



February 21st, 2022

Notice Of Meeting

You are requested to attend the meeting to be held on **Monday, 21st February 2022** at **6:00 pm** in **Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre via Microsoft Teams.**

Chairperson Councillor McKevitt

Vice Chairperson Councillor Casey

Councillor Finnegan

Councillor Gallagher

Councillor Harte

Councillor Lewis

Councillor Malone

Councillor McEvoy

Councillor McMurray

Councillor O'Hare

Councillor Ó'Muirí

Councillor Sharvin

Councillor Tinnelly

Councillor Trainor


Councillor Walker

Agenda

1.0 Introduction and Apologies

2.0 Declarations of Interest

3.0 Action Sheet arising from Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on 24 January 2022

 *24 January 2022- Final to AHC.pdf*

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Notices of Motion

4.0 Notice of Motion - Female Self Defence

Notice of Motion received from Councillor Malone:

"After the shocking murder of Ashling Murphy in Tullamore I am requesting that Newry Mourne and Down District Council organise and advertise Female Self Defence Courses in all local Leisure Centres, Community facilities etc to increase the confidence of our local female population. These courses could provide much needed expertise to females, which they can utilise to maybe save their or other individuals lives if they find themselves in difficult situations."

Community Engagement

5.0 District Electoral Area (DEA) Forums Update Report

 *DEA Fora report AHC committee February 2022.pdf*

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 *Appendix 1- DEA Fora Update February 2022.pdf*

Page 16

 *Appendix 2 - DEA Report - Rowallane - Action Sheet 21st Jan 2022.pdf*

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 *Appendix 3 - DEA Report - action Sheet Crotlieve DEA Private Forum Meeting january 2022.pdf*

Page 21

 *Appendix 4 - DEA Report - Slieve Gullion DEA Action Sheet 25 January 2022.pdf*

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 *Appendix 5 - DEA Report - Action Sheet Mournes DEA Meeting 26 January 2022.pdf*

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 *Appendix 6 - DEA Report - Downpatrick February 22.pdf*

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6.0 Community Co-Ordination Hub - Update Report


 *CCH Update Report for AHC February 2022.pdf*

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 *Appendix 1 - CCH meeting 19 January 2022.pdf* *Page 42*

7.0 Community Centre Scale of Charges

 *Community Facility hire charges.pdf* *Page 47*

 *Copy of Appendix 1 - Proposed Hire Charges 2022 2023 - Community Centres.pdf* *Page 49*

8.0 Saintfield Community Garden

 *Saintfield Community Trust Community Garden report Feb 22.pdf* *Page 50*

 *Appendix 1 - Saintfield CT - Community Garden.pdf* *Page 53*

9.0 PCSP Procurement (Home Secure Service)

 *Report Home Secure Scheme (002).pdf* *Page 54*

Leisure and Sports

10.0 Leisure and Sports Scale of Charges 2022/23

 *Leisure and Sport Scale of Charges 2022-23.pdf* *Page 57*

 *doc12427720220217104145.pdf* *Page 60*

11.0 Community Asset Transfer

 *Community Asset Transfer Report - Parent Action CIC.pdf* *Page 71*

 *Appendix 1 - Map Mount Crescent Downpatrick.pdf* *Page 74*

 *Appendix 2 - CAT Policy Framework.pdf* *Page 76*

 *Appendix 3 - CAT guidance for asset owners.pdf* *Page 117*

Items deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014

12.0 Application for the renewal of a Licence to operate a House of Multiple Occupation at 8 St. Mary Street, Newry, BT34 2AA

This item is deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information) - and the public may, by resolution, be

excluded during this item of business.

 ***Application - Renewal of a Licence to operate a HMO - 8 St. Mary Street Newry BT34 2AA.pdf*** ***Not included***

 ***Appendix 1 - Location Map - 8 St. Marys Street Newry BT34 2AA.pdf*** ***Not included***

 ***Appendix 2 - Notice of proposed decision HMO.pdf*** ***Not included***

13.0 Public Tender – Programme Delivery Partner

This item is deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information) - and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

 ***Public Tender Leisure and Sport Programme Delivery Partner.pdf*** ***Not included***

 ***Appendix 1 - Programme Delivery Partner Business Case.pdf*** ***Not included***

FOR NOTING Items deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014

14.0 Report on Speeding Issues adjacent to Schools

This item is deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information) - and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

 ***Speeding Issues adjacent to Schools.pdf*** ***Not included***

 ***Appendix 1 - Speeding Issues at Schools (V2).pdf*** ***Not included***

15.0 Health and Safety Review – Indoor Leisure: Slip, Trips and Falls

This item is deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information) - and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

 ***Health and Safety Review - Slips Trips and Falls.pdf*** ***Not included***

For Noting - Community Engagement

16.0 Housing Supply Strategy (2022- 2037) Consultation Response

 ***Response Housing Supply Strategy Consultation.pdf***

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 *Appendix 1 - Housing Supply Strategy Submitted Response.pdf* *Page 128*

 *Background Document housing-supply-strategy-report.pdf* *Page 133*

For Noting - Health & Wellbeing

17.0 Defibrillator Provision Update

 *Defibrillators Report.pdf* *Page 173*

 *Appendix 1 - Defibs in clubs 2022.pdf* *Page 176*

 *Appendix 2 - Sports Clubs Defib Training (002).pdf* *Page 177*

For Noting - Community Engagement

18.0 SIF Report

 *SIF report AHC February.pdf* *Page 178*

 *Appendix 1 - SIF minutes 13 December 2021.pdf* *Page 180*

19.0 DfC Fair Funding: Ring Fenced Welfare Reform Advice Posts

 *DfC Fair Funding for Welfare Reform Advice Posts Report for AHC Committee Meeting on 21.2.2022.pdf* *Page 182*

 *Appendix 1 - Fair Funding Uplift Letter to Councils - re welfare reform posts.pdf* *Page 185*

20.0 Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) Report

 *PCSP Report for February AHC meeting.pdf* *Page 190*

 *Appendix 1 - PCSP Committee Minutes - 30 November 2021.pdf* *Page 192*

21.0 Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership (NRP) Report

 *Newry NRP Report for February 2022 AHC Committee (003) (003).pdf* *Page 198*

 *Appendix 1 - NRP meeting 24th November 21.pdf* *Page 200*

22.0 Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership (NRP) Report

 *Downpatrick NR Report to AHC February 2022.pdf* *Page 210*

Invitees

- Cllr Terry Andrews
- Mr Alan Beggs
- Cllr Patrick Brown
- Cllr Robert Burgess
- Cllr Pete Byrne
- Mrs Dorinnia Carville
- Cllr Charlie Casey
- Cllr William Clarke
- Cllr Dermot Curran
- Ms Alice Curran
- Cllr Laura Devlin
- Mr Eoin Devlin
- Ms Louise Dillon
- Cllr Cadogan Enright
- Cllr Aoife Finnegan
- Cllr Hugh Gallagher
- Sinead Geary
- Cllr Mark Gibbons
- Cllr Oonagh Hanlon
- Cllr Glyn Hanna
- Cllr Valerie Harte
- Mrs Janine Hillen
- Cllr Roisin Howell
- Miss Veronica Keegan
- Mrs Sheila Kieran
- Ms Nora Largey
- Cllr Mickey Larkin
- Cllr Alan Lewis
- Mr Michael Lipsett
- Cllr Oonagh Magennis
- Mr Conor Mallon
- Cllr Gavin Malone
- Cllr Cathy Mason
- Mr Johnny Mc Bride
- Colette McAteer
- Cllr Declan McAteer
- Cllr Leeanne McEvoy
- Cllr Harold McKee
- Patricia McKeever
- Cllr Karen McKevitt
- Cllr Andrew McMurray
- Cllr Roisin Mulgrew

Cllr Declan Murphy
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Cllr Barra Ó Muirí
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Mr Fearghal O'Connor
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Linda O'Hare
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Cllr Gerry O'Hare
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Cllr Kathryn Owen
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Cllr Henry Reilly
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Cllr Michael Rice
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Cllr Michael Ruane
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Cllr Michael Savage
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Cllr Gareth Sharvin
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Donna Starkey
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Cllr Gary Stokes
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Sarah Taggart
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Paul Tamati
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Cllr David Taylor
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Cllr Jarlath Tinnelly
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Cllr John Trainor
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Cllr William Walker
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Mrs Marie Ward
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ACTIONS OUTSTANDING FROM PREVIOUS ACTIVE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES MEETINGS

1

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
AHC/206/2019	Adoption of Suicide Down to Zero	<p>It was agreed that Council formally adopt the approach and aspiration of Suicide Down to Zero. A suitable launch and media statement to be prepared for Council Chairperson.</p> <p>An amount of £10,000 is allocated to a Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Small Grants Scheme administered through a Financial call subject to the estimates process.</p> <p>A working group involving the Council, the Southern and South Eastern Health Trusts and local relevant Voluntary Organisations is created to examine ways of attaining the goal of zero suicides across the District.</p>	E Devlin	Ongoing Virtual Suicide prevention awareness training to be offered to all members in Feb/March	N
AHC/4/2020	Overflow Car Park at Donard Park	<p>It was agreed to proceed with 'winter arrangements' for the unofficial overflow car park at Donard Park to remain in place until Easter 2020 as per historical arrangement.</p> <p>Winter arrangements – closed from the 1st November to Easter 2020 (10th April)</p> <p>If a budget became available in the interim, the opening of the overflow car park could be brought forward on busy days prior to Easter 2020.</p> <p>The proposed establishment of an official and permanent overflow car parking arrangements at Donard Park as per appendix 1, and commit £250k to Council Capital Programme.</p> <p>Following such approval, a detailed capital proposal will be brought back to Committee for further consideration.</p>	P Tamati	Planning application submitted Jan 2021, ongoing. Awaiting planning approval.	N

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
AHC/6/2020	Annual Licence Agreement with Communities Facilities	It was agreed to replace existing tenancy arrangements within Council Community Facilities to updated Licence Agreements.	J Hillen	Ongoing – Draft Licenses in place and applications to DIC CAT Scheme progressed for relevant groups	N
AHC/163/2020	Public Health Agency – Leading the Way Programme Pilot	To approve the development of a Service Level Agreement with the Public Health Agency to deliver a pilot Active Travel programme based on the 'Leading The Way' programme.	E Devlin	Drumaness Snooker Club complete Ongoing	N
AHC/014/2021	Disability Access onto Newcastle Beach	It was agreed officers explore options for accessibility onto Newcastle Beach. It was agreed to note that the disabled toilet facilities were currently not suitable to accommodate a large changing table and therefore would not be suitable for disabled beach access facilities similar to Cranfield. The Council was currently developing a Public Toilet Strategy to the NS Committee for consideration in the Spring.	M Lipsett	See minute reference AHC/231/2021	Y
AHC/120/2021	Upgrade works to Ballynahinch Community Centre and Market House, Ballynahinch	It was agreed to accept the proposals for the Market House and begin reconfiguration works immediately (approx. cost £20,000) and accept option 2 as the preferred option for the upgrade to Ballynahinch Community Centre and develop subsequent business case (to include community consultation) for proposed scheme.	J Hillen	Building Control application submitted for The Market House and tender documents are being prepared. Ballynahinch CC – Business Case paper at November AHC Business Case paper Approved at November AHC - AHC/233/2021	N

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
AHC/120/2021	Upgrade works to Ballynahinch Community Centre and Market House, Ballynahinch	It was agreed to accept the proposals for the Market House and begin reconfiguration works immediately (approx. cost £20,000) and accept option 2 as the preferred option for the upgrade to Ballynahinch Community Centre and develop subsequent business case (to include community consultation) for proposed scheme.	J Hillen	Building Control application submitted for The Market House and tender documents are being prepared. Ballynahinch CC – Business Case paper at November AHC Business Case paper Approved at November AHC - AHC/233/2021	N
HC/143/2021	Notice of Motion – Defibrillators	It was agreed to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake a programme of engagement with local sports clubs and community organisations across the District to establish the level of defibrillator provision within their various facilities; And develop a programme which is designed to increase the numbers of officers and volunteers within all sporting and community organisations who can perform the vital lifesaving skill of CPR; Target all organisations across business, statutory, Community and Voluntary sectors who have an AED to register it on the National Defibrillator Network. A timeframe of six months be set in order to update Members on the progress of the engagement programme. Council officers to liaise with the Heart Foundation regarding funding towards defibrillators with the potential of a grant stream being established for groups to access	M Lipsett	Ongoing	N
AHC/148/2021	SLA - use of Changing Rooms - Dan Rice Hall, Drumanness by Drumanness Cricket Club	It was agreed to proceed with approval to issue a Service Level Agreement (SLA) to Drumanness Cricket Club for the use of the changing rooms within Dan Rice Hall, Drumanness (as per charges outlined within outdoor leisure hire charges).	J Hillen	Ongoing - awaiting details of office bearers of Cricket Club to insert into SLA	N

ITEMS RESTRICTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 1 OF SCHEDULE 6 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (NI) 2014					
Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
AHC/168/2020	Warrenpoint Community Centre	Accept the business case for professional fees attached to the officer's report and proceed to develop the scheme to planning application stage.	J Hillen	Ongoing	N
AHC/016/2021	Shimna Integrated College, long term access agreement for Donard Park Sports Facilities	It was agreed to enter into a long-term access agreement with Shimna Integrated College in relation to Sports Facilities at Donard Park and a report brought back to Active & Healthy Communities Committee for approval once the detail of the access arrangement had been agreed with the school	P Tamati	Ongoing	N
AHC/017/2021	Sports Facilities Strategy, Sports Hubs	It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Trainor, seconded by Councillor Casey, to appoint consultants to develop a sports development strategy for the Council and further develop and prioritise the establishment of Sports Hubs across the District including progressing these to detailed design and planning stage as appropriate. It was also agreed the budget as outlined in the officer's report is added to Councils Capital programme as part of Councils Sports Facilities Strategy list of projects.	P Tamati	Ongoing - focus groups and surveys now completed. Awaiting consultants report.	N

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
AHC/044/2021	Feasibility Study for Council Solar Farm	It was agreed to approve Officers procuring a feasibility study for development of solar farm pilot on identified council land.	E Devlin	In progress	N
AHC/087/2021	Feasibility Study for Battery Storage Pilot	It was agreed for Officers procuring a feasibility study to assess the suitability of Council community buildings with PV for battery storage pilot.	E Devlin	In progress	N
AHC/099/2021	Fairtrade Signage	It was agreed to approve Option 1 to implement Fairtrade District Statute signage, as per Fairtrade Organisation template, on all 21 Boundary signs across the District at a cost of £1,102.50 (excl. VAT).	E Devlin	The Fairtrade graphic has been agreed with marketing, designed by the printers and approved by the Fairtrade S/C at their October meeting. Next stage is for the graphic to be printed onto boundary signs and to agree a programme of installation with Grounds Maintenance Dept.	N
AHC/167/2021	Licence Agreement with Cosy Corner Playgroup at Crossmaglen Community Centre	It was agreed that Council submit an application to Department for Communities via the community asset transfer process to seek approval for the reduction in annual fees as detailed in the officer's report and to hold off charging an annual rate to Cosy Corner Playgroup, Crossmaglen until the next financial year.	J Hillen	Ongoing DFC have approved reduced rental fee. Licence agreement being prepared by legal department.	N
AHC/170/2021	Kilkeel Leisure Centre – Capital Build Project	It was agreed to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry out essential and enhancement works for Kilkeel Leisure Centre at a cost as outlined within the officer's report; Approve the business case for the project as per appendix 1 of the officer's report 	M Lipsett P Tamati	Ongoing Planning permission for proposed gym extension submitted.	N
AHC/171/2021	Business Case – Minor Works Scheme at Cloughreagh Community Centre	It was agreed to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approve the business case as attached to the officer's report for the upgrade work at Cloughreagh Community Centre; 	J Hillen	Ongoing Survey is complete and awaiting report.	N

AHC/207/2021	Request to Councillor Brown from the Mid Down Integrated College Steering Group to present to Council.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approve to procure and appoint a consultant to complete a survey, including a bill of quantities; Approve to appoint and procure a contractor to carry out the necessary works. <p>It was agreed to hold an information/education workshop to receive deputation from the Mid Down Integrated College Steering Group and invite other sectors of education along with two Councillors from each Political Party to attend also.</p>	M Lipsett	Ongoing	N
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ITEMS RESTRICTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 1 OF SCHEDULE 6 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (NI) 2014

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
AHC/211/2021	Leasing of land at Darragh Cross GAC and Teconnaught GAC, Council Play Strategy	It was agreed subject to all statutory approvals being in place, to enter into a 25-year lease with Darragh Cross GAC and Teconnaught GAC as outlined in appendix 1 and 2 of the officer's report to facilitate the establishment of play parks in these areas as per Councils play strategy.	P Tamati	On going	N

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
AHC/220/2021	Lease of commercial space at the McGraths Centre	It was agreed that as per the Acquisition and Disposal of land procedure to approve the use of an Agent to market and lease the commercial ground floor space at the McGrath Centre, Newry.	J Hillen	Ongoing	N
AHC/225/2021	2021/22 DFC Areas at Risk Funding for Bessbrook and Crossmaglen – Additional Funding Secured	It was agreed to note there was an additional £5,000 per location, in addition to the £24,000 previously secured to run educational programmes for residents from the Crossmaglen and Bessbrook areas, through DFC Areas at Risk Scheme.	J Hillen	Ongoing Classes planned for January 2022	N
AHC/229/2021	Expression of interest for leasing Council land at Lismore Playing Fields, Crossmaglen	It was agreed to approve the Lismore Site in Crossmaglen to progress to a public Expression of Interest process in line with the Sports & Community Facility Management & Leasing Policy (2016).	P Tamati	On going - report submitted to SP&R Committee 17 th February 2022.	N

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
AHC/231/2021	Notice of Motion – Accessibility onto beaches in Northern Ireland	It was agreed for Outdoor Recreation NI (ORNI) to complete a Feasibility Study for Disability Access to Beaches within the District as per appendix 1 of the officer's report and as part of the ORNI Service Level Agreement planned 2022/23.	M Lipsett	SLA to be completed in May/June 2022.	Y
AHC/233/2021	Business case for the reconfiguration of Ballynahinch Community Centre	<p>It was agreed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approve the business case as outlined within the officer's report for the reconfiguration of Ballynahinch Community Centre including the associated professional fees. Submit the project for consideration in the 2022/2023 Capital rate estimates. When funding is secured proceed to finalise drawings and costings for the preferred option and apply for all necessary statutory approvals and prepare tender documents based on the preferred Option 3 as outlined in the business case. 	J Hillen	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Project has been forwarded to the Rates process for consideration</p> <p>Community officers and Council Project Management team have a planned meeting 19 January to discuss basis on way forward with the project and look at finalising drawings</p>	N
AHC/234/2021	No 16 the Square, Rostrevor	It was agreed to note the contents of section 2.7 of the officer's report.	J Hillen	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Extension of four weeks has been granted by DEARA. LOO expires 28th February 2022</p>	N
AHC/235/2021	Update report on reopening of community facilities	It was agreed to note the contents of the officer's report.	J Hillen	Remove	Y

ACTIONS ARISING FROM ACTIVE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING – 24 JANUARY 2022

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
AHC/005/2022	Chairpersons Remarks	The Chairperson requested a letter of congratulations be sent to Kilcoo GAC on winning the Ulster Championship and wished them good luck going forward to the All-Ireland.	M Lipsett	Actioned	Y
AHC/007/2022	Action sheet Committee Meeting held on Monday 20 December 2021	The action sheet from the Committee Meeting held on 20 December 2021 was noted.	All	Noted	Y
AHC/008/2022	ORNI Service Level Agreement	Report and presentation noted.	P Tarnati	Completed	Y
AHC/009/2021	District Electoral Area (DEA) Forums Update Report	It was agreed to note the report and approve the actions in the action sheets attached to the officer's report for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Downpatrick DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 14 December 2021. Slieve Croob DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 14 December 2021. Newry DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Thursday 16 December 2021. 	J Hillen	All DEA Action Sheets being actioned accordingly.	Y
AHC/010/2022	Community Coordination Hub	It was agreed to note the report and approve the actions in the Action Sheet attached for the Community Coordination Hub (CCH) Meeting held on Wednesday 15 December 2021.	J Hillen	Approved	Y

AHC/011/2022	Leasing of Council Land - Expression of interest, Killough Road Community Centre, Downpatrick	Amendment to report noted. It was agreed to approve the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An expression of interest process be carried out for the land at Old Killough Road Community Centre, Downpatrick. A valuation being sought for the leasing of this site over a 21-year period. The EO1 process be publicly advertised for a period of two weeks. 	J Hillen	Approved	Y
AHC/012/2022	Consultation response to the NI Environment Strategy	It was agreed to return the attached Consultation response and to note the response had been submitted by the required date (18 January 2022) on the proviso that it was subject to Council Approval.	E Devlin	Response returned	Y
AHC/013/2022	Sustainability and Climate Change Forum held on 2 December 2021	It was agreed to approve the actions arising from the meeting as attached on the Sustainability and Climate Change Action Sheet form Thursday 2 December 2021 (appendix 1 of the officer's report).	E Devlin	Actioned	Y
AHC/014/2022	Request for Council to support National Vegetarian Week, May 2022	It was agreed for Council to support National Vegetarian Week 2022 and join the campaign as part of its approach to tackling the climate and nature emergency.	E Devlin	Activities to be planned for June 22	N
AHC/015/2022	Memorandum of Understanding with DAERA for the certification of products of animal origin	It was agreed to approve the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding with DAERA as outlined within the Officer's report.	E Devlin	MOU signed and returned	Y
AHC/016/2022	Drinking Water Inspectorate – Service Level Agreement	It was agreed for the Chief Executive to sign the Service Level Agreement with the Drinking Water Inspectorate.	E Devlin	SLA signed and returned	Y

AHC/017/2022	Home Safety Services – Service Level Agreement	It was agreed to approve the signing of the Service Level Agreement and the annual contribution for maintenance of the Home Safety Database Scheme as outlined within the officer's report.	E Devlin	SLA signed and returned	Y
AHC/018/2022	Consultation response to the Department for Communities in relation to Notice to Quit	It was agreed to approve the consultation response as outlined within the officer's report to the Department for Communities in relation to Notice to Quit. Mr Devlin to report back to Councillor Sharvin regarding exceptions for changes in Landlords circumstances.	E Devlin E Devlin	Consultation response returned	Y
AHC/019/2022	Appointment of Public Analyst	It was agreed to approve the appointment of the person identified within the officer's report to act as a Public Analyst.	E Devlin	Actioned	Y
AHC/020/2022	Kilbroney Pitches – Capital Project	It was agreed to approve the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To appoint an economist to complete an Outline Business Case for the Kilbroney Playing Pitches Project. To allocate an additional £50,000 to Councils Capital Programme to accommodate point 1 and support any works required to complete the Outline Business Case. 	P Tamati	On going	N
AHC/021/2022	Expression of interest in relation to the leasing of Council land at Lismore	It was agreed to note a report is to be tabled at the Strategic Policy and Resource Committee recommending approval to lease land at Lismore, Crossmaglen (appendix 1) to Crossmaglen Rangers GAC as per the final stage of Councils Sports and Community Leasing Policy (2016).	P Tamati	See Minute reference AHC/229/2021	N

AHC/022/2022	Downpatrick Park Run	It was agreed for Downpatrick Town Committee in partnership with Parkrun UK LTD to manage and operate a weekly 'Parkrun' event at Dunleath Playing Fields on the recently established community trail, subject to satisfactory submission and approval of all event documentation.	P Tamati	Complete	Y
		Mr Tamati advised the snagging would be expediated as quickly as possible and he would report back directly to Councillor Sharvin.	P Tamati		
AHC/023/2022	Social Investment Fund Report	Noted	J Hillen	Noted	Y
AHC/024/2022	Peace IV Update	Noted	J Hillen	Noted	Y

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	21 February 2022
Subject:	District Electoral Area (DEA) Forums Update Report
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Janine Hillen, Assistant Director Community Engagement
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Damien Brannigan, Head of Engagement

Confirm how this Report should be treated by placing an x in either: -

For decision For noting only

1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	<p>Purpose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To note the report. To consider and agree to approve the actions in the Action Sheets attached from the DEA Forum Private Meetings listed in 3.1 below. <p>Background</p> <p>The information in Appendix 1 attached is provided to update the Committee on recent DEA activity and on activity planned to be undertaken by the DEAs (subject to COVID-19 restrictions, guidelines and requirements).</p>
2.0	Key issues
2.1	Any activity undertaken by the DEAs must be compliant with COVID-19 restrictions, guidelines and requirements.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	<p>That the Committee: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the report. Agree to approve the actions in the Action Sheets attached for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Rowallane DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Friday 21 January 2022. ➤ Crotlieve DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 25 January 2022. ➤ Slieve Gullion DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 25 January 2022. ➤ The Mourne DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Wednesday 26 January 2022. ➤ Downpatrick DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 8 February 2022.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	Support and assistance from partners to deliver actions in the DEA action plans.
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)

5.1	<p>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
5.2	<p>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>
5.3	<p>Proposal initiating consultation</p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>
6.0	<p>Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)</p>
6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	<p>Appendices</p>
7.1	<p>Appendix 1: Update on the ongoing work of the DEAs. Appendix 2: Action Sheet of Rowallane DEA Forum Private Meeting, 21 January 2022. Appendix 3: Action Sheet of Crotlieve DEA Forum Private Meeting, 25 January 2022. Appendix 4: Action Sheet of Slieve Gullion DEA Forum Private Meeting, 25 January 2022. Appendix 5: Action Sheet of The Mourne DEA Forum Private Meeting, 26 January 2022. Appendix 6: Action Sheet of Downpatrick DEA Forum Private Meeting, 8 February 2022.</p>

8.0	Background Documents
8.1	None.

Appendix 1

The following information is provided to update the Committee on recent DEA activity and on activity planned to be undertaken by the DEAs (subject to COVID-19 restrictions).

All People in Newry, Mourne and Down Enjoy Good Health and Wellbeing

Slieve Gullion and Newry DEAs have delivered a Making Social Connections Event aimed at helping families to connect to local support services in their area. The event featured presentations from three key service providers in the Newry and Slieve Gullion areas including the Rural Health Partnership South Armagh, Bolster, and Clanrye Group, as well as information stalls on the day. The event was held on Wednesday 2 February 2022 in the Killeavy Castle Hotel.

All 7 DEAs are implementing a Mental Health Programme with Year 10 students in post primary schools. A total of 14 schools will engage in the programme. The pandemic has had a devastating impact on young people living in our district and many were particularly isolated during the lock downs. This programme will explore mental health in a positive way and reduce anxiety while supporting young people to develop habits of good mental health.

Downpatrick, Rowallane and Slieve Croob DEAs are rolling out a 6-week Dance Programme with 6 Primary schools in their respective DEAs. The programme will be an opportunity to improve their physical, health and well-being and show young people the importance of keeping active.

Slieve Croob DEA in partnership with Homestart are rolling out a 9-week Mental Health & Well-Being Programme with parents and children under five. During lockdown people living in rural areas have been very isolated with no access to services. This programme will be an opportunity for people to engage in a positive programme that will help improve their mental health and well-being, engage in activities and make new friendships.

Crotlieve and The Mournes DEAs will be delivering a Health Matters Men's Event on Thursday 3 March 2022 at the Whistledown Hotel Warrenpoint. The event will particularly focus on men's mental health. Planning is underway, and more details will be released in advance.

Crotlieve DEA will be delivering Cancer Focus Health Checks to men in the Hilltown area in March 2022.

All People in Newry, Mourne and Down Live in Respectful, Safe and Vibrant Communities

Level of Civic Participation and Good Relations:

Slieve Gullion DEA will be delivering an Intergenerational Programme alongside the Education Authority to help improve relations between the younger and older people in the Jonesborough and Drumintee areas as well as to reduce instances of anti-social behaviour. The programmes will run from February until March of this year with a possibility of follow-on programmes.

As part of a wider good relations programme Slieve Gullion DEA will be delivering a Photography Programme for four weeks beginning on Monday 14 February 2022. The programme is aimed at bringing people together from different cultural backgrounds in a shared safe environment that will not only improve the mental health and well-being of individuals, reduce social and rural isolation, but also create an environment of understanding and acceptance.

Slieve Gullion, Newry and Crotlieve DEAs will be delivering Pre-ESOL Workshops for 4 weeks.

Downpatrick, Mournes, Rowallane and Slieve Croob DEAs are implementing a 4-week Cricket Programme across 4 primary schools during February and March 2022. Young people from these primary schools will have the opportunity to engage in a sport not traditionally practised in their schools.

Slieve Croob DEA is implementing a 4-week Creative Arts Programme with 10 participants from the Slieve Croob area. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss their shared history and develop their photography skills. During the programme there will be an opportunity to meet up in a shared open space to develop and maintain relationships built during the programme.

Level of Personal Safety and Crime:

Slieve Gullion DEA have teamed up with the Education Authority to deliver the One Punch Can Kill Event on Wednesday 9 February 2022. The event aims to raise awareness of the dangers and consequences of violence on a night out. The event will also address the impacts of alcohol and drug use on behaviour. The PSNI and PCSP will also be presenting and supporting the event.

Slieve Gullion DEA will be delivering a live action play entitled "Deception" in Culloville Community Centre on Thursday 10 February 2022. The play raises awareness on the different types of scams that affect families, older and younger people, as well as how to recognise and report them.

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

**Action Sheet of Rowallane District Electoral Area (DEA) Forum Private Meeting via Microsoft Teams
held on Friday 21st January 2022 at 10.00 a.m.**

Chairperson:	Councillor Terry Andrews
In Attendance:	Councillor Patrick Brown Councillor Robert Burgess Councillor William Walker
Independent Members:	Brian Gamble, SDA Lise Curran, CDRCN Lawrence Murphy, SANDSA Richard Orme, Ballynahinch Community Collective
Statutory Partners:	None
Council Officials:	Ellen Brennan, DEA Co-Ordinator Aisling Rennick, Engagement & Development Manager Claire Loughran, Safer Communities & Good Relations Officer
Others in Attendance:	None
Apologies:	Councillor Kathryn Owen Roisin Erskine, Health and Wellbeing

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed.
DEA/ROW/11/3/2022	Declarations of Interest.	No declarations of interest were made.	Noted.
DEA/ROW/11/4/2022	Action Sheet of meeting held on 28 th October 2021.	On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Brian Gamble the action sheet of 28 th October 2021 was approved as a true record.	Action sheet accepted as true record.
DEA/ROW/11/5/2022	Update reports on Community Services, Education Authority and PCSP.	<p>A summary of the various activities and workshops taking place in the Ballynahinch, Killyleagh and Dan Rice Community Centres was provided to members.</p> <p>In the absence of Bethany McClune, EA, a written report had been forwarded and members were advised that a Monday night youth group was commencing in Killyleagh beginning on 24th January 2022 for years 9 – 11 in the Sir Hans Sloane Centre.</p> <p>Safer Communities & Good Relations Officer advised recruitment for the PCSP Officer post was ongoing.</p> <p>She advised the Speed Indicator Sign had been returned to Saintfield and there was currently another one due for Rowallane with the location to be</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p>

DEA/ROW/11/6/2022	Provision of Community Facilities in Crossgar.	<p>agreed. She highlighted the Home Secure scheme for vulnerable residents.</p> <p>Following a request from Councillor Owen the meeting discussed the provision of Community Facilities in Crossgar.</p> <p>It was AGREED to seek an early meeting with the Consultants appointed to carry out the Community Facilities Strategy.</p> <p>It was agreed to seek a meeting with Council management to discuss Community Provision in Crossgar.</p>	DEA Coordinator to liaise with Head of Community Services, Facilities and Events to arrange a date for a meeting regarding the Community Facilities Strategy.
DEA/ROW/11/7/2022	Schedule of meetings for Rowallane DEA 2022.	<p>Members AGREED the following meeting schedule:</p> <p>Tuesday 22nd March 2022 @ 9.30 a.m.</p> <p>Wednesday 1st June 2022 @ 9.30 a.m.</p> <p>Wednesday 24th Aug 2022 @ 12 Noon</p> <p>Wednesday 19th Oct 2022 @ 9.30 a.m.</p> <p>Wednesday 14th Dec 2022 @ 12 Noon</p>	Meeting Schedule agreed.
DEA/ROW/11/8/2022	Coordinator's Report .	A copy of the report had been circulated to members prior to the meeting.	Contents of the report were noted.

The meeting ended at 10.33 a.m.

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

Action Sheet of Crotlieve District Electoral Area (DEA) Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 25th January 2022 at 13.00 pm via Microsoft Teams

Chairperson:

Councillor Declan McAteer

In Attendance:

**Councillor Karen McKeivitt
Councillor Gerry O'Hare**

Independent Members:

**Clare Shields – County Down Rural Community Network
Thelma Thompson - Altnaveigh House**

Statutory Partners:

Martin Connell - Southern Health and Social Care Trust

Council Officials:

**Shirley Keenan – Crotlieve DEA Co-ordinator
Aisling Rennick – Engagement & Development Manager
Damien Brannigan – Head of Engagement
Shannon Creaney - PCSP Officer
Julie McCann – Head of Community Services, Facilities & Events**

Others in Attendance:

David Knox & Johnny Tremlett– Pinnacle Growth

Apologies:

**Councillor Mark Gibbons
Councillor Michael Ruane
Councillor Jarlath Tinnelly
Tania Baille – Confederation of Community Groups
Deirdre Magill- Southern Health and Social Care Trust
Carie Crawford – Education Authority**

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed.
DEA/C/77/2021	Declaration of Interest.	There were no declarations of interest declared.	COMPLETED.
DEA/C/78/2021	Matters arising from Action Sheet from meeting held November 2021.	Action sheet confirmed as a true and accurate record.	COMPLETED.
DEA/C/79/2021	DEA Co-ordinator's Report/ Spend and Action Plan.	Planned projects agreed by Forum Members along with associated budget. Projects include Good Relations, Schools agreed for Cultural Programme. Spend agreed for Youth Art Project in partnership with Education Authority.	DEA Co-ordinator to continue with delivery and implementation.

DEA/C/80/2021	Pinnacle Growth	Presentation provided on behalf of Community Facilities by external consultants. RE: Community Facilities Strategy.	COMPLETED.
DEA/C/81/2021	Update from PCSP & Good Relations.	Update provided by Ms S Creaney.	COMPLETED.
DEA/C/82/2021	Update from SHSCT.	Update provided by Mr M Connell.	COMPLETED.
DEA/C/83/2021	Speeding Issues at Local Schools.	Discussion around speeding issues at Crotlieve Schools.	Noted Schools to be included in report to Council by DEA Co-ordinator.
DEA/C/84/2021	Community Services Update.	Update provided by Ms J McCann.	COMPLETED.

DEA/C/07/2020	Warrenpoint Town FC.	Request from Warrenpoint Town Football Club via Cllr Mark Gibbons for Council to erect lighting inside Council property boundary.	DEA Co-ordinator to refer matter to relevant Council department. COMPLETED. ITEM TO REMAIN ON AGENDA.
DEA/C/09/2020	Update on Toilets in Warrenpoint Park.	DEA Co-ordinator to obtain update.	ITEM TO REMAIN ON AGENDA.
DEA/C/69/2021	Update on Warrenpoint Baths.	Item to remain on agenda.	Councillors were recently updated by ERT Department and will continue to be updated.
DEA/C/85/2021	Date of next meeting.	The next meeting date: 29 March 2022.	DEA Co-ordinator to forward papers and Teams Link.

The meeting ended at: 14:30 pm

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

Action Sheet of Slieve Gullion District Electoral Area (DEA) Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 25th January 2022 at 4.30pm via Teams

Chairperson: Councillor David Taylor

In Attendance:

Councillor Aoife Finnegan
Councillor Barra O’Muirí
Councillor Declan Murphy (vice Chair)
Councillor Oonagh Magennis
Councillor Micky Larkin

Independent Members:

Teresa Nugent, Rural Health Partnership

Statutory Partners:

Annie Clarke, SH&SCT
Adam Corner, PSNI

Council Officials:

Taucher McDonald, DEA Coordinator
Slieve Gullion
Aisling Rennick, Engagement & Development Manager
Julie McCann, Head of Community Services, Facilities & Events
Brieger Boyle, Community Facilities Manager
Catherine O’Neill, DEA Administrative Assistant

Others in Attendance:

Laurence Bradley, Confederation of Community Groups
Johnny Tremlett, Pinnacle Growth Group
David Knox, Pinnacle Growth Group

Apologies:

Damien Brannigan, Head of Engagement

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed.
DEA/SG/1/2022	Declaration of Interest	No Declarations of Interest were made.	Noted.
DEA/SG/2/2022	Matters arising from Action Sheet from meeting held on 30 th November 2021 via Teams	Proposed by Cllr D Taylor and Seconded by Cllr D Murphy.	Noted.
DEA/SG/3/2022	Community Services Update – Briege Boyle	Briege Boyle Community Facilities Manager gave an update on programmes funded by DfC Covid Recovery money. She confirmed the uptake on programmes had been high. She also reported on progress with Wi-Fi to 4 further Community Centres. She reminded members that the additional Covid Recovery funds	Noted.

		awarded to SLA and FMA groups could be used for items such as heating oil.	
DEA/SG/4/2022	Community Facilities Strategy	<p>Pinnacle Growth presented to the Forum regarding the development of the Community Facilities Strategy and focusing on the definition of a Community Facility.</p> <p>Agreed a copy of the presentation to be forwarded to members.</p>	Noted.
DEA/SG/5/2022	Coordinator's Update	<p>DEA Coordinator gave an update on projects and programmes, including the ESOL programme.</p> <p>Agreed should additional funding become available to extend the ESOL programme.</p> <p>Upcoming projects and events include: Making Connections event in Killeavy Castle on 2.2.2022;</p>	Noted.

		<p>One Punch Event for young people on 9.2.2022. Buses will be provided from Newtownhamilton and Crossmaglen; Live Play in Culloville on 10.2.2022 addressing the effect of scams on the whole family and on 14.2.2022 a Photography Programme which will run for 4 weeks.</p>	
<p>DEA/SG/6/2022</p>	<p>Rural Health Partnership Update – Teresa Nugent</p>	<p>Teresa Nugent gave an update on the work of the Rural Health Partnership including the Farm Families Programme and Young Families Programme. LGBT drop in support group are currently looking for a suitable venue.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>DEA/SG/7/2022</p>	<p>Youth Work Update – Sinead Boyce</p>	<p>Due to Sinead being on leave there was no update.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>

DEA/SG/8/2022	Forum Budget – DEA Coordinator	Agreed to resource intergenerational and Good Relations Programmes for Jonesborough and Dromintee from remaining budget for 2021/22 addressing issues of anti-social behaviour.	Agreed.
DEA/SG/9/2022	Update from Southern Health Trust Health & Wellbeing – Annie Clarke	Annie Clarke gave an overview of existing programmes including a workshop focusing on isolation and loneliness. She informed the meeting that Clanrye Group had taken on the Carers First Service for the Southern Area.	Annie Clarke to forward details of available programmes.
DEA/SG/10/2022	Date of next meeting	Monday 28 th March at 4.30pm via Teams.	Noted.

