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Local Development Plan Employment and Economic Development

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**Mid & East
Antrim**
Borough Council

Role of the LDP



LDP process

Local Development Plan process: key stages	Sustainability appraisal and other assessments	Indicative timeframe
Publication of statement of community involvement		March/April 2016
Publication of draft plan timetable		April 2016
Stakeholder and community plan engagement on key issues	Invite comments from consultation body (NIEA) on draft Sustainability Appraisal (SA) incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Scoping Report.	May - September 2016
Publication of Preferred Options Paper Statutory public consultation (8-12 weeks)	Publication of SA Interim Report comprising Scoping Report and appraisal of alternative options. Screening for HRA, EQIA and Rural Proofing.	October 2016
Publication of draft Plan Strategy Statutory public consultation (8 weeks for representations followed by 8 weeks for counter-representations)	Publication of SA Appraisal Report (incorporating SEA). Publication of drafts of HRA, EQIA and Rural Proofing Assessment, where relevant.	April 2017
Independent examination		September 2017
Adoption of plan strategy	Publication of SA Adoption Report (incorporated SEA). Publication of HRA, EQIA and RPA where relevant.	February 2018
Stakeholder and community plan engagement on key issues	Invite comments from Consultation Body (NIEA) on draft SA (incorporating SEA Scoping Report). Publication of SA Interim Report comprising Scoping Report and appraisal of alternative options. Screening for HRA, EQIA and Rural Proofing.	February - May 2018
Publication of draft Local Policies Plan Statutory public consultation (8 weeks for representations followed by 8 weeks for counter representations)	Publication of SA Appraisal Report (incorporating SEA). Publication of drafts of HRA, EQIA and Rural Proofing Assessment, where relevant.	August 2018
Independent examination		February 2019
Monitoring and review of LDP (annual monitoring and five-year review) Preparation of supplementary planning documents	Monitoring of SA and other Assessments	Ongoing

Agreement of SCI and timetable



General Context within Mid and East Antrim

- **Economic activity** increased between 2001 & 2011
 - 50,243 in Employment in 2013 (inc self-employed) (6% of NI)
 - Proportion of economically active females has increased.
- **Unemployment levels** have remained below regional average - claimant count rates have gradually fell since 2010, in contrast to NI.
- **Job Sectors**
 - 68% of jobs in tertiary sector (10% lower than NI average)
 - Higher percentage of jobs in manufacturing sector (21%) than NI (11%)
 - Sectoral strengths in manufacturing, engineering, agri-food, energy supply and rural/farming sector
 - Lower concentration of jobs in high value sectors
 - 4,500 + businesses within the area in 2013 (7% of NI businesses).



Local policy context & uptake of Zoned Industrial Land

- **Ballymena Area Plan 1986-2001:**

Ballymena Town main focus - 73 hectares zoned
(Galgorm & Woodside Road sites)

- **Larne Area Plan 2010:**

Larne Town main focus - 84 hectares zoned
(Ballyloran, Drumahoe, Millbrook, Redlands Estate)

- **Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan 2015 (BMAP):**

Carrickfergus Town main focus - 151 hectares of land zoned
for employment/industry.

- Includes previously zoned land retained for employment purposes.
- Acceptable Uses on employment zonings = call centre, research & development, light & general industrial and storage or distribution.

- **Uptake of Zoned Industrial/Employment land in MEA:**

- 123 hectares developed for industry, 23 hectares developed for non-industry
- 162 hectares remain undeveloped.



Emerging issues and options for discussion

- How Much Land is Needed for Economic Development?
- Is there a need for Offices / Where should they be located?
- Should other non-industrial uses be allowed on zoned sites?
- What type and scale of economic development /tourism development is appropriate in the Countryside?



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Thanks for listening

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