



Title of Report:	City Status
Committee Report Submitted To:	Corporate Policy and Resources
Date of Meeting:	26th of October 2021
For Decision or For Information	For decision

Linkage to Council Strategy (2021-25)	
Strategic Theme	Advocating for the area and our citizens in local and international arenas
Outcome	The performance of the economy of the Borough has recovered to pre Covid 19 levels.
Lead Officer	Chief Executive

Budgetary Considerations	
Cost of Proposal	£1,500 staff time
Included in Current Year Estimates	NO
Capital/Revenue	0 / £1,500
Code	
Staffing Costs	£1,500

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

1.0 Purpose of Report

Following enquiries by some elected members, the purpose of this report is to outline the opportunity for the Council to apply for city status.

2.0 Background

2.1 A competition will be held to grant the prestigious and rare civic honour of 'city status' to a select number of worthy towns and cities in the United Kingdom.

2.2 As part of this government's commitment to levelling up and increasing opportunity across the United Kingdom, local authorities in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland can enter the competition and make a case for why its area deserves to be granted one of these honours. For the first time, the city status competition will also be open to applications from the Crown Dependencies and Overseas Territories. Applications may only be made by an elected local authority for its entire area or a distinct area within its boundary.

3.0 Application process

3.1 The competition will close on 8 December 2021 and full entry guidelines and an application form have been published on GOV.UK. All valid entries will receive individual consideration on their merits. The number of awards made across the UK, Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies will depend on the strength of the applications received. The Government does not want local authorities to incur any undue expense entering the competition; it is the quality of the contents of the application, taken as a whole that will be assessed, rather than the standards of presentation.

3.2 An unsuccessful application was previously made for the town of Coleraine. This was based on the size of the conurbation, its history including the Mountsandel fort, and the Ulster University campus connection.

3.3. The application is relatively straightforward, encompassing photographs, a map, and the following information requirements:

- The resident population of the area;
- Economic activity;
- Cultural infrastructure, interesting heritage, history and traditions;
- Vibrant and welcoming community;
- Other particularly distinctive features, age, residents or communities who have made widely recognised significant contributions to society and cultural infrastructure;
- Information on public green spaces, sport and leisure facilities, and shopping centres; *and*
- Information on local authority support (of any kind) for the voluntary sector.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee considers an application by the Council to apply for City Status, with the town of Coleraine being an option.