**Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Section 75 Policy Screening Report**

# **Quarterly Report April - June 2021**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Policy** | **Details of policy** | **Screening Outcome** |
| Mournes Gateway Project  | The Mourne Mountains Gateway Project is a Tourism Project within the Belfast Region City Deal, aimed at enhancing Northern Ireland’s tourism offering and which seeks to redefine the visitor destination experience associated with the Mourne Mountains and coastline.The project proposal is for the establishment of the Thomas Quarry Visitor Centre in the Mournes, with a Gondola/cable car uplift that will commence in Donard Park. It will be a world class international tourist attraction which will provide sustainable enhancements for access from Newcastle town into the Mournes. The project aims to catalyse the sustainable tourism industry in Northern Ireland. The vision of the Gateway Project is to: “Deliver a world-class visitor attraction that will support the sustainable regional growth of tourism in Northern Ireland and will help to position Newry, Mourne and Down as one of the premier tourism destinations on the Island of Ireland. The project will provide major enhancements to the visitor experience in and around the Mournes, whilst protecting and enhancing the natural heritage and habitat of the region”.The project will deliver: 1. Increased access to the Mournes by all abilities & age groups
2. The project will contribute to the Belfast Region City Deal’s ambition to deliver a step change in the region’s economic prosperity, help achieve a 15-year programme of inclusive growth, an increase of £470m Gross Value Added and create up to 20,000 new and better jobs, accessible to people from all communities.
3. The estimated economic benefits of the project include:
	1. 226 direct, indirect and induced jobs
	2. 251 construction job
	3. £5.1m annual GVA by 2032, £74.6m GVA over 30 years
 | No EQIA considered necessary |
| Draft Policy on Management of Bonfires on Council Land  | The aim of the policy is to provide clear guidance to ensure the safe management of bonfires held on Council land. The objectives of the policy are:* To manage bonfires on Council land through the implementation of a Bonfire Management Framework which sets out the conditions for safe, well managed bonfires and related events.
* To enable the safe and respectful celebration of cultural expression while adhering to health and safety guidance.
* To engage with communities to encourage and promote education and awareness, specifically amongst young people, of the health and safety risks and good relations matters associated with bonfires.
* To safeguard, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and wellbeing of contractors, visitors and members of the public accessing Council land in accordance with statutory requirements.
 | No EQIA considered necessary |
| Proposed Children Memorial Gardens Landscape Scheme | This relates to a notice of motion acknowledging the importance of small memory gardens where families can visit for reflection, remember their deceased children and find solace in a purpose built peaceful setting, other than a cemetery.The memory garden will be a simple construct, a small corner in one of our public spaces surrounded by planting for privacy and containing nothing more than a couple of benches with a few symbolic flowers and plants.The proposal is to establish two memory gardens, one within each health trust area, at Ross Monument, Rostrevor and The Quoil, Downpatrick. | No EQIA considered necessary |