec 2022)	Actual to date – up to Sept 22	% Achieved	Delivery April 22 – Sept 22
Businesses Supported	170	153	90%	43
Mentoring days Delivered	481	381	79%	153
Workshops	10	9	90%	2
Meet the Buyer Events	2	2	100%	1
Job Creation	145	100	69%	58
INI Referrals	15	8	53%	

Sales Accelerator Programme (September 2021 – December 2022)

The joint programme with Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council, aims to provide trade focused mentoring and to support businesses to develop their sales capacity to grow sales in existing NI markets, as well as explore new and grow existing sales in GB and/or RoI.

The Sales Accelerator Programme is delivered in three parts. Part A investigates potential sales in the NI marketplace; Part B investigates potential sales in either or GB or ROI; and Part C involves a Trade Mission to either GB or ROI. Under Part C of this programme NMDDC will lead a total of two Trade Missions as part of the Sales Accelerator Programme.

	Target (up to Dec 2022)	Actual to date – up to Sept 22	% Achieved	Delivery 2021/2022
Businesses Supported	100	93	93%	58
Mentoring days	320 days	177	55%	94.5
Workshops	60	38	63%	22
Trade Visits	2	2	100%	1
Job Creation	120	1.5	1%	1.5

Digital Transformation Programme

This new programme launched in March 2022 with the aim of improving productivity of local businesses by incorporating digital technologies into operational activity. Programme delivery will be via workshops and one-to-one mentoring support to provide a competitive advantage to participant businesses. NMDDC target is 18 businesses, with a total of 15 businesses already registered (83% against target).

Rural Business Development Grant Scheme 2022

The regional programme providing capital only grants through DAERA's Tackling Rural Poverty and Social Isolation (TRPSI) Programme, up to a maximum of £4,999 (50% grant rate) opened on 4th May 2022 and closed at 12noon on 31st May 2022. The grant opportunity was available to existing micro enterprises based in rural areas of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council, from all sectors.

APPLICATIONS	TOTAL VALUE
114 applications received	£394,831.82
79 applications assessed as eligible (Received before the deadline and containing all necessary documentation)	£262,017.64
60 Letters of Offer issued (To applicants who scored above the 65% threshold at assessment stage)	£206,126.74
58 Letters of Offer accepted	£199,803.14

	(Applicants who wish to proceed with their project as outlined in their respective schedule of expenditure)																			
	TBC - Claims submitted	TBC - claim deadlines 11 Nov 22																		
NMDDC have now administrated the delivery of 4 Rural Business Development Grant Schemes in 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23 funded by The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA). The grant aid awarded over the last 4 financial years is as follows:																				
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 35%;"></th> <th style="width: 30%;">Grant aid awarded</th> <th style="width: 35%;">Businesses receiving Grant</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2019/2020 (Pilot)</td> <td>£70,668</td> <td>19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2020/2021</td> <td>£165,749</td> <td>59</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021/2022</td> <td>£175,955</td> <td>59</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022/2023</td> <td>£199,803</td> <td>58</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>£612,175</td> <td>195</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Grant aid awarded	Businesses receiving Grant	2019/2020 (Pilot)	£70,668	19	2020/2021	£165,749	59	2021/2022	£175,955	59	2022/2023	£199,803	58	Total	£612,175	195
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7.0	Appendices	
	N/A	
8.0	Background Documents	
	N/A	

Report to:	Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee
Date of Meeting:	Monday 14 th November 2022
Subject:	Dublin-Belfast Economic Corridor (DBEC) Strategy Report
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Conor Mallon – Director Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Conor Mallon – Director Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism

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

For decision	For noting only	x
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1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	<p><u>Purpose</u> To note strategy and intention to progress.</p> <p><u>Background</u> A joint decision was taken in 2021 to engage external consultants to provide research and consultation services leading to a development plan, strategy, and action plan for the DBEC partnership. Following a tender exercise KPMG were selected as the preferred bidder for this work. This contract commenced in September 2021 to run for one year. The work is now expected to complete by the end of October 2022.</p> <p><i>Stage 1 - Development Plan</i></p> <p>The development plan addresses key issues to support the partnerships development such as governance, legal & operating structures, identify funding opportunities and resource requirements (human and financial). It built on the research undertaken to date, including priority areas of cooperation, existing governance arrangements and the current funding landscape.</p> <p>KPMG have also undertaken comparative analysis of other similar economic corridors and consulted with internal and external stakeholders to recommend an appropriate governance operational and resourcing requirement that will help the partnership achieve its ambitions up to 2030.</p> <p>KPMG briefed the members and consulted them as part of the Stage 1 work during the Political Advisory Group meeting in November 2021. The Stage 1 Development plan report was published in February 2022). The development plan resulted in several recommendations.</p>

1.2

The work to date has made a number of recommendations to support the ongoing development of the partnership including:

- A phased development timeline up to 2030. In the short term from 2022-2024 priorities include set up of initial partnership personnel, consideration of legal structures, and identification of funding options.
- DBEC should remain an informal partnership model in the short term, together with an MOU, with a view to exploring independent legal status for the partnership in the future. This will be funded initially through council contributions.
- DBEC should be established with a bottom-up governance structure, largely based on the current existing structure. This includes a board of 12 growing to 16 in the long term to include private sector representatives.
- The partnership should be housed at a single location with staff and resources to lead and manage delivery of the partnership aims.

Key areas of focus should include Research and Development, Trade and Investment, Skills and Infrastructure and Connectivity.

Stage 2 - Strategy

Following completion of the Development plan KPMG continued to work on Stage 2 the development of a strategy for the partnership. The draft report is included in these meeting papers.

This Strategy work involved:

- Articulating the vision for sustainable economic growth across the region and identifying a series of headline objectives, strategic priorities and key actions required to deliver on the vision.
- Assessing the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats to achieving regional economic growth.
- Setting out the economic context of the region, including a review of existing evidence base, external environment and emerging areas of work at a local and regional level, and their potential to impact on the region.
- The role of DBEC within the current cross border economic support system.
- Identification of key resources, funding requirements (including potential sources of funding) needed to deliver the DBEC entity
- All stages of this work have been informed by extensive stakeholder engagement including workshops with DBEC partners and one to one meetings with stakeholders and strategic partners. The KPMG team has held consultations with a range of stakeholders from across the region representing the public and private sectors and academia.

In tandem with work on strategic plan officials from partner councils have continued to identify collaborative opportunities, in addition to engaging with external stakeholders to further the aims of the partnership. In June 2022, the partnership applied to the Irish Government's Shared Island Local Government Development

	Fund for funding to conduct a feasibility study on regional. We are awaiting confirmation on whether this application has been successful.
2.0	Key issues
2.1	<p>The draft strategy outlines the following ambition, objectives and enablers for the partnership up to 2030.</p> <p>Ambition</p> <p>To become a leading economic corridor in Europe, achieving sustainable growth through collaborative R&D, a highly skilled workforce and enabling infrastructure</p> <p>Following analysis of existing cross border bodies, a gap in the ecosystem has been identified for DBEC to align stakeholders on corridor-specific economic growth initiatives.</p>
2.2	<p>Strategic Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase skills and training to meet the labour requirements of the region, building on and expanding the existing workforce • Advocate for cross border infrastructure to strengthen connectivity and access to markets and labour • Enhance cross border collaboration in R&D and Innovation, targeting investment in high growth sectors and the green economy. • Promote sustainable and climate conscious growth along the corridor, aligned with councils' development plans and wider policy objectives • Align with and support economic development partners to increase trade and investment along the corridor • Market the region and elevate the DBEC brand so that the region becomes globally renowned as an attractive place to live and do business <p>The research has identified three enablers which will underpin future growth: skills, infrastructure, and research and development (R&D). Focussing on improving these enablers will support economic growth of the whole corridor.</p> <p>Within the corridor, some sectors are already strong and have been identified as key focus areas for skills development, infrastructure investment, and research and development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional Services and ICT • Advanced Manufacturing and agriculture

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Life Sciences <p>Success in three ways of working will enhance delivery of actions undertaken. This includes delivery, governance and resourcing and marketing and communications.</p> <p>2.3 Economic, Social and Policy Context</p> <p>The research supporting this report includes a review of current economic, demographic and political priorities with which DBEC will align to drive economic growth along the corridor.</p> <p>As of 2022, key challenges facing the economy on the Island of Ireland include high inflation, rising interest rates, and challenges meeting housing needs for current and potential residents. However, economic growth along the corridor is forecast to remain strong, growing by ~5% in 2022 and ~3% annually by 2030. In this context, there is potential for additional growth of the corridor's economy</p> <p>The corridor is home to a diverse range of business sectors. The services sector accounts for 75% of the corridor's workforce, and professional, scientific and technical services remain key growth areas for the corridor.</p> <p>The corridor's high working age population (67%) and high volumes of cross-border trade (€7.65bn / £6.50bn of trade in goods occurred between NI and RoI in 2021) make the corridor an attractive place for indigenous and foreign investment.</p> <p>Changing work patterns arising from the pandemic are increasing demand for more remote working hubs and may drive opportunities for towns and villages across the region. Relatively higher levels of housing affordability in the core corridor area –compared to Dublin and Belfast –can increase the relative competitiveness of the region nationally and internationally.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council development plans as well as regional and national strategies were also considered. • Consistent these in councils' development plans include housing, environment and employment. • The enablers and strategic priorities identified for DBEC within the strategy align with national and regional policy priorities. <p>There are opportunities for DBEC to secure funding for cross-border projects through the Peace Plus programme and Shared Island Initiative</p>
2.4	<p>Short term priorities that will be explored within the action plan include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appoint a Programme Manager and Partnership Officer to lead the DBEC Partnership team and implement a collaboration agreement for all local authorities to agree to

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a DBEC skills barometer. This will monitor the changing needs of the labour market, measure demand and supply of skills and benchmark existing attainment levels • Identify the barriers to skills development, such as funding, residency requirements or unclear career progression • Begin the exercise of identifying infrastructure gaps, including an understanding of improvements to amenities to generate a high-quality of life within the region • Create an outreach list of high potential innovative SMEs in priority sectors based along the corridor; and engage with senior executives about DBEC’s role in promoting the corridor and wider R&D opportunities • Explore the potential of a circular economy feasibility assessment for the entire corridor, building on current examinations by BCC and DCC of the potential of this in Belfast and Dublin • Identify current and potential future opportunities for funding • Organise regular learning sessions for councils to share initiatives with other council officers and elected members to explore expansion of successful initiatives along the corridor <p>Develop a coherent marketing and communications strategy with a clear editorial line. Initially, this could include a document setting out the benefits of the corridor, dedicated communication channels and consideration of comparator corridors for lessons learned.</p>
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	<p>It is recommended that members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note current strategy as attached in Appendix A as a basis to support delivery of the partnership ambitions. • Note intentions to progress to the final stage, an action plan
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	N/A
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)