The meeting ended at: 5.55pm

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

Action Sheet of Mournes District Electoral Area (DEA) Forum Private Meeting held on Wednesday 26th January 2022 at 12.00noon via Microsoft Teams

Chairperson:	Councillor Leanne McEvoy/ Councillor Glynn Hanna
In Attendance:	Councillor Henry Reilly
Independent Members:	Paula Nixon, County Down Rural Community Network Ann Grant, Rural Housing Network
Statutory Partners:	Rosie Carey, Education Authority NI Annie Clark, Southern Health & Social Care Trust
Council Officials:	Donna Mulholland, District Electoral Area Coordinator, The Mournes Aisling Rennick, Engagement & Development Manager Damien Brannigan, Head of Engagement Julie McCann, Head of Community Services, Facilities & Events Shannon Creaney, PCSP Officer
Others in Attendance:	Helene Grant, Mourne First Responders Paul McDowell, Mourne First Responders David Knox, Pinnacle Growth Johnny Tremlett, Pinnacle Growth
Apologies:	Councillor Laura Devlin Councillor Harold McKee Councillor Michael Rice Andy Hall, SANDSA Paul Connolly, PSNI

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed
MOU/2022/01	Welcome/Introductions		Noted.
MOU/2022/02	Declarations of Interest		None made.
MOU/2022/03	Mourne First Responders	<p>Helene Grant and Paul McDowell provided the Forum with an overview of the Mourne First Responder Service.</p> <p>Councillors commended the service and the Forum offered support where viable.</p>	DEA Coordinator to assist with any contacts or sharing of information from the First Responders.
MOU/2022/04	Pinnacle Growth	<p>Julie McCann, Head of Community Services, Facilities & Events, introduced Pinnacle Growth who presented on preliminary discussions regarding the Community Facilities Strategy.</p> <p>Cllr Henry Reilly requested a list of groups that received funding in the last term.</p>	Julie McCann to forward a list of the groups that received funding to the DEA Coordinator for circulation.
MOU/2022/05	PCSP Update	Shannon Creaney, PCSP Officer, provided an update on PCSP programmes and projects.	

MOU/2022/06	Action Sheet 26 th November 2021	<p>Cllr Glyn Hanna requested a copy of the Speed Indicator Signs criteria to be circulated to the Mournes Councillors.</p> <p>Cllr Leanne McEvoy requested an email update from PCSP.</p> <p>Paula Nixon, CDRCN, requested a contact for the PCSP Officer covering the South Eastern Area.</p>	<p>PCSP Officer to forward the criteria for Speed Indicator Signs to the DEA Coordinator for circulation to the Mournes Councillors.</p> <p>PCSP to forward an email update to Cllr McEvoy.</p> <p>Confirmation of PCSP Officer details will be made available when confirmed. Paula Nixon to liaise with DEA Coordinator in the interim.</p>
		<p>DEA Coordinator give a brief update and overview of the actions from the previous Forum meeting.</p> <p>Kilkeel Cinema Project – Mournes Cllrs advised that a meeting of stakeholders would take place on 27/1/2022.</p> <p>Ballymartin Playpark – Project near completion with some fencing to be put in place. Cllr Hanna asked for a launch date for the opening of the park.</p> <p>Burrendale Estate – DEA Coordinator pending receipt of further follow up with Department for Infrastructure from Council's Neighbourhood Services Team.</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>DEA Coordinator to follow up with Donna McConnell, KDA, for any further updates/developments.</p> <p>DEA Coordinator to contact Outdoor Leisure to confirm date of the official launch.</p> <p>DEA Coordinator to report any further updates.</p>

		<p>PEACE IV Capacity Building Programme – DEA Coordinator provided an update on the DEA Capacity Building Programme and encouraged the Forum to put forward any groups or individuals that would have an interest or benefit in achieving the accredited training.</p>	DEA Coordinator to continue work with Mediation NI to encourage participation/registration in the area.
MOU/2022/07	DEA Coordinators' Update	DEA Coordinator provided an update on upcoming events and initiatives in the Mournes area.	Noted.
MOU/2022/08	AOB	<p>Rosie Carey, EANI, provided an update on supporting and funding Kilkeel, Moneydarragh & Annalong Youth Programme. Rosie advised the Forum to contact her for any further information on the service.</p> <p>Julie McCann, Head of Community Services, Facilities & Events, provided an update on Minor Works at Annalong and Lisnaree Community Centres as well as an overview of ongoing community activities.</p> <p>Annie Clarke, SHSCT, provided an update on programmes & webinars available through the Trust.</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>SHSCT to email information to DEA Coordinator to circulate to the Mournes database.</p>

		<p>Cllr Glyn Hanna asked for an update on the renovation of the Bowling Pavilion at Mourne Esplanade and the estimated completion time for the project.</p> <p>Cllr Glyn Hanna asked for an update on the renovation of Killeel Leisure Centre and the potential for it to start this year.</p>	<p>DEA Coordinator to contact Outdoor Leisure for confirmation of completion time and circulate to the Forum.</p> <p>DEA Coordinator to get confirmation of project start date and circulate to the Forum.</p>
MOU/2021/66	Date of Next Meeting	DEA Coordinator confirmed date of next meeting: 30 th March 2022 at 2.00pm.	Noted.

The meeting ended at: 1.40pm

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

Action Sheet of Downpatrick District Electoral Area (DEA) Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 8th February 2022 at 4.00 pm via Microsoft Teams

Chairperson:	Councillor Gareth Sharvin
In Attendance:	Councillor Dermot Curran Councillor Cadogan Enright Councillor Oonagh Hanlon Councillor John Trainor
Independent Members:	Maurice Denvir, East Lecale Communities Lisa Perry, Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Jenny Lavery, Housing Community Network Daniella McCarry, CDRCN Jim Masson, Down Business Connect
Statutory Partners:	None
Council Officials:	Katrina Hynds, Downpatrick DEA Co-Ordinator Aisling Rennick, Engagement & Development Manager Damien Brannigan, Head of Engagement Julie McCann, Head of Community Services, Facilities & Events Rosie Daly, Community Facilities Manager
Others in Attendance:	Gemma Lyttle, ORNI Johnny Tremlett, Pinnacle Growth Group Katie McCormick, Pinnacle Growth Group
Apologies:	None

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed.
DEA/DPK/22/01	Apologies	None received	Noted.
DEA/DPK/22/02	Declaration of Interest	No Declarations of Interest were made.	Noted.
DEA/DPK/22/03	Actions of Meeting held on 12 October 2021	Action Sheet was adopted.	Noted.
DEA/DPK/22/04	Receive Representative from Outdoor Recreation NI	<p>The representative gave members an update on the progress of the community trails programme. Work will continue on the programme until end of the year.</p> <p>In relation to potential walkways in Kilclief, ORNI are to provide an update on the Feasibility Study presented to them by the Kilclief Residents Association.</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>DEA Co-Ordinator to receive update from ORNI and forward to members.</p>

	<p>Extension of Footpath, Downpatrick Road, Ardglass</p>	<p>Following a query regarding the list of agreed potential walkways, it was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Enright, seconded by Dan McEvoy, that this list is forwarded to the Active & Healthy Communities Committee for consideration and decision as to which walkways could be included in the SLA with ORNI.</p> <p>A lengthy discussion ensued in relation to the extension of the public footpath on the Downpatrick Road, Ardglass.</p> <p>It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Hanlon, that a letter be sent to the Minister for Infrastructure requesting consideration of the extension of the footpath.</p>	<p>DEA Co-Ordinator request inclusion of item on Active & Healthy Communities Committee Agenda.</p> <p>DEA Co-Ordinator to send letter to the Minister at the Department for Infrastructure.</p>
DEA/DPK/22/05	Development of Community Facilities Strategy	<p>A representative from Pinnacle Growth Group provided members with an update on the development of a new Community Facilities Strategy for Newry, Mourne & Down District Council.</p> <p>Following questions, members requested that a copy of the presentation be forwarded to them. Should they have any additional questions these should be forwarded</p>	<p>DEA Co-Ordinator to forward presentation to members.</p> <p>Additional questions/queries to be returned to Officers.</p>

			to the consultants via the DEA Co-Ordinator or Head of Community Services, Facilities & Events.	
DEA/DPK/22/06	Report on DEA/Good Relations Initiatives		The Downpatrick DEA Co-Ordinator presented her report outlining initiatives, etc being rolled out in the area.	Noted.
DEA/DPK/22/07	Consider request to invite DAERA to discuss management of Quoile River	<p>Members raised concerns regarding the fishing on the Quoile River. In particular the shortage of coarse fish in the river, disability access to the river and the outcome of the Fishing survey.</p> <p>It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Jim Masson, that a representative from DAERA be invited to a future meeting to discuss the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When will the fishing survey take place and who will be included in the consultation. • What is DAERA's policy on restocking of coarse fish. • Disability Access. <p>In relation to the establishment of a new Angling Club for the Quoile, the DEA Co-Ordinator advised that this request has been forwarded to the</p>	<p>DEA Co-Ordinator to write to DAERA requesting a representative attend a future Forum Meeting.</p> <p>DEA Co-Ordinator to consult with Sports Development Officer.</p>	

DEA/DPK/22/8	St Patrick's Day Parade Plans	Council's Sports Development Officer.	The Chair of the Forum gave members an update on the proposed plans for this year's St Patrick's Day festivities. Members raised concern regarding the level of information being issued to groups who may have an interest in participating in the parade. The Chair agreed to contact the Council's Events Department regarding same.	The Chair to contact Events Department.
DEA/DPK/22/9	Update on Church Street Scheme	The Regeneration, Business Support & Development Officer to be invited to the next meeting to give an update on current scheme.		DEA Co-Ordinator to invite Officer to attend next meeting.
DEA/DPK/22/10	Date of Next Meeting	Next Meeting in scheduled to take place at 6.00 pm on Tuesday 12 th April 2022. DEA Co-Ordinator to collate preferred times of meetings from members.		DEA to provide members with outcome.

The meeting ended at: 6.10 pm

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	21 February 2022
Subject:	Community Coordination Hub (CCH) Update Report
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Janine Hillen, Assistant Director Community Engagement
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Janine Hillen, Assistant Director Community Engagement

Confirm how this Report should be treated by placing an x in either: -

For decision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	For noting only	<input type="checkbox"/>
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1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	<p>Purpose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To note the report. To consider and agree to approve the actions in the Action Sheet of the Community Coordination Hub (CCH) Meeting held on Wednesday 19 January 2022. <p>Background</p> <p>The information in Appendix 1 attached is provided to update the Committee on recent CCH activity and on activity planned to be undertaken by the CCH and its member organisations.</p>
2.0	Key issues
2.1	To coordinate actions to mitigate the impact of Covid-19 on individuals and groups in the community.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	That the Committee: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the report. Agree to approve the actions in the Action Sheet attached for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Coordination Hub (CCH) Meeting held on Wednesday 19 January 2022.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	Support and assistance from partners to deliver actions in the CCH action sheet.
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>

5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>
5.3	<p><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>
6.0	<p>Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)</p>
6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	<p>Appendices</p>
7.1	<p>Appendix 1: Action sheet of the CCH Meeting held on Wednesday 19 January 2022.</p>
8.0	<p>Background Documents</p>
8.1	<p>None.</p>

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL**Minutes of Community Coordination Hub Meeting
Wednesday 19 January 2022 @ 2:30pm****In Attendance:****Chair:** Damian Brannigan (Engagement)

Janine Hillen (Community Engagement)

Sonya Burns (Programmes Unit)

James Campbell (Health and Wellbeing)

Aisling Rennick (DEAs)

Nicholas McCrickard (County Down Rural Community Network and Strategic Stakeholder Forum)

Raymond Jackson (Confederation of Community Groups and Strategic Stakeholder Forum)

Rosemary McDonnell (Community Advice NI and Strategic Stakeholder Forum)

Lauren McMenamy (Community Planning)

Gerard Rocks (SHSCT)

Patricia Mulligan (DFC)

Caroline Gray (Programmes Unit)

Apologies:

Michael Lipsett (Active & Health Communities)

Julie McCann (Community Services)

Eoin Devlin (Health and Wellbeing)

Martina Flynn (PCSP)

Sinead Trainor (Health and Wellbeing)

Sarah McClory (Programmes Unit)

Alan Beggs (GIS Mapping)

Ruth Alan (SHSCT)

Item	Issue Raised	Agreed:	Referred to	Action taken

2.	Actions from last meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actions from last CCH meeting held attached. 	
3.	Funding Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copy attached for information and distribution as appropriate. 	All
4.	Updates from DFC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patricia Mulligan from DfC in attendance. Council advised of further funding of £102,000 available for 2021/2022. Letters have been issued from two different funds. • Meeting to be held next week with Nicolas, James and Ursula to help design the format of the Social Supermarkets. • £20,500 of the Fund has been allocated to the co design of Social Supermarket. • £31,000 of the Fund for Emergency Food Supplies. • Review ongoing with Richard. Meeting next Monday 24 January 2022 for the Generic Report Card to be designed. • Flexible Score Card to be resent and EOI feedback form. A Generic Score card would be more feasible as Community Development Groups are using different format of forms. The Score card for the Underspend to be used was sent by Patricia to Groups, in May 2021. • If Groups have an underspend in 2020/2021 this requires to be continuously utilized. • If there is an amount of underspend in funding for 2021/2022 this can only be carried forward into the next Financial Year if the money has been allocated to a Project by 31 March 2022 and proposals for the spending of the funding have been identified. • Underspend of Funding proposals require to be approved by AHC. • Information update on spending as previously attached allows all to see updates of funding and allocation. • £266,938.70 relates to underspend from 2021 of which £4,131.69 is still to be allocated. 	<p>PM</p> <p>PM, ALL</p> <p>PM</p> <p>NMcC</p> <p>DB</p> <p>GR</p> <p>PM</p> <p>JH</p> <p>JH</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £20,500 has already been allocated to the co design of the Social Supermarket. • £13,309.49 still to be allocated. Project for proposal requires to be put to CCH and then requires approval from AHC. 	DB DB	
5.	Update on DFC funded programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community • Clanrye continuing to support families and individuals in the Kilkeel area which is ongoing. Funding provided helped families at Christmas. • Stakeholder partners to provide updates on how funding has been allocated. • Mental Health support being requested by Groups/individuals. • Helpline enquiries have been busy on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturdays. • Uptake from Social Workers and Community Groups continuing. requesting training and Money Management advice for families. • Digital Inclusion Fund – to meet with Alan Beggs for update on how the £15,000 awarded has been allocated. Underspend of £13,309.49 can also be allocated for some of the Digital Inclusion. • Proposal for Trainees to refurbish laptops – Private sector to provide hardware and trainees to refurbish laptops and provide to families in need of laptops. This is a sustainable and digital outreach in the community. Proposal would have to be approved. • Trust • Bolster initiative ongoing. Verve training being supported to identify clients that can engage with Newry, Mourne and Down District Council for support. • Loneliness Workshops are being held by Zoom and an invite can be sent to anyone who wishes to join. Developed in Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Council and Mid Ulster Council by a network of Trust and local providers. Funding has been provided by DFC. • Council • Any proposal updates require to be brought forward before March 2022. • £20,500 allocated to Social Supermarket. 	NMCC RJ RMD NMCC DB PM GR	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call 1 Financial Assistance with 15 Themes closed on the 17 January 2022. Community Capital and Sports Capital Financial Assistance closes on the 28 February 2022 at 12.00 midday. • Meeting with Nicholas, Raymond and Rosemary postponed. • Stakeholders advised to encourage Groups to submit their Claims and if an underspend has been identified to advise Programmes Unit officers working with Groups. • Additional Funding has been provided to SLA Groups but current funding has to be allocated and spent before additional funding can be claimed. Groups to be encouraged to submit outstanding Claims with all relevant documents. • All money allocated to Groups. Some Groups to complete celebration events to showcase to community. • Procurement for Energy Efficiency Project ongoing. There are some issues with procurement due to new system roll out which is causing some delays with Project delivery. Hope to be able to commence Project this week. 	DB SB SB SB LMcM JC
6.	Community Plan update and Any other business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No further update • Contracts out for tender. 	AR
7.	Age Friendly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age Friendly is funded by the PHA as well as - • Health & Inequalities and • Home Safety • Affordable Warmth is funded by the Department for Communities. • At present no coordinator for Age Friendly is appointed to contact/liaise with. The coordinator of Age Friendly works in partnership with Community Groups. • 10 Year strategy with 3 Year action plan and targets set. 	JC

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 Main Goals – • Partnership - To develop Age Friendly Charter with business. • Physical Environment – Support Public Transport to assist elderly. • Environment Inclusive – Dementia friendly status. • Healthy Lives – Contribute to loneliness and provide support to those in need. • Dementia Workshops have been set up to support individuals as have Chatty Benches and Cafes. • Support also being provided by Newry, Mourne and Down District Council through Older Person Forum for Road Safety and Positive Ageing. • Further information can be provided to any Groups/individuals when requested. • Links hopefully to be ongoing, to provide support with partnership Groups. 	JC	
8.	Date and times of next meeting	JC	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday 16 February 2022 at 2.30 pm 	NMcC	
		DB	

Next Meeting: Wednesday 16 February 2022 at 2.30pm

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	21st February 2022
Subject:	Community Centre Scale of charges
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

For decision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	For noting only	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.0	Purpose and Background		
1.1	<p>To consider and agree to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain the hire charge pricing schedule that had been adopted for the 2021/22 financial year for a further year. 		
2.0	Key issues		
2.1	<p>The Community Services section carries out an annual analysis of its pricing mechanisms and presents this in the form of its scale of charges for Council consideration to take effect from the 1st April – 31st March each year.</p> <p>Community Facilities have been negatively affected by the COVID pandemic with closures for periods of the year and restrictions limiting which groups could return to facilities. Currently many user groups have not returned to Facilities due to the social distancing restrictions or the vulnerability of their group.</p> <p>To continue our quest to get Community Facilities as busy as they were pre-pandemic, we are recommending that the hire charges within facilities remain the same for another financial year.</p>		
3.0	Recommendations		
3.1	<p><i>That the Committee agree</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To maintain the hire charge pricing that had been adopted for the 2021/22 financial year for a further year. 		
4.0	Resource implications		
4.1	None.		
5.0	Equality and good relations implications		
5.1	No equality impact assessment is required at this time;		
6.0	Rural Proofing implications		
6.1	A rural Needs Impact Assessment is not required at this time		
7.0	Appendices		
	Appendix 1 – Proposed Hire Charges for 2022/2023		
8.0	Background Documents		
	None		

HIRE CHARGES - COMMUNITY FACILITIES

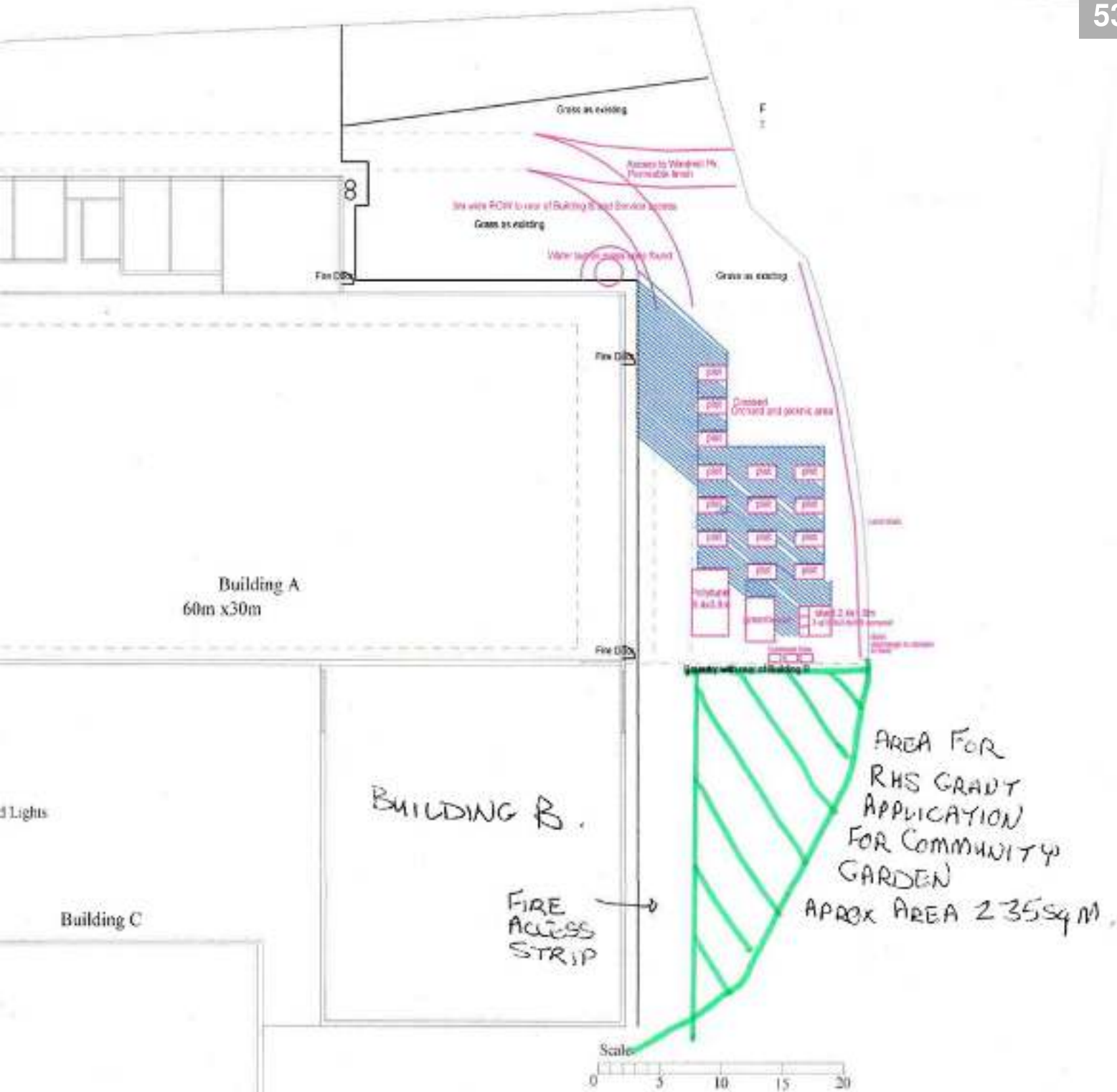
		Community Centres	
		2022 / 2023	
Type of Facility / Activity	Details		
Main Hall - per hour			
Type 1 -	Commercial	25.75	
Newry Legacy	Non Commercial	13.40	
Dan Rice Hall	Concession Rate	6.70	
Saintfield	Off Peak 1pm-4pm	5.15	
Type 2 -			
	Commercial	30.90	2-Court Hall / 1-Court = £15.45 per hour
Killyleagh	Non Commercial	15.45	2-Court Hall / 1-Court = £7.72 per hour
	Concession Rate	10.30	
	Off Peak (1pm-4pm)	7.20	2-Court Hall / 1-Court = £3.60 per hour
Type 3 -			
	Commercial	41.20	3-Court Hall / 1-Court = £13.73 per hour
Ballynahinch	Non Commercial	20.60	3-Court Hall / 1-Court = £6.86 per hour
	Concession Rate	15.45	
	Off Peak (1pm-4pm)	10.30	3-Court Hall / 1-Court = £3.45 per hour
	With Bouncy Castle		
Birthday party bouncy castle	Type 1	35.00	
2 Hours	Type 2	37.00	
	Type 3	40.00	
Without Bouncy Castle			
2 Hours	Type 1	20.00	
	Type 2	22.00	
	Type 3	25.00	
Racket Sports	Adult Session 50 mins	5.15	
Table Tennis	Concession Session 50 mins	3.60	
Meeting Room			
	Newry Sites	6.20	Reading Room in Dan Rice Hall
	Legacy Down		Cabin at the Bridge Centre
Multi-Purpose Room			
		8.25	
Training Room			
	Crossmaglen	10.30	
	Vincent Fulham, Market House		
Kitchen			
		5.15	
Showers / Changing			
	Per Person	2.10	
Hire Changing Rooms			
		20.00	Note for up to 2 changing rooms
Fitness Suite Killyleagh			
	Monthly	15.45	
	Non Member Daily	3.10	
	Senior Citizen members 12 Months	3.80	
3 G Pitch			
	Full Pitch	40.00	
	Half Pitch	30.00	
	One Third	20.00	
Bleach Green, Bessbrook			
		20.00	

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	21 February 2022
Subject:	Saintfield Community Trust developing a community garden at the rear of the Building B Saintfield Community Centre
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Janine Hillen Assistant Director: Community Engagement
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Julie McCann Head of Community Services Facilities and Events

For decision	X	For noting only	
1.0			Purpose and Background
1.1			<p><i>To consider and agree to:-</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approval for Saintfield Community Trust (SCT) to develop a community garden at the rear of Building B Saintfield Community Centre. 2. Update the SCT Facility Management Agreement to include the proposed new Community Garden (subject to confirmation of appropriate planning approvals, if required).
2.0			Key issues
2.1			<p>Saintfield Community Trust (SCT) have a Facility Management Agreement with NMDDC to manage the community centre facilities at Saintfield.</p> <p>The Trust have approached Council to develop a community garden at the rear of Building B Saintfield Community Centre. The Trust already has approval to develop the land behind the 3G Pitch building as a community Garden.</p> <p>The Trust have applied for a Grant through the RHS Garden Day Celebration 2022 to develop a community garden which could be worth up to £50,000, and an opportunity for the group to create an inclusive and welcoming green space for everyone within their community to access and enjoy. The funding also covers 3 years maintenance and an opportunity for a member of the group to obtain an RHS Level 2 qualification.</p> <p>Due to time constraints with the application the Trust have applied for the Grant with the clause, depending on Council approval for the use of land.</p> <p>The Councils Legal Department have confirmed, (subject to Council approval) that the new Garden proposal can be inserted into SCTs current FMA agreement.</p> <p>Planners have confirmed that planning approval may also be required, depending on the design, layout and plans of the new garden.</p> <p>The application to extend the current FMA will help meet Council objectives within the Corporate Plan 2021-23:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enable and support people to engage in inclusive and diverse activities in their communities • Provide accessible, high-quality and integrated services through continuous improvement

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Empowered communities influencing local services and development <p>SCT will only take responsibility subject to approval of Funding from RHS and appropriate planning.</p>
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	<p>The committee approve and agree to progress:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval for Saintfield Community Trust (SCT) to develop a community garden at the rear of Building B Saintfield Community Centre. Update the SCT Facility Management Agreement to include the proposed new Community Garden (subject to confirmation of appropriate planning approvals, if required).
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	<p>Community services officer's and Legal officers time to establish both agreement</p> <p>Revenue/Payroll: N/A</p> <p>Capital: N/A</p>
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>

<p>5.3</p>	<p>Proposal initiating consultation</p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>
<p>6.0</p>	<p>Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)</p>
<p>6.1</p>	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Due regard to rural needs has been considered</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>7.0</p>	<p>Appendices</p>
	<p>Site Plan</p>
<p>8.0</p>	<p>Background Documents</p>



Scale: 0 5 10 15 20

Preliminary Sketch Plan for Grant application
 Proposed Garden
 29, Belfast Rd, Saintfield
 for Saintfield Community Trust and Saintfield Development Assoc
 Date - Jan, 2022

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	21 February 2022
Subject:	PCSP Procurement (Home Secure Service)
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Michael Lipsett, Director Active & Healthy Communities
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Martina Flynn, Safer Communities & Good Relations Manager

Confirm how this Report should be treated by placing an x in either:-

For decision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	For noting only	<input type="checkbox"/>
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1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	<p>Purpose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To note the report. To approve the procurement for the PCSP Home Secure Scheme for 2022/23 (with an option to extend the contract for a further 12 months in 2023/24 subject to funding being available and satisfactory contract delivery) <p>Background</p> <p>At the PCSP meeting on 25 January 2022 the Partnership approved that Officers proceed with the procurement of the Home Secure Service for 2022/23 (with an option to extend the contract for a further 12 months in 2023/24 subject to funding being available and satisfactory contract delivery). The value of the contract is £35,000 per annum and all costs are funded via the PCSP Action Plan.</p>
2.0	Key issues
2.1	<p>The current PCSP / Home Secure contract will end on 31 March 2022 – a previous audit recommendation to the PCSP noted that procurement should be conducted in a timely manner to ensure that there is no break in service or delivery. This is particularly important in the context of the Home Secure Scheme which offers personal / home safety equipment to vulnerable residents and victims of crime.</p> <p>Approval to proceed with procurement is therefore required to ensure that a new provider is appointed and in place by 1 April 2022.</p>
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	<p>That the Committee:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the report. Approve procurement for the PCSP Home Secure Scheme for 2022/23 (with an option to extend the contract for a further 12 months in 2023/24 subject to funding being available and satisfactory contract delivery)
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	All actions are budgeted for in the PCSP Action Plan.
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)

5.1	<p>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
5.2	<p>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>
5.3	<p>Proposal initiating consultation</p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)
6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	Appendices
7.1	None.
8.0	Background Documents
8.1	None.

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee (AHC)
Date of Meeting:	21 st February 2022
Subject:	Leisure and Sports Scale of Charges 2022/23
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Paul Tamati, Assistant Director: Leisure and Sport
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Paul Tamati, Assistant Director: Leisure and Sport

Confirm how this Report should be treated by placing an x in either:-

	For decision	x	For noting only	
1.0	Purpose and Background			
1.1	<p>To consider and agree the proposed scale of charges for the Leisure and Sports Section for 2022/23, commencing the 1st April 2022 as per appendix 1.</p> <p>Leisure and Sport Services Section annually review its scale of charges in line with the rates estimates process to ensure a timely implementation for the beginning of the financial year in April.</p> <p>In February 2020 a price freeze for a majority of price points was agreed for the 2020/21 scale of charges and under COVID-19 this price freeze continued for the 2021/22 year.</p> <p>Over the past 6 years since the amalgamation of legacy Councils, the leisure and sports scale of charges have focused on a phased alignment of pricing across the district.</p> <p>In addition to this, as part of the annual scale of charges review, a majority of price points have also increased in line with the Councils district rate in recent years.</p>			
2.0	Key issues			
2.1	<p>The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on leisure and sports services due to full closures or restricted opening of services. A key change has been the implementation of session-based activities and online booking which has led to the streamlining of a number of price points.</p> <p>It is anticipated that the impact of COVID-19 will continue to effect leisure and customers for the 2022/23 year, and therefore a price freeze has been proposed for the 2022/23 scale of charges as per appendix 1.</p> <p>Discretionary pricing flexibility is to continue to be considered as and when required under the Scheme of Delegation to allow scope for sales promotions, official Council supported events, member service issues, site specific usage trends, etc.</p>			

	As mentioned in 1.1 above, over the past 6 years since the amalgamation of legacy Councils, the leisure and sports scale of charges have focused on a phased alignment of pricing across the district. This alignment has now been completed and as a result any historical pricing will now be superseded by the Leisure and Sport Scale of Charges.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	<p>That AHC Committee consider and agree to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approve the proposed scale of charges for Leisure and Sports Section for 2021/22 commencing the 1st April 2022 as per appendix 1.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	<p>Revenue: Due to COVID-19 it is anticipated there will continue to impact on income budgets when compared to pre-covid estimates. This has been considered in the 2022/23 estimates process and the proposed 2022/23 scale of charges.</p> <p>Capital: There are no anticipated Capital budget implications.</p>
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>
5.3	<p><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves <input type="checkbox"/></p>

	Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/> Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Rationale:</i>
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)
6.1	Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, please complete the following: Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If no, please complete the following: The policy / strategy / plan / public service is not influenced by rural needs <input type="checkbox"/>
7.0	Appendices
	Appendix 1: Leisure and Sport Scale of Charges 2022/23
8.0	Background Documents
	None

Admission Charges Appendix 1		NOTES	Indoor Leisure Charges 2021-22 (Gross Total)	Indoor Leisure Charges 2022-23 (Gross Total)
ADULT	Restrictions			
	Admission Shower	BMOE, NEWC, BOSC (for DLC, NLC and NLC charge is swim admission)	£1.20	£1.20
	Tea/Coffee surcharge for meetings	per person rate	£1.00	£1.00
Soft Play	Soft Play Junior Peak	NLC Only	£4.00	£4.00
Off Peak 9-5 Mon to Fri	Soft Play Junior Off Peak	NLC Only	£3.00	£3.00
Peak - All other times	Soft Play Toddler Peak	NLC Only	£2.00	£2.00
	Soft Play Toddler Off Peak	NLC Only	£1.50	£1.50
Equipment Hire	Deposit for 5 a side ball (Returnable)		£5.00	£5.00
	Bleachers commercial group	In addition to hall hire	£50.40	£50.40
	Bleachers non-commercial group	In addition to hall hire	£25.40	£25.40
Gym Access - Pay As You Go	Gym Pay As You Go Day Rate	includes Express Fitness Suite Induction	£5.00	£5.00
	Gym Pay As You Go Concession Day Rate	includes Express Fitness Suite Induction	£4.10	£4.10
	Gym Pay As You Go Day Rate (over 60's and less able)	BMOE and NEWC site specific only, must be on an annual over 60 membership and off-peak only	£1.00	£1.00
	School Fitness	DLC site specific	£2.30	£2.30
	Gym, Swim, Sauna, Steam - Day Rate	DLC, NLC, NLC	£7.00	£7.00
	Gym, Swim, Sauna, Steam - Concession Day Rate	DLC, NLC, NLC	£5.30	£5.30
Exercise classes - Casual Pay as You Go	Coaching Pay As You Go: 1 x class rate		£5.40	£5.40
	Coaching Pay As You Go Concession: 1 x class rate		£4.00	£4.00
	Pay As You Go Special Population Classes Over 50's		£2.00	£2.00
	Coach 2 Sk	per course	£15.00	£15.00
	Gymnastics Coaching		£5.30	£5.30
Swimming - Casual Pay as You Go	Pay As You Go Day Rate 16+		£3.20	£3.20
	Pay As You Go Concession Day Rate		£2.50	£2.50
	Pay As You Go Day Rate Under 4		£0.00	£0.00
	Pay As You Go Day Rate (with an adult on a membership)	2-15-year olds with an accompanying adult on a membership providing normal admission criteria is met	£1.50	£1.50
	Pay As You Go Day Rate Group Ticket	Up to 2 adults and 2 children normal admission rules apply	£9.00	£9.00
Health Suite & Sauna - Casual Pay as You Go	Pay As You Go Day Rate 16+	NLC, NLC, DLC	£5.00	£5.00
	Pay As You Go Concession Day Rate 16+	NLC, NLC, DLC	£4.10	£4.10
Swish - Casual Pay as You Go per 45 mins	Adult x 2 - Squash/Handball/Racquet/Badminton/Table tennis	Includes equipment hire	£7.00	£7.00
	Concession x 2 - Squash/Handball/Racquet/Badminton/Table	Includes equipment hire	£4.30	£4.30
	Indoor Bowls		£2.70	£2.70
	Indoor Bowls Concession		£1.50	£1.50
Loyalty, Vouchers/Wall use Cards	20 Session Swim		£46.00	£46.00
	20 Session Swim Concession		£26.20	£26.20
	10 session Swim/Steam/Sauna		£47.40	£47.40
	10 session Swim/Steam/Sauna Concession		£26.50	£26.50
	10 session Court Card for Handball and Racquets		£43.00	£43.00
	10 session Court Card for Handball and Racquets Concession		£22.20	£22.20
Council Elected Members and Employee Health Scheme	Gym access/Pool access	include gym and swim does not include free use to bookable activities	£0.00	£0.00
Platinum All Inclusive	DD: Platinum Adult Gym, Swim, Class		£28.95	£28.95
Multi-site access to facilities that have gym, swim, sauna, steam or class provision	DD: Platinum Concession Gym, Swim, Class		£22.70	£22.70
	3 MTH Platinum Adult Gym, Swim, Class Paid in Full	plus 10% of monthly rate	£99.00	£99.00
	3 MTH Platinum Concession Gym, Swim, Class Paid in Full	plus 10% of monthly rate	£75.00	£75.00
	6 MTH Platinum Adult Gym, Swim, Class Paid in Full	plus 10% of monthly rate	£187.70	£187.70
	6 MTH Platinum Concession Gym, Swim, Class Paid in Full	plus 10% of monthly rate	£149.50	£149.50
	12 MTH Platinum Adult Gym, Swim, Class Paid in Full	pay for 11 months, get 1 free	£328.50	£320.50
	12 MTH Platinum Concession Gym, Swim, Class Paid in Full	pay for 11 months, get 1 free	£248.70	£249.70
	DD: Platinum Soft On Gym, Swim, Class (per person)	proof of eligibility of singular residence within the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area for up to 6 individuals (min of one adult required and all aged 16 or above)	£15.00	£15.00
	6 MTH Platinum Soft On Gym, Swim, Class Paid in Full (per person)		£90.00	£90.00
	12 MTH Platinum Soft On Gym, Swim, Class Paid in Full (per person)		£180.00	£180.00
	DD: Platinum Adult Swim Only		£20.00	£20.00
	DD: Platinum Concession Swim Only		£15.45	£15.45
	3 MTH Platinum Adult Swim Only Paid in Full	plus 10% of monthly rate	£66.00	£66.00
	3 MTH Platinum Concession Swim Only Paid in Full	plus 10% of monthly rate	£51.00	£51.00
	6 MTH Platinum Adult Swim Only Paid in Full	plus 10% of monthly rate	£136.00	£136.00
	6 MTH Platinum Concession Swim Only Paid in Full	plus 10% of monthly rate	£102.00	£102.00
	12 MTH Platinum Adult Swim Only Paid in Full	pay for 11 months, get 1 free	£236.00	£226.00
	12 MTH Platinum Concession Swim Only Paid in Full	pay for 11 months, get 1 free	£170.00	£170.00
	DD: Platinum Over 60 Gym, Swim, Health Suite		£15.00	£15.00
	3 MTH Platinum Over 60 Gym, Swim Health Suite Paid in Full	plus 10% of monthly rate	£49.50	£49.50
	6 MTH Platinum Over 60 Gym, Swim Health Suite Paid in Full	plus 10% of monthly rate	£99.00	£99.00
	12 MTH Platinum Over 60 Gym, Swim Health Suite Paid in Full	pay for 11 months, get 1 free	£185.00	£185.00
	12MTH Over 60 Swim + Health Suite Paid in Full		£3.00	£3.00
	DD: Platinum Disability Scheme Gym, Swim, Health Suite		£15.00	£15.00
	3 MTH Platinum Disability Scheme Gym, Swim Health Suite Paid in	plus 10% of monthly rate	£49.50	£49.50

