



March 15th, 2017

Notice Of Meeting

You are invited to attend the Active and Healthy Communities Committee meeting to be held on **Monday, 20th March 2017 at 6:00 pm** in **Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick.**

Chair: Cllr M Carr

Vice: Cllr L Kimmins

Members:

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 A McMurray Cllr B Ó'Muirí

Cllr D Taylor Cllr J Trainor

Cllr W Walker

Agenda

- 1 Apologies and Chairperson's Remarks
- 2 Declarations of Interest
- 3 Action Sheet arising from AHC Meeting held on 20 February 2017 (copy attached)

 *AHC-20022017.pdf*

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Presentations

4 ORNI

Community Engagement

5 DEA Update (copy attached)

 *Item 5 - DEA Update.pdf*

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 *Item 5 - ACTION SHEET Rowallane.pdf*

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 *Item 5 - Appendix - DEA ACTION SHEET NEWRY - Feb 2017.pdf*

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 *Item 5 - Mourne ACTION SHEET 22 Feb 2017.pdf*

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6 Newry Street Unite Update (copy attached)

 *Item 6 - AHC report on newry street unite - March 2017.pdf*

Page 18

7 Drumalane Update (copy attached)

 *AHC Report on Drumalane-Quayside Close - MARCH 2017.pdf*

Page 20

8 Policing & Community Safety Partnership (copy attached)

 *Item 8 AHC Report PCSP - March 2017.pdf*

Page 22

Leisure and Sports

9 Staff, Elected Members (Councillors) and Agency Workers of NMDDC access to Leisure Facilities (copy attached)

Deferred from February meeting

 <i>Report re use of facilities - Staff, Cllrs and Agency Workers.pdf</i>	<i>Page 24</i>
 <i>Appendix A - NMDDC Use of Leisure Facilities.pdf</i>	<i>Page 26</i>
 <i>Appendix B - Application form for use of leisure facilities.pdf</i>	<i>Page 30</i>

10 Bridge Street Play Park, Downpatrick (copy attached)

 <i>Report Re Upgrade of Bridge Street Downpatrick March 2017.pdf</i>	<i>Page 31</i>
 <i>Upgrade of Playarea at Bridge Street Downpatrick Appendix 1.pdf</i>	<i>Page 33</i>

11 Development Plan for MUGA's (copy attached)

 <i>Development plan for MUGA's.pdf</i>	<i>Page 34</i>
 <i>Appendix - Development plan for MUGA's.pdf</i>	<i>Page 65</i>

12 Commonwealth Games (copy attached)

 <i>AHC letter from Common Wealth Games.pdf</i>	<i>Page 94</i>
 <i>Appendix letter from Common Wealth Games.pdf</i>	<i>Page 95</i>

13 Request to acquire land at Windmill Hill, Ballynahinch by Drumlins Integrated Primary School (copy attached)

 <i>ReportAHC, Drumlins.pdf</i>	<i>Page 97</i>
 <i>Appendix 1 - ReportAHC, Drumlins.pdf</i>	<i>Page 99</i>
 <i>Appendix Drumlins.pdf</i>	<i>Page 100</i>

14 Update on Footgolf (Report to follow)

15 Recognition of Achievement (High Performance Level) Procedures (copy attached)

 <i>Item 15 - Report Recognition of Achievement Awards.pdf</i>	<i>Page 101</i>
 <i>Item 15 - Appendix Recognition of Achievement Procedures.pdf</i>	<i>Page 103</i>

16 Private Rented Sector in NI Proposal for Change - Consultation Document (copy attached)

 *Private rented sector in NI proposals for change.pdf* *Page 108*

 *Appendix - Private rented sector in NI proposals for change.pdf* *Page 110*

16 Minutes of Sustainability & Climate Change Forum Meeting (copy attached)

 *AHC report on Sustainability & Climate Forum - 20 February 2017.pdf* *Page 118*

 *Minutes of Sustainability & Climate Change Forum- 20 February 2017.pdf* *Page 119*

Local Development Plan

17 Newry, Mourne and Down Local Development Plan, Preparatory Studies Paper 10: Open Space, Recreation and Leisure (copy attached)

 *AHC Report re LDP Paper 10 - Open Space etc.pdf* *Page 121*

 *LDP Paper 10 - Open Space, Recreation and Leisure.pdf* *Page 123*

For Noting

18 Letter from Peter Weir - 2nd request to meet declined (copy attached)

 *Letter from Peter Weir.pdf* *Page 176*

Invitees

Cllr Terry Andrews	terry.andrews@nmandd.org
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@nmandd.org
Cllr Pete Byrne	pete.byrne@nmandd.org
Mr Gerard Byrne	gerard.byrne@nmandd.org
Cllr Michael Carr	michael.carr@nmandd.org
Mrs Dorinnia Carville	dorinnia.carville@nmandd.org
Cllr charlie casey	charlie.casey@nmandd.org
Cllr William Clarke	william.clarke@nmandd.org
Cllr Garth Craig	garth.craig@nmandd.org
Cllr Dermot Curran	dermot.curran@nmandd.org
Cllr Laura Devlin	laura.devlin@nmandd.org
Mr Eoin Devlin	eoin.devlin@nmandd.org
Cllr Sean Doran	sean.doran@nmandd.org
Cllr Cadogan Enright	cadogan.enright@nmandd.org
Cllr Gillian Fitzpatrick	gillian.fitzpatrick@nmandd.org
Cllr Glyn Hanna	glyn.hanna@nmandd.org
Mr Liam Hannaway	liam.hannaway@nmandd.org
Cllr Valerie Harte	valerie.harte@nmandd.org
Cllr Harry Harvey	harry.harvey@nmandd.org
Cllr Terry Hearty	terry.hearty@nmandd.org
Cllr David Hyland	david.hyland@nmandd.org
Cllr Liz Kimmins	liz.kimmins@nmandd.org
Cllr Mickey Larkin	micky.larkin@nmandd.org
Mr Michael Lipsett	michael.lipsett@nmandd.org
Cllr Kate Loughran	kate.loughran@nmandd.org
Cllr Jill Macauley	jill.macauley@nmandd.org
Cllr Kevin Mc Ateer	kevin.mcateer@nmandd.org
Cllr Declan McAteer	declan.mcateer@nmandd.org
Cllr Andrew McMurray	andrew.mcmurray@nmandd.org
Eileen McParland	eileen.mcparland@nmandd.org
Mr Roland Moore	roland.moore@nmandd.org
Cllr Roisin Mulgrew	roisin.mulgrew@nmandd.org
Cllr Mark Murnin	mark.murnin@nmandd.org
Cllr Barra O Muiri	barra.omuiri@nmandd.org
Cllr Pol O'Gribin	pol.ogribin@nmandd.org
Mr Canice O'Rourke	canice.orourke@downdc.gov.uk
Cllr Brian Quinn	brian.quinn@nmandd.org
Cllr Henry Reilly	henry.reilly@nmandd.org

Cllr Michael Ruane	michael.ruane@nmandd.org
Cllr Gareth Sharvin	gareth.sharvin@nmandd.org
Cllr Gary Stokes	gary.stokes@nmandd.org
Sarah Taggart	sarah-louise.taggart@nmandd.org
Cllr David Taylor	david.taylor@nmandd.org
Caroline Taylor	Caroline.Taylor@downdc.gov.uk
Cllr Jarlath Tinnelly	jarlath.tinnelly@nmandd.org
Cllr John Trainor	john.trainor@nmandd.org
Cllr William Walker	william.walker@nmandd.org
Mrs Marie Ward	marie.ward@nmandd.org

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
AHC/115/2016		- Undertake consultation exercise through each DEA, with communities that Council currently supply to consider a one-off payment to assist with the purchase of trees and/or illuminations from 2017 forward. - Cross-departmental review of post-Christmas 2016, to inform arrangements for 2017 and report back to relevant Committees.	J Hillen	Ongoing Ongoing	N N
AHC/116/2016	Supporting Communities Projects	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: - 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 - Council agree to ring fence funding required to meet design costs associated with Drumlane Community Association build - Officers investigate the introduction of a Community	J Hillen	In progress	N

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		Support Loan Scheme and report back to Committee with an options paper			
AHC/117/2016	Indoor Leisure Business Plan	It was agreed to approve as follows as per Report dated 19 September 2016 regarding Indoor Leisure Business Plan Update: 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: • 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. • Programme and Resource – develop clear linkages with	R Moore	In progress	N

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		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	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: • 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 process • Officers and staff to further	R Moore	In progress	N

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		develop the transitional plans and preparations needed for the future opening of Newry Leisure Centre Phase 2. These proposed arrangements should allow an ability to adapt over time as customer focus will be key.			
AHC/141/2016	Macmillan Cancer Support Project	It was agreed 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.	R Moore	In progress	N
AHC/149/2016	Extension of Facility Management Agreement with Castlewellan Community Partnership	It was agreed to accept the officer's recommendation to: • The extension of Facilities Management Agreement with Castlewellan Community Partnership until April 2016 (with monthly renewal thereafter until the premises are vacated for redevelopment); • The development of a long-term lease agreement with the Partnership for the future management of the Centre (following valuation, if required and subsequent agreement with Partnership Members and Council).	J Hillen	In progress	N
AHC/151/2016	Approval for Minor	It was agreed to accept the	J Hillen	Ongoing	N

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
	Improvements at Barcroft and Annalong Community Centres	officer's recommendation to: • Install CCTV to the exterior of the Barcroft Community Centre (subject to successful funding bid) • Update kitchen units, radiators and install a new dishwasher in Annalong Community Centre (subject to successful funding bid) It was also agreed that officers would investigate the possibility of replacing the green fencing at Barcroft with smaller wooden fencing.			
AHC/156/2016	Fitness Suite Operations for Indoor Leisure Centres	The Fitness Suite Operations for Indoor Leisure Centres was agreed.	R Moore	In progress	N
AHC/157/2016	Council Representation on SAND	It was agreed that option 2 be accepted with a reduction in the number of Councillors from 8 to 5 in line with NICVA recommendations. It was also agreed that the matter be referred to the Party Reps Committee for discussion on the allocation of recommended reduced numbers.	R Moore	In progress	N
AHC/169/2016	Creche Space Operating Model for Newry Leisure Centre – Phase 2	It was agreed to accept the officer's recommendation not to proceed with making arrangements to operate a drop-in baby minding service and research alternate operating models and use for the space and	R Moore	In progress	N

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		bring a report back to Committee at a later date detailing proposed options for consideration.			
AHC/14/2017	Ballyhornan Coastal Improvement	It was agreed that the use of Down Your Street/Live Here Love Here Funding to erect a fence at Ballyhornan to protect the amenity grass area from further erosion, be approved. It was agreed that an interpretation panel be included explaining to the public why the fence had been erected.	D Begley D Begley	In progress	N

ACTION SHEET ARISING FROM AHC MEETING HELD ON 20 FEBRUARY 2017

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
AHC/18/2017	Action Sheet of the AHC Committee held on 23 January 2017	<u>AHC/174/2016 Education Authority Review of Residential and Outdoor Centres</u> Previously drafted response from Council to be sent to the Minister for Education and a meeting to be organised with the Education Authority to discuss the proposed closure of the residential and outdoor centres and also the potential loss of jobs for youth provision.	M Lipsett	Previous response submitted to Education authority	N
AHC/19/2017	Proposed Licence Agreement between U3A and NMDDC for use of the Cloughreagh CC	1. Approval given to LPS valuation for proposed 5 yr licence for the full use of Cloughreagh Community Centre from 9am-4pm Mon-Fri during school term time. 2. If the valuation is agreeable to both parties, documentation in relation to a Licence agreement be drawn up and brought back to Committee for approval.	J McCann	Ongoing	N
AHC/20/2017	Proposed Licence	1. Approval given to the	J McCann	Ongoing	N

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
	Agreement between the Down Community and NMDDC for use of Meeting Room in Dan Rice Hall.	LPS valuation for proposed 5 yr licence for the full use of the meeting room in Dan Rice Hall by the Down Community Group (estimate for both 5 and 7 days). 2. If the valuation is agreeable to both parties; documentation in relation to a Licence agreement be drawn up and brought back to Committee for approval.			
AHC/21/2017	Financial Assistance Call 1 (2017-2018)	Correct dates for workshops to be circulated to Members.	Democratic Services	Actioned.	Y
AHC/22/2017	Community Support Review Report and Recommendations	Agreement given to implement recommendations as detailed in the report.	J Hillen	Actioned	Y
AHC/23/2017	Pricing & Operational Issues	Community Centre Scale of Charges 2017/18 approved.	J McCann	Actioned	Y
AHC/28/2017	Leisure Charges 2017/18	Indoor Leisure Scale of Charges 2017/18 approved.	K Gordon	Actioned	Y
AHC/29/2017	Provision of Stretchers at Pitches	Council not to provide stretchers at their outdoor sports facilities.	C Haughey	Agreed.	

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		An access audit to be carried out at Council's outdoor sports facilities.		To be undertaken during 2017/18 through Outdoor Leisure Officers.	
AHC/30/2017	SANDSA	Confirmation of DCSA acceptance of SANDSA and amended Articles of Association for SANDSA noted.	C Haughey	Approved.	
AHC/31/2017	Recognition of Achievement Award	Item taken off agenda and to be brought back to the March AHC Committee Meeting.	C Haughey	Actioned.	
AHC/32/2017	Correspondence from Mary Peter's Trust	Financial donation of £1,000 to the Mary Peter's Trust agreed.	C Haughey	Agreed.	
AHC/33/2017	Consultation Process for Play Strategy	Play Strategy consultation process approved.	C Haughey	Approved.	
AHC/33/2017	Fairtrade Steering Group – Nominees	2 nominations to the NMD Fairtrade Steering Group to be provided at the Council meeting on 6 March 2017.	S McElowney	To be provided at PRF.	

Agenda Item:	
Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	20 March 2017
Subject:	DEA Fora Update
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Janine Hillen, Assistant Director Community Engagement
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Damien Brannigan, Head of Engagement Suzanne Rice, DEA Coordinator (Crotlieve)

Decisions required:

Members are asked to note the contents of the report below, and consider and agree to approve the actions outlined in the following attached DEA Forum private meeting action sheets:

- Newry DEA Forum private meeting held on Thursday 9th February 2017
- Rowallane DEA Forum private meeting held on Wednesday 15th February 2017
- The Mourne DEA Forum private meeting held on Wednesday 22nd February 2017

1.0	Purpose and Background:
1.1	DEA Coordinators and forum members are implementing actions detailed in each of the seven DEA action plans. Progress to date includes the following: Level of Civic Participation • Local schools participating in Cultural Awareness programmes. Approximately 800 local children involved to date. • Good Relations activity taking place across the district supported by funding from The Executive Office under the themes of 'Children and Young People', 'Safe Community', 'Shared Community' and 'Cultural Expression'. • Appointment of County Down Rural Community Network (CDRCN) to deliver capacity building workshops for community groups across the district. Level of Personal Safety and Crime Rate • DEA Coordinators in partnership with PCSP and PSNI delivering crime prevention seminars across the district. Level of Health Status • Engagement with Health and Social Care Trust representatives and Children and Young Peoples Strategic Partnership to identify and agree opportunities for joint working. • DEA coordinators working in partnership with CDRCN to deliver Action Cancer bus in locations across the District. Public Meetings • The Slieve Gullion DEA Forum held an 'Internet Safety' public meeting on the Thursday 16th February 2017. Digital media expert Wayne Denner

	provided advice and guidance on staying safe on social media while also protecting online reputation. The meeting was well attended and took place in Cullyhanna Community Centre.
2.0	Key issues:
2.1	None
3.0	Recommendations:
3.1	Members are asked to note the above report and approve the action sheets from the following DEA Forum private meetings: • Newry DEA Forum private meeting held on Thursday 9th February 2017 • Rowallane DEA Forum private meeting held on Wednesday 15th February 2017 • The Mournes DEA Forum private meeting held on Wednesday 22nd February 2017
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	Not Applicable
5.0	Equality and good relations implications:
5.1	Not Applicable
6.0	Appendices
	Appendix I: DEA Forum action sheets for: • Newry DEA Forum private meeting held on Thursday 9th February 2017 • Rowallane DEA Forum private meeting held on Wednesday 15th February 2017 • The Mournes DEA Forum private meeting held on Wednesday 22nd February 2017

ACTION SHEET- Rowallane District Electoral Area Meeting – 15th February 2017

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed
DEA/1/2017	Chairperson's Remarks	Forum to send speedy recovery letter to Mrs. Lise Curran.	Letter sent 16/02/17
DEA/3/2017	Drumlins Integrated School request to lease land at Windmill Hill.	Recommendation made by Mrs Alison Robb and Mr Conor Haughey that the Council surrender their lease early and hand the land back to NIHE was approved unanimously as it was the most economical and clean approach to take.	Alison Robb and Conor Haughey. Ellen to confirm in writing,
DEA/4/2017	Report of Public Meeting	Report was noted and no questions arose.	Noted
DEA/7/2017	Multi Sports Programme in Primary Schools	Approval given for Ellen to seek quotations and provide programme and invite forum members to closing event.	Quotation sent 16/02/17 invitations to be issued when programme finishing.
DEA/8/2017	Council Capital Financial Assistance Workshops.	Members noted two events taking place on 27/02/17 in Kilmorey Arms Hotel, Kilkeel and 28/02/17 Millbrook Lodge Hotel both commencing at 6.45 pm	Members to advise interested groups/parties.
DEA/9/2017	Proposal for next public meeting 25/04/17	Officer proposal for next Public Meeting was unanimously approved. Councillor Brown kindly offered to assist Ellen in identifying suitable practitioners for the event.	Ellen and Councillor Brown to co-ordinate the event.

ACTION SHEET- Newry District Electoral Area Meeting – 9/2/17

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed
DEA/NT/1/2017	Smoking Recreation Centre	Members requested Paul Madden be invited to attend next DEA Private meeting to discuss in more detail.	Coordinator to progress
CAPITAL	3G Pitch Respect Project	Relevant department to investigate options for this site.	Email to Roland Moore
	Patrick Rankin Sculpture	Recommendation that relevant department investigate improving lighting at this site and associated costs.	Email to Colin Moffet
HEALTH AND WELLBEING	Extended Provision	Recommendations that a letter be sent to Gavin Boyd, Education Authority , Arlene Kee, Education Authority requesting clarification on current position of this funding.	Coordinator to Progress
ENVIRONMENTAL	Alleyways/ Graffiti	Contact relevant department to request alleyway deep cleansing at Barcroft, Lisgullion, Violet Hill Ave and Greater Linen Hall.	Email Liam Dinsmore
	Gas tanks Barcroft	Contact NIE to request improved maintenance at this site.	Coordinator to Progress

Safety	Barcroft Wall Graffiti	Coordinator to determine property ownership and clean up/ potential community project.	Coordinator to progress
Economic Development	Willie Maley Supporters Club	Coordinator to contact Willie Maley supporters club to advise of funding opportunities.	Coordinator to Progress

ACTION SHEET- Mournes District Electoral Area Meeting – 22nd February 2017

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed
DEA/3/2016	3 x 10 min presentations Translink	Kathleen to check with Eddie Curt�s if investigations into land behind Kilkeel bus station look place. Kathleen link in with Canice O'Rourke to move forward for a joint proposal for toilet provision within Kilkeel bus station. Kathleen to explore with other DEA Coordinators the integration of Translink and the Health Trusts to provide better services.	Kathleen to follow up Email sent but as yet there Has been no response The forum were advised that there was now a potential relocation of the bus shelter to the location of the joinery works Kathleen to follow up
DEA/4/2016	Minutes 20/10/16	Minutes and action sheet were proposed as a true record. Councillor Reilly to liaise with the council's legal department before distributing any financial information to Pamela Houston. Annalong Harbour and Stormgate will be on the agenda for the next private meeting and the forum are to read the minutes and raise any issues at the next meeting	Councillors Sean Doran and Henry Reilly Councillor Reilly advised that this year's budget was not available for distribution. Ongoing

DEA/6/2016	Update on planned public meeting	The public meeting held in December in the Civic Centre Newcastle was well attended given that the date was so close to Christmas.	New Date for the next Public Meeting needs to be scheduled.
DEA/9/2016	Next private meeting	Kathleen to check master diary for a suitable date and time for the next private and feed back to the forum. The forum are come up with ideas on the best use for the Good Relations Budget.	Forum members were advised that all private meetings would take place on the last Wednesday of the month and dates were already in in Master Diary until May 2017. Forum to follow up
DEA/10/2017	Update on Newry Street Unite Community Centre	Mrs Julie Mc Cann gave an update on the Newry Street Unite Project. The project is fully supported by the Forum.	Project updates will be given on a timely basis.
DEA/11/2017	DRD to be Contacted	DRD Roads are to be contacted with regard to Knockcree Avenue Kilkeel. With a view to having a grass verge removed and replaced with car parking space	Email has been sent to Cindy Noble
DEA/12/2017	Contact Inspector re meeting at River Walk Kilkeel	Kathleen to arrange site meeting with inspector Nigel Henry regarding anti-social Behaviour At River Walk Kilkeel	Following response from PSNI regarding a drop in ASB it was decided that the scheduled meeting should be cancelled, however timely updates should be given to the forum.

DEA/13/2017	Write to Minister for Infrastructure Chris Hazzard	Letter to be sent to the Minister re the Ferry at Greencastle	Kathleen to follow up.
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Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	20 March 2017
Subject:	Update report on the Community Centre Development with Newry Street Unite
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Janine Hillen Assistant director of Community Engagement
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Julie Mc Cann Head of Community Services, Facilities and Events

Decisions required:

- **Councillors are asked to note the report**

1.0	Purpose and Background:
1.1	Newry Street Unite have secured funding of £350,000 from The Big Lottery Fund, Space and Place programme to build a new community facility and upgrade the councils existing play park at Hillside Drive, Kilkeel. The project will be developed on land leased by the Council from the Housing Executive and also an adjoining piece of land owned outright by the Housing Executive. Newry Street Unite Community Association wrote to the Council seeking approval to sub lease the site for the community centre development and a play area. A request was also made asking the council to lease the other piece of ground from the Housing Executive and sub-lease it to them.
2.0	Key issues:
2.1	The Community Association have engaged an architect on this project and have asked them to relocate the community centre from its original proposed site which straddled council leased land and land owned outright by NIHE. The amended drawings now show that the community centre building is now entirely on the site currently leased by the council. The council cannot sub lease this site to the association as there is currently a restrictive covenant on the site preventing any building being erected. NIHE have asked their senior officials to consider the option of removing the restrictive covenant from the existing piece of land at a nil consideration. If approved by senior officials this will need to go to DFC for consideration. In relation to the additional piece of ground that is owned outright by NIHE, their officials have been asked to devise a short economic appraisal as to why it should be given at a nil premium. If approved by senior officials at NIHE it will also have to go to DFC for approval. If this is not approved the ground will have to be leased at a cost of £5,000. The community association are currently submitting a financial assistance application to the council. Using the revised figures from their architect the group

	will be submitting a request for match funding of approx. £85,000. Space and Place have advised the community association that all legal paperwork must be complete prior to them signing a contract with the preferred contractor. The architect has submitted a planning application and is currently working on drawings to submit a building control application. Both these submissions are required as part of the financial assistance eligibility criteria. Current timeline for completion of project is as follows: Community Association to submit a financial assistance application before 31st March 2017. Advert for a contractor will be in the paper 7th April with a closing date of 5th May 17. Assessment of tenders will commence the week of 8-12th May 17. Meeting with design team to discuss any required bill of reductions week of 22nd May 17. Letters to unsuccessful tenders sent week of 29th May 17. Contractor appointed mid June 17 and on site week commencing 3rd July 17. Contract to be complete Jan 2018.
3.0	Recommendations:
3.1	Council Officers continue to work with NIHE in relation to the on-going legal issues surrounding the land. Council officers continue to support the community association on the procurement of a contractor.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	Council officer time in relation to project management and preparing legal paperwork.
5.0	Equality and good relations implications:
5.1	None
6.0	Appendices
	None

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	20 March 2017
Subject:	Update Report on Drumlane/Quayside Close Community Centre Development
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Janine Hillen Assistant Director Community Engagement
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Julie Mc Cann Head of Community Services Facilities and Events

Decisions required:

- **Councillors are asked to note the report**

1.0	Purpose and Background:
1.1	The council has received a letter of offer from DFC Neighbourhood Renewal programme of £338,889.00 for the provision of a modular build Community Centre at Drumlane/Quayside Close.
2.0	Key issues:
2.1	As per the recommendation at Nov 16 AHC meeting officials have carried out a two stage tender process. An abnormally low tender has been received and officials are carrying out further checks to ensure that the price provided meets all the specification requirements. As there are a number of outstanding issues in relation to the appointment of a contractor the council has advised DFC that it will be unable to meet its target for spend within the 16/17 financial year and has requested that the £50,000 be carried over to the 17/18 financial year. The council has also requested that the letter of offer be extended to Dec 2017 to ensure that the project can be completed to the appropriate standard. Planning approval has been submitted but has not been approved to date. The cutting of the sod to mark the official launch of the scheme will be held in April 2017.
3.0	Recommendations:
3.1	Council officials to continue to work in partnership with the community association to ensure the successful delivery of the project. Council officials to continue to liaise with DFC officials to ensure that they are

	satisfied with all aspects of the procurement and claim process.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	Council Officers time.
5.0	Equality and good relations implications:
5.1	None
6.0	Appendices
	Appendix I: None

Report to:	Active & Healthy Communities
Date of Meeting:	20 March 2017
Subject:	Policing and Community Safety Partnership
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Janine Hillen, Assistant Director Community Engagement
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Damien Brannigan, Head of Engagement Siobhán Fearon, PCSP Manager

Decisions required:

- To agree PCSP spend at risk in identified community safety projects, until a Letter of Offer is received from the Joint Committee

1.0	Purpose and Background:
1.1	To allow the PCSP to provide continuity of service in the possible context of a delayed Letter Of Offer from Joint Committee post the NI Assembly elections by extending the contract for services contained within, namely: - Provision of Locks & Bolts Scheme for vulnerable members of community (Confederation of Community Groups (CCG)) (Total value of Contract £25,000 – Ongoing) - Provision of Good Morning, Good Neighbour scheme (CCG & Good Morning Down) (Total value of Contract £15,000 - Ongoing) - Provision of domestic violence intervention programme (Women's Aid, Newry & Armagh) (Total value of Contract £10,000 - Ongoing) - Provision of Community Safety Wardens (Total value of Contract £58,000 – tender to be advertised)
2.0	Key issues:
2.1	PCSP has reviewed and ratified its Action Plan for 2017-2018 which has been submitted for approval to the Joint Committee. The PCSP has been verbally informed that a budget cut of up to 10% may be applied, and are currently awaiting a letter of comfort confirming this from the Joint Committee. Post the NI Assembly elections 2017, there may be further delays in establishing the Policing Board and therefore to receiving the Letter of Offer and final budget figure compensation.
3.0	Recommendations:
3.1	To approve at risk spend for PCSP, extend contracts as listed and advertise for Community Safety Wardens.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	All items are budgeted for in the PCSP Action Plan. A 10% cut has been factored into Quarter 1 spend and will not exceed this. NIHE provide part funding for the

	Community Safety Warden and this can be used to fund a programme from 1 st April for approximately 3 months.
5.0	Equality and good relations implications:
5.1	None
6.0	Appendices
	None

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities
Date of Meeting:	20 March 2017
Subject:	Staff, Elected Members (Councillors) and Agency Workers of NMDDC access to Leisure Facilities
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Roland Moore, Assistant Director Leisure and Sport
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Kieran Gordon, Head of Indoor Leisure

Decisions required:

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

- **Staff, Elected Members (Councillors) and Agency Workers of NMDDC access to Leisure Facilities**

1.0	Purpose and Background:
1.1	Previously, legacy NMDC and DDC gave consideration to the free use of leisure facilities in order to improve the health and wellbeing of employees, to reduce levels of absenteeism and for associated health benefits during certain periods of ill health.
1.2	In November 2014, Officers obtained approval to agree to the basic principles of staff and elected members access to leisure facilities through the pricing convergence workstream prior to the amalgamation of Council in April 2015.
1.2	The former NMDC and former DDC legacy Council's each had a similar process for reviewing and administering requests made by staff and elected members but now the need has arose to combine the procedure and also to clarify certain elements, ie. The free use of leisure facilities for agency workers.
2.0	Key issues:
2.1	It is proposed that the amalgamated process clarify access permissions for: • All employees of Newry Mourne and Down District Council; • Agency workers with 12 weeks' continuous service and who are expected to be retained for at least one month after completion of 12 weeks' continuous service. • Current serving Elected Members of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council (Councillors)
2.2	It is proposed that for those individuals that meet the qualifying criteria as set out within section 2 of the policy, should complete the application form, obtain relevant approval and therefore should gain access to the following: • Free use of non-bookable facilities e.g. swimming, sauna and steam room, • Eligible for the free use of the fitness suites, (except for Newry Sports

	Centre until August 2017 where an initial £50 fee and £10 annual membership is applicable – after August 2017, free use of all fitness facilities is permitted) • Access to Council organised coaching classes, which will be charged at the member rate as per the scale of charges and which must be booked and paid prior to any participation in any class. Leisure and Sport section staff can avail of Council organised coaching classes for free subject to availability, however must vacate their place if customer demand dictates. • All is subject to each facilities normal operating and admission conditions • Facilities must be used within each applicants own time.
3.0	Recommendations:
3.1	It is recommended to adopt this amalgamated procedure for NMDDC staff, elected members and agency workers that meet the criteria as set out within the operational procedure.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	Officer time – to make staff aware of arrangements, to co-ordinate implementation of registration form and to update computerised till systems Other Impacts – to ensure a robust and standardised approach to Staff, Elected Members (Councillors) and Agency Staff access across Indoor Leisure services and facilities
5.0	Equality and good relations implications:
5.1	The draft Policy on access to and use of NMDDC Indoor Leisure Facilities for Council employees, agency workers and Elected Members of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council (Councillors) has been equality screened and it recommended it not be subject to an equality impact assessment (with no mitigating measures required). As outlined within the draft policy, it will be reviewed in line with the Council's agreed policy review cycle i.e. every 4 years (as per Council's Equality Scheme commitment 4.31), or sooner to ensure it remains reflective of legislative developments.
6.0	Appendices
	Appendix A – Policy on access to and use of NMDDC Indoor Leisure Facilities for Council employees, agency workers and Elected Members of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council (Councillors) Appendix B – Application form

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

Policy on access to and use of NMDDC Indoor Leisure Facilities for Council employees, agency workers and Elected Members of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council (Councillors)

1. Title

Policy on access to and use of NMDDC Indoor Leisure Facilities for Council employees, agency workers and Elected Members of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council (Councillors)

2. Statement

Previously, legacy NMDC and DDC gave consideration to the free use of leisure facilities in order to improve the health and wellbeing of employees, to reduce levels of absenteeism and for associated health benefits during certain periods of ill health. This policy now supersedes both and is applicable to those that meet the qualifying criteria as detailed within section 4 of this document

3. Aim

The purpose of the policy is to set out the arrangements and protocol for providing access to and use of the following Newry Mourne and Down District Council Indoor Leisure Facilities:

- Ballymote Sports and Well Being Centre
- Downpatrick Leisure Centre
- Kilkeel Leisure Centre
- Newcastle Leisure Centre
- Newcastle Tropicana
- Newcastle Rock Pool
- Newry Sports Centre
- Newry Leisure Centre
- St Colman's Sports Complex Newry

4. Scope.

The policy applies to:

- All employees of Newry Mourne and Down District Council;
- Agency workers with 12 weeks' continuous service and who are expected to be retained for at least one month after completion of 12 weeks' continuous service.
- Current serving Elected Members of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council (Councillors)

5. Related Policies.

N/A

6. Definitions

N/A

7. Policy Owner

Leisure and Sport Section

8. Contact details in regard of this policy are:

Leisure and Sport Section
Kieran Gordon, Head of Indoor Leisure

9. Policy Authorisation

SMT Authorised on _____

Strategy, Policy and Resources
Committee Authorised on _____

Council Authorised on _____

10. Policy Effective Date

11. Policy Review Date

The policy will be reviewed in line with the Council's agreed policy review cycle i.e. every 4 years (as per Council's Equality Scheme commitment 4.31), or sooner to ensure it remains reflective of legislative developments.

12. Procedures and arrangements for monitoring the implementation and impact of the policy

1. Facilities available to those who meet qualifying criteria of section 4 of this document:

- Free use of non-bookable facilities e.g. swimming, sauna and steam room.
- Eligible for the free use of the fitness suites, (except for Newry Sports Centre until August 2017 where an initial £50 fee and £10 annual membership is applicable – after August 2017, free use of all fitness facilities is permitted)
- Access to Council organised coaching classes, which will be charged at the member rate as per the scale of charges and which must be booked and paid prior to any participation in any class. Leisure and Sport section staff can avail of Council organised coaching classes for free subject to availability, however must vacate their place if customer demand dictates.
- All is subject to each facilities normal operating and admission conditions
- Facilities must be used within each applicants own time.

2. Application Process

Qualifying permanent employees as per section 4:

- Complete Appendix A, obtain approval and signature from their relevant Department/Section Head and return the form to a centre of your choice as listed within section 1 to complete application process

Qualifying agency employees as per section 4:

- Complete Appendix A, obtain approval and signature from their relevant Department/Section Head and return the form to a centre of your choice as listed within section 1 to complete application process. This enables use of the facilities until the applicant's contract expiry date. Where there is no expiry date stipulated, Appendix 1 form must be renewed every 3 months.

Qualifying Elected Members of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council (Councillors) as per section 4:

- Complete Appendix A, obtain approval and signature from Democratic Services and return the form to a centre of your choice as listed within section 1 to complete application process. This enables use of the facilities until the applicant's expiry date.

3. Roles and Responsibilities

Chief Executive

- To keep under review this policy and procedure to ensure that it meets with the Council's corporate aims and objectives, particularly in regards to the promotion of employee wellbeing and reduction in absenteeism.

Director of Active Healthy Communities

- Responsibility to monitor the use of the facilities to ensure that they meet with the provisions of this policy.

HR

- Responsible for advising Leisure Services of any leavers or new employees.
- To provide new employees information upon commencement of employment and verify applications where appropriate.

Leisure Centre Management

- Administer approved application form as per appendix 1, issue access cards/badges/bands with relevant expiry dates and ensure that those accessing the free facilities or fitness facilities are authorised to do so
- Update internal leisure management software when necessary following notification of any leavers or new employees.

Department/Section Heads

- Responsible for ensuring they verify each person's application form noting that the applicant complies with section 4 of this document.
- Responsible for noting applicants contract expiry date where applicable – where an expiry date is unable to be supplied, Appendix 1 process must be renewed every 3 months

Applicants

- Must fill out an application form as per Appendix A and obtain approval from their Department/Section Head. Responsible for notifying Council for any change to employment status, role and responsibility.
- Must ensure that they comply with each facilities normal operating and admission procedures.

13. Equality Screening

The Policy has been equality screened and it recommended it not be subject to an equality impact assessment (with no mitigating measures required).

14. Version Control

Use of Leisure Facilities V1 February 2017

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



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

30

APPLICATION FORM FOR NMDDC STAFF, AGENCY WORKERS AND ELECTED MEMBERS OF NEWRY, MOURNE DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL (COUNCILLORS) TO AVAIL OF INDOOR LEISURE FACILITIES

APPLICANT NAME: _____

TITLE: _____ (Mr/Mrs etc)

DEPT/SECTION WHERE EMPLOYED: _____

(please circle below)

Elected Member of NMDDC (Councillor)
Permanent Full Time / Part Time
Temporary Full Time / Part Time
Seasonal / Casual / Agency

(If your contract is on a temporary, seasonal, casual or agency basis please state below your start date AND the date your contract expires. Where contracts are extended, this form must be renewed to reflect updated contract expiry date. Where no contract expiry date is noted, access will be for a period of 3 months and this form must be renewed thereafter for continued access).

