



Rural Needs Impact Assessment of Local Development Plan 2030 – Draft Plan Strategy

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Comhairle Ceantair
Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster
District Council

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Background

This document is the Rural Needs Impact Assessment (RNIA) of the Mid Ulster District Council Local Development Plan Draft Plan Strategy (DPS).

The Plan Strategy is the first stage of the two-stage Local Development Plan (LDP) process. In summary, the Plan Strategy will detail the spatial growth strategy for the district as well as the policy framework for day-to-day decisions for future housing, retail, employment and infrastructure development in the district. It is a spatial representation of the Council's Community Plan. Once adopted by the Council, the Plan Strategy will be followed by the Local Policies Plan (second stage) which provides more detailed policy on the local allocation of land for development and designations.

The Rural Needs Act 2016 requires district councils and other public authorities to have due regard to rural needs when developing, adopting, implementing or revising policies, strategies and plans, and when designing and delivering public services. The principles of rural proofing are incorporated in the RNIA process. This RNIA accompanies the Draft Plan Strategy and will be subject to consultation prior to an Independent Examination, possible amendment, and then adoption by the Council.

Prior to publishing the draft Plan Strategy, the Council published a Preferred Options Paper (POP) on 7th November 2016 with a 12 week consultation period running to 27th January 2017. The purpose of the POP was to put forward preferred options and to generate focussed debate on the full range of topics which are included in the draft Plan Strategy. There were over 600 representations received to POP and these representations have all been considered in the formulation of the draft Strategy.

The RNIA has been produced by the Council's LDP Team as they have a working knowledge of the Draft Plan Strategy and it has been undertaken in accordance with the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs' (DAERAs') Rural Needs Act (NI) guidance and template (April 2018).

Summary of Issues

After an intensive period of research and fact finding in the form of evidence position papers, policy reviews, face to face engagements and public consultation (details included below) the RNIA has identified the following social and economic issues as being of particular relevance to the rural area in Mid Ulster:

- Mid Ulster is an overwhelmingly rural district and there is a need to ensure that our rural communities are supported and that appropriate growth is encouraged to enable this;
- This growth can be facilitated via appropriate levels of housing in the rural area, both in the countryside and in the rural settlements, as well as through appropriate rural economic development opportunities;
- The rural area of Mid Ulster has specific circumstances that need to be considered and facilitated in order to support our rural communities. These issues include a high level of self-employment and entrepreneurship, high level of farmers, a vibrant lough-shore commercial fishing community and a significant amount of carers living throughout the entire district;

- Rural parts of Mid Ulster have some of the poorest broadband coverage and mobile data coverage in Northern Ireland and this can contribute to social exclusion and isolation;
- Similarly, some rural parts of Mid Ulster experience travel times to key services like A&E and other acute hospital services which are amongst the highest in Northern Ireland and this also contributes to the perception of rural isolation;
- The underpinning need to protect our unique landscapes and internationally renowned heritage sites from the impact of inappropriate development.

Having identified these issues as being particularly pertinent to the social and economic needs of our rural area, a range of measures have been included in the draft Plan Strategy to attempt to address them. The focus of the draft Plan Strategy, it must be said, is to facilitate growth in the three main hubs, however the DPS also includes measures which are specifically intended to target the needs of the rural area. These measures are expanded on within the body of the RNIA and include:

- The existing criteria which permit development of houses in the countryside have been carried through from existing policy into this draft Strategy;
- Additional criteria allowing for houses in the countryside have also been included;
- Small rural settlements have been allocated additional housing based on their current size in order to sustain them and help the communities to survive;
- Policy on economic development in rural settlements and in the countryside has been made more flexible in order to facilitate growth and to allow the draft Strategy to respond to the specific characteristics of Mid Ulster;
- Main arterial routes will be protected to ensure that journey times to main urban centres are not further reduced;
- Policy which facilitates telecommunications development where it will not have a negative impact on our most unique landscape assets has been included in order to help target the deficiency in broadband and mobile data provision in our rural areas;
- Protective designations have been included at and around our most valuable landscape and environmental assets in order to protect them from the impacts of development. These designations have been kept to a minimum in order to ensure appropriate protection whilst not impacting unduly upon development opportunities which may exist and which the rural area may benefit from.

RURAL NEEDS IMPACT ASSESSMENT

SECTION 1 – DEFINING THE ACTIVITY SUBJECT TO SECTION 1(1) OF THE RURAL NEEDS ACT (NI) 2016.

