

March 16th, 2023

Notice Of Meeting

You are requested to attend the **Active and Healthy Communities Committee 2022/23** to be held on **Monday, 20th March 2023 at 6:00 pm** in **Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre & MS Teams.**

Chairperson Councillor Gallagher

Deputy Chairperson Councillor Malone

Councillor Brennan

Councillor Finnegan

Councillor Jackson

Councillor King

Councillor Lee-Surginor

Councillor Lewis

Councillor McAteer

Councillor McEvoy

Councillor McKeivitt

Councillor O'Hare

Councillor Ó Muirí

Councillor Sharvin

Councillor Tinnelly

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 20 February 2023

For Approval

[Action Sheet 20 February 2023 - Updated post AHC with HoS comments.pdf](#)

Page 1

4.0 Notice of Motion - Recreational Sea Angling

For Information

Notice of Motion received from Councillor Clarke:

"This Council welcomes the increasing popularity of sea angling along the Down coast, recognises the potential for increased tourism and the benefits this will bring to the local economy. Calls for the development and introduction of a Recreational Sea Angling Strategy in consultation with local fishermen and the relevant agencies. Such a strategy should aim to;

Promote sea angling in a safe and sustainable way and

Capitalise on the opportunities for the local economy that an increase in sea angling would deliver".

[AHC Report - Notice of Motion - Sea Angling.pdf](#)

Page 9

Community Engagement

5.0 Financial Assistance Community Capital - Calls 1 & 3

For Decision

[FA report Call 1 Community Capital and Call 3.pdf](#)

Page 12

[Community Facility Capital Fund FA call 1 2023-24 appendix.pdf](#)

Page 15

6.0 District Electoral Area (DEA) Forums Update Report

For Approval

DEA Fora report AHC Committee March 2023.pdf	Page 17
Appendix 1 - DEA Forum report March 2023.pdf	Page 20
Appendix 2 - Slieve Croob DEA Action Sheet Tuesday28 February 2023.pdf	Page 22
Appendix 3 - Downpatrick Ad Hoc Meeting March 2023.pdf	Page 25
Appendix 4 - Action Sheet Crotlieve DEA Private Forum Meeting march 2023.pdf	Page 29
Appendix 5 - Rowallane Action Sheet March 2023.pdf	Page 33

7.0 Community Co-Ordination Hub - Update Report

For Approval

CCH update report for AHC March 2023.pdf	Page 36
Appendix 1 - CCH meeting 15 February 2023 (003) (002).pdf	Page 38

8.0 Rural Dial-a-Lift Transport issue tabled at the request of Councillor Sharvin

Health & Wellbeing

9.0 Affordable Warmth Scheme Update and Approval for Service Level Agreement

For Decision

AHC Mar23 Aff Warmth SLA.pdf	Page 42
Letter to Councils re SLA funding and implementing revised targeting definition_.pdf	Page 45
Newry Mourne and Down Council SLA.pdf	Page 57

10.0 Consultation Response regarding Offshore Wind

For Decision

AHC MAR23 Offshore Energy Consultation.pdf	Page 76
Appendix 1- NMDDC Response to DfE Draft Offshore Renewable Energy Action Plan Consultation.pdf	Page 79

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

11.0 Draft Policy on Bonfires on Council Land (v5) Report

For Decision

- [Draft Policy on Bonfires on Council Land \(V5\).pdf](#) *Not included*

- [Appendix 1 - Draft Policy on Bonfires on Council Land V5.pdf](#) *Not included*

For Noting

12.0 Scale of Charges for Community Centres

For Information

- [Community Facility hire charges 23 24.pdf](#) *Page 83*

- [Appendix 1 - Copy of appendix 1 Hire Charges 2023 2024 CE.pdf](#) *Page 84*

13.0 Scale of Charges for Leisure Centres

For Information

- [Leisure and Sport Scale of Charges 2023 24.pdf](#) *Page 85*

- [Appendix 1 Leisure and Sport Scale of Charges 2023-24.pdf](#) *Page 88*

14.0 Financial Assistance Report on Procedures

For Information

- [Financial Assistance Procedure March 2023 report \(002\).pdf](#) *Page 99*

15.0 Department for Communities (DfC) Cost of Living Salary Support Funding Report

For Information

- [DfC Cost of Living Salary Support Funding Report for AHC Committee Meeting 20.3.2023.pdf](#) *Page 102*

- [Appendix 1 - Cost of Living Salary - Newry Mourne Down DC CSP-WRSP FF Declaration 24 02 23.pdf](#) *Page 105*

16.0 Department for Communities (DfC) Additional Funding to Assist with Increased Running Costs Report

For Information

- [DfC Additional Funding to Assist with Increased Running Costs Report for AHC Committee Meeting 20.3.2023.pdf](#) *Page 109*

Invitees

Cllr Terry Andrews
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Cllr Callum Bowsie
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Cllr Jim Brennan
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Cllr Robert Burgess
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Cllr Pete Byrne
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Mr Andrew Cassells
.....
Cllr William Clarke
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Mrs Linda Cummins
.....
Cllr Dermot Curran
.....
Cllr Laura Devlin
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Mr Eoin Devlin
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Ms Louise Dillon
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Cllr Cadogan Enright
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Cllr Aoife Finnegan
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Cllr Hugh Gallagher
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Cllr Mark Gibbons
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Cllr Oonagh Hanlon
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Cllr Glyn Hanna
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Cllr Valerie Harte
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Mrs Janine Hillen
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Cllr Roisin Howell
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Ms Catherine Hughes
.....
Cllr Jonathan Jackson
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Cllr Geraldine Kearns
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Miss Veronica Keegan
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Mrs Josephine Kelly
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Mrs Sheila Kieran
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Cllr Cathal King
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Cllr Mickey Larkin
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Cllr David Lee-Surginor
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Cllr Alan Lewis
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Mr Michael Lipsett
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Cllr Oonagh Magennis
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Mr Conor Mallon
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Cllr Gavin Malone
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Colette McAteer
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Cllr Declan McAteer
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Cllr Leeanne McEvoy
.....
Cllr Harold McKee
.....
Patricia McKeever
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Cllr Karen McKevitt
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Cllr Andrew McMurray
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Maureen/Joanne Morgan/Johnston

Cllr Declan Murphy

Cllr Barra Ó Muirí

Cllr Gerry O'Hare

Cllr Henry Reilly

Cllr Michael Rice

Cllr Michael Ruane

Cllr Michael Savage

Cllr Gareth Sharvin

Donna Starkey

Cllr Gary Stokes

Sarah Taggart

Paul Tamati

Cllr David Taylor

Cllr Jarlath Tinnelly

Cllr John Trainor

Mrs Marie Ward

ACTIONS OUTSTANDING FROM PREVIOUS ACTIVE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES MEETINGS

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
ITEMS RESTRICTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 1 OF SCHEDULE 6 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (NI) 2014					
A171/2021	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; • 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. 	J Hillen	Ongoing. Site meeting has been held with the estates team. Large amount of works required – looking to carry out work in phases.	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	Legal currently answering queries for successful applicant's solicitors around the lease agreement.	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	Ongoing	N

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
AHC/075/2022	Feasibility Study for Community Social Farm	<p>Mr Devlin stated that officers were currently looking at the feasibility of the project at this stage and he would circulate further information to Members in order to provide more background on the initiative and level of funding required.</p> <p>It was agreed to approve Officers procuring an initial feasibility study for development of a social farm on identified land at Castlewellan Forest park. Scope of the study will be to provide a general report for consideration of need and community support for a farm facility on council land.</p>	E Devlin E Devlin	Ongoing Procurement exercise underway	N N
AHC/076/2022	Edible Landscapes 'We can grow' Pilot Programme	<p>It was agreed to increase the scope of the scheme to have 6 community projects in order that each DEA would benefit from one of the schemes.</p> <p>It was agreed to approve officers procuring one or more horticultural contractors to supply and deliver 6 community projects with follow up support for one growing season.</p>	E Devlin E Devlin	Ongoing	N

ITEMS RESTRICTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 1 OF SCHEDULE 6 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (NI) 2014					
AHC/081/2022	Down High School Lights and 3G Pitch	<p>It was agreed to approve the following recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To progress a planning application for enhanced sports facilities at Down High School as per 2.1 of the officer's report. To approve a budget spend as outlined in section 4.1 of the officer's report. 	P Tamati	On going	N
AHC/096/2022	Dunleath Park Enhancement	It was agreed to establish a skate park and pump track at Dunleath Park as part of a phase 1 development as per the budget outlined in 4.1 of the officer's report.	P Tamati	On going – Levelling Up application unsuccessful	N
AHC/156/2022	Warrenpoint Community Centre	It was agreed to note the report and associated appendices and approve the project moving to the next stage namely RIBA Stage 3, to secure full planning approval, commence the IST and PQQ process to identify suitably qualified Design & Build Contractors.	M Lipsett J Hillen	Ongoing First project governance meeting took place on 24 th January 2023 and it was agreed that the building would be known as the Warrenpoint Health and Wellbeing Fund.	N
AHC/200/2022	Newry Leisure Centre Swimming Pool	<p>It was agreed to note the contents of the report and the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newry Leisure Centre Swimming Pool would not close in December 2022. Officers would continue to work with the original project team and contractors to determine a programme for closure of Newry Leisure Centre swimming pool, prioritising minimal disruption to service users. A future report to Council would be tabled to seek approval for closure arrangements of Newry Leisure Centre swimming pool. 	P Tamati	Ongoing	N

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
AHC/207/2022	Peace IV Report	It was agreed to approve recommendations agreed by the Partnership on 24 November 2022 as detailed within section 2.1 of the officer's report.	J Hillen	Work is ongoing as per report	Y
AHC/004/2023	Financial Assistance Call 2 Approvals	<p>It was agreed to approve the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendations for Call 1 and letters to be issued in February 2023 with themes focusing on events/festivals in April 2023 being prioritised. • Approval for Call 2 themes and time frame as above. • Delegated authority for Director approval regarding the Kings Jubilee and other Call 2 themes requiring approval through Purdah. <p>Mrs Hillen to advise ERT Directorate of concerns raised and that a paper be brought to the Strategic Finance Working Group Meeting on 26 January 2023 if cuts were proposed to this theme.</p>	J Hillen	The majority of themes will be approved in February 2023 with letters issued in April 23 – themes with potential Easter events will be priorities and themes not prepared at this Stage will be taken to approvals as per purdah guidelines. Call 2 details have been sent for build on the EGMS webpage with request to open 13th March 2022.	N
AHC/007/2023	Community Consultation for Community Facilities Strategy	It was agreed subject to approval of the draft strategy at CMT and SMT that a public consultation be progressed in due course.	J Hillen	Draft to be discussed with Cllrs in advance of going out to public consultation – Mid June 23	N

ITEMS RESTRICTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 1 OF SCHEDULE 6 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (NI) 2014					
AHC/010/2023	Upgrade Works at Barcroft and Threeways Community Centre	It was agreed to note the content of the report and approve the appointment of the preferred bidder to carryout upgrade works at Barcroft and Three Ways Community Centres subject to contract and completion of due diligence checks.	J Hillen	Contractor on site. Works to be completed by April 23	N

ACTIONS ARISING FROM ACTIVE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING – 20 FEBRUARY 2023

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
AHC/015/2023	Action sheet Committee Meeting held on Monday 23 January 2023	The action sheet from the Committee Meeting held on 23 January 2023 was noted.	All	Noted	
AHC/016/2023	Update Financial Assistance Calls 1 and 2	It was agreed to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve the attached appendices for revenue and capital projects and issue letter of offers post Council ratification and Call in. • Pre-letter of offer conditions met prior to issue of full letter of offer issued and where this is not satisfied budget to be re-allocated. • Finalise Audit checks for Call 1 and bring any changes back to Committee before issuing a letter of offer. • Open Call 2 on 13th March 2023 	J Hillen	Letters will be issued to all approved Call 1 themes the week of 13 th March 2023. Pre-Letter of offer conditions will be issued where relevant to those projects impacted.	N
AHC/017/2023	Peace IV Local Action Plan	It was agreed that the Committee agree to the recommendations of the PEACE IV Partnership as set out in 2.1 of the officer's report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To liaise with SEUPB to determine whether the proposed project can proceed given the new construction timescales proposed. • Subject to funding confirmation, Council to proceed with procurement of a design team, submission of a planning application and procurement of a contractor. 	J Hillen	Proposed timeline sent to SEUPB and awaiting funder's decision.	N

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
AHC/018/2023	Asylum Dispersal Funding	It was agreed to approve the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To use existing SLA arrangements to distribute funding to community/voluntary sector organisations through the Community Coordination Hub. To procure specialist & staffing resources for programmes supporting asylum seekers/refugees. 	J Hillen	Work is ongoing as per report recommendations.	Y
AHC/019/2023	District Electoral Area (DEA) Forums Update Report	It was agreed to note the report and approve the actions in the action sheets for the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rowallane DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Friday 27 January 2023. Mournes DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 31 January 2023. Newry DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Thursday 9 February 2023. 	J Hillen	All DEA Action Sheets being actioned accordingly.	Y
AHC/020/2023	Community Co-ordination Hub – Update Report	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 18 January 2023.	J Hillen	Noted	Y
AHC/021/2023	Private Tenancies Act – Updated Powers	It was agreed to note the new legislative powers for Council's in relation to the private rented sector and agree the proposed fixed penalty levels at £500.	E Devlin	Noted	Y
AHC/027/2023	Open House Programme Update Report	It was agreed to note the update report.	J Hillen	Noted	Y
AHC/028/2023	PEACE Plus	It was agreed to note the report and that two Social Partner vacancies would be publicly advertised due to inability to recruit through the community engagement process.	J Hillen	Noted	Y

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
AHC/029/2023	PCSP Report	It was agreed to note the report and Minutes of the Policing Committee & PCSP Meeting held on Tuesday 29 November 2022, approved at the Policing Committee & PCSP Meeting on Tuesday 31 January 2023.	J Hillen	Noted	Y
AHC/030/2023	Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership Report	It was agreed to note the report and the Minutes of Newry NRP Meeting held on Wednesday 23 November 2022, approved at Newry NRP Meeting held on Wednesday 18 January 2023.	J Hillen	Noted	Y