START DATE: _____

DATE CONTRACT EXPIRES: _____

I confirm that the information detailed above is correct and am responsible for notifying Council for any change to employment status, role and responsibility. I will ensure that I comply with each facilities normal operating and admission procedures. I am aware that this scheme does not entitle free or discounted rates for family members or friends.

APPLICANT SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

THIS SECTION MUST BE COMPLETED BY YOUR DEPARTMENT OR SECTION HEAD.

I confirm that the information detailed above is correct and complies with section 4 of the policy.

DEPT/SECTION HEAD NAME: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Card Number: _____

Date Card Issued: _____

ID Number: _____

Receptionist Name: _____

Expiry Date (only for casual/seasonal/agency): _____

NMDDC Use Of Leisure Facilities Application Form
V1 February 2017

Report to:	AHC Committee
Date of Meeting:	20 March 2017
Subject:	Funding Upgrade of Bridge Street Playpark, Downpatrick
Reporting Officer	Roland Moore – Assistant Director Leisure & Sport
Contact Officer	Conor Haughey- Head of Outdoor Leisure

Decisions required:

Members agree to the development of Bridge Street Play park due to receipt of external funding.

1.0	Purpose and Background:
1.1	The Council have been awarded funding from Department for Communities and County Down Rural Community Network to the value of £33k in order to upgrade, improve and enhance the playpark in Bridge Street, Downpatrick. This playpark has been highlighted by the funders as an area of high deprivation and in need of upgrade in order to improve the play value of the area for children and young people.
2.0	Key issues:
2.1	The Council's current Play Strategy has identified Bridge Street, Ardmore and Marian Park as three areas of low play value and within Year 3 these parks to be consolidated into one. By accepting the funding and carrying out the works to Bridge Street, this play park would be removed from the consolidation recommendation within the Play Strategy. Therefore, the consolidation will only focus on Ardmore and Marian Park in Year 3, which would be subject to further local consultation. The funded project must be completed before the end of March 2017 ensuring that equipment is purchased and all works carried out.
3.0	Recommendations:
3.1	Council to approve the acceptance of the £33k funding from both the Department for Communities and County Down Rural Community Network and agreed to carry out the works in Bridge Street in order to bring the play value above it's current scoring of 88 and to accept Year 3 recommendation change of the Play Strategy for Ardmore Park and Marian Park only, subject to local consultation.
4.0	Resource implications

4.1	£33k funding required. Staff time to project manage.
5.0	Equality and good relations implications:
5.1	The play equipment to be installed meets the Play Strategy recommendations for increased play value and inclusivity of all children and young people
6.0	Appendices Appendix 1 Attached

AHC March 2017

Upgrade of Playarea at Bridge Street, Downpatrick

6. Appendix 1.

Funder	Amount	Item
Department for Communities	£13.5k	2 pieces of Play Equipment: Crusader Rope Swing Inclusive Roundabout
County Down Rural Community Network	£17k	1 x Large Gaheris Multi Play Unit
County Down Rural Community Network	£2.5k	Playpark Signage and re-landscaping

Report to:	AHC Committee
Date of Meeting:	20 March 2017
Subject:	The Development of Multi Use Games Areas
Reporting Officer	Roland Moore – Assistant Director Leisure & Sport
Contact Officer	Conor Haughey- Head of Outdoor leisure

Decisions required:

- **Agree in principle to the report and findings produced by Playboard NI in order to deliver 4 MUGAS as identified.**

1.0	Purpose and Background:
1.1	The Council's Sports Facility Strategy recommended the Council undertake a review of Community Centres to access options for the long term of sports and physical activity provision where there are areas of population need. Where there are potential gaps then it is recommended MUGA's could be looked at as a provision. (Recommendation 8 of the SFS) The Council's Play Strategy 2017-2022 supports the SFS recommendation 8 and states that young people aged from 14-19 value play being relevant in their lives and are important factors in their development, recreation, fun and engagement opportunities with their peers. The Play Strategy also recommends the provision of MUGA's for 14-19 year olds where there are potential gaps for activity provision. Playboard NI were tasked to look at current MUGA and Community Centre provisions within the district, then apply the same measured formula used for the fixed play method (Beyond the Six Acre Standard). The same mapping process and demographic populations were applied to the measured formula and where there are gap areas highlighted then the installation of MUGAS being the solution.
	Key issues:
2.1	The Council's SFS and the Play Strategy both have made recommendations for the Council to review the current activity provision for young people aged 14-19 and match against current demographic populations. Where gaps have been highlighted MUGA's may be the solution for consideration.
3.0	Recommendations:
3.1	Agree in principle to the report and priority recommendations produced by Play Board NI (appendix A) in order to deliver MUGA's over a 4 year period within the

	district. Agree the same Community Consultation process to be applied for fixed play is used to identify the area to locate MUGA's in the gap areas.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	A Capital budget of £80,000 over the next 4 years which is already within rates estimates for the gap area. Tier 5 staffing required to deliver on these projects.
5.0	Equality and good relations implications:
5.1	N/A
6.0	Appendices: Play board NI Overview of MUGA's



NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN

DISTRICT COUNCIL



OVERVIEW OF MULTI USE GAME AREA'S AND PRIORITISATION OF NEED

1.0 Introduction

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council have secured approval for the development and installation for 4 new Multi-Use Games Areas (MUGA's).

With a view to guiding the placement of these new MUGA's in areas of highest population demand, and following on from the development of the draft Play Strategy for council, PlayBoard were asked to complete an additional review focused on:

- A review of the location of existing Multi-Use Games Areas (MUGA's) mapped against existing fixed play areas and those locations identified for future fixed play area development within the play strategy;
- A review of underlying demographic need within the 14 to 19 age group across the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area in order to identify potential locations for new MUGA development; and
- Prioritisation of those geographical areas showing highest level of population demand for MUGA development.

This report provides an overview of key findings and recommendations.

2.0 Multi Use Games Areas

Multi-Use Games Areas, often referred to as MUGA's are dedicated modular systems that offer children and young people an opportunity to engage in non-formalised physical, recreational and sporting activity within the community.

MUGA's generally consist of a steel goal post/basketball goal post combination, can be used by used a variety of age groups and are generally fenced off to prevent loss of balls etc. MUGA's are often located adjacent to or within close proximity to fixed play areas.

Dependent on their design, MUGA's can support a range of sporting activity including football, tennis, basketball, netball etc. and can also provide (where dedicated seating and/or shelter is installed) a hang-out spot for teenagers who want to socialise with their peer group.



It should be noted that due to the often intense physical nature of the activities that take place at MUGA's there is scope for increased levels of noise which can lead to complaints from nearby housing.

Whilst MUGA's can be used by a variety of age groups they have generally been geared towards meeting the recreational needs of older children and teenagers who have often outgrown the range of activities and level of challenge offered by traditional fixed play areas.

3.0 Recreational Needs of Young People

The recreational activities that children and young people engage in during their free time are vitally important to their ongoing growth and development. As children mature into their teenage years the ability to engage in both formal and non-formal recreational activity is critical in helping to develop and maintain good health and wellbeing, establish and maintain social connections to peers and connect to the wider community in which they live.

Activities that for younger children are referred to as play (both fixed and non-fixed) become recreational and leisure activities as teenagers increasingly engage in past-times that they find personally interesting, enjoyable and satisfying.

In developing the council play strategy PlayBoard sought the views of older children and teenagers from across the district through both online questionnaires and focus groups. The findings affirmed the importance of recreation and leisure to the lives of older children and teenagers highlighting in particular its importance in relation to:

- Enabling them to remain active through engagement in both formal and informal recreational activity (ranging from attending clubs and more formal sports activity through to making use of a MUGA, kicking a ball about on a green space area, walking etc.)
- Enabling them to hang out in their community and providing opportunities for them to socialise with their peers thereby sustaining and developing social connections
- Fun and relaxation.

4.0 Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Sports Facility Strategy

It should be noted that in addition to the play strategy, in 2016 Newry, Mourne and Down District council initiated the development of a Sports Facility Strategy for the district. The sports facility strategy connects to the Play Strategy, incorporating a number of areas of recreation that appeal in particular to the play/recreational needs of older young people i.e. the 15 to 18 year old age group.

With specific regards to MUGA's, the Sports Facility Strategy makes a key recommendation (recommendation 8) regarding the further roll-out of MUGA's across the district as a means of enhancing access to active recreational opportunities within the community.

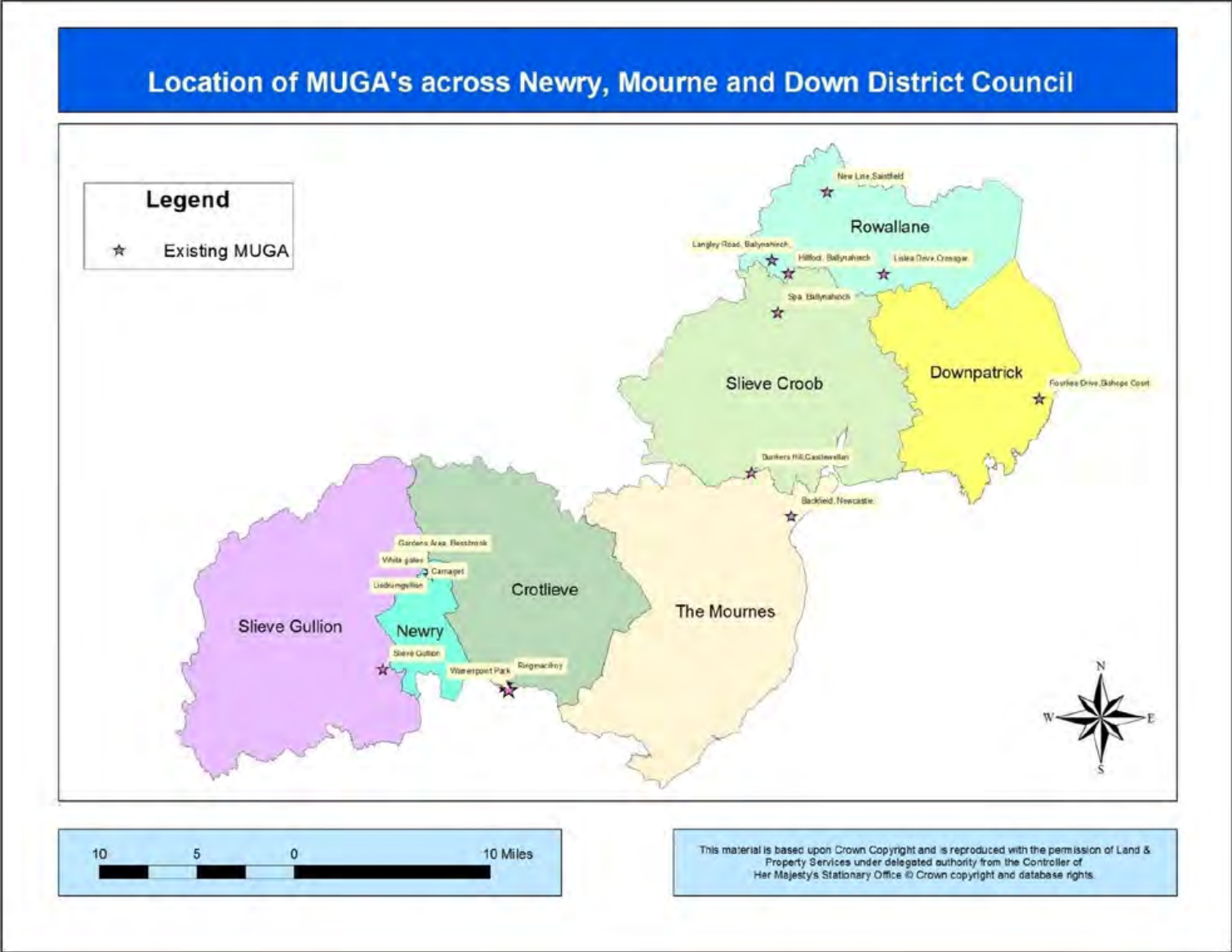
Recommendation	Relevance to Play Strategy
(8) Areas of population growth/areas without access to other formal sports facilities should have access to a MUGA or outdoor recreational grass sports area as minimum provision.	For teenagers Multi-Use Games Areas (MUGA's) offer an opportunity to engage in light, non-formalised recreational activity which supports physical health and wellbeing. In addition MUGA's provide meeting points and, where teen shelters are incorporated can provide a hang-out area supporting social connections.
Recommendation: The Sport Facility Strategy, in rolling out its recommendation should ensure that consideration is given to the incorporation of teen shelters where need is identified as a means of enhancing recreational provision for teenagers.	

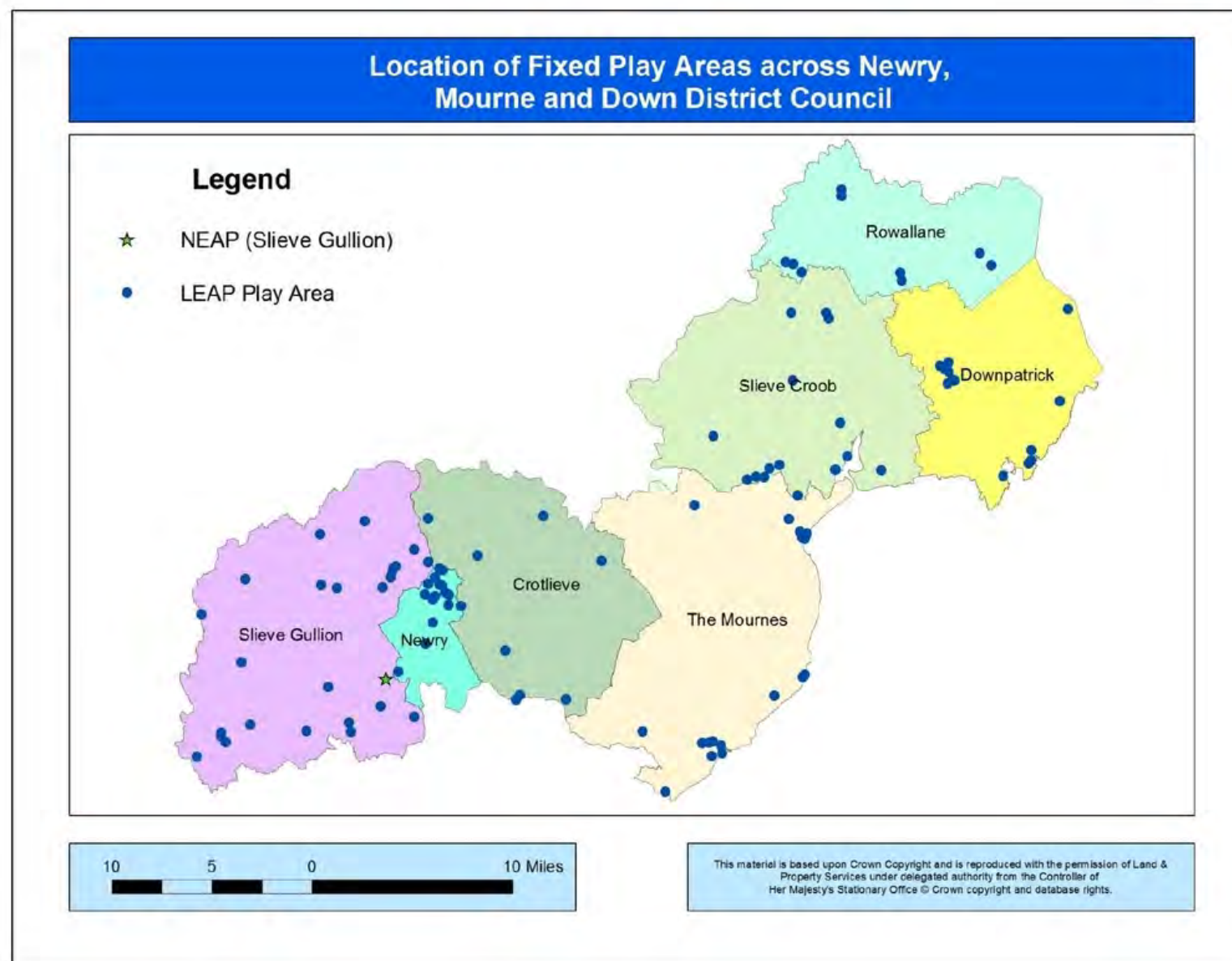
4.0 Current MUGA Provision in Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

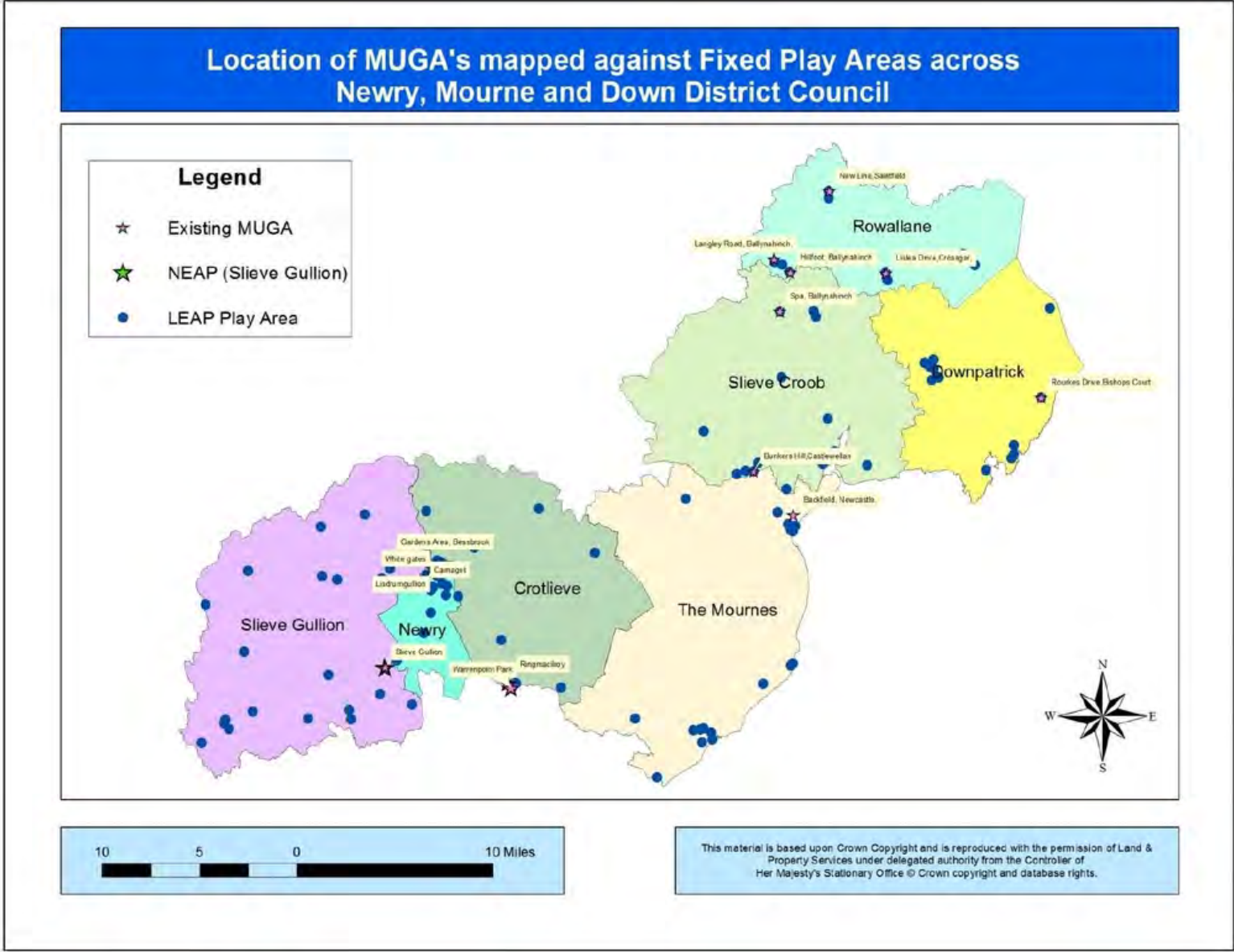
There are at present 15 MUGA sites located across Newry, Mourne and Down District Council. The map overleaf provides an overview of the geographical locations.

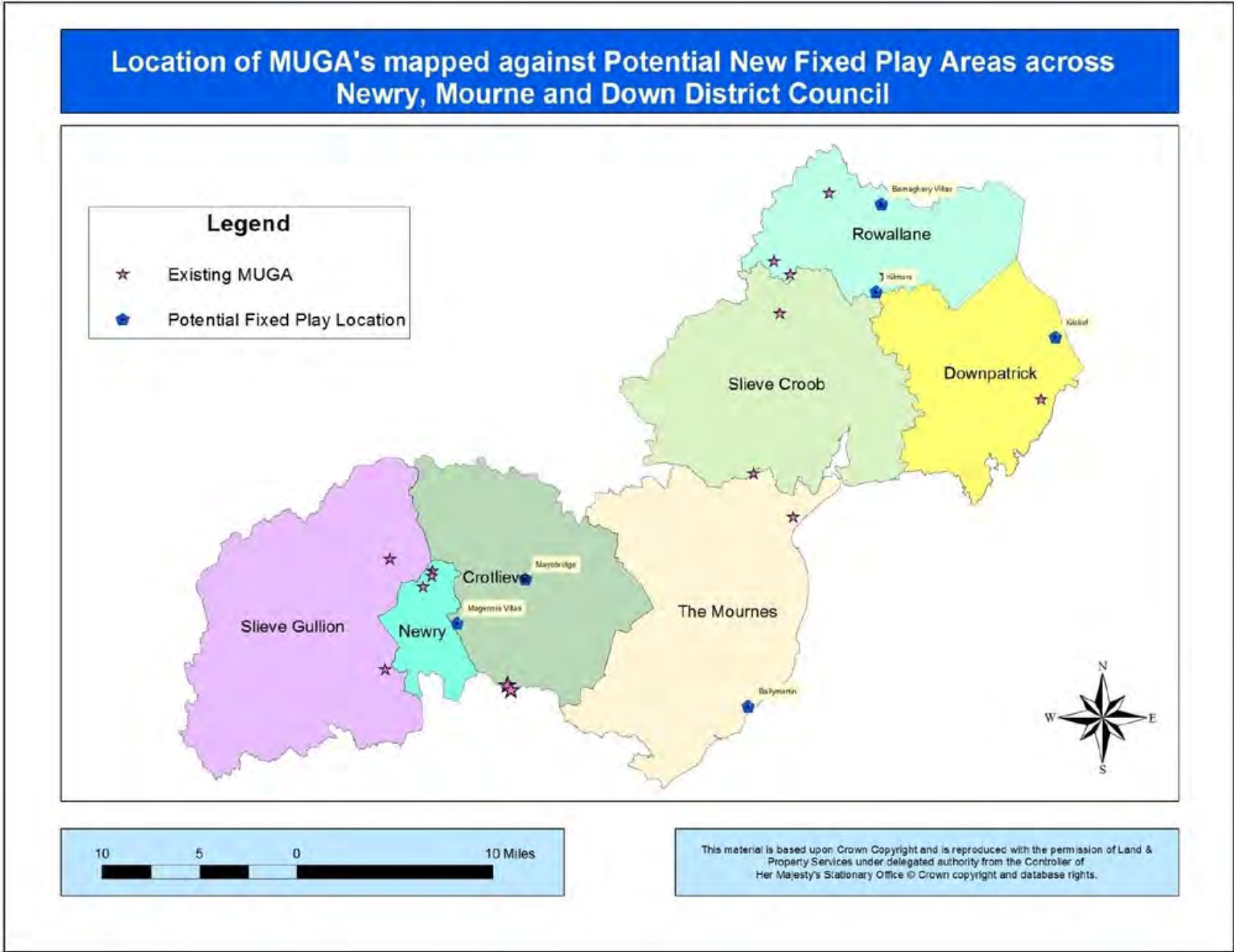
Based on DEA areas, the breakdown of MUGA's is as follows:

DEA Area	Number of MUGA's	Name of MUGA's
Slieve Gullion	2	• Slieve Gullion Forest Park • The Gardens Area, Bessbrook
Newry	3	• Lisdrumgullion • White Gate • Carnagat
Crotlieve	2	• Warrenpoint Park • Ringmacilroy
Mournes	1	• Backfield, Newcastle
Slieve Croob	2	• Bunker's Hill, Castlewellan • Spa, Ballynahinch
Rowallane	4	• Langley Road, Ballynahinch • Hillfoot, Ballynahinch • New Line Play Park, Saintfield • Lislea Drive, Crossgar
Downpatrick	1	• Rourke's Drive, Bishopscourt









5.0 Identification of Potential Locations for MUGA Installation

As with the design, installation and maintenance of fixed play areas, the costs associated with establishing and maintain new MUGA's can be extensive both in terms of initial capital and ongoing revenue costs.

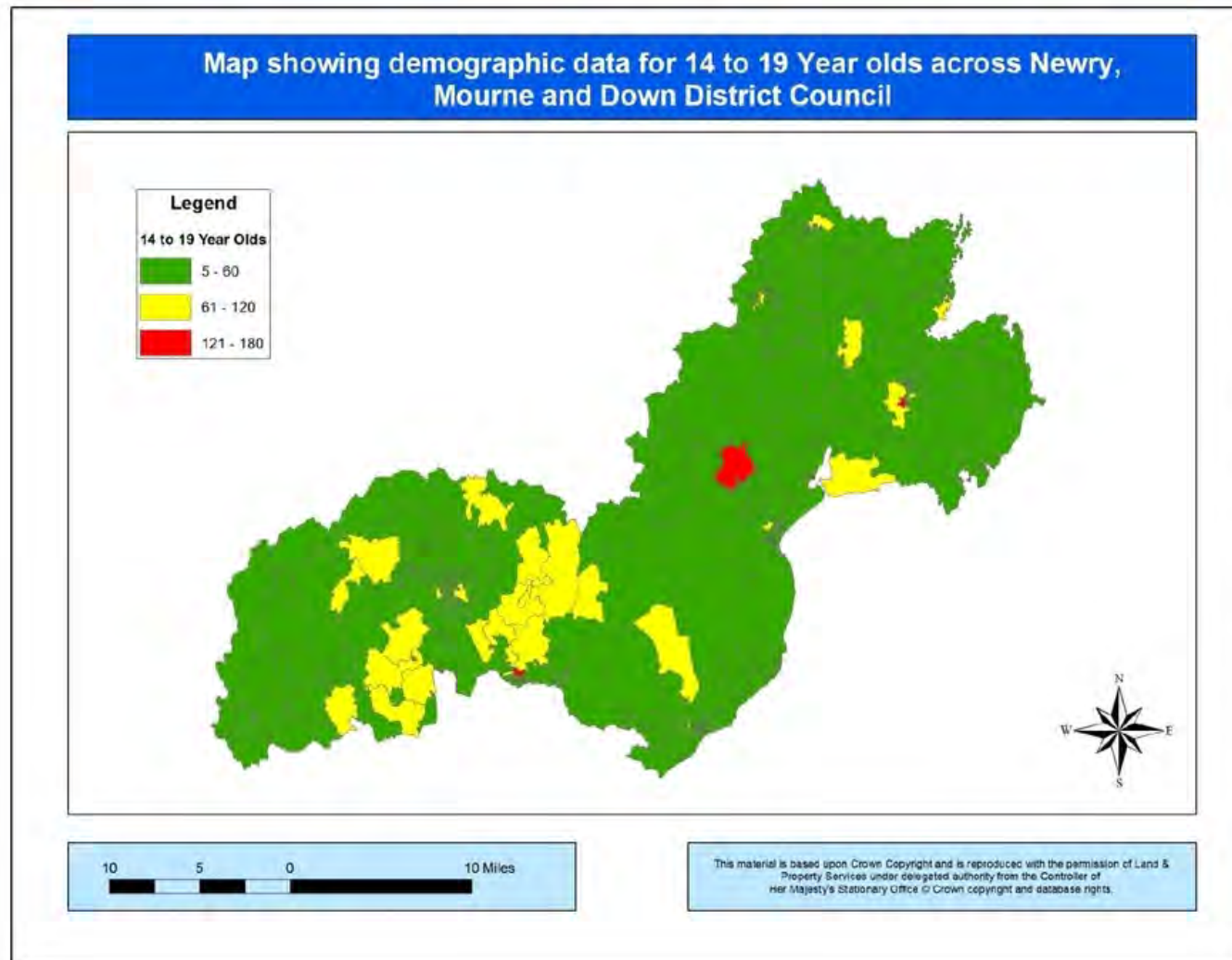
With regards to the optimum location for a MUGA, given that they are primarily used by teenagers who travel to and from the location by themselves (i.e. by walking or cycling) it is important that MUGA's are sited close to or within an area with a resident population of sufficient size and scale to ensure a level of consistent and ongoing usage.

In *"Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play: Beyond the Six Acre Standard"*, Fields in Trust established that the recommended walking distance for outdoor leisure provision (including MUGA's) is 700m from a residential area equating to a walk time of just under 10 minutes.

This has implications for the siting of MUGA's as it excludes areas of low population density (more dispersed rural areas), focusing on rural settlement and urban residential areas.

In determining potential areas of need a review has been undertaken of both demographic data relating to the primary user group for MUGA's (children and young people aged 14 to 19 years) and household density/geographical spread. By utilising both datasets it is possible to highlight those areas of highest demographic need which also show a household density capable of supporting MUGA development both now and into the future.

The maps overleaf provide an overview of demographics for the 14 to 19 years age group (page 9) combined with key settlement locations (page 10), household density (page 11) and existing MUGA locations (page 12). Map 12 on page 13 highlights those areas identified as potential gap areas for MUGA provision based on overarching demographics. Each area is further analysed in the remainder of the report to assess population density before final recommendation is made.



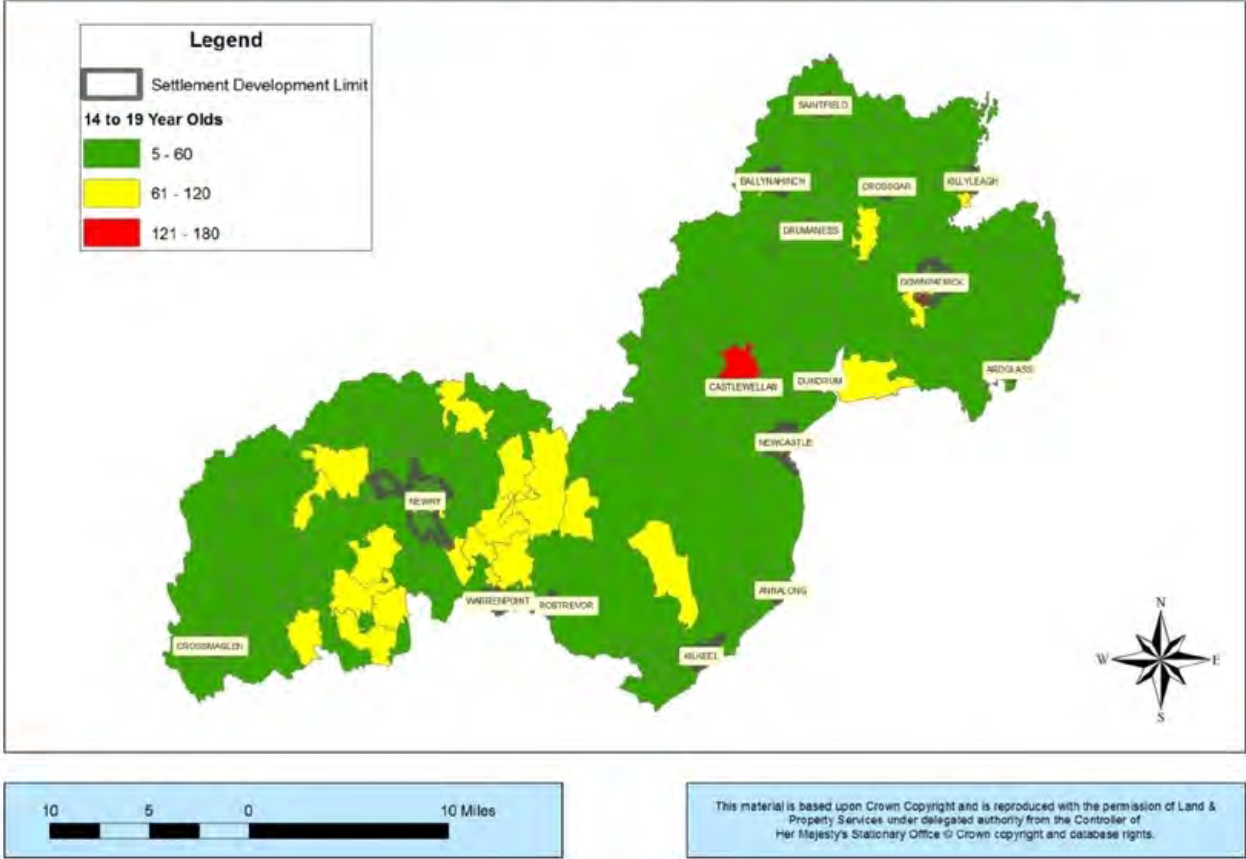
The map to the left shows the spread of 14 to 19 year olds across the Newry, Mourne and Down Council area.

The dispersed rural nature of the resident population is highlighted by the preponderance of areas denote in green (i.e. areas with between 5 and 60 resident 14 to 19 year olds).