* Ballymore Sports and Wellbeing Centre
 * Downpatrick Leisure Centre
 * Newry Leisure Centre
 * Kilkeel Leisure Centre
 * Newcastle Centre

Admission Charges Appendix 1		NOTES	Indoor Leisure Charges 2021-22 (Gross Total)	Indoor Leisure Charges 2022-23 (Gross Total)
	6 MTH Platinum Disability Scheme Gym, Swim Health Suite Paid in Full	plus 10% of monthly rate pay for 11 months, get 1 free	£99.00 £165.00	£99.00 £165.00
	12 MTH Platinum Disability Scheme Gym, Swim Health Suite Paid in Full			
	Macmillan/ PARS Be Active Taster Sessions	4 free taster sessions in first 2 weeks of enrolment	£0.00	£0.00
	Healthy Living Classes	Must be former Health Programme Participant	£2.00	£2.00
	12 Week Health Referral Membership	Must be former Health Programme Participant (includes 5 free taster sessions, access to swim, gym, classes, 1 to 1 PARS if appropriate)	£20.00	£20.00
	12 Week Healthy Referral Membership Concession	Must be former Health Programme Participant (includes 5 free taster sessions, access to swim, gym, classes, 1 to 1 PARS if appropriate)	£10.00	£10.00
	12 Week Healthy Referral Membership Extension	Must have completed 12 Week Healthy Living Membership (Access to swim, gym, classes, 1 to 1 PARS if appropriate)	£40.00	£40.00
12 Week Healthy Referral Membership Extension Concession	Must have completed 12 Week Healthy Living Membership (Access to swim, gym, classes, 1 to 1 PARS if appropriate)	£20.00	£20.00	
Corporate Gym, Swim, Health Suite, Class	DD: Platinum Corporate Gym, Swim, Class	£22.70	£22.70	
Corporate Organisation must be on Corporate LHM	6 MTH Platinum Corporate Gym, Swim, Class Paid in Full	plus 10% of monthly rate £149.80	£149.80	
Gold	DD: Gold Gym Only		£18.00	£18.00
	DD: Gold Gym Only Concession		£16.50	£14.50
	3 MTH Gold Gym Only	plus 10% of monthly rate	£52.50	£63.00
	3 MTH Gold Gym Concession	plus 10% of monthly rate	£54.50	£56.70
	6 MTH Gold Gym Only	plus 10% of monthly rate	£105.00	£107.20
	6 MTH Gold Gym Concession	plus 10% of monthly rate	£108.00	£93.20
	12 MTH Gold Gym Only	pay for 11 months, get 1 free	£208.00	£179.80
	12 MTH Gold Gym Concession	pay for 11 months, get 1 free	£181.00	£158.65
	DD: Gold Bolt On Gym Only (per person)	proof of eligibility of singular residence within the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area for up to 8 individuals (min of one adult required and all aged 16 or over)	£10.00	£8.67
	6 MTH Gold Bolt On Gym Only Paid in Full (per person)		£60.00	£52.02
12 MTH Gold Bolt On Gym Only Paid in Full (per person)		£120.00	£104.04	
Disability Scheme	12MTH Disability Membership Adult Paid in Full		£12.00	£12.80
	12MTH Disability Membership Child Paid in Full		£8.00	£8.50
Silver	DD: Silver Adult Gym, Swim, Sauna, Steam Off Pool		£21.00	£21.00
	3 MTH Silver Adult Gym, Swim, Sauna, Steam Off Peak Paid in Full	plus 10% of monthly rate	£63.00	£55.32
	6 MTH Silver Adult Gym, Swim, Sauna, Steam Off Peak Paid in Full	plus 10% of monthly rate	£126.00	£138.60
	12 MTH Silver Adult Gym, Swim, Sauna, Steam Off Peak Paid in Full	pay for 11 months, get 1 free	£231.00	£231.00
Silver	DD: Silver Adult Gym, Swim, Health Suite, Class Off Peak		£24.75	£24.75
	3 MTH Silver Adult Gym, Swim, Health Suite, Class Off Peak Paid in Full	plus 10% of monthly rate	£74.25	£81.75
	6 MTH Silver Adult Gym, Swim, Health Suite, Class Off Peak Paid in Full	plus 10% of monthly rate	£148.50	£163.50
	12 MTH Silver Adult Gym, Swim, Health Suite, Class Off Peak Paid in Full	pay for 11 months, get 1 free	£272.50	£272.50
Swimming Pool Activities	Main Pool Non Commercial N/C, K/C, D/C	Per late price - pro-rata up/down	£10.00	£10.00
	Per hour	Per late price - pro-rata up/down	£10.00	£10.00
	Main Pool Commercial N/C, K/C, D/C		£16.00	£16.00
	Learner Pool Non Commercial N/C, K/C, D/C	50% off if shared use with public i.e. half pool	£8.00	£8.00
	Learner Pool Commercial N/C, K/C, D/C	50% off if shared use with public i.e. half pool	£8.00	£8.00
	Special Event - during core hours (plus VAT)	Staff costs may apply	£97.40	£97.40
	Special Event outside core hours (plus VAT)	Staff costs apply	£115.80	£115.80
	Insty.com/holder		£24.70	£24.70
	Attendant		£17.00	£17.00
	Schools swimming (per child)	Cost per participant per single session	£1.70	£1.70
Private Swim Lessons	Private Teacher Registration fee yearly		£226.00	£226.00
	Private Teacher Registration fee - DD		£20.00	£20.00
	Private Swimming Lessons - 30 min Pool Hire fee per person - Adult		£8.00	£8.00
	Private Swimming Lessons - 30 Min Pool Hire fee per person - Child/Concession		£4.50	£4.50
Swimming Lessons and Courses	Adult - Over 16 (per class)		£7.40	£7.40
	Junior - Under 16 (per class)		£5.50	£5.50
	Pool Lifeguard Course		£245.00	£245.00
	Pool Lifeguard Course renewal		£175.40	£175.40
	Swim Survive Save Course		£219.00	£219.00
	STA Student Teacher Award		£159.10	£159.10
	STA Disability Teacher Award		£499.10	£499.00
	STA Baby and Pre-School Award		£403.10	£403.10
	STA Award in Teaching		£391.90	£450.00

Admission Charges Appendix 1	NOTES	2022-23 10/0000 Totals	
		2021-22 10/0000 Totals	2022-23 10/0000 Totals
STA Certificate in Teaching		\$400.10	\$400.10
STA Safety Award for Teachers			\$100.00
Rookie Lifeguard (per class)		\$8.10	\$8.10
First Aid at Work			\$150.00
Emergency First Aid at Work			\$75.00
Pondokko First Aid			\$50.00
First Aid at Work Renewal			\$135.00
AED Cycle			\$30.00

Seasonal Charges Appendix 2		NOTES	Indoor Leisure Charges 2021-22 (Gross Total)	Indoor Leisure Charges 2022-23 (Gross Total)
Newcastle Rock Pool	Swim Concession		£2.00	£2.00
	Swim Adult		£2.70	£2.70
	Season Ticket Concession	unlimited use	£36.50	£36.50
	Season Ticket Adult	unlimited use	£47.90	£47.90
	10 Session Ticket Concession		£17.80	£17.80
	10 Session Ticket Adult		£24.90	£24.90
	Survive & Save Awards per class	16yrs upwards	£9.50	£9.50
	Survive & Save Awards per class	under 16yrs	£7.10	£7.10
	Rockarama		£2.40	£2.40
	Rockies per class		£5.50	£5.50
	Spectator		£1.20	£1.20
Newcastle Tropicana	Pay As You Go Day Rate 18+	90 minute sessions/ Aligned with Indoor pools	£3.20	£3.20
	Pay As You Go Concession Day Rate	90 minute sessions/ Aligned with Indoor pools	£2.50	£2.50
	Pay As You Go Day Rate Under 4	90 minute sessions/ Aligned with Indoor pools	£0.00	£0.00
	Group Ticket	Up to 2 adults and 2 children normal admission rules apply	£9.60	£9.60
	Junior lessons - Under 16 (per class)		£5.50	£5.50
	Spectator		£1.20	£1.20
Tropicarama	Pay As You Go Day Rate 18+	90 minute sessions/ Aligned with Indoor pools	£3.20	£3.20
	Pay As You Go Concession Day Rate	90 minute sessions/ Aligned with Indoor pools	£2.50	£2.50
	Pay As You Go Day Rate Under 4	90 minute sessions	£0.00	£0.00
	Group Ticket	Aligned with indoor pools	£9.60	£9.60
Newcastle Crazy Golf	Adult		£2.70	£2.70
	Concession		£2.20	£2.20
	Lost Balls		£2.30	£2.30
	Schools		£1.80	£1.80
Newcastle Go-Karts	Per 10 minute session		£1.90	£1.90
Newcastle Bowls	Adult		£4.30	£4.30
per hour	Senior		£4.30	£4.30
	Equipment hire - bowls		£2.80	£2.80
Newcastle Boating/Swans	Adult		£3.20	£3.20
	Concession		£2.40	£2.40
	Schools per person		£2.40	£2.40
Summer Multi Sports Campe	Price per person per week		£10.00	£10.00

Birthday Parties Appendix 3		NOTES	Indoor Leisure Charges 2021-22 (Gross Total)	Indoor Leisure Charges 2022-23 (Gross Total)
NC Multi-purpose Room	Birthday Party 2 hours with castle	site specific	£44.80	£45.90
	Birthday Party 2 hours without castle	site specific	£26.20	£26.20
Kilkeel Leisure Centre	Birthday Party with castle	site specific	£45.90	£45.90
	Birthday Party without castle	site specific	£26.20	£26.20
Down Leisure Centre	Birthday Party 2 hours with castle	site specific	£62.50	£45.90
	Birthday Party 2 hours without castle	site specific	£45.70	£26.20
NLC Soft Play Party	Birthday Party Sat/Sun (per child)	site specific	£4.25	£4.25
	Birthday Party Mon-Fri (per child)	site specific	£3.25	£3.25

Outdoor Leisure Charges Appendix 4		NOTES	Indoor Leisure Charges 2021-22 (Gross Total)	Charges 2022-23 (Gross Total)
Grass Pitch Only	Adult	2hr booking	£48.10	£48.10
	Junior	2hr booking	£21.80	£21.80
Changing Room (inc N.C.) (Pavilion Only)	Adult and Junior	2hr booking	£22.00	£22.00
Cricket Square	Cricket	per day	£87.50	£87.50
All Weather Pitch & Pavilion (Non Floodlight)				
per 60 mins	Adult	Langley Road and Dunleath	£21.20	£21.20
	Junior	Langley Road and Dunleath	£9.00	£9.00
All Weather Pitch & Pavilion (Floodlight)				
per 60 mins	Adult	Langley Road and Dunleath	£25.70	£25.70
	Junior	Langley Road and Dunleath	£11.40	£11.40
Synthetic Pitch 3G				
Floodlit	Half Pitch	Newcastle, Sarrifield and St Colmans B/Hinch only	£46.30	£46.30
	Full Pitch	Newcastle, Sarrifield and St Colmans B/Hinch only	£69.70	£69.70
Non Floodlit	Half Pitch	Newcastle, Sarrifield and St Colmans B/Hinch only	£23.50	£23.50
	Full Pitch	Newcastle, Sarrifield and St Colmans B/Hinch only	£46.50	£46.50
Floodlights in addition to pitch hire	Per 60 mins	Site Specific Annborough	£20.70	£20.70
St Colmans Sports Complex				
3G pitch Floodlit	Half pitch	SCSC only	£45.10	£45.10
	Full pitch	SCSC only	£90.20	£90.20
	Third of pitch	SCSC only	£35.00	£35.00
3G pitch Non-Floodlit	Half pitch	SCSC only	£37.20	£37.20
	Full pitch	SCSC only	£74.30	£74.30
	Third of pitch	SCSC only	£28.90	£28.90
St Colmans Athletic Track				
Membership per year	Adult	SCSC only	£67.60	£67.60
	Under 18	SCSC only	£39.40	£39.40
	Family	SCSC only	£135.10	£135.10
	Concessionary	SCSC only	£66.20	£66.20
Casual Usage	Adult	SCSC only	£4.50	£4.50
	Under 18	SCSC only	£3.40	£3.40
Athletic Track Hire				
Exclusive use with Floodlights		SCSC only	£61.90	£61.90
Exclusive use		SCSC only	£45.00	£45.00
Non-Exclusive use with Floodlights		SCSC only	£39.40	£39.40
Non-Exclusive Use		SCSC only	£28.10	£28.10
Changing Room Hire		SCSC only	£10.30	£10.30
Circus	Per Day		£682.20	£682.20
Furlins/ Events/ Open Spaces	Per Day		£227.40	£227.40
Car Boot Sales	Easter - June & Sept		£51.50	£51.50
	July & Aug		£56.70	£56.70
Tennis				
Club Season use	Newry	Site specific	£1,617.30	£1,617.30
	Warrenpoint	Site specific	£975.80	£975.80
	Roostevr	Site specific	£762.30	£762.30
All Outdoor Tennis Courts	Adult		£2.70	£2.70
Inc Annalong	Concession		£2.20	£2.20
Kilkeel, Newcastle	Lost Balls		£2.30	£2.30
Warrenpoint, Newry	Schools		£1.80	£1.80
	Private Coaching Fee per year		£226.60	£226.60
	Private Coaching Fee DD		£20.60	£20.60
	Private Coach Court Hire	per hour	£10.00	£10.00
Tennis (Doubles, Our Lady's Newry)	Court Hire per hour	Casual Hire (Max 4 People)	£8.50	£8.50
	Court Hire per hour Concession	Casual Hire (Max 4 People)	£4.50	£4.50
	Private Coaching Fee per year		£226.60	£226.60
	Private Coaching Fee DD		£20.60	£20.60
	Private Coach Court Hire	per hour	£10.00	£10.00

	Multi-Sport Exclusive Use of Bubble	per hour	£20.00	£20.00
Bowls	Bassbrook	Site specific	£902.60	£902.60
Club Season use	Ninwy	Site specific	£902.60	£902.60
	Warrington	Site specific	£902.60	£902.60
	Amisford	Site specific	£902.60	£902.60
	Kilham Indoor	Site specific	£902.60	£902.60
	Kilham Outdoor	Site specific	£902.60	£902.60
	Newcastle	Site specific	£902.60	£902.60
	Rink Hire	Site specific	£8.00	£8.00
Club Use Per Season	1 - 3 teams		£762.70	£762.70
	4 - 6 teams		£1,078.40	£1,078.40
	7 + teams		£1,403.40	£1,403.40
Club Use Per Season - Pavilion	1 - 3 teams		£512.20	£512.20
	4 - 6 teams		£728.70	£728.70
	7 + teams		£943.60	£943.60

Rooms/Sports Halls Hire Charges Appendix 5		NOTES	Indoor Leisure Charges 2021-22 (Gross Total)	Indoor Leisure Charges 2022-23 (Gross Total)
Meeting Room Hire Category A per hour	Adult	DLC - Studio 1/2/3	£13.30	£13.30
	Concession	NLC MP 1/2/4/TR	£6.80	£6.80
	Commercial	KLC Meeting Room/Viewing area/Committee Rm	£20.20	£20.20
Meeting Room Hire Category B per hour	Adult	Bmote - First Aid Rm	£11.10	£11.10
	Concession	DLC - Meeting Rm	£5.70	£5.70
	Commercial	NC - Meeting Rm/AV Rm/ Gallery Room	£16.80	£16.80
Meeting Room Hire Category C per hour	Adult	NC - Shirena Rm	£9.00	£9.00
	Concession		£5.00	£5.00
	Commercial		£13.50	£13.50
All Centres per court	Sports Activity Adult	per 50mins	£7.90	£7.90
	Sports Activity Concession	per 50mins	£6.30	£6.30
	Class/user group Commercial	per 50mins	£16.80	£16.80
	Class/user group Non Commercial	per 50mins	£7.90	£7.90
	Sp. Event Commercial	x 1 court per 60mins	£28.80	as per above hire charges. Additional costs may apply for additional staff and set
Sp. Event Non Commercial	x 1 court per 60mins	£19.10	as per above hire charges. Additional costs may apply for additional staff and set	
Class/User Group Non Commercial	x 1 court per 60mins	£11.10	£11.10	
Class/User Group Commercial	x 1 court per 60mins	£20.20	£20.20	
Foyer	Foyer (per day)	NC only	£16.80	£16.80
KC Reef Leisure Centre				
Playgroup	Daily	per 60mins KLC only	£17.60	£17.60
	Half Day	per 60mins KLC only	£10.50	£10.50
Ballymote	Boxing Club	Annual Hire Charge	£150.00	£150.00
Functional Fitness Space	Functional Training Room	Site Specific NLC	£33.60	£33.60

Commercial/Non-Commercial Classification

There are a range of variables and differing definitions for Commercial and Non-Commercial organisations and therefore for the purposes of the Indoor Leisure Scale of Charges, it is proposed that the following definitions and criteria will be applied in order to establish the appropriate definition of a group or organisations.

Non-Commercial Organisations - can be part of the public sector, the community and voluntary sector or the charitable sector who aim to provide products and services to the community however they will not make a profit. However, there are some groups, organisations and initiatives that could define themselves as Non-Commercial but nonetheless operate with the intentions of making a profit and therefore a criteria needs to be established to ensure adherence to the definition.

To determine any eligibility issues as a Non-Commercial organisation, if required the following documentation should be requested as proof of this:

1. Charitable Organisation Numbers.
2. Vat Registration Numbers.
3. Any membership fee information.
4. Copy of most recent AGM minutes and Committee members.
5. Copy of most recent audited accounts.
6. Any affiliations to relevant governing body.
7. Previous facilities hire information.

Groups or organisations that cannot prove their eligibility for Non-Commercial rates based on the above criteria will then be considered Commercial and the Commercial rate options will apply.

Concession Eligibility

Concession Category	Eligibility	Restrictions	Evidence Required (When appropriate)
Free of Charge Use	Children aged 0-4 years old.	Only applies to Swimming pools.	Proof of age - drivers license, passport, electoral card or birth certificate.
	Free admission to Carer of existing participant.	Normal admission policies apply.	Membership eligibility will be assessed on a regular basis and you may be asked to resubmit proof of eligibility.
		If Carer is participant in own right they should pay normal charges.	
Child/ Junior/ Over 60	Children/Juniors aged 5 – 17	Normal admission policies apply.	Proof of age - drivers license, passport, electoral card or birth certificate.
	Must be under 18 years of age.	Over 60s Concession Membership will be restricted to Residents living in the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area.	Proof of address required for Over 60s Concession Membership.
	Over 60s Concession Membership will be restricted to Residents living in the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area.		Membership eligibility will be assessed on a regular basis and you may be asked to resubmit proof of eligibility.
Full time Student	Must be a registered Full Time Student with a University, School or Further Education Institution	Only applies to concessions outlined in the schedule of charges.	Photographic Identification in the form of a Student ID/ letter from School/ Education Institution which must be for current student year along with photographic ID.
		Normal admission policies apply.	Membership eligibility will be assessed on a regular basis and you may be asked to resubmit proof of eligibility.
Disabilities Schemes	Users who may be in receipt of one of the following benefits: Universal Credit (excluding child tax credit) Jobseekers Allowance Income Support Employment and Support Allowance Housing Benefit Working Tax Credit Personal Independence Payment	Excludes the following benefits: Child Tax Credits Guardians Allowance Attendance Allowance Pension Credit Maternity Allowance War Widows Pension Disability Concession Memberships will be restricted to Residents living in the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area.	Copy of DLA Letter stating applicant is on High/ Middle Rate Mobility, High/ Middle Rate Care (DLA) or Enhanced Living Mobility Rate of PIP DfH A signed and stamped Disability/ Buddy Scheme Application Form by an approved Worker. Must be able to produce an original 'Letter of Entitlement' from the appropriate government department, and this letter must be dated within the last year of the concession membership being taken out.
	Disability Concession Memberships will be restricted to Residents living in the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area.		Proof of address required for Disability Concession Membership.
			Membership eligibility will be assessed on a regular basis and you may be asked to resubmit proof of eligibility.
Low Income/ Means Tested Benefits	Users who may be in receipt of one of the following benefits: Income Support Jobseekers Allowance Universal Credit Pension Credit Carers Allowance	Excludes the following benefits: Child Tax Credits Guardians Allowance Attendance Allowance Pension Credit Maternity Allowance War Widows Pension	Documented Evidence of Jobseeker Personal Allowance or Universal Credit UC.
			Official evidence of Income Support.
			Official evidence of Carers allowance dated within the last financial year.
			Membership eligibility will be assessed on a regular basis and you may be asked to resubmit proof of eligibility.

PITCH NAME & LOCATION	LOCATION	PITCH TYPE	TYPE OF FACILITY
Gerry Brown Park	Newry	Gaelic	Pitch & Pavilion
Drumalane Park/Artie Green Pitch	Newry	Soccer	Pitch Only
Barley Field	Newry	Soccer	Pitch Only
Jennings Park 1	Newry	Soccer	Pitch & Pavilion (NLC)
Jennings Park 2	Newry	Soccer	Pitch & Pavilion (NLC)
Derrybeg Park	Newry	Soccer	Pitch Only
Norman Brown Park	Newry	Soccer	Pitch Only
Cambane League Mini Pitches	Newry	Soccer	Pitches Only
Glen Hill/Lisdrumliska	Newry	Soccer	Pitch Only
Killeavey	Newry	Soccer	Pitch Only
Derryleckagh W Davis Street	Derryleckagh	Soccer	Pitch & Pavilion
Derryleckagh P Barry Park	Derryleckagh	Gaelic	Pitch & Pavilion
Derryleckagh Olympic Park	Derryleckagh	Soccer	Pitch & Pavilion
Meigh Pitch	Meigh	Soccer	Pitch Only
Jim Steen Park	Newtownhamilton	Soccer	Pitch Only
St Michaels	Newtownhamilton	Gaelic	Pitch Only
Orior Park	Bessbrook	Soccer	Pitch Only
Cloughreagh Park	Bessbrook	Soccer	Pitch Only
Nan sands	Saval	Soccer	Pitch Only
Millburn Park	Warrenpoint	Soccer	Pitch Only
Milltown Park	Warrenpoint	Gaelic	Pitch & Pavilion
Kilbroney Park	Warrenpoint	Soccer	Pitch Only
Kilbroney Park	Warrenpoint	Gaelic	Mini Pitch Only
Clonallon Park	Warrenpoint	Soccer	Pitch Only
Carginagh Road Pitches 1 & 2	Kilkeel	Soccer	Pitch & Pavilion
Mourne Esplanade Pitch	Kilkeel	Soccer	Pitch & Pavilion
Dunleath Park	Downpatrick	Soccer	Pitch & Pavilion
Ardglass Playing Fields	Ardglass	Soccer	Pitch & Pavilion
Killough Playing Fields	Killough	Soccer	Pitch & Pavilion
Ballykinlar Playing Fields	Ballykinlar	Soccer & Gaelic	Pitch & Pavilion
Strangford Playing Fields	Strangford	Soccer	Pitch & Pavilion
Rosconnor Playing Fields	Annacloy	Soccer & Gaelic	Pitch & Pavilion
Donard Park Playing Fields	Newcastle	Soccer & Synthetic	Pitch & Pavilion
Castlewellan Playing Fields	Castlewellan	Soccer & Gaelic	Pitch & Pavilion
Dundrum Playing Fields	Dundrum	Soccer	Pitch & Pavilion
Annsborough Playing Fields	Annsborough	Soccer & Gaelic	Pitch & Pavilion
Langley Road Playing Fields	Ballynahinch	Soccer & All weather	Pitch & Pavilion
Saintfield Playing Fields	Saintfield	Synthetic	Pitch & Pavilion
Kilmore Playing Fields	Crossgar	Soccer	Pitch & Pavilion
Drumaness Playing Fields	Drumaness	Soccer & Cricket	Pitch & Pavilion
Killyleagh Playing Fields	Killyleagh	Soccer	Pitch & Pavilion

Report to:	Active & Healthy Communities
Date of Meeting:	21 February 2022
Subject:	Community Asset Transfer (CAT) – Mount Crescent, Downpatrick
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Michael Lipsett, Director of Active and Healthy Communities
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Michael Lipsett, Director of Active and Healthy Communities

For decision	x	For noting only
1.0		Purpose and Background
1.1		<p>An email was received from Parent Action CIC seeking Council support for a community Asset Transfer of 9-11 Mount Crescent, Downpatrick to their Group for a Wellness Centre.</p> <p>Parent Action Wellness Centre will provide:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fully accessible, specialist early education and childcare facilities for babies and children with special educational needs and disabilities, and after school clubs and summer schemes for school aged children with special educational needs and disabilities, up to 19 years old. • fully accessible, specialist early education and childcare facilities for babies and children with special educational needs and disabilities, and after school clubs and summer schemes for school aged children with special educational needs and disabilities, up to 19 years old • office and meeting spaces for hire by local public authority teams and community and voluntary organisations who share Parent Actions values, to generate income for our social enterprise. • co working spaces and conference and training facilities to run Parent Actions commissioned training services, Community Action Training Services, as well as training and conference facilities for hire for external training delivery partners, whose programmes benefit our beneficiary groups in Parent Action, and the beneficiary groups of our partner organisations. • Office accommodation for Parent Action and their partners and volunteer teams <p>The Asset owner, the Department of Finance, has requested further information on this project, by the last week in February 2022. Part of the information requested, is a letter of confirmation of support, from Newry Mourne and Down Council.</p>
1.2		<p>The development of a policy framework by DSD (Appendix 2) to support Community Asset Transfer in Northern Ireland fulfils a number of Government commitments.</p> <p>Community Asset Transfer is a change in management and / or ownership of land or buildings, from public bodies to communities,</p> <p><i>'Community Asset Transfer should be recognised as a flexible tool with a broad range of applications, depending on the imagination and ambition of those involved. It represents a means of investing in regeneration and positive social, economic and environmental outcomes which can be used to support Executive priorities.'</i></p>

	<p>Benefits to the Community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It can improve neighbourhood-based service provision, increasing accessibility for local people, which is particularly important in rural areas; ➤ It can bring a sense of community identity and pride and the potential for increased community cohesion; ➤ It can lead to additional jobs, training and business opportunities; ➤ It can contribute to physical regeneration; and ➤ It can bring increased confidence, skills and aspirations locally.
2.0	Key issues
2.1	<p>Council have been asked to act as a Sponsoring Body throughout any subsequent process with Parent Action CIC, DTNI and Department of Finance. Full guidance on Councils role (subject to approval) has been provided in Appendix 3.</p> <p>In summary;</p> <p><i>'The sponsor body role is to confirm existence of compulsory purchase powers for the intended purpose to allow the transfer to take place, as required under the Stormont Regulation and Government Property Act (NI) 1933.</i></p> <p><i>Acting as sponsor body, when not the asset owner, confers no future liability for the asset or the services run from it, nor responsibility for issues such as clawback.</i></p> <p><i>There may be instances where it is desirable for the sponsor to play an enhanced role, but this would be subject to agreement between the asset owner and sponsor'.</i></p>
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To consider acting as a Sponsoring Body for the potential development of a Wellness Centre at 9-11 Mount Crescent, Downpatrick.
4.0	Resource implications
	Officer Time
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>

	<p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>
5.3	<p>Proposal initiating consultation</p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)
6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If no, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy / strategy / plan / public service is not influenced by rural needs <input type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	Appendices
	<p>Appendix 1: Map – Mount Crescent, Downpatrick</p> <p>Appendix 2: CAT Policy Framework</p> <p>Appendix 3: CAT Guidance for Asset Owners</p>
8.0	Background Documents
	None

APPENDIX 1 – MAP AND STREET VIEW – 9-11 MOUNT CRESCENT, DOWNPATRICK



APPENDIX 1 – MAP AND STREET VIEW – 9-11 MOUNT CRESCENT, DOWNPATRICK





Community Asset Transfer in Northern Ireland

Enabling and Supporting Community Ownership and Management of Public Assets



Urban Regeneration and Community Development Group
Department for Social Development

May 2014

MINISTERIAL FOREWORD

The development of a new policy framework to support Community Asset Transfer in Northern Ireland fulfils a number of Government commitments. It supports the Executive's commitment in the Programme for Government (2011-2015) to "invest in social enterprise growth to increase sustainability in the broad community sector". This work also supports the Concordat between the Voluntary and Community Sector and the Government which contains a commitment to investigate the potential for community asset management and ownership in Northern Ireland.

The framework will also contribute to delivery of other Executive priorities including the Economic Strategy and the Delivering Social Change programme. The need for economic development and new social policy initiatives are clearly linked and Community Asset Transfer will provide regeneration opportunities, new service delivery potential and local job creation.

Following extensive public consultation and discussions with key stakeholders across the public sector, I am now pleased to bring forward firm proposals for implementation of this policy framework. It presents an exciting agenda for change and real opportunities for people to make positive changes within their communities. Community Asset Transfer can be a real catalyst to stimulate regeneration and greater community cohesion across Northern Ireland. This policy framework sets out how Government can support community ownership and management of public sector assets and empower local communities.

The document includes some case studies, both local and from other parts of the UK, which demonstrate that successful asset transfer can bring real social, environmental and economic benefits to communities. It can also lead to wider regeneration and bring associated benefits in health, education and community well-being.

My Department will continue to work closely with Development Trusts NI and other stakeholders to test and implement this policy framework. A number of demonstration projects have been identified for this purpose and I look forward to hearing of their progress.



Nelson McCausland MLA

Minister for Social Development

Community Asset Transfer in Northern Ireland - Enabling and supporting Community Ownership and Management of Public Assets

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1. Introduction

Community Asset Transfer is a change in management and / or ownership of land or buildings, from public bodies to communities. "Community" ownership and management of public assets encompasses a range of third sector organisations e.g. voluntary and community sector groups, faith-based organisations, community enterprises and social enterprises. Throughout this document the term 'third sector organisation' is used in this broad sense.

Community Asset Transfer should be understood as a spectrum which ranges from management agreements and leases of varying duration through to full ownership. Not all third sector organisations will aspire to full ownership of assets although for many this will be the preferred option. Shorter leases, including 'meanwhile' leases can be useful for managing risk and building capacity and may be a stepping stone to longer term arrangements.

Community Asset Transfer should be recognised as a flexible tool with a broad range of applications, depending on the imagination and ambition of those involved. It represents a means of investing in regeneration and positive social, economic and environmental outcomes which can be used to support Executive priorities. This policy framework will facilitate community ownership or management of surplus public sector assets as a mainstream option as part of the normal disposal process. It will not always be the preferred option and disposal at full market value will still apply in many cases.

A number of public sector organisations in Northern Ireland already have some experience of transferring assets to community partners. Up until now however there has been no coherent policy context to support the process and inform decision making. This policy framework will address this gap and will create a more enabling environment for Community Asset Transfer in Northern Ireland.

In introducing this policy framework it is recognised that transfers will work best where there are positive working relationships between the asset holder and the organisation to which it is transferred. The transfer has to be beneficial to both parties and carried out in a spirit of partnership. We have the advantage of being able to learn from how asset transfer has worked and is working in other regions of the UK. We also need to take account of the different arrangements in Northern Ireland, but the underlying principles remain valid. It is helpful to look at case studies and

so we have included a number of these at Annex C. The case studies highlight many of the issues that arise during the asset transfer process.

It is important to note that a decision by a public body to dispose of an asset at less than market value carries an opportunity cost, that is, while there will be benefits of a non-monetary nature delivered by the transfer, there will be a corresponding gap in public finances that will not be available for investment in other public services. That will be an important consideration in any transfer and for that reason the associated business case will be assessed with the same rigour as for a capital grant.

It should also be emphasised that, in many cases, disposal at full market value will continue to be the preferred option for asset owners. The policy framework will, however, ensure that Community Asset Transfer is a mainstream option as part of the disposal process.

2. The Benefits of Community Asset Transfer

There is evidence to show that, in the right circumstances, community ownership and control of assets produces a range of benefits. Community Asset Transfer can bring benefits to both parties involved in the transfer and should also bring benefit to the wider community which an asset can be used to serve. Research shows that the benefits include:

Benefits to the Community

- It can improve neighbourhood-based service provision, increasing accessibility for local people, which is particularly important in rural areas;
- It can bring a sense of community identity and pride and the potential for increased community cohesion;
- It can lead to additional jobs, training and business opportunities;
- It can contribute to physical regeneration; and
- It can bring increased confidence, skills and aspirations locally.

Benefits to the public sector

- It can lead to more efficient use of public sector assets – community organisations often make extensive use of volunteers and their local knowledge and hands-on management of the asset can result in lower overheads and better value-for-money, as well as a more intensive use of the asset;
- It can enable community organisations to support public service provision in ways that are more responsive and better related to local need; and
- It can enable effective partnerships between the public sector and the third sector to enhance local services.

Benefits to the Third Sector

- It can lead to increased sustainability for organisations and improved leverage with external agencies - an asset can provide a community organisation with greater financial viability and reduce its dependency on grants;

- It can enable a community organisation to apply for external funding that is not available to a public authority, or even to secure loan finance on the value of the asset; and
- It can facilitate collaboration and resource sharing amongst organisations.

3. Strategic context – opportunities to support Community Asset Transfer

Community Asset Transfer is one of a number of tools that aim to support the Third Sector and assist organisations move towards sustainability. This section explains the wider context within which this policy framework is set.

UK Policy Context

Community Asset Transfer is well supported by policy, legislation and funding elsewhere in the UK. The idea is central to the Scottish Government's Community Empowerment agenda and to the Coalition Government's Localism Agenda and the concept of the 'Big Society'. It is also being actively promoted by the Welsh Assembly Government as a means of enhancing community capacity and supporting social enterprise.

In developing this policy framework for Northern Ireland we have taken account of policy and practice elsewhere and the increasing body of research and guidance available to support Community Asset Transfer (see [Annex B](#)). The opportunity has been taken to build on and learn from experience of others and to draw on case study examples and the skills and professional networks which have been built up.

NI Policy Context

The Community Asset Transfer policy framework is complementary to a range of other current Executive priorities to promote economic growth and tackle poverty. The Economic Strategy and the Delivering Social Change Programme are intended to stimulate economic growth and tackle underlying causes of poverty and social disadvantage across Northern Ireland.

Community Asset Transfer will provide regeneration opportunities and enable Third Sector organisations to increase service delivery potential and provide new employment within local communities. This links with the Department for Social Development's wider objective to 'support social economy growth' within the wider voluntary and community sector and with the recently established Social Economy Incubation Hubs.

The Urban Regeneration and Community Development Framework sets out the strategic direction for this work over the coming years and following transfer of powers to the new district Councils. It provides an enabling framework which will encourage:

- A more targeted anti-poverty approach by better addressing the underlying causes of spatial deprivation and exclusion;
- A stronger emphasis on the outcomes to be achieved from urban regeneration and community development initiatives and how these can change neighbourhoods; and
- Maximising the limited resources available to develop more sustainable forms of urban regeneration and community renewal.

Public Sector Asset Management in Northern Ireland

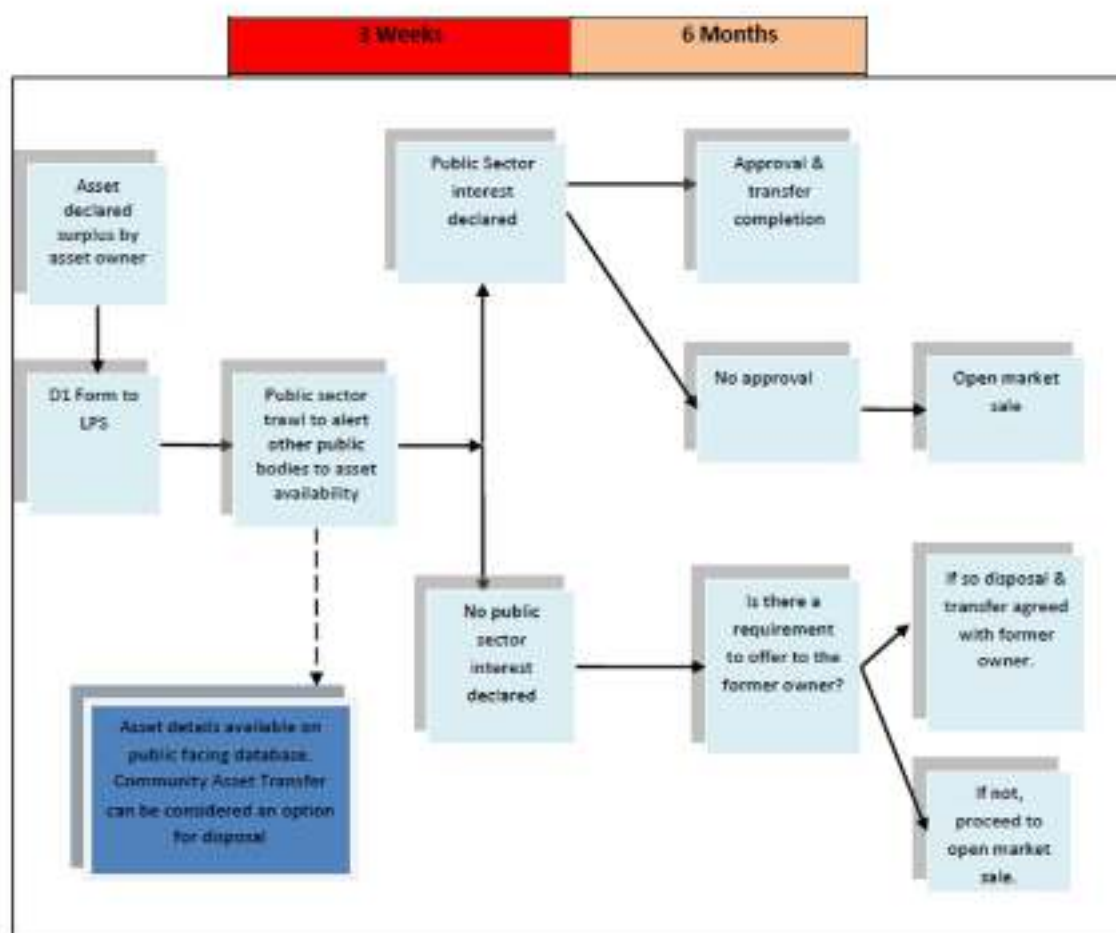
The Executive has established a small Asset Management Unit (AMU) who are working with every department and until June 2013 reported progress to the Budget Review Group. In January 2011, the Executive tasked the AMU with developing and delivering:

- a region-wide Asset Management Strategy;
- departmental Asset Management Plans updated annually; and
- ePIMS as a central asset database.