ITEMS RESTRICTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 1 OF SCHEDULE 6 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (NI) 2014					
AHC/022/2023	Financial Assistance Discussion	It was agreed that a report be brought back to the Committee detailing the existing Financial Assistance Policy, protocols for groups accessing funding and legal advice on the next course of action.	J Hillen	A report is being prepared and will be brought back to March AHC Committee.	N
AHC/023/2023	Lisnacree Community Centre – Removal of Lease	It was agreed to approve the following recommendations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accept Lisnacree Community Associations letter and formally thank the association for the work they have done over the last 25 years. The termination of the lease between NM&DDC and the Diocese of Down for Lisnacree Community Centre 	J Hillen	Thank you to the committee will take place on Wed 29 th March 23.	N
AHC/024/2023	Expression of interest for the Market House, Ballynahinch	It was agreed to approve the following recommendations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publicly advertise a lease for the whole Market House, Ballynahinch SP&R to consider issue of lease following public process by TDK Officers to seek legal advice regarding adding social value criteria when considering expressions of interest. 	J Hillen	Valuation complete. Draft EOI with legal for comment	

ITEMS RESTRICTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 1 OF SCHEDULE 6 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (NI) 2014					
AHC/025/2023	Reconfiguration of Ballynahinch Community Centre – RIBA Stage 2 Concept Design Additional Costs	<p>It was agreed to approve the following recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve, in principle, the additional spend (detailed in 2.1) on Base Cost Estimate as per Consultants RIBA Stage 2 Report within 2023/2024 capital rates estimates, subject to clarification from Estates department regarding the requirement for 10 additional carparking spaces. • Approve an additional spend (detailed in 2.2) if required as a Risk Allowance Estimate as per Consultants RIBA Stage 2 Report within 2023/2024 capital rates estimates. 	J Hillen	Ten additional spaces required to accommodate additional bookings anticipated.	N
AHC/026/2023	Donard Park – Artificial Pitch Upgrade	<p>It was agreed to approve the following recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To progress the appointment of an integrated design team for the upgrade of the Donard Park Artificial Surface. • To progress with the procurement and appointment of a contractor for this project on completion of integrated design team works, subject to appropriate budget provision. • To approve the business case for this project as per appendix 2. 	P Tamati		

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities (AHC) Committee
Date of Meeting:	20 th March 2023
Subject:	Notice of Motion – Sea Angling
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Paul Tamati, Assistant Director: Leisure and Sport
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Conor Haughey, Head of Outdoor Leisure

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>The purpose of this report is for AHC Committee to note the Notice of Motion received by Councillor Clarke and the recommendations of this report.</p> <p>In February 2022 Councillor Clarke tabled the following Notice of Motion at full Council Committee which was referred to AHC Committee for consideration:</p> <p>"This Council welcomes the increasing popularity of sea angling along the Down coast, recognises the potential for increased tourism and the benefits this will bring to the local economy. Calls for the development and introduction of a Recreational Sea Angling Strategy in consultation with local fishermen and the relevant agencies. Such a strategy should aim to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote sea angling in a safe and sustainable way and • Capitalise on the opportunities for the local economy that an increase in sea angling would deliver". 	
2.0	Key issues	
2.1	<p>As part of AHC Committees directorate business plan, the Leisure and Sport section have commissioned a Sports Development, Health and Wellbeing strategy for the district which is currently ongoing.</p> <p>It is anticipated that the above strategy for NMDC will align to Sport NI's recently published Corporate Plan 2021-2026 'The Power of Sport'.</p> <p>In addition to the above, Council currently promotes fishing and angling provision for visitors to the district on its destination website. This includes sea angling tours from Carlingford Lough and Kilkeel.</p> <p>Please see link for further information: www.visitmournemountains.co.uk/things-to-do/water-activities/fishing-angling</p> <p>As further sea angling opportunities are developed via the Council's Sports Development Strategy, officers will promote new provision via Council's marketing channels.</p>	

3.0	Recommendations
3.1	That AHC committee note that Sea Angling will be included in the consultation process for Council's Sports Development, Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Officers will continue to work to promote Sea Angling in collaboration with the Sport's Governing Body, established providers of sea angling and via Council's financial assistance processors.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	Revenue: There are no anticipated financial implications associated with this report. Capital: There are no identified capital budget implications associated with this report.
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	<i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If yes, please complete the following: 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)

<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>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>
<p>7.0</p>	<p>Appendices</p>
	<p>None</p>
<p>8.0</p>	<p>Background Documents</p>
	<p>None</p>

Report to:	Active Healthy Communities
Date of Meeting:	20 th March 2023
Subject:	Financial Assistance
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Janine Hillen Assistant Director Community Engagement
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Sonya Burns – Head of Programmes Ciara Burns – Project Coordinator

For decision	X	For noting only	
1.0			Purpose and Background
1.1			<p>Call 1 for financial assistance 2023-2024 opened November 2022 and included the following themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Capital for Community Facilities (closing on 14th February, report not included) <p>Attached is the reports which provides a breakdown of the number of applications, pass and fail at each stage of the process, geographical spread of the applications received and a breakdown of the final budget allocations to successful applicants.</p> <p>Several key issues were highlighted throughout the assessment process, and these are outlined in Section2.</p> <p>Also, for noting Call 3 will open in May / June time, at this stage we will include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Sports Capital – Multi Sports, ongoing work to develop the process in line with funding requirements is ongoing. Any other underspend from Call 1 or Call 2 themes (if applicable) Any other relevant theme which has approval and budget
2.0			Key issues
2.1			<p>Pre-Letter of offer conditions</p> <p>Some projects will be required to submit documentation and pre letter of offer requirements, if the panel are content with the conditions, then a Letter of offer will be issued. If a project cannot fulfil the pre-LoO condition a letter of offer will not be issued and the next group on the scored and ranked list will be contacted (if applicable) or re-allocated.</p> <p>Audit requirements</p> <p>Internal audit requirements as per Financial Assistance procedures are still ongoing at the time of writing this report and any amendments or updates on the attached outcomes will be brought back to Committee for ratification.</p> <p>Recommendations per theme</p> <p>Please find attached details in the appendices of breakdown per theme.</p>
3.0			Recommendations

3.1	<p>Please see recommendations below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve the attached appendices for revenue and capital projects and issue letter of offers post Council ratification and Call in. • Pre-letter of offer conditions met prior to issue of full letter of offer issued and where this is not satisfied budget to be re-allocated. • Open Call 3 May/June 2023.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	<p>Revenue/Payroll: Funding will be allocated from internal Council Budget</p> <p>Capital: As per Council budget</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>
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 1 - Reports on Call one Community Capital theme
8.0	Background Documents

Community Facility Capital Fund Financial Assistance 2023/24 Call 1 Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

9 Applications received

3 Applications recommended for funding

33% of applications awarded

Amount requested from successful applicants **£204,956**

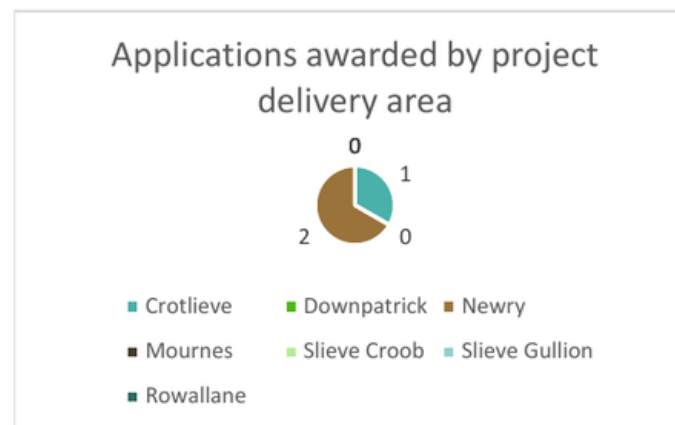
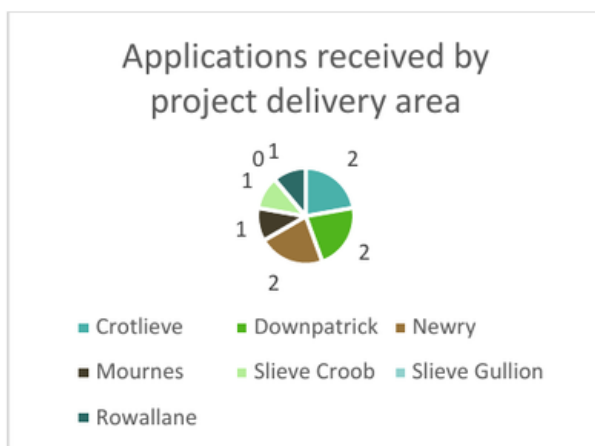
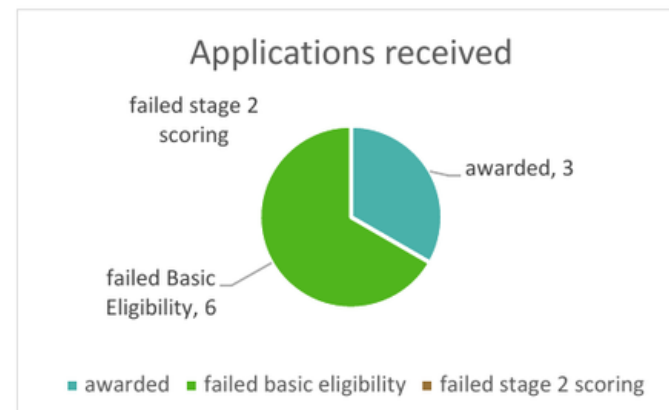
Total amount awarded **£204,956**

Of the 9 applications:

6 failed basic eligibility = 66%

0 Failed stage 2 scoring = 0%

3 Passed stage 2 and awarded = 33%



Breakdown of Applications per stage and final amount recommended for award.

Stage 1 = 6 Fail

Group	Passed basic eligibility
3562	No
3644	No
4093	No
4094	No
4095	No
4099	No

Stage 2 = 0 fail

Group	Passed basic eligibility	Stage 2
0	0	0

Stage 1 & 2 = 30 Passed & 30 Recommended for Awarded

Group	Passed basic eligibility	Stage 2	Amount Recommended
3301	Yes	Yes	£55,081.00
3610	Yes	Yes	£75,000.00
4090	Yes	Yes	£74,875.00
			£204,956.00

END

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	20 March 2023
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	<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 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.</p>
2.0	Key issues
2.1	Open House Programme: Discussions are ongoing with individual DEAs regarding possible extension of some Open Houses to the end of April 2023, based on numbers attending and resources available.
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 Sheets attached for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Slieve Croob DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 28 February 2023. ➤ Downpatrick DEA Forum Ad Hoc Meeting held on Monday 6 March 2023. ➤ Crotlieve DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 14 March 2023. ➤ Rowallane DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 14 March 2023.
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)

<p>5.1</p>	<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>
<p>5.2</p>	<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>
<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>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>
<p>7.0</p>	<p>Appendices</p>
<p>7.1</p>	<p>Appendix 1: Update on the ongoing work of the DEAs. Appendix 2: Action Sheet of Slieve Croob DEA Forum Private Meeting, 28 February 2023. Appendix 3: Action Sheet of Downpatrick DEA Forum Ad Hoc Meeting, 6 March 2023. Appendix 4: Action Sheet of Crotlieve DEA Forum Private Meeting, 14 March 2023. Appendix 5: Action Sheet of Rowallane DEA Forum Private Meeting, 14 March 2023.</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.

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

Level of Health Status:

Crotlieve DEA held a very successful Afternoon Tea Dance Event in Ballyholland Community Centre on Tuesday 28th February 2023, welcoming visitors from all over Crotlieve. Attendees enjoyed an afternoon of music, dance and lunch and received information on Keeping Warm and Well and Home Safety and Security.

Slieve Gullion DEA are delivering a six-week programme of taster sessions to a new women's group in the Whitecross area, whilst also providing support to enable the group to become constituted.

Downpatrick, Rowallane and Slieve Croob DEAs have collaborated with the South Eastern Trust's Carers Department to implement a 4 week cultural cookery programme with adult carers. This programme will provide much needed downtime for the carers and a chance to connect with people in similar situations and improve emotional health and well-being. Furthermore, they will learn new culinary skills as they will get the opportunity to prepare, cook and taste foods from around the world that they would not usually try before.

The Mournes DEA will be delivering several health/wellbeing and fitness taster sessions in the Kilkeel, Annalong, and Kilkoo areas.

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

Level of Civic Participation and Good Relations:

On Friday 17th February 2023, the Rowallane DEA Coordinator attended, as an observer, the Saintfield Community Association consultation event held in Saintfield Community Centre. The event was organised to give residents an opportunity to view and comment on the proposals for development on the Windmill Field and derelict buildings with funding provided by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. The event was attended by 21 residents, 1 MLA and a local Councillor who were able to give feedback both positive and negative and have any issues or concerns addressed by members of the Community Association.

Newry and Slieve Gullion DEAs continue to deliver the Shared Schools Programmes across 4 schools within the area. The final session will take place in Newtownhamilton High School in March 2023. A Shared Schools educational history trip to Dublin is also being supported by both DEAs.

The Mournes DEA is linking with local agencies to signpost and highlight their supports available to "accommodated" asylum seekers in the area.

Crotlieve DEA is supporting multi-cultural music and dance events in Hilltown and Mayobridge as part of the community's St Patrick's Day Celebrations.

All People in Newry, Mourne and Down get a Good Start in Life and Fulfil their Lifelong Potential

Level of Early Years support, Educational Wellbeing and Connectivity

In partnership with Ballynahinch Jobs and Benefits Office, Make the Call, Workable NI and Newry Mourne and Down Labour Market Partnership, Rowallane DEA held a very successful Employability and Benefits Advice event on Thursday 23rd February 2023 in the Market House, Ballynahinch, from 10.00am-12.00 noon. The event attracted over 43 individuals seeking help on a variety of matters relating to benefits and information on the South Eastern Regional College (SERC) academies, access to work initiatives etc. Work

coaches were also available on the day to give advice on entitlement to benefits and starting and staying in work.

Crotlieve DEA is supporting an International Women's Day event in St Mark's High School Warrenpoint in partnership with the EA.

Level of Personal Safety and Crime:

Slieve Croob DEA in partnership with the PCSP are rolling out an engagement evening with young people in Loughinisland to build relations and to provide diversionary activities. The event will include the gaming vehicle as a tool to engage with young people and build relationships. Furthermore, the evening will be an opportunity to connect with young people and ascertain programmes they would be interested in having rolled out in their local area to get young people off the streets and engage in meaningful activities.