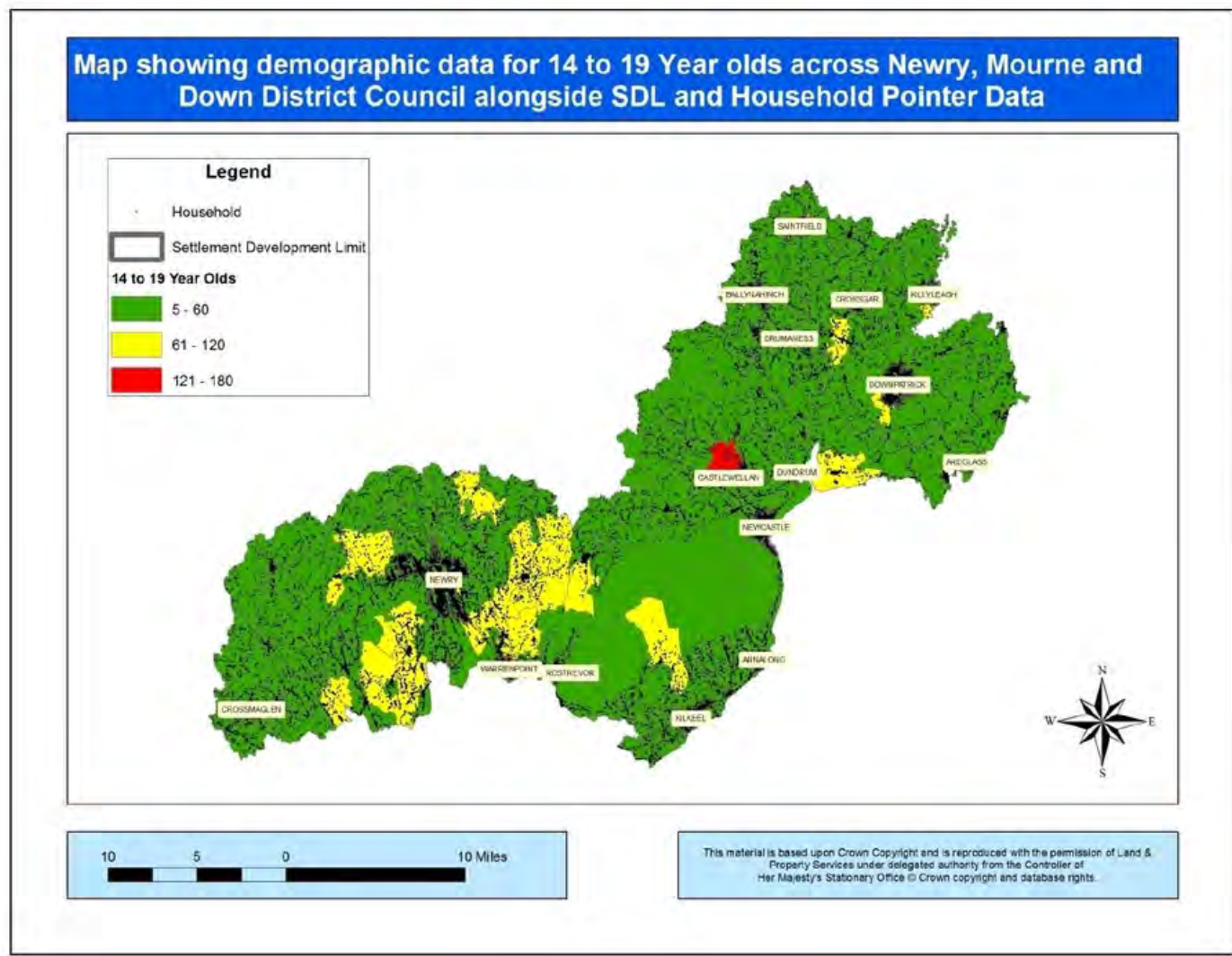
Given the need to ensure a sufficient resident base and population density such areas are unlikely to qualify for MUGA development under the parameters established (i.e. placement of 4 MUGA's in areas of most population need).

Areas indicated in yellow and red will be explored in more detail later in this report.

Map showing demographic data for 14 to 19 Year olds across Newry, Mourne and Down District Council alongside Settlement Development Limits



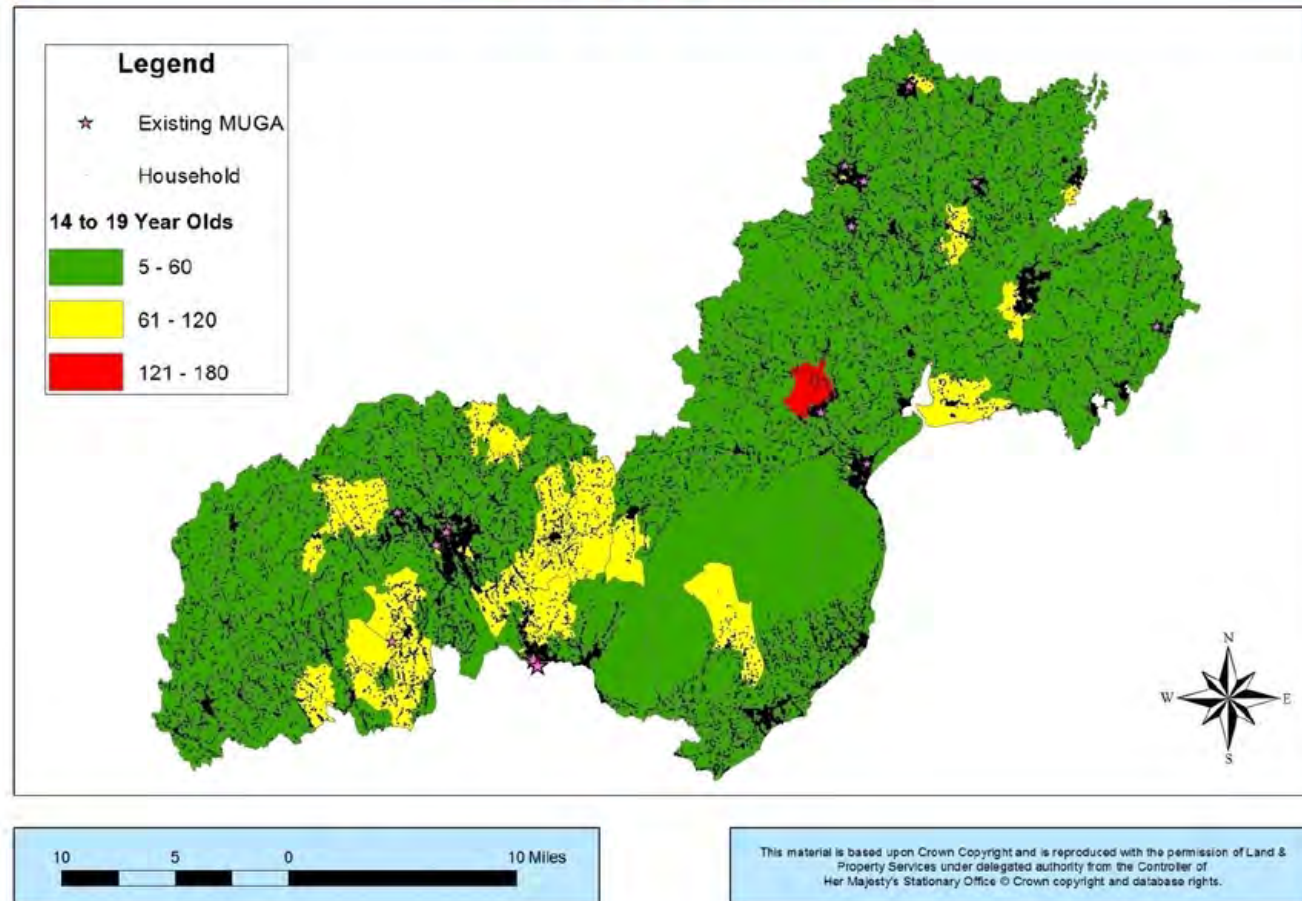
The map to the left shows the resident population of 14 to 19 years olds mapped against the main settlements within the council area as defined within the Settlement Development Limits.



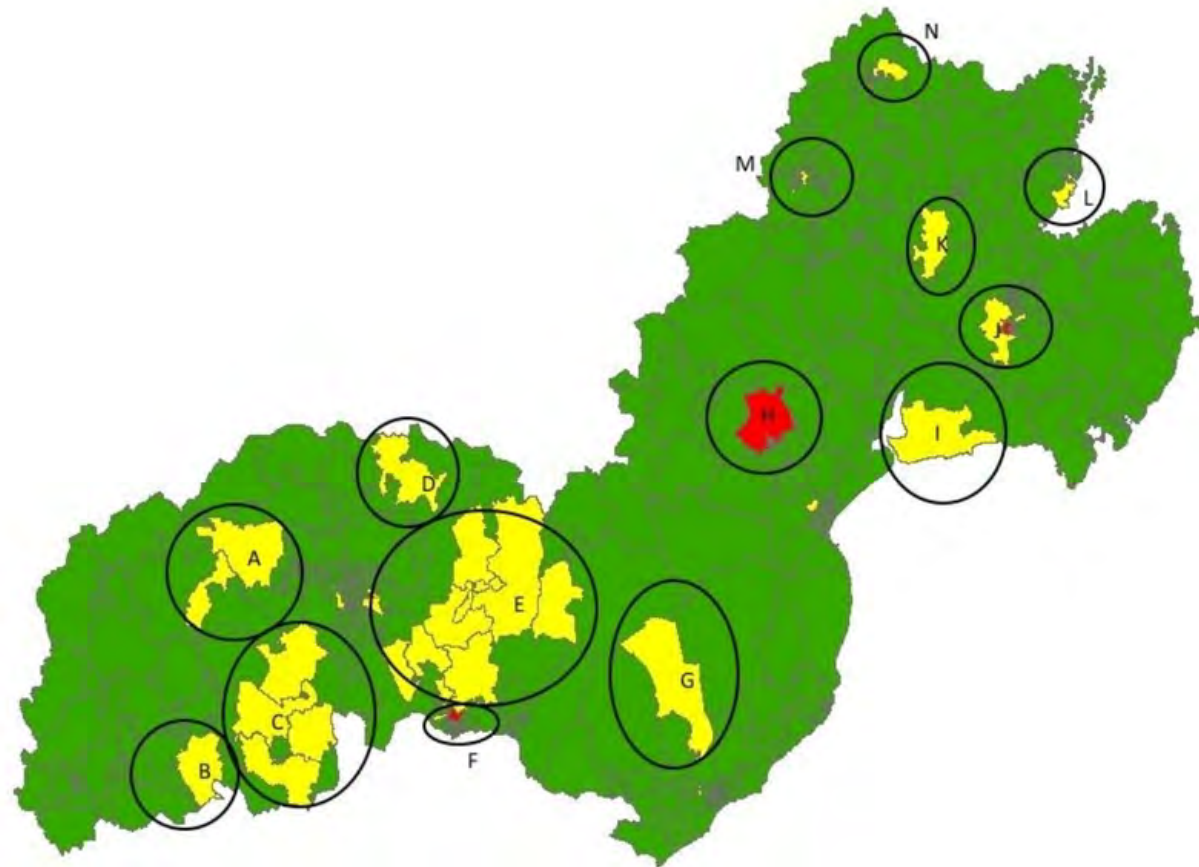
The map to the left introduces household location pointer data to provide an indication of population density.

Areas of low population density (i.e. the more dispersed rural areas identified in green) are typically unable to provide sufficient population density to support MUGA development.

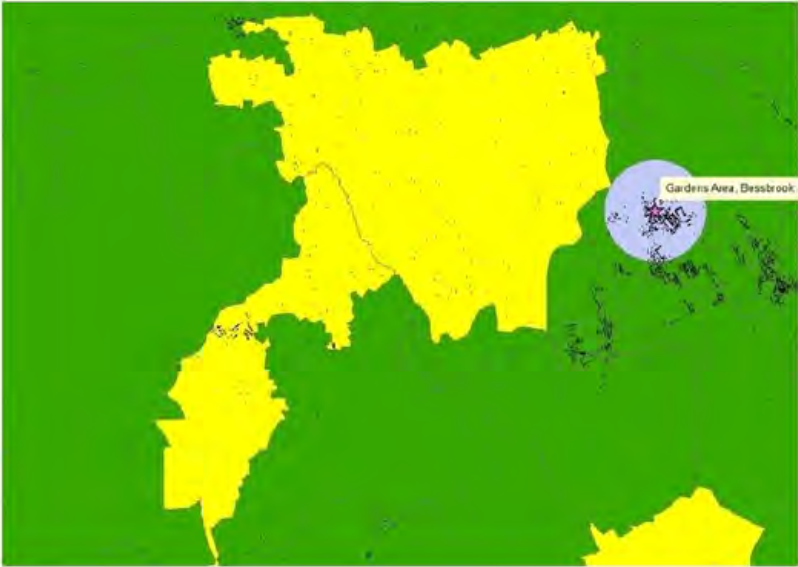
Map showing 0 to 14 Year Olds alongside Household Pointer Data and MUGA Locations

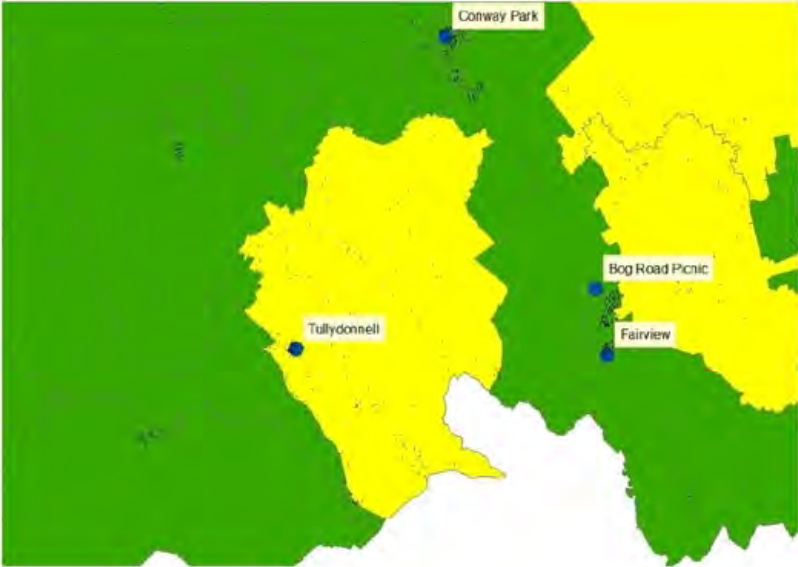


The map to the left overlays existing MUGA location to provide an indication of current levels of coverage.



The map to the left highlights those areas identified as potentially requiring MUGA development. Each is considered in further detail over the coming pages of the report.

Review of Potential MUGA Locations		
Location	Overview	14 to 19 Year Olds
Area A: Contains Belleeks 	Area A is a predominantly rural area with a largely dispersed population base. Population density is increased around the village of Belleeks. Given the dispersed nature of the population base the identified area does currently not lend itself to MUGA development.	66

Review of Potential MUGA Locations		
Location	Overview	14 to 19 Year Olds
Area B: Contains Tullydonnell A map of a rural area with a yellow-shaded region labeled 'Area B'. Within this area, four locations are marked with blue dots and labeled: 'Conway Park' at the top, 'Tullydonnell' in the center-left, 'Bog Road Picnic' in the center-right, and 'Fairview' at the bottom-right. The surrounding area is green.	Area B is a predominantly rural area with a largely dispersed population base. Given the dispersed nature of the population the area does not lend itself to MUGA development at present.	79

Review of Potential MUGA Locations		
Location	Overview	14 to 19 Year Olds
Area C 	Area C includes Slieve Gullion Forest Park which currently has a MUGA in place. The area is predominantly rural dispersed in nature which reduces its potential as a location for further MUGA development. The main settlement within the area is Meigh. Whilst the number of 14 to 19 years olds residing within the small area (SA) containing Meigh is 96, the size and dispersed nature of the SA suggests a low level of demand around the main settlement.	96 (SA containing Meigh)

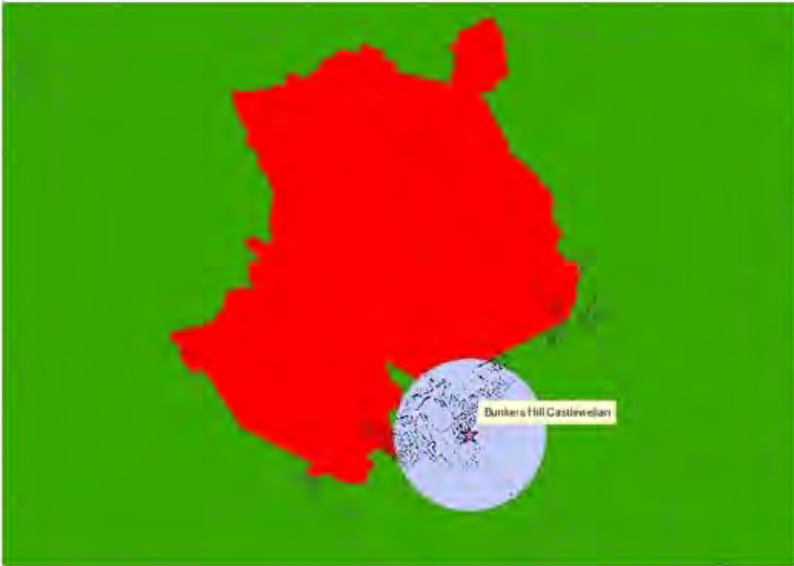
Review of Potential MUGA Locations		
Location	Overview	14 to 19 Year Olds
Area D 	Area D is a predominantly rural area with a dispersed population base. Given the dispersed nature of the population the area does not lend itself to MUGA development at present.	65

Review of Potential MUGA Locations		
Location	Overview	14 to 19 Year Olds
Area E 	Area E is largely defined by a rural dispersed population outside of 2 key settlements at Mayobridge and Hilltown. Mayobridge has been identified within the play strategy for new fixed play development whilst Hilltown has been identified for potential relocation and upgrade With regards to population, there are approximately 173 resident 14 to 19 years olds residing within Hilltown and its immediate vicinity with 126 in Mayobridge. It is recommended that, based on population coverage a MUGA be developed at Hilltown (site dependent on play area relocation as per Play Strategy). Development of the new fixed play area at Mayobridge should include consideration of MUGA provision.	Hilltown – 173 Mayobridge - 126

Review of Potential MUGA Locations		
Location	Overview	14 to 19 Year Olds
Area F – Contains part of Warrenpoint 	The area identified lies to the north of Warrenpoint town and is denoted in red on the map. Fixed play provision within Warrenpoint is currently delivered through 4 fixed play area with 2 MUGA's, one at Warrenpoint Park and 1 at Ringmacilly. The highlighted area (denoted in red) is primarily residential in nature with 394 properties within its boundary. Based on the demographic data available the number of young people aged between 14 and 19 resident with the area is 171. At present the area is partially covered by radials emanating from both existing MUGA's. It should be noted that enhancement of Warrenpoint Park has been agreed and this will incorporate the of a significant Multi Games area (beyond standard MUGA size) which, given its size and scope has the potential to provide a radial in excess of 700m. This would potentially provide further coverage into the identified red area	171

	Given the significance of the proposed Warrenpoint Park development it is recommended that council hold further MUGA development in the area pending its completion. Once complete a further analysis of coverage should be undertaken to assess whether further MUGA development is required within the wider Warrenpoint area.	
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Review of Potential MUGA Locations		
Location	Overview	14 to 19 Year Olds
Area G (Includes Attical) 	Area G is a predominantly rural area with a dispersed population base. Given the dispersed nature of the population the area does not lend itself to MUGA development at present.	67

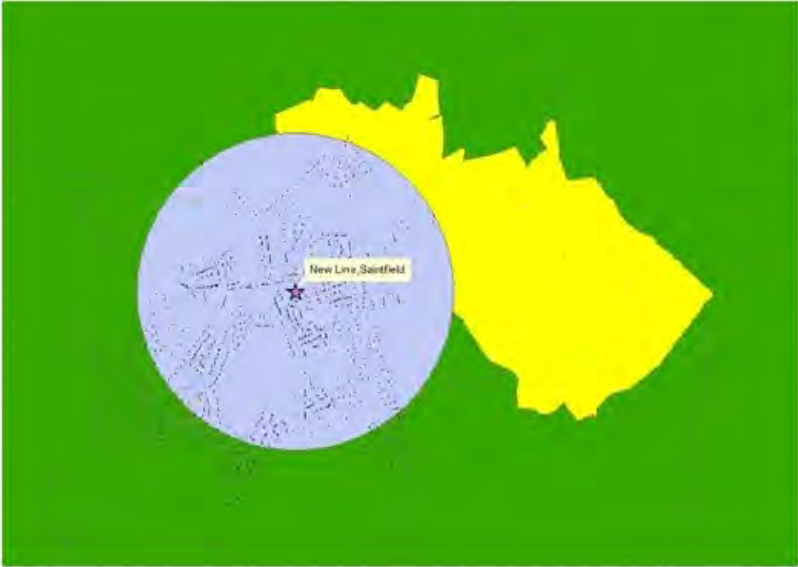
Review of Potential MUGA Locations		
Location	Overview	14 to 19 Year Olds
Area H: Contains whole of Castlewellan and part of Annsborough 	The area identified (denoted in red on the map) incorporates the town of Castlewellan and the village of Annsborough. Fixed play provision within the area is currently provided by 5 fixed play areas (4 in Castlewellan and 1 in Annsborough). There is currently 1 MUGA which is located at Bunkers Hill in Castlewellan which provides radial coverage for a significant proportion of the resident population within Castlewellan. Given the coverage provided by the MUGA at Bunkers Hill it is felt that additional MUGA development is not currently required within the area.	160

Review of Potential MUGA Locations		
Location	Overview	14 to 19 Year Olds
Area I: Ballykinler 	The area identified is a predominantly rural location containing the settlement of Ballykinler. The area is currently served by a fixed play area located at Ballykinler, however there are currently no MUGA's within the area. Based on underlying demographics, there are approximately 91 young people aged 14 to 19 residing within the area denoted on the map in yellow. Given the largely dispersed nature of the population within the area it is suggested that MUGA development is not currently required, however council should continue to monitor population and settlement growth around Ballykinler.	91

Review of Potential MUGA Locations		
Location	Overview	14 to 19 Year Olds
Area J: Contains part of Downpatrick 	The area identified is within Downpatrick town and is denoted in red on the map. The area is partially served by fixed play provision located at the Ballymote Centre, however there are at present no MUGA's within the wider Downpatrick area. The area denoted in red is primarily residential in nature. Based on the demographic data available the number of young people aged between 14 and 19 resident with the area red is 137. The bordering area (denoted in yellow) has a 14 to 19 year old population base of 87, many of whom reside close to the red area. Given the population density and number of 14 to 19 year olds it is recommended that council proceed to focused consultation to confirm need before proceeding to MUGA development	224

Review of Potential MUGA Locations		
Location	Overview	14 to 19 Year Olds
Area K A map showing a green area labeled 'Area K' on a light blue background. A small label 'Kilmore' is visible near the top right of the green area.	Area K is located just to the south of Kilmore and has a largely rural dispersed population. At present, given the dispersed nature of the resident population, the area does not lend itself to MUGA development.	74

Review of Potential MUGA Locations		
Location	Overview	Households 14 to 19 Year Olds
Area L: Killyleagh 	Located at Killyleagh, the area identified in yellow has a population base of 88 young people aged 14 to 19 years with adjoining areas which would fall into a 700m catchment area contributing a further 62 giving a total of 150. It is recommended that council proceed to focused consultation to confirm need before proceeding to MUGA development.	150

Review of Potential MUGA Locations		
Location	Overview	14 to 19 Year Olds
Area N: Saintfield 	The MUGA located at New Line, Saintfield currently provides sufficient coverage for the identified area. No further MUGA Development is required at this time.	-

6.0 Recommendations

The table below highlights the key findings of the demographic and household analysis undertaken: Using the same FIT measurement and population criteria established within the play strategy (150 urban and 100 rural)

	Settlement Marker	No. aged 14 to 19 Years	MUGA Development Recommended
1.	Downpatrick	224	Yes
2.	Hilltown	173	Yes
3.	Killyleagh	150	Yes
4.	Mayobridge	126	Yes
5.	Warrenpoint	171	No (Pending development of significant Multi Use Games Zone at Warrenpoint Park)
6.	Ballykinler	91	No (below the set 100 rural figure)
7.	Tullydonnell	79	No (below the set 100 rural figure)

Based on the analysis it is recommended that council consider the locating of the 4 new MUGA sites (dependent on land availability) at the priority locations identified within the analysis.

It is important to note that the criteria applied within this report do not preclude community organisations from seeking third party funding for the development of MUGA's – it applies only to capital investment by council.

Community organisations within areas which fail to meet the criteria may be included in Village Plans or Rural Development Plans and can apply for third party funding to appropriate funders (e.g. through Rural Development Funding strands, Big Lottery Fund etc).

Should a community organisation seek funding from an external body development of a MUGA, Council commit to working in partnership to support funding applications (through by way of example providing written letter of support, negotiating maintenance agreements etc.).

Where the play strategy 2017-2022 has identified the need for a New or the upgrading of a fixed play park and this same area has also been identified as being in need of a MUGA then both projects should be programmes within the same year as set within the play strategy 5 year programme.

[illegible]

OVERVIEW OF MULTI USE GAME AREA'S AND PRIORITISATION OF NEED

1.0 Introduction

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council have secured approval for the development and installation for 4 new Multi-Use Games Areas (MUGA's).

With a view to guiding the placement of these new MUGA's in areas of highest population demand, and following on from the development of the draft Play Strategy for council, PlayBoard were asked to complete an additional review focused on:

- A review of the location of existing Multi-Use Games Areas (MUGA's) mapped against existing fixed play areas and those locations identified for future fixed play area development within the play strategy;
- A review of underlying demographic need within the 14 to 19 age group across the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area in order to identify potential locations for new MUGA development; and
- Prioritisation of those geographical areas showing highest level of population demand for MUGA development.

This report provides an overview of key findings and recommendations.

2.0 Multi Use Games Areas

Multi-Use Games Areas, often referred to as MUGA's are dedicated modular systems that offer children and young people an opportunity to engage in non-formalised physical, recreational and sporting activity within the community.

MUGA's generally consist of a steel goal post/basketball goal post combination, can be used by used a variety of age groups and are generally fenced off to prevent loss of balls etc. MUGA's are often located adjacent to or within close proximity to fixed play areas.

Dependent on their design, MUGA's can support a range of sporting activity including football, tennis, basketball, netball etc. and can also provide (where dedicated seating and/or shelter is installed) a hang-out spot for teenagers who want to socialise with their peer group.



It should be noted that due to the often intense physical nature of the activities that take place at MUGA's there is scope for increased levels of noise which can lead to complaints from nearby housing.

Whilst MUGA's can be used by a variety of age groups they have generally been geared towards meeting the recreational needs of older children and teenagers who have often outgrown the range of activities and level of challenge offered by traditional fixed play areas.

3.0 Recreational Needs of Young People

The recreational activities that children and young people engage in during their free time are vitally important to their ongoing growth and development. As children mature into their teenage years the ability to engage in both formal and non-formal recreational activity is critical in helping to develop and maintain good health and wellbeing, establish and maintain social connections to peers and connect to the wider community in which they live.

Activities that for younger children are referred to as play (both fixed and non-fixed) become recreational and leisure activities as teenagers increasingly engage in past-times that they find personally interesting, enjoyable and satisfying.

In developing the council play strategy PlayBoard sought the views of older children and teenagers from across the district through both online questionnaires and focus groups. The findings affirmed the importance of recreation and leisure to the lives of older children and teenagers highlighting in particular its importance in relation to:

- Enabling them to remain active through engagement in both formal and informal recreational activity (ranging from attending clubs and more formal sports activity through to making use of a MUGA, kicking a ball about on a green space area, walking etc.)
- Enabling them to hang out in their community and providing opportunities for them to socialise with their peers thereby sustaining and developing social connections
- Fun and relaxation.

4.0 Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Sports Facility Strategy

It should be noted that in addition to the play strategy, in 2016 Newry, Mourne and Down District council initiated the development of a Sports Facility Strategy for the district. The sports facility strategy connects to the Play Strategy, incorporating a number of areas of recreation that appeal in particular to the play/recreational needs of older young people i.e. the 15 to 18 year old age group.

With specific regards to MUGA's, the Sports Facility Strategy makes a key recommendation (recommendation 8) regarding the further roll-out of MUGA's across the district as a means of enhancing access to active recreational opportunities within the community.

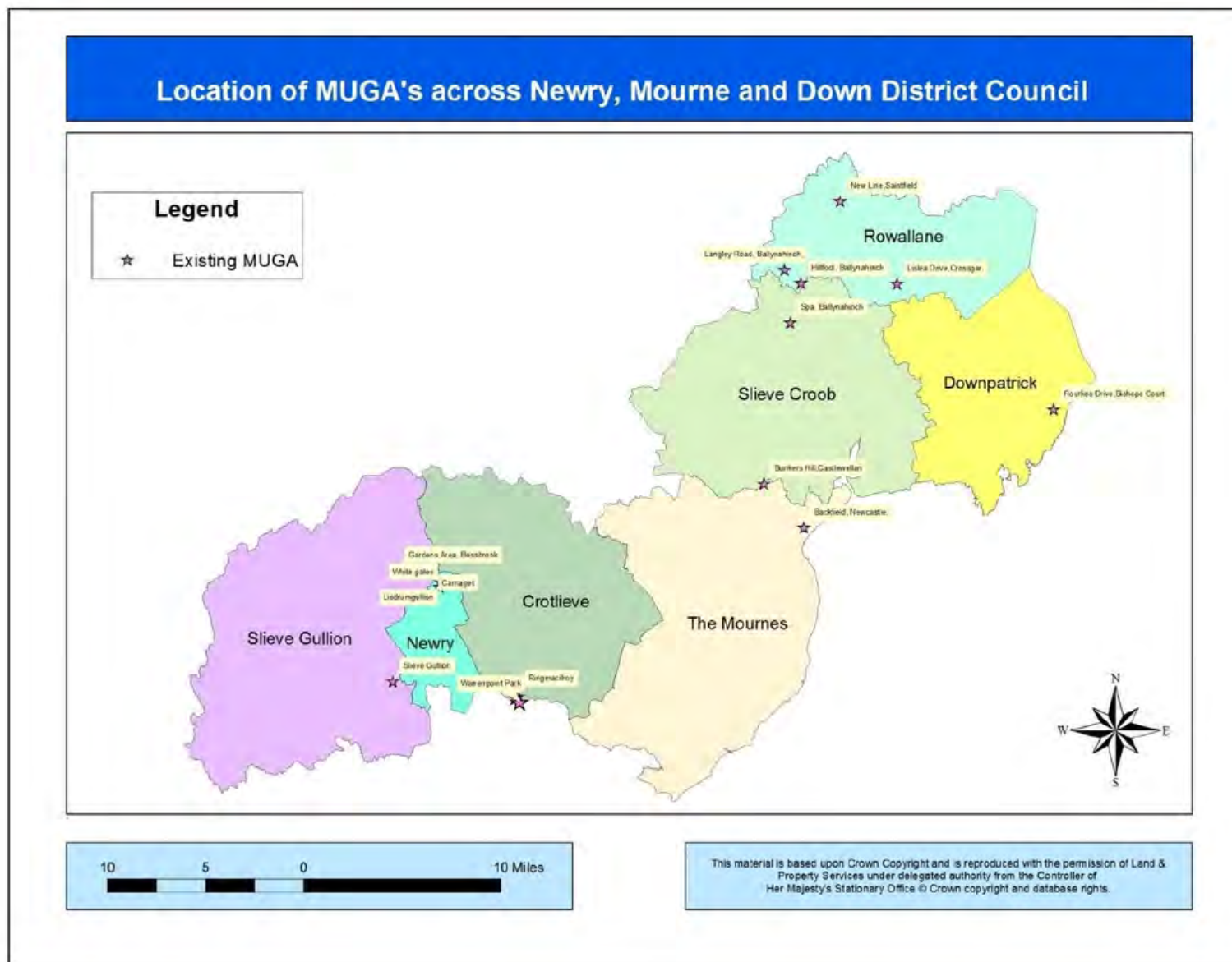
Recommendation	Relevance to Play Strategy
(8) Areas of population growth/areas without access to other formal sports facilities should have access to a MUGA or outdoor recreational grass sports area as minimum provision.	For teenagers Multi-Use Games Areas (MUGA's) offer an opportunity to engage in light, non-formalised recreational activity which supports physical health and wellbeing. In addition MUGA's provide meeting points and, where teen shelters are incorporated can provide a hang-out area supporting social connections.
Recommendation: The Sport Facility Strategy, in rolling out its recommendation should ensure that consideration is given to the incorporation of teen shelters where need is identified as a means of enhancing recreational provision for teenagers.	

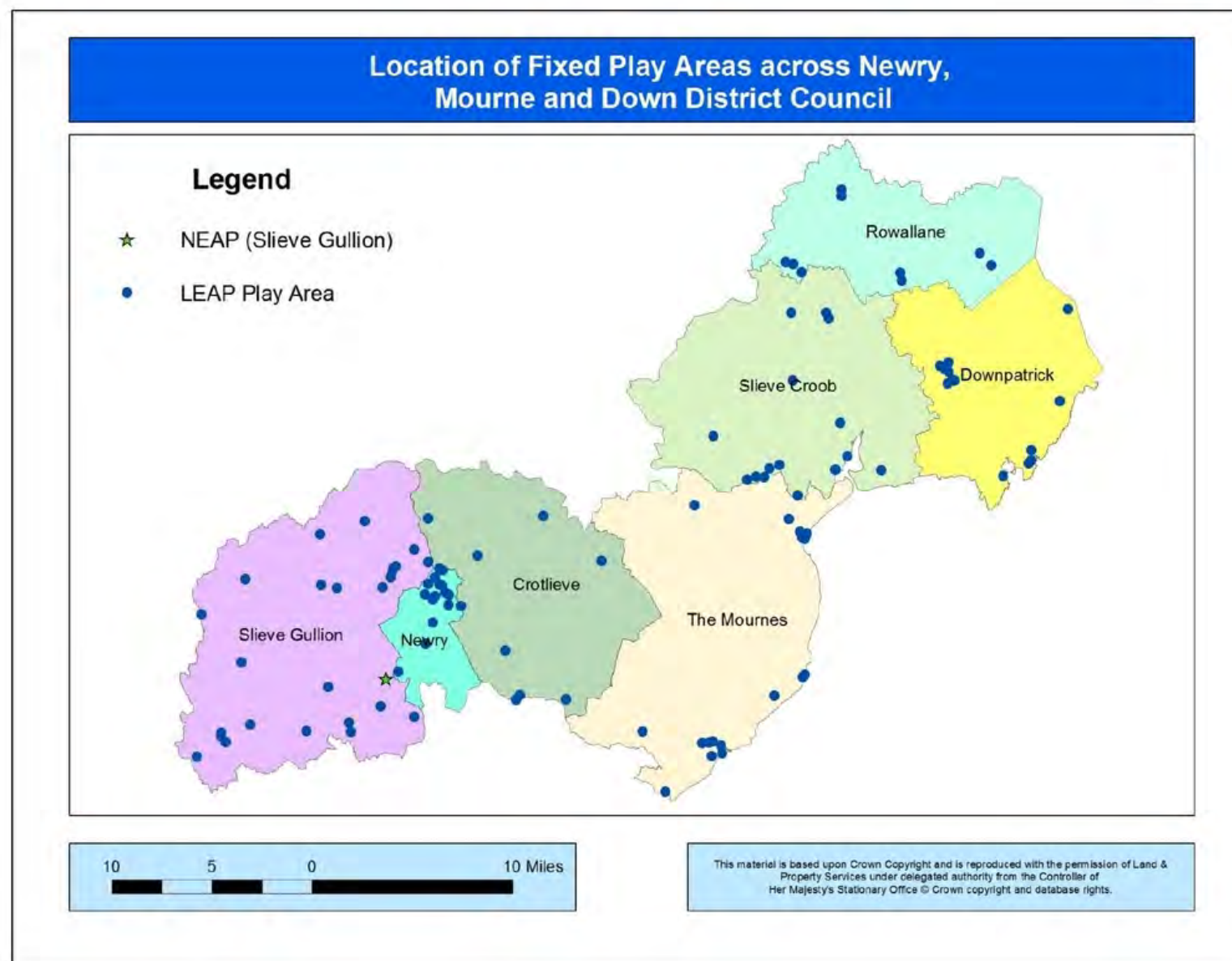
4.0 Current MUGA Provision in Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

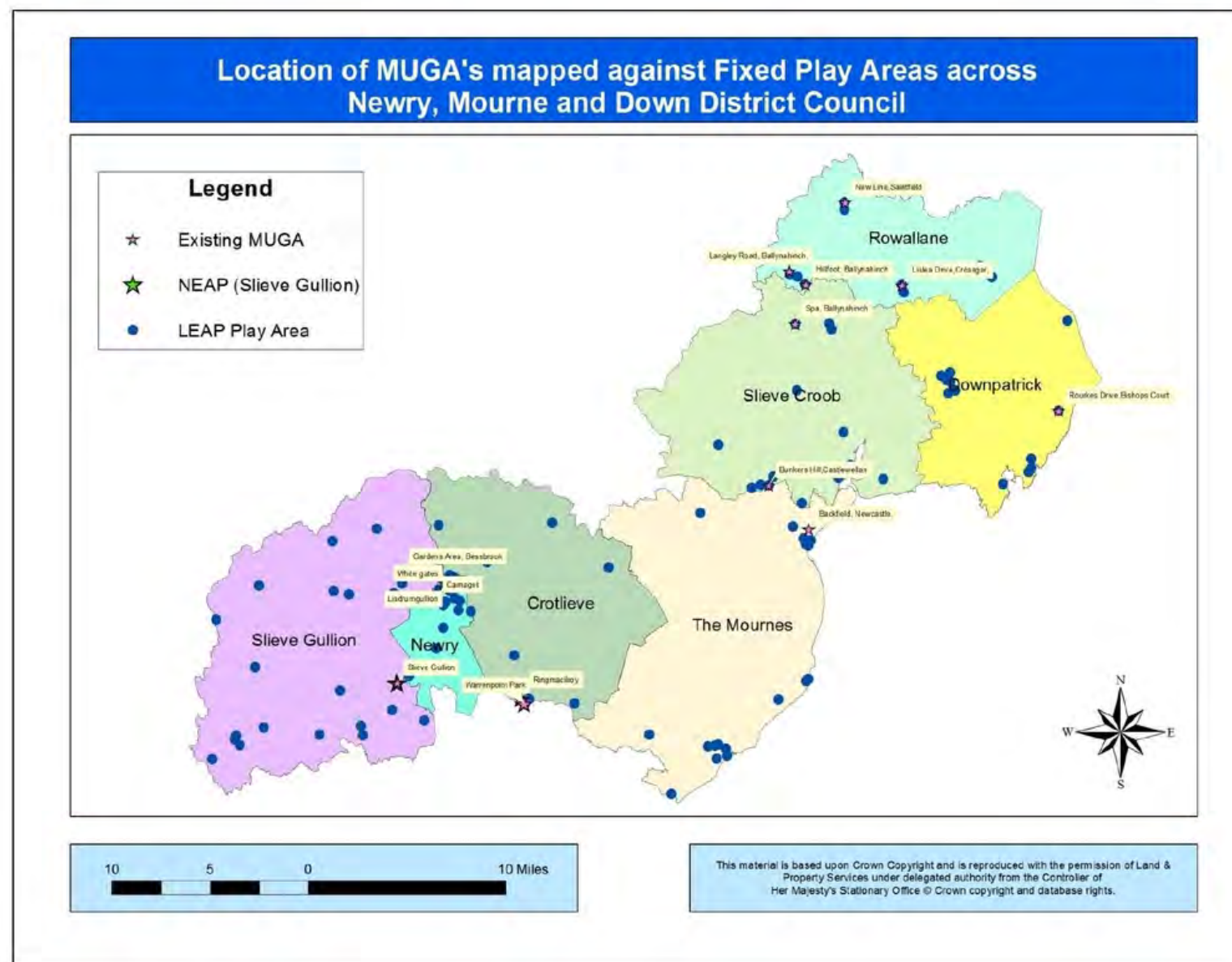
There are at present 15 MUGA sites located across Newry, Mourne and Down District Council. The map overleaf provides an overview of the geographical locations.

