



Comhairle Ceantair
**an Iúir, Mhúrn
agus an Dúin**

**Newry, Mourne
and Down**
District Council

**Local Development Plan
Preparatory Studies**

Paper 15: Strategic Settlement Evaluation

December 2017

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Purpose of the Paper

The purpose of this paper is to introduce members to the strategic evaluation of the 88 settlements currently designated within Newry, Mourne and Down: as identified in the existing development plans that apply to the District (Ards & Down Area Plan 2015 [ADAP] and the Banbridge/Newry and Mourne Area Plan 2015 [BNMAP]). The evaluation exercise examines the role and position of each settlement within the existing settlement hierarchies, and in reviewing their classification, informs how they should be classified in the proposed new settlement hierarchy for the Newry, Mourne and Down Local Development Plan. The exercise also identifies other locations for consideration as potential new small settlements.

One of the key functions of the new Local Development Plan (LDP) is to determine the role of settlements across the District by taking account of regional guidance detailed within the Regional Development Strategy (RDS) and the Strategic Planning Policy Statement (SPPS) together with local circumstances. In doing so this will guide development proposals appropriate to a settlements role and function within the settlement hierarchy.

Content Overview

The paper provides:-

- i. A summary of the regional policy context for future physical development across a settlement hierarchy;
- ii. An overview of the existing settlement hierarchies provided in the ADAP 2015 and the BNMAP 2015,
- iii. An evaluation of the existing settlement hierarchy in the context of the Housing Evaluation Framework and the Hierarchy of Settlements & Related Infrastructure Wheel as set out in the RDS, and
- iv. A proposed settlement hierarchy for Newry, Mourne & Down District Council taking account of the settlement evaluation.

Recommendation

That members have regard to the findings of this paper and consider the position of settlements in the proposed new hierarchy.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 This paper is the latest in a series of Position Papers being presented to the Members in building the evidence base for the new Newry, Mourne & Down LDP.

1.2 The strategic policy context for the settlement hierarchy is provided by the RDS and the SPPS. The RDS introduced a framework for the future physical development of the Region by providing an overarching strategic framework aimed at achieving balanced and sustainable development across the region through the implementation of a spatial development strategy which is designed to reinforce and strengthen the hubs, corridors and gateways of Northern Ireland. The main themes of this strategy centre around protecting and enhancing the environment while promoting a strong spatially based economy, promoting a healthy living environment and creating and maintaining an inclusive society.

1.3 Paper 1 (2nd Revision) 'Population and Growth – Settlement Hierarchy' which was presented to Council in October 2015 discussed the need to re-examine the settlement hierarchy for the District and to identify if any settlements need to be re-classified based on their function, services and population.

1.4 In order to assist in the LDP preparatory process, Member Workshops were held in October 2017 this included Workshop 1 which addressed the Spatial Growth Strategy, Settlement Hierarchy and Land Allocation. In consideration of the settlement hierarchy and the associated options, Members unanimously agreed 're-examine the existing settlement hierarchy in order to consider if any settlement should be reclassified or declassified while also considering the potential for identifying a number of new small settlements'. The feedback from the Members Workshop has informed this paper.

1.5 The settlement hierarchy will help to decide the location of future development in the District and the broad proportion of the housing allocation that is appropriate for each tier, ensuring that the scale of any new development planned through the LDP is appropriate for the particular settlement and that it is adequately supported by physical infrastructure and services.

1.6 The proposed settlement hierarchy recommends the retention of the majority of the existing settlement classifications with a small number being identified for possible reclassification. It is envisaged that the implementation of this new hierarchy will unify the existing hierarchies while bringing about cohesion to the District.

2.0 Regional Policy Context

(a) The Regional Development Strategy

2.1 The regional policy context is provided by the RDS 2035 which presents regional guidance under three sustainable development strands which are economic, social and environmental. The RDS 2035 Spatial Framework shown in Diagram 1 is therefore aimed at achieving sustainable development. In providing for the future physical development of the region, it identifies a hierarchy of settlements based on main hubs, local hubs and a strong rural community living either in small towns, villages, small settlements or in the open countryside.

