

Portrush Public Realm Scheme	14 September 2018
To: The Leisure and Development Committee For Information	

Linkage to Council Strategy (2015-19)	
Strategic Theme	Accelerating our Economy & Contributing to Prosperity
Outcome	Portrush Public Realm Project
Lead Officer	Physical Regeneration Manager
Cost: (If applicable)	Within this year's agreed budget

The purpose of report is to give Members a succinct update on the progress of the Portrush Public Realm Scheme.

Public Realm Scheme

The scheme is currently in a July/August moratorium period reflecting the importance of tourism to Portrush at the height of the summer season. Minor works continue at Bath Road, the Coastal Zone and Reviggerley Point which do not interfere with the functioning of the resort.

Overall, the project is on target for the completion date in March 2019. 41% of the overall construction is complete. 42% of paving is complete and 25% of setts paving is complete. Exposed aggregate surfacing is 55% complete.

The project remains within budget.

All the following key risks are owned by Council:

1. Competitive tender – the accepted tender is very competitive however the issue is mitigated by appropriate contingency provisions.
2. NIE redundant apparatus – utility equipment left in situ is an obstacle the contractor must address. It is an ongoing unknown quantity encountered on almost all public realm schemes which the project team monitor closely.
3. Construction delays – the project is currently on programme. The project team are acutely aware of the project risks inherent with the winter months.
4. Third Party Developers – a largely unexpected consequence of the regeneration momentum achieved in Portrush. Mitigated through liaison with the various developers.
5. Stone testing – DfI Roads have requested independent stone testing.

Generally the project team is satisfied with the quality of the materials and workmanship presented by the contractor which are to a Good Standard. There is a higher than normal level of project team supervision reflecting the constraints and complexity of the project. All reporting structures are working effectively.

A weekly Friday "clinic" is still ongoing at Portrush Town Hall, attended by both contractor and Council however the level of interactions has been minimal.

ReVitalise

The scheme is now progressing, with administrative details now being finalised between the Department and Council. A positive response thus far is reflected in the 108 applications received.