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



Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor

Stage 2: Strategy

November 2022

DRAFT REPORT



Executive Summary

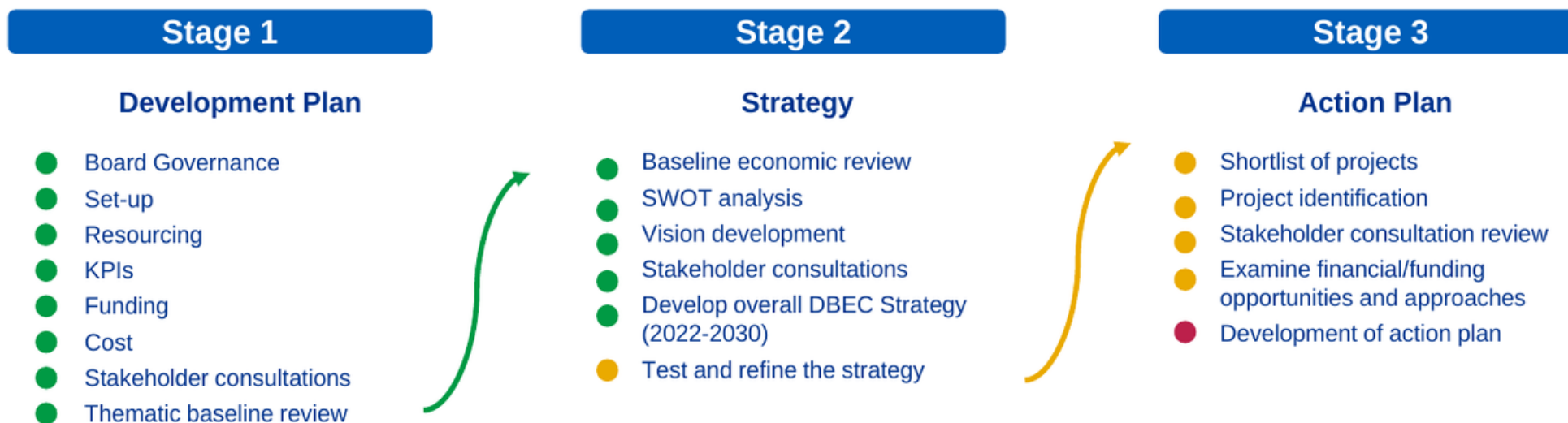
Samuel Beckett Bridge –
Dublin City Council

Executive Summary

Progress Update

● Completed
 ● In progress
 ● To be completed

This draft report builds on the Development Plan (Stage 1) and provides a strategy for the DBEC partnership over the period to 2030. An Action Plan will follow in Stage 3.



- This report draws on a breadth of research, consultation, and analysis to develop a strategy for the direction of the Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor (DBEC) over the period to 2030. An overall ambition and a range of strategic objectives are set out, as well as a number of enablers (skills, infrastructure and R&D) that DBEC can focus on in order to achieve its overall ambition
- This report is part of KPMG’s work to support the DBEC partnership in developing an ambitious strategy for implementation. It builds on the previous Development Plan and lays the groundwork for the upcoming Action Plan
- A central focus of this report is positioning DBEC in the region’s wider economic development ecosystem. This strategy outlines the types of activities undertaken by other entities in the ecosystem and where there are gaps that DBEC can fill. DBEC should avoid duplicating existing activities and should aim to create additionality for the region’s economy

Notes: *Funding and costs are to be further refined in Stage 3

Executive Summary

Vision and ambition

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Best practice amongst economic development entities includes setting a clear ambition and pathways through which this can be realised.



Ambition: To become a leading economic corridor in Europe, achieving sustainable growth through collaborative R&D, a highly skilled workforce and enabling infrastructure



What we want to be world renowned for:
A major international centre in growth sectors like Professional Services, Advanced Manufacturing, ICT, Life Sciences and Advanced Agriculture

Executive Summary

Strategic objectives

DBEC can fill a gap in the current ecosystem to deliver on core strategic objectives.

Key NI and ROI players providing economic funding and programme delivery





DBEC strategic objectives:

<p>Increase skills and training to meet the labour requirements of the region, building on and expanding the existing workforce</p>	<p>Align with and support economic development partners to increase trade and investment along corridor</p>
<p>Enhance cross-border collaboration in R&D and Innovation, targeting investment in high growth sectors and the green economy</p>	<p>Promote sustainable and climate-conscious growth along the corridor, aligned with councils' development plans and wider policy objectives</p>
<p>Advocate for cross-border infrastructure to strengthen connectivity and access to markets and labour</p>	<p>Market the region and elevate the DBEC brand so that the region becomes globally renowned as an attractive place to live and do business</p>

Executive Summary

Background context

DBEC will need flexibility in aligning with economic conditions and policy landscape.

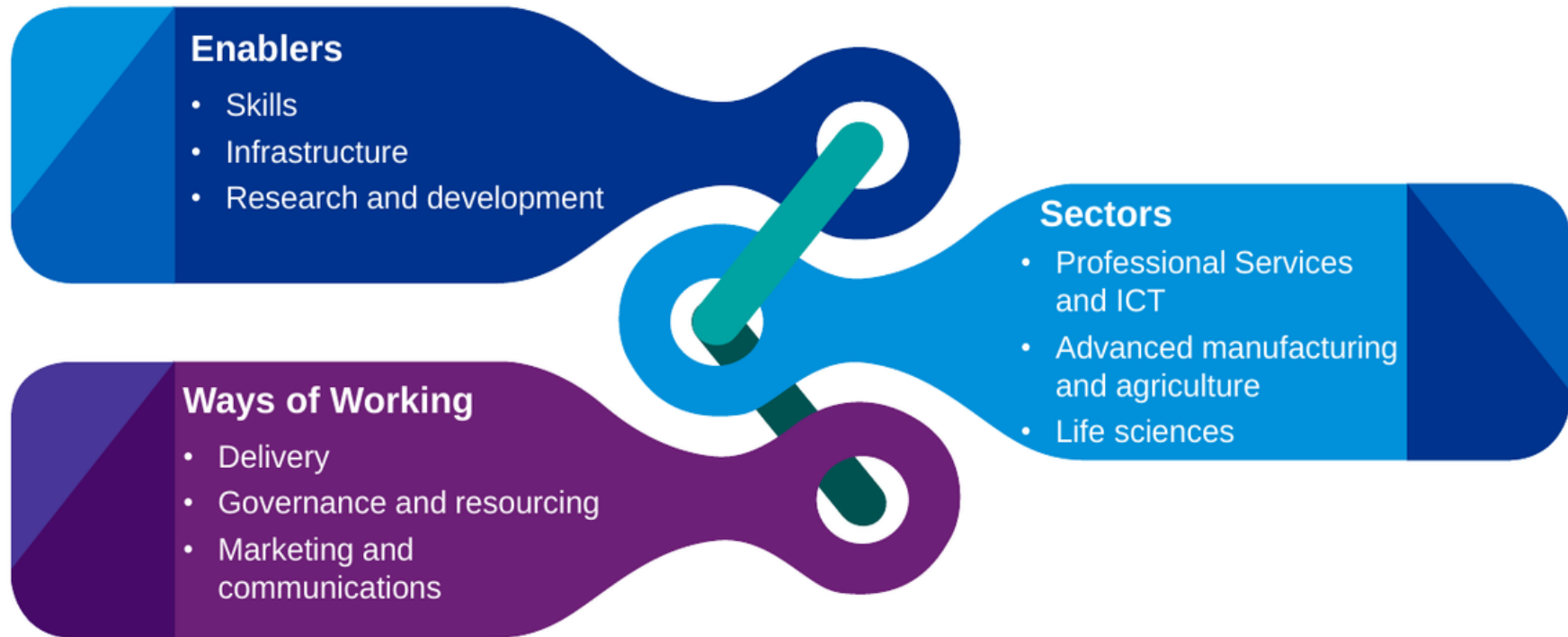
Theme	Key findings																																																				
<p>Economic and Social Context</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 2022, key challenges facing the economy on the Island of Ireland include high inflation, rising interest rates, and challenges meeting housing needs for current and potential residents. However, economic growth along the corridor is forecast to remain strong, growing by ~5% in 2022 and ~3% annually by 2030. In this context, there is potential for additional growth of the corridor’s economy The corridor is home to a diverse range of business sectors, with business density highest in DCC, MCC and LCC (each hosting close to 500 businesses per 10,000 residents). The services sector accounts for 75% of the corridor’s workforce, and professional, scientific and technical services remain key growth areas for the corridor. The corridor’s high working age population (67%) and high volumes of cross-border trade (€7.65bn / £6.50bn of trade in goods occurred between NI and RoI in 2021) make the corridor an attractive place for indigenous and foreign investment Changing work patterns arising from the pandemic are increasing demand for more remote working hubs and may drive opportunities for towns and villages across the region. Relatively higher levels of housing affordability in the core corridor area – compared to Dublin and Belfast – can increase the relative competitiveness of the region nationally and internationally 																																																				
<p>Policy Alignment</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistent themes in councils’ development plans include housing, environment and employment. There is an opportunity for DBEC to coordinate engagement on thematic priorities on council and regional levels, through workshops, information-sharing, and cross-border research The enablers and strategic priorities identified for DBEC in this report align with national and regional policy priorities (i.e. skills, infrastructure and R&D are key to the Investment Strategy for NI 2050 and the Eastern & Midland RSES) There are opportunities for DBEC to secure funding for cross-border projects through the PEACE PLUS Programme and the Shared Island initiative (including applications via the Irish Research Council for relevant projects). Funding from UK and RoI governments, the EU and private sector investment will enable delivery of DBEC’s objectives and overall vision <table border="1" data-bbox="1198 861 2123 1447"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2" rowspan="2"></th> <th colspan="4">Key Themes</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Infra.</th> <th>R&D</th> <th>Services</th> <th>Skills & Employment</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="5" style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">National and regional policy</td> <td>NI Economy 2030 2018 - 2030</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Investment Strategy for NI 2050 (2022 -2040)</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td></td> <td>✓</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10X Economy</td> <td></td> <td>✓</td> <td></td> <td>✓</td> </tr> <tr> <td>New Decade New Approach (2020 -2030)</td> <td>✓</td> <td></td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> </tr> <tr> <td>RDS 2035</td> <td>✓</td> <td></td> <td>✓</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="3">RoI</td> <td>Eastern & Midland RSES (2019-2031)</td> <td>✓</td> <td></td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EI Powering the Regions</td> <td></td> <td>✓</td> <td></td> <td>✓</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Project Ireland 2040 - NPF & NDP (2010-40)</td> <td>✓</td> <td></td> <td>✓</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Key Themes				Infra.	R&D	Services	Skills & Employment	National and regional policy	NI Economy 2030 2018 - 2030	✓	✓	✓	✓	Investment Strategy for NI 2050 (2022 -2040)	✓	✓		✓	10X Economy		✓		✓	New Decade New Approach (2020 -2030)	✓		✓	✓	RDS 2035	✓		✓		RoI	Eastern & Midland RSES (2019-2031)	✓		✓	✓	EI Powering the Regions		✓		✓	Project Ireland 2040 - NPF & NDP (2010-40)	✓		✓	
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Executive Summary

Enablers, sectors and ways of working

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Key enablers and sectors will drive growth, underpinned by effective ways of working.






