

Final phase announced for Newry public realm and road improvement scheme

The second and final phase of a public realm and road improvement scheme at Merchants Quay and Sugar Island in Newry City has been announced.

Kilrea Bridge to reopen to all traffic at 5 pm on Wednesday 18 February

The Kilrea Bridge will fully reopen to all vehicles at 5.00 pm on Wednesday 18 February, following the successful completion of the main repair works.

Stronger safeguarding checks for those working with vulnerable groups

Justice Minister Naomi Long has announced that self-employed people and personal employees working with vulnerable groups across Northern Ireland will be able to obtain AccessNI Enhanced checks.

Green reaction to local elections U-turn

16 February 2026 / 16 February 2026 by [Green Party](#)

Responding to a U-turn on the cancellation of local elections in England, a Green Party spokesperson said:

“The cancellation of local elections in England was a disgraceful disregard of democracy by Labour. It was always about political self-interest and a fear of the electorate voting against this government and its inability to

deliver anything but U-turns.

“It was also another sign of the disturbing authoritarian trend of a caretaker Prime Minister who has overseen moves to scrap jury trials, criminalise peaceful protest and ride roughshod over local planning laws.

“The by-election in Gorton and Denton is showing that support for this shambolic Labour government is in freefall. The old two party system has disintegrated, and the now reinstated local elections will – in many places across England – be between Reform UK and the Green Party.

“Voting is a right, not – as Labour seems to think – a privilege. People will now have their right to decide who should represent them in their local communities and who runs their Councils.”

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£300k Tourism Drive Puts Fermanagh at the Heart of Ireland's Hidden Heartlands

Economy Minister Dr Caoimhe Archibald has welcomed the launch of Tourism NI's Ireland's Hidden Heartlands campaign, which will promote Fermanagh to visitors across Ireland and boost the local economy.