

October 14th, 2016

Notice Of Meeting

You are invited to attend the Active and Healthy Communities Committee meeting to be held on **Monday, 17th October 2016 at 6:00 pm** in **Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick.**

Chair: Cllr M Carr

Vice: Cllr L Kimmins

Members: Cllr P Brown Cllr S Burns
Cllr P Byrne Cllr S Doran
Cllr G Fitzpatrick Cllr V Harte
Cllr H Harvey Cllr D Hyland
Cllr K Loughran Cllr B Ó'Muirí
Cllr D Taylor Cllr J Trainor
Cllr W Walker

Agenda

1 Apologies and Chairperson's Remarks

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2 Declarations of Interest

3 Action Sheet arising from AHC Meeting held on 19 September 2016

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Presentations

4 Presentation - CDRCN - Community Centre Effectiveness Review

Community Engagement

5 Community Centre Effectiveness Review - Stage 1 Update

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[Community Centre Review & Audit effectiveness - Oct 2016 - JH.pdf](#)

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[Appendix 2 Community centres report version FINAL.pdf](#)

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[DEA Fora Update - Oct 2016 - DB.pdf](#)

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[Downpatrick 16 Sep 2016 action sheet Draft - Oct 2016 - DB.pdf](#)

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[Action Sheet - Croilieve DEA 8 september - AHC Oct 2016 - DB.pdf](#)

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7 Report on Additional Funding from Department for Communities (DfC) for Welfare Reform Readiness Programme

and Welfare Reform Training Programme

[DFC, Welfare reform readiness Programme & training Programme - Oct 2016 - DB.pdf](#)

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8 Consultation launched on Strategic Support to the Voluntary and Community Sector

[Consultation launched on strategic support to Vol and Community Engagement - Oct 16 - DB.pdf](#)

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9 Neighbourhood Renewal Community Resources Application - Newry

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10 PCSP Update

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Leisure and Sports

11 Play Strategy Update

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12 Sports Facility Strategy Update

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13 Irish Football Association, bid for UEFA Youth Tournament

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Health & Wellbeing

15 **Caravan Site, Forkhill Road, Newry**

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16 **Protect Life Consultation**

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17 **Financial Assistance Update**

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Invitees

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Cllr Terry Andrews | terry.andrews@downdc.gov.uk |
| Cllr Naomi Bailie | naomi.bailie@nmandd.org |
| Cllr Patrick Brown | patrick.brown@nmandd.org |
| Cllr Robert Burgess | robert.burgess@nmandd.org |
| Cllr Stephen Burns | stephen.burns@downdc.gov.uk |
| Ms Sonya Burns | sonya.burns@newryandmourne.gov.uk |
| Lorraine Burns | lorraine.burns@newryandmourne.gov.uk |
| Cllr Pete Byrne | pete.byrne@nmandd.org |
| Cllr Michael Carr | michael.carr@newryandmourne.gov.uk |
| Mrs Dorinnia Carville | dorinnia.carville@nmandd.org |
| Cllr charlie casey | charlie.casey@newryandmourne.gov.uk |
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| Cllr Patrick Clarke | patrick.clarke@downdc.gov.uk |
| Cllr Garth Craig | garth.craig@downdc.gov.uk |
| Cllr Dermot Curran | dermot.curran@downdc.gov.uk |
| Mr Eddy Curtis | eddy.curtis@newryandmourne.gov.uk |
| Cllr Laura Devlin | laura.devlin@downdc.gov.uk |
| Mr Eoin Devlin | eoin.devlin@newryandmourne.gov.uk |
| Ms Louise Dillon | louise.dillon@newryandmourne.gov.uk |
| Cllr Sean Doran | sean.doran@newryandmourne.gov.uk |
| Cllr Sinead Ennis | sinead.ennis@nmandd.org |
| Cllr Cadogan Enright | cadogan.enright@downdc.gov.uk |
| Ms Siobhan Fearon | siobhan.fearon@newryandmourne.gov.uk |
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| Mr Liam Hannaway | liam.hannaway@nmandd.org |
| Cllr Valerie Harte | valerie.harte@newryandmourne.gov.uk |
| Cllr Harry Harvey | harry.harvey@newryandmourne.gov.uk |
| Cllr Terry Hearty | terry.hearty@newryandmourne.gov.uk |
| Cllr David Hyland | david.hyland@newryandmourne.gov.uk |
| Cllr Liz Kimmins | liz.kimmins@nmandd.org |
| Cllr Mickey Larkin | micky.larkin@nmandd.org |
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| Cllr Kate Loughran | kate.loughran@newryandmourne.gov.uk |
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| Mr Roland Moore | roland.moore@newryandmourne.gov.uk |
| Cllr Roisin Mulgrew | roisin.mulgrew@nmandd.org |

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| Cllr Mark Murnin | mark.murnin@nmandd.org |
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| Cllr Brian Quinn | brian.quinn@newryandmourne.gov.uk |
| Cllr Henry Reilly | henry.reilly@newryandmourne.gov.uk |
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| Cllr Gary Stokes | gary.stokes@nmandd.org |
| Sarah Taggart | sarah-louise.taggart@downdc.gov.uk |
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| Cllr John Trainor | john.trainor@nmandd.org |
| Cllr William Walker | william.walker@nmandd.org |
| Mrs Marie Ward | marie.ward@downdc.gov.uk |

ACTIONS OUTSTANDING FROM AHC MEETING HELD ON 15 AUGUST 2016

| Minute Ref | Subject | Decision | Lead Officer | Actions taken/ Progress to date | Remove from Action Sheet Y/N |
|-------------------|--|---|---------------------|---|---|
| AHC/102/2016 | Youth Mural at Three Ways Community Centre | It was unanimously agreed that approval be given to the extension of Youth Arts Programme including a mural on the external wall, in Three Ways Community Centre (following discussion with Council Community Development Officer). | Janine Hillen | Discussions with Three Ways representatives ongoing | |
| AHC/104/2016 | Sports Facility Strategy Update | It was agreed that the Draft Facility Strategy would be sent to the 7 DEAs for consideration and comment, with a further report to AHC Committee as soon as possible thereafter. | Roland Moore | Complete | Y |
| AHC/105/2016 | Down Your Street/Civic Pride Programme | It was agreed that the Down Your Street/Civic Pride Programme would be rolled out across the District. | Eoin Devlin | In progress follow up to Financial Call to be reported in October 2016. On agenda – 17/10/2016 | |
| AHC/107/2016 | Local Air Quality Management | It was agreed that 50% of the cost be allocated to purchase two replacement air quality monitoring analysers for use by the Health and Wellbeing Department in the Canal Street, Newry Air Quality Monitoring Station. | Eoin Devlin | In progress | |

ACTION SHEET – ACTIVE & HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING (AHC) – MONDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2016

| Minute Ref | Subject | Decision | Lead Officer | Actions taken/ Progress to date | Remove from Action Sheet Y/N |
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| AHC/109/2016 | Apologies and Chairperson's Remarks | It was agreed to send a letter of congratulations to Bethany Firth on winning three gold medals and one silver medal in swimming at the Paralympics in Rio. | R Moore | Letter to be issued | |
| AHC/112/2016 | Delegation to Minister | <p>It was agreed to appoint the Chairperson of the AHC Committee, 1 No representative from the four main Political parties on the Council plus 1 no Independent representative, to attend a meeting with the Minister for Education to discuss the development of sports facilities between Schools and Councils.</p> <p>Councillors Byrne, Carr, Hyland, Taylor and Walker were appointed. Sinn Fein representative to be confirmed.</p> <p>It was agreed a pre-meeting be held with relevant Council officials and the Councillors appointed to meet with the Minister for Education, to discuss and agree the issues the Council will raise with the Minister.</p> | M Lipsett | Ongoing | |
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| Minute Ref | Subject | Decision | Lead Officer | Actions taken/ Progress to date | Remove from Action Sheet Y/N |
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| AHC/113/2016 | Newry Street Unite | It was unanimously agreed to note the content of Report dated 19 September 2016 from Mrs J McCann/C McKenna regarding Newry Street Unite Community Centre Project. | | | |
| AHC/114/2016 | DEA Fora Update | <p>It was noted that a sum of £7,000 has been allocated to each DEA from the Good Relations Action Plan.</p> <p>It was unanimously agreed to note the contents of Report dated 19 September 2016 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement, regarding DEA Fora Update and approve the recommendations outlined in Action Sheets arising from DEA Forum Meetings held in July and August 2016.</p> | J Hillen | Actioned | Y |
| AHC/115/2016 | Christmas Illuminations 2016 & 2017 | <p>It was agreed to note the following regarding Christmas Illuminations 2016-2017:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of grant aid to communities through Financial Assistance call in September 2016 (£300-£3000 thresholds). • Undertake consultation exercise through each DEA, with communities that Council currently supply to consider a one-off payment to assist with | J Hillen | Financial Assistance Call Underway | |

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| | | <p>the purchase of trees and/or illuminations from 2017 forward.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross-departmental review of post-Christmas 2016, to inform arrangements for 2017 and report back to relevant Committees. | | | |
| AHC/116/2016 | Supporting Communities Projects | <p>It was agreed to approve the recommendations contained in report dated 19 September 2016 from Ms J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding Supporting Communities Projects, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council consider Capital and Revenue provision to support Community Associations with facility and/or programme development and to satisfy external funding body requirements for match funding (£550k to be considered as part of the Rate Estimates) • Council agree to ring fence funding required to meet design costs associated with Drumalane Community Association build (approximately £29k in 16/17 financial year) • Officers investigate the introduction of a Community | J Hillen | In progress | |

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| | | Support Loan Scheme and report back to Committee with an options paper | | | |
| AHC/117/2016 | Indoor Leisure Business Plan | <p>It was agreed to approve as follows as per Report dated 19 September 2016 regarding Indoor Leisure Business Plan Update:</p> <p>The Council to progress the recommendations set out in the Report, specifically Table 3 (as per Appendix A), and engage assistance where necessary, in order to achieve this plan by the end of 2020/21 financial year, specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICT – immediate review, enhancement and implementation of modern infrastructure by end of 2016/17 to support Business Plan objectives and reporting. • Marketing and Branding – immediate development and implementation of a strategy to include sub brand, transparent customer journey, staff training and recruitment of additional resource by end of 2016/17. • Pricing – review and simplification of structure with presentation of proposals for Committee decision by end of 2016/17. | R Moore | In progress | |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme and Resource – develop clear linkages with other departments, specifically Sports Development, to begin to increase participation and programmes on offer with additional 2 Officers resource as identified, recruited by end of 2016/17. • Additional income opportunities – develop proposals for consideration for facility enhancements for use of low occupancy space and specifically Kilkeel Leisure Centre Fitness Suite Space by end of 2017/18. | | | |
| AHC/118/2016 | Newry Leisure Centre – Phase 2 | <p>It was agreed as follows as per recommendation contained in report dated 19 September 2016 from Mr K Gordon, Head of Indoor Leisure, regarding Newry Leisure Centre – Phase 2 – Operating Model:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To approve opening arrangements • Officers to commence consultation with staff over proposed hours and shifts and also clubs and user groups in relation to booking provision • On conclusion of consultation process, officers to provide an accurate budget proposal for 2017/18 Rate Estimates | R Moore | In progress | |

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| AHC/119/2016 | Play Strategy Update | <p>It was agreed that the sums identified in the Play Strategy are considered as part of the Rates Estimates process using estimates in Section 4 as a guide until the Strategy is complete, as per Report dated 19 September 2016 from R Moore, Assistant Director, Leisure and Sport.</p> | R Moore | To be considered as part of rates process | |
| AHC/120/2016 | Sports Facility Strategy – DEA Update | <p>It was agreed to approve the draft Sports Facility Strategy following consideration by the 7 No DEAs and proceed to further public consultation through SAND. A final report on the Strategy will be presented to the AHC Committee as soon as possible thereafter.</p> <p>It was also agreed Mr R Moore, Assistant Director, Leisure & Sport, summarise potential Sports Hubs within each DEA,</p> | R Moore | In progress | |

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| | | as part of the recommendations of the Executive Summary. | | | |
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| AHC/122/2016 | Partnership Agreement – NI Fire & Rescue Service | It was agreed to approve the Partnership Agreement with NI Fire & Rescue Service | E Devlin | Actioned | Y |
| AHC/123/2016 | Sustainable Development & Climate Change | <p>It was unanimously agreed to appoint the following Members to the Sustainable Development & Climate Change Forum:</p> <p>Sinn Fein 2 no representatives SDLP 2 no representatives DUP Cllr H Harvey UUP 1 no representative Alliance Cllr P Brown Independent Cllr C Enright</p> <p>It was agreed an email be sent to Party Group Leaders to make appointments to the Sustainable Development & Climate Change.</p> | E Devlin | | |
| AHC/124/2016 | Sellafield | It was agreed that Council offer to host a meeting of the Nuclear | E Devlin | Invite will be issued for meeting in March 2017 | |

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| AHC/125/2016 | Contract – Public Analyst Services | It was agreed that the Chief Executive sign the Service Contract between Public Analyst Scientific Services Ltd and Newry, Mourne and Down District Council. | E Devlin | Actioned | Y |
| AHC/126/2016 | LIFE GIFT Funding – Proposed Green Infrastructure | It was agreed to approve match funding requirement for the LIFE GIFT Project, as outlined in 2.1 in Report dated 19 September 2016 from Ms S McEldowney/Mr J Campbell, Senior Environmental Health Officer, subject to noting this decision will be subject to the forthcoming rates process. | E Devlin | To be entered into Estimates process | |

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| Report to: | Active and Healthy Communities Committee |
| Date of Meeting: | 17 October 2016 |
| Subject: | Community Centre Review |
| Reporting Officer (Including Job Title): | Janine Hillen Assistant Director: Community Engagement |
| Contact Officer (Including Job Title): | Julie McCann Head of Community Services |

Decisions required:

Request for Committee approval to accept findings of Stage 1 of Community Centre Review and proceed with implementation of Stage 2.

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|------------|---|
| 1.0 | Purpose and Background: |
| 1.1 | <p>In January 2016, AHC Committee agreed to continue providing allocations for community facilities through the rates process and also subsequently agreed to;</p> <p><i>'carry out a holistic review of allocations, including an audit of facility effectiveness. Initiate a consultation exercise with DEA Fora and with facilities currently funded and for DEA Coordinators to liaise on an individual basis and build capacity with centre representatives who have been in receipt of council support for a considerable time from legacy Councils'</i></p> <p>Terms of Reference for the 'review' were subsequently agreed by AHC in April 2016 and Stage 1 commenced (Appendix 1).</p> |
| 2.0 | Key issues: |
| 2.1 | Following presentation on the findings of Stage 1 and in order to begin building an evidence base for the comparison of different operating models, Stage 2 (Review of Community Owned Building with Council Contribution) should commence without delay. |
| 3.0 | Recommendations: |
| 3.1 | Request for Committee approval to accept findings of Stage 1 (Appendix 2) of Community Centre Review and proceed with implementation of Stage 2. |
| 4.0 | Resource implications |
| 4.1 | Officers time. |

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| | Resource for County Down Rural Community Network (assisted by Confederation of Community Groups when required) has been built into Service Level Agreements for 2016/17. |
| 5.0 | Equality and good relations implications: |
| 5.1 | All centres will be reviewed using the same assessment tools. |
| 6.0 | Appendices |
| | Appendix 1: Centre Review Terms of Reference Appendix 2: Stage 1 Effectiveness Review Report |

COMMUNITY CENTRE PROVISION REVIEW

& AUDIT OF EFFECTIVENESS

Revised Terms of Reference

Purpose and Background

At present, Newry, Mourne & Down District Council are either directly or indirectly involved in supporting a large number of community organisations/facilities. There are a number of different operating/funding models currently being employed as a result of legacy arrangements in place before the formation of the new Council.

At a recent meeting of the Active & Healthy Communities Committee (Jan 16), it was acknowledged that a comprehensive review was required before support mechanisms could be overhauled, realigned and distributed more equitably across the District.

It was further accepted that many of the current arrangements had been in place for a considerable period of time and that a programme of support and capacity building would have to be developed in tandem with the review. The role of the newly established District Electoral Area Forums (and Coordinators) would also be central to partnership working in community centre provision in the future.

Review Specifications

Overall objectives:

- Initiate investigation into current community centre provision across District
- Engage in discussion around key local issues emerging in relation to capacity/effectiveness/value for money
- Identify short, medium and long-term objectives relating to future support mechanisms
- Implement agreed District wide plan to ensure equitable community centre/support provision

Review Phases

1. Map current provision

- Identify the number of supported community facilities throughout the District
- Ascertain the different ownership arrangements/funding models in place, specifically:
 - Council owned and community managed
 - Community owned with Council contribution
 - Externally funded with Council input (e.g. DSD Neighbourhood Renewal)
 - 100% Council owned and managed
- Physically map provision across the District to determine areas with concentrated or lack of supported facilities

2. Audit of Effectiveness

- Initiate effectiveness review across four identified models
- Review of models should include:
 - Effectiveness of facility management (usage figures vs capacity)
 - Capacity of management/volunteers/staff
 - Frequency of meetings
 - Administrative arrangements (including agendas/filing)
 - Training provided/attended
 - Procedures to include health & safety, first aid, child protection, access checks for volunteers
 - Financial accountability (audited accounts/signatories/debt management/profit)
 - Forward planning (including marketing/fundraising/crisis management)
 - Physical survey (floor plan, areas for potential development, areas of risk)
- Identify programme of capacity building, training & development to maximise effectiveness (with particular focus on community led models)
- Production of report highlighting review findings and draft proposals for future centre provision

3. Consultation with DEA Fora & N,M&DD Council

- Undertake robust consultation with DEA Fora (to include wider community) on the report findings
- Review internally, to include Council Equality Officer, Human Resources, Trade Unions and Legal Advisor

4. Implementation of Agreed Centre Provision Models and Capacity Building Programme

- Subject to ratification at full Council, implement new support models/mechanisms for community centre provision
- Roll out District wide capacity building programme for community organisations involved in centre provision

Revised Timeline & Areas of Responsibility

| Phase | Review | Timescale | Responsibility |
|-------|--|--------------------------|--|
| 1 | Map current provision | March 2016 | Council Officers |
| 2 | Audit of Effectiveness Stage 1 Council owned Stage 2 Community owned Stage 3 Council input Stage 4 Council owned & managed | April 2016 – Aug 2017 | Council Officers External provider |
| 3 | Consultation | Sept – Dec 2017 | DEA Fora Wider Community N,M & DDC |
| 4 | Implementation | Jan 2017 – Forward | N,M & DDC External provider |

Newry Mourne & Down District Council
Audit of Facility Effectiveness

Report on findings from Study of
**Council Owned /Community Managed Community
Centres**

September 2016



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Introduction

Purpose

At present, Newry, Mourne & Down District Council is either directly or indirectly involved in supporting a large number of community centres/facilities. There are a number of different operating/funding models currently being employed as a result of legacy arrangements in place before the formation of the new Council in April 2015.

Council has acknowledged that a comprehensive review is required before support mechanisms can be overhauled, realigned and distributed more equitably across the District. Many of the current arrangements have been in place for a considerable period of time and Council have acknowledged that there may be a need to develop a programme of support and capacity building in tandem with the review.

County Down Rural Community Network (CDRCN), along with the Confederation of Community Groups (CCG), have been commissioned by the Council to undertake the first stage of the review of the effectiveness of 16 community facilities which are currently in Council ownership and managed by community representatives within the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area.