In developing this Strategy, research has identified three **enablers** which will underpin future growth: skills, infrastructure, and research and development (R&D). Focussing on improving these enablers will support economic growth of the whole corridor. Within the corridor, some **sectors** are already strong and have been identified as key focus areas for skills development, infrastructure investment, and research and development. Finally, the DBEC partnership will need to work effectively in order to achieve its ambition. Success in these three **ways of working** will enhance delivery of actions undertaken. This sets the structure for this Strategy.

Executive Summary

Enablers

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DBEC's core focus for enabling growth is based on improving skills, infrastructure and R&D.

Theme	Key findings
Skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The DBEC region is highly skilled in relative terms on the island and internationally, with 89% of the population holding a qualification and 39% having a qualification above NVQ4. The region's multiple HEIs and Institutes of Technology, training over 114,000 students, generate a pipeline of talent for the region's economy, but retention remains an issue in some geographic areas Gaps in key skills are acting as a drag on overall economic growth, in particular in hospitality, construction, and ICT. There is an opportunity for a single entity to contribute to addressing these skill gaps and aligning stakeholders along the corridor around existing policy and targets (e.g. 10X Economy, Belfast Region City Deal, Skills Strategy for NI, Regional Skills Plans) DBEC can fill a gap as the lead skills coordinator for the corridor, in particular in re-/up-skilling (e.g. in high demand sectors) and aligned with national and regional policy priorities. DBEC can coordinate research, lead marketing, and engage with partners on approaches to improve graduate retention
Infrastructure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The corridor is well-connected domestically and internationally, but its spread is narrow and there have been few cross-border infrastructure projects to integrate the corridor's width. Investment in infrastructure is a priority with £1.6bn p.a. earmarked under the NI Investment Strategy, while the Irish government will invest a total of €165bn in infrastructure over the period 2021-30 as part of its National Development Plan. It is uncertain the quantum allocated for projects specifically in the corridor's geography There is an opportunity for DBEC to advocate for cross-border infrastructure and to develop initial business cases, and to lobby relevant stakeholders to prioritise investment in infrastructure. DBEC can undertake gap analysis of required export-enabling infrastructure needed to support players with high growth potential in high-tech sectors, infrastructure needed to support growth and opportunities for renewable energy projects, such as the proposal relating to €2bn Broomore Ireland Port. DBEC's infrastructure work should be aligned with its key priority sectors and aligned with those of partners and stakeholders
Research and Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Academic and industry research is clear that agglomeration benefits arise from R&D spend in specific geographic areas and there is some evidence of spillovers along the corridor, in particular near Dublin. The existing level of spend on R&D in the corridor (€2.3bn/£1.9bn; 45% of the total on the island) compares favourably to NI, RoI, and UK totals when adjusted for population, but at the same time an uplift of 164% to total spend is required for the corridor to compete with peer countries such as Austria There is a gap in the corridor's ecosystem for an entity to work with the R&D community, local authorities, and other public agencies to secure higher levels of FDI across the region (e.g. life sciences, advanced manufacturing, ICT). A significant opportunity exists for DBEC to be the voice for R&D investment along the corridor, highlighting particular sector clusters and collaborative opportunities through hosting events, liaising with the IDA/INI, and engaging with SFI and EU bodies re R&D funding opportunities

Executive Summary

Sectors

Existing strengths in high growth sectors can bolster the corridor’s economy.




Theme	Recommended Actions
<p>Professional Services and ICT</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professional services (including financial services) and ICT accounts for ~220,000 (20%) jobs along the corridor and 45% of all professional services jobs on the island of Ireland. The significance of this footprint and recent strong growth in employment (+17% over the period 2017-2020) highlight the importance and potential of further expansion in the sector Growing demand internationally for professional services, as well as evidence from comparator corridors that the sector is a high priority in those locations (e.g. GPEC, Greater Copenhagen), highlights the potential of growth of the sector to the corridor Against this backdrop, there is an opportunity for DBEC to contribute to further growth through skills development coordination with stakeholders (e.g. Skillnet, FinTech Corridor, Labour Market Partnerships) and to work with partners to explore the potential to grow additional cluster networks in high growth sub-sectors, such as cyber security
<p>Advanced manufacturing and agriculture</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The manufacturing and the agriculture sector account for 103,000 jobs along the corridor (10% of total). The sectors' footprints stretch from the city centres to rural hinterlands and both sectors offer opportunities for further innovation, investment, and jobs growth. Strong agri-food clusters are located in L&C, ABC and LCC, with MCC and NMD having a strong agricultural presence. Advanced engineering/aviation clusters are located in BCC, L&C, ABC and FCC can be further developed to encourage growth Advanced manufacturing is a key area of focus, in particular for NI councils which are part of the Belfast City Deal and Mid South West Growth Deal There is an opportunity for DBEC to take practises from other international economic corridors such as promoting the manufacturing sector through undertaking operating cost comparisons with other regions, hosting events showcasing new technology advances and advocating for infrastructure improvements to improve logistical efficiencies
<p>Life sciences</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The corridor is home to a wide range of businesses operating in the life sciences sector, with employment in the range 8,000-10,000. These world-class biotech, pharmaceutical and MedTech companies provide well paid employment opportunities to highly skilled workers and generate economic spillovers indirectly across their supply chain FDI has resulted in a strong cluster of life science companies in some geographic areas (e.g. DCC, LCC, BCC), with high levels of collaboration with HEIs evident. However, there are some gaps in collaboration on a cross-border basis, and there is an opportunity for an entity such as DBEC to coordinate collaboration efforts through its skills and R&D workstreams, events, research, and advocacy, together with key partners (SFI, UU, DCU, DKiT, QUB and key private sectors companies) DBEC can encourage the expansion of these clusters at a cross-border level through skills collaboration and being a voice for R&D investment along the corridor

Executive Summary

Ways of working

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Three core pillars will support the partnership to work effectively.

Theme	Summary
Delivery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In the context of the key enablers (skills, infrastructure and R&D), there is an opportunity for DBEC to become the corridor's flagship economic “think-and-do tank” and align stakeholders along the corridor-specific economic growth initiatives. The partnership can use its independent voice to play a vital role in driving high economic growth and improving overall competitiveness along the corridor, through the publication of independent reports on topics relevant to the key enablers ▪ There are clear learnings for DBEC from the activities of comparator corridors (e.g. GPEC, Research Triangle Partnership and Greater Copenhagen), including the potential to implement a collaboration agreement between members, providing a large range of industry reports, supporting with training, marketing and establishing a recognisable brand for the region ▪ DBEC can encourage indigenous growth through providing ongoing business support, networking opportunities and service provider referrals by sector and specialism, working collaboratively with partners (e.g. EI, IDA, ENI, ITI)
Governance and resourcing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Similar to other economic development entities on the island and internationally, governance structure can influence an entity's overall performance and contribution. Internationally, governance models are bottom-up, top down or mixed (see stage 1 report: Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor Development Plan for greater detail on governance, resourcing and funding) • Early momentum matters. In the first three months of the implantation plan DBEC should focus on agreeing objectives, identifying actions and developing branding. Once established, priorities should be to fast-track high return projects, connect sectors and showcase growth • Initially DBEC is to be based within one of the participating councils (preferably near the border), until it becomes established, at which point it could explore other base options (e.g. own office(s))
Communication and marketing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Currently, DBEC is in the process of hiring an Partnership Officer whose key role will be to engage with stakeholders, oversee internal and external communications and help promote the corridor ▪ DBEC can look to other international economic corridors (e.g. GPEC, Research Triangle Partnership and Greater Copenhagen) for best practice in communication and marketing. These entities have produced industry reports, hosted events (such as discussion panels, presentations and networking) and conducted annual stakeholder satisfaction surveys to gauge their performance ▪ There is the opportunity for DBEC to build on existing communications through using a mixture of content streams such as events, webinars, monthly newsletters, reports, podcasts, blogs and videos to best communicate the partnership's message

Executive Summary

Sample short-term priorities

Immediate actions undertaken in the first 6 months will generate momentum for the partnership.





Enabler	Short-term
<p>Skills</p> 	<p>Develop a DBEC skills barometer. This will monitor the changing needs of the labour market, measure demand and supply of skills and benchmark existing attainment levels</p> <p>Identify the barriers to skills development, such as funding, residency requirements or unclear career progression</p>
<p>Infrastructure</p> 	<p>Begin the exercise of identifying infrastructure gaps. Appoint a qualified team to lead the review</p> <p>Begin understanding improvements to infrastructure amenities needed to generate high-quality of life</p>
<p>R&D</p> 	<p>Create an outreach list of high potential innovative SMEs in priority sectors based along the corridor; engage with senior Executives about DBEC's role in promoting the corridor and wider R&D opportunities</p> <p>Explore the potential of a Circular Economy feasibility assessment for the entire corridor, building on current examinations by BCC and DCC of the potential of this in Belfast and Dublin</p>
<p>Ways of working</p> 	<p>Implement a collaboration agreement for all local authorities to agree to. Arrange a programme of activities for the first year</p> <p>Appoint a Programme Manager and Partnership Officer to lead the DBEC partnership team</p> <p>Identify current and potential future opportunities for funding. Initially, these could include Shared Island Fund (Local Authority Development Funding), PEACE PLUS, Levelling Up, Shared Prosperity, Intertrade Ireland and Horizon Europe</p> <p>Organise regular learning sessions for councils to share initiatives with other council officers and elected members to explore expansion of successful initiatives along the corridor</p> <p>Develop a coherent marketing and communications strategy with a clear editorial line. Initially, this could include a document setting out the benefits of the corridor, dedicated communication channels and consideration of comparator corridors for lessons learned</p>

These actions are initial ideas for consideration. They will be reviewed and further developed as part of the next stage of KPMG's work to inform the DBEC Action Plan, as well as by DBEC staff when up and running

Executive Summary

Sample longer-term actions

Longer-term actions will provide ongoing growth, helping DBEC achieve its vision by 2030.