In addition the AMU was tasked with helping departments to deliver a programme of asset disposals. All of the tasks set by the Executive are being delivered and in June 2013, the Executive approved the region-wide Asset Management Strategy. The AMU is now working with departments to deliver the recommendations of the Strategy.

We have been working closely with the AMU both in the development of the Asset Management Strategy and in the implementation of recommendations to ensure that policy on Community Asset Transfer is reflected appropriately. One of the key objectives for the AMU is to identify savings opportunities from the running cost of assets and as a by product deliver additional capital income for the Executive by identifying and disposing of assets that are deemed to be surplus. An overview of the disposal process is illustrated below including indicative timescales for the process and the point at which Community Asset Transfer can be considered as an option for disposal. It should be noted that consideration of Community Asset Transfer as an option at the public sector trawl stage does not imply a preference for disposal and all cases will be assessed by the asset owner in accordance with disposal procedures. It is in the context of the disposal process outlined that

Community Asset Transfer will need to be considered. As part of its role, the AMU is creating a central asset database. The information held on this database will help to facilitate the implementation of Community Asset Transfer by enabling access to information on surplus public assets. In addition to the work of the AMU on behalf of the Executive, there is a keen focus on asset management within local government in advance of the implementation of local government reform and the creation of new councils in 2015.



Social Enterprise Agenda

The Northern Ireland Economic Strategy acknowledges the contribution that social enterprise can make to achieving business growth, supporting economic development and tackling disadvantage. The Strategy contains a commitment to support 160 new social economy start-ups and invest in social enterprise growth.

Social Enterprise NI is a newly established consortium of social enterprises and social entrepreneurs which aims to provide a "central meeting place where the sector can collaborate, share knowledge, information and best practice to create real social change". The consortium is funded by DETI and is engaged in a three year work programme which will complement the aims of Community Asset Transfer.

The emerging importance of the social enterprise agenda has been highlighted by recent research conducted on behalf of DETI and DSD. The research mapped the third sector in Northern Ireland and considered its capacity to become more enterprise driven. Both Departments will be taking forward recommendations from the report, some of which will directly support the out-working of this policy framework.

Work of other Third Sector partners

DSD has engaged Development Trusts Northern Ireland (DTNI) as a delivery partner to support the implementation of Community Asset Transfer. DTNI will build capacity and expertise within the third sector to enable community organisations to take advantage of future opportunities.

The Building Change Trust has a strategic objective to build, strengthen and utilise community capacity and assets. It has been working with DSD and other public sector bodies to support investment readiness and skills development within the third sector.

4. Creating an enabling environment for Community Asset Transfer

Introduction

This policy framework aims to create an enabling environment for Community Asset Transfer in two main ways. Firstly, it will establish some conditions or 'ground rules' to govern individual transfers and help both parties to a transfer to understand the circumstances in which the transfer of an asset may be appropriate. The ground rules are laid out in Section 5. Secondly it will seek to address the barriers which exist in terms of regulation and guidance, finance, skills and awareness, through a series of pragmatic actions. These are laid out in sections 7-10.

Any proposed asset transfer must support the priorities of the Executive and aim to create the widest public value. The list below is indicative of the kind of outcomes that should be achieved by successful asset transfer:

- Delivering community benefits;
- Supporting development of social enterprise;
- Contributing to social, environmental or economic regeneration;
- Improving, safeguarding, creating local services/amenities;
- Supporting the sustainability of a community organisation; and
- Improving social cohesion.

This list of potential outputs highlights again the principles of partnership and mutual benefit which are at the core of this policy framework which aims to create an enabling environment in which willing partners can come to an agreement which delivers the best outcome for all involved. Asset transfer will not be the right option for all third sector organisations and experience from elsewhere warns that it should not be an end in itself, neither should it divert organisations from their core activities.

Asset holders in collaboration with the Asset Management Unit will be required to take a view as to which assets are suitable for Community Asset Transfer. Not all publicly held assets will be available for consideration.

The goal is to make the best use of the public estate and work in partnership to secure the widest public value from our publicly owned assets. In creating a more enabling environment for Community Asset Transfer this policy framework will provide a means of investing in regeneration and positive social, economic and environmental outcomes which can be used to support Executive priorities.

The conditions are set out in the following section, grouped under a number of headings to explain the underlying rationale.

5. Conditions (Ground Rules)

Sustainability

Third sector organisations must develop a business plan which demonstrates the viability of the proposed use of an asset. The business plan must take account of all the costs associated with developing and managing the asset (including repairs, refurbishment, running costs etc).

Third sector organisations will need to demonstrate the capacity to develop and manage the asset appropriately. In considering this a public sector organisation can take account of the commitment demonstrated by a community organisation, the resources and support available and the potential to improve capacity.

The spectrum of transfer options can vary widely, including a freehold, long lease, shorter lease or a licence to occupy.

Legal arrangements (contracts, leases etc) will ensure that community organisations are enabled to manage and develop the property as an asset in the long term, while providing necessary safeguards, proportionate to the risk. Safeguards may include imposing certain restrictions on the use of an asset.

For transfers where grants or loans are required to develop the asset, the length of tenure will need to be long enough to secure external investment. In these cases community asset transfer would be expected to mean a long lease, of at least 50 years, or a freehold.

Accountability

Third sector organisations will need to be incorporated, constituted for social benefit and to demonstrate an 'asset lock' provision to ensure that the asset is retained for community benefit.

Third sector organisations will be expected to maximise opportunities for community cohesion.

Third sector organisations will need to demonstrate community support for their proposals and a commitment to accountability, open access and maximising the use of an asset by and for the community.

Decision making

Assets will include both land and property.

Asset transfer may be used as a strategic method of achieving wider regeneration objectives or community ownership of new services or hubs. Transferred assets will often, although not necessarily, have been declared surplus to requirements.

Assets may be transferred at less than market value or 'best consideration'. The level of discount against market value will be set on a case by case basis, and must be commensurate with the level of anticipated non-monetary benefits, which will be judged on the basis of the nature of the property, an assessment of the third sector organisation's business plan and the extent of the public value associated with a transfer.

The decision to transfer an asset will not be considered as setting a precedent. Each asset transfer will be judged on its own merits and the detail of the transfer arrangements will be arrived at through individual negotiation.

Where there is competition for assets third sector organisations will be encouraged to collaborate. Where this is not possible an open and transparent competitive process will be used.

The decision to transfer an asset will in all cases be supported by an economic appraisal.

The decision to transfer an asset will take account of any potential EU State Aid issues.

6. Current Barriers to implementation of Community Asset Transfer

A cross-departmental Steering Group on Community Asset Transfer identified a number of barriers which will need to be addressed to enable the practice to be used more extensively and more creatively. The Steering Group was supported in its analysis by research evidence and by early engagement with key stakeholders through a number of policy development workshops. Barriers exist both within and between the public sector and the third sector and are described below. A series of practical measures to address these barriers is set out in Sections 7-10 (pages 16-21).

Information and awareness

- There is currently a lack of awareness (both within the public sector and the third sector) of the potential beneficial outcomes associated with Community Asset Transfer and of how it can be applied;
- There is a poor understanding within the public and third sectors of the risks associated with Community Asset Transfer and how to manage them;
- There is currently inadequate public facing information available about the availability of surplus public sector assets and whether or how they can be acquired;
- There is often uncertainty within public sector organisations about the discretion they have to transfer assets into community ownership or management;
- There is not enough access to information and case studies where asset transfer has been implemented; and
- There is no one centre of expertise that can provide advice and support to organisations interested in asset transfer.

Regulation and guidance

- Individual government departments may be constrained by legislation when considering the purpose for which they can transfer an asset via a capital grant;
- There is uncertainty about how to construct leases which balance tenants' rights against the need to manage risk in the transfer process; and

- Local government currently has no delegated authority to allow for the disposal of assets at less than market value.

Skills

- Public sector organisations often lack the skills to assess the benefits associated with the proposed use of an asset, or to judge the feasibility of a proposed use;
- Many third sector organisations are not “investment ready” and may lack the skills and capacity to successfully manage and develop assets.

Funding

- There is a lack of financial support available to invest in early pre-feasibility work to explore potential use of assets, build business cases etc;
- Assets may need additional investment to make them “fit for purpose” and to repair, refurbish or convert them for an alternative use.

The following sections present a series of actions organised under the headings of information/awareness, public sector asset management; skills development and funding. The collective impact of these proposals should be to:

- Raise the profile and understanding of Community Asset Transfer as a tool for investment and regeneration;
- ‘Mainstream’ Community Asset Transfer as an option for public sector asset management and address current operational barriers;
- Create and maintain the necessary skills within public sector and third sector organisations to support implementation of Community Asset Transfer and the long term sustainable management and development of assets; and
- Provide investment to support the implementation of Community Asset Transfer.

7. Information/awareness

Actions	Impact
<p>Development Trusts Northern Ireland (DTNI) will run a programme of information and awareness raising to target audiences from the public sector, third sector and political representatives.</p>	<p><i>The aim of these actions is to raise the profile and understanding of Community Asset Transfer as a tool for investment and regeneration.</i></p>
<p>We will develop and disseminate guidance and toolkits for the third sector.</p>	<p>Implementation</p>
<p>We will promote existing guidance and signpost to relevant UK resources.</p>	<p>These proposals will be supported by the Strategic Investment Board's Asset Management Unit and endorsed by the Department of Finance and Personnel.</p>
<p>We will ensure effective communication of any substantive changes to the guidance governing Community Asset Transfer within the public sector.</p>	<p>DSD is currently resourcing the Development Trusts NI to effectively fulfil its role in supporting these proposals.</p>
<p>DTNI will develop and make available information on case studies, both of local examples and from elsewhere in the UK.</p>	

8. Public Sector Asset Management

Actions	Impact
<p>Consideration of Community Asset Transfer will be embedded into strategic asset management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community Asset Transfer will become integrated into all Departments' practice, as one of the options for dealing with under-utilised or surplus property assets; - Departments will regularly review the transfer potential of its assets; and - We will ensure that there is agreement within government on appropriate accounting arrangements for assets that are disposed of at less than 'best value'. <p>Current operational barriers to Community Asset Transfer will be addressed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We will create a single point of contact for information on surplus public sector assets; - We will ensure timely access for the public to relevant information on available surplus assets; and - We will explore ways in which access can be given in a user-friendly way to key information on a public sector asset database, to include local government assets. <p>Where necessary we will amend guidance to better facilitate the transfer of assets and clarify the mechanisms available to support Community Asset Transfer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Changes will focus on the Land and Property 	<p><i>The aim of these actions is to 'mainstream' Community Asset Transfer as an option for public sector asset management and address current operational barriers.</i></p> <p>Implementation These actions will be supported by the Department of Finance and Personnel, the Strategic Investment Board's Asset Management Unit and the Department of the Environment.</p>

<p>Service Central Advice Unit Disposal Guidelines and Managing Public Money NI guidance.</p> <p>We will explore what legislative changes are necessary, if any, to facilitate Community Asset Transfer and make recommendations.</p> <p>We will make appropriate arrangements to allow greater local government discretion in the disposal of assets at less than market value.</p> <p>We will support research into evaluating non-monetary costs and benefits with strategic partners.</p> <p>Through the Northern Ireland Guide to Expenditure Appraisal and Evaluation and civil service training courses, we will promote good practice guidelines on quantifying non-monetary costs and benefits and valuing non market impacts.</p> <p>We will work with others to improve our understanding of impact measurement and develop more robust methodologies to support decision making, monitoring and evaluation.</p>	
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9. Skills Development

Actions	Impact
<p>We will develop skills and expertise to support both public sector and third sector organisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We will maximise learning from the wider UK and EU experience while ensuring that guidance is tailored to Northern Ireland circumstances; and - We will address public sector skills gaps. <p>We will support a Community Asset Transfer demonstration programme to increase understanding of skills requirements and gaps within the public sector and third sector.</p> <p>We will ensure effective partnerships and 'synergies' with other complementary initiatives e.g. Social Enterprise NI, Building Change Trust - Investment Readiness and 'Inspiring Impact', the NICVA-led consortium on skills development, Belfast Buildings Trust etc, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - recognising overlap with existing initiatives; and - avoiding duplication and maximising collaboration. <p>We will work with others to establish an independent centre of expertise on Community Asset Transfer to act as advisor, broker and repository of best practice, evaluation, monitoring etc, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ensuring a distinct offering; and - working in partnership with others (as above). 	<p>Impact</p> <p><i>The aim of these actions is to create and maintain the necessary skills within public sector and third sector organisations to support implementation of Community Asset Transfer and the long term sustainable management and development of assets.</i></p> <p>Implementation</p> <p>These actions will be supported by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment.</p> <p>DSD is currently resourcing the Development Trusts NI to effectively fulfil its role and will work with other third sector partners.</p>

10. Funding

Actions	Impact
<p>The transfer of assets into community ownership and management is recognised as a means of investing in regeneration and positive social, economic and environmental change which can be used to support Executive priorities.</p> <p>Development Trusts Northern Ireland (DTNI) will lead a Community Asset Transfer demonstration programme involving assets from a range of public sector organisations.</p> <p>We will work with others to develop more social finance instruments and promote existing and emerging opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the transfer of an asset can be used to e.g. encourage innovation, lever additional finance and reduce grant dependence; - There is a particular need for grants to support pre-feasibility studies and business planning; - There is scope for initiatives such as Community Shares to complement the aims of Community Asset Transfer. <p>We will work with others to establish a funding stream to support pre-feasibility work on potential asset transfer projects.</p> <p>We will seek opportunities from within existing grant programmes to support Community Asset Transfer e.g.</p>	<p><i>The aim of these actions is to provide investment to support the implementation of Community Asset Transfer.</i></p> <p>Implementation These actions will be supported by Department for Social Development and Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment and a range of government funders.</p>

<p>Social Investment Fund, Neighbourhood Renewal, Rural Development Fund.</p> <p>We will explore opportunities from within European Union funds to support Community Asset Transfer (under the social investment umbrella).</p> <p>We will evaluate the DTNI demonstration programme and consider the lessons learned in terms of the range of resources needed to support Community Asset Transfer.</p>	
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11. Community Right to Bid/Right to Buy

Community Rights form part of the policy context for Asset Transfer in Scotland and England. The Right to Buy was first introduced in Scotland for rural areas in 2004 and the Scottish Government is proposing to expand the power through the Community Empowerment Bill to cover urban areas.

Community Right to Buy in Scotland

The Community Right to Buy allows communities with a population of less than 10,000 in Scotland to apply to register an interest in land and the opportunity to buy that land when it comes up for sale.

To take advantage of the Community Right to Buy process, communities must submit an application form to register an interest. All applications to register an interest in land are recorded in the [Register of Community Interests in Land \(RCIL\)](#) held by the Registers of Scotland. PDF versions of the documentation held are available for public viewing through the RCIL.

After an application has been submitted and passed initial checks, it is forwarded to the landowner and if applicable any heritable creditor, for their comments. At this stage a temporary Prohibition is placed on the landowner/heritable creditor preventing them from transferring or marketing the land. Any comments submitted by the landowner/heritable creditor will be fully considered by Ministers when making their decision to approve or reject the application.

The "Right to Buy" can only be activated when the landowner has indicated that the registered land is to be sold or where the provisions of the Act have been breached.

Once a community body which holds a registered interest in the land for sale, confirms that it wishes to proceed with its "Right to Buy", it has six months to conclude the transfer of land or longer if agreed with the landowner.

In England the Localism Act introduced a range of community rights in 2012 including the right to bid (for assets), the right to build and the right to challenge (to deliver services).

The Community Right to Bid in England

The Community Right to Bid allows communities and parish councils to nominate buildings or land for listing by the local authority as an asset of community value. An asset can be listed if its principal use furthers (or has recently furthered) their community's social well-being or social interests (which include cultural, sporting or recreational interests) and is likely to do so in the future. When a listed asset comes to be sold, a moratorium on the sale (of up to six months) may be invoked, providing local community groups with a better chance to raise finance, develop a business and to make a bid to buy the asset on the open market.

Further information can be found at <http://mycommunityrights.org.uk/>

The recent Joseph Rowntree Foundation report on Community Asset Transfer in Northern Ireland recommended the introduction of equivalent community right to bid or buy legislation in Northern Ireland.

There is a shortage of case study evidence from England and Scotland on the practical outworking of these rights; they have only recently been introduced in England and have not been extensively applied in Scotland either.

The Department is content that community rights has been identified as a further important enabling element for Community Asset Transfer. This forms part of a wider agenda that we will continue to explore more fully in the context of the Reform of Local Government in Northern Ireland and the implications of community planning.

12. Impact Assessments

Human Rights

The Department believes that the proposals are compatible with the Human Rights Act 1998.

Equality

Under the terms of section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998, the Department carried out screening for equality impact and is satisfied that the proposals will not lead to discriminatory or negative differential impact on any of the section 75 groups. A copy of the screening form can be viewed on the Department's website:

www.dsdni.gov.uk/index/consultations

13. Next Steps

In taking forward the implementation of the Framework, the Department for Social Development will:

- Within 3 months develop an implementation plan that will describe how and when the actions outlined above will be taken forward; and
- Work with the Department's delivery partner, Development Trusts NI (DTNI) to manage a programme of demonstration projects. The purpose of the programme will be to test this policy framework to determine if it is doing what it was designed to do.

Annex A: Development Trusts Northern Ireland (DTNI)



Development Trusts NI (DTNI) was established in 2010 and is a Northern Ireland registered Charity¹.

DTNI is grant funded by the Department for Social Development (DSD) to provide expertise and experience to achieve the establishment of new development trusts in Northern Ireland, to promote awareness of asset transfer, and to identify and nominate from within its membership a selection of organisations whose work and interest in community development, urban regeneration and asset acquisition will form part of a demonstration asset transfer programme.

These demonstration initiatives will draw extensive support from DTNI. DTNI's aim in this work is to "encourage, support and empower local communities to develop new and inspiring projects, thus enabling them to become independent and sustainable".

DTNI will actively work with the Department for Social Development during this consultation period. As an advocate for the Voluntary and Community Sector, DTNI will ensure that those issues of importance to the sector are highlighted.

DTNI Contact details

3rd Floor, Cathedral Quarter Managed Workspace
109-113 Royal Avenue
Belfast BT1 1FF

Mobile: 07595 979642

Email: info@dtni.org.uk

DTNI is a member-led organisation with a board of directors drawn from its membership and from the private sector. They are specialists in community asset ownership, enterprise, collaboration, social action, local regeneration, commissioning, community voice and advocacy.

DTNI is part of a wider movement which includes Development Trusts Association Scotland, Development Trusts Association Wales and Locality in England. Together there is now a UK wide network with over 850 members. Members of Development Trusts NI automatically receive membership of the UK-wide Association.

¹ Charity Number XT27682.

Annex B: References

Making Assets Work – The Quirk Review

Published in 2007 the five key recommendations from this report by Barry Quirk, CEO, Lewisham Council was the catalyst for the reform of government policy to reflect community ownership and enable the possibility of transfer of government owned land and property to the community sector

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20120919132719/www.communities.gov.uk/publications/communities/makingassetswork>

Opening the transfer window. The Governments Response to the Quirk Review

The Government accepted the five key recommendations of the Quirk Review and in this paper set out the building blocks to set Community Asset Transfer in motion.

<http://libraries.communityknowledgehub.org.uk/resource/opening-transfer-window>

Managing risks in asset transfer – Communities and Local Government

Drawing from experience this useful paper provides [English] local authorities and community-based organisations manage and minimise the possible risks to be encountered in the transfer of land and property assets from the public to the community sector.

<http://www.dtascommunityownership.org.uk/sites/default/files/managing-risks-in-asset-transfer.pdf>

Community Empowerment Action Plan (Scotland)

Announced in March 2009 this action plan provides clarity on what community empowerment is, why it is important and how communities can get involved. The action plan provides a range of best practice examples from across Scotland.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/People/engage/empowerment>

DTA Scotland – Promoting Asset Transfer Final Report Nov 2011.

Published by the Development Trusts (Scotland) in 2011 this report supported the need for sustained programmes of support and funding at national and local levels.

<http://www.dtascommunityownership.org.uk/sites/default/files/PAT%20Final%20Report%20Dec%202011.pdf>

Scottish Government's Community Empowerment Bill

On 6th June 2012 the Scottish Government launched a 12 week exploratory consultation on a range of ideas for the proposed Community Empowerment and Renewal Bill. Proposals included the extension of a community right to buy to urban Scotland and giving local authorities greater powers to deal with empty homes and buildings. Consultation on a draft Bill is planned for Summer 2013.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/People/engage>

Final Evaluation of the Asset Transfer Unit May 2011

An independent evaluation of the performance of the Asset Transfer Unit over its first two years in operation. The evaluation conducted by SQW and initiated by Locality found that the profile and reach of the Unit was impressive and that although it is too early to properly assess the impact of the Unit in asset owner capacity to promote asset transfer, where the Unit has been involved capacity has increased. Departments and Agencies considered that a core dedicated Unit such as the Asset Transfer Unit is required to continue the momentum of improvement in asset management and promotion of transfers

<http://www.sqw.co.uk/files/1013/8712/6248/16.pdf>

Joseph Rowntree Foundation: Community assets: emerging learning, challenges and questions – Julian Dobson, 2011

This paper explores the opportunities, challenges and questions arising for community organisations, funders, policy-makers and government based on learning from recent events on community assets and research papers and briefing documents published in 2010 and 2011.

<http://www.irf.org.uk/publications/community-assets-learning-challenges-questions>

Joseph Rowntree Foundation: Community organisations controlling assets: a better understanding – Mike Aiken et al, 2011

This study examines the benefits that come from community organisations owning or managing assets, what makes for success and what are the challenges. It also provides key messages for practitioners and policy-makers in taking forward the community assets agenda.

<http://www.jrf.org.uk/publications/community-organisations-controlling-assets>

Joseph Rowntree Foundation: Community asset transfer in Northern Ireland

This report demonstrates asset transfer has had positive effects on community relations, segregation and social inclusion. Innovation in the statutory sector has had a significant impact on area-based regeneration, public health, community development, education and training and childcare provision. The report also proposes the need to consider new legislation similar to the Right to Challenge and Right to Buy elsewhere in the UK and that new forms of finance, skills and support for practitioners are needed.

<http://www.jrf.org.uk/publications/community-asset-transfer-northern-ireland>

Building Change Trust Observatory – Development Trusts.

This paper provides an overview development trusts, it explores their contributions as community enterprises to combating poverty, and considers the transfer of public assets to communities as a way of establishing and growing development trusts. It describes the innovative 'meanwhile use' of

temporarily vacated commercial spaces as a complementary strategy to development trusts' long term approach. It also highlights the work of the recently formed Development Trusts NI, and the Building Change Trust.

<http://www.dtni.org.uk/sites/default/files/uploads/publications/CFNIObsPBDevelopmentTrusts92011.pdf>

Building relationships in communities BRIC - Queens University

BRIC is a four year programme designed to encourage greater levels of social integration within Northern Ireland's housing sector. It is run with assistance from the EU's PEACE III Programme. The project is delivered by the Rural Development Council, the Northern Ireland Housing Executive and the training consultancy TIDES. The idea is to help Housing Executive staff promote sharing within the currently highly segregated social housing market. The project focuses on peace and reconciliation and helps promote the idea of a shared society.

www.nihe.gov.uk/index/community/community_cohesion/bric.htm

Social Finance in Northern Ireland: Innovative Thinking and Action

This study aims to produce a blueprint report that will guide the development of new social finance products in Northern Ireland. To develop the blueprint the study will review social finance supply and demand in Northern Ireland; explore new developments in the UK, Ireland, elsewhere in Europe and the US; identify gaps in the market, explore potential funding and delivery mechanisms and provide an estimate of future demand.

<http://www.charitybank.org/sites/default/files/pdf/Social%20Finance%20in%20Northern%20Ireland.pdf>

Social Economy Evaluation assignment July 2011. (KPMG Report to DETI)

KPMG was commissioned by a DETI-led Steering Group to undertake an evaluation of the Social Economy in Northern Ireland (NI). The study was charged to examine the role of the Social Economy sector and its unique value in terms of the economic, social and environmental impact in the NI context; evaluate the Social Economy Enterprise Strategy 2010/11 with an explicit focus on future direction and priorities and evaluate the Social Economy Network's performance.

www.detini.gov.uk/social_economy_evaluation_report_final.pdf

Focus on Social Economy Enterprise

This is a simple but very useful factsheet produced by the Rural Network NI in 2009. In simple terms it explains the Social Economy Enterprise business model. It was used as simple reference tool at a time when DETI were inviting views on the Social Economy Enterprise Strategy 2009-2011.

<http://www.ruralnetworkni.org.uk/download/files/Social%20Enterprise.pdf>

Programme for Government 2011-2015 (NI)

On 12th March 2012, the First Minister and deputy First Minister published the Programme for Government 2011-2015. The Programme for Government identifies the actions the Executive will take to deliver its number one priority – “a vibrant economy which can transform our society while dealing with the deprivation and poverty which has affected some of our communities for generations.” The Executive is committed to formulate community asset transfer policy across government; publish a list of existing government assets and identify potential for asset transfers. It commits to disseminate policy and outline best practice for Departments and to baseline research of VCS/SE continuum and to identify opportunities for growth of social economy model within the Voluntary and Community Sector.

<http://www.northernireland.gov.uk/index/work-of-the-executive/pfg.htm>

Concordat between the Voluntary and Community Sector and the Government

The Concordat is an agreement between Government and the Voluntary and Community Sector which outlines key values and principles and establishes a set of shared commitments on how Government and the Voluntary and Community Sector can work together to better serve the people of NI. The Concordat establishes new and refreshed structures of engagement between Government and the Voluntary and Community Sector to help shape the effective use of resources, including the development of good professional practice and the provision of appropriate accountability.

<http://www.dsdni.gov.uk/consultation-concordat-for-relationships-between-govt-vc-sector.pdf>

Managing Public Money NI

Produced by DFP this manual provides guidance on the proper handling and reporting of public money. It sets out the main principles for dealing with resources used by public sector organisations in Northern Ireland (NI).

<http://www.dfpni.gov.uk/index/finance/afmd/afmd-key-guidance/afmd-mpmni.htm>

Disposal of Surplus Public Sector Property In Northern Ireland

This guidance is published by the Land and Property Service Central Advisory Unit (DFP). It provides property disposal guidelines for public bodies and best practice for public sector bodies.

www.deni.gov.uk/disposal_of_public_sector_property.pdf

FUNDING

Big Lottery - Asset transfer and capital programmes

<http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/research/communities-and-places/community-assets>

Charity Bank

<http://www.charitybank.org/>

Community Development Finance Institution<http://www.cdfa.org.uk/>**Community Shares**<http://www.communityshares.org.uk/>**Government Funding Database**<http://govfundingpublic.nics.gov.uk/Home.aspx>**New Philanthropy Capital**<http://www.thinknpc.org/>**LEGISLATION AND ASSOCIATED GUIDANCE****Stormont Regulation and Government Property Act (NI) 1933**<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/apni/1933/6/contents>**The Local Government Act 1972 (NI)**<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/apni/1972/9/contents>**Disposal of Surplus Public Sector Property In Northern Ireland**www.deni.gov.uk/disposal_of_public_sector_property.pdf**The Local Government Act 1972: General Disposal Consent (England) 2003 (Wales) 2003**<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1972/70>**Circular 06/03: Local Government Act 1972 general disposal consent (England) 2003**https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/7690/462483.pdf**NAFWC 41/2003 : Local Government Act 1972 general disposal consent (Wales) 2003**<http://wales.gov.uk/pubs/circulars/2003/english/NAFWC41-03-e.pdf;jsessionid=53AD9975E3FDFBCC707D5C8C4993D47C?lang=en>**Disposal of land by local authorities (Scotland) regulations 2010**<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2010/160/contents/made>**Disposal of Land by Local Authorities (Scotland) Regulations General Guidance**<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/319642/0102183.pdf>**The Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003**<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2003/2/contents>**Scottish Public Finance Manual**<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Government/Finance/spfm/Intro>**The Localism Act 2011**<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted>

Localism Agenda and the concept of the 'Big Society'

<http://www.localism-agenda.com/background/>

USEFUL LINKS**Asset Transfer Unit (England)**

<http://locality.org.uk/asset-transfer-unit/>

Building Change Trust

<http://www.buildingchangetrust.org/>

Development Trust association Scotland

<http://www.dtascot.org.uk/>

Development Trust NI

<http://www.dtni.org.uk/>

Land and Property Service

<http://www.dfpni.gov.uk/lps/index.htm>

Locality

<http://locality.org.uk/>

Investment Readiness in the UK

www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/er_invest_ready.pdf

The Place Station

<http://www.theplacestation.org.uk/>

Social Enterprise Northern Ireland SENI

<http://www.socialenterpriseni.org/>

Social Enterprise UK

<http://www.socialenterprise.org.uk/about/about-social-enterprise>

Annex C: Case Studies

Asset Transfer; A Continuum of Possibilities.

The debate around community asset transfer in Northern Ireland (NI) at the moment is very much premised around an understanding that equates transfer with ownership. While that is true in many instances in Northern Ireland and across Britain it is only part of the picture. All community and voluntary organisations utilise assets to deliver their services, these may be rented on an as needed basis, by way of an annual or longer term rental agreement with a third party that may be a private, public or another third sector asset owner. Equally those assets might be mortgaged or owned outright.

In Northern Ireland Asset Transfer (or Community Asset Transfer as it is commonly referred to) is the process by which a community or voluntary organisation might acquire a surplus public sector asset be that land or building(s). That asset will be sought with the express intention of furthering the organisations social and business aims and objectives, its continued development and the delivery of its services for its community.

Asset Transfer is better understood if seen as a continuum of possibilities as opposed to the wholesale transfer of a physical asset from one body to another. At one level it may be where an organisation moves from being a tenant in a local council run community centre to one where it adopts the management function of that asset. Such an arrangement may be on an annual or other short term lease or it may be longer, perhaps 5 or 10 or even up to 25 years. Lease arrangement might be accompanied by conditions and covenants on how and for what purpose the asset can be used.

As we move along that continuum of possibilities we progress through options considering whether the asset may be co-owned, utilised for a meanwhile use or transferred in full by way of sale under market conditions or at a nil or nominal cost. Where the surplus asset is disposed of under market conditions there are likely to be fewer or no restrictions on its future use, though listed buildings; those with a heritage or preservation value, are subject to strict planning and development controls. Other assets, such as those providing residential care or sports facilities for example may remain covenanted for the provision of health and social care for the elderly or leisure and recreation respectively.

Outside of the debate on the transfer of surplus public sector assets an organisation may also develop its asset base on terms of its own making, undertaking new capital build projects or entering the market and purchasing assets in open competition with others.

Across the community and voluntary sector in NI there are many examples of asset transfer and asset ownership. Some groups have been supported by way of one of grants and other philanthropic investments which have been wisely invested in capital projects (buildings and land). Having a capital asset base has in turn assisted those organisations sustain and grow their activities. DTNI believe that community and voluntary organisations should seek to acquire and develop an asset base. We consider that the NI Executive' enabling framework on 'Community Asset Transfer' will help define the means by which a new 'asset class' of community development and enterprise organisations will emerge and grow.

Here we present a number of short case studies which look at different forms of ownership; from facilities management to outright ownership, a continuum of possibilities.

OUTRIGHT OWNERSHIP: Limavady Community Development Initiative

Limavady Community Development Initiative (LCDI) serves the community of the Borough of Limavady in NI. Founded in 1987 the focus for the organisation was on job creation. A quarter of a century old, the Charity is still going strong and now employs some 60 people and is one of the largest community groups in NI; it continues to grow and work towards sustainable service delivery and is increasingly less dependent on grant funding.

The Asset: Roe Valley Hospital

One of the major factors in the growth of LCDI has been its acquisition of Roe Valley Hospital in 1997 (one of the best examples of a Union Workhouse on the island of Ireland). The availability of the asset came about in part because the building was in need of redevelopment to which the Department of Health was not committed to support.



The opportunity for LCDI to acquire the Roe Valley Hospital came about at a time when it had outgrown its original premises. It was also in possession of European funding that would support them make a new capital purchase. The process of engaging with the asset owner (The Department for Health) began in 1997 though wasn't completed (actual purchase and move) until 1999. The complex was then subsequently regenerated with a mix of capital development grants and loans and developed as a major multifunctional community based facility. The majority of the space in the complex is rented and the income is a major contributor to the organization's sustainability.

General Manager Damien Corr said:

The move was for LCDI an audacious one, we were ambitious, passionate and rash enough to believe in ourselves that we could own and manage this asset and make a major contribution to the community and borough of Limavady. That belief in ourselves was paramount to our ultimate success. It took commitment and effort to convince public sector officials to take us seriously but as to the bona fides of our business proposal. The success of our proposal was in part being able to convince the statutory health authority that what we would bring to ownership would better serve the community in the longer term. And to be fair, once we had convinced them on the merits of our proposal which meant emphasising the social impact and longer term social return their support became invaluable.

The department in turn became central to what we wanted to achieve; they showed a degree of innovation not normally associated with the public sector. The extent of that willingness was revealed when they accepted our bid for purchase which was some £50,000 less than the highest bidder.

LCDI clearly understood what the benefit of owning the asset would mean: A sustainable income, an opportunity to grow as an organisation. So successful was their business plan that the building has been paid for with only residual debt on outstanding loans remaining. The building currently generates approximately £250,000 per annum from the key anchor tenants. Some of those anchor tenants are the health and social care providers that previously occupied the building when owned by its parent body the Department of Health.

There were no conditions on sale other than those associated with those attached to the loan agreements entered into to purchase and refurbish the hospital. LCDI were not expected to continue to use the site to provide health and social care. In fact they made the case and campaigned for the retention of social care services within the facility post refurbishment to which the then local health care trust agreed to. That agreement and subsequent tenant lease agreement to remain on site for 15 years was core to LCDI acquiring matching loans from banks and other social investors.

To facilitate the new arrangement and to acquire the asset LCDI established Roe Valley Community Property Limited. It is the owner of the asset and LCDI is its sole shareholder and all profits gift aided back to LCDI.

Key Learning Points:

- Engage early and positively with the public body that is seeking to dispose of the asset.
- Recognise that the public body has its own mission and objectives and bear these in mind when pursuing your own goals and look for joint wins and co-solutions to problems that may emerge.
- Don't get giddy about what you might own; rather ask why we shouldn't take the asset and think through and generate solutions.
- Do your homework; understand what you need to do and who you need to engage with. For example lottery turned down an initial request for money from LCDI – so they engaged with lottery personnel to design a solution.
- Don't expect that it will happen overnight – passion is necessary but not enough, you need lots of people on your side.
- Make the case for community ownership - don't expect it to be handed to you on a plate. Negotiate, Negotiate, Negotiate.

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT: Roden Street Community Development Group

The Asset: Grosvenor Community Recreation Centre

The Roden Street Community Development Group began life as the Roden Street Action Team, initially based in a Save the Children facility in Roden Street adjacent to the interface. The original group began life as a result of a group of local, concerned residents. The area at that time was facing acute difficulties centered around housing, environmental problems, anti social issues and interface tensions.

Roden Street CDG are now based in the Grosvenor Community Recreation Centre on the Grosvenor Road, Belfast and they have a 10 year lease on the building which up for renewal in 2015. They provide a broad range of services for a diverse range of users including Belfast's Filipino community. They provide a broad range of services in respect of social development including parental support, childcare, physical activity programmes and other initiatives connected to health and social care, healthy living and well being.

Roden Street CDG have a Facility Management Agreement with Belfast City Council (BCC) for a full size 3G pitch at Grosvenor Recreation Centre (GRC). The site was previously an old hard porous surface in poor condition with limited local usage, which has been transformed into a dramatic and well used 3G facility for use by the local community and others. BCC contributed £100,000 to the project and the Big Lottery New Opportunities Fund for PE & Sport provided additional funding of



Roden Street CDG Grosvenor 3G Pitch

£634,614. That application for investment was fronted by Roden Street CDG and St Josephs Primary School and was targeted at modernising existing sports facilities for school and community use with specific criteria that identified local schools who would be eligible for free use during term time.

Conditions of Use

The contract comes with a number of conditions and covenants on use. Key

amongst these is free use of the Facility during term time Monday to Friday between 9.30am and 4.00pm to 3 local schools that are specifically named in the contract:

- St Joseph's Primary School
- St Peter's Primary School
- St Clare's Primary School

In addition to the free use stipulation, Roden Street CDG are also committed to:

- Facilitating access by members of the public, sporting clubs, groups and schools to use the facility subject to the payment of user charges;

- Ensuring that a full and varied sports development programme is carried out at the facilities and prepare and implement a sports development programme that is subject to approval by the Council;
- Forwarding a proposed timetable of usage on a monthly basis and an end of month timetable of usage; and
- Forwarding any reports as required relating to usage, such as teams, bookings, variations, maintenance or any other matters the Council may require a report on.

Alongside the 3G pitch Grosvenor were provided with a plot of land that is now managed and used by them and is presently functioning as a community garden. There are no conditions on use of the plot other than it cannot be sold.

Finance & Development

A management fee of £44,400 per annum is paid to Roden Street CDG in two 6 monthly payments which is sourced from the income generated by the new synthetic pitch. This fee was further subsidised by the Big Lottery Fund 2009/11 to the tune of £30,000. The average annual income generated on the site is in the region of £70,000. Though financially this appears to benefit the Council more so than Roden Street CDG, there are other non-monetary returns. For example the council are responsible for site maintenance and upkeep of the facility. There is an alternative model exercised by the council in respect of its facilities where all the income generated is retained by the group managing the facility. Shaftsbury Recreation is managed² under a similar model but with greater opportunity for income generation comes additional responsibility, such as maintenance and upkeep.

The contract term on the 3G facility runs for five years having started in 2009 and is due for renewal in 2014 with an option for extension to up to 20 years management agreement in increments of 5 year periods.

Roden Street CDG had also sought funding for additional development of the Facilities; in particular for transforming Grosvenor Recreation Centre building into a multi-use sports hall. Investments secured and approved for that purpose were undertaken at risk by the group. So though Roden Street RDC have been successful and generated additional income to enhance the facility the premises remain the property of the council. The contract between BCC and Roden Street CDG is not a tenancy arrangement or intended to be. Enhancements brought about by the Roden Street CDG do not change its relationship as facilities manager or create conditions for tenancy.