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

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**Action Sheet of Slieve Croob District Electoral Area (DEA) Forum Private Meeting
held on Tuesday 28th February 2023 at 3.45pm via Microsoft Teams**

Chairperson:	Councillor Alan Lewis
In Attendance:	Councillor Jim Brennan Councillor Hugh Gallagher Councillor Andrew McMurray
Independent Members:	Heather Holland, County Down Rural Community Network (CDRCN)
Statutory Partners:	
Council Officials:	Joseph Deegan, Community Services Manager Priscilla McAlinden, Slieve Croob DEA Coordinator Andrea McEvoy, Business Support Officer Aisling Rennick, Engagement and Development Manager Judith Thompson, Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) Officer Andrew Sweeney, Facilities Coordinator Heather Wilson, Land Management Officer
Apologies:	Felix Blaney, Castlewellan Community Partnership Damien Brannigan, Head of Engagement Councillor Roisin Howell Catherine Kennedy, Loughinisland Youth Club

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed.
DEA/SC/3/2023	Declaration of Interest	No Declarations of Interest were made.	Noted.
DEA/SC/4/2023	Matters arising from Action Sheet of meeting held on 13 th December 2022	Action Sheet from 13 th December 2022 was adopted as a true record.	Proposed by Councillor McMurray. Seconded by Heather Holland.
DEA/SC/5/2023	Right of Ways Issues	<p>Land Management Officer to carry out site visit at Right of Way on Clonvaraghan Road leading to Ballywillwill Road to ascertain works required and cost of required works to make paths accessible and speak to landowners to gain permission to carry out proposed work. Should funding be available and permission secured works would commence in early winter 2023 due to the bird nesting season.</p> <p>Slievehanny Road to Clonvaraghan Road to be looked at in the following financial year (2024/25), dependant on funding and landowner agreement.</p>	Land Management Officer.

DEA/SC/6/2023	PSCP Update	Update provided by PCSP Officer.	Noted.
DEA/SC/7/2023	Community Facilities Update	Community Services Manager informed the meeting of the following: - Dan Rice Hall windows refurbishment to commence end of March. - 3G net installation at Castlewellan Community Centre delayed due to contractor issues.	Noted. Noted.
DEA/SC/8/2023	Proposed Meeting Schedule	Dates agreed and meeting times to be changed to 4pm.	Noted.
DEA/SC/9/2023	Action Plan Update 2022-2023	Forum members unanimously approved the project proposals outlined in the Action Plan and associated budget.	DEA Coordinator.
DEA/SC/10/2023	Action Plan Proposal 2023 - 2024	Forum members unanimously approved proposed Action Plan 2023/2024 and associated budget.	DEA Coordinator.
DEA/SC/11/2023	Date and time of next meeting	Next meeting is scheduled to take place on 27 th June 2023 at 4pm.	DEA Coordinator.

The meeting ended at: 4.47pm

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

**Action Sheet of Downpatrick District Electoral Area (DEA) Forum Ad Hoc Meeting
held on Tuesday 6th March 2023 at 10.00 am in the Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick**

Chairperson:	Councillor Gareth Sharvin
In Attendance:	Councillor Dermot Curran Councillor Cadogan Enright Councillor Oonagh Hanlon
Independent Members:	Jim Masson, Down Business Connect Dan McEvoy, Downpatrick Community Collective Daniella McCarry, County Down Rural Community Network
Statutory Partners:	Trevor Maxwell, Department for Infrastructure Ryan Gough, Department for Infrastructure Darren Hardy, Downpatrick PSNI Suzanne Cochrane, Downpatrick PSNI
Council Officials:	Katrina Hynds, Downpatrick DEA Co-Ordinator
Others in Attendance:	Simone Prenter, Our Lady & St Patrick's Primary School Colin Boyd, Our Lady & St Patrick's Primary School Board of Governors
Apologies:	Councillor John Trainor Damien Brannigan, Head of Engagement Lisa Perry, Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership Jenny Laverty, Housing Community Network Maurice Denvir, East Lecale Communities Aisling Rennick, Engagement & Development Manager

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed.
DEA/DPK/23/01	Apologies	As recorded above.	Noted.
DEA/DPK/23/02	Declaration of Interest	Councillor Hanlon declared that she was a member of Our Lady & St Patrick's PS Board of Governors.	Noted.
DEA/DPK/23/03		<p>The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.</p> <p>Mrs Prenter advised that she had requested the meeting to highlight the dangers of the continued traffic issues around the school. These include traffic congestion, increase in large HGVs, etc using Edward Street, vehicles mounting the kerb when pupils are using the footpath. The school has tried to alleviate some of these issues by placing traffic cones at the gates and temporary footpath barriers. However, these have been unsuccessful as they are constantly knocked down.</p>	

		<p>A discussion further ensued with members requesting that DfI look at what safety measures can be put in place and consideration be given to a one-way system.</p> <p>DfI Roads highlighted that the signage had previously been reviewed following the removal of A&E at the Hospital, however, it will be checked again to ensure it is appropriate. A further advisory sign for HGV's is to be erected at the junction of Edward Street/Fountain Street. DfI have also put the markings at Edward Street on a programme to be refreshed.</p> <p>DfI have agreed to appoint an independent Consultant to complete a feasibility study to advise on the best route forward. This will include what the impact will be on surrounding streets ie John Street, St Dillon's Avenue, Knocknashinna and the Ardglass Road if a one-way system is enforced in Edward Street. Consideration will also include the impact on traffic in these areas following the development of the shopping centre in St Dillon's Avenue/John Street and the proposed new Super School on the St Mary's site. The outcome of this</p>	<p>Department for Infrastructure to erect new signage and refresh road markings.</p> <p>Department for Infrastructure to commission a feasibility study.</p>
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		<p>would then have to go to consultation with those residents being affected by the changes.</p> <p>DfI advised that a collective approach will be needed to help resolve these issues. The school has more than doubled in size and therefore the traffic flows to the school have more than likely doubled. Ways of removing this traffic from the road need to be considered and the potential of providing a car park investigated further.</p> <p>In relation to a School Street Scheme, they advised they have recommended this for consideration. However, the implementation of this will require parents being able to park outside the zoned area and full agreement with everyone effected will be required.</p>	<p>Department for Infrastructure.</p>
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The meeting ended at: 11.20 am

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

**Action Sheet of Crotlieve District Electoral Area (DEA) Forum Private Meeting
held on Tuesday 14th March 2023 at 18.00 pm via Microsoft Teams:**

Chairperson:	Councillor Gerry O'Hare
In Attendance:	Councillor Michael Ruane Councillor Declan McAteer Councillor Mark Gibbons Councillor Jarlath Tinnelly Councillor Karen McKeivitt
Independent Members:	None in attendance
Statutory Partners:	Deirdre Magill - Southern Health and Social Care Trust
Council Officials:	Shirley Keenan – Crotlieve DEA Co-ordinator Aisling Rennick – Engagement & Development Manager Shannon Creaney - PCSP Officer Suzanne Rice – Corporate Policy & Equality Officer Colin Moffett – Head of Corporate Policy
Others in Attendance:	Laurence Bradley - Confederation of Community Groups
Apologies:	Damien Brannigan – Head of Engagement Claire Shiels - County Down Rural Community Network Carie Crawford – Education Authority

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed.
DEA/C/08/2023	Declaration of Interest.	There were no declarations of interest declared.	COMPLETED.
DEA/C/09/2023	Matters arising from Action Sheet from meeting held January 2023.	Action sheet confirmed as a true and accurate record.	COMPLETED.
DEA/C/10/2023	<p>DEA Co-ordinator's Report/ Spend and Action Plan.</p> <p>Autism Reality Experience.</p> <p>Open House.</p>	<p>Projects agreed by Forum Members along with associated budget.</p> <p>It was proposed by Councillor Ruane and unanimously agreed by all Councillors that the DEA Co-ordinator work in partnership with SHSCT to deliver the Autism Reality Experience in the incoming financial year.</p> <p>It was unanimously agreed that the Crotlieve Open House would end at 31st March 2023.</p>	DEA Co-ordinator to continue with delivery and implementation.

DEA/C/11/2023	SHSCT Update.	Update provided by Ms D Magill.	Members to forward community development referrals to Ms Magill.
DEA/C/12/2023	Corporate Policy & Equality. Town & Village Signage.	Ms S Rice and Mr C Moffett updated attendees on the Town & Village Signage proposals.	Crotlieve Councillors agreed that the Bilingual example was the preferred sign for Crotlieve.
DEA/C/13/2023	PCSP Update.	Update provided by Ms S Creaney.	COMPLETED.
DEA/C/14/2023	DEA Forum Recruitment.	Update provided by Ms A Rennick.	COMPLETED.
DEA/C/08/2022	COVID-19 Pandemic Impact – Loneliness.	Request from Cllr McAteer to address loneliness as an issue in the DEA.	To be included in DEA action plan. Ongoing.

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/15/2023	Date of next meeting.	The next meeting date: TBC.	DEA Co-ordinator to forward papers and Teams Link.

The meeting ended at: 19:00 pm

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

**Action Sheet of Rowallane District Electoral Area (DEA) Forum Private Meeting held on
Tuesday 14th March 2023 at 6.00 p.m.**

Chairperson:	Councillor Robert Burgess
In Attendance:	Councillor Terry Andrews Councillor Callum Bowsie
Independent Members:	Brian Gamble, SDA Richard Orme, Ballynahinch Community Collective
Statutory Partners:	None
Council Officials:	Ellen Brennan, Rowallane DEA Coordinator Judith Thompson, PCSP Officer
Apologies:	Councillor Jonathan Jackson Councillor David Lee-Surginor Paul Fitzsimons, Education Authority Joseph Deegan, Community Services Manager (East) Aisling Rennick, Engagement and Development Manager Damien Brannigan, Head of Engagement Lawrence Murphy, SANDSA Lise Curran, CDRCN

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed.
DEA/ROW/16/3/2023	Declarations of Interest	Richard Orme declared an interest in item 11.	Noted.
DEA/ROW16/4/2023	Action Sheet of meeting held on 27 th January 2023	On the proposal of Richard Orme and seconded by Brian Gamble action sheet from 27 th January 2023 was approved as a true record.	Action sheet of 27 th January 2023 accepted as true record.
DEA/ROW/16/5/2023	Town and Village Signage	<p>Due to a prior engagement, the Head of Policy was not able to attend the meeting to discuss the issue of Town and Village Signage.</p> <p>It was agreed the DEA Coordinator contact Head of Engagement to discuss how to progress the consultation with the Forum on this matter.</p>	DEA Coordinator to contact Head of Policy.
DEA/ROW/16/6/2023	Footpath from Crossgar to Saintfield	At the request of Councillor Bowsie it was recommended that should there be a review of the 2022 Newry, Mourne and Down Active Travel 10-year Masterplan, this route should be put forward by the DEA Forum for consideration.	DEA Coordinator to contact the Sustainability Section of Council.
DEA/ROW/16/7/2023	Update from PCSP	The PCSP Judith Thompson provided an update on the work of the PCSP which was noted by members.	PCSP update noted.
DEA/ROW/16/8/2023	Review Open House Project	Following discussion members agreed that there was currently no need for this project but the situation	Open House Project not to be progressed at present

		should be kept under review in case circumstances change.	but to be kept under review.
DEA/ROW/16/9/2023	Consider Rowallane DEA proposed projects/programmes financial year 2023/2024	On the proposal of Richard Orme seconded by Councillor Bowsie members recommended approval of the proposed projects and programmes outlined for the incoming year.	DEA Coordinator to action.
DEA/ROW/16/10/2023	DEA Coordinator's Report (copy had been circulated prior to meeting)	Members noted the various projects undertaken and planned and thanked the DEA Coordinator for all her hard work during this term of Council.	Noted.
DEA/ROW/16/11/2023	Consider request from Ballynahinch Community Collective to use the former steel structure site for the purposes of creating a community garden until sold	Following discussion members recommended that Council should be approached to see if Ballynahinch Community Collective could use the area to create a community garden until such time as the site is sold. If Council is unable to sell the plot the Collective would welcome Council gifting or leasing for a peppercorn rent this area to develop a community garden. The produce of which could be donated to the Food Bank.	DEA Coordinator to contact relevant Council Department.

The meeting concluded at 7.15 p.m.