Enabler	Medium-term	Long-term
<p>Skills</p> 	<p>Develop a skills policy and strategy</p>	<p>Develop the skills needed to support the labour market based on a coherent plan for developing skills along the corridor, attracting skilled labour and retaining graduates</p>
<p>Infrastructure</p> 	<p>Map assets with development potential to gain a greater understanding of infrastructure needed to unlock the land. Lead the development of infrastructure business cases to inform wider strategic decision-making amongst policymakers</p>	<p>Conduct transport modelling and analysis to inform options development, priorities and infrastructure needs assessment. Conduct a scoping of opportunities and identify amenities needed to promote the region</p>
<p>R&D</p> 	<p>Pioneer regular trade events to showcase relevant technology, promoting companies and inviting attendees. Coordinate cross-border opportunities for R&D, shared funding, and encourage collaboration</p>	<p>Investigate the feasibility for waste infrastructure projects which could support concepts associated with upcycling, waste segregation and eco-friendly treatments</p>
<p>Ways of working</p> 	<p>Hire additional personnel to lead on research activities and funding applications. Coordinate and apply for funding from different sources. Deliver strong applications which promote the ambition of DBEC and secure the required funds to deliver on identified actions. Promote the corridor as a great place to live and work using a range of communication channels to deliver a consistent message</p>	

These actions are initial ideas for consideration. They will be reviewed and further developed as part of the next stage of KPMG’s work to inform the DBEC Action Plan, as well as by DBEC staff when up and running

Executive Summary

A framework for engaging with stakeholders

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Early-stage strategic identification and engagement with stakeholders will drive momentum.

Why engage with stakeholders?

- For each project, consider why stakeholders will be engaged, e.g.:
 - Levels of interest in respective projects
 - Desire to be involved in governance/delivery
 - Expectations of returns
 - Approaches to collaboration



Who should be engaged?

- Identify the respective cohorts and potential roles, e.g.:
 - Central government/semi-state: funder/regulator
 - Local authorities: delivery/governance
 - Corporates and SMEs: beneficiaries/funders
 - Third sector and households: recipients/workers



Who are the funders?

- Understand funding needs and who can provide funding, e.g.:
 - Resource/salary costs: temporary/permanent/part-time
 - Communications/marketing: event/conference/sponsorship
 - Research and delivery: external support/consultation
 - Potential sources: Shared Island Fund (Local Authority Development Funding), PEACE PLUS, Levelling Up, Shared Prosperity, Intertrade Ireland, Horizon Europe, InvestNI and Enterprise Ireland, corporate sponsorship



How to engage with stakeholders?

- Take a targeted approach to engaging with stakeholders, e.g.:
 - Delivery partners: project meetings/workshops/virtual
 - Funders: financial and project reports/effective governance
 - Clients/customers: digital marketing/newsletters/emails/LinkedIn
- Have clear priority stakeholders and engage with these regularly
- Involve senior leadership from DBEC's member councils in relevant local project opportunities



The Action Plan will set out a framework for embedding stakeholders into DBEC's actions.

Executive Summary

Acronyms

Acronyms used throughout the report are listed below.

AAM	— Advanced Air Mobility	ITI	— InterTradeIreland
ABC	— Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	KPI	— Key Performance Indicator
BCC	— Belfast City Council	LA	— Local Authority
DCC	— Dublin City Council	LCC	— Louth County Council
DBEC	— Dublin Belfast Economic Council	LEO	— Local Enterprise Office
DETE	— Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment	MCC	— Meath County Council
DfE	— Department for the Economy	MNCs	— Multi National Corporation
DfI	— Department for Infrastructure	MOU	— Memorandum of Understanding
DoT	— Department of Transport	NI	— Northern Ireland
DTTAS	— Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport	NDP	— National Development Plan
EI	— Enterprise Ireland	NMD	— Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
ENI	— Enterprise Northern Ireland	NPF	— National Planning Framework
EU	— European Union	NVQ	— National Vocational Qualification
FCC	— Fingal County Council	Prv.	— Private sector
FDI	— Foreign Direct Investment	R&D	— Research and Development
GPEC	— Greater Phoenix Economic Council	RoI	— Republic of Ireland
HEI	— Higher Education Institute	RSES	— Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy
ICT	— Information Communication Technology	SFI	— Science Foundation Ireland
IDA	— Industrial Development Agency	SWOT	— Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats
INI	— Invest Northern Ireland	UK	— United Kingdom





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The information contained herein is of a general nature and is not intended to address the circumstances of any particular individual or entity. Although we endeavour to provide accurate and timely information, there can be no guarantee that such information is accurate as of the date it is received or that it will continue to be accurate in the future. No one should act on such information without appropriate professional advice after a thorough examination of the particular situation.

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Report to:	Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Date of Meeting:	Monday 14 th November 2022
Subject:	Downpatrick Regeneration Working Group
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Jonathan McGilly - Assistant Director, Enterprise Employment and Regeneration
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Ciara Toman – Project Support Officer, Enterprise Employment and Regeneration

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

For decision	For noting only	X
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1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	<p><u>Purpose</u> To note the paper.</p> <p><u>Background</u> The newly formed Downpatrick Regeneration Working Group held its first meeting on Wednesday 28th September 2022 in Denvir's Hotel. Malachy McGrady has been appointed as the Chairperson and Cllr Dermott Curran has been appointed as Vice Chair.</p>
2.0	Key issues
2.1	<p>The Working Group will work on a strategic level on a shared vision for Downpatrick</p> <p>The group will meet on regular basis and being a mapping exercise working through the priorities/actions already identified plus identifying more priorities/actions that will benefit Downpatrick.</p> <p>The new Regeneration Group will work as an advisory function and work with various delivery partners etc.</p> <p>The members will act as an advocate for the projects engaging with internal and external stakeholders as required. As the group develops it may be necessary to appoint sub committees to bring forward specific projects.</p> <p>A number of key actions will be developed through the ongoing meetings and engaging with stakeholders.</p>
3.0	Recommendations

3.1	To note the paper
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None at this stage
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>
5.3	<p><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)

6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	Appendices
	Downpatrick Regeneration Working Group Minutes from 28 th September 2022
8.0	Background Documents
	N/A

**NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL
Downpatrick Regeneration Working Group**

**Minutes of Meeting on Wednesday 28 September 2022
at 8am in Denvir's Hotel**

In Attendance: - Conor Mallon
Jonathan McGilly
Ciara Toman, Minutes
Cllr Dermot Curran
Cllr Gareth Sharvin
Cllr Oonagh Hanlon
Cllr Cadogan Enright
Janice McDonald
Brendan Kearney
Malachy McGrady
Michael Morrissey
Gavin Oakes
Stephen Magorrian
Phillip Campbell
Nicholas McCrickard

Apologies: - Damian Mulholland DFC
James Kelly – DFI
Mary Lou Press
Cllr John Trainor

		Action
1.	Welcome Conor welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave an overview of the background/current position and why this group was established. Conor confirmed council support to the group and are fully committed to working with this group to meet the needs of Downpatrick and assist with its regeneration.	
2.	Appointment of a Chair & Vice Chair Cllr Curran proposed that Malachy McGrady be appointed Chair and it was seconded by Stephen Magorrian. Cllr Sharvin proposed Cllr Curran be appointed as Vice Chair and it was seconded by Phillip Campbell.	Agreed Agreed

	Both Malachy McGrady and Cllr Curran accepted the position and promised to fulfil the role to their best ability.	
3.	<p>Progress to date</p> <p>Jonathan circulated a paper that gave an update on the work to date and explained that this group will take a strategic overview of the town centre and will engage with a range of groups and initiatives already underway as required.</p>	Noted
4.	<p>Discussion of Priorities</p> <p>Cleansing of Streets CM advised there is cleansing working group in Council and he will bring concerns to their attention.</p> <p>Cllr Hanlon advised there is a cleansing workshop on the 5th October.</p> <p>The Group felt that the traders could do more to maintain the front of their premises and this could be communicated to them.</p> <p>Shop Front Scheme MMG suggested a further shop front scheme could be investigated for Market Street and St Patricks Avenue.</p> <p>Terms of Reference of the DRWG Item 6: Quorum of 4 members could this number be revisited and amended/increased?</p> <p>Traffic Flow in Downpatrick The group suggested the traffic flow in the town could be looked at to try and ease some traffic pressure.</p> <p>Cllr Enright confirmed that several surveys have already been carried out.</p> <p>Need to create a positive image of Downpatrick It was agreed the group wanted a positive image to be created around Downpatrick. Need to highlight the Museum, Cathedral, Arts Centre, St Patrick Centre, Cinema & Race Course etc.</p> <p>Some additional signage could help visitors locate these focal points.</p> <p>Visit to Dundalk</p>	<p>CM</p> <p>CM/JMcG</p> <p>CM/JMcG</p>

	<p>Council Officers will work closely with DFC to confirm a date for a site visit to Dundalk.</p> <p>Vacant Properties There is potential of bringing them back into use. The Group agreed we needed confirmation of the number of vacant properties.</p> <p>Janice had previously done work on this and will re-visit this with the help from Michael.</p> <p>The group suggested the high rates in Downpatrick as a contributory factor to the vacant buildings.</p> <p>Safe and Attractive Image Several group members expressed concern about the rise in ASB and it was agreed that this group will contact PCSP, Downpatrick DEA and Housing Executive</p> <p>Active Travel Routes CM confirmed that there is funding from DFI for new Green/Blue ways and active travel and Council had made several successful applications for development funding for projects in Downpatrick.</p> <p>Simon Hamilton Cllr Curran suggested it would be beneficial to invite Simon Hamilton, Chief Executive, Chamber of Commerce Belfast will be invited to attend a future meeting of the group.</p> <p>Neighbourhood Renewal NMC suggested it would be very useful to have a summary from each of the groups/committees involved with Downpatrick to get an overview of the current situation.</p> <p>Audit of current assets & exploring potential Signage Stephen suggested that an audit of the currently assets in Downpatrick is carried out to establish that they are all up to standard and if any require improvements. Are the assets being utilised e.g. Arts Centre & St Patricks Centre. Conor advised that he pick up way finding.</p>	<p>JMcG/CT</p> <p>JMcD/MM</p> <p>J McG/CT</p> <p>JMcG/ CT</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>Council have received a letter from Patrick Brown MLA welcoming the establishment of this group and wishing them</p>	