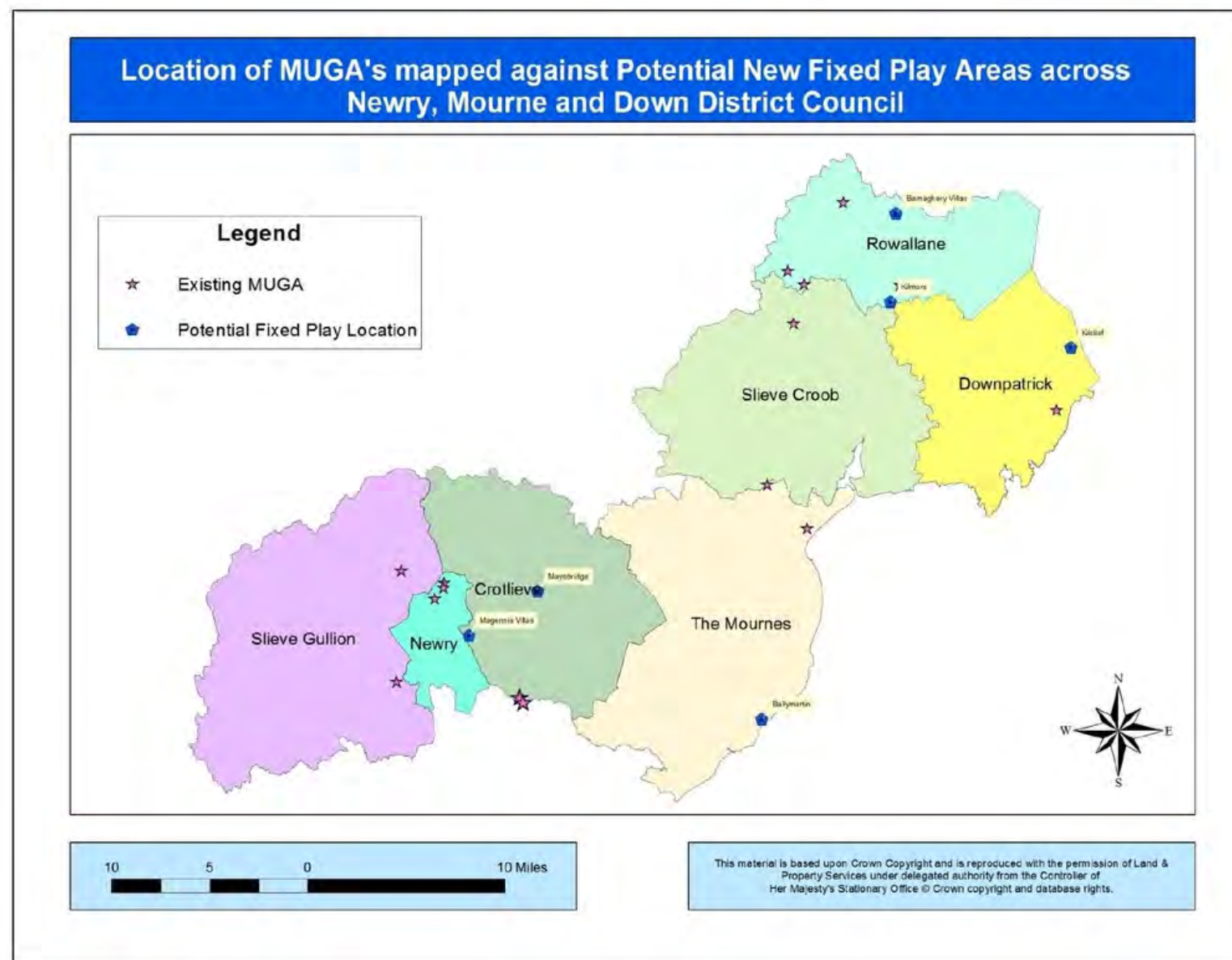
Based on DEA areas, the breakdown of MUGA's is as follows:

DEA Area	Number of MUGA's	Name of MUGA's
Slieve Gullion	2	- Slieve Gullion Forest Park - The Gardens Area, Bessbrook
Newry	3	- Lisdrumgullion - White Gate - Carnagat
Crotlieve	2	- Warrenpoint Park - Ringmacilroy
Mournes	1	Backfield, Newcastle
Slieve Croob	2	- Bunker's Hill, Castlewellan - Spa, Ballynahinch
Rowallane	4	- Langley Road, Ballynahinch - Hillfoot, Ballynahinch - New Line Play Park, Saintfield - Lislea Drive, Crossgar
Downpatrick	1	Rourke's Drive, Bishopscourt









5.0 Identification of Potential Locations for MUGA Installation

As with the design, installation and maintenance of fixed play areas, the costs associated with establishing and maintain new MUGA's can be extensive both in terms of initial capital and ongoing revenue costs.

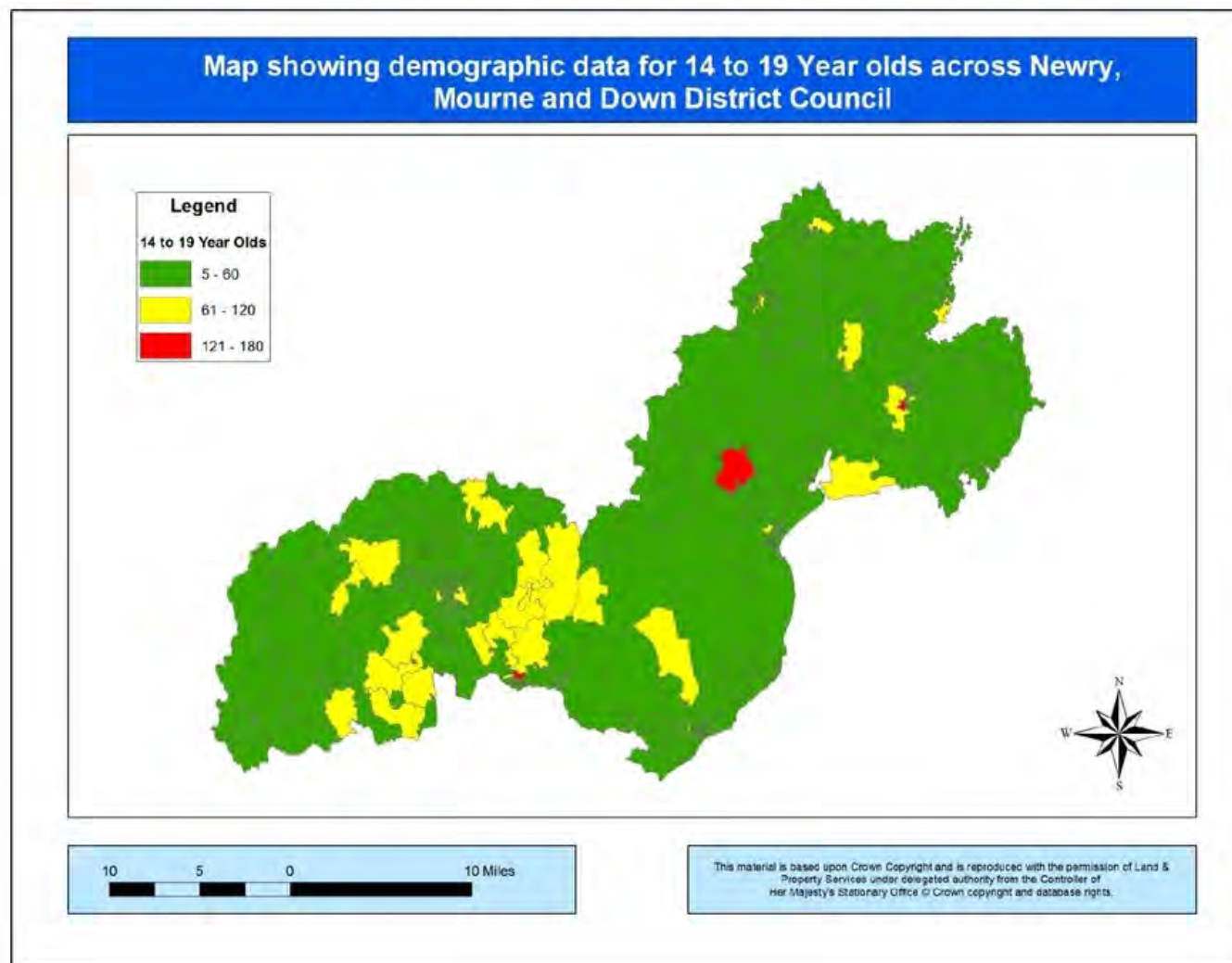
With regards to the optimum location for a MUGA, given that they are primarily used by teenagers who travel to and from the location by themselves (i.e. by walking or cycling) it is important that MUGA's are sited close to or within an area with a resident population of sufficient size and scale to ensure a level of consistent and ongoing usage.

In *"Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play: Beyond the Six Acre Standard"*, Fields in Trust established that the recommended walking distance for outdoor leisure provision (including MUGA's) is 700m from a residential area equating to a walk time of just under 10 minutes.

This has implications for the siting of MUGA's as it excludes areas of low population density (more dispersed rural areas), focusing on rural settlement and urban residential areas.

In determining potential areas of need a review has been undertaken of both demographic data relating to the primary user group for MUGA's (children and young people aged 14 to 19 years) and household density/geographical spread. By utilising both datasets it is possible to highlight those areas of highest demographic need which also show a household density capable of supporting MUGA development both now and into the future.

The maps overleaf provide an overview of demographics for the 14 to 19 years age group (page 9) combined with key settlement locations (page 10), household density (page 11) and existing MUGA locations (page 12). Map 12 on page 13 highlights those areas identified as potential gap areas for MUGA provision based on overarching demographics. Each area is further analysed in the remainder of the report to assess population density before final recommendation is made.

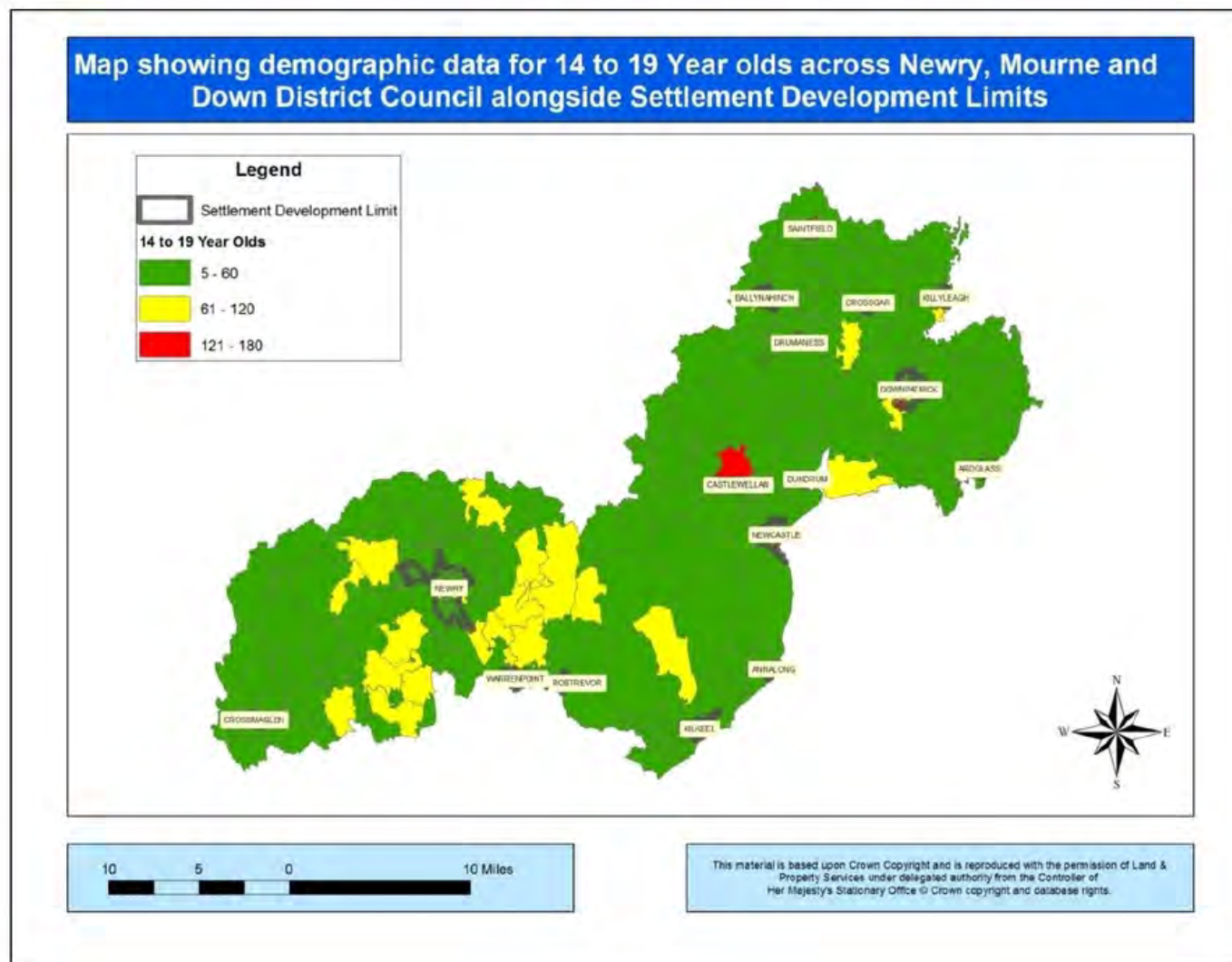


The map to the left shows the spread of 14 to 19 year olds across the Newry, Mourne and Down Council area.

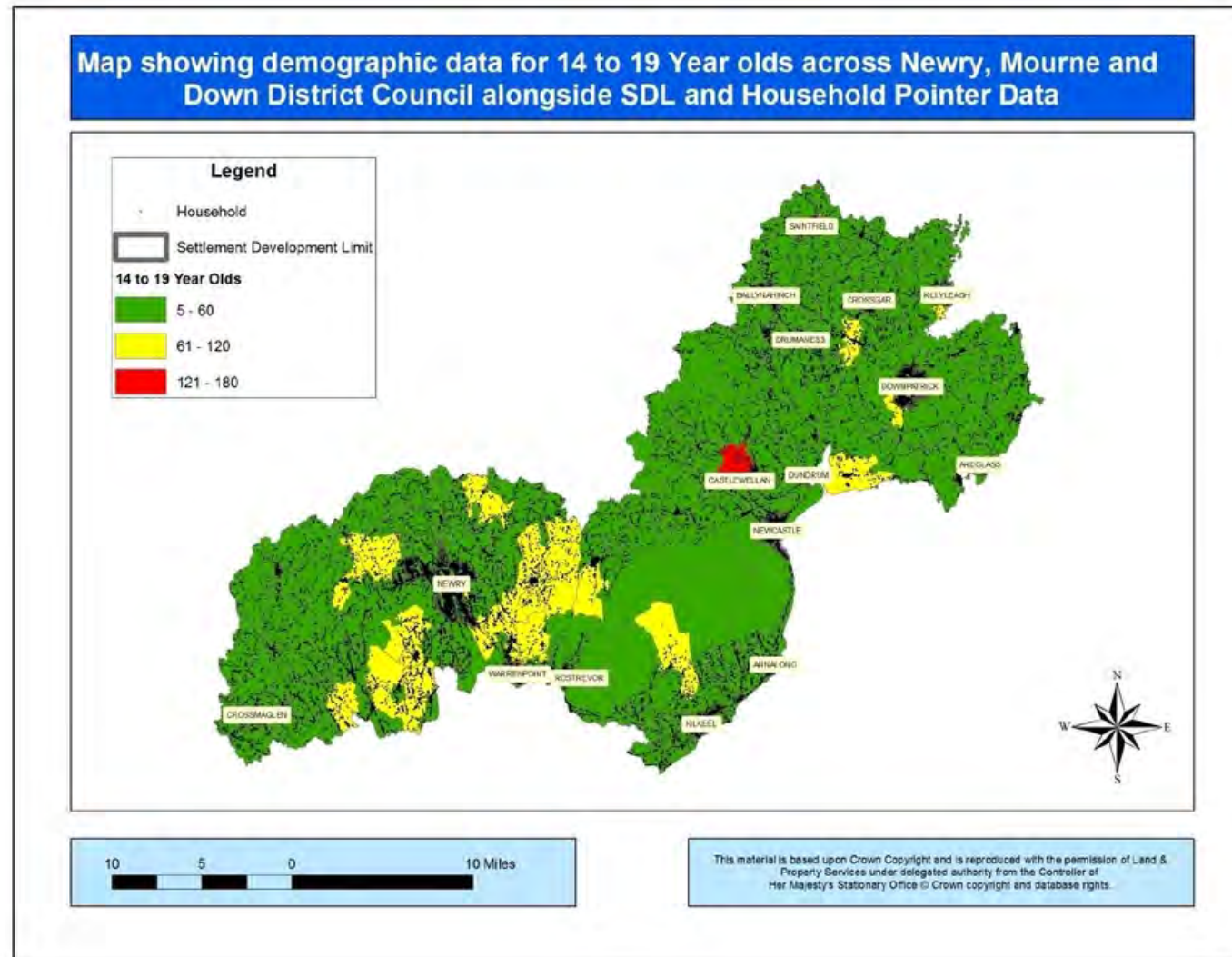
The dispersed rural nature of the resident population is highlighted by the preponderance of areas denote in green (i.e. areas with between 5 and 60 resident 14 to 19 year olds).

Given the need to ensure a sufficient resident base and population density such areas are unlikely to qualify for MUGA development under the parameters established (i.e. placement of 4 MUGA's in areas of most population need).

Areas indicated in yellow and red will be explored in more detail later in this report.



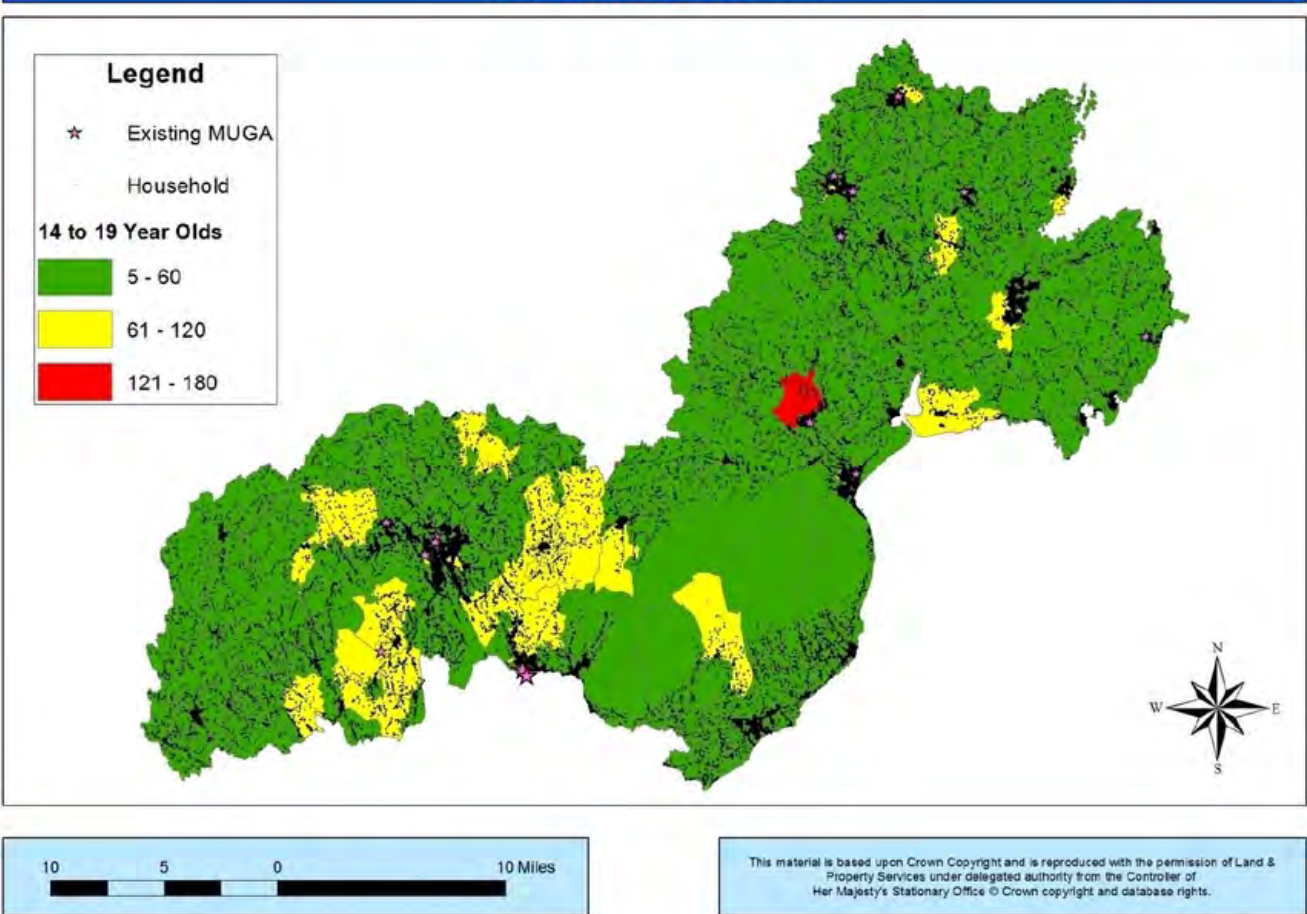
The map to the left shows the resident population of 14 to 19 years olds mapped against the main settlements within the council area as defined within the Settlement Development Limits.



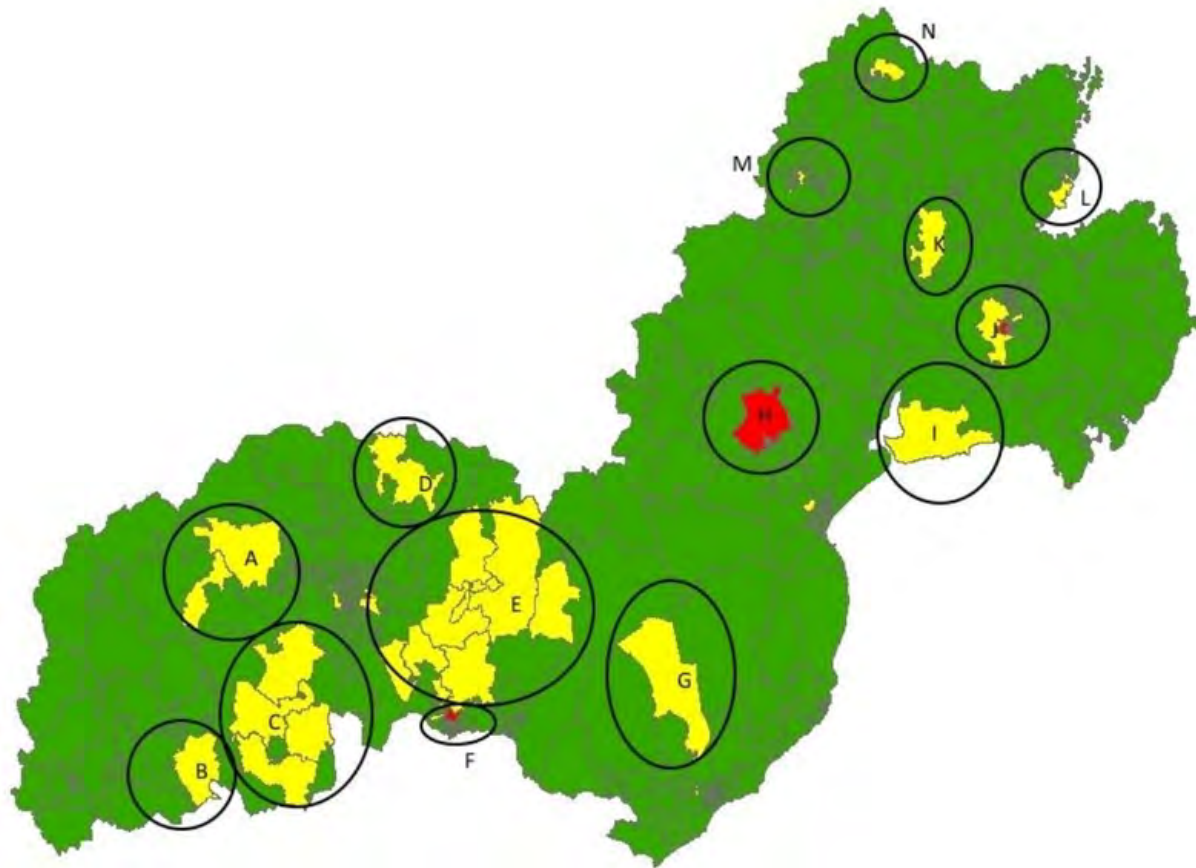
The map to the left introduces household location pointer data to provide an indication of population density.

Areas of low population density (i.e. the more dispersed rural areas identified in green) are typically unable to provide sufficient population density to support MUGA development.

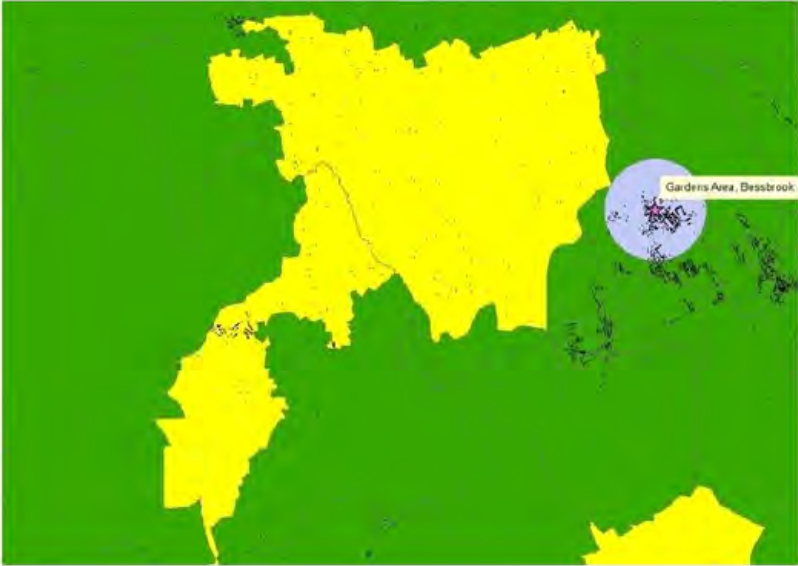
Map showing 0 to 14 Year Olds alongside Household Pointer Data and MUGA Locations

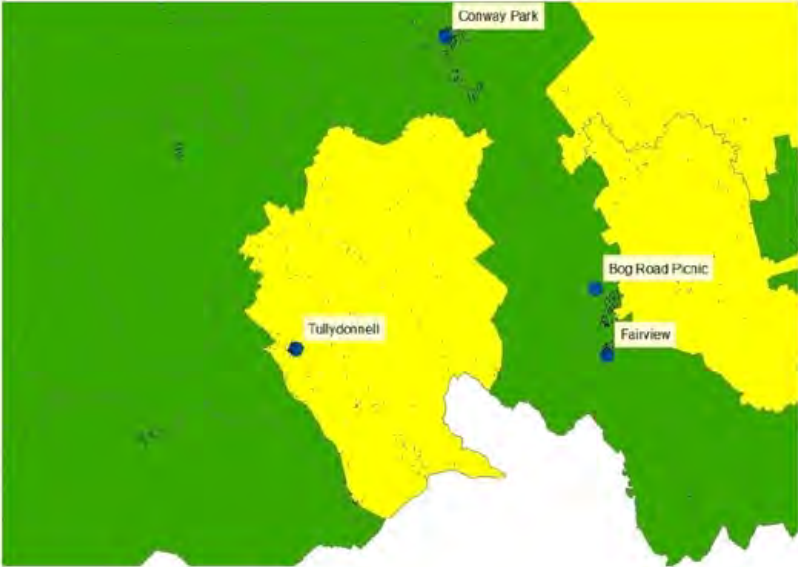


The map to the left overlays existing MUGA location to provide an indication of current levels of coverage.



The map to the left highlights those areas identified as potentially requiring MUGA development. Each is considered in further detail over the coming pages of the report.