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	20 March 2023
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 15 February 2023. <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 impact 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 15 February 2023.
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 15 February 2023.</p>
8.0	<p>Background Documents</p>
8.1	<p>None.</p>

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of Community Coordination Hub Meeting Wednesday 15 February 2023 @ 2:00pm

In Attendance:

Chair: Alan Beggs (Community Planning)

Aisling Rennick (DEAs)

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

James Elliot (DFC)

Aidan McCabe (SHSCT)

Lauren McMenamin (Community Planning)

Caroline Gray (Programmes Unit)

Apologies:

Michael Lipsett (Active & Health Communities)

Julie McCann (Community Services, Facilities & Events)

Janine Hillen (Community Engagement)

Damien Brannigan (Engagement)

Justyna McCabe (Programmes Unit)

Sonya Burns (Programmes Unit)

Sarah McClory (Programmes Unit)

Eoin Devlin (Health & Wellbeing)

Brian Ranking (Sustainability)

Martina Flynn (PCSP)

Rosemary McDonnell (Community Advice Newry, Mourne & Down and Strategic Stakeholder Forum)

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

Lynda Vladeanu (SEHSCT)

	Agenda Item	Discussion and Action Agreed	Raised by/ Referred to
1.	Welcome & Apologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Everyone welcomed to the meeting and apologies given. 	All
2.	Actions from last CCH meeting held on Wednesday 18 th January 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actions from last CCH meeting held attached. Social Supermarket: Clanrye Group contacted for referral numbers. Figures to be provided to Strategic Stakeholder Forum including updates on procedures for applications. £35 Food Voucher available if families and individuals sign up to three other referrals from Wrap Around Scheme. £25,000.00 Funding from Credit Union, as previously reported, has commenced with a number of families provided with £250 for oil. Funding from Credit Union to continue to be allocated to families across the district. No update from Norbrook if excess Turkeys and Hams will be allocated. To be followed up with Norbrook. 	All RJ RJ RJ RJ
3.	Funding Opportunities for NI Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding Opportunities for NI Community. Copy attached for information and distribution as appropriate. 	All
4.	Community Assistance Centre for Ukrainian Refugees Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ukrainian Support Centre, which provides support for Ukraine families, held today 15 February 2023 in Newry Leisure Centre. Meetings for individuals and families held every three weeks in Newry and every week in Belfast. There is evidence that families are relocating from this area to Belfast in order to avail of more community support. 	AB AMcC
5.	Update from DFC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No funding update at present. Fair Share continuing to tackle food poverty and working alongside local charities to provide food and healthy nutritious meals to disadvantaged/vulnerable groups and families. 	JE

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bryson also working with community partners at present to provide food and electricity support. • Cost of Living Crisis, if money does become available how will the funding be allocated and distributed between Council areas? • If funding is made available through the Hardship Fund, Councils are to review how the funding is to be awarded. The mechanism for distributing the funding will have to be in place and funding allocated by the 31 March 2023. • It was agreed that, if required, the Community Coordination Hub (CCH) could ensure that the funding is distributed to the most vulnerable in our Council area, in this financial year, by allocating the funding provided for the hardship scheme to the Newry, Mourne & Down Strategic Stakeholder Forum (SSF) whose members would then identify individuals and/or families most in need of this type of assistance by working with their 'Trusted Partners' in the voluntary and statutory sector. 	<p>RJ</p> <p>JE</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Cost of Living Crisis Response/Warm Spaces</p>	<p>Warm Spaces</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At present Warm Spaces are being provided throughout the Council area in each DEA. Anecdotal evidence suggests that demand is low at most of the Warm Space venues and they are being used more as a social space, which is in itself an important community provision. • They continue to be promoted by the DEA Officers and the Marketing Team. • Dan Rice Hall, Drumaness, now open and participants can attend on a Friday. • Attendance in Downpatrick venues appear lower overall, this may be related to the rural nature of these areas. • At present only a headcount of numbers attending. • It was agreed that all stakeholders should meet in April/ May 2023 to review the warm hub projects and reflect on any "lessons learned". • Details for dates and times can be found on the Council Web Page under Cost of Living. 	<p>AR</p> <p>AR</p> <p>AB</p>

7.	Updates and Progress to date on DFC Funded Programmes	<p><u>Community</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demand for support in January and February 2023 has not increased. Review ongoing of what funding has been allocated. <p><u>Trusts & PHA</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethnic Support Officer working along with Home Start providing wrap around support. • Members were advised of a new foodbank operating within Newry City. More information may be required about this facility, what needs they are addressing and what further support they may require. • It was queried if records maintained by Clanrye record ethnicity of who is applying for Social Supermarket Support? (RJ) to discuss with Clanrye. • Ethnic Support Officer is welcome to attend future CCH meetings. <p><u>Council</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruitment of Independent Members to DEA Forums ongoing through Council and through the Strategic Stakeholder Forum with the old DEA Forums making suggestions for New DEA Forums. • Community Planning Meeting to be held 16 February 2023 no further update at present. 	<p>RJ</p> <p>AMcC</p> <p>AR</p> <p>AB</p>
8.	AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alan thanked all for attending. 	AB
9.	Date of Next Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday 15 March 2023 at 2.00 pm 	

Meeting: Wednesday 15 March 2023 at 2.00 pm

Next

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	20 March 2023
Subject:	Service Level Agreement in relation to the Affordable Warmth Scheme 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2024.
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Eoin Devlin Assistant Director Health and Wellbeing
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	James Campbell Head of Environmental Health -Residential

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	To consider the report and agree that the Chief Executive signs the attached Service Level Agreement between the Department for Communities and Newry Mourne and Down District Council.
2.0	Key issues
	<p>Since 2015 the Council has been delivering the Affordable Warmth Scheme ("Scheme") in partnership with the Department for Communities and the Northern Ireland Housing Executive. The Scheme is targeted at those dwellings in greatest need with some allowance for referrals.</p> <p>Council Officers carry out the initial survey work and the Housing Executive then enable the adaptation work to be carried out.</p> <p>In addition to managing the Scheme in its area Newry Mourne and Down District Council from 1 August 2019 has been administering the Scheme in the Armagh Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council area.</p> <p>Council will be required to refer 20 dwellings per month for each Council district to the Housing Executive until the end of June 2023. After that date an increase in referral numbers may be possible subject to funding from DfC.</p> <p>The current business case of DfC runs to 2024. The Department is currently drafting an addendum to the current Business Case to allow the Scheme to run from April 2024 – March 2026. Options on a revised funding model will be explored through the addendum. Any changes must demonstrate value for money and will be subject to relevant approvals and budget availability.</p> <p>The system used for currently targeting properties will be changing from April 2023 because of a pilot project involving 3 Councils. As a result of the pilot there will be a refreshed approach using a modified definition to targeting properties which should be more effective in finding and assisting those most in need and make the best use of Council resources and provides value for money.</p>
3.0	Recommendations

3.1	That the Committee approve the signing of the attached Service Level Agreement with the Department for Communities in relation to the provision of the Affordable Warmth Scheme.
3.2	That the Committee note the change in the targeting approach.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	100% funded and within existing estimates. Additional visits for Armagh Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council are also funded by the Department for Communities.
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	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 Service Level Agreement and covering letter.
8.0	Background Documents
	None



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Communities
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From: Emma Sisk
Head of Affordable
Warmth and Energy
Branch

Level 3
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Telephone: 028 90515269

27 February 2023

To: All Affordable Warmth
Scheme Council Senior
Officials

Dear all

AFFORDABLE WARMTH SCHEME – SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT, FUNDING AND A REFRESHED APPROACH TO TARGETING

At the Senior Officials meeting on 20 January, I said I would write to you about the interim Service Level Agreement (SLA), Council funding for delivery of the Scheme, and provide some guidance on the refreshed approach to targeting recently approved by the Department of Finance.

Service Level Agreement

I have attached the latest version of the SLA which we are proposing covers the period up to 31 March 2024, the end date of the existing approved business case. Councils indicated at January's meeting that this would need to be signed off at local committee before the election in May. I would be grateful if that process could be completed, and the signed SLA returned to the Department as soon as possible.

It is an audit requirement that Councils provide an assurance regarding financial accountability and operational delivery to assure the Department that funds provided for the

AWS are being spent on the Scheme. Therefore, can I ask that each Council provides this assurance statement and returns to the Department alongside the signed SLA. You should keep a record of the evidence you have used, and how you got the assurance you needed. We do not require Councils to send this evidence to us, but we may ask to see it, or elements of it.

Council Funding for Delivery of the Scheme

Unfortunately, I am not in a position to confirm the Scheme budget for 2023/24; however, our current planning assumption is for a capital budget of £16m. I had indicated at our last meeting that we may be asking Councils to make 30 referrals per month, however, due to the budget uncertainty we are now asking Councils to make 20 referrals per month from 01 April 2023 to 30 June 2023. As soon as I am given confirmation of the budget, I will write to you with details.

I understand there is some concern among Councils about meeting the referrals per month target without a change to funding arrangements. In addition, at the most recent Senior Officials meeting several Councils indicated that they may be unable to continue their participation in the Scheme under the current funding model. The SLA allows a +/-5 flexibility in monthly referral numbers and you should work with your local Grant Office to make up any shortfall by the end of each quarter.

The Department is drafting an addendum to the current Business Case to allow the Scheme to run from April 2024 – March 2026. Options on a revised funding model will be explored through the addendum. Any changes must demonstrate value for money and will be subject to relevant approvals and budget availability. We are progressing this work as a matter of urgency and hope that a revised model will provide additional certainty to Councils in regard to funding whilst allowing the Department to meet its financial and risk management obligations. I will provide further detail on the approved new approach at the earliest opportunity.

However, should any Council intend to formally withdraw from the Scheme, I would be grateful if you would notify the Department as a matter of urgency and by the 17th March 2023 at the latest so that alternative delivery models can be explored.

Refreshed Approach to Targeting

As you are aware an Internal Audit Review of the Affordable Warmth Scheme completed in March 2021 and recommended (4.1) in relation to targeting that the Department:

- a) Liaise with DoF regarding Scheme targeting to establish the implications for the 2018 interim Business Case and current Business Case approvals: and
- b) Undertake an evaluation of the targeted approach including the effectiveness of the model used and assess the impact on the current Business Case.

The Department commissioned Business Consultancy Services (BCS) in the Department of Finance to complete a study to examine if the Affordable Warmth Scheme continued to deliver value for money. This included an evaluation of both the effectiveness and value for money of the current targeted approach within the current delivery model. The BCS study concluded that:

- The principle of “worst first” is sound, and results in successful targeting of those most in need.
- The effectiveness of the current model has diminished in recent years, based on the marginal nature of targeting i.e. lists in a number of council areas are exhausted and the current 80/20 split is limiting councils’ ability to target support towards people who are in relative need but outside of the targeted area.
- Continuing but optimising the current targeted approach by implementing the recommendations in this report would provide the best value for money at this point.

The BCS study recommended that:

- the definition of ‘targeted’ should be more flexible;
- the targeted to self-referral ratio should be amended (it suggested a change to 60:40);
- consideration should be given to expanding the targeted list.

In February 2022 the Department commenced a pilot with a refreshed approach to targeting in 3 Council areas: Antrim and Newtownabbey, Derry City and Strabane and Belfast. The pilot introduced a modified version of the definition of “targeted” to reflect the development of the Scheme since it began in 2015 and to take account of Councils’ views on the

meaning of what a targeted case should include. For the purpose of the pilot the following referrals were considered targeted:

- On the targeted list;
- Same postcode as address on the targeted list;
- Close proximity (as determined by Council staff) to an address on the targeted list; or
- Signposted by another Agency or person.

The BCS study is attached at Annex A and a report of the pilot is attached at Annex B.

It is clear from the results of this pilot that a refreshed approach using the modified definition is more effective in finding and assisting those most in need and make the best use of Council resources and provides value for money.

We would therefore ask all Councils to commence using this refreshed targeted definition from 01 April 2023. To assist the Department to evaluate the effectiveness of this revised approach, Councils will also be asked complete the template attached at Annex C and return to the Department on a monthly basis. A member of the Affordable Warmth and Energy team will contact you soon to arrange a suitable date and time for a visit to your office to discuss the new approach with you.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Councils for all their efforts in delivering the Scheme to date.

Yours sincerely,

Emma Sisk

CC: Oliver McHugh
Josephine Gardner
Nicola Kelly
Eva Dougan

Annex A



Microsoft Word -
BCS Review of DfC Af

PILOT OF A REFRESHED APPROACH TO TARGETING IN THE AFFORDABLE WARMTH SCHEME

Background

Rationale for Targeting

1. The Affordable Warmth Scheme was introduced in April 2015 and targeted homes most at risk of fuel poverty and likely to be in need of improvements to their energy efficiency. Initially the Department adhered rigidly to a referral ratio from Councils of 80% targeted and 20% self-referral. This was to ensure that Councils focused on the targeted lists of addresses provided to them by the Department. These addresses were identified using a targeting tool developed by Ulster University and were most likely to be in severe fuel poverty.
2. The Scheme was built on a partnership with Councils and as it developed it was always expected Councils would be more involved using local knowledge to identify and target households most at risk of fuel poverty in their local area. As the Scheme progressed year on year an increased number of referrals came from areas outside those identified on the targeted lists. All of these referrals meet the Scheme qualification criteria and were just as likely to be in severe fuel poverty as those on the targeted lists.

Developing the Targeted Approach

3. The 80/20 split was becoming almost impossible to meet and Councils argued that that there should be more flexibility around it. The targeted lists in some council areas had been exhausted and they could not be re-worked or looked at until after the census results which could be post 2024. Refreshing the targeted approach does not represent a move away from targeting the “worst first” ethos of the Scheme, rather it acknowledges that Councils are well placed to assist with the identification and targeting of those most in need by using local knowledge and maintains the targeted approach approved in the Business Case.

Business Consultancy Services Study

4. The Department commissioned Business Consultancy Services (BCS) in the Department of Finance to complete a study to examine if the Affordable Warmth Scheme continued to deliver value for money. This included an evaluation of both the effectiveness and value for money of the current targeted approach within the current delivery model.
5. The BCS study concluded that:
 - The principle of “worst first” is sound, and results in successful targeting of those most in need.
 - The effectiveness of the current model has diminished in recent years, based on the marginal nature of targeting i.e., lists in a number of council areas are exhausted and the current 80/20 split is limiting councils’ ability to target support towards people who are in relative need but outside of the targeted area.
 - Continuing but optimising the current targeted approach by implementing the recommendations in this report would provide the best value for money at this point.
6. The BCS study recommended that:
 - the definition of ‘targeted’ should be more flexible;
 - the targeted to self-referral ratio should be amended (it suggests a change to 60:40);
 - consideration should be given to expanding the targeted list.
7. This presented an opportunity for a pilot of the refreshed approach to be run across three of the councils.

The Refreshed Approach to Targeting pilot

8. It was agreed that the pilot would run in in 3 Council areas - Antrim and Newtownabbey, Derry City and Strabane and Belfast. The status of targeting in each of the council areas at the start of the pilot was:

- Antrim & Newtownabbey – Been through list 5 times, door knocking and letters sent out. Of the last 400 letters sent out, there were 3 responses and of those only 1 of those were eligible for AWS.
 - Derry City & Strabane – Been through list twice and it is now exhausted. They had also sent out letters but the response has been minimal and the cost involved has not been recouped.
 - Belfast – List has not been exhausted, when self-referrals come in they look at the targeted lists to see if they can bring them in under targeted.
9. The pilot introduced a modified version of the definition of “targeted” to reflect the development of the Scheme since it began in 2015 and to take account of Councils’ views on the meaning of what a targeted case should include. For the purpose of the pilot the following referrals were considered targeted:
- On the targeted list;
 - Same postcode as address on the targeted list;
 - Close proximity (as determined by Council staff) to an address on the targeted list; or
 - Signposted by another Agency or person.

Results from the Pilot

10. Adhering to the targeted lists and the 80% targeted 20% self-referral arrangement had been restricting Councils’ ability to use their local knowledge to assist the “worst first”. Refreshing the approach to targeting has allowed Councils to use their resources to find homes most in need of assistance. A summary of the referrals from the pilot is attached at Appendix 1 and shows a significant shift in the levels of cases considered targeted when using the refreshed approach.
11. It is important to note the low levels of household incomes in many of the cases which were targeted by the pilot using the refreshed approach, many of these would not have been identified otherwise. In Belfast the average household income for

referrals during the period of the pilot was £13,200, in Antrim and Newtownabbey it was £13,758 and in Derry and Strabane the average household income was £13,152.