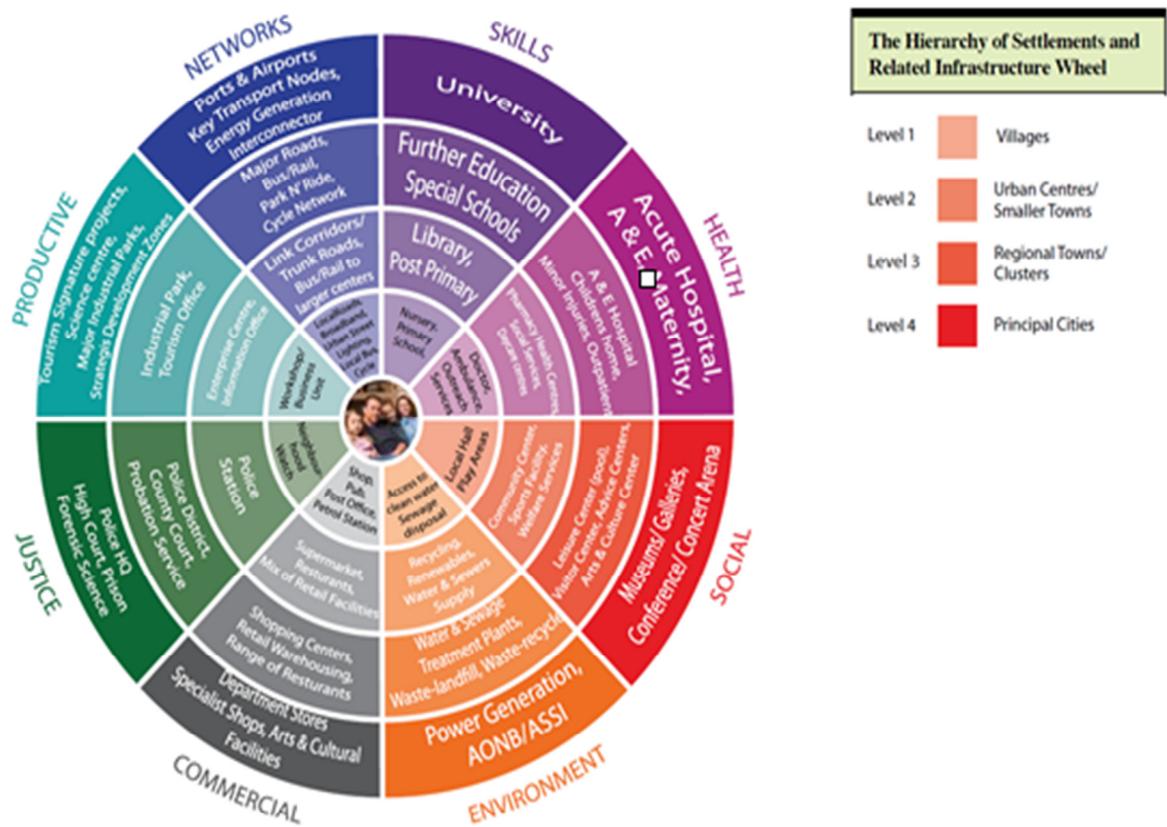
Diagram 1: RDS 2035 Spatial Framework for NI



2.2 Within the RDS Newry and Downpatrick have both been recognised as main hubs. In the delivery of services and functions, the RDS also acknowledges that these settlements have also the potential to cluster with Warrenpoint and Newcastle respectively. Newry is also identified as a gateway due to its strategic location along the Belfast-Dublin corridor. For the rural area outside of the main and local hubs, the spatial framework guidance is to sustain the rural communities living in smaller settlements (small towns, village and small rural settlements) and the open countryside while striving to improve accessibility for rural communities.

2.3 To aid this process the RDS provides a Hierarchy of Settlement and Related Infrastructure Wheel (see Diagram 2). This outlines the patterns of service provision that are likely to be appropriate at different spatial levels including villages, smaller towns, regional towns and principal cities. This model also recognises the strong relationship between settlement size and the levels of service that can be supported.

