

Plean Forbartha Áitiúla 2035 **Dréacht-Straitéis an Phlean** **Local Development Plan 2035** **Draft Plan Strategy**

Forlíonadh Teicniúla 10 – Forbairt Mianra
Meitheamh 2025

Technical Supplement 10 – Minerals
Development

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1.0 Introduction

Purpose of this document

- 1.1 The purpose of this technical supplement is to bring together the evidence base that has been used to inform the preparation of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council's Local Development Plan (LDP) draft Plan Strategy. It forms one of the subjects based technical supplements that should be read alongside the draft Plan Strategy, to provide justification for the policies proposed therein.
- 1.2 This builds upon LDP Paper 11: Mineral Developments (February 2017), which provides baseline information for Minerals Development and formed part of the evidence base for the Preferred Options Paper (POP).
- 1.3 This technical supplement provides an overview of the regional and local policy context (and legislative background) to mineral development, the district profile of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council in respect of the natural underground resource and the role mineral activities have within the Northern Ireland and local economies.

Planning and Natural Underground Resources, Contaminated Land and Geohazards

- 1.4 A mineral in geological terms includes metalliferous deposits such as copper, lead, zinc, gold and silver, as well as non-metalliferous deposits such as halite (rock salt), potash and barytes. For planning purposes, the term mineral is used more broadly and includes common rock types such as basalt, sandstone, greywacke, shale and limestone, as they are usually extracted by quarrying of the land surface. Sand and gravel are neither rock nor mineral but are treated as minerals for planning purposes. A further category of raw materials often included as minerals for planning purposes are 'energy-minerals' which include coal, lignite and peat. Hydrocarbons, which include oil and gas, are not strictly minerals because they are not solids but are also included within minerals in planning policy¹.
- 1.5 Minerals are an important natural resource which are principally needed for the construction, manufacturing and energy industries. An adequate and available supply of minerals is therefore needed to support sustainable economic growth of the Northern Ireland economy and within local council areas. The minerals industry largely encompasses existing quarries, as well as a range of other products, such as oil and gas, lignite, sand and gravel, salt, base metals, precious metals, road aggregate and building stone.

¹ <https://www.economy-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/economy/DfE%20Minerals%20Information%20paper.pdf>

- 1.6 The extraction of minerals is essential to maintain the ability of the Northern Ireland economy to sustain and grow and to maintain the quality of life of its residents. Minerals may only be worked where they are found, and this can present a number of challenges, for example, where the resources are located in areas valued for their landscape and/or environmental significance. The operational activities associated with extraction, the transportation of minerals and the legacy of abandoned workings can have a detrimental impact on local communities.
- 1.7 Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area has a diverse geology relative to other council areas in Northern Ireland, which lends itself to a wide range of potential natural resources. The early Palaeozoic marine sediments of the Longford-Down terrane dominate the area, providing an extensive sandstone resource which is exploited by a number of quarry operators across Counties Down and Armagh. These sediments are intruded by the late Palaeozoic igneous rocks of the Newry Igneous Complex and the younger Palaeogene granites of the Mourne Mountains. Extensive Palaeogene dyke swarms (narrow near-vertical sheets of hard basalt type rocks), are also found across the district. The bedrock is covered by variable thicknesses of glacial deposits the most common of which is glacial till (a mixture of stiff clay containing rock fragments of varying sizes). Sand and gravel deposits are restricted to the southern and eastern sides of the Mourne in County Down and peat is found as discrete pockets associated with the drumlin fields found in County Down, to the north and east of the igneous intrusions.

Land Instability

- 1.8 Northern Ireland is generally composed of stable ground with some areas deemed to have variable degrees of land instability that are, for example, related to landslides, abandoned mines and compressible ground.
- 1.9 Landslide occurrences within the district are not significant, however, do occur in areas of steep sided slopes. The district contains a total of 51 shafts, adits and abandoned mine workings associated with lead and copper extraction, operating up to the end of the nineteenth century.² These mines workings are generally small scale, shallow in nature and predominantly composes of vertical shafts.

² DfC Minerals and Petroleum Branch - <https://www.economy-ni.gov.uk/publications/newry-mourne-and-down-district-council-minerals-development-dfe-response>

2.0 Policy Context

Regional Policy Context

Programme for Government 2024-2027 'Our Plan: Doing What Matters Most'

- 2.1 The NI Executive has set out its priorities in the Programme for Government (PfG) 2024-2027. The programme lists the immediate priorities which the government will work to throughout the duration of the mandate. Growing a globally competitive and sustainable economy is one of the priorities alongside the high level action which seeks to deliver an improved road network. The minerals industry has an important role to play in growing the economy and the development of road infrastructure.

Regional Development Strategy (RDS) 2035

- 2.2 The RDS does not contain any specific aims or policies relating to minerals. Rather, SFG13 recognises the need to sustain rural communities living in smaller settlements and the open countryside. It also recognises that there are wide variations across Northern Ireland in terms of economic, social and environmental characteristics of rural areas, and there is a need for local development to reflect these regional differences. The RDS notes approaches should be sensitive to local needs and environmental issues, including the ability of landscapes to absorb development.

Strategic Planning Policy Statement 2015 (SPPS)

- 2.3 The SPPS recognises that minerals, including valuable minerals, are an important natural resource and their responsible exploitation is supported by Government. It also recognises that the minerals industry makes an essential contribution to the economy and to our quality of life, providing primary minerals for construction, such as sand, gravel and crushed rock, and is a valued provider of jobs and employment, particularly in rural areas (para 6.148).
- 2.4 The SPPS acknowledges that there are a number of challenges arising from minerals development that fall to be addressed through the planning system. There can be significant adverse impacts on the environment and on the amenity and wellbeing of people living in proximity to operational mineral sites. The restoration of sites under completion of work associated with the extraction and processing of materials is another challenge (para 6.150).
- 2.5 The regional strategic objectives for mineral development, as outlined in para 6.152, are to:

- Facilitate sustainable minerals development through balancing the need for specific mineral development proposals against the need to safeguard the environment;
- Minimise the impacts of mineral development on local communities, landscape quality, built and natural heritage, and the water environment; and
- Secure the sustainable and safe restoration, including the appropriate re-use of mineral sites, at the earliest opportunity.

2.6 The SPPS also suggests that LDPs should, where appropriate, identify areas suitable for minerals development within the plan area. These areas will normally include areas of mineral reserves where exploitation is likely to have the least environmental and amenity impacts, as well as offering good accessibility to the strategic transport network.

2.7 There will not be a presumption against the exploitation of minerals which are particularly valuable to the economy. However, the SPPS also makes clear that in considering a proposal where the site is within a statutory policy area, due weight will be given to the reason for the statutory zoning.

2.8 The SPPS also states that there should be a presumption against unconventional hydrocarbon extraction otherwise known as 'fracking' until Government is satisfied that there is sufficient and robust evidence on all environmental impacts.

Planning Strategy for Rural Northern Ireland

2.9 In the absence of a planning policy statement for mineral development, current operational planning policies for minerals are set out in Planning Strategy for Rural Northern Ireland (PSRNI) published in 1993.

2.10 The concept of sustainability is a notable element of the strategy; however, it does recognise the difficulties this can pose in the context of mineral development. It recommends that the rate of consumption of finite minerals should be reduced by encouraging the use of renewable and recycled alternatives wherever this is economically viable and practical. The PSRNI recognises the need to facilitate mineral development while also affording sufficient protection to the environment. This is carried forward into the SPPS.

2.11 The PSNRI contains eight policies to guide the development of mineral workings:

Table 2.1: Policy guide for the development of mineral workings

Policy MIN 1: Environmental Protection	To assess the need for the mineral resource against the need to protect and conserve the environment.
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Policy MIN 2: Visual Implications	To have regard to the visual implications of mineral extraction.
Policy MIN 3: Areas of Constraint	To identify areas of constraint on mineral development.
Policy MIN 4: Valuable Minerals	Applications to exploit minerals, limited in occurrence or with some uncommon or valuable property, will be considered on their merits.
Policy MIN 5: Mineral Reserves	Surface development, which would prejudice future exploitation of valuable mineral reserves, will not be permitted.
Policy MIN 6: Safety and Amenity	To have particular regard to the safety and amenity of the occupants of developments in close proximity to mineral workings.
Policy MIN 7: Traffic	To take account of the safety and convenience of road users and the amenity of persons living on roads close to the site of the proposed operations.
Policy MIN 8: Restoration	To require mineral workings to be restored at the earliest opportunity.

Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 21 – Sustainable Development in the Countryside

- 2.12 As most mineral development takes place in the open countryside, policies contained within PPS21 are therefore a consideration when assessing such proposals.

Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 2 – Natural Heritage

- 2.13 The range of policies set out in PPS2 fall to be considered when assessing applications for minerals development falling within areas designated for their natural heritage, biodiversity or landscape importance.
- 2.14 Policy NH5 is of particular relevance with regard to proposals for commercial peat extraction, as active peatland is itself treated as a recognised habitat and feature of natural heritage importance.