	<p>well. Patrick has made a request to be a member of the group which have been forwarded to the group.</p> <p>The group were advised that this was discussed at Council ERT committee and the request was not approved.</p> <p>Following a discussion, it was agreed that the MLA's will provide a strong representation for the groups ambitions. It was agreed that it will be important for the group to meet with the MLAs to present the key ambitions and priorities for the town and seek MLA support at Stormont.</p> <p>Conor will write to Patrick and notify him on the decisions</p> <p>Mal asked if the Patrick Brown's letter could be circulated at the next meeting for members information?</p>	JMcG/CT
6.	<p>Moving Forward</p> <p>The group is focused on promoting a positive image for Downpatrick.</p> <p>The group works in collaboration and partnership with key groups to keep abreast of emerging issues and opportunities in Downpatrick.</p> <p>Council officers will compile a plan/map with priorities identified and categorise into short/medium and long-term timescales.</p>	CM/JMcG
7.	<p>Date of the next meeting</p> <p>The next meeting has been arranged for Wednesday 16th November at 8am in Denvir's Hotel.</p>	Noted
7.	<p>Meeting ended at 9.10am</p>	

Report to:	Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Date of Meeting:	Monday 14 th November 2022
Subject:	Economic Forum Meeting held on 20 th October 2022
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Jonathan McGilly, Assistant Director Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Amanda Smyth Head of Regeneration and Business Development

1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	<p><u>Purpose</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To note the record of a meeting of the Economic Forum, held on 20th October 2022, in the Canal Court Hotel Newry <p><u>Background</u></p> <p>A meeting of the Economic Forum was held on 20th October 2022, in the Canal Court Hotel Newry. A record of discussion is included at appendix A</p>
2.0	Key issues
	<p>The agenda for the meeting was as outlined below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion on paper (circulated in advance) re: Implementation against Economic Development Strategy and future funding opportunities (Shared prosperity, levelling up fund, Peace Plus) Update on Belfast Region City Deal – verbal Update Round table Discussion: Town Centre regeneration <p>The attached record of the meeting outlines a summary of discussion at the meeting</p>
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To note the record of a meeting of the Economic Forum, held on 20th October 2022, in the Canal Court Hotel Newry Officers will establish a focus group of key business and public sector partners to progress the Town Centre Regeneration issues raised.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	N/A

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

	Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed □
7.0	Appendices
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Record of meeting – 20th Oct 2022 2. Copy of discussion paper (circulated in advance of meeting) re: Implementation against Economic Development Strategy and future funding opportunities (Shared prosperity, levelling up fund, Peace Plus)
8.0	Background Documents

ECONOMIC FORUM MEETING
4 OCTOBER 2021 at 11:00 am – Microsoft teams

Attending:

Councillor O Hanlon, Chair (11:00 – 11:25)	Marie Ward
Councillor C Mason, Chair (11:25 – 12:14)	Conor Mallon
Councillor G Stokes	Jonathan McGilly
Councillor G Hanna	Amanda Smyth
Councillor R Mulgrew	Patricia McPolin
Councillor Savage	Elaine McAlinden
	Martin Patterson
	Sandra Magee
Eoin Magennis, Ulster University	Peter Murray, Buttercrane
Pamela Arthurs, East Border Region	Cathal Austin, The Quays
Janice McDonald, Down Business Centre Jackie Reid, Delilites	ShortCrossGin
Heather McKee, SERC	Connaire McGreevy, Mourne
Ken Webb, SERC	Mountain Breweries
Elaine Flynn, SERC	A Knox, J Knox and Sons
Feargal McCormack, FPM	David Hanna, Hanna Hillen
Catherine McInerney, DfC	Killeavy Castle
Neil O'Prey, Regen Waste	Harry Wick, NI Fish Producers Organisation
Tony McKeown, Newry Chamber	Gerard Murray, DfC
Declan Murphy,	Liam Devine, Clanrye Group
Mark Bleakney, Invest NI	Eamonn Connolly, Newry BiD
Kieran Fegan, DfC	Grant Gilmore, Intertrade Ireland
David Holmes, Warrenpoint Harbour Authority	
Kieran Grant, Warrenpoint Harbour Authority	

SUBJECT	ACTIONS
Apologies	Councillor: G Stokes, T Andrews, O Magennis, K Owen, V Harte, M Larkin, J & A Doherty, G O'Hare, Parker Green, B Doran, T Rice SRC, A Morrow Intertrade Ireland,
Consideration of Officer Report on Levelling Up Fund (copy circulated)	Conor Mallon referred to a paper that was circulated to Forum in advance of meeting, regarding the Levelling up Fund. The content of the paper is a response to a Notice of Motion tabled by Cllr Malone at an ERT Committee and which was then ratified by Full Council.

	<p>It was requested that the Forum consider the content of the report and the recommendations included and discuss any queries or questions in respect of the recommendations that has been set regarding Council’s approach to the Levelling Up Fund. The paper was noted with no further discussion.</p>
<p>Presentation on Economic Development Strategy & Working Groups (copy has been attached)</p>	<p>Amanda Smyth and Jonathan McGilly gave a presentation on the Working Group Structure within the Economic Development Strategy, that was launched November 2020. The Strategy sets out 3 key pillars against which 3 working groups have been established as outlined below. A detailed update against the themes was presented (presentation attached)</p> <p><u>Entrepreneurship & Business Growth</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support growth & creation of new business starts 2. Support growth in innovation & digital technologies 3. Build International relations 4. Strengthen business engagement <p><u>Employability & Skills</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Address skills gap & future skill needs, through education – industry engagement 2. Promote employment opportunities & attract appropriate skills labour to the area 3. Upskill & reskill those in employment, unemployed, or inactive 4. Promote alternative pathways to employment <p><u>Regeneration & Modern Infrastructure</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Digital transformation: creating a connected region 2. Regeneration of our City, towns and villages 3. Strategic investment proposals <p><u>Comments</u></p> <p>Marie Ward provided a detailed update on the Belfast Region City Deal, stating that the Council are moving through this process and are at the point of bringing through each of the partner Councils the BRCD Deal Document. This will establish agreement for the signing of the Deal Document by Local, Regional and the UK Government. The Deal Document will cement the partnership & relationship that has been established through Belfast Region City Deal. Securing the City Deal will bring a significant boost for our local economy through investment in capital projects and delivery of new skills and employability initiatives necessary to support to vision of the creation of 20,000 new and better jobs. With an investment of £1 Billion BRCD is very much about being an enabler and encouraging investment from the private sector as well direct government investment.</p> <p><u>BRCD - Comments:</u></p>

Feargal McCormack – BRCD is a really fantastic opportunity, and the positivity of what City Deal can offer needs to be promoted widely in a smart and coherent way

Councillor Oonagh O’Hanlon – BRCD will be transformative for Newry, Mourne and Down District, We need to get our communication & messaging right around so people are aware of the opportunities and choose this District as their future location to live, work and invest
 Councillor Roisin Mulgrew – Covid stopped us doing a lot of things but we are coming out of it and need to hit the ground running in terms of our engagement with all stakeholders and groups. The opportunities from BRCD are positive and should be recognised as that as it will be a game changer for us all.

Skills – comments

Catrina Reagan, SRC have secured £500,000 funding for the “Skills to Succeed” Programme in areas such as childcare, computing, digital marketing, leadership and management. <https://www.src.ac.uk/tm-courses/flexible-skills-fund>

Elaine Flynn confirmed that SERC have secured the same funding as SRC – <https://www.serc.ac.uk/skillup>.

Catherine McInerney, Department for Communities have now a change in Policy which will allow DFC to provide funding for smaller settlements in the area

Neil O’Prey, Regen Waste – requested further detail about the allocation of grants have made to local businesses during covid-19. JMcG to arrange to speak with Mr O’Prey following meeting.

Councillor Karen McKevitt – highlighted the importance of ensuring businesses are being linked in with schools, in particular career teachers and pupils who are choosing subjects to ensure they are aware of the pathway opportunities available locally. Councillor McKevitt wanted to highlight this gap on educating students, when they are making decisions on what exams to take, what career paths, routes to take. They need more positive connectivity to careers departments and advice given on jobs available to allow them to live and work in the District and not have to move because they have to work outside of the District.

Heather McKee, SERC – recognises the need for a more coordinated approach to education across NI, it is something that colleges have been working on with the Departments and lobbying quite hard that there is a better coordinated approach from post primary through to colleges, through to universities. The advantages of higher-level apprentices, are being recognised more and more by parents; the partnership working that

	<p>has taken place with the Council over the last few years, shows that the partnership approach is effective</p> <p>Conor Mallon – just to sum up across all 3 themes, we will take all comments on board as we progress working through the strategy action plans and delivering on each of the themes that have been identified. We will continue to engage throughout the process and through all the established Working Groups, and we will try to implement all actions assigned to us in a collaborative manner.</p>
<p><u>Recommendations:</u></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Members of the Economic Forum noted the content of the paper "Levelling up Fund", the recommendations regarding the Notice of Motion presented to Council, and the approach proposed by NMDDC in respect of the strategy to access funding 2. A special meeting of the Economic Forum be convened following the signing of the BRCD Deal Document in order to provide more detail around the City Deal, the proposals that are related to Newry, Mourne & Down District Council and the wider BRCD region

ECONOMIC FORUM MEETING**20th October 2022**In Attendance

Michael Savage, NMDDC
 Damian Mulholland, DfC (Communities NI)
 Catriona Regan, SRC
 Emma Finney, SERC
 David Hanna, Hanna-Hillen
 David Magennis, Gaan Architects
 Kieran Fegan, DfC NI
 Jarlath Burns, St Pauls High School
 Kieran Grant, Warrenpoint Harbour Authority
 Colin McCabrey, Intertrade Ireland
 Neil O'Prey, Regen Waste
 Julie Gibbons, Abbeyautoline
 I McConaghy, Dromore High School
 John McKibben, Invest NI
 Jerome Burns, DAERA
 Eamonn, Newry BID
 Brenda Kellaghan
 Marie Ward, CE – NMDDC
 Conor Mallon, Director, NMDDC
 Jonathan McGilly, AD – NMDDC
 Colum Jackson, AD - NMDDC
 Amanda Smyth, HoS – NMDDC
 Anthony McKay, CPO – NMDDC
 Elaine McAlinden – NMDDC
 Aveen McVeigh – NMDDC
 Martin Patterson – NMDDC

Apologies

Cllr Kathryn Owen
 Cllr Dermot Curran
 Liam Nagle, Norbrook
 Cathal Austin, The Quays
 Gerard Murray, DfC (Communities NI)
 Trevor Scott, Walter – Watson
 Peter Murray, Buttercrane
 Heather McKee, SERC
 Mark Bleakney, Invest NI
 Robert McConnell, Pinnacle Growth
 Deirdre Maguire, Intertrade Ireland
 Grant Gilmore, Intertrade Ireland
 Alan Knox, J Knox and Sons
 Sean O'Connor, Stat Sports
 Ken Webb, SERC
 Elaine Flynn, SERC
 Janice McDonald, Down Business Centre
 Wendy Cousins, Collins Aerospace
 Catrina Cooney, MJM Group
 Brendan Kearney, Down Business Connect
 Trevor Scott, Walter-Watson
 Michael Harris, Economy NI
 Damian Gill, Felix O'Hare
 Peter Browne, Mac-Group
 Conor Patterson
 Allan McCulla
 Tracy Rice
 David Holmes, Warrenpoint Harbour
 Liam Devine, Clanrye
 Anthony Boden, Digney Grant
 Feargal McCormack, FPM-AAB
 Connaire McGreevy, wearacts