Terms of Reference - Audit of Effectiveness

The Terms of Reference were set out as follows:

- Initiate effectiveness review across identified models
- Review of models should include:
 - Effectiveness of facility management (usage figures vs capacity)
 - Capacity of management/volunteers/staff
 - Frequency of meetings
 - Administrative arrangements (including agendas/filing)
 - Training provided/attended
 - Procedures to include health & safety, first aid, child protection, access checks for volunteers
 - Financial accountability (audited accounts/signatories/debt management/profit)
 - Forward planning (including marketing/fundraising/crisis management)
 - Physical survey (floor plan, areas for potential development, areas of risk)
- Identify programme of capacity building, training & development to maximise effectiveness (with particular focus on community led models)
- Production of report highlighting review findings and draft proposals for future centre provision

Methodology

A standard questionnaire was developed by CDRCN, and approved by Council. CDRCN development staff visited 16 Council-owned, Community-run centres, and met with members of the Community Associations charged with running each community centre; CCG development staff also participated in the visits to the urban centres. Using information gathered from the visits - plus additional information supplied by Council, support networks and the Community Associations - CDRCN completed the questionnaires for each centre and wrote up the following report. There are six sections in this report, set out as follows:

- Section 1 Council-owned, community-run centres and areas of benefit
- Section 2 Building Design, Contents, Usage and Potential for development
- Section 3 Staffing, insurance and day-to-day management of the facility
- Section 4 Structure and capacity of community management group
- Section 5 Training needs analysis
- Section 6 Overall observations and recommendations

The remainder of this report details the findings under each of the above sections.

Section 1 Council-owned, Community-run Centres & Areas of Benefit

1.1 Overview and discussion of findings

There are 16 community centres currently in Council ownership which are managed by a voluntary community group (hereafter referred to as Community Association). These are located as follows:

| Mournes DEA | Crotlieve DEA | Newry DEA | Gullion DEA |
|--------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Annalong | Barnmeen | Barcroft | Cullyhanna |
| Lisnacree | Cabra | Derrybeg | Dorsey |
| Kitty's Road | Carcullion House (Hilltown) | Meadow & Armagh Rd | Forkhill |
| | | Three Ways | Mullaghbawn |
| | | Meigh (rural) | Newtownhamilton |

Note: The Council-owned, community managed centres tend to be located within the Legacy Newry & Mourne Council area with none/few within the Legacy Down Council area.

The Council undertakes responsibility for maintenance of the facilities, both internal and external. The community associations take full responsibility for the day to day management of the facilities including key holding and managing the booking systems. Along with the management of the buildings, a number of the community associations are also involved in providing a range of other community-based services and activities which are vital to the fabric of the communities, especially within the rural areas.

1.2 Observations

The Community Centres are generally well used by the communities they serve, providing much needed services and facilities for the inhabitants of the areas. Many Centres serve as a base for a wide range of activities and services that benefit the local people, ranging from services for early years, to children and young people, right through to senior groups and individuals. The Centres are run on volunteer effort and in many instances are vital and vibrant hubs of local community interaction, information and service provision. The groups were generally positive about the Councils role over the years in the provision of the facilities but there were a number of contentious issues and areas for improvement.

Community Associations/Management Committees

- A number of Community Associations see their role as simply to manage the building. These committees take on limited community roles or other functions – e.g. Some may organise annual events such as Christmas activities for children and young people.
 - Some individuals on Community Association committees are also committee members on other groups that do organise community activities within the Community Centres – this emphasises that those individuals perceive the role of

- the Community Association as being quite separate from the role of other community groups/organisations.
- The role of the CAs as a conduct for community development within some areas is not always being achieved which is really a missed opportunity for both the local communities and the Council who do not wish these CAs sole propose to be key holders and caretakers.
- There are perceptions within a few Community Associations that the committee members can sometimes feel like 'unpaid Council workers' rather than community volunteers.
 - While the volunteers acknowledge that they provide an essential voluntary service for the benefit of the wider community, in some instances the volunteers are of the view that they undertake work and duties on behalf of the Council, which can sometimes leave them feeling like 'unpaid Council workers'.
 - Many volunteers within the Community Associations have been in situ for a considerable length of time.
 - A number of Community Association committees were observed to have experienced burn-out, apathy and lack of new vision.
 - There has been little recruitment of new volunteers onto some committees for some time. However, this is a problem experienced across the wide spectrum of Community groups and voluntary organisations and not just Community Centre committees
 - There has been a lack of development support from the Council or other support organisations for many of the Community Associations.

Lack of buy-in and local competition

- A number of Community Associations do not have full buy-in or support from their local community.
 - Some Community Associations are perceived by others in the community to be simply managing a Council asset (exacerbated by the fact that Council owns the building, Council maintains the building and grounds, Council is a contact point for bookings). The Community Associations may be seen to be lacking in ownership of their own group and have little independence to make their own decisions.
- Some Community Associations have not maintained active engagement with the community, and have lost touch with the needs of their local community.
 - In consequence, a number of Community Associations have not been able to attract new volunteers to their committees with fresh ideas and impetuous.
 - Volunteer energy in some communities has been channelled into other community groups which have surpassed the Community Associations in meeting the needs of the local community – through working up projects, accessing funds and developing alternative community facilities, resulting in the decline of usage of some Council-owned community centres.

It should be noted that in recent years, the availability of large capital grant funding (eg from Lottery, Sports NI, NI Rural Development Programme) - which require sports clubs to demonstrate that their funded facilities/projects will be open to and used by the entire community - has accelerated the building and conversion of facilities and premises into centres for whole-community use.

Urban / rural divide

- Urban community centres have access to different sources of support than the rural centres
 - It was identified that there was strong support through the former DSD (now Department for Communities) Neighbourhood Renewal (NR) scheme – directly through funding, and indirectly through NR partnership meetings.
 - NR schemes directly assist with running costs.
 - Some rural groups have accessed Rural Development Programme funding or Rural Micro Grants, but this funding is for capital projects rather than running costs.

- It was noted that some urban groups have faced particularly challenging situations over the years because of NI politics and the effects on communities during and after the Troubles.

Section 2 Building Design, Contents, Usage & Potential for Development

2.1 Observations

The physical provision of community centres by the legacy Newry & Mourne District Council has undoubtedly been of huge benefit to local communities in those areas for up to 40 years in some instances. The Council's contribution to enabling local community activity and service provision in these areas cannot be underestimated.

There is a wide variation in the size and condition of Council-owned, Community-run centres in the District. This varies from, at worst, a one-room mobile (Kitty's Road, Kilkeel) serving a mix of 140 urban/rural households - to at best, a recently expanded centre (Cullyhanna) whose committee works in close partnership with the adjoining GAA to serve the needs of up to 1,000 rural households.

Condition and size of the facilities do not necessarily correspond to the usage of the premises. The poorest facility (Kitty's Road) has a high degree of usage by the local community; likewise Cullyhanna has a high footfall and usage by a range of community groups. The capacity of the Community Association to attract usage seems to be the determining factor. Both Kitty's Road and Cullyhanna have strong active management committees which are in tune with the needs of their community and they have the capacity and enthusiasm to address these needs.

In terms of facilities, there does not seem to always have been clear communication between the Council and the Community Associations on matters relating to design and functionality of the building. Some groups feel able to influence the development of the building and feel they can fix small problems, update and improve their Centre; while others are of the view that they cannot undertake any form of development work regardless of how small.

Fixtures, fittings and contents within Centres

There is a marked discrepancy in perceptions about ownership of fixtures, fittings and contents within each of the Centres.

- The perception of some of the Community Associations is that the Council has complete ownership of all contents including tables, chairs, small items of kitchen equipment and crockery and the group cannot add to that stock. This perception leads to the Community Association believing they cannot replace anything within the building even down to replacement of cups or a kettle. The Council carry out a yearly full inventory check of all contents in some Centres, and any items that are missing are subsequently replaced. This system has the effect of reinforcing the perception that the Centre is not community-owned, but rather a Council facility and has led to some apathy.
 - The positive effect of Council having full ownership of all contents is that centres are able to share resources – if everything belongs to the Council and not to one particular centre, contents can be shared around the centres when required eg table and chairs for one off events. However, this makes planning

events in advance somewhat precarious as tables and chairs may be double booked.

- While the sharing of resource can be advantageous some Committees take issue with the arrangement as they feel the equipment is sometimes taken without their consent and in some cases is not always returned or gets mixed up with others and they do not always get their own back.
- In contrast to this, other Community Associations feel they **are** able to update and purchase new equipment, e.g. tables, chairs, kitchen equipment etc, and can update the inside of the building if and when required with their own funding. This has undoubtedly saved the Council money.
 - Within these Centres the committees tend to have greater levels of connection to the centres and usually have a greater sense of ownership.

Usage of the Building and Future Potential

A number of community centres have an anchor tenant, which tend to be playgroups / preschools / school usage / crèche. While it is positive that the centres have anchor tenants which ensures a steady income stream, a high usage of the building and high level of footfall, it should be noted that a number of the anchor tenants have exclusive use of a large proportion of the building and tend to pay reduced or preferential rates.

- While having an anchor tenant ensures benefits for both the sustainability of the centre and the group involved, it also has the potential of creating perceptions in the community that the building only serves the needs of one user group.
- Having one anchor tenant can also create problems if the sustainability of the Centre becomes dependant on the income received from the tenant and this tenant relocates or indeed ceases to operate.

It can be said that some Community Associations are running a more “social enterprise” model which functions like a community hub, including renting office space and, in one case, an outreach doctors surgery; whereas others are applying different rates to different groups and taking a less business-oriented approach – often to the detriment of the centre and the community.

The majority of Community Associations, whilst acknowledging the need for some minor upgrading works within their centres, are in general satisfied with the facilities that they have and do not need major works carried out. A small number of Community Associations have identified the need and potential for development / extension / refurbishment of their Centre.

- It was noted that the relationship between Council (as owner) and Community Association (as tenant) varied widely within the area as a whole.
- In some Centres this relationship is viewed as a constraining factor to new developments – large or small – as the committee have to rely on Council taking the lead on projects rather than owning (and driving forward) the project themselves.
- In other Centres the Community Association have benefited from the Council supporting or taking the lead on capital projects within their Centre.

- A small number of Community Associations have identified the need for a completely new premises and have secured or are still working towards accessing funding for upgrades to facilities and extension.

Note: some centres got solar panels installed by the Council during summer 2016 – however there was little communication from the Council to the committee regarding who will benefit from these – They are keen to know if any savings will be passed on to the group?

Section 3 - Staffing, Insurance & Day-to-Day Management

3.1 Observations

Staffing

Council staff undertake maintenance work on all the facilities reviewed. Community Associations noted that in general, maintenance work was carried out promptly for the benefit of the Centre and local communities.

The main work of the CAs regarding the day-to-day management of the Centre is carried out by volunteers. Aside from occasional Council maintenance staff, the only staff any of the Centres have is that of caretakers/cleaners. However, how the caretakers/cleaners are paid varies between the Centres, with three different models being in place:

1. Council employed caretaker
2. Committee members undertaking the duties and receiving payment which is claimed back under recurrent expenditure
3. Committee members undertaking the duties on a voluntary basis and not receiving any payment.

The following centres have a Council-employed caretaker:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Forkhill | Gullion DEA |
| 2. Meigh | Newry DEA |
| 3. 3 Ways | Newry DEA |
| 4. Barcroft | Newry DEA |
| 5. Meadow & Armagh Road | Newry DEA |

* Derrybeg (Newry DEA) reported that they had a Council caretaker for a few months in 2016 but that this arrangement had now ceased.

- The Council employed caretakers have responsibility for several community centres with their hours split between different centres. Duties include – cleaning, minor maintenance and repairs, maintaining water / heating systems for Legionella checks.

Some centres have committee members who undertake cleaning / caretaking duties. Any expenditure incurred through payment for these duties is claimed back through recurrent expenditure.

Within other centres the CA undertaking cleaning / caretaking duties, which is carried out on a purely voluntary basis with the CA not receiving any financial support towards this.

A number of CAs receive quarterly invoices from Council. Within these invoices there is a cost heading for 'staff'.

- There is no clarity on what this expenditure relates to – there is very mixed opinion across the CAs with some suggestions being that it is to cover the costs of elected members attendance at meetings such as the AGM; or others suggested it was a contribution towards salary cost of Council staff; others thought it was towards caretaking costs.

- Not having a clear rationale or explanation as to what this expenditure relates to has caused confusion and to a certain degree, resentment, on behalf of CAs as they feel they are paying towards expenditure which they are not clear they have actually incurred or how it was proportioned – There is a need for clarity and consistency here.

Insurance

Urban / rural

- There is a distinction between urban and rural centres with regards to payment of Insurance. Newry-based urban centres purchase their insurance through Marsh (upon recommendation from Confederation of Community Groups) and can claim back 100% from Neighbourhood Renewal (NR).
- Rural centres must purchase insurance with the Council recommended insurer – which is also Marsh.
 - As of 2016/17 financial year, all rural Centres have been informed by Council that they must pay 100% of their insurance costs directly to Marsh and claim back 45% from Recurrent Expenditure.
 - This new arrangement has serious implications for cash flow for many of the CAs who don't have the resources to pay upfront, and who also reported concerns of the length of time it would take Council to reimburse the funds.

Community Associations are not entirely sure what their insurance covers – particularly around contents (if owned by Council). This creates uncertainty and the potential for future problems in the event of a claim.

Models of financial support for running costs

At the time of this review, there are two main models used to provide financial assistance for CAs to cover a percentage of the running costs of the Community Centres:

1. Quarterly Invoices
2. Recurrent Expenditure

Some centres receive quarterly invoices and claim for other expenses under recurrent expenditure. Other centres are supported by one model only. A small number of centres are not supported by either model above.

1. **Quarterly invoices** – under this model CAs receive a quarterly invoice from the Council which include a number of items of expenditure such as electricity, heating oil, staff costs, cleaning, water, trade waste.

General issues:

- Quarterly invoices received by the CAs do not seem to be consistent – i.e. they do not include the same items of expenditure (e.g. some Centres have been billed for water charges, and others haven't).

- The quarterly invoices do not include a breakdown of usage of utilities such as electricity, heating oil, phone, leaving CAs unaware of how the final amount has been reached.
- Some centres reported that they continued to receive quarterly invoices from Council during lengthy periods when they had been closed due to exceptional circumstances beyond their control. This was despite the fact that during the closure period, there was little or no usage of utilities and there was no income.

Cost headings:

- There is no clarity what 'staff costs' relates to – with some suggestions being that it is to cover the costs of elected members attendance at meetings such as the AGM; or others suggested it was a contribution towards salary cost of Council staff; others thought it was towards caretaking costs.
- A number of Centres purchase their cleaning products via the Council, the costs of which are included on the quarterly invoices.
 - A number of CAs feel the cost of the cleaning products is exceptionally high which has caused some groups to opt out of this system and purchase their own.
 - Some centres that have a Council caretaker must purchase their cleaning products via the Council, therefore feel they are paying a higher rate for cleaning products than necessary.

2. Recurrent expenditure

Under the legacy arrangement of Recurrent Expenditure, a number of CAs can claim financial assistance up to a certain amount per year towards the running costs of the Centre

- Some CAs were clear about the maximum level of financial support they could receive towards their running costs and claimed to that maximum.
- Others claimed for only very small amounts of support and covered most of their costs from their own funds.
- Other Centres have been told they are not eligible for recurrent expenditure and receive only financial support towards cost of insurance.

Legionella Management

A number of Centres comply with legionella management systems as directed by Council.

- A small number of these Centres have showers which are still used; most other Centres have either had their showers turned off or do not have showers.
- In some Centres the Council Caretaker turns on the heating for several hours per day. The CA does not have control over this, but must bear the high costs of heating oil.
- Some other Centres without Council Caretakers adhere to the Council's legionella management system by turning on their own heat / water systems for several hours every day. Consequently these Centres are reporting high oil / water bills.
- A number of Centres do not use their water or oil heating systems for legionella management.

Minor maintenance of premises

Council undertake all levels of maintenance. A number of CAs are very happy with this arrangement, and report that this relationship works well for them.

Other CAs believe they are restricted with regards to undertaking minor maintenance of the Centres. Some CAs also feel they could get minor maintenance work carried out faster, and at a more competitive rate, than what the Council pay.

A number of CAs have been able to undertake upgrading and maintenance of their Centres themselves, with funding sourced from grants.

Section 4 Structure and Capacity of Community Management Group

4.1 Observations

Structure of community management groups

In many cases, the same people have been on CA management committees for many years, with little change. This is a common trend across all community group committees and is not restricted to Hall management groups.

- It should be noted that it can often be extremely difficult for new volunteers to join long established committees and for long established committees to accept new volunteers.

In a small number of Centres, the CA committees had been recently refreshed and expanded, with new ideas and a new momentum to carry forward new projects and initiatives (e.g. Hilltown, Cullyhanna, Barcroft).

Each Community Association committee tends to be driven by a few key people; these people are often on a range of committees. This is a trend consistent with committees in community groups in general.

- In some CAs the key volunteers have been in situ for a long time. Training and development may no longer be a priority, and after a long period of time these key volunteers often feel undervalued by both Council and the local community.
- Some volunteers on CAs are clearly struggling to keep their Centre open, and could avail of help around sustainability and succession planning.

Most CAs have regular management committee meetings, with a few exceptions.

- Records are mostly kept manually and stored at a volunteer's home.
- Some CAs see the AGM as a mandatory requirement of Council rather than a good governance requirement and a chance to promote themselves and attract new committee members.

Communication with Council

In the past, relationships with individual Council Officers were generally positive. Many Community Associations reported that they had a good line of communication with their designated Council official, who was supportive and responded to their needs.

However, more recently, new structures and changes in personnel have caused a perception of distance and lack of communication from Council. A small number of groups remain unclear about who their contact in Council is. A small number of groups reported dissatisfaction about the way in which messages are communicated from Council to CA. In some cases has led to a perception that Council may not value the CA, or the voluntary work they are undertaking. They feel that inflexible rules and regulations are imposed on them with no discussion, consultation or training.

Section 5 Training Needs Analysis

5.1 Observations

The perception of training required by groups varies a lot. Committees running services (e.g. seniors groups, youth clubs etc) tend to have undertaken more training and skills development than groups who act only as keyholders.

- Such CAs tend to be able to better identify gaps in their training needs and are better connected to training providers / support bodies eg Youth Service, Volunteer Centres, community support networks.

It should be noted that while a training needs analysis was carried out as part of this review, this was the last item in a two hour interview and committee members tended to be less engaged than at the start of the interviews. Therefore whilst it is a useful overview of their needs, it should not be taken as a fully comprehensive review of their specific training needs.

Some CA members did attend the suite of training programmes rolled out by Council and trainers at the end of 2015. However, despite this, a number of CA volunteers could benefit from more basic one-to-one support and best practice advice from Community and Voluntary sector networks and support organisations.

Further Comments and Suggestions:

This review was an excellent outlet for long-standing community centre management groups to vent their frustration at what they saw as inconsistencies and problems. It was also a very positive exercise during which the Council were more often than not valued and praised for their loyalty and input to local communities over many years.

The role of managing large Council owned community assets is a huge responsibility for volunteers in these 16 Community Associations. The Council has a responsibility to put in place a more proactive system of support for volunteers within these groups – especially with regard to assisting with sustainability and succession planning.