Local Policy Context Existing Area Plans

- 2.15 The existing development plans that apply to Newry, Mourne and Down are:
- Ards and Down Area Plan 2015
 - Banbridge, Newry and Mourne Area Plan 2015

Banbridge/Newry and Mourne Area Plan 2015

- 2.16 The Banbridge/Newry and Mourne Area Plan 2015 (BNMAP) sets the context for minerals within the Plan Area, stating they comprise of Greywacke/gritstones which are quarried at a number of locations from Cullyhanna in the southwest to Edentrillick outside Dromore in the northeast. All supplies of sand and gravel in the area originate from the superficial deposits located along the coastal lowlands south of the Mourne Mountains.
- 2.17 The BNMAP further elaborate on the origins of these materials and destination ranging from direct use in the construction and roads industry or for use as a range of secondary purposes such as ready-use concrete production, tarmacadam or concrete blocks.
- 2.18 In formulating its mineral policies for Banbridge and Newry and Mourne Districts, it is stated the Department sought to balance the need for extraction in the districts against the need to protect and conserve the environment. As a result, the extraction of sand and gravel minerals in environmentally sensitive areas is stated to be controlled in the public interest.
- 2.19 It should be noted that unlike the Ards and Down Area Plan 2015, the BNMAP does not contain any designated Areas of Constraint on Mineral Development (ACDM).

Ards and Down Area Plan 2015

- 2.20 The Ards and Down Area Plan 2015 (ADAP) sets the context for mineral development within the Plan Area by providing a summary of the nature of minerals and quarrying activity within the Plan Area.
- 2.21 Notable mineral resources within ADAP comprise sandstone/gritstones which are quarried at a number of locations between Newtownards and Ballynahinch, granite which is extracted from one small quarry in the Mournes, and clay, used in the manufacture of bricks, which has been extracted outside Killough.
- 2.22 The ADAP also provides detail on the origin of minerals within the district and the level of extraction at the time of the Plan's writing and destination of such materials. This Plan also details how small-scale sand extraction has been a problem in coastal areas such as Tyrella and highlights the need to control the extraction of sand/gravel from within the coastal zone in order to ensure no irreparable damage to ecology, shoreline stability and the environmental amenity of such areas.

Policy MIN 1 – Hydrocarbon exploration

- 2.23 Whilst no Hydrocarbons were identified at the time of the Plan's adoption, the Plan does not rule out potential future exploration. This policy does not

operate a presumption against their exploitation in any part of the Plan area, including Areas of Constraint on Mineral Developments. Rather, applications will be treated on their individual merits having regard to impact of the specific development on nearby residents, and sites or features designated for their scientific, landscape or heritage interests.

Designation COU 8 – Areas of Constraint on Mineral Developments

- 2.24 Areas of Constraint on Mineral Developments (ACMD) have been identified in order to safeguard the most valuable and vulnerable areas of the environment within the ADAP plan area from the detrimental effects of mineral extraction. Their identification has taken account of nature conservation interests, the archaeological and built heritage, landscape quality and character as identified in the Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 2000, visual prominence, amenity value, geological interest and beaches in the coastal zone.
- 2.25 Designated Areas of Constraint on Mineral Developments also include, in view of their nature conservation importance and/or scientific value:
- ASSIs, ASIs, Ramsar site, SPAs, SACs, Nature Reserves and Strangford Lough Marine Nature Reserve.
- 2.26 Proposals for the development of mineral resources within sites of important nature and conservation importance as identified in the ADAP are currently determined in accordance with prevailing regional policy, which is set out in Policy MIN 3 of 'A Planning Strategy for Rural Northern Ireland'.

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council's Corporate Plan 2024-2027

- 2.27 The Corporate Plan sets out the Council's vision, mission and values. There are eight strategic objectives contained within the Plan, which are aligned to the five themes of the Community Plan. These are:
- Support the continued growth and development of our local economy.
 - Improve the health and wellbeing of everyone in the district.
 - Protect and enhance our environment to secure a sustainable future.
 - Support regenerative tourism opportunities which promote our culture, heritage and environment.
 - Empowering communities to play an active part in civic life.
 - Develop and revitalise our district.
 - Deliver sustainable services.
 - Represent the voice of the district with our partners.

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council's Community Plan 2030 'Living Well Together'

- 2.28 The Community Plan is the overarching strategic plan for integrated community planning and delivering of services in Newry, Mourne and Down.

It provides a framework for the strategies and plans the Council will put in place to contribute towards the outcomes in the community plan and it is based on a detailed analysis of future risks and opportunities for Newry, Mourne and Down.

- 2.29 Whilst not specifically referencing Minerals Development, there are still linkages to the Council's Community Planning outcomes, in terms of the contribution of the minerals industry to economic investment, level of jobs and earnings and the level of rich, diverse, natural environment.

Regeneration and Economic Development Strategy 2020-2025

- 2.30 A stable supply of minerals is critical to maintaining a diverse range of jobs and to provide a local supply of construction materials for major building and infrastructure projects. Major infrastructure and regeneration projects within the district include the regeneration of Newry City Centre (new Civic Centre, theatre and conference facility, Grade A office accommodation and public realm improvements) and the Southern Relief Road, a new strategic road linking the A1 Newry bypass with the A2 Warrenpoint dual carriageway.

Cross Boundary Policy Context

- 2.31 In considering the local policy context, it is important to take account of the three neighbouring councils in Northern Ireland and the two in the Republic of Ireland. The table below offers a short summary of each Council's position with regards to mineral development.

Table 2.2: Cross Boundary Policy Context

Neighbouring Council	Position
Ards and North Down Borough Council	<p>Published its Preferred Options Paper in March 2019.</p> <p><u>Key Issue 31 Safeguarding Minerals</u></p> <p>Preferred Option 31c: Adopt a policy led approach to deal with applications for Minerals Development based on their merits, with the identification of protection areas for existing quarries to allow appropriate expansion.</p> <p>The approach in Option 31a, by designating Mineral Extraction Areas, would seek to protect known mineral resources from sterilisation as a result of surface development. In addition, the designation of Areas of Constraint on Minerals Developments would protect the Borough's precious landscapes; however, the legacy North Down area of the Borough currently has no</p>

	<p>designated ACMDs and the Council has no evidence to suggest the absence of this layer of protection has resulted in any significant adverse impact on the landscape.</p>
<p>Armagh, Banbridge Craigavon Council</p>	<p>Published its Preferred Options Paper in March 2018.</p> <p><u>Key Issue ECN 11: Supporting sustainable minerals development</u></p> <p>Preferred Option ECN 11A - Support a balanced approach between the need for mineral resources and the need to protect the environment and other interests of acknowledged importance, in line with existing policies and further regional direction, by designating Mineral Safeguarding Zones (MSZs) and Areas of Constraint on Minerals Development (ACMDs) where appropriate.</p> <p>This preferred approach is in line with existing policies (PSRNI, MIN 1-8 and PSU 10) and, of all 3 options, it best reflects regional direction in the SPPS, in terms of striking an appropriate balance between the need for minerals extraction and the need to protect and conserve the environment. It encourages a locally tailored approach that supports the local supply chain long-term, but in a manner that is sustainable and that minimises negative impact on local communities.</p>
<p>Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council</p>	<p>Published its Local Development Plan's Plan Strategy in September 2023.</p> <p><u>Strategic Policy 13 Mineral Development</u></p> <p>The Plan will support development proposals that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) facilitate a sufficient supply of minerals through balancing the need for the mineral development against the need to safeguard the environment, taking account of appropriate designations b) allow for careful exploitation of minerals c) provide for the sustainable and safe restoration and reuse of mineral sites.

	<p>Council's operational policies which support the strategic policy are outlined below:</p> <p>MD1 Environmental Protection</p> <p>MD2 Visual Impact</p> <p>MD3 Areas of Mineral Constraint</p> <p>MD4 Valuable Minerals</p> <p>MD5 Unconventional Hydrocarbon Extraction</p> <p>MD6 Mineral Safeguarding Areas</p> <p>MD7 Safety and Amenity</p> <p>MD8 Traffic Implications</p> <p>MD9 Restoration Proposals</p>
Louth County Council	<p>Local Development Plan – Louth County Development Plan 2021-2027 was adopted by council members in September 2021.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ENV 41: To ensure that all existing and proposed quarries comply with the requirements of the document Quarry and Ancillary Facilities – Guidelines for Planning Authorities, (DECLG) 2004 or any replacement document and to promote a whole of life plan for an extractive location, including a post-closure remediation plan. • ENV 42: To facilitate adequate supplies of aggregate resources to meet the future growth needs of the County and the wider region while addressing key environmental, traffic and social impacts and details of rehabilitation. • ENV43: To prevent development that would hinder the efficient or effective recovery of the County's aggregate resources. • ENV44: To ensure that extractive developments do not adversely impact on environmental quality, including water quality, tourism value, existing infrastructure, residential amenity or the amenity value of neighbouring lands • ENV 45: To ensure that the extraction of stone and mineral materials is carried out in a manner that is sustainable and does not significantly impact on the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Existing and proposed European Sites;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Other areas of importance for the conservation of flora and fauna; - Areas of significant archaeological potential; - In the vicinity of a recorded monument; - County Geological Site (CGS); - Sensitive Landscapes; - World Heritage Sites; or - Tentative World Heritage Sites. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ENV 46: To ensure that developments associated with the extractive industry minimise adverse impacts on the road network in the area and that the full cost of road improvements, including during operations and at time of closure which were necessary to facilitate such development are borne by the extractive industry. • ENV47: To refer any application for development to the Geological Survey of Ireland, where it relates to mineral extraction, quarrying developments/extensions and any development involving excavations greater than 50,000m³ in volume or one hectare in area.
Monaghan County Council	<p>Prepared Draft Monaghan County Development Plan 2025-2031.</p> <p>The objectives for minerals development are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extractive Industry Objectives MEO 1: To promote development involving the extraction of mineral reserves and their associated processes, where the Planning Authority is satisfied that any such development will be carried out in a sustainable manner that does not adversely impact on the environment or on other land uses. Consideration in this regard shall be given to the impact of the development on the local economy. <p>MEO 2: To safeguard all identified locations of major mineral deposits in the County for future extraction.</p>

