



## **MID ULSTER**

### **Sustainability Appraisal incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment (SA/SEA)**

#### **Scoping Report**

**June 2016**

# **SCOPING REPORT**

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## **1 Introduction**

### **Purpose of this SA/SEA Scoping Report**

- 1.1** Mid Ulster Council is currently developing its Local Development Plan (LDP). The purpose of this Scoping Report is to provide the context for, and determine the scope of, the Sustainability Appraisal (SA)/Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of Mid Ulster LDP and to set the framework for undertaking the later stages of the SA/SEA.
- 1.2** Members of the Multi-Disciplinary Steering Group, henceforth referred to as the Project Management Team, consisting of senior council representatives and delegates from bodies deemed appropriate by the Council, have been consulted in relation to their particular social, environmental, or economic disciplines to ensure that the appraisal covers the key sustainability issues, relevant to Mid-Ulster. The integration of the Sustainability Appraisal process with the LDP process is fundamental to the plan making process. It is an iterative process that will inform the development of the Mid Ulster Local Development Plan.

### **Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment**

- 1.3** It is a statutory requirement that all plans and programmes that are likely to have a significant environmental effect must be subject to an environmental appraisal. More commonly referred to as a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). European Union Directive '2001/42/EC' states that an SEA is mandatory for plans/programmes which are:
- 'prepared for agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, waste/water management, telecommunications, tourism, town and country planning or land use and which set the framework for future development consent of projects listed in the EIA Directive'.<sup>1</sup>*
- 1.4** This European Union Directive was transposed into local legislation in the form of The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2004. In addition to the SEA, Section 5 of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 requires that Mid Ulster Council adhere to the objective of furthering sustainable development. Furthermore Sections 8 and 9 of the Planning Act (NI) 2011 require that a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) to be carried out for the Mid Ulster Local Development Plan (LDP). Similar to SEA, SA must be carried out from the outset and in parallel with the local development plan preparation process. Whilst the requirement to carry out an SA and SEA are distinct, it is possible to satisfy both these requirements through a combined appraisal process. Government guidance therefore suggests an integrated

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<sup>1</sup> 'A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive', ODPM, September 2005, [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/7657/practicalguidesea.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/7657/practicalguidesea.pdf)

approach can be followed, so that the sustainability appraisal incorporates the SEA. This involves extending the breadth of the issues required to be considered under the sustainability appraisal, including environmental, social and economic. For this reason Mid Ulster Council has chosen to produce a Sustainability Appraisal, incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment (SA/SEA).

- 1.5** The Mid Ulster Area Plan 2030 is a qualifying plan for an SA/SEA under the above mentioned legislation. It will provide a framework for the use and development of land within Mid Ulster up until 2030. The SA/SEA process has the potential to make a real contribution to the plan preparation through ensuring that the environmental, social and economic effects of the LDP strategy, policies and proposals, are fully understood before arriving at the most appropriate choices for Mid Ulster.
- 1.6** The scoping process of the SA/SEA requires the Mid Ulster District Council (as the Responsible Authority) to consider in conjunction with the Consultation Body i.e. NIEA Natural Environment Division (NED) and Historic Environmental Division (HED), and the Project Management Team, the scope and level of detail of the SA/SEA Scoping Report.
- 1.7** A draft version of this Scoping Report was produced and subject to consultation with NED and HED for a five week period between April and May. Comments received during that period have been reviewed and considered as appropriate in this final version of the report.

### **Habitats Regulations Assessment**

- 1.8** Another requirement placed on the Council as the responsible planning authority is to undertake a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) in accordance with Article 6 (3) of the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) “on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora” - known as the Habitats Directive. In Northern Ireland, the main piece of legislation relating to nature conservation is contained in the Wildlife (Northern Ireland) Order 1985. This is supplemented by the Conservation (Natural Habitats, etc) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995 for the conservation of natural habitats, wild fauna and flora.
- 1.9** The HRA concerns Natura 2000 sites, which are areas protected for their conservation value. These areas consist of: Special Protection Areas (SPAs), which are designated as sites important for birds; Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), which are sites designated to protect important habitats and species; and Ramsar sites, which are globally protected wetlands. The HRA work will be conducted alongside the sustainability appraisal process to ensure the processes inform each other. The HRA will be produced by the Shared Environmental Services in conjunction with the Council and will be reported on separately.



### **Rural Proofing – The Rural Needs Bill**

- 1.10** The Mid Ulster Local Development Plan and its policies will be subject to Rural Proofing. The Northern Ireland Assembly has recently embarked on an exercise to enhance the rural proofing process by placing it on a statutory footing. The Northern Ireland Assembly has recently approved the Rural Proofing Bill but at the time of writing has not been transposed into domestic legislation. The Rural Proofing Bill seeks to safeguard the needs of rural communities. The Rural Needs Bill is designed to promote a fair and inclusive rural society by introducing a duty on government and councils to consider the needs of our rural dwellers when they are developing their policies and delivering public services. This new legislation, will impose a statutory duty on Mid Ulster Council to consider rural needs when developing, adopting, implementing or revising policies, strategies and plans and designing and delivering public services.

### **Community Plan**

- 1.11** The Local Government Act introduced a statutory link between the community plan and a council's local development plan. Therefore Mid Ulster Council's Local Development Plan must take account of the Community Plan. Public participation, particularly at the early stages of local development plan preparation is regarded as crucial in identifying relevant issues and local views in the plan process from the outset. The local community will therefore have an important role to play in the plan preparation process particularly at the preferred options stage and also at the draft plan stage when they will have the opportunity to make representations. Mid Ulster Council's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)<sup>2</sup> sets out the key stages for public engagement and informs the community of how and when they can become involved.

### **Equality Impact Assessment – Section 75**

- 1.12** In addition, public authorities are required to have regard to the desirability of promoting good relations between persons of different religious belief, political opinion or race. Section 75 groups (listed below) are important participants within the planning process and include people who traditionally have been under represented or disadvantaged. These groups will be targeted through the consultation process on the local development plan in order to obtain their views and contribute to the consideration of equality issues under Section 75. Their views on any equality screening documents or draft Equality Impact Assessments will also be sought within the specified period for comment along with the draft Plan Strategy and draft Local Policies Plan.
- 1.13** The following nine key groups must be given consideration before decisions are made:
- people with different religious belief

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.midulstercouncil.org/Planning/Mid-Ulster-Development-Plan>

- people of political opinion
- people of different racial groups
- people of different ages
- people of different marital status
- people of different sexual orientation
- men and women generally
- people with a disability and people without
- people with dependents and people without

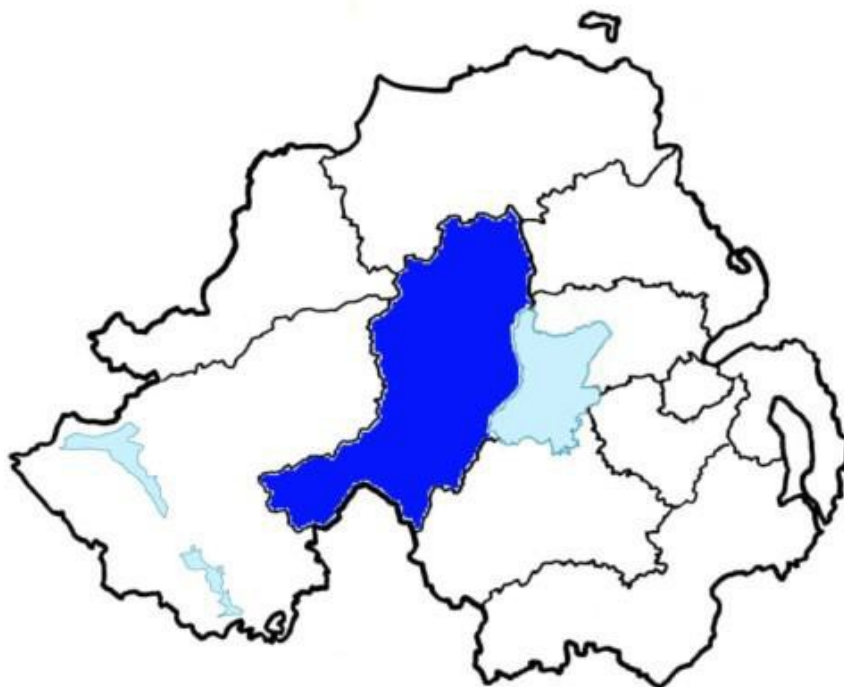
## **2 Plan Context**

- 2.1** Development Plans set out policies and proposals for the future development and use of land in our towns and countryside. They are the basis of decision making on planning applications. They consider a wide range of land use matters including economic development, retail and town centres, housing and community facilities and the natural and built environment.
- 2.2** The Mid Ulster Local Development Plan will replace the Cookstown Area Plan 2010, Dungannon and South Tyrone Area Plan 2010 and the Magherafelt Area Plan 2015. The Plan will be produced in two stages consisting of two separate documents which will shape development within our district in the period to 2030. The first stage will be a Plan Strategy followed by Local Policies Plan.
- 2.3** Prior to the preparation of the Plan Strategy and Local Policies Plan Mid Ulster Council will identify the key issues in the plan area and will formulate a series of options for dealing with them. This information will be published as a Preferred Options Paper (POP) which will indicate Mid Ulster Council's preferred options for growth and development in the district and will be the basis for consulting with the public and stakeholders who will have an opportunity to put forward their views and influence the local development plan from the outset.
- 2.4** The Plan Strategy (PS) will establish the strategic direction of the plan in order to provide a level of certainty on which to base key development decisions in the area as well as the necessary framework for the preparation of the local policies plan. The Plan Strategy will set the aims, objectives, overall growth strategy and associated generic policies applicable to the Plan Area.
- 2.5** The Local Policies Plan (LPP) will be consistent with the Plan Strategy. In contrast to the Plan Strategy the LPP will deal with site specific policies and proposals associated with settlement limits, land use zonings and environmental designations required to deliver the council's vision, objectives and strategic policies.

### **The Plan Area**

- 2.6** The Mid Ulster District straddles two counties and is comprised of an area of 1955km<sup>2</sup>. It contains a varied landscape and possesses a diverse mix of rural and urban communities, from the main towns such as Dungannon, Cookstown, and Magherafelt, to the more remote rural communities such as Dunnamore, Swatragh and Straw. The district of Mid Ulster is characterised by its rural nature, given the large proportion of households which are located in the small towns, villages and countryside.

**Figure 1: Map of the area covered by the MidUlsterLDP**



- 2.7** The 2001 Census recorded a population of 119,000 and the latest figures show that Mid Ulster has a recorded population of 138,590.<sup>3</sup> This highlights a growth rate of 16.46% between 2001 and 2011, which is significantly above the Northern Ireland population growth figure of 7.4% over the same period.

### **Purpose of the Local Development Plan**

- 2.8** The purpose of the Mid Ulster Council Local Development Plan, comprising the Plan Strategy and Local Policies Plan, is to inform the general public, statutory authorities, developers and other interested bodies of the policy framework and land use proposals that will implement the strategic objectives of the Regional Development Strategy and guide development decisions within Mid Ulster District Council up to 2030.

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<sup>3</sup> NISRA – NI Census 2011, *Key Statistics Summary Report*, Mid Ulster Local Government District 2014.

### 3 The SA/SEA Process

3.1 The methodology adopted for completing this Scoping Report is in accordance with the guidance document produced by the Department of the Environment (NI) '*Practice Note 04 – Sustainability Appraisal incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment*'. In addition the guidance document issued by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM), *A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive*<sup>4</sup> has also been utilised. This Scoping Report has been designed to provide sufficient information and detail to apply to other planning documents, which may be added to the Mid Ulster Local Development Plan in the future.

3.2 The list below sets out the 5 stages of the SA/SEA as outlined in the DOE (NI) guidance mentioned above.

**Stage A(1) - SA/SEA Scoping Report** - Preparation of the evidence base to inform the appraisal, establishing the SA/SEA framework and objectives for undertaking the appraisal and seeking agreement with Consultation Body;

**Stage A(2) - SA/SEA Interim Report** - Consists of SA/SEA Scoping Report, assessment of reasonable alternatives against agreed SA/SEA framework and undertaking public consultation along with the Preferred Options Paper;

**Stage B - Assessment of alternatives and any likely significant effects of the draft plan against the SA/SEA framework** - taking into account the evidence base and where necessary, proposing mitigation measures for alleviating any adverse effects;

**Stage C - SA/SEA Report** - to document the appraisal process and findings;

**Stage D - Consultation** - with the public, environmental authorities and any EU member state affected by the sustainability appraisal report and draft plan;

**Stage E - SA/SEA Statement** – to show how the SA/SEA and options / consultations have been taken into account, the reasons for choosing the plan as adopted and the proposed measures to monitor the plan;

**Stage F - Monitoring** – establishing arrangements to monitor the significant effects of the implementation of the plan, to identify unforeseen adverse effects and undertake appropriate remedial action.

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<sup>4</sup> ODPM, Creating Sustainable Communities, *A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive*, September 2005

This Scoping report essentially reports on the steps contained within Stage A(1). Stage A(1) focuses on the links with other relevant plans and programmes, collection of Baseline data, identification of sustainability issues and development of the SA/SEA framework.

- 3.3** The SA / SEA Scoping Report process is carried out as part of the series of tasks contained within Stage A(1). These have been outlined in some further detail below. The other stages, B to F, will be carried out later in the plan making process. Stage A(1) of the SA/SEA process consists of five main tasks which are highlighted within the DOE (NI) guidance. These are:

**Task 1:** Identifying other relevant plans, programmes and environmental protection objectives – To establish how the plan is affected by outside factors, to suggest ideas for how any constraints can be addressed, and to help to identify SA/SEA objectives.

**Task 2:** Collecting baseline information – To provide an evidence base for environmental problems, prediction of effects, and monitoring; to help in the development of SA/SEA objectives.

**Task 3:** Identifying environmental, social and economic issues (problems and opportunities) – To help focus the SA/SEA, including baseline information analysis, setting of the SA/SEA objectives, prediction of effects and monitoring.

**Task 4:** Developing the SA/SEA framework, including the SA/SEA objectives and indicators – To provide a means by which the performance of the plan and alternatives can be assessed.

**Task 5:** Consulting on the scope of the SA/SEA in accordance with EAPP (NI) Regulation 11 – To ensure that the SA/SEA covers the likely significant social, economic and environmental effects of the plan.

- 3.4** The Scoping Report covers the requirements of Stage A (1) of the SA/SEA process. It is the first step in undertaking the SA/SEA of the Local Development Plan. It sets the context within which the LDP is to be prepared by documenting the requirements of other plans, policies and programmes that will influence its production. A list of the plans, programmes and strategies that are being taken into consideration in the preparation of the LDP together with a summary of the purpose of these documents, is provided in Appendix 1.

- 3.5** The Scoping Report establishes the baseline position from which the effects of implementing the LDP can be monitored. The environmental, social and economic baseline data also allows for the identification of relevant sustainability issues facing Mid Ulster Council. The Scoping Report also

establishes the SA/SEA framework against which the sustainability effects of the LDP can be described, analysed and compared, which is key to the SA/SEA process. It will also ensure that the proposed SA/SEA framework is robust enough to make certain that sustainability principles are built-in to the LDP from the outset.

#### **4 Identification of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Policies – Task 1**

***“An outline of the contents and main objectives of the plan or programme, and of its relationship with other relevant plans and programmes” (EAPP Regulations 2004, Schedule 2, (1))***

*and;*

***“the environmental protection objectives established at international, Community or Member State level, which are relevant to the plan and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation” (EAPP Regulations 2004, Schedule 2, (5))***

#### **Relationship between the Mid Ulster Plan and other plans and programmes**

- 4.1** In order to establish a clear scope for the SA/SEA it is necessary to review and develop an understanding of the environmental, social and economic objectives contained within international and national policies, plans and strategies that are of relevance to the emerging Mid Ulster Local Development Plan (LDP). Given the above legislative requirements of the EAPP Regulations, it is also necessary to consider the relationship between the Mid Ulster LDP and other relevant plans, policies and programmes.
- 4.2** The preparation of the LDP will take account of the Council's Corporate Plan and Community Plan so that there is a shared vision for the council area and communities and it will set out the long term social, economic and environmental objectives for the district. The LDP will also take account of regional policy context set by the Northern Ireland Executive and Central Government Departments. This includes, amongst others, the Sustainable Development Strategy, the Regional Development Strategy, the Strategic Planning Policy Statement and Planning Policy Statements.
- 4.3** The Council will also prepare Community Plans that will set out the future directions for development within a council area that will promote community cohesion and improve quality of life for all of its citizens. The LDP will take account of, and provide a spatial expression to the Community Plan, thereby

linking public and private sector investment through the land use planning system.<sup>5</sup>

### ***Environmental, social and economic objectives relevant to the Mid Ulster Local Development Plan***

- 4.4** There are a wide range of plans, policies and programmes at the international and national levels that are relevant to the emerging Mid Ulster Local Development Plan. The full review of relevant plans, policies and programmes (PPPs) and how they relate to the LDP and the SA/SEA process can be seen in Appendix 1. The table is not exhaustive. Every effort has been made to assess all relevant PPPs but the table can be easily updated to add any that have been inadvertently missed out or which might have been misinterpreted. The key components are summarised below.

#### ***Key international plans, policies and programmes***

- 4.5** At the international level, Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment (the SEA Directive<sup>5</sup>) and Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (the Habitats Directive) are particularly significant as they require Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) to be undertaken in relation to the emerging Local Plan. These processes should be undertaken iteratively and integrated into the production of the Local Plan in order to ensure that any potential negative environmental effects (including on European-level nature conservation designations) are identified and can be mitigated.
- 4.6** There are a wide range of other EU Directives relating to issues such as water quality, waste and air quality, most of which have been transposed into UK/Northern Ireland law through national-level policy.

#### ***Key national plans, policies and programmes***

- 4.7** The most significant development in terms of the policy context for the emerging Local Plan has been the publication of the new **Strategic Planning Policy Statement (SPPS)** which has already replaced a number of Planning Policy Statements (i.e. PPS1, PPS5 and PPS9) and which will eventually replace the full suite of Planning Policy Statements and relevant provisions of 'A Planning Strategy for Rural Northern Ireland'. The SPPS consolidates some twenty separate policy publications into one document and sets out strategic subject planning policy for a wide range of planning matters. It sets out the strategic direction for new councils to bring forward detailed operational policies within LDP's. It also provides the core planning principles to underpin delivery of the

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<sup>5</sup>The Local Government (NI) Act 2014, s77



two tier planning system with the aim of furthering sustainable development, which are;

- Improving Health and Well-being;
- Creating and Enhancing Shared Space;
- Supporting Sustainable Economic Growth;
- Supporting Good Design and Positive Place Making; and
- Preserving and Improving the Built and Natural Environment.

- 4.8** The new two stage approach to plan production comprises a Plan Strategy and Local Policies Plan. The overarching purpose of the Plan Strategy is to provide the strategic policy framework for the plan area as a whole and to bring forward a local growth strategy. The SPPS states that;

*‘In preparing a Plan Strategy councils will address the range of policy matters set out within the SPPS (including the topic areas set out as Subject Planning Policies). This approach will also ensure an appropriate policy framework remains in place when the PPS’s and relevant provisions of the PSRNI cease to have effect.’*

The Subject Planning Policies as listed in the SPPS are as follows;

Archaeology and Built Heritage  
Coastal Development  
Control of Outdoor Advertisements  
Development in the Countryside  
Economic Development, Industry and Commerce  
Flood Risk  
Housing in Settlements  
Minerals  
Natural Heritage  
Open Space, Sport and Recreation  
Renewable Energy  
Telecommunications and other Utilities  
Tourism  
Town Centres and Retailing  
Transportation  
Waste Management.

#### ***Transitional Arrangements***

- 4.9** A transitional period will operate until such times as a Plan Strategy for the whole of the council area has been adopted. During the transitional period the majority of existing policies will be retained, together with the SPPS. Any relevant supplementary and best practice guidance will also continue to apply.

- 4.10** Where a council adopts its Plan Strategy, existing policy retained under the transitional arrangements shall cease to have effect in the district of that council and shall not be material from that date. Appendix 1 includes a list of those documents whose policies are retained during this transitional period.

### **Mid Ulster Local Development Plan Objectives**

- 4.11** The Local Development Plan will include strategic policies, site allocations and more specific development policies to guide development within Mid Ulster District to 2030. The working objectives of the Local Development Plan are set out below and are subject to change as the evidence gathering and consultation process evolves. They are as follows:

#### **(a) Accommodating People and Creating Places**

- (i) To build Cookstown, Dungannon and Magherafelt as economic and transportation hubs and as the main service centres for shops, leisure activities, public administrative and community services including health and education. These are the most populated places and the town centres are the most accessible locations for people to travel to including those without a car.*
- (ii) To protect and consolidate the role of local towns and villages so that they act as local centres for shops and community services meeting the daily needs of their rural hinterlands.*
- (iii) To provide for vital and vibrant rural communities whilst protecting the countryside in which they live by accommodating sustainable growth within the countryside proportionate to the extent of existing rural communities.*
- (iv) To provide for 10,950 new homes by 2030 in a range of housing capable of meeting the needs of families, the elderly and disabled, and single people, at locations accessible to community services, leisure and recreational facilities, for those people with and without a car.*
- (v) To recognise the needs of both growing families and carers of the elderly and disabled by accommodating development which allows people to remain within their own communities and does not lead to significant harm to neighbours or the built and natural environment.*
- (vi) To facilitate the development of new community facilities at locations accessible to the communities they serve, through a variety of modes of transportation in accordance with the community plan.*
- (vii) To accommodate cultural differences in our communities whilst promoting “shared spaces” to bring people together with equality of opportunity.*

**(b) Creating jobs and promoting prosperity**

- (i) To facilitate the creation of 8,500 new jobs by 2030 at a variety of locations where they are accessible to all members of the community, including those without a private car.*
- (ii) To promote diversity in the range of jobs recognising the importance of employment in the primary sector (agriculture forestry and mining), secondary sector (industry and manufacturing) and tertiary sector (administration, commerce, retailing, leisure and tourism).*
- (iii) To recognise and accommodate entrepreneurship, innovation for large, medium and small firms by attracting new firms and accommodating expanding businesses.*
- (iv) The need to recognise the importance of self-employment and home working, particularly in rural locations.*
- (v) The need to provide and encourage use of renewable energy both as a means of generating money for the local economy, attracting investment in enterprise and providing sustainable and affordable lighting and heating for the population.*

**(c) Enhancing the environment and improving infrastructure**

- (i) To reduce contributions and vulnerability to climate change and to reduce floodrisk and the adverse consequences of flooding.*
- (ii) The need to protect and enhance the natural and built environment to achieve biodiversity, quality design, enhanced leisure and economic opportunity and promote health and wellbeing.*
- (iii) The need to accommodate investment in power, water and sewerage infrastructure, and waste management particularly in the interests of public health.*
- (iv) The need to improve connectivity between and within settlements and their rural hinterland through accommodating investment in transportation to improve travel times, alleviate congestion and improve safety for both commercial and private vehicles as well as more sustainable modes of transport including buses, walking and cycling.*
- (v) The need to improve connectivity though telecommunication which both meets the needs of business and private households whilst reducing the need to travel.*

It is important to note that these objectives are not definitive and as part of the Local Development Plan process they may be revised and reviewed.

## 5 Scope of the SA/SEA & Baseline- Task 2

***“The environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or Member State level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation.” (EAPP Regulations NI 2004, Schedule 2, (5))***

### Introduction

- 5.1 The basic aim of Task 2 is to collate data on the present state of Mid Ulster District to enable any trends to be established, any particular sustainability issues pinpointed and methods of monitoring the effects of the plan established.
- 5.2 The requirements for baseline data are that it should be relevant to social, economic or environmental issues, be sensitive to potential change and ideally be detailed enough to enable trends to be identified and the effects of the strategy to be monitored in the future. The baseline work also helps to identify key environmental and sustainability issues within Mid Ulster. The collection of baseline data outside of the Mid Ulster District, in the wider context of Northern Ireland, also helps by providing a comparison as to how local issues fit within the regional context.
- 5.3 This Scoping Report is structured following the scoping Tasks 1 – 5 as described in section 3.2. It presents a summary of key information on each of the SA/SEA topic areas, however, more detailed information for each topic area is presented in separate topic Position Papers.<sup>6</sup>
- 5.4 Data for the baseline has been sought from a wide range of sources based primarily on the list provided in DOE NI Guidance.<sup>7</sup> The sources of data include Mid Ulster Councils Position papers, Census Data, NISRA statistics and relevant government websites. The source of each piece of data is recorded in the baseline tables - Appendix 2. It is acknowledged there has been some limitations in gathering evidence specific to the new Mid Ulster Council area particularly given the recent Review of Public Administration. Trends are generally NI wide or based on legacy councils.
- 5.5 The data collected is split into three sections - social, environmental and economic. Within the table below the relevant SA/SEA topic is also shown to highlight how the baseline data covers the requirements of the EAPP Regulations.

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<sup>6</sup> [www.midulstercouncil.org/developmentplan](http://www.midulstercouncil.org/developmentplan) - weblink to Mid-Ulster Council's Position Papers

<sup>7</sup> DOE NI, Development Plan Practice Note 4, *Sustainability Appraisal Incorporating SEA*, April 2015

**Table 1 – The sustainability objectives with SEA topic**

<b>Topics listed in SEA Regulations</b>	<b>Topics included in the Mid Ulster Council SA /SEA</b>	<b>Sustainability theme</b>
Biodiversity	<i>Biodiversity Incorporating fauna and flora</i>	Environmental
Fauna		
Flora		
Soil	<i>Land and soil</i>	
Water	<i>Water resources and flood risk</i>	
Air	<i>Air quality and environmental pollution</i>	
Climatic factors	<i>Climatic factors</i>	
Material assets	<i>Material assets and infrastructure matters are discussed within other topic areas.</i>	
Cultural heritage	<i>Historic Built Environment</i>	
Landscape	<i>Landscape</i>	
Population	<i>Population and housing</i>	Social
Human health	<i>Human health</i>	
	<i>Inclusive communities</i>	
	<i>Education and skills</i>	Economic
	<i>Transport</i>	
	<i>Economy and enterprise</i>	
Inter-relationships		All of the above

## 6 Baseline Data Findings and Summary of Issues – Task 3

***“The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected” (EAPP Regulations 2004, Schedule 2, (3))***

*And;*

***“The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme” (EAPP Regulations NI 2004, Schedule 2, (2))***

### Introduction

- 6.1** A core purpose of the SA/SEA process is identifying the current baseline environmental conditions together with fully understanding the issues, problems and trends of relevance to the Local Development Plan. Appendix 2 identifies the relevant datasets used to form the baseline for this assessment.
- 6.2** The identification of the issues relevant to the Mid Ulster Local Development Plan area was carried out in accordance with the DOE NI guidance – Practice Note 4 – Sustainability Appraisal incorporating SEA. The following steps were utilized:
- Experience with issue identified in other policies, plans and programmes including the Community Plan;
  - Identification and analysis of possible tensions or inconsistencies with other policies, plans, programmes and sustainability objectives;
  - Identification and analysis of possible tensions and inconsistencies between current and future baseline conditions;
  - Consultation with authorities with social, economic and environmental responsibilities and other relevant stakeholders.
- 6.3** The information has been gathered under the headings of the 12 no. issues identified within the SEA Directive. Identifying these issues aids the understanding of the matters which need addressing within the council area. Given the iterative nature of the SA/SEA process the identification and analysis of environmental and sustainability issues is likely to evolve as the process develops. New issues may be added at future stages of the SA/SEA.

### Environmental Characteristics - Biodiversity/Flora/Fauna<sup>8</sup>

- 6.4** The variety of landscape patterns to be found within Mid Ulster has evolved over thousands of years, as natural and human forces have shaped and modified the natural topography. This, coupled with an extremely varied soil composition due to perhaps one of the most geologically diverse areas in Northern Ireland, provides capacity for a wide range of habitats to develop.

<sup>8</sup> Source: Mid Ulster Biodiversity Audit 2014-2017; NIEA <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/topics/biodiversity>; CEDAR and Mid Ulster Council

- 6.5** Stretching from Fivemiletown in the south to Swatragh in the north, from the Sperrins in the west to the shores of Lough Neagh in the east, Mid Ulster contains a variety of habitats. Pasture dominates the drumlin topography that occupies the central areas. Upland bog becomes more prevalent in the west and south, along the Sperrins and Clogher Valley ridges. Lowland bog occurs to the northern and eastern areas at the shores of Lough Neagh and Lough Beg. These habitats, along with inter-drumlin loughs and wetlands, river valleys, hedgerows and woodlands, combine to provide an important natural resource. The importance of these habitats has been recognised through European, National and international designations totaling 20,533 Hectares which equates to 12% of the Mid Ulster area. An additional 24,848 Ha of the Sperrin AONB also falls within the boundaries of Mid Ulster.
- 6.6** This diversity of habitats provides a home to a significant number of threatened and protected species, including species listed under Schedules, 1, 5, 8 and 9 of the Wildlife and Natural environment Act (NI) 2011 (which amended The Wildlife Order (NI) 1985), Species of European Community Interest and Northern Ireland Priority Species

#### **Summary of Issues - Biodiversity / Flora / Fauna**

- 6.7** The Wildlife and Natural Environment Act (NI) 2011 confers a Biodiversity Duty on all public bodies. It is therefore incumbent on Mid Ulster Council in exercising any of its functions, to further the conservation of biodiversity so far as it is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions.
- 6.8** Northern Ireland possesses 45 no. Priority Habitats (of which 30 are non-marine) and of these 21 no. have been identified within Mid Ulster. These priority habitats are vulnerable and susceptible to damage. Without the implementation of the area plan the protection and enhancement of biodiversity may be overlooked at the strategic level. The pursuit of economic and social objectives could potentially result in the following habitat impacts:
- Destruction through development directly on a threatened or protected habitat, both large and small scale
  - Fragmentation of habitats associated directly with individual development and cumulative loss through a number of developments can result in an area unable to support viable populations of species
  - Loss of wildlife corridors connecting natural habitats resulting in the loss of the habitat itself, and prevention of dispersal and movement of species between other habitats
  - Destruction through mining/extraction of minerals
  - Terrestrial habitats can become polluted through contamination via unregulated waste disposal.
  - Atmospheric nitrogen deposition represents a major threat to biodiversity with nitrogen compounds leading to eutrophication of ecosystems

- 6.9** Pollution is the introduction of contaminants into the natural environment and can take a variety of forms. Pollutants include sewage, industrial waste, ammonia, agricultural run-off and litter. Serious incidents from spillages or discharges of toxic chemicals show the obvious impacts. However, there are sources which work together over time and over a wide area to impact on our biodiversity
- Specific pollution incidents
  - Cumulative
  - Water level changes can impact biodiversity by altering the natural state of the habitat through increased or decreased water levels.
  - Water quality which determines the number and variety of species found in our loughs and rivers.
- 6.10** Climate change is likely to have an impact on our native habitats and species. This could result in the loss of some species to the Mid Ulster area.
- 6.11** Disturbance can occur both directly and indirectly by allowing development in close proximity to associated habitats, and disruption to movements between living, feeding and breeding areas.

#### **Evolution of Issues without Plan - Biodiversity / Flora / Fauna**

- 6.12** The main consequence to biodiversity in the absence of the plan will be the potential loss of threatened and/or protected habitats, and the species associated with these areas. A number of species are habitat specific, and if their habitat is destroyed they will become extinct in the Mid Ulster area.

Habitat loss can be caused by a variety of processes:

- Habitat destruction
  - Habitat fragmentation including cumulative loss
  - Loss of wildlife corridors/links
  - Extraction of natural resources
  - Agricultural intensification
  - Inappropriate management
- 6.13** There is potential for the destruction of habitats, and the loss of the species associated with it, through unchecked development. Water level changes can occur through:
- Direct works to a site including drainage and culverting
  - Impacts due to works undertaken elsewhere - upstream/downstream
- 6.14** Without due consideration given to appropriate siting and levels of development nutrient enrichment of watercourses may occur. Unchecked this will lead to a deterioration of habitat and a reduction in the diversity of species able to survive.
- 6.15** In the absence of a plan, pollution, particularly through cumulative effects, will



have a detrimental impact on the natural habitats and species of Mid Ulster, with the degradation of habitats and loss of species. The plan could identify and protect remaining examples of industrial heritage within the district, such as canals and old railway lines, to promote their re-use as greenways.

- 6.16** A number of alien invasive species are already a threat to the native habitats and species in the Mid Ulster area. In the absence of a plan and strategies in place, this problem has the potential to be exacerbated.
- 6.17** In the absence of the plan, causative factors of climate change may not be considered as part of development, further contributing to the rate of climate change. This may result in the increase of deterioration of habitats and loss of species to the Mid Ulster area. The appropriate siting of development is important to protect key habitats and also to reduce the reliance on the private car which has the potential to increase atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> levels, a significant contributor to climate change.
- 6.18** Through the LDP development there exists an opportunity to designate, protect and enhance sites of nature conservation importance and to reconnect fragmented habitats to provide for a more healthy environment for the people of Mid Ulster District. Whilst the protection and enhancement of designated sites is a key objective there are many other landscapes which support species and habitats identified in the NI Biodiversity strategy as being of priority conservation importance. Conserving these varied sites through a landscape-scale conservation approach, to protect and ultimately connect fragmented sites would also allow for greater public access. Examples of this can be found already in work carried out by the RSPB in the west Lough Beg area and in the south west Lough Neagh area where a joined up approach to large landscape-scale conservation of lowland wetland is underway. There is also potential for inclusion of areas subject to Q100 flood risk around important river corridors such as Blackwater, Moyola, Ballinderry, Owenkillew and the Bann in any assessment of potential strategic ecological networks.

### **Summary of Sustainability Issues - Population & Human Health<sup>9</sup>**

- 6.19** Population growth and changes to its composition have implications for the provision of housing, employment opportunities and public services. In addition, Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 requires a public authority, in carrying out its functions relating to Northern Ireland, to have due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity. In land use planning terms this means ensuring that everyone benefits from, amongst other things, quality housing and employment.

### **6.20 *Growth Rate and Composition***

<sup>9</sup> Source: NISRA 2016; Constituency Profile – Mid Ulster January 2015; Census 2001 & 2011

- Average household size for NI is 2.54, whilst the average household size for Mid Ulster is 2.88.
- Mid Ulster average household size is projected to drop from 2.85 in 2008 to 2.66 in 2023.
- Around one quarter of Mid Ulster population is under 16. This figure is projected to rise by 3,600 between 2008 and 2023.
- Overall population growth in NI between 2001–2011 was 7.4%, whilst population growth in Mid Ulster during the same period was 16.46%.
- The population of Northern Ireland is an ageing one, with the proportion of over 65 years of age (*new pensionable age*) expected to reach 20% of the total population by 2027. Mid Ulster District is likely to follow this trend.
- 11.1% of NI population were born outside the region. Compared with 10.4% of population of Mid Ulster born outside the district.

**6.21** The baseline population facts highlight a number of important sustainability issues for Mid Ulster. The figures demonstrate a significantly larger growth rate than the national average. This will provide challenges in terms of protecting the environmental characteristics of the area from not only the expansion of urban areas but also through the construction of dwellings in the countryside. Furthermore the growing population will also increase pressures on the transportation infrastructure and also increase pressures on the existing waste management systems.

**6.22** In addition Mid Ulster has a young population compared to the Northern Ireland average. This younger demographic represents a significant challenge for Mid Ulster's LDP to adequately allocate appropriate land for future housing provision and land for industry and employment creation.

**6.23** Whilst Mid Ulster has a smaller percentage of people above 65 years of age than the NI average this figure is on the rise. A Local Development Plan has a role to facilitate housing units to meet the needs of the elderly, particularly nursing homes, sheltered housing and smaller sized units. A rising elderly population will increase demand for health and community services, which the LDP will also need to accommodate.

#### **6.24** *Deprivation and Employment*

- Over one quarter of children in NI are living in low income households.
- 22% of NI pensioners live in low income households, some 4% above the UK average.
- One fifth of retired couples and two thirds of single pensioners are living in households without a car.
- The 2009 House Conditions Survey showed that in Mid Ulster Local Government District (2014):  
5.1% of homes were assessed as unfit (NI 2.4%) 2.2% of homes had no central heating (NI 1%) and 40.6% of homes were in fuel poverty (NI 43.7%)
- Mid Ulster's employment rate in 2011 was marginally higher than regional average (57% compared to 56%). Mid Ulster's unemployment rate was

lower than the regional average in 2011, however, Dungannon and Torrent's unemployment level remains poor in comparison to elsewhere in Mid Ulster (Oxford Economics report for MUDC).

- Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measures (NIMDM) identifies Magherafelt as the least deprived of the 26 LGDs (with 1 being the most deprived) in NI, with Cookstown and Dungannon and South Tyrone having a ranking of 15<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> respectively.

**6.25** Mid Ulster District is becoming a more ethnically diverse region. This change in population structure will result in changing requirements for facilities and living accommodation that the LDP will need to take into consideration. The LDP has a role in providing a range of house types and to provide policy to facilitate those wishing to expand their houses to meet changing needs.

**6.26** An ageing population raises issues around the population's mobility, as two thirds of pensioners are living in households without a car. This represents a challenge for the LDP to ensure that services are more accessible to those most vulnerable in society.

**6.27** Whilst the NIMDM figures for Mid Ulster have shown a marked improvement since 2005 there are still concentrations of areas within the district which are deprived (see Appendix 3 – Multiple Deprivation Measure Map). Deprivation is reflected in income and employment. Under the 2010 figures Coalisland (North and South), Ardboe, Stewartstown and Maghera were the most deprived areas in Mid Ulster. The LDP has a significant role to play in addressing employment and low incomes through the provision of an appropriately supply and location of economic development land.

#### **6.28** *Life Expectancy & Health*

- Life expectancy by gender for NI is Males – 77.07 and Females – 81.52. Life expectancy for Mid Ulster is Males – 77.67 and Females – 82.
- Nearly one half of people over 60 in Northern Ireland live with a long term illness/disability.
- Limiting long term illness figures for NI 2001 - 20.4% and for NI 2011 - 20.69%. Limiting long term illness figures for Mid Ulster in 2001 - 20.51% and for 2011 - 19.39%.

**6.29** Mid Ulster has a marginally higher average life expectancy than that of NI as a whole. This coupled with the fact that almost one half of the people over 60 in NI live with a long term illness will place significant pressure on health services and facilities and the LDP can play its part in ensuring these services are more accessible.

#### **6.30** *Educational Attainment*

- 20.72% of Mid Ulster population with degree qualification or higher compared to 24.0% of NI with degree qualification or higher

- 43.0% of Mid Ulster population with no or low qualifications compared to 40.63% of NI with no or low qualifications

**6.31** Education has an important role in promoting economic wellbeing and also improves access to employment opportunities. Whilst the percentage of the population within Mid Ulster with a degree have increased significantly since 2001, Mid Ulster still has a significantly lower percentage with a third level qualification than NI as a whole. Whilst it is not the role of the LDP to zone land for educational facilities it can, where a need is identified, designate and protect this land. In accordance with regional and operational planning policy the plan will seek to locate new developments which maximise efficient use of education facilities whilst keeping the environmental impact to a minimum.

### **Evolution of Issues without Plan – Population & Human Health**

- 6.32** The potential main consequences to Population in the absence of the plan could be;
- The LDP makes land allocations taking population change into consideration. Without the LDP there is potential for lack of affordable housing and a variety of house types to suit the various needs throughout the district.
  - Failure to protect and consolidate the roles of towns and villages as hubs for services in order that they may provide for more accessible facilities.
  - Failure to facilitate the development of new community facilities.
  - Lack of accessibility to health services for the most vulnerable in our society, such as the old and young.
  - Increased pressures on the transportation infrastructure and also on the existing waste management systems due to growing population.
  - Unchecked these issues could seriously affect economic growth for the district.
  - The failure to meet the projected 10,950 homes needed by 2030 for a broad spectrum of the population at locations accessible to services for those without a car.
  - The failure to meet the projected creation of at least 8,500 new jobs needed by 2030 resulting in increased deprivation levels within Mid Ulster District.
  - Detrimental harm to designated nature conservation sites and the wider biodiversity through the inappropriate siting of development land.
  - Loss of existing open space to inappropriately sited development resulting in a detrimental effect on well-being.
  - Failure to accommodate improved connectivity through telecommunication which could hinder economic growth and also increase the need for travel.
  - Development in the vicinity of an existing or approved economic development use that would be incompatible with this use or that would prejudice its future operation.