- 1A Name of Public Authority**
Mid Ulster District Council.
- 1B Please provide a short title, which describes the activity being undertaken by the Public Authority that is subject to the Section 1(1) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016**
Mid Ulster Local Development Plan 2030 – draft Plan Strategy – in accordance with Part 2 of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011.
- 1C Please indicate which category the activity specified in section 1B above relates to**
- Policy
 - Strategy
 - Plan
- 1D Please provide the official title (if any) of the Policy, Strategy, Plan for Public Service document or initiative relating to the category indicated in Section 1C above.**
Mid Ulster Local Development Plan 2030 – draft Plan Strategy (DPS).
- 1E Please provide details of the aims and / or objectives of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service.**
The draft Plan Strategy (DPS) will set out the development framework up until 2030. The DPS aims to enable the delivery of 8,500 new jobs and 11,000 new homes and in doing so also aims to support sustainable development that will deliver economic growth and improve social conditions whilst protecting and enhancing our natural and built environment. In achieving its aims, account will be taken of strategic planning policies, notably those within the Strategic Planning Policy Statement (SPPS).

Approximately 70% of all residents in Mid Ulster, live within the rural area. Therefore, whilst the Strategy undoubtedly focusses on growth of the 3 main hub towns of Dungannon, Cookstown and Magherafelt and the consolidation of the local towns, it also seeks to allow for appropriate development opportunities in the rural area, whilst at the same time, protecting our sensitive environmental areas from inappropriate development. This is important if we are to maintain the vibrancy of the rural area and ensure it continues to be a place where people live and work and also be somewhere which fosters an entrepreneurial spirit which is a distinct characteristic of Mid Ulster. Having said that, it is an inescapable fact that in Mid Ulster, we are custodians of some of the most unique landscapes and internationally important nature conservation sites which must be protected from inappropriate and over dominant development.

The Strategy also seeks to encourage the improvement of infrastructure across the District and to enable better and faster access to key services, for everyone in the District.

In order to achieve these aims, the DPS sets out a growth strategy and a range of operational subject planning policies split into themes of; Social Policies, Economic Policies and Environmental Policies. The strategy will also contain some strategic spatial designations, which are included on the growth map.

SECTION 2 – UNDERSTANDING THE IMPACT OF THE POLICY, STRATEGY, PLAN OR PUBLIC SERVICE.

2A Is the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service likely to impact on rural areas?

Yes

2B Please explain how the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to impact on people in rural areas?

The default definition of “rural” used in Northern Ireland is those settlements with a population of 5,000 or less together with the open countryside. Therefore, everywhere in Mid Ulster outside of the settlements of Dungannon, Cookstown, Magherafelt and Coalisland is classed as being rural. This means that Mid Ulster is a predominantly rural district with approximately 70% of residents being classed as rural dwellers and therefore, the DPS which is the framework for development across the *whole* district will clearly have an impact on what is defined as the rural area.

The DPS aims to deliver on the three main pillars of sustainable development which are the economy, the environment and the improvement of social conditions. In so doing, the impacts that will be had upon the rural area, will be spread across these three themes.

Through its operational subject planning policies on topics such as economic development, minerals, tourism and agriculture & forestry, the DPS will have a direct influence over the granting of planning permission for development which can generate jobs for the rural area and thus help sustain these areas as vibrant communities. Such economic impacts can also lead to social benefits for the rural area which are the result of increased wealth and economic prosperity.

Rural dwellers can feel a sense of isolation and social exclusion given the more remote nature of the locations in which they live. It is therefore vital that the DPS policies are capable of facilitating infrastructure in the rural area including improvement to and protection of road networks as well as telecommunications equipment in order to keep the rural area and its inhabitants feeling “connected” with the larger urban centres where services tend to be located. Access to housing in the rural area is also a contentious social issue and one which can be impacted directly by the provisions of this draft Strategy through the operational subject policies on housing in the countryside as well as housing in settlements.

All of these aforementioned potential benefits for the rural area however, can also be reversed by the DPS and can impact in a negative way, if planning policy is introduced which is too stringent and not flexible enough to provide for an adequate level of rural housing or rural industry for example.