12. It is also important to note that 76% of approved referrals received multiple energy efficiency measures and 63% received priority 1 measures (**Insulation / Ventilation / Draught-proofing**).
13. The Councils have recorded many examples of homes in real need of assistance which they would not have been able to refer into the Scheme outside the pilot arrangements. Some of these are shown in Appendix 2.

Conclusion

14. The use of targeted lists and adherence to a strict 80% targeted and 20% self-referral was necessary to ensure that resources were directed to those most in need of assistance in the early years of the Scheme. The findings from the pilot show a rate of 80% targeted and 20% self-referral.
15. It is clear from the results of this pilot that a refreshed approach using the modified definition is more effective in finding and assisting those most in need and make the best use of Council resources and provides value for money.

Recommendation

16. The Department recommends that the refreshed approach to targeting is rolled out to all eleven Councils from 1 February 2023. The Department will review the refreshed approach after one full year of operation. In line with the BCS Study the targeted to self-referral ratio should be amended to 60:40.

Appendix 1

AFFORDABLE WARMTH SCHEME TARGETING PILOT FEBRUARY - OCTOBER 2022

SUMMARY

Council	Total Feb - Oct	Targeted List	Same Postcode	Close Geographical Proximity	Referred by another Agency	Self-Referral	Average Income level
Antrim N'Abbey *	172	27	15	92	1	37	£13,758
	78%					22%	
Belfast	221	5	54	7	118	37	£13,200
	83%					17%	
Derry Strabane	230	92	0	77	8	53	£13,152
	77%					23%	
Overall	623	124	69	176	127	127	£13,370
	80%					20%	

- Information for Antrim and Newtownabbey is for 6 months only

Appendix 2**Case 1 – 65 Joanmount Park**

Address is outside the targeted area, referred by a family member who thought she might be eligible for the scheme. 82 years old, solid fuel glass fronted fire and unable to use the fire easily or safely now due to age and mobility issues.

Case 2 – 37 Whitecliff Parade

Address is not on the targeted list but within the targeted area and has the same postcode (dropping the last letter). Lady who is 64 years old receives DLA, has mental health problems and has a daughter with learning difficulties living in the house. The old oil boiler was completely broken and she had no insulation in the house at all. She was referred to the Warm and Well scheme to provide her with oil-filled electric radiators and electricity top ups in the interim period.

Case 3 – 21 Glencairn Crescent

Outside targeted area, referred by a community worker. Elderly gentleman, 85 years old recently lost his wife. No insulation at all in the property and finds it very difficult to heat and spending a large amount of money on gas. Despite having a new boiler he has also been having trouble with the heating so he was referred to the Warm and well Scheme who arranged for the heating system to be inspected and subsequently flushed. He was also referred to Bryson for a home safety check and handyperson service as he had a few odd jobs and clutter to clear from his home.

Annex C

COUNCIL RPEORTING TEMPLATE



Council Reporting
Template.xlsx

AFFORDABLE WARMTH SCHEME

INTERIM

SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT

between

DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES

and

NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN COUNCIL

For the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2024

Date: 27 February 2023

1. Overview

- 1.1. The Department for Communities (DfC/the Department) is responsible for developing policy and implementing programmes to mitigate the effects of fuel poverty and improve the thermal comfort of low income households across Northern Ireland. The Affordable Warmth Scheme is DfC's primary scheme for tackling fuel poverty. DfC works in partnership with all local councils and the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE/the Housing Executive) to deliver the Affordable Warmth Scheme.
- 1.2. The Affordable Warmth Scheme aims to mitigate the effects of fuel poverty in households living in severe or extreme fuel poverty. It targets low income households in eligible private housing and delivers home energy efficiency improvement measures to qualifying households.
- 1.3. All parties will use opportunities during the life of this agreement to display a commitment to work together in support of Government aims to improve household energy efficiency.
- 1.4. This SLA also covers Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council (ABC). Newry, Mourne and Down District Council (NMD) will administer the scheme on behalf of ABC and will be responsible for all aspects of work previously completed by ABC.

2. Aims and Objectives of the Affordable Warmth Scheme

- 2.1. The Affordable Warmth Scheme is delivered under the statutory framework contained within the Domestic Energy Efficiency Grants Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009 as amended by the Domestic Energy Efficiency (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016 (2016 SR NO 333 Para 7) and Amendment Regulations 2021 (2021 SR NO 147).
- 2.2. The aims of the Affordable Warmth Scheme include to:
 - mitigate the effects of fuel poverty in low income households.
 - deliver a whole house approach providing energy efficiency improvement measures.
 - target and assist those most likely to be living in the most severe fuel poverty first using a triage system which utilises an agreed scoring matrix to prioritise cases and maintain consistency across all Council areas. The weighting for the triage system takes account

of the vulnerability of the householder in terms of age and disability and the condition of the household.

- deliver a range of measures within a short period of time with minimal disruption to residents.
- raise the SAP rating of homes to a level which would protect the occupants from the impacts of fuel poverty.
- deliver tailored solutions in a synchronised way.

2.3. The Affordable Warmth Business Case (2019 – 2024) contains the following objectives and performance indicators:

- between 1 June 2019 and 31 March 2024 to deliver energy efficiency improvement measures to a minimum of 14,000 homes considered to be likely to be at risk of severe fuel poverty
- between 1 June 2019 and 31 March 2024 to deliver 21,000 energy efficiency measures.

2.4. For the period of this SLA and based on an annual budget of £16m this translates overall as:

- 3,137 homes assisted
- 4,705 energy efficiency measures provided

2.5. The measures available under this scheme are listed at **Annex A**

3. Scope and Duration of the Interim Agreement

3.1. The Department has agreed to work with Councils to review a number of issues raised by Councils. To inform the process going forward DfC commissioned Business Consultancy Services (BCS) to undertake an evaluation of the current targeted approach of the Affordable Warmth Scheme and to examine and consider the appropriateness of the current funding model. Councils participated in that study and made recommendations for a refreshed approach to targeting. This approach was piloted in 3 Council areas and the Department made recommendations to DoF to make changes to the targeted approach based on the results of the pilot. DoF agreed to the changes and Councils will be asked to introduce the refreshed approach from 1 April 2023.

3.2. The purpose of this Service Level Agreement (SLA) is to set out the interim arrangement between the Department and Councils pending further consideration of the way forward in the development of a future SLA. It sets out the relationship between Councils and DfC, the duties and responsibilities on each and the outworkings of delivering the Affordable Warmth Scheme.

3.3. This interim agreement takes effect from 1 April 2022 and remains in force unless terminated by:

- The end date of the agreement: 31 March 2024
- Either party, on the expiry of 3 months' notice in writing.
- The agreement of both parties.

3.4. Any party may also terminate the Agreement without notice, for any of the following reasons:

- any breach by the other of its obligations under this Agreement; and
- in the case of a breach capable of rectification, where such breach has not been rectified by the other party within 14 days of it being given notice of same.

3.5. The agreement may be amended at any time with the consent of both parties. Agreed amendments will be incorporated into the agreement and recorded at **Annex B**

3.6. This interim agreement will be reviewed as part of a wider review of the SLA as required under DfC Internal Audit Recommendation 4.2(c):

Review the SLA to ensure clarity is provided on self-referrals, the Scheme's objectives and key performance indicators are included and ownership is clearly attributed between the parties.

4. Role and Responsibilities

4.1. Department for Communities

4.1.1. The Department for Communities has a responsibility to ensure that the Affordable Warmth Scheme meets its aims and objectives and is delivered in partnership with local Councils and NIHE.

4.1.2. The Department undertakes to:

- bid for funding to enable Councils and NIHE to administer the Scheme. Funding to Councils will be provided through NIHE which will transfer agreed funds to each local council on a quarterly basis **(the funding model is under review and any revised model will be approved by DoF)**;
- set a target for referrals which Local Councils will deliver to the NIHE annually and monthly;
- where targets are required to be changed due to budgetary or scheme performance reasons give 2 months' notice of an increase or decrease of targets;
- provide each Local Council with data detailing the households to be targeted where appropriate;
- provide reporting templates for Local Councils monthly progress reports.
- continually monitor and evaluate the scheme through reporting arrangements with the NIHE and Local Councils;
- provide advice to the NIHE regarding the policy of the scheme as required;
- consider changes that will improve process or impact as the scheme develops;
- carry out a final evaluation of the Scheme post 31 March 2024.

4.2. Local Councils

4.2.1. Local Councils are responsible for targeting households who are most in need, determining eligibility for the Scheme and submitting regular referrals to the NIHE. Each local council has been provided with details of households considered to potentially meet the conditions of the scheme.

4.2.2. Each Local Council undertakes to:

- with the consent of the targeted householder, conduct an eligibility assessment with the householder to collate and verify eligibility for the Scheme in relation to occupancy, tenure and financial income;
- contribute to the objectives and performance indicators (paras 2.3 and 2.4 refer) by maintaining a steady rate of 40 +/- 10 (*equating to 20 +/- 5 each for NMD and ABC*) completed first time surveys to their local NIHE Grant Office

monthly (equates to approximately 480 per Council area annually). Additional referrals will not be accepted without prior agreement with the Department and NIHE. The monthly tolerance difference should be made up by the end of the quarter.

- apply appropriate discretion regarding accepting self-referrals (*currently referrals which are not from the 'targeted list'*). Local councils must bear in mind that Affordable Warmth is primarily a targeted scheme. Targeting those households in most need of intervention and requiring scheme measures in priority one to four order **(Annex A). This clause will be amended to reflect the refreshed targeting approach from 1 April 2023.**
- advise the Department within one month if referral targets cannot be met along with a plan for resolution.
- where the number of referrals may need to be adjusted in year due to budget change or scheme performance, endeavour to meet the new targets in order to maximise the number of households being supported. Where this is not possible the Council must inform the Department;
- highlight urgent cases to the NIHE central team at the time the referral is being electronically transferred. An urgent case is defined as a household with no heating system, or where a 15 year old central heating boiler is broken down beyond repair
- ensure that when an application is received by Building Control that officials arrange for measures to be inspected. NIHE will provide Councils with details where certificates are outstanding, and both parties will actively progress these cases and report position at the quarterly partnership meetings.
- Building Control officials will confirm to the NIHE whether the installation is in compliance with the building regulations;
- provide householders participating in the scheme with information regarding energy advice;
- manage and respond to complaints concerning local council staff regarding the Affordable Warmth Scheme;
- where local council officials have completed the survey and referred that survey to the NIHE, direct any query regarding the application to the NIHE to resolve.

- meet with the NIHE and DfC at least quarterly to discuss the progress of the scheme and discuss any areas of concern;
- participate in both the established Senior Officer group (3 meetings per year) and other ad hoc meetings as and when required;
- where the householder agrees, refer their details (name, address, contact number) to the Social Welfare Group (***Make the Call***¹) for the purposes of conducting a Benefit Entitlement Check with them.
- carry out additional duties such as handholding of householders and qualitative case studies of homes which have received assistance through the Scheme.

4.3. Northern Ireland Housing Executive

4.3.1. The NIHE is a non-departmental public body. Therefore it will not be a signatory to this SLA as the DfC and the NIHE has an established accountability process. This accountability process sets out the controls to be exercised over the different areas of the NIHE's activities by the DfC directly or by the NIHE itself. The prime purpose is to assist the Permanent Secretary of DfC in discharging his responsibilities in relation to NIHE systems and as such represents a formal statement by DfC of the standards it requires the NIHE to achieve in relation to the probity of activities.

4.3.2. The NIHE undertakes to:

- act as Scheme Manager to deliver the schemes strategic objectives;
- manage and control all financial procedures and in line with approved budgetary capacity and scheme business case;
- develop, implement and monitor scheme policies, procedures and guidance underpinned by the objectives outlined in the scheme business case;
- provide performance and financial information and complete all monthly and quarterly reports to NIHE Executive Team and DfC;
- complete evaluations of the scheme interventions in relation to customer satisfaction levels, energy efficiency and fuel poverty;

¹ Link for contact information and general information to Make the Call [Make the Call Service | nidirect](#)

- work closely with DfC, Councils and Grants Offices to ensure effective delivery of the scheme business case;
- manage, investigate and respond to all complaints in line with Housing Executive policies;
- administer scheme information requests where available such as Freedom of Information Requests, Subject Access Requests and Assembly Questions;
- positively engage with other scheme stakeholders and actively address matters pertaining to the scheme;
- carry out the daily tasks as defined in the Scheme Information & Policy Guide;
- attend quarterly partnership meetings and provide scheme performance update and address matters relating to the scheme with senior officials;
- maintain local monthly meeting between Grants Office representative and Council representative to address local queries;
- complete sample verification checks (minimum 10% - maximum 100%) of applications referred and liaise with Councils on the findings so corrective action can be taken;
- encourage scheme participation, give technical and energy guidance to householders and help reduce cancellations.

5. Financial Arrangements

5.1. Local councils will be responsible and accountable for the management of the Affordable Warmth budget allocated to them and paid to them quarterly by NIHE. Each local council must ensure that they have appropriate financial management policies in place and that the Affordable Warmth Scheme budget is ring fenced for Affordable Warmth activities.

6. Monitoring & Reporting

6.1. Each local council will provide the Department, with monthly progress reports (template attached at **Annex C**) regarding the number of:

- referrals completed;
- the number of self-referral referrals completed; and
- numbers and details of referrals to other schemes or services.

6.2. Local councils will advise the Department of any Internal Audit of the Affordable Warmth Scheme in their Council area, share any Audit recommendations concerning Affordable Warmth and consider those which relate to improving the management of the scheme. This will be done in consultation with DfC.

7. Accountability

7.1. Overall accountability for the delivery of the scheme rests with the Accounting Officer of DfC as the funding department. However, each receiving organisation is accountable for its own finances and ensuring that appropriate controls are in place in order to provide them with the necessary assurances regarding expenditure.

8. Limited Liability

8.1. The local council shall have no liability to the Department for any loss or damage sustained by the Department as a result of the Department relying on any information supplied to it by the local council under this agreement.

9. Confidentiality and Data

9.1. All Parties are to take cognisance of the Data Protection, GDPR and Freedom of Information legislation. **Annex D** sets out an agreement for the processing of personal data for the DfC and the NIHE.