Agenda Item	Actions
Apologies	Apologies received in advance of the meeting are noted above
Discussion on paper (circulated in advance)	<p>Paper Circulated: re: Implementation against Economic Development Strategy and future funding opportunities (Shared prosperity, levelling up fund, Peace Plus)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employability and Skills • Entrepreneurship and Business Growth • Regeneration and Modern Infrastructure <p>C Mallon referred to a paper that was circulated to the Economic Forum in advance of meeting and invited and queries arising from the</p>

	<p>information provided; C Mallon also advised that the team was happy to receive any queries by email following the meeting.</p> <p>Members of the Forum discussed skill shortages and skills gaps experienced across many sectors, with particular reference to service industry, construction, trades (Plumbing, electricians), engineers, etc;</p> <p>The need to build on education to industry communication and information / awareness around employment pathways, skill requirements was highlighted; agreement that industry to education engagement is required targeting students and influencers on career opportunities and employment pathways.</p> <p>The updated was noted.</p>
<p>Update on Belfast Region City Deal – verbal Update</p>	<p>M Ward provided a verbal update on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dublin – Belfast Economic Corridor Partnership • Belfast Regional City Deal (BRCD) • Complementary Fund • Investment Zones • Shared Island Funding Bids • Shared prosperity / Levelling Up funds <p>Members of the Forum discussed the projects under BRDC and the Complementary Fund, including the progress to date and timescales for next steps; the need for progression of projects was highlighted in order to deliver against the needs of the region from a regeneration and investment perspective.</p>
<p>Round table Discussion: Town Centre regeneration</p>	<p><u>Round table discussion took place on the following</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – In recent years, the role of our city, towns and villages has evolved as a result of covid-19, changes to retail trends, and most recently cost of living challenges; – In thinking of our city, and other urban and rural settlements, – What are the main challenges facing town centres? – What are the opportunities to overcome challenges? – What support /action is required to realise investment opportunities? <p><u>Summary of discussion</u></p> <p>Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Changing city / town centres – Changes in the retail industry - people’s retail habits, more shopping online and more home working – Changes in Consumer spending power / Cost of Living – Rising business costs – staff, rates, energy, transport

- Changes in the use of Office Space – home working has prompted new behaviours in how people shop, relax and utilise good and services
- Dereliction / vacant units – challenge for town centres;
- Car Parking - lack of space to park cars; bikes encourage out of town shopping/leisure activities
- Population shifts a concern
- Land and property owners are typically the older generation

Opportunity

- Better joined up working between Council and Government departments
- Dereliction – identify the property owner, seek opportunities to review / progress redevelopment
- Redevelopment of derelict properties - an opportunity to revitalise town centres
- Mixed tenure for promoting living in town centres. Living above the shops - a potential opportunity to revitalise town centres.
- Brownfield sites – developments for offices, living space, incubation space and service amenities etc
- Grants incentives for development of derelict building/sites
- Additional grants and interventions for upgrading of shop fronts, vacant and derelict properties
- Role town centres - Opportunity to use the town centre land and properties for use beyond a traditional retail offer.
- Covid 19 brought back a 'sense of belonging' for local communities,

Action

- Need to be clear on strategic vision;
- Build a network of stakeholders to sell the region; need for all sectors and representatives to have the same consistent message; Stakeholders buy in
- Update masterplans with a focus on repurposing derelict land/buildings
- Delivery as priority of the capital programme in Newry City Centre
- Map opportunities - know the District's Offer and Audience:
 - Required private sector investment
 - Commercial property offering
 - Local Government priorities for growth
 - Scale of opportunity that is available
 - View the District as an investor would
- Mapping and identification of land and property in town/city centres

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Funding is required to invest in property - make it 'investor ready'. – Development of evening economy is aligned to development of Town Centre living – Consideration of Pedestrian zones to develop Evening and Night-time economy – Co-ordinated approach to support development: planning and other statutory processes needs to be easy to understand and approachable – Address constraints to repurposing buildings, i.e. DDA compliant, early Building Control consultation, planning requirements for change of use
Meeting Close	Meeting concluded at 10.15am

Newry, Mourne and Down: Economic Forum

Date of Meeting: Thursday 20th October 2022

Subject: Report against below agenda item;

Implementation against Economic Development Strategy and future funding opportunities

- (1) Employability and Skills
- (2) Entrepreneurship and Business Growth
- (3) Regeneration and Modern Infrastructure

Section 1: Background

The Council's strategic vision for regeneration and economic development is set out in the Regeneration and Economic Development Strategy 2020 – 2025, under 3 key Pillars of investment. Across the Pillars are a number of sub themes as set out below, against which Council will take forward key investment initiatives. Section 2 below provides an update on current key investment initiatives.

<p>Entrepreneurship, Business Growth & Innovation</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support growth & creation of new business starts 2. Support growth in innovation & digital technologies 3. Build International relations 4. Strengthen business engagement
<p>Employability & Skills</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Address skills gap & future skill needs, through education – industry engagement 2. Promote employment opportunities & attract appropriate skills labour to the area 3. Upskill & reskill those in employment, unemployed, or inactive 4. Promote alternative pathways to employment
<p>Regeneration & Modern Infrastructure</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Digital transformation: creating a connected region 2. Regeneration of our City, towns and villages 3. Strategic investment proposals

Section 2: Update

Entrepreneurship, Business Growth & Innovation

2.1 Business Start-up and Growth support

- A suite of 5 **Business Growth programmes**, supported through ERDF, INI and Council funding remain underway.
- From implementation the combined output across the 4 NMD led programmes is as follows (Up to Sept 22):
 - 1207 Businesses engaged / supported
 - 373 jobs delivered
 - 2123 mentoring days delivered
- **Go for It** programme outputs to date:
 - 154 Business Plans have been approved (April- Sept 22)
 - 92 Jobs promoted to date
 - 60% of jobs promoted against Stat target
- In September 2022, a **Meet the Buyer Event** was held in Slieve Donard hotel;
- Buyers in attendance were: Translink, Education Authority, Re-gen, Waste, Synge & Byrne and Kingspan Global
- Just over 60 participants attended and actively engaged on a B2B level
- Plans are underway for **Enterprise Week 22** (#NMDEW2022)
- Commencing Monday 14th November, a week of activity will be coordinated under the theme of "Make it Your Business".



2.2 Rural Micro Business Development Grants

- The 4th rural micro grant scheme is underway, funded by DAERA and administered by Council. Funding opportunity for SMEs for a capital grant of up to £5,000, at 50% intervention rate.
- Outputs achieved:
 - 57 Letters of Offer accepted at a value of £194,804.14
 - This represents a total investment of £389,608

2.3 Make it Local Campaign

- A new Make it Local campaign for 2022 launched in October 2022;
- An expression of interest has been completed to secure the participation of local urban and rural businesses in the new branding;
- The campaign will be across a range of mediums i.e., print, digital, social, radio and outdoor, targeting residents and visitors with the message of making it local and supporting our small business sector.



2.4 Digital Transformation Flexible Fund (DTFF)

- DTFF will play a role in supporting small and micro businesses to be active in digital transformation which will contribute to supporting inclusive growth
- The DTFF is a new capital grant fund to support investment in capital equipment (hardware, software/ bespoke system development) critical to the strategic digital transformation ambitions of SMEs and microbusinesses
- DTFF is currently in the approval stages with Invest NI and Department for Economy and is expected to go live in March 2023.

2.5 Innovation Hub

- Under the Belfast Region City Deal Digital Pillar Newry Mourne and Down District Council are currently exploring the development of an Innovation Hub which will incorporate a high quality, digitally advanced space providing a platform for education and skills training, particularly for new economy skills and digitally enabled design.
- The project is currently at the identifying needs and feasibility stage.

Employability & Skills

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2.6 Labour Market Partnership (LMP) Action Plan

- A LMP has been established with a remit of delivery of initiatives that support people into or closer to the labour market.
- Council is awaiting a Letter of Offer from the lead Department (Department for Communities) for the delivery of the below actions (prior to 31 March 2023)
 - Research - Labour Market Supply Intelligence
 - Work Start Programme
 - NMD a Place to Work
 - Upskill for Growth
 - Apprenticeship Awareness
 - Business Start Development Programme
 - Employment Academies: A Chef's Bootcamp, HGV II Academy, Childcare Academy, Construction Academy, Fibre Splicing Academy

2.7 Job Fair

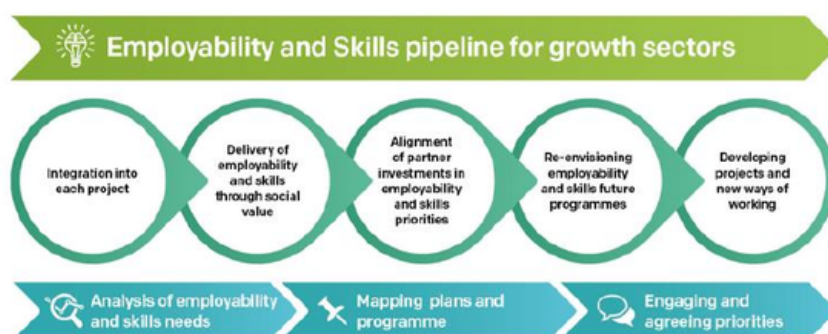
- A Jobs fair has been delivered in partnership with DFC, 30th June 2023 in the Canal Court Hotel). Outputs achieved:
 - 45 businesses / service providers in attendance.
 - 430 job seekers in attendance.
 - 81 job offers made as a result of the job fair;
 - 30 positions filled (as of Aug 22)

2.8 Education – Industry Engagement

- Research undertaken for the 'NMD - A Great Place to Work' highlighted the need for increased communication between local employers and educators
- A working group established will agree an action plan to support better engagement to raise awareness on local employers, testimonials from those who have chosen to build a career in NMD, information about employment, upskilling and training opportunities

2.9 BRCD Employability and Skills

- The BRCD partners are collaboratively working to develop an investment programme across 3 key themes as detailed below;
- Identifying external investment opportunities through Peace Plus, Shared Prosperity is a key focus, as well as seeking alternative partner interest, i.e. Cross border interest through Peace Plus interventions.