- 2.32 The Council has engaged and responded to neighbouring Council's POPs and draft or final Plan Strategies (where published). The Council is represented on a number of working groups to discuss cross-boundary issues, including the Minerals Working Group and more broadly at the Development Plan Working Group.
- 2.33 The Minerals Working Group (established in 2018) membership consists of the Department for the Economy, Department for Infrastructure and local councils. A Terms of Reference was drawn up and agreed by the members. A number of objectives were set out in the ToR and included the following:
- Short term objective: Agree baseline data and a methodology for annual reporting;
 - Medium term objectives: To collect data on aggregate supplies, assess demand for aggregates and consider prospecting for high value and industrial minerals;
 - Long term objectives: Further consider regulatory and planning controls overall areas of mineral exploration and extraction. Working Group to act as sounding board for emerging policy on minerals development.
- 2.34 Meetings of the Minerals Working Group took place in June 2018, September 2019 and November 2022. Further engagement from central government has been sought by Councils through the Development Plan Working Group to ensure Councils are fully up to date on any emerging considerations or findings of DfE.
- 2.35 The draft Plan Strategy was presented to neighbouring councils in a workshop on 9 April 2025, where representatives from the three neighbouring councils in the north were represented. A similar presentation was held online with the two neighbouring councils in Louth and Monaghan Councils on 8th April. This involved discussion on the proposed Plan objectives, Strategic Policies and new operational policies, along with the consideration of shared cross-boundary issues. Further detail is outlined in the Neighbouring Council Consultation Report (see supporting documents to the draft Plan Strategy on the Council's website).
- 2.36 In consideration of neighbouring Council's development plan documents and discussions held with their officials, it is the opinion of the Council that no conflict is apparent with our draft Plan Strategy insofar as it is related to minerals development.

3.0 Preferred Options Paper

- 3.1 Publication of the Preferred Options Paper (POP) in June 2018 represented the Council's formal commencement of work on the preparation of a new local development plan (LDP) for the district. The purpose of the POP was to stimulate debate and encourage feedback to inform the development of the

LDP. The POP set out the proposed vision and strategic objectives for the LDP along with 24 key strategic issues. For each key strategic issue, a range of options were set out and the Council's preferred option identified.

3.2 As part of the process of preparing the POP a Preliminary Review of Operational Planning Policy was carried out which drew upon operational experience and changes in regional planning policy to identify issues to be addressed through the preparation of the LDP.

3.3 The POP identified one key issue in relation to minerals development:

Key Issue 14 Minerals Development

Options for Mineral Development:

3.4 Option 1 Adopt a policy led approach in relation to Minerals Development.

3.5 Option 2 As per Option 1 but in addition adopt Areas of Constraint on Minerals Development.

3.6 Option 3 As per Option 1 but also identify Mineral Safeguarding Zones.

3.7 Option 4 As per Option 1 but also include a combination of both Areas of Constraint on Minerals Development and Mineral Safeguarding Zones.

3.8 In order to determine the true extent of viable mineral resource deposits within the District, a mapping exercise was carried out prior to the publication of the POP to remove 'unworkable' areas (presence of infrastructure or water features which restrict or make impossible the exploitation of these resources) from resource packages, as well as removing areas considered too small to be economically viable due to the 'fracturing' of resources by surface development or watercourses.

Preferred Option for Minerals Development

3.9 The Council's Preferred Option was Option 3:

3.10 'As per Option 1 but also identify Mineral Safeguarding Zones.

3.11 This would use evidence from the British Geological Survey maps to help to protect mineral resources which are of economic or conservation value and seek to ensure that workable mineral resources are not sterilised by other surface development which would prejudice future exploitation'.

3.12 Justification for this choice, as outlined in the POP was as follows: 'Option 3 would afford protection to the district's landscapes through existing minerals policies and associated mitigation measures while also ensuring a supply of raw materials from within the district for present and future need'.

- 3.13 The majority of public respondents on this issue (9 submissions (60%)) agreed with the Council's preferred option to adopt a policy led approach and identify Mineral Safeguarding Zones (MSZs). However, the National Trust did not support the identification of MSZs, whilst both the RSPB and Woodland Trust supported the identification of MSZs and Areas of Constraint on Mineral Development.
- 3.14 The majority of statutory consultees on this issue (8 submissions (57%)) made no comment on the options provided. Those that did comment disagreed (5 submissions (36%)) or had mixed views (1 submission (7%)). DfI Strategic Planning suggested that the Council should be satisfied that the evidence base supported only the introduction of MSZs.

4.0 District Profile

The Importance of Minerals to the NI Economy

- 4.1 The Minerals Development Act (Northern Ireland) 1969, vested the ownership of minerals in the Department for the Economy (DfE) and gives the Department the power to grant licenses for exploration and mining of minerals. The Act does not apply to all minerals, aggregates (as detailed above) are excluded from its provisions while gold and silver belong to the Crown Estate and are administered by the Crown Estate Commissioners. The Petroleum Production Act (Northern Ireland) 1964 vested ownership of petroleum (oil and gas) in Northern Ireland in the department and gave it the power to grant licences 'to search for and bore for and get petroleum'.
- 4.2 The Mineral Products sector is a major industry in Northern Ireland. According to the Mineral Products Association Northern Ireland (MPA NI), there are around 160 quarries, mines and sand pits in Northern Ireland. The construction industry, which contributes around 10% of the region's GDP, is completely reliant on mineral products³.
- 4.3 The MPA NI circulated an information brochure to Councils in 2016 which highlighted that Northern Ireland was an important source of high-quality aggregates for use in road surfaces across the UK and Europe, as well as producing high-quality limestone and chalk. The turnover of the quarry industry in Northern Ireland at that time was approximately £650 million - equivalent to approximately 2.75 % of the region's total GDP.
- 4.4 According to the MPA NI annual demand for aggregates in Northern Ireland is approximately 24 million tonnes. These mineral products support:
- The building of new homes
 - School building and maintenance programmes
 - Hospital building and maintenance programmes

³ [MPANI publish industry information for local councillors | MPA NI](#)

- Maintenance of road and rail network
 - Improvements to water and sewage services
 - The upgrading and maintenance of our airports
 - Supplies of special sands and aggregates for gardens and parks.
- 4.5 Mineral development predominantly takes place in rural areas with 75% of the total number of quarries and pits located in areas of targeted social need, thus providing employment opportunities in these areas.
- 4.6 Under Article 18(1) of the Quarries (Northern Ireland) Order 1983 a return is required each year to the Department for the Economy (DfE) in respect of quarries operating in Northern Ireland ⁴. The latest Annual Mineral Statement available is for 2023⁵. Reports are available for every year since 2001.

Overview of Minerals in Newry, Mourne and Down

- 4.7 The district displays a diverse geology relative to other council areas in Northern Ireland which lends itself to a range of potential natural resources. The district has an extensive underlying sandstone resource with harder igneous and metaigneous rock intrusions such as Mourne Mountain granite and the granite and basalt rock layers that underlie the Slieve Gullion area. Sand and gravel deposits are restricted to the southern and eastern sides of the Mournes, and peat is found in discrete pockets associated with the drumlin fields of County Down.
- 4.8 Energy minerals such as coal and lignite are not present within the Council area. Small deposits of peat are scattered throughout the district but are not significant when compared to other areas of NI. There is no potential for oil and gas resources within the Council area.
- 4.9 The district's high specification sandstone has hard wearing and skid resistant properties which make it ideally suited to road construction. Sandstone extracted within the district is used across NI and has potential to contribute to NI's European export market. Aggregate extraction is likely to remain an important industry in the Council area.
- 4.10 South Armagh has a history of metallic mineral mining dating back to the 1800's with copper, lead and iron being targeted by small scale operations. More recently mineral prospecting licences have been issued by the Department for the Economy in respect of an area from Newtownhamilton south to the border with Monaghan and Louth CC. Prospecting is ongoing in this area but to date no economic deposits has been identified.

⁴ [Minerals statements | Department for the Economy](#)

⁵ [Annual Minerals Statements | Department for the Economy](#)

Total Mineral Production

- 4.11 Information regarding the relative output of Northern Ireland council areas in relation to various types of minerals are taken from DfE Annual Mineral Statement 2023. Northern Ireland as a whole produced 10.53 million tonnes of minerals annually in 2023.
- 4.12 Figures are approximate and may not reflect the total accuracy of the current position. 189 quarries were contacted: 65 valid responses received from active quarries. Figures are combined for reasons of data anonymity.