Historically there may have been limited incentives for volunteers in CAs to be proactive in terms of developing new projects and accessing new sources of funding. Council should take every opportunity to acknowledge the risks and effort involved for volunteers in these groups. Currently there is an opportunity for Council and community support organisations/networks to work together to build community capacity to enable the CAs to take a more effective community development approach and to win more local community “buy-in” which will lead to greater use and sustainability of these centres. This will require a programme of tailored support and an ongoing conversation with the groups which may result in revised guidelines and a clearer understanding of roles and responsibilities and a sharing of “best practice” across the council area.

Since undertaking this study, it is the view of CDRCN that the best model would be to have more pro-active community associations running the centres that are more attentive and responsive to the ever changing needs of modern, local communities.

A few halls have more pressing problems, sometimes caused by the recent creation of alternative local venues and a subsequent loss in direction. Solutions are not straightforward as equality, community make-up and local history all have to be acknowledged. However volunteers on these community associations would undoubtedly benefit from additional support and more recognition for their efforts, risks and commitment. Specific, long term support working with groups towards alternative uses and/or upgrading of facilities is required. Community planning has a huge role to play in reshaping and securing the long term future for some of these centres.

This review refers to the model of ‘Council owned, community run’ centres, it must be noted that our recommendations are specifically valid for this model. Comparisons should be made with other models of centre management (ie, COUNCIL owned and managed and/or COMMUNITY owned and managed). Only after undertaking reviews of other models could one common approach be considered. While it is likely that there may not be one common approach there will be common themes and lessons to be learned from each model and shared with all centres across Newry, Mourne & Down.

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| Report to: | Active and Healthy Communities Committee |
| Date of Meeting: | 17 October 2016 |
| Subject: | DEA Fora Update |
| Reporting Officer (Including Job Title): | Damien Brannigan, Head of Community Engagement |
| Contact Officer (Including Job Title): | Suzanne Rice, Crotlieve DEA Coordinator |

Decisions required:

Members are asked to note the contents of the report, and consider and agree to:

- **Approval of the actions outlined in the attached action sheets from the DEA forum meetings held in August and September 2016 (ie Slieve Gullion, Rowallane and Crotlieve) and note the report on the DEA Fora below.**

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| 1.0 | Purpose and Background: |
| 1.1 | <p>DEA Coordinators are finalising their DEA Interim action plans which will detail priority actions based on the results from the previous consultation exercises undertaken.</p> <p>Action Planning workshops have now been scheduled for each DEA. Elected members and independent members will participate in a half day workshop where they will agree the way forward on their specific priorities using the 'Turning the Curve' model.</p> <p>In its simplest terms, Turning the Curve is an exercise used to plan and better deliver on outcomes for an area. The DEA Forum members will agree 5 priority actions for each area.</p> <p>Feedback from the action planning workshops will be detailed in the November AHC DEA report.</p> |
| 2.0 | Key issues: |
| 2.1 | Priority for DEA coordinator will be to deliver on the actions highlighted in the interim plan. |
| 3.0 | Recommendations: |
| 3.1 | Members are asked to note the above report and approve action sheets from the private DEA meetings for Slieve Gullion, Rowallane, Downpatrick and Crotlieve in August and September 2016. |
| 4.0 | Resource implications |

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| 4.1 | Not Applicable |
| 5.0 | Equality and good relations implications: |
| 5.1 | Not Applicable |
| 6.0 | Appendices |
| | Appendix A – DEA Fora action sheets. |

ACTION SHEET- Downpatrick District Electoral Area Meeting – Friday 16 September 2016

| ITEM | SUBJECT | DECISION | FOR COMPLETION – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed |
|-------------------------|---|--|--|
| DEA/2/2016 | Minutes & Action - 29 June 2016 | Minutes & Action Sheet were omitted from Meeting Pack – to be forwarded to members | Lisa Reeves to forward. |
| DEA/3&4/2016 | Downpatrick Masterplan: Downpatrick Traffic Congestion | Letter to be sent to Road Service asking for a representative to meet with the Forum. Maps/documents to be attached to letter. | David Patterson sent letter on 5 October 2016 to Mr Simon Richardson with accompanying maps/documents. |
| DEA/5/2016 | NMDDC Sports Strategy Consultation | Need to get in contact with local fishing enthusiasts to provide input to the consultation. | David Patterson emailed Conor Haughey asking him to contact Downpatrick Fishing Groups' representative Mr Trevor Love. Conor forwarded information to Sports Strategy Consultant, Phil Barefoot who has agreed to meet with Trevor Love. |
| DEA/6/2016 | Updated TOR and Operating Protocol / Community Planning Partnership Agreement | Copy of updated TOR and Operating Protocol to be sent out to members. | Lisa Reeves to source updated version from Heather McKee and send out by email. |
| DEA/9/2016 | Nominations to DEA Forum | Jim Masson and Frank Cunningham accepted on to the Forum | David Patterson to contact Jim Masson and Frank Cunningham informing them that they have been accepted as members onto the Downpatrick DEA Forum, and Sector Matters will be in contact formally to confirm. |
| DEA/10/2016 | DEA Priorities identified to date | Issues identified at Public Meetings noted. | David Patterson to use this as basis for future public survey. |
| DEA/11/2016 | Event Proposal: Halloween Engagement Survey | The Halloween Engagement Survey was proposed by Cllr Naomi Bailie and seconded by Cllr John Trainor | David Patterson to go ahead with the survey. |
| DEA/13/2016 | Future meeting dates | Venue for next public meeting to be held in either Strangford or Kilclief | Lisa Reeves to check availability of Glebe House and Inverbrenna Hall. |

ACTION SHEET- Rowallane District Electoral Area Meeting – 9th August 2016

| ITEM | SUBJECT | DECISION | FOR COMPLETION – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed |
|-------------|--|--|---|
| DEA/3/2016 | Minutes 08/06/16 | Minutes and action sheet were proposed as a true record. | Councillors Walker and Brown |
| DEA/5/2016 | Delamont Country Park | Forum to contact Marie Ward to request a meeting with her, Simon and forum members to discuss idea to boost tourism in Delamont. More woodchip required at the bottom of the big slide in Delamont. | Ellen to follow up Ellen to follow up |
| DEA/6/2016 | DEA Coordinator Report | Report was noted and no questions arose. | Noted |
| DEA/7/2016 | Killyleagh Youth Club – Pride of Place | A verbal update was given and invitation extended to all members. | Noted |
| DEA/8/2016 | Plans for next public and private meetings | It was agreed that the next public meeting will be a fun event. | Ellen to move forward with plans |
| DEA/9/2016 | Removal of playground equipment, Lislane and Westlands | Matter to be revisited following the release of the N, M & D Play Strategy currently being developed. | |
| DEA/10/2016 | Grant/funding Application Administration | Forum's concerns regarding financial assistance application forms to be forwarded to Sonya Burns. | Ellen to contact Sonya |

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|-------------|---|--|---|
| DEA/11/2016 | Saintfield Soccer Club letter from David Morrow | Ellen to write to the Club advising of our support but suggesting that in future correspondence should be sent via the SAND group. | Ellen to follow up |
| DEA/12/2016 | ASB in Rowallane | Matter to be highlighted to PCSP with a view to allocating resources to combat the problem. | Councillor Andrews to contact Inspector Black, PSNI to get update on Crossgar ASB situation |
| DEA/13/2016 | Lough Park | Lough Park should be a community based scheme. | Ellen to undertake research to move project forward |
| DEA/14/2016 | Update on nominations received to join Forum | Unanimously agreed that all 3 nominations are recommended for forum membership. It was agreed that the Service Level Agreement with Statutory Partners and DEA Terms of Reference & Operating Framework documents should be approved. | Ellen to organise inductions Noted |
| DEA/15/2016 | Presentation on Sports Facility Strategy | Michael Lipsett to double check with consultants that there were no issues raised regarding Crossgar during the consultation process for the Sports Facility Strategy and advise Ellen of the outcome. Michael Lipsett and Roland Moore to write to the minister to ask for a policy to be put in place for schools to be open during the summer months to enable the use of sports facilities. | Michael to advise Ellen Michael and Roland to follow up |
| | | Ellen to prepare congratulatory letter to the events department for Skiffie Worlds and Festival of Flight. | Ellen to prepare |

ACTION SHEET – Crotlieve District Electoral Area Meeting on 8 September 2016

| ITEM | SUBJECT | DECISION | FOR COMPLETION – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed |
|---------------|---|---|---|
| DEA/C/15/2016 | Community Landfill application re Burren Village Green upgrade | Tender for contract for works is now closed and being assessed. Anticipated works will be completed within 8 weeks of appointment | P Brannigan - ongoing |
| DEA/C/17/2016 | Opening of Narrow Water Keep | Ensure that funding is available for Warrenpoint Heritage Collective to assist Department of Communities with opening days and hours of Narrow Water Keep during Summer 2017. Andy Patterson to be invited to a future meeting of the DEA Forum | A Patterson to attend a future meeting of the Crotlieve DEA Forum. |
| DEA/C/31/2016 | Minutes of Crotlieve DEA Forum meeting held on 26 th April 2016 | Minutes were proposed by Councillor Tinnelly and seconded By Councillor Ruane | Approved |
| DEA/C/32/2016 | Minutes of Crotlieve DEA Forum meeting held on 30 th June 2016 | Minutes were proposed by Councillor Tinnelly and seconded By Councillor Ruane | Approved |
| DEA/C/33/2016 | South East Coast Masterplan | Jonathan McGilly to consider comments and report back to a future meeting of the Crotlieve DEA Forum | Jonathan McGilly to action |
| DEA/C/38/2016 | Good Relations Funding | Suzanne Rice to provide a report on possible programmes and initiatives that can be supported by the Good Relations Funding | Suzanne Rice to action and report back to Crotlieve DEA Forum |
| DEA/C/38/2016 | DEA Coordinator to meet with Maidens of Mourne Committee members | Suzanne Rice to report back to a future meeting of the DEA forum on the meeting with Maiden of Mournes committee members | Suzanne Rice to action and report back to Crotlieve DEA Forum |
| DEA/C/38/2016 | Transport NI re traffic calming measures on the Old Warrenpoint Road, Newry | A meeting of crotlieve and Newry Councillors to be scheduled with representatives from Transport NI | Suzanne Rice to action |



Ref: SG/MIN/1

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ACTION SHEET- Slieve Gullion District Electoral Area Meeting – 6 September 2016

| ITEM | SUBJECT | DECISION | FOR COMPLETION – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|
| DEA/SG/15/2016 | WiFi in Community Centres | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A letter to be sent to the Chief Executive requesting that Councillors have an input into the Council's WiFi policy which is currently being developed. | Ongoing |
| DEA/SG/35/2016 | Mullaghbawn Community Centre roof | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was recommended that the Estates Section consider carrying out a further inspection of the roof of Mullaghbawn Community Centre in order to ascertain the most cost effective solution to addressing the issue of the leaking roof and report findings back to the Slieve Gullion DEA forum. | Work is currently out to tender, Council to cover cost. |
| DEA/SG/36/2016 | Lease of Council unit at premises formerly known as Camlough Primary School | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was recommended to ask the AA to enter negotiations with the parish. | Briege to Magill to ask AA to enter negotiations. |
| DEA/SG/37/2016 | Slieve Gullion DEA Forum – Assessment of External Nominations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agreed to request Eddie Hughes to contact SAND and discuss membership of GAA on to SAND. It was suggested that Rural Health Partnership and TADA be accepted onto the Forum and membership be a joint partnership It was recommended that CRJ be accepted onto the forum. | <p>T. McDonald to make contact with Eddie Huges and have him contact P. Power regarding SAND membership.</p> <p>T. McDonald to contact both Rural Health Partnership and TADA regarding joint membership.</p> <p>L. Foster to send out Letter to CRJ and Rural Health Partnership</p> |

Ref: SG/MIN/1

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| ITEM | SUBJECT | DECISION | FOR COMPLETION – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed |
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| | | | confirming membership. |
| DEA/SG/40/2016 | Branding of the Slieve Gullion DEA Forum | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was agreed to have the heading bi-lingual. | T. McDonald Completed. All newsletters have bi-lingual heading. |
| DEA/SG/41/2016 | Alley and Toilets | Meeting to be held with Bessbrook Institute regarding the options for the premises. | T. McDonald to set up meeting with Bessbrook Institute and relevant Councillors |
| DEA/SG/42/2016 | Traffic and Speed issues in SG area | A log of issues throughout the DEA area is to be compiled and Transport NI invited to a private meeting for discussion. | T. McDonald to compile log All member to forward on issues |
| DEA SG/43/2016 | Rural Broadband | DEA Forum to include need for broadband in SG area in Community Action Plan at the Action planning workshop | All forum members |

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| Report to: | Active & Healthy Communities Committee |
| Date of Meeting: | 17 October 2016 |
| Subject: | Additional funding from Department for Communities (DfC) for Welfare Reform Readiness Programme and Welfare Reform Training Programme |
| Reporting Officer: | Janine Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement |
| Contact Officer: | Damien Brannigan, Head of Engagement |

Decisions Required:

To approve the awarding of additional DfC funding to Citizens Advice Newry, Mourne and Down

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| 1.0 | Purpose & Background: |
| 1.1 | <p>Council has received from DfC a Letter of Variance to its original Letter of Offer of funding for the Council's Community Support Programme for 1 April 2016 – 31 March 2017. The Letter of Variance has been accepted and signed by the Council's Chief Executive, Mr Liam Hannaway.</p> <p>DfC's Voluntary and Community Division (VCD) has secured an additional £812,000.00 for the District Councils' Community Support Programme in 2016/2017 which is specifically for Welfare Reform Readiness and Welfare Reform Training. This funding is being allocated to District Councils for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welfare Reform Readiness Programme to provide support to front line advice organisations currently funded through Councils' Community Support Programme Advice Grant. The programme will ensure that local advice organisations are prepared to assist customers through the implementation of Welfare Reform pending the implementation of the Welfare Reform Advice Service. • Welfare Reform Training Programme consisting of six Welfare Reform courses required by all front line generalist advisers and volunteers. The programme will enable front line advice organisations currently funded through District Councils' Community Support Programme Advice Grant to complete immediate training requirements related to Welfare Reform. <p>Council has been awarded £48,201.91 for the Welfare Reform Readiness Programme and £11,400.00 the Welfare Reform Training Programme.</p> <p>The funding is in year and must be spent by the 31 March 2017. Councils are not required to match this additional funding. The additional funding will not be extended into the next financial year.</p> <p>The funding is ring-fenced for the delivery of the specific objectives outlined in the programmes above and should be issued to the advice organisations currently funded in each Council area to provide advice services to the public. In Newry, Mourne and Down District Council's case this would be Citizens Advice</p> |

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| | <p>Newry, Mourne and Down.</p> <p>The Council is the primary funder of Citizens Advice Newry, Mourne and Down, with the Council providing £292,539.00 in this financial year via a Service Level Agreement (SLA). £127,804.00 of this £292,539.00 comes DfC, under the District Councils' Community Support Programme, and the Council contributes the remainder of £164,735.00 from its own resources.</p> |
| 2.0 | Key issues: |
| 2.1 | There are no key issues to report. |
| 3.0 | Recommendations: |
| 3.1 | To approve the awarding of the additional DfC funding to Citizens Advice Newry, Mourne and Down. |
| 4.0 | Resource implications: |
| 4.1 | There are no resource implications as the Council is not required to match fund the additional funding from DfC. |
| 5.0 | Equality and Good Relations implications: |
| 5.1 | There are no Equality or Good Relations implications. |
| 6.0 | Appendices: |
| | None |

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| Report to: | Active and Healthy Communities Committee |
| Date of Meeting: | 17 October 2016 |
| Subject: | Consultation launched on strategic support to the Voluntary and Community Sector |
| Reporting Officer: | Janine Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement |
| Contact Officer: | Damien Brannigan, Head of Engagement |

Decisions Required:

To approve the draft response to the consultation which has been uploaded to and can be viewed at [MinutePad/Menu/Documents/Active & Healthy Communities Committee](#) – see document ‘Consultation questionnaire on future arrangements for supporting VCS - NMADD Council Response’

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| 1.0 | Purpose & Background: |
| 1.1 | <p>On 8th September 2016, the Department for Communities launched ‘A consultation paper on proposals for the provision of strategic support to the voluntary and community sector in Northern Ireland 2017-2021’. The consultation closes on 2 November 2016.</p> <p>The consultation document sets out proposed new arrangements for the provision of strategic support to the voluntary and community sector (VCS) in Northern Ireland for the period 2017–2021.</p> <p>The Department for Communities has lead responsibility for supporting the VCS at a regional level across Northern Ireland. This support complements, but does not include, project related funding to individual VCS groups provided through central or local government in the delivery of services.</p> <p>Known as the ‘Regional Infrastructure Support Programme’ or RISP, the Department for Communities’ current VCS support arrangements, which have been in place since 2012, were designed to provide support for the VCS in important areas such as training board members, capacity building, policy support, handling governance issues, income generation, providing support to women in disadvantaged and rural areas, support to faith communities, and the support and promotion of volunteering activity across Northern Ireland.</p> <p>The published consultation is a culmination of findings from an extensive evaluation and consultation on the current arrangements that commenced in 2015. The evaluation concluded that support arrangements were broadly effective in most areas but highlighted a number of areas for improvement.</p> <p>The proposed long-term vision for new support arrangements for the sector is ‘To support an efficient, effective, sustainable and inclusive VCS which will work</p> |

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| | <p>collaboratively with Government to effectively deliver against agreed Programme for Government outcomes over the next four years’.</p> <p>The following are the four key outcomes identified for the new support arrangements, each of which has a number of priority support areas as defined below to which a series of proposed actions intended to deliver the overarching outcome are matched:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An efficient and effective VCS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance • Organisation Capacity/Skills • Policy Advocacy and Co-design of Public Services • Impact/Outcome Measurement 2. A sustainable VCS that has navigated and implemented change <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic leadership for change • A Change Fund • Digital delivery of services/social media • Building collaborative advantage • Access to finance/diversification of financial products/alternative funding mechanisms • Investment Readiness 3. An inclusive VCS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring that the distinctive needs of particular constituencies (e.g. women in community development, involvement of faith communities) inform policy development and service delivery to VCS groups on the ground 4. Volunteering integral to the VCS. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteering infrastructure • Volunteering small grants • Volunteering innovation support <p>A draft response to the consultation has been uploaded to and can be viewed at MinutePad/Menu/Documents/Active & Healthy Communities Committee - see document ‘Consultation questionnaire on future arrangements for supporting VCS - NMADD Council Response’</p> |
| 2.0 | Key issues: |
| 2.1 | There are no key issues to report. |
| 3.0 | Recommendations: |
| 3.1 | It is recommended that Council approves the draft response to the consultation which has been uploaded to and can be viewed at MinutePad/Menu/Documents/Active & Healthy Communities Committee - see document ‘Consultation questionnaire on future arrangements for supporting VCS - NMADD Council Response’ |
| 4.0 | Resource implications: |
| 4.1 | There are no resource implications because the regional support provided to the VCS by Department for Communities complements, but does not include, project related funding to individual VCS groups provided through central or local government in the delivery of services. |
| 5.0 | Equality and Good Relations implications: |

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| 5.1 | The Department's proposals for the provision of strategic support have been Equality Screened. The Department has also Rural Proofed the proposals. |
| 6.0 | Appendices: |
| | Not Applicable |

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| Agenda Item: | Funding proposal to DfC under Neighbourhood Renewal |
| Report to: | Active and Healthy Communities Committee |
| Date of Meeting: | 17 October 2016 |
| Subject: | Neighbourhood Renewal Revenue programme (Newry) |
| Reporting Officer (Including Job Title): | Janine Hillen, Assistant Director: Community Engagement |
| Contact Officer (Including Job Title): | Sean McKeiviitt, Neighbourhood Renewal Officer |

Decisions required:

Request for Committee approval to proceed with an application to DfC for funding under the Neighbourhood Renewal Programme and subject to securing necessary funding from DfC/NR providing project management throughout.