## **Summary of Sustainability Issues – Air & Climatic Factors<sup>10</sup>**

- 6.33** Overall the quality of NI Air has been improving since 1990. Sulphur dioxide has decreased substantially due to the wider availability of natural gas which has led a reduction of coal and oil used for domestic heating. In addition annual mean concentrations of Sulphur Dioxide at long running sites in NI have shown a steady decrease since 1990. Solid fuel use in Northern Ireland is also a major source of Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAH) emissions and therefore of ambient concentrations locally. Emissions of (PAH) from residential and commercial combustion per head of population are about four times higher in Northern Ireland than in Great Britain. Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons in Northern Ireland.<sup>11</sup>
- 6.34** GHG emissions are not falling as quickly in NI as in the rest of the UK; a decrease of 29% on 1990 levels has been recorded for the UK as a whole (by 2011), but only 17.5% for NI. Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions from the transport sector in NI have increased by 25% during 1990-2011 despite improvements in efficiency of transport vehicles; this is compared to a slight decrease for the UK as a whole.
- 6.35** Within Mid Ulster 3 Air Quality Management Sites have been designated. These are Newell Road Dungannon, The Moy and Magherafelt. The pollutant source for all 3 of these AQMA's is road traffic (NO<sub>2</sub>). Two previous AQMA have been recently revoked due to improvements in air quality. These were at Church Street Dungannon and Stewartstown Road Coalisland.

### **Evolution of Issues without Plan - Air & Climatic Factors**

- 6.36** The potential main consequences to Air and Climatic Factors in the absence of the plan;
- Without the promotion of alternative modes of transport such as public transport and use of bicycles through appropriate siting of development and designation of cycle routes the number of AQMA's could continue to rise.
  - Access to public transport services in rural areas is poor, leading to a high dependency on cars. Without the promotion of more sustainable forms of transport through the LDP, private car ownership will continue to rise and consequently the Council will fail to meet mandatory targets set by The Climate Change Act, which requires gas emission reductions of at least 80% by 2050, and reductions in greenhouse gas emissions of at least 34% by

<sup>10</sup> Source: State of the Environment Report 2013; DOE Air Quality NI 2015; DOE Strategic Environmental Issues; DOENI noise complaint statistics 2013/14; Census 2001 & 2011; DETI; NAIE Report; Greenhouse Gas Inventory 1990-2013/NI Climate Change legislation Discussion Paper

<sup>11</sup> Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons in Northern Ireland NPL REPORT February 2012.

2020 against a 1990 baseline.

- The plan could designate traffic control areas within towns to be pedestrianised in order to not only improve an areas attractiveness but also to curb CO<sub>2</sub> levels.
- In the absence of protection of trees/woodlands and peat-land areas important carbon storage and capture areas may be lost.

### **Summary of Sustainability Issues – Cultural Heritage<sup>12</sup>**

**6.37** The built heritage of NI includes archaeological sites and monuments, historic buildings, industrial and military remains, gardens, historic landscapes and Mid Ulster contains a broad spectrum of sites of significant cultural importance. These sites of distinctive heritage are O'Neill County, Tullaghoge, Dungannon and a large number of prehistoric archeological sites and monuments.

- The number of Scheduled Monuments throughout NI has increased steadily on an annual basis for over a decade. In 2001/02 there was a cumulative total of 1,513 scheduled monuments and as of 2012/13 there are 1,939.
- Scheduled Monument Consent must be sought for proposed works which may alter or disturb the fabric of a scheduled historic monument, or its ground surface. The overall application numbers received have been reasonably steady since 2006, though it is notable that numbers peaked to 68 at the beginning of the economic downturn in 2008/09 and then dropped quite dramatically in the middle of the downturn in 2010/11.
- The total number of listed buildings throughout NI has increased steadily year on year for over a decade. In 2003/04 there were 8,191 listed buildings and in 2012/13 there were 8,563 throughout NI.
- Mid Ulster contains approximately 14% of NI's total number of listed buildings.
- The number of listed buildings at risk has increased significantly since 2003/04. At this time there were 378 buildings at risk and by 2012/13 this figure had increased to 473.
- The number of buildings at risk lost in 2004/05 was 25 and although the number lost since then has fluctuated year by year the overall average number of buildings lost across NI is 22.
- Mid Ulster Council District contains 20% of NI's State Care Monuments and 9% of NI's Scheduled Monuments.
- In total Mid Ulster contains 1524 monuments (of which 1312 are unscheduled).

<sup>12</sup> Source: Department for Communities – Historic Environment Division Datasets March 2016; State of the Environment Report 2013; NIEA Camsar Report 2009; Northern Ireland Environmental Statistics Report - March 2014; HED Schedule of Historic Monuments March 2015; HED datasets on Defence and Industrial Sites March 2016; Ulster Architectural Heritage Society March 2016

- Mid Ulster contains 1 of the 10 designated Areas of Archaeological Interest throughout NI and 25 of the 125 Areas of Archaeological Potential designated across NI.
- The number of historic parks, gardens and demesnes within Mid Ulster constitutes 12% of NI's total registered parks and 6% of the supplementary list.
- Mid Ulster contains 5 of the total of 60 Conservation Areas and 26 of 172 Areas of Townscape Character designated throughout NI.
- There are 118 Local Landscape Policy Areas designated within Mid Ulster out of a total of 1229 designated throughout NI.

**6.38** A second, area based survey of all historic buildings (The Second Survey) has been underway since 1997 and is largely responsible for the increase. However it should be noted that a significant number of buildings have also been found which no longer meet the legislative test and have therefore been removed.

**6.39** Development pressures in the last five years may have had both positive and negative impacts on our historic environment. At the time of the first State of the Environment report, there were high numbers of planning applications and requests from the public to protect unlisted historic buildings threatened with removal. New powers were used to temporarily list buildings where it appeared that the building was of special architectural or historic interest and under a clear threat. The number of such notices rose to a peak of 20 in 2009/10 but declined rapidly after that as pressure for development declined.

**6.40** The economic downturn has also led to a reduction in schemes to conserve historic buildings including those at risk. In 2012, an increase in grant assistance from 35% to 45% for repair work to most listed buildings resulted in a 20% increase in applications.

**6.41** A further pressure from the economic downturn included the increased frequency of fires at listed buildings. In the three month period from April to June 2011, the number of fires increased from around one or two per year to eleven. The upsurge in arson attacks against Listed Buildings has resulted in damage ranging from minor scorching to the complete loss of interiors.

**6.42** Between 2007/08 - 2012/13 there was generally a steady increase in the number of buildings in receipt of grant funding rising steadily from 79 to 159 respectively.

**6.43** During 2012/13, over £3.3 million in funding was spent on 159 grants for listed buildings with 48% of the total grant funding spent on those properties recognized as being of outstanding or exceptional merit, grade A and B+.

### **Evolution of issues without Plan- Cultural Heritage**

**6.44** The potential main consequences to in the absence of the plan;

- The unchecked growth of the towns and villages may put increased pressure on the existing historic built fabric of settlements and also the outlying rural areas which may contain a variety of archaeological sites and monuments.
- State Care Monuments, Scheduled Monuments and sites of archaeological interest could be damaged or lost through inappropriately sited or managed development.
- The number of Listed Buildings at risk continues to rise. Listed Buildings could be damaged or lost completely to new development or indeed their historic setting could be damaged as a result of inappropriately sited or designed development. Through continued protection and through a flexible approach these buildings may find an appropriate new use or could suffer damage from arson or criminal damage.
- A trend to replace historic rural buildings, many of which were very small, has developed over the last thirty years. This figure is extremely difficult to quantify however the 1998 publication on rural buildings 'A Sense of Loss, the survival of rural traditional buildings in Northern Ireland,' noted that 49% of buildings indicated on the 1909 map had gone by that time. Further losses will continue if a more flexible approach to their re-use is considered

**6.45** Through the creation of a new LDP and the Cultural Heritage of Mid Ulster will be protected and enhanced for the benefit of our own and future generations. Furthermore through its protection our cultural heritage the Council has the potential to unlock greater economic benefits from its historic environment. The protection of our Cultural Heritage is key to the people of Mid Ulster and visitors to our district understanding and enjoying the unique history of the area.

**Summary of Sustainability Issues – Material Assets<sup>13</sup>**

**6.46** Waste data are broken into 2 main categories, LAC municipal waste and household waste.

- The proportion of Local Authority Collected (LAC) municipal waste recycled in NI has been increasing since 2002 (38.4%) however this figure is still well short of the EU target of recycling 50% of municipal solid waste by 2020.

<sup>13</sup> Source: Northern Ireland Environmental Statistics Report – Feb. 2015; Mid Ulster Position Paper Two, Housing, November 2014; 2013 Housing Monitor Reports; The 2011 House Condition Survey; NISRA Census 2001; NISRA Census 2011; NI Housing Market Review & Perspective 2014-2017; NIHE Housing Plan & Local Housing Strategies 2014 / 2015; Mid Ulster Council Outdoor Recreation Report November 2014; ACTIVE PLACES RESEARCH REPORT 2009 Bridging the Gap; NI Assembly Research and Information Service Briefing Paper: Access to the countryside in Northern Ireland -occupiers' liability Dec 2012; National Assembly for Wales Research paper Countryside access in the UK: a review of associated legislation and policy April 2014



- In 2011/12 there was a continued reliance on landfill in NI, with just over 58% of LAC municipal waste landfilled.
- Mid Ulster has been performing relatively well and the 2013/14 figures show that 48.6% of LAC municipal waste was sent to landfill sites however this figure remains higher than NI average of 44%.
- The amount of household waste in NI has more than doubled between 2004/05 and 2013/14 from 18.2% to 40.6%. Mid Ulster has performed well as over the same period the amount of household waste recycled in the district has almost doubled from 23.9% in 2004/05 to 46.1% in 2013/14.

#### **6.47 Landfill Sites within the LDP area.**

- There are 3 landfill sites in the Mid Ulster District located at Ballymacombs Road, Bellaghy, Tullyvar, Aughnacloy, and Magheraglass, Cookstown. The site at Ballmacombs Road is temporarily closed and has a temporary cap. There is void capacity at the Tullyvar landfill Site for the 15 year period of the Local Development Plan if required. The landfill site at Magheraglass may close by 2017.

#### **6.48 Land Zoned for Housing within the LDP area.**

- All five towns in Mid Ulster have more than half of the land zoned for housing remaining undeveloped.

#### **6.49 Housing tenure within the LDP area.**

- Mid Ulster's increase in demand for social housing has far exceeded that of the Northern Ireland average. The Dungannon area's waiting list is particularly large in comparison to current social housing tenures provisions

#### **6.50 National cycle networks and public trails within the LDP area.**

- The Mid Ulster district contains varying degrees of the Ulster Way and the national cycle network. In the case of the Ulster Way it contains only 21.2km of it's 'quality section', of a NI total of 1000km.

### **Evolution of Issues without Plan – Material Assets**

**6.51** In both NI and Mid Ulster since 2002 the overall LAC municipal waste arisings have been decreasing, as has the amount of LAC municipal waste sent to landfill. Over the same period the rate of recycling within both NI and Mid Ulster has been increasing, although it is worthy of note that NI has the lowest recycling rates of LAC municipal waste in the UK.

**6.52** A key issue for the district is that the revised NI Waste management Strategy proposes to introduce a 60% recycling target by 2020 for local authority collected municipal waste. The LDP has a role in designating and securing an adequate number of appropriate sites in order to achieve this target.

- 6.53** Planning can contribute to the timely provision of an integrated network of waste facilities which are essential if EU targets are to be met. The Mid Ulster Council will prepare their own WMP this year to replace the two existing WMP's. The Local Development Plan will be prepared having regard to this new Waste Management Plan.
- 6.54** The LDP must ensure that there is sufficient lands zoned for housing within the district to take account of the latest Housing Growth Indicator figures.
- 6.55** The LDP has a role to play in providing for a mixture of tenures, housing types and providing access to affordable housing. Failure to address the identified need for social housing in the district could result in undue hardship for some citizens of Mid Ulster.
- 6.56** The future LDP must designate and protect existing greenways/cycle routes and open spaces. The designation and protection of assets such as old railway lines and canals could allow for valuable linkages to other existing open spaces/ecological networks.
- 6.57** The protection of trees/woodland and peatland areas are also important Ecosystem services. The careful management, maintenance and enhancement of ecosystems services can provide benefits that enhance economic performance, improve living standards, health and well-being, and our quality of life. A good quality environment can also help to improve resilience to climate change by for example reducing effects of flooding and urban heat island.

### **Summary of Sustainability Issues – Water<sup>14</sup>**

- 6.58** There is a significant risk of increased flooding in certain locations across the district due to climate change and increased frequency of higher intensity rainfall events.
- 6.59** The significant increase in population growth and housing in the district is likely to lead to an increased demand for waste-water treatment. Identified trend demonstrates that compliance of the Waste Water Treatment Works has continually improved since 2007, reaching 92% in 2013.
- 6.60** The overall percentage of rivers in NI that attained good chemical quality is 23% and this is still some way short of the national average.
- 6.61** Ground Water - forty six of the forty eight sites monitored across NI for nitrates are generally low, with an average of below 25mg NO<sub>3</sub>/l.

<sup>14</sup> Source: Northern Ireland Environmental Statistics Report – Feb. 2015; Rivers Agency Flood Risk Maps <https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/articles/what-flood-maps-ni>; NI Water; <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/topics/water>; Northern Ireland Environmental Statistics Report – March 2016

### **Evolution of Issues without Plan – Water**

- 6.62** The increased risk of flooding across the district could result in property damage and direct risks to the population. The LDP, through the use of DARD's flood maps, can identify areas liable to flooding to ensure that these are excluded from development zonings. DARD are currently planning to publish specific Flood Risk Management Plans (FRMP's) for the three River Basin areas in Northern Ireland (Neagh – Bann, North West and North East). These plans are currently at consultation stage and will hopefully be published in December 2015 and the council will ensure that the LDP is compatible with these FRMP's.
- 6.63** The plan has a role to play in identifying those settlements that have waste water treatment capacity and those that lack capacity. Lack of waste water treatment capacity could act as a significant restriction on future development.

### **Summary of Sustainability Issues – Landscape**

- 6.64** Landscape character in Mid-Ulster provides a considerable contribution to local distinctiveness. The landscape of the district is one of national importance. In Mid Ulster there are European and National designations totalling 20,533 hectares which equates to 12% of the Mid Ulster area. An additional 24,848 hectares of the Sperrin Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty falls within Mid Ulster. Mid Ulster contains 4 Ramsar sites, 2 Special Protection Areas, 10 Special Areas of Conservation, 48 Areas of Special Scientific Interest, 1 National Nature reserve, 2 Nature Reserves, 1 AONB and 3 Local Nature Reserves.
- 6.65** There is a close inter-relationship between landscape quality and value as wildlife habitats. Areas designated for their landscape importance can also support many habitats and species of biodiversity value. The biodiversity value of landscapes should be adequately reflected within the sustainability appraisal and LDP processes.
- 6.66** The prevalence of minerals sites in rural locations in Mid Ulster exacerbate the potential for impact upon the rural landscape, especially in the greater Cookstown area where the visual impact of sand and gravel workings can be quite pronounced.

### **Evolution of Issues without Plan – Landscape**

- 6.67** Pressures to meet the districts housing targets for the projected population growth figures may create pressures on landscapes surrounding the towns of Cookstown, Magherafelt, Maghera, Dungannon and Coalisland. The key issue is how to reconcile the needs of sustainable development, meeting the social and economic needs of the countryside, whilst ensuring that the intrinsic qualities of the landscape are respected and preserved.
- 6.68** Mid Ulster benefits from a high level of international, national and local landscape designations and planning policy must take account of how best to protect and preserve these unique environments.

- 6.69** Through the LDP process local areas that are recognised for their biodiversity value have the potential to be designated and protected as Local Nature Reserves.
- 6.70** Minerals excavation plays an important economic role within Mid Ulster. The LDP must ensure that the location of mineral development and their operation is controlled and that there is a balance between the need for mineral development and the potential impact on the environment.

### **Summary of Sustainability Issues – Soil<sup>15</sup>**

- 6.71** The Soil quality in Northern Ireland, as evidenced by soil P Index, has declined slightly in recent years. In 2012/13, there were more soils that were either under or over-enriched with phosphorus compared to previous years.
- 6.72** By end of 2014 364,000 hectares of land in Northern Ireland were under agri-environment scheme agreement.
- 6.73** UK soils contain 10 billion tonnes of carbon.
- 6.74** The most significant threat facing our soils is from erosion by wind and water. Around 2.2 million tonnes of topsoil is eroded annually in the UK.

### **Evolution of Issues without Plan – Soil**

- 6.75** The LDP can conserve and enhance soil resources by minimising development on greenfield sites and by directing development to brownfield sites. Although there is an evidence gap in relation to contaminated land sites within the Mid Ulster District this issue is currently handled on a case by case basis and where appropriate conditions can ensure contaminated land can be remediated as appropriate.
- 6.76** The LDP can strategically identify sites for waste management facilities to cater for the municipal waste needs of the district over the plan period.
- 6.77** Soils have a role in the fight against climate change and in helping us to adapt to its impacts, through its natural ability of carbon storage and water attenuation. Mismanaged extraction activities can also result in pressures on water quality and peat cutting can be damaging to vegetation, hydrology and landscape as well as destroying vital carbon sinks. The plan can assist this process through identification and protection of peatland areas within the district.

<sup>15</sup> Source: Northern Ireland Environmental Statistics Report – Feb. 2015; Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs

- 6.78** Changes in precipitation arising from global warming could have significant impacts on slope stability and could impact on soil and water quality.

**6.79 Assessment of Effects**

***“The likely significant effects on the environment, including short, medium and long term effects, permanent and temporary effects, **positive and negative effects**, and secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects, on issues such as – biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the inter-relationship between the issues referred to above” (EAPP Regulations NI 2004, Schedule 2, (6))***

**Table 2 – Likely Effects of LDP**

<b>SEA Issue</b>	<b>Plan Impact</b>
Biodiversity	The overall effect of the plan on biodiversity are mixed. Development has the potential to destroy habitats and result in the loss of species, however, with the correct policies the loss of biodiversity can be avoided, mitigated or reduced and in certain circumstances could protect and enhance biodiversity within new developments.
Population	Failure to provide for the needs of the population in relation housing/employment could result in people living in inadequate housing and/or unable to support themselves. The Plan can have a positive effect on population as through appropriate housing policies it can support sustainable growth.
Human Health	There is potential, without adequate policies, to protect people from noise and nuisance. The overall effects of the plan on people’s health are broadly positive though. There will be positive impacts on human health through the provision of new homes, residential areas with appropriate levels of open space, and the creation of new jobs.

Fauna	Mid Ulster is rich in fauna which is recognised through the number and range of designated sites, Ramsar's, SPA's, SAC's, ASSI's, NNR's and LNR's. The overall effect of the plan are mixed. If we develop 10,900 new houses in the district then some greenfield sites will have to be utilised. This could result in disturbance or loss of species. By taking the environmental designations into account the plan can ensure that adverse impacts are avoided, mitigated and reduced and in certain circumstances facilitate positive improvement
Flora	Mid Ulster is rich in flora which is apparent through the number and range of Ramsars, SPA's, SAC's, NNR's and LNR's. The overall effects of the plan are mixed. The plan can work to protect these from insensitive development. However greenfield sites that lie beyond designated sites may experience development pressures for housing and/or industry. The plan can have a positive effect through the introduction of policies/designations that seek to avoid, mitigate and reduce potential effects of such development and in certain cases facilitate positive improvement of existing flora.
Soil	Mid Ulster has a range of soil types e.g. acidic, clay, peatlands etc. There is a broad range of grades of agricultural lands within the district. Through house building and development there will be soil loss and soil erosion. The effect of the plan is mixed however, as through consideration of expansion of towns/settlements the plan can seek to protect the best quality agricultural land.
Water	The effects of the plan on water are likely to be mixed. The scale of development envisaged is such that the plan is likely to have a long term implication for water pollution, run-offs and localised flooding. However the plan will ensure that no land within the designated floodplains will be developed. Additionally the plan can introduce policies to ensure the introductions of SUDs systems and permeable surfaces within new developments.
Air	The effects of the plan on air quality are likely to be both negative and positive. Negative given the potential increased car use and increase energy use and fossil fuel burning within households and positive by reducing greenhouse gas emissions through sustainable locations for development.

Climatic Factors	With the increasing number of houses and other development, along with the increasing car ownership, will result in production of greater levels of CO <sup>2</sup> , causing carbon and ecological footprints to rise. This will make the effect of the plan on climate significantly negative in the long term. The protection of peatland and woodland can serve to check CO <sub>2</sub> emissions.
Material Assets	The overall effect of the plan on material assets through the creation of new buildings and roads is positive.
Cultural Heritage	The overall effects of the plan are mixed. It is acknowledged that there may be some negative impacts upon cultural heritage from inappropriately sited or managed development. The plan will seek to protect, promote and enhance cultural heritage through policies that will allow for sympathetic development which preserves historic assets and their settings. The Plan will also bear in mind the precautionary principle of development in relation to statutorily protected assets.
Landscape	The effects of the plan on landscape will be mixed. Inappropriately sited development that can be seen from many places can have negative effects on views and scenery. The plan has the potential to avoid, mitigate and reduce this impact through the introduction of spatial policies that set out preferred locations for high structures. There may also be some positive impacts through the redevelopment of brownfield sites and landscape improvement via mitigation and environmental enhancement measures.

## 7 Developing the Sustainability Appraisal framework – Task 4

### SA/SEA objectives and indicators

***“The environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or Member State level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation” (EAPP Regulations NI 2004, Schedule 2, (5))***

- 7.1** The SEA Directive does not specifically require the use of objectives or indicators in SEA, but they are a recognised way in which environmental effects can be described, analysed and compared. The SA/SEA objectives state what is intended. The plan's performance against objectives is normally measured by using indicators.
- 7.2** The SA/SEA objectives are meant to be separate from the evolving LDP objectives, though the two influence each other and may overlap. To fulfil the requirements of the SEA Directive, they must also cover biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage, landscape, and interrelationships between them.
- 7.3** The proposed SA/SEA objectives for the draft Mid Ulster LDP as shown below and in Appendix 4, address the full cross-section of sustainability issues including social, economic and environmental factors and have been developed from:
- A review of the relevant plans, policies and programmes; including international, European, national, regional and local guidance (Task 1);
  - An analysis of the environmental, economic and social baseline information for Mid Ulster (Task 2);
  - An identification of key sustainability issues (Task 3).
- 7.4** The SA/SEA objectives suggested for inclusion in the Sustainability Appraisal framework for the Mid Ulster LDP are detailed below:

**Table 3 – Sustainability Appraisal Objectives – SA/SEA Framework**

<b>SA/SEA Objective</b>	<b>SA/SEA Directive Topic(s)</b>
1. To reduce poverty and social exclusion	<b><i>Population Cultural Heritage including Architectural and Archaeological Heritage</i></b>



2. To improve the health and wellbeing of the population	<b>Population</b> <b>Human Health</b> <b>Cultural Heritage including</b> <b>Architectural and Archaeological</b> <b>Heritage</b>
3. To improve the education and skills of the population	<b>Population</b> <b>Cultural Heritage including</b> <b>Architectural and Archaeological</b> <b>Heritage</b>
4. To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home	<b>Population</b>
5. To reduce crime and anti-social activity	<b>Population</b>
6. To encourage a sense of community and promote a more equal and inclusive society	<b>Population</b> <b>Cultural Heritage including</b> <b>Architectural and Archaeological</b> <b>Heritage</b>
7. To improve accessibility to key services, especially for those most in need	<b>Population Human Health</b>
8. To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	<b>Air</b> <b>Human Health</b>
9. To improve water quality; conserve water resources and provide for sustainable sources of water supply	<b>Water</b> <b>Human Health</b>
10. To improve air quality	<b>Air</b>
11. To conserve and enhance biodiversity	<b>Biodiversity</b> <b>Flora</b> <b>Fauna</b>
12. To maintain and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and townscapes	<b>Landscape</b> <b>Cultural Heritage including</b> <b>Architectural and Archaeological</b> <b>Heritage</b>
13. To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural assets	<b>Cultural Heritage including</b> <b>Architectural and Archaeological</b> <b>Heritage</b>

14. To reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change	<b><i>Climatic Factors Architectural and Archaeological Heritage</i></b>
15. To reduce flood risk and the adverse consequences of flooding	<b><i>Climatic Factors Water Architectural and Archaeological Heritage</i></b>
16. To minimise the production of waste production and use of non-renewable materials	<b><i>Material Assets</i></b>
17. To conserve and enhance land quality and soil resources.	<b><i>Soil Material Assets Architectural and Archaeological Heritage</i></b>
18. To encourage sustainable economic growth	<b><i>Population</i></b>
19. To offer everybody the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment	<b><i>Population</i></b>
20. To reduce disparities in economic performance and promote sustainable regeneration	<b><i>Population Cultural Heritage including Architectural and Archaeological Heritage</i></b>
21. To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment	<b><i>Population</i></b>
22. To encourage efficient patterns of movement in support of economic growth	<b><i>Population</i></b>

**7.5** Each of the above 22 no. SA/SEA objectives are accompanied by a series of decision making criteria questions covering the key considerations that will be taken into account as part of the assessment process. These questions will help to ensure that all the key sustainability issues are considered by the SA/SEA assessment process of the Mid Ulster LDP. The decision making criteria questions are detailed in Appendix 4.

**7.6** A list of potential SA/SEA indicators is also detailed in Appendix 4. Once the

LDP document are adopted it will be important to use sustainability indicators to measure how far the Mid Ulster LDP is contributing to achieving the SA/SEA Objectives, as well as being used to inform the SA/SEA assessment process itself.

### **Compatibility testing of SA/SEA objectives**

- 7.7** The SA/SEA objectives identified in Table 3 above must be tested against one another for compatibility. Identifying any conflicts now will enable decisions made on the Plan Strategy to be fully informed of the sustainability implication that could occur. It also provides an early opportunity for mitigation or alternatives to be considered. It must be acknowledged that this basic exercise involves some assumptions being made.
- 7.8** Whilst for the most part the matrix has demonstrated a broad compatibility or neutral relationship between the SA/SEA objectives, there are a small number that demonstrate some potential conflict. The main area of conflict involves the construction of new housing and the desire to conserve and enhance biodiversity. The assumption being that a significant portion of the new housing will be accommodated on greenfield sites. It is the role of the LDP to weigh up potential conflicts and ensure a balanced approach is taken to ensuring sustainable development. Development on greenfield sites has potential to conflict with preserving and enhancing cultural heritage, particularly when it results in the destruction of previously unrecognized archaeological sites.

**Key to symbols on Table 4 SA/SEA Objective – Plan Objective Compatibility Matrix**

<b>Assessment Symbol</b>	<b>Explanation of Symbol</b>
<b>+</b>	<b>Positive Impact</b>
<b>-</b>	<b>Negative Impact</b>
<b>/</b>	<b>Both positive and negative or unclear in absence of further detail</b>
<b>0</b>	<b>Neutral or no impact</b>

**Table 4 Plan Objective – SA/SEA Objective Compatibility Matrix**

<b>SA/SEA Objective</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
1. To reduce poverty and social exclusion																						
2. To improve the health and wellbeing of the population	+																					
3. To improve the education and skills of the population	+	+																				
4. To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home	+	+	0																			
5. To reduce crime and anti-social activity	+	+	+	+																		
6. To encourage a sense of community and promote a more equal and inclusive society	+	+	0	+	+																	
7. To improve accessibility to key services, especially for those most in need	+	+	+	+	+	+																
8. To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	0	+	0	+	+															
9. To improve water quality; conserve water resources, and provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0														
10. To improve air quality	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	0													
11. To conserve and enhance biodiversity	0	+	0	-	0	0	0	0	+	+												
12. To maintain and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and townscapes	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+											
13. To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural assets	0	+	+	/	0	+	+	+	+	0	+	+										
14. To reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change	/	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	0									
15. To reduce flood risk and the adverse consequences of flooding	+	+	0	+	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	+	+	+								

16. To minimise the production of waste production and use of non-renewable materials	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	/	+	+	+	+	0							
17. To conserve and enhance land quality and soil resources	0	/	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+						
18. To encourage sustainable economic growth	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	-	-	-	0	+	-	+	0	0					
19. To offer everybody the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment	+	+	+	0	+	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	+				
20. To reduce disparities in economic performance and promote sustainable regeneration	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	+	+			
21. To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	+	0	+		
22. To encourage efficient patterns of movement in support of economic growth	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	+	+	+	

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## Compatibility testing of SA/SEA objectives against LDP objectives

- 7.9** The SA/SEA objectives are distinct from the objectives of the LDP, and the published Departmental guidance suggests that it may be useful to check the compatibility of both sets of objectives to ensure that both are consistent with one another.
- 7.10** The findings of the SA/SEA of the site and policy options for the Local Plan will be presented in SA/SEA matrices, which will include a colour coded symbol showing the score for the site/policy against each of the 22 SA/SEA objectives along with a concise justification for the rating given. The use of colour coding in the matrices will allow for likely significant effects (both positive and negative) to be easily identified, as shown in the key below.

### Key to symbols on Compatibility Matrices

Assessment Symbol	Explanation of Symbol
+	Positive Impact
-	Negative Impact
/	Both positive and negative impacts or unclear in absence of further detail
0	Neutral or no impact

- 7.11** The matrices in Appendix 6 demonstrate the compatibility of the 17 no. LDP objectives against the 22 no. SA/SEA objectives or lack of, as the case may be. Again the format of the matrices has been adopted from the Departmental guidance. Although the results show that a number of the objectives are either broadly complementary or have a neutral relationship, some potential conflicts and uncertainty over compatibility between objectives have also been identified. It must be recognised that some conflicts will always exist as the objectives cover a broad range of environmental, economic and social topics. For example, providing housing may conflict with the protection of Mid Ulster's biodiversity and geodiversity. It is the role of the LDP to weigh up potential conflicts and ensure a balanced approach is taken to ensuring sustainable development. The value of undertaking the SA/SEA appraisal at this early stage is that it highlights potential conflicts and opportunities for mitigation, reduction of impact or change of solution.

## **8 Consulting on the scope of the SA/SEA - Task 5**

***“The responsible authority shall prepare, or secure the preparation of, an environmental report..... When deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information that must be included in the report, the responsible authority shall consult the consultation body.***

***(EAPP Regulations NI 2004, Part III, Regulation 11, (1),(5))***

**8.1** The consultation stage of the SA/SEA draft Scoping Report (Task 5 of A(1)) is a key part of the SA/SEA process, as the key stakeholders are best placed to comment on their own particular areas of expertise. The SEA Directive requires Local Authorities to consult with statutory environmental bodies. In Northern Ireland these are:

- Natural Environment Division (NED ), Northern Ireland Environment Agency, Department of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (DAERA)
- Historic Environment Division (HED), Department for Communities (DfC).

**8.2** A draft version of this Scoping Report has been subject to a consultation with Natural Environment Division (NED) and Historic Environmental Division (HED). Comments received from the Consultation Body during the 5 week consultation period have been reviewed and addressed as appropriate in the final version of this report. Issues raised by the consultation body will ultimately inform the Environmental Report to be produced as part of the SA/SEA.

**8.3** In addition to consulting with statutory bodies the Mid Ulster plan team has met with the Project Management Team and will convene further meetings over the course of the year prior to the publication of the Preferred Options Paper. The Project Management team is comprised of Senior Council Officers, the Planning Manager and representatives from key statutory/government departments. The purpose of the Project Management Team is to ensure key consultees co-operate in the plan making process. The Project Management Team act as the screening and scoping group for the SA, including SEA and Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA).

Further detail on the remaining stages of the LDP & SA/SEA processes are set out in LDP and SA/SEA Timetable - Appendix 5.

### **SA/SEA Interim Report – Stage A(2)**

**8.4** The Scoping Report is followed by the preparation of the SA/SEA Interim Report. This consists of the Scoping Report and an assessment of reasonable alternatives as outlined in the associated Preferred Options Paper. All reasonable alternatives are assessed against the SA/SEA framework contained within this Scoping Report. Prior to this, and to assist in compiling the SA/SEA Interim Report, Mid Ulster Council will convene a second meeting of the Project Management Team / Multi-Disciplinary Steering Group to undertake assessment of the reasonable alternatives for the Preferred Options Paper. The

below tables (adopted from Departmental guidance) show how the assessment of alternatives could be achieved. Once agreed, Mid Ulster Council will undertake public consultation of the SA/SEA Interim Report along with the Preferred Options Paper

### **Possible format for assessment of alternatives**

SA/SEA Objective	Option 1				Option 2			
	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Comments/Explanation	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Comments/Explanation
As set out in SA/SEA Framework				Reasons for choosing / rejecting alternative – refer to review of other plans / programmes, baseline, problems / issues etc.				Reasons for choosing / rejecting alternative – refer to review of other plans / programmes, baseline, problems / issues etc.
positive (+) negative (-) neutral (0) uncertain (?) no relationship (N/R) major positive (++) major negative (--)								
Source: Adapted from A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive, Sept 2005								

- 8.5** Mid Ulster Council is required to undertake an assessment of likely effects of the reasonable alternatives. Similarly, the table below demonstrates how this could be done and again has been adopted from Departmental guidance. The SA/SEA is intended to identify any potential adverse effects and consider ways in which these can be mitigated or avoided; and to identify potential positive effects and ways in which these can be maximised, through particular wording and specifically through development criteria within the LDP.

### **Possible format for assessment of likely significant effects**

SA/SEA Theme / Objective	Decision Making Criteria	Relevant Indicator	Plan Policy proposal				
			Effects			Summary / Comments	Mitigation / changes to policy or proposal
			Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term		
As set out in SA/SEA Framework		Baseline Data				Reasoning / justification – refer to review of other plans/ programmes, baseline, problems / issues etc.	
						Also consider interrelationship between SA/SEA objectives and secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects.	
positive (+) negative (-) neutral (0) uncertain (?) no relationship (N/R) major positive (++) major negative (--)							
Source: Adapted from A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive, Sept 2005							



- 8.6** The SA/SEA Interim Report will be subject to formal consultation with the Department and the CB as per Regulation 12(2) of the EAPP Regulations (NI) 2004. Following this, formal Transboundary Consultation with the Republic of Ireland (Monaghan County Council) will be carried out. The SA Interim Report will then be published alongside the Preferred Options Paper for public consultation. The method of consultation is set out in the Mid Ulster Council's Statement of Community Involvement



# Appendix 1

## **Plans and Programmes.**

## Appendix 1 Relevant Plans and Programmes

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
<b>INTERNATIONAL</b>			
<b>EU Directives</b>			
<i>SEA Directive 2001</i> Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment.	Provide for a high level of protection of the environment and contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development.	The LDP will take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive at the national level.	Requirements of the Directive must be met in Sustainability Appraisals.
<i>The Habitats Directive 1992</i> Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.	Promote the maintenance of biodiversity taking account of economic, social, cultural and regional requirements. Conservation of natural habitats and maintain landscape features of importance to wildlife and fauna	The LDP will be subject to Habitats Regulations Assessment in line with the Directive. It should focus on protecting and enhancing natural habitats through an Appropriate Assessment (AA) of SPAs and SACs within and around Mid Ulster.	<p>Include the following Draft SA objectives are proposed;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To conserve and enhance biodiversity,</li> <li>To maintain and enhance the quality of the landscapes (and townscapes),</li> <li>To protect and maintain the natural environment and important landscape features'</li> <li>To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment,</li> <li>To improve air quality,</li> <li>To conserve and where appropriate, enhance the historic environment and cultural assets.</li> <li>To reduce contributions of climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change</li> <li>To minimise the production of waste and use of non-renewable materials,</li> <li>To encourage sustainable economic growth.</li> </ul>

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
<i>The Birds Directive 2009</i> Directive 2009/147/EC is a codified version of Directive 79/409/EEC as amended.	The preservation, maintenance, and re-establishment of biotopes and habitats shall include the following measures: Creation of protected areas. Upkeep and management in accordance with the ecological needs of habitats inside and outside the protected zones. Re-establishment of destroyed biotopes/habitats. Creation of biotopes/habitats	The LDP will need to consider the importance of SPA's and the need to avoid pollution or deterioration of habitats or any other disturbances effecting birds.	Include draft SA objective; To conserve and enhance biodiversity To improve air quality.
<i>The Waste Framework Directive 2008</i> Directive 2008/98/EC on waste.	Prevention or reduction of waste production and its harmfulness. The recovery of waste by means of recycling, re-use or reclamation. Recovery or disposal of waste without endangering human health and without using processes that could harm the environment.	The LDP should make appropriate actions reflecting the need to manage wastes according to this directive.	Include draft SA objective; To minimise the production of waste and use of non-renewable materials.
<i>The Floods Directive 2007</i> Directive 2007/60/EC on the assessment and management of flood risks.	Establish a framework for the assessment and management of flood risks, aiming at the reduction of the adverse consequences for human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity associated with floods.	Allocate sites and develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the SPPS.	Include draft SA objectives;  To reduce contributions of climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change  Include sustainability objective that relate to flood management and reduction of risk?
<i>The Water Framework Directive 2000</i> Directive 2000/60/EC establishing a framework for community action in the field of water policy.	Protection of inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and ground waters.	Impacts on the water environment will be considered by the plan. The LDP should recognise the need to protect ground and surface water from pollution; and reflect requirements of directive.	Include draft SA objectives; To improve water quality; To conserve water resources and provide for sustainable resources of water supply.
<i>The Landfill Directive 1999</i> Directive 99/31/EC on the landfill of waste.	Prevent or reduce negative effects on the environment from the landfilling of waste by introducing stringent technical requirements for waste and landfills.	The LDP will take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies contained in the SPPS.	Include draft SA objective; To minimise the production of waste and use of non-renewables

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
<i>The Industrial Emissions Directive 2010</i> Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions (integrated pollution prevention and control).	This Directive lays down rules on integrated prevention and control of pollution arising from industrial activities. It also lays down rules designed to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce emissions into air, water and land and to prevent the generation of waste, in order to achieve a high level of protection of the environment taken as a whole.	The implications of the LDP on industrial air pollution will be considered. It will take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies contained in the SPPS.	Include draft SA objectives; To improve air quality; To minimise the production of waste and use of non-renewables To reduce contributions of climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change. To encourage sustainable economic growth
<i>Energy Performance of Buildings Directive 2010 on the energy performance of buildings 2010/31/EU.</i>	The Directive aims to promote the energy performance of buildings and building units. It requests that member states adopt either national or regional methodology for calculating energy performance and minimum requirements for energy performance.	The LDP will take account of the Directive	Include draft SA objective; To reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change.  Include SA objective relating to the energy performance/efficiency of existing and proposed buildings?
<i>The Air Quality Directive 2008</i> Directive 2008/50/EC on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe.	Avoid, prevent and reduce harmful effects of ambient noise pollution on human health and the environment.	The LDP will consider the implications of the LDP on air pollution. It will take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies contained in the SPPS.	Include draft SA objectives; To improve air quality;
<i>4<sup>th</sup> Daughter Directive on Air Quality 2004/107/EC.</i>	Avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects of arsenic, cadmium, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH's) on human health and the environment as a whole	The LDP will consider the implications of the LDP on air pollution. It will take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies contained in the SPPS	Include draft SA objectives; To improve air quality;
<i>The Drinking Water Directive 1998</i> Directive 98/83/EC on the quality of water intended for human consumption.	Protect human health from the adverse effects of any contamination of water intended for human consumption by ensuring that it is wholesome and clean.	The LDP will take account of the Directive	Include draft SA objectives; To improve water quality; conserve water resources and provide for sustainable resources of water supply. To minimise the production of waste and use of non-renewables