Table 4.1: Total Mineral Production Northern Ireland

Sandstone	Quantity Produced (Tonnes)	Value (£)
Newry, Mourne and Down Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon	820,345	5,569,998.00

Sand and Gravel	Quantity Produced (Tonnes)	Value (£)
Newry, Mourne and Down	20,584	201,655.00
Other*	Quantity Produced (Tonnes)	Value (£)
Mid and East Antrim Fermanagh and Omagh Newry, Mourne and Down Derry City and Strabane	1,021,686	17,264,050.00

Source: DfE Annual Mineral Statement 2023

*Production figures for rock salt, chalk, dolomite, fireclay and granite have been combined into 'Other' to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

Quarrying

- 4.13 The most up-to-date information held by the Council indicates that there are 22 active quarries within the district. A full table of these is available at Appendix A.

UNESCO Global Geopark

- 4.14 UNESCO Global Geoparks are areas of international geological significance that are holistically managed for sustainable tourism, education and conservation.

- 4.15 The Mourne Gullion Strangford UNESCO Global Geopark comprises three distinct regions, each with unique characteristics significant for sustainable tourism, education and scientific research. The Geopark's land boundary follows the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council administrative boundary. The coastal boundary encompasses the Marine Protected Areas (MPA), including Murlough Bay, Strangford Lough and Carlingford Lough MPAs.
- 4.16 The IGGP Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks state the parks must respect local and national laws relating to the protection of geological heritage (such as ASSIs and SACs), but it also made clear that the UNESCO Global Geopark designation should not place a restriction on economic development.

5.0 Consultee and Councillor Engagement

- 5.1 In order to meet the requirements set out in the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 relating to the need for the Plan Strategy to take account of the RDS, other policy and guidance issued by the Department and other relevant government strategies and plans, the Council has engaged with key consultees representing relevant central government departments and agencies. This engagement was undertaken in three parts over the period June 2022 – June 2023. Stakeholders were provided with LDP Plan Strategy strategies and policies and afforded the opportunity to review and provide written comment.
- 5.2 Elected Members have been engaged in the LDP Plan Strategy from the POP stage. An initial preparatory studies paper on Mineral Development was presented to Council in February 2017. This paper's purpose was to provide Council with an overview of matters relating to Mineral Developments and implications for land use in the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Area.
- 5.3 The draft Plan Strategy Minerals Development policies and designations were subsequently presented to Members of the Council's Planning Committee on the 22 September 2021.
- 5.4 The policies presented to Members included a proposed change to the preferred approach in respect of Areas of Constraint on Mineral Development (ACMD) as set out in the Council's Preferred Options Paper. Following consideration of representations made to the Council's POP and further assessment of the PAC comments at the BNMAP 2015 Public Examination it was concluded that the quality of the landscape throughout the district would support the case for a policy restricting mineral operations in certain instances. It was considered that this revised approach, to designate ACMDs needed to be undertaken in a targeted manner rather than the blanket approach of the previous Area Plans and should take into account the nature

of existing mineral operations and allow for mineral developments in limited circumstances.

- 5.5 The draft policies and associated designations were approved by Members with no amendments.
- 5.6 Finalised draft policies and designations were brought back to Members at a Special Committee on the 31 March 2025, these were approved and the decision ratified by full Council on the 6 May 2025.

6.0 Draft Plan Strategy Approach

- 6.1 In bringing forward minerals policy for the district the Council has been mindful to ensure that changes to operational policy, as currently set out in A Planning Strategy for Rural Northern Ireland, are aligned with regional policy requirements for minerals development currently contained within the SPPS.
- 6.2 The Council will seek to balance the need for a particular mineral working proposal against the need to protect and conserve the environment, taking account of all environmental, economic and other considerations. The draft plan strategy outlines the Council's aim to minimise and mitigate the environmental impact of mineral development. Although it is not possible to quantify the precise amount of aggregate required over the Plan period, there will be a need to ensure that supplies of raw materials are provided in pace with any economic growth that occurs in the Council area and other parts of Northern Ireland and potentially beyond.
- 6.3 The aim of the LDP is to adopt a Plan led approach that will identify Mineral Safeguarding Areas and Areas of Constraint on Mineral Development. This approach is considered to be in line with the SPPS objective to "facilitate sustainable minerals development through balancing the need for specific minerals development proposals against the need to safeguard the environment.
- 6.4 The Ards and Down Area Plan 2015 designated an Area of Constraint on Mineral Development (ACMD) however no ACMD was brought forward in the Banbridge, Newry and Mourne Area Plan. In order to apply a consist approach to the management of minerals development across the district it was considered appropriate to carry out a review of the existing ACMD and consider the extent to which this should be amended. This review was informed by the recommendations contained with the Council's Landscape Character Review regarding the sensitivity of the landscape to minerals development. The Landscape Character Review (LCR) highlighted that the landscape of the Strangford Lough and Drumlins (Character Area 94) and North Lecale Lowland Hills (Character Area 93) would generally be very susceptible to intrusion from large scale minerals development, particularly where this affected the setting to Strangford Lough, its coastal towns, estate

landscape, views to Lecale Hills and small-scale hills. Within LCA 94 the extent of the existing ACMD was reduced and aligned with the AONB boundary while the ACMD within LCA93 was retained in full. The open character of the Ballyquintin and Lecale Coastal Plain (Character Area 92) was highlighted within the LCR and concluded that it would be susceptible to intrusion from minerals development. The LCR indicated that the landscape would however have some capacity further inland, to absorb development. In light of this it was considered appropriate to reduce the extent of the ACMD to align with the coastal AONB boundary. The LCR highlighted that the Tyrella Coast and Dunes Character Area (86) would be highly sensitive to any level of quarrying and so the existing ACMD was retained in full for this area.

- 6.5 The existing ACMD designation covered a portion of the Slieve Croob uplands and the Mourne. Given the sensitivity of the district's upland landscapes, it was considered appropriate to extend the ACMD designation to align with the Special Countryside Area designation for Slieve Croob, the Mourne and Ring of Gullion. The LCR indicated that for both the Mourne Rugged Uplands (75) and Slieve Croob Rugged Uplands (87) any minerals development would be likely to be highly intrusive in these open and visually exposed landscapes. The ACMD designation was aligned with the SCA covering the 5 upland peaks of the Ring of Gullion. This approach reflected the sensitivity of this area and the fact that any quarry development on the slopes of Slieve Gullion or those of the outer ring hills was likely to be highly prominent.
- 6.6 The identification of Mineral Safeguarding Areas requires an evidence base which sets out the mineral supply and demand requirements within a Council's district. As highlighted in Section 3 above the Department for the Economy produce annual Minerals Return Statements, however these provide only a limited picture of the supply position. Whilst the DfE return statements contain data on the tonnage extracted and its value, the rate of return by mineral operators has historically been low. It is considered that a clearer understanding of the supply and demand is required to assist in the identification of Mineral Safeguarding Areas (MSA). In light of this Council considers that it is not currently possible to identify MSAs at draft Plan Strategy stage. Council will continue to work with statutory partners and the minerals industry with a view to reviewing the position again at LPP stage. As highlighted previously a cross-council Working Group was established in 2018 to assist in the development of minerals planning across Northern Ireland.
- 6.7 In regard to minerals which are of particular value to the economy; the draft Plan Strategy aligns with the SPPS, in adopting a generally positive approach to facilitating ongoing exploration activities. The district is however home to some of Northern Ireland's most exceptional upland and coastal landscapes where the quality of the landscape and unique amenity value is such that development should only be permitted in exceptional circumstances. Within these landscapes extraction of valuable minerals will only be permitted where it is of such national or regional importance as to outweigh any potential detrimental impact on the unique qualities of the landscape or seascape.

- 6.8 As part of the stakeholder engagement with NI Environment Agency on the Natural Heritage policies, NIEA Natural Environment Division stated that a specific policy should be written for peatland to deal with extraction, development and regeneration/restoration. With regard to the extraction of peat they recommended that at the very least there should be a general presumption against peat extraction. A new policy has been introduced within the minerals policy suite which introduces a presumption against commercial peat extraction. In the drafting of this policy the Council has taken account of the Department's draft Peatland Strategy 2022-2040.

7.0 Soundness

- 7.1 The draft Plan Strategy has been prepared to take due regard to meeting the tests of soundness as set out in the DfI Development Plan Practice Note 6: Soundness (Version 2, May 2017). The draft Plan Strategy insofar as it relates to the strategic policies and proposals relating to minerals development and land instability is regarded as sound because it meets the various tests of soundness as summarised below.