Centre Manager Tina Black considers that the arrangement they have negotiated with BCC works for their group. Though there are additional opportunities to undertake a social enterprise model of management and perhaps extend their management experience by undertaking to manage other facilities they feel that they don't have the requisite skills capacity (financial modelling, insurance, systems etc) to go beyond what they are currently managing. The newly developed Dunville Park with its 3G pitch was an option and proposed by BCC but not taken up by Grosvenor due to management and staff challenges particularly as the location was off site. For Tina Black (centre Manager) part of the problem is the challenge of scaling-up; *'who supports an organisation to embrace these opportunities. This is compounded by an indifference to asset ownership in the community and voluntary sector; In the north of Ireland we don't have a developed culture of ownership'*.

² by Lower Ormeau Residents Action Group

"We would need to know more of how other organisations work in leisure to consider a broader move into enterprise development, and though we are not ruling out further development any such move would need to be thoroughly investigated, staff skilled up and investment secured. For now the model we have, a public/social partnership works for both parties. We have developed our relationship with the council to best utilise the asset to meet the needs of our local community and in that respect we have sacrificed the opportunity to go out to a wider private market and maximise financial return. Though the demand is there - approximately 48 groups/teams are on the waiting list - we have struck a balance in favour of local demand and need. We have worked to facilitate the local community lead on a sports development programme which is what is important rather than seeing the asset as a potential cash cow. And though generally our relationship with the council is at 'arms length', they are accessible and responsive to our organisation's needs when we need them'.

Key Learning Points:

- Do your research.
- Have a varied management committee - including business owners, a solicitor for example.
- Have appropriate governance for the organization.
- Be realistic about the cost (Roden Street CDG consider that their own financial projections could have been better), don't undersell the cost of managing a building especially if you are negotiating a running costs agreement.
- Make sure your management committee are open minded - there is a need for innovative thinking and creative minds, for example it's not 9 to 5 Monday to Friday.
- Make sure staff have a sense of ownership of the asset - not merely a manager.
- Make sure the job roles and skills sets are relevant - not simply community development worker, but facilities management.
- Negotiate with stakeholders, strategically plan as to what this means for the organisation, don't just focus on the operational details which are necessary to make it work for the council, it needs to work for the local community.

Community Spaces Northampton



Locality member Community Spaces Northampton (CSN) is a new community charity managing seven community centres in Northampton.

It aims to offer a better community centre service to local people. This case study describes the bidding process and the challenges involved in a multiple asset transfer.

In 2011 Northampton Borough Council (NBC) offered eight community centres for community asset transfer and expressions of interest received from 16 organisations – including six organisations bidding for all eight centres.

Organisations expressing an interest were given ten weeks to prepare a business plan with financial projections.

The assessment of the seven business plans received resulted in the selection of two bidders, one bidder to take over one centre, and a partnership – Community Spaces Northampton – to take over the remaining seven. CSN was an informal partnership led by the Alliston Garden Youth & Community Centre (AGYCC).

The development work to establish CSN formally was supported by Locality and Northamptonshire Social Enterprise Development Agency and included:

- formation of CSN as a charitable company
- legal support in lease and management agreement negotiations
- visit to Fresh Horizons to see at first hand a community business managing community centres
- HR support including TUPE
- condition surveys of all buildings
- business planning and accountancy support in setting up finance systems

Work continued after transfer to recruit and train trustees and a co-ordinator, raise finance for capital improvements, establish CSN's profile and undertake an organisational restructure.

Regular meetings with NBC officers were critical to the transfer process – to track progress, identify sticking points and find solutions.

TUPE was a significant issue with two caretaking staff spending more than 50% of their time working at the seven centres and therefore transferring to CSN. To reduce the liability for CSN, the Council

offered an indemnity and drafted an agreement enabling the caretakers to remain in the Council's pension scheme.

Glendale Gateway Trust



Glendale Gateway Trust was set up in 1996 following a village appraisal. Based in the market town of Wooler, it covers the beautiful but sparsely populated area of Glendale in North Northumberland.

The first project undertaken by the Trust was development of a resource centre, the Cheviot Centre, to provide meeting, exhibition and office space and to house the tourist information centre. The land was provided by community asset transfer on a long lease from Berwick Borough Council. The Trust raised funding for a new building which was opened in 2001.

The Trust aims to meet the needs of local people and its priorities are:

- economic development
- affordable housing
- social and recreational opportunities.

The Trust aims to ensure that there is a strong community and voluntary sector in Glendale. A wide range of community organisations use and are based in the Cheviot Centre. The Youth Drop-In Centre on the High Street has been an essential element of provision for young people in the area for more than ten years.

The Trust used its initial asset base, the Cheviot Centre and the youth drop-in building, to take forward its objectives around economic development and affordable housing. Key industry areas for North Northumberland are tourism and farming – both struggle to recruit local workers if there is a lack of affordable housing. At the same time, run-down and empty shops are a disincentive to tourism.

Focusing on these objectives, the Trust's achievements include:

- buying properties on the High Street – two have been converted to modern shops for rent to local businesses with affordable rented flats above – one property has been converted to a three bedroom house

- purchase of land behind the High Street which had not been previously developed due to problems with road access. Because the Trust owned the properties in the High Street and could allow access, the land was sold to a housing association and 15 affordable homes built
- purchase of the youth hostel in Wooler from the Youth Hostel Association in order to secure its future. The youth hostel has a crucial economic impact in the town as visitors spend money with a range of local businesses.

Overall the Trust has sought to maximise its economic impact in the Glendale area by using local traders in its building development projects. A Local Multiplier 3 calculation showed that the £43k spent to renovate the three bedroom house on the High Street was worth £129k to the local economy in Glendale.

The latest venture for the Trust is an asset transfer linked to moving the library service. The library in Wooler is now housed in the Cheviot Centre freeing up the library building for community asset transfer to the Trust to be turned into two affordable housing units.

Community Asset Transfer Process in respect of Transfer of Central Government Surplus Assets

1.0 Background

The [NI Executive's Community Asset Transfer \(CAT\) policy](#) was developed to support the commitment in the Programme for Government (2011-2015) to "invest in social enterprise growth to increase sustainability in the broad community sector".

The policy provides a framework to facilitate community ownership of surplus public sector assets as an option as part of the normal disposal process. It recognises that CAT will not always be the preferred option, that disposal at full market value/open market process will often be the preferred option for asset owners but that within the disposal process CAT may be an option to be considered if such an interest from the Third Sector is expressed.

Voluntary and Community Division (VCD) in DFC have lead responsibility for the implementation of the policy and can offer advice to asset owners in receipt of a CAT interest. VCD have appointed Development Trusts NI (DTNI) as their Third Sector delivery partner to support those Third Sector Organisations (TSO) interested in CAT.

In order to avail of CAT opportunities the TSO must secure a public sector sponsor body who has the necessary compulsory purchase powers to enable the TSO to access the public trawl. The exact role of a sponsor body can vary. The possibilities are laid out in detail at **Annex A** alongside other stakeholder roles. It should be noted the asset owner can sponsor the proposal if they have the necessary compulsory purchase powers.

2.0 Process

There are three main stages to the CAT process comprising the following:

Stage 1a	Trawl
Stage 1b	Expression of Interest Questionnaire
Stage 1c	Questionnaire Review
Stage 2a	Business Plan
Stage 2b	Business Case Preparation
Stage 3	Approval, Transfer and Post Transfer Monitoring

Stage 1a – Trawl

Land and Property Service's (LPS) Central Advisory Unit (CAU) circulate copy LPS Internal Trawl (D1) Notices to appropriate parties including DTNI.

DTNI must respond to LPS CAU within 15 working days to confirm whether there is interest **in principle** for CAT.

Stage 1b – Expressions of Interest

Following Stage 1a of the normal trawl process, any interest registered from DTNI will trigger LPS CAU to issue a bespoke CAT questionnaire. TSO with support from DTNI (if availed of) has a period of 40 working days to respond to LPS CAU. As highlighted within the CAT Policy, where there is competition for assets third sector organisations will be encouraged to collaborate.

Stage 1c – Questionnaire Review

Following receipt of questionnaires, LPS CAU will circulate to the asset owner, sponsor body (in principle or confirmed) and DfC VCD. The asset owner should review the questionnaires, with input from DfC VCD and any potential sponsor body.

This determination on the potential CAT to proceed to the preparation of a business plan should be made and confirmed to LPS CAU within 20 working days. Whenever a decision is made not to continue with a CAT, the disposing body is required to provide the decision in writing setting out the rationale for the decided route. This will be clearly communicated to the proposed acquiring body, DTNI, DfC and CAU.

Should competing interests emerge at EoI stage reflecting both statutory and third sector interests, the Asset owner will review the EoI's in the context of all the Department's requirements and with input from relevant stakeholders to provide advice on which to base a decision. In such cases asset owners should also refer to the LPS CAU Disposal Guidance. Within the context of CAT, any negative decisions should be communicated to stakeholders, with communication again should it subsequently proceed to a market sale.

The operation of the Stage 1c assessment will require that all stakeholders i.e. asset owner, sponsor body (if different) and TSO, are signed up to proceed to the Stage 2 assessment, otherwise the asset owner is free to pursue alternative disposal routes.

In proceeding to Stage 2, two main scenarios will arise out of the Stage 1c Questionnaire Review:

Scenario 1 – The asset owner is also the sponsor and is responsible for assessing and endorsing the suitability of the TSO proposal.

Scenario 2 – The asset owner is not the sponsor and will agree the level of support it requires from the sponsor to facilitate the TSO proposal before moving to Stage 2.

Stage 2a – Business Plan

Should agreement be reached to proceed to Business Planning stage access to independent expertise to assist with the Business Plan will be made available.

It is important that the asset owner, third sector organisation, sponsor, and DfC work constructively together with the independent resource support to communicate, share information and pursue a transfer in good faith. The relevant stakeholders should be encouraged to engage to discuss the preferred route to transferring the asset so that the Business Plan is drafted appropriately.

The following options are available at Stage 2 and the chosen route to CAT will determine the author and format of any subsequent Business Case and the title to transfer or lease. Please note that where full market value is being received the asset owner must only complete a business case if it is a requirement of their business as per usual disposal procedure:

Option 1 - Asset owner is sponsor and is willing and able to sell at less than market value direct to the TSO, subject to business plan and business case.

Business Plan	TSO
Business Case	Asset Owner

Option 2 - Asset owner is not sponsor but has obtained sponsor body commitment and is able to sell at less than market value direct to the TSO, subject to business plan and business case. This requires the identification of an alternative sponsor body which should have been confirmed in principle at Stage 1.

Business Plan	TSO
Business Case	Asset owner with input from Sponsor Body in terms of review, policy input, strategic context, alongside confirmation of sponsor role.

Option 3 - Asset owner is sponsor and is not willing or able to sell at less than market value. Disposal to community organisation at market value.

Business Plan	TSO
Business Case	Asset Owner – requirement varies between asset owners depending on delegated authority's etc. basic format only <u>if required</u> , including record justifying decision to sponsor but excluding the less than market value requirement.

Option 4 - Asset owner is not sponsor and is not willing or able to sell at less than market value. Disposal to community organisation at market value.

Business Plan	TSO
Business Case	Asset Owner - requirement varies between asset owners depending on delegated authority's etc. basic format only if required. Sponsor to provide policy input/strategic context if required alongside confirmation of sponsor role.

Option 5 - Asset owner is not sponsor and is not willing or able to sell directly at less than market value - NBV (or reduced value) Transfer to Confirmed Sponsor with sponsor body commitment for subsequent CAT at less than market value.

Business Plan	TSO
Business Case	Asset Owner, with input from Sponsor – requirement varies between asset owners depending on delegated authority's etc. basic format

only if required. Revert to Option 1 i.e. sponsor becomes Asset Owner and takes on full responsibility for any transfer.

A timescale of 4 months for completion of Business Plan is suggested. The inclusion of key milestones and an agreed time bound process should bring a clearly defined structure to the process for Third sector organisations and asset owners.

Stage 2b – Business Case

Subject to the completion of a Business Plan at Stage 2a, Business Case to be completed by asset owner with input from the sponsor body within a 2 month period. However asset owners should be able to commence their Business Case preparations in parallel with the Business Plan rather than sequentially.

For Options 1 & 2 above, the asset owner's business case will need to address the justification for a disposal at less than market value. This may require Department of Finance (DoF) and Ministerial approval.

For Options 3, 4 & 5 the asset owner's business case does not need to address the issue of disposal at less than market value and does not require Ministerial/DoF approval, however the sponsor body will require to address this in Option 5 to cover their subsequent transfers to community organisations.

The principle of proportionality should apply in terms of the magnitude of the Business Case against the level of value of the asset

Stage 3 – Approval, Transfer and Post-Transfer Monitoring

This element of the process is highlighted to acknowledge that once a final Business Case is agreed and prepared to support progress of the CAT transfer at Stage 2b, each asset owner will have a different approval requirement ranging from senior management board, department board and Ministerial approval depending on the nature of the CAT proposal and their governing legislation. However, it is important to ensure that relevant parties to the approval process are consulted throughout Stage 2 and feedback is reflected in the development of the Business Plan and Business Case in order to avoid delays in addressing issues at the final submission stage.

Following approval, the asset owner and TSO should refer to their respective legal support for completion of the appropriate contracts and incorporate any agreed conditions, clawback and monitoring arrangements.

Annex A

Stakeholder Objectives and Roles & Responsibilities

Stakeholder	Objectives	Roles & Responsibilities
Disposing Bodies	<p>The main objective is to process surplus asset disposals to:</p> <p>(i) use the trawl process to identify reuse potential outside it's department which meets Programme for Government (PfG) objectives</p> <p>(ii) generate a capital receipt to reinvest in capital works</p> <p>(iii) generate a capital receipt to meet a budgetary target.</p> <p>(iv) dispose of surplus assets in a timely manner to reduce current liabilities.</p>	<p>Responsible for the release of assets for disposal which are surplus to requirements. (Is a requirement of MPMNI Annex 4.8.12 – 4.8.15)</p> <p>Also Section 2 of Land & Property Services (LPS) Disposal Guidance (as issued in March 2013) prompts the identification of surplus assets for disposal.</p> <p>Mandatory Asset Management Plans (AMPs) are produced annually by each department and include a section on planned asset disposals.</p> <p>Accountable for the ultimate decision on the chosen disposal route.</p> <p>Complete and seek approval for appropriate level of business case to assess the budgetary impact of a CAT transfer.</p> <p>Potential liaison with Strategic Investment Board (SIB) business plan resource.</p>
<p>Department for Communities (DfC)</p> <p>Voluntary & Community Division (VCD)</p>	<p>Support the public sector in its implementation of the CAT Policy 2014.</p> <p>Support the development of sustainability, enterprise and innovation in the Third Sector.</p>	<p>Provision of advice and guidance to public sector on CAT policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Throughout the process to provide advice and guidance to asset owners from both a CAT policy perspective and wider Third Sector contexts (community development, social enterprise and Regional Infrastructure support). Specific input at Expression of Interest (Eoi) stage may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Knowledge of Third sector organisations

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Knowledge of DfC specific and wider funding environment o Good practice for other CAT considerations o Any specific policy inputs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Oversight of DTNI contract and their focused role in the CAT process, including their management of timelines within the EoI stage, their communication with stakeholders including asset owners. <p>Working with SIB on the provision and application of independent expertise to Third Sector organisations (TSOs) to assist in the preparation of viable, sustainable business plans to support asset transfer.</p>
<p>Development Trusts NI (DTNI)</p>	<p>Support third sector community organisations to identify and deliver CAT proposals where DTNI assistance is requested/identified as a requirement</p>	<p>DTNI is grant funded by DfC to provide expertise and experience to support the third sector to avail of CAT opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide information and support/signposting to organisations interested in CAT. - Carry out early stage assessment of capacity and capability of the organisation and to support completion of Expression of Interest stage. - Facilitate organisations participation in the LPS Internal Trawl Notice, known as a D1, process, adhering to set timescales. - Support organisations to secure an appropriate sponsor body. <p>In some instances there may be a specific role for DTNI to support/advise the Third Sector organisation in the business planning stage but this to be agreed with DfC.</p>
<p>Third Sector Organisation (TSO)</p>	<p>Deliver public benefit through the utilisation of public sector assets creating civic value and</p>	<p>Community ownership and management of public assets encompasses a range of third sector organisations, for example. Voluntary and community groups, faith-based organisations and social</p>

	supporting government objectives.	enterprises. The CAT Policy envisages third sector organisations delivering public benefit through management of public sector assets. The third sector organisations are responsible for developing a business plan within agreed timescales which identifies need for the services, demonstrates the viability of the proposed use of an asset, delivery against PFG outcomes and addresses the sustainability, accountability and decision making conditions as highlighted in the CAT policy.
Sponsor Body	<p>Facilitate the transfer of the asset to the community organisation via the public sector trawl in accordance with LPS Disposal Guidance requirements.</p> <p>Consider the need and activity of the third sector organisation's proposed use of the asset as contained within the Business Plan and provide formal endorsement as agreed with the asset owner.</p>	<p>The sponsor body role is to confirm existence of compulsory purchase powers for the intended purpose to allow the transfer to take place, as required under the Stormont Regulation and Government Property Act (NI) 1933.</p> <p>In order to provide this the sponsor body should be content that the proposed use of the asset complements or contributes towards their policy intentions in the area and they are willing to endorse the project (and input to the Asset Owner's business case if necessary) and provide confirmation of this to asset owners when the proposals relate to assets owned by other government bodies.</p> <p>The transfer remains between the asset owner and third sector organisation. There may be particular circumstances where the asset owner may wish to seek to transfer the asset to the sponsor body (or another Department) for onward transfer to the TSO, however this would be subject to negotiation and agreement of both parties.</p> <p>Acting as sponsor body, when not the asset owner, confers no future liability for</p>

		<p>the asset or the services run from it, nor responsibility for issues such as clawback.</p> <p>There may be instances where it is desirable for the sponsor to play an enhanced role but this would be subject to agreement between the asset owner and sponsor.</p>
<p>Land & Property Services (LPS)</p>	<p>Facilitate the sharing of information on surplus assets with community organisations through inclusion of DTNI in the public sector trawl, as suggested within the CAT Policy 2014.</p> <p>Provide valuation advice to the asset owner and details of any expressions of interest.</p>	<p>LPS Central Advisory Unit (CAU) is responsible for policy and guidance on the disposal of surplus public sector property in Northern Ireland as well as the management and operation of the clearing house service for surplus land. The clearing house provides the main source of information on surplus assets which can be considered for CAT. LPS District Valuers provide the asset owners with a market valuation and details of the expressions of interest through the trawl.</p> <p>LPS do not participate in assessing the investment readiness of third sector proposals or the production of business plans or asset owner's business cases.</p>

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	21 February 2022
Subject:	Housing Supply Strategy (2022- 2037) Consultation Response
Reporting Officer:	Michael Lipsett, Director of Active and Healthy Communities
Contact Officers:	Alan Beggs, Head of Evidence and Research

Confirm how this Report should be treated by placing an x in either:-

For decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	For noting only	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	<p>On the 8th December 2021 the Department for Communities (DfC) opened a consultation on the draft Housing Supply Strategy, welcoming and encouraging responses from all interested parties.</p> <p>In line with the NICS Digital First principle, it was advised that responses to this consultation should be made online through the Citizen Space survey available on their website.</p> <p>The closing date for response was 9th February 2022</p>
1.2	<p>The strategy is intended to provide a long term framework for the development of policy, interventions and action plans to deliver the right homes in the right locations, to help meet current and foreseeable housing needs and demands. As such, it is anticipated that the strategy will make a major contribution to the achievement of strategic outcomes as described in the draft Programme for Government outcomes framework, New Decade New Approach and the Department's strategic plan, 'Building Inclusive Communities'.</p> <p>The strategy contains a comprehensive appraisal of the current situation in relation to housing supply in the region and sets out the "whole system approach" that will be adopted to address the current challenges. The strategy contains a number of actions and measures grouped under 5 key objectives. A copy of the strategy is included with this paper.</p> <p>The consultation survey comprised of 15 questions seeking respondent's views on the objectives and measures contained within the draft Strategy as well as comment on the implication for equality and on rural areas</p>
1.3	<p>Council's Head of Evidence and Research coordinated a response to the survey containing contributions by officers from several departments across the organisation including Planning, Equality and Policy and Community Planning</p> <p>This response follows the previous, more comprehensive, response to the DfC's call for evidence which was submitted on behalf of Council in August 2021.</p>

	A copy of the submitted response is appended to this report.
2.0	Key issues
2.1	Appendix 1 contains the response submitted on behalf of the Council via DFCs online portal. This response includes comments on the role of Council's Community Planning and Local Development Planning structures in the realisation of the objectives set out within the strategy.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	Members are asked to note Newry, Mourne and Down District Council's response to the Housing Supply Strategy Consultation (DfC)
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	No financial or resources implications are anticipated.
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>
5.3	<p><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>

6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)
6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	Appendices
	Appendix I: NMDDC response to Housing Supply Strategy Consultation
8.0	Background Documents
	Housing Supply Strategy 2022- 2037

Response ID ANON-QQZJ-AMST-U

Submitted to Housing Supply Strategy - Additional Questions

Submitted on 2022-02-09 12:17:59

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Introduction

Please confirm whether you are replying as an individual or submitting an official response on behalf of an organisation.

Organisation

If you said organisation, please give us the name of the organisation:

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

Strategic Framework

1 The Call for Evidence consultation showed that there was broad support for the proposed vision, objectives and timeframe for the Strategy. Based on the comments received we have updated these for the draft Strategy - are you content with these?

Yes

If no, please explain why.:

Yes

If no, please explain why.:

Yes

If no, please explain why.:

Yes

If no, please explain why.:

Yes

If no, please explain why.:

Yes

If no, please explain why.:

Yes

If no, please explain why.:

2 The assessment of the Call for Evidence has enabled us to develop a total of 15 longer term policies and interventions that will provide the basis to develop appropriate action plans. Do you agree with the focus of these 15 high level long term policies and interventions?

Yes

If no, please explain why.:

Yes

If no, please explain why.:

Yes

If no, please explain why.:

Yes

If no, please explain why.:

Not Answered

If no, please explain why.:

Yes

If no, please explain why.:

Yes

If no, please explain why.:

Yes

If no, please explain why.:

Yes

If no, please explain why.:

Yes

If no, please explain why.:

Yes

If no, please explain why.:

Yes

If no, please explain why.:

Yes

If no, please explain why.:

Yes

If no, please explain why.:

Yes

If no, please explain why.:

3. The Strategy includes an enabling principle to: 'Adopt a whole system approach, collaborate with central and local government and the third and private sectors to inclusively transform supply.' Do you agree with the proposed enabling principle?

Yes

If you don't agree, please explain why not:

Measurement

4. Do you agree with the proposed ambition to deliver 100,000 plus homes over the 15 year lifespan of the Strategy?

Not Answered

If you don't agree, please explain why not:

The Strategic Planning Policy Statement for NI states that "The Local Development Plan (LDP) is the main vehicle for assessing future housing land requirements and managing housing growth to achieve sustainable patterns of residential development." Councils in the preparation of their LDP housing allocations should be informed by a range of factors including the RDS Housing Growth Indicators and Housing Needs Assessment/Housing Market Analysis.

The DfC Housing Strategy on page 14 states:

"Revised HGIs based on NISRA's 2016 household projections envisaged an annual average of 5,700 from 2016/17 onwards, and since 2016 housing completions have exceeded this figure....."

"In 2017, the Department for Communities, Housing Symposium, in recognition of the growing gap between supply and overall requirements had already recommended an overall target of 8,000 new dwellings per annum."

The Council is not currently in a position to either agree or disagree with the proposed statement as further clarification is required on the accuracy and standing of the RDS Housing Growth Indicators and the DfC Housing Supply Strategy ambition to deliver 100,000 plus homes.

In relation to the stated ambition, the Council would raise the following queries:

- 1) What is the view of the Department for Infrastructure on the DfC proposed strategy to deliver 100,000 plus homes and how this aligns with the RDS HGI new dwelling (across all tenures) requirement of 84,800 dwellings across NI over the period 2016-2030?
- 2) Given that DfC have indicated that the HGIs appear based on outdated estimates of the number of households have DfC recommended that the HGIs

are reviewed and updated to take account of more accurate household estimates?

3) How should Councils interpret this proposal to deliver 100,000 plus homes as part of their LDP Housing Supply Strategy, taking into account the RDS HGIs and the HGIs broken down by LGD? Can the need that will be identified within the NIHF Housing Market Analysis be used in conjunction with the 'outdated' HGIs to establish the overall housing need to be addressed by Council's LDPs until such time as HGIs are updated?

4) If current HGIs are considered 'outdated' and subsequently not fit for purpose does DfC intend on publishing guidance to local authorities on how the distribution of 100,000 plus homes should be delivered across Northern Ireland and within each Council district?

5 Do you agree with the proposed indicators to measure the success and progress of the Housing Supply Strategy?

Yes

If no, please explain why.:

Yes

If no, please explain why.:

Yes

If no, please explain why.:

Not Answered

If no, please explain why.:

Yes

If no, please explain why.:

Not Answered

If no, please explain why.:

Yes

If no, please explain why.:

viii. Indicator(s) in development – do you have any suggestions for a suitable indicator?

6 Are there any additional indicators that you consider would add value in measuring success and progress?

No

If so, please give details.:

Delivery and Oversight

7 How can we best ensure that key strategic partners such as other Departments, local government, the voluntary & community sector and private sector can participate in the delivery and oversight of the Supply Strategy delivery?

How can we best ensure that key strategic partners such as other Departments, local government and housing delivery organisations can participate in the delivery and oversight of the Supply Strategy delivery?:

DfC's delivery should closely align to the various Community Planning structures established in each of the 11 Council areas. Newry, Mourne and Down Community Planning Partnership have identified provision of affordable housing as a key priority within the District and have established a priority working group to address this issue collaboratively.

The NMD Strategic Stakeholder Forum is made up of representative of the community voluntary sector within the District and would provide a suitable mechanism for engaging and coordinate with the local CV sector

Action Planning

8 Are there any proven or new approaches you are aware of, that you believe would help us work best with other organisations to develop and deliver the action plans?

No

If yes, please give examples. :

Citizen Engagement

9 There was broad support in the Call for Evidence for the need to engage local communities in housing supply to create sustainable, thriving and inclusive communities. In what way do you consider this could best be achieved and do you have any examples of best practice in this area?

Please provide details.:

The Housing Executive have previously worked with the Newry, Mourne and Down District Electoral Area Fora (DEA Fora) to co-deliver events with the aim of identifying and addressing local housing needs. A similar approach should be considered in relation to the implementation of this strategy.

Equality

10 Do you agree with the findings of the EQIA?

Yes

If no, please explain why.:

11 Are there any other issues or inequalities that have not been highlighted in the EQIA that you believe the EQIA needs to note?

No

If yes, please explain what these are.:

12 Do you agree with the immediate next steps as outlined in Section 5?

Yes

If no, please explain why.:

Yes

If no, please explain why.:

Rural

13 The Rural Needs Impact assessment outlines that the development of Housing Supply Strategy is likely to have a positive impact on people on Rural Areas? Do you agree with this assessment?

Yes

If you don't agree, please explain why not:

14 Is there any other evidence, information or issues you think should be considered in this screening?

Yes

If so, please give details.:

Given the data set out within page 33 of the report clearly establishes that homelessness as a result of intimidation by paramilitarism (70%+) continues to be the most significant matter contributing to homelessness, there needs to be a move away from an over reliance upon studies that conflate religion and politics. Rather than continuing to use religion as a proxy indicator of political opinion, consideration should be given to establishing specific data related to political opinion i.e. Unionist/Nationalist/Republican/Other. This action will contribute to developing a more nuanced understanding and complement high-level regional peacebuilding strategies.

General

15 We would welcome any other comments or suggestions you have that you consider are relevant to developing and delivering the Housing Supply Strategy.

We would welcome any other comments or suggestions you have that you consider are relevant to developing and delivering the Housing Supply Strategy.:

As has been highlighted within the Consultation document there are many stakeholders that must work collaboratively if the DfC Housing Supply Strategy is to be effective. The proposed "whole system approach" is certainly welcomed but the ability to deliver this is questionable.

The Planning system is a key supply lever and the two stage LDP process introduced in April 2015 was expected to speed up the introduction of a Plan led system. Some 7 years into the new process and only 1 Council is through the Independent Examination process and no LDP Plan Strategies have been adopted. Guidance issued by DoE in April 2015 (Development Plan Practice Note 1) stated that the Local Policies Plan (LPP) would be adopted in 40 months, some 82 months have now passed and the adoption of the first LPP is still a number of years away. There is an urgent need for central government to review the LDP process and consider how the process can be streamlined if a Plan led system is to be achieved.

It should be noted that the NI Audit Office in their recently published report (1st February 2022) into the Planning system in NI have highlighted that there is now an opportunity to review the LDP process, learn from the challenges experienced to date and consider whether the process is proportionate. Full report available on the NIAO website:

<https://www.niauditoffice.gov.uk/sites/niao/files/media-files/NIAO%20Report%20-%20Planning%20in%20NI.pdf>

It is the view of NMDDC that introducing a new Housing Supply Strategy without reforming the current LDP process is unlikely to achieve all the desired outcomes contained within the DfC Housing Supply Strategy.

****Please Note**

This response is on behalf of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council.

Please note, Council committee will not meet until after the submission date, therefore we intend to bring this to Council committee in March for ratification. Any amendments subsequent to committee's consideration will be forwarded to the Department during April 2022. I will write separately to confirm committee approval.

If you have any questions or queries, please feel free to contact myself at the details below:

Alan Beggs
Head of Evidence and Research
Alan.beggs@nmandd.org
Comhairle Ceantair an Iúir, Mhúrn agus an Dúin
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Housing Supply Strategy

2022 - 2037

December 2021

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Ministerial Foreword

We all want a housing system which provides quality homes in places where people want to live.

Access to a safe and secure home is a basic human right – essential to our health and well-being; and also contributing to tackling the climate crisis. But, as evidenced by the 44,988 households on the Social Housing Waiting list, 31,267 of which are in housing stress, too many of our citizens are being denied this basic right. Moreover, these numbers continue to rise. Behind all data are people, individuals and families who have consistently told us that the current system is not working.

My aim for this Strategy is to create a housing system that can deliver 100,000 plus homes over its 15 year lifetime. I want at least a third of these homes to be social homes. I also have an ambition to deliver a significant number of intermediate homes. The outcome of work to develop new intermediate products and the Housing Executive Strategic Housing Market Assessment will inform how many homes of this tenure are required.

Importantly these homes will be of good quality and deliver for a wider range of needs, including the needs of our ageing population, those with disabilities and our children and young people.

Transforming housing supply will require not only a collective response from the Executive but real collaboration that includes local government, community groups, construction industry and financial bodies. It must also major on engaging with those people who are most in housing need.

This approach is built on the principle that those who are most affected by poor housing are best placed to help design or redesign it.

My Call for Evidence was the first stage in this process of a partnership approach to the transformation of our housing supply. I heard what you said loud and clear and would like to thank you for your considered thoughts and proposals, which have informed and shaped this draft Housing Supply Strategy.

The stark reality as emphasised by responses to my Call for Evidence is that we need to change how we do things and acknowledge that unless we do, many individuals and families will have to live in homes that don't meet their needs and indeed will lose hope that their circumstances will change for the better in the near future. Waiting lists and housing stress continue to rise, and there are issues facing renters; issues that have been amplified throughout the pandemic. People are living longer, which is something to be celebrated, but our current housing stock does not reflect the changing needs of our population. We know that limitations on the right sort of housing options are a major contributor to inequality and deprivation in our society.

It is within this context that proposals for change are set out which will challenge all of us to think differently about how we work together. I do not underestimate the scale of the challenge and success will require the maturity to take difficult decisions. But, as confirmed in the Call for Evidence, there is a growing demand for this change from a large and diverse range of stakeholders.

Many of you emphasised that a key support for the partnership work needed to transform housing supply is the delivery of the commitment to have a standalone Housing Outcome in our next Programme for Government. I am on record as stating that a Housing Outcome is essential and I will continue to press for this commitment to be fulfilled. Moreover, the Vision for the Strategy is reflective of the focus of this Outcome, as envisaged within New Decade, New Approach.

I take great pride in saying that this draft Strategy has been the outcome of an extensive partnering and engagement process but this is only the first step in a 15 year journey. The Strategy provides a framework and a clear direction of travel to build truly sustainable communities, which will be supported by a wide programme of evidenced based actions driven through a collaborative and partnership-based approach and underpinned by a full Equality Impact Assessment and Rural Needs Impact Assessment.

My Executive Colleagues and I have already initiated work to progress some of these supporting policies and interventions, which will help transform our housing supply. This includes revitalisation of the Housing Executive, ring-fencing the Social Housing Development

Programme budget for areas of acute housing need, development of new Affordable Housing Products and progressing work to ensure that rents across all sectors are fair including consideration of rent regulation, the wider reform of the Private Rented Sector, the development of the Green Growth and Energy Strategies, the establishment of an Infrastructure Commission and the uplift of building regulations, all of which complement and support this Strategy.

I would like to thank you all for your continued support and I would urge you to avail of this further opportunity to shape the development of the final Strategy.

Finally, I have been clear that for this Strategy to succeed we will need the collective will and support of the Executive. Following this consultation period I will bring the final Strategy to my Executive colleagues for discussion and consideration.



Deirdre Hargay
Minister for Communities

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the wide range of individuals who contributed to the development of this draft Strategy. That includes the Housing Supply Strategy Project Board and the Virtual Housing Panel, colleagues from other departments, the Housing Executive and the Strategic Investment Board, representatives from the Housing Associations, Local Government

and Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise sectors, professional bodies and the UK Collaborative Centre for Housing Evidence and, of course, those individuals and organisations¹ who responded to the Call for Evidence and participated in parallel engagement events.

¹ Details are provided in the Call for Evidence Summary Report which is published alongside this Strategy at: <https://www.communities-England.gov.uk/consultations/consultation-new-housing-supply-strategy>

Executive Summary

Introduction

New Decade New Approach² and the draft Programme for Government Outcomes Framework,³ both recognise the importance of housing in achieving social cohesion, economic development, political stability, supporting citizens to live prosperous and fulfilling lives and a new focus on addressing housing stress and homelessness. The need to tackle these issues, through increasing social and intermediate housing supply and, more specifically, the delivery of this Housing Supply Strategy, are also priority activities in the Executive's Covid-19 Recovery Plan.⁴

Our housing supply challenges are substantial and deep rooted, as illustrated by increasing levels of housing stress and homelessness, the widening gap between housing requirements and new housing supply and the growing affordability and accessibility problems facing both first time buyers and renters. The Housing Supply Strategy is a long-term framework for the transformational change needed to tackle these challenges.

Strategy Development

Pre-development work to progress a Housing Supply Strategy commenced in 2019. The work was interrupted by the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, beginning again in earnest at the end of 2020 and culminating in a Call for Evidence being launched by the Minister for Communities in May 2021. This was followed by a period of substantial information gathering and assessment, including extensive stakeholder engagement with delivery partners, wider stakeholders and service users.

The Call for Evidence Summary Report can be found at this [link](#).

This and other evidence informed the development of the Strategy and sets out a direction of travel from 2022 until 2037. The rest of this report sets out the key components of the Strategy in terms of:

- **Strategic Context** - where we are now in terms of housing supply, where we need to be and how we are going to get there. This covers the Whole System Approach, the Strategy vision and objectives and potential indicators that will be used to measure our progress.
- **Creating Affordable Options** - how we will supply the right number and type of affordable homes in the right places to meet our housing needs and demands. This section addresses key issues, including how we: address our infrastructure constraints, optimise funding opportunities and create the right policy and legislative framework to support housing supply.
- **Prevention and Intervention** - how we can prevent homelessness and reduce housing stress, as well as providing the right housing solutions and support for those most in need. This section focuses on providing more diverse housing types and alternative models of housing to meet different housing needs and recognising the importance of a holistic approach to housing.

² https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/856998/2020-01-06_a_new_decade_a_new_approach.pdf

³ <https://www.northernireland.gov.uk/consultations/consultation-programme-government-draft-outcomes-framework-2021>

⁴ [Building Forward: Consolidated Covid-19 Recovery Plan | The Executive Office \(executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk\)](#)

- **Quality and Safety** - how we will improve the quality, efficiency and design of homes, to ensure a high standard for everyone regardless of the type of home. Consideration is given to diverse range of areas, including building regulation, work to improve the private rented sector and protect our social housing.
- **Better Places** - how we will build and maintain thriving and inclusive communities and places with community wealth building at the heart, which prioritises a people-centred approach to rebuilding our local areas into places that support the wellbeing of those who live there. The section considers options around mixed tenure, place-shaping and the role of Local Development Plans in achieving this.
- **Decarbonisation** - sets out how the construction of new housing and the retrofitting of existing homes will play a key role in meeting our carbon reduction targets. Also set out is how we will support people in delivering these ambitions and ensure a just transition for everyone.

- **Delivering the Strategy** - how we will deliver the Strategy over its lifetime, including a focus on doing things differently and the role of action plans in achieving our objectives.

Our Strategic Framework

A summary of our Strategic Housing Supply Framework is outlined in the diagram overleaf (Figure 1). It reflects the partnership approach taken in its development and outlines the link to the Programme for Government outcomes, the vision for the Strategy, the enabling principle that will drive the transformation of housing supply, the long-term timeframe against which we will deliver on the vision and the five interconnected objectives which detail the key areas of work needed to address the challenges to housing supply. We also outline a series of indicators which demonstrate how we will measure progress. Finally, the Framework recognises the core enabling elements required to achieve all of this as outlined in our delivery section.