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
<i>The Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive 1994</i> Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste.	Harmonise the packaging waste system of Member States. Reduce the environmental impact of packaging waste.	The LDP will take account of the Directive.	Include draft SA objective;  To minimise the production of waste and use of non-renewables  Include sustainability objectives to minimise the environmental impact of waste and promote recycling?
<i>The Nitrates Directive 1991</i> Directive 91/676/EEC on nitrates from agricultural sources.	Reduce water pollution caused or induced by nitrates from agricultural sources and prevent further such pollution.	The LDP will take account of the Directive. It is cognisant that Northern Ireland has been designated a nitrate vulnerable zone.	Include draft SA objectives; To improve water quality; conserve water resources and provide for sustainable resources of water supply.
<i>The Urban Waste Water Directive 1991</i> Directive 91/271/EEC concerning urban waste water treatment .	Protect the environment from the adverse effects of urban waste water collection, treatment and discharge, and discharge from certain industrial sectors.	The LDP will take account of the Directive.	Include draft SA objectives; To improve water quality; conserve water resources and provide for sustainable resources of water supply  Include specific sustainability objective to reduce water pollution?
<i>Freshwater Fishing Directive 1978</i> 78/659/EEC.	Aims to protect or improve designated waters in order to support fish life	The LDP will take account of the Directive.	Include Draft SA objectives; To improve water quality; conserve water resources and provide for sustainable resources of water supply To conserve and enhance biodiversity
<i>Shellfish Water Directive 1979.</i>	Aims to ensure suitable environment for shellfish growth	The LDP will take account of the Directive.	Include SA objectives; To improve water quality; conserve water resources and provide for sustainable resources of water supply To conserve and enhance biodiversity

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
<i>Bathing Water Directive 2006/7/EC.</i>	It applies to surface waters that can be used for bathing except for swimming pools and spa pools, confined waters subject to treatment or used for therapeutic purposes and confined waters artificially separated from surface water and groundwater. Member States must monitor the bathing waters every year. The waters are classified according to their level of quality: poor, sufficient, good or excellent.	There are no sites within Mid Ulster that are monitored for bathing water quality. The 23 sites monitored by DOE Marine Division are at coastal locations.	To improve water quality; Conserve water resources and provide for sustainable sources of water supply
<i>Renewable energy Directive 2009 2009/28/EC.</i>	Creates a common framework for the use of renewable energy in the EU so as to limit greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and promote cleaner transport. To do so, it sets targets for all EU countries with the overall aim of making renewable energy sources account for 20 % of EU energy and 10 % of energy specifically in the transport sector by 2020.	The LDP will take account of the Directive.	Include draft SA objectives; To improve air quality; To minimise the production of waste and use of non-renewables To reduce contributions of climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change. To encourage sustainable economic growth.
<i>The Environmental Liability Directive (2004/35/EC).</i>	This directive aims to establish a framework of environmental liability based on the 'polluter-pays' principle, in order to prevent and remedy environmental damage.  The Directive is implemented in Northern Ireland through the Environmental Liability (Prevention and Remediation) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009 SR2009/252.	The LDP will take account of this Directive and relevant local legislation.	Include draft objectives;  To conserve and enhance biodiversity To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment. To improve air quality To improve water quality; Conserve water resources and provide for sustainable sources of water supply To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment To maintain and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and townscapes To conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment and cultural assets. To reduce the contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change



Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
			<p>To minimise the production of waste and non-renewable materials</p> <p>To conserve and enhance land quality and soil resources.</p> <p>To encourage sustainable economic growth</p>
European Eel Regulation 2007 (EC) No 1100/2007.	Aims to establish measures for the recovery of the stock of European Eel and requires member states to prepare and implement eel management plans	The LDP will take account of the Directive	<p>Include SA objectives;</p> <p>To improve water quality;</p> <p>conserve water resources and provide for sustainable resources of water supply</p> <p>To conserve and enhance biodiversity</p>
North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organisation (NASCO) Commission.	Aims to promote the conservation, restoration, enhancement and rational management of salmon stocks in the North Atlantic Ocean through international co-operation.	The LDP will take account of this. DCAL is the competent authority in NI to take this forward and reports annually to the commission as to status of populations and actions taken to maintain and enhance them. Increased fisheries resource will result in increased angling opportunities in the MUDC area with the economic and social benefits this will bring.	<p>Include SA objectives</p> <p>To improve water quality</p> <p>To conserve and enhance biodiversity.</p> <p>To offer everybody the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment.</p>
European Spatial Development Perspective (1999).	Economic and social cohesion across the community. Conservation of natural resources and cultural heritage. Balanced competitiveness between different tiers of government.	The LDP should make a contribution towards fulfilling the goals of the ESDP.	<p>Include SA objective;</p> <p>To conserve and enhance biodiversity</p> <p>To conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment and cultural assets.</p> <p>To conserve and enhance land quality and soil resources</p>
General Union Environmental Action Plan (2020).	<p>The EU's objectives in implementing the programme are:</p> <p>(a) to protect, conserve and enhance the Union's natural capital;</p> <p>(b) to turn the Union into a resource-efficient, green and competitive low-carbon economy;</p>	The LDP should support the 4 key areas of work set out in the EAP.	<p>To conserve and enhance biodiversity</p> <p>To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment.</p> <p>To improve air quality</p> <p>To improve water quality; Conserve water resources and provide for sustainable sources of water supply</p>

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
	(c) to safeguard the Union's citizens from environment-related pressures and risks to health and wellbeing; (d) to maximise the benefits of the Union's environment legislation; (e) to improve the evidence base for environment policy; (f) to secure investment for environment and climate policy and get the prices right; (g) to improve environmental integration and policy coherence; (h) to enhance the sustainability of the Union's cities; (i) to increase the Unions effectiveness in confronting regional and global environmental challenges.		To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment To maintain and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and townscapes To conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment and cultural assets. To reduce the contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change To minimise the production of waste and non-renewable materials To conserve and enhance land quality and soil resources. To encourage sustainable economic growth.
European Landscape Convention (Florence, 2002) .	The convention promotes landscape protection, management and planning.	The LDP should support the aims of the convention, seeking to protect, manage and enhance the landscape.	Include SA objective; To maintain and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and townscapes. To conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment and cultural assets.
European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Valletta, 1992) . <i>Revision of the 1985 Granada Convention</i>	Protection of the archaeological heritage, including any physical evidence of the human past that can be investigated archaeologically both on land and underwater. Creation of archaeological reserves and conservation of excavated sites.	The LDP will take account of this convention	Include sustainability objectives; To conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment and cultural assets
EC (2013) Adaptation Strategy.	The overall aim is to enhance the preparedness and capacity to respond to the impacts of climate change at local, regional, national and EU levels, developing a coherent approach and improving coordination e.g. between national adaptation strategies and national risk management plans. Priority will be given to	Climate change is not specifically referenced in the list of LDP objectives. Reference is made however in Paper 6 Utilities to DARD Climate Change Flood Map and the need for the Mid Ulster Plan to be compatible with pending Flood risk Management Plans and the need to	Include sustainability objectives to reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change. To encourage sustainable economic growth

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
	adaptation flagship projects that address key cross- sectoral, trans-regional and/or cross-border issues. Projects with demonstration and transferability potential will be encouraged, as will green infrastructure and ecosystem-based approaches to adaptation, and projects aiming to promote innovative adaptation technologies.	avoid zoning flood risk land for 'habitable development'. This strategy could inform possible approaches to planning that would produce developments that are adapted to climate change, thereby increasing the resilience of Mid ulster infrastructure to climate change impacts. In addition, the strategy seeks to address border issues, which may be a factor in the LDP. Overall, these two documents are expected to support each other, though there will be a need to balance objectives at a local level upon implementation of individual developments or projects. Application of planning policy to existing developed resources may be negatively impacted as climate change measures may not necessarily align with objectives for natural heritage, cultural heritage or landscape outcomes.	To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment
EC (2011) Biodiversity Strategy.	Strategy is designed to halt the loss of biodiversity, restore ecosystems so far as feasible, and step up efforts to avert global degradation of ecosystem services in the EU by 2020. It also aims to speed up the EU's transition towards a resource efficient and green economy. These targets can be achieved through a number of strategic objectives including ecosystem based approaches to climate change mitigation and adaptation, conserving and enhancing natural resources using them in a sustainable way, and nature based innovation restoring ecosystems and conserving biodiversity.	The need to 'protect and enhance the natural and built environment and achieve biodiversity' (c) (i), is a key objective of the LDP. This will afford some policy protection to the habitats and species from inappropriate development. Flood risk and renewable development policies will also contribute to environmental and subsequently social well-being.	Draft objective; To conserve and enhance biodiversity

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
EC (2010) Europe 2020 Economic Strategy.	<p>Outlines the European Union's ten-year growth strategy and is about addressing the shortcomings of our growth model whilst creating the conditions for a different type of growth that is smarter, more sustainable and more inclusive. Five key targets have been set for the EU to achieve covering employment, education, research and innovation, social inclusion and poverty reduction, and climate/energy. Also it includes seven flagship initiatives providing a framework through which the EU and national authorities mutually reinforce their efforts in areas supporting the Europe 2020 priorities such as innovation, industrial policy and resource efficiency.</p>	<p>The proposed LDP will align with this Strategy due to its focus on economic growth.</p>	<p>Draft SA objectives;            To encourage sustainable economic growth            To offer everybody the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment            To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment.            To encourage efficient pattern of movement in support of economic growth</p>
EC (2009) Sustainable Development Strategy.	<p>A framework for a long-term vision of sustainability in which economic growth, social cohesion and environmental protection go hand in hand and are mutually supporting. Particular environmental protection objectives include increasing the use of clean energy and natural resources to combat climate change, reducing noise and air pollution through promotion of sustainable transport, and conserving and managing the overall use of water and air.</p>	<p>This Strategy aligns with many of the objectives of the LDP including those related to transport and natural heritage, as well as renewable energy.</p> <p>Will the Strategy and the LDP support each other in the respective delivery?            Reference to climate change?</p>	<p>Draft SA objectives;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To conserve and enhance biodiversity</li> <li>To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment.</li> <li>To improve air quality</li> <li>To improve water quality; Conserve water resources and provide for sustainable sources of water supply</li> <li>To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment</li> <li>To maintain and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and townscapes</li> <li>To conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment and cultural assets.</li> <li>To reduce the contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change</li> <li>To minimise the production of waste and non-renewable materials</li> </ul>

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
			To conserve and enhance land quality and soil resources. To encourage sustainable economic growth
<p>The Kyoto Protocol Adopted 1997, came into force in 2005.</p> <p>The "Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol" was adopted on 8 December 2012.</p>	<p>The protocol looks at limiting the emission of harmful greenhouses gases. Main target is reducing CO2 emissions by 5% of 1990 levels between 2008-2010.</p> <p>Parties committed to reduce GHG emissions by at least 18 percent below 1990 levels in the eight-year period from 2013 to 2020.</p>	The LDP plan needs to look at how it can contribute towards meeting the protocol agreement and the Doha Amendment.	<p>Include draft SA objectives;</p> <p>To reduce the contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability t climate change</p> <p>To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment.</p> <p>To improve air quality</p>
Paris climate conference COP 21- December 2015.	<p>At this conference 195 countries adopted a first-ever universal, legally binding global climate deal to put the world on track to avoid dangerous climate change by limiting global warming to well below 2°C. The agreement is due to enter into force in 2020.</p> <p>Governments agreed;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a long-term goal of keeping the increase in global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels;</li> <li>- to aim to limit the increase to 1.5°C, since this would significantly reduce risks and the impacts of climate change</li> </ul>	The LDP plan needs to look at how it can contribute towards meeting the protocol agreement.	<p>Include draft SA objectives;</p> <p>To reduce the contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability t climate change</p> <p>To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment.</p> <p>To improve air quality.</p>
1992 UNCED – Rio Earth Summit – Agenda 21 - Global Programme of Action on Sustainable Development.	Comprehensive plan of action adopted by more than 178 Governments to be taken globally, nationally and locally by organisations of the United Nations System, Governments, and Major Groups in every area in which human impacts on the environment. Agenda 21 sets out the key areas for action and the major groups to be included	The LDP will take account of this plan.	<p>Include draft SA objective;</p> <p>To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment.</p> <p>To improve air quality</p> <p>To improve water quality; Conserve water resources and provide for sustainable sources of water supply</p> <p>To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment</p>

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
			<p>To reduce the contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change</p> <p>To minimise the production of waste and non-renewable materials</p> <p>To conserve and enhance land quality and soil resources.</p> <p>To encourage sustainable economic growth</p> <p>To reduce poverty and social exclusion</p>
The Ramsar Convention. The convention of Wetland of International Importance (1971 and amendments).	Protections and conservation of wetlands, particularly those of importance to waterfowl as waterfowl habitat.	The Plan will need to ensure that Ramsar sites are protected and given appropriate consideration.	<p>Include Draft SA objective;</p> <p>To conserve and enhance biodiversity.</p>
Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development (2002).	<p>Commitment to building a humane, equitable and caring global society aware of the need for human dignity for all.</p> <p>Renewable energy and energy efficiency.</p> <p>Accelerate shift towards sustainable consumption and production.</p>	Ensure that site allocations and policies take account of the Declaration.	<p>Include draft SA objective;</p> <p>To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment.</p> <p>To improve air quality</p> <p>To improve water quality; Conserve water resources and provide for sustainable sources of water supply</p> <p>To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment</p> <p>To reduce the contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change</p> <p>To minimise the production of waste and non-renewable materials</p> <p>To conserve and enhance land quality and soil resources.</p> <p>To encourage sustainable economic growth</p> <p>To reduce poverty and social exclusion</p>

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
Aarhus Convention (1998).	<p>Established a number of rights of the public with regard to the environment. Local authorities should provide for:</p> <p>The right of everyone to receive environmental information.</p> <p>The right to participate from an early stage in environmental decision making</p> <p>The right to challenge in a court of law public decisions that have been made without respecting the two rights above or environmental law in general.</p>	The plan will comply with these requirements through the consultation process, as outlined in the Statement of Community Involvement	Ensure that public are involved and consulted at all relevant stages of SA production. This should be reflected in the Statement of the Community Involvement

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
Northern Ireland			
Strategic Planning Policy Statement.	It sets out the strategic direction for new councils to bring forward detailed operational policies within LDP's. It also provides the core planning principles to underpin delivery of the two tier planning system with the aim of furthering sustainable development, mitigating and adapting to climate change, and emphasising the importance of ecosystem services. The core planning principles are;	The LDP has a statutory status as the starting point for decision making.	Sustainability Appraisal should be an integral part of the plan preparation process, and should consider all the likely significant effects on the environment, economic and social factors.
	Improving Health and Well-being	The LDP will aim to promote safe and accessible environments with a high quality of life and community cohesion. Provision of Green infrastructure, Recreation and Open space, Quality Residential environments, protection of Natural and Built Assets all contribute to improved health and wellbeing. Objective (a) (i) provision of health services in main hubs and (c) (i) 'to protect and enhance the natural and built environment to achieve biodiversity, quality design, enhanced leisure and economic opportunity and promote health and wellbeing'.	Include SA objective; To improve the health and wellbeing of the population'
	Creating and Enhancing Shared Space	LDP objective (a) (vii) aims 'to accommodate cultural differences between communities whilst promoting 'shared spaces' to bring people together with equality of opportunity.'	Include SA objective; To encourage a sense of community and welfare.
	Supporting Sustainable Economic Growth	Emphasis on Creating jobs and Promoting Prosperity. Although sustainable economic development is not explicitly referred to in the LDP objectives,	Include SA objective; To encourage sustainable economic growth.



Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
		emphasis on creation of 'accessible' jobs (b) (i), a 'diversity' in the range of jobs (b) (ii) and on generating 'sustainable and affordable lighting and heating for the population' (b) (v).	
	Supporting Good Design and Positive Place Making	LDP objective (c) (i) recognises the need to achieve quality design .Objective (a) (iv) recognises the need to provide for vital and vibrant communities and (a) (v) recognises the need to accommodate development which allows people to remain within their own communities.	Include SA objectives; 'To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home', t To maintain and enhance the character quality of townscapes (and landscapes)'
	Preserving and Improving the Built and Natural Environment	LDP objective (c) (i) aims to protect and enhance the natural and built environment to 'achieve' biodiversity. Objective may need to be reworded?	Include SA objectives To conserve, p and enhance biodiversity. To conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment and cultural assets'.
DRD (2010) Regional Development Strategy 2035.	This document provides an overarching strategic planning framework influencing spatial development for the Region up to 2035, facilitating and guiding the public and private sectors. Taken into account are key drivers such as population growth and movement, demographic change, increasing number of households, transportation etc. It addresses economic, social and environmental issues aimed at achieving sustainable development and social cohesion.	The LDP will support the RDS as part of the wider Government policy framework and should therefore be closely aligned with its objectives.	See all SA objectives
Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998, Equality of opportunity.	The council is required to ensure that their local development plans are prepared in accordance with Section 75 statutory obligations. Consequently, a council will have to undertake an Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) to determine if there will be any potential impacts upon Section 75 groups as a result of the policies and proposals contained in their local development plans.	LDP objective (vii) seeks To accommodate cultural differences between communities whilst promoting "shared spaces" to bring people together with equality of opportunity.	Include SA objective; To reduce poverty and social exclusion

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
Everyone's Involved – Sustainable Development Strategy (May 2010).	<p>Everyone's Involved – Sustainable Development Strategy, aims to put in place economic, social and environmental measures to ensure that we can continue to grow our economy, improve our society and communities and utilise our natural resources in an environmentally sustainable manner. The Strategy also intends to strengthen the framework to address global issues such as climate change and sets out the following six principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• living within environmental limits;</li> <li>• ensuring a strong, healthy, just and equal society;</li> <li>• achieving a sustainable economy;</li> <li>• promoting good governance;</li> <li>• using sound science responsibly; and</li> <li>• promoting opportunity and innovation.</li> </ul>	The LDP's objectives broadly align with the aims of this strategy.No specific reference is made however to impacts of climate change.	<p>Include Draft Objectives;</p> <p>To conserve and enhance biodiversity</p> <p>To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment.</p> <p>To improve air quality</p> <p>To improve water quality; Conserve water resources and provide for sustainable sources of water supply</p> <p>To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment</p> <p>To maintain and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and townscapes</p> <p>To conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment and cultural assets.</p> <p>To reduce the contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability climate change</p> <p>To minimise the production of waste and non-renewable materials</p> <p>To conserve and enhance land quality and soil resources.</p> <p>To encourage sustainable economic growth</p>
The revised Northern Ireland Waste Management Strategy "Delivering Resource Efficiency" (October 2013);	This Strategy moves the emphasis of waste management in NI from resource management (with landfill diversion as the key driver) to resource efficiency i.e. using resources in the most effective way while minimising the impact of their use on the environment. Therefore, this Strategy has a renewed focus on waste prevention (including re-use), preparing for re-use and recycling in accordance with the waste hierarchy. Making more efficient use of natural resources and facilitating increased re-use and recycling is expected to have a	LDP objective (c)(ii) recognizes the need to 'accommodate investment in waste management' As stated In Para 6.8 of Paper 8 Utilities, the local development plan (LDP) have regard to the new Waste Management Plan for Mid Ulster (2016). The proposed focus of the LDP is therefore likely to support this strategy, namely with development making sustainable use of available resources and having a sustainable approach to waste designed in. The economic considerations of the LDP will support	<p>Draft objective;</p> <p>To minimise the production of waste and use of non-renewable resources.</p>

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
	favourable impact on the NI economy and help to promote and support 'green jobs'.	'green jobs' and ensure that the economy will benefit from planning decisions. Improved waste management will be good for the environment.	
Lifetime Opportunities – Government's Anti-Poverty and Social Inclusion Strategy for Northern Ireland (November 2006).	The Strategy sets out goals tailored specifically for various age groups in order to meet the objective of working towards the elimination of poverty and social exclusion by 2020. These include underlining the importance of early intervention as a means of preventing poverty and recognising the priority of removing barriers to people joining or re-joining the labour market.	LDP objective (v) recognises the need of both growing families and carers of the elderly and disabled by accommodating development which allows people to remain within their own communities and does not lead to significant harm to neighbours or the environment.	Include draft objective; To reduce poverty and social exclusion.
Thinking Rural - The Essential Guide to Rural Proofing (March 2011).	The objective is to ensure robust consideration and integration of rural issues at the outset of the policy making process. It should help to ensure fair and equitable treatment for rural areas through the development of policies which are proportionate to need.	Objective (a) (iii) seeks to provide for vital and vibrant rural communities whilst protecting the countryside in which they live by accommodating sustainable growth within the countryside proportionate to the extent of existing rural communities	Include draft objective; To encourage a as sense of community identity and welfare.  Is there a need for specific objective on rural issues?
'Valuing Nature' A Biodiversity Strategy for Northern Ireland to 2020.(July 2015)	It purpose is to make progress towards halting overall biodiversity loss, establish an ecosystem approach and help business and society in general have a greater understanding of the benefits that nature can bring to everyday life in Northern Ireland.	The Strategy will protect certain sites from development, which will need to be taken into account by the LDP and its policies.	Include draft objective; To conserve and enhance biodiversity
DARD (2012) Rural White Paper Action Plan.	This document sets out the vision for NI's rural areas and the actions which Departments will take in support of achieving that vision and to help ensure the future sustainability of rural areas. The vision includes vibrant and strong rural communities; improved infrastructure, transport and key services; strong community infrastructure which can avail of economic, social and cultural opportunities; and better linkages between rural and urban areas.	The LDP objectives support this. It sets out to support vibrant rural communities, facilitate development of new, accessible, community facilities, and improve connectivity between/within settlements in terms of telecommunications and transport infrastructure in particular.The Plan will promote sustainable development, well-	Include draft objective; To encourage a as sense of community identity and welfare.  Is there a need for specific objective on rural issues?

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
		being and economic development which are aligned with the vision for rural areas.	
DARD (2012) Strategic Plan 2012-2020.	Focuses on a number of goals, underlying those actions, which are independent and will address key issues in support of achieving DARD's vision of ' <i>a thriving and sustainable rural economy, community and environment</i> '. Goals include helping the agri-food industry prepare for future market opportunities and economic challenges, improve lives of rural dweller, enhance animal, fish and plant health and animal welfare, help deliver improved sustainable environmental outcomes, and manage the business and deliver services to customers in a cost-effective way.	The LDP will directly support this plan, recognising that rural areas have a key role in supporting economic growth. The strategy aims to achieve appropriate and sustainable patterns of development that supports a vibrant rural community, improves infrastructure and facilitates development.	Include draft objective; To encourage a as sense of community identity and welfare.  Is there a need for specific objective on rural issues?
DARD (2013) Greenhouse Gas Reduction Strategy and Action Plan.	Overall this promotes and encourages adoption of technical efficiency to improve farm business performance and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The strategy and action plan identifies a set of measures and actions that can be progressively implemented on-farm to better manage the climate consequences of agri-food production systems i.e. methane and nitrous oxide.	This paper is supported by Paper 6 Utilities (para 10.18) which advocates a retention of existing policy for biomass development as contained within PPS18 Renewable Energy. Similar issues such as transport generation, visual, odour and noise impacts will continue to arise during application processing.  Indirect benefits from the push on sustainable development i.e. GHG emissions will be prevented by good siting/design and well integrated developments. Good planning decisions in relation to transport and renewable energy will also indirectly support this plan.	Include draft objectives; To reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability t climate change. To improve air quality.
DARD (2012) Tackling Rural Poverty and Social Isolation.	This framework sets out the goals, objectives, priority action areas and outcomes for the Programme for Government commitment to	The LDP will deliver sustainable, economic and well-being benefits, all of which would be of value to poor, isolated	Include draft objectives; To reduce poverty and social exclusion. To reduce crime and anti-social activity.

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
	bring forward a package of measures to help target the root causes of social isolation and help those in poverty in rural areas. In addition it aims to provide the necessary tools to identify the needs of vulnerable people/groups in rural areas, develop programmes/interventions to help alleviate poverty/social isolation and complement/add value to existing governmental strategies intended to tackle these issues.	communities. It recognizes the importance of self-employment and homeworking, particularly in rural locations. It also recognizes the need to improve connectivity between settlements and their rural hinterland and accommodate investment in sustainable modes of transport.	To reduce disparities in economic performance and promote sustainable regeneration
DARD (2010) Renewable Energy Action Plan.	Aims to provide a framework which enables the land based and rural sectors to realise the potential opportunities in the development of renewable energy. Focus is on assisting meeting targets for renewable energy production at a regional, national and EU level in a balanced and sustainable way. Other key objectives of the development include energy security, emissions reductions and wider economic advantages.	<p>Para 10.10 of Paper 6 Utilities recommends adopting a policy similar to existing (PPS18) with greater weight given to development in vulnerable landscapes. As stated above a similar policy for biomass development as contained within PPS18 Renewable energy is also proposed. This approach will directly support the aims of this plan. Also complements LDP objective (b) (v) of which states that 'The need to provide and encourage use of energy both as a means of generating money for the local economy, attracting investment in enterprise and providing sustainable and affordable lighting and heating for the population'.</p> <p>Design and sustainable development policies should encourage renewable energy as part of these developments. Planning decisions will have to balance need for renewables with environmental concerns and it may be that the need for renewable developments is outweighed by environmental protection.</p>	<p>Include Draft objectives</p> <p>To minimise the production of waste and use of non-renewable materials.</p> <p>To reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change.</p> <p>To improve air quality</p>
DARD (2007) Flood Mapping Strategy for Northern Ireland.	Sets out a structured programme of fluvial and coastal flood risk mapping (and associated tool development) that is based on current	It is anticipated that the LDP will support this Strategy. Utilities Paper 6 Para 7.21 outlines 5 objectives that complement	Include draft objectives;

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
	<p>knowledge of the mapping requirements of the Planning Policy Statement 15 (PPS15) and the proposed EU Floods Directive. Aims to increase public awareness of flood risk areas, differentiate spatial distribution of risk within the floodplain to support planning and asset management processes.</p>	<p>the aims of this strategy. Reference is made in Paper 6 Utilities to DARD Climate Change Flood Map and the need for the plan to be compatible with pending Flood risk Management Plans (as required by the EU flood directive). Paragraph 13.4 also highlights the need to avoid zoning flood risk land for 'habitable development' and formulation of policy which makes drainage a key element of design and which promotes the use of SUDS. All planning decisions should take account of flood risk as part of all development.</p> <p>There is no specific reference to flood risk or climate change in the LDP objectives.</p>	<p>To reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change.</p> <p>To reduce the likelihood of flooding and its adverse consequences.</p>
<p>Northern Ireland Strategy for Sport and Recreation 2009-2019.</p>	<p>The Strategy's vision is "a culture of lifelong enjoyment and quality, quantity and access to places for sport is a key development input to the two primary development outcomes of increased participation in sport and physical recreation and improved sporting performances. In particular, the Strategy will ensure that every person in Northern Ireland has access to a range of new, improved and shared world-class and locally available sports facilities.</p>	<p>The LDP will support the aims of this strategy. Paper 7 Open Space, Sport and Outdoor Recreation Paragraph 12.2 &amp; 12.3 outlines several key objectives which will complement this strategy as long as there is no conflict with other objectives e.g. flooding, archaeology in its delivery. LDP objective (a) (i) aims to focus leisure activities in the 3 main hubs i.e. Cookstown, Dungannon and Magerafelt whilst objective (c) (i) recognizes the need to 'promote health and wellbeing.'</p>	<p>Include draft SA objectives;</p> <p>To improve health and wellbeing of the population.</p>

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
Defra and DOE (2012) A Climate Change Risk Assessment for Northern Ireland.	<p>The objective of the Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA) is to inform adaptation policy by assessing the current and future risks and opportunities posed by the impacts of climate for NI to the year 2100. The main finding is that extreme weather is still predominant among potential risks related to climate change but that other risks, such as water scarcity and species being able to track climate space, are becoming increasingly important. Several sections focussing on socio-economic implications of climate change comprising agriculture &amp; forestry, business, tourism, buildings &amp; infrastructure and health &amp; wellbeing.</p>	<p>It is anticipated that the LDP will support this Strategy. Utilities Paper 6 Para 7.21 outlines 5 objectives that will complement the aims of this strategy. Reference is made to DARD Climate Change Flood Map and the need for the plan to be compatible with pending Flood risk Management Plans (as required by the EU flood directive). Paragraph 13.4 also highlights the need to avoid zoning flood risk land for 'habitable development' and formulation of policy which makes drainage a key element of design and which promotes the use of SUDS. All planning decisions should take account of flood risk as part of all development.</p>	<p>Include draft SA objectives; To minimise the production of waste and use of non-renewable materials. To reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change. To improve air quality; To conserve water resources and provide for a sustainable source of water supply. To reduce the likelihood of flooding and its adverse consequences.</p>
DETI (2012) Sustainable Energy Action Plan 2012-2015.	<p>The Action Plan aims to assist with the implementation of the Strategic Energy Framework (2010-2020). DETI set out numerous "main actions for the future" regarding renewables and other aspects of sustainable energy. Of particular relevance are the commitments to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contribute to the growth of the NI sustainable energy sector (through Invest NI) to 8.9% of NI GVA by 2015.</li> <li>• Work with DOE, developers, planners and those responsible for environmental consents to ensure that the need for renewable energy to address the environmental impacts of climate change is recognised, that good quality applications are made and that clear, consistent and</li> </ul>	<p>LDP objective (b) (v) encourages the use of renewable energy for providing sustainable and affordable lighting and heating. There are no specific objectives regarding Climate Change.</p> <p>Para. 10.10 of Paper 6 Utilities recommends adopting a policy similar to existing (PPS18) with greater weight given to development in vulnerable landscapes, directly supporting this aspect of the action plan.</p> <p>Analysis of cumulative effect of wind energy development has been considered as part of the Development Pressure Analysis Paper (September 2015) an identification of vulnerable landscapes (Landscape Assessment Paper 2015).</p>	<p>Include draft SA objectives; To minimise the production of waste and use of non-renewable materials. To reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change. To improve air quality;</p>

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
	<p>proportionate procedures are in place for the consenting of renewable installations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertake “capacity studies” (including landscape capacity study, ecological study and bird migration study, with DOE and others) in order to determine with more accuracy how much development could be accommodated in different locations across Northern Ireland before significant cumulative effects start to emerge.</li> <li>• Develop a continuous monitoring framework (with DOE and others) where the key potential cumulative effects identified from the assessment are reviewed on a regular basis in response to growth of the onshore wind industry.</li> </ul> <p>There are also a number of socio-economic commitments, such as supporting construction of electricity network or refurbishing schools with renewable technologies for example.</p>		
DETI (2010) Energy: A Strategic Framework for Northern Ireland.	Contains goals and targets, but does not include the detail of how targets could be achieved. It does aim to ensure future access to secure, competitively priced and sustainable energy supplies for all of NI. Also it provides a direction for NI energy policy over the next ten years concentrating on key areas of electricity, natural gas and renewable energy sources.	Renewable and sustainable development policies will indirectly accord with this framework, by providing for renewable development. There may be a conflict between this framework and environmental policies (natural heritage, cultural heritage, flood risk etc.) when it comes to developing gas facilities and electrical networks.	Include draft objectives; To minimise the production of waste and use of non-renewable materials. To reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change. To improve air quality



Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
DETI (2010) Northern Ireland Tourism Strategy.	<p>The vision is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• create the new NI experience;</li> <li>• get it on everyone's destination wish list; and</li> </ul> <p>double the income earned from tourism by 2020.</p>	<p>This Strategy aligns with Population and Growth objective (b) (ii) which seeks to promote a diversity in the range of jobs, recognizing the importance of the leisure and tourism. The sustainable approach to tourism development advocated in Paper 8 on Recreation leisure &amp; Tourism will also directly support development that enables tourism e.g. visitor centres, attractions, services, transport etc. As with any development, environmental considerations will need to be considered.</p>	<p>Include draft objectives; To maintain and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and townscapes. To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural assets To encourage sustainable economic growth To offer everybody the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment. To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment.</p>
DOE (2013) Prioritised Action Framework for Natura 2000.	<p>The framework identifies key priorities for managing the Natura 2000 network, to achieve the objectives of the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2000 and to provide an overview of how to finance them. Priorities focus on improving habitats and species that are currently in bad status depending on general measures such as agri-environmental schemes, stakeholder involvement and monitoring. This enables successful management planning and implementation of conservation management measures throughout Natura 2000.</p>	<p>LDP Objective (c) (i) identifies the need to 'protect and enhance the natural and built environment to achieve biodiversity'. Positive biodiversity outcomes can be secured through the application of appropriate planning policies and planning decisions.</p>	<p>Include draft objectives; To conserve and enhance biodiversity</p>
DOE (2006) Water Framework Directive Monitoring Plans.	<p>Document aims to provide an overarching framework and outline the general approach that will be adopted to monitoring Northern Ireland's aquatic environment for the years 2006 to 2007 and beyond, highlighting the drivers for the work. The main one is the obligation to meet the monitoring requirements of the EC Water Framework Directive (WFD) (2000/06/EC), covering surface water, groundwater and hydrological</p>	<p>Although the aquatic environment or water management is not mentioned explicitly in the objectives, the need to protect and enhance that natural environment is recognized under LDP objective (c) (i). It is likely that the implementation of these monitoring plans will not be directly affected by the LDP, but rather indirectly by the implementation of local planning policy</p>	<p>Include draft SA objectives; To improve water quality; To conserve water resources and provide for sustainable resources of water supply</p>

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
	monitoring proposals	and consented developments.	
DRD (2012) Ensuring a Sustainable Transport Future: A New Approach to RegionalTransportation.	<p>The new approach to regional transportation complements the Regional Development Strategy and aims to achieve the transportation vision: <i>“to have a modern, sustainable, safe transportation system which benefits society, the economy and the environment and which actively contributes to social inclusion and everyone’s quality of life”</i></p> <p>The new approach starts with the assumption that the decision to travel has been made. It seeks to provide the infrastructure and services that will ensure that travel and transport are as sustainable as possible.</p>	<p>The LDP will support this Plan. LDP objective (iii) recognizes the need for improved connectivity ‘through accommodating investment in transportation to improve travel time and more sustainable modes of transport’. Objectives laid out in Paper 5 Transport &amp; Infrastructure would also align with this approach. The need for new or improved infrastructure will need to be assessed against environmental policies, though following good design and sustainable development should achieve the best possible solutions to the need.</p>	<p>Include draft SA objective; To improve accessibility to key services especially for those most in need/ To encourage efficient patterns of movement in support of economic growth. To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment.</p>
DSD (2013) Urban Regeneration and Community Development Policy Framework.	<p>The Framework sets out four Policy Objectives that will form the basis of any future policy or programme development in urban regeneration and community development:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To tackle area-based deprivation.</li> <li>2. To strengthen the competitiveness of our towns and cities.</li> <li>3. To improve linkages between areas of need and areas of opportunity.</li> <li>4. To develop more cohesive and engaged communities.</li> </ol> <p>It also contains a set of four Supporting Actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We will maximise the potential of regeneration and community development by supporting an evidence-based policy</li> </ol>	<p>The LDP objectives broadly align with this framework, in particular strengthening the hubs, improving connectivity and facilitating community development. The LDP will indirectly support this aim by accommodating development for disadvantaged groups, such as the elderly and disabled, with emphasis on ‘sustainable growth’, facilitating new community facilities and promoting ‘shared spaces’.</p>	<p>Include draft SA objectives; To reduce poverty and social exclusion. To improve education and skills of the population To encourage a sense of community identity and welfare. To improve accessibility to key services especially of for those most in need. To reduce disparities in economic performance and promote sustainable regeneration. To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment.</p>

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
	<p>environment.</p> <p>2. We will maximise the resources available to regeneration and community development by supporting an innovative financial environment.</p> <p>3. We will support the development of skilled and knowledgeable practitioners in regeneration and community development.</p> <p>We will promote an effective and efficient voluntary and community sector.</p>		
DSD (2012) Facing the Future: Housing Strategy for Northern Ireland 2012 -2017	<p>Government has three main roles in relation to housing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helping to create the right conditions for a stable and sustainable housing market that supports economic growth and prosperity;</li> <li>• Providing support for individuals and families to access housing, particularly the most vulnerable in society; and</li> <li>• Setting minimum standards for the quality of new and existing homes and for how rented housing is managed.</li> </ul> <p>This strategy sets out how we intend to fulfil these roles over the next five years. The strategy also envisages housing playing a fourth role in driving regeneration within communities, particularly those suffering from</p>	<p>This strategy aligns with a number of aspects of the proposed LDP, namely objective (a) (iv) 'To provide for 10,950 new homes by 2030 via a range of housing to meet the needs of families, the elderly, and disabled'. The strategy may put pressure on the environmental aspects of the LDP such as natural heritage, archaeology, flood risk, etc. Similarly, the LDP may inhibit house building due to environmental or design constraints. A balance will need to be found through considered planning decisions.</p>	<p>Include draft SA objectives; To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home.</p>

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
	blight and population decline.		
NIHE Social housing Development Programme (SHDP) - 2015/16 – 2017/18	The 3-Year SHDP is published together with an Unmet Social Housing Need Prospectus. The Prospectus is an integral part of the SHDP formulation process, which recurs on an annual basis. The Prospectus document highlights areas throughout Northern Ireland with the greatest level of un-met housing need and a current shortage of acquired development sites. The Housing Executive would welcome development proposals for these areas.	The LDP will take account of ongoing annual reporting and will be used to inform social housing zonings within the plan area.	Include draft SA objectives; To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home.
NIEA (2012) Strategic Priorities 2012-2022	The plan outlines the strategic direction over the next ten years to bring together diverse roles and guide corporate business planning, describing the context of the work and how it is delivered, how success will be measured and monitored, and strategic goals and actions under four priority areas: healthy natural environment, people and places, sustainable economic growth and using resources well.	The LDP will generally support this document, though individual developments will need to be considered on a case by case basis. LDP objective (b) (i) outlines aims to 'facilitate creation of 8,500 new jobs by 2030'. Paper 3 Employment and Economic Development Paper points to a pending review of PPS 4 Planning and Economic Development where new objectives will be laid out. It also aligns with LDP objective (c)(i) and the need to enhance leisure opportunities and promote health and well-being.	Include draft objectives; The majority of the Draft SA objectives can be linked to the strategic aims of this document, in particular; To encourage sustainable economic growth To maintain and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and townscapes.
1. Neagh Bann River Basin Management Plan 2015 -2021 (NIEA) 2. North West River Basin Management Plan 2015-2021 (NIEA)	River Basin Management is a key element in implementing the Water Framework Directive (WFD), taking an integrated approach to the protection, improvement and sustainable use of the water environment. It applies to groundwater and to all surface water bodies, including rivers, lakes, transitional (estuarine) and coastal waters out to one nautical mile.	Water management is not listed specifically as a plan objective however the need to 'protect and enhance natural heritage' (Objective (c) (i)) is likely to incorporate aquatic resources. Identifying flood risk is also referred to in Paper 6 Paragraph 7.15, which also influences water	Include draft SA objective; To improve water quality: conserve water resources and provide for sustainable sources of water supply. To conserve and enhance biodiversity. To reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change.