The DPS must at all times balance the social and economic needs of the rural area, as outlined above, with the need to protect and enhance the environment in the rural area. The character of our open countryside is a major asset and in Mid Ulster, we are custodians some of the most unique landscapes in Northern Ireland including the High Sperrins and the Clogher Valley as well as some internationally renowned areas of nature and heritage importance such as Lough Neagh and Lough Beg, Beaghmore and Tullaghoge.

By introducing strategic designations to offer protection to these areas as well as the introduction of criteria based policies designed to ensure protection from some forms of development, the DPS hopes to achieve this balance between allowing appropriate growth in the rural area, whilst also offering the appropriate level of environmental protection. For the most part, these protected areas have been limited to areas which are largely uninhabited and therefore, negative impacts of these designations are not considered to be likely.

2C If the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to impact on people in rural areas differently from people in urban areas, please explain how it is likely to impact on people in rural areas differently.

The draft Plan Strategy will focus development on the three main hub towns of Cookstown, Dungannon and Magherafelt. This will mean that these main urban centres are the main focus for new housing and economic development throughout the lifetime of the Plan and this is line with regional policy contained within the RDS. However, the DPS will also seek to enable appropriate levels of development in the rural areas in order to ensure that these areas are sustained and supported so that they continue to be vibrant and active communities and do not fall into decline.

The DPS and the associated strategic aims and operational subject planning policies will apply across the whole district and will form the basis for development management decisions including those relating to the countryside or rural settlements.

There are some policies which will apply to both the rural area and to urban centres as well. For instance, policies on housing in settlements can apply to the main hub towns as well as to smaller rural settlements and likewise, elements of the suite of policies on retail development can be applied to the rural area as well as to the town centre areas of larger hub towns.

There are also some planning policies which are distinctly rural and will apply exclusively to the rural area. For example, the housing in the countryside policies will only apply to the open countryside, that is to say, to any location outside of a settlement limit. Likewise, policies on minerals development and renewable energy development will generally only be used to assess proposals

in the countryside, given the nature of the development with which they are concerned.

In the rural area, particular consideration will be given to:

- The need to protect our vulnerable landscapes from inappropriate development;
- The need to ensure that appropriate development opportunities are afforded to the rural area in order to sustain our rural communities;
- The importance of clustering, where possible, new buildings with existing buildings and re using or replacing existing buildings.

2D Please indicate which of the following rural policy areas the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to primarily impact upon.

All of the areas listed below will be affected by the DPS.

- Rural Business
- Rural Tourism
- Rural Housing
- Jobs or employment in rural area
- Education or training in rural areas
- Broadband or mobile communication in rural areas
- Transport services or infrastructure in rural areas
- Poverty in rural areas
- Deprivation in rural areas
- Rural crime or community safety
- Rural development
- Agri Environment
- Other (please state) - Vulnerable landscapes, minerals and renewable energy

SECTION 3 – IDENTIFYING THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC NEEDS OF PERSONS IN RURAL AREAS.

3A Has the Public Authority taken steps to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas that are relevant to the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service?

Yes

3B Please indicate which of the following methods or information sources were used by the Public Authority to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas

All of the methods listed below were used;

- Consultation with rural stakeholders
- Consultation with other organisations
- Surveys or Questionnaires
- Published Statistics
- Research Papers
- Other Publications
- Other Methods or Information Sources (details included in section 3C)

3C Please provide details of the methods and information sources used to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas including relevant dates, names of organisations, titles of publications, website references, details of surveys or consultations undertaken etc.

Evidence Research Papers

A series of evidence position papers was produced to inform the LDP process. Each position paper provided a summary of the evidence base relevant to each topic and was used to justify the policy direction for each subject topic which is now evident in the DPS. The position papers establish a baseline position and identify the key issues which need to be addressed. They were prepared before the launch of the POP and presented to Planning Committee for their agreement. There were a range of policy topics for which position papers were produced and some of these were relevant to the rural area or to both the urban **and** rural area. Some examples of subjects on which position papers were produced include Housing in the Countryside, Mineral Development, Utilities, Transportation, Landscape Assessment, Strategic Settlement Evaluation, Tourism and Population Growth.

Policy Reviews

Having produced position papers on a range of topics we also carried out policy review studies on each topic in order to consider how we could tailor each topic to respond to the unique needs of mid Ulster whilst still taking account of regional policy. Again, these papers were crucial in identifying the needs of the rural area and how they could be better addressed, in a sustainable way, by tailoring planning policy to reflect the unique rural circumstances of Mid Ulster.