Figure 1 – Housing Supply Strategy – Strategic Framework

Strategic Framework – Investing and Building to Transform our Housing Supply							
Long term outcomes	Draft Programme for Government (PFG) Outcomes	We live and work sustainably – protecting the environment.	We have a caring society that supports people throughout their lives.	People want to live, work and visit here.			
	Vision	"Everybody has access to a good quality, affordable and sustainable home that is appropriate for their needs and is located within a thriving and inclusive community."					
	Enabling Principle	Adopting a whole system approach, collaborate with central and local government and the third and private sectors to inclusively transform supply.					
	Timeframes	The Strategy will set out long term policies and interventions over a 15 year period to 2037 but will be divided into enabling action plans over 1-3 year periods.					
2037 Objectives	Objectives	Objective 1 – Increase housing supply and affordable options across all tenures to meet housing need and demand	Objective 2 – Prevent homelessness and reduce housing stress and improve and prioritise housing solutions for those who are most in need	Objective 3 – Improve housing quality	Objective 4 – Ensure the provision of housing options that contribute to the building and maintenance of thriving, inclusive communities and places	Objective 5 – Reduce whole-life carbon emissions from both new homes and existing homes and support a 'just transition' to carbon neutrality	
Indicators	Indicators we will use to monitor progress	Stress and Supply Number of households in housing stress. Housing Stock figures.	Homelessness Number of households who are homeless (presentations and acceptances)	Affordability Proportion of households spending 30% or more of their household income on housing costs	Satisfaction Proportion of households who report being either "very satisfied" or "fairly satisfied" with their house or flat	Quality and Energy Efficiency Standard Assessment Procedure (SAP) ratings Percentage of homes that meet the Fitness Standard	Community & Place Indicator(s) in development
Delivery	Principles	Provide leadership across central government, local government and third sector in relation to housing supply Underpinned by the principles of equality, fairness and good relations and engaging with those most affected by poor housing Review and implement necessary legislative and regulatory changes to support housing supply and deliver the Strategy Provide governance and oversight arrangements to support the delivery of the Strategy Monitor evidence to support policy development Maximise the availability of public finance to deliver housing					

Programme for Government

The strategic framework evidences that housing is central to the achievement of the Executive's social, economic and environmental objectives and therefore the need for a standalone PfG Housing Outcome. In this context, the Strategy adopts a vision that is reflective of the focus of a standalone Housing Outcome, as envisioned within New Decade, New Approach.

The framework also demonstrates how the Housing Supply Strategy will contribute to three of the draft Programme for Government outcomes, namely:

- We live and work sustainably - protecting the environment;
- We have a caring society that supports people throughout their lives; and
- People want to live, work and visit here.

Though not specifically referenced in the framework, it is worth highlighting that the Strategy and housing policy more generally also have the potential to make a substantial contribution to delivering on other draft outcomes, including that:

- Our Children and Young People have the best start in life;
- Our economy is globally competitive, regional balanced and carbon neutral; and
- We all enjoy long, healthy, active lives.

In addition, the Strategy will make a significant contribution to the delivery of other cross cutting Executive strategies including the Green Growth Strategy, the Energy Strategy, 10X Economy, the Anti-Poverty Strategy, the Children and Young People's Strategy 2020-2030 and the Mental Health Strategy 2021-2031.

Our Commitment to Delivery

We have developed this Strategy in the context of persistently increasing numbers of people living in housing stress and the growing waiting list. It has been progressed with a partnership approach and we have engaged through a range of mechanisms with a wide variety of stakeholders across the public, private and third sectors. This approach is built on the principle that those who are most affected by poor housing are best placed to be advocates for better housing and help us design and redesign our housing.

While this Strategy sets out the direction of travel to transform supply, we will also bring forward more detailed policy proposals which will be subject to consultation and engagement in their own right. Work to develop the first of these proposals will commence immediately following the approval and publication of the final Strategy. It is anticipated that this will be post March 2022. The Strategy will be subject to ongoing review and we will report on progress on an annual basis.

We will provide the necessary leadership and coordination across all levels of government. Key to our success will be the establishment of a "joined up" response unlocking the combined skills and resources of central government, local government, the housing sector, wider public sector and the third sector to transform supply.

Investing in our Supply

We know that achieving the ambitions in this Strategy will need significant investment. Whether that is investment in our Social Housing Stock, improving quality in our Private Rented Sector or constructing new homes for private sale, we will need to be creative and learn to think and act differently.

Some of this investment will of course need to come from the state, however public funding on its own will not be enough. The Call for Evidence highlighted issues around sources and constraints in accessing finance and the potential impact of Covid-19 on lender risk. Some potential financial solutions were also identified, most notably, capital markets financing (bonds) for affordable housing and increase in demand for Environmental Social Governance (ESG) investments. Alongside significant annual investment in the Social Housing Development Programme the Department will continue to explore new approaches to financing the housing market through, for example, routes providing incentives to Registered Housing Associations and changes in Financial Transactions Capital (FTC) funding.

If we are to achieve our objectives it is likely that a wider range of sources for financing will be needed such as charitable trusts and foundations, Credit Union Loans, Capital markets: from the sale of long-term bonds and developer contributions. The benefits of housing co-operatives, community-led housing and self-build initiatives will also need to be explored further and the move towards an energy system based on low carbon networks, technologies, buildings, vehicles, industry and infrastructure will also require major investment and skilled personnel.

In the face of constrained public finances and international economic uncertainty the investment challenge is substantial. Difficult decisions will need to be made. However through active collaboration between public, private and charitable partners, maximising current policy levers and developing new ones we can find solutions and create opportunities.

Strategic Context

Where we need to be

Our vision for the Strategy encapsulates the future picture of housing supply, one that delivers on our housing needs and demands and contributes to better outcomes for all our citizens but, most notably, those in most housing need.

“Everybody has access to a good quality, affordable and sustainable home that is appropriate for their needs and is located within a thriving and inclusive community.”

This vision recognises that good housing is about more than bricks and mortar: they are homes, not just houses. It encompasses issues such as affordability, accessibility, sustainability, quality and security of tenure – all of which can apply differently to people and at different times in their lives. Crucially, this vision seeks to put people at the centre of housing supply and sustainable places, with a focus on delivering on objective need, underpinned by principles of fairness, equality and good relations.

The aim for this Strategy is to create a housing system that can deliver upwards of 100,000 homes over its 15 year lifetime. At least a third of these homes will be social homes. The Minister also has an ambition to deliver a significant number of intermediate homes. The outcome of work to develop new intermediate products and the Housing Executive Strategic Housing Market Assessment will inform how many homes of this tenure are required

We know we need to improve our understanding of what this means in terms of the design and specification of our homes and how many homes of different types we require. We have committed to achieving this in the Strategy. We also know that we may have to update our thinking on this and other issues across the lifespan of the Strategy. This is why the Strategy will be a living document.

The strategic framework is aimed at unlocking, with immediate effect, the conditions required to transform supply for current and future generations. This will be achieved through a series of detailed delivery plans, starting in 2022/23, which will build further upon the actions already outlined in the Strategy.

Where we are now

Housing here in the past twenty years has been characterised by three key underlying trends:

- a steady increase in the need and demand for housing in response to population change and the growth in the number of households;
- affordability issues linked to a significant increase in the number and proportion of households individuals, families, workers and students renting privately and an associated relative decline in home ownership; and
- a widening gap between the overall requirement for new housing (private and social) and the annual rate of construction

There are a number of wider trends which have and will continue to impact on housing and other policy. These key trends are summarised at Annex A.

Increasing Need and Demand NI's housing stock has continued to grow over the past 20 years (current stock is 814,210 homes). There was steady growth in the number of dwellings between 2012 and 2021 – an annual average rate of growth of almost 6,200. However, this is much lower than the rates of growth experienced in the years leading up to the Global Financial Crisis (GFC). Between 2001 and 2006 the housing stock increased at an annual average rate of 11,500.⁵

Household projections

The most recent mid-year population estimates showed that there were approximately 1.90 million people living in NI,⁶ a figure that had increased at an average annual rate of 0.5% pa over the previous five years. The most recent (2016) household projections estimated that in 2021 there would be a total of 744,754 households compared to 725,127 in 2016 – an annual average rate of growth of 0.54% over the previous five year period.⁷

A key driver for household formation is that our population continues to age (estimates are that over 65s now make up almost 17% of the total population and from mid-2028 will outnumber those aged under 16 years)⁸ and the tendency

for the older population to live in either one or two adult households without children. By 2041, these two household types are projected to account for three fifths (60.3 per cent) of all households.⁹

This points to a key issue in relation to housing supply - how we meet the needs and aspirations of an ageing population in the context of a rising dependency ratio (the number of people of working age compared to those who have retired) which has important economic, and therefore funding, ramifications.

Increasing Housing Need

The Common Waiting List for social housing also provides a number of key indicators of increasing housing need. Figure 2 provides a graphic illustration of the substantial increase in the number of households in urgent need ('housing stress')¹⁰ since the early 2000s. In March 2003 there were approximately 13,000 in housing stress. This rose to almost 21,000 by March 2011 and reached a new peak of 27,745 in March 2020. Indications are that housing stress has continued to rise significantly during the Covid-19 pandemic.

⁵ Source: Annual Housing Statistics, LPS

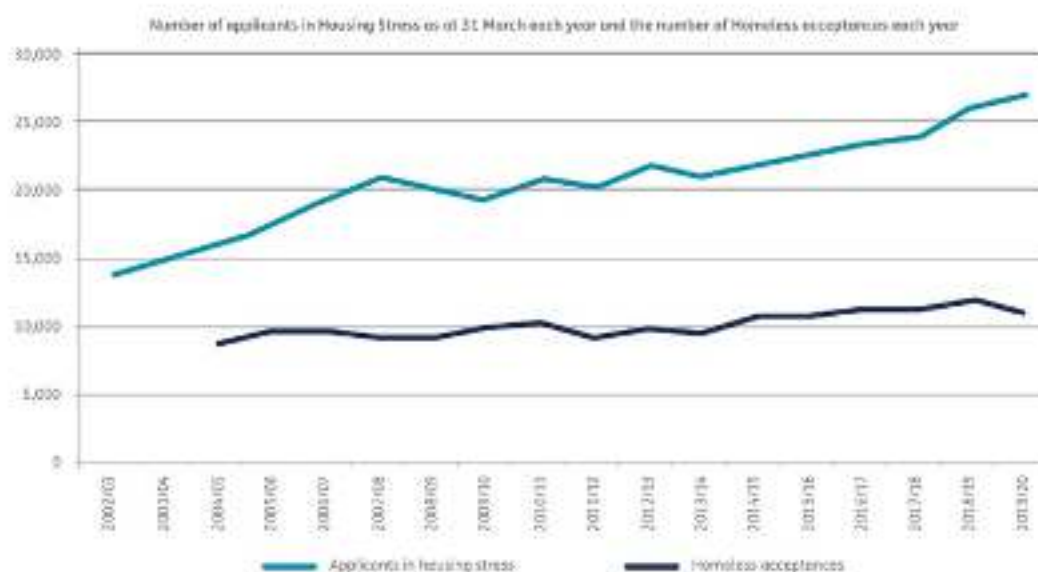
⁶ <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/2020-mid-year-population-estimates-northern-ireland>

⁷ <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/northern-ireland-household-projections-2016-based>

⁸ <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/2020-mid-year-population-estimates-northern-ireland>

⁹ <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/northern-ireland-household-projections-2016-based>

¹⁰ Housing stress is defined as those who are awarded 30 points or more within the Housing Selection Scheme. Points are awarded under four categories (1) intimidation (2) insecurity of tenure (3) housing conditions (4) and health and social wellbeing issues.

Figure 2: Increasing Housing Stress and Numbers Accepted as Homeless, 2002/03-2019/20

Source: Department for Communities (DfC): Housing Statistics

Figure 2 also illustrates that the number of households accepted as homeless in NI has also risen significantly over the past 15 years, though on the basis of a more subdued trajectory. In 2004/05 approximately 8,500 households were defined as homeless, a figure that rose to almost 10,500 in 2010/11 and reached a peak of 12,512 in 2018/19 before falling back to 11,323 in 2019/20. During 2020/21 there was a further significant drop to 9889 (13%) in the overall number of homeless households due to the pandemic but this has created pent up demand.¹¹

Affordability

The most striking trend over the last 20 years, has been the rapid rise of the private rented sector.¹² A major part of the explanation for this lies in the increasing difficulties that first time buyers faced in relation to accessing owner occupancy. Following

the sharp fall in house prices, the nature of the affordability issue changed. A new version of this index developed in 2012, gave more weight to the challenges faced by first-time buyers accessing mortgage finance, and, in particular, attempting to save for a deposit. The most recent iteration of this Affordability Index based on a combination of repayment and access affordability measures, showed that between 2017 and 2018 there was a deterioration in affordability in terms of house price to income ratios and the ability to save for a deposit¹³. The effects of the Covid-19 pandemic on the economy and on the labour market in combination with rising house prices¹⁴ has exacerbated the affordability challenge for first-time buyers. The growing affordability problem is compounded by ongoing increases in rental prices in the private rented sector. The Ulster University/ Housing Executive private rental index recorded a

11 Most of this reduction can be accounted for by a significant reduction in acceptances for two reasons: 'Accommodation not reasonable', a category that largely addresses the housing needs of older people and/or those in poor health, and 'Loss of (private) rented accommodation'. In the case of the former, the need for older people and particularly those with poor health to 'shield' and, in the case of the latter, the additional security of tenure for private tenants introduced in response to the pandemic.

12 Successive House Condition Surveys carried out by the Housing Executive demonstrated the large proportional increase in private renting over a 10-year period: from 12.1% of households in 2006 to 17.5% in 2011 and 18.3% in 2016. These statistics would indicate that most of the rapid growth period was between 2005 and 2011, and the most recent figure available (from the 2017-18 Family Resources Survey) would confirm that the proportion of households has remained fairly constant since 2016 at 18%.

13 <https://www.nine.gov.uk/Documents/Research/House-Prices-And-Affordability/Affordability-in-the-private-housing-market.aspx/>

14 NISRA's hedonic house price index shows an increase of 9.0% between Q2 2020 and Q2 2021. ULI/NHE NI Quarterly House Price Index likewise shows an increase of 9.2% over the same period, while PropertyPal Housing Market Trends: Q2 2021 shows an annual increase of 7.3% in asking prices.

4.2% increase in average rents between H2, 2020 and H2, 2021. More recent analysis produced by Propertypal shows that this upward path continued into Q2, 2021, with heightened demand and fewer available properties resulting in an annual rate of increase of 5.8%.¹⁵ Affordability issues will then have to be a key factor in considering our supply challenges and solutions.

The widening gap in housing supply

As outlined in the Call for Evidence and in this Strategy, the causes of the widening gap between overall housing requirements and new supply are multi-faceted. Figure 3 illustrates the development of this undersupply over the last 15 years. It shows a substantial gap emerging between new dwelling completions and estimates of future overall requirements in terms of Housing Growth Indicators (HGIs) in the years following the GFC.

Figure 3: The Gap between New Dwelling Completions and HGI's 2005/06-2020/21



Source: DfC Housing Statistics and Regional Development Strategy Housing Growth Indicators

Revised HGI's based on NISRA's 2016 household projections envisaged an annual average of 5,700 from 2016/17 onwards¹⁷, and since 2016 housing completions have exceeded this revised figure as outlined in Figure 3. In 2017, the Department for Communities' Housing Symposium, in recognition of the growing gap between supply and overall requirements had already recommended an overall delivery target of 8,000 new dwellings per annum

– but even this was based on increasingly outdated estimates of the number of households. As such, there is general agreement that a significant increase in new housing completions is required to underpin the strategic priorities of the NI Executive and that a new integrated, transparent model for estimating future requirements based on scenario planning and integrating demographic, economic and stock information at a strategic level, would

¹⁵ <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/Documents/Research/Private-Rental-Market-CL1912/Private-rental-market-18-July-December-2020.aspx?ext=1>

¹⁶ <https://www.businessfirstonline.co.uk/our-guest-bloggers/propertypal-housing-market-trends-q2-2021/>

¹⁷ <https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/publications/2016-based-housing-growth-indicators-hgis>

be of considerable benefit. The Housing Executive has a research project (the Strategic Housing Market Analysis – SHMA) in its current programme to address this issue, with this work anticipated to complete in mid-2022. We have also committed to work to better understand the types of housing required to meet the range of housing needs.

Although the housing market here has been characterised primarily by the three trends outlined above, other long-term trends have also developed that are now coming to the forefront of our housing supply considerations.

Quality and Energy Efficiency of Homes

As emphasised by the vision and objectives, improving housing supply must also factor in issues of quality and contribute to our net zero objectives. The Housing Fitness Standard¹⁸ is the statutory basis for inadequate or unfit housing, which applies across all tenures of housing and sets the legal threshold, below which no one should be expected to live. House Condition Surveys (HCS) have been used to assess dwelling conditions against the statutory fitness standard since 1974¹⁹. These surveys provide a measurement of the level of unfitness in NI and consequently have demonstrated the substantial progress made in improving housing conditions. However, the relative importance of the Fitness Standard has declined due to the very low proportion of the stock (1.1% of

occupied stock) failing on this quality measure. The Call for Evidence also highlighted that for many, its value falls short as a means of dealing with modern housing challenges.

Energy Efficiency

Energy efficiency is a key factor for thermal comfort which impacts on fuel poverty and is a primary issue when we consider housing quality and wider environmental impacts.²⁰ The 2016 House Conditions Survey found that NI housing stock had an average Standard Assessment Procedure (SAP) rating of 65.83 out of 100. It also noted that approximately half of all dwellings had an Energy Efficiency Rating (EER) within bands A–C.²¹ That said, no dwellings were found in Band A and only 4% in Band B, while more than one-third (36%) of dwellings were found in Band D and 11% in Band E. The HCS also highlights that older houses (and as might be expected due to this, older households) and dwellings in rural areas were less likely to fall within the three highest bands.

Both the construction of new housing and the retrofitting of existing homes will play a key role in helping to achieve the target of reducing all carbon emissions by 56% by 2030 compared to 1990 levels and 100% by 2050.

There is also another consideration for which trends are more difficult to measure or establish, but are an important aspect of supply.

¹⁸ The current Fitness Standard was enshrined in Schedule 5 of the Housing (NI) Order 1992. The Fitness Standard remains the only statutory broad measure of housing quality in NI.

¹⁹ The NI Housing Executive was established by the Housing Executive Act, 1971. One of the legislative requirements was that Housing Executive “regularly examine housing conditions and requirements”. It undertook the first NI House Condition Survey in 1974, a comprehensive survey that estimated that almost 80,000 homes (20%) were statutorily unfit for human habitation (approximately three times the proportion for England at that time). Indeed, approximately 60 per cent of NI’s population lived in dwellings that were unfit, in disrepair or lacked basic amenities.

²⁰ The Standard Assessment Procedure (SAP) is the Government’s standard method of rating the energy efficiency of a dwelling. It has a range of factors that contribute to energy efficiency, such as, materials used for construction, the efficiency and control of heating systems and fuel used for space and water heating. The rating is between 1–100. The higher the number, the lower the running costs.

²¹ The 1–100 SAP energy efficiency rating is also represented in an A–G banding system which is the basis for the production of an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC). ‘Band A’ rating represents low energy costs and ‘Band G’ rating represents high energy costs.

Quality of Place

It was clear from the Call for Evidence responses that quality should also refer to more than just the build of the home itself. It should also take into account the quality of design and the environs of the home which may then have a potential subsequent impact on wellbeing and health. Whilst the indicators for quality and efficiency of the building are more straightforward to define, quality of place has a potentially much broader scope that may consider factors such as access to open space, feeling of safety, visual amenity or even the attractiveness of an area to existing and potential future residents. With this in mind, work is underway to identify suitable indicators that can measure this.

Housing Equality

Not all groups experience the same housing challenges and a key objective of the Strategy is to address inequalities by improving and prioritising housing solutions for those who are most in need. For example, the Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) of the Strategy suggests different experiences by gender in terms of homelessness and the impact of housing costs on those on marginal incomes. An example with age is the fact that older people (75+) are more likely to live in housing that has higher than average basic and urgent repair costs to bring their dwelling into good repair. Under religious belief there are a higher proportion of lead applicants on the waiting list for social housing that are in housing stress from the Catholic community, relative to the Protestant community. There remain inequalities in terms of the access to suitable housing for individuals with a learning disability to live independently and many individuals with a disability still live in homes that are unsuited to their disability-related needs.

However, as covered in more detail in the draft EQIA, there can be intersections between different equality categories that have a bearing on housing outcomes. For instance, the complexity of the relationship between gender and housing. The updated data shows that more women than men experience poverty both before and after their housing costs are accounted for. Within this there are likely to be intersectional issues at play, with for example dependents/ caring responsibilities and marital status influencing these trends. This underlines the importance of not looking at gender in isolation. Further data disaggregation and related research is required to gain a better understanding of the causality of many of the key inequalities that appear to exist (when looking at housing experiences through the lens of a single equality category).

Similarly, there are structural complexities in terms of housing provision for those from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) backgrounds as a result of the impact of British immigration policies. Labour market practices and the social security system on shortfalls in income make it particularly hard for BAME groups to afford housing increasing risk of further housing issues, destitution and homelessness.²²

Some of the key inequalities identified are already being actioned through existing initiatives that will be further developed through this Strategy, including the Housing Executive's Irish Traveller Accommodation Strategy 2020-25 and 'Ending Homelessness Together 2022-2027' Strategy and Reset Plan. Moreover, the EQIA is only the first stage in an evolving focus on the inequalities that may be experienced by section 75 groups in respect of housing outcomes and evidence from ongoing monitoring will help shape actions to mitigate negative impacts throughout the Strategy.

²² https://www.jf.org.uk/965677/download?token=0be_8tkv&filetype=briefing

How we will get to where we need to be

Whole System Approach

As the 'where are we now' summary illustrates, not one single overarching challenge (or problem) is affecting housing supply. When we look at the drivers of need and demand and the levers adopted to address need and demand, it is

apparent that housing supply is a complex and multifaceted issue. Moreover, many of these facets are interrelated, as summarised in Figure 4. For this reason, a 'whole system' approach, which has not been attempted in the past, can help unlock new solutions.

Figure 4 Housing Supply as 'Whole System' approach



Levers adopted to meet demand include finance, provision of land, the planning system, innovation and skills. The Call for Evidence highlighted the potential for more options and flexibility around design standards/regulations to open opportunities to improve the quality of supply and accessibility for a range of individuals. The opportunity to adapt, recycle and re-use existing buildings to increase supply and create thriving communities was also flagged by numerous respondents. The benefits of innovative delivery methods, construction techniques and the skills required to utilise these have equally been identified as missed opportunities. And, most significantly, the opportunities associated with working collaboratively across the systems of central and local government as well as the third sector and private sector to transform supply, was highlighted repeatedly.

Utilising a 'whole system' lens also illustrates the central role of people, places and communities. Creating sustainable, high quality and affordable places where people wish to live, work and play can help tackle inequalities and enable communities to thrive. Whilst the new Strategy will naturally focus on supply, we must not lose sight of the importance of understanding the needs of people, places and communities when developing the Supply Strategy. We will make sure that communities have a greater say in the supply process, through community planning and stronger engagement in planning and regeneration processes.

The Enabling Principle

Our Enabling Principle outlines how we wish to work with others, recognising that the range of housing supply “whole system challenges” require “whole system solutions”, so working collaboratively across central and local government and with the private and voluntary and community sectors will be crucial in making a difference to the challenges facing the housing supply system. The lived experiences of those “in the system” need to help us shape solutions.

“Adopting a whole system approach, collaborate across central and local government and the third and private sectors to inclusively transform supply.”

Our Objectives

The Housing Supply Strategy is centred on delivering **five key objectives**:

- 1) Creating Affordable Options:** Increase housing supply and affordable options across all tenures to meet housing need and demand;
- 2) Prevention and Intervention:** Prevent homelessness, reduce housing stress and improve and prioritise housing solutions for those most in need;
- 3) Quality:** Improve housing quality;
- 4) Better Places:** Ensure the provision of housing options that contribute to the building and maintenance of thriving, inclusive communities and places; and
- 5) Decarbonisation:** Reduce whole-life carbon emissions from both new homes and existing homes and support a ‘just transition’ to carbon neutrality.

The Housing Supply Strategy is a 15-year policy framework in recognition that many of the transformations required are complex in nature, with some requiring a longer timeline to deliver on, than others. These policies must also be resilient to longer term issues such as demographic, economic and environmental change and technological advances. The Strategy must also be flexible enough to accommodate emerging issues. This will be achieved by keeping the Strategy under review and throughout the action planning process.

More about the framework and the proposed work under each of our specific objectives is detailed later in the document, including a more detailed outline of our long term policies, which set out the direction of travel and provide the context for development of action plans. Also detailed, under the banner of initial enabling activities, are actions we are already progressing or are committed to progressing, which we consider will make an important contribution to delivering our objectives by helping to create new sustainable housing options and better outcomes for our citizens.

As previously highlighted, the five key objectives are interconnected. As such, the policies and actions underneath each will actually have a much broader impact in achieving the Strategy vision. We have mapped these linkages at **Annex B**.

Data and Evidence

We are committed to developing an on-going housing evidence programme to support and inform all aspects of the Strategy. We will work with others to improve the data quality, availability and coverage to improve our understanding and measurement of the impact of our actions in helping to achieve our vision.

We will monitor and report on this Strategy on an annual basis. The first progress report will cover the enabling period 2021/22 – 2022/23 and will be published in 2023/24.

Indicators

It is proposed that the measurement of the impact of the Housing Supply Strategy will be monitored and reported upon with reference to a basket of indicators. Initial indicators include:

- Housing Stock figures (Source: Land and Property Services, DoF). We will be examining if and how we can get a more nuanced picture of the supply picture against housing need when work on the new Housing Executive Strategic Housing Market Analysis is complete (this is likely to be mid 2022);
- Number of households in housing stress (Source: Housing Executive);
- Number of households who are homeless both presentations and acceptances (Source: Housing Executive);
- Proportion of households spending 30% or more of their household income on housing costs (Source: Family Resources Survey);
- Proportion of households who report being either “very satisfied” or “fairly satisfied” with their house or flat (source: Continuous Household Survey);²³

- Percentage of homes that meet the Fitness Standard (Source: House Conditions Survey). This will be more relevant post completion of work to review the standard; and
- Standard Assessment Procedure (SAP) ratings - this is the measure for assessing energy ratings for homes (as collected through the House Conditions Survey). We are also working to assess if and how we might supplement this indicator (given that the HCS is only conducted every five years) with Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) data.²⁴

We will also factor in indicators included in other relevant Strategies, for instance, those outlined in the Energy Strategy options consultation in relation to household energy expenditure relative to all expenditure,²⁵ households in fuel poverty²⁶ and greenhouse gas emissions from energy related sectors (specifically residential properties)²⁷. We will also continue to develop our evaluation framework as we progress our housing evidence programme. This work will include expanding the range and nature of the indicators collated and analysed as we work to address the series of complex issues, which impede supply.

In accordance with the Outcomes Based Accountability, individual interventions or programmes will be monitored using report cards which detail the quantity of work done; the quality of work done; and the impact of this work.

23. A recent OECD study (OECD (2021), “Building for a better tomorrow: Policies to make housing more affordable”, Employment, Labour and Social Affairs Policy Briefs, OECD, Paris), highlights the advantages and limitations of a range of metrics to measure affordability (and quality) of housing and suggests that given the limitations of each, it is preferable to use a number of metrics including the perception of individuals. This is a new question added to the HCS in 21/22 so data will not be available until September 2022. Respondents to the Co3 for Evidence also highlighted the somewhat arbitrary nature of ratios with the explanation that they do not provide an adequate understanding of individual affordability.

24. SAP is assessment of the energy performance rating of a home. The higher the SAP rating, the lower the energy costs and subsequent carbon emissions. SAP calculations are used to form the Energy Performance Certificate (EPC). The HSC is a representative sample so therefore can be used to make inferences about all homes in NI. For EPC will only be new homes or homes that have been sold since EPC was introduced (30 December 2008), with the added issue of certificates only being valid for 10 years.

25. Source: Living Costs and Food Survey

26. Produced using modelling work from the House Conditions Survey.

27. Source: National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory (Devolved Administrations) – Greenhouse Gas Reports – NAEI, UK (naei.gov.uk)

Objective 1: Creating Affordable Options

Creating Affordable Options: Increase housing supply and affordable options across all tenures to meet housing need and demand.

Introduction

We need to create new, better and more affordable housing options for citizens.

To ensure that we get the right number and types of houses in the right places we need to improve our understanding and estimation of future housing requirements, including understanding different needs. Furthermore, as highlighted in the Call for Evidence, we need to have a better understanding of our current stock, including tenure, location and condition to establish a more robust picture of the supply gaps. Work is progressing to identify and address our housing data gaps, including the development of a Strategic Housing Market Analysis model but we do not need to wait until this work completes before we take action.

This is because we know from the evidence that we have available to us now, that:

- A significant increase in housing completions is necessary (given the widening gap between overall housing requirements and new supply);
- There are increasing affordability challenges for renters and prospective home purchasers; and
- Housing stress continues to increase (despite significant investment in social housing)

Achieving this objective must involve an increase in supply across all tenures and establishing 'new intermediate products' to provide alternative options outside of what is currently available.

Evidence (including that provided through the Call for Evidence process) has confirmed that the key levers we need to unlock to substantially increase supply across tenures are:

- Exploiting existing financial resources (including Financial Transactions Capital) to greater effect and investigate the potential for new sources;
- Addressing infrastructure constraints, most notably, waste water, transport, energy and the digital network;
- Increasing land availability in areas of need and demand, including through improving our knowledge of public land (both central and local government) that may be suitable for housing; and
- Creating the right policy and legislative environment, including better utilising the powers already in place to support new supply and reuse/adapt existing buildings, for example land acquisition, rating and planning powers.

Long Term Policies and Interventions

The long term policies and interventions we are proposing to meet this objective and address the needs described include:

- **Work collaboratively and innovatively with the private, public and third sectors to address issues around land availability and considering issues such as: local services, infrastructure constraints, sustainable drainage, digital connectivity and transport.**
- **Enhance our open data platforms to improve access to housing, land, property and planning data, creating better transparency and unlocking opportunities to transform supply.**

- **Ensure our housing policy and legislative framework enables us to deliver the housing supply to meet our current and future needs and demand patterns.**
- **Support upskilling, reskilling, delivery of apprenticeships and training for both existing workers and new workers in order to underpin a modern integrated housing system. This will include ensuring that public procurement spend contributes to the Executive's objectives, including creating jobs in deprived areas and ensuring security of our wider supply chain.**
- **Work innovatively to optimise access to alternative forms of public and private finance such as Financial Transactions Capital (FTC) and institutional funding to develop and deliver new and affordable housing products.**

Existing and New Enabling Activities

We will:

- Build more social houses, especially where they are most needed. This includes ring-fencing Housing Association Grant funding and seeking the prioritisation of water infrastructure for new housing in areas of most acute housing need.
- Progress Housing Executive Revitalisation. Revitalisation will focus on options which will enable a revitalised Strategic Housing Authority and sustainable social landlord, that can maintain and provide good quality and affordable homes for current tenants and future generations;
- Commission work aimed at critically evaluating current measures of affordability with reference to best practice in other jurisdictions and, if appropriate, recommending a measure or measures best suited to the NI context;
- Ensure that rents are fair for tenants as well as landlords across all tenures
- Work collaboratively to extend the scope of the Government Land and Property Register (GLPR) Programme to digitally map all land and property holdings for both Central Government and Local Government in NI. This will support efforts to identify land for social, affordable, and private new build, along with existing buildings suited to adaptive reuse, which can contribute towards supply. This development will underpin a Geographic Information System (GIS) enabled dataset which will in due course support a whole system based approach.
- Support the establishment of an Infrastructure Commission for an expert led, strategic and public engagement approach to long term infrastructure planning; and the establishment of a cross-departmental working group to determine the best organisational classification for the Commission, its cost, including remuneration, the appointment process of its members and its reporting arrangements;
- Undertake an assessment of Registered Housing Associations' powers, alongside the review of the legislative framework to ensure that Associations can fully participate in creating and delivering new housing options and mainstreaming mixed tenure;
- Support the Review of the Implementation of the Planning Act²⁸ – a number of issues were raised in the Call for Evidence around the planning system mainly to do with timescales for application decisions and LDP preparation.

²⁸ The Planning Act (NI) 2011 provided the legislative basis for the reform of the NI planning system. The reforms were comprehensive, impacting on every aspect of planning, including how development plans are drawn up, how development proposals and applications are managed and the way in which these functions are delivered. DfI issued a Call for Evidence in relation to helping inform a review of the implementation of the Planning Act in February 2021. DfI is currently assessing the wide ranging responses to the Call for Evidence and is giving careful consideration to the proposals which have emerged. The review will also reflect on any potential legislative amendments which may arise from parallel work to improve the planning system through the Planning Forum and the Planning Engagement Partnership.

- It is intended that a DfI report on this review will consider actions which can be taken forward to improve the planning system.
- Support the work of the Planning Forum in the implementation of recommendations made in the independent report on the role of statutory consultees in the planning process, with a focus on improving processes and timeframes for determining major and economically significant planning applications. The role of statutory consultees was an issue that was raised throughout the Call for Evidence.
 - Examine options for ensuring the ratings system responds over time to a range of emerging strategic opportunities and challenges, including for example decarbonisation, making better use of underused assets for domestic use and preventing dereliction.
 - In line with the new procurement policy introduced by the Department of Finance, implement the mandatory scoring of social value within public procurement contracts by June 2022, in all applicable publically funded housing development schemes to ensure opportunities to maximise the use of social clauses.
 - Consider how existing powers can be used better to achieve housing and regeneration in areas of greatest housing need and examine how statute and legislation might better support the release of land and buildings for the delivery of housing.
 - Continue to deliver current intermediate shared ownership housing to help those on lower incomes meet their aspirations to home ownership. This includes the delivery of a new pilot shared ownership scheme aimed at assisting those who are over 55 to move to a home more suitable for their needs.
 - Bring new affordable housing products to the market, such as, Intermediate Rent by 2023. Intermediate Rent seeks to provide high quality, well managed, affordable homes for rent for tenants who cannot or do not wish to access home ownership and would be unlikely to attain sufficient points to have a realistic chance of accessing social housing in an area of choice.
 - Commence a research project to determine the housing data we need that will establish a 'whole system' view of housing supply, including a more granular picture of the different types of homes we need to meet the different needs of our citizens. This will build on the Housing Executive's Strategic Housing Market Analysis.

Objective 2: Prevention and Intervention

Prevention and Intervention: Prevent homelessness, reduce housing stress and improve and prioritise housing solutions for those most in need.

Introduction

This objective recognises that housing issues are a major contributor to inequality and insecurity in our society. Indeed, the impact on the accessibility, adequacy and sustainability of local housing, and in turn inequalities in housing demand and supply in the last couple of years caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, has shone a light on these inequalities. As such, equality and human rights considerations are fundamental to achieving the vision for the Strategy and require a “whole system” approach.

Prevention of homelessness and reducing housing stress is the focus for this work. Work to increase housing supply and affordable options will make a substantial contribution to achieving this objective but success is also about ensuring improved affordable housing solutions for a wider diversity of needs including those of older people, those with disabilities (which in itself covers a wide spectrum of needs including physical and learning differences) and for other vulnerable people, including children in care, those individuals leaving the criminal justice system and those who are victims of domestic violence. Consequently, this objective also recognises the inextricable link between housing and the social care and support system and the need to have a continuum of support from temporary to permanent accommodation.

This objective also reflects what we heard in the Call for Evidence, including the need for us to:

- Focus on homelessness prevention;
- Learn lessons from elsewhere on approaches to increase stability and security for people in poverty, such as the Housing First model;²⁹
- Build on existing positive developments including interdepartmental working through the Covid -19 pandemic;
- Progress an holistic approach to housing provision, recognising the importance of wraparound and support services in the development and provision of housing solutions for those who have different needs;
- Protect our current social housing stock; and
- Future proof our homes so they are more easily adaptable to meet changing needs (this links closely with quality and design, which is more explicitly covered under Objective 3).

It also recognises that an effective and fair social housing allocations system is fundamental to easing housing stress and making sure allocations to social housing are being based on objective need. In this context it is noted that many of you who responded to the Call for Evidence referenced the points system, which determines an individual’s position on the social housing waiting list, highlighting that the award of some points, such as those for intimidation, can result in some individuals getting priority over those who have been on the waiting list for a long time.³⁰

²⁹ Housing First is an internationally recognised model of combatting long-term homelessness for people with complex needs. A Housing First service prioritises permanent housing for people experiencing homelessness from the outset. The intention is that housing should be available even if a person experiencing homelessness refuses treatment for their substance use or mental health issues and then a flexible support package covering mental health, substance use, employment and other issues is provided for the service users in their new home by a multi-disciplinary team. This is done with a view to reconnecting them to their community and ensuring stability in their accommodation.

³⁰ On applying for social housing, an individual’s position on the waiting list is determined by the points awarded. Points are awarded under four categories: (1) intimidation (2) insecurity of tenure (3) housing conditions (4) and health and social wellbeing issues.

Long Term Policies and Interventions

The long term policies and interventions we are proposing to meet this objective and address the needs described include:

- **Deliver housing solutions for citizens who are most in need, recognising the inequalities identified through the Equality Impact Assessment developed to support this Housing Supply Strategy**
- **Develop and implement new policies that will support the delivery of a more diverse range of housing types/alternative models of housing to meet all housing needs**
- **Improve our response to homelessness with a focus on prevention and learning the lessons from what worked so well during the pandemic as well as innovations from elsewhere**

Existing and New Enabling Activities

Building on the activities outlined under Objective 1, we will:

- Support the Housing Executive in the delivery of its Ending Homelessness Together 2022-2027 strategy. The focus of the Strategy links strongly to the Call for Evidence responses, mostly notably the need to prevent homelessness, support exiting into settled accommodation and extend Housing First provision. The Strategy also recognises that services must be tailored to appropriately take account of differences in those individuals and households presenting as homeless. Equality issues are central to the strategy and will also be central to monitoring its delivery.
- Progress the delivery of the Interdepartmental Homelessness Action Plan to provide a cohesive and co-ordinated response to the provision of non-accommodation services to those who are homeless or are at most risk

of homelessness. Responses to the Call for Evidence, including the need for better joined up policy in relation to mental health and drug addiction support and the need to focus on homelessness prevention for groups including those leaving the criminal justice system and people with a disability, will inform the focus of future actions;

- Assist the Housing Executive in the delivery of its Older People's Housing Strategy 2021/22-2026/27. Delivery of this Strategy includes working with partners to incorporate better design principles into social housing (both new and existing) that is reflective of the needs of older people (recognising that older people are not a homogenous group), encouraging council planners to incorporate the requirement that all new build housing should meet lifetime home standards and exploring the use assistive technology has to play in supporting independent living and sustaining and supporting tenancies.
- Support the Housing Executive to deliver the Irish Travellers Accommodation Strategy³¹ to provide access to affordable, good quality, culturally appropriate housing accommodation which fosters a sustainable, vibrant Irish Traveller community and promotes inclusion, a sense of belonging and security. This Strategy proposes a number of key actions, including those designed to better understand Traveller specific accommodation needs and improve fitness standards for caravans (which also links closely to Objective 3) and details an implementation plan laying out a work programme over the next five years.
- Support the development and implementation of a 3-year Strategy for the Supporting People Programme, in partnership with delivery agents and users. As emphasised by

³¹ <https://www.nihe.gov.uk/Documents/Irish-Traveller-Strategy/Irish-Travellers-Accommodation-Strategy-2021-2026.cspx>

many respondents to the Call for Evidence, the Supporting People Programme plays a fundamental role in helping people attain and maintain their independence. The new Strategy is designed to meet the existing and emerging needs of those who are homeless, older people, younger people and those with a disability.