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
	<p>This plan aims to aim to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provide at least good status for all water bodies;</li> <li>• prevent deterioration in status;</li> <li>• promote sustainable development;</li> <li>• achieve specific standards for protected areas.</li> </ul>	<p>quality. The focus on sustainable and economic development may outweigh environmental concerns to a degree, but any planning decision will weigh each aspect as part of the decision process. Good quality aquatic habitats also enable outdoor recreation and well-being, which aligns with objective (c) (i) and the need to enhance leisure opportunities and promote health and well-being. The LDP will be compatible with the aims of this plan.</p>	<p>To reduce the likelihood of flooding and it's adverse consequences.</p>
<p>1. Neagh Bann River Basin Flood Risk Management Plans 2015 ( DARD) 2. North Western River Basin Flood Risk Management Plan 2015 (DARD)</p>	<p>Flood Risk Management Plans (FRMPs) are a key requirement of the Floods Directive and are aimed at reducing the potential adverse consequences of significant floods on human health, economic activity, cultural heritage and the environment. In practice, the FRMPs provide the information and evidence necessary to support risk management decision making. The Plans also help promote greater awareness and understanding of the risks of flooding amongst the public, Government Departments, local authorities and other organizations. This creates the opportunity for a more proactive and co-operative approach to flood risk management.</p>	<p>Water management is not listed specifically as a plan objective however the need to 'protect and enhance natural heritage' (Plan objective (c) (i)) is likely to incorporate aquatic resources. Identifying flood risk is also referred to in Paper 6 Paragraph 7.15, which also influences water quality. The focus on sustainable and economic development may outweigh environmental concerns to a degree, but any planning decision will weigh each aspect as part of the decision process. Good quality aquatic habitats also enable outdoor recreation and well-being, which aligns with objective (c)(i) and the need to enhance leisure opportunities and promote health and well-being. The LDP will be compatible with the aims of this plan.</p>	<p>Include draft SA objectives; To improve water quality: conserve water resources and provide for sustainable sources of water supply. To conserve and enhance biodiversity. To reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change</p>
<p>Northern Ireland Executive (2012) Economy and Jobs Initiative</p>	<p>Ensures that the economic challenges are maximised to sustain the people businesses and regional investment. It focuses on</p>	<p>This initiative will be supported directly by the plans focus on 'Creating Jobs and Promoting prosperity'. Plan objectives (b) (i)-(v) outline the intention</p>	<p>Include draft SA objectives; To encourage sustainable economic growth</p>

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
	supporting the local jobs market and accelerating new measures to create and retain jobs. Other key points include completing tourism projects, ensuring higher levels of support to employers for jobs filled by disadvantaged workers and encouraging small businesses (up to 50 employees) by providing skills grants to invest in new skills development etc.	to facilitate the creation of 8,500 jobs by 2030 across a range of employment sectors, including SME's and focusing also on self-employment and home working. Environmental considerations will be a factor in any development and it may be that the balance is in favour of the environment at times, or economic considerations at others.	To offer everybody the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment. To encourage efficient pattern of movement in support of economic growth
Northern Ireland Executive (2011) Programme for Government 2011-15	<p>The document sets out five priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Growing a Sustainable Economy and Investing in the Future</li> <li>• Creating Opportunities, Tackling Disadvantage and Improving Health and Well-Being</li> <li>• Protecting Our People, the Environment and Creating Safer Communities</li> <li>• Building a Strong and Shared Community</li> <li>• Delivering High Quality and efficient Public Services</li> </ul> <p>It also sets out 82 commitments, the key ones being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contribute to rising levels of employment by supporting the promotion of over 25,000 new jobs;</li> <li>• Achieve £1 billion of investment in the Northern Ireland economy which includes £375 million as a result of Foreign Direct Investment; £400 million from indigenous businesses supported by Invest NI and £225 million as a result of the Jobs Fund;</li> </ul>	The five priorities of this programme are generally reflected in the LDP objectives. As with many of the plans, strategies and policies, sustainable and economic development objectives will need to be balanced and well designed to ensure positive environmental outcomes. Where new development takes place, adverse impacts on the environment are likely.	<p>Include draft objectives;</p> <p>The majority of the Draft SA objectives can be linked to the strategic aims of this document, in particular;</p> <p>To reduce poverty and social exclusion</p> <p>To improve health and wellbeing of the population.</p> <p>To improve education and skills of the population.</p> <p>To reduce crime and anti-social activity.</p> <p>To encourage a sense of community identity and welfare.</p> <p>To encourage sustainable economic growth.</p> <p>To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment.</p>

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase visitor numbers to 4.2 million and tourist revenue to £676 million by December 2014;</li> <li>• Support young people into employment by providing skills and training;</li> <li>• Reform and modernise the delivery of Health and Social care.</li> <li>• Work towards a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by at least 35% on 1990 levels by 2025.</li> <li>• Halting the loss of biodiversity</li> </ul>		
Northern Ireland Executive (2008) Investment Strategy for Northern Ireland 2008-2018	Setting out the framework it will help create a sustainable 21 <sup>st</sup> century infrastructure. It identifies priority areas for investment in the years ahead and is intended to assist government and partners in the private sector plan ahead for the challenge of delivering the largest investment programme.	Developments will be required to comply with the LDP which may influence their location, design and scale.	Include draft SA objectives; To encourage sustainable economic growth To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment.
Northern Ireland Executive (2010) Sustainable Development Strategy and supplementary guidance	This Document enables structures and policies to be put in place to help move NI towards sustainability. Helps to align the priorities within the Programme for Government and integrate sustainable development thinking throughout their operations.	This Strategy will align with the sustainable development focus of the LDP. Development and planning required in pursuit of the Strategy will be required to address any environmental impacts that may occur.	Include draft SA objectives; To encourage sustainable economic growth.
SNIFFER (2007) Preparing for a Changing Climate in Northern Ireland	The report was produced to inform policy experts of potential climate change impacts and recommends that "adaptation is given a higher priority across all sectors and within each of the public bodies identified as being responsible for adaptation". Potential adaptation strategies have been identified; those of most relevance are as follows:	Reference is made in Paper 6 Utilities to DARD Climate Change Flood Map and the need for the plan to be compatible with pending Flood risk Management Plans and the need to avoid zoning flood risk land for 'habitable development'. This report could inform possible approaches to planning that would produce	Include draft SA objectives; To reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change. To reduce the likelihood of flooding and its adverse consequences.



Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Education and awareness: particularly focused on the human impact on species and habitats and the scale of the likely impacts of a changing climate”;</li> <li>• “Location and urban design actions: adaptation of infrastructure at risk, reduction of flood risk, use of green spaces and sustainable urban drainage systems”;</li> <li>• “Historic buildings: Improved management and maintenance of current buildings, development of strategies to adapt to changing climatic conditions”.</li> </ul>	<p>developments that are adapted to climate change, thereby increasing the resilience of Mid Ulster’s infrastructure to climate change impacts. Application of planning policy to existing developed resources may be negatively impacted as climate change measures may not necessarily align with objectives for natural heritage, cultural heritage or landscape outcomes. Climate change is not specifically referenced in the list of plan objectives.</p>	
Northern Ireland Regional Landscape Character Assessment 2016.	Seeks to provide a strategic view of the landscape which can complemented by more detailed studies in the future.	Landscapes are not specifically referenced in any of the LDP objectives although may be encompassed under objective (c) (i) which highlights the ‘need to protect and enhance the natural (and built) environment’	Include draft SA objectives; To maintain and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and townscapes
Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment (1999)	Provides a comprehensive analysis of all of Northern Ireland Landscapes, including their vulnerability and sensitivity to change	<p>Although landscapes are not specifically referenced in any of the LDP objectives it may be encompassed under objective (c) (i) which highlights the ‘need to protect and enhance the natural (and built environment’.</p> <p>This document has proven to be an important tool for informing local plan designations such as CPA’s LLPA’s and</p>	Include draft SA objectives; To maintain and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and townscapes



Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
		Areas of High Scenic Value.	
Closure of NIRO to new onshore wind in 2016 - DETI	Closure of the NIRO to large scale onshore wind from 1 April 2016 with exceptions in the form of grace periods for eligible projects. The NIRO will remain open for the time being to small scale wind until further consultation is completed. The Minister will consult further on closure arrangements for small scale onshore wind, which must now be set in the context of DECC's intention to protect GB consumers if Northern Ireland does not close the NIRO on equivalent terms to GB. The proposed closure to large scale wind will be adopted in a Renewables Obligation Closure Order (Northern Ireland) 2016 which is intended to come into operation in mid-March 2016	This may have both short term and long term impacts on both number of and processing times of onshore wind energy applications.	Include draft SA objectives; To reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change.
Sustainable Water - Long Term Water Strategy for Northern Ireland -2015-2040 ( DRD)	This contains 4 high level aims to cover key water needs within a catchment. They are; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- provide a high quality sustainable supplies of drinking water to households, industry and agriculture</li> <li>- manage flood risk and drainage in a sustainable manner</li> <li>- achieve the environmental requirements of the Water Framework Directive in a suitable manner</li> </ul> provide sustainable reliable water and sewerage services that meet customer needs.	It is anticipated that the LDP will support this Strategy. LDP objective ( c ) (i) refers to 'the need accommodate investment in power, water and sewerage infrastructure... in the interests of public health'.	Include draft objectives; To improve water quality; conserve water resources and provide for sustainable sources of water supply To reduce vulnerability to climate change. To reduce the likelihood of flooding and its adverse consequences.
The Social and Economic Impact to Northern Ireland, and areas within the	This report examines the social and economic impact of recreational fishing (coarse, game and sea angling) in (NI) and areas within the	The LDP will take account of this report.	Include draft objectives; To encourage sustainable economic growth.

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
Loughs Agency, of Recreational Fisheries, Angling and Angling Resources - 2007.	Loughs Agency which are in the Republic of Ireland. It seeks to estimate and evaluate the current and potential social and economic impacts of recreational angling and provide recommendations for future development.		To improve water quality, conserve water resources. To reduce the likelihood of flooding and its adverse consequences.
Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011	Section 5 of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 requires those who exercise any function in relation to local development plans to do so with the objective of furthering sustainable development. Sections 8(6) and 9(7) of the 2011 Act requires an appraisal of sustainability to be carried out for the Plan Strategy and Local Policies Plan, respectively.	The LDP will take account of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011. This scoping report forms part of the SA process.	See all draft SA objectives
Together building a United Community (OFMDFM)	Its vision is 'a united community, based on equality of opportunity, the desirability of good relations and reconciliation - one which is strengthened by its diversity, where cultural expression is celebrated and embraced and where everyone can live, learn, work and socialise together, free from prejudice, hate and intolerance'	The LDP will take account of this report. LDP objective (vii) aims to accommodate cultural differences in our communities whilst promoting 'shared spaces' to bring people together with equality of opportunity.	To include draft objective;  To encourage a sense of community and promote a more equal and inclusive society
Northern Ireland Climate Change Adaptation Programme (NICCAP) 2014 - 2019.	This contains the Government's response to the risks and opportunities identified in the Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA) for Northern Ireland, which was published in January 2012 as part of the overall UK CCRA.	Climate change is not specifically referenced in the list of LDP objectives. Reference is made however in Paper 6 Utilities to DARD Climate Change Flood Map and the need for the Mid Ulster Plan to be compatible with Flood risk Management Plans and the need to avoid zoning flood risk land for 'habitable development'. This strategy could inform possible approaches to planning that would produce developments that are adapted to climate change, thereby increasing the resilience of Mid Ulster infrastructure to climate change impacts.	Include sustainability objectives; Reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change. To encourage sustainable economic growth To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
		Overall, these two documents are expected to support each other, though there will be a need to balance objectives at a local level upon implementation of individual developments or projects. Application of planning policy to existing developed resources may be negatively impacted as climate change measures may not necessarily align with objectives for natural heritage, cultural heritage or landscape outcomes.	
DOE (2012) Northern Ireland Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Action Plan	<p>This Cross departmental working group on climate change outlines how each Department in the Executive will contribute towards meeting the 2025 emission reduction target i.e. Reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by at least 35% on 1990 levels.</p> <p>Note; problems in accessing 2015/16 DOE GHG Action plan - No link available on DOENI.gov.uk</p>	Implementation of the LDP will indirectly support the Action Plan through encouraging sustainable development, good standards of design, renewable energy and overall sustainability. Paper 6 'Utilities' paragraph 13.4 summarizes the approach to energy supply and renewables. Although a push on economic development could inhibit a reduction in greenhouse gases, the application of sustainability principles in development should lead to more efficient infrastructure.	<p>Include sustainability objectives; Reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change.</p> <p>To encourage sustainable economic growth</p> <p>To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment.</p>
A Discussion Paper – Proposals for Taking Forward NI Climate Change Legislation - Published by the DOE on 1 December 2015	<p>Proposals include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- setting a long term target of 80% reduction in GHG emissions by 2050 (compared to 1990 baseline levels)</li> <li>- setting interim targets that are consistent with achieving the 2050 targets</li> <li>- placing a duty to set limits in 5-year carbon budgets on the total amounts of GHG emissions that can be emitted in NI</li> </ul>	The LDP will take account of this document and any future Climate Change Bill.	<p>Include sustainability objectives; Reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change.</p> <p>To encourage sustainable economic growth</p> <p>To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment.</p>

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
NI Countryside Survey (2007)	In the late 1980s, a baseline land cover survey was carried out in Northern Ireland (NI) to estimate the area of different types of habitats from a random sample set of quarter kilometre (25ha) grid squares. A monitoring resurvey was carried out in 1998 to determine the extent of change using the same sample grid squares and methods as in the baseline. A third time series of the NICS was carried out in 2007 to survey 287 sample grid squares at a proportional sampling intensity of 0.5% across the NI landscape.	The LDP will take account of this survey.	Include sustainability objectives; To conserve and enhance biodiversity To maintain and enhance the character and quality of landscapes.
PC 15 (NIW's draft expenditure plan 2015-2021).	This sets out NI waters long term strategy for providing water and wastewater services customers throughout Northern Ireland. Over the 6-year PC15 period, its proposals will cost £2.8bn.	The LDP will take account of this strategy.	Include draft objectives; To improve water quality; conserve water resources and provide for sustainable sources of water supply
DOJ NI – Building Safer, shared and confident communities: A Community Safety Strategy for Northern Ireland 2012-2017.	This Strategy provides the overall direction for community safety in Northern Ireland, and will help guide the work of a range of stakeholders including the Executive, local government, the voluntary and community sector and local communities.	The LDP will take account of this Strategy. It aligns with listed LDP objective (a) (vii) to accommodate cultural differences in our communities whilst promoting “shared spaces” to bring people together with equality and opportunity.	Include draft objectives; To reduce poverty and social exclusion To encourage a sense of community and promote a more equal and inclusive society.
NIHE - Race Relations Strategy.	The five Race Relations Policy themes can be summarised as follows; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mainstreaming black and minority ethnic issues in policy development.</li> <li>• Racial harassment and intimidation.</li> <li>• Promoting black and minority ethnic social inclusion.</li> <li>• Community participation and development.</li> <li>• Migrant worker issues.</li> </ul>	This broadly aligns with LDP objective (a) (vii) which ‘seeks to bring people together with equality and opportunity’.	Include draft objectives;  To encourage a sense of community and promote a more equal and inclusive society

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
NIHE Good Relations Plan	<p>This plan aims to :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Respond quickly and effectively to the needs of people in danger as a result of community conflict</li> <li>• Work in partnership with others to address the complex housing needs of a divided society</li> <li>• Respect the rights of people who choose to live where they wish</li> <li>• Facilitate and encourage mixed housing as far as this is practicable, desirable and safe.</li> </ul>	This plan aligns with LDP objective (a) (vii) to accommodate cultural differences between communities whilst promoting “shared spaces” to bring people together with equality and opportunity.	<p>Include draft objectives;</p> <p>To encourage a sense of community and promote a more equal and inclusive society</p>
NI Executive Strategy Making Life Better – A Whole System Strategic Framework for Public Health 2013-2023 (June 2014)	A ten year public health strategic framework provides direction for policies and actions to improve the health and wellbeing of people in Northern Ireland. The framework builds on the Investing for Health Strategy (2002/12) and retains focus on the broad range of social, economic and environmental factors which influence health and wellbeing. It brings together actions at government level and provides direction for implementation at regional and local level.	The LDP will aim to promote safe and accessible environments with a high quality of life and community cohesion. Provision of Green infrastructure, Recreation and Open space, Quality Residential environments, protection of Natural and Built Assets all contribute to improved health and wellbeing. Objective (a) (i) provision of health services in main hubs and (c) (i) ‘to protect and enhance the natural and built environment to achieve biodiversity, quality design, enhanced leisure and economic opportunity and promote health and wellbeing’.	<p>Include SA objective;</p> <p>To improve the health and wellbeing of the population’</p>
Peace IV Programme	The PEACE IV Programme is a unique initiative of the European Union which has been designed to support peace and reconciliation in the Border Region of Ireland and Northern Ireland. The Programme was initially created in 1995 as a direct result of the EU's desire to	This plan aligns with LDP objective (a) (vii) to accommodate cultural differences between communities whilst promoting “shared spaces” to bring people together with equality and opportunity.	<p>Include draft objective;</p> <p>To encourage a sense of community and promote a more equal and inclusive society</p>

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
	<p>make a positive response to the paramilitary ceasefires of 1994.</p> <p>Whilst significant progress has been made since then, there remains a need to improve cross-community relations and where possible further integrate divided communities. The new programming period for 2014-2020 provides opportunity for continued EU assistance to help address the peace and reconciliation needs of the region.</p>		
Study of the Economic Value of Northern Ireland's Historic Environment DOE (May 2012).	<p>This study sets out to;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Determine the current value of economic activity generated by Northern Ireland's historic environment and its distribution;</li> <li>2. Gauge the level of historic environment-related employment in Northern Ireland, including indirect employment, the distribution of this employment, and its relative importance compared with other sectors;</li> <li>3. Conduct a credible analysis of the wider community benefits that Northern Ireland's historical environment provides to the economy using a series of case studies, and</li> <li>4. Make an assessment of the potential for the use of Northern Ireland's historic environment to aid sustainable growth of the economy and make recommendations as to how this could be realised.</li> </ol>	The LDP will take account of this study.	<p>Include draft objectives;</p> <p>To maintain and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and townscapes.</p> <p>To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural assets</p> <p>To encourage sustainable economic growth</p> <p>To offer everybody the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment.</p> <p>To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment.</p>

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
<b>UK</b>			
Defra, Scottish Government, Welsh Assembly Government and DOE (2010) Air Pollution: Action in a Changing Climate	<p>Further action needed to meet current air quality limits for PM10 and NO2 includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accelerating clean technologies – including retrofitting, low emission vehicles, buildings efficiency, euro emission standards etc.;</li> <li>Encouraging further behavioural changes – including modal shift, traffic management, safer driving, cycling, walking;</li> <li>Local measures and delivery including parking controls, bus management arrangements, strengthening local air quality delivery;</li> <li>Strategic options such as Low Emission Zones, local transport planning and very low carbon vehicles.</li> </ul> <p>Beyond this, we will be working across the UK Government and with the devolved administrations to ensure that agreed methodologies for assessing the costs and benefits to air quality are built into the evaluation of climate change impacts of policies.</p>	<p>Although 'Air quality' is not mentioned specifically within the listed plan objectives it could feasibly be included under natural heritage (C)(i) and would be indirectly influenced by a focus on renewable energy. The compliance of Mid Ulster and NI with air quality objectives will have an impact on the UK Government, particularly at a European level. Poor emissions in Mid Ulster come from sources such as road traffic and the burning of solid fuels for domestic and manufacturing use. Sustainable development could address these issues through integrated transport systems (objective C iii ) and provision of renewable energy (Paper 6, Para 13.4) so there is potential for a positive impact from the LDP. Meeting air quality targets will improve health and well-being for the public thereby also aligning with objective C (i)) and also have environmental benefits as well.</p>	<p>Include draft objectives; To improve air quality To reduce the contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change. To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment.</p> <p>To reduce the likelihood of flooding and its adverse consequences</p>
The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland Defra, Scottish Executive, Welsh Assembly Government and DOE (2007).	<p>The strategy sets out a way forward for work and planning on air quality issues; sets out the air quality standards and objectives to be achieved; introduces a new policy framework for tackling fine particles; and identifies potential new national policy measures which</p>	<p>Air quality is not mentioned specifically within the listed objectives, though it could feasibly be included under natural heritage (C(i)) and would be indirectly influenced by a focus on renewable energy. The compliance of Mid Ulster and NI with air quality objectives will</p>	<p>Include draft objectives; To improve air quality To reduce the contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change. To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment.</p>

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
	modelling indicates could give further health benefits and move closer towards meeting the Strategy's objectives.	have an impact on the UK Government, particularly at a European level. Poor emissions in Mid Ulster come from road traffic and the burning of solid fuels for domestic and manufacturing use. PM (Particulate Matter) and PAH (Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons) from solid fuel burning are potentially an issue. Sustainable development could address these issues through integrated transport systems (objective C iii) and provision of renewable energy (Paper 6, Para 13.4) so there is potential for a positive impact from the LDP. Meeting air quality targets will improve health and well-being for the public thereby aligning with objective C (i) and also have environmental benefits as well.	To reduce the likelihood of flooding and its adverse consequences
HMSO (2005) Sustainable Development Strategy	The strategy for sustainable development aims to enable all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life without compromising the quality of life of future generations. This can be done through producing new priorities in sustainable development for the UK to meet, help others make better informed choices, ensure sustainable consumption and production, confront climate change and energy, protect natural resources and enhance environment etc.	Objectives (a) (iii), (b) (v) and (c) (ii) have a strong sustainable development theme, which aligns with the priorities of this Strategy. Plan objectives make no specific reference to climate change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Include Draft Objectives;</li> <li>To conserve and enhance biodiversity</li> <li>To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment.</li> <li>To improve air quality</li> <li>To improve water quality; Conserve water resources and provide for sustainable sources of water supply</li> <li>To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment</li> <li>To maintain and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and townscapes</li> <li>To conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment and Cultural assets.</li> <li>To reduce the contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change</li> </ul>



Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To minimise the production of waste and non-renewable materials</li> <li>To conserve and enhance land quality and soil resources.</li> <li>To encourage sustainable economic growth.</li> </ul>
IHPC (2010) Review of Local Air Quality Management: A report to Defra and the devolved administrations	<p>The report suggests there is scope to enhance action plan delivery by improving the links between air quality and other policy areas, and by communicating clearer messages about what needs to be done and why. In the absence of clarity about what is expected of LAQM, the report suggests a 'proactive' model where local authorities additionally have a decisive part to play alongside central government in driving through measures to secure compliance with national and EU target levels.</p> <p>Most urban centres in the UK contain a number of locations experiencing levels of pollution which are above objective levels, and many of the 'local' solutions lie in land-use and transport planning measures which need to be applied not just in a small area around the 'hotspot' but across the district/ borough area and beyond. Links with other policy areas also need to be improved, such as health and climate change</p>	Air quality is not mentioned specifically within the listed objectives, though it could feasibly be included under the natural heritage topic (C(ii)) and would be indirectly influenced by a focus on renewable energy. The compliance of Mid Ulster and NI with air quality objectives will have an impact on the UK Government, particularly at a European level. Poor emissions in Mid Ulster come from road traffic and the burning of solid fuels for domestic and manufacturing use. Sustainable development could address these issues through integrated transport systems (objective C iii) and provision of renewable energy (Paper 6, Para 13.4) so there is potential for a positive impact from the LDP. Meeting air quality targets will improve health and well-being for the public thereby also aligning with objective C (i)) and also have environmental benefits as well.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Include draft objectives;</li> <li>To improve air quality</li> <li>To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment.</li> <li>To reduce the likelihood of flooding and its adverse consequences</li> </ul>
Sustainable Rural Communities - Full Policy framework – Public consultation January 2016 (NIHE)	Stated vision 'Housing services working in partnership to enable and support vibrant, shared and sustainable rural communities and provide economic, social and environmental benefits in rural areas'	The LDP will support this. It sets out to support vibrant rural communities, facilitate development of new, accessible, community facilities, and improve connectivity between/within settlements in terms of telecommunications and transport infrastructure in particular. It aims to provide for 10,950 new homes by 2030	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Include draft objective;</li> <li>To encourage a sense of community identity and welfare.</li> <li>To reduce poverty and social exclusion</li> <li>To improve health and well-being of population.</li> <li>To provide everybody with opportunity to live in a decent home.</li> <li>To reduce crime and anti-social activity</li> </ul>

Relevant Plan and Programmes	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Implications for the LDP	Implications for SA
		in a range of housing capable of meeting the needs of families, the elderly disabled and single people at accessible locations. It recognizes the needs of both growing families and carers of the elderly and disabled.	
Climate Change Act 2008	Covering England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland established a legislative framework to enable the <i>reduction of UK GHG emissions by 80% from 1990 levels by 2050 and by 34% by 2020</i> . It also introduced legally binding five-year carbon budgets, which set a ceiling on the levels of GHGs the UK can emit on course to the longer-term target. The Climate Change Act 2008 covers all of the UK with targets set at the UK level. The Act sets no individual targets for Northern Ireland, England, Scotland or Wales. Section 60 requires the production of NI Climate Change Adaptation Programmes addressing risks in UK Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA).	The LDP will take account of this act and related targets e.g. PFG targets.	Include draft SA objectives; To reduce the contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment. To improve air quality. To reduce the likelihood of flooding and its adverse consequences
Immigration Act 2014	Among its provisions, this act covers new powers to regulate migrants access to services. In general, landlords will be liable to a civil penalty if they rent out premises to migrants who are not lawfully present in the UK.	The LDP will take account of this act	Include draft objectives; To encourage a sense of community and promote a more equal and inclusive society

Relevant Plans and Programmes (Local Plans)	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA).	Implications for Mid Ulster LDP	Implications for SA
Mid Ulster Community Plan	Community Planning is a process whereby councils, statutory bodies and communities themselves work together to develop and implement a shared vision for their area. It will involve integrating service and function delivery and producing a community plan that will set out the future direction for development within a council area which promotes community cohesion and improves the quality of life for all of its citizens.	The LDP will take account of the community plan as required by the Local Government Act (NI) 2014. The LDP will provide a spatial expression to the Community Plan and work towards achieving the aims of the community plan. The draft is due out in September 2016.	Include draft objectives; To encourage a sense of community; identity and welfare To improve the health and wellbeing of the population. To reduce poverty and social exclusion. To improve education and skills of the population. To reduce crime and anti-social activity. To improve accessibility to key services
Mid Ulster Biodiversity Plan	This brings together the best available information on the state of our biodiversity within Mid Ulster, with a particular focus on Northern Ireland Priority Habitats and Northern Ireland Priority Species. The implementation of these plans will help towards ensuring the biodiversity of Mid Ulster is maintained and enhanced.	Need to protect habitats and species and to enhance important habitats where possible. Information on priority species and habitats, where available, needs to be part of evidence base for LDP. Need to sieve potential development sites for impact on protected habitats both direct and indirect and identify mitigation or potential measures at early stage.	Include draft objectives; To conserve and enhance biodiversity
Moy, Moneymore, Draperstown, Caledon and Northland Row conservation Areas Design Guide Booklets.	The Planning Act (NI) 2011 (Section 104) provides the Council with the power to designate an area of special architectural or historic interest as a Conservation Area	Need to protect heritage of buildings and areas of special architectural or historic interest.	Include draft objective;  To protect, conserve and where appropriate, enhance the historical environment and cultural assets.
Southern Waste Management Partnership (SWAMP 2008) Draft Waste Management Plan.	Both Cookstown and Dungannon councils were members of this waste management group which was responsible for preparing a subregional waste management plan	There is a need to accommodate investment in waste management	Include draft objective;  To minimise the production of waste and use of non-renewable materials.

Relevant Plans and Programmes (Local Plans)	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA).	Implications for Mid Ulster LDP	Implications for SA
North Western Region Partnership 'Review of waste management plan 2006-2020'	Magherafelt Council was a member of the North Western Waste management group. This plan sets out arrangements for waste management and covers the period from 2012 to 2020.	There is a need to accommodate investment in waste management	Include draft objective;  To minimise the production of waste and use of non-renewable materials.
Joint Waste Management Plan for Armagh city Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council Fermanagh and Omagh Council and Mid Ulster District Council. 2016-2020.	This Joint Waste Management Plan fulfils the councils' obligations under Article 23 of the Waste and Contaminated Land (Northern Ireland) Order 1997. The Plan has been reviewed following the reform of local government. The grouping formally known as SWaMP2008 no longer exists as a body corporate. Consequently the remaining Councils beyond those in the Arc21 and the North West Region have formed a joint interest group for the purposes of waste management planning.	There is a need to accommodate investment in waste management.	Include draft objective;  To minimise the production of waste and use of non-renewable materials.
Lough Neagh Biodiversity Action plan	This includes an audit of the state of biodiversity in and around Lough Neagh The implementation of these plans will help towards ensuring the biodiversity of lough Neagh is maintained and enhanced.	Need to protect habitats and species and to enhance important habitats where possible. Information on priority species and habitats, where available, needs to be part of evidence base for LDP. Need to sieve potential development sites for impact on protected habitats both direct and indirect and identify mitigation or potential measures at early stage.	Include draft objectives; To conserve and enhance biodiversity
Lough Neagh Management Area Action plan	This Lough Neagh Local Management Area (LMA) Action Plan is one of a series of action plans that are being developed for the 26 LMAs across the Neagh Bann, North Western and North Eastern River Basin Districts. The action plan details local measures identified to improve the water environment.	LDP will take account of this plan	Include draft objectives; To conserve and enhance biodiversity  To improve water quality; conserve water resources and provide for sustainable sources of water supply.

Relevant Plans and Programmes (Local Plans)	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA).	Implications for Mid Ulster LDP	Implications for SA
Inland Fisheries Group Lough Neagh anagement Plan (draft DCAL document) 2015.	Its aim is to provide a strategic approach to the sustainable management of these underutilised resources. The FMP's set out how DCAL will seek to manage the fisheries and what will be required to inform this process. The plans take into account and complement existing initiatives such as the EU Eel Management Plans and the NASCO Salmon Management plans and other statutory and regulatory requirements such as the Water Framework Directive.	LDP will take account of this plan.	Include draft objectives; To conserve and enhance biodiversity  To improve water quality; conserve water resources and provide for sustainable sources of water supply.
Mid Ulster Economic Development Strategy	This strategy sets out Mid Ulster District Council's key priorities for growing the local economy over the next five years and explains how we aim to achieve them.	This initiative will be supported directly by the plans focus on 'Creating Jobs and Promoting prosperity'. Objectives (b) (i)-(v) outline the intention to facilitate the creation of 8,500 jobs by 2030 across a range of employment sectors, including SME's and focusing also on self-employment and home working.	Include draft objectives  To encourage sustainable economic growth To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment.
Mid Ulster housing Investment plan 2015 -2019 (NIHE)	This document aims to initiate discussion on improved housing outcomes for Mid Ulster. It aims are (1) Identify and meet housing need and demand; (2) Improving peoples' homes; (3) Transforming peoples' lives; (4) Enabling sustainable neighbourhoods; (5) Delivering quality services.	This strategy aligns with a number of aspects of the proposed LDP, namely objective (a) (iv) 'To provide for 10,950 new homes by 2030 via a range of housing to meet the needs of families, the elderly, and disabled'. The strategy may put pressure on the environmental aspects of the LDP such as natural heritage, archaeology, flood risk, etc. Similarly, the LDP may inhibit house building due to environmental or design constraints. A balance will need to be found through considered planning decisions.	Include draft SA objectives; To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home.

Relevant Plans and Programmes (Local Plans)	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA).	Implications for Mid Ulster LDP	Implications for SA
Mid Ulster District Council (MUDC) Good Relations Plan 2015 – 2016	This plan outlines a vision of a united community, based on equality of opportunity, the desirability of good relations and reconciliation - one which is strengthened by its diversity, where cultural expression is celebrated and embraced and where everyone can live, learn, work and socialise together, free from prejudice, hate and intolerance'	This plan aligns with the LDP objectives.	Include draft objectives;  To encourage a sense of community and promote a more equal and inclusive society
<p>MUDC Air Quality Review and Assessment Report Mid Ulster Air Quality Action Plans for Mid Ulster, including;</p> <p>Dungannon and South Tyrone Action plan 2010.</p> <p>Air Quality Progress report for Dungannon and South Tyrone April 2014</p> <p>Air quality progress report for Magherafelt 2013.</p> <p>Air quality progress report for Cookstown 2013.</p>	<p>The principal aim of Air Quality Action Plans is to minimise the effects of air pollution on human health within the council area using all reasonable measures, within reasonable time frames and by working towards achieving the Air Quality Standards.</p> <p>LAQM requires district councils to review and assess a range of air pollutants against the objectives set by the Air Quality Strategy, using a range of monitoring, modelling and methods. For locations where objectives are not expected to be met by the relevant target date, district councils are required to declare an Air quality Management Area (AQMA) and to develop an action plan. There are 3 AQMA's declared in Mid Ulster at Moy, Magherafelt and Coalisland.</p>	<p>Air quality is not mentioned specifically within the listed objectives, though it could feasibly be included under natural heritage (C(i)) and would be indirectly influenced by a focus on renewable energy. The compliance of Mid Ulster and NI with air quality objectives will have an impact on the UK Government, particularly at a European level. Poor emissions in Mid Ulster come from road traffic and the burning of solid fuels for domestic and manufacturing use. PM (Particulate Matter) and PAH (Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons) from solid fuel burning are potentially an issue. Sustainable development could address these issues through integrated transport systems (objective C iii) and provision of renewable energy (Paper 6, Para 13.4) so there is potential for a positive impact from the LDP. Meeting air quality targets will improve health and well-being for the public thereby aligning with objective C (i) and also have environmental benefits as well.</p>	<p>Include draft objectives;</p> <p>To improve air quality</p> <p>To reduce the contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change.</p> <p>To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment.</p>

Transboundary Plans and Programmes (Republic of Ireland)	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA).	Implications for LDP	Implications for SA
Monaghan County Development Plan 2013-2019	Sets out planning policy for County Monaghan	Impacts on environmental designations set out in the Monaghan development plan will be assessed by the LDP.	<p>Include Draft Objectives;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To conserve and enhance biodiversity</li> <li>To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment.</li> <li>To improve air quality</li> <li>To improve water quality; Conserve water resources and provide for sustainable sources of water supply</li> <li>To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment</li> <li>To maintain and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and townscapes</li> <li>To conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment and cultural assets.</li> <li>To reduce the contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change</li> <li>To minimise the production of waste and non-renewable materials</li> <li>To conserve and enhance land quality and soil resources.</li> <li>To encourage sustainable economic growth</li> </ul>
Border Regional Authority (2010) Regional Planning Guidelines 2010-2022	The key aim of the Guidelines is to provide a good quality of life for the Region's population, through ensuring high quality residential, recreational and working environments, and improving water quality.	The benefits to the Border Region of Mid Ulster would be indirect. It is envisaged that positive cross-border outcomes will be sought through the implementation of both plans i.e. the Mid Ulster LDP and the Monaghan County Development Plan. It is therefore anticipated that there will be some synergy between these two documents. However, where there may be differing priorities between the two regions, policies may be conflicted.	<p>Include Draft Objectives;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To improve the health and well-being of the population.</li> <li>To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home.</li> <li>To offer everybody the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment.</li> <li>To improve water quality; Conserve water resources and provide for sustainable sources of water supply</li> <li>To maintain and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and townscapes.</li> <li>To conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment and</li> </ul>

Transboundary Plans and Programmes (Republic of Ireland)	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA).	Implications for LDP	Implications for SA
			cultural assets.
DAHG (2011) A National Landscape Strategy for Ireland	<p>The Strategy sets out six high level objectives, of most relevance being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To increase public awareness about landscapes, including the links between the land's resources, the layout of the landscape and the physical, economic and psychological health of its people.</li> <li>To facilitate the development of Landscape planning And landscape management guidance and facilitate tools for use with Strategic Environmental Assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment and Appropriate Assessment to improve land-use policies, and forward planning and development management practices.</li> </ul> <p>To accommodate landscape considerations in cultural, environmental, agricultural, social, health, education, recreation, tourism, economic and transport policies and all relevant sectors of public administration</p>	<p>Landscape is not specifically stated in the list of objectives for the MUP although would be incorporated under 'the need to protect and enhance the natural environment' and the need for enhanced leisure and promotion of health and well-being' stated under objective (c) (i) of Paper 1.</p> <p>Cross-border outcomes may be sought through the LDP, in which case it will support this Strategy indirectly. Any development will have environmental impacts and it is feasible that a consented project in NI may have an impact across the border.</p>	<p>Include Draft SA objective; To maintain and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and townscapes.</p>
DCENR (2013) Ireland's second National EnergyEfficiency Action Plan to 2020)	<p>Provides a progress report on delivery of the national energy saving targets implemented under current EU requirements as well as energy efficiency policy priorities up to 2020. It reaffirms Ireland's commitment to a 20% energy savings target in 2020 identifying actions across six areas: public sector, residential, business, transport, energy supply and cross-sectoral – contains 97 actions.</p>	<p>Delivery of renewable energy in Mid Ulster may benefit cross border areas if energy generated was supplied there. However, it may be at variance with the well-being aspect of the Mid Ulster LDP for impacts from renewable energy and other energy development to be borne within the district whilst the benefits are exported elsewhere. However, there</p>	<p>Include draft objective; To reduce the contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change To minimise the production of waste and non-renewable materials</p>



Transboundary Plans and Programmes (Republic of Ireland)	Key objectives relevant to Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA).	Implications for LDP	Implications for SA
		would certainly be an economic benefit, aligning with objective (b) (v) 'the need to encourage and use of renewable energy as a means of generating money for the local economy'.	
DCENR (2012) Strategy for Renewable Energy: 2012-2020	The strategy outlines how it is planned that sustainable power, when developed, is maximised as it is returned to the State. Five strategic goals are set out in the document, these include increasing on and offshore wind, building a sustainable bioenergy sector, fostering R&D in renewables, growing sustainable transport and building out robust and efficient networks.	The value of renewable energy (wind and biomass development) is emphasized in Utilities Paper 6. Although renewable energy generation and networks are likely to focus on use within Mid Ulster whether cross-border outcomes may also be sought. With any renewable development, environmental considerations will be part of the planning process and this would apply to renewable developments in the Republic that may have cross-border impacts. The LDP could therefore indirectly benefit or be a constraint to this Strategy	Include draft objective; To reduce the contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change To minimise the production of waste and non-renewable materials
DECLG (2012) National Climate Change Adaptation Framework: Building Resilience to Climate Change	<p>This framework is a first step in a longer-term process which will evolve and strengthen over time as the knowledge base evolves and as the policy response matures. The objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• providing the policy context for a strategic national adaptation response to climate change;</li> <li>• promoting dialogue and understanding of adaptation issues;</li> <li>• identifying and promoting adaptation solutions; and</li> </ul> <p>Committing to actions to support the adaptation process.</p>	Climate change will have cross-border impacts, so it is likely there will be some influence of the two policies on each other, in so far as it relates to avoiding development in flood risk areas. This is considered to be beneficial in that they will support each other in achieving climate change adaptation and providing solutions. However, any development will have environmental or social impacts and these effects may be experienced cross-borders.	Include draft objective; To reduce the contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change To minimise the production of waste and non-renewable materials

Transboundary Plans and Programmes (Republic of Ireland)	Key objectives relevant to Local Development Plan (LDP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA).	Implications for LDP	Implications for SA
NPWS (2011) Actions for Biodiversity 2011-2016 - Ireland's National Biodiversity Action Plan	This plan outlines the measures Ireland will take in preparing for pressures and losses in the level of biodiversity, and they are presented as 102 actions under a series of 7 strategic objectives. The objectives cover the conservation of biodiversity in the wider countryside and in the marine environment (within and outside protected areas), mainstreaming of biodiversity across the decision making process, the strengthening of the knowledge base on biodiversity, and increasing public awareness and participation.	Biodiversity is a cross-border objective. Developments either side of the border will have cross-border impacts. In addition, nature conservation species, in particular, will not necessarily respect this border. Therefore, the LDP will have an impact on the implementation of this plan although this will be limited given the extent of the shared border region. This may be positive or negative depending on how the LDP is implemented locally and the nature of any developments consented under relevant policy.	Include draft objective; To conserve and enhance biodiversity To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment. To improve air quality To improve water quality; Conserve water resources and provide for sustainable sources of water supply To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment

Current Area Plans	Summary of objectives	Implication for Mid Ulster LDP/SA
Magherafelt Area Plan 2015 (DOE 2015)	Contains policy provision for Magherafelt District Council Area	The LDP will take account of local area planning designations and policy contained within the 3 current development plans that apply to Mid Ulster
Cookstown Area Plan 2010 (DOE 2004)	Contains policy provision for Cookstown District Council Area	
Dungannon South Tyrone Area Plan 2010 (DOE 2005)	Contains policy provision for Cookstown District Council Area	
Northern Area Plan (2016)	Contains policy provision for Causeway Coast and Glens (Limavady, Colerraine, Ballymoney and Moyle) District Council Areas.	The LDP will take account of existing local area planning designations and policy contained within current development plans of neighbouring districts.
Antrim Area plan (1989)	Contains policy provision for Cookstown District Council Area	
BNMAP	Contains policy Provision for Belfast north Down, Lisburn, Castlereagh, Carrickfergus and Newtownabbey Council Areas	
Ballymena Area Plan 1986-2001 (DOE 2009)	Contains policy provision for Ballymena District Council Area	
Lisburn Area plan	Contains policy provision for Lisburn District Council Area	
Ballymoney Town Centre Plan 1991-2002 (DOE 1993)	Contains Policy Provision for Ballymoney Town Centre.	
Antrim Area Plan 1984-2001 (DOE 1989)	Contains policy provision for Antrim District Council Area	
Craigavon Area Plan 2010( DOE 2004)	Contains policy provision for Craigavon District Council Area	
Craigavon Town Centre Boundaries & Retail Designation Plan (2010) DOE 2008	Contains policy provision for 3 town centres of Portadown Craigavon and Lurgan.	
Armagh Area Plan 2004 (DOE 1995)	Contains policy Provision for Armagh District	

Current Area Plans	Summary of objectives	Implication for Mid Ulster LDP/SA
Armagh Area plan 2004 (Alterations No. 1: Armagh Countryside Proposals (DOE 2001))	Alteration to Armagh Development plan	
Armagh Area Plan 2018 Issues Paper (DOE 2004)	Sets out a broad planning framework for physical development to Armagh District Council.	
Banbridge Newry and Mourne Plan 2015 (DOE 2013)	Contains Policy Provision for Banbridge Newry and Mourne District Council Areas	
Fermanagh Area Plan 2007 (DOE 1997)	Contains policy Provision for Fermanagh District Council Area	
Omagh Area plan 1987-2002 (DOE 1992)	Contains policy Provision for Omagh District Council Area	
Strabane Area plan 1986 - 2001 (DOE 1991)	Contains policy Provision for Omagh District Council Area.	
Derry Area Plan 2011(DOE 2010)	Contains policy Provision for Omagh District Council Area.	
West Tyrone Area Plan 2019 Issues Paper (Omagh and Strabane)	Pre-issues Stage	
Omagh Fermanagh LDP	Each new council area will prepare an LDP as provided for by Part 2 of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011. These will replace the current development plans produced by the DOE. They will set the strategic direction for the new council and bring forward detailed operational policies.	Mid Ulster Council abuts 6 other councils. Plan making within these councils are likely to be at a similar stage to the Mid Ulster Plan. The Mid Ulster LDP will take account of the policies and designations contained within emerging plans in neighbouring districts.
Derry/Strabane LDP		
Causeway coasts and Glen LDP		
Mid and East Antrim LDP		
Antrim and Newtownabbey LDP		

Current Area Plans	Summary of objectives	Implication for Mid Ulster LDP/SA
Armagh Banbridge Craigavon LDP		

Planning Policy Statements (PPS's) and other DOE Publications	Summary of objectives	Implications for Mid Ulster LDP
A Planning Strategy for Rural Northern Ireland	The purpose of the Planning Strategy is to contribute to the quality of life in Northern Ireland. The Strategy is an attempt to meet rural society's development needs and aspirations to protect the environment and to encourage sustainable development.	The LDP will take account of the of policy provisions of those documents retained under the transitional arrangements. When the Plan Strategy is adopted, these policies shall cease to have effect and shall not be material from that date. (SEE Page 7 of SPPS)
PPS 2 - Planning and Nature Conservation (DOE, June 1997)	Sets out land-use planning policies for the conservation of natural heritage. Ensures for the protection of the environment in Northern Ireland.	
PPS 3 – Access, Movement and Parking(DOE, February 2005) and PPS 3 (Clarification): Access, Movement and Parking (DOE, 2006)	Sets out planning policies for vehicular and pedestrian access, transport assessment, the protection of transport routes and parking.  Requires provision of a modern, safe, sustainable transport system and the promotion of healthier living and improved road safety.	
PPS 4 – Planning and Economic Development (DOE 2010)	Sets out planning policies for economic development uses and indicates how growth associated with such uses can be accommodated and promoted in development plans. It seeks to facilitate and accommodate economic growth in ways compatible with social and environmental objectives and sustainable development.	
PPS 6 - Planning, Archaeology and Built Heritage (DOE, March 1999) and PPS 6(Addendum): Areas of Townscape Character (DOE, 2005).	Sets out planning policies for the protection and conservation of archaeological remains and features of the built heritage.	