Table 7.1: Soundness

Procedural Tests	
P2	The minerals development policies as proposed in Policies MIN1 – MIN 6 have evolved from the Preferred Options Paper (POP) and POP Consultation Report as described in Section 4.0 of this document.
P3	The minerals development policies have been subject to Sustainability Appraisal. Further details are included in the Sustainability Appraisal Report.
Consistency Tests	
C1	The Regional Development Strategy does not provide specific policy aims and objectives for mineral development but recognises the importance of the rural area in offering opportunities for quarrying, rural industries and enterprise at appropriate locations. Section 3.0 demonstrates the importance of the minerals development sector in Newry, Mourne and Down.
C2	The minerals development policies have taken account of Newry, Mourne and Down's Community Plan, particularly in relation to the contribution of the minerals industry to economic investment, level of jobs and earnings, and the level of rich, diverse natural environment available.
C3	The minerals development policies have taken account of the SPPS, particularly paragraph 6.148-6.167 and 6.42 and 6.46. Regard has also been had to PSRNI (Minerals), PPS21

	Sustainable Development in the Countryside and PP2 Natural Heritage.
C4	The minerals development policies have taken appropriate account of the existing development plans relating to minerals development within Newry, Mourne and Down.
Coherence and the effectiveness tests	
CE1	The minerals development policies have taken account of the emerging LDPs of neighbouring Councils, and they are not considered to be in conflict with them.
CE2	The minerals development policies are based on the best available evidence, including consultation with DfE/GSNI.
CE3	The Monitoring Framework within Chapter 7 of the Draft Plan Strategy outlines the following LDP objective in relation to Minerals Development: 7 To protect and sustainably manage the district's natural resources by avoiding impacts on water quality and managing the extraction of mineral reserves.
CE4	Mineral development provision can be reviewed at Plan Review stage, with potential for additional areas to be zoned or existing areas to be de-zoned to take account of changing circumstances. There will be flexibility for the Local Policies Plan to zone and protect specific areas and sites provided this is confirmed sufficiently in advance.

8.0 Evolution of Policies

Table 8.1: Evolution of Policies

Existing Policy	Regional Planning Policy	POP Preferred Option	Comments received to POP	Draft Plan Strategy Policy
MIN 1 Environmental Protection To assess the need for the mineral resource against the need to protect and conserve the environment.	6.158 of the SPPS makes ref to the impact of proposals on all designated sites rather than just particular designations (ASSIs or NNRs) as set out in policy MIN 1.	Not raised as key issue in POP. Preliminary review of Operational Planning Policy (PROPP) - Adopt a policy led approach. Carry forward MIN 1 taking account of the provisions of the SPPS.	DfI Rivers advised that mineral extraction within areas prone to flooding should only be permitted after flood risks from all sources have been identified and adequate measures to manage and mitigate against increase in flood risk are in place. Woodland Trust stated that there was no reflection on the impact of mineral extraction developments on nearby communities, particularly on health outcomes, or the negative impact these developments would have on air quality.	MIN 1 Minerals Development This policy is an amalgamation of PSRNI Policies MIN1,2,7 and 7. The policy lists 6 criteria that proposals must not have an adverse impact on. It states that there will be a presumption against minerals development in Areas of Constraint on Mineral Development (in accordance with Policy MIN2) unless the proposal constitutes an 'exception' as specified in the policy. All proposals must include details relating to the restoration and management of the quarry site (in accordance with Policy MIN7).

MIN 2 Visual Implications To have regard to the visual implications of minerals extraction.		Not raised as key issue in POP. PROPP - Adopt a policy led approach. Carry forward MIN 2 taking account of the provisions of the SPPS.		
MIN 6 Safety and Amenity To have particular regard to the safety and amenity of the occupants of developments in close proximity to mineral workings	6.159 of the SPPS states that proposals for mineral development must have particular regard to the safety and amenity of the occupants of development in close proximity to mineral workings.	Not raised as key issue in POP. PROPP - Adopt a policy led approach. Carry forward MIN 6 taking account of the provisions of the SPPS.		
MIN7 Traffic To take account of the safety and convenience of road users and the amenity of persons living on roads close to the site of proposed operations.	6.159 if the SPPS addresses the safety and amenity of occupants of development in close proximity to mineral workings. This	Not raised as key issue in POP. PROPP - Adopt a policy led approach. Carry forward MIN 7 taking account of the	DfI Roads advised that consideration needed to be given to the suitability of the road network required for the extraction of minerals. They considered that there should be cross reference	

	includes impacts from the transportation of materials. 6.160 of the SPPS highlights that where traffic from a minerals development would prejudice the safety and convenience of road users, planning permission will normally be refused unless the access road and/or road network can be satisfactory improved.	provisions of the SPPS.	to a policy for road safety and traffic progression	
MIN 3 Areas of Constraint To identify Areas of Constraint on Mineral Development.	6.155 of the SPPS states that LDPs should identify areas which should be protected from minerals development because of their intrinsic landscape,	Key Issue 14 Minerals Development Adopt a policy led approach. No Areas of Constraint on Mineral Development would be identified.	DfI Strategic Planning stated that designation of ACMDs along with Mineral Safeguarding Areas was more closely aligned to Strategic Policy within the SPPS. DfC Historic Environment	MIN2: Areas of Constraint The presumption against extraction/processing in ACMDs in the PSRNI MIN3 and the SPPS is carried forward. Within Areas of Constraint on Mineral Development (ACMD) there will

	amenity, scientific, or heritage value.		<p>Division suggested ACMDs should be brought forward. Their designation would ensure alignment with the SPPS to protect heritage assets from inappropriate mineral development.</p> <p>DAERA Natural Environment Division raised concerns that there were no ACMDs within highly sensitive landscapes.</p> <p>Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Council advised they would bring forward a balanced approach.</p> <p>Woodland Trust suggested that ACMDs should be brought forward alongside Mineral Safeguarding Areas.</p> <p>Mourne Heritage Trust suggested that</p>	<p>be a presumption against the granting of planning permission for the extraction and/or processing of minerals, other than those considered to be 'valuable' in accordance with Policy MIN3.</p> <p>A proposal for mineral development (other than those considered valuable) within a designated Area of Constraint on Mineral Development may be granted planning if it meets either of the two exceptional circumstances listed.</p> <p>The on-site processing of excavated material is unlikely to be permitted.</p> <p>The proposed approach as set out in the POP was revised following consideration of POP representations and the</p>
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			<p>ACMDs should be brought forward alongside Mineral Safeguarding Areas. ACMDs should be defined below AONB wide level.</p> <p>National Trust suggested ACMDs should not be designated. Confederation of Community Groups – The Mournes and Slieve Gullion should be protected due to impact on tourism potential.</p> <p>RSPB suggested that ACMDs should be brought forward alongside Mineral Safeguarding Areas. In identifying ACMDs consideration should also be given to including species and habitats most at risk in terms of environmental impact.</p>	requirements of regional policy.
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			<p>Retail NI supported the POP preferred option.</p> <p>Quarry Products Association (NI) were opposed to the current ACMD designation, a policy approach was preferred with applications considered on their merits.</p>	
<p>MIN 4 Valuable Minerals</p> <p>Applications to exploit minerals, limited in occurrence and with some uncommon or valuable property, will be considered on their merits.</p>	<p>6.155 of the SPPS states that LDPs should safeguard mineral resources which are of economic or conservation value, and seek to ensure that workable mineral resources are not sterilised by other surface development which would prejudice future exploitation.</p> <p>6.157 of the SPPS states that</p>	<p>Not raised as key issue in POP.</p> <p>PROPP - Adopt a policy led approach. Carry forward MIN 4 taking account of the provisions of the SPPS.</p>	<p>RSPB stated the LDP should replicate in full the SPPS approach to unconventional hydrocarbon extraction.</p>	<p>MIN3: Valuable Minerals</p> <p>The policy carries forward the thrust of PSRNI MIN4 and the provisions of the SPPS in that there will not be a presumption against exploitation of valuable minerals in any area.</p> <p>The policy indicates that proposals will be permitted where they comply with MIN1.</p> <p>Where the minerals site is within a landscape designated for their landscape quality, nature conservation importance or its historic</p>

	<p>minerals may be discovered which are particularly valuable to the economy and their exploitation may create environmental effects which are particular to the methods of extraction or treatment of that mineral. The SPPS confirms that there will not be a presumption against their exploitation in any area.</p>			<p>environment, a cautious approach will apply with due weight being given to the reason for the designation.</p> <p>Within designated Special Countryside Areas or the Undeveloped Coast permission the policy allows for exploitation where proposals are considered to be of national or regional importance.</p> <p>Hydrocarbons are now accounted for in a new Policy MIN4 following a request from the DfE Minerals Branch that the Council differentiate between the extraction of hydrocarbons and valuable minerals.</p>
				<p>New Policy MIN4: Unconventional Hydrocarbons</p> <p>This new policy distinguishes between conventional and non-conventional extraction methods.</p>