Review of Potential MUGA Locations		
Location	Overview	14 to 19 Year Olds
Area A: Contains Belleeks 	Area A is a predominantly rural area with a largely dispersed population base. Population density is increased around the village of Belleeks. Given the dispersed nature of the population base the identified area does currently not lend itself to MUGA development.	66

Review of Potential MUGA Locations		
Location	Overview	14 to 19 Year Olds
Area B: Contains Tullydonnell A map of a rural area with a yellow highlighted region. The yellow region is irregularly shaped and contains several labels: 'Conway Park' at the top, 'Tullydonnell' in the center-left, 'Bog Road Picnic' in the center-right, and 'Fairview' at the bottom-right. The surrounding area is green.	Area B is a predominantly rural area with a largely dispersed population base. Given the dispersed nature of the population the area does not lend itself to MUGA development at present.	79

Review of Potential MUGA Locations		
Location	Overview	14 to 19 Year Olds
Area C 	Area C includes Slieve Gullion Forest Park which currently has a MUGA in place. The area is predominantly rural dispersed in nature which reduces its potential as a location for further MUGA development. The main settlement within the area is Meigh. Whilst the number of 14 to 19 years olds residing within the small area (SA) containing Meigh is 96, the size and dispersed nature of the SA suggests a low level of demand around the main settlement.	96 (SA containing Meigh)

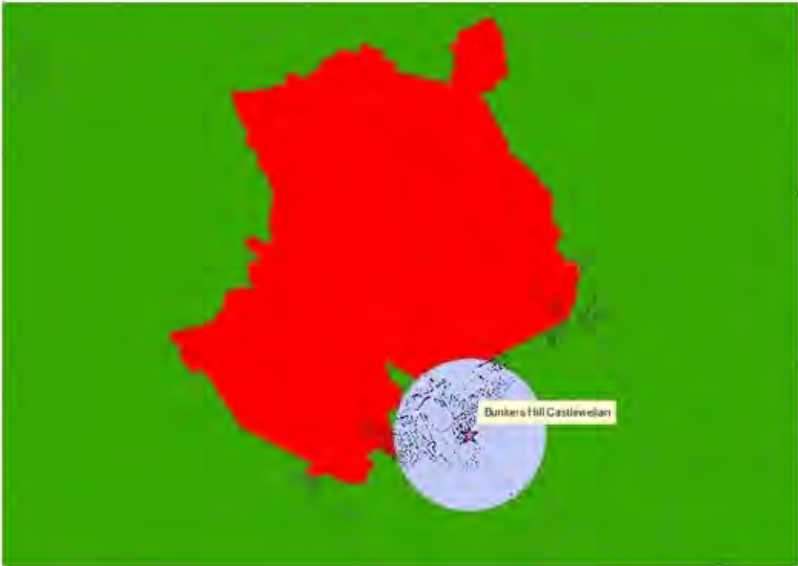
Review of Potential MUGA Locations		
Location	Overview	14 to 19 Year Olds
Area D 	Area D is a predominantly rural area with a dispersed population base. Given the dispersed nature of the population the area does not lend itself to MUGA development at present.	65

Review of Potential MUGA Locations		
Location	Overview	14 to 19 Year Olds
Area E 	Area E is largely defined by a rural dispersed population outside of 2 key settlements at Mayobridge and Hilltown. Mayobridge has been identified within the play strategy for new fixed play development whilst Hilltown has been identified for potential relocation and upgrade With regards to population, there are approximately 173 resident 14 to 19 years olds residing within Hilltown and its immediate vicinity with 126 in Mayobridge. It is recommended that, based on population coverage a MUGA be developed at Hilltown (site dependent on play area relocation as per Play Strategy). Development of the new fixed play area at Mayobridge should include consideration of MUGA provision.	Hilltown – 173 Mayobridge - 126

Review of Potential MUGA Locations		
Location	Overview	14 to 19 Year Olds
Area F – Contains part of Warrenpoint 	The area identified lies to the north of Warrenpoint town and is denoted in red on the map. Fixed play provision within Warrenpoint is currently delivered through 4 fixed play area with 2 MUGA's, one at Warrenpoint Park and 1 at Ringmacilroy. The highlighted area (denoted in red) is primarily residential in nature with 394 properties within its boundary. Based on the demographic data available the number of young people aged between 14 and 19 resident with the area is 171. At present the area is partially covered by radials emanating from both existing MUGA's. It should be noted that enhancement of Warrenpoint Park has been agreed and this will incorporate the of a significant Multi Games area (beyond standard MUGA size) which, given its size and scope has the potential to provide a radial in excess of 700m. This would potentially provide further coverage into the identified red area	171

	Given the significance of the proposed Warrenpoint Park development it is recommended that council hold further MUGA development in the area pending its completion. Once complete a further analysis of coverage should be undertaken to assess whether further MUGA development is required within the wider Warrenpoint area.	
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Review of Potential MUGA Locations		
Location	Overview	14 to 19 Year Olds
Area G (Includes Attical) 	Area G is a predominantly rural area with a dispersed population base. Given the dispersed nature of the population the area does not lend itself to MUGA development at present.	67

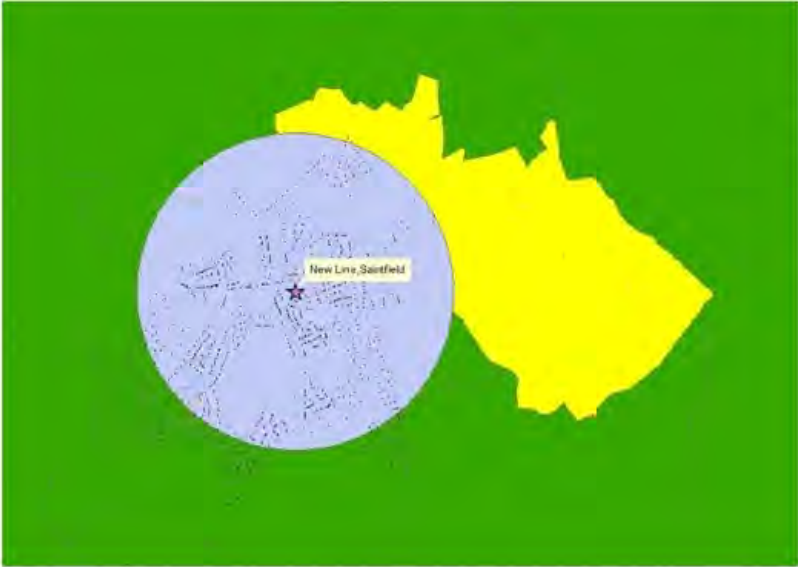
Review of Potential MUGA Locations		
Location	Overview	14 to 19 Year Olds
Area H: Contains whole of Castlewellan and part of Annsborough 	The area identified (denoted in red on the map) incorporates the town of Castlewellan and the village of Annsborough. Fixed play provision within the area is currently provided by 5 fixed play areas (4 in Castlewellan and 1 in Annsborough). There is currently 1 MUGA which is located at Bunkers Hill in Castlewellan which provides radial coverage for a significant proportion of the resident population within Castlewellan. Given the coverage provided by the MUGA at Bunkers Hill it is felt that additional MUGA development is not currently required within the area.	160

Review of Potential MUGA Locations		
Location	Overview	14 to 19 Year Olds
Area I: Ballykinler 	The area identified is a predominantly rural location containing the settlement of Ballykinler. The area is currently served by a fixed play area located at Ballykinler, however there are currently no MUGA's within the area. Based on underlying demographics, there are approximately 91 young people aged 14 to 19 residing within the area denoted on the map in yellow. Given the largely dispersed nature of the population within the area it is suggested that MUGA development is not currently required, however council should continue to monitor population and settlement growth around Ballykinler.	91

Review of Potential MUGA Locations		
Location	Overview	14 to 19 Year Olds
Area J: Contains part of Downpatrick 	The area identified is within Downpatrick town and is denoted in red on the map. The area is partially served by fixed play provision located at the Ballymote Centre, however there are at present no MUGA's within the wider Downpatrick area. The area denoted in red is primarily residential in nature. Based on the demographic data available the number of young people aged between 14 and 19 resident with the area red is 137. The bordering area (denoted in yellow) has a 14 to 19 year old population base of 87, many of whom reside close to the red area. Given the population density and number of 14 to 19 year olds it is recommended that council proceed to focused consultation to confirm need before proceeding to MUGA development	224

Review of Potential MUGA Locations		
Location	Overview	14 to 19 Year Olds
Area K A map showing a green area labeled 'Area K' with a yellow outline. A small label 'Kilmore' is visible near the top right of the area.	Area K is located just to the south of Kilmore and has a largely rural dispersed population. At present, given the dispersed nature of the resident population, the area does not lend itself to MUGA development.	74

Review of Potential MUGA Locations		
Location	Overview	Households 14 to 19 Year Olds
Area L: Killyleagh 	Located at Killyleagh, the area identified in yellow has a population base of 88 young people aged 14 to 19 years with adjoining areas which would fall into a 700m catchment area contributing a further 62 giving a total of 150. It is recommended that council proceed to focused consultation to confirm need before proceeding to MUGA development.	150

Review of Potential MUGA Locations		
Location	Overview	14 to 19 Year Olds
Area N: Saintfield 	The MUGA located at New Line, Saintfield currently provides sufficient coverage for the identified area. No further MUGA Development is required at this time.	-

6.0 Recommendations

The table below highlights the key findings of the demographic and household analysis undertaken: Using the same FIT measurement and population criteria established within the play strategy (150 urban and 100 rural)

	Settlement Marker	No. aged 14 to 19 Years	MUGA Development Recommended
1.	Downpatrick	224	Yes
2.	Hilltown	173	Yes
3.	Killyleagh	150	Yes
4.	Mayobridge	126	Yes
5.	Warrenpoint	171	No (Pending development of significant Multi Use Games Zone at Warrenpoint Park)
6.	Ballykinler	91	No (below the set 100 rural figure)
7.	Tullydonnell	79	No (below the set 100 rural figure)

Based on the analysis it is recommended that council consider the locating of the 4 new MUGA sites (dependent on land availability) at the priority locations identified within the analysis.

It is important to note that the criteria applied within this report do not preclude community organisations from seeking third party funding for the development of MUGA's – it applies only to capital investment by council.

Community organisations within areas which fail to meet the criteria may be included in Village Plans or Rural Development Plans and can apply for third party funding to appropriate funders (e.g. through Rural Development Funding strands, Big Lottery Fund etc).

Should a community organisation seek funding from an external body development of a MUGA, Council commit to working in partnership to support funding applications (through by way of example providing written letter of support, negotiating maintenance agreements etc.).

Where the play strategy 2017-2022 has identified the need for a New or the upgrading of a fixed play park and this same area has also been identified as being in need of a MUGA then both projects should be programmes within the same year as set within the play strategy 5 year programme.

Report to:	AHC Committee
Date of Meeting:	20 March 2017
Subject:	Correspondence received from Northern Ireland Commonwealth Games Committee (NICGC)
Reporting Officer	Michael Lipsett –Director AHC
Contact Officer	Roland Moore – Assistant Director Leisure & Sport

Decisions required:

- **Members note correspondence that a future request for funding may be received and should be considered at AHC Committee.**

1.0	Purpose and Background:
1.1	The Council has received a letter from Northern Ireland Commonwealth Games Committee (NICGC). This letter sets out future funding requirements to support the athletes to attend the 2018 Commonwealth Games in the Gold Coast and also the youth games in 2021.
2.0	Key issues:
2.1	At this stage, no request for funding has been received. The Council may wish to consider any future request through the rates estimates process and/or Financial Assistance process, for the appropriate year.
3.0	Recommendations:
3.1	That Council note the request from NICGC and consider funding options once the actual level of support is known.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	Future implications for rates estimates and/or Financial Assistance call.
5.0	Equality and good relations implications:
5.1	To be assessed.
6.0	Appendices
	Appendix 1: Letter from Common wealth Games

4/2/17

Please add to SAT
Office & copy to
Robert & Louise
for info



Mr Michael Lipsett
Newry, Mourne & Down District Council
Downshire Civic Centre
Ardglass Roas
Downpatrick
BT30 6GQ



21st February 2017

Dear Micahel

Once again, many thanks for the consideration shown to the work of the NICCG during our recent meeting. Hopefully this will help to keep the Council informed of upcoming events.

Based upon our discussions, I have attached some information relating to the costs of delivering TeamNI to each Commonwealth Games and how the Council may be able to support team members from the district by contributing directly to the NICGC. All funders will be acknowledged by a visit during August's Queen's Baton Relay, with an advertorial in the team booklet and through our various online channels. Invites will also be extended to functions such as the official team announcement. A TeamNI 'Supporter' logo will also be available for Council use.

With regard to the 2021 Commonwealth Youth Games, we are still awaiting confirmation of financial support from the NI Executive. Once clarified, I will be distributing a detailed sponsorship proposal outlining costs and benefits at a variety of levels. It is likely that 'Games Supporter' status will cost in the region of £25k and will offer inclusion within the tourism, legacy and marketing aspects of the project through to 2021. There will also be additional opportunities relating to the hosting and delivery of each sport. I will endeavour to provide more detailed information once we hear from the Department of Economy.

Hopefully this provides sufficient information for the Council to consider supporting TeamNI at Gold Coast 2018 in the first instance, while also looking at longer term involvement as we strive to host the 2021 Commonwealth Youth Games.

Yours sincerely

Conal Heatley
Executive Officer
E: conal.heatley@nicgc.org
M: 07787 414776



Comparative costs for 2014 and 2018 Commonwealth Games

	Glasgow 2014 (Actual)	Gold Coast 2018 (Projected)
Team preparation weekend	7,723.97	12,750.00
Travel – preparation visits and Games time travel	9,601.92	195,050.00
Team clothing and luggage	89,120.39	98,000.00
Medical equipment and services	6,328.75	25,500.00
Insurance	0	4,000.00
Marketing and PR	7,439.31	11,300.00
Anti-doping and preparation grants to participating sports.	55,800.00	3,000.00
Total cost	176,014.34	349,600.00
Total Team Size	165	125
Cost per team member	1066.75	2796.80

Slightly less than half the total cost for Gold Coast 2018 will be met by SportNI funding. The remainder must be raised by the NICGC through local authorities grants, private sector sponsorship, governing body contributions and other donations.

At recent Commonwealth Games, Newry, Mourne and Down was represented by 7 team members at Glasgow 2014 and 2 at Delhi 2010. These numbers may have included athletes, coaches, medical staff or team management.

Although the team size for Gold Coast is smaller, it is reasonable to suggest that the council will once again have between 2 and 5 representatives on the team. This will be subject to nominations submitted by the relevant governing bodies for sport.

If an agreed contribution per team member was to be approved by the Council, an invoice would be generated in January 2018 once the final team selections have been made. Otherwise, a single donation/grant would be greatly appreciated. The NICGC would be pleased to work with the Council's PR staff to promote the support being provided.

Report To:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting	20 March 2017
Subject:	Request to Acquire land at Windmill Hill, Ballynahinch by Drumlins Integrated Primary School
Reporting Officer:	Alison Robb Assistant Director Corporate Services (Administration)
Contact Officers:	Alison Robb Assistant Director Corporate Services (Administration) Conor Haughey (Head of Outdoor Leisure)

Decision Required: Authority to proceed as per recommendation 3.0 below	
1.0	Purpose and Background:
1.1	The Council has received a request from the Board of Governors of Drumlins Integrated Primary School to acquire a portion of land at Windmill Hill, Ballynahinch.
1.2	New school facilities for Drumlins Integrated Primary School are currently under construction in this area with the construction phase due to be completed in the summer of 2017, and the new school available to receive new and returning pupils in late August of this year.
1.3	The sites topography has been challenging to develop with the result that available green space for recreational purposes has been greatly reduced from what was initially envisaged. As a result the Board of Governors has been seeking alternative solutions to the lack of open space and has now approached the Council about the possibility of acquiring a piece of additional land which forms part of the Council's Title for Windmill Hill, Ballynahinch.
1.4	The site of the school is shown delineated in red on the map attached at Appendix 1, with the area sought to be transferred from the Council shown delineated and hatched in brown.
1.5	The Council holds the lands at Windmill Hill partly via a Conveyance and partly under a Lease from NIHE. The lands sought by the school fall under a ten thousand year lease from NIHE with a restriction to use the land only as informal open space. There is further provision that if the Council seeks permission to use the premises otherwise than as informal open space, if the NIHE were to grant the release, the Council should pay to NIHE the full current Market Value of the premises as assessed by LPS. Council also cannot assign or sublet the land without the previous written consent of NIHE (such consent cannot be unreasonably held or delayed).
1.6	A further point for consideration is that Windmill Hill has been designated as a Local Nature Reserve and some work would require to be done around a transfer to the school and how this would impact on this designation. Internal consultations have taken place with relevant Council Departments and there is no issue with the transfer of this portion of land at Windmill Hill to the school.

	Further this matter was considered by the Rowallane DEA at its meeting on 15 February 2017 and Members had no objection to a transfer of the land to the school.
2.0	Key Issues:
2.1	Facilitating a transfer of the land to the school – there are two options for doing so:- 1. The Council seeking NIHE consent to a sub-lease of the land to the school. This is the least preferred option as it would involve obtaining the necessary consents, completion of legal formalities and would involve the Council in issues around the Local Nature Reserve designation. This is the most costly option in terms of both time and cost for the Council including the cost of buying out any required NIHE waivers and obtaining consents. 2. Facilitate a surrender of the portion of the land required by the school directly back to NIHE. NIHE would then be able to enter into a transfer of the land directly to the school and this would be the cleanest option for the Council. It would be a condition of surrender of the land that the school and NIHE deal directly with the matter of the Local Nature Reserve designation and any impact upon this.
3.0	Recommendation:
3.1	That the Council surrender the portion of ground hatched in brown on the map attached at Appendix 1 to NIHE for the purpose of facilitating a transfer of said land to Drumlins Integrated Primary School for open green space as part of the overall school development.
4.0	Resource implications:
4.1	Minimal financial – surrender of lands to NIHE.
4.2	Officer time in facilitating the surrender.
5.0	Equality and Good Relations implications:
5.1	None identified.
6.0	Appendices:
	Appendix I – Map showing Drumlins Integrated Primary School site and area sought to be transferred

**Appendix I – Map showing Drumlins Integrated Primary School
site and area sought to be transferred**



Architects Project Managers Town Planners DDA Auditors CDM Co-Ordinators
2A WALLACE AVENUE LISBURN BT27 4AA Tel: 028 9267 4212 Fax: 028 9260 7800 E-mail: architects@knox-clayton.co.uk www.knox-clayton.co.uk



PROJECT
DRUMLINS IPS FEASIBILITY STUDY
SITE - 16
EXISTING LIBRARY HQ, WINDMILL RD
CLIENT
BOARD OF GOVERNORS - DRUMLINS IPS

PROJECT No.	DRAWING No.	REVISION
10037	A03	

DRAWING TITLE
PROPOSED SITE LOCATION PLAN

DATE
MAY'11

SCALE
1:1250

DRAWN BY
JC

CHECKED BY
SH

Report to:	AHC Committee
Date of Meeting:	20 March 2017
Subject:	Recognition of Achievement (High Performance Level) Procedures
Reporting Officer	Roland Moore – Assistant Director Leisure & Sport
Contact Officer	Conor Haughey – Head of outdoor Leisure / Pat Power – Sports Officer

Decisions required:

Members consider approving the Sports Development; Recognition of Achievement (High Performance Level) Procedures.

1.0	Purpose and Background:
1.1	The legacy Down District Council utilized a funding policy that served Sports Development & Recreation (issue 14 June 2007), while requests for financial assistance towards sporting achievement in the former Newry Council was processed directly through the Council. Consequently, the Council need to establish a new procedure in order to regularise the dissemination of the allocated budget for same.
2.0	Key issues:
2.1	Requests from our sporting citizens, both individuals and clubs who perform to high levels within their respective sport are ongoing and Council are required to have appropriate guidance in place to reflect a fair system of consideration and allocation of financial support.
3.0	Recommendations:
3.1	That the AHC committee recommend to proceed and approve the Sports Development; Recognition of Achievement (High Performance Level(s)) Procedures.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	Officer Time and revenue commitment.
5.0	Equality and good relations implications:
5.1	The Procedures have been equality screened and it recommended it not be subject to an equality impact assessment (with no mitigating measures required). Notwithstanding this, while there is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that the Sports Development: Recognition of Achievement (High Performance Level(s)) Procedures will have a negative adverse impact, to identify potential future adverse impacts, appropriate governance arrangements will be established

	to ensure processes are in place to monitor the implementation and impact of the procedures. Consideration will be given to how best to communicate the availability of the financial assistance scheme, and to effectively monitoring and evaluating the types and levels of awards of financial support from a Section 75 category perspective which will help inform forward planning and the profiled budget levels for the periods April/September and October/March.
6.0	Appendices
	Draft Sports Development; Recognition of Achievement (High Performance Level(s) Procedures.



Comhairle Ceantair
an Iúir, Mhúrn
agus an Dúin

**Newry, Mourne
and Down**
District Council

Active and Healthy Communities

Sports Development

1. Title

Sports Development: Recognition of Achievement (High Performance Level(s)) Procedures.

2. Statement

Two of the key objectives identified by the Active & Healthy Communities Directorate are to; promote increased levels of activity and create a strong community base to improve empowerment and capacity within our communities. Consequently, we assist our sporting community to develop and reach their sporting goals through a structured environment and are aware that a percentage of our citizens achieve the level of 'high sports performer.'

The Council is satisfied that payments under this policy are in the interest of the Council and the district. The Council is also satisfied that the categories and levels of financial support as set out below will bring a direct benefit and that the direct benefit is commensurate with the payments to be made.

Applications for Recognition of Achievement (High Performance Level(s)) will only be considered in accordance with these Procedures.

3. Aim

The aim of the Procedures is to:-

- (a) Set out the process, the levels of Recognition available and the allocation of financial support for participation in High Performance Level(s) in sport;
- (b) Complement the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Community and Corporate Plans and the Active & Healthy Communities Directorate Business Plan;
- (c) Promote high achievement in sport to encourage increased participation at a local level
- (d) Empower and improve the capacity of our local communities;
- (e) Improve sports and community development opportunities for all;
- (f) Support Improved Health and Wellbeing outcomes;
- (g) To enable our sporting citizens to develop and reach their sporting goals at the highest level.

4. Criteria used in the Procedures:

- 1. An individual or club may make application to the Sports Association Newry, Down & South Armagh (SANDSA) for financial assistance; Recognition of Achievement (High Performance Level(s)). However, in certain circumstances, applications may be directly considered and processed by the Council.
- 2. The club must be a member of SANDSA*.

3. The individual or club must participate in a sport recognised by the Sports Council for Northern Ireland.
4. The individual or club may be requested to demonstrate partnership funding – (ie from their Governing Body).
5. The individual or club must be able to produce their 'selection letter' from their Governing Body reflecting their selection and illustrating details of the competition and any additional support as required by the Council and SANDSA.
6. The individual or club must be able to produce evidence of expenses incurred to support their application.
7. The individual or club must be prepared to assist the Council in promoting their sport throughout the district.
8. The individual and club must process their application through their District Electoral Area Sports Forum (The Mournes, Newry, Slieve Gullion, Crotlieve, Downpatrick, Rowallane & Slieve Croob). Their application will then be forwarded by the chair of the relevant Sports Forum to the SANDSA Executive for consideration. The list of recommended applications will then be forwarded to Council for approval.
9. Two categories of applicant will be considered; Individual & Club.
10. Three Levels of Recognition of Achievement (High Performance Level(s)) will apply (see below under definitions).
11. The categories and levels of Recognition of Achievement (High Performance Level(s)) will be considered for the following financial support:
 - Individual - Provincial or Interprovincial = £200
 - Individual - International level = £300
 - Individual - World Level = £400
 - Club - Provincial or Interprovincial = £300
 - Club - International level = £400
 - Club - World Level = £500
12. An individual and club can only make one application per calendar year. The budget allocated will be profiled for the periods – April/September & October/March. All applications are subject to availability of funding and the scheme may be temporarily suspended in the absence of same.

5. Scope

The procedures apply to all sporting citizens within the environs of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council who perform at the highest level within their respective sport and to all sporting organisations and individuals in respect of applications for financial support towards travel and accommodation, celebratory events and sports equipment.

6. Related Policies

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Community Plan
 Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Corporate Plan
 Newry, Mourne and Down District Council's Active & Healthy Communities Directorate Business Plan

7. Definitions

Recognition of Achievement (High Performance Level(s)): An individual/club who has been selected by their governing body of sport to represent their County or Country at any one of three levels or alternatively, have achieved the highest performance level determined by their governing body which would be deemed equivalent to any of the three levels below:

1. Provincial or Interprovincial Level(s) (Ulster or All Ireland)
2. International level (European, Commonwealth or Inter-Countries)
3. World Level (Olympic, World Championships)

8. Legislative Powers

The Recreation & Youth Service (Northern Ireland) Order 1986 10(1) (10) (d) & (e)
 Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 1972 Chapter 9 .115

9. Procedure Owner

Assistant Director Active & Healthy Communities (Leisure & Sport).

10. Contact details in regard of these procedures are

Assistant Director Active & Healthy Communities (Leisure & Sport).

11. Procedures Authorisation

Active & Healthy Communities Committee Authorised on:	February 2017
Council Authorised on:	March 2017 (provisionally)

12. Procedures Effective Date: 1st April 2017

13. Procedures Review Date

These procedures will be reviewed annually.

14. Procedures

This document should be read in conjunction with SANDSA Executive Management Procedures.

15. Equality Screen

The Procedures have been equality screened and it recommended it not be subject to an equality impact assessment (with no mitigating measures required).

15. Version Control 13

- SANDSA: Sports Association Newry, Down & South Armagh

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	20 March 2017
Subject:	Private Rented Sector In NI-Proposals for change. Consultation Document
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Eoin Devlin Assistant Director Health and Wellbeing
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	James Campbell Senior Environmental Health Officer

Decisions required:

Members are asked to note the contents of the report and give approval to return the attached response to the Department for Communities

1.0	Purpose and Background:
1.1	The Department of Communities issued a consultation document in January 2017 (https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/consultations/private-rented-sector-northern-ireland-proposals-change) seeking Council comment on its proposals for change in the private rented sector. The Department sought comments on, • Supply • Affordability • Security of Tenure • Tenancy Management • Property Standards • Dispute Resolution • And changes to the Private Tenancies Order 2006
2.0	Key issues:
2.1	The Consultation is seeking views on a wide range of issues such as • Institutional investors investing in NI • Developing more mixed tenure housing areas • Restricting the number of times rent can be increased in a 12 month period • Ensuring all private tenants are issued with a written agreement • Increasing the minimum notice to quit period from 4 weeks to 2 months • The introduction of a Fast Track Eviction process • Considering a landlord training programme • Developing a tenant information pack • Amending the Landlord Registration Regulations to incorporate a fitness declaration • Introducing a regulatory framework for letting agents • Introducing a requirement for landlords to provide smoke alarms, carbon monoxide detectors and carry out periodic electrical checks • Introducing legislation around Energy Performance Certificates • Moving the 1945 date for rent control to 1956

	Establishing an independent housing panel for NI
3.0	Recommendations:
3.1	Submit the attached response to Department for Communities
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	None
5.0	Equality and good relations implications:
5.1	None
6.0	Appendices
	Council's response to DfC consultation document

Appendix 1**Private Rented Sector in Northern Ireland- Proposals for Change:**

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council welcome the opportunity to respond to the Department's proposals for changes to the Private Rented Sector (PRS) in Northern Ireland. Owning a home or renting from a social landlord are the preferred choices for most of the citizens of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council but these are becoming increasingly harder to secure.

The private rented sector has become the second biggest tenure in Northern Ireland. Given the existing waiting lists for Social Housing and affordability issues for first time buyers, this sector will continue to play an important and valuable role in Northern Ireland's Housing Market.

It is important therefore that the PRS is fit for purpose and provides tenancies for people who need them.

Supply:

The Department proposes to:

- 1. Commission work to gauge the appetite of institutional investors with existing portfolios of private rented sector properties in Great Britain to invest in Northern Ireland and the conditions needed to support such investment.*
- 2. Explore opportunities to use money available for shared housing through the Fresh Start agreement to incentivise the development of more mixed-tenure housing areas, including private rented accommodation, underpinned by a shared ethos.*
- 3. Scope the opportunities with housing associations for greater involvement in the private rented sector.*

Comment

The Council welcomes the Department's proposals to explore new opportunities to stimulate the growth of the private rented sector in the light of increasing demand for this tenure.

Use of the various options outlined in the consultation document including the Empty homes strategy and the LOTS scheme alongside the potential increased use of institutional investment and other mechanisms for larger-scale delivery should be encouraged.

The Council is in the early stages of preparing a Local Development Plan and alongside the Community Plan the Council will continue to respond to planning challenges and opportunities across the District.

Affordability:

The Department proposes to:

Introduce legislation to stipulate that rents can only be increased once in any 12 month period.

Comment

The Council welcomes this proposal to stabilise rents in the sector however when demand outstrips supply, rent levels will always be an issue for tenants on a low income. The Council welcomes the provision which ensures that Universal Credit is paid to registered landlords.

Security of tenure:

The Department proposes to:

- 1. Seek to bring forward legislation to ensure all private tenants are issued with a written agreement which must contain mandatory terms regardless of the type or length of the tenancy.*
- 2. Amend the notice to quit period from four weeks to two months for tenancies lasting longer than 12 months.*
- 3. Seek to introduce legislation for a Fast Track Eviction Scheme which may include mandatory grounds for possession and provide appropriate safeguards to ensure fairness.*

Comment

The Council welcomes the proposals to ensure all tenants receive a mandatory written agreement. It also welcomes the proposals to increase the notice to quit provisions for tenancies over 12 months to two months.

The introduction of legislation for a fast track eviction scheme with appropriate safe guards to ensure fairness would be welcomed by Council as there are considerable resources spent on investigation of unlawful eviction complaints by the Council's Environmental Health Officers.

Tenancy Management

The Department proposes to:

- 1. Review the impact of the CIH training course and explore the funding options or an extension of the course.*
- 2. Fund a pilot dedicated landlord advice line. This would ensure that landlords get advice and information from professionally qualified advisors.*
They would have a single point of contact for landlords to access information. This in turn would help professionalise the sector.
- 3. Develop a tenant information pack which a landlord must provide to the tenant at the commencement of the tenancy. This will contain user friendly advice and information. This would detail their roles and responsibilities and what is expected of them as a tenant. This is already a common practice in other jurisdictions.*
- 4. Amend the Landlord Registration Regulations to incorporate a fitness declaration at the point of registration. Sample checks could be carried out by councils on these declarations. Options for meeting the costs of these checks would need to be explored.*
- 5. Introduce a regulatory framework for all letting agents including bringing forward legislation to ban letting agent fees.*

Comment

The Council welcomes initiatives to assist in the education and training of landlords to encourage professionalism in the sector. If licensing of landlords were to be introduced then attending the course could be a mandatory requirement.

The Council welcomes the introduction of a pilot dedicated landlord advice line to provide landlords with support and advice.

Information packs for tenants are also welcomed as many tenants are unaware of their rights when renting privately. The Council would query if not providing a pack will be considered a criminal offence.

Requiring a fitness declaration for landlords at the point of registration may be a "light touch" approach to dealing with properties which do not meet the statutory fitness standard. The current statutory fitness standard is not fit for purpose (and is currently undergoing a review) therefore the majority of properties will meet this minimum standard. In addition this requirement would be rendered meaningless if there is no offence to falsely declare a property is fit for habitation. The

Council would be concerned as to the funding of the sample checks as no new resource has been made available to Council since the introduction of the Private Tenancies Order in 2006 and associated Regulations.

The Council welcomes the introduction of a regulatory framework for all letting agents including the legislation to ban letting fees. This sector has been largely unregulated to date and tenants who wish to rent in an area of high demand are often subject to a range of prohibitive fees.

The Council is disappointed that the Department did not take the opportunity to introduce mandatory licensing for all private sector landlords.

The Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) Bill proposes the Licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation and will give Councils the powers to

1. Tackle anti-social behaviour effectively,
2. Safeguard tenant's health, safety and welfare,
3. Ensure landlords are 'fit and proper' persons or employ agents, who are,
4. Ensure adequate property and tenancy management arrangements are in place,
5. Ensure accommodation is suitable for the numbers occupying it and,
6. Ensure all landlords and managing agents operate at the same level of professional standards

The Council believes that mandatory licensing for the entire private rented sector is necessary. Extending these powers to the entire Private Rented Sector will afford the same protection to all tenants allowing councils and other agencies to deal more effectively with problems posed by this sector.

At present Councils receive none of the revenue received from the Landlord Registration scheme. This has placed a significant administrative and financial burden on Councils. The use of fixed penalty income to offset these costs is not working in practice and in any case is not sustainable. Future licensing schemes should be administered by Councils and the fees used to fund the administration and enforcement of the sector.

Property Standards:

The Department proposes to:

1. Introduce legislation as soon as practicable to make it a mandatory requirement for private landlords to provide smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and to carry out periodic electrical checks.
2. Introduce legislation around Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) ratings similar to that in England. Consideration should be given to exempting certain types of property where the costs of making sufficient energy efficiency improvements would be prohibitive.
3. Amend legislation so that all unfit properties built before 1956 are subject to rent control.

Comment

The Council welcomes the proposals to ensure all private landlords provide smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and carry out electrical checks. However the review of the statutory fitness standard should be addressing these and other hazards which affect property standards. The Council advocates the adoption of the HHSRS (Housing Health and Safety Rating System) the standard used in England and Wales which addresses all potential hazards in the home.

Council values the promotion of the EPC as a means to allow tenants to gauge the energy efficiency of the property they are considering, it also informs the owners of properties of the opportunities available to improve the energy efficiency of their buildings. Currently Councils have the requirement to check that a valid EPC is available for all properties for sale or rent including the private rental sector.

Consideration should be given to Listed Buildings or buildings in a conservation area which may fall into categories F or G. Under other various legislation "due consideration" has been given to Listed, Historical and buildings in a conservation area when applying new legislation upon them. The cost of upgrading these types of buildings to an acceptable standard can be disproportionate to the potential rental income. Also grant aid funding is limited or capped thus may lead to them becoming un-lettable, vacant and falling into disrepair. Consideration should be given to lowering the standard for these buildings or alternatively increase the potential grant aid funding to permit improvements to the energy rating.

The Council would welcome the opportunity for Environmental Health staff to refer certain privately rented properties into the Department's Affordable Warmth Scheme to ensure the funding is focused in areas of need as opposed to geographical areas.

The Council welcomes the proposed amendment to legislation to change the date for rent control of unfit properties from 1945. However the Council would advocate that any unfit property should be rent controlled regardless of the date of construction. There may be many unfit properties constructed in the 1960s and 1970s which should be subject to rent control and the legislation should amended to include all unfit properties to ensure it is future-proof against any new statutory fitness standard introduced by the Department.

Dispute Resolution:

The Department proposes to:

Examine the financial case for establishing an independent housing panel for Northern Ireland.

Comment

The Council welcomes the proposal to examine the possibility of an independent housing panel for Northern Ireland. The Council invests a considerable resource to ensure all complaints are investigated with a view to potential criminal proceedings. The Tenancy Deposit dispute mechanism has ensured that deposits which are protected are fairly adjudicated. A similar service for disputes such as repairing obligations and threatened evictions could provide mediation and avoid costly disputes and lengthy criminal investigations. This service should ensure disputes are dealt with in a timely manner and not used by some as a delaying mechanism.

2006 Private Tenancies Order proposals for change:

ANNEX A PROPOSALS:

Tenant to be provided with a rent book

Amend Article 5 to make it a requirement for a landlord to inform a tenant if there is a variation to the contents of the rent book.

The Council welcomes any requirement which ensures tenants are receiving the correct information. This is the type of offence which could be dealt with a Housing panel rather than a criminal investigation.

Tenant to be provided with a rent book which must contain certain specified information.

Amend Article 5(4) to add an offence if the landlord under a private tenancy fails to provide the written information relating to the tenancy that may be prescribed.

The Council welcomes any requirement which ensures tenants are given the correct information. This is the type of offence which could be dealt with by a Housing Panel rather than a criminal investigation.

Notice of Unfitness / Disrepair

Amend Articles 18(4) (notice of unfitness) and 19(4) (Notice of Disrepair) of the PTO to specify a period of less than 21 days to require a person to carry out work where there is imminent danger.

The Council welcomes this proposal to allow Environmental Health Officers to deal quickly with potentially hazardous situations.

Functions of the appropriate district council:

Create an offence similar to that in Article 28 for Article 36 if a person obstructs an authorised officer of the council from entering the property.

The Council welcomes this proposal.

Prosecution of Offences

Article 68(3) – change “councils may” to “councils shall” so rather than enabling make it a requirement.

The Council has an enforcement policy which requires officers to consider a range of issues when deciding which form of enforcement action to take.

This policy is consistent with the principles set out in the Government's Better Regulation agenda and the Enforcement Concordat. It's also intended to improve compliance with legislation while minimising the burden on businesses, individuals, organisations and the Council.

Issues considered such as the seriousness of the offence, attitude and past history of alleged offender, public interest etc. are all considered. The Council would not welcome any absolute requirement to take a prosecution in the light of its enforcement policy and the current government agenda.

Private Tenancies (Forms) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2007

Schedule 2 Form 1

Include a requirement for landlords to provide electrical certification as part of application for fitness certificate.

The Council welcomes this proposal as a short term solution to the issues with the current statutory fitness standard but reiterates the need for a comprehensive future-proof standard to ensure the private rented sector is fit for purpose for years to come.

Tenancy Deposits Proposals for change:

ANNEX B:

Retrospective Protection

The current scheme only requires deposits taken on or after 1 April 2013 to be protected.

The Department recommends that retrospective protection be introduced so all private rented deposits will be protected irrespective of the date the tenancy started. This will mean that all

tenants will benefit from the protection the Scheme brings and will have access to the dispute resolution mechanism.

The Council understands how all tenants who paid a deposit before April 2013 deserve to have their money protected. The issue would be concerning resources for enforcement if this requirement was introduced. Tenancy deposit complaint cases can take a lot of time checking with providers, ensuring the tenant has evidence of a financial transaction etc. By widening the regulations for all deposits, the workload for officers could be unmanageable and detrimental to existing private rented sector enforcement work.

Time limit for deposit protection

Current legislation states a deposit must be protected in an approved scheme within 14 days of receipt. The Department will amend legislation to allow landlords additional time to protect the deposit so landlords will have 28 days to protect the deposit and give the required information to the tenant.

The Council welcomes the amendment to give landlords an extra 14 days to secure a deposit.

Prosecution Time Bar

Offences under the Tenancy Deposit Scheme cannot be prosecuted through the courts after six months. The Department will amend legislation so that the time limitation will not be a barrier to enforcement.

The Council welcomes the amendment to ensure that all case relating to the tenancy deposit scheme can be prosecuted through the courts.

Fixed Penalties

Currently any monies paid as a result of fixed penalties (up to three times the amount of the deposit) is paid to councils. The Department will seek to amend legislation to allow part of the penalty to be paid to the tenant.

The Council recognises the need to ensure tenants have no financial detriment if their deposit was not secured. However the fixed penalty was set to give Councils the resource to fund this additional enforcement responsibility as the Department did not give Council any additional financial assistance. The tenant does have the option of seeking compensation through civil action.

Court Decisions

Currently a judge can issue a fine of up to £20,000 and there is no obligation for any monies to be returned to the tenant and the landlord is not ordered to protect the deposit in an approved Tenancy Deposit Scheme unlike Article 65A (7) where a court must order a landlord to register. The Department will seek to change the legislation.

The Council welcomes this provision to allow a court to order a landlord to return the deposit to the tenant. The Council would also welcome the amount of fixed penalty which wasn't paid to be paid by the landlord to the Council.