Department for Communities
22 February 2023

FORMAL COMMITMENT

Signed
On behalf of the Department for Communities

Dated

Signed
On behalf of Newry, Mourne and Down Council

Dated

AFFORDABLE WARMTH MEASURES

Prioritised list of measures available under the Affordable Warmth Scheme:

Priority rating	Conditions in existing property	Improvement measures available
Priority 1 – Insulation	No cavity wall insulation	Install cavity wall insulation
	Ineffective cavity wall insulation	Remove and replace cavity wall insulation
	No loft insulation or below minimum	Installation or top up of roof space insulation to 270mm
	No hot water jacket	Install hot water jacket
	Ineffective or no draught proofing	Draught proof windows/doors
Priority 2 – Heating	No heating system exists	Installation of natural gas or oil heating
	Conversion of existing LPG or solid fuel system	Installation of natural gas or oil heating
	Conversion of Economy 7	Conversion to natural gas (or oil where natural gas isn't available) or conversion to high efficiency storage system
	Householder 65 or over, or with child under 16, or receiving a disability benefit and with a boiler over 15 years old	Boiler replacement and new radiators where required
	Heating system exists without controls	Add heating controls
	Heating system exists but radiators defective	Replace radiators as needed
Priority 3 – Windows	Windows in disrepair	Repair/replace windows with double glazing if draught proofing is not possible
Priority 4 - Solid wall	Solid wall with no insulation	Internal/external insulation

RECORD OF AGREED CHANGES TO THE INTERIM SLA

Summary of Change made	Reference Paragraph	Date change agreed	Version updated by

COPY OF MONTHLY RETURNS TEMPLATE



Council Reporting
Template.xlsx



DATA PROCESSING AGREEMENT – NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN COUNCIL

for the processing of personal data for the Department of Communities and Northern Ireland Housing Executive

1) Purpose

1. This agreement sets out the terms and conditions by which personal data will be processed by the Council's on behalf of the Department for Communities (DfC) and the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE).
2. This agreement is signed and agreed to ensure full compliance with the provisions of the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA 2018) and is consistent with the original purpose for which the data is / was gathered and further processed.
3. The purpose of the disclosure is to facilitate the processing of personal data on behalf of the DfC and NIHE who are the Data Controllers and to fulfil the obligations with regard to: Improving domestic energy efficiency in the private sector across Northern Ireland via the Affordable Warmth Scheme. This scheme aims to target identified low income households and deliver energy efficiency improvement measures to qualifying households. The Affordable Warmth Scheme is DfC's primary scheme for tackling fuel poverty. DfC and NIHE work in partnership with all local councils and the NIHE to deliver the Affordable Warmth Scheme.
4. The terms Data, Data Controller, Data Processor, Personal Data, Sensitive Personal Data, Processing and Information Commissioner have the same meaning as defined within the Data Protection Act 2018.
5. "Agreement" – means this Data Processor agreement along with any associated documents attached or referred to as forming part of the agreement.

6. “Services” – means the services that will be provided by the Data Processor during the period of the agreement.
7. “Council Liaison officer” – means the person nominated by each Data Processor who will assume day to day management responsibility and liaison with the Data Controllers.

2) Use and Disclosure of Personal Data

1. Councils will receive specific targeted lists of referral addresses within their Council area of responsibility and also receive independent enquiries from individuals who are not on the target list.
2. Council officers will visit targeted and non-targeted addresses, where appropriate to assess eligibility for the scheme and collect the necessary documentation. When visiting an address, the Council officers will complete an electronic NIHE application form named ‘**Affordable Warmth Scheme**’ application.
3. As part of the process, the applicant is required to provide documentation to verify eligibility including proof of ownership, occupancy and income. These eligibility documents will be photographed by Council staff on a Council issued electronic tablet at the time of the visit and in the home of the applicant. Eligibility documents will be shared with NIHE electronically and the eligibility document data is then deleted beyond recovery from the tablets. Where documents cannot be submitted electronically, hardcopies can be accepted if necessary.
4. The tablets have a security feature that secures all data being stored on and transmitted to a device and provides functionality to lock down and wipe data from a device if it is lost or stolen.
5. In certain cases the original hard copy eligibility documents are removed by the Council officers instead of photographing onto the electronic tablet in the

home of the applicant. These documents will be photographed or scanned and checked that the copy is legible before sharing with NIHE. The originals will be returned to the applicant in such a way to protect the data in accordance with Council policy.

6. If the property is privately rented, the Council officers will send a consent form to the landlord.
7. Data gathered for this purpose will not be disclosed to any other person or organisation. The data is used to confirm the eligibility of the applicant to receive a grant.

3) Proportionality / Subject Access

1. The processing will be proportional for its purpose and a high level of security and confidentiality will be applied. The Council will additionally agree to notify the ICO if any changes are required to their Data Protection notification.
2. If a subject access request is made directly to the Council and it involves personal data controlled by DfC and NIHE, it is the responsibility of the relevant Council to immediately liaise with DfC and NIHE to process the request.
3. DfC and NIHE will give appropriate assistance as is necessary to the Council to enable it to:
 - Comply with a subject access request
 - Respond to any information notice served upon the Council by the ICO
 - Respond to any complaint from a data subject
 - Investigate any breach or alleged breach of the Data Protection Act

4) Security

1. The Council will apply appropriate security measures equal with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 2018.
2. The Council must ensure that appropriate technical and organisational measures shall be taken against unauthorised or unlawful processing of personal data and against accidental loss or destruction of, or damage to, personal data. In particular, the Council shall ensure that measures are in place to:
 - Prevent accidental compromise or damage during storage, handling, use, processing, transmission or transport;
 - Deter deliberate compromise or opportunist attack;
 - Promote discretion in order to avoid unauthorised access; and
 - Provide suitable training to their staff on how to handle DfC and NIHE data.
3. To ensure Information Security Standards Councils will work to the principles of ISO27001.
4. The personal data, including application forms and supporting documents, is transferred to NIHE (on behalf of DfC) via -
Electronic forms are transferred to NIHE using XML files and FTPS site or using password protected xml files via e-mail.
5. When necessary paper application forms and supporting documentation are hand delivered to NIHE grants office and signed in by case officers.
6. The services of any sub-contractor will not be used by the Council in connection with the processing of DfC and NIHE data without prior approval.

5) Confidentiality

1. The Council will not disclose or communicate to any other individual or organisation the personal data gathered for DfC and NIHE. They shall treat any personal data provided strictly private and confidential.
2. The Council shall ensure that any of their staff listed within the agreement are aware of their responsibilities in connection with the use of that data.
3. The obligations of confidentiality in relation to this agreement by the Council will remain in force after the expiry of this agreement.
4. This obligation of confidentiality shall not apply where disclosure of DfC and NIHE data is ordered by a Court of law. There may also be occasions when disclosure is required by the Police or other law enforcement agencies for the investigation of a crime or is required for legal proceedings.
5. If this happens, and a request is received by the Council, it must inform DfC and NIHE as soon as possible in writing, stating the identity of the requesting body and nature of the data sought. This will allow DfC and NIHE to deliberate and decide on what can be released.

6) Retention and Review

1. The data should be retained for five years in line with DfC retention policies.

7) Data Processor Breach of Security

1. In the event of a data breach by the Council, which involves DfC and NIHE data, the Council Liaison Officer must immediately inform DfC and NIHE of the circumstances.

2. A data breach can take the form of the following:-
 - The loss or theft of data;
 - Equipment failure;
 - Professional hacking attempt;
 - Professional “blagging” whereby data is obtained by deceit; and
 - Human error by accidental disclosure. (An organisation mistakenly providing personal information to the wrong person, for example by sending details out to the wrong address).

3. Once it has been confirmed that DfC and NIHE personal data has been involved, the main DfC Data Breach procedure must be invoked. It must also be assumed that the Council will have a data breach procedure in place; however, DfC will lead on this matter.

8) Time Period of agreement and Termination

1. This agreement will remain in force until the SLA is reviewed. However if potential issues do emerge, this may require further consideration.
2. DfC may at any time by notice in writing, terminate this agreement if the Council is in breach of any obligation under this agreement.
3. DfC retains the final decision in any variation to the agreement. No variation will occur unless written directions are signed by both parties and included within this document.

This constitutes an agreement between the Council (acting as Data Processors) and DfC / NIHE who will abide by the content of this document.

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities
Date of Meeting:	20 th March 2023
Subject:	Consultation Response – DfE Draft Offshore Renewable Energy Action Plan Consultation
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Eoin Devlin, Assistant Director Health and Wellbeing
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Brian Rankin, Head of Sustainability

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

For decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	For noting only	<input type="checkbox"/>
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1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	That the Committee agree to the submission of the attached Consultation response.
2.0	Key issues
2.1	<p>The Department for the Economy (DfE) is seeking views on proposals for a draft Offshore Renewable Energy Action Plan (OREAP) for Northern Ireland.</p> <p>In December 2021, the NI Executive published the Northern Ireland Energy Strategy “Path to Net Zero Energy,” which established the vision for net zero and affordable energy by 2050. The strategy was followed in January 2022 by the publication of a 22-point Action Plan outlining some of the main actions to be taken forward. Among these is Action 14, which commits to “Develop an action plan to deliver 1GW of offshore wind from 2030”.</p> <p>The Climate Change Act 2022 raised the commitment for renewable electricity consumption from 70%, as established in the Energy Strategy, to 80% by 2030. Research underpinning the Energy Strategy established that one of the criteria for raising the renewable electricity consumption target was the deployment of offshore wind in NI waters by 2030. The OREAP is designed to accelerate the energy strategy ambition and set the pathway to achieving the deployment of offshore wind.</p> <p>The draft OREAP sets out the direction for planning, licensing, consenting and the development of offshore renewable energy in NI, and this consultation is intended to enable stakeholders to contribute and provide input into offshore renewable energy policy development.</p> <p>The response from NMDDC supports the proposals in general, but also stresses the need for further engagement and consultation with relevant stakeholders such as local councils and crucially the general public and local community groups. We have particularly highlighted the need to engage with coastal areas and communities. A further key concern is the timeline of the OREAP, with clarity required on how our target of 80% renewable electricity consumption by 2030 is intended to be met if 1GW of offshore wind energy is to be delivered from 2030, rather than before that date.</p> <p>Please note that the deadline for consultation responses was 16th March 2023 and a submission has been provided with the caveat that it is subject to Council</p>

	Approval and so this can be retracted or changes can be made, subject to Council Approval.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	That the Committee agree to the submission of the attached Consultation response.
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	<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	Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service

	<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 1: NMDDC Response to DfE Draft 'Offshore Renewable Energy Action Plan' (OREAP) Consultation
8.0	Background Documents
	Draft Offshore Renewable Energy Action Plan Department for the Economy (economy-ni.gov.uk)

NMDDC Response to DfE Draft Offshore Renewable Energy Action Plan Consultation

Consultation Details:

Consultation Opened:	21 December 22
Consultation Closes:	16 March 23
Preferred Method of Response:	Online at Draft Offshore Renewable Energy Action Plan Department for the Economy (economy-ni.gov.uk) A list of all 12 questions and draft responses are provided below for review and approval, prior to being submitted
Responses prepared by:	Brian Rankin, Head of Sustainability
Other comments:	It is assumed that the list of respondents to this consultation will be made publicly available. Responses may also be publicly available.

Context / Background:

In December 2021, the NI Executive published the Northern Ireland Energy Strategy “Path to Net Zero Energy,” which established the vision for net zero and affordable energy by 2050. The strategy was followed in January 2022 by the publication of a 22-point Action Plan outlining some of the main actions to be taken forward. Among these is Action 14, which commits to “Develop an action plan to deliver 1GW of offshore wind from 2030”.

The Climate Change Act 2022 raised the commitment for renewable electricity consumption from 70%, as established in the Energy Strategy, to 80% by 2030. Research underpinning the Energy Strategy established that one of the criteria for raising the renewable electricity consumption target was the deployment of offshore wind in NI waters *by* 2030. The Offshore Renewable Energy Action Plan (OREAP) is designed to accelerate the energy strategy ambition and set the pathway to achieving the deployment of offshore wind.

The draft OREAP sets out the direction for planning, licensing, consenting and the development of offshore renewable energy in NI, and this consultation is intended to enable stakeholders to contribute and provide input into offshore renewable energy policy development.

Questions and Draft Responses:

1. Do you agree with the principles of the Offshore Renewable Energy Action Plan?
(N.B. *The three principles are “Sustainable development in the marine environment”, “Adaptive Approach” and “Collaboration and partnership”.*)

Yes.

We would particularly stress the importance of appropriately engaging and consulting with local councils such as Newry, Mourne and Down District Council, along with public consultations in coastal areas which may be more impacted by the development of offshore renewable energy. This should include clarification on the benefits for local communities in impacted areas.

2. Do you agree with the key objectives and actions in relation to Theme 1?
(N.B. *Theme 1 is “Sustainability and Co-existence” with 3 objectives proposed, each with an associated action*)

Yes.

We would encourage the updating of the 2012 Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitats Regulations Assessments (HRA) in order to ensure any future development appropriately considers local biodiversity and natural habitats. As suggested, it is critical that proposals align with other policies such as the NI Marine Plan, Biodiversity Strategy and Blue Carbon Action Plan.

As noted in our response to Q1, we would stress the importance of consulting and engaging with local communities who live close to the marine environment which may be particularly impacted by future development, in order to clearly outline the specific benefits for their communities.

3. Are there any other areas that require further attention?

No.

None have been suggested, but we would encourage ongoing direct engagement with Newry, Mourne and Down District Council to allow us to further understand the potential benefits and impacts associated with any future development. This is particularly relevant to our council area given our extensive coastline and the potential impact on local communities.

4. Do you agree with the key objectives and actions in relation to Theme 2?
(N.B. Theme 2 is "Enabling Frameworks" with 3 objectives proposed, along with 5 actions)

Yes.

5. Are there any other areas that require further attention?

No.

None have been suggested, but we would encourage ongoing direct engagement with Newry, Mourne and Down District Council to allow us to further understand the potential benefits and impacts associated with any future development. This is particularly relevant to our council area given our extensive coastline and the potential impact on local communities.

6. Do you agree with the key objectives and actions in relation to Theme 3?
(N.B. Theme 3 is "Electricity Network" with 2 objectives proposed, along with 3 actions)

Yes.