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| 1.0 | Purpose and Background: |
| 1.1 | <p>The proposal is to provide local community groups within the NR area of Newry city with a range of sports, play, office and other equipment to facilitate the on-going delivery of community led initiatives to engage the people across the city.</p> <p>The delivery of this programme will help local volunteers to provide more opportunities in the areas through access to sporting, creative arts, play and other resources that can impact and support positive health and well-being.</p> <p>The total funding sought is £31,535.00</p> |
| 2.0 | Key issues: |
| 2.1 | If project is not progressed the communities will lose out on opportunity to acquire much needed resources to support their voluntary work in areas of need |
| 3.0 | Recommendations: |
| 3.1 | <p>Agreement that officers proceed with the application to secure the funding required.</p> <p>Agreement that Council provide project management for the proposal.</p> |
| 4.0 | Resource implications |
| 4.1 | Officers time |
| 5.0 | Equality and good relations implications: |

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| 5.1 | The resources provide for equality of opportunity within areas of multiple deprivation. |
| 6.0 | Appendices |
| | Not Applicable |

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| Report to: | Active & Healthy Communities |
| Date of Meeting: | 17 October 2016 |
| Subject: | Policing and Community Safety Partnership |
| Reporting Officer (Including Job Title): | Janine Hillen, Assistant Director Community Engagement |
| Contact Officer (Including Job Title): | Siobhán Fearon , PCSP Manager |

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| Decisions required: | |
| To note the Minutes and Officer Report to PCSP | |
| 1.0 | Purpose and Background: |
| 1.1 | To provide AHC with update on on-going work of PCSP |
| 2.0 | Key issues: |
| 2.1 | PCSP has agreed two to form two additional sub groups and agreed terms of reference for same – ASB & Engagement PSCP reviewed and amended consultation form |
| 3.0 | Recommendations: |
| 3.1 | To note the attached minutes and action plan |
| 4.0 | Resource implications: |
| 4.1 | All items are budgeted for in PCSP Action Plan |
| 5.0 | Equality and good relations implications: |
| 5.1 | None |
| 6.0 | Appendices |
| | Appendix: PCSP Minutes 26/07/2016 Policing Committee Minutes 26/07/2016 Officer Report 26/07/2016 Terms of Reference ASB subgroup Terms of Reference Engagement subgroup Consultation form |

POLICING & COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

Minutes of the Policing & Community Safety Partnership Meeting of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council held in the Boardroom, Monaghan Row, Newry on 26 July 2016 at 6.30pm

In attendance: Terry Andrews, Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
 Audrey Byrne, Independent Member
 Jude Cumisky, Independent Member
 Sean Doran, Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
 Sinead Ennis, Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
 Martin Fahy, Education Authority NI
 Harry Harvey, Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
 Michael Heaney, Youth Justice Agency
 Mickey Larkin, Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
 Kate Loughran, Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
 Una Kelly, Independent Member
 Owen McDonnell, NIHE
 Daniel McEvoy, Independent Member
 Grace McQuiston, Independent Member
 Declan Murphy, Independent Member
 Fergal O'Brien, Southern Health & Social Care Trust
 Brian Quinn, Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
 (Chair)
 Paul Reid, Superintendent, PSNI
 Fiona Stephens, Independent Member

Also in attendance: Janine Hillen, Assistant Director for Community Engagement
 Siobhan Fearon, Partnership Manager
 Andrew Kernaghan, PCSP Project Officer
 Caroline Taylor, Democratic Services Officer

1. Apologies and Chairman's Remarks

Apologies were received from:-

Daniel Brown, William Clarke, Laura Devlin, Katrina Hynds, Roisin Leckey, Michael Lipsett, Lesley McCombe, Ewan Morgan, Rod O'Hare, David Taylor and Brendan Whittle.

- The Chairman welcomed all Members to his first meeting as Chair. The results of the Vice-Chair Election were noted and Dan McEvoy welcomed back as Vice-Chair for the incoming year.
- The Letter of Offer was received in early June, and a number of busy meetings had been held since the Partnership last met to progressing the work of the sub groups as well as the important work progressing alignment of PCSP and our position as thematic group for safety and good relations with wider community planning.

- The visioning exercise in Newcastle followed by the all day workshop on 23rd June gave a lot of food for thought in how to progress in these areas and there would be more work to follow in this area.
- The role of the Independent Members and opportunities to play a more active role in events and programmes supported and run by PCSP would be addressed later in the agenda.
- Ms Wendy Osbourne, Independent Member of the Northern Ireland Policing Board would be joining the Policing Committee later. Wendy was the Chief Executive Officer for Volunteer Now and had worked within the voluntary & community sector for over 25 years, indeed earning an OBE in 2001 for her services to volunteering.
- Daniel Brown who had served as the graduate placement student these past 10 months was leaving to take up a post with Police Scotland. Dan had been an enthusiastic, energetic and committed member of the PCSP staff team.
- The Chairperson thanked the previous Chairman, Mickey Larkin for his hard work as the outgoing Chair of the PCSP.

3. Minutes of PCSP Meeting held on 17 May 2016

Read: Minutes of PCSP Meeting held on 17 May 2016.

ACTION: It was **AGREED** on the **PROPOSAL** of Sean Doran, **SECONDED** by Harry Harvey, that the Minutes be agreed as an accurate record.

4. Matters Arising

The PCSP Manager, Ms Fearon, requested that the Equality Scheme could be sent out for consultation and to Members at the same time.

ACTION It was **AGREED** on the **PROPOSAL** of Terry Andrews, **SECONDED** by Harry Harvey, that the Equality Scheme would be sent out for consultation and to Members at the same time.

5. Letter of Offer

Read: Report by Siobhan Fearon dated 26 July 2016 regarding Letter of Offer.

Ms Fearon said the Letter of Offer for PCSP funding 1 April 2016 – 31 March 2017 had been received from the Joint Committee and had been signed and accepted by the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Chief Executive, Mr Liam Hannaway.

In response to a query from Dan McEvoy, Ms Fearon confirmed the Members meeting expenses would be the same as last year, up to a maximum of £24,000.

ACTION: It was NOTED that the Letter of Offer had been received from the Joint Committee and signed by the Chief Executive of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council.

6. Legislative Change to Justice Act re Debt Relief Act

Read: Report by Ms Fearon dated 26 July 2016 regarding Legislative Change to Justice Act re Debt Relief Act.

ACTION: The legislative change to the Justice Act as a consequence of Debt Relief Act 2010 were NOTED.

7. Criminal Justice Inspectorate ASB Follow Up Review

Read: Report by Siobhan Fearon dated 26 July 2016 regarding the Criminal Justice Inspectorate ASB Follow up Review.

After discussion between the Members, Dan McEvoy suggested consulting the Joint Committee for guidance and direction on which sub-group would be best to discuss the Operational Recommendations, and then on their advice, a sub-group could be chosen to refer to.

ACTION: It was AGREED on the PROPOSAL of Dan McEvoy, SECONDED by Terry Andrews, that the Operational Recommendations be referred back to the Joint Committee for guidance and direction on which sub-group would be best placed to discuss them.

8. Fresh Start Panel Report on disbandment of Paramilitary Groups

Read: Report by Ms Fearon dated 26 July 2016 regarding Fresh Start Panel Report on the disbandment of Paramilitary Groups.

Ms Fearon advised that this information and arising actions were to be considered by the Joint Committee and would need to be considered by the PCSP at a later meeting when all information was available.

ACTION: The publication and recommendations of Fresh Start Panel Report on the Disbandment of Paramilitary Groups in Northern Ireland was NOTED.

9. Officer Report

Read: Report by Ms Fearon dated 26 July 2016 regarding Officer Report.

Community Safety Wardens

In response to a query from Dan McEvoy, Ms Fearon explained the tender was to secure delivery of Community Safety Warden contract

Terry Andrews welcomed the fact that Community Safety Wardens were coming back as it took the pressure off the Enforcement Officers.

In response to further queries, Ms Fearon advised :

- There is a Community Safety Warden currently in place along with Enforcement Officers
- The delivery of Community Safety Warden project is through Action Plan funding from the Department of Justice as agreed in submitted plan.

Janine Hillen explained the history of the Community Safety Wardens in Down legacy area, specific funding had been applied for through DOJ, and a Community Safety Warden employed, part funded through Environmental Health Department: The warden was not allowed to go out alone and had to be part of a team, linking in with Enforcement officers. Wardens were not to operate after 10pm and after this time private hire service would kick in. DOJ had withdrawn this funding, over 2 years ago.

In response to queries from Audrey Byrne, Ms Fearon said the wardens would target hot spot areas in the night time economy and act on information coming from the PSNI and the PCSP.

Ms Hillen advised that the contract could be reviewed in 12 months.

Ms Fearon added the NIHE also contributed to the funding for the post.

Paul Reid added there were regular meetings with PCSP officers and neighbourhood teams to address issues within each DEA and in planning for significant events, the Warden was seen as another deployable asset that could be incorporated into the planning process.

ACTION: A review of the contract for the Community Safety Wardens would be carried out after 12 months.

ACTION: A breakdown of the role of the Community Safety Warden would be circulated to Members.

10. Communication/Role of Members

Read: Report by Ms Fearon dated 26 July 2016 regarding Communications, Role of Members and attendance at Meetings.

Dan McEvoy explained that the PCSP Independent Members had met with PCSP officers to discuss their involvement and what greater input they could offer to the PCSP to enrich their role and promote the role of the PCSP in general. He said that whilst the Independent Members understood the Partnership was strategic, it was felt that a grass roots approach was needed and the proposals were a way of improving communication.

Mickey Larkin expressed concerns regarding the focus of the Engagement Sub-Group, saying he hoped its focus would not solely be on PR opportunities as detailed in the report, but that it should engage with communities to explore their problems.

ACTION: It was AGREED on the PROPOSAL of Dan McEvoy, SECONDED by Fiona Stephens:

- **That the membership of the new sub-groups would be reviewed and the Engagement Sub-Group could focus on PR opportunities to promote the work of the PCSP.**
- **A monthly schedule of events would be circulated.**
- **Statutory Members would be requested to make a short presentation on their work and how it related to the PCSP.**
- **Community Safety would be a standing agenda item on DEA meetings to feed into the work of the PCSP.**

11. Clarity on Claimable Expenses

Read: Report by Ms Fearon dated 26 July 2016 regarding clarity on claimable expenses.

Ms Fearon explained that Elected and Independent Members were entitled to claim meeting and mileage expense in carrying out their duties. Members had a meeting allowance of 20, whilst the Chair and Vice-Chair had an allowance of 30. She advised that depending upon nominations to the sub-groups, Members could potentially go over their quota of 20 meetings.

In response to questions from Members, Ms Fearon responded as follows:

- If a Member exceeded the limit of 20 meetings, they could not claim meeting and mileage expenses.
- The entitlement was from 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017.
- The budget could not be carried over from year to year. When expenses were submitted on a quarterly basis, then the monies were claimed back. What was not claimed was retained by the Policing Board.
- Members of the sub-groups were required to attend consecutive meetings in order to retain their membership
- The PCSP decides how many formal meetings to hold and it was a PCSP decision earlier on in the year to meet more frequently.

Terry Andrews said the claimable expenses system was unfair and discriminatory on the PCSP Members who were dedicated to carrying out their role and asked if this could be relayed to the DOJ.

In response to a query from Fiona Stephens, Ms Fearon asked that if Members were unsure how many meetings they had attended since 1 April 2016, to contact her.

Dan McEvoy suggested the Chair of PCSP write to Council to request Council to contribute towards the budget that would then allow an increase in attendance.

Grace McQuiston said the issue was dependent upon how effective the Policing Board expected the PCSP to be. If they wanted the PCSP to take on board anti-social behaviour, then sub-groups were required. She also said time and money should be invested at the start of the year for research and development.

Sean Doran pointed out that any increase was not budgeted for in the rates.

Ms Fearon suggested including writing to the Joint Committee as well as Council.

Fergal O'Brien asked that the number of meetings would be quantified.

Jude Cumisky said it was important to consider whether or not a quorum would be required at the sub-groups.

ACTION: It was AGREED on the PROPOSAL of Dan McEvoy, SECONDED by Grace McQuiston:

- **That the Chair of PCSP writes to the Joint Committee and to Council requesting a contribution towards the budget which would then allow an increase in meeting attendance.**
- **That an average costing per Member for attending a meeting in Newry and in Downpatrick would be provided to Members.**

12. Engagement Sub-Group

Read: Report by Andrew Kernaghan dated 26 July 2016 regarding Engagement Sub-Group

Dan McEvoy said the concerns previously expressed by Mickey Larkin regarding the focus on PR opportunities by the Engagement Sub-Group should be clarified along with the query over whether a quorum was required for sub-groups.

Ms Fearon advised that it was up to the PCSP to decide the Terms of Reference for each sub-group. There were 9 members on each, but it could be a smaller number.

Dan McEvoy said it was important to keep to the membership previously agreed which was 1 member from each political party.

In response to concerns made by Jude Cumisky regarding attendance of members at sub-groups, Ms Fearon said this issue had been considered when the dates were being set, and had to take account of other Council and Committee meetings.

In response to Brian Quinn's query, Ms Fearon said if 5 sub-groups were attended as the Chair and 13 PCSP's that would leave 2 discretionary meetings up to the allowance of 20. She added that the Chairs of the sub-groups would be elected in August.

Jude Cumisky expressed concerns regarding Objective 3 being delivered through the Engagement Sub-Group as she was conscious of the objectives around education, saying the recommendation was about education and it may be better placed being addressed through the Anti-Social Behaviour Sub-Group.

ACTION: It was AGREED on the PROPOSAL of Dan McEvoy, SECONDED by Grace McQuiston, that the Terms of Reference for the Engagement Sub-Group, be approved.

All Members of the Engagement Sub-Group confirmed they were happy to continue to sit on the sub-group.

13. Anti-Social Behaviour Sub-Group

Read: Report by Katrina Hynds dated 26 July 2016 regarding Anti-Social Behaviour Sub-Group.

Dan McEvoy advised that at the meeting, Katrina Hynds had undertaken to provide Members with statistics from the PSNI on areas requiring intervention, especially in relation to the 3 main project areas the sub-group were adopting. He further advised Fiona Stephens had stepped down from this sub-group.

ACTION: It was AGREED on the PROPOSAL of Terry Andrews, SECONDED by Dan McEvoy, that the Terms of Reference for the Anti-Social Behaviour Sub-Group, be approved.

ACTION: It was AGREED on the PROPOSAL of Dan McEvoy, SECONDED by Harry Harvey that Jude Cumisky be appointed to the Anti-Social Behaviour Sub-Group to replace Fiona Stephens.

14. Request to Establish Bonfire Liaison Committee

Read: Report by Siobhán Fearon dated 26 July 2016 regarding Request to Establish a Bonfire Liaison Committee.

Ms Fearon advised that this request to establish a Bonfire Liaison Committee had arisen from a DEA Forum and Council had requested that the PCSP give the matter consideration.

A discussion ensued, during which Members made the following points:

- This was a useful forum for statutory agencies and bodies.
- Would there be enough Members to sit on another sub-group?
- An officer of Council would be required to sit on the group.
- The committee should be fairly represented and inclusive.
- Were Councillors willing to fund this committee?
- In the Down Legacy Council there was a Beacon Group, but Council no longer directly supported a bonfire/beacon programme.
- The effectiveness of the bonfire liaison committee could be questioned – what could it offer the communities?
- There was funding available to the NIHE for some beacon schemes, but the scheme was only recently up and running and it was only available on NIHE land. Some schemes had been tried this year and monies withheld where rules were not adhered to.
- Would the Terms of Reference be ready for discussion at the September meeting?
- Similar committee structures in other council areas could be explored.
- Could the Bonfire Liaison Committee be a sub-committee of the Engagement Sub-Committee?
- Officers could avail of the help of people who had undertaken a lot of work in this area and invited along at meetings to give contributions.
- Some of the groups would not want PCSP members working with them as it was a very sensitive area.

ACTION: It was AGREED:

- **That an options paper be brought back to the PCSP Committee. In the meantime, officers would continue to operate to support groups dealing with bonfires.**
- **That people who had undertaken previous work in these matters could be invited along to meetings to give contributions.**

15. Peace IV Request

Read: Report by Ms Fearon dated 26 July 2016 regarding the request from Peace IV.

ACTION: It was AGREED on the PROPOSAL of Dan McEvoy, SECONDED by Sean Doran, that the PCSP works in tandem with Peace IV on complementary areas as a statutory partner

16. CCTV

Read: Report by Ms Fearon dated 26 July 2016 regarding CCTV.

ACTION: It was **AGREED** to **NOTE** the **CCTV Report**.

17. Date of Next Meeting

Ms Fearon advised that the date of the next meeting would be 20 September 2016.

Dan McEvoy advised that the Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Presentation would now be made at the meeting on 20 September 2016.

There being no further business, the meeting finished at 8.05pm.

POLICING COMMITTEE

Minutes of PCSP Policing Partnership of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council held in the Boardroom, Monaghan Row, Newry on 26 July 2016 at 8:15pm

In attendance: Terry Andrews, Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
Audrey Byrne, Independent Member
Jude Cumisky, Independent Member
Sean Doran, Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
Sinead Ennis, Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
Harry Harvey, Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
Mickey Larkin, Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
Kate Loughran, Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
Una Kelly, Independent Member
Daniel McEvoy, Independent Member
Grace McQuiston, Independent Member
Declan Murphy, Independent Member
Brian Quinn, Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
(Chair)
Paul Reid, Superintendent, PSNI
Fiona Stephens, Independent Member

Also in attendance: Siobhán Fearon, Partnership Manager
Caroline Taylor, Democratic Services Officer
Wendy Osbourne, NI Policing Board

1. Apologies and Chairman's Remarks

Apologies were received from:-

William Clarke, Laura Devlin, , Michael Lipsett, Ewan Morgan and David Taylor.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of PCSP Policing Partnership held on 17 May 2016

Read: Minutes of PCSP Policing Partnership held on 17 May 2016.

ACTION: It was **AGREED** on the **PROPOSAL** of Dan McEvoy **SECONDED** by Terry Andrews, that the Minutes of the PCSP Policing Partnership held on 17 May 2016 be agreed as an accurate record.

4. Matters Arising

In response to a query from Dan McEvoy, Superintendent Reid advised that the speed trailer was broken but was being fixed. A number of operations had been run and there had been 4 detections for speeding, use of 2 mobile phones and 1 defective light. Operations continued to be run to detect speeding motorists and the PSNI were liaising with the communities in the Newcastle/Castlewellan Road area and were willing to meet with them around specific issues and concerns.

Sinead Ennis advised she had raised the matter of the speed trailer being deployed at the last meeting, saying Ballyholland and the Old Warrenpoint area of Newry would benefit most from the trailer. Superintendent Reid advised that he hoped the trailer would be mended before the schools started again and agreed to trial the trailer in both Ballyholland and the Old Warrenpoint Road area of Newry.

In response to queries regarding the recent car gatherings in Donard Park, Newcastle, Superintendent Reid advised a number of prohibition notices had been issued and vehicles had been seized. He added that the PSNI were trying to engage with the groups, in particular via social media.

Audrey Byrne said it was important there was a PSNI presence so that the community could see they were intent on enforcement.