				The policy indicates that the Council will apply a presumption against the unconventional extraction of hydrocarbons their exploitation until there is sufficient and robust evidence on all environmental effects.
<p>MIN 5: Mineral Reserves</p> <p>Surface development which would prejudice future exploitation of valuable mineral reserves will not be permitted.</p>	<p>6.156 of the SPPS states that Councils may also identify areas most suitable for minerals development within the plan area. Such areas will normally include areas of mineral reserves where exploitation is likely to have the least environmental and amenity impacts, as well as offering good accessibility to the</p>	<p>Key Issue 14 Minerals Development</p> <p>Adopt a policy led approach. Carry forward MIN 5 taking account of the provisions of the SPPS and identify Mineral Safeguarding Areas.</p>	<p>SSE Airtricity</p> <p>disagreed with the identification of Mineral Safeguarding Areas and suggested that a policy approach alone should be adopted.</p> <p>National Trust</p> <p>disagreed with the identification of Mineral Safeguarding Areas.</p>	<p>MIN5: Mineral Safeguarding Areas.</p> <p>This policy carries forward the approach set out in PSRNI MIN5 and the provisions of the SPPS. The policy indicates that Mineral Safeguarding Areas (MSAs) may be defined around mineral reserves that are considered to be of economic or conservation importance. Surface development which would prejudice future exploitation of these mineral reserves will not be permitted.</p>

	strategic transport network.			
MIN 1 Environmental Protection Permission for the extraction of peat for sale will only be granted where the proposals are consistent with the protection of boglands valuable to nature conservation interests, and with the protection of landscape quality particularly in Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.	6.158 of the SPPS states that permission for the extraction of peat for sale will only be granted where the proposals are consistent with the protection of boglands valuable to nature conservation interests, and with the protection of landscape quality particularly in AONBs.	Not raised as key issue in POP. PROPP - Adopt a policy led approach. Carry forward MIN 1 in so far as it relates to peat extraction taking account of the provisions of the SPPS.	RSPB recommended that planning permission should not be granted for peat extraction from new or extended sites.	New Policy MIN6 Peat Extraction In line with NIEA Peatland Strategy 2022-2040 the Policy applies a presumption against commercial peat extraction. The policy indicates that exceptions may be allowed where the peatland is already degraded and not reasonably capable of restoration or where it can be demonstrated that peat extraction is linked to a management and restoration plan which will deliver improved peatlands over the longer term.
MIN 8 Restoration To require mineral workings to be restored at the earliest opportunity.	6.161 of the SPPS states applications for the extraction of minerals must include satisfactory restoration proposals. The preferred	Not raised as key issue in POP. PROPP - Adopt a policy led approach. Carry forward MIN 8 taking account of the	RSPB highlighted mineral sites had the potential to enhance biodiversity and provide a public benefit at the end of their working lives	MIN7 Restoration and Aftercare The policy approach of MIN8 and the SPPS is carried forward. Subject to meeting Policy MIN1, all applications for mineral

	<p>types of reclamation and after use depend on a number of factors, including the characteristics of the deposits, nature of excavation, availability of fill material, the surrounding landscape, the needs of the local community and the potential for nature conservation on the site.</p>	<p>provisions of the SPPS.</p>	<p>Matrix Planning/Ret ail NI highlighted that restoration was critical to mitigating the impacts on the landscape in Areas of High Scenic Value and in vulnerable landscapes</p> <p>Mourne Heritage Trust advised that where extraction was allowed conditions for how this is left/restored were important.</p>	<p>development are required to be accompanied by restoration proposals to ensure the appropriate future land use following cessation of minerals extraction and/or processing operations.</p> <p>The policy indicates that restoration proposals should take account of the specific characteristics of the site and its locality and restore and/or enhance the landscape character of the area. Opportunities for enhancing biodiversity, community recreation and access should also be considered as part of the restoration scheme. The policy sets out proposals that must be addressed within a Site Management Plan. A restoration and aftercare bond or other financial provision to</p>
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				<p>ensure full restoration and reinstatement of the site will only be required in certain particular circumstances. Restoration proposals should make use of materials from within the site, wherever practicable.</p>
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9.0 Appendices

Appendix A: Minerals Operators

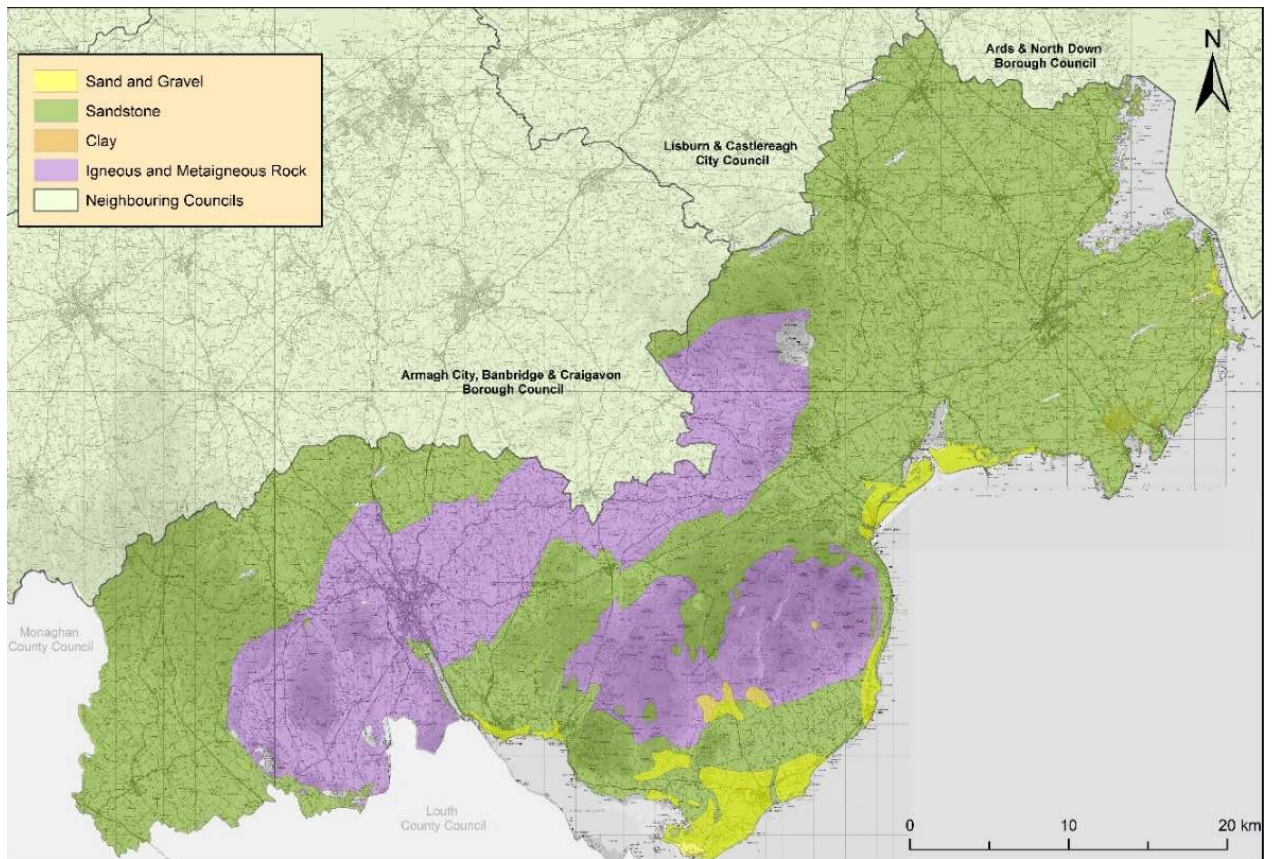
Table A1: Updated Mineral Operators List

Quarry Occupier Name	Quarry Name	Quarry Address	Quarry County	Company House Status
Annett Sand & Gravel Ltd	Newry Road	319 Newry Road Kilkeel	Co. Down	Active
Annett Sand and Gravel Ltd	Cranfield Road	16 Cranfield Road Newry	Co. Down	Active
CES Quarry Products Ltd	Newcastle Road	131a Newcastle Road, Seaforde	Co. Down	Active
Glenvale Granite Ltd		17 Glenvale Road Newry	Co. Down	Active
J Patterson & Son Ltd		SW of 27 Ballynahatten Road Kilkeel	Co. Down	Active
James Perry & Sons, Edendariff Quarry, Perry Quarry Products		Edendariff Quarry, 112 Drumsnade Road, Seaforde, Ballynahinch BT24 8NS Ballynahinch	Co. Down	Active
Leestone Sand & Gravel Ltd		9 Leestone Road, Kilkeel	Co. Down	Active
Northstone (NI) Ltd	Glass Drummod Quarry	Glass Drummond Quarry, Ballynahinch	Co. Down	Active
J Patterson & Son Ltd		27 Ballynahatten Road, Kilkeel, Co. Down, BT34 4LG (Office) KILKEEL	Co. Down	Active
Peter Fitzpatrick Ltd.	Leod Quarries	Leod Quarries, 29 Leode Road Hilltown	Co. Down	Active
(Phelim McParland) P McParland Ltd	Knockanarney Quarry	Knockanarney Quarry, 20 Barr Hill, Jerrettspass	Co. Down	Active
Shanlieve Stone Ltd		17 Glenvale Road Newry	Co. Down	Active
Swan Rock Quarries		15 Ballsmill road Crossmaglen, Newry BT35 9EE	Co. Armagh	Active

T & C Patterson Ltd	T&C Patterson Ltd	3 Cranfield Road, Kilkeel	Co. Down	Active
TH Moore Contracts Ltd		15 Cullyhanna Road, Newtownhamilton	Co. Armagh	Active
CES Quarry Product Ltd	The Quarries	The Quarries, Belfast Road, Ballynahinch	Co. Down	Active
CES Quarry Products - Saintfield Quarry	Doran's Rock	124 Crossgar Road, Saintfield	Co. Down	Active
Newell sand & gravel ltd		19 Ballynahatten Rd, Newry BT34 4LG	Co. Down	Active *(Overdue Accounts/Overdue Confirmation Statement)
Clady Quarries Plant & Hire Ltd		Fathom Line, Newry BT35 8QN	Co. Armagh	Active
J Morgan and Sons Mayobridge Ltd		49 Leode Road, Hilltown, Newry BT34 5TJ	Co. Down	Active
Clady Quarries, Warrenpoint Road, Newry		92- 2PR, 94 Warrenpoint Rd, Newry	Co. Down	Active
Shaughan Quarries Limited		16 Shaughan Rd, Belleeks, Newry BT35 7PF	Co. Armagh	Active

