

Sperrins AONB Forum – Nomination of Elected Member to attend	19th December 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 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”.

2.0 Detail

2.1 The Sperrins Forum first convened in April 2017. It consisted of both elected representatives and professional planning officers from the following councils:

- Causeway Coast and Glens;
- Derry City and Strabane District;
- Mid Ulster District; and
- Fermanagh and Omagh District.

2.2 The Forum was primarily set up to ensure a high level of co-operation and communication among neighbouring councils as we prepare our Local Development Plans (LDPs). It addresses the following common issues:

- Protection of landscapes and environmental assets through appropriate environmental designations:
- Management of Minerals Development
- Improvement of road linkages and infrastructure;
- Sustainable tourism development; and
- Meeting people's needs.

2.3 Four meetings have taken place, as follows:

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

2.4 The initial 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.

2.5 With the resignation of Cllr McCaul, Members voted and agreed at the Planning Committee meeting held on 27th June 2018 that Ald McKillop should attend as the replacement for Cllr McCaul and Ald Cole was agreed as a reserve.

2.6 Ald Cole replaced Councillor McCandless when he left the Planning Committee.

2.7 As Ald McKillop no longer sits on the Planning Committee a third nominee is required. We also require a reserve nominee.

3.0 Recommendation

3.1 **IT IS RECOMMENDED** that Members agree to a third and a reserve nominee to attend the Sperrins Forum.