Diagram 2: The Hierarchy of Settlements and Related Infrastructure Wheel



2.4 In doing so the RDS recognises that

- Settlements often provide either a greater or lesser range of services and facilities than the core population may dictate. It is not appropriate therefore to consider settlement or urban population alone in classifying service settlements within any district – the population of rural hinterlands can also support services in urban centres,
- Service centres tend to be hierarchical, with a large number of centres providing a smaller range of services and facilities, and a smaller number of centres providing a wider range. Each class of settlement provides services lower down in the hierarchy; and
- Access to services and facilities is important. Creating a critical mass to support a level of services raises challenges for service providers in meeting the needs of spatially dispersed populations.

2.5 To further assist in the creation of a settlement hierarchy and in particular the allocation of housing land, the RDS also provided a broad evaluation framework which takes account of the varying capacities of settlements based on the following 6 tests as outlined in Diagram 3.

Diagram 3: Housing Evaluation Framework

Diagram 3 - Housing Evaluation Framework	
1. Resource Test	Studies should be carried out to assess and detail the existence of community assets and physical infrastructure such as water, waste and sewage, including spare capacity.
2. Environmental Capacity Test	An assessment of the environmental assets of the settlement, the potential of flooding from rivers, the sea or surface water run-off and its potential to accommodate future outward growth without significant environmental degradation should be made.
3. Transport Test	Studies should be carried out to assess the potential for integrating land use and public transport and walking and cycling routes to help reduce reliance on the car.
4. Economic Development Test	The potential to facilitate an appropriate housing and jobs balance and to unlock any major strategic development opportunities should be assessed and detailed.
5. Urban & Rural Character Test	Assessment should be made of the potential to maintain a sense of place, and to integrate new development in a way that does not detract from the character and identity of the settlement.
6. Community Services Test	The potential to underpin and, where necessary, reinforce the community service role and function of the settlement should be assessed and detailed.

2.6 The broad evaluation framework essentially provides an overview of the services, facilities, physical infrastructure, constraints and environmental characteristics of each settlement.

2.7 Settlement Appraisal Reports are being produced for each settlement. Each of these reports incorporates the following information:

- a brief overview of the settlement including location, urban form, historical context, population level and number of households
- a consideration of the six tests in the RDS evaluation framework; and
- summary of potential constraints affecting settlement expansion capacity.

(b) Strategic Spatial Strategy for Newry, Mourne & Down District

2.8 A key part of the LDP will be its spatial strategy, consisting of the new settlement hierarchy and transport corridors along with the main environmental and infrastructural features. The spatial strategy will determine where planned growth will be directed, balanced with the priority areas for environmental protection and enhancement. The LDP's spatial strategy and settlement hierarchy should therefore take account of the guidance set out within the RDS and the SPPS, namely

- Newry as a main hub, gateway to the south and the potential to cluster with Warrenpoint in terms of the delivery of services and functions,
- Downpatrick as a main hub and the potential to cluster within Newcastle in terms of the delivery of services and functions,
- Rural communities to be sustained, living in small towns, villages and small rural settlements, as well as the open countryside.

(c) Strategic Planning Policy Statement (SPPS)

2.9 The SPPS contains little information in relation to the identification of a settlement hierarchy. Rather, it focuses on settlements and the need for options for planned growth in major settlements in the LDP's Preferred Options Paper, the need to bring previously developed land forward for re-development to assist in regeneration, creating more attractive environments and reducing the use of greenfield land. It also highlights the importance of protecting existing areas of open space to promote wellbeing through facilitating play and sport.

(d) Review of the Statistical Classification and Delineation of Settlements

2.10 In March 2015 NISRA published its 'Review of the Statistical Classification and Delineation of Settlements' report. Within the review the original population thresholds used in the 2005 publication were initially retained as a starting point for a new classification of settlements table. However following on from the 2011 Census information being released this information was reviewed and updated with some amendments being made to the classifications in terms of thresholds for each tier in the hierarchy. This was deemed appropriate as Northern Ireland's population has increased by approximately 7% between 2001 and 2011 and therefore some of the classifications should be amended accordingly to represent the uplift and these are outlined below.