Monies in designated accounts

The Department will explore the feasibility of allowing scheme administrators to use monies in designated accounts to work with Housing Associations to invest in affordable housing.

The Council welcomes this proposal to look at the potential for investing monies in designated tenancy deposit scheme accounts in affordable housing. The Council would also advocate using monies to invest in empty homes and returning derelict and dilapidated properties into habitable homes.

Proactive approach by Council Environmental Health Officers

The Department will take action to encourage all councils to be more proactive and use the legislative powers available to them to prosecute for non-compliance.

The Council welcomes this proposal. However the Council would be concerned as to what action the Department is referring to by encouraging Councils to use the legislative powers available. There has been no financial assistance given to Council by the Department since the introduction of the Private Tenancies Order (NI) 2006 and the associated regulation. This additional regulatory work has been funded mostly by the ratepayer and the Council is conscious to ensure that any new regulatory function is cost neutral.

Correspondence address

Amend para 1(d) of Schedule 1 to the Tenancy Deposit Scheme Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2012 to change "Northern Ireland" to "United Kingdom."

The Council welcomes this proposal.

Transfer between schemes

Amend Regulation 14 to insert a timeframe for transfer of a deposit and protection between schemes.

The Council welcomes this proposal.

Landlord registration proposals for change:

ANNEX C:

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Registration Fee

The Landlord Registration Scheme fee to be re-examined at registration renewal to decide if it should be:

Option 1: Reduced to cover the actual running costs of scheme

Option 2: Maintained at the current rate and used to cover both the running cost of the scheme and to fund any potential recommendations in relation to landlords coming out of the review of the Private Rented Sector

The Council welcomes the proposal to re-examine the registration fee. The fee should not be prohibitive for landlords but could be used to fund new initiatives to support landlords and Councils to discharge their enforcement responsibilities without any extra burden on the ratepayer.

Enforcement

Liaise with councils to improve enforcement processes to ensure all landlords are complying with the law and registering.

The Council welcomes this proposal.

Accountability

To advise landlords twice yearly explaining how the registration fee is used.

The Council welcomes this proposal.

Renewal Process

Examine the possibility of making the renewal process fully electronic by removing the clerical application facility at renewal.

The Council welcomes this proposal.

Correspondence address

Amend para 1(e) of Schedule 1 to the Landlord Registration Scheme Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014 to change "Northern Ireland" to "United Kingdom".

The Council welcomes this proposal.

In addition to these proposed changes the Council would welcome an amendment to the sharing of data from the Landlord Registration database. Currently the Council enforcement officers can only use data from the landlord registration database to discharge its function under the Private Tenancies Order (NI) 2006 and for unlawful eviction investigations. Council enforcement officers carry out a wide range of enforcement activities which impact on the privately rented sector and consequently would require the officer to have the landlords details, e.g.: to silence burglar alarms, animal welfare issues, issue statutory nuisance abatement notices under Clean Neighbourhood and Environment Act 2011.

Report to:	Active & Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	20 March 2017
Subject:	Sustainable Development and Climate Change Forum
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Michael Lipsett, Director Active & Healthy Communities
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Eoin Devlin, Assistant Director, Health & Wellbeing

Decisions required:	
1.0	Purpose and Background:
1.1	The Sustainable Development & Climate Change Forum took place on Monday 20 th February 2017 recommendations are listed in Item 2 and minutes attached in Appendix I.
2.0	Key issues:
2.1	Members agreed that representatives from the Planning Dept and Building Control Dept are invited to attend the next Forum to provide an update to members on the following: 1. Presentation on how planners are translating UK Renewable Energy targets into the new Area Plan. 2. How the Council will train planners / Building Control staff on Nearly Zero Energy Legislation.
3.0	Recommendations:
3.1	Minutes for noting
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	Not Applicable
5.0	Equality and good relations implications:
5.1	Not Applicable
6.0	Appendices
	Appendix I: Minutes of SDCC Forum 20 Feb 2017

Minutes of Sustainability & Climate Change Forum Meeting
Monday 20th February at 3.30pm
Commedagh Room, Downpatrick Civic Centre

In attendance: Councillor Terry Andrews Councillor Patrick Brown
 Councillor Cadogan Enright Councillor Harry Harvey

Mr Michael Lipsett Director of Active and Healthy
 Communities
 Ms S McEldowney Senior Environmental Health Officer
 Ciaran Og Mussen Energy & Sustainability Officer

Apologies:

Eoin Devlin Assistant Director Health & Wellbeing

Item 2	Action
<u>Minutes of Meeting held on 17 January 2017</u> Minutes were agreed by Councillor Terry Andrews and Councillor Harry Harvey	

Item 3	Action
<u>Presentation of Sustainability and Energy Work within Council</u> A presentation was given by Ms McEldowney and Mr Mussen	

Item 4	Action
Next Steps Following discussion on the presentation Councillor Enright requested a representative from the Planning Dept and Building Control Dept are invited to attend the next Forum to provide an update to members on the following: 1. Presentation on how planners are translating UK Renewable Energy targets into the new Area Plan. 2. How the Council will train planners / Building Control staff on Nearly Zero Energy Legislation. Councillor Brown seconded Councillor Enright's recommendations.	Eoin Devlin

Members discussed the budget for energy management and the consideration of energy savings made in a financial year period being used to set the budget for energy management for the next year. Cllr Enright requested that future energy management presentations and reports to Councillor's and SMT highlight not only the energy improvements and savings in energy but also the monetary savings made. Mr Mussen is to create a list of energy efficiency projects completed to date showing clearly the annual savings of each project. The accumulated annual savings may be used in future for Energy Efficiency Budget setting. These reports will be brought back to the next Sustainability & Climate Change Forum Meeting.	Cíaran Og Mussen
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Item 5	Action
Date of Next Meeting It was agreed that the next meeting will be held at 3.30pm on Thursday 20th April 2017 before the AHC Committee Meeting. There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 5pm.	

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	20 March 2017
Subject:	Newry, Mourne and Down Local Development Plan Preparatory Studies Paper 10: Open Space, Recreation and Leisure
Reporting Officer:	Anthony McKay, Chief Planning Officer
Contact Officer:	Andrew Hay, Principal Planning Officer

Decisions required:

- **Note the content of this report.**

1.0	Purpose and Background:
1.1	A programme of preparatory work is being undertaken as part of the Local Development Plan (LDP) process. Preparatory studies are essential in providing the evidence base for preparing the Local Development Plan (LDP). A reliable and comprehensive evidence base is vital to informing and justifying the 'soundness' of the LDP documents (Plan Strategy and Local Policies Plan) and to show how planning policies and proposals help to achieve the social, economic and environmental objectives for the plan area.
1.2	The SPR Committee is responsible for the Local Development Plan. All LDP papers are reported to the SPR Committee for noting or decision. All LDP papers will also be presented to the Planning Committee for noting. Depending on the subject matter, a LDP paper will also be presented to any other relevant Council Committee for noting.
1.3	'Paper 10: Open Space, Recreation and Leisure' provides members with an overview of matters relating to open space, recreation and leisure and implications for land use in the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area,
1.4	The paper builds on the existing evidence base and provides information on: • the nature and benefits of open space; • the regional planning context for open space; • Government strategies relating to open space and recreation; • the role of the LDP in the protection and provision of open space; • an overview of the open space and recreational assets within the District; • an analysis of outdoor space and children's play provision within the District and future need over the plan period.
1.5	Members are asked to note the content of this report. Any comments received will be considered. The paper will be subject to any changes considered necessary in response to any valid comments received at this or any other Committee to which it is presented.
2.0	Key issues:

2.1	'Paper 10: Open Space, Recreation and Leisure' informs members about the provision of open space, recreation and leisure within the District and how this will assist the Council in the development of the LDP.
2.2	The paper provides an overview of the policy context and strategies for open space, recreation and leisure and the various public bodies responsible for these areas. It outlines the existing situation, assesses the distribution and accessibility of provision, highlights issues, and indicates future needs for the District.
2.3	The paper assesses the existing open space provision against national recognised standards for playing pitches and children's play areas. Other less formal, passive complementary areas of open space such as woodlands, parks and indoor leisure facilities are also considered in so far as they contribute to the overall provision of open space, recreation and leisure in the District.
2.4	The information gathered and the key findings will be used to inform the preparation of the LDP.
2.5	Data gathered as part of this and other preparatory studies will be used to establish the baseline of the social, economic, and environmental characteristics of the plan area and enable the Council to identify the issues which need to be addressed by the LDP. Furthermore, it will provide a sound basis on which to formulate the plan strategy, policies and proposals within the LDP that will be subject to independent public examination.
3.0	Recommendations:
3.1	Members are requested to note the content of this report.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	N/A
5.0	Equality and good relations implications:
5.1	N/A
6.0	Appendices
	Paper 10: Open Space, Recreation and Leisure



Comhairle Ceantair
an Iúir, Mhúrn
agus an Dúin

**Newry, Mourne
and Down**
District Council

**Local Development Plan
Preparatory Studies**

Paper 10: Open Space, Recreation and Leisure

March 2017

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Open Space, Recreation and Leisure across Newry, Mourne and Down

Purpose: To provide the Council with an overview of matters relating to open space, recreation and leisure and implications for land use in the Newry, Mourne and Down District.

Content: The paper provides:

- i. The nature and benefits of open space;
- ii. The regional planning policy context for open space;
- iii. Government strategies relating to open space and recreation;
- iv. The role of the local development plan in the protection and provision of open space
- v. An overview of the open space and recreational assets within the District
- vi. An analysis of outdoor space and children's play provision within the District and future need over the plan period.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to inform members on the provision of open space, recreation and leisure within the Council area and future needs to 2030. It provides an overview of the regional policy context for open space, recreation and leisure and examines initial responses from various public bodies with a responsibility for these topic areas. Consideration of indoor leisure activities is also provided.
- 1.2 The paper assesses the existing open space provision against the Fields in Trust (National Playing Fields Association – NPFA) recommended minimum standard for playing pitches and children's play areas. Other less formal, passive complementary areas of open space in Newry, Mourne and Down District such as woodlands, historic parks, gardens and demesnes and indoor facilities are also considered in so far as they also contribute to the overall provision of areas of open space, recreation and leisure in the District.

Definition and explanation of open space

- 1.3 Open space is defined in Planning Policy Statement 8 (PPS) Open Space, Sport and Outdoor Recreation as:

"all open space of public value, including not just land, but also inland bodies of water such as rivers, canals, lakes and reservoirs which offer important opportunities for sport and outdoor recreation and can also act as a visual amenity."

- 1.4 Open space, sport and outdoor recreation are important components of life. They provide many cultural, social, economic and environmental benefits and contribute positively to physical and mental health and a better quality of life. Open space can enhance the character of residential areas, civic buildings, conservation areas, listed buildings and archaeological sites. It can also help to attract business and tourism and thereby contribute to the process of urban regeneration. The use being made of the countryside for a range of sporting and outdoor recreational activities, particularly where these are associated with farm diversification, can contribute to the process of rural regeneration and help promote natural resource tourism.
- 1.5 Sport is defined as "all forms of physical activity which, through casual or organised participation, aim at expressing or improving physical fitness and mental well-being, forming social relationships, or obtaining results in competitions at all levels" (Council of Europe 1992). This paper focuses mainly on outdoor recreation, but it also briefly considers provision of both current and future forms of indoor recreation in the District.

Figure 1 - Benefits of Sport in Northern Ireland

Growing the Economy	In 2010, Sport NI commissioned the Sport Industry Research Centre to reassess the economic contribution of sport. The picture of NI is as follows: • Consumer's expenditure on sport in 2008 was £688m. This represents an increase of 54% over the 2004 figure • Sport and associated industries are estimated to employ in excess of 17,900 people corresponding to 2.3% of total employment in the region • Furthermore, the gross value added of 2.3% is greater than that of a similar UK region, North West England (1.7%) and North East England (2.0%).
Public Health & Well Being	Sport can play a vital role in improving public health and wellbeing. Evidence suggest regular participation in sport and physical activity can: • Contribute to the reduction of illnesses; such as diabetes, some types of cancer, osteoporosis, and cardiovascular disease • Promotes mental well-being; having a positive effect on anxiety, depression, mood and emotion and self-esteem • Help tackle obesity; obesity has become a major public health concern, not only in Northern Ireland, but globally. Rising levels of obesity rates, particularly among children has led to the situation being described as "epidemic".
Community Cohesion & Social Inclusion	In recent years recognition has grown of the 'added value' that sport can bring to communities, promoting social inclusion, contributing to stronger communities and as a key generator of social capital. Sporting activities and events can contribute to the development of stronger social networks and more cohesive communities by providing opportunities for social interaction, which strengthens community involvement, identity and civic pride. When there is an affinity with a team or individual the power of sport makes people feel good and a sense of sharing in the success of others from their country, county, town or community, which can be celebrated collectively.
Improving Northern Ireland's Image	NI is striving to improve its image at home and abroad following decades of civil and political unrest. Government is using a range of initiatives set in the context of a broader vision for a more sustainable, cohesive and prosperous society, which, in turn offers the visitor a world-class experience. Sports events and activity tourism provide numerous opportunities for promoting NI as a flourishing society, proud of its cultural identity. Major sporting events such as the London 2012 Pre Games Training Camps (2011/2012), World Police and Fire Games (2013) and Giro D'Italia Big Start (2014) have all attracted international competitors, spectators, officials and media coverage.

Source: Sport NI Response to Proposed 2015-16 Exchequer Budget Reductions.

Green Infrastructure

- 1.6 Green infrastructure, or blue-green infrastructure, is a phrase used to describe all green and blue spaces in and around our towns and cities. The term allows us to refer to – and consider the collective value of – all of these spaces at once. Component elements of green infrastructure include parks, private gardens, agricultural fields, hedges, trees, woodland, green roofs, green walls, rivers and ponds. The term covers all land containing these features, regardless of its ownership, condition or size.
- 1.7 Green infrastructure incorporates green, blue and yellow space:
 - green space - parks, natural spaces, river banks, village greens etc;
 - blue space - ponds, rivers, lakes, streams, wetlands etc; and
 - yellow space – beaches
- 1.8 In the past, green spaces have often been valued for single uses, such as for sport/recreation, or simply for their aesthetic appeal. The term green infrastructure reflects the fact that green spaces can perform a number of functions, often simultaneously. One site could be providing several functions at once, providing us with multiple benefits. The real benefit of green infrastructure to planning is that it can help deliver other local, regional and national policy objectives, not just those related to green space.
- 1.9 The challenge is ensuring that green infrastructure is capable of providing functions which will meet numerous planning objectives; this requires thorough design, planning and management. Success is reliant on a shared understanding between developers, planners etc. of what green infrastructure is, what it can achieve and how to achieve this.

Figure 2: Multi- benefits of outdoor recreation



Source: Multi Benefits of Outdoor Recreation- Source: Our Great Outdoors, The Outdoor Recreation Action Plan for Northern Ireland, March 2014

Sport and recreation in Northern Ireland

- 1.10 District Councils are obliged to make provision for recreational facilities under the Recreation and Youth Service Order 1986. Other bodies who contribute to the provision of such facilities include the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA), the Department for Communities (DfC) the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) and the Education Authority.
- 1.11 As well as having responsibility for sport and recreation provision, the Council is leading the community planning process for the District, working in partnership with statutory agencies and the community, voluntary and business sectors to plan for and improve services that matter to local people, including sport and recreational facilities.

1.12 The report from the DfC 2015/16 Continuous Household Survey (CHS) provides data in relation to sport participation by the adult population in Northern Ireland. This report illustrates a number of key findings:

- 2015/16, more than half of adults in Northern Ireland (53%) had participated in sport and physical activity within the last 12 months, a similar figure to 2014/15 (55%). A target was set in the strategic document Sport Matters, to halt the decline in sports participation by 2013. This was achieved in 2013 and has been maintained in the following two years.
- In 2015/16 around half of adults (47%) normally participated in sport and physical activity on at least one day a week. This figure was similar to the previous year, 2014/15 (49%).
- More than a fifth of adults (21%) were members of a sports club in 2015/16, which is also similar to the previous year, 23% in 2014/15.
- Over the time period from 2007/08, sport participation by adults living in the most deprived areas of Northern Ireland initially decreased before returning to 46% in 2015/16. Sport participation by adults living in the least deprived areas has remained relatively static over the same time period at around 65%.

Figure 3 Engagement¹ in culture and leisure activities by adults in Northern Ireland, 2014/15-2015/16

Sport	Adults			
	2014/15		2015/16	
	%	Base	%	Base
Sport participation	55	3,348	53	3,286
Normally participates in sport or physical activity at least one day per week ²	49	3,349	47	3,286
Member of a sports club	23	3,349	21	3,286

Source: Continuous Household Survey

¹Data presented relates to participation, attendance and visits in the last 12 months unless otherwise stated.

² Participation at least one day per week excludes those who had walked for recreation only.

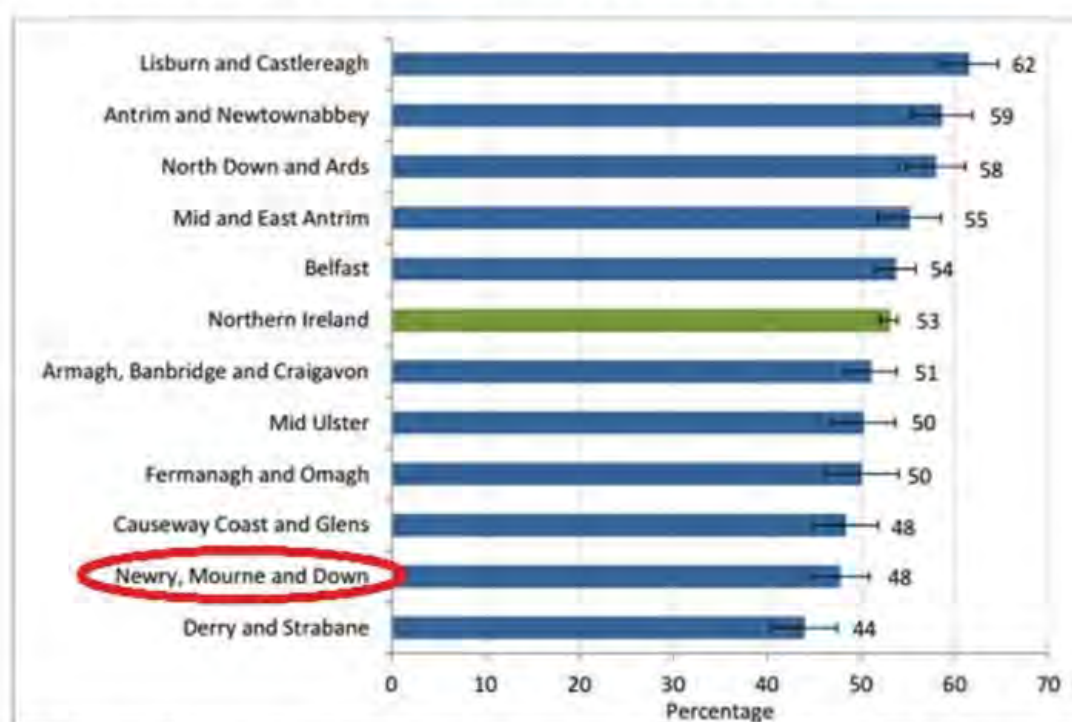
1.13 In the same survey, according to parents, 86% of children had participated in at least one sport within the previous year (2014/15), outside of school or afterschool with 84% participating outside of school and 51 % in afterschool sport.

1.14 The most popular sports to take part in outside of school within the year 2014/15 were 'Swimming or diving' (38%), football (33%) and cycling (26%). These were the top three sports for boys also (36%, 51% and 26%, respectively). For girls the top sports outside of school within the previous year were 'Swimming or diving' (41%), cycling (25%) and 'Keep-fit, Aerobics, Yoga, Dance exercise' (24%).

Sport and recreation in Newry, Mourne and Down

- 1.15 There are a range of parks and children's play facilities across the District. The area is presently well served by a wide range of formal private recreational clubs including soccer, rugby, cricket, Gaelic games and golf. The widespread of school playing fields throughout the area also offers future potential for community use. The Council is also actively involved in community partnerships for the development and operation of recreational sites.
- 1.16 DfC prepared a report for the new Local Government Districts which is based upon a combination of the continuous household survey results for 2011/12, 2012/13 and 2013/14. This report illustrates the difference in sport participation rates amongst adults within the previous year. Newry, Mourne and Down is ranked joint 9th with Causeway Coast and Glens when compared to sport participation across the council districts and is also below the Northern Ireland average - see figure 4 below.

Figure 4 - Sport Participation in 2014 by Council Area



The black error bar at the end of each horizontal column represents the range within which we can be 95% certain that the true population proportion lies (i.e. 95% confidence interval).

Source: Engagement in Culture, Arts and Leisure by adults in Northern Ireland's new council areas – Findings from combined Continuous Household Surveys 2011 – 2014 May 2015

2.0 Regional Policy Context

(a) Programme for Government 2011-2015 (PfG)

- 2.1 The Office of the First and Deputy First Minister (OFMDFM) published the Programme for Government Building a Better Future on 12th March 2012. Included within the strategy priorities 1-4 set out for the Assembly term 2011 to 2015 are multiple references to improving the health, including mental health, and well-being of the population; unlocking the potential of the leisure sector as an instrument for positive change; and seeking to encourage greater involvement in sporting activities to advance social cohesion and integration – all of which have direct links to the provision and accessibility of open space and recreation.
- 2.2 The PfG specifically identifies the Play and Leisure Action Plan as one of its 'building blocks' to underpin the first strategic priority of creating opportunities, tackling disadvantaged and improving health and well-being.
- 2.3 Last year, the Executive agreed the draft Programme for Government Framework 2016-21. The draft framework contains 14 strategic outcomes which, taken together, set a clear direction of travel and enable continuous improvement on the essential components of societal wellbeing. They touch on every aspect of government, including the attainment of good health and education, economic success and confident and peaceful communities.
- 2.4 The draft PfG states its purpose is 'Improving wellbeing for all - by tackling disadvantage, and driving economic growth'. A key outcome of the draft that is particularly relevant to the topic of open space, recreation and leisure is 'we enjoy long, health, active lives'. Specific targets have not been set at this stage but will follow in the final programme for government following the consultation period that closed in December 2016.

(b) The Regional Development Strategy 2035 (RDS)

- 2.5 The importance of open space, sport and outdoor recreation to health and the environment is acknowledged in the Regional Development Strategy for Northern Ireland 2035 (RDS). The following Regional Guidance (RG) in the RDS and Spatial Framework Guidance (SFG) are relevant to this paper:

<i>RG 7 Support urban and rural renaissance</i>	The RDS recognises that regeneration is necessary to create more accessible vibrant city and town centres which offer people more local choice for shopping, social activity and recreation. It aims to ensure that environmental quality in urban areas is improved and maintained, particularly with adequate provision of green infrastructure. Part of the process of urban and rural renaissance requires even greater significance being given to the design and management of the public realm. It is
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	important to promote recreational space within cities, towns and neighbourhoods, and new developments or plans should make provision for adequate green and blue infrastructure. This is important near designated nature-conservation sites as it will help reduce recreational pressures on these sites.
<i>RG 11 Conserve, protect and, where possible, enhance our built heritage and our natural environment</i>	The RDS recognises that built heritage is a key tourism and recreational asset and that it makes a valuable contribution to the environment, economy and society. Regarding built heritage the key policy aim is to identify, protect and conserve the built heritage and maintain the integrity of built heritage assets including historic landscapes. With regard to the natural heritage the key aim is to sustain and enhance biodiversity, protect and encourage green and blue infrastructure within urban areas, and conserve, protect and enhance areas recognised for their landscape quality. This policy aims to identify, protect and manage ecological networks. It states that such networks could also be of amenity value if linked to the green infrastructure provided by walking and cycling routes to heritage and other recreational interest. This policy also considers the establishment of one or more National parks which would conserve and enhance the natural, built and cultural heritage of areas of outstanding landscape value while promoting the social and economic development of the communities they support.
<i>SFG 13 Sustain rural communities living in smaller settlements and the open countryside</i>	This includes establishing the role of multi-functional town centres for business, housing, administration, leisure and cultural facilities for both urban and rural communities.

(c) Strategic Planning Policy Statement (SPPS)

- 2.6 The Strategic Planning Policy Statement for Northern Ireland (SPPS) was published on the 28th September 2015. The SPPS reduces 20 separate planning policy statements to one. One of the SPPS's core planning principles includes improving health and well-being. This is a key priority of the Northern Ireland Executive and this is reflected in the Programme for Government 2011-2015 and in the RDS 2035. The draft SPPS contains objectives in respect of open space, recreation and leisure and sets out the considerations that councils may wish to pursue in the preparation of LDPs.

- *Regional Strategic Policy Objectives*

Safeguard existing open space and sites identified for future such provision;
Ensure that areas of open space are provided as an integral part of new residential development and that appropriate arrangements are made for their management and maintenance in perpetuity;
Facilitate appropriate outdoor recreational activities in the countryside;
Ensure that new open space areas and sporting facilities are convenient and accessible for all sections of society, particularly children, the elderly and those with disabilities;
Achieve high standards of siting, design and landscaping for all new open space areas and sporting facilities; and
Ensure that the provision of new open space areas and sporting facilities is in keeping with the principles of environmental conservation and helps sustain and enhance biodiversity.

- *LDP Preparation*

2.7 The SPPS states that in plan making Councils should:

- bring forward an Open Space Strategy that must reflect the aim, objectives and policy approach of the SPPS, tailored to the specific circumstances of the plan area;
- bring forward appropriate local policies and proposals for the area informed by a survey/ assessment of existing open space provision and future needs;
- have a policy presumption against the loss of open space to competing land uses irrespective of its physical condition and appearance;
- bring forward policy to require new residential development of an appropriate scale (generally 25 or more units, or on sites of one hectare or more) to provide adequate and well-designed open space as an integral part of the development;
- locate intensive sports facilities within settlements in order to maximise the use of existing infrastructure. It notes an exception for a sports stadium may be allowed outside of a settlement where clear criteria is established; and
- contain policy for the consideration of outdoor recreation in the countryside, taking account of a range of issues including visual and residential amenity, public safety (including road safety), any impact on nature conservation, landscape character, archaeology or built heritage and accessibility.

2.8 In preparing a LDP Councils should assess the existing provision of open space in the plan area against the National Playing Fields Association (NPFA) recommended minimum standard of 2.4 hectares of 'outdoor playing space' per 1000 population (commonly referred to as the '6 acre standard'). This assessment should consider the level of 'outdoor playing space' provision in the plan area, and the distribution and accessibility of that land.

2.9 Zonings for future needs should take into account the following:

- accessibility to and from existing and proposed housing areas;
- the potential for any detrimental impact on biodiversity or on sensitive environmental areas and features;
- the contribution that open space can make to the quality of the environment, sense of place and community life;
- the importance of protecting linear open spaces such as pedestrian and cycle routes, community greenways, former railway lines and river and canal corridors many of which are valuable in linking larger areas of open space and providing important wildlife corridors/ ecological networks;
- promoting and protecting public access to and along the coast;
- making adequate provision of green and blue infrastructure; and identifying and designating areas of open space which perform a strategic function, such as landscape wedges in urban areas.

2.10 Where appropriate, key site requirements for zoned residential land should include guidance on the provision of areas of public open space as an integral part of the development.

2.11 Where residential zonings occur in close proximity to existing or zoned open space, plans will normally provide guidance on the need for linkages between the development and these areas in order to facilitate ease of access

(d) Planning Policy Statements

2.12 The following Planning Policy Statements (PPS's) provide the planning policy context for open space, recreation and leisure. The key policy objectives are noted below.

PPS2 Natural Heritage	To seek to further the conservation, enhancement and restoration of the abundance, quality, diversity and distinctiveness of the regions natural heritage. To further sustainable development by ensuring that biological and geological diversity are conserved and enhanced as an integral part of social, economic and environmental development. To assist in meeting international (including European), national and local responsibilities and obligations in the protection and enhancement of the natural heritage. To contribute to rural renewal and urban regeneration by ensuring developments take account of the role and value of biodiversity in supporting economic diversification and contributing to a high quality environment.
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	To protect and enhance biodiversity, geodiversity and the environment.
PPS7 Quality Residential Environments	To ensure quality in residential development adequate provision should be made for public and private open space and landscaped areas as an integral part of the development.
PPS8 Open Space, Sport And Outdoor Recreation	To safeguard existing open space and sites identified for future such provision. To ensure that areas of open space are provided as an integral part of new residential development and that appropriate arrangements are made for their management and maintenance in perpetuity. To facilitate appropriate outdoor recreational activities in the countryside. To ensure that new open space areas and sporting facilities area convenient and accessible for all sections of society, particularly children, the elderly and those with disabilities. To achieve high standards of siting, design and landscaping for all new open space areas and sporting facilities. To ensure that the provision of new open space areas and sporting facilities is in keeping with the principles of environmental conservation and helps sustain and enhance biodiversity.
PPS21 Sustainable Development in the Countryside	To manage growth in the countryside to achieve appropriate and sustainable patterns of development that meet the essential needs of a vibrant rural community; To conserve the landscape and natural resources of the rural area and to protect it from excessive, inappropriate or obtrusive development and from the actual or potential effects of pollution; To facilitate development necessary to achieve a sustainable rural economy; including appropriate farm diversification and other economic activity; and To promote high standards in the design, siting and landscaping of development in the countryside.

(e) Other Relevant Government Strategies

- 2.13 The Northern Ireland Government has launched several important policy documents in recent years which promote the delivery of enhanced facilities for open space, sport and recreation. These strategies re-affirm the importance of sport and recreation and are expected to be delivered by a combination of central government departments together with Council and the community/voluntary sectors.

Play and Leisure Policy Statement for Northern Ireland

- 2.14 This document was produced by the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister in 2009. The aim of this policy framework is to improve existing play and leisure provision for all children and young people from 0 - 18 years. As a result, the Play and Leisure Implementation Plan (2006-2026) was produced in 2011. This specifies high level outcomes with emphasis on the value placed on play, improved play and leisure facilities for all children and young people in order to support their development, enjoyment and growth.

Sport Matters The NI Strategy for Sport and Physical Recreation 2009-2019

- 2.15 This strategy was delivered by Sport Northern Ireland working in partnership with the former Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure (DCAL). It sets out a new shared sporting vision of 'a culture of lifelong enjoyment and success in sport', as well as the key strategic priorities for sport and physical recreation, and informs the direction of future investment – underpinning three areas; Participation, Performance, and Places. It sets out the case for on-going and increased investment in sport and physical recreation to deliver a range of sporting outcomes and support the wider social agenda in areas such as education, health, the economy and the development of communities over the period 2009-2019. It explains how sport in Northern Ireland will be developed over the next ten years and affirms Government commitment to put in place effective structures and mechanisms in support of a vision.

Active Places Research Report 2009 & Bridging the Gap 2014 Update

- 2.16 This report provides an evidence base to inform the strategic development of sports facilities in Northern Ireland. The 2009 report identified unmet demand and shortfalls for sports facilities such as sports halls, swimming pools, tennis courts, athletic facilities and pitches in Northern Ireland. The 2014 update presents facility shortfall tables for Pitches and Sports halls only.

The facility shortfall tables presented in the 2009 Report excluded school sports facilities due to their limited availability for community use. However, in light of Community Use of Schools guidance published by Sport NI and the Department of

Education, it is important to recognise the potential value of school sports facilities in addressing the facility shortfalls throughout Northern Ireland.

Community Use of Schools (January 2014)

- 2.17 This document was produced at the result of collaborative work between the former Department Of Culture, Arts and Leisure (DCAL), Sport NI, The Department of Education and other educational and non-educational stakeholders. It provides practical guidance to achieving community use of school sports facilities. There are a range of educational, recreational and sporting facilities which can be used to meet a variety of needs not only for pupils, but also local communities.

DARD - The Rural White Paper Action Plan – June 2012

- 2.18 This action plan aims to identify and address the key challenges facing rural communities. One of the rural visions within this document is for the continuing development of linkages between rural and urban areas so that everyone can enjoy the beauty and uniqueness of rural places and the facilities and services of larger towns and cities. It sets out a number of policy priorities one of which includes: "to safeguard the beauty and fabric of our rural areas and increase opportunities for all to enjoy the benefits of the countryside".

Mountain Bike Strategy for Northern Ireland 2014-2024

- 2.19 This Strategy was prepared by Outdoor Recreation NI in May 2014. The vision of this strategy is to make NI a world class mountain bike destination. It identified Tollymore Forest Park as a potential location for a National Mountain Bike Trail Centre.

Sports Facilities Strategy for Northern Ireland

- 2.20 Sports NI, has been working, in partnership with the District Councils, to develop a Sports Facilities Strategy for Northern Ireland and the 11 District Council Area Reports. The strategy identifies the need for sports facilities of Northern Ireland wide significance, sports facilities that are of cultural importance, high performance training and competition sports facilities and local sport facility needs (i.e District Council areas). District Council Area Reports will flow out of the Strategy and identify the need for local facilities and recommend locations for the development and/or refurbishment of sports facilities. The Council's Sports Facility Strategy is further noted below.

Outdoor Recreation Action Plan for Northern Ireland 2015 - 2020

- 2.21 This plan highlights the importance of making the outdoors accessible to everyone and the opportunities within rural areas and the urban fringes. It highlights that access to green space has been recognised across the world to be very important

for people's health, especially mental wellbeing. It acknowledges that Northern Ireland has extensive natural resources and wonderful landscapes which have the potential to be fully maximised through our great outdoor activities. The vision for the action plan is, *"a culture of dynamic, sustainable outdoor recreation in Northern Ireland"*.

3.0 Local Policy Context

Development Plans

- 3.1 The Ards and Down Area Plan 2015 (ADAP) and the Banbridge/Newry and Mourne Area Plan 2015 (BNMAP) are the current statutory plans for the District and provide the framework against which to assess development proposals. Newry City and the five main towns within the District also have their own Town Centre Masterplan which were completed by the former Department of Social Development (DSD) in conjunction with the legacy Councils and are concerned with urban regeneration initiatives in each respective town centre. The Council is currently carrying out a review of the action plans identified in these master plans with a view to agreeing a list of priority actions for each plan that could be achieved within the life of the current Council.

Ards and Down Area Plan 2015

- 3.2 The ADAP identifies the various resources and types of open space that are located within the District. It notes that natural resources, such as Strangford Lough and the Mourne Mountains, provide a wealth of opportunities for active outdoor pursuits. It also notes the area contains a variety of informal recreational open space, particularly parkland with Castlewellan and Tollymore Forest Parks being notable examples. In addition it states that informal recreation facilities are associated with natural resources such as rivers, canals, lakes, heritage sites and disused railway tracks with Tyrella Beach and Murlough Nature Reserve being popular examples. Opportunities for cultural recreation are provided at places like Castleward and other National Trust properties and historic monuments.
- 3.3 The plan does not contain any specific policies with regard to open space, sport and recreation. It does however identify existing recreational open spaces and amenity land within the major settlements and relevant villages throughout the plan area. It also identified lands within some urban areas for proposed open space, to meet future demand, where there was a commitment to provide open space by an enabling authority. Areas of open space, whether identified or not by the plan, were to be safeguarded by Policy OS1 in PPS8 as no additional policies were included in the plan.
- 3.4 The plan identified a total of eleven sites for proposed amenity space in the plan area. Six of these were located in Downpatrick, one in Saintfield, two in

Ballynahinch, one in Newcastle and one in Ballykinler. (Further information on the planning history of these sites is included in appendix 1).