Regeneration & Modern Infrastructure

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2.10 Revitalization Schemes

- From 2021 investment of £4,381,000 in revitalisation schemes
 - Covid 19 Recovery and Revitalization Scheme: £1,906,000
 - Church St, Downpatrick and Hillstreet Newry, £495,000
 - Small Settlement Revitalisation: £1,980,000
- This has included direct grant support to businesses through shop front enhancements
 - 782 business receiving approx. £1,381,066 in grant payments
 - Approx an additional £550k in shop front enhancements, and visual improvements to derelict properties to be delivered in 22/23 under the small settlement revitalisation scheme

2.11 Environmental Improvement Schemes – current (DFC, DFI, DAERA, NMD)

- Warrenpoint Front Shore – An investment of £2,338,260 to undertake Phase 1 of the Front Shore Project. The on-site programme of works will run from July 22 to June 2023
- Small Settlement Investment – An investment of £1,980,000 to undertake 4 Environmental Improvement Schemes in Bessbrook, Castlewellan, Saintfield and Rostrevor

2.12 AONB and Geo Park

- Council have secured £110,003 from the NIEA Challenge Fund for biodiversity and access projects in the Ring of Gullion and Strangford and Lecale AONBs,
- Council have secured £350,000 from the NIEA in-year fund for Slieve Gullion Path erosion control to be carried out by Mar 2023.
- Atlantic CultureScape Project brought together 7 partners and 12 associate partners from 6 European countries to develop sellable Intangible Cultural Heritage Experiences across the Atlantic area.
- Mourne Gullion Strangford Aspiring Geopark – the team are working on a progress report to UNESCO following up on recommendations by the UNESCO assessors for full Geopark status.
- Officers presented to the European Geopark Network bi-annual Conference in October 2022

2.13 Downpatrick Regeneration Working Group

- Cross sectoral regeneration group established to explore key regeneration priorities and projects for Downpatrick

2.14 Strategic Investment Proposals through shared island and levelling up funds

- Levelling up – 3 bids submitted, currently under assessment
- Shared Island Fund – partnering in 6 bids that have received development funding;

2.15 Downpatrick PSNI Station

- Development brief to be launched on 24th October in partnership with DFC

HISTORIC**ACTION TRACKER SHEET****ENTERPRISE REGENERATION AND TOURISM COMMITTEE****(For Noting at ERT Meeting – 14 Nov 2022)**

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ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	REFERRED TO	ACTION TAKEN	REMOVE FROM ACTION SHEET Y/N
		October 2019			
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 McMurray regarding plans for Greenways at Comber/Downpatrick.</p>	J McGilly	<p>Negotiations ongoing with landowners and funder. Revised submission submitted to funders May 2020. Planning submitted and awaiting decision. SEUPB considering additional funding bid. Economic appraisal completed and with SEUPB and DfI</p>	N

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	REFERRED TO	ACTION TAKEN	REMOVE FROM ACTION SHEET Y/N
		(OCTOBER 2021)			
ERT/183/2021	LABOUR MARKET PARTNERSHIP	<p>a) To note that Council have prepared and submitted to the Department for Communities, a Strategic Assessment and Action Plan for implementation of a Labour Market Partnership (LMP) across the District.</p> <p>b) To approve the Business Case for the Labour Market Partnership Action Plan.</p> <p>c) To approve that Council now procure and appoint external delivery agents to implement the range of initiatives outlined in the business case, and approved for funding by Department for Communities.</p> <p>d) To approve the acceptance of Department for Communities Letters of Offer for Labour Market Partnership / Skills and Employability activity, including administration and operational costs.</p> <p>e) To approve the development and submission of a Labour Market Partnership Strategic Assessment & Action Plan for the 2022/2023 financial period, with details on</p>	J McGilly	<p>Work in progress – update at Jan 2022 ERT Plan currently being implemented via series of SLAs.</p> <p>2022/2023 plan submitted awaiting approval</p>	N

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	REFERRED TO	ACTION TAKEN	REMOVE FROM ACTION SHEET Y/N
		same to be tabled at a further meeting of Council.			
		DECEMBER 2021			
ERT/239/2021	(EXEMPT) CAR PARK DOWNPATRICK STREET SAINTFIELD	To approve the business case for the Capital spend required to carry out the refurbishment project for Downpatrick Street car park, Saintfield.	C Jackson	Work in progress on site Aug 2022	N
		SEPTEMBER 2022			
ERT/143/2022	SOLACE WORKING GROUP FUTURE BUSINESS START UP BUSINESS GROWTH PROVISION	To make available a budget of £10,000 payable as required to the SOLACE Working Group for Future Start Up and Business Growth Support to enable the development of a regional programme of support focusing on prestart, start up, growth to high growth.	J McGilly	Work in progress	N
ERT/144/2022	WARRENPOINT BREAKWATER UPGRADE SCHEME	To accept the following recommendations arising from the Task and Finish Steering Group:	J McGilly	Work ongoing	N

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	REFERRED TO	ACTION TAKEN	REMOVE FROM ACTION SHEET Y/N
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Note the Public Consultation process that has now been completed and update the concept design as required and agreed. 2) Council work with Warrenpoint Burren and Rostrevor (WBR) Chamber to seek private sector feedback on the proposed Kiosks/Vendor spaces. 3) Proceed to further RIBA stage 3 to complete the Economic Appraisal, undertake/update surveys and submit a Planning Application for the proposed Warrenpoint Breakwater Upgrade Scheme. 4) Council continues to work in partnership with Warrenpoint Harbour Authority in regards the Breakwater Scheme and Lease. 			
		(OCTOBER 2022 TO FOLLOW)			

Report to:	Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism Committee
Date of Meeting:	Monday 14 th November 2022
Subject:	Labour Market Partnership (LMP) Update
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Jonathan McGilly, Assistant Director Enterprise Employment and 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	For noting only	X	
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1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	<p><u>Purpose</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To note current update regarding NMD Labour Market Partnership initiatives. <p><u>Background</u></p> <p>Employability NI, led by DfC, is the new approach to helping unemployed individuals to get back into work. The governance of Employability NI includes the establishment of Labour Market Partnerships (LMPs), one in each District Council area.</p> <p>Council have established a Labour Market Partnership for NMD. The aim of the local Labour Market Partnership is to deliver initiatives that assist those identified as unemployed, underemployed or economically inactive to move into employment or closer to the labour market.</p> <p>Council will provide the administrative support and governance for the local LMP.</p>
2.0	Key issues
2.1	<p>The Labour Market Partnership members comprising of Industry, Chambers, Local Enterprise Agencies, Regional Colleges, Area Learning Co-ordinators and Education Authority have previously met at intervals to discuss the actions required of the LMP.</p> <p>NMD LMP met in October (Appendix 1 Full minutes) where LMP members were provided with an update on project delivery to date against 2021/2022 and 2022/2023 Action Plans, to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action Plan 2021/2022 Action Plan 2022/2023 <p>The Action Plan 2022/2023 includes delivery against the below actions:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Job Fair - Labour Market Research - Employability Programmes: - Business Start Up - Workstart - Upskilling for Growth - Employability Academies
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To note current update regarding NMD Labour Market Partnership initiatives
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	<p>LMP Activity is 100% funded by DFC and a Letter of Offer for administrative costs has been received; 2 staff resources have been in post since June 2022.</p> <p>Council is awaiting a Letter of Offer against Operational costs to enable 2022/2023 delivery. (Anticipated to be received November 2022) Due to delays in receipt of a Letter of Offer the actions outlined in the 2022/2023 Action Plan will not be fully implemented.</p>
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>

5.3	<p><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>
6.0	<p>Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)</p>
6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	<p>Appendices</p>
	<p>NMD LMP Minutes October 2022</p>
8.0	<p>Background Documents</p>
	<p>N/A</p>



<p>Newry Mourne and Down Labour Market Partnership</p> <p>Microsoft Teams Meeting - Minutes</p> <p>13 October 2022 at 2.00pm</p>	<p>Action by:</p>
<p>1. PRESENT:</p> <p>Amanda Smyth, NMDDC Carrie Duffy, NMDDC Catriona Regan, SRC Ciara McPolin, First Derivates Conor Patterson, Newry Mourne Enterprise Agency (Chair) Deborah Loughran, King Communication Donna Weir, Education Authority Elizabeth Moran, Norbrook Janice McDonald, Down Business Centre Jeb Berkley, SERC Judith Poucher, Clanrye Group Maria Hamill, Newry ALC Marty McLoughlin, Disability Action Melissa MacKey, Finnebrogue Nicola Fitzsimons, National Trust Patricia McPolin, NMDDC (Minutes) Stephen Glass Lecale ALC</p> <p>APOLOGIES:</p> <p>Brian Doran, SRC Carol Potter, Ballynahinch ALC Elaine Flynn, SERC Emma Finney, SERC Garreth McConville, ReGen Julie Gibbons, Abbey Autoline Liam Devine, Clanrye Group Margaret McNamee, SRC Mark Bleakney, Invest NI Mark McGivern, First Derivates Sylvia Moorehead, SRC Tony McKeown, Newry Chamber of Commerce Tracy Rice, SRC</p> <p>Conor welcomed the attendees to the meeting and invited introductions from Carrie Duffy, Skills and Employability Manager and Patricia McPolin, Skills and Employability Officer.</p>	



2. LMP Action Plan 2021/22 – Update on Delivery

Amanda provided an update on project delivery for the 2021/2022 period, advising that due to the timeframe in securing approval from DfC, the majority of activities were delivered in Q4 within a very short period. Completed activities included:

Employment Academies

HGV and Health & Social Care Academies with over 50 participants.

Business Start Up

Delivered in partnership with Down Business Centre and Newry and Mourne Co-Operative and Enterprise Agency providing support to 25 entrepreneurs.

Apprenticeships Awareness Campaigns

Delivered in partnership with SRC and SERC – apprenticeship videos featuring local apprentices and local employers are available at <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvopzrdR6adILlhggq2v5Y4pNwrOpWcCj>

NMD – A Place to Work

Deborah provided an update on delivery highlights including the new Newry, Mourne and Down Business YouTube channel, featuring a range of businesses from across the district available at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNiL8wBSCJs_ftTv-vQ-DBq/featured

3. LMP Action Plan 2022/23

Amanda provided an update on the 2022/2023 Letter of Offer from DfC, which is due early November. The delay in the LoO will subsequently have an effect on the delivery, which will now be condensed. The 2022/2023 Action Plan has progressed as far as possible given the restrictions due to the delay in funding and covers three main themes:

- Skills to Work
- Access to Work
- A Great Place to Work

LMP will be funded directly by DfC and is not reliant on EU funding which is drawing to a close.



Carrie presented the Action Plan for 2022/2023, detailing projects and deliverables to include:

Job Fair – June 2022

Successful event with 40 employers; 8 support organisations and 440 attendees

Labour Market Research

Ulster University EPC commissioned to complete statistical analysis of labour market and employability data to inform the work of LMP in the coming years. UUEPC will be in contact with local employers and focus group within the coming months.

