

Title of Report:	Housing Research Study: Workshop
Committee Report Submitted To:	PLANNING COMMITTEE
Date of Meeting:	28th May 2025
For Decision or For Information	For Decision
To be discussed In Committee	No

Linkage to Council Strategy (2021-25)	
Strategic Theme	Cohesive Leadership
Outcome	Our elected members work collaboratively and make decisions on an evidence led basis and in line with its policies.
Lead Officer	Principal Planning Officer

Budgetary Considerations	Not applicable in this case
Cost of Proposal	
Included in Current Year Estimates	
Capital/Revenue	
Code	
Staffing Costs	

Legal Considerations	Not applicable in this case
Input of Legal Services Required	
Legal Opinion Obtained	

Screening Requirements	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals. Not applicable in this case		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	No	
	EQIA Required and Completed:	n/a	
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	No	
	RNA Required and Completed:	n/a	
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	No	
	DPIA Required and Completed:	n/a	

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of this Report is to:

- advise Members that Ulster University (UU) has completed the first phase of the Housing Research Study; and
- seek agreement to schedule a workshop for UU to attend and discuss their findings, prior to commencing the next phase of the Study.

2.0 Background

2.1 Members will be aware of the work undertaken by the Council's Development Plan team to get to the current stage of Local Development Plan (LDP) preparation - draft Plan Strategy, and in particular, the discussions regarding the Borough's housing allocation and distribution. At Members' request, UU has been employed to carry out independent housing research to help inform these discussions.

2.2 The Study is being undertaken in two phases:

- Phase 1: Data Collection; and
- Phase 2: Stakeholder Engagement

2.3 The final report, scheduled for completion in September 2025, will also form an important part of the robust evidence base informing the preparation of the of the LDP, including the new dwelling requirement for the Borough.

3.0 Workshop

3.1 UU are now in a position to attend a workshop to discuss the first phase findings with Members and officers.

4.0 Recommendation

4.1 **IT IS RECOMMENDED** that the Planning Committee note the content of this Report and agree to a workshop to discuss the first phase findings prior to UU commencing the next phase of the Study.