Sean Doran briefed Superintendent Reid on the issues and concerns he had regarding contacting the PSNI which related to an incident in Kilkeel.

Superintendent Reid apologised to Sean Doran for the failure on behalf of the PSNI, saying this had been an unacceptable situation and a missed opportunity for his team. Superintendent Reid went on to say that there were a number of investigative lines of enquiry regarding the incident, an appeal had been made for information and the enquiry was active and on-going.

Grace McQuiston said there was now anger towards the PSNI because of their lack of communication and the only way of accessing information regarding the incident had been via social media. She said people in the Kilkeel area were now fearful of walking in the area.

Following comments from Sean Doran, Superintendent Reid said he was disappointed that the mechanism whereby PCSP Members received a text message about local incidents had failed and undertook to ensure the process would work in the future.

Ms Fearon advised that the text alert system would be live again at the end of August. She also advised that PCSP had access to on Duty Sgt mobile which members could contact PSNI on

Terry Andrews suggested a PCSP Committee group text should be sent out to Members. Dan McEvoy concurred with this.

5. District Commander Report

Read: District Commander Report dated 26 July 2016.

Superintendent Reid provided the following information:

- Overall crime was down by 15% in comparison to last year, including a 60% reduction in Crossmaglen and a 10% reduction in Downpatrick.
- Drug offences were slightly down, although increased quantities had been seized.
- There had been 466 incidents of criminal damage, a reduction of 151 on the same period last year.
- A slight increase in robbery had been recorded in the District, most of which had taken place in Newry.
- A reduction in thefts had been recorded, 100 less than the same period last year.
- There had been a reduction in burglaries of 18 less than the same period last year.
- There had been a slight increase in anti-social behaviour.
- Following the request for data on rural crime at the last meeting, Members had received statistics via email.
- There had been a number of skimming device incidents in Northern Ireland and a significant arrest made.
- Significant seizures had been made with Class A drugs and arrests in relation to burglaries and crime gangs.
- A large operation with HMRC had taken place in Cullaville regarding fuel smuggling.
- Anti-social behaviour incidents spiked when schools were off. 1547 incidents had been reported to date, the majority of which were in Downpatrick.
- The damage done to the Council boundary signs was being investigated as a crime series and an officer was dedicated to the case.

The Chairman raised the issue of inconsiderate parking at the Bloody Bridge car park and also the Carrick Little car park, particularly in good weather.

6. NPS Legislation

Read: Report by Superintendent Paul Reid dated 26 July 2016 regarding Legislation on New Psychoactive Substances.

Superintendent Reid made a short presentation on the legislation on new psychoactive substances, saying the Psychoactive Substances Act 2016 came into effect on 26 May 2016 which captured all substances capable of producing a psychoactive effect on someone who had consumed it.

Questions from Members were answered as follows:

- Psychoactive substances were banned even for personal use. Whilst personal possession isn't covered under the Act it will be up to the police and courts to decide the quantifiable difference between personal possession and possession with intent to supply.
- There was no particular age group of users.
- The focus of the PSNI was in the privately run outlets selling the substances.
- The change in legislation had seen some outlets shut down.
- The PSNI worked with the Post Office to intercept any avenues of supply.

7. Consultation on Policing Questionnaire

Read: Report by Siobhan Fearon dated 26 July 2016 regarding Consultation on Policing Questionnaire.

Siobhan Fearon advised there had been one change on the Questionnaire which was in the gender section to non-binary.

In response to a suggestion from Dan McEvoy, Siobhan Fearon undertook to include the questions "Do you live in a Neighbourhood Watch Area".

ACTION: It was AGREED on the PROPOSAL of Dan McEvoy SECONDED by Declan Murphy, that the Draft Consultation on Policing Questionnaire, be approved.

8. Date of Next Meeting

Siobhan Fearon advised a request had been received from the Policing Board to run a 40 minute training session on 20 September 2016.

ACTION: It was AGREED that the training session would take place at 6pm on 20 September 2016 with the PCSP Committee immediately afterwards.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 9.25pm.

Appendix VI
PCSP Officer Report
26th July 2016

Strategic Objective 1 – To successfully deliver the functions of the Policing and community Safety Partnership

Partnership Development

Sub Groups established and terms of reference on agenda for consideration and agreement.

Community Planning Outcome Based Accountability event took place in Canal Court in June

Promotional leaflet developed, copy of same carried in Newry Advertiser (Circulation 26,000) and Down Advertiser (circulation 32,000) delivered to every household in District. PCSP promotional information also carried in Neighbourhood Renewal newsheet.

Work of PCSP promoted at all DEA fora in June

Regular social media updates on Facebook and development of Twitter profile ongoing

Press Releases on following issued to all media outlets:

- Coffee with Cops
- Launch of Drugs and Alcohol leaflet
- Walking on Eggshells
- Castlewellan Environmental scheme

Development of monthly events schedule for members

Strategic Objective 2 – to improve community safety by tackling crime and anti-social behaviour

ASB Initiatives

Youth Engagement Programmes

A Friday Night Youth Diversionary Programme is being rolled out throughout the months of July and August. Community groups within the Newry, Mourne & Down area were offered a Friday Night Programme which involved participation in bubble football from 7.00 – 9.00 pm during which a community safety talk will take place.

Ballymote

Due to the recent increase in ASB in the area, members of the Flying Horse Forum were approached by residents within the area to hold a public meeting. The Meeting

was organised and was attended by statutory agencies including the PCSP, PSNI, NIHE and the Youth Services. Residents raised their concerns regarding the issues, in particular the throwing of items at cars, burning of bins & traffic lights and the noise from music and youths congregating at the local shop.

At the meeting stakeholders updated members of the public on issues that they have been addressing and agreed a way forward. This included the NIHE and PSNI visiting the parents of the young people and an increase in police presence in the area. At the PCSP ASB Sub Group Meeting members agreed to roll out an Action Plan in the area, in partnership with stakeholders and the Flying Horse Forum.

During the meeting some of the young people involved with the ASB stated that there was nothing for them to do, however, there is youth provision in the Ballymote Centre 6 nights per week. They agreed to turn their music down and keep the noise down at the local shop. The PCSP have agreed to work along with the Forum to try and set up a local football league in the estates that would include some of the young people.

Castlewellan Road, Newcastle

The Environmental Improvement Scheme for the Castlewellan Road is near completion. The Programme is being done in partnership with the young people from the YMCA, residents of Castlewellan Road and the ARC Community Gardens. The colourful planters on now on display on the Castlewellan Road and the young people are starting the work on the boats within the next 2 weeks.

Community Safety Wardens

The tender document was prepared and circulated as per Council guidelines. Assessment and award of contract will take place in coming weeks

Seasonal Interventions

All applicants for PSCP small grants have been informed of outcome and successful applicants have received their letter of offer at this stage.

Drugs & Alcohol

We recently launched the new 'Guide to Alcohol & Drug Services' leaflets, which were done in partnership with the South Eastern Trust and the Southern Trust. Two separate leaflets were devised based on Trust boundaries, which provide the public with all the information they need on seeking help for alcohol/drug issues.

Night time Economy

Work completed on application for Purple Flag, assessment will take place over summer with results to be known in September. Preparatory work is ongoing for "Get Home Safe" awareness campaign later in year which will involve distribution of anti-drink-spiking tops.

Domestic and Sexual Violence

"Walking on Eggshells" campaign promoted over June / July promoting awareness of reality of domestic violence and encouraging reporting. Domestic violence intervention programme contract extended to Women's Aid, Newry and Armagh. Domestic violence leaflet targeting young people and awareness of domestic

violence in dating relationships currently under development and will be rolled out in conjunction with "Without Consent its Rape" throughout academic year. Planning work continues for DV seminar on 15th September with Zoe Lodrick in Newcastle.

Road Safety

PCSP continues to attend and promote road safety committee, awareness on Be Safe Be Seen will continue later in year

Neighbourhood Watch

Community Safety Network met in Downpatrick in June, meeting discussed updates to NHW schemes, text alert, True Calling, Select DNA. Discussion on general crime issues affecting residents across the area. Next meeting will take place in Newcastle in November

Ongoing work with PSNI re updating and consolidating NHW database

Transfer of Text Alert form PSNI to PCSP has been completed, PCSP currently in process of inputting data after which service will be re-launched

New schemes are being processed and signage organised for same

Rural Crime

Trailer marking and Farmwatch being promoted at rural events to attend over summer months e.g. Castlewellan Agricultural show

Home Secure / Good Morning

Home secure and Good Morning continue to be provided throughout the District. Figures for April –June not yet available but will be provided at September meeting

Hate Crime

PCSP continues to be attend and participate at NM & D Intercultural forum in Newcastle. Examining possibility of linking with Good Relations on a cross-border seminar to look at police response to hate crime.

Strategic Objective 3 – To support community confidence in policing

Coffee with Cops engagement takes place every Monday throughout the district 11am -12pm

Linkages with Community Planning process continue and request has been lodged with DEA Coordinators re utilising DEA fora in September / October to carry out consultation on policing to inform both PCSP action planning and Policing Plan for 2017-18.

Planned Community Safety Network meeting in November will incorporate specific consultation on police performance as well as marking the 15th anniversary of Northern Ireland Policing Board and PSNI



Newry, Mourne and Down Policing & Community Safety Partnership Survey 2016-17

1. Do you live in Newry Mourne and Down District Council area? Yes No
2. What District Electoral Area of Newry Mourne and Down District Council do you live in?
 Crotlieve Downpatrick Mournes Newry
 Rowallane Slieve Gullion Slieve Croob

3. This section is designed to assess the awareness of the work of the Policing and Community Safety Partnership

| <i>On a scale of 1-6 (where 6 is excellent and 1 is poor)</i> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| I have heard of the Policing & Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) | | | | | | |
| I understand who the PCSP are: | | | | | | |
| I know I can contact my local PCSP to raise issues / ask questions about local policing and community safety | | | | | | |
| I think my neighbourhood is a safe place to be | | | | | | |
| I feel that my local PCSP has helped improve policing in my area | | | | | | |

4. Do you know how to contact NMDDC PCSP? Yes No
5. What would encourage you to attend a PCSP meeting/event?

6. How safe do you feel in your local community?

- Very safe Fairly safe Neither safe nor unsafe
 Fairly unsafe Very unsafe Don't know

7. Are you a member of a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme Yes No

8. What type of community safety issues affects your community? (Please tick all that apply.)

| | | | |
|---|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| People hanging about | <input type="checkbox"/> | Intimidation/Verbal abuse | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Noise nuisance | <input type="checkbox"/> | Drugs related | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Burglary | <input type="checkbox"/> | Underage Drinking | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Speeding/Joyriding | <input type="checkbox"/> | Hate Crime | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Theft of Cars | <input type="checkbox"/> | Problems with Parades | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Nuisance neighbours | <input type="checkbox"/> | Alcohol related | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Environmental (e.g. litter/fly-tipping/dog fouling) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (please specify) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | |

Everything you tell us is treated in confidence. The results will not be used in any way in which they can be associated with you. Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey.

9. How much of a problem do you perceive Anti Social Behaviour to be in your area?

Very big problem Fairly big problem Not a very big problem Not a problem at all

Questions about Policing

10. Do you know your local police officer? Yes No
11. Do you understand the role of PSNI Neighbourhood team Yes No
12. Are you prepared to contact your PSNI Officer about local policing issues? Yes No
13. When did you last see a police officer in the area where you live?
 In the last 24 hours In the last week In the last month Longer
14. Have you had any contact with the police in the past year? Yes (Go to Q15) No (Go to Q16)
15. If yes, how satisfied were you with the way you were treated?
 Satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Dissatisfied Don't know
16. This next section is designed to assess the level of confidence in local policing
- Do you think that the PSNI does a good job or a poor job in your area ?
 Very good Fairly good Neither good nor poor Fairly poor Very poor Don't know
 - How satisfied are you that the PSNI treat members of the public fairly ?
 Very satisfied Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
 Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Don't know
 - How much confidence do you have in the PSNI's ability to provide an ordinary day to day policing service for all the people in your area?
 Total confidence A lot of confidence Some confidence Little confidence
 No confidence at all Don't know
 - How satisfied are you with the levels of police patrols in your area?
 Very satisfied Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
 Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Don't know
 - Over the last year, has the overall standard of police service in your area...
 Got better Remained the same Got worse Don't know

Everything you tell us is treated in confidence. The results will not be used in any way in which they can be associated with you. Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey.

17. What would give you greater confidence in local police?

18. Please include any additional comments on local policing or community safety issues

Questions about You (optional)

These details will help us compare differences in opinion among different groups of people.

- 19. **Gender:** Male Female Non-binary
- 20. **Age group:** 16-24 25-40 41-60 61+
- 21. **Community Background :** Protestant Roman Catholic Other None
- 22. **Marital Status** Are you married / in a civil partnership Yes No
- 23. **Ethnicity** White Chinese Indian Irish Traveller Pakistani
Bangladeshi Black African Black Caribbean
- 24. **Sexual Orientation** Heterosexual (Straight) Homosexual (gay/lesbian) Bisexual
- 25. **Family Status** Do you look after: Young Children Other Relatives
- 26. **Disability** Do you consider that you meet the below definition of disability? Yes No

Under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 a person is considered to have a disability if he/she has a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his/her ability to carry out normal day to day activities. Please note that it is the effect of the impairment, without treatment, which determines if an individual meets this definition of disability.

Thank you

Everything you tell us is treated in confidence. The results will not be used in any way in which they can be associated with you. Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey.

Terms of Reference for ASB Sub Group

Context:

The PCSP under Action Plan 2016-19 established an ASB sub group. This Sub group will work between meetings to identify and address issues of ASB in the District.

Aim:

The aim of the sub group is to ensure early identification of issues and strategies to address same

Objectives:

The sub group will to:

- Consider available evidence for District pertaining to ASB hotspots
- Identify up to 3 areas in which to develop ASB action plan
- Identify key agencies / groups to partner with in delivery of same
- Review number and frequency of incidents of ASB before, during and after each action plan
- Consider and develop response to emerging issues based on resources

Membership:

Membership of the groups will be made up of the following:

- 4 elected members
- 4 independent members
- 1 statutory body

Operating Arrangements:

- The sub group will select a chair for the period of 1 year through an open process.
- The sub group will meet on a bi-monthly basis
- A quorum of one third the membership of the group must be present before a meeting can proceed with one member being the Chair.
- Other bodies / agencies may be invited to attend to provide advice or assistance where deemed necessary
- The sub group will report bi monthly to the PCSP noting

- The ASB evidence will be considered at every other meeting
- The ASB Action Plan identification will be carried out in Feb/ Mar annually
-

Facilitation

A designated PCSP officer will facilitate the Sub-Group and will ensure that general actions are carried out.

Attendance

Any member who fails to attend 3 consecutive sub group meetings may be asked if they wish to remain a member or wish to request alternative nominee at next PCSP meeting.

Review

The Terms of Reference will be reviewed on annually as part of the Action Plan review to ensure that they reflect the aims and objectives of the sub group.

May 2016

Terms of Reference for Engagement Sub Group

Context:

The PCSP under Action Plan 2016-19 established an Engagement sub group. This Sub group will work between meetings to promote engagement opportunities for work of the PCSP.

Aim:

The aim of the sub group is to ensure residents of Newry, Mourne & Down District Council are engaged with and informed of the work of the PCSP

Objectives:

The objectives of the sub group will be:

To raise the profile and understanding of the PCSP

To ensure accountability by engaging with local communities on the PCSP Action Plan

To ensure that PCSP delivery reflects the involvement, views and priorities of local communities and in particular hard to reach groups and young people and those covered under Section 75

To ensure effective engagement opportunities with the police, other relevant statutory bodies and local communities

To explore and maximise opportunities for communicating the PCSP's strategies and objectives and manage expectations

Membership:

Membership of the groups will be made up of the following:

- 4 elected members
- 4 independent members
- 1 statutory body

Operating Arrangements:

- The sub group will select a chair for the period of 1 year through an open process.
- The sub group will meet on a bi-monthly basis
- A quorum of one third the membership of the group must be present before a meeting can proceed with one member being the Chair
- Other bodies / agencies may be invited to attend to provide advice or assistance where deemed necessary
- The sub group will report bi monthly to the PCSP for noting

Facilitation

A designated PCSP officer will facilitate the Sub-Group and be responsible for ensuring that general actions are carried out.

Attendance

Any member who fails to attend 3 consecutive sub group meetings may be asked if they wish to remain a member or wish to request alternative nominee at next PCSP meeting.

Review

The Terms of Reference will be reviewed on annually as part of the Action Plan review to ensure that they reflect the aims and objectives of the sub group.

June 2016

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Report to: | AHC Committee |
| Date of Meeting: | 17 October 2016 |
| Subject: | Play Strategy Update |
| Reporting Officer | Roland Moore – Assistant Director Leisure & Sport |
| Contact Officer | Roland Moore – Assistant Director Leisure & Sport |

| | |
|--|--|
| Decisions required: | |
| Members to note update on the Council's Play Strategy | |
| 1.0 | Purpose and Background: |
| 1.1 | The Council's Play Strategy is progressing and following the workshop for members held in September, Officers are now commencing with Public Consultation. |
| 2.0 | Key issues: |
| 2.1 | <p>Officers have developed the Consultation Plan for the Play Strategy and have enclosed same for member's information. This details the conduits and events that will be used to ensure the Public's views are heard.</p> <p>The main techniques used for the consultation will be;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus group sessions for children • Electronic Survey for children • Elected member workshops (1 held in September) • Feedback from Play and Leisure Partnership (statutory/non-statutory stakeholders) • Online Surveys for community groups and members of the public • Individual community groups can request a meeting with Playboard • Additional consultation workshops across the district to cover any other interested parties (3 pre-strategy workshops covering the 7 DEAs and 3 post-strategy workshops covering the 7 DEAs) |
| 3.0 | Recommendations: |
| 3.1 | Members noting the Consultation Plan. |
| 4.0 | Resource implications |
| 4.1 | N/A |
| 5.0 | Equality and good relations implications: |

| | |
|------------|--|
| | |
| 5.1 | The strategy and associated implementation plan will be assessed for Equality and Good Relations implications. |
| 6.0 | Appendices |
| | Play Strategy Consultation Plan |

Ag freastal ar an Dún
agus Ard Mhacha Theas
Serving Down
and South Armagh



Comhairle Ceantair

an Iúir, Mhúrn agus an Dúin

Newry, Mourne and Down

District Council

85

Play Strategy Consultation Plan

October 2016

Leisure & Sport
Active and Healthy Communities

Ag freastal ar an Dún
agus Ard Mhacha Theas
Serving Down
and South Armagh



Comhairle Ceantair
an Iúir, Mhúrn agus an Dúin
Newry, Mourne and Down
District Council

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Background

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council's new Play Strategy Plan is designed to provide an accurate and overarching assessment of the current provision of play and leisure facilities in the district, highlighting any shortfalls and identifying need whilst making a clear case of how to improve the play offering in the future, specifically the steps to be taken over the next five years.

Our Play Strategy Plan will be formulated in line with established good practice and will have a strong statutory basis. The legislative sources for the Plan include but are not limited to; National Green Space Legislation, National Safe Play for Children, The Executive Office's Play and Leisure Policy, Children and Young Peoples Strategic Plan 2016 and Article 31 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

In terms of assessing the quality of existing provision, and establishing the "playability" score of each play park i.e. how appropriate the facilities are for the catchment group, several factors will be taken into consideration. Firstly the number of play and leisure facilities, their location and the geographical dispersion, equipment condition, overall park condition, accessibility and any planned or recent works within revenue and capital budgets. To this end Newry, Mourne and Down District Council, have appointed an external consultant to utilise both the G.I.S mapping report of play parks and the parks condition reports.