- 3.5 Lands ideally suited for amenity, recreation and open space as part of future housing developments were also identified in some larger settlements and criteria for their development was provided as part of the key design considerations for the zoned housing lands.
- 3.6 The ADAP calculated the level of open space provision within the plan area taking account of land and facilities that were firstly in the ownership of the legacy Down District Council and secondly in private ownership.
- 3.7 It used these figures to assess the outdoor open space provision against the National Playing Fields Association (NPFA) recommended a minimum standard of 2.4 hectare 'outdoor playing space' per 1000 population. The plan calculated the existing level of provision, and subsequent need, on the provision that was in the Council's ownership.
- 3.8 As shown in figure 5 overleaf it found that the total area of active recreation provision owned by the former Down District Council was 63.05 hectares with 61.1 hectares being comprised of outdoor sports (playing fields) and 1.95 hectares children's playing areas. It therefore concluded that the Down District had a deficit of both outdoor sports space (41.3 hectares) and children's play areas (49.25 hectares) and the deficit could increase (as a result of population growth) over the plan period to 56.37 hectares and 56.78 hectares respectively. This calculation included the total population of the Down District i.e urban and rural while the existing provision only included that of the towns and villages. (The breakdown of the provision across the settlements is detailed in Appendix 3).

Banbridge / Newry & Mourne Area Plan 2015

- 3.9 The Plan area covers a largely rural area which includes much of the Mourne Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (including Slieve Croob), the Ring of Gullion Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and the shores of Carlingford Lough.
- 3.10 BNMAP identifies the natural resources within the plan area, such as Camlough Lough, Slieve Gullion Forest Park, Kilbroney Forest Park, Silent Valley and Newry Canal and Tow Path, that provide numerous opportunities for open space, sports and outdoor recreational activities.
- 3.11 The plan identified major areas of existing open space, sport and outdoor recreation but no additional lands for open space were identified. Existing areas of open space, whether identified by the plan or not, were to be safeguarded under policy OS1 in PPS 8 as the plan did not introduce separate policies.

- 3.12 It notes the Department (former DoE) would reassess open space provision and if a deficit was established the Department would work with the Council to explore the appropriate mechanisms to address this.
- 3.13 The total area of active recreation provision in the Newry and Mourne area identified by the BNMAP (as shown in Figure 5 below) was 110.54 hectares with 98.86 hectares being comprised of outdoor sport provision (primarily playing fields) and 11.68 hectares of children's play areas. The plan calculated this provision to include lands/ facilities located in the City of Newry, towns and villages that were in the legacy Newry and Mourne Council ownership and those in private ownership including GAA, Education facilities, NI Housing Executive and Churches. (The breakdown of the provision across the settlements is detailed in Appendix 3).
- 3.14 The BNMAP concluded that, when compared to the NPFA recommended 2.4 hectare per 1000 population standard there was a deficit of 17.50 hectares outdoor sport and children's play areas in the plan area. This calculation did not include the total population of the plan area as it excluded the rural population.

Figure 5: Outdoor Sports and Children's Play Area Provision identified by ADAP and BNMAP

Development Plan	Outdoor Sports (Playing Fields)	Children's Play Areas	Total
ADAP (Towns & Villages)	61.1*	1.95*	63.05*
BNMAP (City, Towns and Villages)	98.86	11.68	110.54
NMD (City, Towns, Villages)	159.96	13.63	173.59

*ADAP calculated outdoor sports provision based on the legacy Down District Councils ownership. It then calculated a private ownership category of private ownership (34.63ha) that would be more in line with the approach of BNMAP.

Newry Masterplan

3.15 The Masterplan for Newry was published in October 2011. The Masterplan proposes the following in relation to recreation and sporting opportunities;

- Creating a world class waterfront by capitalising on the Clanrye river and the Newry canal that runs through the city centre. This was to include the re-opening of the Newry Canal to boat traffic as part of a national connection between Lough Neagh and Carlingford Lough,
- Development of 'The Newry Super Greenway'- a network of greenways linking the City's neighbourhoods to each other and the city centre,
- Regenerating Newry's primary streets including Hill Street and Abbey Way with public realm upgrades and improving the connections from attractions such as Bagenal's Castle and St Patrick's Cathedral with the rest of the city centre;
- Establishing a new network of city parks to include improving linkages and co-ordinated enhancements to three parks (Heather Park, Kilmorey Park and The Rocks) and the creation of a new, larger public park as part of the redeveloped grounds of former Abbey Grammar School, and;
- Sensitively enhancing Daisy Hill Wood (Local Nature Reserve) for wildlife conservation and public recreation as a vital asset for the City.

Downpatrick Masterplan

3.16 The Downpatrick Masterplan was published in July 2010. In terms of open space the master plan focuses on the Quoile Nature Reserve to the north of the town. This is an important and sensitive area of conservation and recreation. The Masterplan proposes that the Quoile River will play a central role as an amenity for both local residents and visitors to Downpatrick, and as a place to relax, spend time and play. The proposal for a Quoile River Country Park presents the opportunity for encouraging activities along the river such as walking, cycling, fishing and canoeing.

3.17 The master plan also notes that the opportunity exists to enhance links between the Quoile area and the Town Centre. Other areas of amenity open space are located at the Town Park and at The Grove, adjacent to Down Cathedral and the St Patrick's Heritage Centre. The legacy Down District Council proposed to acquire additional land adjacent to Pemberton Park to add to the existing Town Park.

Ballynahinch Masterplan

3.18 The Ballynahinch Masterplan was published in October 2014. It notes that natural resources such as the Ballynahinch river which runs through the centre of the town and the drumlin landscape that surrounds the town offer large areas of openspace within a short distance of the town centre. However, use of these areas is limited. The masterplan therefore proposed a number of initiatives to improve their use including;

- the extension of riverside pathways along the entire length of the river for walking and cycling,
- development of a new street and linear river park,
- creation of drumlin parks as community parks developing a network of new walking and cycling links between them, and;
- creation of a Lough Park with improved recreational facilities, allotments and enhanced network of pathways through the wetland habitat.

South East Coast Masterplan

3.19 The Masterplan for the South East Coast was published in January 2013. A theme of the masterplan is to develop leisure and recreation in the three towns. The proposals included:

3.20 -Newcastle

- Identification of major development opportunity sites including Donard Park for the location of a leisure centre.
- Redevelopment of Castle Islands Park to include a family zone, adventure zones and Eco-zone.
- It also notes the development of the proposed 'Donard Gondola', to provide access to the Mourne for all.

3.21 -Kilkeel

The master plan proposes to create a riverside park and walkway from Town Square to the Harbour providing a high quality park and pedestrian link. This large green space also presents an opportunity to create a new iconic play area. Other proposals included an improved esplanade with play and picnic facilities and improved access points to the beach to encourage more outdoor interaction and activity.

3.22 -Warrenpoint

The master plan seeks to promote and develop the town's reputation as a hub for water sports and activities, utilising its location on Carlingford Lough. Proposals include the extension of the promenade along Rostrevor Road and the development of a new outdoor multi-activity area at Conallon Park with potential for an indoor facility alongside it. The plan also seeks to revitalise the public spaces within the town centre, creating event space and making it more attractive, people friendly and less car dominated.

4.0 Newry, Mourne and Down Plans and Strategies

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Corporate Plan

- 4.1 The Council's mission as detailed in the Corporate Plan 2015-19 is to lead and serve a District that is prosperous, healthy and sustainable.
- 4.2 The Council has identified eight strategic objectives that it aims to have achieved by 2019. One of these is that it will have 'Supported improved health and well-being outcomes' by participating in improving quality of life and reducing health inequalities, primarily through programmes, services and access to open spaces.

Community Planning

- 4.3 Community Planning came into operation on 1st April 2015 as part of the full implementation of local government reform. The new duty of community planning requires councils as the lead partner to be responsible for making arrangements for community planning in their areas and it requires statutory bodies to participate in the process. The Council, statutory bodies and local communities will develop and implement a shared vision for promoting the well-being of the area, promoting community cohesion and improving the quality of life of its citizens.
- 4.4 The Community Plan is to be the overarching strategic plan for integrated planning and delivery of services in Newry, Mourne and Down. It provides a framework for the other strategies and plans the Council will put in place to contribute towards the outcomes in the community plan and it is based on a detailed analysis of future risks and opportunities for Newry, Mourne and Down.
- 4.5 Newry, Mourne and Down District Council's draft Community Plan (Nov 2016) "Living Well Together" aims to provide a framework for collaborative working in order to support positive change for communities. The vision of the Community Plan is that:

"Newry, Mourne and Down is a place with strong, safe and vibrant communities where everyone has a good quality of life and access to opportunities, choices and high quality services which are sustainable, accessible and meet people's needs"

District Council Play Strategy

- 4.6 The Council finalised its Play Strategy for the District in February 2017. It is a five year strategy that will act as the guidance document to develop if needed or create a more efficient, effective play provision within the District. The strategy also gives guidance to the 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.

District Council Sports Facility Strategy

- 4.7 The Council finalised its Sports Facility Strategy for the District in February 2017. It is a 10 year strategy that provides a framework for the future prioritisation, development and provision of sports facilities at local level, to meet identified community need. The Strategy reflects the wider – NI 10 Year Plan for the provision of Strategic Sports Facility Strategy for Northern Ireland (2016), which focuses on the need for future provision that are of cultural significance, as well as those that provide for high performance training and competition. These facilities contribute to the vision and targets set out within strategic documents such as the Programme for Government (2011-2021), Building a Better Future (2011-15) and Sport Matters, the Northern Ireland Strategy for Sport and Physical Recreation (2009-19). At local level, the identification of need for sports facility provision is also aligned to the Councils Corporate Plan 2015-2019 and the new Community planning process.

5.0 Open Space, Recreation and Leisure Provision in the District

- 5.1 The District benefits from a wide range of existing open space and recreation assets which are integral to our heritage, identity and economy. A variety of open spaces in public and private ownership also contribute to the quality of life for those who live within and visit the District. These include formal parks and gardens, sports and recreation grounds, children's playgrounds, and less formal open spaces.

5.2 Active Outdoor Recreation & Open Space Provision

-Measuring Outdoor Playing space

Both PPS8 and the SPPS make reference to assessing existing open space provision against the National Playing Fields Association (NPFA) which operates under the name Fields in Trust. It recommends a minimum standard of 2.4 hectares per 1000 population for 'outdoor playing space'. This is commonly referred to as the Six Acre Standard (SAS) and is comprised of 1.6 hectares (4 acres) of outdoor sport and 0.8 hectares (2 acres) of children's play area.

- 5.3 The SAS was established as a guide to ensure that sufficient land is set aside in appropriate locations to enable the population to participate in sports, outdoor play, games and other physical recreation. It is noted that the SAS is not a legislative requirement, but is commonly used as a benchmark in spatial planning throughout the United Kingdom. It should be noted however, that the SAS mainly highlights the quantitative aspects of provision and does not consider aspects such as quality or demand.
- 5.4 Governments throughout the UK have called for more clearly defined and adopted policies for planning standards for open space, sport and recreation including

outdoor facilities for sport and play. They called for local determination and adoption of standards relating to quantity, quality and accessibility. That said, the nature of the NPFA's own recommendations have been changed to recognise this and are still recognised as a useful tool for planning authorities to refer to, use or adopt. The Fields in Trust 2015 guidance 'Beyond the six acre standard' retains the same headline rates of provision but draws out new recommendations for accessibility, the application of standards and the minimum dimensions of formal outdoor space. The standards also no longer differentiate between urban and rural areas.

5.5 Outdoor Playing space is made up of two components:

-The first is land provided for outdoor sport, principally for adults and youths. This refers to all playing pitches and other outdoor recreational sports grounds such as bowling greens and tennis courts which are available for use by the public. It also includes private sports facilities which serve the recreational needs of their members or the public.

-The second is play space for children which consists of Casual Play areas and Equipped Playgrounds that can be complemented by other facilities including multi-use games areas (MUGAs) and skateboard parks etc.

5.6 The NPFA standard is a useful way to measure formal outdoor playing space but it does not take into account indoor sport and recreation facilities or other outdoor areas including Parks and Country Parks, General Amenity Areas such as riverside walks or Private Playing Fields including stadiums or pitches that are not available for general public use that can all contribute to recreation provision.

5.7 The figure 6 below shows the Fields in Trust recommended benchmark guidelines for formal outdoor space.

Figure 6: Fields in Trust recommended benchmark guidelines- formal outdoor space

Open Space Typology	Quantity Guideline (hectares per 1000 population)	Walking Guideline (walking distance: metres from dwellings)
Playing Pitches	1.20	1200m
All Outdoor Sports	1.60	1200m
Equipped/ designated play areas	0.25	LAPs - 100m LEAPs - 400m NEAPs - 1000m
Other Outdoor provision (NUGAs and skateboard parks)	0.30	700m

Source: 'Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play: Beyond the Six Acre Standard' England, Oct 2015.

- 5.8 The Sport NI Report 'Active Places- Bridging the Gap' analysed the adequacy of existing sports facility provision in Northern Ireland. It carried out an audit of the current stock of sports facilities as well as information relating to accessibility, universal access and condition.
- 5.9 Sport NI completed a 2014 update of this report quantifying all pitches in the 11 Local Government Districts. Using the SAS baseline it assessed the need for pitches based on 3 acres per 1000 population (approx. 1.2hectare). It produced two tables:
- Playing Pitches Including Educational Synthetic but Excluding Grass (figure 7 overleaf)
 - Playing Pitches Including educational Synthetic and including Grass (figure 8 overleaf)
- 5.10 While the SAS recommends the value of a synthetic pitch to be twice that of a grass pitch Sport NI recommended the value to be four times that of a grass pitch due to the additional usage a synthetic pitch can withstand.

Figure 7: 2014 Quantity of playing pitches in District Councils Areas (including Education Synthetic pitches but excluding grass pitches).

District Council	2011 Population Projection	Acres Recommended by SAS	Existing Provision				Shortfalls	
			Grass	Synthetic		Total Acres SNI	SNI Standard	
			Total Grass Acres	Existing Acres	SNI by 4		Perceived Acres Shortfall	Pitches Required
Ards/North Down	155,882	468	141	17	69	209	258	103
Lisburn/ Castlereagh	178,544	535.632	168.97	19.03	76.12	245.09	290.54	116
Antrim/Newtownabbey	132,389	397.167	121.05	15.44	61.76	182.81	214.36	86
Mid Antrim	132,378	397.134	162.1	10.83	43.32	205.42	191.71	77
Derry/Strabane	150,592	451.776	206.22	11.41	45.64	251.86	199.92	80
Belfast	263,313	789.939	377.41	49.07	196.3	573.69	216.25	86
Armagh/Bann	190,559	571.677	331.79	23.38	93.52	425.31	146.37	59
Causeway Coast	140,436	421.308	316.46	14.6	58.4	374.86	46.448	19
Newry/Down	164,514	493.542	370.5	15.15	60.6	431.1	62.442	25
Fermanagh/Omagh	112,400	337.2	260.36	6.61	26.44	286.8	50.4	20
Mid Ulster	129,915	389.745	316.93	21.97	87.88	404.81	15.07	6
Totals	1,750,922	5253.12	2772.79	204.49	818.98	3590.75	1661.37	665

Source: Sports NI – Update of the Active Places Research Report. *Average pitch size is 2.5 acres

- 5.11 From this table it can be seen that the District was considered to have an under provision of 25 pitches.
- 5.12 Figure 7 (above) was completed based on 2011 population projections which show Newry, Mourne and Down to have a population of 164514. However, NISRA has since released NI 2011 Census figures (March 2015) which shows the actual population to have been 171533. Using this figure the provision of playing pitches can now be calculated more accurately against the NPFA standard as set out overleaf.

Population Amended to actual 2011(2011 Census) = 171533

Acres recommended by SAS = $(171533 \div 1000) \times 3$ acres = 514.60

Acres existing (SNI) = 431.1

Required Acres = $514.60 - 431.1 = 83.5$

Required Pitches = $83.5 \div 2.5$ (average pitch size) = 33.4 = **33 pitches required**

- 5.13 This shows that the District has a shortfall of 33 pitches when calculated to exclude education grass pitches.

Figure 8: 2014 Quantity of playing pitches in District Council Areas (including education synthetic pitches and including education grass pitches).

			Existing Provision				Shortfalls	
			Grass	Synthetic			SNI Standard	
District Council	2011 Population Projection	Acres Recommended by SAS	Total Grass Acres	Existing Acres	SNI by 4	Total Acres SNI	Perceived Acres Shortfall	Pitches Required
Ards/North Down	155,882	468	180	17	69	249	219	88
Lisburn/ Castlereagh	178,544	535.632	241.57	19.03	76.12	317.69	217.94	87
Antrim/Newtownabbey	132,283	397.167	214.25	15.44	61.76	276.01	121.16	48
Mid Antrim	132,378	397.134	257.79	10.83	43.32	301.11	96.024	38
Derry/Strabane	150,592	451.776	293.51	11.41	45.64	339.15	112.63	45
Belfast	263,313	789.939	520.21	49.07	196.3	716.49	73.449	29
Armagh/Bann	190,559	571.677	460.27	23.38	93.52	553.79	17.887	7
Causeway Coast	140,436	421.308	498.64	14.6	58.4	557.04	-135.7	-54
Newry/Down	164,514	493.542	546.55	15.15	60.6	607.15	-113.6	-45
Fermanagh/Omagh	112,400	337.2	352.45	6.61	26.44	378.89	-41.69	-17
Mid Ulster	129,915	389.745	456.19	21.97	87.88	544.07	-154.3	-62
Totals	1,750,816	5253.12	4021.43	204.49	818.98	4840.39	412.8	164

Source: Sports NI – 2014 update of the Active Places Research Report

*Average pitch size is 2.5 acres

- 5.14 From this table (figure 8 above) it can be seen that the District was considered to have a surplus of 45 pitches.
- 5.15 Again this was calculated on a projected 2011 population of 164514. The calculation overleaf shows the provision of playing pitches to include education synthetic and grass pitches for the actual 2011 population of 171533.

Population Amended to Actual 2011 (2011 Census) = **171533**

Acres recommended by SAS = $(171533 \div 1000) \times 3$ acres = 514.60

Acres existing (SNI) = 607.15

Required Acres = $514.60 - 607.15 = -92.55$

Required Pitches = $-92.55 \div 2.5$ (average pitch size) = $-37.02 = 37$ surplus pitches

5.16 Future Needs

An assessment of the future needs of the District over the 15 year plan period can be calculated. Assuming the population of Newry, Mourne and Down District grows to 194994 in 2030 (NISRA, May 2016) and using Sport NI's methodology the future need of the District can be calculated as shown below:

5.17 **Excluding education grass pitches:**

Projected population 2030 (NISRA May 2016) = **194994**

Acres recommended by SAS = $(194994 \div 1000) \times 3$ acres = 584.98

Acres existing (SNI) = 431.1

Required Acres = $584.98 - 431.1 = 153.88$

Required pitches = $153.99 \div 2.5$ (average pitch size) = $61.55 = 62$ pitch shortfall

5.18 **Including education grass pitches:**

Projected population 2030 (NISRA May 2016) = **194994**

Acres recommended by SAS = $(194994 \div 1000) \times 3$ acres = 584.98

Acres existing (SNI) = 607.15

Required Acres = $584.98 - 607.15 = -22.17$

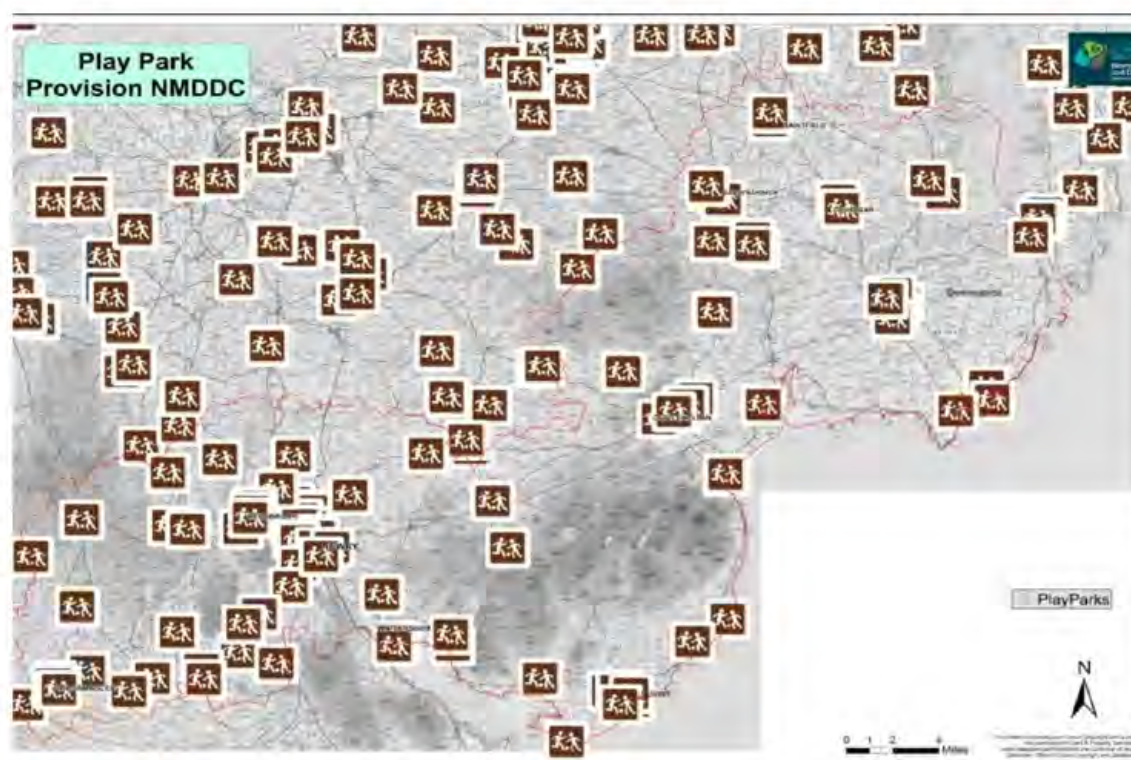
Required Pitches = $-22.17 \div 2.5 = -8.87 = 8$ surplus pitches

5.19 Playing pitches are noted in the NPFA standard as providing for 1.2 hectare of the 1.6 hectare required for outdoor sport. The remainder would comprise of uses such as bowling greens and tennis courts. The Council's Sports Strategy identified 12 outdoor bowls club sites and 7 tennis court sites within the District.

6.0 Children's Play Space Provision

- 6.1 NPFA/ Fields in Trust's 'Planning and Design for Outdoor Sport and Play' sets out a standard of 0.8ha per population of Children's Play Space with a minimum standard of 0.6ha. As shown previously (in Figure 6) the 2015 guidance 'Beyond the Six Acre Standard' provides a benchmark of 0.25ha per 1000 population for equipped play areas. There are a number of outdoor play areas located throughout the District. These are primarily located within the urban areas with the City of Newry, all the towns and all but two of the villages in the district (Attical and Mayobridge) benefiting from a fixed play area. In addition some small settlements also benefit from equipped children's play areas (see appendix 5 for further detail). The map below (figure 9) provides information on the geographical distribution of play parks throughout the District that are provided and maintained by the Council. It demonstrates that most of the District's settlements have some form of play park within or near to them.

Figure 9: Map showing the geographical distribution of play parks in the District



Source: NMD Council Sports Facility Strategy

- Measuring Children's Play Space Provision

- 6.2 Using the Fields in Trust's recommendation of 0.25ha per 1000 population for equipped/ designated play area provision the required amount of play space can be calculated as shown overleaf:

Population 2011 (2011 Census) = **171533**

Hectares recommended by SAS= $(171533 \div 1000) \times 0.25$ hectares = 42.88 ha

Existing provision (identified in ADAP and BNMAP) = 13.63 ha

Required Play Space= $137.22-13.63$ = **29.25 ha**

This indicates a deficit of 29.25ha of children's outdoor play space.

6.3 During the LDP process children's play space provision will be assessed in two tiers: the overall quantum and the spatial distribution. Relative to each other the spatial distribution is seen as more important as it relates to access provision within the various settlements i.e. in relation to children's homes.

6.4 NPFA/ Fields in Trust define a three tier hierarchy of play facilities:

- LAP - These are unsupervised small open spaces specifically designed for young people for play activities close to where they live. Although without play equipment, LAP's have characteristics that make the area conducive to children's play. Such characteristics include ease of access, a relatively level site, informal surveillance and modest provision of landscaping so that play is not inhibited. As illustrated above, the FIT consider that LAP's should be within 1 minute walking time from home.
- LEAP - These are unsupervised play areas that are equipped for children of early school age. While sharing similar characteristics to LAP's, LEAP's feature a range of different types of play equipment. The FIT consider these should be located within 5 minutes walking time of home.
- NEAP - These are also unsupervised but they are intended to serve a substantial residential area. While sharing similar characteristics to LEAP's, NEAP's feature a significant range of different types of play equipment. It is equipped mainly for older children but also having opportunities for play for younger children. The FIT recommend that these should be located within 15 minutes walking time of home.

6.5 It also recommends different travel times and distances depending on the nature of the facilities as detailed in Figure 10 below.

Figure 10: Recommended Walking Times to Children's Playing Space

Children's Playing Space	Walking Time	Pedestrian Route	Straight Line Distance
LAP	1 minute	100 metres	60 metres
LEAP	5 minutes	400 metres	240 metres
NEAP	15 minutes	1000 metres	600 metres

Source: NPFA 2008

- 6.6 Figure 11 below shows the geographical distribution of LEAPs and NEAPs within the District. There are currently 107 fixed play areas within the District comprising of 106 LEAPs and 1 NEAP located at Slieve Gullion.
- 6.7 While sharing similar characteristics to LEAP's, NEAP's are intended to serve a substantial residential area. They feature a significant range of different types of play equipment mainly for older children but also having opportunities for play for younger children. The FIT recommend that these should be located within 15 minutes walking time of home.

Figure 11: Map showing the spatial distribution of LEAPs and NEAP in the District



Source: NMD Councils Sports Facility Strategy

Future Needs

- 6.8 Again using NISRA population projections it is possible to assess the future needs of the District over the 15 year plan period. Assuming the population grows to 194994 in 2030 the NPFA standard can be applied as shown below:

Projected 2030 population= 194994

Hectares recommended by SAS= $(194994 \div 1000) \times 0.25$ hectares = 48.75 ha

Existing Provision (identified by ADAP and BNMAP) = 13.63 ha

Required Play Space= $48.75 - 13.63 = 35.12$ ha required

- 6.9 This is an approximation based on the total projected population for the District. As noted in the previous preparatory paper on Population and Growth (paper 2) almost 40% of the Districts population live in rural areas. The dispersed rural nature of the population has implications for the provision of fixed play areas as there may not be an established need and it is not always a viable option.
- 6.10 The Council's Play Strategy outlined the methodology used for identifying need throughout the District. Using the benchmark of 150 children or young people for urban (100 for rural areas) it identified a number of areas where there was a gap in provision- Mayobridge, Ballymartin, Kilmore, Kilclief, Megennis Villas (Newry) and Bannamaghery Villas (Saintfield). In addition it also identified low value play areas that require upgrading, removal or site transformation.
- 6.11 The LDP process will include the completion of survey work to gather further information on the existing level of open space provision within the District including Casual Play Area provision that contributes to the NPFA standard.

7.0 Passive Outdoor Recreation & Open Space

- 7.1 In addition to playing pitches and children's play areas there are many opportunities for outdoor recreation that do not contribute to the NPFAs formal outdoor sports standard provision but still provide valuable opportunities for outdoor activity and recreation. The District is renowned for its wealth of opportunities for outdoor recreation. In fact one of the objectives of the Council's 'Economic Regeneration and Investment Strategy 2015-2020' is to become NI's premier outdoor/ adventure destination. The section below provides further information on some of the informal open spaces within the District.

Walking Routes

- 7.2 There are a number of Public Rights of Way (PROWs) in District. Public Rights of Way are created through the 'Access to the Countryside (Northern Ireland) Order 1983. Under this order Councils have a duty 'to assert, protect and keep open and free from obstruction or encroachment any public right of way, and compile and preserve maps and other records of public rights of way in their District'. (Details of the PROWs are included in appendix 6).
- 7.3 The Ulster Way is a 625mile (1000km) circular walking route that encircles the six counties of Northern Ireland. Within the District the Ulster Way comprises of five sections:
- The Lecale Way (Strangford to Newcastle) 34 miles (55km)
 - Mourne Way (Newcastle to Rostrevor) 26 miles (42km)
 - Rostrevor to Newry 10 miles (16km)
 - Ring of Gullion Way (Newry to Carnbane) 37 miles (59km) and;
 - Newry Canal Way (Carnbane to Portadown) 17.5 miles (28km)

These routes provide important linkages to other town, villages and areas of open space and should be identified and protected in the LDP.

Cycle Ways

-National Cycle Network

- 7.4 The National Cycle Network is a comprehensive network of safe and attractive cycling routes throughout the UK, developed by the charity Sustrans. In Northern Ireland, the Network extends to more than 800 miles, mostly on quiet country roads and includes 106 miles of traffic free paths.

Figure 12: Map showing the National Cycle Network



Source: CycleNI Website

- 7.5 There are three national cycle network routes that run through the District. The Regional Route (No. 20) runs along the shore of Strangford Lough from Comber to Downpatrick. The National Route 99 runs along the southern shores of Strangford Lough to Newcastle while the National Route 9 follows the Newry Canal Towpath from Portadown to Newry and then veers off towards Bessbrook and Camlough finishing close to Slieve Gullion Courtyard Complex.
- 7.6 In addition CycleNI has identified over twenty cycle routes in the District ranging from 0-60 miles in length. The District is also a popular Mountain Bike destination with two of NI's three National Mountain Bike Trails in Rostrevor and Castlewellan.

(Rostrevor won multiple Mountain Bike NI Awards in 2016). There is also a regional trail in Castle Ward and a local facility in Tollymore.

Parks and Forests

- 7.7 There are numerous country parks, forests, parks and gardens throughout the District that are owned by public bodies, including the Council, which offer valuable open space and recreation opportunities for activities such as walking, hiking, running, cycling and mountain biking. (Details of these areas and other assets are included in Appendices 7 & 8).
- 7.8 Evidence of the quality of some of the Districts open space assets is demonstrated with the various awards they have received. For example Slieve Gullion Forest Park was awarded the Green Flag Award. This is a prestigious award setting an international benchmark standard for the management of parks and green spaces. A Green Flag is a sign to the public that the space boasts the highest possible standards, is beautifully maintained and has excellent facilities.

Coast

- 7.9 The District has 100miles of coastline and is home to Strangford Lough, Carlingford Lough, a number of beaches and inland waterways including canals, rivers and lakes that all offer water-based activity opportunities including canoeing, kayaking, diving, bird watching, fishing, swimming, boating, yachting, jet skiing, pier jumping, banana boating and wet bouldering.

(Appendix 8 provides further information on the outdoor recreation provision in the District).

8.0 Existing Indoor Recreation and Leisure

- 8.1 Outdoor recreation and leisure facilities are supplemented by indoor facilities. The Council provides a significant number of indoor leisure facilities in the District. It is currently constructing replacement Leisure Centres in Newry and Downpatrick. Both of these centres will include a swimming pool and will be in addition to existing swimming pool facilities in the Kilkeel Leisure Centre. Each of the existing, and proposed, centres provide a number of other facilities including sauna, steam room, sports hall, activities hall, squash courts and fitness suite.
- 8.2 In addition to the leisure centres the Council also provides a number of indoor leisure and community centres throughout the District that provide a number of facilities including fitness suites, sports/ multi-purpose halls and meeting rooms.
- 8.3 The facilities provided by the Council are supplemented by those provided by some schools, GAA clubs, Churches and private enterprises such as fitness suites, including private gyms and hotels.

8.4 The Council's Sports Strategy identified a number of facilities in the District that were considered to be accessible to the community. These included 18 boxing clubs, 13 sports hall sites, 3 squash court facilities and 18 fitness gyms with over 20 fitness stations.

8.5 The District also benefits from a variety of other indoor leisure and recreation facilities including museums, art galleries, children's indoor play centres and entertainment venues including restaurants, pubs, nightclubs, cinemas, bingo halls and amusements arcades located primarily in the larger settlements across the District.

8.6 -Future Plans

The vision of the Council's Sports Facility Strategy is the 'Development of an evidence based assessment of facility need, which will inform and prioritise future investment in and development of, a network of high quality sports facilities, addressing the needs for increased community participation' in the District.

8.7 The Council in its Sports Strategy identified gaps in the District's sports provision and noted it has committed to providing:

- 36 badminton court sports hall spaces which will meet the projected need until 2037
- additional water space will be required by 2037 (approximately 212sqm)
- an all-weather pitch at Saintfield to replace the out-dated shale hockey pitch
- a tennis bubble to provide all year round tennis at Newry and Newcastle Tennis Clubs
- each DEA with a sports hub over time

It also identified:

- the need for an athletic facility in and around Downpatrick/ Newcastle
- that yachting and wet sports facilities could be enhanced particularly at Annalong, Newcastle and Dundrum.
- that use of the Newry Canal and disused quarries could also be improved.

9.0 Open Space within Residential Areas

9.1 This includes formal and informal play areas for children. While facilities for adults and youths may be located within a reasonable distance of housing areas it is imperative that children's play areas are immediately adjacent to or within such areas. PPS 8 Open Space, Sport & Outdoor Recreation, Policy OS 2 states that new residential developments for 25 units or more, or on site of one hectare or more,

will only be permitted where public open space is provided as an integral part of the development. There are some exceptions to this requirement e.g apartment developments or specialized housing where a reasonable level of private communal open space is provided. Otherwise, where public open space is required, the precise amount, location, type and design of such provision, will be negotiated with applicants having regard to the following:

- A normal expectation will be at least 10% of the total site area;
- For residential development of 300 units or more, or for development sites of 15 hectares or more, a normal expectation will be around 15% of the total site area; and
- Provision at a rate less than 10% of the total site area may be acceptable where the residential development is located within a town or city centre; is close to and would benefit from ease of access to areas of existing public open space; provides accommodation for special groups; or incorporates the 'Home Zone' concept.

- 9.2 For residential developments of 100 units or more, or development sites of 5 hectares or more, an equipped children's play area will be required as an integral part of the development.

10.0 Key Findings and Conclusion

- 10.1 The purpose of this paper has been to provide an overview of open space provision within the District incorporating pitch provision and children's play space provision. This paper has assessed the future needs of the Council area over the plan period to 2030. The distribution and accessibility of such provision has also been assessed at a general level.

- Open Space and Recreation is an important part of the Councils vision;
- Importance of recreation and blue and green infrastructure are recognised in the RDS;
- The SPPS sets out a number of strategic objections and policy directions that the LDP must address in relation to open space, sport and outdoor recreation;
- Application of the NPFA standards, as required by the SPPS, demonstrates that at this point, when excluding education grass, the District would require 33 additional playing pitches however if education grass was included it would in fact have a surplus of 45 pitches;
- In terms of future need over the plan period when excluding education grass 62 additional pitches would be required, however when including education grass there would be a surplus of 8 pitches over the period up to 2030;
- Outdoor space in terms of children's play provision is focused in the urban areas with the City of Newry, all the towns and all but two of the villages (Attical and

Mayobridge) benefiting from a fixed children's play area(s). In addition some small settlements also have a fixed children's play area. The Council's play strategy identified a gap in provision in Mayobridge, Ballymartin, Kilmore, Kilclief, Megennis Villas (Newry) and Bannamaghery Villas (Saintfield).