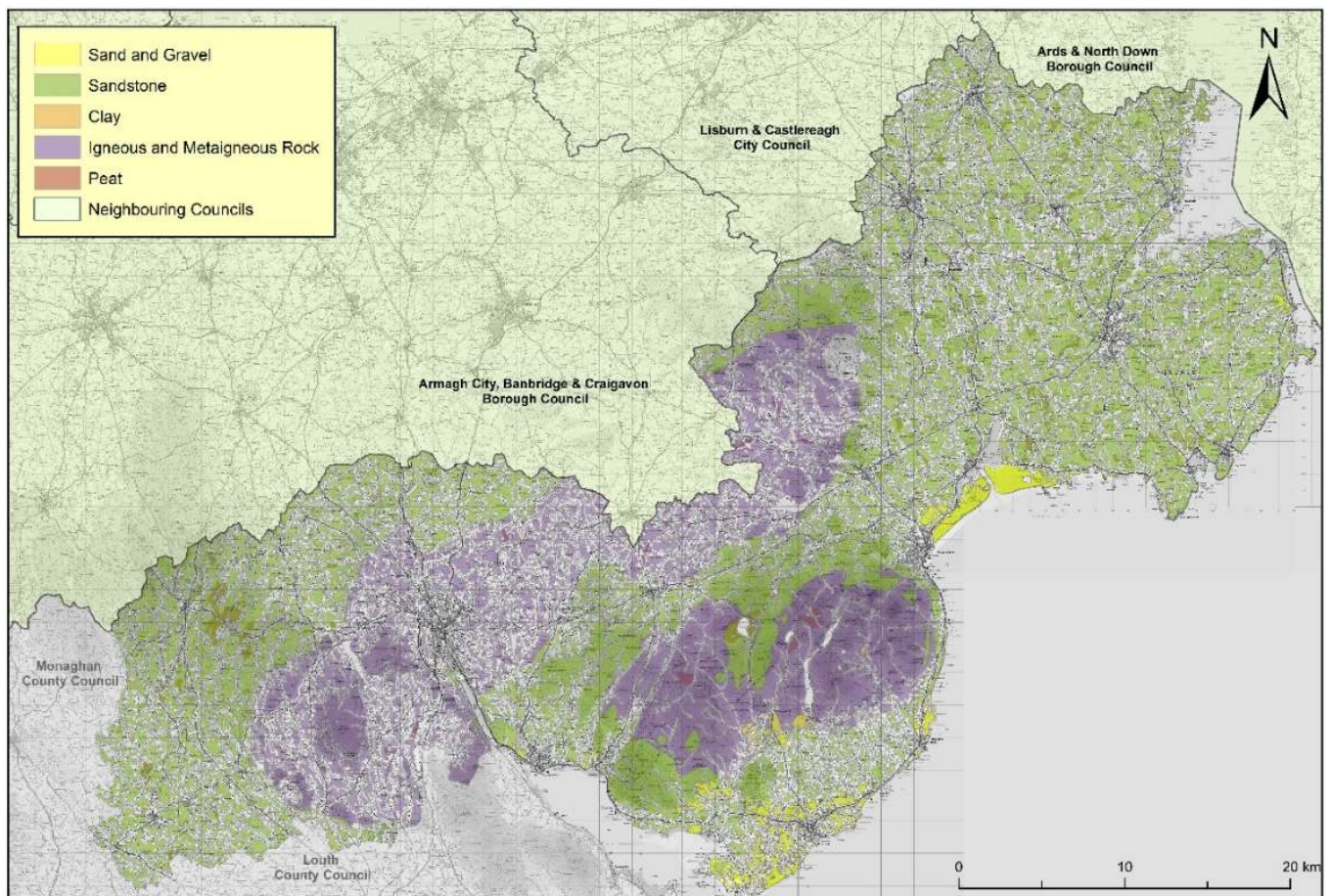
Appendix B: Minerals Distribution Maps

Map B1: Distribution of mineral resources across the district



Source: DfE Consultation Newry, Mourne and Down LDP

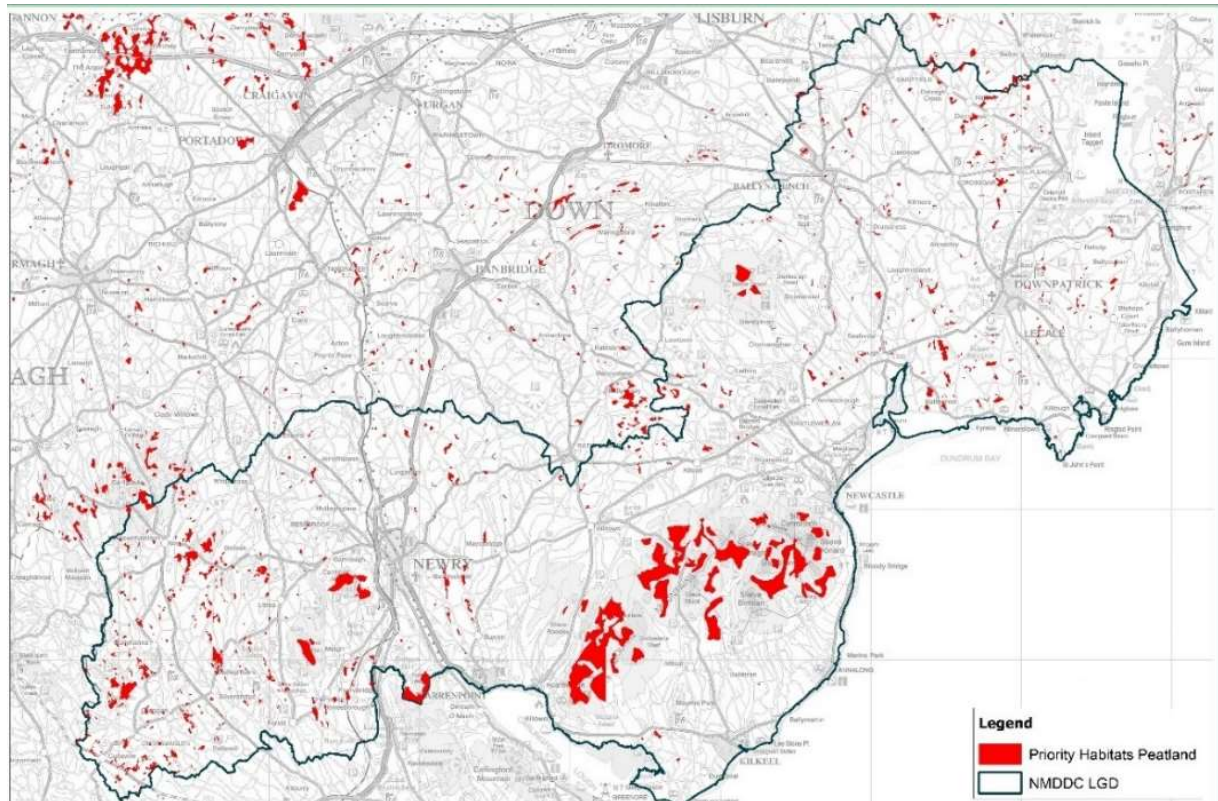
Map B2: Mineral resources with surface development and water features removed