In line with best practice, the Council is initiating a public consultation on the play and leisure facilities offered by the Council led by an external consultancy with particular expertise in this area. In order to ensure a meaningful public discussion we are seeking input from a wide section of local opinion including children and young people, parents and carers, elected members and local communities. The voice of children and young people are at the heart of this public consultation exercise to ensure that the Play strategy fully meets their needs.

In addition we have established a Play and Leisure Committee comprised of local stakeholders who are directly involved in children and young people's issues to act as a steering group. We will consult this Committee on the outcome of our play facility audit and the findings of our public consultation in order to factor their input into our five year Play Strategy Plan.



Process to date

1. Play and Leisure Partnership established to assist with the Strategy Plan and its contents. The play needs for the area both demographically and under legislative guidelines. (April 2016).
2. Selected and arranged the Free Play Initiatives and Play PODS in a specific identified location within each of the Seven DEA Forums. (April 2016).
3. Appointed a RPII consultant to review existing play parks and advise on a 5 year plan to improve upon all equipment. This report also included the play score rating and rank of each of our play parks from 1st to the 27th (June - July 2016).
4. GIS Mapping of all play parks in the District, location and the demographics. (August 2016).
5. Held workshop meetings with local Councillors to determine how the play strategy is to be set out and advise on our legal requirements to facilitate local councillors direct input (September 2016).
6. Playboards appointed to develop a Strategy Plan utilising input from the GIS Mapping/Demographics, the RPII inspection and play value scorings and also guidance and needs as set out by the Play Partnership Group. The Playboards' role also includes consultation with local children and other key stakeholders in the District, reviewing existing play parks, their locations, accessibility, features, environmental factors, the challenges and risks and overall type of play these create, in order to develop a 5 year Strategic Plan for the District. (September 2016).



Final Draft Consultations

In developing the play strategy the PlayBoard will undertake a number of key consultative activities aimed at providing an opportunity for children and young people, parents and carers, elected members, community organisations and members of the general public to feed into the strategy process.

Activities will include:

- **Children and Young People:** Underpinning the process will be the views of children and young people. PlayBoard will conduct consultations across the area ensuring balance between community/ethnic backgrounds, geography; ability etc. focusing on children's immediate and future play needs, perspectives on existing play provision and will explore key areas for development within the play strategy. PlayBoard will use recognised best practice participative approaches to ensure children have a voice within the strategy including the delivery of:
 - a. 6 children's focus group sessions across the council area;
 - b. Open electronic survey (via Survey Monkey) of children, promoted through the School Age Childcare network, Schools and Youth Service providers (statutory and non-statutory).

- **Elected Representatives:** PlayBoard will deliver 2 workshops/seminars enabling councillors to shape the strategy whilst enhancing understanding of play/broadening perspectives on meeting play need for incorporation in the final strategy. Workshops will explore:
 - a. Workshop/seminar 1: Strategic/legislative context; importance of play for children and communities; fixed and non-fixed approaches to meeting play need.
 - b. Workshop/seminar 2: Consultative feedback, assessment of need based on demographics/GIS mapping and development of underlying principles of the strategy and overview of final Play Strategy prior to council sign-off.

- **Statutory/ Non-Statutory Stakeholders:** PlayBoard will engage directly with members of the Play and Leisure partnership in order to identify broader initiatives impacting on children and young people's play with a view to incorporation into the broader strategic framework.



Delivery will be through a combination of workshop/joint meets and individual consultation with partnership members.

- **Community Groups:** PlayBoard will make a number of consultative approaches available aimed at ensuring that community organisations are able to feed into the process. These will include:
 - a. PlayBoard will undertake 6 community consultations/public feedback events in partnership with Council – 3 in October (25th, 26th and 27th) and 3 in November/December (29th, 30th and 1st).

Consultation sessions will incorporate an overview of the strategy development process, an exploration of the broad range of options available for meeting play need, an opportunity for communities to discuss and highlight key issues relating to play and play provision across the council.

As part of the work we are undertaking a series of Pre Strategy and Final Draft Strategy Consultations, this will help shape the strategy and also give the public an opportunity to feed into the final draft, prior to publication.

- b. PlayBoard will provide questionnaires to community groups aimed at gathering information from the local community with particular emphasis on parents, carers and children on the development of the play strategy. These will be available online via SurveyMonkey and in paper copy if required.
- c. Individual community groups can request a meeting with PlayBoard as part of the consultative process.
- d. Community groups can make existing, relevant community survey information available to PlayBoard for review as part of the evidence gathering process.

General Public: With a view to ensuring that the general public have an opportunity to feed into the process, consultation surveys will be made available online via SurveyMonkey aimed at parents, wider community and children and young people. SurveyMonkey links will be publicised Council website, Facebook and through the existing community infrastructure.

*See Appendix A,B & C for details.



Audience

As part of the consultation process we will invite views from the following groups and organisations

- Education Boards
- Children's Commission Groups & Partnerships
- Public Health Groups
- Planning Officers
- Health & Social Services
- Police
- Housing Groups
- Ethnic Minorities
- Community Groups
- Senior Citizens
- Disability Groups
- General Public

Accessibility

To ensure full accessibility for all user groups the following venues were utilized for Public Consultations ensuring face to face contact with the public and covering all of the districts:

Pre Strategy Consultations

Newry Arts Centre
1A, Bank Parade
Newry, BT35 6HP

Warrenpoint Town Hall
Church Street
Warrenpoint, BT34 3HN

The Great Hall, Downshire Estate,
Ardglass Road,
Downpatrick, BT30 6RA

Final Strategy Consultation venues will be located in different DEAs with venues to be confirmed. In addition to these public consultations a series of adverts and press releases will be issued in local papers and placed on the council website with contact email addresses and telephone numbers available for everyone to avail of.

*** See Appendix A,B & C for details.**



Consultation Period

The consultation period commence on the 11th October 2016 via electronic mediums and a series of public adverts in local press on the 12th October and an additional advert in the Crossmaglen Examiner on the 17th October, and it will close on 7th December 2016 at 12.00 Noon.

Techniques & Communication tools

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council will use a series of public consultations for direct contact with a range of groups to address issues.

In addition to this, contact numbers and email addresses will be made available in adverts run in local papers, council websites and social media accounts to inform the public and community groups as to how they can make contact to put forward any concerns, or issues they may have had which are not raised in the public forums.

Irish language translations will also be made available upon request for any interested parties. Information and feedback can be obtained from Newry Mourne and Down District Council using the following mediums:

Web: www.newrymournedown.org

Twitter: @nmdcouncil

Facebook: www.facebook.com/nmdcouncil

Tel: 0300 013 2233

Address:

Oifig Dhún Pádraig
Downpatrick Office
Downshire Civic Centre
Downshire Estate, Ardglass Road
Downpatrick BT30 6GQ

Oifig an Iúir
Newry Office
Haughey House
Rampart Road



Greenbank Industrial Estate
Newry BT34 2QU

Information and feedback can be submitted to Playboard NI using the following mediums:

Alan Herron, Director of Service Delivery and Development,

7 Crescent Gardens, BELFAST, BT7 1NS,

Tel: 028 90803380,

Email: alan.herron@playboard.co.uk

Web: www.playboard.org

Timeline

Play and Leisure Partnership Set up - April 16 **(Complete)**

Selected and arranged the Free Play Initiatives and Play PODS - April 16 **(Complete)**

Appointed a RPII consultant - June / July 16 **(Complete)**

GIS Mapping - August 16 **(Complete)**

Workshop meetings with Councillors - September 16 **(Complete)**

Appointed a Consultant to develop a Strategy Plan - September / November 16 **(In Progress)**

Consultation Period Starts 12th October 16 **(In Progress)**

Pre Strategy Public Consultation Forums scheduled - October 16 **(To Be Completed)**

Members Workshop scheduled - November 16 **(To Be Completed)**

Final Draft Strategy Consultation Forums scheduled - November/ December 16 **(To Be Completed)**

Consultation Period Ends 7th December 2016 **(To Be Completed)**

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Appendix A

Public Notice

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Public Notice

Have your say on a future Play Strategy for children and young people in your area.

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council, in partnership with Playboard NI, is inviting all organisations, with an interest, to give their views on the future of Play for children and young people in the Council area as part of work to produce a Play Strategy.

A Consultation forum will take place covering each of the District Electoral Areas (DEA's) of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council and anyone is welcome to attend any of the sessions, the details of which are as follows:

As part of the work we are undertaking a series of Pre Strategy and Final Draft Strategy Consultations, this will help shape the strategy and also give the public an opportunity to feed into the final draft, prior to publication.

| Pre Strategy Consultations | | Final Draft Strategy Consultations | |
|----------------------------|---|------------------------------------|--|
| Date: | Tuesday 25th October 2016 | Date: | Tuesday 29th November 2016 |
| DEA's: | Newry & Slieve Gullion | DEA's: | Newry & Slieve Gullion |
| Venue: | Newry Arts Centre 1A, Bank Parade Newry, BT35 6HP | Venue: | To Be Confirmed |
| Time: | 7.30pm to 9.30pm | Time: | To Be Confirmed |
| Date: | Wednesday 26th October 2016 | Date: | Wednesday 30th November 2016 |
| DEA's: | The Mournes & Crotlieve | DEA's: | The Mournes & Crotlieve |
| Venue: | Warrenpoint Town Hall Church Street Warrenpoint, BT34 3HN | Venue: | To Be Confirmed |
| Time: | 7.30pm to 9.30pm | Time: | To Be Confirmed |
| Date: | Thursday 27th October 2016 | Date: | Thursday 1st December 2016 |
| DEA's: | Downpatrick, Rowallane & Slieve Croob | DEA's: | Downpatrick, Rowallane & Slieve Croob |
| Venue: | The Great Hall, Downshire Estate, Ardglass Road, Downpatrick, BT30 6RA | Venue: | To Be Confirmed |
| Time: | 7.30pm to 9.30pm | Time: | To Be Confirmed |

This consultation will close at 12.00 Noon on 7th December 2016

Additional information and how you can contribute to this consultation, including associated survey links are available to access on our website www.newrymournedown.org Information is available in a range of formats on request. Please contact us with your requirements. For further information contact or to confirm your attendance contact: **Alan Herron, Director of Service Delivery and Development, 7 Crescent Gardens, BELFAST, BT7 1NS, Tel: 028 90803380, Email: alan.herron@playboard.co.uk** to confirm your attendance.

By Order Of Chief Executive, Liam Hannaway

Oifig an Iúir, Newry Office, O'Hagan House, Monaghan Row, Newry BT35 8DJ
Oifig Dhún Pádraig, Downpatrick Office, Downshire Civic Centre, Downshire Estate, Ardglass Road, Downpatrick BT30 6GQ

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Appendix B

Press Release



Play Strategy for Children and Young People in Your Area

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council are inviting all organisations with an interest to give their views on the draft Play Strategy.

The work is being undertaken by Playboard NI, who are a leading organisation for the development and promotion of children and young peoples’ play in Northern Ireland. The purpose of this work is to provide a Strategic approach to any current and future development needs and to provide a framework for the prioritisation & development of play areas and to prioritise investment.

The Play Strategy for Newry, Mourne and Down District Council’s Area is scheduled for completion by December 2016.

To ensure the views of all relevant stakeholders are catered for, Newry Mourne and Down District Council are undertaking a consultation process over the coming months.

As part of the work we are undertaking a series of Pre Strategy and Final Draft Strategy Consultations, this will help shape the strategy and also give the public an opportunity to feed into the final draft, prior to publication.

| Pre Strategy Consultations | | Final Draft Strategy Consultations | |
|----------------------------|---|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Date: | Tuesday 25th October 2016 | Date: | Tuesday 29th November 2016 |
| DEA’s: | Newry & Slieve Gullion | DEA’s: | Newry & Slieve Gullion |
| Venue: | Newry Arts Centre 1A, Bank Parade Newry, BT35 6HP | Venue: | To Be Confirmed |
| Time: | 7.30pm to 9.30pm | Time: | To Be Confirmed |
| Date: | Wednesday 26th October 2016 | Date: | Wednesday 30th November 2016 |
| DEA’s: | The Mournes & Crotlieve | DEA’s: | The Mournes & Crotlieve |
| Venue: | Warrenpoint Town Hall Church Street Warrenpoint, BT34 3HN | Venue: | To Be Confirmed |
| Time: | 7.30pm to 9.30pm | Time: | To Be Confirmed |
| Date: | Thursday 27th October 2016 | Date: | Thursday 1st December 2016 |
| DEA’s: | Downpatrick, Rowallane & Slieve Croob | DEA’s: | Downpatrick, Rowallane & Slieve Croob |
| Venue: | The Great Hall, Downshire Estate, Ardglass Road, Downpatrick, BT30 6RA | Venue: | To Be Confirmed |
| Time: | 7.30pm to 9.30pm | Time: | To Be Confirmed |

This consultation will close at 12.00 Noon on 7th December 2016

The chairperson of the council said

“I am delighted that Newry Mourne and Down Council are taking a strategic approach to the provision of Play within the district. The importance of Play is clearly identified by key agencies and the Council recognise the benefits and added value this brings to children and young people in our district.”

Additional information and how you can contribute to this consultation, including associated survey links are available to access on our website www.newrymournedown.org Information is available in a range of formats on request. Please contact us with your requirements. For further information contact or to confirm your attendance contact: **Alan Herron, Director of Service Delivery and Development, 7 Crescent Gardens, BELFAST, BT7 1NS, Tel: 028 90803380, Email: alan.herron@playboard.co.uk** to confirm your attendance

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Appendix C

Consultation

Workshop Overview



Newry Mourne and Down Play Strategy Consultations - October 2016

October 2016

Newry Mourne and Down District Council are working on the development of a Play Strategy for the District. The council has completed preliminary work to facilitate the strategy by assessing the current situation, understanding the needs of the district and provide a single mechanism within the Council area which would bring together key public sector agencies alongside community representatives and children and young people.

This Strategy will act as the guidance document to develop if needed or create a more efficient, effective play provision within our District. This document/strategy will also give guidance to Council over the next five years where the Council is required to continue to monitor policy areas and develop those highlighted in areas which fall short of the Play Guidance detail.

The Council have commenced work on the foundations of the strategy including:

- Establish a Play and Leisure Partnership.
- Launch free play initiatives and procurement of play pods.
- Undertake an audit of all our existing fixed play parks.
- Undertake demographical analysis of the district using GIS mapping technology to identify areas of need.
- Appoint a consultant to develop the overall strategy.

We now need to discuss what is involved in taking these factors forward and **how we can work together to make a marked difference for the future of all of play for the children and young people of the district.**

The main techniques used for the consultation will be;

- Focus group sessions for children
- Electronic Survey for children
- Elected member workshops (1 held in September)
- Feedback from Play and Leisure Partnership (statutory/non-statutory stakeholders)
- Online Surveys for community groups and members of the public
- Individual community groups can request a meeting with Playboard
- Additional consultation workshops across the district to cover any other interested parties (3 pre-strategy workshops covering the 7 DEAs and 3 post-strategy workshops covering the 7 DEAs)

This will help shape the strategy and also give the public an opportunity to feed into the final draft, prior to publication, Please see details below.



| Pre Strategy Consultations | | Final Strategy Consultations | |
|-----------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| Date: | Tuesday 25th October 2016 | Date: | Tuesday 29th November 2016 |
| DEA's: | Newry & Slieve Gullion | DEA's: | Newry & Slieve Gullion |
| Venue: | Newry Arts Centre 1A, Bank Parade Newry, BT35 6HP | Venue: | To Be Confirmed |
| Time: | 7.30pm to 9.30pm | Time: | To Be Confirmed |
| Date: | Wednesday 26th October 2016 | Date: | Wednesday 30th November 2016 |
| DEA's: | The Mournes & Crotlieve | DEA's: | The Mournes & Crotlieve |
| Venue: | Warrenpoint Town Hall Church Street Warrenpoint, BT34 3HN | Venue: | To Be Confirmed |
| Time: | 7.30pm to 9.30pm | Time: | To Be Confirmed |
| Date: | Thursday 27th October 2016 | Date: | Thursday 1st December 2016 |
| DEA's: | Downpatrick, Rowallane & Slieve Croob | DEA's: | Downpatrick, Rowallane & Slieve Croob |
| Venue: | The Great Hall, Downshire Estate, Ardglass Road, Downpatrick, BT30 6RA | Venue: | To Be Confirmed |
| Time: | 7.30pm to 9.30pm | Time: | To Be Confirmed |

During these consultations and workshops to review the Strategy, Playboard NI will be facilitating these discussions. We invite you to join Alan Herron at a convenient location and time to **discuss your thoughts and ideas for Play in the District, and to assist in identifying the most relevant steps that we should be taking in the next five years.**

These consultations will allow us to identify how, where and when we can best apply the recommendations of the strategy and what will need to change if the aims are to be achieved.

We look forward to hearing from you to explore how a collaborative and more strategic approach that continues to build on our strengths and accomplishments can make a difference in **establishing Newry Mourne and Down District Council as a leader in Play for children and young people.**

Consultation survey links are available to access via www.newrymouredown.org

For further information please contact:

Alan Herron
Director of Service Delivery and Development
7 Crescent Gardens
BELFAST
BT7 1NS

Tel: 028 90803380
Email: alan.herron@playboard.co.uk

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Report to: | AHC Committee |
| Date of Meeting: | 17 October 2016 |
| Subject: | Sports Facility Strategy Update |
| Reporting Officer | Roland Moore – Assistant Director Leisure & Sport |
| Contact Officer | Roland Moore – Assistant Director Leisure & Sport |

Decisions required:**Members to note update on the Council's Sports Facility Strategy**

| | |
|------------|---|
| 1.0 | Purpose and Background: |
| 1.1 | The Council's Sports Facility Strategy is being finalised following approval at the AHC Committee in September, Officers are now commencing with the final round of consultation. |
| 2.0 | Key issues: |
| 2.1 | <p>Officers have developed the Consultation Plan for the Sports Facility Strategy and have enclosed same for members information. This details the conduits and events that will be used to ensure the Public's views are heard in the final round of consultation.</p> <p>Members to note that this consultation commenced in August 2015 and Officers have been receiving responses since this date. The final workshops are an opportunity for interested parties to view the summary of final draft strategy and for any clubs who haven't yet provided feedback.</p> <p>The final consultation will be undertaken using 3 workshops covering the 7 DEAs across the district to cover any other interested.</p> |
| 3.0 | Recommendations: |
| 3.1 | Members noting the Consultation Plan. |
| 4.0 | Resource implications |
| 4.1 | N/A |
| 5.0 | Equality and good relations implications: |
| 5.1 | The strategy and associated implementation plan will be assessed for Equality and Good Relations implications. |
| 6.0 | Appendices |

| | |
|--|--|
| | Sports Facility Strategy Consultation Plan |
|--|--|

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Sports Facility Strategy Consultation Plan

October 2016

Leisure and Sport
Active and Healthy Communities

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Background

The Newry, Mourne & Down District Council (NMDDC) Sports Facility Strategy provides a framework for the future prioritisation, development and provision of sports facilities at local level, to meet identified community need.

The Strategy has been developed during a period of significant change in Northern Ireland (NI); the implementation of the Review of Public Administration (RPA), reducing council areas from 26 to 11 (from 1 April 2015), the introduction of Community Planning as a statutory responsibility of public bodies, and the re-organisation and restructuring of Governmental departments, roles and remit have all taken place, or are in progress. The Strategy is therefore both an important means of contributing to the reforms outlined, whilst also representing a significant opportunity as a result of these changes.

