

November 20th, 2023

Notice Of Meeting

You are requested to attend the meeting to be held on Monday, 20th November 2023 at 6:00 pm in Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre & MS Teams.

Committee Membership 2023 - 2024

Councillor R Howell **Chairperson**

Councillor O Magennis **Deputy Chairperson**

Councillor L Devlin

Councillor D Finn

Councillor A Finnegan

Councillor C Galbraith

Councillor M Gibbons

Councillor J Jackson

Councillor D Lee-Surginor

Councillor A Lewis

Councillor A Mathers

Councillor A McMurray

Councillor D Murphy

Councillor K Murphy

Councillor S O'Hare

Agenda

1.0 Apologies and Chairperson's Remarks

2.0 Declarations of Interest

3.0 Action Sheet arising from Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on 16 October 2023

[Action Sheet from AHC 16 Oct 2023.pdf](#)

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Notices of Motion

4.0 Notice of Motion - Leisure Centres

Appendix 1 relating to the report to be taken in closed session.

[AHC - Notice of Motion - Council Leisure Centres.pdf](#)

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Community Development

5.0 District Electoral Area (DEA) Forums Update Report

For Decision

[DEA Fora report AHC Nov 2023.pdf](#)

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[Appendix1 DEA Forum report November 2023.pdf](#)

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[Slieve Croob DEA Action Sheet Wednesday 8th November 2023.pdf](#)

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[Action Sheet Crotlieve DEA Private Forum Meeting 14 November 2023.pdf](#)

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6.0 Community Coordination Hub (CCH) Update Report

For Decision

[CCH update report for AHC November 2023.pdf](#)

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[CCH action sheet from meeting 18th October 2023.pdf](#)

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[CCH Emergency Meeting Action Sheet 02-11-23.pdf](#)


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7.0 Service Level Agreement with Education Authority

(Community Planning)

For Decision

 *Report -Service level Agreement with Education Authority.pdf* *Page 34*

 *Appendix 1 Youth Council Conference Report 2023.pdf* *Page 37*

For Noting - Community Development

8.0 All Island Community Safety Network

For Information

 *AHC Report All Island Community Safety Network.pdf* *Page 56*

Items deemed to be exempt under paragraph 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014

4(i) Appendix 1 relating to Item 4: Notice of Motion Leisure Centres

Item 4 Appendix attached.

This item is deemed to be exempt under paragraph 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the Council or a government department and employees of, or office holders under, the Council.

 *Appendix 1 - Overview of Leisure Staffing - CLOSED SESSION.pdf* *Not included*

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

9.0 Access and Inclusion Funding

For Decision

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

 *AHC Report - Access and Inclusion Funding.pdf* *Not included*

 **Appendix 1 Access and Inclusion Business Case.pdf** **Not included**

 **Appendix 2 Access Inclusion Programme Letter of Offer.pdf** **Not included**

10.0 Sport NI Community Planning Investment Programme

For Decision

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

 **AHC - Sport NI Community Planning Investment Programme.pdf** **Not included**

 **Appendix 1 -Be Active Business Case 2023.pdf** **Not included**

 **Appendix 2 - Sport NI Letter of Offer.pdf** **Not included**

Invitees

Cllr Terry Andrews
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Cllr Callum Bowsie
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Cllr Jim Brennan
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Cllr Pete Byrne
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Mr Gerard Byrne
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Cllr Philip Campbell
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Mr Andrew Cassells
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Cllr William Clarke
.....
Mrs Linda Cummins
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Cllr Laura Devlin
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Ms Louise Dillon
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Cllr Cadogan Enright
.....
Cllr Doire Finn
.....
Cllr Aoife Finnegan
.....
Ms Joanne Fleming
.....
Cllr Conor Galbraith
.....
Sinead Geary
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Cllr Mark Gibbons
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Cllr Oonagh Hanlon
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Cllr Glyn Hanna
.....
Cllr Valerie Harte
.....
Mrs Laura Higgins
.....
Cllr Roisin Howell
.....
Ms Catherine Hughes
.....
Cllr Jonathan Jackson
.....
Cllr Geraldine Kearns
.....
Miss Veronica Keegan
.....
Mrs Josephine Kelly
.....
Cllr Tierna Kelly
.....
Mrs Sheila Kieran
.....
Cllr Cathal King
.....
Cllr Mickey Larkin
.....
Cllr David Lee-Surginor
.....
Cllr Alan Lewis
.....
Cllr Oonagh Magennis
.....
Mr Conor Mallon
.....
Cllr Aidan Mathers
.....
Cllr Declan McAteer
.....
Cllr Leeanne McEvoy
.....
Cllr Andrew McMurray
.....
Maureen/Joanne Morgan/Johnston
.....
Cllr Declan Murphy
.....

Cllr Kate Murphy
.....
Cllr Selina Murphy
.....
Cllr Siobhan O'Hare
.....
Cllr Áine Quinn
.....
Cllr Henry Reilly
.....
Cllr Michael Rice
.....
Ms Alison Robb
.....
Cllr Michael Ruane
.....
Cllr Gareth Sharvin
.....
Donna Starkey
.....
Sarah Taggart
.....
Paul Tamati
.....
Cllr David Taylor
.....
Cllr Jarlath Tinnelly
.....
Cllr Jill Truesdale
.....
Mrs Marie Ward
.....