- Band A – Belfast City
- Band B – Derry City
- Band C – Large Towns with a population of 18,000+
- Band D – Medium Towns with a population between 10,000 and less than 18,000
- Band E – Small Towns with a population between 5,000 and 9,999
- Band F – Intermediate Settlements with a population between 2,500 and 4,999
- Band G – Villages with a population of between 1,000 and 2,449
- Band H – Settlements less than 1,000

3.0 Existing Local Area Plans Context

3.1 The two existing Area Plans were both prepared under the guidance of the RDS and were found to be in general conformity. They remain as the extant development plans for the District until they are replaced by the new LDP. Both plans established a settlement hierarchy upon which future development or growth was to be based. The approach taken in developing the settlement hierarchies within both plans was comparable. A four tier system was adopted within the BNMAP to accommodate Newry City while the ADAP settlement hierarchy consisted of a 3 tier system. Both plans have incorporated similar terminology when describing the different tiers of development.

3.2 With regards to the settlement hierarchy within the BNMAP, Newry was identified as a city, Crossmaglen, Kilkeel, Newtownhamilton and Warrenpoint/Burren were designated as towns while a further 14 villages and 30 small settlements were designated equating to a total of 49 settlements.

3.3 In the ADAP, 3 towns were designated, Ballynahinch, Newcastle and Downpatrick, along with 14 villages and 22 small settlements equating to a total of 39 settlements.

4.0 Settlement Evaluation Methodology

4.1 Each existing settlement has been appraised and evaluated against the 2011 Census data, the six tests of the 'Housing Evaluation Framework', and the 'Hierarchy of Settlements and Related Infrastructure Wheel' as outlined in the RDS, together with the information detailed within the NISRA document 'Review of the Statistical Classification and Delineation of Settlements'. Encompassing all of this information has enabled an overview of the services, facilities, physical infrastructure and environmental characteristics of each settlement to be compiled. To date the evaluation has comprised mainly of desk-top research with further detailed survey work to be completed during the plan process.

4.2 The alignment and evaluation of the extant Area Plan hierarchies has resulted in the proposed reclassification of certain settlements. It is proposed that the majority of settlements will remain unchanged but some locations have experienced change which may justify movement within the hierarchy.

4.3 Following this evaluation a proposed settlement hierarchy has been compiled and included within Appendix 2. Newry City and the main town of Downpatrick are proposed to be located within Tier 1 and to be the locations where development will be focused. The main hubs are then to be supported by the smaller towns, villages and small settlements which have been identified as local centres serving the needs of the rural hinterland. The proposed settlement hierarchy within the LDP therefore contains four tiers with each tier receiving a proportion of development based on their hierarchical position, infrastructure and environmental considerations. The proposed 4 tiers are;

- Tier 1: City and Main town
- Tier 2: Local and Small towns
- Tier 3: Villages
- Tier 4: Small settlements

Tier 1: City and Main Town

4.4 The settlement evaluation has identified and confirmed Tier 1 as Newry City along with Downpatrick as the main town within the District. This corresponds with the RDS in that both settlements have been identified as main hubs based on their level of service provision, potential for employment, population size and other spatial guidance.

4.5 Newry is strategically located on the Belfast-Dublin corridor allowing for future development to consolidate its acknowledged role in the RDS as a Gateway. Downpatrick will remain as the District's main town which reflects its status within the RDS as a main hub located within eastern portion of the District.

Tier 2: Local and Small towns

4.6 The second tier within the hierarchy is local/small towns which takes account of the locally important larger settlements throughout the District. Population size alone should not dictate the position of a settlement in the hierarchy but should be assessed alongside the range of facilities provided within a settlement and the ability to serve the surrounding hinterland. It is also apparent that there is a clear disparity between classifications when some settlements are considered against different criteria detailed within numerous documents including the RDS, the NISRA 'Review of the Statistical Classification and Delineation of Settlements' (March 2015). An example of where this is clearly evident is seen in how Newtownhamilton is considered within these documents. Within the NISRA 'Review of the Statistical Classification and Delineation of Settlements' (March 2015) Newtownhamilton falls within Band H – Populations of less than 1,000 while it is designated as a 'town' within the BNMAP 2015.