Development of the wider local electricity network is crucial in order to effectively make use of future offshore renewable energy and also ensure issues associated with onshore wind, such as curtailment, are addressed at as early a stage as possible. As an example, this could include further consideration of large energy storage projects. Newry, Mourne and Down District Council would be keen to discuss such opportunities with relevant stakeholders, including DfE, DfI, SONI and NIEN.

It is particularly important to understand future work in this area which may particularly impact upon certain coastal areas and communities. It would be helpful to clearly identify if there are any coastal areas with network constraints where there may be opportunities to align future offshore renewable energy development with grid enhancement in order to bring direct benefits to the local community and local businesses.

7. Are there any other areas that require further attention?

No.

None have been suggested, but we would encourage ongoing direct engagement with Newry, Mourne and Down District Council to allow us to further understand the potential benefits and impacts associated with any future development. This is particularly relevant to our council area given our extensive coastline and the potential impact on local communities.

8. Do you agree with the key objectives and actions in relation to Theme 4?
(*N.B. Theme 4 is "Economic Growth" with 2 objectives proposed, along with 7 actions*)

Yes.
We would particularly encourage a focus on identifying and communicating the local economic benefits to coastal areas and communities. This would include considering the role which local industrial areas, including those already involved in the maritime sector can play. As an example, future developments in offshore renewable energy may provide enhanced employment opportunities for local areas and alignment should be sought to ensure local education bodies are able to support the development of local skills to meet this need.

9. Do you agree with the proposed approach to refine and improve consumer engagement?

No.
None have been suggested, but we would encourage ongoing direct engagement with Newry, Mourne and Down District Council to allow us to further understand the potential benefits and impacts associated with any future development. This is particularly relevant to our council area given our extensive coastline and the potential impact on local communities.

10. Do you agree with the key objectives and actions in relation to Theme 5?
(*N.B. Theme 5 is "Legislation and Regulation" with 1 objectives proposed, along with 3 actions*)

Yes.

11. Do you agree with the proposed Energy One Stop Shop Implementation Roadmap?

No.
None have been suggested, but we would encourage ongoing direct engagement with Newry, Mourne and Down District Council to allow us to further understand the potential benefits and impacts associated with any future development. This is particularly relevant to our council area given our extensive coastline and the potential impact on local communities.

12. Do you have any further comments on the Draft OREAP?

We would suggest that further clarity on proposed timelines for development of offshore renewable energy is required, including the wider impacts associated with these timelines. Action 14 of the Energy Strategy Action Plan commits to "Develop an action plan to deliver 1GW of offshore wind **from** 2030". However, the Climate Change Act 2022 sets a commitment for renewable electricity consumption of 80% **by** 2030. The consultation notes the importance of offshore renewable energy, but the timeline provided in section 4 of the consultation suggests that offshore wind farm first power will be 2030 or later. Whilst it is noted that the indicative timeline will be further updated and enhanced, and that deployment of offshore wind in advance of 2030 will be considered if feasibly possible, the current timeline would seem to suggest that it may be 2030 or later before 1GW of offshore wind energy will be available (in full or in part). This would indicate that it will not be able to contribute significantly to the 2030 80% target. The role of offshore renewable energy should therefore be clarified, including what contribution is required in advance of 2030, and the associated implications and benefits of bringing the timeline forward

(whilst ensuring that all necessary steps such as community engagement and habitat assessments are undertaken). In the event that the timeline cannot be brought forward then further information would need to be provided on how the 80% target by 2030 is anticipated to be met, as this will have wider implications for bodies such as local councils, who may be considering onshore renewable energy projects.

The consultation also appears to use the phrases offshore renewable energy and offshore wind interchangeably at times and so further clarity on wider offshore options and the specific anticipated role of offshore wind farms would be beneficial.

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	20 th March 2023
Subject:	Community Centre Scale of charges 23/24
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

<table border="1"> <tr> <td>For decision</td> <td>For noting only</td> <td>x</td> </tr> </table>		For decision	For noting only	x
For decision	For noting only	x		
1.0	Purpose and Background			
1.1	To note the contents of the report.			
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>Over the last twelve months the cost of running a facility has increased dramatically with increased costs for heating, lighting, and cleaning materials. Community Associations who run facilities on Councils behalf have advised through a Community Questionnaire completed as part of the Community Facilities strategy that they are having trouble making ends meet and that by increasing the hire charges it would help them generate additional income.</p> <p>In line with the Councils rate processes the hire charges for Community Facilities have increased by 9%.</p>			
3.0	Recommendations			
3.1	To note the contents of the report.			
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 2023/2024			
8.0	Background Documents			
	None			

HIRE CHARGES - COMMUNITY FACILITIES		Community Centres	
		2023 / 2024	
Type of Facility / Activity	Details	PER HOUR	
Main Hall -		£	
Type 1 -	Commercial	28.00	
Newry Legacy	Non Commercial	14.60	
Dan Rice Hall	Off Peak 1pm-4pm	5.60	
Saintfield			
Type 2 -	Commercial	33.65	1 court £17.00
Killyleagh	Non Commercial	16.85	1 court £8.50
	Off Peak (1pm-4pm)	7.85	1 court £4.50
Type 3 -	Commercial	44.90	1 court £17.00
Ballynahinch	Non Commercial	22.45	1 court £8.50
	Off Peak (1pm-4pm)	11.25	1 court £4.50
Birthday Parties -			
WITH Bouncy Castle	Type 1	38.15	
2 Hours	Type 2	40.50	
	Type 3	43.60	
WITHOUT Bouncy Castle	Type 1	22.00	
2 Hours	Type 2	24.00	
	Type 3	27.25	
Racket Sports/ table tennis	Adult Session (50 mins)	5.60	
	Under 18's (50 mins)	4.00	
Meeting Room		6.75	
Multi-Purpose Room		9.00	
Minor Hall	Training Room, Crossmaglen	11.25	
	Vincent Fulham, Market House		
	Conference Room, Market House		
Kitchen		5.60	
Hire Changing Rooms		21.80	
Fitness Suite Killyleagh	Monthly	16.85	
	Non Member Daily	3.40	
	Senior Citizen members 12 Months	4.20	
3-G Pitch	Full Pitch	43.60	
	Half Pitch	32.70	
	One Third	21.80	
Bleach Green, Bessbrook		21.80	

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	20 th March 2023
Subject:	Leisure and Sport Scale of Charges 2023/24
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Paul Tamati, Assistant Director: Leisure and Sport
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Sinéad Geary, Head of Indoor Leisure

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>The purpose of this report is to note the Leisure and Sport Scale of Charges for 2023/24.</p> <p>Leisure and Sport Service Section annually review its scale of charges in line with the rates estimates process.</p>	
2.0	Key issues	
2.1	<p>In February 2023, Council set and approved the 2023/24 District rate. It was agreed as part of this process that the 2023/24 scale of charges for all council sections would increase by 9%.</p> <p>The main points of note within the scale of charges 2023/24 that is itemised within Appendix A are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To increase the pricing categories that have been adopted for the 2022/23 period with an agreed price increase of 9% applied. For the agreed 9% price rise, prices reviewed and rounded up/down to the nearest £0.10 to assist with the administration and cash handling at centres. Discretionary pricing flexibility under the Scheme of Delegation to allow scope for sales promotions, official Council supported events, member service issues, site specific usage trends, etc Ballymote Sports and Wellbeing Centre Members Charges – Following reopening of Fitness Suite to pre-Covid-19 opening hours, memberships have reverted back to pre-Covid19 prices. Meeting Rooms in Newcastle have been reassigned to alternative pricing categories following upgrade works to align with other centres. Leisure and Sports approach to concession charging is also reflected in the scale of charges as per appendix 1. 	
3.0	Recommendations	
3.1	<p>That AHC committee note the contents of this report and the Leisure and Sport Scale of Charges 2023/24 as set out in appendix 1.</p>	
4.0	Resource implications	

4.1	<p>Revenue: It is anticipated that there will be positive revenue budget implications associated with this report in terms of income budgets. These implications have been reflected in the recently agreed rates estimate process for Council.</p> <p>Capital: There are no identified capital budget implications associated with this report.</p>
5.0	<p>Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)</p>
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> <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
	Appendix 1 Leisure and Sport Scale of Charges 2023 24
8.0	Background Documents
	None

Emergency First Aid at Work		£75.00	£81.80
Paediatric First Aid		£50.00	£54.50
First Aid at Work Renewal		£120.00	£130.80
AED Course		£50.00	£54.50

Seasonal Charges Appendix 2		NOTES	Indoor Leisure Charges 2022-23 (Gross Total)	Indoor Leisure Charges 2023- (Gross Total)
Newcastle Rock Pool	Swim Concession		£2.00	£2.20
	Swim Adult		£2.70	£2.90
	Season Ticket Concession	unlimited use	£36.50	£39.80
	Season Ticket Adult	unlimited use	£47.90	£52.20
	10 Session Ticket Concession		£17.80	£19.40
	10 Session Ticket Adult		£24.90	£27.10
	Survive & Save Awards per class	16yrs upwards	£9.50	£10.40
	Survive & Save Awards per class	under 16yrs	£7.10	£7.70
	Rockarama		£2.40	£2.60
	Rookies per class		£5.50	£6.00
	Spectator		£1.20	£1.30
Newcastle Tropicana	Pay As You Go Day Rate 18+	90 minute sessions/ Aligned with Indoor pools	£3.20	£3.50
	Pay As You Go Concession Day Rate	90 minute sessions/ Aligned with Indoor pools	£2.50	£2.70
	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	£10.50
	Junior lessons - Under 16 (per class)		£5.50	£6.00
	Spectator		£1.20	£1.30
Tropicarama	Pay As You Go Day Rate 18+	90 minute sessions/ Aligned with Indoor pools	£3.20	£3.50
	Pay As You Go Concession Day Rate	90 minute sessions/ Aligned with Indoor pools	£2.50	£2.70
	Pay As You Go Day Rate Under 4	90 minute sessions	£0.00	£0.00
	Group Ticket	Aligned with Indoor pools	£9.60	£10.50
Newcastle Crazy Golf	Adult		£2.70	£2.90
	Concession		£2.20	£2.40
	Lost Balls		£2.30	£2.50
	Schools		£1.80	£2.00
Newcastle Go-Karts	Per 10 minute session		£1.90	£2.07
Newcastle Bowls	Adult		£4.30	£4.70
per hour	Senior		£4.30	£4.70
	Equipment hire - bowls		£2.80	£3.10
Newcastle Boating/Swans	Adult		£3.20	£3.50
	Concession		£2.40	£2.60
	Schools per person		£2.40	£2.60
Summer Multi Sports Camps	Price per person per week		£10.00	£10.90

Birthday Parties Appendix 3		NOTES	Indoor Leisure Charges 2022-23 (Gross Total)	Indoor Leisure Charges 2023-24 (Gross Total)
NC Multi-purpose Room	Birthday Party 2 hours		£26.20	£28.60
Kilkeel Leisure Centre				
Down Leisure Centre				
NLC Soft Play Party	Birthday Party Sat/Sun (per child)	site specific	£4.25	£4.60
	Birthday Party Mon-Fri (per child)	site specific	£3.25	£3.50

Outdoor Leisure Charges Appendix 4		NOTES	Indoor Leisure Charges 2022-23 (Gross Total)	Indoor Leisure Charges 2023-24 (Gross Total)
Grass Pitch Only	Adult	2hr booking	£48.10	£52.40
	Junior	2hr booking	£21.80	£24.80
Changing Room (Inc NLC) /Pavilion Only	Adult and Junior	2hr booking	£22.00	£24.00
Cricket Square	Cricket	per day	£87.50	£95.40
All Weather Pitch & Pavilion (Non Floodlight)				
per 60 mins	Adult	Langley Road and Dunleath	£21.20	£23.10
	Junior	Langley Road and Dunleath	£9.00	£9.80
All Weather Pitch & Pavilion (Floodlight)				
per 60 mins	Adult	Langley Road and Dunleath	£25.70	£28.00
	Junior	Langley Road and Dunleath	£11.40	£12.40
Synthetic Pitch 2G				
Floodlit	Half Pitch	Newcastle, Saintfield and St Colmans B'Hinch only	£46.30	£50.50
	Full Pitch	Newcastle, Saintfield and St Colmans B'Hinch only	£69.70	£76.00
Non Floodlit	Half Pitch	Newcastle, Saintfield and St Colmans B'Hinch only	£23.50	£25.60
	Full Pitch	Newcastle, Saintfield and St Colmans B'Hinch only	£46.80	£51.00
Floodlights in addition to pitch hire	Per 60 mins	Site Specific Annsborough	£20.70	£22.60
St Colmans Sports Complex				
3G pitch Floodlit	Half pitch	SCSC only	£45.10	£49.20
	Full pitch	SCSC only	£90.20	£98.30
	Third of pitch	SCSC only	£35.00	£38.20
3G pitch Non-Floodlit	Half pitch	SCSC only	£37.20	£40.60
	Full pitch	SCSC only	£74.30	£81.00
	Third of pitch	SCSC only	£28.90	£31.50
St Colmans Athletic Track				
Membership per year	Adult	SCSC only	£67.60	£73.70
	Under 18	SCSC only	£39.40	£43.00
	Family	SCSC only	£135.10	£147.30
	Concessionary	SCSC only	£56.20	£61.30
Casual Usage	Adult	SCSC only	£4.50	£4.90
	Under 18	SCSC only	£3.40	£3.70
Athletic Track Hire				
Exclusive use with Floodlights		SCSC only	£61.90	£67.50
Exclusive use		SCSC only	£45.00	£49.00
Non-Exclusive use with Floodlights		SCSC only	£39.40	£43.00
Non-Exclusive Use		SCSC only	£28.10	£30.60
Changing Room Hire		SCSC only	£10.30	£11.20
Circus	Per Day		£682.20	£743.60
Funfairs/ Events/ Open Spaces	Per Day		£227.40	£247.90
Car Boot Sales	Easter - June & Sept		£51.50	£56.10
	July & Aug		£56.70	£61.80
Tennis				
Club Season use	Newry	Site specific	£1,617.30	£1,762.90
	Warrenpoint	Site specific	£975.80	£1,063.60
	Rostrevor	Site specific	£762.30	£830.90
All Outdoor Tennis Courts	Adult		£2.70	£2.90
Inc Annalong	Concession		£2.20	£2.40
Kilkeel, Newcastle	Lost Balls		£2.30	£2.50
Warrenpoint, Newry	Schools		£1.80	£2.00
	Private Coaching Fee per year		£226.60	£247.00
	Private Coaching Fee DD		£20.60	£22.50
	Private Coach Court Hire	per hour	£10.00	£10.90
Tennis Bubble, Our Lady's Newry	Court Hire per hour	Casual Hire (Max 4 People)	£6.50	£7.10
	Court Hire per hour Concession	Casual Hire (Max 4 People)	£4.50	£4.90
	Private Coaching Fee per year		£226.60	£247.00
	Private Coaching Fee DD		£20.60	£22.50
	Private Coach Court Hire	per hour	£10.00	£10.90
	Multi-Sport Exclusive Use of Bubble	per hour	£20.00	£21.80