Range of Information / Sources

In producing these position papers and policy reviews a range of information was utilised such as figures from the 2011 census published by NISRA as well as other publications. The list contained at the end of this RNIA details some of the sources of information used in the production of the baseline evidence. The list is not exhaustive but intended to provide an example of the range of sources considered in the formative stages of the creation of the DPS.

Consultation on the POP

Having considered the information from the various sources and having developed the evidence base, the Preferred Options Paper was developed and this was widely consulted upon via a widespread consultation within the rural area. Public exhibitions and public meetings were facilitated at the following venues across the rural area between 8th November 2016 – 1st December 2016:

- Rowantree Centre, Pomeroy,
- Clogher Mart, Clogher,
- Walshes Hotel, Maghera,
- St. Colms High School, Draperstown,
- Parish Centre, Ardboe,
- Community Centre, Galbally.

At these events, the availability of and access to housing in the rural area, both in the countryside and in the rural settlements, the provision of better transport links to key services and the availability of jobs were some of the things which members of the public were keen to discuss. The formal consultation period ran for a further 8 weeks after the meetings / exhibitions ended and in total, 663 representations were received within the 12 week consultation period with a further 39 being received in the period after closure of the consultation. The consideration of these views which were received at the meetings and via representations formed part of the Councils Public Consultation Report which has been used to inform the DPS in its current form.

In addition to the above information and research, as part of the statutory consultation processes, views were sought prior to the publication of our Preferred Options Paper and a copy of the POP was made available to all government departments, including DAERA as well as the NIHE, NI WATER and all adjoining councils.

Further to the above, the Council engaged directly with a number of rural community / business groups and held specially requested meetings with concerned groups in order to take on board their views about what the needs of the rural area are and how they could be addressed. Examples of groups facilitated in this way are:

- Loughshore Business Forum
- Cause Carers Support Group
- Mid Ulster Disability Forum
- CWSAN / Derrytresk, Derrylaughan, Aughamullan communities.

Elected members were also consulted on each of the pieces of research carried out and also on the preparation of the Preferred Options Paper. Our elected members come from all parts of the District including the rural areas and are very much in tune with the social and economic needs of their areas. The members of the Planning Committee were given the opportunity to scrutinise each evidence position paper and policy review and to feed their views into the process. In addition, the Preferred Options Paper was presented to Council and consideration of the POP raised some issues which were pertinent to the rural

area and which have indeed being taken into account in the current version of the DPS.

3D Please provide details of the social and economic needs of people in rural areas which have been identified by the Public Authority.

Mid Ulster is a predominantly rural district with 70% of its population living in the rural area; a figure which is put into perspective when we consider that the most urban district in Northern Ireland has a rural population amounting to just 0.43% of the total population.

Mid Ulster has a vibrant rural area consisting of active communities, a strong entrepreneurial spirit which contributes to the overall employment base and rural villages with considerable character and heritage importance. This vibrant rural area needs to be supported and sustained if it is to remain as a vitally important part of our district. This means that the DPS needs to deliver a suite of subject policies which can allow adequate flexibility to provide for sufficient housing and employment opportunities in the rural area, whilst still protecting the character and heritage of the countryside and rural villages.

As well as the need to sustain the rural area and consolidate its current situation, there are also various elements of rural life which have been identified as needing to be improved. The rural area in Mid Ulster suffers from some of the poorest broadband speeds and worst mobile data coverage in Northern Ireland. In addition, parts of the rural area also experience some of the longest journey times to key services such as Accident and Emergency when compared against the rest of Northern Ireland. These issues contribute to social isolation and feelings of exclusion by reducing the levels of connectivity between the rural area and the main urban centres. The DPS must therefore endeavour to address these needs in order to help reduce the feelings of social isolation and exclusion which are being experienced in the rural area.

There are also certain remote parts of the rural area which are in social and economic decline caused by a falling and ageing population and reduced housing levels. The DPS must also try to address the needs in these areas and bring forward policies and designations which meet the needs of these areas and help to regenerate these areas.

SECTION 4 – CONSIDERING THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC NEEDS OF PERSONS IN RURAL AREAS

4A Please provide details of the issues considered in relation to the social and economic needs of people in rural areas.