4.7 As detailed within the associated text within the RDS for the Hierarchy of Settlements and related Infrastructure Wheel it is evident that the settlements which provide a broad range of facilities have the ability to draw from a significant catchment within their surrounding rural hinterland and this is apparent when considering the aforementioned settlements of Newtownhamilton and Crossmaglen. It is however felt that although these settlements contain a significant number of services their relatively small populations of 800 and 1608 respectively do not justify them being classified as local/small towns. Discussions around these two settlements was held at the Members Workshop in October 2017 and a number of Councillors were in agreement with this proposed reclassification.

4.8 At the Members workshop concerns were also raised with regards to a number of the larger, mainly peripheral villages within the settlement hierarchy which are perceived within the local communities as being 'local towns' due to the large hinterlands that they serve. Therefore taking this into consideration and on further analysis of the service level provision, the population size and the spatial guidance within the RDS it has been recommended that these self-sufficient settlements of Saintfield (3406), Killyleagh (2928), Castlewellan (2792) and Bessbrook (2739) be reclassified to local/small towns.

4.9 By realigning the aforementioned settlements Tier 2 would include 8 settlements ranging in population size from 2739 to 7743. This would therefore create a more streamlined Tier 2 with a significant reduction in the difference of populations between the smallest and largest settlements with the reclassification of Crossmaglen and Newtownhamilton to Tier 3.

Tier 3: Villages

4.10 Alongside the proposed addition of Newtownhamilton and Crossmaglen to the third tier of the hierarchy it is recommended that the majority of villages classified within the previous plans will remain as such within the new LDP. It was however deemed appropriate that a full evaluation of each settlement was undertaken at this

time within the plan process again involving the level of service provision alongside population thresholds.

4.11 Villages are generally quite sustainable and self-sufficient, characterised by a cluster of services such as a primary school, local shop(s), varied community facilities and a play area clustered around a well-defined core with the ability to serve the immediate community. Within the proposed hierarchy this tier has seen a reduction in the number of villages from 28 to 22 due to a number being reclassified to either a small/local town or small settlement.

4.12 It is however apparent that for the 22 settlements remaining as villages, the range of facilities can vary significantly between one village and another. This may be partially due to the rationalisation of services alongside the way in which many services are accessed which in turn has led to a number of facilities such as banks and post offices which were traditionally associated with villages being no longer found in a considerable number of settlements.

4.13 Some of the larger settlements currently designated as villages are urban in character, accommodating important local businesses and provide a range of shops and services whilst others act more so as 'dormitory' settlements. This may be partially due to their proximity to the larger settlements, an example of which may include Annsborough where the majority of services and facilities are located in the larger neighbouring settlement of Castlewellan.

4.14 At the Members workshops debate surrounded whether Rostrevor should remain as a village or be reclassified to a local/small town due to its comparable population with Saintfield, Killyleagh, Castlewellan and Bessbrook. Whilst it is accepted that Rostrevor has a population similar to that of the four settlements proposed to be reclassified to local/small towns, it is considered that the settlement population associated with a settlement in isolation should not dictate the positions of a settlement within the hierarchy.

4.15 Rostrevor is located approximately 1.6 km to the east of Warrenpoint town which provides a full range of services and facilities and benefits from strong transportation links including Warrenpoint Harbour. It is believed that Rostrevor's close proximity to this long established town together with topographical issues, its identification as a significant flood risk area and a significant number of environmental designations may have played a part in stifling Rostrevor's growth. It is felt that the reclassification of Rostrevor maybe to the detriment of both settlements by creating additional competition between the settlements in attracting new businesses and services. It should also be considered as to whether increasing the status of Rostrevor to a town may be to the detriment of the area as a tourist destination by diluting the environmental setting associated with Kilbroney Park and the Fairy Glen. For these reasons it is therefore recommended that Rostrevor remains within the village tier of the hierarchy.

4.16 The proposed settlement hierarchy has also highlighted the possibility of separating Warrenpoint and Burren as their current coalescence has raised concerns

with members of the local community whilst also being highlighted at the Members workshops. In spatial terms Burren is located approximately 0.9km from Warrenpoint with sporadic development located at a number of junctions/nodes between these settlements. Although these settlements are currently separated by a considerable amount of land it should be noted that this may diminish over time as a significant portion of these lands have been zoned within the BNMAP for housing lands.