Planning Policy Statements (PPS's) and other DOE Publications	Summary of objectives	Implications for Mid Ulster LDP
PPS 6 (Addendum) Areas of Townscape Character	Sets out additional planning policies relating specifically to Areas of Townscape Character, for demolition of buildings, new development and the control of advertisements	
PPS 7 Quality Residential	Sets out planning policies for achieving quality in new residential development and advises on the treatment of this issue in development plans. It embodies the Government's commitment to sustainable development and the Quality Initiative.	
PPS 7 (Addendum) Residential Extensions	Sets out planning policies regarding Residential extensions	
PPS 7 (Addendum) Safeguarding the Character of Established Residential Areas	Sets out policies provides additional planning policy provisions on the protection of local character, environmental quality and residential amenity within established residential areas, villages, and smaller settlements.	
PPS 8 -Open Space, Sport and Outdoor Recreation (DOE, 2004)	Sets out planning policies for the protection of open space, in association with residential development and the use of land for sport and outdoor recreation.	
PPS 10 Telecommunications	Sets out planning policies for Telecommunications development.	
PPS 11- Planning and Waste Management (DOE, 2002)	Sets out planning policies for the development of waste management facilities.	
PPS 12 Housing in Settlements	This document assists in the implementation of the Regional Development Strategy to guide the future pattern on housing by managing future housing growth and distribution, support urban renaissance and achieve balanced communities	
PPS 12 Policy HS 3 (amended) 'Travellers accommodation'	Sets out planning policies for traveller accommodation outside of settlements	

Planning Policy Statements (PPS's) and other DOE Publications	Summary of objectives	Implications for Mid Ulster LDP
PPS 13 – Transportation and Land Use (DRD, February 2005);	This PPS has been prepared to assist in the implementation of the Regional Development Strategy to guide the integration of transportation and land use.	
PPS 15- Planning Policy and Flood Risk(DOE, June 2006)	Sets out planning policies to minimise flood risk to people, property and the environment. Requires prevention of future development that may be at risk from flooding or that may increase the risk of flooding elsewhere	
PPS 16 Tourism	Sets out planning policies for tourism developments and safeguarding of tourism assets.	
PPs 17 Control of Outdoor Advertisements	Sets out the planning policy and guidance for the display of outdoor advertisements.	
PPS 18– Renewable Energy (August ,2009);	Sets out the planning policy for development that generates energy from renewable resources. Promotes the development of renewable energy sources.	
<p>PPS 18 Renewable Energy Best Practice Guidance (August 2009);</p> <p>Supplementary Planning Guidance to accompany PPS 18 -Renewable Energy (DOE February2008);</p>	<p>This guide provides background information on the various renewable energy technologies that may come forward in Northern Ireland and is designed to contribute to the development management process.</p> <p>This SPG reports the findings of landscape sensitivity and capacity analysis carried out in respect of the 130 Landscape Character Areas identified in the Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 2000, and contains advice to assist in identifying appropriate locations for wind energy development. Promotes the development of renewable energy sources.</p>	
<p>PPS 21- Sustainable Development in the Countryside (DOE, 2010 ); (Relevant Provisions)</p> <p>AND</p> <p>Supplementary Guidance</p>	<p>Sets out Planning Policies for Development in the Countryside. Objectives;</p> <p>to manage growth in the countryside to achieve appropriate and sustainable patterns of development that meet the essential needs of a vibrant rural community;</p> <p>to conserve the landscape and natural resources of the rural area and to protect it from excessive, inappropriate or obtrusive development and from the actual or potential effects of pollution;</p>	

Planning Policy Statements (PPS's) and other DOE Publications	Summary of objectives	Implications for Mid Ulster LDP
'Building on Tradition' a sustainable Design Guide for Northern Ireland	<p>to facilitate development necessary to achieve a sustainable rural economy; including appropriate farm diversification and other economic activity; and to promote high standards in the design, siting and landscaping of development in the countryside</p> <p>Requires conservation of the landscape and natural resources of the rural area and to protect it from excessive, inappropriate or obtrusive development and from the actual or potential effects of Pollution.</p>	
PPS 23 Enabling Development for the Conservation of Significant Places	Sets out planning policy for assessing proposals for Enabling Development in support of the re-use, restoration or refurbishment of heritage assets such as historic buildings, scheduled monuments, industrial heritage and historic parks, gardens and demesnes	
PPS 1 – General Principles (DOE March 2008)	Set out the general principles that the Department observes in formulating planning policies, making development plans and exercising control of development	
PPS 5 Retailing and Town Centres ( DOE June 1996)	Set out the Department's policy for town centres and retail developments for all of Northern Ireland.	
PPS 9 Enforcement of Planning Control	Set out the general policy approach to be followed in taking enforcement action against unauthorised development in Northern Ireland.	These Publications have been cancelled following the introduction of the SPPS in September 2015.



# Appendix 2

## **State of Environment**

*“The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme”.*

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
Environmental Issues					
AIR QUALITY (Source:State of the Environment Report 2013)		The agriculture sector accounted for the majority (95%) of ammonia emissions in Northern Ireland in 2011		There are particular pressures on sensitive habitats in areas of intensive livestock production due to elevated ammonia concentrations.	Air
AIR QUALITY (Source:DOE Air Quality NI 2015)	Within Mid Ulster 3 Air Quality Management Sites have been designated. These are at Dungannon, The Moy and Magherafelt. The pollutant source for all 3 of these AQMA's is road traffic (NO <sup>2</sup> ).	Sulphur Dioxide:Annual mean concentrations of sulphur dioxide at long-running sites in Northern Ireland is decreasing(1990-2011).	Air quality continues to improve, with a long-term reduction in the number of days of moderate or worse air quality.  Nitrogen dioxide levels (due to transport) remain a problem, with levels at some locations exceeding objectives.  Sulphur dioxide:All sites in Northern Ireland meet the		

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
AIR QUALITY (cont.)			<p>requirements of the Air Quality Strategy for 1-hour and 24-hour mean levels for sulphur dioxide. All have also met the 15-minute mean objective by the due date. A significant downward trend in annual mean sulphur dioxide concentrations has been identified at monitoring locations. Particulate Matter: PM10 was monitored automatically at 20 locations across NI in 2011. All sites met the limit value and objective of 40µg/m<sup>3</sup> for annual mean PM10. Just one site (Newry Canal Street) exceeded the 24-hour mean limit value and objective of 50µg/m<sup>3</sup>.</p>		

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
Strategic Environmental Issues. (Source: DOE NIEA)				Upland blanket bog and raised bogs are exceeding their critical load for nitrogen and ammonia	<i>Air, soil</i>
NOISE COMPLAINTS (Source: DOENI noise complaint statistics 2013/14)	Total Noise Complaints received 2013/14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cookstown = 114</li> <li>• Dungannon = 178</li> <li>• Magherafelt = 98</li> </ul>	The total number of noise complaints across NI has reduced by 2.3% on previous figures 2012/13		Cookstown District Council's number of complaints is increasing at the highest rate of all the 26 councils	<i>Air</i>
Car dependency (Source: Census 2001 & 2011)		Over three-quarters of households (77%) had access to a car or van in 2011, up from 74% in 2001. Over the same period, the proportion of households with access to two or more cars or vans increased from 29% to 36%	NI continues to reflect the UK wide trend of increasing numbers of private transport and ownership of second car within households.		

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
RENEWABLE ENERGY PRODUCTION (Source: DETI)		The latest DETI report on performance against PFG targets shows that for the 12 month period April 2014 to March 2015, 19.9% of total electricity consumption in Northern Ireland was generated from renewable sources located in Northern Ireland. For the month of March 2015 alone, 27.6% of total electricity consumption in Northern Ireland was generated from renewable sources located in Northern Ireland.	Continued upward trend in electricity consumption renewable sources	The executives Strategic Energy Framework target is to achieve <b>40%</b> of electricity consumption from renewable sources by <b>2020</b> . Of all renewable electricity generated within Northern Ireland over the 12 month period April 2014 to March 2015, 91.6% was generated from wind. Northern Ireland Renewables Obligation, which is the main policy mechanism for promoting the generation of electricity from renewable sources, is due to close on 01 <sup>st</sup> April 2016.	<i>Climatic Factors</i>
GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS (Source;NAIE Report; Greenhouse Gas Inventory)		The latest greenhouse gas inventory published in June		There is a predicted shortfall in achieving the Executive's Programme for Government (PfG)	<i>Air, Climatic Factors</i>

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
1990-2013/NI Climate Change legislation Discussion Paper)		2015, based on 2013 figures, noted that Northern Ireland emissions had reduced by 16% from 1990 to 2013. The largest sources of emissions in 2013 were agriculture (29%), transport (18%), energy supply (18%) and residential (13%).The latest projection forecasts a 33.3% reduction in emissions in Northern Ireland by 2025		target of working towards a 35% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2025, from a 1990 baseline	

*“The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme”.*

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
Environmental Issues					
<b>PROTECTED HABITATS</b> Designated Sites (Source: <a href="https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/topics/biodiversity">https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/topics/biodiversity</a> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4 Ramsar sites Ballynahone Bog: Black Bog: Lough Neagh &amp; Lough Beg: Slieve Beagh.</li> <li>2 Special Protection Areas (SPA) Lough Neagh &amp; Lough Beg: Slieve Beagh - Mullaghfad – Lisnaskea.</li> <li>10 Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) Ballynahone Bog: Carn/Glenshane Pass: Curran Bog: Dead Island Bog: Owenkillew River: Slieve Beagh: Teal Lough: Upper Ballinderry River: Wolf Island Bog: Black bog.</li> <li>48 Areas of Special Scientific Interest (ASSI)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>20 Ramsars</li> <li>16 SPAs</li> <li>57 SACs</li> <li>387 ASSIs (As of March 2016)</li> </ul>	<p>The number of designated sites has been increasing in Northern Ireland and Mid Ulster. For example: 20 ASSIs in MU prior to 2000, with an additional 28 designated from 2000 to 2015.</p> <p>Information to establish trends on the condition of ASSI features in Mid Ulster is not available</p>	<p>Although the number of sites and total area protected through designations has been increasing, the habitat condition within some of these is unfavourable.</p> <p>Of the 43 features assessed for the Natura 2000 sites within Mid Ulster: 58% are in favourable condition; 5% unfavourable recovering; and 37% unfavourable.</p> <p>Broken into habitats and species - Habitats: 56% favourable; 13% unfavourable recovering; 31% unfavourable.</p> <p>Species: 59% favourable; 41% unfavourable.</p> <p>Of the 124 ASSI features assessed within the 48 ASSIs in Mid Ulster</p>	<i>Biodiversity</i>

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
	Ballyknock: Ballymacombs More: Ballynahone Bog: Ballysudden: Bardahessiagh: Benburb: Benburb- Milltown: Black Bog: Black Lough: Brookend: Caledon & Tynan: Carn/Genshane Pass: Cavan: Cloghcor Lough: Crockaghole Wood: Cullentra Lough: Curran Bog: Dead Island Bog: Derrycloony Lough: Drumbally Hill: Drumcrow Fen: Drummond Quarry: Fardross Stream: Fymore Lough: Glenmore Wood: Knockadoo Wood: Knocknacloy: Limehill Farm: Little River: Lough Beg: Lough Doo: Lough McCall: Lough Na Blaney Bane: Lough Neagh and lough Beg: Lurgylea:		for all features. However, 30 of the 138 features have been assessed more than once, enabling trends to be evaluated. While 100% of Earth Science features are in and remain in favourable condition, there has been a 29% decline in habitat features in favourable condition.	66% are in favourable condition. While 100% of Earth Science features are in favourable condition, and 76% of species features in favourable condition, only 26% of habitat features are classified as being in favourable condition (with a further 6% as unfavourable: recovering).  The main issue concerning our protected natural habitats is habitat degradation through inappropriate management or direct destruction.	



INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
	<p> Moneystaghan Bog:  Owenkillew River:  Rehaghy Wood:  Roeveagh: Round Lough  &amp; Lough Fadda: Slieve  Beagh:  Sruhanleanantawey  Burn: Tanderagee: Teal  Lough &amp; Slaghtfreeden  Bogs: Teal Lough (Part  II): Toome: Upper  Ballinderry River: Wolf  Island Bog.  • 1 National Nature  Reserve (NNR)  Ballynahone Bog.  • 2 Nature Reserves  (NR)  Bookend: Lough Neagh  Islands.  • 1 Area of  Outstanding Natural  Beauty (AONB)  Sperrin AONB  • 3 Local Nature  Reserves (LNR)  (Council  Designations) </p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 NNRs</li> <li>• 41 NRs</li> <li>• 8 AONBs</li> </ul>			

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
	Ballyronan Wood: Traad: Washing bay.				
<b>THREATENED HABITATS</b> Northern Ireland Priority Habitats (Source: Mid Ulster Biodiversity Audit 2014-2017)	21 NI Priority Habitats identified in Mid Ulster District <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arable Field Margins</li> <li>• Lowland Dry Acid Grassland</li> <li>• Lowland Meadow</li> <li>• Purple Moor Grass and Rush Pasture</li> <li>• Blanket Bog</li> <li>• Lowland Raised Bog</li> <li>• Upland Heathland</li> <li>• Open Mosaic Habitats on Previously Developed Land</li> <li>• Floodplain Grazing Marsh</li> <li>• Lowland Fens</li> <li>• Reedbeds</li> <li>• Eutrophic Standing Waters</li> </ul>	51 NI Priority Habitats of which 30 non-marine	During the preparation of the NI Biodiversity Strategy in 2002 a list of 42 Priority Habitats was identified which require conservation action because of their rarity, decline, and importance in an all-Ireland and UK context. The latest list published in 2010 currently stands at 51. It is intended that this list	Threatened habitats do not necessarily have protection through relevant designation. This leaves such habitats at greater risk of loss through a number of methods. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Direct destruction, both large and small scale</li> <li>○ Fragmentation associated directly with individual developments and cumulative loss.</li> <li>○ Destruction through mining/extraction of natural resources</li> <li>○ Water level changes can impact the natural state of the habitat through increased or decreased water levels.</li> <li>○ Nutrient enrichment affects water quality which impacts on the natural habitat.</li> <li>○ Terrestrial habitats can become polluted through</li> </ul>	

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mesotrophic Lakes</li> <li>• Oligotrophic and Dystrophic Lakes</li> <li>• Ponds</li> <li>• Rivers</li> <li>• Mixed Ashwood</li> <li>• Oakwood</li> <li>• Parkland</li> <li>• Wet Woodland</li> <li>• Hedgerows</li> </ul>		will be subject to regular reviews.	<p>contamination via fly tipping and illegal dumping.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Atmospheric nitrogen deposition represents a major threat to biodiversity with nitrogen compounds leading to eutrophication of ecosystems.</li> <li>○ Pollution including: sewage, industrial waste, agricultural run-off and litter. Serious incidents show obvious impacts. However, there are sources which work together over time and over a wide area to impact on our habitats.</li> <li>○ Invasive species are highly adaptable and strong competitors impacting on biodiversity with loss to value of habitat.</li> <li>○ Climate change is having an impact on our native habitats.</li> </ul>	
<b>PROTECTED SPECIES</b> European Protected Species (Source: CEDAR and Mid	25 Species of European Community Interest have been recorded in	46 species in Annexes II, IV and V thought to exist		Although both European and local legislation exists to protect a number of species, there are	

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
<p>Ulster District Council)</p> <p>NI Protected Species</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Birds</li> </ul> <p>All birds are protected at all times under the Wildlife (NI) Order 1985 apart from 25 species listed in Schedule 2 which may be killed or taken at certain times or by authorised persons. Schedule 1 species are protected by special penalties. All birds nests (while being built or in use) and their eggs are protected. The nests of 6 species in Schedule A1 are protected at all times.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Animals</li> </ul>	<p>Mid Ulster District.</p> <p>69 Schedule 1 bird species recorded in Mid Ulster District. All 6 Schedule A1 species have been recorded in Mid Ulster, although only 2 of these have been recorded breeding.</p> <p>30 animal species</p>	<p>in Northern Ireland and territorial waters. (30 non-marine species)</p> <p>79 bird species protected under Schedule 1 of Wildlife (NI) Order.</p> <p>44 animal species</p>	<p>19 species added to, and 4 removed from, Schedule 1.</p> <p>10 species</p>	<p>issues over public knowledge and perception of wildlife legislation and issues relating to the enforcement of such legislation.</p> <p>A range of species are protected through the Wildlife (NI) Order 1985.</p> <p>A number of amendments were made to the Schedules through the WANE (NI) Act 2011.</p>	

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plants</li> </ul>	<p>protected under Schedules 5,6 and 7 recorded in Mid Ulster.</p> <p>26 plant species protected under Schedule 8 recorded in Mid Ulster District</p>	<p>protected under Wildlife (NI) Order. (33 non-marine species)</p> <p>81 plant species protected under Wildlife (NI) Order. (75 non-marine species)</p>	<p>added to Schedules 5 &amp; 6, with 1 species removed from Schedule 7.</p> <p>34 species added to and 9 species removed from Schedule 8.</p>		
<p><b>THREATENED SPECIES</b></p> <p>Northern Ireland Priority Species (Source: <a href="https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/topics/biodiversity">https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/topics/biodiversity</a>)</p>	<p>192 Northern Ireland Priority Species have been recorded in Mid Ulster District</p>	<p>481 species listed as Northern Ireland Priority Species. (388 non-marine)</p>	<p>Through the NI Biodiversity Strategy the NI Priority Species list was published in 2004 containing 271 species. The most recent list was published in 2010 and stands at 481. These species</p>	<p>Threatened species do not necessarily have protection through relevant designation. Although there is some overlap, many threatened species have no legal protection, leaving such species at greater risk of persecution. Many threatened species rely on specific natural habitats, and as such, any impact on these habitats (see above) will have a direct impact on the species associated with them. In certain cases it could result in the</p>	

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
			<p>require conservation action because of their rarity, decline, and importance in an all-Ireland and UK context. Some groups have yet to be fully up-dated with new information continually being gathered, requiring the list to be updated as information becomes available.</p>	<p>extinction of species from the Mid Ulster area.</p> <p>Issues impacting on threatened species include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Habitat destruction</li> <li>○ Habitat fragmentation including cumulative loss</li> <li>○ Loss of wildlife corridors/links</li> <li>○ Agricultural intensification</li> <li>○ Inappropriate habitat management</li> <li>○ Invasive species impact through competition, herbivory, predation, alteration of food webs, and dilution of native gene pools.</li> <li>○ Climate change results in the movement of species to higher altitudes and more northerly areas. This will result in the loss of some species to the Mid Ulster area.</li> <li>○ Disturbance to species can occur directly , or through disruption to movements between living, feeding and breeding areas.</li> </ul>	

*“The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme”.*

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
<b>Environmental Issues</b>					
<b>NUMBER OF STATE CARE MONUMENTS</b>	Mid Ulster 39	NI 190 in 2012 (Source:SOE 2013)	Mid Ulster contains approx. 20% and 9% of NI's State Care Monuments and Scheduled Monuments respectively. There is an increasing trend in the no. of scheduled monuments in NI which has rose by 30% from 1,513 in 2001/02 to 1,972 in April 2015, reflecting ongoing survey, designation and assessment. (Source:The Schedule of Historic Monuments - March 2015)	The protection of state care, scheduled and unsheduled monuments need to be taken into account within LDP objectives	<i>Cultural Heritage</i>
<b>NUMBER OF SCHEDULED MONUMENTS</b>	Mid Ulster 173	NI 1,972 in April 2015 (The Schedule of Historic Monuments - March 2015)	In accordance with DoC HED datasets (March 2016) there are over 1,500 known sites and monuments in the Mid Ulster area. (Source HED Datasets March 2016)		
<b>NUMBER OF UNSCHEDULED MONUMENTS</b>	Mid Ulster 1312	NI No data	NI's archaeological resource remains at risk from agricultural land use practices such as ploughing and tree planting and from development in urban areas. Surveying of hisotric monuments is being reprioritised to target areas most likely to be affected by climate change (Source; State of the Environment Report 2013).		
<b>NUMBER OF SCHEDULED MONUMENT</b>	Mid Ulster No data	NI 2001/02 - 17 2002/03 - 24 2003/04 - 23	DoC, HED produce datasets for <b>Defence and Industrial Heritage Sites</b> . In accordance with		

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
CONSENT APPLICATIONS		2004/05 - 36 2005/06 - 39 2006/07 - 50 2007/08 - 49 2008/09 - 68 2009/10 - 50 2010/11 - 45 2011/12 - 46 2012/13 – 50 (Northern Ireland Environmental Statistics Report - March 2014)	<p>their most recent datasets (March 2016) Mid Ulster have 18 known Defence Sites and 987 known Industrial Sites (Source: HED Datasets March 2016)</p> <p><b>The CAMSAR report</b> published in 2009 by NIEA was a random sample inspection survey of the condition and management of the archaeological resource in NI. Some 1500 approx. 10% of the total recorded in the NISMR (Northern Ireland Sites and Monuments Record) at the time. (Source: SPPS, SEA Scoping Report October 2013)</p> <p>Archaeology and built heritage resources in rural areas are most susceptible to impacts associated with agriculture, particularly cultivation, but also stock density and machinery. As such since the 1980s strong policies on environmental protection largely administered through the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development have brought protection to all known archaeological sites and much incentivised good management. However NI's archaeological resource still remains at risk from arable practices with the CAMSAR report identifying prehistoric monuments in arable and improved grassland as most vulnerable</p>		



INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
			<p>and recommending statutory protection through scheduling should be targeted at these areas. (Source:SoE Report 2013)</p> <p>Scheduled Monument Consent must be sought for proposed works which may alter or disturb the fabric of a scheduled historic monument, or its ground surface. The overall application numbers received have been reasonably steady since 2006, though it is notable that numbers peaked to 68 at the beginning of the economic downturn in 2008/09 and then dropped quite dramatically in the middle of the downturn in 2010/11. The lowest number of applications can be seen in 2001/02 at 17. (Source: Northern Ireland Environmental Statistics Report - March 2014)</p>		
<b>NUMBER OF AREAS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST</b> (Source: DOE)	Mid Ulster 1	NI 10	<p>Historic landscapes and townscapes may be designated in their own right as Areas of Significant Archaeological Interest, Conservation Areas, Areas of Townscape Character or Local Landscape Policy Areas. These reflect the importance of group value and the historic character of an area because of history, archaeological potential, setting, association, integrity or uniqueness. Scale ranges from large landscapes to city and town centres, villages, small parks and individual streets. (Source:SoE Report, 2013)</p>	<p>The protection of areas of archaeological interest and areas of archaeological potential need to be taken into account within LDP objectives</p>	<i>Cultural Heritage</i>
<b>NUMBER OF AREAS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL</b> (Source: DOE)	Mid Ulster 25	NI 125			

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
<b>NUMBER OF WORLD HERITAGE SITES.</b>	Mid Ulster 0	NI 2	The Giant's Causeway and the Marble Arch Caves are the only 2 World Heritage Site (WHS) in NI. The Giant's Causeway was inscribed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in 1986 and the Marble Arch Caves recognised as recently as this year, 2015.	Although none currently designated within Mid Ulster, the protection of world heritage sites needs to be taken into account within LDP objectives	<i>Cultural Heritage</i>
<b>NUMBER OF HISTORIC PARKS, GARDENS AND DEMESNES</b> (Source DOE)	Mid Ulster 19 Registered 9 supplementary (Source: Register of Historic Parks, Gardens and Demesnes of Special Historic Interest, and associated Supplementary list. Published January 2007)	NI 154 registered 150 supplementary (Register of Historic Parks, Gardens and Demesnes of Special Historic Interest, and associated Supplementary list. Published January 2007)	Mid Ulster contains approx. 12% of NI's registered Historic Parks, Gardens and Demesnes. And 6% of NI's Historic Parks, Gardens and Demesnes on the supplementary list.	The protection of historic parks, gardens and demesnes need to be taken into account within LDP objectives	<i>Cultural Heritage</i>
<b>NUMBER OF LISTED BUILDINGS</b> (Source DOE NIEA)	Mid Ulster Grade A - 29 Grade B+ - 160 Grade B - 268 Grade B1 - 434 Grade B2 - 335  Total - 1,226	NI Grade A - 206 Grade B+ - 576 Grade B - 1,584 Grade B1 - 3,495 Grade B2 - 2,702	Mid Ulster contains approx. 14% of NI's total number of Listed Buildings.  All of Northern Ireland was surveyed between 1970 and 1995 and suitable buildings were protected by listing. Such structures can range from large stately homes to small gate screens but all must meet the test of Article 42(1) of	The protection of listed buildings need to be taken into account within LDP objectives	<i>Cultural Heritage</i>

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
<b>NUMBER OF LISTED BUILDINGS (cont.)</b>	(Source: NIEA data sets 29/Sep/2014)	Total - 8,563 recorded by NIEA in 2012/13 (Source: Northern Ireland Environmental Statistics Report - March 2014)	the Planning Order in that they must be of 'special architectural or historic interest'. NI has seen a modest increase in the no. of buildings listed in recent years with a total of 8,563 statutory listings in 2012/13, compared to 8,191 in 2003/04. As some listings include multiple buildings, the total number is actually slightly higher.		
<b>NUMBER OF LISTED BUILDINGS AND MONUMENTS AT RISK</b>	Mid Ulster No data at present	NI 473 recorded by NIEA in 2012/13  (Source: Northern Ireland Environmental Statistics Report - March 2014)	<p>A second, area based survey of all historic buildings (The Second Survey) has been underway since 1997 and is largely responsible for the increase. However it should be noted that a significant number of buildings have also been found which no longer meet the legislative test and have therefore been removed.</p> <p>There are expected to be changes to the number of listed buildings as a result of the on-going Second Survey which is expected to be completed by the year 2020. This will identify buildings which may be added to or removed from the 'List', as well as clarifying the Department of the Environment's understanding of the special Architectural and Historic interest of buildings remaining on the 'List'. (Source Northern Ireland Environmental Statistics Report - March 2014).</p>		

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
NUMBER OF LISTED BUILDINGS AND MONUMENTS AT RISK (cont.)			<p>Grade A and B+ listings (properties recognised as being of outstanding or exceptional merit) comprised 9% of NI's total no. of listed buildings recorded by NIEA for 2012/13. (Source; Northern Ireland Environmental Statistics Report - March 2014)</p> <p>Development pressures in the last five years may have had both positive and negative impacts on our historic environment. At the time of the first State of the Environment report, there were high numbers of planning applications and requests from the public to protect unlisted historic buildings threatened with removal. New powers were used to temporarily list buildings where it appeared that the building was of special architectural or historic interest and under a clear threat. The number of such notices rose to a peak of 20 in 2009/10 but declined rapidly after that as pressure for development declined. The economic downturn has also led to a reduction in schemes to conserve historic buildings including those at risk. In 2012, an increase in grant assistance from 35% to 45% for repair work to most listed buildings resulted in a 20% increase in applications. Increased demand for road improvements exposed previously unknown archaeological sites.</p>		

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
NUMBER OF LISTED BUILDINGS AND MONUMENTS AT RISK (cont.)			<p>A further pressure from the economic downturn included the increased frequency of fires at listed buildings. In the three month period from April to June 2011, the number of fires increased from around one or two per year to eleven. The upsurge in arson attacks against Listed Buildings has resulted in damage ranging from minor scorching to the complete loss of interiors. The worst of these was the fire at Herdman's Mill in Sion Mills, County Tyrone in 2011. This led to a series of Heritage Crime Summits and the development of a 12 point action plan. A key action has included funding to enable the issue of urgent works notices and warning letters. This has resulted in a significant drop in the incidence of fires. (Source:SOE 2013)</p> <p>The Built Heritage at Risk in Northern Ireland (BHARNI) register provides an indicator of changes in the number of buildings judged to be at risk. In 2012/13, there were 473 buildings and structures on the BHARNI database.</p> <p>There are 57 buildings and structures on the BHARNI database within Mid Ulster (Source:UAHS, March 2016)</p>		

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
NUMBER OF LISTED BUILDINGS AND MONUMENTS AT RISK (cont.)			<p>The number of buildings on the register can be expected to rise as more detailed information is made available through surveys. The number peaked at 499 in 2010/11 but has declined in recent years due to success in the removal of existing buildings at risk, combined with a reduction in survey work during this period.</p> <p>An increase in Building Preservation Notices in the last decade may be a result of increased development pressures. A sudden increase in fires in listed buildings since 2011 reflects the increased need to address threats from heritage crime (Source:SoE Report 2013)</p> <p>The NI Sustainable Development Strategy sets a target of removing 200 buildings from the BHARNI register (based on 2006 figure) by 2016. There were fifteen buildings removed in 2012/13. Since 2006, 149 buildings have been removed against the target of 200. (Source: Northern Ireland Environmental Statistics Report - March 2014)</p> <p>Between 2007/08 - 2012/13 there was generally a steady increase in the number of buildings in receipt of grant funding rising steadily from 79 to 159 respectively.</p>		

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
NUMBER OF LISTED BUILDINGS AND MONUMENTS AT RISK (cont.)			<p>(Source:Northern Ireland Environmental Statistics Report - March 2014).</p> <p>During 2012/13, over £3.3 million in funding was spent on 159 grants for listed buildings with 48% of the total grant funding spent on those properties recognised as being of outstanding or exceptional merit, grade A and B+. (Source:Northern Ireland Environmental Statistics Report - March 2014)</p> <p>There is no statutory requirement for owners of listed buildings to maintain their properties in a good condition. While owners can be prosecuted for deliberately damaging or destroying listed buildings, they cannot be prosecuted for allowing them to fall into disrepair. In order to encourage building conservation activities, NIEA offers repair grant aid to owners of listed buildings. The rate of grant payable is intended to reflect the higher costs of approved repairs to listed buildings relative to more modern buildings, in order to conserve their special architectural features.</p> <p>During 2012/13, 48.3% of the total grant funding was spent in the two most important grades, A and B+. These two grades received 60.6% of the funding in 2011/12. Over this six</p>		

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
<b>NUMBER OF LISTED BUILDINGS AND MONUMENTS AT RISK (cont.)</b>			year period, the largest number of buildings (159) benefitted from the receipt of grants during 2012/13. In this particular year although more buildings were processed the costs of each of the schemes decreased. Because of the availability of NIEA Listed Buildings Grant Aid, the numbers are steadily increasing as more Listed Building owners avail of the Grant. (Source:Northern Ireland SOE Report 2013)		
<b>NUMBER OF CONSERVATION AREAS</b> (Source: DOE)	Mid Ulster 5	NI 60		The protection of conservation areas need to be taken into account within LDP objectives	<i>Cultural Heritage</i>
<b>NUMBER OF NON DESIGNATED HERITAGE ASSETS SUCH AS VERNACULAR BUILDINGS OR HISTORIC BUILDINGS OF LOCAL IMPORTANCE</b> (Source:SOE 2013)	Mid Ulster Not Quantifiable	NI Not Quantifiable	A trend to replace historic rural buildings, many of which were very small, has developed over the last thirty years. The 1998 publication on rural buildings 'A Sense of Loss, the survival of rural traditional buildings in Northern Ireland,' noted that 49% of buildings indicated on the 1909 map had gone by that time. Further losses have continued in the 21st century. (Source:SOE 2013)	The protection of non designated heritage assests need to be taken into account within LDP objectives	<i>Cultural Heritage</i>
<b>NUMBER OF AREAS OF</b>	Mid Ulster 26	NI 172		The protection of areas of townscape	<i>Cultural Heritage</i>



INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
<b>TOWNSCAPE CHARACTER (ATC)</b> (Source: DOE Area Plans)  <b>NUMBER OF AREAS OF VILLAGE CHARACTER (ATC)</b> (Source: DOE Area Plans)	Mid Ulster 0	NI 31		character and village character need to be taken into account within LDP objectives	
<b>NUMBER OF LOCAL LANDSCAPE POLICY AREAS (LLPA'S)</b> (Source: DOE Area Plans)	Mid Ulster 118	NI 1229		The protection of local landscape policy areas need to be taken into account within LDP objectives	<i>Cultural Heritage</i>

*“The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme”.*

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
Social Issues					
LIFE EXPECTANCY (Source: NISRA)	Mid Ulster 1998-2000% Male 75.3 Female 80.53 Mid Ulster 2008-2010% Male 77.67 Female 82.0	NI 1998-2000% Male 74.49 Female 79.57 NI 2008-2010% Male 77.07 Female 81.52	Life expectancy for both sexes has steadily increased over the last 10 years	Both male and female life expectancy are marginally higher than NI average and this could potentially lead to greater demand being placed on health services	<i>Human Health</i>
LIMITING LONG TERM ILLNESS (Source: Census 2001 & 2011)	Mid Ulster 2001% 20.51% Mid Ulster 2011% 19.39%	NI 2001% 20.4% NI 2011% 20.69%	Mid Ulster's long term illness figures show a small decline since 2001		<i>Human Health</i>
GOOD GENERAL HEALTH (Source: Census 2001 & 2011)	Mid Ulster 2001% 69.94% Mid Ulster 2011% 80.43%	NI 2001% 70.0% NI 2011% 79.51%	General health of Mid Ulster residents shows marked improvement over 10 year period	Mid Ulster appears to have good general health compared to NI figures	<i>Human Health</i>
PEOPLE PROVIDING UNPAID CARE (Source: Census 2001 & 2011)	Mid Ulster 2001% 10.14% Mid Ulster 2011% 10.69%	NI 2001% 11.0% NI 2011% 11.81%	Would appear that overall the level of unpaid care remains relatively constant	Mid Ulster has a lower than regional average for people providing unpaid care	<i>Human Health</i>



*“The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme”.*

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
Social Issues					
WASTE  (Source:North ern Ireland Environmental Statistics Report – Feb. 2015)	<p>In Mid Ulster the total amount of LAC municipal waste arisings has declined by 1.5% between 2004/05 and 2013/14, 73,556 to 72499.</p> <p>Less than half of municipal waste collected in Mid Ulster was sent to landfill in 2013/14 (48.6%).</p> <p>The amount of household waste recycled in Mid Ulster has almost doubled between 2004/05 (23.9)and 2013/14 (46.1%).</p>	<p>In NI, the total amount of LAC municipal waste arisings has declined by 12.0% between 2004/05 and 2013/14, 1023,133 tonnes to 924,412 tonnes. (See table 1)</p> <p>Less than half of municipal waste collected in NI was sent to landfill in 2013/14 (44.0%) – (see table 3).</p> <p>The amount of household waste recycled in NI has more than doubled between 2004/05 (18.2%) and 2013/14 (40.6%).</p>	<p>The proportion of waste sent to landfill in NI has declined from 90% in 2002 to 56.7% in 2011/12, whilst the total amount of local authority collected (LAC) municipal waste arising declined by 7.2% over this period.</p> <p>In 2011/12, almost 40% of household waste and over 38% of LAC municipal waste was sent for recycling.</p> <p>In both Mid Ulster and NI;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LAC Municipal Waste arising’s have been decreasing.</li> <li>• The amount of LAC Municipal waste sent to landfill has been decreasing.</li> <li>• The rate of recycling has been increasing.</li> </ul>	<p>NI has the lowest recycling rates of Local Authority collected municipal waste in the UK, at 38.4% in 2011/12 (rates for electronics, textiles, plastics and food are particularly low). EU Member States are required to recycle 50% of municipal solid waste by 2020.</p> <p>There is a continued reliance on landfill in NI, with just over 58% of municipal waste in 2011/12 landfilled.</p> <p>The revised Northern Ireland Waste Management Strategy (Delivering Resource Efficiency, 2013) proposes to introduce a <b>60%</b> recycling target by 2020 for local authority collected municipal waste</p>	Material Assets

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
<b>Housing</b>					
<b>Land Zoned for Housing (hectares)</b>  (Source: Mid Ulster Position Paper Two, Housing, November 2014 & 2013 Housing Monitor Reports).	<b>Cookstown Area Plan Cookstown</b> Land zoned phase 1: 70.5 24% of phase 1 zoned housing land has been developed with around 53 hectares remaining. A further 77.5 hectares is zoned as phase 2 housing land in Cookstown. <b>Total Area Zoned: 148</b>  <b>Dungannon and South Tyrone Area Plan Dungannon</b> Land zoned phase 1: 109 <b>Coalisland</b> Land zoned phase 1: 80 28% of phase 1 zoned housing land in Dungannon and nearly 23% in Coalisland has been developed with around 77 and 63 hectares respectively remaining.	NI	<p>The Cookstown and Dungannon plans prepared prior to the publication of the RDS, zoned land for housing to be released in two phases in Cookstown, Dunganon and Coalisland.</p> <p>Magherafelt plan prepared after the publication of the RDS zoned land for housing in Magherafelt and Maghera, designating a further 52 hectares of Housing Land Use Policy Areas across Districts 4 villages.</p> <p>All 5 towns in Mid Ulster have more than half of the land zoned for housing remaining undeveloped. Particularly notable for Cookstown and Coalisland as their relevant Area Plans have both passed their notional end dates. This lack of activity may reflect the cooling of the economic climate in the last seven years or so.</p>	In terms of delivering new housing, the new local development plan is required to take into account the number of houses built within the RDS period i.e. from 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2008 rather than an examination of zoned housing land uptake since a Plans' adoption.	Material Assets

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
<b>Land Zoned for Housing (cont.)</b>	<p>A further 148 and 41 hectares is zoned as phase 2 housing land in Dungannon and Coalisland respectively. <b>Total Area Zoned: 378</b></p> <p><b>Magherafelt Area Plan</b> <b>Magherafelt</b> Land zoned: 77 <b>Mahera</b> Land zoned: 30.3 Only 10% of the housing land in Magherafelt compared to 43% in Maghera has been developed. A further 52 hectares of land designated as Housing Land Use Policy areas in Bellaghy, Castledawson, Draperstown and Tobermore. <b>Total Area Zoned: 378</b></p>				
<b>Housing Tenure</b> (Sources: Mid Ulster Position	<b>Mid Ulster Tenure 2001</b> <b>Total Units: 42,280</b> <b>Owner occupied</b>	<b>NI Tenure 2001</b> <b>Total Units: 64,7530</b> <b>Owner occupied</b>	Between 2001 and 2006 the private rented sector rose, across Mid Ulster, particularly Magherafelt (5.5% to 11.3%) and	Planning has a role in providing for a mixture of tenures, housing	<i>Material Assets</i>

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
Paper Two, Housing, November 2014 & The 2011 House Condition Survey).	30,000 71% <b>NIHE</b> 5220 12.3% <b>Housing Association</b> 520 1.2% <b>Private Rented &amp; other</b> 3,340 7.9% <b>Vacant</b> 3,200 7.6%  <u><b>2006</b></u> <u><b>Total Units: 47,500</b></u> <b>Owner occupied</b> 33,120 69.7% <b>NIHE</b> 4,390 9.2% <b>Housing Association</b> 630 1.3% <b>Private Rented &amp; other</b> 5,940 12.5%	432,270 66.8% <b>NIHE</b> 115,980 17.9% <b>Housing Association</b> 17,930 2.8% <b>Private Rented &amp; other</b> 49,410 7.6% <b>Vacant</b> 31,940 4.9%  <u><b>2006</b></u> <u><b>Total Units: 705,000</b></u> <b>Owner occupied</b> 468,860 66.5% <b>NIHE</b> 93,440 13.3% <b>Housing Association</b> 21,530 3.1% <b>Private Rented &amp; other</b> 80,870 11.5%	Dungannon (10.1% to 15.8%). This may reflect houses prices being at their highest and demand for immediate accommodation arising from the influx of nationals from other parts of Europe. In contrast owner occupied houses decreased slightly across Mid Ulster. And in all three districts, the proportion of vacant properties has remained higher than the regional average of 5.7%.  The 2011 House Condition Survey indicates owner-occupied housing stock in NI has continued to decline (61.7% compared to 66.5% in 2006) with an increase in private rented properties and others, from 11.5% in 2006 to 16.5% in 2011. The social rented sector accounted for 14.6% of total stock (NIHE: 11.3%, HA: 3.3%). The level of vacant stock has risen (7.2%) in line with growth in the private rented sector. Data from the HCS has not been released at local government level but housing tenure data from the 2001 and 2011 Census mirrors this change in housing tenure in that there has been a slight decline in owner occupation as well as social housing stock with an increase in private rented accommodation. NISRA	types and providing access to affordable housing.	

