



<b>Title of Report:</b>	Ballycastle Environmental Improvement Scheme
<b>Committee Report Submitted To:</b>	The Leisure and Development Committee
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	18/10/2022
<b>For Decision or For Information</b>	For Decision

<b>Linkage to Council Strategy (2021-25)</b>	
Strategic Theme	Local Economy
Outcome	Council facilitates towns and villages in the Borough to continue to provide quality environments which evolve to meet the needs of their citizens, businesses and visitors to them
Lead Officer	Head of Prosperity and Place

<b>Budgetary Considerations</b>	
Cost of Proposal	Total cost: £120k - £60k DfC: £60k Council
Included in 22/23 & 23/24 Year Estimates	<b>Yes</b>
Capital/Revenue	Revenue
Code	N/A
Staffing Costs	Within budget

<b>Screening Requirements</b>	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	No	N/A
	EQIA Required and Completed:	No	N/A
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	No	N/A
	RNA Required and Completed:	No	N/A
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	No	N/A
	DPIA Required and Completed:	No	N/A

## **1.0 Purpose of Report**

The purpose of the report is to seek approval from Members to proceed to Stage One of the Capital Projects Management Process and appoint an Integrated Consultancy Team (ICT) for the Ballycastle Town Centre Environmental Improvement Scheme.

## **1.0 Context**

Following a review in August 2021 of the existing Ballycastle Masterplan, the Department for Communities (DfC) recognised the need for:

*“High quality public realm at the Diamond as a key priority project going forward. Stakeholders noted the importance of allocating public space post-covid, enhancing the pedestrian experience and ‘greening’ the town to improve the overall character and aesthetics. This proposal should be prioritised and could act as a catalyst for other projects.”*

DfC officers have advised that there will be funding assistance available in 2022/23 and 2023/24 for the appointment of an ICT to develop the appropriate design and implementation plan; subject to a 50% match funding contribution from Council.

The ICT brief for Stage One only will include the following:

- Audit of existing conditions around the Diamond area;
- Partnership working and public consultation to understand impact of public realm improvements on traffic/road operations and agree preferred option;
- Scheme design proposals and cost options;
- Economic appraisal;
- Engagement and consultation with key stakeholders and the public; and
- Develop technical design; procure and appoint a contractor (subject to funding).

## **2.0 Current position**

DfC requires Council to commission an ICT through Council’s existing capital framework and proceed with completing Stage One by summer 2023. The estimated cost of the Stage One is c£120k, with £60k total contributions required from both DfC and Council over the 2022/23 and 2023/24 financial years i.e. £30k per annum.

## **3.0 Next Steps**

Subject to Council approval, Stage One will commence by engaging Council’s Capital Team to appoint an ICT before December 2022.

## **4.0 Recommendation**

**It is recommended that Council approves the commencement of the Ballycastle town centre EIS with the appointment of an ICT to complete the Stage One works during 2022/23 and 2023/2024.**