4.17 Consideration must also be given to the service provision and population figures of Burren on its own merits and whether it is more in keeping with a suburban extension to the larger urban area of Warrenpoint. Currently Burren has both a population (estimated) and service provision which would warrant its classification as a village. It should however be highlighted that separating these settlements may have certain repercussions for Burren with regards to the proportional share of housing it may be allocated within the LDP in terms of future growth.

Tier 4: Small settlements

4.18 The fourth tier on the proposed settlement hierarchy is defined as 'small settlements'. These are normally characterised by a small grouping of dwellings displaying an obvious sense of cohesion with one or more community facilities.

4.19 It is apparent that there are a significant number of small settlements within the District with the proposed new hierarchy identifying 56. Within this small settlement grouping, 15 are identified as multi-nodal with services and populations separated across of number of clusters of development while 13 of the existing small settlements have populations of less than 50 with a number appearing to have no service provision included within them.

4.20 Taking into account the level of service provision, the population size and the spatial guidance with the RDS the following settlements have been recommended to be reclassified from villages to small settlements.

- Ballyholland (664)
- The Spa (583)
- Shrigley (437)
- Attical (171)

4.21 Ballyholland consists mainly of housing developments with very limited local supporting services. Its limited facilities and pattern of development has therefore eroded any village character that may have previously existed. It is acknowledged that Ballyholland does however have a distinct identity and there remains an important wedge of land separating it from Newry. It is therefore recommended that Ballyholland be reclassified to a small settlement.

4.22 Similar to Ballyholland, The Spa consists of a considerable number of housing developments, which may be associated with it being located within the Belfast

commuter belt. It does however have a limited service provision and would appear to rely heavily on its larger neighbouring settlement of Ballynahinch for a number of key services.

4.23 Shrigley, is located approximately 0.3km to the north-west of Killyleagh and relies heavily on this neighbouring settlement for the majority of all basic services requirements. It is recognised that the settlement contains a play park and a number of industrial units but does not contain any of the facilities or services such as a local convenience store to allow it to remain self-sufficient and for these reasons it is suggested that Shrigley be reclassified to a small settlement.

4.24 It is accepted that these settlements may have experienced proportionately high levels of housing growth but when they are assessed against the evaluation tools, there appears to be limited service provision within the settlements instead they continue to rely heavily on neighbouring settlements for the majority of services and facilities.

4.25 This review has also suggested that Attical be reclassified as a small settlement within the settlement hierarchy. Within the 2011 Census, Attical was detailed as having a population of 171 leaving it as the smallest village within the existing hierarchy. It is therefore recommended that due to its limited population, which appears to be more comparable with the settlements within the small settlement tier, together with the fact that it does not meet all of the criteria necessary for a village under the RDS Settlement Hierarchy Classification that it should be reclassified to a small settlement.

4.26 Spatial analysis and recent development locations have also queried the merits of certain settlements remaining within the hierarchy. Within this process consideration should also be given as to whether it may be appropriate to declassify some of the existing small settlements and assess whether their inclusion within the hierarchy is offering any additional benefits to the locality.

4.27 Within the existing Area Plans 15 of the 52 small settlements are multi-nodal, 10 being located within the BNMAP portion and 5 within the ADAP section of the District. This style of settlement pattern may lead to development being sparsely located across a considerable distance within the open countryside and therefore further work will be undertaken to assess whether all these nodes warrant retention within the small settlement tier. It must also be taken into consideration that removal of a settlement from the hierarchy into the open countryside would represent a significant change in the policy direction.

4.28 Through the remit of the LDP there is also the opportunity to designate new small settlements if deemed necessary or appropriate. This will allow the alignment of standards across the District while providing enhanced development opportunities in the rural area. A criteria has been developed to consider whether it may be appropriate to designate any additional settlements and this is detailed below:

- A concentration of dwellings
- Social and/or commercial facilities and services
- Nucleated form and sense of place
- Distance to and from adjacent settlements
- Awareness of a community identity

4.29 The following locations were identified through a District wide map search, local knowledge and a desktop exercise which has identified established groupings of development with some form of associated community/social facilities. These locations have been included to allow further discussion as to whether they should be considered as potential new small settlements when assessed against the criteria detailed above. It should be noted that this list may not be exhaustive.