- The District benefits from numerous informal and passive recreation facilities which are well distributed throughout the plan area, in both urban areas and the countryside. These are not included in the outdoor playing space calculations but do provide invaluable recreational spaces;
 - The District also benefits from indoor recreational and leisure facilities, many of which are provided by the Council, that are primarily located within the larger settlements.
 - Further consideration of the quantum and distribution of children's play provision will be necessary following survey work to fully ascertain the existing provision in the District.
- 10.2 These key findings will be used to inform the preparation of the LDP. The LDP will also take account of the Council's Play Strategy, Sports Facility Strategy and draft Community Plan.
- 10.3 This paper has been based on a desk top exercise. In developing this baseline evidence further work will be required including detailed survey work and analysis of open space, sport and recreation facilities within the District. Consultation with relevant bodies such as the Education Authority and NI Housing Executive who own or control significant quantities of open space will also be carried out.
- 10.4 Taking into account the policy approach of the SPPS, it is suggested that key actions of the local development plan at strategy level may include the following:
- (i) provide policy for the protection and safeguarding for public open space;
 - (ii) the needs identified are taken account when formulating both the aims and objectives of the plan and future policy.
 - (iii) provide adequate and well-designed open space in new housing developments as an integral part of the development;
 - (iv) facilitate where possible large scale leisure proposals on opportunity sites within or near town centres and smaller scale proposal elsewhere within settlement limits;
 - (v) protect environmental open spaces for example parks, gardens and linear open space such as pedestrian and cycle routes/walkways and river corridors that have open space value.

Appendix 1 – Planning Histories for sites identified in ADAP as proposed amenity space.

Downpatrick

Lands at Pemberton Park	No relevant history
Lands at Sampson's Stone	No relevant history
Land within The Meadows Development	R/2006/1045/O Housing development Approved 27/09/2012
	R/2006/0424/RM 96 dwellings Approved 16/5/2007
Lands to the North of Ballyhornan Road	No relevant history
Lands East of Rathkeltair Road and North of Ardenlee Gardens	R/2012/0513/F 16 Houses Approval 01/07/2014
Lands at the junction of Ballyhornan and Struell Wells Road	No relevant history

Ballynahinch

Windmill Hill	R/2001/1018/F Construction of paths, pedestrian access at Windmill Avenue, a random stone wall and a ramp and steps at Windmill Lane for access to park Approval 11/11/2004.
Adjacent to Ballynahinch River	No relevant history

Newcastle

Adjacent to Ashleigh House	R/2000/0537/O & R/2002/0351/RM Phase 1 Housing. Approved 16/1/2001 and 6/9/2004 respectively.
	R/2003/1509/RM Phase 2 Housing. Approved 19/1/2005.
	R/2006/0390/F Phase 3 Housing. Approved 9/4/2010.

Ballykinler

Marian Park	R/2013/0426/F Playground Approval 14/11/2013.
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Saintfield

Town Hill	No relevant history
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Appendix 2 – Sport Facilities in Newry, Mourne and Down

An Riocht GAC	Club
Ardglass GAC	Club
Atticall GAC	Club
Ballyholland Harps GAC	Club
Ballykinlar GAC	Club
Ballymartin GAC	Club
Ballynahinch United	Club
Castlewellan GAC	Club
Bright GAC	Club
Bryansford GAC	Club
Camloch Craobh Rua Hurling Club	Club
Camlough Rovers FC	Club
Carrickcruppin GAA	Club
Castlewellan GAC	Club
Clonduff GAC	Club
Craobh Rua Camlocha Hurling Field	Club
Crossmaglen Rangers GFC	Club
Cullaville GAC	Club
Dorsey Emmetts GAC	Club
Drumaness GFC	Club
Drumgath GAC	Club
Dundrum GFC	Club
Kilclief Ben Dearg GAC	Club
Loughlinisland GAC	Club
Mayobridge GAC	Club
Mullaghbawn Cuchullains GAC	Club
Newry Rugby Football Club	Club
Peadar O'Doirnin Park	Club
Saval GAA	Club
Shamrocks GAA	Club
Shane O'Neills GAA	Club
Showgrounds Newry	Club
Silverbridge Harps GFC	Club
St Brigid's Amateur Boxing Club	Club
St Bronagh's GAA	Club
St John's GAC Drumnaquoile	Club
St Killian's GFC	Club
St Malachys GFC Youth Club	Club
St Mary's GFC Burren	Club
St Michael's GFC Newtownhamilton	Club
St Moninna's GAC	Club
St Patrick's GAC Cullyhanna	Club
St Patrick's GAC Dromintee	Club
St Patrick's GAC Saul	Club
Teconnaught GAC	Club
Warrenpoint GAC	Club
Wolfe Tones GAC Killyleagh	Club
Castlewellan Football Club	Club

Glenn GAC	Club
Ballynahinch Rugby Club	Club
Cloughreagh Community Centre	Community
Longstone Community Hall	Community
Annsborough Playing Fields	District Council
Carginagh Road Playing Fields	District Council
Churchill Park	District Council
Crossmaglen Playing Fields	District Council
Derrylecka Playing Fields	District Council
Donard Park	District Council
Down Leisure Centre	District Council
Downpatrick Road Football Pitch	District Council
Drumlane Football Pitch	District Council
Drumaness Mills Football Club	District Council
Dublin Road Playing Fields	District Council
Dundrum Playing Fields	District Council
High Street Soccer Pitch	District Council
Kilbroney Park	District Council
Kilkeel Sports Centre and Macauley Park	District Council
Killyleagh Football Club	District Council
Kilmore Playing Fields	District Council
Langley Road Playing Fields	District Council
Marian Park Ballykinlar	District Council
Meadow Football Pitch	District Council
Millburn Park	District Council
Milltown Playing Fields	District Council
Mourne Esplanade Football Pitch	District Council
Newry Swimming Pool	District Council
Norman Brown Park	District Council
Orior Park	District Council
Owen Roe Park	District Council
Robert Adams Park	District Council
Russell Gaelic Union	District Council
Strangford Playing Fields	District Council
Abbey Christian Brothers Grammar School	Education
Anamar Primary School	Education
Annalong Primary School	Education
Assumption Grammar School	Education
Castlewellan Primary School	Education
De La Salle Secondary School	Education
Down High School	Education
Downpatrick Primary School	Education
Downshire Primary School	Education
High School Ballynahinch	Education
Holy Family Primary School Downpatrick	Education
Kilkeel High School	Education
Killowen Primary School Newry	Education
Newtownhamilton High School	Education
Sacred Heart Grammar School	Education
Shimna Integrated College	Education
St Colman's College	Education
St Colman's High School Ballynahinch	Education
St Colman's Primary School Saval	Education

St Colmcilles High School	Education
St Columbans College	Education
St Joseph's Boys High School Newry	Education
St Joseph's High School Newry	Education
St Joseph's Primary School Bessbrook	Education
St Joseph's Primary School Crossgar	Education
St Joseph's Primary School Killough	Education
St Louis Grammar School Newry	Education
St Malachy's High School Castlewellan	Education
St Malachy's Primary School Carnagat	Education
St Malachy's Primary School Castlewellan	Education
St Malachys Primary School Downpatrick	Education
St Marks High School Warrenpoint	Education
St Mary's High School Downpatrick	Education
St Marys Primary School Annalong	Education
St Mary's Primary School Mullaghbawn	Education
St Mary's Primary School Newcastle	Education
St Mary's Primary School Saintfield	Education
St Nicholas Primary School Ardglass	Education
St Patrick's Grammar School Downpatrick	Education
St Patrick's Primary School Castlewellan	Education
St Patrick's Primary School Crossmaglen	Education
St Patrick's Primary School Newry	Education
St Paul's High School Newry	Education
Tyrella Primary School Downpatrick	Education
Windsor Hill Primary School	Education

Source: <https://www.opendatani.gov.uk>

Appendix 3

Open Space Identified in BNMAP

Settlement	Outdoor Sport	Children's Play Area	Total
Newry City	36.23	4.97	41.2
Crossmaglen	5.28	0.13	5.41
Kilkeel	7.73	0.33	8.06
Newtownhamilton	3.94	0.06	4
Warrenpoint	6.85	0.36	7.21
Annalong	1.95	0.53	2.48
Attical	1.12	0	1.12
Ballyholland	2.65	0.21	2.86
Ballymartin	1.12	0.42	1.54
Bessbrook	2.22	1.5	3.72
Burren	6.43	0.63	7.06
Camlough	5.02	0.31	5.33
Cullyhanna	1.6	0.05	1.65
Forkhill	2.01	0.1	2.11
Hilltown	2.86	0.25	3.11
Jonesborough	0.26	0.04	0.3
Mayobridge	3	0.46	3.46
Meigh	1.55	0.17	1.72
Mullaghbane	2.9	0.04	2.94
Rostrevor	4.14	1.12	5.26
TOTAL	98.86	11.68	110.54

Ownership: Mostly NMDC but also GAC/GFC/GAA/ CCMS/SELB/NIHE/CHURCH/PRIVATE

Active Amenity Open Space and Recreation Provision Identified in ADAP

Settlement	Outdoor Sport (DDC owned)	Children's Playground (DDC owned)	Total (DDC Owned)	Outdoor Sport (Private)	Total Outdoor Sport *
Downpatrick	10.67	0.43	11.1	10.28	20.95
Ballynahinch	7.05	0.2	7.25	2.35	9.4
Newcastle	12.93	0.27	13.2	0.12	13.05
Annsborough	3.27	0	3.27	0	3.27
Ardglass	2.36	0.14	2.5	0	2.36
Ballykinler	0.97	0	0.97	1.96	2.93
Castlewellan	4.23	0.24	4.47	1.84	6.07
Crossgar	4.08	0.17	4.25	0.73	4.81
Drumaness	1.98	0.13	2.11	6.8	8.78
Dundrum	1.70	0.05	1.75	3.68	5.38
Killough	2.22	0.01	2.23	0	2.22
Killyleagh	3.71	0.05	3.76	4.89	8.6
Saintfield	1.3	0.05	1.35	1.98	3.28
Shrigley	0	0.07	0.07	0	0
Strangford	1.81	0.10	1.91	0	1.81
The Spa	0	0.04	0.04	0	0
Annacloy	2.82	0	2.82	0	2.82
TOTAL	61.1	1.95	63.05	34.63	95.73

*Total Outdoor Sport includes land/ facilities in the legacy Down District Councils ownership and private ownership

Appendix 4

Fixed Play Parks Newry, Mourne and Down

Newry, Mourne & Down Council Fixed Play Parks		
Name	Location	DEA
Annalong Cornmill Play Park	Annalong	Mournes
Mona View Play Area/Grass Area	Annalong	Mournes
Annsborough Play Park	Annsborough	Slieve Croob
Ardglass Playing Fields	Ardglass	Downpatrick
Quay Street	Ardglass	Downpatrick
Seaview	Ardglass	Downpatrick
Innisfree Park Play Area/Grass Pitch/Bitmac Area	Ballyholland	Crotlieve
Bishopscourt	Ballyhornan	Downpatrick
Ballykinlar Play Park	Ballykinlar	Slieve Croob
Pious Hill Play Area	Ballymartin	Mournes
Ballynahinch Centre	Ballynahinch	Rowallane
Hillfoot Junior Play Park	Ballynahinch	Rowallane
Hillfoot Toddler Play Park	Ballynahinch	Rowallane
Langley Road Play Park	Ballynahinch	Rowallane
Belleek Village Green/Play Area	Belleek	Slieve Gullion
Drumilly Play Area (Oliver Plunkett Park)	Belleek	Slieve Gullion
Carrickvista Recreation Area (Grass Area/Kickabout)	Bessbrook	Slieve Gullion
Charlemont Square Play Area/Grass Area	Bessbrook	Slieve Gullion
College Square Play Park	Bessbrook	Slieve Gullion
Father Cullen Park Play Area	Bessbrook	Slieve Gullion
Pond Field Play Park	Bessbrook	Slieve Gullion
Burren Village Green/Play Area	Burren	Crotlieve
Burrenbridge Recreation Area	Burrenbridge	Mournes
Oliver Plunkett Park/Quarter Road Play Area	Camlough	Slieve Gullion
Burrenbridge Road	Castlewellan	Mournes
Bunkers Hill Play Park	Castlewellan	Slieve Croob
Mourne Gardens Play Park	Castlewellan	Slieve Croob
Clough Play Park	Clough	Slieve Croob
Lislea Drive Play Park	Crossgar	Rowallane
Westlands Play Park	Crossgar	Rowallane
Ardross Park Play Area/Grass Area/Kickabout/Basketball Court	Crossmaglen	Slieve Gullion
Creggan Play Area	Crossmaglen	Slieve Gullion
Cullovile Play Park	Crossmaglen	Slieve Gullion
Lismore Park Play Area	Crossmaglen	Slieve Gullion
Rathview Park Play Area	Crossmaglen	Slieve Gullion
Cullyhanna Play Area (St Patricks Park)	Cullyhanna	Slieve Gullion
Ardmore	Downpatrick	Downpatrick
Ballymote Centre	Downpatrick	Downpatrick
Bridge Street	Downpatrick	Downpatrick
Knocknashinna	Downpatrick	Downpatrick

Marion Park	Downpatrick	Downpatrick
Model Farm	Downpatrick	Downpatrick
Saul GAC	Downpatrick	Downpatrick
St Dymnys	Downpatrick	Downpatrick
Upper Scotch Street	Downpatrick	Downpatrick
Cumber Road Play Park	Drumaness	Slieve Croob
Dan Rice Hall	Drumaness	Slieve Croob
Drumaroad Play Park	Drumaroad	Slieve Croob
Barnmeen Play Area	Drumgath	Crotlieve
Inner Bay Play Park	Dundrum	Slieve Croob
St Donard's Walk	Dundrum	Slieve Croob
Bog Road Play Area	Forkhill	Slieve Gullion
Drumintee Play Area	Forkhill	Slieve Gullion
Fairview Park Play Area	Forkhill	Slieve Gullion
Lurganare Play Area	Glen	Crotlieve
Spelga Park Play Area	Hilltown	Crotlieve
Jonesborough Play Area	Jonesborough	Slieve Gullion
Kilcoo GAC	Kilcoo	Mournes
Ballymaderphy Play Area	Kilkeel	Mournes
Bencrom Play Area	Kilkeel	Mournes
Cranfield Play Park	Kilkeel	Mournes
Hillside Drive Grass Area/Play Area	Kilkeel	Mournes
Kitty's Road Play Area	Kilkeel	Mournes
Mourne Esplanade Play Area	Kilkeel	Mournes
Rooney Road Play Area	Kilkeel	Mournes
Scrogg Road Play Area	Kilkeel	Mournes
Killough Playing Fields	Killough	Downpatrick
Bridge Centre	Killyleagh	Rowallane
Leitrim Play Park	Leitrim	Slieve Croob
Maghera Play Park	Maghera	Mournes
Meigh Play Park	Meigh	Slieve Gullion
Conway Park Play Park	Mullaghbawn	Slieve Gullion
Backfield Play Park	Newcastle	Mournes
Castle Park	Newcastle	Mournes
Downs Road Play Park	Newcastle	Mournes
Islands Park	Newcastle	Mournes
Newcastle Centre	Newcastle	Mournes
Carnbane Gardens Play Area	Newry	Newry
Carrivemaclone Play Area	Newry	Newry
Derrybeg Play Area/Kickabout	Newry	Newry
Emmett Street Play Area	Newry	Newry
Heather Park Play Park	Newry	Newry
Latt Crescent Play Area	Newry	Newry
Lisdrumgullion Play Park	Newry	Newry
Loanda House/Barcroft Play Park	Newry	Newry

Martin's Lane	Newry	Newry
Mourneview Park Play Area	Newry	Newry
Peter McParland/Barley Lane Park Play Area	Newry	Newry
Raymond McCreesh/Patrick Street Play Park	Newry	Newry
Shandon Park Play Area	Newry	Newry
Springhill Drive Play Area	Newry	Newry
Windmill Road Play Area	Newry	Newry
Latt Villas Play Area	Newry	Slieve Gullion
Newtowncloughoge Play Area	Newry	Slieve Gullion
Altnamackin/Fane Grove Play Park	Newtownhamilton	Slieve Gullion
Dungormley Play Area	Newtownhamilton	Slieve Gullion
Kilbroney Park Play Area	Rostrevor	Crotlieve
Lislane Play Park	Saintfield	Rowallane
Newline Play Park	Saintfield	Rowallane
Granite View Play Area	Saval	Crotlieve
Shrigley Play Park	Shrigley	Rowallane
Lisnalee Play Area	South Armagh	Slieve Gullion
Slieve Gullion Play Park	South Armagh	Slieve Gullion
Tullydonnell Play Area	South Armagh	Slieve Gullion
Hillside Play Park	Spa	Slieve Croob
The Links	Strangford	Downpatrick
Clonallon Park Play Park	Warrenpoint	Crotlieve
Ringmacilroy Play Park	Warrenpoint	Crotlieve
Warrenpoint Park Play Area	Warrenpoint	Crotlieve
Whitecross Play Park	Whitecross	Slieve Gullion
Down Legacy Total 46		
Newry & Mourne Legacy Total 64		
17 No. Play Park Sites with no equipment Not Listed		

Source: NMD Council

Appendix 5

Settlements Fixed Play Provision

SETTLEMENTS	FIXED PLAY AREA PROVISION
CITY	
Newry	✓
TOWNS	
Crossmaglen	✓
Kilkeel	✓
Newtownhamilton	✓
Warrenpoint/ Burren	✓
Downpatrick	✓
Ballynahinch	✓
Newcastle	✓
VILLAGES	
Annalong	✓
Attical	
Ballyholland	✓
Ballymartin	✓
Bessbrook	✓
Camlough	✓
Cullyhanna	✓
Forkhill	✓
Hilltown	✓
Jonesborough	✓
Mayobridge	
Meigh	✓
Mullaghbane/ Mullaghbawn	✓
Rostrevor	✓
Annsborough	✓
Ardglass	✓
Ballykinler	✓
Castlewellan	✓
Clough	✓
Crossgar	✓
Drumaness	✓
Dundrum	✓
Killough	✓
Killyeagh	✓
Saintfield	✓
Shrigley	✓
Strangford	✓
The Spa	✓
SMALL SETTLEMENTS	
Altnamacken/ Cortamlet	
Ballymadeerfy	
Ballmoyer	
Barmeen	✓
Belleek	✓

Creggan	
Cullaville	
Dorsey	
Drumintee	
Dunnaval/ Ballyardle	
Glassdrumman (Co. Armagh)	
Glassdrumman/ Mullartown	
Glen	✓
Greencastle	
Jerrettspass	
Killeen	
Killowen	
Lislea	
Longstone	
Lurganare	
Mullaghglass	
Newtowncloghoge	
Sheeptown	
Silverbridge	✓
Tullyherron	
Whitecross	✓
Annacloy	
Ballyalton	
Ballyhornan	
Ballynoe	
Bryansford	
Burrenbridge	✓
Carrickinab	
Chapeltown	
Clonvaraghan	
Coney Island	
Darragh Cross	
Derryboye	
Drumaghliis	
Drumaroad	✓
Kilclief	
Kilcoo	✓
Kilmore	
Loughinisland	
Maghera	✓
Raholp	
Saul	
Seaforde	

Source: Playboard NI

Appendix 6

Public Rights of Ways in Newry, Mourne and Down

Description of PROW	Length (metres)	Status
Sampson's Lane, Downpatrick	600	PROW
Park Lane/Saul Lane, Harry's Loney	650	PROW
Belfast Road to Jane's Shore, Downpatrick	950	Public path
English Street to Market Street, Downpatrick	110	PROW
Net Walk and Shore Loney, Killyleagh	900	PROW
The Broadmeadows, Killyleagh	600	PROW
Green Lane, Raleagh	1200	Bridle path
Chapel Pad, Drumaness	480	PROW
St Marys Primary School, Killyleagh	275	Footpath
Harmony Hill, Drumaness	1150	Bridle way
Riverside Walk, Ballynahinch	600	Footpath
Tannaghmore Rd to Newcastle Rd, Loughinisland	450	Footpath
Cumran Lane, Clough	1750	Footpath
Ballywillwill Rd to Clonvaraghan Road	950	Bridle path
Clonvaraghan Road to Slievehanny Road, Castlewellan	1490	Bridle Path
Drumsnade Road to Tannaghmore Road, Ballynahinch	3000	Bridle Path
Castlewellan Road to the Square, Clough	500	Footpath
Magheratimpany Rd to Newcastle Rd, Drumaness	200	Footpath
Ringhaddy Road to Quarterland Road, Killinchy		Footpath
Carrownacaw Road to the Ballyculter Rd, Raholp	720	PROW
Castle Flannen, Kilclief	80	PROW
Bishopscourt Rd to Glebe Rd	900	PROW
Ballyhornan to St Patrick's Well, Sheepland	4100	PROW
Killlough to St John's Point	2950	PROW
Lough Money to Ballystokes	1450	PROW
Ballyalton to Ballysugagh	1700	PROW
The Shore to Raholp	1150	PROW
Raholp to Lough Money	1400	Bridle path
Castle Lane, Ardglass	130	Footpath
Downpatrick Rd to Castle Street, Strangford	1400	Public path
Strangford Road to Porthamish, Ballyhornan	645	Footpath
Sheepland Road to Ballyhornan to Sheepland PROW	40	Footpath
Drumroe Road to Churchtown Road, Strangford	570	Carriage way
Bath Lane, Newcastle	90	PROW
Glen River, Newcastle	4600	PROW
King Street to South Promenade, Newcastle	44	Footpath
Trassey Track	6840	PROW
Kilcoo Graveyard	350	PROW
Magee's Walk, Castlewellan	100	PROW
Rock Lane, Castlewellan	1100	PROW
Cow Lane, Castlewellan	850	PROW
Caskell Lane, Castlewellan	750	PROW
Castle Lane, Dundrum	550	PROW
Back Lane, Dundrum	400	PROW
Dam Walk, Dundrum	950	PROW

Tipperary Lane, Newcastle	700	Footpath
Wild Forest Lane, Newcastle	1600	Bridle path
McSherry's Lane, Castlewellan	1850	Bridle path
Manse Lane, Dundrum	200	PROW
Drumree Cemetary	1830	Bridle path
Drumree Road to Carnacaville Road Laneway, Castlewellan	2000	Bridle path
Drumree Cemetary to Drumree Carnacaville Road	470	Bridle path
Lower Burren Road to Newcastle Road PROW	500	Footpath
Carnacaville Road to Church Hill Road, Newcastle	580	Bridle path
Barbican Farm to Wild Forest Lane	600	Bridle path
Tullybrannigan Rd to Tullybrannigan Rd Loop	1080	Bridle path
Ballylough to Annsborough Primary School	600	Bridle path
Kilmegan Road to the Priests Road	820	Bridle path
Wateresk Road to Kilmegan Road	1200	Bridle path
Ballybannon Road to Waterest Road	1300	Bridle path
Drumree Road to Dundrinne Road Upper	750	Bridle path
Dundrinne Road to Brook Cottage	550	Bridle path
Green Lane, Burrenreagh, Castlewellan	550	Footpath
Macleans Close, Bryansford Road, Tullyree	600	Footpath
Dundrinne Road to Ballybannon Road, Castlewellan	2000	Bridle path
Drumree PROW to Newcastle Road, Newcastle	150	Footpath
Byransford Road to Tullyree Road	1600	Footpath
Primrose Lane, Newcastle	60	Footpath
Porters Lane, Newcastle	60	Footpath
Dromara Road to Castle Hill, Dundrum (Quarry Lane)		Footpath
Beach Avenue, Newcastle	57	Carriage way
Mound of Down to the Belfast Road, Downpatrick	240	Footpath
Adders Loanain -Millvale Road to join the Moat Pad, Ballyward	1250	Footpath
Flush Road to Eelwire Road, Ballyward	950	By-way (foot, horse and vehicle)
Glen Loanin-Moneyanabane to Drumboy Road, Dromara	1100	Bridle path
Darby's Loanin-Moneyanabane Road to Castlewellan Road, Dromara	1100	Bridle path
Scotch Rock Pad-Slievenaboley Road to Rathfriland Road, Ballyward	2290	Footpath
Windy Gap Pad-Slievenaboley to Legananny Road, Ballyward	1500	Footpath
Bellman's Loanan from Windsor ave to upper Damolly Road, Newry	210	footpath
Moygannon Road to foreshore at Dobbin Point, Warrenpoint	200	Footpath
Yelverton Lane, from Killowen Road to foreshore, Ballyedmond, Rostrevor	665	Footpath
Fairy Glen, from Newtown Road to Forestbrook Road, Rostrevor	700	Footpath
Manus Lane, Rooney Road to Harbour Road, Kilkeel	160	Footpath
Cloughmore Stone to Shore Road, Rostrevor, via Fiddlers' Green	1700	Footpath
Dog Kennel Lane, Kennard Villas to Upper Damolly Road, Newry	800	Footpath
Rathfriland Road to Crieve Road, Newry (Upper Lane)	600	Footpath
Orchard Hill to Summerhill, Warrenpoint	50	Footpath
Rathfriland Road to Crieve Road, Newry (Lower Lane)	600	Footpath
Newtown Road to Forestbrook Road, Rostrevor	160	Footpath
"Crilly's Loanan", Father Cullen Park to Camlough Road, Bessbrook	800	Footpath
Kilkeel Road to junction of Baan and Rocky Rivers		footpath
Mayo Road to Chapel Hill Road, Mayobridge	400	Footpath
Millvale Road Bessbrook to Craigmore Road Newry	1000	Footpath
Canal Towpath, Newry, from Canal Quay to Gambles Road	10350	Footpath

Drumlough Road to Drumlough School Road, Rathfriland	1200	Footpath
Killowen Road to the foreshore, between No. 1 and No. 5 Killowen Road, Rostrevor	55	Footpath
Old Warrenpoint Road to Dual Carriageway, Newry	60	Footpath
Glen Loanan, Ballymartin	240	Footpath
Ballard Road to Slieve Gullion South Cairn	3500	Footpath
Shean Road to Urney Graveyard, Forkhill	800	Footpath
Ballynabee Road, Camlough to Father Cullen Park, Bessbrook	600	Footpath
Ameracam Lane to Fair Road, Cranfield	1330	Footpath
Ballymoyer Forest	400	Footpath
Warrenpoint Road to Foreshore, adjacent to Rosses Quay, Rostrevor	105	Carriageway
Hickey's Lane, Armagh Road to Canal towpath, Newry	400	Footpath
Ulster Avenue to the Harbour, Annalong	310	Footpath
100m South of No. 80 Shore Road, Rostrevor	40	Footpath
Killowen Road to the foreshore adjacent to No. 9 Killowen Road	70	Footpath
"Old Schoolhouse Lane", Killowen Road to Killowen Old Road, Ballyedmond, Rostrevor	170	Footpath
Killowen Road to foreshore, Rostrevor at Killowen Cottage, adjacent to 67 Killowen Road, Rostrevor	230	Footpath
Killowen Road to the foreshore, adjacent to Killowen Outdoor Education Centre, Rostrevor	105	Footpath
Ballinran Road to Aughnahoor Road, Kilkeel	1500	Bridleway
Chapel Road to Seafin Road, Meigh	100	Carriageway
"Hip Road", Carewamean Road, Carrickbroad to border with the Irish Republic	200	Footpath
Hanna's Close, Kilkeel	1000	Footpath
Kilkeel Road to the foreshore, Moneydarragh Beg, Ballymartin	100	Footpath
Camlough River to Father Cullen Park, Bessbrook	405	footpath
Concession rd to the Border with the Republic of Ireland	240	Carriageway
Greenpark Road to Drumsesk Road, Rostrevor	550	Footpath
Drumsesk Road, Rostrevor to Moygannon Road, Warrenpoint	1500	Footpath
Hillhead Road to Flagstaff Road, Newry	600	Footpath
Millvale Road at Beetle row to Derrymore Road	400	Footpath
Millvale Road at the Old Mill to Derrymore Road	700	Footpath
Shannagh drive to Coastal path, Annalong	100	footpath
Kileavy Old Church (Ballintemple Road) to Saint Moninna,s Well	575	footpath

Source: NMD Council

Appendix 7

FORESTS	OWNERSHIP
Annalong Forest	Forestry Service NI
Ballymoyer Forest	Forestry Service NI
Bohill Forest	Forestry Service NI
Camlough Forest	Forestry Service NI
Castle Ward Forest	Forestry Service NI
-Castlewellan Forest	Forestry Service NI
Cold Brae Forest	Forestry Service NI
-Daisy Hill Wood LNR	Forestry Service NI
Donard Forest	Forestry Service NI
Drumkeeragh Forest	Forestry Service NI
Fathom Forest	Forestry Service NI
Hollymount Forest	Forestry Service NI
Mourne Forest	Forestry Service NI
Narrow Water Forest	Forestry Service NI
Rostrevor Forest	Forestry Service NI
Tollymore Forest	Forestry Service NI
Slieve Gullion Forest	Forestry Service NI

WOODLANDS	OWNERSHIP
Nut Wood	Woodland Trust
Glass Water Wood	Woodland Trust
Pond Water and Compass Hill	Woodland Trust
Windmill Hill Wood	Woodland Trust
Carnbane Wood	Woodland Trust
Daisy Hill Wood	Woodland Trust

Source: Woodland Trust Website <http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/visiting-woods/map/47%20Ballytrim%20Road,%20Killyleagh,%20BT30%209/54.40200599031809/-5.70200252532959/10/>

FOREST/ COUNTRY PARKS/ GARDENS	OWNERSHIP
Castle Ward	National Trust
Castlewellan Forest Park	Forestry Service NI
Delamont Country Park	Forestry Service NI
Derrymore House	National Trust
Kilbroney Forest Park	NMDDC
Rowallane Garden	National Trust
Slieve Gullion Forest Park	Forestry Service NI
Tollymore Forest Park	Forestry Service NI

OTHER RESOURCES	OWNERSHIP
Murlough National Nature Reserve	National Trust
Newry Canal Tow Path	NMDDC & ABCBC
The Mourne	Various
Silent Valley	NIW
Strangford Lough	Various
Carlingford Lough	Various

BEACHES

Cranfield Beach, Kilkeel
Murlough Beach
Newcastle Beach
Tyrella
Warrenpoint

GOLF COURSES and DRIVING RANGES

Ardglass Golf Club
Ashfield Golf Club, Cullyhanna
Bright Castle Golf Club, Downpatrick
Cloverhill Golf Club, Mullaghbawn
Crossgar Golf Club
Downpatrick Golf Centre
Golf Centre, Newcastle
Kilkeel Golf Club
Mayobridge Golf Club
Mourne Golf Club, Newcastle
Newry Golf Inn Academy
Royal County Down Golf Club, Newcastle
Royal County Down Ladies Golf Club, Newcastle
St Patricks Golf Club, Downpatrick
Spa Golf Club, Ballynahinch
Warrenpoint Golf Club

ACTIVITY CENTRES- PRIVATE OWNERSHIP

Acton Adventures, Poyntzpass
Bluelough Adventure Centre, Castlewellan Forest Park
Clearsky Adventure Centre, Castleward Estate
East Coast Outdoor Activity Centre, Rostrevor
Flagstaff Adventure, Newry
Greenhill YMCA, Newcastle
Life Adventure Centre, Castlewellan
Peak Discovery, Tollymore, Newcastle
Rock and Ride Outdoors, Kilcoo
Tollymore National Outdoor Centre, Newcastle
26 Extreme, Warrenpoint

Appendix 8

Outdoor Activities and Facilities in the District

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES	FACILITY
Activity Centres	Tollymore National Outdoor Centre, Newcastle; East Coast Outdoor Activity Centre, Rostrevor;; Acton Adventures, Poyntzpass; Greenhill YMCA, Newcastle; Peak Discovery, Tollymore, Newcastle; Life Adventure Centre, Castlewellan; Rock and Ride, Kilcoo; Flagstaff Adventures, Newry; Bluelough Adventure Centre, Castwellan Forest Park; 26 Extreme, Warrenpoint; Clearsky Adventure Centre, Castleward Estate
Angling	There are numerous locations for angling within the District with Strangford and Carlingford Loughs and its many rivers and lakes.
Athletics	There is a 6 lane athletics track with field events at St Colman's College, Newry
Bowling	There are 12 outdoor bowls club sites in the District.
Canoeing	Two of NI's nine recognised Canoe Trails are located in the District: Strangford Lough and South East Coast Trails
Cricket	There are four cricket club grounds located in the District: Dundrum, Downpatrick, Saintfield and Drumaness Cricket Clubs.
Cycling	CycleNI has identified over twenty cycle routes in the District ranging from 0-60 miles in length. The District is also a popular Mountain Bike destination with two of NI's three National Mountain Bike Trails in Rostrevor (Multiple Mountain Bike NI award winner in 2016) and Castlewellan. There is also a regional trail in Castle Ward and a local facility in Tollymore.
GAA	There are 45 GAA Clubs located in the District.
Golf	There are 16 golf courses/ driving range facilities within the District including Royal County Down (Mens and Ladies), Kilkeel, St Patricks, Downpatrick, The Spa, Crossgar, Ardglass, Bright Castle, Warrenpoint, Mayobridge, Ashfield, Cloverhill, Mourne, Golf Centre, Newcastle, Downpatrick Golf Centre and The Golf Inn, Newry.
Hockey	There are a number of men and womens hockey teams that train in the District including Ballynahinch, Down, Saintfield, Kilkeel and Newry
Horse riding	There are many equestrian centres in the district which provide opportunities for all abilities. They include: Mourne Trail Riding Centre; Lessans Riding Stables, Saintfield; Gamer keepers Lodge Equestrian Centre, Kilkeel; Western Style Horse Riding, Hilltown; Mount Pleasant Trekking Centre& Mount Pleasant Equestrian Centre, Castlewellan. There is also a racecourse in Downpatrick.
Motorsports	There are 4 motor sports facilities in the District

Rugby	There are rugby clubs in Ballynahinch and Newry. A number of schools also offer rugby including High School Ballynahinch; Down High School, Downpatrick; Kilkeel High School and St Colman's College, Newry
Soccer	There are approximately 42 soccer clubs in the District.
Swimming	Tropicana Outdoor Pool in Newcastle is open July and August.
Tennis	There are a number of tennis club sites in the District including: Downpatrick Tennis Club (Down High School), Newcastle Tennis Club, Warrenpoint Tennis Club, Newry Tennis Club, Mourne Esplanade, Kilkeel, Kilbroney Park, Rostrevor and Annalong Tennis Court
Watersports	There are a number of watersport opportunities in the District with Strangford and Carlingford Loughs, inland rivers and lakes. The Council's Sports Strategy identified 10 sites that offer water sports in the District.

*This list is not exhaustive but indicates the main activities available within the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Area.

For AHC
agenda -

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE MINISTER



INV 0030/2017



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www.education-ni.gov.uk

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Michael Lipsett
Director of Active & Healthy Communities
Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
Downpatrick Office
Downshire Civic Centre
DOWNPATRICK
BT30 6GQ

20th February 2017

Dear Michael

Thank you for your letter of 20 January requesting a meeting to discuss the community use of school facilities.

As you will be aware, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland has announced that an election to the Northern Ireland Assembly will take place on Thursday 2 March 2017 and that the current Assembly was dissolved as and from 26 January.

Unfortunately due to diary commitments, I am unable to schedule a meeting in advance of the election on 2 March. If you still require a meeting, I would be grateful if you could resubmit your request to a new Minister once he/she is appointed.

PETER WEIR
Minister of Education