This Strategy will inform the development of an evidence-based approach to strategic planning for, and development of, sports facilities at local level, to optimise their value and benefits. The restructuring of the District Council boundaries (Review of Public Administration (RPA) implemented on 1 April 2015 provides a unique opportunity, and some interesting challenges, to instigate, and instil, an improved strategic approach to sports facility planning in Northern Ireland.

The Strategy will consult with, and engage all stakeholders involved in the planning, development and delivery of sports facilities in Newry, Mourne & Down District Council, to inform a coherent future approach, which will make best use of all available resources.

This is the final draft of the Sports Facility Strategy and the council welcome views from all interested stakeholders. This can be done by post, email, telephone or attending one of the consultation workshops.



Process to date

1. Appointed a Consultant to develop a Strategy Plan. These Consultants role must also include consultation with local sports clubs etc in the District, reviewing existing facilities, their locations, accessibility, features and the challenges, in order to develop a Strategic Plan for the District. (August 2015).
2. Initial Public Consultations (August – September 2015)
3. Held workshop meetings with local Councillors to determine how the sports facilities strategy is to be set out and advise on our legal requirements to facilitate local councillors direct input (July 2016).
4. Presentation of Draft Sports Facility Strategy to 7 DEA fora (August – September 2016)
5. Consideration of Draft Sports Facility Strategy at Active Healthy Communities Committee (September 2016)



Final Draft Consultations

Introduction - Sport NI Strategy Key principles presented and resulting impact on Local Authority Strategy.

Newry, Mourne and Down Draft Strategy - Overview of progress to date and review of initial consultation, quantitative analysis of external infrastructure against current and future demographics

DEA Sport Priorities - Specific priorities for that DEA area meeting with an overview of implication of strategy on each DEA with priorities identified and scores set against identified needs.

Discussion and Comment

Audience

As part of the consultation process we will invite views from the following groups and organisations

- Education Boards
- SAND Members
- Sporting Groups
- Children's Commission Groups & Partnerships
- Public Health Groups
- Planning Officers
- Health & Social Services
- Police
- Housing Groups
- Ethnic Minorities
- Community Groups
- Senior Citizens
- Disability Groups
- General Public



Accessibility

To ensure full accessibility for all user groups the following venues were utilized for Public Consultations ensuring face to face contact with the public and covering all of the districts:

Newry Sports Centre,
61 Patrick Street,
Newry, BT35 8TR

Kilkeel Bowling Pavilion,
Mourne Esplanade,
Kilkeel, BT34 4DB

The Great Hall, Downshire Estate,
Ardglass Road,
Downpatrick, BT30 6RA

In addition to these public consultations a series of adverts and press releases will be issued in local papers and placed on the council website with contact email addresses and telephone numbers available.

*** See Appendix A,B & C for details.**

Consultation Period

The final consultation period commenced on the 11th October 2016 via electronic mediums and a series of public adverts in local press on the 12th October and an additional advert in the Crossmaglen Examiner on the 17th October, and it will close on 14th November 2016 at 12.00 Noon.



Techniques & Communication tools

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council will use a series of public consultations for direct contact with a range of groups to address issues.

In addition to this, contact numbers and email addresses will be made available in adverts run in local papers, council websites and social media accounts to inform the public and community groups as to how they can make contact to put forward any concerns, or issues they may have had which are not raised in the public forums.

Irish language translations will also be made available upon request for any interested parties. Information and feedback can be obtained from and submitted to Newry Mourne and Down District Council using the following mediums:

Web: www.newrymouredown.org

Twitter: @nmdcouncil

Facebook: www.facebook.com/nmdcouncil

Tel: 0300 013 2233

Address:

Oifig Dhún Pádraig
Downpatrick Office
Downshire Civic Centre
Downshire Estate, Ardglass Road
Downpatrick BT30 6GQ

Oifig an Iúir
Newry Office
Haughey House
Rampart Road
Greenbank Industrial Estate
Newry BT34 2QU

shona.mclhone@nmandd.org (0300 013 2233 ext 5002)



Timeline

Appointed a consultant - August 15 **(Completed)**

Initial Public Consultations - August / September 15 **(Completed)**

Workshop meetings with Councillors - July 16 **(Completed)**

Presentation of Draft Sports facility Strategy to 7 DEAs - August / September 16 **(Completed)**

Consideration of Draft Sports facility Strategy at AHC Committee - September 16 **(Completed)**

Final Draft Strategy Consultation Forums scheduled - November 16 **(To Be Completed)**

Consultation Period Ends 14th November 2016 **(To Be Completed)**

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Appendix A

Public Notice

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Newry, Mourne and Down

District Council

Public Notice

Have your say on the future of sports facilities in your area.

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council, in partnership with Sport NI, is inviting all organisations with an interest in sports facilities to give their views on the future of sports facilities in the Council area as part of work to produce a Sports Facilities Strategy Newry Mourne and Down

A consultation forum will take place at three venues throughout the district with a focus on the District Electoral Areas (DEA's) linked with each venue. Anyone is welcome to attend each of the sessions, the details of which are as follows:

Date: **Tuesday 1 November 2016**
DEA's: Newry & Slieve Gullion
Venue: Newry Sports Centre, 61 Patrick Street, Newry, BT35 8TR
Time: 6.30pm for 7.00pm start

Date: **Wednesday 2 November 2016**
DEA's: The Mournes & Crotlieve
Venue: Kilkeel Bowling Pavilion, Mourne Esplanade, Kilkeel, BT34 4DB
Time: 6.30pm for 7.00pm start

Date: **Thursday 3 November 2016**
DEA's: Downpatrick, Rowallane & Slieve Croob
Venue: The Great Hall, Downshire Estate, Ardglass Rd, Downpatrick, BT30 6RA
Time: 6.30pm for 7.00pm start

This consultation will close at 12.00 Noon on 14th November 2016

The Sports Facility Strategy proposal is available for viewing on our website www.newrymournedown.org Information is available in a range of formats on request. Please contact us with your requirements. For further information or to confirm your attendance contact: shona.mclhone@nmandd.org (0300 013 2233 ext 5002)

By Order Of Chief Executive, Liam Hannaway

Oifig an Iúir, Newry Office, O'Hagan House, Monaghan Row, Newry BT35 8DJ
Oifig Dhún Pádraig, Downpatrick Office, Downshire Civic Centre, Downshire Estate, Ardglass Road, Downpatrick BT30 6GQ

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Newry, Mourne and Down
District Council

Appendix B

Press Release

Draft Strategy on the future of Sports Facilities in Your Area

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council are inviting all organisations with an interest to give their views on the draft strategy for the future of sports facilities within the Council area. Consequently, this will contribute to the production of a Sports Facilities Strategy for Newry Mourne and Down

The work is being undertaken by a consortium led by Strategic Leisure Ltd. on behalf of Sport NI and the 11 District Councils. The purpose of this work is to provide a strategic approach to any current and future facility development needs, to provide a framework for the prioritisation & development of facilities and to prioritise investment by a range of investors in sports facility provision.

The Sports Facilities Strategy for Newry, Mourne and Down District Council's Area is scheduled for completion by December 2016 and will provide a framework for the future prioritisation, development and provision of sports facilities at local level, to meet identified community need.

The Council originally went to public consultation during August/September 2015 and had the largest turnout of community sports clubs throughout Northern Ireland. As a result we are keen to engage again with all key stakeholders who have views on the future of sports facilities in the district and we have arranged consultation sessions to get your opinions on the final draft strategy.

A consultation session will take place at three venues throughout the district with a focus on the District Electoral Areas (DEA's) linked with each venue. Anyone is welcome to attend any of the sessions, the details of which are as follows:

Date: **Tuesday 1 November 2016**
DEA's: Newry & Slieve Gullion
Venue: Newry Sports Centre, 61 Patrick Street, Newry, BT35 8TR
Time: 6.30pm for 7.00pm start

Date: **Wednesday 2 November 2016**
DEA's: The Mournes & Crotlieve
Venue: Kilkeel Bowling Pavilion, Mourne Esplanade, Kilkeel, BT34 4DB
Time: 6.30pm for 7.00pm start



Date: Thursday 3 November 2016
DEA's: Downpatrick, Rowallane & Slieve Croob
Venue: The Great Hall, Downshire Estate, Ardglass Road, Downpatrick, BT30 6RA
Time: 6.30pm for 7.00pm start

This consultation will close at 12.00 Noon on 14th November 2016

The chairperson of the council said

"I am delighted that Newry Mourne and Down Council are taking a strategic approach to the provision of Sports Facilities within the district. The importance of Sport and Leisure activities help us achieve an active and healthy lifestyle and promote social inclusion, health and well being. This is why Newry Mourne and Down District Council are keen to hear your views to assist in the final review of the Sports Facility Strategy"

The Council is urging sporting organisations to attend these important events and have also asked sports clubs to ensure that council has current contact details for them. Please contact: shona.mclihone@nmandd.org (0300 013 2233 ext 5002) for further information or to provide contact details for your club so you can be kept informed of important developments in relation to the ongoing facilities strategy work and other future new Council programmes and initiatives.

END

Ag freastal ar an Dún
agus Ard Mhacha Theas
Serving Down
and South Armagh



Comhairle Ceantair
an Iúir, Mhúrn agus an Dúin 117
Newry, Mourne and Down
District Council

Appendix C

Consultation

Workshop Overview



Newry Mourne and Down Sports Facility Consultations – October 2016

October 2016

Have your say on the future of sports facilities in your area.

The Newry, Mourne & Down District Council (NMDDC) Sports Facility Strategy provides a framework for the future prioritisation, development and provision of sports facilities at local level, to meet identified community need.

The Strategy has been developed during a period of significant change in Northern Ireland (NI); the implementation of the Review of Public Administration (RPA), reducing council areas from 26 to 11 (from 1 April 2015), the introduction of Community Planning as a statutory responsibility of public bodies, and the re-organisation and restructuring of Governmental departments, roles and remit have all taken place, or are in progress. The Strategy is therefore both an important means of contributing to the reforms outlined, whilst also representing a significant opportunity as a result of these changes.

This Strategy will inform the development of an evidence-based approach to strategic planning for, and development of, sports facilities at local level, to optimise their value and benefits. The restructuring of the District Council boundaries (Review of Public Administration (RPA) implemented on 1 April 2015 provides a unique opportunity, and some interesting challenges, to instigate, and instil, an improved strategic approach to sports facility planning in Northern Ireland.

The Strategy will consult with, and engage all stakeholders involved in the planning, development and delivery of sports facilities in Newry, Mourne & Down District Council, to inform a coherent future approach, which will make best use of all available resources.

This is the final draft of the Sports Facility Strategy and the council welcome views from all interested stakeholders. This can be done by post, email, telephone or attending one of the consultation workshops.

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council, in partnership with Sport NI, is inviting all organisations with an interest in sports facilities to give their views on the future of sports facilities in the Council area as part of work to produce a Sports Facilities Strategy Newry Mourne and Down

A consultation forum will take place at three venues throughout the district with a focus on the District Electoral Areas (DEA's) linked with each venue. Anyone is welcome to attend each of the sessions, the details of which are as follows:

Date: Tuesday 1 November 2016
DEA's: Newry & Slieve Gullion
Venue: Newry Sports Centre, 61 Patrick Street, Newry, BT35 8TR
Time: 6.30pm for 7.00pm start

Date: Wednesday 2 November 2016
DEA's: The Mournes & Crotlieve
Venue: Kilkeel Bowling Pavilion, Mourne Esplanade, Kilkeel, BT34 4DB
Time: 6.30pm for 7.00pm start

Date: Thursday 3 November 2016
DEA's: Downpatrick, Rowallane & Slieve Croob
Venue: The Great Hall, Downshire Estate, Ardglass Rd, Downpatrick, BT30 6RA
Time: 6.30pm for 7.00pm start

This consultation will close at 12.00 Noon on 14th November 2016

The Draft Sports Facility Strategy is available for viewing on our website www.newrymournedown.org Information is available in a range of formats on request. Please contact us with your requirements. For further information or to confirm your attendance contact: shona.mcIlhone@nmandd.org (0300 013 2233 ext 5002)

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Report to: | AHC Committee |
| Date of Meeting: | 17 October 2016 |
| Subject: | Irish Football Association – bid for UEFA Youth Tournament |
| Reporting Officer | Roland Moore – Assistant Director Leisure & Sport |
| Contact Officer | Roland Moore – Assistant Director Leisure & Sport |

| | |
|---|---|
| Decisions required: | |
| Agree in principle to support Irish Football Association with their bid to host the UEFA Youth Tournament. | |
| 1.0 | Purpose and Background: |
| 1.1 | The Irish Football Association are bidding to host either a boys Under 17 (16 teams) or boys Under 19 (8 teams) UEFA Youth Finals in May 2019 or May 2020. Please see appendix A for their email outlining their bid and also how they propose to deliver this tournament. |
| 2.0 | Key issues: |
| 2.1 | The Irish FA have requested that the Council give them a letter of support as they are planning to use Newry as a host city, utilising the Newry Showgrounds Facility. |
| 3.0 | Recommendations: |
| 3.1 | The Council agree to offer a letter of support, but also highlight the benefits that our Council area can offer to their bid. The draft letter is attached in appendix B. |
| 4.0 | Resource implications |
| 4.1 | N/A |
| 5.0 | Equality and good relations implications: |
| 5.1 | N/A |
| 6.0 | Appendices |
| | Appendix A1 & A2 – Correspondence from IFA Appendix B – Draft letter of support form NMDDC |

From: "Sara Booth" <sara.booth@irishfa.com>
To: "liam.hannaway@nmandd.org" <liam.hannaway@nmandd.org>
Subject: Letter of support - UEFA Youth Tournament Bid 2019/2020

Good morning Liam

I hope you are well.

The Irish Football Association is currently preparing a bid to host either a boys Under 17 (16 teams) or boys Under 19 (8 teams) UEFA Youth Finals in May 2019 or May 2020. One of the venues we are proposing to use is the Showgrounds in Newry.

The attached document outlines our proposal for the Under 17 tournament - logistically this will be the biggest and most challenging one for us.

Our aims for the tournament are as follows:

Aims:

1. To harness the momentum of EURO 2016 to inspire every child in Northern Ireland to be part of our football family and to dream of wearing the green jersey.
2. To build on the successful delivery and legacy of the UEFA Women's Under 19 Championship in 2017.
3. To showcase 'live' elite youth football in Northern Ireland and inspire a new generation of young people to get involved in the game.
4. To successfully deliver a world class youth tournament that not only raises the profile of youth football throughout Northern Ireland and Europe, but also enhances the image of Northern Ireland as a country capable of hosting major sporting events and as a popular tourist destination.
5. To work with the host city and local councils to ensure that the UEFA Tournament is a celebration of football.
6. To contribute to the NI 'Programme for Government' objectives by highlighting the power of football, and using the tournament, to encourage more people to get involved in sport and physical activity and improve their health and wellbeing.
7. To make a social and economic contribution to Northern Ireland by delivering a unique experience and providing value for money for UEFA and the Local Organising Committee.

As part of our bid dossier we need letters of support from the host cities. Would you be able to help us with this? We will know in December whether we have been successful in our application. I have attached the letter from Belfast as an example of what we require.

Let me know if you need any other information.

Kind regards

Sara

UEFA 2019 / 2020 Bid – U17 Championship (16 teams)

| Hotel | Training venues |
|--|--|
| <p>Tournament HQ (240 rooms required) Europa Hotel Groups A & B, UEFA staff, LOC staff</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ulster University Jordanstown 1 2. Queen's University 1 3. Knockbreda Football Club 4. Billy Neill 5. Bangor Sportsplex 6. Ulidia Playing Fields 7. Stormont Pavillion 8. Danny Blanchflower <p>Reserve: Cherryvale Playing Fields</p> |
| <p>Mini HQ (120 room required) Hilton Belfast Group C + UEFA staff</p> <p>Note: Hotel closes after quarter finals</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inverary Playing Fields 2. Ulster University Jordanstown 2 3. Queen's University 2 4. Lisburn Distillery 5. The Oval |
| <p>Mini HQ (120 room required) Roe Park Resort Limavady Group D + UEFA staff</p> <p>Note: Hotel closes after quarter finals</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Showgrounds (Limavady) 2. Riada Stadium (Ballymoney) 3. Coleraine University 4. Paddy's Park, Dervock <p>Reserve: Scroggy Road, Limavady</p> |
| <p>Referee Hotel (45 rooms required) Hilton Templepatrick Hotel</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Greenmount (need 2 pitches) |

07/10/16

Mr Patrick Nelson
Chief Executive,
Irish Football Association,
National Stadium,
Windsor Park,
Belfast,
BT12 6LW

Dear Patrick,

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council are delighted to pledge our support for the Irish Football Association's bid to host the UEFA Youth Finals in 2019/2020.

We warmly welcome the selection of Newry Showgrounds as one of the host venues for matches throughout the tournament and furthermore, the opportunity to share all that our city and our district has to offer with the international set of visitors who have come together to attend this exciting sporting competition.

Our district has many positive features which will make it, as a host city, uniquely placed to deliver an exceptional visitor experience. Newry, Mourne and Down is at one and the same time, a modern energetic and outward looking area but one that is informed by its rich and diverse natural and built heritage, embracing both the old and the new.

Geographically, Newry is ideally positioned; equidistance between Belfast and Dublin, the City acts as a gateway between North and South and is particularly well connected in terms of transport infrastructure, close to both cities' airports and offering convenient links by road, railway or bus.

Newry is a relatively young city but has quickly established itself as one of the premier shopping destinations in Ireland. It is bustling with coffee shops, eateries, independent shops and high street favourites. The area has a strong accommodation offering and capacity with luxury hotels, nestled alongside boutique hotels and smaller guest houses. Please see enclosed list for further information.

A few minutes from town and our breath-taking scenery and landscapes are nothing short of magical, so much so that the Mourne Mountains were the beloved inspiration for the author's CS Lewis's fictional land of Narnia.

Three of our landscapes, the Mourne Mountains and the Ring of Gullion, Strangford Lough and Lecale have been recognised and certified as an Area of Outstanding Beauty (AONB)., numerous outdoor activity opportunities and an unrivalled link to the heritage and story of St. Patrick make it an attractive proposition for tourists.

Visitors might find our district feels familiar even if they've never visited; the millions of people worldwide who have been gripped watching the medieval fantasy, award winning Game of Thrones series will instantly recognise many of the landscapes as several of the key scenes in the show were filmed here.

In summary, Newry's location, its connectivity, its cosmopolitan feel and its spectacular natural beauty taken alone are ample reason for it to be a host venue in 2019/20. Nevertheless the most memorable aspect of any visitor's experience will be the enthusiastic and effusive welcome that they receive from the whole community.