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
<b>Housing Tenure (cont.)</b>	<b>Vacant</b> 3,420 7.2%	<b>Vacant</b> 40,300 5.7%  <b>2011</b> <b>Total Units: 760,000</b> <b>Owner occupied</b> 469,070 61.7% <b>Social Housing</b> 110,760 14.6% <b>Private Rented &amp; other</b> 125,440 16.5% <b>Vacant</b> 54,730 7.2%	suggests key drivers in increased demand for private rented accommodation are likely to have been: inward migration from EU accession countries; housing affordability issues assoc. with the mid-2000s upsurge in house prices; and the particularly adverse impact on the housing market of the post-2007 economic downturn, which has seen a marked reduction in property values, risk aversion among mortgage lenders and reduced confidence among prospective house purchasers, and, as a result, many households electing to rent rather than buy.		
<b>House Types</b>  (Source: NISRA Census 2001, NISRA Census 2011 & Mid Ulster Position Paper Two, Housing, November 2014)	<b>Mid Ulster: Households by Type 2001</b>  <b>Total Households</b> 40,099 <b>Detached</b> 21,899 54.6% <b>Semi Detached</b> 9,824 24.5%	<b>NI 2001: Households by Type 2001</b>  <b>Total Households</b> 626,718 <b>Detached</b> 230,406 36.8% <b>Semi Detached</b> 174,781 27.9%	The types of dwellings across NI and Mid Ulster has remained fairly constant.  The number of detached houses rose in both NI as a whole and at district level in Mid Ulster between 2001 and 2011. Notably detached houses in Mid Ulster formed more than half the total house types across the district in 2001 (54.6%) and in 2011 (55.6%). Significantly greater than the Northern Ireland average for detached houses in 2001	Planning has a role in providing for a mixture of tenures, housing types and providing access to affordable housing.	Material Assets



INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
*other includes caravan, mobile or temporary structure or shared dwelling	<p><b>Terraced</b> 6,855 17.1%</p> <p><b>Flats</b> 1,252 3.1%</p> <p><b>Other*</b> 269 0.7%</p> <p><b>Mid Ulster: Households by Type 2011</b></p> <p><b>Total Households</b> 48,211</p> <p><b>Detached</b> 26,790 55.6%</p> <p><b>Semi Detached</b> 12,277 25.5%</p> <p><b>Terraced</b> 7,408 15.4%</p> <p><b>Flats</b> 1,559 3.2%</p> <p><b>Other*</b> 177</p>	<p><b>Terraced</b> 169,433 27%</p> <p><b>Flats</b> 50,278 8%</p> <p><b>Other*</b> 1,820 0.3%</p> <p><b>NI: Households by Type 20011</b></p> <p><b>Total Households</b> 703,275</p> <p><b>Detached</b> 264,307 37.6%</p> <p><b>Semi Detached</b> 200,577 28.5%</p> <p><b>Terraced</b> 174,896 24.9%</p> <p><b>Flats</b> 62,386 8.9%</p> <p><b>Other*</b> 1,109</p>	<p>and 2011 at 36.8% and 37.6% respectively. This high proportion of detached houses in Mid Ulster is a reflection of the large number of houses in rural areas.</p> <p>The number of semi detached houses also rose in both NI as a whole and at district level in Mid Ulster between 2001 and 2011. Mid Ulster had a slightly lower number of semi detached properties than the NI average.</p> <p>The number of terraced houses decreased across both NI as a whole by 2.1% and at district level in Mid Ulster by 1.7%. Mid Ulster in both 2001 and 2011 had a considerably lower percentage of terraced properties than the NI average.</p> <p>The number of flats rose slightly in NI as a whole by 0.9% between 2001 and 2011. At district level Mid Ulster saw only a fraction of the NI wide increase (0.1%). Furthermore Mid Ulster in both 2001 and 2011 had less than half the NI average flats.</p> <p>Mid Ulster in comparison to the NI average saw a great reduction in the number of other house holds which fell from 0.7% in 2001 to</p>		

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
	0.4%	0.2%	0.4% in 2011, still keeping it 0.2% higher than the NI average.		
<b>Social Housing and affordability</b>  (Source: Mid Ulster Position Paper Two, Housing, November 2014, NI Housing Market Review & Perspective 2014-2017 and NIHE Housing Plan & Local Housing Strategies 2014 / 2015)	<b>Mid Ulster</b> (Magherafelt, Cookstown & Dungannon Housing Market Area) <b>Repayment Affordability</b>  <b>2010</b> Afford Gap: 17,667 % Unafford: 51  <b>2011</b> Afford Gap: 26,101 % Unafford: 62  <b>2012</b> Afford Gap: 19,461 % Unafford: 58	<b>NI</b> (NI Housing Market Area <sup>2</sup> )  <b>Repayment Affordability</b>  <b>2010</b> Afford Gap: 16,003 % Unafford: 60  <b>2011</b> Afford Gap: 22,847 % Unafford: 59%  <b>2012</b> Afford Gap: 23,465 % Unafford: 57%	<p>A gap in market provision can occur if house prices rise beyond that which is affordable. Affordability is determined by price, average incomes and access to borrowing and it remains an issue for first time buyers.</p> <p>Emerging findings from the NI Housing Market Review &amp; Perspectives 2014-2017 indicated that affordability over the period 2010-2012 has improved significantly across NI as a whole and individually across most housing market areas, particularly Armagh / Craigavon and Fermanagh / Omagh, where the percentage of affordable homes improved in both areas by 19% leaving the former area however with 42% affordable homes less than the NI average but the latter area with 73% affordable homes in 2012 some 16% than the NI average.</p>	<p>Planning has a role in providing for a mixture of tenures, housing types and providing access to affordable housing.</p> <p>It is important to note that planning cannot control house prices which are primarily influenced by factors such as interest rates and the availability of lending. However, the provision of social housing in both urban and rural areas, can address the concerns of affordability, in particular for migrant workers, single parents and the needs of young people and the elderly.</p>	Material Assets

<sup>2</sup> NI Housing Market Area, afford gap and % Unafford is the average taken for the combination of Ards & North Down, Armagh & Craigavon, Antrim & Newtownabbey, Belfast, Carrick & Larne, Derry, Strabane & Limavady, Fermanagh & Omagh, Newry, Down & Banbridge, Lisburn & Castlereagh, Magherafelt, Cookstown & Dungannon, Moyle, Ballymena, Ballymoney & Coleraine which was taken from the NI Housing Market Review & Perspectives 2014-2017, pg 54, table 6.1.



INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
<b>affordability (cont.)</b>	NIHE Social HNA <sup>1</sup> 2013 – 2018 based on the March 2014 waiting list showed each districts requirements: Cookstown: 94 units. Dungannon and South Tyrone: 441 units Magherafelt: 102 units		<p>accommodated in 2014, compared to only 34% and 46% in Dungannon &amp; South Tyrone and Cookstown respectively.</p> <p>Social housing need is also met by Housing Associations. The Census 2011 indicated social housing stock (NIHE and housing associations) accounts for 1,052 dwellings (8.2%) of the total stock in Cookstown, 2,083 (10.3%) of the total stock in Dungannon and South Tyrone, and 1,278 (8.5%) in Magherafelt. So, overall the social housing uptake across mid Ulster is considerably less than the Northern Ireland figure of 14.9%.</p>		
<b>Special Housing Need</b>				Planning has a role in providing for a mixture of tenures, housing types and providing access to affordable housing.	Material Assets
<b>Vacancy and Unfitness Levels</b>				Planning has a role in providing for a mixture of tenures, housing types and providing access to affordable housing.	Material Assets

<sup>1</sup> HNA is abbreviation of Housing Needs Assessment

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
<b>Cycleways / Greenways</b>					
<b>National Cycle Networks</b>				<sup>3</sup> Zonings for future needs should take into account the importance of protecting linear open spaces such as pedestrian and cycle routes, community greenways, former railway lines and river and canal corridors many of which are valuable in linking larger areas of open space and providing important wildlife corridors/ecological networks.	Material Assets
<b>The Ulster Way</b>	Mid Ulster Contains 21.2km of the 'Quality Section' of the Ulster Way (Source:Outdoor recreation for 2014)	NI Contains the The Ulster Way which is 1000km in total.	The Ulster Way is a circular walking route in NI.	Zonings for future needs should take into account the importance of protecting linear open spaces such as pedestrian and cycle routes, community greenways, former railway lines and river and canal corridors many of which are valuable in linking larger areas of open space and providing important wildlife corridors/ecological networks.	Material Assets
<b>Other Trails Cycling Walking Canoeing</b>	Mid Ulster 109.5km 128.2 km 22 km			Zonings for future needs should take into account the importance of protecting linear open spaces such as pedestrian and cycle	Material Assets

<sup>3</sup> Strategic Planning Policy Statement for Northern Ireland - Planning for Sustainable Development, September 2015, page 88 paragraph 6.210.

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
(Source:MU DC Recreational Audit 2015)				routes, community greenways, former railway lines and river and canal corridors many of which are valuable in linking larger areas of open space and providing important wildlife corridors/ecological networks.	
<b>Safer routes to schools</b>				Zonings for future needs should take into account the importance of protecting linear open spaces such as pedestrian and cycle routes, community greenways, former railway lines and river and canal corridors many of which are valuable in linking larger areas of open space and providing important wildlife corridors/ecological networks.	Material Assets
<b>Public Rights of Way</b>  (Sources: Mid Ulster Council Outdoor Recreation	<sup>4</sup> Mid Ulster Cookstown, one of the former Councils asserted the following PROW's: Old Chapel Road, Warwicks Way	<sup>5</sup> NI Total Size in SQM: 5,500 Miles of PROW: 123 Length of PROW	<sup>6</sup> In relation to the amount of land available, Northern Ireland has a considerably smaller PROW network of only 0.02 miles per square mile in comparison to England and Wales.	<sup>7</sup> NI does not provide the same level of access as legislation in other parts of the UK: Scotland has the "Freedom to roam" and "right to responsible access" under the Land Reform Act 2003. England and Wales have the	Material Assets

<sup>4</sup> Mid Ulster Council Outdoor Recreation Report November 2014

<sup>5</sup> ACTIVE PLACES RESEARCH REPORT 2009 Bridging the Gap

<sup>6</sup> NI Assembly Research and Information Service Briefing Paper: Access to the countryside in Northern Ireland -occupiers' liability Dec 2012

<sup>7</sup> NI Assembly Research and Information Service Briefing Paper: Access to the countryside in Northern Ireland -occupiers' liability Dec 2012

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
Report Nov 2014, ACTIVE PLACES RESEARCH REPORT 2009, NI Assembly Research and Information Service Briefing Paper: Access to the countryside in Northern Ireland - occupiers' liability Dec 2012 & National Assembly for Wales Research paper Countryside access in the UK: a review of associated legislation and	Drum Road Loop, Dunnamore Loughry Estate, Dungannon Road Loup Road to Ballyeglish Old Grave Yard Mullan Road Gort Moss Innevall	per SQM: 0.02  England Total Size in SQM: 50,000 Miles of PROW: 118,000 Length of PROW per SQM: 2.36  Wales Total Size in SQM: 8,000 Miles of PROW: 20,625 Length of PROW per SQM: 2.58  *The availability of PROW in Scotland is more complex and cannot be easily compared.		Countryside Rights of Way Act 2000, and more recently the Marine Coastal Access Act, all of which give greater levels of public access to most land. In 1999 the DOE undertook an access consultation which included the question of whether a right to roam policy should be established in Northern Ireland. There was strong opposition to this proposal, due to widespread concern amongst landowners that with increased access comes increased liability, and for this reason the DOE discounted the proposal.  <sup>8</sup> In 2007 a case was made for a legislative review by the CNCC in a position paper which included 12 recommendations. However, to date the NI Executive has not introduced any new access legislation. Sport NI's Countryside Recreation Strategy Review in 2009 concluded that, "There is clearly	

<sup>8</sup> National Assembly for Wales Research paper Countryside access in the UK: a review of associated legislation and policy April 2014

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
policy April 2014)				an identified need for continued advocacy for increased access to the countryside for outdoor recreation”.	



*“The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme”.*

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
Economic / Social Issues					
AGE STRUCTURE AND COMPOSITION (Source: NISRA 2016)	Mid Ulster population 50.1% Male 49.9% Female	NI population 49.0% Male 51.0% Female			<i>Population</i>
% OF POPULATION UNDER 16 YEARS (Source: NISRA 2016)	Mid Ulster 22.96%	NI 20.78%	Mid Ulster population one of the fastest growing in NI (more than double that of NI average)	Mid Ulster has a young population compared to NI average and NISRA projections indicate a significant rise to come – placing greater demands for creche, nursery and primary school places	<i>Population</i>
% OF WORKING AGE (16-64 years) BASED ON TOTAL POPULATION (Source: NISRA 2016)	Mid Ulster 63.20%	NI 63.21%	Mid Ulster in line with regional average		<i>Population</i>
% OF PENSIONERS (65+ years) BASED ON TOTAL POPULATION (Source: NISRA 2016)	Mid Ulster 13.84%	NI 16%	NI trend is for proportion of people over 65 years of age is growing and Mid Ulster is likely to follow this trend	A rising elderly population will increase demand for health and community services, the development of which will need to be accommodated	<i>Population, Human Health</i>

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
% OF POPULATION IN RECEIPT OF AT LEAST ONE DISABILITY RELATED BENEFIT POPULATION (Source: NISRA 2010)		NI Feb 2014 13.7% (Feb 2013 15.4)	Significant reduction NI wide		<i>Population, Human Health</i>
NEW INCIDENCES OF CANCER (EXCLUDING NON MELANOMA SKIN CANCER) PER 100,000 PERSONS. (Source:NISRA)		NI 2012 – 495 (2011 – 489)			<i>Population, Human Health</i>
UNEMPLOYMENT LEVELS (Source: NISRA, Census 2011)	Mid Ulster unemployment level - 4.68%	NI unemployment level – 4.96%	Mid Ulster in line with regional average		<i>Population</i>
% OF WORKING AGE ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE (Source:NISRA 2016)	Mid Ulster 75.2%	NI 72.5%	Mid Ulster on a par with NI		<i>Population</i>
% OF WELFARE CLAIMANTS AS PROPORTION OF WORKING AGE PEOPLE (Source:NISRA 2016)	3.4% claimant count of population of working age in Mid Ulster	4.6% of working age of NI	Significantly lower than NI average and one of the lowest regions in NI for claimants		<i>Population</i>

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
RACE AND ETHNICITY (Source NISRA statistics & 2011 Census 2011)	2011 10.4% Mid Ulster population born outside the region	2011 11.1% NI population born outside the region	Majority of non- indigenous people were born in Europe, reflecting the inward migration of migrant workers		<i>Population</i>
QUALIFICATIONS - % OF SCHOOL LEAVERS ACHIEVING AT LEAST 5 GCSE's OR EQUIVALENT (Source: NISRA 2016)	Mid Ulster 61.2% 2013/2014	NI 2013/2014 63.5%	Modest increase in overall numbers of school leavers achieving at least 5 GCSE's		<i>Population</i>
QUALIFICATIONS - % PEOPLE WITH DEGREE OR HIGHER (Source NISRA 2016)	26.2% of Mid Ulster with degree qualification or higher	29.7% of NI with degree qualification or higher	Significant rise in % of Mid Ulster population with 3 <sup>rd</sup> level qualification since 2001 figures	Greater demand within Mid Ulster for more skilled jobs	<i>Population</i>
QUALIFICATIONS - % PEOPLE WITH NO OR LOW QUALIFICATIONS (Source NISRA 2016)	22.2% of Mid Ulster with no or low qualifications	17.4% of NI with no or low qualifications		Mid Ulster has higher than NI average for no or low qualifications	<i>Population</i>

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
% of HOUSEHOLDS WITH DEPENDANT CHILDREN (Source Census 2011)	Mid Ulster 38.99%	NI 33.85%	Although 2011 figure is less than 2001 figures it remains significantly above the NI average		<i>Population</i>
HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION (NISRA, Census 2011)	Mid Ulster Average Household Size 2.88  1 Person – 22.95% 2 People – 26.48% 3 People – 16.47% 4 People – 16.81% 5 People – 17.29%	NI Average Household Size 2.54  1 Person – 27.93% 2 People – 30.19% 3 People – 16.80% 4 People – 14.70% 5 People – 10.46%		Mid Ulster generally has larger household size than the NI average	<i>Population</i>
PROPORTION OF CHILDREN AGED 0-15 YEARS LIVING IN LOW INCOME FAMILIES AT AUGUST (%)  (Souce: NISRA 2010)		NI 2012 21.5%  2011 22.2%	National figure show modest decrease		<i>Population, Human Health</i>

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
PROPORTION OF PEOPLE AGED 16+ CLAIMING HOUSING BENEFIT AT JUNE (%) (Souce: NISRA 2010)		NI 2014 11.2%  2013 11.4%	National figure show modest decrease		<i>Population</i>

*“The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme”.*

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
Environmental Issues					
SOIL QUALITY (Source:Northern Ireland Environmental Statistics Report – Feb. 2015)		Soil quality in Northern Ireland, as evidenced by soil P Index, has declined slightly in recent years. In 2012/13, there were more soils that were either under or over- enriched with phosphorus compared to previous years.	In the long term, it is expected that soil-P will decline as a result of the Nitrates Action Programme (NAP) and Phosphorus (P) Regulations		<i>Soil</i>
CARBON STORAGE Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs (Source <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-environment-food-rural-affairs">https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-environment-food-rural-affairs</a> )		UK soils contain 10 billion tonnes of carbon		Loss of natural carbon stores through deforestation and peat extraction could exacerbate climate change.	<i>Soil</i>

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
SOIL EROSION Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs (Source: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-environment-food-rural-affairs">https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-environment-food-rural-affairs</a> )		The most significant threat facing our soils is from erosion by wind and water. Around 2.2 million tonnes of topsoil is eroded annually in the UK.		Mismanaged extraction activities can also result in pressures on landscape and increase likelihood of soil erosion.	<i>Soil Landscape</i>
TREE PLANTING (Source: Northern Ireland Environmental Statistics Report – Feb. 2015)		In 2012/13, there were 252 hectares of new tree plantings. Of these, 100% were planted by the private sector supported by grant aid from the Forest Service.			<i>Soil, Landscape</i>
AGRI-ENVIRONMENT SCHEMES (Source: Northern Ireland Environmental Statistics Report – Feb. 2015)		By end of 2014 364,000 hectares of land in Northern Ireland were under agri-environment scheme agreement.			<i>Soil, Landscape</i>

*“The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme”.*

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID UISTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
Environmental Issues					
RIVERS (Source: <a href="https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/topics/water">https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/topics/water</a> ; Northern Ireland Environmental Statistics Report – March 2016)	The main watercourses are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lower Bann</li> <li>• Blackwater</li> <li>• Ballinderry</li> <li>• Moyola River</li> <li>• Owenkillew</li> </ul>	23% of Rivers are of at least a ‘good’ standard.  All rivers monitored for nitrate had an annual mean concentration of less than 25mg NO <sub>3</sub> /l		Rivers of European importance that are highly sensitive to water pollution and sedimentation  Many water bodies in the area failing WFD objectives due to both nutrient enrichment, and its subsequent effects. Impacts of proliferation of no-mains sewage treatment systems (septic tanks) and overloading of NIW treatment facilities should be considered.	<i>Water</i>
LAKES (Source: Northern Ireland Environmental Statistics Report – Feb. 2015)		Of the 21 lakes monitored 3 achieved a ‘good’ standard  Lough Neagh at 412 km <sup>2</sup> is the largest fresh water lake in the British Isles.			<i>Water</i>
GROUND WATER (Source:	46 of the 48 sites monitored across NI for nitrate are generally low	48 sites monitored giving an			<i>Water</i>



INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID ULSTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
<a href="https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/topics/water">https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/topics/water</a>	with an average of below 25mg NO <sup>3</sup> /l	average Nitrate concentration of 5.5mg NO <sup>3</sup> /l			
EFFLUENT DISCHARGES (Source: NI Water)	<p>The following settlements do not have WWTW capacity during the plan period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ballymaguigan</li> <li>• Ballynese</li> <li>• Desertmartin</li> <li>• Gracefield</li> <li>• Knockloughrim</li> <li>• The Woods</li> </ul>			<p>Industrial discharge quality has improved in recent years with compliance rates in 2013 of 82% and 94% for private sewage and trade respectively.</p> <p>Compliance of WWTWs against the Water order has continued to improve since 2007 – reaching 93% in 2011 and 2012 and 92% in 2013.</p>	<i>Water</i>
<p>FLOODING (See also Appendix 3 – Flood Risk Map)</p> <p>(Source: Rivers Agency Flood Risk Maps <a href="https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/articles/what-flood-maps-ni">https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/articles/what-flood-maps-ni</a> )</p>	<p><b>Areas within Historic Cookstown District which have a 1% chance of flooding in any given calendar year:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cookstown – 4 key areas identified</li> <li>• Ballinderry</li> <li>• Ballyronan</li> <li>• Coagh</li> <li>• Desertcreat</li> <li>• Drapersfield</li> </ul>		Multiple Flood Risk areas identified within and adjacent to settlements within Mid Ulster	<p>A number of sites previously zoned for Housing have been identified as being liable to flooding.</p> <p>In general terms the effects of climatic change and the increased risk of flooding across the district could result in property damage and direct risks to the population.</p>	<i>Water, Climatic Factors</i>

INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID UISTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
Flooding (cont.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drumullan</li> <li>• Dunnamore</li> <li>• Dunman</li> <li>• Gortaclady</li> <li>• Kileenan</li> <li>• Moneymore – 9 key areas identified</li> <li>• Orritor</li> <li>• Pomeroy</li> <li>• The Rock</li> </ul> <p><b>Areas within Historic Magherafelt District which have a 1% chance of flooding in any given calendar year:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Magherafelt – 10 key areas identified</li> <li>• Ballynease</li> <li>• Bellaghy</li> <li>• Castledawson</li> <li>• Clady</li> <li>• Creagh</li> <li>• Culnady</li> <li>• Curran</li> </ul>				

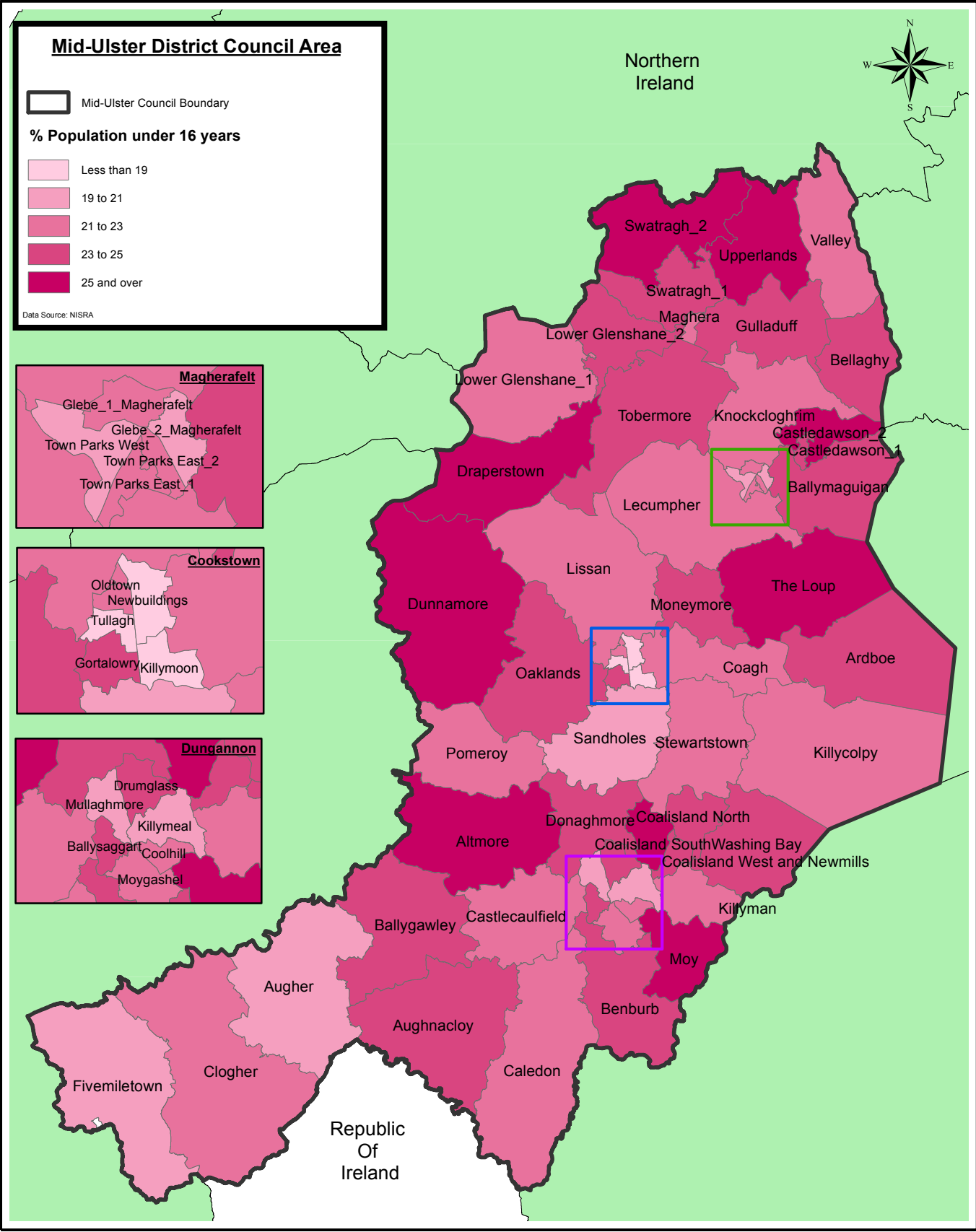
INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID UISTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
Flooding (cont.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Desertmartin</li> <li>• Draperstown</li> <li>• Glen</li> <li>• Glenone</li> <li>• Inishrush</li> <li>• Longfield</li> <li>• Maghera – 6 key areas identified</li> <li>• Moneyneaney</li> <li>• Straw</li> <li>• Swatragh</li> <li>• Tobermore – 6 key sites identified</li> <li>• Upperlands</li> </ul> <p><b>Areas within Historic Dungannon District which have a 1% chance of flooding in any given calendar year:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dungannon – 4 key areas identified</li> <li>• Aghaginduff / Cabragh</li> </ul>				


INDICATOR AND SOURCE	QUANTIFIED DATA (MID UISTER)	COMPARATIVE DATA (NI)	TRENDS	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	SEA TOPIC
Flooding (cont.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annaghmore</li> <li>• Augher</li> <li>• Aughnacloy</li> <li>• Ballygawley</li> <li>• Brockagh / Mountjoy</li> <li>• Carland</li> <li>• Castlecaufield</li> <li>• Clogher – 3 key sites identified</li> <li>• Coalisland – 5 key sites identified</li> <li>• Dernagh / Clonoe</li> <li>• Donaghmore – 3 key sites identified</li> <li>• Dyan</li> <li>• Eglisli – 3 key sites identified</li> <li>• Granville</li> <li>• Killyman</li> <li>• Moy – 2 key sites identified</li> <li>• Newmills</li> <li>• Tamnamore</li> </ul>				

# Appendix 3

**Further baseline data  
including Maps**

Map 1 - Percentage of Population under 16 years



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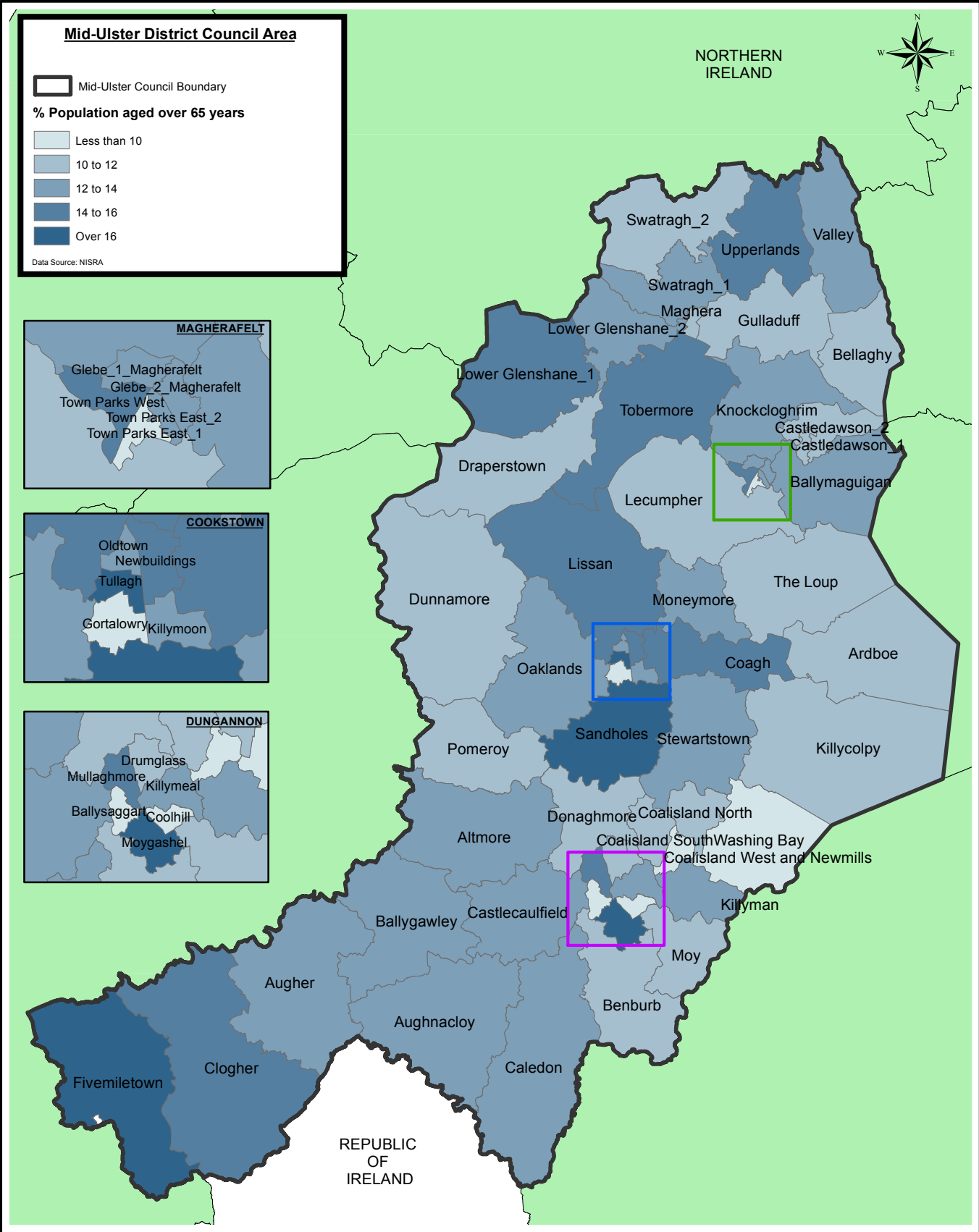
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Map 2 - Percentage of Population aged over 65 years



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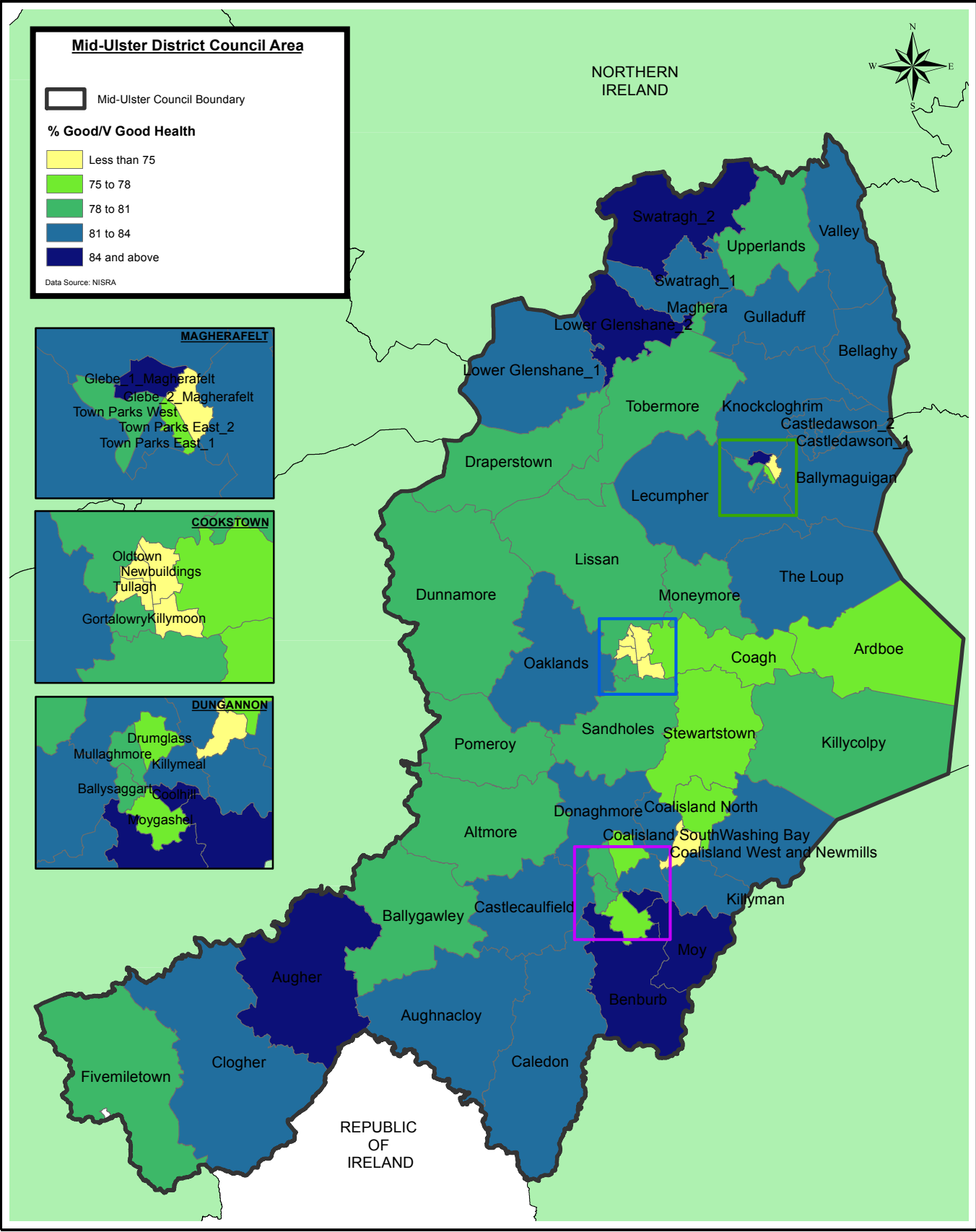
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Map 3 Percentage of Good/Very Good Health