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| - Annadorn | - Aughlisnafin |
| - Ballinran | - Ballsmill |
| - Ballyedmond | - Bishops Court |
| - Cabra | - Clontafleece |
| - Corcheechy Road/Donaghmore | - Cranfield |
| - Edendariff | - Gargarry |
| - Lisnalee/Kingsmill | - Lissummon |
| - Listooder | - Minerstown |
| - Mountainhouse | - New Line |
| - Raffrey | - Saint Pious Hill |
| - Shinn | - Tullydonnell |

4.30 There will be further opportunity for other representations to be submitted, now and also at POP consultation stage in the LDP process.

Dispersed Rural Communities

4.31 While reference is made to Dispersed Rural Communities (DRCs) within the Planning Policy Statement 21 – Sustainable Development in the Countryside the SPPS has not made any reference to them. There are currently no DRCs within the District and there is no requirement for the Council to designate these within the LDP.

5.0 Conclusion

5.1 The alignment and strategic evaluation of the extant Area Plan hierarchies has resulted in the proposed reclassification of certain settlements. The majority of settlements are proposed to remain unchanged but some locations have experienced either positive or negative development growth which may justify movement within the hierarchy. Within this assessment it is evident that settlements often provide a greater or lesser range of services than the core population may dictate and it was therefore not appropriate to consider 'urban' populations alone in classifying settlements within the District; it is also necessary to consider the level of services provided and the wider population of the rural hinterlands they serve.

5.2 Of the 88 settlements within the existing hierarchy the majority of settlements have remained within their existing classification. The evaluation confirms Newry City and Downpatrick as the main hubs within the District taking into account their level of service provision, potential for growth and population size. Other recommendations proposed within the settlement hierarchy are for:

- Crossmaglen and Newtownhamilton to be reclassified from Tier 2 to Tier 3,
- Saintfield, Killyleagh, Castewellan, Bessbrook to be reclassified from Tier 3 to Tier 2,
- Ballyholland, The Spa, Shrigley, and Attical to be reclassified from Tier 3 to Tier 4,
- Warrenpoint/Burren to be considered as separate settlements within the settlement hierarchy, with Warrenpoint retained in Tier 2, and Burren included in Tier 3.

Other locations for assessment as potential new small settlements will be considered as part of the evaluation exercise.

5.3 The settlement evaluation exercise and the proposed settlement hierarchy will inform the preparation of the LDP.

Appendix A: Existing Settlement Hierarchy and Populations as per current Area Plans.

Settlement Hierarchy	Newry & Mourne Settlement Populations			
Tier 1 –City & Main Town	Newry (26,893)			
	Downpatrick (10,874)			
Tier 2 - Local & Small Towns	Newcastle (7,743)	Ballynahinch (5,715)		
	Warrenpoint/Burren (8,721)	Crossmaglen (1,608)		
	Kilkeel (6,521)	Newtownhamilton (800)		
Tier 3 - Villages	Saintfield (3,406)	Drumaness (1,344)	Forkhill (498)	
	Killyleagh (2,928)	Camlough (1,081)	Strangford (495)	
	Castlewellan (2,792)	Mayobridge (1,068)	Jonesborough (465)	
	Rostrevor (2,788)	Killough (843)	Ballykinlar (447)	
	Bessbrook (2,739)	Meigh (770)	Shrigley (437)	
	Crossgar (1,892)	Annsborough (767)	Cullyhanna (326)	
	Annalong (1,796)	Ballyholland (664)	Clough (279)	
	Hilltown (1,698)	Mullaghbane (596)	Attical (171)	
	Ardglass (1,643)	The Spa (583)		
	Dundrum (1,551)	Ballymartin (506)		
	Tier 4 - Small Settlements	Darragh Cross (490)	Maghera (211)	Saul (97)
		Newtowncloghue (457)	Burrenbridge (199)	Ballymadeerfy (69)
Ballyhornan (369)		Kilclief (191)	Coney Island (57)	
Belleek (375)		Clonvaraghan (186)	Altnamacken ***	
Whitecross (352)		Drumaroad (183)	Ballymoyer ***	
Drumintee (337)		Lislea (180)	Ballyward ***	
Kilcoo (335)		Ballynoe (169)	Carrickinab ***	
Sheeptown (333)		Glassdrumman, Co Armagh (165)	Chapelton ***	
Annacloy (318)		Dunnaval/Ballyardle (161)	Dechomet ***	
Raholp (315)		Glen (147)	Derryboye ***	
Kilmore (310)		Longstone (147)	Dorsey ***	
Bryansford (306)		Barnmeen (136)	Drumaghliis ***	
Lurganare (294)		Ballyalton (132)	Finnis ***	
Seaforde (263)		Mullaghglass (125)	Greencastle ***	
Cullaville (232)		Leitrim (121)	Jerretspass ***	
Killowen (230)		Silverbridge (112)	Tullyherron ***	
Creggan (227)		Glassdrumman/Mullartown (110)		
Loughinisland (218)		Kileen (108)		