Best regards,

Liam Hannaway
Chief Executive
Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Report to: | AHC Committee |
| Date of Meeting: | 17 October 2016 |
| Subject: | Macmillan Cancer Support Project |
| Reporting Officer | Roland Moore – Assistant Director Leisure & Sport |
| Contact Officer | Roland Moore – Assistant Director Leisure & Sport |

Decisions required:

Agree in principle to development of “Move More Newry, Mourne and Down” project.

| | |
|------------|--|
| 1.0 | Purpose and Background: |
| 1.1 | <p>Macmillan Cancer Support have developed ‘Move More Northern Ireland’, a physical activity service designed to provide people affected by cancer with the opportunities, support and motivation that they may require to initiate and sustain an active lifestyle.</p> <p>The Council have been approach by Macmillan Cancer Support with a view to developing a new programme within the Council Area. As one of eleven projects across all Council areas in N. Ireland.</p> |
| 2.0 | Key issues: |
| 2.1 | <p>Officers have held an initial meeting with Macmillan Cancer Support and now seek Council approval to work in partnership to develop a project for Newry, Mourne and Down. Any project would be funded by Macmillan for a 3 year period and in other areas this has taken the form of a funded post.</p> <p>The Council would be expected to provide a work space for the post holder and would be managed through our existing structures. The Council may also wish to consider what activities or facilities can be offered as part of the overall programme.</p> |
| 3.0 | Recommendations: |
| 3.1 | The Council agree in principle to a partnership programme with Macmillan Cancer Support for Newry, Mourne and Down and Officers should develop this further reporting back to committee once the details of the project are known. |
| 4.0 | Resource implications |
| 4.1 | The Council will be required to provide office accommodation, line management support and access to our facilities. |
| 5.0 | Equality and good relations implications: |

| | |
|------------|--|
| 5.1 | The strategy and associated implementation plan will be assessed for Equality and Good Relations implications. |
| 6.0 | Appendices |
| | Letter from Macmillan Cancer Support |

6th October 2016

5A Stirling House
Castlereagh Business Park
478 Castlereagh Road
Belfast BT5 6BQ
Tel: 028 90708610
Fax: 028 9070 8629

WE ARE
MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT

127

Dear Roland,

Re: Move More Newry, Mourne and Down

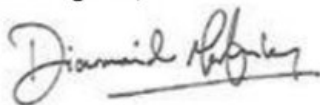
Many thanks for taking the time out to meet with me last week. As discussed, a growing body of evidence has highlighted that physical activity has the potential to have a significant impact on the lives of people affected by cancer by reducing the consequences of cancer treatment, decreasing the likelihood of cancer progressing or returning, and preventing the occurrence of other long term conditions.

On the basis of this evidence, Macmillan Cancer Support is committed to ensuring that “everyone living with cancer is aware of the benefits of physical activity and enabled to choose to become and to stay active at a level that’s right for them”. To realise this vision we are committed to the development of ‘Move More Northern Ireland’, a physical activity service designed to provide people affected by cancer with the opportunities, support and motivation that they may require to initiate and sustain an active lifestyle. After a prolonged period of research, insight and consultation, our plan for Move More Northern Ireland is to develop 11 projects (i.e. 1 in each of the 11 council areas) in partnership with a range of key stakeholders, including district councils.

Accordingly, in the development of Move More Newry, Mourne and Down, we would like to review the potential of developing a partnership with Newry, Mourne and Down District Council. If you would be keen to explore this opportunity, we would propose to work with you to review existing provision across the council area, to identify any gaps in provision, and to develop a project plan to support the development and delivery of Move More Newry, Mourne & Down. Subject to the identification of any such gaps, we will endeavour to provide our support to ensure that the service can be implemented effectively in 2017 and beyond. We have already established such partnerships in four other council areas (i.e. Antrim and Newtownabbey; Ards and North Down; Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon; and, Belfast), where we have provided the funding to support the employment of a Project Coordinator for an initial three-year period.

I look forward to receiving your response, and hopefully, to working with the council to improve the clinical and quality of life outcomes for people affected by cancer in the Newry, Mourne and Down area.

Kind regards,



Diarmaid McAuley

Project Manager

Macmillan Cancer Support

Questions about living with cancer? Call free on 0808 808 00 00 or visit macmillan.org.uk

Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England, N.Ireland and Wales (261017), Scotland (SC039907) and the Isle of Man 604. A company limited by guarantee. Registered company in England, N.Ireland and Wales (2400969) and the Isle of Man (4694F). Registered office: 89 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7UQ.

| | |
|---|---|
| Report to: | AHC Meeting |
| Date of Meeting: | 17 th October 2016 |
| Subject: | Caravan Site Forkhill Road Newry |
| Reporting Officer (Including Job Title): | Eoin Devlin (Assistant Director Health and Wellbeing) |
| Contact Officer (Including Job Title): | Sinead Trainor (Senior Environmental Health Officer) |

Decisions required:

Members are asked to note the contents of the report.

| | |
|------------|--|
| 1.0 | Purpose and Background: |
| 1.1 | <p>This department has recently received a number of complaints alleging that the residents of a caravan site on Forkhill Road Newry are using the toilet facilities at a nearby sporting facility and subsequent concerns that there are not adequate waste disposal facilities at the site. The matter of the relevant Site licensing and Planning permission was also queried. Historically this department had knowledge of the existence of this site for a long period of years officers attended the site, observed the conditions and spoke to some of the residents. A SEHO attended the Newry Mourne and Down Travellers Forum Meeting on 8th September 2016 and discussed the use of the site with Councillors, SHSCT and Education Authority. Concerns were raised by Forum members as to where the travellers on the site would go if the site owner closed the site following any correspondence from the Council. It was requested that representatives would attend a meeting with NIHE as they have a statutory duty for provision of caravan sites for members of the travelling community.</p> |
| 2.0 | Key issues: |
| 2.1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The site owner is required to make an application to Council for a Caravan Site License under The Caravans Act (NI) 1963. |
| 2.2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are concerns for the safety of the residents on the site in relation to fire safety and public health. |
| 2.3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are concerns for the residents of the site if it is closed by the owner of the land following correspondence from Council on legal requirements. <p><u>Next Steps:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AHC Department will write to the owner advising him that he is required to have a caravan site license for the lands on Forkhill Road Newry. It is believed that the owner is resident in the USA. AHC Department will continue to liaise with NIHE on approaching land owner to sell land and examine the feasibility of providing temporary accommodation at that location. AHC Department will continue to monitor the site in relation to fire safety and public health during this period. |

| | |
|------------|---|
| 3.0 | Recommendations: |
| 3.1 | Members are asked to note the contents of the report. |
| 4.0 | Resource implications |
| 4.1 | Not Applicable |
| 5.0 | Equality and good relations implications: |
| 5.1 | Not Applicable |
| 6.0 | Appendices |
| | Not Applicable |

| | |
|---|--|
| Report to: | Active Healthy Communities Committee |
| Date of Meeting: | 17 October 2016 |
| Subject: | Consultation on Protect Life 2 Strategy |
| Reporting Officer (Including Job Title): | Eoin Devlin, Assistant Director Health and Wellbeing |
| Contact Officer (Including Job Title): | Aisling Rennick, Investing for Health Officer |

| | |
|---|---|
| Decisions required: | |
| Approval of draft response to Consultation on Protect Life 2: A draft strategy for suicide prevention I the north of Ireland | |
| 1.0 | Purpose and Background: |
| 1.1 | The Council has been involved on an ongoing basis in supporting the Protect Life Strategy and has been a member of the Protect Life Implementation Group in the Southern Area. The Strategy was strongly focused on a collaborative approach across the sectors and enabled a locally based preventative approach rather than crisis management. The Southern Protect Life Group met on 5 October and raised a number of significant concerns regarding the new draft strategy |
| 2.0 | Key Issues: |
| 2.1 | <p>The consultation document notes that the suicide rate in Northern Ireland is relatively high compared to GB and a link to the legacy of the conflict has been suggested as a factor in this increased risk. It acknowledges that the suicide rate in deprived areas is considerably higher than in more affluent and some groups within the population are at higher risk of suicide than the general population.</p> <p>The document sets out a purpose for the new strategy to reduce the suicide rate in the north of Ireland and to reduce the differential in the suicide rate between the most deprived areas and the least deprived areas.</p> <p>It proposes 10 objectives to prevent suicide and to provide support following suicide. However, the objectives focus mainly on crisis intervention and there is little mention of building resilience in the community to prevent crises occurring.</p> <p>The proposed strategy is very Health Service focused and only 7 of the 65 actions included do not have a Health Service Organisation as the lead organisation. This is a retrograde step from the previous strategy which emphasised the importance of all sectors working together. There is no mention at all in the strategy of the role Councils could play through Community Planning, in helping to build strong, resilient communities.</p> |
| 3.0 | Recommendations: |

| | |
|------------|---|
| 3.1 | Recommend: The Council respond to the Protect Life 2 strategy as per the attached consultation questionnaire. |
| 4.0 | Resource implications: |
| 4.1 | N/A |
| 5.0 | Equality and good relations implications: |
| 5.1 | N/A |
| 6.0 | Appendices |
| | Appendix I: draft response to consultation questionnaire – Protect Life 2 |



**Protect Life 2 – a draft strategy for suicide prevention in the north of Ireland
Consultation Questionnaire**

Please use this questionnaire to tell us your views on the draft strategy.

Please send your response by **Friday 4 November 2016** to:

phdconsultation@ni-health.gov.uk or to

Health Improvement Branch
Room C4.22
Castle Buildings
Stormont Estate
BELFAST
BT4 3SQ

I am responding as... *(Please tick appropriate option)*

a member of the public;

a professional / practitioner working with people affected by suicide

(Please specify which area / sector)

Health and Social Care

Education

Justice

Other*(Please specify);*

on behalf of an organisation, or

Other.....*(Please specify);*

Name: Aisling Rennick

Job Title: Investing for Health Officer

Organisation: Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

Address: Council Offices, Monaghan Row, Newry

Tel: 02830313066

Fax: _____

e-mail: Aisling.rennick@nmandd.org

PURPOSE, AIMS AND SCOPE

Q1. Do you agree with the overall purpose of the Strategy. If not, what alternative do you suggest? (p 14)

Yes No

If No, please state why.

The Council supports the purpose to reduce the suicide rate in the north of Ireland and believes strongly that it is vital to reduce the levels of suicide in more deprived communities. However, it would be better to have a clear statement of purpose to “Reduce the suicide rate in the north of Ireland” and to include a statement regarding more deprived areas in the aims of the strategy. In addition, this statement should read to “Reduce the suicide rate in more deprived areas” as the current statement is open to different interpretations.

Q2. Do you agree with the stated aims of the Strategy? If not, what alternative do you suggest? (p 14)

Yes No

If No, please state why.

The Council believes the aims are very heavily focused on crisis management and immediate suicidal behaviour. An aim should be included focusing on upstream preventative work in building community resilience.

Q3. Do you agree with the stated principles of the Strategy? If not, what alternatives would you suggest? (p 15)

Yes No

If No, please state why.

Whilst the Council would agree with the principles as set out in the document, a number of these principles are not reflected in the action plan. For example the principle of effective partnership/collaboration across sectors is not particularly acknowledged in the actions which are heavily focused toward Health Service provision. In turn, this implies that suicide is a concern principally for the health sector which will mitigate against the principle that the strategy will be coordinated across government.

RISK AND PROTECTIVE FACTORS

Q4. We have identified a number of priority population groups who are most at risk. Are there any other groups that are particularly at risk that have not been included in this list? (p 34)

The Council would agree with the priority groups as set out and welcomes the prioritizing of more vulnerable groups. However, this prioritisation is not reflected in the action plan and responsibility for prevention activities for these groups appears to be transferred to the Making Life Better framework. This would be a backward step from Protect Life 1 which enabled significant prevention activities to be targeted at vulnerable groups facilitating early intervention to ensure that individuals did not get into crisis.

SERVICES

Q5. We have identified a number of gaps or services that need to be enhanced. Do you agree with these? Are there any other gaps that you think need to be addressed? (p 56-58)

Yes No

There are significant gaps in the services as proposed by the strategy. Greater emphasis needs to be placed on upstream preventative work. There is a concern that this gap in the strategy will prevent the continued commissioning of the very valuable services of this type which have had an impact at local level and which were a significant part of Protect Life 1

Evidence appears to show that the rise in suicide rates following the troubles is partly related to the fall in the strong community bonding which had been a feature of communities during the conflict and it would therefore seem to be important for the strategy to acknowledge the role of community building work to address this factor.

OBJECTIVES

Q6. Do you agree with the stated objectives of the Strategy? If not, what alternatives do you suggest? (p 66-69)

Yes No

If Yes, please provide comments.

The objectives whilst valuable are almost exclusively focused on crisis management and do not allow for the type of preventative work which enables early intervention and the building of resilience.

The objectives have a strong focus on health service delivery and need to be broadened to ensure that all sectors have equal ownership of the strategy.

ACTIONS

Q7. The Public Health Agency will be responsible for implementation of the action plan and will develop it in conjunction with a multi-agency implementation group. We would invite your views on the draft action plan and welcome suggestions on additional actions. (p 70-74)

Comments:

- 1 The action plan is too long and has too many actions and is too prescriptive. It is noted that the Scottish Strategy has 26 pages in total where this consultation document runs to 113.
- 2 The actions are very Health Service focused with only 7 out of 63 not including a health service body as lead organisation.
- 3 The actions are strongly focused on crisis management and there is little focus on the type of collaborative, community based actions to prevent individuals reaching crisis point.

- 4 Only some of the priority groups are reflected in the actions eg individuals who With mental illness are included but there is no mention of actions to target ethnic minorities or the long-term unemployed.

MEASUREMENT, REVIEW AND EVALUATION

Q8. Progress in delivering the Strategy will be monitored and its effectiveness will be reviewed periodically. We would welcome your views on how best to monitor and assess the impact of the Strategy over time. (p 78)

Comments:

If the strategy is to be effective it will need to address the issues of early intervention and resilience building which are difficult to measure quantitatively and therefore thought should be given to more qualitative forms of monitoring.

AWARENESS RAISING

Q9. We would welcome your views on how best to raise public awareness of suicide, suicidal ideation, suicidal behaviour and self-harm.

Comments:

Any large scale awareness raising campaigns could be focused on the WHO myths and facts as per P16 of the consultation.

More focused work needs to be carried out at local level providing parents, community leaders etc with awareness of signs and symptoms etc.

ANY OTHER MATTERS

Q10. Please provide any other comments or suggestions that you feel could assist the development and delivery of the Strategy.

Comments:

Whilst the Council welcomes the continuation of Protect Life strategy it feels the draft as set out in the consultation is limited in its focus and needs to provide more scope for wider ownership of the strategy and actions falling out of it. The consultation document does not come in an easy read format and is difficult to understand for lay people.

There needs to be a strengthening of the collaborative approach developed through Protect Life 1 and a greater focus on prevention and early intervention.

The Council would suggest that Community Planning provides a platform by which the broader issues of building community cohesion and resilience can be developed and this should be recognized in the strategy.

STATUTORY EQUALITY DUTIES

Q11. Are the actions set out in this draft Suicide Prevention Strategy likely to have an adverse impact on equality of opportunity on any of the nine equality groups identified under Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998?

If Yes, please state the group or groups and provide comment on what you think should be added or removed to alleviate the adverse impact

Yes No

Comments:

There would be some concern that some of identified priority groups eg ethnic minorities are not mentioned in the action plan/objectives and that this could have an impact on commissioning of services for these groups.

Q12. Are you aware of any indication or evidence – qualitative or quantitative – that the actions/proposals set out in the consultation document may have an adverse impact on equality of opportunity or good relations?

If you answered yes to this question, please give details and comments on what you think should be added or removed to alleviate the adverse impact.

Yes No

Comments:

Q13. Is there an opportunity for the draft Strategy to better promote equality of opportunity or good relations?

If you answered yes to this question, please give details as to how.

Yes No

Comments:

See question 11 above

Q14. Are there any aspects of the Strategy where potential human rights violations may occur?

If you answered yes to this question, please give details as to how.

Yes No

Comments:

**Please return your response questionnaire.
Responses must be received no later than 5pm Friday 4 November 2016
Thank you for your comments.**

Annex A

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – CONFIDENTIALITY OF CONSULTATIONS

The Department may publish a summary of responses following completion of the consultation process. Your response, and all other responses to the consultation, may be disclosed on request. The Department can only refuse to disclose information in exceptional circumstances. **Before** you submit your response, please read the paragraphs below on the confidentiality of consultations and they will give you guidance on the legal position about any information given by you in response to this consultation.

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 gives the public a right of access to any information held by a public authority, namely, the Department in this case. This right of access to information includes information provided in response to a consultation. The Department cannot automatically consider as confidential information supplied to it in response to a consultation. However, it does have the responsibility to decide whether any information provided by you in response to this consultation, including information about your identity should be made public or be treated as confidential. **If you do not wish information about your identity to be made public, please include an explanation in your response.**

This means that information provided by you in response to the consultation is unlikely to be treated as confidential, except in very particular circumstances. The Secretary of State for Constitutional Affairs' Code of Practice on the Freedom of Information Act provides that:

- The Department should only accept information from third parties in confidence, if it is necessary to obtain that information in connection with the exercise of any of the Department's functions, and it would not otherwise be provided;
- The Department should not agree to hold information received from third parties "in confidence" which is not confidential in nature; and

- Acceptance by the Department of confidentiality provisions must be for good reasons, capable of being justified to the Information Commissioner.

For further information about confidentiality of responses please contact the Information Commissioner's Office (or see the web site at: <https://ico.org.uk/>)

Annex B**Equality and Human Rights**

Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 requires departments in carrying out their functions relating to Northern Ireland to have due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity:

- ❖ between persons of different religious belief, political opinion, racial group, age, marital status or sexual orientation;
- ❖ between men and women generally;
- ❖ between person with a disability and persons without; and
- ❖ between persons with dependants and persons without.

In addition, without prejudice to the above obligation, Departments should also, in carrying out their functions relating to Northern Ireland, have due regard to the desirability of promoting good relations between persons of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group.

In accordance with guidance produced by the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland and in keeping with Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998, the Framework has been equality screened and a preliminary decision has been taken that a full EQIA is not required.

Departments also have a statutory duty to ensure that their decisions and actions are compatible with the Human Rights Act 1998 and to act in accordance with these rights.

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| Report to: | Active and Healthy Communities Committee |
| Date of Meeting: | 17 October 2016 |
| Subject: | Financial Assistance |
| Reporting Officer (Including Job Title): | Sonya Burns, Programmes Manager |
| Contact Officer (Including Job Title): | Janine Hillen, Assistant Director of Community Engagement Eoin Devlin, Assistant Director Health & Wellbeing |

Decisions required:

The following recommendations are made for approval:

1. Approval to fund applications in call three for Christmas Illuminations & Events and Down Your Street/Live here love here.
2. Advances – provision of up to 50% advances on a needs led basis.

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| 1.0 | Purpose and Background: |
| 1.1 | <p>The third call for Financial Assistance opened on Monday 12 September and closed on Friday 30 September with a total of 61 applications being received under the following themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Down Your Street/Live Here Love Here - 23 • Christmas Illuminations/Events - 38 <p>The upper threshold for each of these themes was £3000. There was a very high pass rate at stage 1 which indicates that the capacity building has improved submissions.</p> <p>Attached is a report which provides a breakdown of the number of applications, pass and fail at each stage of the process, geographical spread of the applications received and successful and a breakdown of the final allocations to successful applicants.</p> |
| 2.0 | Key issues: |
| 2.1 | Managing the unsuccessful outcomes through the Review process. |
| 3.0 | Recommendations: |
| 3.1 | <p>The following recommendations are made for approval:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Approval to fund applications in call three for Christmas Illuminations & Events and Down Your Street/Live here love here. 2. Advances – provision of up to 50% advances on a needs led basis. |
| 4.0 | Resource implications |

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|------------|--|
| 4.1 | The total amount awarded for each theme as per the Appendix. |
| 5.0 | Equality and good relations implications: |
| 5.1 | There is an inclusion of equality and good relations within the applications and the process is underpinned by Equality and Good Relations principles. |
| 6.0 | Appendices |
| | Call Analysis to follow |