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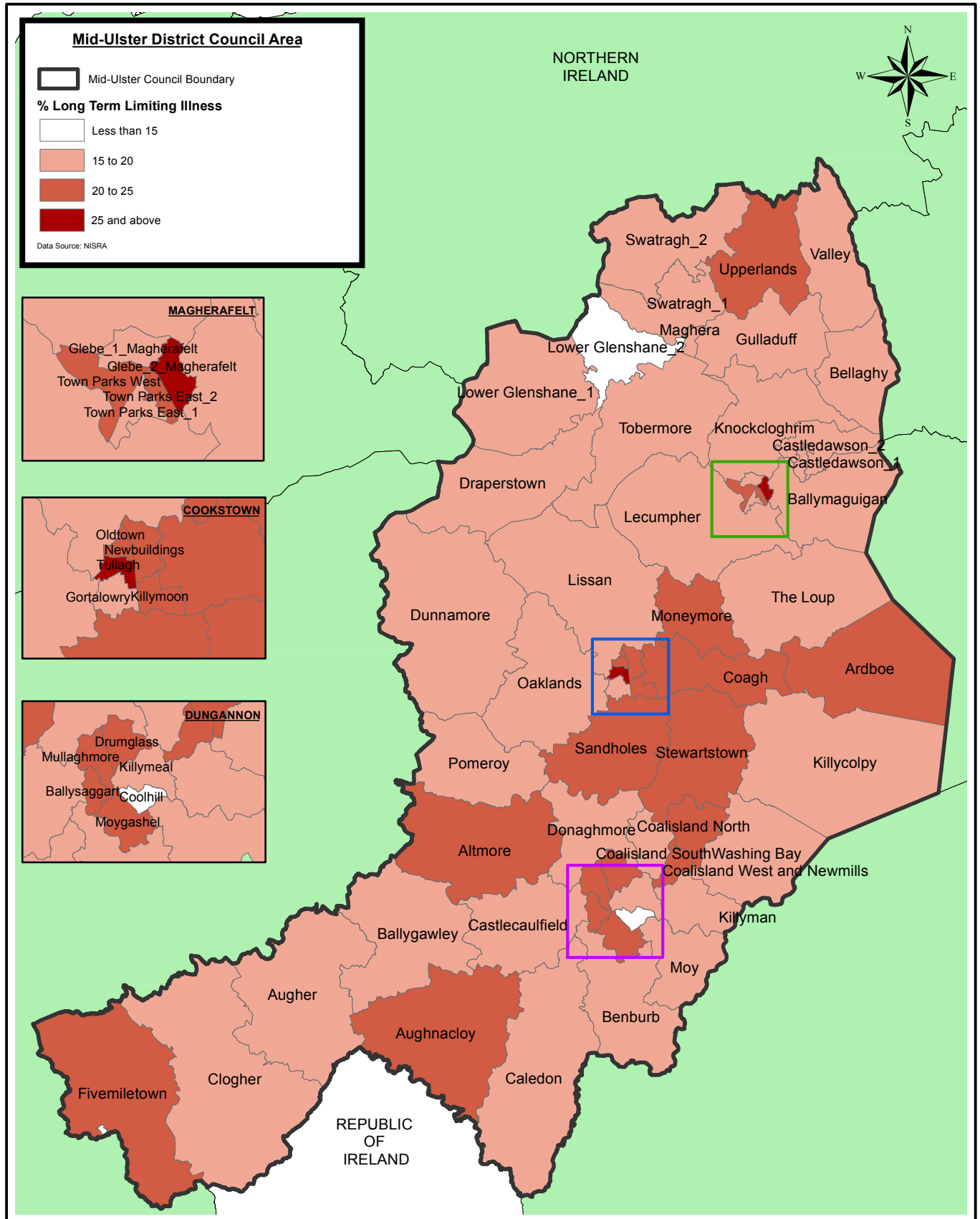
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# Map 4 - Percentage of Long Term Limiting Illness



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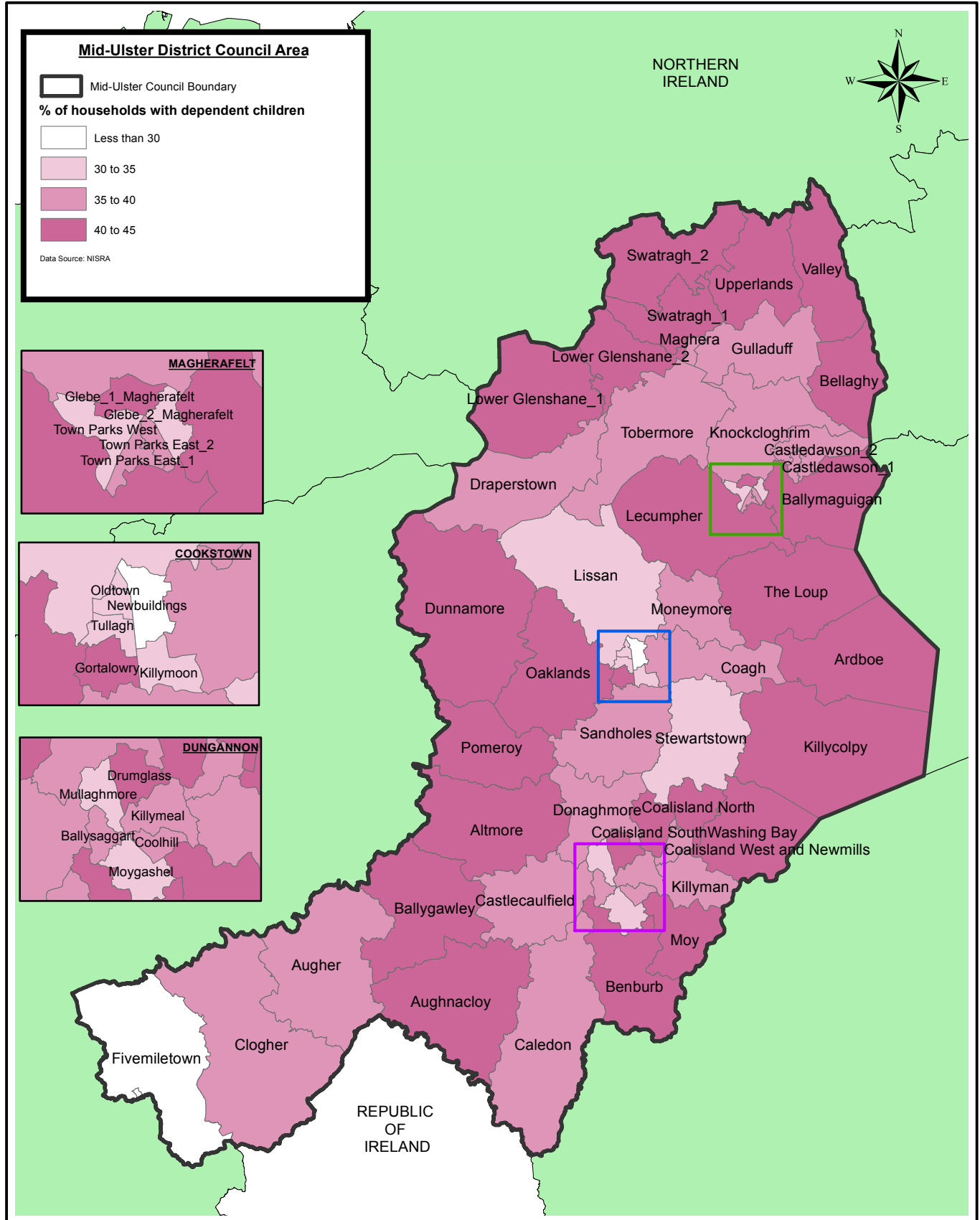
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# Map 5 - Percentage of households with dependant children



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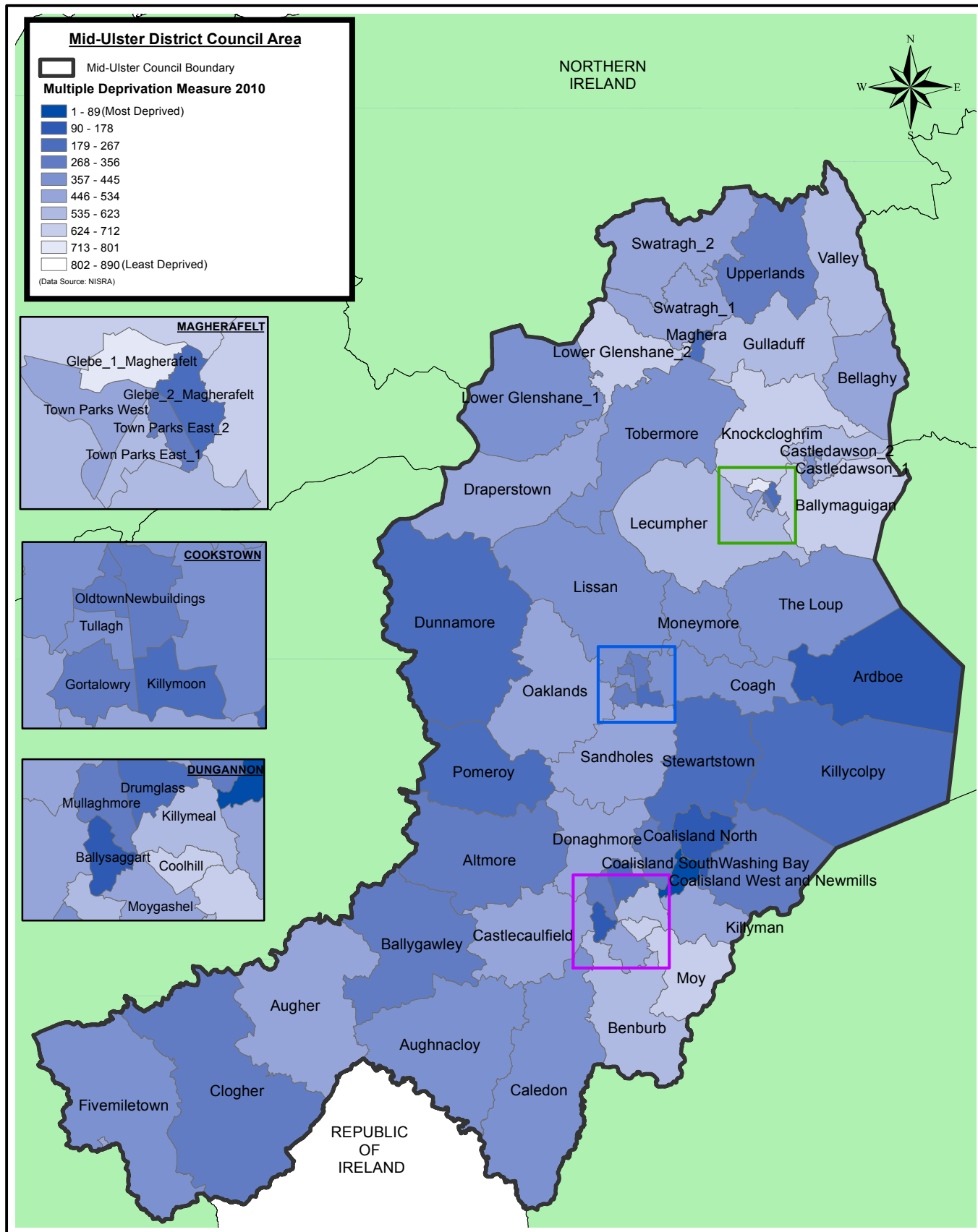
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# Map 6- Multiple Deprivation Measure 2010



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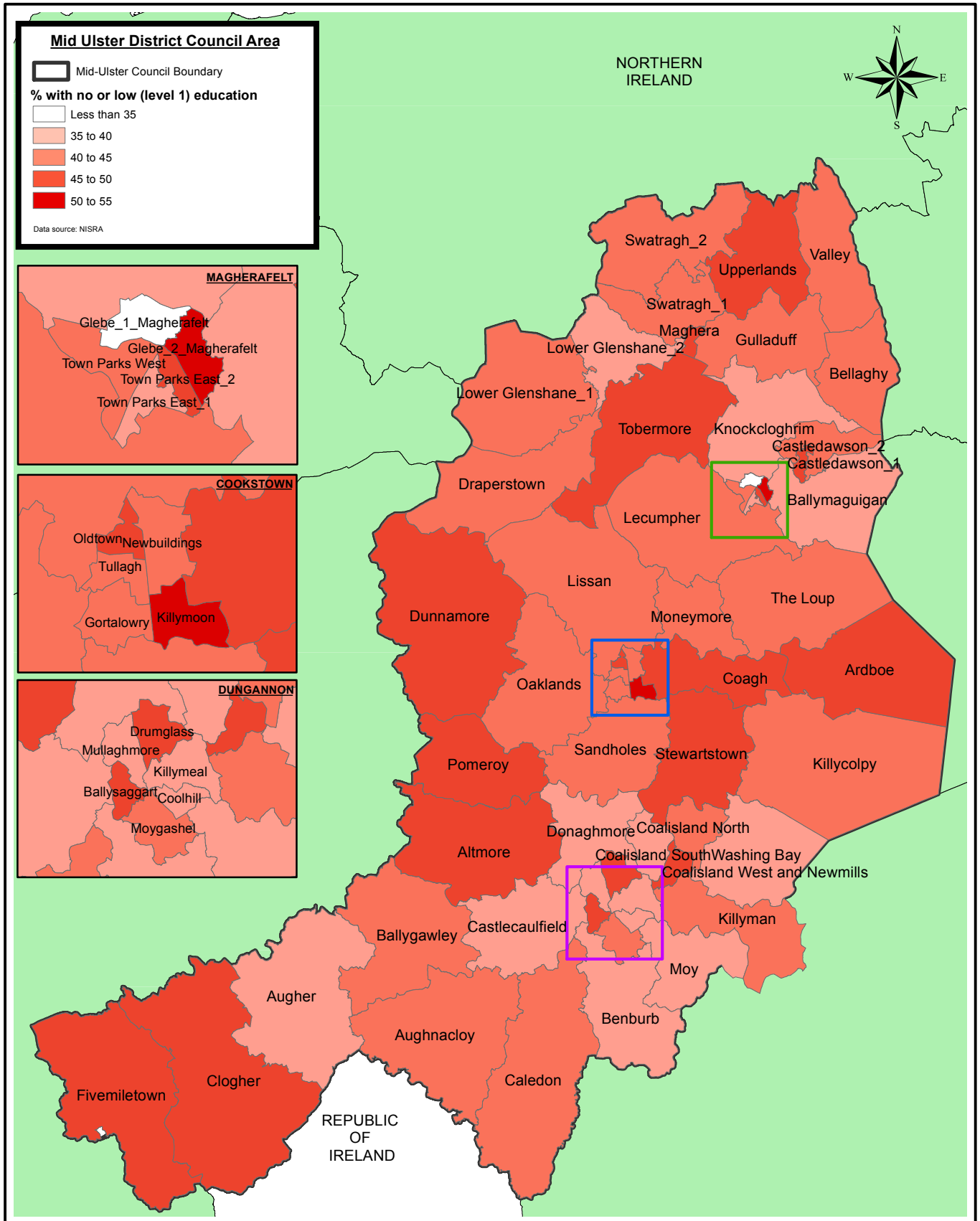
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# Map 7 - Percentage with no or low (level 1) education



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## Map 8 Mid Ulster Climate Change Floodmap



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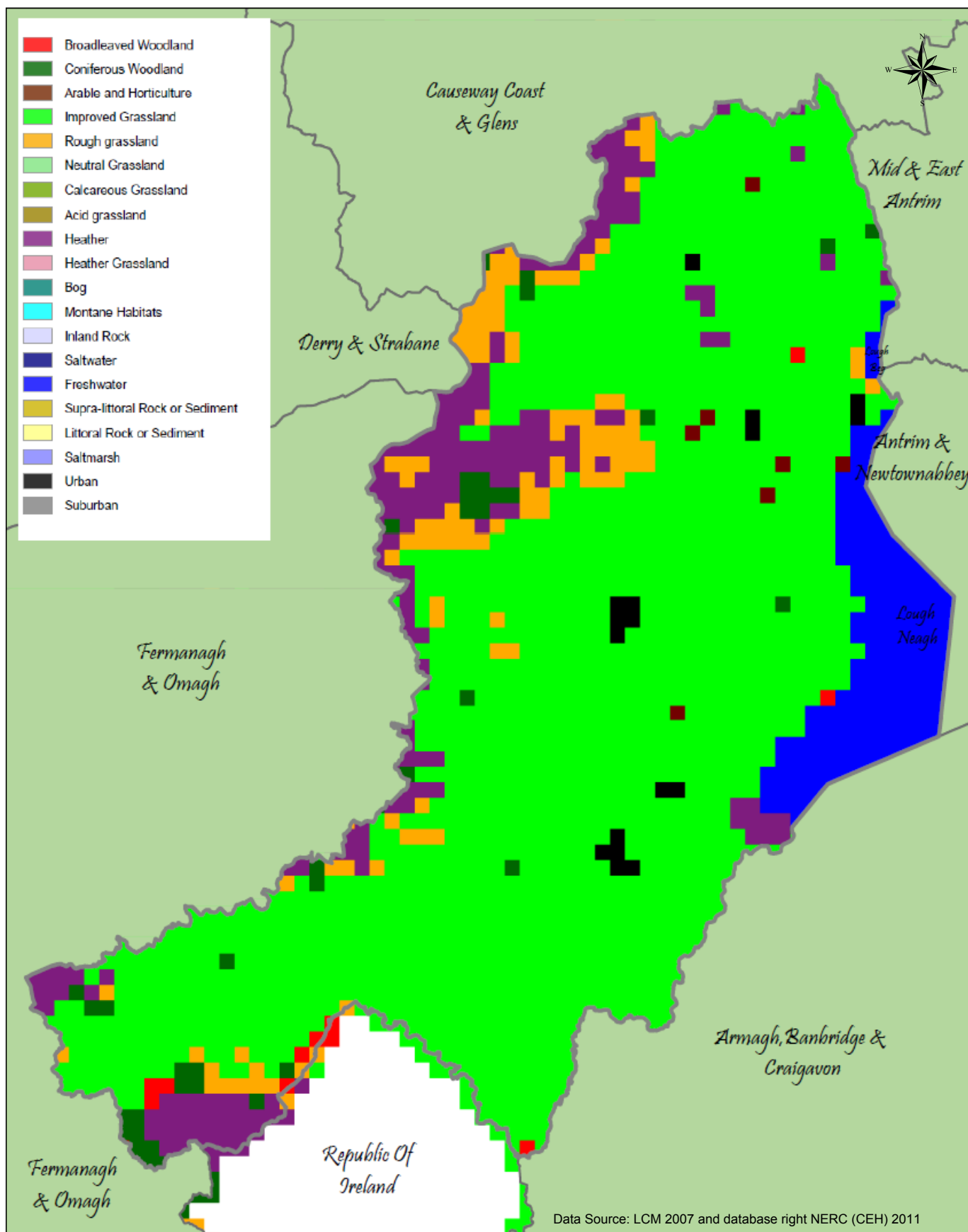
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# Map 9 Mid Ulster Land Cover Map



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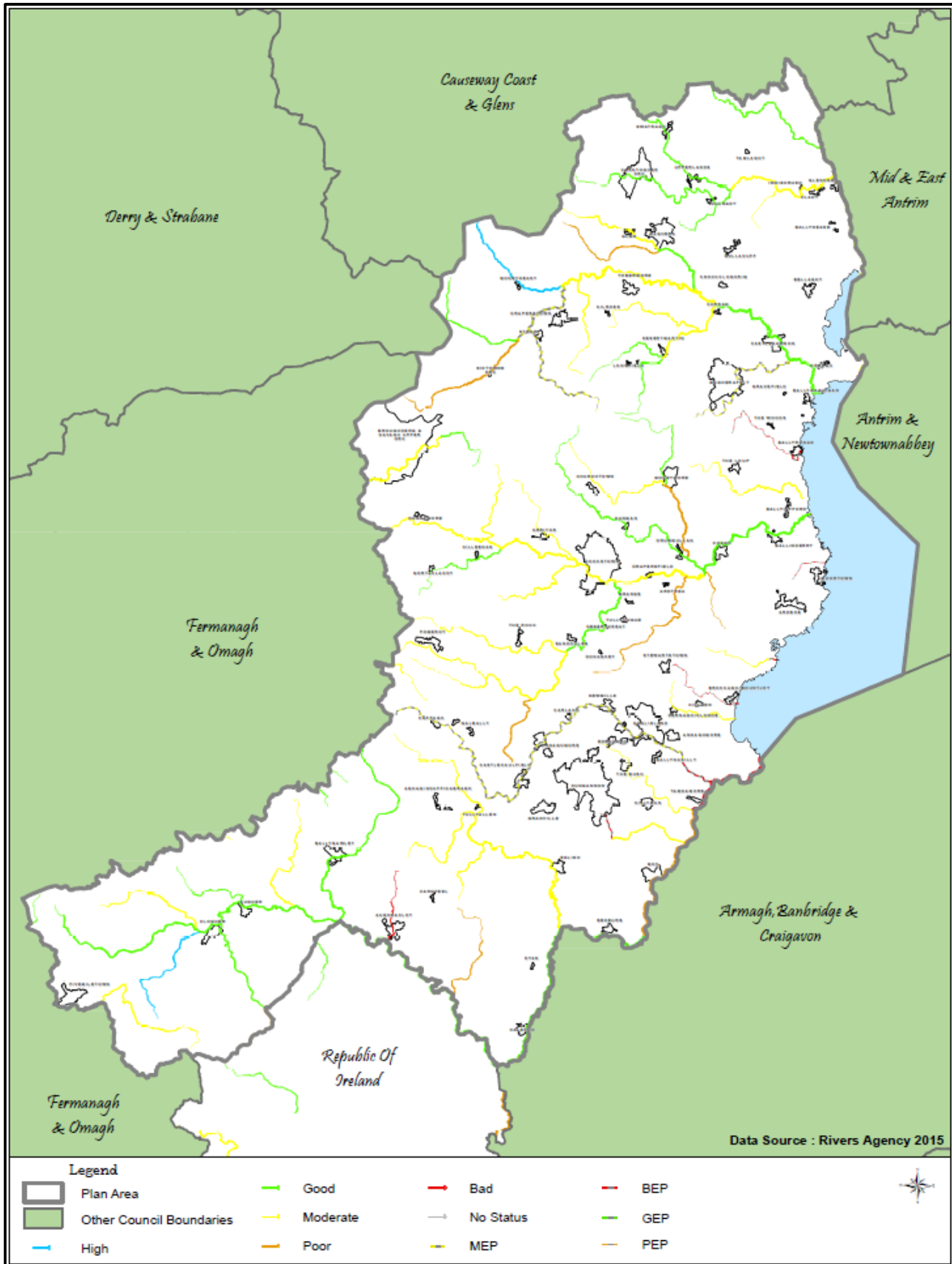
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## Map 10 Mid Ulster River Quality



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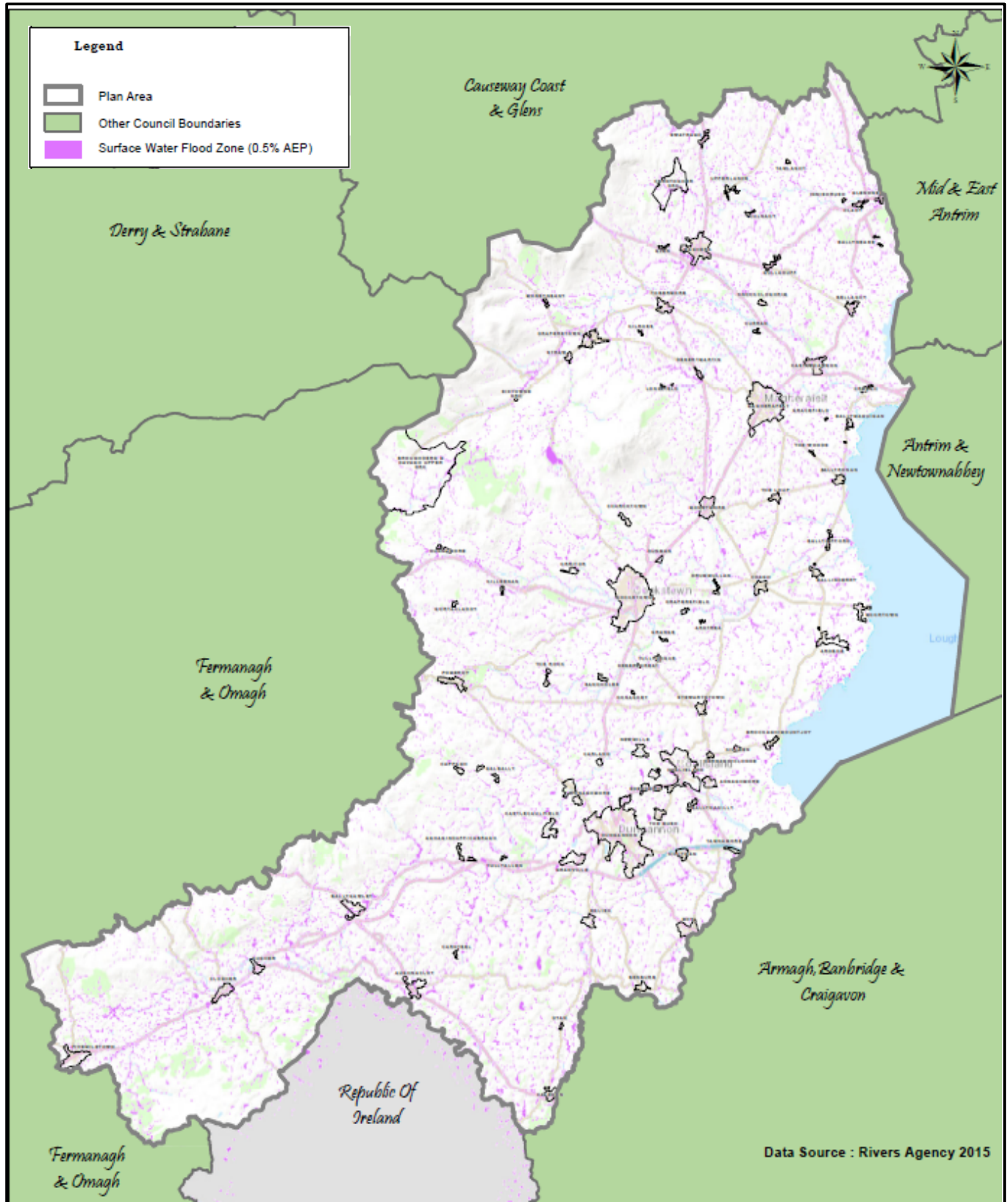
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# Map 11 Mid Ulster Surface Water Flooding



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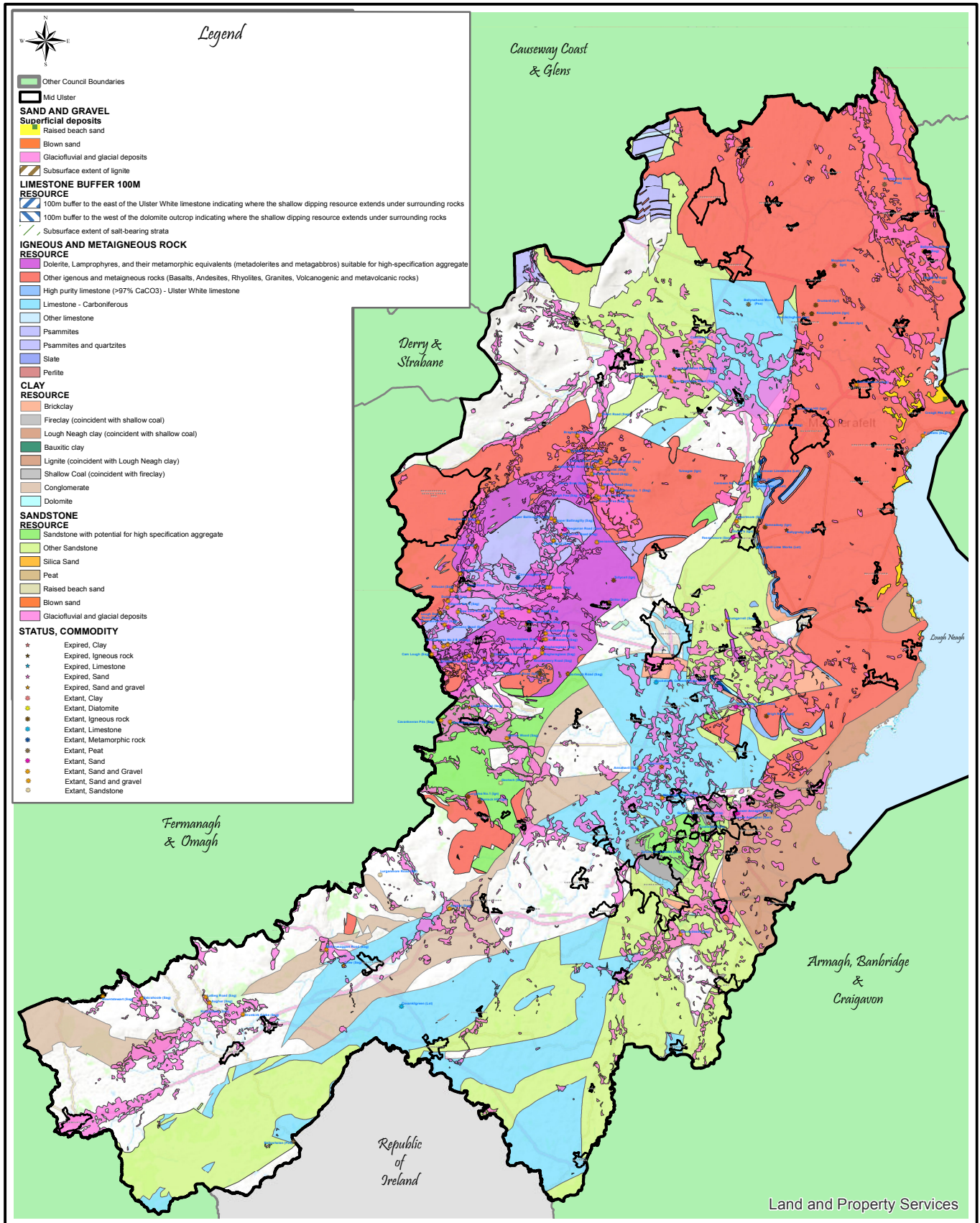
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# Map 12 Mid Ulster Minerals Resource



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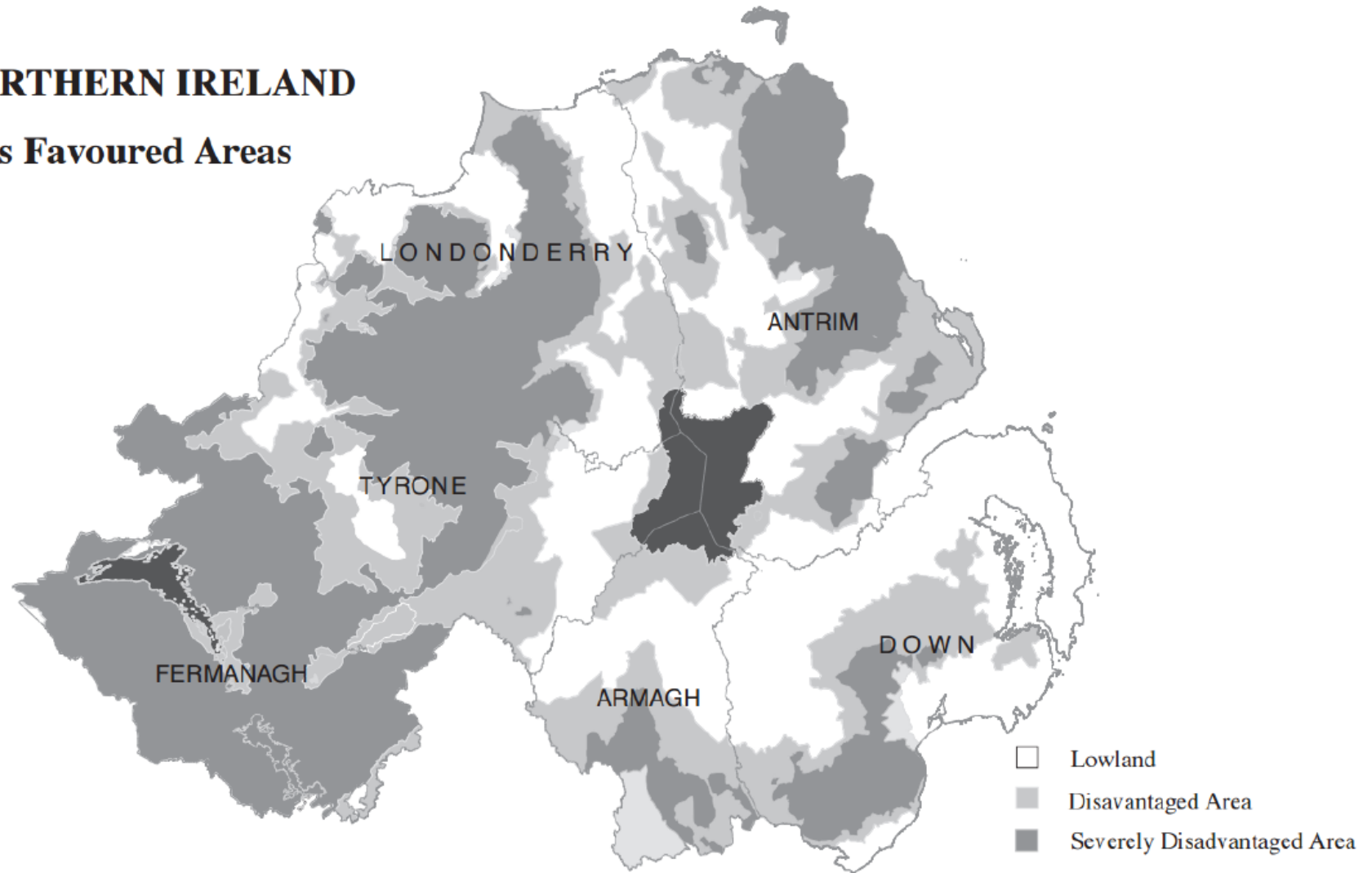
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## Map 13 Less Favoured Areas

### NORTHERN IRELAND

#### Less Favoured Areas



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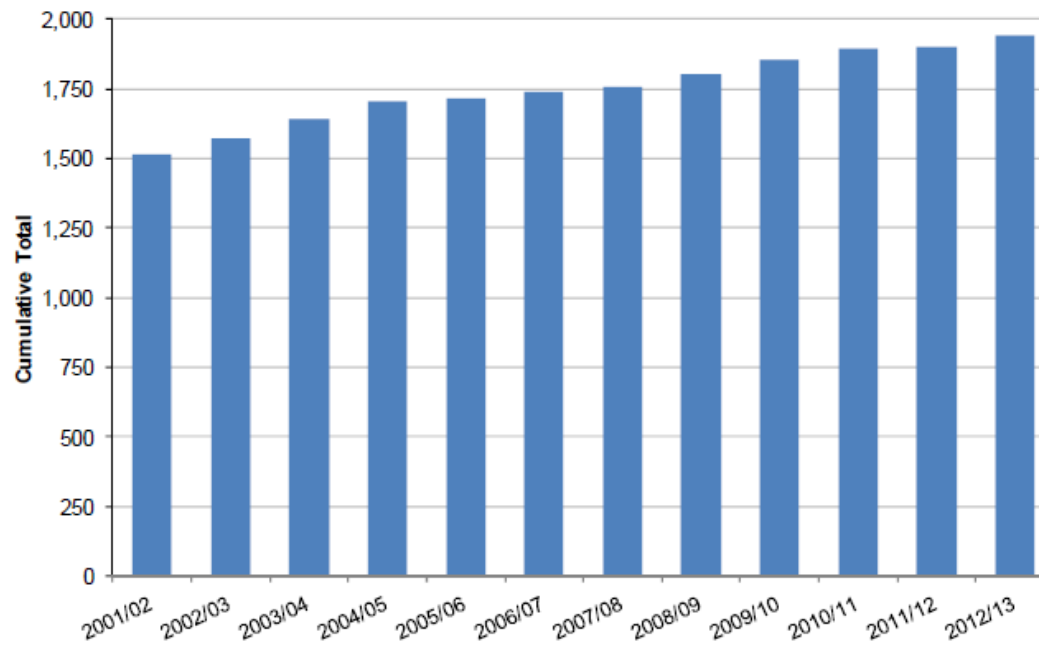
**Northern Ireland Environmental Statistics Report 2014 published 06/03/2014.**

**Table 7.1a Number of scheduled monuments in Northern Ireland, 2001/02 - 2012/13**

	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Number of scheduled monuments	40	60	66	65	14	20	20	46	50	43	4	39
Cumulative Total	1,513	1,573	1,639	1,704	1,718	1,738	1,757	1,803	1,853	1,896	1,900	1,939

Source: NIEA

**Chart 7.1a Number of scheduled monuments, 2001/02 - 2012/13**



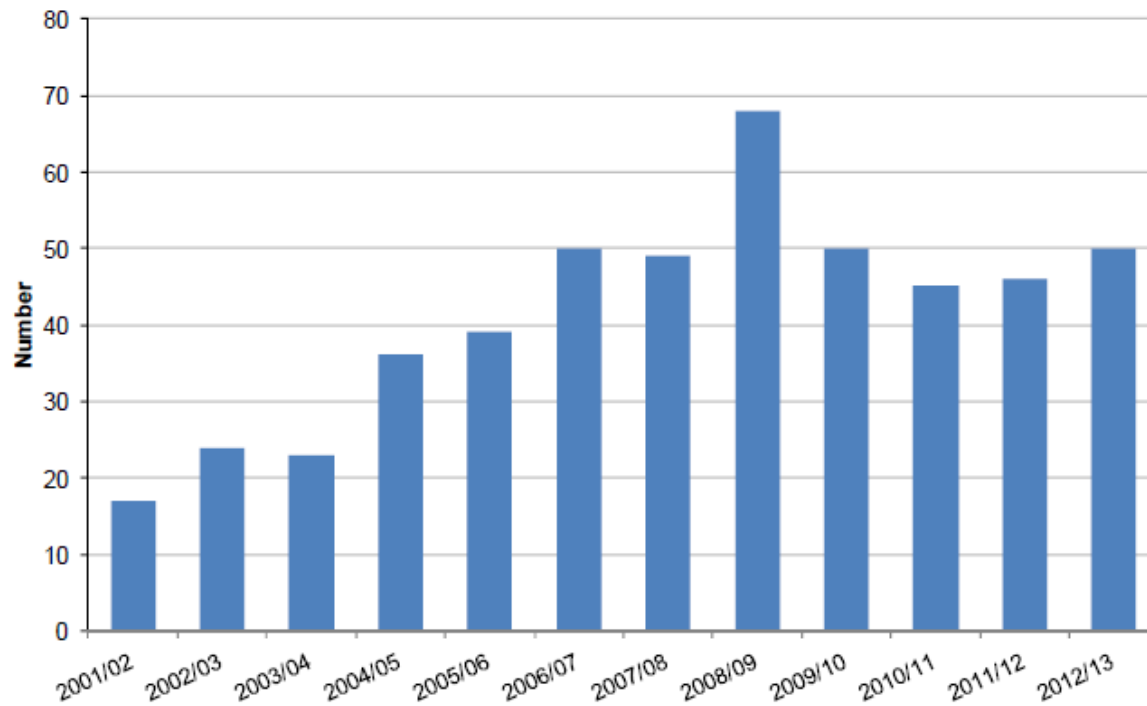
Source: NIEA

**Table 7.1b Number of scheduled monument consent applications received in Northern Ireland, 2001/02 - 2013/14**

	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Number of scheduled monument consents	17	24	23	36	39	50	49	68	50	45	46	50

Source: NIEA

**Chart 7.1b Number of scheduled monument consent applications received, 2001/02 - 2013/14**



Source: NIEA

**Table 7.2 Number of listed buildings by grade, 2003/04 - 2012/13**

Grade	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
A	207	206	203	203	203	205	204	211	211	206
B+	467	475	499	511	514	532	536	557	568	576
B	2,165	2,053	1,902	1,879	1,870	1,827	1,804	1,698	1,632	1,584
B1	3,468	3,442	3,407	3,420	3,441	3,458	3,477	3,518	3,515	3,495
B2	1,884	2,035	2,174	2,243	2,270	2,339	2,416	2,484	2,571	2,702
Total	8,191	8,211	8,185	8,256	8,298	8,361	8,437	8,468	8,497	8,563

Source: NIEA Note: 2008/09 B1 figure was reported incorrectly last year as 2,458. This has been corrected to 3,458.