In order to continue to be vibrant and viable places, our rural areas will need to continue to have their fair share of housing and employment opportunities in order to allow people to live and work there. Therefore, operational subject planning policy in the DPS will need to permit appropriate economic uses both in rural settlements and in the open countryside.

In rural settlements, the main issue will be facilitating this kind of development whilst not harming the character / streetscape of the settlement or impacting negatively on residential amenity of nearby properties. In the countryside, the main issue will be how to accommodate small scale industry which is associated with a rural dwelling and which can be grouped or clustered with a group of buildings without causing harm to residential amenity. It will also be important to protect existing sites of industry in the countryside and to allow for sufficient flexibility to facilitate expansion of existing enterprises where this can be done in an appropriate manner.

In terms of housing opportunities it is important that the DPS continues to allow for housing development in our rural settlements, at a level which is in keeping with the current level of housing provision. In the countryside, there is a need to allow people who need to live in the countryside to continue to do so.

Information gathered from our research and consultation exercises has helped to identify that there are various groups of people who have a justifiable need to be able to access housing in the countryside. For example, in Mid Ulster, there are 4090 active farms. We need to recognise the needs of our farmers, many of which operate on small holdings, and ensure that they are provided with an opportunity to erect a dwelling in order to sustain their business and way of life. Research also revealed that in Mid Ulster just over 10% of the population rely on receiving some element of care. Given this fact, it is therefore important that in less accessible rural areas those who are in need of care or are providing care are afforded the chance to live and remain in their own communities.

The DPS has also recognised the strong tradition of fishing as a family livelihood, particularly in the lough shore area of the district and we recognise the need for those engaged in this industry to live in the rural area to which their activity provides important social and economic benefits.

The housing needs of other rural dwellers who are not carers, farmers or fishermen must also be taken into account and therefore, policy must also be flexible enough to allow those who have grown up in the countryside to remain in the countryside providing housing can be facilitated by grouping with existing buildings or replacing or reusing existing dwellings / sheds.

In terms of providing infrastructure in order to tackle some of the problems which contribute to rural isolation and social exclusion, the DPS must be capable of protecting existing key transport corridors which link the main hub towns in the District to each other and to the wider rural area as well. Policies must also be capable of facilitating telecommunications infrastructure where this can be done without causing harm to our most vulnerable landscapes.

Indeed, the environmental quality of our landscapes can also generate social and economic benefits and these must be protected from inappropriate development such as telecommunications development but also from the impacts of renewable energy and minerals development. It is a key challenge of the DPS to be able to find the balance of allowing such development and exploitation which can bring local and regional economic and social benefits

whilst at the same time protecting our unique countryside landscapes which provide rural residents with a sense of pride and belonging. In terms of rural regeneration, the key issue facing the DPS is its ability to identify areas which are in social and economic decline and provide strategic designations and appropriate policy to offer them hope of attracting people back to live in them.

SECTION 5 – INFLUENCING THE POLICY, STRATEGY, PLAN OR PUBLIC SERVICE

5A Has the development, adoption, implementation or revising of the Policy, Strategy or Plan, or the design or delivery of the Public Service, been influenced by the rural needs identified?

Yes

5B Please explain how the development, adoption, implementation or revising of the Policy, Strategy, or Plan or the design or delivery of the Public Service, has been influenced by the rural needs identified?

The aims, objectives and operational subject planning policies of the draft strategy will encourage sustainable growth across the rural area in an effort to sustain rural communities and resist economic and social decline.

In order to continue to facilitate a sustainable level of rural housing, the DPS has made provision for housing development to be acceptable within rural settlements subject to normal planning considerations and has also included additional provision for rural housing including the allowance of dwellings for carers, fishermen and dwellings in a non-farm cluster as well as carrying through the existing provisions for dwellings for farmers and for replacement dwellings, all subject to meeting the relevant policy tests and criteria.

The DPS has also identified Dispersed Rural Communities (DRC's) which are remote areas where small groups of housing will be permitted in order to aid regeneration and encourage people to live in these areas.

In terms of economic development and opportunities, the policies in the strategy have been designed to allow more opportunity for small rural start-up businesses which are linked to an existing dwelling. The strategy will also seek to protect and consolidate major areas of existing rural industry by bringing forward strategic designations called Rural Industrial Policy Areas. As well as offering protection, the DPS will also provide the opportunity for these areas to expand and grow in order to support areas of established rural industry.