Bowls	Bessbrook	Site specific	£602.60	£656.80
Club Season use	Newry	Site specific	£602.60	£656.80
	Warrenpoint	Site specific	£602.60	£656.80
	Annalong	Site specific	£602.60	£656.80
	Kilkeel Indoor	Site specific	£602.60	£656.80
	Kilkeel Outdoor	Site specific	£602.60	£656.80
	Newcastle	Site specific	£602.60	£656.80
	Rink Hire	Site specific	£8.00	£8.70
Club Use Per Season	1 - 3 teams		£762.70	£831.30
	4 - 6 teams		£1,078.40	£1,175.50
	7 + teams		£1,403.40	£1,529.70
Club Use Per Season - Pavilion	1 - 3 teams		£512.20	£558.30
	4 - 6 teams		£728.70	£794.30
	7 + teams		£943.60	£1,028.50



Rooms/Sports Halls Hire Charges Appendix 5		NOTES	Indoor Leisure Charges 2022-23 (Gross Total)	Indoor Leisure Charges 2023-24 (Gross Total)
Meeting Room Hire Category A per hour	Adult	DLC - Studio 1/2/3	£13.30	£14.50
	Concession	NLC MP 1/2/4/TR	£6.80	£7.40
	Commercial	KLC Meeting Room/Viewing area/Committee Rm NC - AV Room/ Meeting Room / MP Room	£20.20	£22.00
Meeting Room Hire Category B per hour	Adult	Bmote - First Aid Rm	£11.10	£12.10
	Concession	DLC - Meeting Rm	£5.70	£6.20
	Commercial	NC - Gallery Room/Donard Room	£16.80	£18.30
Meeting Room Hire Category C per hour	Adult	NC - Shimna Rm/Mourne Rm	£9.00	£9.80
	Concession		£5.00	£5.50
	Commercial		£13.50	£14.70
All Centres per court	Sports Activity Adult	per 50mins	£7.90	£8.60
	Sports Activity Concession	per 50mins	£6.30	£6.90
	Class/user group Commercial	per 50mins	£16.80	£18.30
	Class/user group Non Commercial	per 50mins	£7.90	£8.60
	Sp. Event Commercial	x 1 court per 60mins	as per above hire charges. Additional costs may apply for additional staff and set	as per above hire charges. Additional costs may apply for additional staff and set
	Sp. Event Non Commercial	x 1 court per 60mins	as per above hire charges. Additional costs may apply for additional staff and set	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	£12.10
	Class/User Group Commercial	x 1 court per 60mins	£20.20	£22.00
Foyer	Foyer (per day)	NC only	£16.80	£18.30
Kilkeel Leisure Centre				
Playgroup	Daily		£17.60	£19.20
	Half Day		£10.60	£11.60
Ballymote	Boxing Club	Annual Hire Charge	£150.00	£163.50
Functional Fitness Space	Functional Training Room	Site Specific NLC	£33.60	£36.60

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 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 if assisting 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 OR A signed and stamped Disabilities/ Buddy Scheme Application Form by an approved Verifier. 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	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
Carnbane 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:	20 th March 2023
Subject:	Financial Assistance - Procedures
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Janine Hillen Assistant Director Community Engagement
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Sonya Burns – Heads of Service Ciara Burns – Project Coordinator

<table border="1"> <tr> <td>For decision</td> <td>For noting only</td> <td>x</td> </tr> </table>		For decision	For noting only	x
For decision	For noting only	x		
1.0	Purpose and Background			
1.1	<p>Following a discussion at the Active and Healthy Community Committee meeting on 20th February 2023 around extensions for capital projects.</p> <p>‘It was agreed that a report be brought back to the Committee detailing the existing Financial Assistance Policy, protocols for groups accessing funding and legal advice on the next course of action.’</p>			
2.0	Key issues			
2.1	<p>Council decisions relating to Financial Assistance Capital Grants to date:</p> <p>Active Health Communities meeting 21st March 2019</p> <p>It was agreed that the updated Financial Assistance Policy be implemented in conjunction with the online grant Management System, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immediate procurement and implementation of an online system • Assessment Process • Verification • Risk Assessment/Monitoring and Evaluation • Sanctions <p>For Capital Projects including those from the year 2021 the application includes a number of Stage 1 pass/fail basic requirements, (full guidance relevant to this year is attached):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upload evidence to show that match funding is in place or is being processed. • Demonstrate that they will have secured 100% of the funding required for the project to be completed inclusive of this application. • Upload evidence that statutory approvals and permissions are in place. • Upload a copy of the Business Case/Economic Appraisal completed. • Upload evidence of site surveys completed and Risk Assessed. • Upload evidence of approved Design Brief 			

	<p>Active and Healthy Community Committee on 15th February 2021 agreed: that any Capital project seeking a change in their programme can dealt with as per below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2021-2022 Capital Projects: Council to cap the extension period for projects to no more than 12 months post letter of offer end date. • Existing Capital Projects: Capital project for the period 2019-2020 or earlier, which require an extension beyond 31st March 2021 will be provided with one further 6-month extension (in light of the negative impact on the delivery of projects due to the pandemic).
2.2	<p>The Financial Assistance programme has administered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • over £8million over the last 4 years across more than 20 themes annually • response to up 3 internal/external and external audits per annum. <p>Having robust systems in place is vital and to deviate from existing procedures is very high risk and may result in possible monetary or non-monetary sanctions.</p> <p>Any applicant seeking a change in their capital programme can do so, but this can only be considered after review based on the original application stage 1 requirements and agreed procedures.</p>
2.3	<p>Legal Review</p> <p>Following discussion with Council's Legal Section the importance of Elected Members adhering to the agreed and adopted processes for Financial Assistance Payments has been reiterated. This is to provide a consistent approach and protect Council and Elected Members from potential legal challenges or grievances.</p>
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	For Noting
4.0	Resource implications None
4.1	Revenue/Payroll: Capital: As per Council budget
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>

<p>5.2</p>	<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><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>
<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>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>7.0</p>	<p>Appendices</p>
	<p>None</p>
<p>8.0</p>	<p>Background Documents</p>

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	20 March 2023
Subject:	Department for Communities (DfC) Cost of Living Salary Support Funding 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 To note the report.</p> <p>Background 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>Council received an email and Declaration of Intent (see Appendix 1 attached) from DfC on Wednesday 22 February 2023 advising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following ongoing engagement with the Voluntary & Community Sector (VCS) where the case for additional support was outlined, we have recognised the impact the cost-of-living crisis is having on the staff. • In recognition and to acknowledge the vital role that the VCS plays in providing critical services within our communities we are now offering a one-off, non-consolidated payment to VCS organisations funded through the Voluntary and Community Division (VCD) or Community Empowerment Division (CED). This payment is being offered as a one-off, in-year financial contribution, for 2022/23 only, with the amount for each organisation determined through calculation of a maximum of £1,925 pro rata (gross) for each post* for which salary support is provided. <i>*The payment is being provided ONLY for posts that attract a maximum annual salary of up to £47,665 (pro rata where postholder works reduced hours)</i> • The one-off payment of £28,657.46 (gross) to be distributed to the organisation(s) you fund as per Annex A (in the Declaration of Intent), to provide a payment of up to a maximum of £1,925 pro rata (gross) per funded salary currently supported through VCD/CED as a one-off contribution to assist with cost-of-living/inflationary pressures on budget and incomes for VCD funded organisations. This payment is to be applied to any posts that VCD provide salary support to. <p>The additional funding of £28,657.46 is being provided by DfC for 'Community Advice Newry, Mourne & Down' and is ring-fenced for the purposes outlined in the Declaration of Intent and must be spent as soon as possible and accrued to the financial year ending the 31 March 2023.</p>

	Councils are not required to match this additional funding.
2.0	Key issues
2.1	None.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	That the Committee: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the report.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	There are no resource implications as the Council is not required to match this additional 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><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: DfC Declaration of Intent.
8.0	Background Documents
8.1	None.



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DECLARATION OF INTENT

Following ongoing engagement with the Voluntary & Community Sector (VCS) where the case for additional support was outlined, we have recognised the impact the cost-of-living crisis is having on the staff you have employed within your organisation.

In recognition and to acknowledge the vital role that the VCS plays in providing critical services within our communities we are now offering a one-off, non-consolidated payment to VCS organisations funded through the Voluntary and Community Division (VCD) or Community Empowerment Division (CED). This payment is being offered as a one off, in-year financial contribution, for 2022/23 only, with the amount for each organisation determined through calculation of a **maximum of £1,925 pro rata (gross) for each post*** for which salary support is provided.

***The payment is being provided ONLY for posts that attract a maximum annual salary of up to £47,665 (pro rata where postholder works reduced hours)**

Payments are scheduled to be issued on 13 March and should be available in your organisation's bank account within 5 working days of this date.

To confirm you wish to avail of or decline this additional support you are required to complete the declaration below and return by **24 February 2023**.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact your Development Officer/Programme Manager.

DECLARATION

Intent to avail of this Salary Support Payment.

Newry, Mourne & Down DC

Project Ref: CO1-22-3140

We wish to avail of the opportunity to receive a one-off payment of **£28,657.46** (gross), distributed to the organisations you fund as per **Annex A**, to provide a payment of **up to a maximum of £1,925 pro rata (gross) per funded salary** currently supported through VCD/CED as a one off contribution to assist with cost-of-living/inflationary pressures on budget and incomes for VCD funded organisations. This payment is to be applied to any posts that VCD provide salary support to.

PLEASE NOTE: The payment is being provided ONLY for posts that attract a maximum annual salary of up to £47,665 (pro rata where applicable)

- We intend to avail of the full salary support above.**
- We intend to partially avail of the salary support up to an amount of £_____ for the following reason:**
_____.

- We do not intend to avail of the salary support above for the following reason:**
_____.

Where availing of salary support, we undertake to: (Please tick the following as appropriate)

- Ensure the funding provided will be paid through supported salaries**


- ✓ Provide detail of instances where our employees supported by VCD/CED funding have received any other lump sum payments to assist with the cost-of-living crisis.

In the event such payments have been made we undertake to discuss this with our Development Officer/ Programme Manager and understand that any support may be reduced commensurate with any other such support provided.

- ✓ Ensure any underspend will be returned to VCD/CED as soon as possible.

Note: This payment could be subject to normal vouching and verification arrangements as necessary.

Signed  Position in Organisation: Head of Engagement

Signed  Position in Organisation: Chief Executive

24.02.2023

Dated

ANNEX A

Organisation	Amount
Community Support General, Advice Grant and Welfare Reform Tribunal Representation	£23,398.57
Welfare Reform Face to Face Mitigations:	
<i>Newry, Mourne & Down</i>	£5,258.89
Total	£28,657.46
Total funding of £28,657.46 will be awarded to:	
Community Advice Newry, Mourne and Down (CANMD)	

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	20 March 2023
Subject:	Department for Communities (DfC) Additional Funding to Assist with Increased Running Costs 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 To note the report.</p> <p>Background 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>Council received an email and Declaration 'VCD funded organisations intent to avail of additional funding to assist with increased running costs' (see Appendix 1 attached) from DfC on Friday 3 February 2023 advising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department has listened to concerns from across the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) regards the cost-of-living increases and the pressures this places on organisations to maintain delivery of vital services across our communities. • The VCS plays a crucial role in assisting our most vulnerable citizens and appreciate the pressures and impact of the increasing demand for access to the range of services you as partner organisations provide. • The Department has been considering ways to help mitigate some of these pressures and has secured limited additional funding that will at least make a contribution to increased running costs. • Newry, Mourne and Down District Council will make/have made a payment of £1,500.00 to assist with increased running costs to the following organisation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Community Advice Newry, Mourne and Down • The increases in energy costs must be to cover the period between 1 April to 30 September 2022. • The Department for Communities is responsible for vouching and verification arrangements and have a signed declaration form from Community Advice Newry, Mourne and Down stating that the organisation will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ undertake to ensure that the payment provided is used for this purpose and ➢ undertake to advise the Department of any additional support for increased running costs/energy costs they receive by 31 March 2023 from any other funder.

	<p>The additional funding of £1,500.00 is being provided by DfC for 'Community Advice Newry, Mourne & Down' and is ring-fenced for the purposes outlined in the Declaration attached.</p> <p>Councils are not required to match this additional funding.</p>
2.0	Key issues
2.1	None.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	That the Committee: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the report.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	There are no resource implications as the Council is not required to match the additional 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><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>

	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 1: DfC Declaration.
8.0	Background Documents
8.1	None.



DECLARATION

VCD funded organisations intent to avail of additional funding to assist with increased running costs.

The Department has listened to concerns from across the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) regards the cost-of-living increases and the pressures this places on organisations to maintain delivery of vital services across our communities.

The VCS plays a crucial role in assisting our most vulnerable citizens and appreciate the pressures and impact of the increasing demand for access to the range of services you as partner organisations provide.

The Department has been considering ways to help mitigate some of these pressures and has secured limited additional funding that will at least make a contribution to increased running costs.

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council will make / have made a payment of £1,500 to assist with increased running costs to the following organisations:

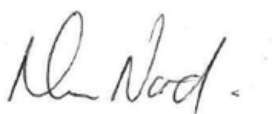
Name of Organisations

- Community Advice Newry, Mourne and Down

The increases in energy costs must be to cover the period between 1 April to 30 September 2022.

We also understand that the Department for Communities is responsible for vouching and verification arrangements and have a signed declaration form the above organisations stating the above organisation(s) will -.

- undertake to ensure that the payment provided is used for this purpose and
- undertake to advise the Department of any additional support for increased running costs/energy costs they receive by 31 March 2023 from any other funder.

Signed: 

Dated: 8 February 2023

Position in Organisation: Chief Executive