**Chart 7.2 Number of listed buildings by grade, 2003/04 - 2012/13**



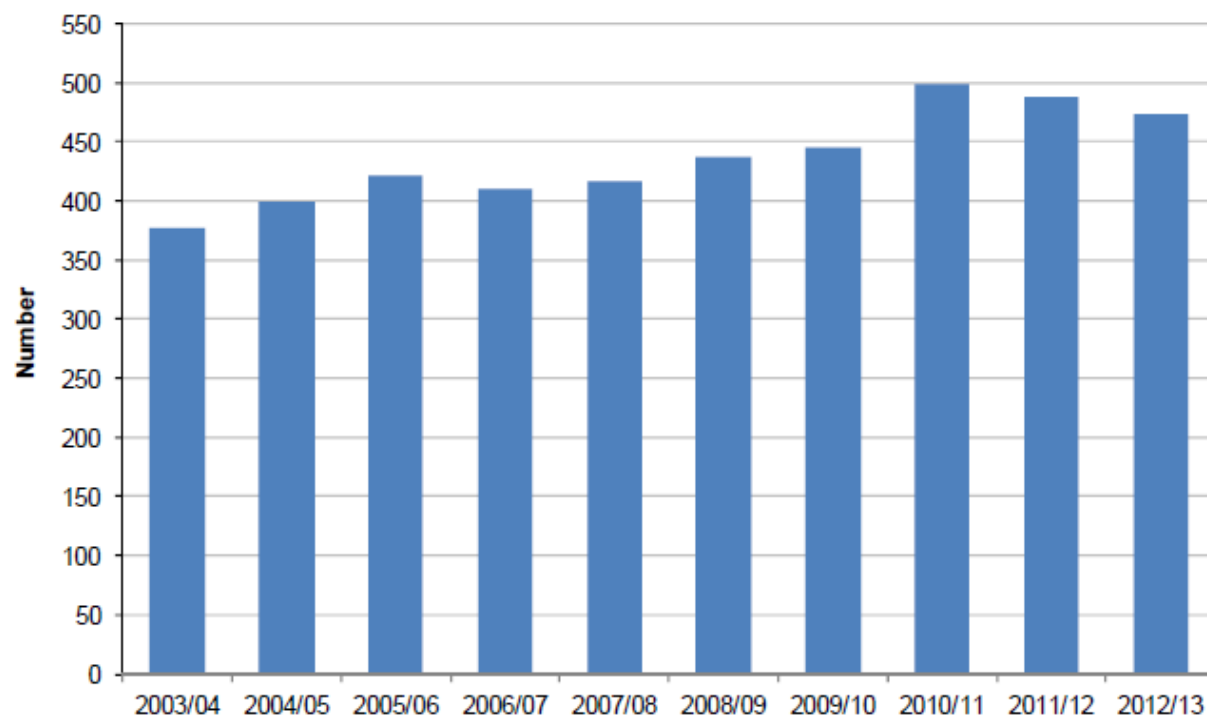
Source: NIEA

**Table 7.3 Number of buildings and monuments at risk in Northern Ireland, 2003/04 – 2012/13**

	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Number of buildings at risk	378	399	422	410	417	437	445	499	487	473
Number of buildings removed	-	25	26	36	22	29	17	18	12	15

Source: NIEA

**Table 7.3 Number of buildings and monuments at risk, 2003/04 – 2012/13**



Source: NIEA

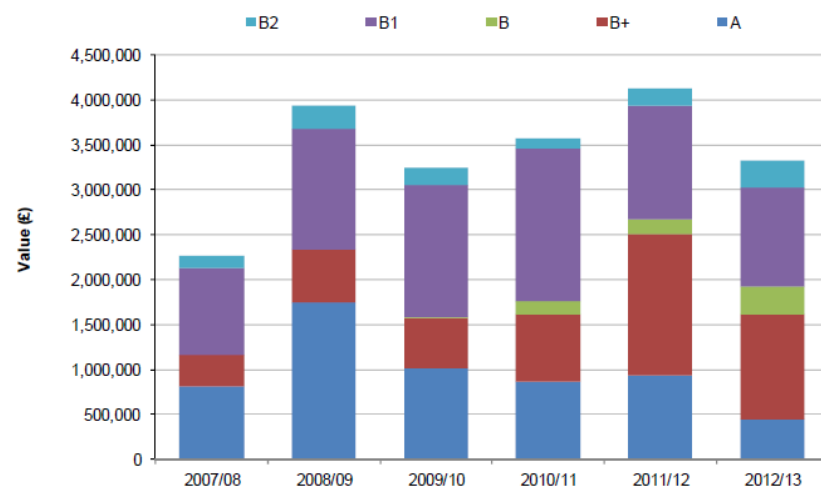
**Table 7.4 Value of grant paid and the number of buildings in receipt of grant in each listed building grade, 2007/08 – 2012/13**

Grade		2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
A	Value (£)	804,000	1,750,000	1,009,000	869,000	931,000	445,180
	Number	16	10	22	21	17	16
B+	Value (£)	358,000	575,000	560,000	749,000	1,574,000	1,163,826
	Number	14	22	24	22	27	33
B	Value (£)	0	0	12,000	140,000	170,000	314,335
	Number	0	0	3	13	7	11
B1	Value (£)	964,000	1,352,000	1,466,000	1,696,000	1,255,000	1,099,181
	Number	47	42	72	66	73	74

B2	Value (£)	136,000	261,000	196,000	109,000	201,000	307,061
	Number	2	15	18	13	17	25
Total	Value (£)	<b>2,262,000</b>	<b>3,938,000</b>	<b>3,243,000</b>	<b>3,563,000</b>	<b>4,131,000</b>	<b>3,329,583</b>
	Number	<b>79</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>159</b>

Source: NIEA

**Table 7.4 Value of grant paid and the number of buildings in receipt of grant in each listed building grade, 2007/08 – 2012/13**



Source: NIEA

## 2013 State of the Environment Report

<p><b>Built Heritage</b></p> <p>Indicators and Trends</p>
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<b>BH1: Monuments</b>	Number of scheduled historic monuments (2001/02 – 2011/12)	Increasing trend	State Favourable
<b>BH2: Listed Buildings</b>	Number of listed buildings by grade (2003/04 – 2011/12)	Stable	State Neutral
<b>BH3: Built Heritage at Risk</b>	Number of buildings and monuments at risk (2003/04 – 2011/12)	Increasing trend	State Unfavourable
<b>BH4: Listed Buildings Grant Funding</b>	Value of grant paid and the number of buildings in receipt of grant in each listed building grade (2007/08 – 2011/12)	No trend	State not discernible

# Appendix 4

## **SA/SEA Framework**

## Appendix 4 – SA / SEA Themes, Objectives and Indicators

SA Theme		Objective	Decision Making Criteria	Suggested Indicators
Social	<b>Prosperity and Social Inclusion</b>	To reduce poverty and social exclusion	Will it reduce poverty and social exclusion, in particular in those areas most affected?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Average income</li> <li>• Unemployment figures</li> <li>• Most deprived wards (NI Multiple Deprivation Measure)</li> <li>• Increase in average life expectancy</li> <li>• Health deprivation and disability (NIMDM)</li> <li>• A &amp; E distance/travel times</li> <li>• Proportion of people claiming Disability Living Allowance</li> <li>• Number of doctors surgeries, health facilities</li> <li>• Noise nuisance (Environmental Health Data)</li> <li>• Hospital admission rates as a result of self-harm</li> <li>• Suicide rates</li> <li>• Prescription rates for mood and anxiety disorders</li> <li>• Government statistics for those in F/T, P/T education both academic and vocational</li> </ul>
	<b>Health and Wellbeing</b>	To improve the health and wellbeing of the population	Will it improve affordability of essential services?	
			Will it improve access to high quality health care?	
			Will it encourage healthy lifestyles and provide opportunities for sport and recreation?	
			Will it reduce health inequalities?	
			Will it improve physical and mental health?	
			Will it reduce noise levels and concern?	
			Will it increase access to green space?	
	<b>Education and Skills</b>	To improve the education and skills of the population	Will it improve qualifications and skills of the population?	
			Will it improve access to high quality educational facilities?	
			Will it help fill key skill gaps?	

<b>Housing</b>	To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home	Will it increase access to affordable housing?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Housing Growth Indicators</li> <li>• Recognised village by village Social Housing needs (NIHE)</li> <li>• Number of housing completions by dwelling type, size and density</li> <li>• Homelessness figures</li> </ul>
		Will it encourage a range of dwelling type, size and tenure?	
		Will it reduce homelessness?	
<b>Crime Prevention and &amp; Community Safety</b>	To reduce crime and anti-social activity	Will it reduce actual levels of crime?	
		Will it reduce the fear of crime?	
<b>Community Identity</b>	To encourage a sense of community; identity and welfare	Will it encourage engagement in community activities?	
		Will it foster satisfaction and a sense of pride in the local area?	
		Will it increase the ability of people to influence decisions?	
		Will it improve ethnic relations?	
		Will it improve understanding between different communities of their respective needs and concerns?	
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National and local crime statistics (NISRA)</li> <li>• Crime rate figures (NISRA)</li> </ul>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The provision of new shared community facilities such as reuse of old underused green spaces such as churchyards etc, enhancing the historic asset in line with conservation principles and requirements, and simultaneously promoting a sense of place</li> </ul>

Environmental	Accessibility	To improve accessibility to key services especially for those most in need	Will it encourage people to respect and value their contribution to society?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The provision of new health, education facilities</li> <li>The provision of new public transport routes</li> </ul>
			Will it improve the level of investment in key community services?	
			Will it make access more affordable?	
			Will it make access easier for those without access to a car?	
	Traffic	To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	Will it reduce traffic volumes and congestion?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Average distance / time travelled to work or school</li> <li>Percentage of population travelling to Work or school by means of public Transport (or non-mechanical)</li> <li>Traffic volume figures</li> <li>Traffic congestion figures</li> <li>National water quality figures (NIEA)</li> <li>NI Water - water quality figures</li> <li>Water consumption figures (NI Water Data)</li> <li>Air quality data</li> </ul>
			Will it increase the proportion of journeys using modes other than the car?	
			Will it encourage walking and cycling?	
	Water Quality & Resources	To improve water quality; conserve water resources and provide for sustainable sources of water supply	Will it improve the quality of surface and ground water?	
			Will it improve drinking water quality?	
			Will it reduce water consumption and improve water efficiency?	
	Air Quality	To improve air quality	Will it improve air quality?	
			Will it help achieve the objectives of the Air Quality Management Plan?	

		Will it reduce emissions of key pollutants?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of SAC and SPA sites</li> <li>• Area of new open space</li> <li>• Number of areas designated for their Nature conservation interest</li> <li>• Condition of designated sites</li> </ul>
<b>Biodiversity</b>	To conserve and enhance biodiversity	Will it protect, conserve and enhance priority habitats and habitats of district of local importance and create habitats in areas of deficiency?	
		Will it protect, conserve and enhance species diversity; and in particular avoid harm to protected and priority species?	
		Will it protect, conserve and enhance sites designated for their nature conservation interest at the regional or national level?	
		Will it improve access to and promote the educational value of sites of biodiversity value?	
		Will it protect, conserve and enhance woodland cover and trees and promote their management?	
<b>Landscape &amp; Townscape</b>	To protect and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and townscapes	Will it improve the landscape character of the districts unique countryside and improve the visual amenity of open spaces?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Areas of landscape quality</li> <li>• Protection and enhancement of green spaces within towns and villages</li> <li>• Number of Conservation Areas, Areas of Townscape Character</li> </ul>
		Will it enhance the quality of priority areas for townscape and public realm enhancements?	
		Will it protect and enhance local distinctiveness and sense of place?	
		Will it minimise visual intrusion and protect views?	
		Will it decrease litter in urban areas and open spaces?	

		Will it protect historic character and historic assets in towns and villages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of conservation areas scheduled monuments and listed buildings (and those at risk)</li> <li>• Number of unauthorised developments occurring resulting in the full or partial loss of listed building</li> <li>• Number of new tourist facilities generated by historical and cultural assets</li> <li>• Number of ASAIs, AAPs, and Historic Parks and Gardens</li> <li>• Access to heritage assets</li> <li>• Percentage of energy from renewable sources</li> <li>• Energy consumed by type</li> <li>• Percentage of energy from renewable sources – by type</li> <li>• Carbon dioxide emissions</li> <li>• CfC emissions</li> <li>• Travel times of population – NISRA</li> <li>• Percentage of land at 'significant' risk of Flooding</li> </ul>
<b>Historic Environment &amp; Cultural Assets</b>	To protect, conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment and cultural assets	Will it protect and enhance Conservation Areas and other sites, features and areas of historical and cultural value?	
		Will it protect listed buildings and their settings?	
		Will it encourage sustainable tourism growth?	
		Will it help preserve, enhance and record archaeological features and their settings?	
<b>Climate Change</b>	To reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change	Will it reduce emissions of greenhouse gases by reducing energy consumption and the need to travel?	
		Will it lead to an increased proportion of energy needs being met from renewable sources?	
		Will it reduce emissions of ozone depleting substances?	
<b>Flooding</b>	To reduce flood risk and the adverse	Will it reduce the risk of damage to property from storm events?	

	consequences of flooding	Will it minimise the risk of flooding from rivers and watercourses to people and property?	
<b>Waste Management</b>	To minimise the production of waste and use of non-renewable materials	Will it help reduce the impact of increased urban temperatures on people and property? Will it lead to reduced consumption of materials and resources? Will it reduce household waste? Will it increase waste recovery and recycling and improve facilities? Will it reduce hazardous waste? Will it reduce waste in the construction industry?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recycling targets</li> <li>• Council recycling figures</li> </ul>
<b>Land and Soil</b>	To conserve and enhance land quality and soil resources	Will it minimise development on greenfield sites? Will it ensure that, where possible, new development occurs on derelict; vacant and underused previously developed land and buildings?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proportion of development on brownfield sites</li> <li>• Proportion of development within the urban footprint</li> </ul>



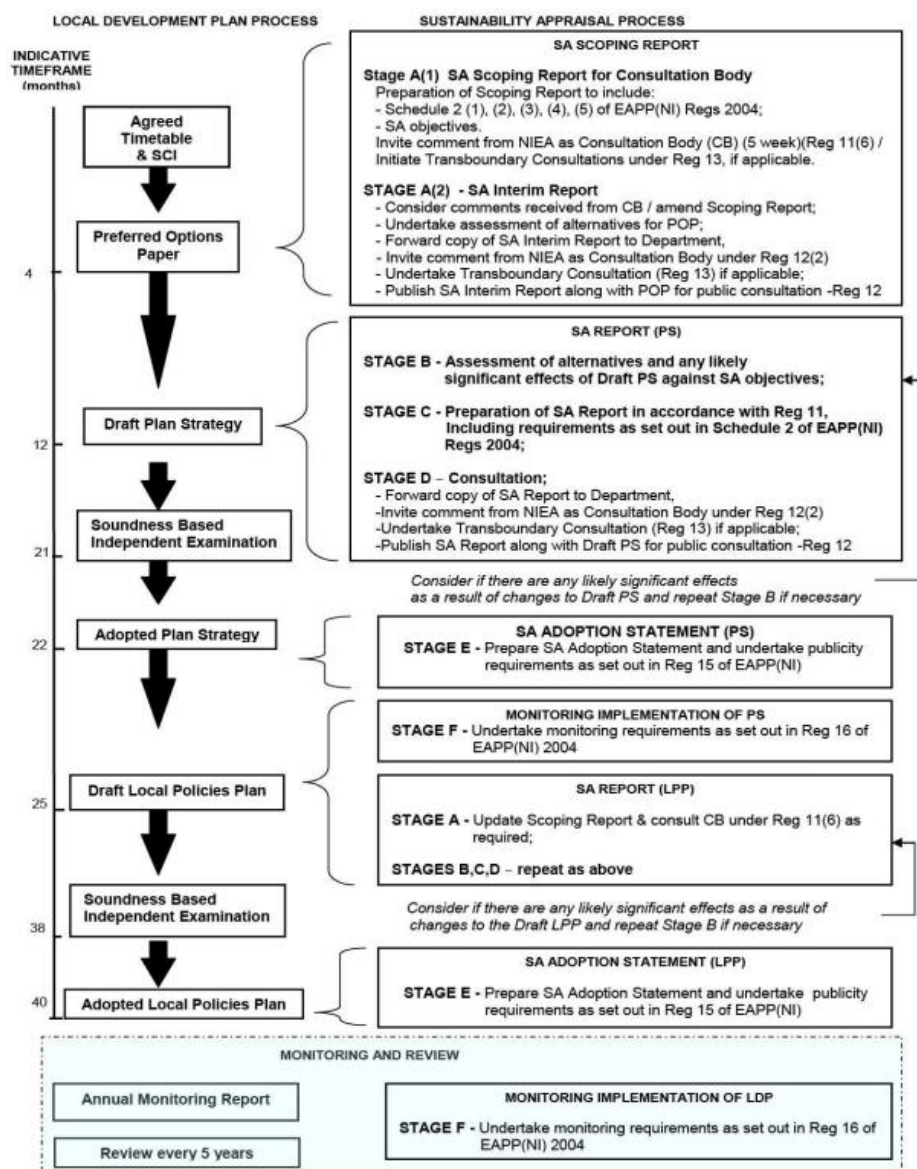
Economic			Will it ensure contaminated land is remediated as appropriate?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proportion of development on brownfield sites</li> <li>Proportion of development within the urban footprint</li> <li>DARD classes of land quality (Agricultural Land Classification NI)</li> </ul>
			Will it minimise the loss of soils to development and maintain and enhance soil quality?	
			Will it reduce the risk of subsidence and heave?	
	Economic Growth	To encourage sustainable economic growth	Will it encourage new business start-ups and opportunities for local people?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Business start-up figures (DETI, NISRA)</li> <li>Economic activity rates</li> <li>Amount of employment floorspace created through planning permissions</li> <li>Area of employment land lost to housing or other uses</li> </ul>
			Will it improve business development and enhance productivity?	
			Will it improve the resilience of business and the local economy?	
			Will it promote growth in key sectors?	
			Will it promote growth in key clusters?	
			Will it enhance the image of the area as a business location?	
	Employment	To offer everybody the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment	Will it reduce short and long-term local unemployment?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National unemployment figures</li> <li>Amount of employment floorspace Created through planning permissions</li> <li>Employment activity rates</li> <li>Average income figures</li> </ul>
			Will it provide job opportunities for those most in need of employment?	
			Will it help to improve earnings?	
	Regeneration	To reduce disparities in economic performance and	Will it promote regeneration, reducing disparity with surrounding areas?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proportion of development on brownfield sites</li> </ul>

		promote sustainable regeneration		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Amount of employment floorspace created through planning permissions</li><li>• Average distance travelled to work or school</li><li>• Percentage of population travelling to Work or school by means of public Transport (or non-mechanical)</li><li>• Percentage of population travelling to Work or school by means of public Transport (or non-mechanical)</li><li>• Bus station usage figures</li><li>• Proportion of households with hourly or better daytime bus service to district or City Centre</li></ul>
Investment	To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment	Will it encourage indigenous business?		
		Will it encourage inward investment?		
		Will it make land and property available for business development?		
Efficient Movement	To encourage efficient and sustainable patterns of movement in support of economic growth	Will it reduce commuting?		
		Will it improve accessibility throughout the district by public transport; walking and cycling?		
		Will it improve access between key employment areas and key transport interchanges?		
		Will it encourage rail and water based freight movement?		
Source: Adapted from Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents, ODPM, 2005				

# Appendix 5

## **SA/SEA Key Stages**

**Figure 1: Key stages in the LDP and SA process.**



# Appendix 6

## Compatibility Matrices

### Key to symbols on Compatibility Matrices

Assessment Symbol	Explanation of Symbol
+	Positive Impact
-	Negative Impact
/	Both positive and negative impacts or unclear in absence of further detail
0	Neutral or no impact

SA/SEA Objectives		Compatibility Summary
LDP Objective No.01	1. To reduce poverty and social exclusion	
	2. To improve the health and wellbeing of the population	
	3. To improve the education and skills of the population	
	4. To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home	
	5. To reduce crime and anti-social activity	
	6. To encourage a sense of community and promote a more equal and inclusive society	
	7. To improve accessibility to key services, especially for those most in need	
	8. To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	
	9. To improve water quality; conserve water resources and provide for sustainable sources of water supply.	
	10. To improve air quality	
	11. To conserve and enhance biodiversity	
	12. To maintain and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and townscapes	
	13. To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural assets	
	14. To reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change	
	15. To reduce flood risk and the adverse consequences of flooding	
	16. To minimise the production of waste production and use of non-renewable materials	
	17. To conserve and enhance land quality and soil resources	
	18. To encourage sustainable economic growth	
	19. To offer everybody the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment	
	20. To reduce disparities in economic performance and promote sustainable regeneration	
	21. To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment	
	22. To encourage efficient patterns of movement in support of economic growth	

### Accommodating People and Creating Places

To build the 3 main towns as economic hubs and main service centres for shops, leisure activities, public administrative and community services including health and education.	+																					
	+																					
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	+																					
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This LDP objective involves focusing most development in the 3 main towns and this would have generally positive effects on most of the SA/SEA objectives as new residents and employees would be well-connected to existing jobs, services and facilities and public transport. Mixed impacts would be increasing the area of impermeable surfaces and potential loss of biodiversity however this LDP objective allows for greater use of brownfield sites. Possible negative effects would be production of additional waste and degradation of land quality.																						





SA/SEA Objectives	LDP Objective No.03
	1. To reduce poverty and social exclusion
	2. To improve the health and wellbeing of the population
	3. To improve the education and skills of the population
	4. To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home
	5. To reduce crime and anti-social activity
	6. To encourage a sense of community and promote a more equal and inclusive society
	7. To improve accessibility to key services, especially for those most in need
	8. To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment
	9. To improve water quality; conserve water resources and provide for sustainable sources of water supply.
	10. To improve air quality
	11. To conserve and enhance biodiversity
	12. To maintain and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and townscapes
	13. To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural assets
	14. To reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change
	15. To reduce flood risk and the adverse consequences of flooding
	16. To minimise the production of waste production and use of non-renewable materials
	17. To conserve and enhance land quality and soil resources
	18. To encourage sustainable economic growth
	19. To offer everybody the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment
	20. To reduce disparities in economic performance and promote sustainable regeneration
	21. To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment
	22. To encourage efficient patterns of movement in support of economic growth
Compatibility Summary	

## Accommodating People and Creating Places

<i>To provide for vital and vibrant rural communities whilst protecting the countryside in which they live by accommodating sustainable growth within the countryside proportionate to the extent of existing rural communities</i>	+	+	+	+	/	+	+	/	-	/	-	-	/	/	/	-	-	+	+	+	+	/	This LDP objective will likely have a mix of positive and negative effects. The positive effects reflect the social and economic SA/SEA objectives. This LDP would result in job creation, improved education, increased house building and improved sense of community identity and welfare. It will also assist in strengthening communities, increase connectivity, and will have positive benefits for public health. Potential negative effects include production of waste and loss of greenfield sites but also for appropriate mitigation and/or enhancement.
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

SA/SEA Objectives		Compatibility Summary
LDP Objective No.04	1. To reduce poverty and social exclusion	
	2. To improve the health and wellbeing of the population	
	3. To improve the education and skills of the population	
	4. To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home	
	5. To reduce crime and anti-social activity	
	6. To encourage a sense of community and promote a more equal and inclusive society	
	7. To improve accessibility to key services, especially for those most in need	
	8. To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	
	9. To improve water quality; conserve water resources and provide for sustainable sources of water supply.	
	10. To improve air quality	
	11. To conserve and enhance biodiversity	
	12. To maintain and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and townscapes	
	13. To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural assets	
	14. To reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change	
	15. To reduce floodrisk and the adverse consequences of flooding	
	16. To minimise the production of waste production and use of non-renewable materials	
	17. To conserve and enhance land quality and soil resources	
	18. To encourage sustainable economic growth	
	19. To offer everybody the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment	
	20. To reduce disparities in economic performance and promote sustainable regeneration	
	21. To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment	
	22. To encourage efficient patterns of movement in support of economic growth	

### Accommodating People and Creating Places

To provide for 10,950 new homes by 2030 in a range of housing capable of meeting the needs of families, the elderly and disabled, and single people, at locations accessible to community services, leisure and recreational facilities, for those people with and without a car	+	+	+	+	/	+	+	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	-	-	-	/	+	+	+	+	This LDP will likely have a mix of positive and negative effects. The positive is that providing accessible housing in Mid Ulster should ensure the wellbeing of its community by meeting an identified need and creating local employment. Potential for negative environmental impacts on neighbouring areas, sites of designated for nature conservation/sites of cultural interest as well as from production of waste and loss of greenfield, but also opportunity to offset with judicious mitigation and/or enhancement measures.
	+	+	+	+	/	+	+	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	-	-	-	/	+	+	+	+	

SA/SEA Objectives	Compatibility Summary																					
LDP Objective No.05	1.	To reduce poverty and social exclusion																				
	2.	To improve the health and wellbeing of the population																				
	3.	To improve the education and skills of the population																				
	4.	To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home																				
	5.	To reduce crime and anti-social activity																				
	6.	To encourage a sense of community and promote a more equal and inclusive society																				
	7.	To improve accessibility to key services, especially for those most in need																				
	8.	To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment																				
	9.	To improve water quality; conserve water resources and provide for sustainable sources of water supply																				
	10.	To improve air quality																				
	11.	To conserve and enhance biodiversity																				
	12.	To maintain and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and townscapes																				
	13.	To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural assets																				
	14.	To reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change																				
	15.	To reduce floodrisk and the adverse consequences of flooding																				
	16.	To minimise the production of waste production and use of non-renewable materials																				
	17.	To conserve and enhance land quality and soil resources																				
	18.	To encourage sustainable economic growth																				
	19.	To offer everybody the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment																				
	20.	To reduce disparities in economic performance and promote sustainable regeneration																				
	21.	To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment																				
	22.	To encourage efficient patterns of movement in support of economic growth																				

### Accommodating People and Creating Places

To recognise the needs of both growing families and carers of the elderly and disabled by accommodating development which allows people to remain within their own communities and does not lead to significant harm to neighbours or the environment	+	+	0	+	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	/	/	0	/	-	/	+	+	0	+
	Recognising the needs of families and carers through accommodating development which allows them close to those they care for should help to improve access to services and foster the wellbeing of local communities. It would also improve carers ability to achieve satisfying employment. Potential negative effect on the land resources as a result of accommodating new development.																					

SA/SEA Objectives	LDP Objective No.06
Compatibility Summary	1. To reduce poverty and social exclusion
	2. To improve the health and wellbeing of the population
	3. To improve the education and skills of the population
	4. To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home
	5. To reduce crime and anti-social activity
	6. To encourage a sense of community and promote a more equal and inclusive society
	7. To improve accessibility to key services, especially for those most in need
	8. To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment
	9. To improve water quality; conserve water resources and provide for sustainable sources of water supply
	10. To improve air quality
	11. To conserve and enhance biodiversity
	12. To maintain and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and townscapes
	13. To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural assets
	14. To reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change
	15. To reduce floodrisk and the adverse consequences of flooding
	16. To minimise the production of waste production and use of non-renewable materials
	17. To conserve and enhance land quality and soil resources
	18. To encourage sustainable economic growth
	19. To offer everybody the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment
	20. To reduce disparities in economic performance and promote sustainable regeneration
	21. To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment
	22. To encourage efficient patterns of movement in support of economic growth

## Accommodating People and Creating Places

To facilitate the development of new community facilities at locations accessible to the communities they serve, through a variety of modes of transportation in accordance with the community plan	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	/	0	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	-	/	+	+	+	+
This LDP objective is broadly compatible with the SA/SEA objectives and the material assets, cultural heritage and landscape objectives.																							
There is a potentially negative relationship between this LDP objective and the SA/SEA objectives regarding the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity and land quality and soil resources. There may be loss of greenfield sites and resultant loss of biodiversity. Extent of impact will depend on site location and opportunities for mitigation and/or enhancement.																							



SA/SEA Objectives	LDP Objective No.08		Compatibility Summary
1. To reduce poverty and social exclusion			<p>This LDP objective would have a positive effect on the economic and social objectives of the SA/SEA. This will have positive effects on employment and the economy. Furthermore this objective will benefit the community of the Mid Ulster by providing better learning opportunities and increasing the skill base. The extent of impact on the natural environment will depend on site selection and opportunity for mitigation and enhancement.</p>
2. To improve the health and wellbeing of the population			
3. To improve the education and skills of the population			
4. To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home			
5. To reduce crime and anti-social activity			
6. To encourage a sense of community and promote a more equal and inclusive society			
7. To improve accessibility to key services, especially for those most in need			
8. To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment			
9. To improve water quality; conserve water resources and provide for sustainable sources of water supply			
10. To improve air quality			
11. To conserve and enhance biodiversity			
12. To maintain and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and townscapes			
13. To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural assets			
14. To reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change			
15. To reduce floodrisk and the adverse consequences of flooding			
16. To minimise the production of waste production and use of non-renewable materials			
17. To conserve and enhance land quality and soil resources			
18. To encourage sustainable economic growth			
19. To offer everybody the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment			
20. To reduce disparities in economic performance and promote sustainable regeneration			
21. To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment			
22. To encourage efficient patterns of movement in support of economic growth			
<p>To facilitate the creation of 8,500 new jobs by 2030 at a variety of locations where they are accessible to all members of the community, including those without a private car.</p>			

### Accommodating People and Creating Places

SA/SEA Objectives	Accommodating People and Creating Places																						Compatibility Summary
LDP Objective No.09	1.	To reduce poverty and social exclusion																					This LDP has an obvious positive relationship with the economic SA/SEA objectives. Therefore a significant positive impact with the health and well-being of the population is also likely. It is recognised that is accommodating entrepreneurship that there may be a negative effect on the SA/SEA objective to conserve and enhance land quality and soil resources to accommodate a range of new development.
	2.	To improve the health and wellbeing of the population																					
	3.	To improve the education and skills of the population																					
	4.	To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home																					
	5.	To reduce crime and anti-social activity																					
	6.	To encourage a sense of community and promote a more equal and inclusive society																					
	7.	To improve accessibility to key services, especially for those most in need																					
	8.	To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment																					
	9.	To improve water quality; conserve water resources and provide for sustainable sources of water supply																					
	10.	To improve air quality																					
	11.	To conserve and enhance biodiversity																					
	12.	To maintain and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and townscapes																					
	13.	To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural assets																					
	14.	To reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change																					
	15.	To reduce floodrisk and the adverse consequences of flooding.																					
	16.	To minimise the production of waste production and use of non-renewable materials																					
	17.	To conserve and enhance land quality and soil resources																					
	18.	To encourage sustainable economic growth																					
	19.	To offer everybody the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment																					
	20.	To reduce disparities in economic performance and promote sustainable regeneration																					
	21.	To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment																					
	22.	To encourage efficient patterns of movement in support of economic growth																					
To promote diversity in the range of jobs recognising the importance of employment in the primary sector (agriculture forestry & mining),secondary sector (industry and manufacturing) and tertiary sector(administration, commerce, retailing, leisure/tourism)																							
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SA/SEA Objectives	LDP Objective No.10
	1. To reduce poverty and social exclusion
	2. To improve the health and wellbeing of the population
	3. To improve the education and skills of the population
	4. To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home
	5. To reduce crime and anti-social activity
	6. To encourage a sense of community and promote a more equal and inclusive society
	7. To improve accessibility to key services, especially for those most in need
	8. To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment
	9. To improve water quality; conserve water resources and provide for sustainable sources of water supply
	10. To improve air quality
	11. To conserve and enhance biodiversity
	12. To maintain and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and townscapes
	13. To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural assets
	14. To reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change
	15. To reduce floodrisk and the adverse consequences of flooding
	16. To minimise the production of waste production and use of non-renewable materials
	17. To conserve and enhance land quality and soil resources
	18. To encourage sustainable economic growth
	19. To offer everybody the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment
	20. To reduce disparities in economic performance and promote sustainable regeneration
	21. To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment
	22. To encourage efficient patterns of movement in support of economic growth
Compatibility Summary	

## Accommodating People and Creating Places

To recognise and accommodate entrepreneurship, innovation for large, medium and small firms by attracting new firms and expanding businesses.	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	-	+	+	+	+	+
	+	+	+	+	+	+																	
	+	+	+	+	+	+																	
	+	+	+	+	+	+																	
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	+	+	+	+	+	+																	
	+	+	+	+	+	+																	
As with LDP objectives No.s 08 and 09 this LDP has a positive relationship with the economic SA/SEA objective. Therefore a significant positive impact with the health and well-being of the population is also likely. It is recognized that in accommodating entrepreneurship that there may be a negative effect on the SA/SEA objective to conserve and enhance land quality and soil resources to facilitate new and expanding businesses. This can however may be offset by judicious mitigation and environmental enhancement measures.																							



SA/SEA Objectives	Creating jobs and promoting prosperity																						Compatibility Summary
The need to recognise the importance of self-employment and home working, particularly in rural locations	LDP Objective No.11																						This LDP objective would help to meet the SA/SEA economic objectives and also have a positive relationship with the health and well-being objectives for the population. A number of mixed impacts on SA/SEA environmental objectives as a result additional development required to accommodate home working.
	1.	To reduce poverty and social exclusion																					
	2.	To improve the health and wellbeing of the population																					
	3.	To improve the education and skills of the population																					
	4.	To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home																					
	5.	To reduce crime and anti-social activity																					
	6.	To encourage a sense of community and promote a more equal and inclusive society																					
	7.	To improve accessibility to key services, especially for those most in need																					
	8.	To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment																					
	9.	To improve water quality; conserve water resources and provide for sustainable sources of water supply																					
	10.	To improve air quality																					
	11.	To conserve and enhance biodiversity																					
	12.	To maintain and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and townscapes																					
	13.	To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural assets																					
	14.	To reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change																					
	15.	To reduce floodrisk and the adverse consequences of flooding																					
	16.	To minimise the production of waste production and use of non-renewable materials																					
	17.	To conserve and enhance land quality and soil resources																					
	18.	To encourage sustainable economic growth																					
	19.	To offer everybody the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment																					
	20.	To reduce disparities in economic performance and promote sustainable regeneration																					
	21.	To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment																					
	22.	To encourage efficient patterns of movement in support of economic growth																					
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[illegible]

SA/SEA Objectives	Enhancing the environment and improving infrastructure																		Compatibility Summary		
LDP Objective No.13	1.	To reduce poverty and social exclusion																		This LDP seeks to reduce contributions to climate change reduce the risk of flooding thereby allowing for synergies within the biodiversity, economic growth and health and well-being SA/SEA objectives.	
	2.	To improve the health and wellbeing of the population																			
	3.	To improve the education and skills of the population																			
	4.	To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home																			
	5.	To reduce crime and anti-social activity																			
	6.	To encourage a sense of community and promote a more equal and inclusive society																			
	7.	To improve accessibility to key services, especially for those most in need																			
	8.	To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment																			
	9.	To improve water quality; conserve water resources and provide for sustainable sources of water supply																			
	10.	To improve air quality																			
	11.	To conserve and enhance biodiversity																			
	12.	To maintain and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and townscapes																			
	13.	To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural assets																			
	14.	To reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change																			
	15.	To reduce floodrisk and the adverse consequences of flooding																			
	16.	To minimise the production of waste production and use of non-renewable materials																			
	17.	To conserve and enhance land quality and soil resources																			
	18.	To encourage sustainable economic growth																			
	19.	To offer everybody the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment																			
	20.	To reduce disparities in economic performance and promote sustainable regeneration																			
	21.	To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment																			
	22.	To encourage efficient patterns of movement in support of economic growth																			
To reduce contributions and vulnerability to climate change and reduce floodrisk and the adverse consequences of flooding		+	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	

SA/SEA Objectives	Enhancing the environment and improving infrastructure																						Compatibility Summary
LDP Objective No.14	1.	To reduce poverty and social exclusion																					
	2.	To improve the health and wellbeing of the population																					
	3.	To improve the education and skills of the population																					
	4.	To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home																					
	5.	To reduce crime and anti-social activity																					
	6.	To encourage a sense of community and promote a more equal and inclusive society																					
	7.	To improve accessibility to key services, especially for those most in need																					
	8.	To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment																					
	9.	To improve water quality; conserve water resources and provide for sustainable sources of water supply																					
	10.	To improve air quality																					
	11.	To conserve and enhance biodiversity																					
	12.	To maintain and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and townscapes																					
	13.	To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural assets																					
	14.	To reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change																					
	15.	To reduce floodrisk and the adverse consequences of flooding																					
	16.	To minimise the production of waste production and use of non-renewable materials																					
	17.	To conserve and enhance land quality and soil resources																					
	18.	To encourage sustainable economic growth																					
	19.	To offer everybody the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment																					
	20.	To reduce disparities in economic performance and promote sustainable regeneration																					
	21.	To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment																					
	22.	To encourage efficient patterns of movement in support of economic growth																					
The need to protect and enhance the natural and built environment to achieve biodiversity, quality design, enhanced leisure and economic opportunity and promote health and wellbeing																							
Protecting and enhancing the natural and built environment allows for synergies within the Biodiversity, economic growth and health and well-being objectives enhancing access into protected sites to improve wellbeing.																							

SA/SEA Objectives	Enhancing the environment and improving infrastructure																						Compatibility Summary
LDP Objective No.15	1.	To reduce poverty and social exclusion																					
	2.	To improve the health and wellbeing of the population																					
	3.	To improve the education and skills of the population																					
	4.	To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home																					
	5.	To reduce crime and anti-social activity																					
	6.	To encourage a sense of community and promote a more equal and inclusive society																					
	7.	To improve accessibility to key services, especially for those most in need																					
	8.	To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment																					
	9.	To improve water quality; conserve water resources and provide for sustainable sources of water supply																					
	10.	To improve air quality																					
	11.	To conserve and enhance biodiversity																					
	12.	To maintain and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and townscapes																					
	13.	To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural assets																					
	14.	To reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change																					
	15.	To reduce floodrisk and the adverse consequences of flooding																					
	16.	To minimise the production of waste production and use of non-renewable materials																					
	17.	To conserve and enhance land quality and soil resources																					
	18.	To encourage sustainable economic growth																					
	19.	To offer everybody the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment																					
	20.	To reduce disparities in economic performance and promote sustainable regeneration																					
	21.	To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment																					
	22.	To encourage efficient patterns of movement in support of economic growth																					
	The need to accommodate investment in power, water and sewerage infrastructure, and waste management particularly in the interests of public health																						
	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	+	/	0	/	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
This objective is broadly compatible with the SA/SEA health and population and material assets objectives. There are also synergistic effects with most of the SA/SEA environmental objectives. Some minor conflict with the SA/SEA objective to conserve the natural and historic environment																							

[illegible]

SA/SEA Objectives	Enhancing the environment and improving infrastructure																	Compatibility Summary
LDP Objective No.17  The need to improve connectivity through tele-communication which both meets the need of business and private households whilst reducing the need to travel	1.	To reduce poverty and social exclusion	+															
	2.	To improve the health and wellbeing of the population	+															
	3.	To improve the education and skills of the population	+															
	4.	To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home	+															
	5.	To reduce crime and anti-social activity	+															
	6.	To encourage a sense of community and promote a more equal and inclusive society	+															
	7.	To improve accessibility to key services, especially for those most in need	+															
	8.	To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+															
	9.	To improve water quality; conserve water resources and provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+															
	10.	To improve air quality	+															
	11.	To conserve and enhance biodiversity	+															
	12.	To maintain and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and townscapes	/															
	13.	To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural assets	/															
	14.	To reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change	+															
	15.	To reduce floodrisk and the adverse consequences of flooding	0															
	16.	To minimise the production of waste production and use of non-renewable materials	+															
	17.	To conserve and enhance land quality and soil resources	/															
	18.	To encourage sustainable economic growth	+															
	19.	To offer everybody the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment	+															
	20.	To reduce disparities in economic performance and promote sustainable regeneration	+															
	21.	To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment	+															
	22.	To encourage efficient patterns of movement in support of economic growth	+															
ITC, including broadband, is important to the economic prosperity of Mid Ulster, particularly given the isolated character of some of its communities. This LDP objective will have a mostly positive effect on the SA/SEA objectives.  It is acknowledged that there may be some minor negative effects on the natural environment in accommodating the necessary infrastructure to improve connectivity.																		