The DPS acknowledges the importance of continuing to permit the extraction of minerals in the rural areas as this is an industry which provides a significant amount of rural employment both directly and indirectly via associated manufacturing industries. The DPS will therefore balance the need to facilitate this industry against the need to protect our most vulnerable and scientifically important landscapes from the impacts of such development.

Similarly, the DPS recognises the need to ensure the rural areas remain connected both via physical roads infrastructure and through improvements in

telecommunications infrastructure. Protected route networks will be protected by the DPS and therefore, journey times to main urban centres from rural areas should remain at their optimum level. In terms of telecommunications development, the DPS will facilitate such development where it is possible to do so without causing negative environmental impacts or impacts on human health.

In relation to environmental protection, all rural development proposals will be subject to strict criteria based policies as well as the existence of strategic designations such as Special Countryside Areas, Areas of Constraint on Mineral Development and Areas of Constraint on Wind Turbines and High Structures which will protect the most vulnerable of our unique landscapes from inappropriate development.

SECTION 6 – Documenting and Recording

- 6A** Please tick below to confirm that the RNIA will be retained by the Public Authority and the relevant information on the Section 1 activity compiled in accordance with paragraph 6.7 of the guidance.

I confirm that the RNIA Template will be retained and relevant information compiled.

Rural Needs Impact Assessment undertaken by:	COLIN MCKEOWN
Position / Grade:	PLANNING OFFICER (HPTO)
Division / Branch:	PLANNING DEPARTMENT OF MUDC
Date:	18/1/19
Rural Needs Impact Assessment approved by:	DR CHRIS BOOMER
Position / Grade:	PLANNING MANAGER
Division / Branch:	PLANNING DEPARTMENT OF MUDC
Date:	22/1/19

Appendix 1 - Range of information sources used in the formative stages of the Plan preparation.

- Census 2001 & 2001
- Mid Ulster Community Plan; Community Consultation Feedback
- 2011 Local Government Election Results
- Oxford Economics, *Mid Ulster District Council Consultancy Report for Social, Economic and Environmental Data Analysis*, January 2015
- DETI, Briefing to Councils on employee jobs by Industry based on the NI census for employment 2011, November 2013
- Household Estimates, NISRA
- Household Projections, NISRA 2012
- House Condition Survey 2001 & 2006
- Northern Ireland Housing Market Review and Perspectives 2014 – 2017
- NIHE – District Housing Plans 2014-2015
- NISRA - Classification and Delineation of Settlements, March 2015
- Sample of rural housing monitor, 2003, 2005 and 2006
- DOE planning statistics
- DRD – Ensuring a Sustainable Transport Future
- ICBAN Telecommunications Action Plan
- www.nidirect.gov.uk/broadband-improvement-project
- DETI – Statistics on Electricity Consumption
- DOE – Renewable Energy Statistics
- www.uregni.gov.uk/gas/market_overview
- DARD Flood Maps / DFI Flood Maps
- NISRA – Local Government District Tourism Stats, 2013
- NI Visitor Attraction Survey (2013)
- Northern Ireland Tourism Statistics April 2013 – March 2014
- Planning and Design for Outdoor Sport and Play
- Mid Ulster Council Outdoor Recreation Audit
- Sport NI response to proposed 2015-16 Exchequer Budget Reductions
- Sport NI – 2014 update of the Active Places Research Report
- Mid Ulster Biodiversity Audit
- DETI – Mineral Statement 2011
- NISRA – Quarterly Employment Survey, June 2015
- Health Inequalities – Northern Ireland Health and Social Care Inequalities Monitoring System
- *Fair Society, healthy Lives*, Michael Marmot, 2010
- *A Fitter Future for all – Framework for Preventing and Addressing Overweight and Obesity in Northern Ireland 2010-2012*
- *Area Plan for Primary Provision*, S.E.L.B. June 2014
- *Putting Pupils First, Shaping Our Future – Primary Area Plan*, N.E.E.L.B. in conjunction with the Council for Catholic Maintained Schools, Northern Ireland Council for Integrated Education and Comhairlena Gaelscoilaíochta
- *Regional Strategic Policy for Open Space, Sport and Outdoor Recreation*
- A report by the Countryside Recreation Working Group

- *Transforming Your Care*, A review of the Health and Social Care System in Northern Ireland, December 2011
- *Reuniting Health with Planning*, Ross and Chang 2012