Source: DfE Consultation Newry, Mourne and Down LDP

Appendix C: Peat Resources

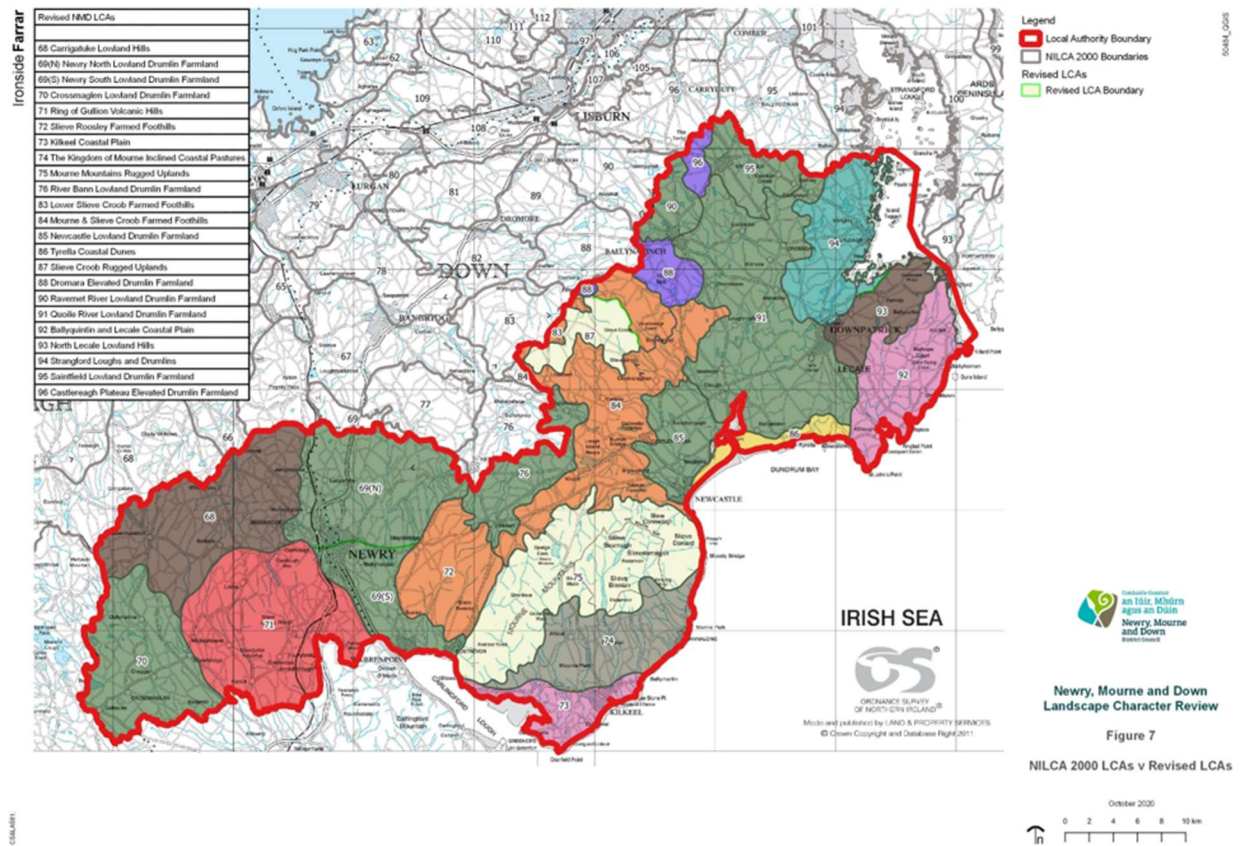
Map C1: Peat Resource Map



Source: DAERA

Appendix D: Landscape Character Areas

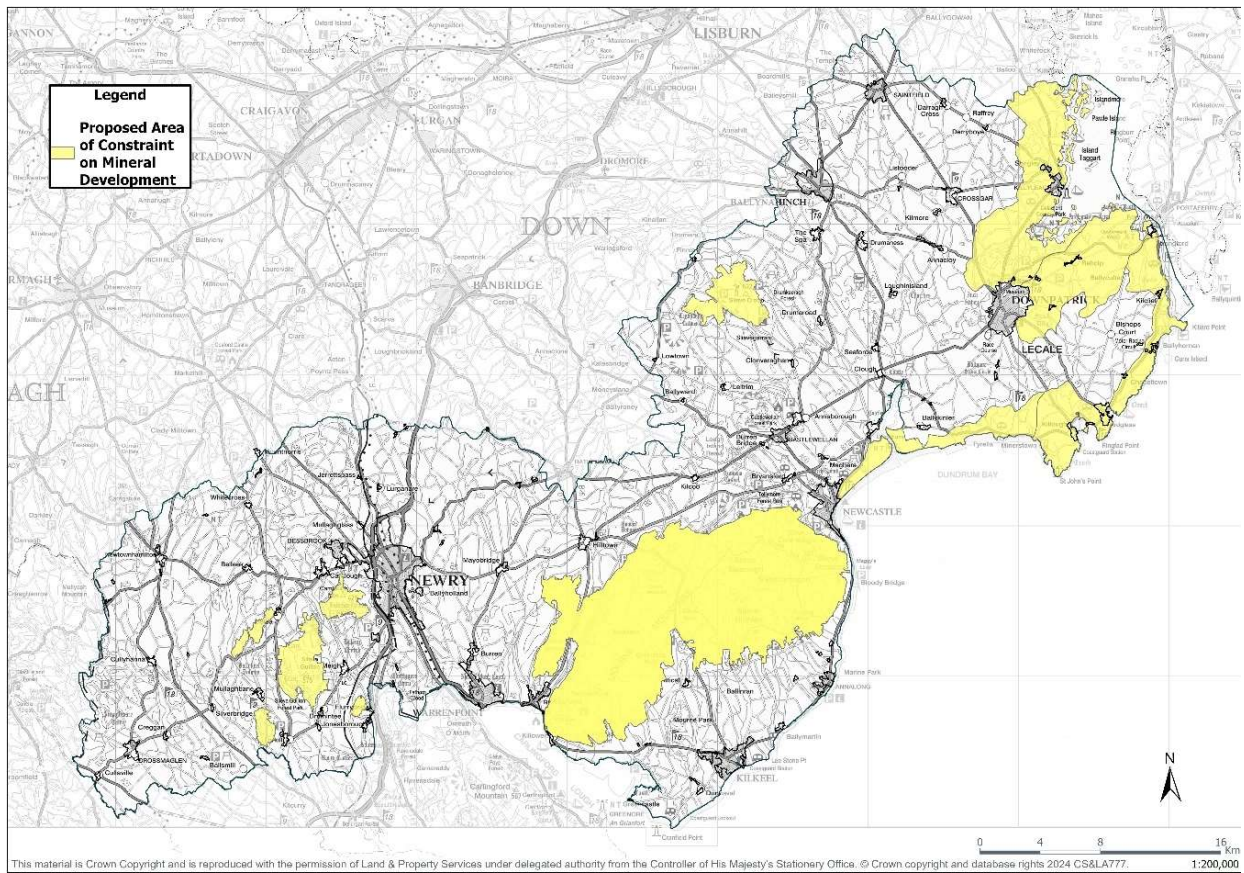
Map D1: Landscape Character Areas Map



Source: Map Extract from LCA Review, see Technical Supplement 7 Countryside Assessment

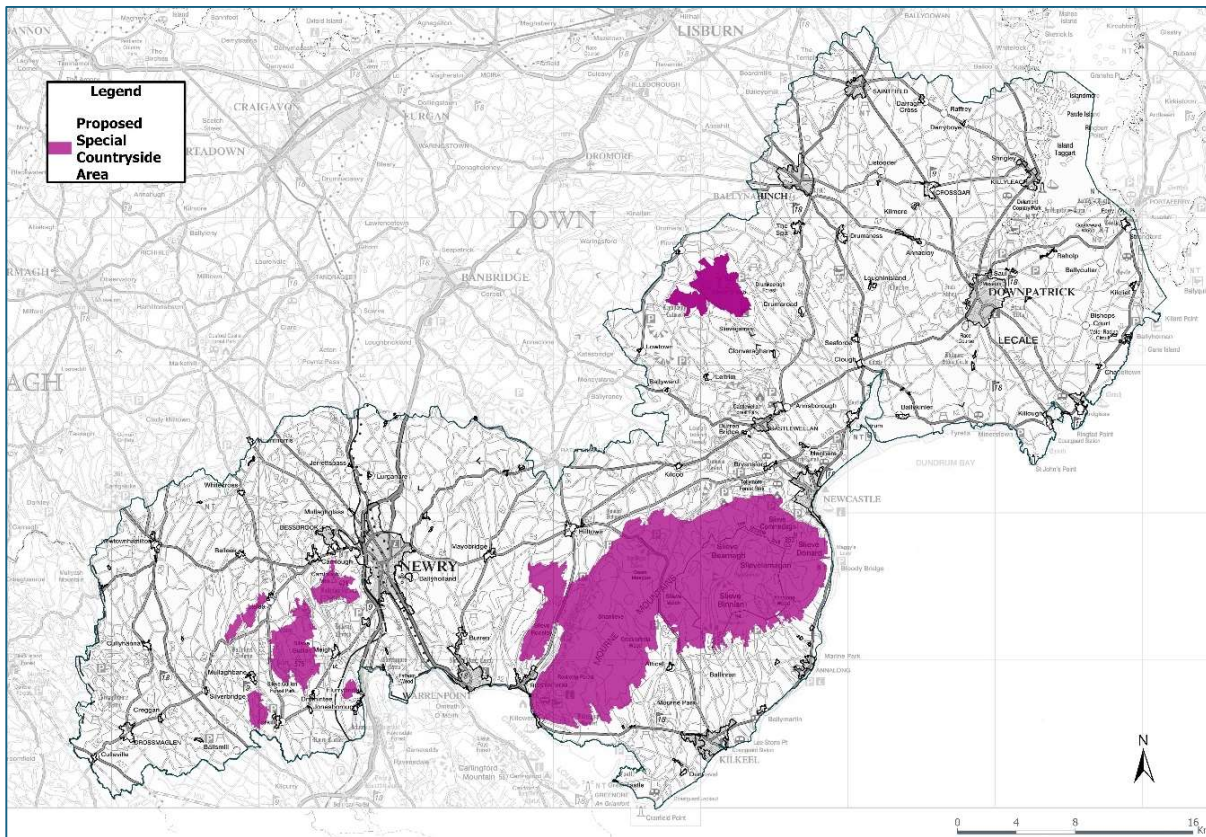
Appendix E: Proposed Areas of Constraint on Mineral Development

Map E1: Proposed Areas of Constraint on Mineral Development



Appendix F: Proposed Special Countryside Areas

Map F1: Proposed Special Countryside Areas



0330 137 4000
info@nmandd.org
www.newrymournedown.org

 facebook.com/nmdcouncil

 x.com/nmdcouncil

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

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



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