Employability Programmes

Business Start Up Development Programme delivered in partnership with Down Business Centre and Newry and Mourne Co-Operative and Enterprise Agency providing support to 30 entrepreneurs.

Workstart targeted support to unemployed; underemployed; or at-risk individuals to enter or progress within the labour market. Programme due to commence when LoO received.

Upskilling for Growth delivered in partnership with SRC and SERC, funded by DfE and now live offering 12 courses from level 3 to level 7.

Employability Academies due to commence when LoO received to include:

- HGV II (40 participants) SRC may be in a position to refer participants to this as they have been oversubscribed.
- Construction (20 participants)
- Chef’s Bootcamp (24 participants)
- Childcare (15 participants)
- Fibre Splicing (10 participants)

There will be potential to include other academies in the 2023/2024 Action Plan such as agri-food or butchery as suggested by Melissa.

Ciara confirmed that FD are currently recruiting for a Data Analytics Academy delivered by SRC as part of an Assured Skills Academy.

Digital Platform

To be devised to provide details on:



<p>Employers Profiles Supporting Job Seekers A Great Place to Work Schools and Industry LMP Programmes</p> <p>Apprenticeship Awareness Continue to promote apprenticeships throughout the district as an alternative pathway.</p> <p>Schools to Industry Working Group Working group established to include ALC, FE Colleges, LEAs and Chambers, with 2 meetings held to date to discuss key issues in raising awareness about local industry to our young people, careers teachers and parents. Currently developing an action plan.</p> <p>Upcoming Events Bring IT On event on 24th November 2022 in Canal Court, Newry to highlight careers in tech and opportunities available to individuals regardless of qualifications. Invite to follow to be forwarded to member’s stakeholders.</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>4. LMP Governance</p> <p>Terms of Reference To follow for comment – response required by Friday 21st October.</p> <p>Survey DfC require information following each LMP meeting regarding attendance and future thoughts for LMP. Link to 2 question survey to follow, please complete.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>All</p>
<p>5. AOB</p> <p>Conor enquired if a careers fair event could be facilitated for the HSC sector – Amanda confirmed a previous such event was very successful pre Covid and could be scoped out for 2023/2024 actions and following the findings of the UUEPC research.</p> <p>Stephen confirmed a Post 16 careers event in scheduled for 8th February 2023 to be held in Downpatrick, which could have availability for HSC exhibitors. Conor to provide HSC contact to Stephen.</p>	<p>Carrie</p> <p>Conor</p>



6. Date of Next meeting	
15 th December 2022 at 2pm via MS Teams	
Meeting ended at 3:01 pm	

Newry, Mourne & Down District Council – September 2022

1. Live Applications

MONTH 2022/23	NEW APPLICATIONS	LIVE APPLICATIONS	LIVE APPLICATIONS OVER 12 MONTHS
April 2022	142	1,120	235
May 2022	132	1,070	248
June 2022	187	1,074	266
July 2022	129	1,070	265
August 2022	178	1,104	270
September 2022	191	1,130	271

2. Live Applications by length of time in system

Month 2022/23	Under 6 months	Between 6 and 12 months	Between 12 and 18 months	Between 18 and 24 months	Over 24 months	Total
April 2022	660	225	89	37	109	1,120
May 2022	609	213	94	43	111	1,070
June 2022	618	190	115	42	109	1,074
July 2022	609	196	112	43	110	1,070
August 2022	626	208	110	46	114	1,104
September 2022	649	210	106	48	117	1,130

3. Live applications per Case Officer

Month 2022/23	Average number of Applications per Case Officer
April	69
May	66
June	66
July	70
August	72
September	79

Newry, Mourne & Down District Council – September 2022

4. Decisions issued per month

Month 2022/23	Number of Decisions Issued	Number of Decisions Issued under delegated authority
April	151	139
May	159	152
June	168	162
July	117	110
August	126	126
September	155	148

5. Decisions Issued YTD

Month 2022/23	Number of Decisions Issued	Breakdown of Decisions	
		Approvals	Refusals
April	151	Approvals (138)	91%
		Refusals (13)	9%
May	310	Approvals (287)	93%
		Refusals (23)	7%
June	478	Approvals (444)	93%
		Refusals (34)	7%
July	595	Approvals (554)	93%
		Refusals (41)	7%
August	721	Approvals (672)	93%
		Refusals (49)	7%
September	876	Approvals (817)	93%
		Refusals (59)	7%

6. Enforcement Live cases

Month 2022/2023	<=1yr	1-2 yrs	2-3 yrs	3-4 yrs	4-5 yrs	5+yrs	Total
April	214	154	75	74	78	96	691
May	218	144	79	79	75	97	692
June	209	149	73	75	82	96	684
July	207	151	75	68	78	94	673
August	203	157	80	58	80	99	677
September	194	162	82	59	83	100	680

Newry, Mourne & Down District Council – September 2022

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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
6 April 2022	10	7	3	1
11 May 2022	9	7	2	5
1 June 2022	9	6	3	3
29 June 2022	6	3	3	1
27 July 2022	3	0	3	0
24 August 2022	17	13	4	4
21 September 2022	13	10	3	4
Totals	67	46	21	18

8. Appeals

Planning Appeal Commission Decisions issued during period 1 September 2022 to 30 September 2022

Area	Number of current appeals	Number of decisions issued	Number of decisions Allowed	Number of decisions Dismissed	Withdrawn
Newry & Mourne	26	1	0	1	-
Down	37	4	1	3	
TOTAL	63	5	1	4	-

Newry, Mourne & Down District Council – September 2022

Statutory targets monthly update - July 2022 (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 received	Number decided/withdrawn ¹	Average processing time ²	% of cases processed within 30 weeks	Number received	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	0	1	303.8	0.0%	123	147	20.8	34.0%	30	46	98.9	45.7%
May	1	-	0.0	0.0%	127	142	19.5	31.7%	41	39	61.6	59.0%
June	1	-	0.0	0.0%	137	154	15.4	47.4%	27	33	79.5	45.5%
July	2	2	97.9	0.0%	76	99	17.4	37.4%	22	45	177.7	48.9%
August	0	-	0.0	0.0%	0	-	0.0	0.0%	0	-	0.0	0.0%
September	0	-	0.0	0.0%	0	-	0.0	0.0%	0	-	0.0	0.0%
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	4	3	128.4	0.0%	463	542	17.6	37.8%	120	163	99.8	49.7%

Source: NI Planning Portal

Notes:
 1. DCs, 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

Newry, Mourne & Down District Council – September 2022

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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 appeal is filed; or a planning application is refused. The time taken to conclude an enforcement case is expressed as a percentile of the sequence.

Newry, Mourne & Down District Council – October 2022

1. Live Applications

MONTH 2022/23	NEW APPLICATIONS	LIVE APPLICATIONS	LIVE APPLICATIONS OVER 12 MONTHS
April 2022	142	1,120	235
May 2022	132	1,070	248
June 2022	187	1,074	266
July 2022	129	1,070	265
August 2022	178	1,104	270
September 2022	191	1,130	271
October 2022	164	1,119	263

2. Live Applications by length of time in system

Month 2022/23	Under 6 months	Between 6 and 12 months	Between 12 and 18 months	Between 18 and 24 months	Over 24 months	Total
April 2022	660	225	89	37	109	1,120
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June 2022	618	190	115	42	109	1,074
July 2022	609	196	112	43	110	1,070
August 2022	626	208	110	46	114	1,104
September 2022	649	210	106	48	117	1,130
October 2022	670	186	95	53	115	1,119

3. Live applications per Case Officer

Month 2022/23	Average number of Applications per Case Officer
April	69
May	66
June	66
July	70
August	72
September	79
October	78

Newry, Mourne & Down District Council – October 2022

4. Decisions issued per month

Month 2022/23	Number of Decisions Issued	Number of Decisions Issued under delegated authority
April	151	139
May	159	152
June	168	162
July	117	110
August	126	126
September	155	148
October	153	142

5. Decisions Issued YTD

Month 2022/23	Number of Decisions Issued	Breakdown of Decisions	
April	151	Approvals (138)	91%
		Refusals (13)	9%
May	310	Approvals (287)	93%
		Refusals (23)	7%
June	478	Approvals (444)	93%
		Refusals (34)	7%
July	595	Approvals (554)	93%
		Refusals (41)	7%
August	721	Approvals (672)	93%
		Refusals (49)	7%
September	876	Approvals (817)	93%
		Refusals (59)	7%
October	1,029	Approvals (949)	92%
		Refusals (80)	8%

Newry, Mourne & Down District Council – October 2022

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6. Enforcement Live cases

Month 2022/2023	<=1yr	1-2 yrs	2-3 yrs	3-4 yrs	4-5 yrs	5+yrs	Total
April	214	154	75	74	78	96	691
May	218	144	79	79	75	97	692
June	209	149	73	75	82	96	684
July	207	151	75	68	78	94	673
August	203	157	80	58	80	99	677
September	194	162	82	59	83	100	680
October	225	156	87	58	82	100	708

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
6 April 2022	10	7	3	1
11 May 2022	9	7	2	5
1 June 2022	9	6	3	3
29 June 2022	6	3	3	1
27 July 2022	3	0	3	0
24 August 2022	17	13	4	4
21 September 2022	13	10	3	4
19 October 2022	9	7	2	5
Totals	76	53	23	23

8. Appeals

Planning Appeal Commission Decisions issued during period 1 September 2022 to 31 October 2022

Area	Number of current appeals	Number of decisions issued	Number of decisions Allowed	Number of decisions Dismissed	Withdrawn
Newry & Mourne	27	1	0	1	-
Down	34	2	1	1	
TOTAL	61	3	1	2	-

Newry, Mourne & Down District Council – October 2022

Statutory targets monthly update - September 2022 (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 received	Number decided/withdrawn ¹	Average processing time ²	% of cases processed within 30 weeks	Number received	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	0	1	303.8	0.0%	121	147	20.8	34.0%	30	45	101.2	44.4%
May	1	-	0.0	0.0%	124	143	19.6	31.5%	41	39	61.6	59.0%
June	1	-	0.0	0.0%	136	153	15.4	47.7%	27	33	79.5	45.5%
July	2	2	97.9	0.0%	91	98	17.3	37.8%	27	45	177.7	48.9%
August	0	1	11.4	100.0%	163	113	19.4	33.6%	39	21	49.4	66.7%
September	1	1	48.8	0.0%	126	139	19.8	30.2%	34	20	68.8	55.0%
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	5	5	67.4	20.0%	761	793	18.2	35.9%	198	203	82.6	51.7%

Source: NI Planning Portal

Notes:

1. DCs, 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

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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 appeal is determined. The time taken to conclude an enforcement case is expressed as a percentile of the sequence.