- Examine options for alternative models of supported housing that addresses anticipated and emerging need. The current model of delivery of Supported Housing has remained unchanged since the mid-1990s. This work will include an examination of 'what works' in other jurisdictions, including evidence or learning from or changes to service provision because of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Progress work to better understand the housing experiences of Section 75 groups, with reference to multiple identities and intersections between different equality categories. This is a key evidence gap identified in the Housing Supply Strategy EQIA;
- Continue to prioritise and improve housing adaptations to both social and private homes. This will build on the success of a new pilot approach for Housing Executive homes tested in pilot areas. It will also involve us working with the Housing Executive to examine the adaptations process, including the updating of the adaptations toolkit and identifying any policy gaps.
- Ensure an effective and fair social housing allocations system based on objective need through implementing the 18 recommendations of the Review of the Common Selection Scheme³² and examining further options on the issues of intimidation points and interim accommodation points;
- Bring forward a consultation on the future of the Housing Executive House Sales Scheme; and
- Work with local government and housing delivery partners to ensure that plans and policies support the delivery of a range of housing types and sizes, to meet the needs of a changing demographic and lifestyles.

³² <https://www.communities-gov.uk/consultations/fundamental-review-social-housing-allocations>

Objective 3: Quality

Quality: Improve housing quality

Introduction

At the most basic level, achieving this objective is about ensuring that nobody has to live in inadequate housing. Our aim is for all homes to be of good quality meaning that everyone can expect the same high standards no matter what kind of home or tenure they live in.

As confirmed in the Call for Evidence:

- Our Housing Fitness Standard now lags behind that in place in other jurisdictions and is, therefore, limited as a tool for addressing our modern housing challenges and complimenting the NI Executive's wider policy agenda;
- There are particular issues with the quality, security and safety of our Private Rented Sector; and
- Many of our social homes are at risk unless we secure the investment necessary to allow these homes to be maintained and enhanced.

It is also about supporting the principles of tenure-neutral standards and requiring housing developers and homeowners to ensure their properties meet current and future fitness standards. It must also necessitate action to ensure our buildings are fit for the future and meet our 2050 Net Zero Carbon objectives.

Linked to Objective 2, other issues around quality and design also include considerations around whether our homes are designed to best meet our needs. In this respect, stakeholders emphasised

the need for good design, so that accessibility does not compromise the attractiveness of their home or demarcate their home as different from surrounding homes.

Of course, issues of quality and safety also include surrounding areas and are directly linked to creating better places (Objective 4).

Long Term Policies and Interventions

The long term policies and interventions we are proposing to meet this objective and address the needs described include:

- **Update existing policies and develop new policies that will ensure our housing standards support the delivery of higher quality homes across all tenures**
- **Work collaboratively to ensure the design of our homes support those with care needs to live independently if they wish to do so**

Existing and New Enabling Activities

Building on the activities outlined under Objectives 1 and 2, we will:

- Undertake a comprehensive review of fitness standards applicable for all tenures.
- Support the timely uplift of building regulations for new homes and, where appropriate, the implementation of features of the Building Safety Bill (developed in the wake of the Grenfell Tower disaster). In relation to the latter, this will include consideration if and how the role of a New Homes Ombudsman can support the delivery of high quality homes;

- Put the needs of tenants at the heart of ensuring that the PRS is suitable for a wider range of households. Specifically we will deliver new legislation that will improve the safety, security and quality of the Private Rented sector. In doing this we will aim to strengthen enforcement powers to uphold standards in the PRS by :
 - restricting rent increases to once in a 12 month period;
 - extending the notice to quit period a landlord must give a tenant;
 - setting limits on tenancy deposit amounts; and
 - making it a mandatory requirement for private landlords to provide smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and to carry out periodic electrical checks.

We will then take forward further work to address other cross cutting issues, including regulating letting agents and establishing specific grounds for eviction.

- Work with the Housing Executive to address its investment challenges in order to improve and maintain its existing social homes.
- Regularly review the Housing Association Guide to examine if and how we can enhance the design of our social housing to better meet the diversity of housing needs. This work will be informed by a wide range of evidence, including pilot projects.

Objective 4: Better Places

Better Places: Ensure the provision of housing options that contribute to the building and maintenance of thriving, inclusive communities and places;

Introduction

Doing things differently through working across departments and sectors can create new solutions to stubborn housing issues and will help achieve better outcomes for our communities. In order to achieve this, we need to agree a definition of what we mean by 'sustainable homes and communities'. We will build on the definitions outlined in the DfI Strategic Planning Policy Statement (SPPS)³³ on core planning principles and in the Regional Development Strategy (RDS) 2035 on sustainable communities and cohesive communities,³⁴ and note that the location of housing providing convenient access to key services by walking, cycling and public transport are key considerations reducing the need for motorised transport to access daily services.

These definitions describe sustainable communities as places where people want to live, work and play, now and in the future. They meet the diverse needs of existing and future residents, are sensitive to their environment and contribute to a high quality of life. They are safe and inclusive, well planned, built and run and offer equality of opportunity and good services to all.

Building and maintaining thriving and inclusive communities and places can support the wellbeing of those who live there. One of the key ingredients in the creation of such places is the provision of a range of affordable housing options across a mix

of tenures that meet people's needs across all stages of their lives. Coupled with this, these places should be located close to employment, recreation, shopping, community facilities and public transport services, and built with the necessary enabling infrastructure that takes account of future growth as well as addressing changes in demography, technology or climate change.

Our Strategy recognises the variety of urban, suburban and rural places that exist here and the myriad of challenges faced by different target groups within communities in these places. We acknowledge that a one size fits all approach to housing supply and place shaping will not work. Our approach will be more nuanced and dovetail with local Council led Community Plans and their Local Development Plans. Helping people to help design and access a range of housing options in the places and communities in which they want to live, is a cornerstone of this Strategy. We also recognise that the benefit of providing options that allow communities and places to thrive will have a potential concurrent effect of reducing stress on other parts of the public sector, for example the health and social care systems.

The Strategy recognises the need not just to build new homes and to protect existing supply but also to build and maintain the inclusive and cohesive places in which homes are located. This means taking a more integrated, person and community-focused approach to the creation of sustainable and thriving places, where the voices of local people have a say and they can take responsibility with others in how their areas are developed and maintained.

33 <https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/infrastructure/SPPS.pdf> - Pg 12 para 3.6 and section 4.5 under core planning principles.

34 <https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/infrastructure/regional-development-strategy-2035.pdf>, Pg 40 para 3.9 and 3.11.

Community wealth building is one such community-focussed approach. Community wealth building is a new people-centred approach to local economic development, which redirects wealth back into the local economy, and places control and benefits into the hands of local people. Activity encompasses embedding social value in procurement (as referenced in Objective 1) and Community Asset Transfer.

The provision of a range of housing options is a key element of this Strategy. In this context 'options' can refer to a mixed tenure approach to housing provision, but also to the types of houses being provided within tenures. The advantage of mixed tenure in new or existing housing developments is that it creates a balanced social mix and as a result, communities are likely to be more diverse resulting in a more cohesive community and may be more tolerant of one another. In terms of housing options within tenures, these also have significant potential to help build and sustain diverse communities and places; for example, affordable and accessible housing options for those who are older and/ or those who have disabilities or who have other particular housing needs; independent living options; affordable housing in rural settlements to sustain rural communities and to provide young and older people with options to be able to stay close to their families and support networks.

The Strategy also understands the impact of poverty and low-incomes in relation to housing affordability and sustainability and the differential impacts on Section 75 groups. That said, as previously highlighted, further data disaggregation and related research is required to gain a better understanding of the causality of many of the key inequalities that appear to exist when looking at housing experiences. There is a commitment to progress work to help achieve this understanding under Objective 2.

The Strategy also recognises the wider social and economic impacts and consequences of the segregation of housing here and the lack of integration across our communities and the benefits of creating more shared housing areas.

Long Term Policies and Interventions

The long term policies and interventions we are proposing to meet this objective and address the needs described include:

- **Putting place-shaping at the heart of our actions by developing policies that will support delivery of housing led regeneration, encourage mixed tenure and promote shared housing**
- **Ensure the planning system, including Local Development Plans, help support the delivery of the appropriate supply of housing, reflecting the changing nature of need and demand with consideration to wider policy influences including adaptive reuse and climate change.**
- **Work in new and different ways with local Councils and Community Planning Partnerships to realise opportunities to increase and maintain housing supply and help create sustainable and inclusive urban and rural places.**

Existing and New Enabling Activities

Building on the activities outlined under Objectives 1 -3, we will:

- Continue to progress and support the delivery of the Shared Housing Programme;
- Support the development of town and city centre waiting lists to provide improved housing options supported by accompanying soft and hard infrastructure that creates attractive and cohesive spaces in which people wish to live;

- Work with the Housing Executive, local government and housing delivery partners to mainstream mixed tenure in both social and private housing developments. This will involve the development of a mixed tenure policy;
- Develop a housing-led regeneration policy to focus on the reversal of physical, social and economic decline in areas of social deprivation and which takes account of the changing use of our villages, towns and city centres;
- Contribute to the implementation of the Housing Executive's 'Reaching Rural' 2021-2025 Strategy. The Strategy contains a key theme of 'Enabling the provision of affordable rural homes' and explicitly acknowledges many of the issues raised through the Call for Evidence, including hidden housing need, higher occurrence of less energy efficient homes and fuel poverty and infrastructure constraints. Also of direct relevance to the Call for Evidence, the Strategy commits to examine how community led housing can help address housing supply issues faced by rural communities.¹⁵
- Explore the potential for Community Wealth Building approaches, including Community Asset Transfers to assist in the delivery of affordable housing which responds to local housing needs. This will include consideration of, if and how we can measure social value in the disposal of public land and property.
- Undertake research in new approaches to place making and their applicability to urban, suburban and rural areas. This could include sustainable approaches to contemporary place-making such as plot-based urbanism or gentle density alongside mechanisms for meaningfully engaging communities in place shaping and place making activities locally.
- Research and investigate how best to work with multiple agencies and other stakeholders to develop innovative demonstration projects to address the housing needs of those most in need.

¹⁵ <https://www.nbe.gov.uk/Documents/Consultation-Draft-Rural-Strategy-2021/Draft-Rural-Strategy-2021-2025-POI-1-5441.aspx>

Objective 5: Decarbonisation

Decarbonisation: Reduce whole-life carbon emissions from both new homes and existing homes and support a 'just transition' to carbon neutrality.

Introduction:

Within New Decade New Approach,³⁶ the Executive committed to tackling climate change head on. This Strategy will support this existing commitment.

The Strategy recognises the key role that both the construction of new housing and the retrofitting of existing homes will play in helping to achieve an ambitious target of reducing all carbon emissions by 56%, by 2030 compared to 1990 levels – and ultimately to achieve net zero by 2050.³⁷ Measures to improve the energy efficiency of the housing stock are undoubtedly a cost-effective intervention over the long-term that help reduce emissions and address fuel poverty. Location of housing will also be an important factor in reducing carbon. This links to Objective 4.

Based on current practices, technologies and building standards, constructing new homes using traditional practices and materials will generate pollutants that accelerate global warming. Similarly, heating existing, less thermally/energy-efficient homes will mean we continue to burn more fossil fuels – which is also detrimental for the environment.

People are concerned about the impacts of the energy transition, particularly how it may change their everyday lives as well as the costs associated with achieving carbon neutrality. It is the responsibility of government to help by clearly setting out the changes that are required and

implementing mechanisms to support people through the transition period, including behavioural change. Careful consideration (and tailored support) must be given to those most in need, including those disadvantaged and/or marginalised groups. It is also vital that we continue to engage with people throughout the transition to carbon neutrality.

This transition to carbon neutrality, although challenging, presents a major opportunity for the housing sector, a chance to make a fundamental change in its ambitions, processes and social contribution.

Long Term Policies and Interventions

The long term policies and interventions to support a just transition and an equitable decarbonisation of both new and existing supply are:

- **Protect and optimise existing supply, across all tenures, with consideration to retrofit, adaptive reuse and climate resilience.**
- **Support the vision and objectives of the Green Growth and Energy Strategies, with an emphasis on improving the energy efficiency of homes and ensuring a just transition to decarbonised solutions.**

Existing and New Enabling Activities

Building on the activities outlined under Objectives 1 -4, we will:

- Ensure that green growth is central to all our supply policy and budgetary decisions and support the new Green Growth test proposed under the Executive's draft Green Growth Strategy which seeks to ensure delivering Green Growth is a budgetary priority across the public sector.

36: 2020-01-08_a_new_decade_a_new_approach.pdf (publishing.service.gov.uk)

37: <https://www.thecoc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/The-Sixth-Carbon-Budget-The-UKs-path-to-Net-Zero.pdf>

- Support the delivery of initiatives in the Energy Strategy options consultation that have a housing focus, including:
 - Improving information and advice on energy efficiency and transitioning to net zero;
 - Ensuring energy is affordable for those on low incomes;
 - Enhancing energy efficiency of homes; through:
 - Enhanced building regulations
 - Setting Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (MEES)
 - Development of new approaches to support retrofit of existing homes; and
 - Identifying and addressing key skills needed.
- Deliver a new Fuel Poverty Strategy within the context of decarbonisation and just transition;
- Put in place minimum standards for the PRS, as part of a wider Executive policy to set MEES for all domestic tenure types (this also links to Objective 3 in relation to actions to improving quality and addressing affordability challenges in this sector).
- In line with the Energy Strategy options consultation, work with social and intermediate housing providers to ensure the homes they build are Net Zero ready by 2026/27.
- Make increased funding available to enable Housing Associations to build new homes to an energy efficiency standard that exceeds Building Regulations. This will reduce heating costs for tenants, remove the need for expensive retrofitting, and increase expertise and knowledge of low energy housing in the sector in advance of future clarification on Net Zero requirements and uplifts in building regulations.
- Work with social and affordable intermediate housing providers to advance decarbonisation in existing homes, to meet our climate change targets, improve the quality of homes and reduce heating costs for tenants.

Delivering the Strategy

Definition of Success

The aim for this Strategy will be to create a housing system that can deliver upwards of 100,000 homes over its lifetime. Crucially these will be homes of the right quality, right type, right cost and in the right locations to meet our current and future housing needs and demands.

To this end this Strategy is based on the assumption that as an Executive we will:

- Prioritise housing and deliver for those most in need;
- Grow the economy;
- Address investment in Infrastructure;
- Improve our Planning System;
- Release public sector land (both local and central government owned) where appropriate;
- Invest in modernising our skills;
- Secure the necessary funding for our decarbonisation requirements; and
- Maximise the availability of public and private finance.

Delivery Roadmap

The Housing Supply Strategy will be delivered through a series of detailed Action Plans, each of which will align with budget periods. By adopting this approach, we will ensure the actions that underpin the Strategy, are aligned to an ever-changing social, economic and environmental context. This will ensure the Strategy remains relevant and appropriate and provides a dynamic model for delivery, which is both flexible and focused.

To ensure delivery remains focused on our vision and objectives we will be:

- **Working Collaboratively:** across the system of government to transform supply
- **Thinking Differently:** acknowledge that transforming supply means protecting existing homes as well as providing new homes
- **Promoting Change:** by taking forward new and different solutions with both existing and new delivery partners

Working Collaboratively

Implementing this Strategy will require coordination across local and central government as well as new and different arrangements with both the third sector and private sector. To provide leadership and co-ordination across both central and local government landscapes we will implement a new Programme Structure to coordinate delivery of the Strategy and associated policies.

We will contribute to and work alongside wider and related work streams, including the delivery of the Energy Strategy, the Green Growth Strategy, the new Anti-Poverty Strategy, the Children and Young People's Strategy 2020-2030, the Mental Health Strategy 2021-2031 and the ambitions of 10X Economy. We will work with delivery partners and stakeholders to map where current capabilities and responsibilities exist and identify gaps or constraints in delivering our vision. We will then set out our plans for delivery of the Strategy.

Thinking Differently

This new approach is about collaborating to provide 'whole system' solutions and capitalising on the different strengths, expertise and experience of partners. Progressing this approach will include the ongoing development and stewardship of action plans.

Promoting Change

Delivering on our supply needs is not just about building more homes, rather it involves ensuring that we have the right types of homes in the right places and we protect and enhance the homes we already have. It is also about unblocking barriers, while exploring new ways of doing things and working better with both new and existing partners.

Review and implement necessary legislative, policy and regulatory changes

New legislation, policies and procurement protocols are likely to be required to underpin the delivery of the Strategy. We will identify where new powers and policies are needed to enable strategy delivery and set out a framework for implementing these.

Produce a comprehensive evidence base to inform policy decisions

We will publish an outline of the research, modelling and analysis that will support the Strategy moving forward.

Equality and Rural Needs

We will also establish monitoring systems for the EQIA and Rural Needs Impact Assessment which accompanies this Strategy and this information will help shape actions to address identified housing inequalities throughout the Strategy.

Monitoring

We will carry out a strategic review of this Strategy every five years. We will publish annual progress reports on this Strategy and it will be updated as necessary.

Progress reports will:

- Track our identified metrics and monitor progress;
- Refresh and update the action plan, including new actions identified; and
- Provide an overview of strategic developments

The first progress report will be published covering the period to March 2023.

Questions

Consultation Questions: We would like to thank you for your input so far and we would urge you to contribute to shape the development of the final strategy.

Responses to the questions should be made via the Citizenspace survey which can be found on the Housing Supply Strategy consultation **webpage**.

If you are unable to complete the survey online please contact the Housing Supply Strategy team by email: **dfchousingsupplystrategy@communities-ni.gov.uk**

Strategic Framework

- 1 The Call for Evidence consultation showed that there was broad support for the proposed vision, objectives and timeframe for the Strategy. Based on the comments received we have updated these for the draft Strategy – are you content with these?
- 2 The assessment of the Call for Evidence has enabled us to develop a total of 15 longer term policies and interventions that will provide the basis to develop appropriate action plans. Do you agree with the focus of these 15 high level long term policies and interventions?
- 3 The Strategy includes an enabling principle to: 'Adopt a whole system approach, collaborate with central and local government and the third and private sectors to inclusively transform supply.' Do you agree with the proposed enabling principle?

Measurement

- 4 Do you agree with the proposed ambition to deliver 100,000 plus homes over the 15 year lifespan of the Strategy?
- 5 Do you agree with the proposed indicators to measure the success and progress of the Housing Supply Strategy?
- 6 Are there any additional indicators that you consider would add value in measuring success and progress?

Delivery and Oversight

- 7 How can we best ensure that key strategic partners such as other Departments, local government, the Voluntary & Community sector and private sector can participate in the delivery and oversight of the Supply Strategy delivery?

Action Planning

- 8 Are there any proven or new approaches you are aware of, that you believe would help us work best with other organisations to develop and deliver the action plans?

Citizen Engagement

- 9 There was broad support in the Call for Evidence for the need to engage local communities in housing supply to create sustainable, thriving and inclusive communities. In what way do you consider this could best be achieved and do you have any examples of best practice in this area?

Equality

- 10 Do you agree with the findings of the EQIA?

11 Are there any other inequalities that have not been highlighted in the EQIA that you believe the EQIA needs to note?

12 Do you agree with the immediate next steps as outlined in Section 5 of the EQIA?

Rural

13 The Rural Needs Impact Assessment outlines that the development of the Housing Supply Strategy is likely to have a positive impact on people on Rural Areas? Do you agree with this assessment?

14 Is there any other evidence, information or issues you think should be considered in this screening?

General

We would welcome any other comments or suggestions you have that you consider are relevant to developing and delivering the Housing Supply Strategy.

Annex A – Key Trends Impacting on the Housing Market

Key Trends Impacting the Housing Market

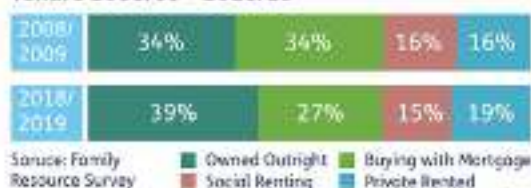
NI Household Projections 2011-2031 Source: NINIS



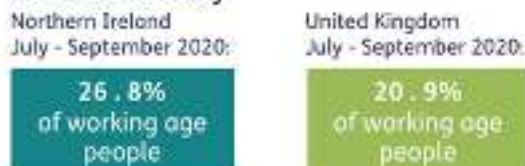
NI Household Projections 2011-2031



Tenure 2008/09 - 2018/19

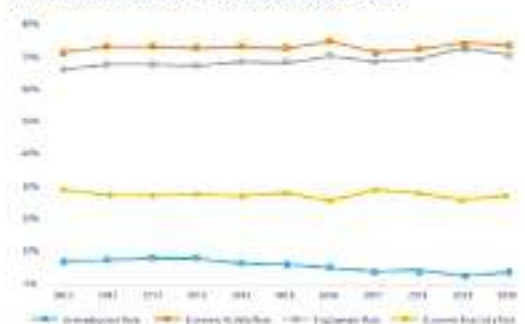


Economic Inactivity*



*The proportion of people aged from 16 to 34 who were not working and not seeking or available to work

NI Labour Market Trends 2010-2020

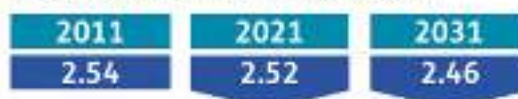


Source: NISRA Labour Market Report



Source: Living Wage Foundation and New Economics Foundation June 2020

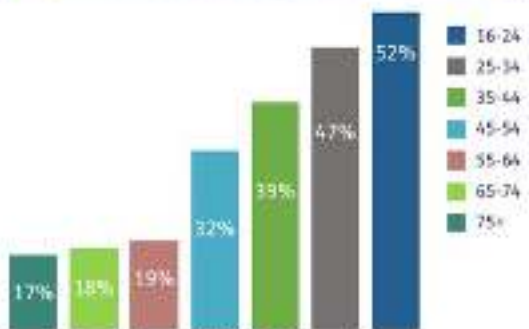
NI Average Household Size: 2011-2031



Population Age Profile



Limiting Long Standing Illness



Source: Health Survey NI 2019/20

Workers in NI are Low Paid, Insecure Employment*

*This includes those earning less than the living wage, and in temporary employment, self-employment or those who report volatile pay and/or hours.

Annex B – Long Term Policies and Interventions – How they Contribute to Objectives

Policies and interventions	Objective 1	Objective 2	Objective 3	Objective 4	Objective 5
Work collaboratively and innovatively with the private, public and third sectors to address issues around land availability and considering issues such as: local services, infrastructure constraints, sustainable drainage, digital connectivity and transport.	Primary ³⁸	✓	✓	✓	✓
Enhance our open data platforms to improve access to housing, land, property and planning data, creating better transparency and unlocking opportunities to transform supply.	Primary	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ensure our housing policy and legislative framework enables us to deliver the housing supply to meet our current and future needs and demand patterns.	Primary				
Support upskilling, reskilling, delivery of apprenticeships and training for both existing workers and new workers in order to underpin a modern integrated housing system. This will include ensuring that public procurement spend contributes to the Executive's objectives, including creating jobs in deprived areas and ensuring security of our wider supply chain.	Primary				
Work innovatively to optimise access to alternative forms of public and private finance such as Financial Transactions Capital (FTC) and institutional funding to develop and deliver new and affordable housing products.	Primary	✓			
Deliver housing solutions for citizens who are most in need, recognising the inequalities identified through the Equality Impact Assessment developed to support this Housing Supply Strategy		Primary		✓	
Develop and implement new policies that will support the delivery of a more diverse range of housing types/alternative models of housing to meet all housing needs		Primary		✓	
Improve our response to homelessness with a focus on prevention and learning the lessons from what worked so well during the pandemic as well as innovations from elsewhere		Primary			

38 The Primary objective is the objective it is captured under within the Strategy.

Policies and interventions	Objective 1	Objective 2	Objective 3	Objective 4	Objective 5
Update existing policies and develop new policies that will ensure our housing standards support the delivery of higher quality homes across all tenures	✓		Primary	✓	✓
Work collaboratively to ensure the design of our homes support those with care needs to live independently if they wish to do so			Primary		
Putting place-shaping at the heart of our actions by developing policies that will support delivery of housing led regeneration, encourage mixed tenure and promote shared housing.	✓			Primary	
Ensure the planning system, including Local Development Plans, can deliver the appropriate supply of housing, reflecting changing nature of need and demand and with consideration to wider policy influences including adaptive reuse and climate change.	✓			Primary	✓
Work in new and different ways with local Councils and Community Planning Partnerships to realise opportunities to increase and maintain housing supply and help create sustainable and inclusive urban and rural places.				Primary	
Protect and optimise existing supply, across all tenures, with consideration to retrofit, adaptive reuse and climate resilience.	✓	✓	✓	✓	Primary
Support the vision and objectives of the Green Growth and Energy Strategies, with an emphasis on improving the energy efficiency of homes and ensuring a just transition to decarbonised solutions.	✓				Primary

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Commonities



Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee (AHC)
Date of Meeting:	21 February 2022
Subject:	Defibrillator Provision Update
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Eoin Devlin, Assistant Director Health & Wellbeing
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Eoin Devlin, Assistant Director Health & Wellbeing

Confirm how this Report should be treated by placing an x in either: -

For decision For noting only X

1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	To note the report regarding progress on the Notice of Motion in relation to Defibrillators
2.0	Key issues
2.1	<p>The following Notice of Motion was tabled at the Active and Healthy Communities Committee meeting in August 2021</p> <p>'To ask Newry, Mourne & Down District Council to undertake a programme of engagement with local sports clubs and community organisations across the District to establish the level of defibrillator provision within their various facilities. The Council should endeavour to offer practical support to respective sporting and community organisations to increase the level of defibrillator provision and endeavour to achieve maximum capacity of this life saving equipment in all sporting and community facilities at the earliest opportunity. The Council should also develop a programme which is designed to increase the numbers of officers and volunteers within all sporting and community organisations who can perform the vital lifesaving skill of CPR'</p> <p>It was proposed that the Council would target all organisations across business, statutory, Community and Voluntary sectors who have an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) to register it on the National Defibrillator Network – 'The Circuit', which is supported by the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service and British Heart Foundation. This registration with the Circuit will help organisations to look after and maintain their AED. They will receive regular reminders to check the AED is emergency ready and the pads are in date.</p> <p>Subsequent to the notice of Motion an email was sent to all Community groups within Community services contacts to register their Defibrillator on the NI Platform identified above</p> <p>In addition to aid achievement of this target the Health and Wellbeing Department of the Council would encourage organisations and businesses across the Council area to register</p>

	<p>their AED with the Circuit. It was proposed that this would be achieved by using a combination of media and officer intervention.</p> <p>The Circuit is provided by British Heart Foundation primarily to help defibrillator Guardians register their devices and make sure they're ready to be used in an emergency. Once registered on The Circuit, the defibrillator is visible to NHS ambulance services who can direct callers to its location, so it can be used to help save lives.</p> <p>Currently you are not able to look up the location of all the defibrillators in the country. However, development and implementation of The Circuit is ongoing with five of the 14 UK ambulance services now connected. By the time all ambulance services are live in 2021 we expect to have developed additional functionality that will allow anyone to find out the location of defibrillators on The Circuit. This will be through searchable maps on either a computer or smart phone.</p> <p>Environmental Health Officers and Tobacco Control Officers working within the Health and Wellbeing Department have been raising the issue during visits and inspections for the past 6 months and have been passing on the appropriate advice on registration if there is an AED on the premises. We will continue to give this advice as a matter of routine</p> <p>Since 2015 the council have carried out several programmes and initiatives encouraging groups and clubs to provide defibrillators and to date 45 sports clubs and 34 community buildings across the district have said they have access to a defibrillator. Since 2017, council has provided first aid/ defibrillator training which was undertaken by 30 clubs with 181 people across the district attending the training.</p> <p>The provision of training was curtailed due to the pandemic but the promotion of same will now be re-invigorated</p>
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	That Committee note the report
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	There are no cost implications associated with the recommendations in this report
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p>

	<p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>
5.3	<p><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)
6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If no, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy / strategy / plan / public service is not influenced by rural needs <input type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	Appendices
	<p>1. Defibrillator provision in clubs</p> <p>2. Sports clubs Training</p>
8.0	Background Documents

Name of Club	Access to defibrillator
Newry Rugby Club	Mobile defib held by coach
Newry City AC	Yes
St Patricks GFC Cullyhanna	Yes
Saval GAC	Yes
St Colmans Drumaness GAC	Yes
Gym Trix Gymnastics Club	
Culloville Blues GAC	Yes
Warrenpoint Bowling Club	No
Newry Olympic Hockey Club	Yes
Russell Gaelic Union Downpatrick	Yes
Camlough Rovers	Yes
Saval Down	Yes
Ballynahinch Olympic FC	Portable defib
Ardglass GAC	2 portable
Dundrum Cricket Club	Yes
Newcastle & District AC	Yes
Dromara GAC	Yes
Warrenpoint Golf Club	Yes
St John Bosco GAC	Yes
Castlewellan Town	No
Newcastle Tennis Club	Yes
Annalong FC Youth	2 portable
Slieve Gullion Runners	No
Castlwellan GAC	Yes
Kilclief Ben Dearg GAC	Yes
Balynahinch Rugby FC	Yes
Midway Youth Club	Yes
Crossmaglen Rangers GFC	Yes
Warrenpoint Town FC	Yes
Killyleagh Coastal Rowing Club	Yes
Dunnaman FC	No
Camlough Lake Water Festival Committee	No
Carrickcruppen GAA	
Drumgath GAC	Yes
East Down AC	Yes
Clonduff Down	Yes
Strangford Sailing Club	Yes
Shimna Wheelers Cycling Club	No
Spa Golf Club	Yes
Magheradroll Bowling Club	Yes
Down Netball Club	Yes
The Feel Good Factor	No
Dundrum Coastal Rowing Club	Yes
Downpatrick FC	Mobile

Sports Clubs who availed of First Aid and Defib Training

2017/2018

Downpatrick Football Club: 20
 Sacred Heart Boxing Club: 3
 St Killians Whitecross: 10
 Dromara GAC: 12
 Newcastle F.C: 8
 Kilkeel Hockey: 3
 Tollymore Utd F.C: 7
 C'wellan Town F.C: 2
 East Down A.C: 4
 Annalong Youth F.C: 10
 Slieve Gullion Runners: 4
 Drumaness GAC/Drumaness Camogie Club: 4
 Ballynagross F.C: 2
 Teconnaught GFC: 2
 DPK School of Lifesaving: 3
 Loughisland GAC: 10
 Kilclief GAC: 20

Total: 124

2018/19

Celtic Boys Football Club: 1
 Down Netball Club: 3
 Ballydugan Clay Pigeon Club: 2
 Warrenpoint Town Football Club: 10
 Newcastle Shooters Netball Club: 4
 Ballyvea Football Club: 2
 Valley Rangers Football Club: 1
 Celtic Boys Football Club: 1
 Down Netball Club: 3
 Ballydugan Clay Pigeon Club: 2
 Saintfield United Football Club: 12
 Ballynahinch Olympic Football Club: 1
 St John's Gaelic Athletic Club: 15

Total: 57

Grand Total: 181

Note: There was no training delivered in 2020/2021 to date due to lockdowns and Covid-19 restrictions.

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities
Date of Meeting:	21 February 2022
Subject:	Social Investment Fund – Capital
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Janine Hillen - Assistant Director: Community Engagement
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Sonya Burns – Head of Programmes Unit Sarah McClory – Programmes Coordinator

Confirm how this Report should be treated by placing an x in either:-	
For decision	For noting only
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	<p>The Council is covered by two Social Investment Zones – Southern (legacy Newry and Mourne) and South Eastern (legacy Down). The Council has completed the 'Work It' programme in the Southern Zone. The South Eastern Zone includes two programmes: Castlewellan Community Centre and Community Operated Sports Facilities (Ballyhorman and Killooley).</p> <p>The final claim has been submitted and the OBA's will continue to be submitted in line with the letter of offer requirements.</p> <p>The final Project Board meeting took place in December 2021, the outstanding matter of Project Agreements for Ballyhorman and Castlewellan has been completed. The Executive Office DSO currently finalising Ballyhoran legal charge.</p>
2.0	Key issues
2.1	<p>Castlewellan Community Centre The project is fully completed with the group undertaking the OBA data collection and reporting.</p> <p>Ballyhorman The group will complete the OBA report cards in line with the Letter of Offer.</p> <p>Killooley Planning permission was not granted so project cannot proceed.</p>
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	That the Committee note the report and minutes.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	Council contribution: Ballyhorman £125K
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input type="checkbox"/></p>

5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>
5.3	<p><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>
6.0	<p>Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)</p>
6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If no, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy / strategy / plan / public service is not influenced by rural needs <input type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	<p>Appendices</p>
	<p>Minutes of SIF Board Meeting in December 2021.</p>
8.0	<p>Background Documents</p>

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF SIF CAPITAL PROJECT BOARD MEETING
Monday 13th December 2021 @ 10 am, via Zoom**

CHAIRPERSON: Janine Hillen - Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

Others Present:

Francesca Dowler – Ards and North Down Borough Council
Raphael Crummy – Department for Communities
Kenny Knox – Strategic Investment Board Limited
Sarah McClory – Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
Sonya Burns - Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

Apologies:

Anita Waite – Department for Communities
Michael Lipsett - Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
Fearghal O'Connor – Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
Aideen Logue – Department for Communities

1. INTRODUCTIONS:

Janine Hillen welcomed all the members of the Project Board and thanked all those in attendance.

2. CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

No conflicts of interest were declared.

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING (11th October 2021)

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

4. ACTION SHEETS (11th October 2021)

Thomas Davis - Kenny Knox to provide Raphael Crummy with final costs.
Castlewellan - Letter to be issued to group to notify that legal charge is outstanding.
Kilcooley – Project to be removed from agenda
Ballyhornan - Launch event to be finalised.
Ballyhornan – Letter to be issue to group to notify that legal charge is outstanding.

5. PROJECT UPDATES

5.1 THOMAS DAVIS:

- Kenny Knox provided an update and has provided Raphael Crummy with the final cost figures.

Actions: none

5.2 Castlewellan: Community Centre

- Kenny updated, legal charge sign off is ongoing.

Actions: Sarah McClory to forward copy of Project Agreement to Kenny Knox.

5.3 Community Operated Outdoor Facility - Ballyhorman:

- Official launch of facility took place on 27th October 2021.

Actions: Sarah McClory to forward copy of Project Agreement to Kenny Knox.

6 UPDATE FROM DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES (DfC)

- Raphael Crummy had no further updates.

7 FINANCE

- None.

8 OBA NISRA REPORT CARDS

- Ongoing.

9 AOB

- No further Project Board Meetings required unless requested by Board member.

Signed:

Janine Hillen
Chairperson

Date:

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	21 February 2022
Subject:	DfC Fair Funding - Ring Fenced Welfare Reform Advice Posts
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Janine Hillen, Assistant Director Community Engagement
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Damien Brannigan, Head of Engagement

Confirm how this Report should be treated by placing an x in either: -

For decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	For noting only	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	<p>Purpose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To note the report. <p>Background</p> <p>The Council is the primary funder of 'Community Advice Newry, Mourne and Down', with the Council providing £292,539.00 for Generalist Advice Services, which is awarded through an annual Service Level Agreement (SLA). £143,871.30 of this £292,539.00 comes from DfC (under DfC's District Councils' Community Support Programme) and the Council contributes the remainder of £148,667.70 from its own resources.</p> <p>In addition to the above provision, the AHC Committee at its meeting on Monday 21 June 2021 agreed to award to 'Community Advice Newry, Mourne and Down' additional funding of £113,258.64 from DfC which was provided by DfC specifically to support the continuation of the existing Welfare Reform Advice provision in our area as well as Tribunal Representation in 2021/2022.</p> <p>On Wednesday 22 December 2021, Council received from DfC the letter attached as Appendix 1. The letter advises, "Minister Hargey made a very clear public commitment on 15 December to a 'fair funding' approach to supporting the critical work delivered by our Voluntary and Community Sector here. The Minister values and recognises the vital role that the Sector plays, including providing critical services right across our communities. She has committed to playing a clear role in enabling fair work by operating as a fair funder in our commissioning approaches for infrastructure support and community development activity."</p> <p>The letter goes on to say, "This commitment related only to posts directly funded by the Department. It includes the posts directly funded through the Welfare Reform Mitigations package (Welfare Reform Advice element of Community Support) on the basis that these posts have been ring fenced and directly and fully funded as salaries, albeit the payment goes through Councils."</p> <p>A total payment of £10,892.58 has been received by the Council from DfC for disbursement directly to the organisation funded for specific Welfare Reform Mitigations posts in our district (ie 'Community Advice Newry, Mourne & Down').</p>

	<p>DfC requested that the Council advise the organisation ('Community Advice Newry, Mourne & Down') about the Fair Funder initiative and forward this funding to the respective organisation as soon as possible. The Contact Officer has informed 'Community Advice Newry, Mourne & Down' of the Fair Funder initiative and has advised the organisation that the payment of £10,892.58 will be made as soon as possible after the Council has been informed of DfC's letter.</p> <p>The Fair Funding payment of £10,892.58 is ring-fenced for the purposes outlined DfC's letter attached.</p> <p>Councils are not required to provide match funding towards this Fair Funding initiative.</p>
2.0	Key issues
2.1	The Fair Funding payment from of £10,892.58 from DfC is ring-fenced funding and is required to be paid directly to 'Community Advice Newry, Mourne & Down'.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	<p>That the Committee: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note the report.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	The Council is not required to match fund the Fair Funding from DfC.
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>

5.3	<p>Proposal initiating consultation</p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>
6.0	<p>Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)</p>
6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	<p>Appendices</p>
7.1	<p>Appendix 1: DfC Fair Funding letter of 22 December 2021.</p>
8.0	<p>Background Documents</p>
8.1	<p>None.</p>



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Mrs Marie Ward
Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
Newry Office
Monaghan Row
Newry
BT35 8DJ

Voluntary and Community Division
Department for Communities
4th Floor
9 Lanyon Place
BELFAST
BT1 3LP

Date: 22 December 2021

By E-mail: marie.ward@nmandd.org

Dear Mrs Ward

MINISTER HARGEY'S COMMITMENT TO FAIR FUNDING - RING FENCED WELFARE REFORM ADVICE POSTS

As mentioned in the letter you received on 20 December, Minister Hargey made a very clear public commitment on 15 December to a 'fair funding' approach to supporting the critical work delivered by our Voluntary and Community Sector here. The Minister values and recognises the vital role that the Sector plays, including providing critical services right across our communities. She has committed to playing a clear role in enabling fair work by operating as a fair funder in our commissioning approaches for infrastructure support and community development activity.