Source: Headcount and Household Estimates for Settlements in Northern Ireland published 26/03/2015 <http://www.nisra.gov.uk/census/2011/results/settlements.html>

*** Output has been confined to those settlements exceeding the thresholds of 20 or more households and 50 or more usual residents.

Total Population of Newry, Mourne & Down District Council area 2011 - 171,533

Total Population of Down District Council area 2011 - 69,731

Total Population of Newry & Mourne District Council area 2011 - 99,480

Source: (Northern Ireland Census 2011 Key Statistics Summary Report September 2014)

Appendix B: Proposed Settlement Hierarchy and Populations for NMD District.

Settlement Hierarchy	Newry & Mourne Settlement Populations		
Tier 1 –City & Main Town	Newry (26,893)		
	Downpatrick (10,874)		
Tier 2 - Local & Small Towns	Newcastle (7,743)		
	Warrenpoint (7,475)		
	Kilkeel (6,521)		
	Ballynahinch (5,715)		
	Saintfield (3,406)		
	Killyleagh (2,928)		
	Castlewellan (2,792)		
	Bessbrook (2,739)		
Tier 3 - Villages	Rostrevor (2,788)	Mayobridge (1,068)	Ballykinler (447)
	Crossgar (1,892)	Killough (843)	Cullyhanna (326)
	Annalong (1,796)	Newtownhamilton (800)	Clough (279)
	Hilltown (1,698)	Meigh (770)	
	Ardglass (1,643)	Annsborough (767)	
	Crossmaglen (1,608)	Mullaghbane (596)	
	Dundrum (1,551)	Ballymartin (506)	
	Drumaness (1,344)	Forkhill (498)	
	Burren (1,246)	Strangford (495)	
	Camlough (1,081)	Jonesborough (465)	
Tier 4 - Small Settlements	Ballyholland (664)	Creggan (227)	Glassdrumman/Mulartown (110)
	The Spa (583)	Loughinisland (218)	Kileen (108)
	Darragh Cross (490)	Maghera (211)	Saul (97)
	Newtowncloghoge (457)	Burrenbridge (199)	Ballymaderrfy (69)
	Shrigley (437)	Kilclief (191)	Coney Island (57)
	Ballyhornan (369)	Clonvaraghan (186)	Altnamacken ***
	Belleek (375)	Drumroad (183)	Ballymoyer***
	Whitecross (352)	Lislea (180)	Ballyward ***
	Drumintee (337)	Attical (171)	Carrickinab ***
	Kilcoo (335)	Ballynoe (169)	Chapeltown***
		Glassdrumman, Co. Armagh (165)	Dechomet ***
	Sheeptown (333)		
	Annacloy (318)	Dunnaval/Ballyardle (161)	Derryboye ***
	Raholp (315)	Glen (147)	Dorsey ***
	Kilmore (310)	Longstone (147)	Drumaghlis***
	Bryansford (306)	Barnmeen (136)	Finnis***
	Lurganare(294)	Ballyalton (132)	Greencastle ***
	Seaforde (263)	Mullaghglass(125)	Jerrettspass ***
	Cullaville (232)	Leitrim (121)	Tullyherron***
	Killowen (230)	Silverbridge (112)	

Source: Same as Appendix A

Key	
	Reclassification of settlement to higher tier
	Reclassification of settlement to lower tier

