

Sperrins Cross Boundary Forum – Nomination of Elected Member to attend	27th June 2018
PLANNING COMMITTEE	

Linkage to Council Strategy (2015-19)	
Strategic Theme	Outcomes
Leader and Champion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our Elected Members will provide civic leadership to our citizens, working to promote the Borough as an attractive place to live, work, invest and visit. • We will establish key relationships with Government agencies and potential strategic partners in Northern Ireland and external to it which helps us to deliver our vision for this Council area.
Resilient, Healthy and Engaged Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizens will have access to Council recreational facilities and protected natural environments which help them to develop their physical, emotional and cognitive health.
Protecting and Enhancing our Environments and Assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our citizens will be given the maximum opportunity to enjoy our natural environments. • Our natural assets will be carefully managed to generate economic and social returns without compromising their sustainability for future generations.
Lead Officer	Local Development Plan Manager
Cost:	N/A

For Decision

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Mid Ulster District Council initially wrote to the Council on 27th March 2017, advising of their intention to establish a Sperrins Cross Boundary Forum to aid the preparation of their Local Development Plan (LDP) and in order to meet one of the LDP soundness tests relating to “consistency and having regard to other relevant plans, policies and strategies relating to any adjoining council’s district” (see Appendix 1).
- 1.2 The correspondence, which sought the participation of 2-3 Members and Planning Officers, was presented to the Council’s Planning Committee on Wednesday 26th April 2017. Councillors McCandless, McCaul and Nicholl were nominated to attend.

1.3 Four meetings have taken place, as follows:

- 28th April 2017
- 21st September 2017
- 21st March 2018
- 7th June 2018

1.4 Cross boundary issues discussed at the Forum include the following:

- Area of Constraint on High Structures within the Sperrins AONB:
- Sustainable Tourism: and
- Minerals Development

1.5 Following Councillor McCaul's retirement on 31st May 2018, a vacancy now exists on the Forum.

2.0 Recommendation

2.1 **IT IS RECOMMENDED** that Members agree to a nominee to attend the Forum alongside Councillors McCandless and Nicholl and Council Planning Officials.

Appendices:

Appendix 1: Original letter from Mid Ulster District Council dated 27th March 2017



Comhairle Ceantair
Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster
District Council

Mid Ulster District Council
Planning Department
Local Development Plan Team
50 Ballyronan Road
Magherafelt
BT45 6EN
Tel – 03000 132 132
Email –developmentplan@midulstercouncil.org

Mr David Jackson
Chief Executive
Causeway Coast and Glens Borough
Council
Cloonavin
66 Portstewart Road
Coleraine
County Londonderry
BT52 1EY

Date: 27 March 2017

By email only

Dear Mr Jackson,

Mid Ulster District Council Local Development Plan – Forum to Discuss Cross Boundary Planning Issues

As you will be aware Mid Ulster District Council (MUDC) are progressing the preparation of their Local Development Plan (LDP). Consultation on the LDP Preferred Options Paper (POP) commenced on 7th November 2016 and ended on 27th January 2017. The next stage in the plan making process is preparation of the draft Plan Strategy.

Soundness is the basis on which all Local Development Plans (LDP) will be examined and is a new aspect to the plan making process in Northern Ireland. One of the tests of soundness relates to consistency and whether we have had regard to other relevant plans, policies and strategies relating to any adjoining council's district. Another aspect of the soundness test relates to coherence and effectiveness, ensuring that where cross boundary issues are relevant our Plan policies and allocations are not in conflict with the Development Plan Documents of neighbouring councils.

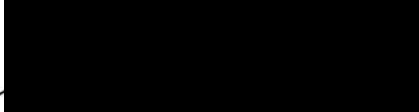
As a means of demonstrating the soundness of our LDP in relation to neighbouring councils, MUDC has decided to establish a number of forums to discuss cross boundary issues. The three forums will consider Lough Neagh & Lough Beg, The Sperrins and Cross Border matters.

MUDC would welcome the participation of your council in the following forum and invite you to appoint 2-3 elected members and relevant planning officers to attend and participate in the discussions:

1. The Sperrins – 28th April 2017 at 10.30am
MUDC will be represented on this forum by Councillor Clarke and Councillor Mallaghan and by relevant planning officers. A representative of DEARA NIEA has also been invited to attend.

The forum will be held in Meeting Room 3 in the Magherafelt Office at the address at the top of this letter. It would be appreciated if you could confirm attendance by 21 April 2017.

Yours sincerely

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Sinead McEvoy.

Sinead McEvoy
Head of Development Plan and Enforcement

On behalf of Dr Chris Boomer, Planning Manager

CC Ms Denise Dickson, Head of Planning, Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council