

PUBLIC CONSULTATION – NEWRY CITY PARK – PUBLIC INFORMATION SHEET

WHO IS THIS CONSULTATION ON BEHALF OF?

Tetra Tech, in conjunction with RPS, on behalf of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council.

WHAT ARE WE CONSULTING ON?

We are seeking your views on the proposed future: *‘Provision of a City Park (Public Open Space) with associated infrastructure’*.

WHERE IS THE SITE?

South of William Street, located between Newry River and the Newry Canal at Albert Basin, Newry.

WHAT IS PRESENTLY ON THE SITE?

The site is circa 6hectares and is currently a brownfield site comprising mainly hardstanding with occasional areas of scrub vegetation and some existing buildings.

The northern portion of the site, known as St. Christopher’s Park, has in recent years been used as a Covid-19 testing centre and, is regularly used as a temporary site for travelling circus, fun fairs, and other seasonal events, etc. Newry Rowing Club also utilise the site. The southern part of the site comprises several derelict industrial buildings, previously used for storage purposes by Council. Access to the site is taken from William Street/Dublin Bridge at the northern end.

WHAT IS ON OUR PRESENTATION BOARDS?

Our proposals are shown on 6No. presentation boards, comprising:

- Board 1 - Site Location;
- Board 2 - Overall Proposals;
- Board 3 - Northern Section;
- Board 4 - Central Section;
- Board 5 - Southern Section; and
- Board 6 - Artists Impressions.

WHAT IS CURRENTLY PROPOSED WITHIN THE CITY PARK?

The exact components of the City Park are yet to be determined, but at this stage, it is anticipated to comprise of the following indicative elements:

- Waterside Walkway for pedestrian and cycle access throughout site;
- Biodiversity Trail;
- Urban Sports Facility;
- Combined Toilet and Refreshment Building;
- Play Park Facility (to cater for multiple age groups and levels of ability);
- Central Plaza area;
- Boat launching slipway;
- Floating pontoon and access ramp;
- Watersports building;
- Watersports storage area;
- Natural amphitheatre;
- Maintenance building;
- Arboretum walk (comprising Native Tree and Shrub Species);
- Natural Play areas;
- Pump Track facility;
- Southern Plaza area; and
- Associated car parking, overspill/temporary car parking and drop off areas.

WHY ARE WE CONSULTING?

As part of the planning application process, we are lawfully required to undertake Pre-Application Community Consultation. However, in any case, we still want your views on our proposals!

HOW CAN YOU PROVIDE YOUR COMMENTS?

There is a ‘Public Consultation Event’ at Newry Leisure Centre, 60 Cecil Street, Newry, BT35 6AU between 3pm and 9pm on Thursday 29th August 2024. Members of the design team will be in attendance to talk through details of the proposed development and respond to questions attendees may have.

Persons attending this ‘Public Consultation Event’ will be able to provide comments via ‘Comment Response Forms’, utilising a ‘Comment Box Facility’.

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WHAT IF YOU CANNOT MAKE THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION EVENT IN NEWRY?

Don't worry! There will also be 'Physical Information Displays' of our 6No. presentation boards, along with 'Comment Response Forms' and a 'Comment Box Facility' at each of the following locations:

- Newry Leisure Centre, 60 Cecil Street, Newry, BT35 6AU;
- Kilkeel Leisure Centre, Mourne Esplanade, Kilkeel, Newry, BT34 4DB
- Newcastle Centre, 10 - 14 Central Promenade, Newcastle, BT33 0AA; and
- Newry Mourne and Down District Council, Downshire Civic Centre, Ardglass Rd, Downpatrick BT30 6RA.

These can be viewed, and comments made, during opening hours from 30th August 2024 through to 5pm on Friday 27th September 2024.

CAN YOU MAKE COMMENTS ONLINE?

Yes! There is also an 'Online Public Consultation Exhibit' on Council's website: –

<https://www.newrymouredown.org/consultations>

This showcases the same information available at the 'Public Consultation Event' in Newry, and 'Public Information Displays' in Newry, Kilkeel, Newcastle and Downpatrick. It will be hosted online between 3pm on Thursday 29th August 2024 and 5pm on Friday 27th September 2024.

HOW LONG IS THE CONSULTATION PERIOD?

This public consultation runs until 5pm on Friday 27th September 2024. Comments will be accepted from 3pm on Thursday 29th August 2024 to 5pm on Friday 27th September 2024.

WHAT HAPPENS TO OUR COMMENTS?

We will review your comments in finalising the City Park's design before lodging our planning application.

Your comments will be treated anonymously. We will not release your personal information, and nobody will know the comments you made were attributable to you!

A 'Pre-Application Community Consultation Report' will be provided as part of a future planning application package. It will set out your comments anonymously and how we have considered them.

HOW DO YOU WE STORE YOUR COMMENTS?

In providing comments, you are agreeing for your personal information to be used in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) requirements. Your comments will be securely stored on Tetra Tech's electronic software system. We will only keep individuals name, address, contact details, and comments until the planning process is concluded. We will then dispose of this information by deleting it from Tetra Tech's electronic software system and by secure destruction of all hard copies.

CAN YOU STILL MAKE COMMENTS ON THE FUTURE PLANNING APPLICATION?

Yes! Any comments made to us in respect of the proposals are not representations to the local planning authority. If a planning application is subsequently submitted to Newry, Mourne and Down District Council, public advertisement and neighbour notification will be undertaken at that juncture, and you will have the opportunity to make a formal representation to the planning application at that time.

WHAT IF YOU WANT TO CONTACT THE DESIGN TEAM DIRECTLY WITH COMMENTS OR HAVE ANY QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions, or require further information, or wish to discuss with us, please do contact our team via:

Email: newrycitypark@nmandd.org

Or

michael.graham@tetrattech.com

Phone: 02890 706069 / 07788913797

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