This commitment related only to posts directly funded by the Department. It includes the posts directly funded through the Welfare Reform Mitigations package (Welfare Reform Advice element of Community Support) on the basis that these posts have been ring fenced and directly and fully funded as salaries, albeit the payment goes through Councils.

A number of improved measures are being implemented immediately. The details are set out below:

- A **funding uplift to allow for payment of the Real Living Wage**: the Department will now uplift its funding allocations for directly funded posts (pro



rata) to ensure employing organisations, can afford to pay at least the RLW rate of £9.90 per hour.

- **A 2% consolidated uplift:** the Department will now uplift funding allocations for directly funded posts (pro rata) to allow employing organisations to pay a 2% consolidated increase in gross salaries, after any applicable RLW increase has been calculated. **Please note that this uplift is subject to budget availability in future years.**
- **A 7% non-consolidated uplift:** the Department will also uplift funding allocations to allow for a one-off, in year, non-consolidated, pro rata and up to 7% lump sum payment. This is also based on our contribution to current funded gross salaries, after any applicable RLW increase.
- **Employer's Pension Contribution:** The minimum employer's pension contribution expected to be applied to posts funded through allocations of funding from the Department will now be 5%.
- **Employer's National Insurance Contribution (ENIC).** An ENIC contribution of 13.8% is being made to cover the additional costs of the RLW, 2% consolidated and 7% non-consolidated increases.

Further details to note are set out in **Annex A** and **Annex B** sets out the total payment your Council should now have received for disbursement directly to groups funded for specific Welfare Reform Mitigations posts. You are asked to advise these groups about the Fair Funder initiative and forward this funding to the respective organisations as soon as possible.

You may wish to note that Minister Hargey also announced that from **1st January 2022** all directly funded posts will now have the added benefit of five working days paid sickness absence per year (pro rata as required).

Minister Hargey is determined to ensure that the Department for Communities is an exemplar of fair funding for the Voluntary and Community Sector, enabling organisations to provide their staff with a fair wage and fair terms and conditions. She has identified further additional funding to allow Councils to follow this lead by uplifting



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the budget allocation for the Community Support Programme (including Advice) to allow for similar improvements in terms and conditions for VCS workers. Myself and my colleagues look forward to engaging with Council Community Development leads on this in the New Year.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact your Programme Manager in the first instance.

Anne-Marie O'Kane
Head of Financial Inclusion, Voluntary and Community Division



ANNEX A

IMPORTANT POINTS TO NOTE FOR THE FRONT LINE EMPLOYING ORGANISATION:

1. These awards all apply to *the relevant percentage share of the post funded*, from 1st April 2021. Where funding for a new post has been approved by VCD after 1st April 2021 the award is payable from the date the new post was filled.
 2. As the vast majority of the 407 posts to which VCD contributes were in place at 1st April 2021 we have calculated the 'fair funder' payments on an annual basis. If your funded groups under the Welfare Reform Mitigations package (Advice element of Community Support) have any posts where the funding allocation should only be for part of the year, you need to notify us immediately and you should **not uplift these salaries on a full year basis**. A partial repayment will be required from the Council covering the percentage of the year between 1st April 2021 and the date the new post was filled. *Please contact a member of the Programme Management Team in the first instance before making any repayment.*
 3. This additional funding is provided for the purposes listed above and is conditional on you as an employer paying the increases to your employees as soon as possible. If your organisation does not wish to, or is unable to comply with these measures and supporting conditions, the funding **must be returned to the Department**.
- It cannot be used for any other purpose than those outlined above.**
4. Our normal validation and testing processes will be based, in part, on the template return that your organisation recently completed and submitted to the Department.
 5. Please note that this correspondence acts as a de facto **Letter of Variation**.



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ANNEX B

CSP - Newry, Mourne & Down District Council Welfare Reform Group	Total Funding Uplift to WR Advisers
Community Advice Newry, Mourne and Down	£10,892.58

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	21 February 2022
Subject:	Policing & Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) Report
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Janine Hillen, Assistant Director Community Engagement
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Damien Brannigan, Head of Engagement

Confirm how this Report should be treated by placing an x in either:-

For decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	For noting only	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
---------------------	--------------------------	------------------------	-------------------------------------

1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	<p>Purpose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To note the report. To note the attached Minutes of the Policing Committee & PCSP Meeting listed in 3.1 below. <p>Background</p> <p>The attached Minutes of the Policing Committee & PCSP Meeting listed in 3.1 below are provided to update the Committee on the ongoing work of the PCSP.</p>
2.0	Key issues
2.1	None.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	<p>That the Committee:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the report. Note the following Policing Committee & PCSP Minutes as attached: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes of the Policing Committee & PCSP Meeting held on Thursday 30 November 2021, approved at the Policing Committee & PCSP Meeting on Tuesday 25 January 2022.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	All actions are budgeted for in the PCSP Action Plan.
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p>

	The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened	<input type="checkbox"/>
	The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.3	<i>Proposal initiating consultation</i> Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Consultation period will be 12 weeks	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<i>Rationale:</i>	
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)	
6.1	Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If yes, please complete the following: Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.0	Appendices	
7.1	Appendix I: Minutes of Policing Committee & PCSP Meeting held on Thursday 30 November 2021.	
8.0	Background Documents	
8.1	None.	

POLICING COMMITTEE AND POLICING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

Minutes of the Newry, Mourne & Down Policing Committee and Policing & Community Safety Partnership Meeting held at 2pm on Tuesday 30 November 2021 via Microsoft Teams

Present: Richard Orme, PCSP Independent Member (**Chair**)
 Councillor O Hanlon, NMDDC
 Councillor D Murphy, NMDDC
 Councillor M Savage, NMDDC
 Councillor J Trainor, NMDDC
 Councillor W Walker, NMDDC
 Superintendent Norman Haslett, PSNI
 Chief Inspector Adam Corner, PSNI
 Chief Inspector Amanda Ford, PSNI
 Inspector Darren Hardy, PSNI
 Sergeant Ryan Duffy, PSNI
 Breige Jennings, PCSP Independent Member
 John Allen, PCSP Independent Member
 Michelle Osborne, PCSP Independent Member
 Tara Campbell, PCSP Independent Member
 David Vint, PCSP Independent Member
 Ruth Allen, SHSCT
 Aileen O'Callaghan, EA
 Karen McDowell, NIFRS
 Michael Heaney, YJA

In attendance: Martina Flynn, Safer Communities & Good Relations Manager
 Damien Brannigan, Head of Engagement
 Claire Loughran, Safer Communities & Good Relations Officer
 Shannon Creaney, PCSP Officer
 Kerri Morrow, DEA Co-Ordinator
 Patricia McKeever, Democratic Services Officer

1 Apologies and Chairperson's Remarks

In Councillor Lewis's absence, Mr Richard Orme chaired the meeting and welcomed everyone.

Apologies were received from Councillor Howell, Councillor Lewis, Councillor Ruane, Councillor Gallagher, Dan McEvoy (Independent Member) and Audrey Byrne (Independent Member).

Mr Orme offered condolences to the family of Councillor Sean Doran on his recent sad passing and said he would be greatly missed.

Councillors Hanlon, Walker and Trainor also expressed deepest condolences on behalf of their respective parties to the family of the late Councillor Sean Doran, who they said would be greatly missed.

Mr Orme reminded Members that Covid was still very prevalent in our society and everyone should continue to follow the appropriate guidelines.

2 Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

3 Draft Minutes of Policing Committee and PCSP Meeting dated 30 September 2021

Read: Minutes of Policing Committee and PCSP Meeting held on 30 September 2021 (copy circulated).

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Hanlon seconded by Councillor Walker, it was agreed to approve the Minutes of the Policing Committee and PCSP Meeting held on 30 September 2021 as a true and accurate record.

4 Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

5 District Commander's Report – Period 4

Read: District Commander's Report – Period 4 (copy circulated).

Superintendent Haslett presented the District Commander's Report to the Committee.

Superintendent Haslett then provided an update regarding the South Armagh Policing Review:

- In accordance with Recommendation 1 of the Review, as of 22 November 2021, Chief Inspector Adam Corner had been appointed Chief Inspector specifically for the South Armagh area.
- 16 of the 47 recommendations within the Review had now been completed.
- Steps have been taken to advertise across the PSNI for vacancies for the Slieve Gullion Neighbourhood Teams.
- The PSNI are in the process of migrating local police officers from Newtownhamilton to Newry where they will provide a centralised local police response for South Armagh.
- An Independent Advisory Group will be established at the earliest opportunity.

Discussion then took place and the following points were raised:

General

- Councillor Walker suggested that cultural events could be arranged in Spring 2022 in an effort to promote good relations within the District (subject to Covid restrictions). Superintendent Haslett said he would be happy to look at this, Covid restrictions permitting.
Ms Flynn said there was currently a Tender out for BME resettlement activity across the District and this type of event could be considered.
- Councillor Trainor referred to a recent incident in Ballynahinch, where a filling station had significantly lowered their fuel prices resulting in mayhem in the town and asked if the PSNI were aware of this incident.
Neither Superintendent Haslett nor Inspector Hardy were aware of this, however they said they would make enquiries and report back to Councillor Trainor.

CCTV

- Councillor Walker referred to the CCTV in Killyleagh saying there were 9 state of the art cameras installed but they were not operational due to lack of funding for maintenance costs. He acknowledged the £1,500 annual maintenance cost came under the remit of the Killyleagh Development Association but said the organisation did not have the funding necessary and he said it was important to try and secure the monies required.
Councillor Walker said he did not consider the securing of funding would set a precedent for other areas such as Crossgar or Saintfield as neither of these areas had CCTV cameras installed.
Councillor Walker referred to a recent incident in Killyleagh where a camper van and 2 houses had been burnt out and said had the CCTV cameras been operational, they would have captured evidence. Councillor Walker asked Inspector Hardy to contact the owner of the camper van and give her an update on the ongoing investigation.

In response, Inspector Hardy said he had recently met with Killyleagh Development Association and they were exploring the best way forward in terms of resolving the issue of CCTV in the town.

Anti- Social Behaviour

Councillor Hanlon said the Housing Executive were trying to erect gates at the Flying Horse in Downpatrick but attempts were being made to take them down before they were fully erected and she asked that PSNI assist where they could with this issue. Inspector Hardy said the Housing Executive had made them aware of this and they were monitoring it closely.

Councillor Walker thanked Inspector Hardy for attending a recent meeting in Killyleagh regarding ASB and for his commitment of support.

Inspector Hardy said ASB in Killyleagh was under local PSNI focus. He said the more reports received from residents regarding ASB, the more justification there would be for securing additional resources to tackle the problem effectively.

Councillor Walker asked that the Community Safety Wardens be deployed to Killyleagh to help complement the PSNI patrols which would hopefully result in a decrease of ASB in the Killyleagh area.

Ms Flynn advised Councillor Walker that she would organise the Wardens to split their shifts between Downpatrick and Killyleagh over the next few weeks.

Superintendent Haslett said the reduction in the ASB figures could be attributed to reduction in the number of breaches of the Covid Health Protection Regulations.

Hate Crime

Councillor Walker expressed concern at the increase in hate crime and asked if the figure could be broken down to determine motivation.

In response, Inspector Hardy said there was an increase on last year's figures in both racial and sectarian hate crime; there was a decrease during July/August last year in incidents of sectarian hate crime, this was attributed to the Covid lockdown - however there was not much change when compared with the figures for the same period in 2019. He said the figures for racial hate crime had more than doubled and although there was no particular pattern, he attributed the increase to better confidence in reporting such crimes. He said the majority of hate crime was based on nationality rather than race and that Neighbourhood Policing Teams had a focus on repeat victims of racial hate crime to try and get a resolution.

Drugs

Councillor Trainor said the increase in the number of people being arrested for drug related crimes was encouraging and instilled confidence in people when reporting such activities. Superintendent Haslett asked that it be noted that the District wide efforts being made to tackle drug dealers and suppliers was led by the Neighbourhood Policing Teams.

6 PCSP Action Plan – 2022/23

Read: PCSP Action Plan 2022/23. (copy circulated).

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Murphy, seconded by Councillor Trainor it was agreed to:

- **Note the report.**
- **Approve the attached draft Action Plan for the PCSP for 2022/23.**
- **Approve procurement for the following services for 2022/23 as below (and as per Action Plan values) –**

- **Community Safety Wardens**
- **Social Alarm Scheme**

7 PCSP Officer Report – November 2021

Read: PCSP Officer Report – November 2021 (copy circulated).

In response to a query from Councillor Walker about a crime prevention event to be organised in the Bridge Centre, Killyleagh, Ms Flynn advised him this was in hand.

Agreed: It was agreed the Committee:-

- **Note the report**
- **Note the PCSP Officer Report**

8 ASB Sub Groups Report

Read: ASB Sub Groups Report – October / November 2021. (copy circulated).

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Hanlon seconded by Ms O’Callaghan it was agreed the Committee:-

- **Note the report.**
- **Agree the attached Draft Action Sheet of ASB Sub Group 1 held on 19 October 2021 and ASB Sub Group 2 held on 19 October 2021 and 3 November 2021.**

9 Statutory Partner Update

Mr Heaney provided an update on behalf of the Youth Justice Agency highlighting 2 issues:

1. The Youth Justice Agency was compiling a Performance Impact Report, to be distributed to Members in due course.
2. The Youth Justice Agency was working with the PSNI to develop a Vaping Substance Referral Scheme, targeted at children who were vaping synthetic cannabinoid substances which were illegal and the role of the YJA would be to step in to offer advice on the dangers of this practice, before the PSNI would become involved.

Ms O’Callaghan provided an update on behalf of the Education Authority Youth Service saying:

1. The Education Authority Youth Services were active in the Downpatrick, Killyleagh, Ballynahinch and Crossgar areas.
2. Youth Voice had been established in the District and they were continuing the recruitment process.

3. T:BUC camps were continuing to be rolled out throughout the District which focussed on good relations.

10 Update from PSNI on implications of, and preparations for Brexit in relation to Policing in Newry, Mourne and Down (Standing item)

Superintendent Haslett said there had been a number of protests against Brexit. He said a protest had taken place at Flurry Bridge on the southern side of the border and it was a good natured peaceful protest.

11 Date of Next Meeting

The next PCSP Committee Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 25 January 2021 at 6pm. Due to Covid, meetings to continue to be online.

It was noted that the times of future meetings will alternate between afternoons and evenings.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 2.55pm.

DRAFT

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	21 February 2022
Subject:	Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership (NRP) Report
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Janine Hillen, Assistant Director Community Engagement
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Damien Brannigan, Head of Engagement

Confirm how this Report should be treated by placing an x in either:-

For decision For noting only X

1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	<p>Purpose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To note the report. To note the attached Minutes of the Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership (NRP) Meeting held on Wednesday 24 November 2021. <p>Background</p> <p>The attached Minutes of the Newry NRP Meeting held on Wednesday 24 November 2021 are provided to update the Committee on the on-going work of Newry NRP.</p>
2.0	Key issues
2.1	None.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	<p>That the Committee:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the report. Note the following Newry NRP Minutes as attached: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Minutes of Newry NRP Meeting held on Wednesday 24 November 2021, approved at Newry NRP Meeting held on Wednesday 2 February 2022.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	None.
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
5.2	<i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i>

	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>
5.3	<p>Proposal initiating consultation</p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)
6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	Appendices
7.1	Appendix I: Minutes of Newry NRP Meeting held on Wednesday 24 November 2021.
8.0	Background Documents
8.1	None.



**Minutes of the NR Partnership held on Wednesday 24th November 2021 at 7.00pm
via Zoom**

In Attendance:

Paula Mc Guigan,
Karen Gracey
Noreen Rice,
Ruth Allen,
Martin Connell,
Sean Mc Kevitt,
Dr Conor Patterson,
Maeve McParland,
Collie Hanna,
Raymond Jackson,
Aisling Rennick,
Maureen Ruddy,
Francine Ruddy
Linda Devlin,
Lesley Hamilton,
Liam Gunn,
Bernie Mooney,
Kathleen Lowry,

Chairperson
Dept for Communities
Meadow Armagh Road CA
Southern Health Social Care Trust
SHSCT
NMDDC
NM Enterprise Agency
NMEA
Barcroft CA
Confederation of Community Groups
NMDDC
Martins Lane CA
Martins Lane CA
Martins Lane CA
Southern Regional College
NIHE
Education Authority NI
Greater Linenhall Area CA

Others attending:

Nicola Creagh,
Dawn Vance,

'People and Place' review team
'People and Place' review team

Apologies :

Joanne Mc Ateer,
Patricia O'Gorman,
Catriona Regan,
Brendan Cranney,

Threeways CA
Threeways CA
SRC
MARCA

Agenda

1. Welcome/apologies
2. Review of People and Place Programme
3. Minutes/matters arising
4. Conflict of interest
5. Action plan review update
6. Programme updates
7. A.O.B.
8. Date of next meeting and format

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR ACTION – to include progress/date for completion/by whom
1.	Welcome /apologies	<p>Welcome to all members</p> <p>Apologies noted</p> <p>Paula on behalf of the Partnership offered her sincere condolences to Ewan Morgan on the recent bereavement of his wife Jacqueline.</p> <p>Also, condolences to Cathy Keenan and her entire family circle on the recent bereavement of her mother.</p>	
2.	'People and Place' review	<p>Nicola Creagh and Dawn Vance presented to the members</p> <p>Key points emerging :</p> <p>Evaluation of Neighbourhood renewal in 2014</p> <p>Lots of achievements</p> <p>Covid has brought new challenges and changes.</p> <p>Key emphasis on integrated working</p> <p>How do we build on this - how best to tackle deprivation?</p>	

	<p>Lack of commitment from some Government agencies. Look at the review in its broader sense. Anti-Poverty strategy in place Tackle deprivation using codesign approach carried out by all within the area. New structure – Project board – departmental reps – requires department buy in. 11 groups at local level –require NR to be involved look at council level – what is best approach to tackle deprivation. – look across all council areas – not only NR but other groups. Will only work if properly resourced – budget must grow Timescale of 18 months to 2 years. Need to bring something to the minister How do we look at collaboration? Not expect any change in 22/23 – changes 23/24 – require transition from what was to what will be. Challenges coming out of covid Local communities continue to need support Larger urban areas carry most issues NR was supposed to be interdepartmental No guarantees to get other departments to sign up to a new strategy You can only grow the budget through NI executive collaboration This is the start of a conversation not the end Contact people(NR) in early January</p>	
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		Members thanked Nicola and Dawn for their presentation	
3.	Minutes/matters arising	<p>Matters arising</p> <p>Ruth asked that item 4 in the minutes be amended to read: Community health trainers</p> <p>CCG to follow up with the Audit of skills</p> <p>Minutes agreed Proposed by Noreen Rice and seconded by Linda Devlin</p>	
4.	Conflict of interest	None declared	
5.	Action plan review updates	<p>Raymond McCreesh Park: Seek clarity on the future – what will be the provision for communities. Arrange a meeting</p> <p>Drumalane EI scheme In 2012/13 – Department would fund if money available</p>	

		<p>In terms of procurement – this is unlikely to be delivered by NIHE – tenants and new homes are NIHE priority. Ask Liam to get this confirmed. EA schemes Wait on Education Authority NI response Members approve the action pan with the additional comments</p>	
<p>6.</p> <p>Programme updates</p>		<p>NIHE update Carnagat scheme – out for tender closes 6th December Hopeful work will commence in March 22 Funding can roll over to 2022 financial year Major improvement schemes in Mourneview and Cleary Crescent.</p> <p>E2E (Education to Employment 60 year 12 students participated in a motivational workshop 50 year 11 from St Mary's and St Joseph's High schools Tailored skills programme delivered to 150 Primary 7 pupils Deliver a codor dojo before March Interview skills delivered in St Marys high school Updating materials for Career pathway – to be delivered virtually</p> <p>Health</p>	

	<p>Not able to deliver any activities indoors – making changes</p> <p>Deliver Chi Mi outdoors and mindfulness walks</p> <p>Action cancer bus – 18 breast screens and 11 health MOT's</p> <p>Chest heart and stroke wellness checks – fully booked</p> <p>Friends for life programme through BOLSTER –</p> <p>Schools healthy eating programme</p> <p>Makaton training – 30 participants over 2 sessions.</p> <p>EANI</p> <p>Count Read Succeed – 9 schools to include Windsor hill and Newry High</p> <p>All workshops have begun – Parents and children engaged.</p> <p>Social Renewal</p> <p>Youth engagement – all assessed and approved</p> <p>3 homework clubs underway</p> <p>Through Count read succeed – delivering Relax kids programme – training teachers – 6 schools involved.</p> <p>SRC</p> <p>TOPs Programme – 33 residents enrolled – 9 have achieved to date</p>	
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	<p>17 working towards their Cat C – additional funding for an extra 5.</p> <p>Door security progressing</p> <p>CSR and level 1 in book keeping</p> <p>Cutting men's hair course cancelled</p> <p>Digger and plant training</p> <p>OCEANS Programme –</p> <p>Jim Cunningham recruiting – 9 to date – only 1 from Newry</p> <p>Personal survival and first aid in Kilkeel.</p> <p>NMDDC</p> <p>Outdoor activity:</p> <p>On track to meet all targets</p> <p>All groups have availed of support mainly through the summer months- additional support for their summer schemes</p> <p>Funded 15 men to complete Mountain /hill walking training– follow up to kick start your health</p> <p>Support youth groups to encourage hill walking</p> <p>Martin Connell spoke of a new initiative.</p> <p>New programme through Respect – Time to shine – get young people interested in hill walking.</p> <p>Community Renewal programme:</p>	
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	<p>Some groups experiencing more difficulties – require additional support.</p> <p>Meeting held with the groups – exploring the challenges</p> <p>Received some expressions of interest.</p> <p>Additional funding available from council – 5 groups can avail.</p> <p>Members added that volunteers don't work from home – their work is in the community.</p> <p>CA's need to work from the centres</p> <p>DfC update</p> <p>Hoping to secure I.T funding</p> <p>Applications are delayed – they are with the minister to be signed off</p> <p>If there is anything different - think now.</p> <p>Can't affect the targets or outcomes</p> <p>Funding for 22/23 is for 1 year</p> <p>Thank all the groups and agencies for all their continued hard work in the face of the ongoing challenges</p>	
7.	A.O.B	Nicola added her thanks to the members – fascinating insight into all the work being delivered.

	<p>Conor suggested that we engage with the Minister for finance – make the case for the defence of the DfC budget. We need to be allies for the department – All members agreed. Wish all the members a very Happy Christmas.</p>	
8.	Date/Time/Format to be confirmed	Sean to circulate details

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	21 February 2022
Subject:	Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership (NRP) Report
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Janine Hillen, Assistant Director Community Engagement
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Damien Brannigan, Head of Engagement

Confirm how this Report should be treated by placing an x in either:-

For decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	For noting only	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	<p>Purpose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To note the report. To note the attached Minutes of the Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership (NRP) Meeting held on Tuesday 14 September 2021. To note the attached Downpatrick NRP Action Plan for 2019-2022 (updated September 2021). <p>Background</p> <p>The attached Minutes of the Downpatrick NRP Meeting held on Tuesday 14 September 2021 and the attached Downpatrick NRP Action Plan for 2019-2022 are provided to update the Committee on the on-going work of Downpatrick NRP.</p>
2.0	Key issues
2.1	None.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	<p>That the Committee:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the report. Note the attached Minutes of the Downpatrick NRP Meeting held on Tuesday 14 September 2021, approved at Downpatrick NRP Meeting held on Tuesday 18 January 2022. Note the attached Downpatrick NRP Action Plan for 2019-2022 (updated September 2021).
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	None.
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i>

	It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
5.3	<p><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>	
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)	
6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
7.0	Appendices	
7.1	Appendix 1: Minutes of Downpatrick NRP Meeting held on Tuesday 14 September 2021. Appendix 2: Downpatrick NRP Action Plan for 2019-2022 (updated September 2021).	
8.0	Background Documents	

8.1	None.
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Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

**Action Sheet of Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership Meeting held on
Tuesday 14th September at 4.00 pm via zoom**

Chairperson:	Nicholas McCrickard	County Down Rural Community Network (CDRCN)
In Attendance:	Anthony Trainor Seamus Blaney Cadogan Enright Alison McCarthy Eamonn MacCon Midhe Jenny Laverty Lisa Perry Donna Marks Paddy Marks Deborah Finlay Kyla Hannaway Mary Cahalane-Woodward Tatiana Seed Maria Kelly Bronagh Magorrian Raphael Crummy Mel Murray Dan McEvoy Macartan Digney Susan Casement	Stream Street Residents Association (SSRA) Stream Street Residents Association (SSRA) Stream Street Residents Association (SSRA) Tosu Ur Tosu Ur County Down Rural Community Network (CDRCN) Flying Horse Ward Community Forum (FHWCFF) Marian Park Community Association (MPCA) Marian Park Community Association (MPCA) Model Farm Community Association (MFCA) Model Farm Community Association (MFCA) South Eastern Trust (SET) South Eastern Regional College (SERC) Downpatrick Surestart Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) Department for Communities Education Authority Downpatrick Community Collective (DCC) Downpatrick Community Collective (DCC) Bridge Street & Mount Crescent Community Association

Bridge Street & Mount Crescent Community Association

Lillian Swaffield

Council Officials:

**Katrina Hynds
Aisling Rennick
Catherine O'Neill**

**Technical Officer, Downpatrick NHR
Engagement & Development Manager
Admin**

Apologies:

**Lorraine Coulter
Damien Brannigan
Liam Gunn
Sophia Ervine**

**South Eastern Trust (SET)
NMDDC
NIHE
NIHE**

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed.
DNRP/01/2021	Apologies	Noted	
DNRP/02/2021	Action Sheet	Members unanimously agreed to adopt the minutes	

DNRP/03/2021	Review of Action Plan	<p>Economic Renewal Amend: Business Plan for Town Centre to include review of derelict premises in Downpatrick Town Centre</p> <p>Include: Funding for Feasibility Study to convert the old Social Security Office to a Community Facility to be used by Downpatrick Community collective</p> <p>Physical Renewal Removal: Meadowlands Play Park as completed</p> <p>Include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding towards new Irish Preschool – Naiscoil Dhun Padraig • IT Support for members of DNHRP • Saul Street/Meadowlands EIS – include renewal energy and climate change mitigation to be paramount on new scheme </p>	Completed – Technical Officer

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saul Street/Meadowlands replace street lighting to solar powered lighting • Basketball Court on Waste Ground in Model Farm <p>Technical Officer to request the RGU to make an official request to the Partnership regarding proposal for future development of Club grounds</p> <p>Agreed that replacement Trojan Horse remain as priority</p>	<p>Completed – Technical Officer</p> <p>Completed – Technical Officer</p>
DNRP/04/2021	Promoter's Reports	All reports noted	Noted
DNRP/05/2021	Community Representatives on Downpatrick NHR Partnership	Members agreed that 2 representatives from each group were to be appointed – Chair of group to send Katrina these 2 representatives	Most groups forwarded details to Technical Officer

		<p>It was further agreed that for future voting scenarios only 1 representative from each community group should vote</p>	
<p>DNRP/06/2021</p>	<p>Date & Time of Next Meeting</p>	<p>Members to forward Technical Officer preference for times of meeting – including 10.30 am, 2.30 pm and 4.00 pm</p>	

The Meeting ended at 5:40pm

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Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership

Action Plan 2019 – 2022

(Agreed 17th September 2019 - Updated September 2021)

Key to tables:

Green	Continuing 'core' DSD- funded or mainstreamed project, agreed or expected to go ahead
Red	NR Partnership priority project, subject to future funding
Pink	Possible priority project via NR funding or promoted through DEA Forum / Community Planning Framework
Yellow	Community Planning-related project – to be promoted through DEA Forum / Community Planning framework

September 2021

Strategic Objective: Community Renewal - Community Involvement

Overview of Need:

At the outset of the Neighbourhood Renewal programme, levels of community infrastructure and capacity in Downpatrick NRA were extremely variable. The Flying Horse Ward Community Forum, an active umbrella body for a range of community and sporting groups in the 3 main estates in the Ballymote Ward, contrasted with a low level or total lack of community activity in other estates. Levels of community activity have increased through support from the NR programme, particularly through the provision of a dedicated NR community development worker, also essential to co-ordinating access to the range of other social and economic programmes but this remains an ongoing need. Of particular importance is the need to support community-identified actions in the Meadowlands area where, after a huge amount of work to help individuals form a group that can speak out for their community and engage effectively with agencies with resources, continuing support for positive community action is essential.

Key Priorities

1. To increase the number of local people involved and the levels of involvement in activities and decisions contributing to improvements in the quality of life in the NR area.
2. To develop community infrastructure within the NR area and to support the delivery of community-based activities.
3. To promote youth engagement and seek opportunities for youth development.
4. To promote partnership working between local community and local statutory bodies.
5. To provide opportunities for increased use of shared community and recreational facilities.
6. To build stronger links between communities in the NR area, and create more opportunities for positive contact between residents.

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Project / Actions	Key Priorities / Outcomes	Method Of Delivery	Resource Implication	Milestones	How Success Will Be Monitored	DfC Indicators
NMDDC Technical Assistance	Community: all Economic: all Social: all Physical: all	NMDDC	Annual cost - £16,500	April 2020	Quarterly monitoring reports on agreed outputs and outcomes. Evaluation of programme upon delivery	All
PHA Health & Community Engagement Programme	Community: 1, 2, 4, 6 Economic: 7 Social: 1, 3, 5 Physical: 2, 3	CRDRN	Annual Cost £25,000	7 groups involved throughout the year	Quarterly monitoring by NRP/DDC Annual review by NRP Number of men & women in health programmes Participants in youth activity Effective interagency meetings	CR3 CR4 SR(H)1 SR(H)4
Community Training & Support Fund	Community: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, Economic: 7 Social: 2, 5, 9, 12 Physical:	NMDDC NRP	£10,000 p.a. for three years to March 2019	50 community participants p.a.	Quarterly monitoring by NRP/NMDDC Annual review by NRP Number of participants Increased lobbying/community statutory interface	CR3 CR5 CR7

September 2021

Strategic Objective: Economic Renewal - Work and Worklessness, Qualifications, Skills and Training

Overview of Need:

The most recent update of NISRA statistics for the Downpatrick NRA show some improvements in the economic position from the 2001 baseline. The proportion of economically active people has also risen from 50.8% in 2001 to 60.6%, although again well below NI at 66.2%. After a fall in 2006 – 2008, unemployment has resumed 2001 levels and is at 7.6%. This is reflected in the proportion of residents on Job Seekers Allowance at 9.7%, up sharply from 2001 (5.8%) and three times the lowest level in 2008 (3.1%)

Key Issues:

1. To support local people with few or no qualifications to access vocational and personal development training.
2. To help local people, in particular those unemployed and dependent on state welfare benefits, to access suitable employment and training opportunities
3. To source and develop opportunities to provide training relevant to local business needs and local residents.
4. To support and help local people avail of money management advice.
5. To encourage new businesses to locate in the area, and to support expansion of existing businesses in the NR area.
6. To source and develop opportunities for community/socio-economic projects that will provide long term sustainability for local communities
7. To widen economic activity and to source and develop opportunities to increase household incomes and improve prosperity within the NR area.

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Project / Actions	Key Priorities / Outcomes	Method Of Delivery	Resource Timescale Implication	Milestones	How Success Will Be Monitored	DfC Indicators
SERC Driving to Success	Community: Economic: 1, 2, 3 Social: 6 Physical:	SERC	£60,000 p.a. April 2019-March 2020	Adequate funding in place Criteria Review (20 NRA participants)	Quarterly monitoring by NRP/NMDDC Annual review by NRP Number trained Driving test passes Qualifications gained Employment gained	ER2 ER4 ER5 ER6 ER7 ER10, ER14
Business Plan for Town Centre Social Enterprise Development, including review of derelict buildings in Town Centre & funding for Feasibility Study to convert old Social Security Office to a Community Facility to be used by DCC.	Community: 1, 4, 5 Economic: 2, 5, 6 Social: 3, 4 Physical: 2	Downpatrick Community Collective NMDDC Appointed consultant	Professional fees -& Feasibility Study	Completion of study pending funding	Production of report Identification of preferred option(s)	CR9 PR8 PR10

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Strategic Objective: Social Renewal - Health & Social Wellbeing, Educational Attainment, Attitudes to Education, Crime & Safety, Income & Benefit Dependency

Overview of Need:

The most recent update of NISRA statistics for the Downpatrick NRA shows some improvements in the educational position from the 2001 baseline. The proportion of the population with no qualifications has fallen from 50.8% to 34.1% and the number of 16 – 74 year olds with a higher level qualification has doubled to 17.5, although this remains well below the NI average of 23.65%. Health has also seen some improvements although we should be wary of small area statistics which give widely varying results for individual health outcomes. However, those who claim that their general health is good rose from 61.8% (2001) to 73.9% in 2011. And is reinforced by the small reduction in those who have a long term limiting illness (26.7%, down from 28.2% in 2001). The latter remains much higher than the NI average at 20.69% and more people across NI claim to have good health (79.51%). In common with most parts of Northern Ireland, crime statistics have shown a major improvement. Recorded crime is down from 1,962/10,000 population to 1,305 in 2011. Rates of burglary, criminal damage and theft have fallen by more than half; although violent crime, which rose sharply until 2006, is now back to 2001 levels.

Key Priorities:

1. To empower and support local people to live healthy lifestyles to help reduce long-term illness within the NR area.
2. To ensure local residents have access to the best possible range of health and social care services.
3. To engage with the young people to promote healthy life style choices, in particular dealing with preventative measures.
4. To provide opportunities and support for the delivery of positive and stimulating health, sports and play activities for children and young people.
5. To influence the delivery of community-based health & well-being support services, particularly for the elderly and infirm.
6. To ensure local people have access to educational provision at all stages of their lives.
7. To improve the educational attainment for school leavers.

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8. To seek and support the delivery of a variety of new and innovative pathways to education.
9. To develop programmes to engage young people and specifically age groups 8 - 12 & 13 - 25 and to provide positive alternatives for physical education, volunteering and personal development.
10. To develop joint programmes for children and parents, in particular, to address ICT skills, development and employability skills.
11. To provide support and seek opportunities to develop the extending school's programme that will include improved usage of public buildings for community development.
12. To support new and migrant workers families to participate within the community including the development of English language and other skills.

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Project / Actions	Key Priorities / Outcomes	Method Of Delivery	Resource Timescale Implication	Milestones	How Success Will Be Monitored	DfC Indicators
SEH&SCT Family Health and Wellbeing	Community: 1, 2, 4 Economic: Social: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Physical:	SEH&SCT Downpatrick SureStart	£62,000 p.a. 2018 – March 2020		Quarterly monitoring by NRP/NMDDC Annual review by NRP Number of families helped Level of support for new parents Crèche sessions Home visits	ER13 SR(Ed)1 SR(H)1
Speech and Language Therapy	Community: 1, 4 Economic: 1 Social: 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 Physical:	SEH&SCT Downpatrick Schools	£48,000 p.a. 2016 – March 2020		Quarterly monitoring by NRP/NMDDC Annual review by NRP Improvements in children's reading ages/ class/ school reading scores Integration of Talk Boost programme into curriculum	SR(Ed)6 SR(Ed)7

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Strategic Objective: Physical Renewal – attractive, safe, sustainable environment

Overview of Need:

The most recent update of NISRA statistics for the Downpatrick NRA shows some improvements which suggest a growing confidence in the Downpatrick NRA. The proportion of owner occupied homes in the area has risen from 45.7% (2001) to 50.3% in 2011 (still far behind NI average levels at 66.9%). However, the proportion of residents claiming Housing Benefit has also risen over this period from 20.9% to 29.7% in 2011.

Key Priorities:

1. Higher availability of affordable housing stock.
2. Improved quality of environment for social, economic, cultural and leisure activities including enhancement of community facilities.
3. Improved infrastructure and access to services within housing estates, including car parking, traffic calming, road improvements and better street signage.
4. Safer physical quality of environment where people live.
5. Safer areas for children and young people to play

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Project / Actions	Key Priorities / Outcomes	Method Of Delivery	Resource Timescale Implication	Milestones	How Success Will Be Monitored	DFC Indicators
Kennedy Square/ Lynn Doyle Activity Area	Community: Economic: Social: 1, 4 Physical: 2, 3, 4, 5	NRP NMDDC NIHE	Capital cost - £30,000	Completion of activity area and play/seating – small environmental improvement scheme	Six monthly review of progress Review on completion by NRP User feedback	PR5
Marian Park Playground - additional equipment	Community: 2, 5 Economic: Social: 3, 4 Physical: 2, 3, 4, 5	NMDDC NRP Local community	Capital cost - £7,500	Completion of activity if capital funding becomes available	Quarterly monitoring by NRP/NMDDC Completion on cost and to specification Number of users from NRA User feedback	CR10 PR5
Saul St./Meadowlands Environmental Improvement	Community: 4 Economic: Social: Physical: 2, 3, 4, 5	NRP NMDDC DSD NIHE DRD Roads Service	Capital cost £50,000	Environmental improvement scheme, replace existing lighting with solar powered lights Renewable energy & climate mitigation to be paramount	Six monthly review of progress NRP Review on completion User feedback	PR3 SR(C)4
Extension of Allotments	Community: 1, 2,4, 5,6 Economic: 2, 4, 6 Social: 1, 5, 6, 8 Physical: 2, 4	Local Community/ NMDDC/NIHE/DFC	Capital Cost £10,000	Extension of existing allotments	Six month review of progress	
Upgrade Replace Existing Mobile – New Model Farm	Community: 1, 2,4, 5,6 Economic: 2, 4, 6 Social: 1, 5, 6, 8 Physical: 2, 4	Local Community/ NMDDC/NIHE/DFC	Capital Cost £300,000	Replace existing mobile for use by community & educational purposes by March 2020	Six month review of progress	

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Funding towards new Irish preschool Naiscoil Dhun Padraig	Economic: 2, 4, 6 Social: 1, 5, 6, 8 Physical: 2, 4	Naiscoil Dhun Padraig	Capital Cost £200,000	Provision of new build for Naiscoil Dhun Padraig	Six month review of progress
Provision of Basketball Court in Model Farm	Community: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 Economic: 2, 4, 6 Social: 1, 5, 6, 8 Physical: 2, 4	Local Community/ NMDDC/ DFC	Capital Cost £20,000	Installation of new equipment	Six month review of progress
Provision of IT Equipment for Member groups	Community 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 Economic 2, 4, 6 Social 1, 5, 6, 8 Physical 2, 4	Local Community/ NMDDC/ DFC	Capital Cost £ 10,000	Purchase of new equipment	Six month review of progress