ACTIONS ARISING FROM ACTIVE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING – 16 OCTOBER 2023

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
AHC/083/2023	Community Trails Update	It was agreed that AHC Committee: • Consider Outdoor Recreation NI's (ORNI) presentation on the 2022/23 SLA. • Agree Community Trail Development Priorities as per appendix 1 of the officer's report. • Agree the NMDDC Beach Access Framework as per appendix 2 of the officers report. • Agree the Review of Sea Swimming at Newcastle Harbour as per appendix 3 of the officer's report. It was agreed that a report would be brought back to Council to consider the feedback from the report including: • That a Task and Finish Group for Newcastle Harbour be established to include DEA Councillors from the area, local businesses and stakeholders to take the masterplan forward as a matter of priority. • That provision be made for a lifeguard at the Newcastle pier in the summer period during times of high tide within the estimates and that requests be forwarded to the ERT Directorate.	P Tamati	Ongoing	N

AHC/110/2023	Action sheet Committee Meeting held on Monday 18 September 2023	The action sheet from the Committee Meeting held on 18 September 2023 was noted.	All	Noted	Y
AHC/111/2023	Notice of Motion – Homelessness	It was agreed to note the contents of the report and consider inviting NIHE to present on the issue of Homelessness to Council in due course. It was agreed that a presentation regarding homelessness be made from advocacy groups such as those listed and a webpage signposting organisations to help people in crisis be included on the Council website. Mrs Robb confirmed she had noted the proposal for a presentation and a webpage and that she would bring forward a report to committee in due course.	A Robb	Ongoing	N
AHC/112/2023	District Electoral Area (DEA) Forums Update Report	It was agreed to note the update report and approve the actions in the action sheets attached for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crotlieve DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Wednesday 20 September 2023. • Slieve Croob DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 26 September 2023. • Rowallane DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Wednesday 27 September 2023. • Newry DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Thursday 28 September 2023. • The Mournes DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 3 October 2023. • Downpatrick DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 10 October 2023. • Slieve Gullion DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Wednesday 11 October 2023. 	A Robb	All DEA Action Sheets being actioned accordingly	Y

AHC/113/2023	Community Coordination Hub Update Report	It was agreed to note the report and approve the actions in the action sheets for Community Coordination Hub (CCH) Meeting held on 20 September 2023.	A Robb	All actions being actioned as agreed	Y
AHC/121/2023	PEACE IV Report	It was agreed to note the report and minute from the PEACE IV Partnership held on 22 June 2023 and 21 September 2023.	A Robb	Noted	Y
AHC/122/2023	Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership (NRP) Report	It was agreed to note the report and the following Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership (NRP) Minutes and action plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes of Newry NRP Meeting held on Wednesday 28 June 2023, approved at Newry NRP Meeting held on Wednesday 4 October 2023. • Newry NRP Action Plan 2023 – 2026, approved at Newry NRP meeting held on Wednesday 4 October 2023. 	A Robb	Noted	Y
AHC/123/2023	Policing and Community Safety Partnership	It was agreed to note the report and the Minutes of the Policing Committee & PCSP Meeting held on Tuesday 25 July 2023, approved at the Policing Committee & PCSP Meeting on Tuesday 26 September 2023.	A Robb	Noted	Y
AHC/124/2023	District Council Good Relations Programme Reduced Budget	It was agreed to note the reduced budget from The Executive Office to the District Council Good Relations Programme (DCGRP) for 2023/24 and the associated impact on service delivery.	A Robb	Noted	Y
AHC/114/2023	Leasing of Council Land and Facilities – Expressions of Interest Killough, St Anne's Park and Bessbrook Football Fields	It was agreed to approve for the following Council land to commence and progress through the various stages Councils Sport and Leasing Policy 2016: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playing Field at St Annes Park, Mayobridge Appendix 1. • Killough Playing Fields, School Road Killough Appendix 2. • Bessbrook Football Fields, Orior Park, Bessbrook Appendix 3. 	P Tamati	Agreed	N

ITEMS RESTRICTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 1 OF SCHEDULE 6 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (NI) 2014					
AHC/115/2023	Programme Delivery Partner – Indoor Leisure	It was agreed to approve a Public Tender and appointment for up to 3 years for an Indoor Leisure Programme Delivery Partner, subject to annual rates estimates provisions and approve the Business Case for this Public Tender (as per appendix 1 of the officer's report) and Council's procurement policy.	P Tamati	Agreed	Y
AHC/116/2023	Business Case for Bessbrook Community Centre	It was agreed to approve the business case for Improvement Works to Bessbrook Community Centre and that project costs be submitted for consideration in the 2024/25 rates estimates.	A Robb	Agreed	Y
AHC/117/2023	Business Case for Cloughreagh Community Centre	It was agreed to approve the Business case for DDA Upgrade Works to Cloughreagh Community Centre and that the project costs be included in the 2024/2025 rates estimates.	A Robb	Agreed	Y
AHC/118/2023	DfC – Living High Street Funding	It was agreed to approve commencing procurement and appointment of contractors for the projects outlined in section 1.1. of the officers report and in accordance with Northern Ireland Public Procurement Policy (NIPPP) and approve the business cases as per appendix 1 and appendix 2 of the officers report. It was also agreed that officers, in conjunction with local DEA Councillors, contact relevant landowners of the carpark area adjacent to Dunleath Park to discuss access possibilities.	P Tamati	Agreed	Y
AHC/119/2023	Provision of Swimming Pool Maintenance and Servicing Provisions	It was agreed to approve the additional spend for Swimming Pool Plant maintenance and Servicing as outlined in section 1.1 of the officer's report.	P Tamati	Agreed	Y
AHC/120/2023	Warrenpoint Health and Wellbeing Hub Governance	It was agreed to note the project governance arrangements for the Warrenpoint Health and Wellbeing Hub and name change for the project as detailed within the officer's report and note that Council had submitted an application to Peace Plus 1.4 Reimaging Communities in relation to this project.	A Robb	Noted	Y

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities (AHC) Committee
Date of Meeting:	20 th November 2023
Subject:	Notice of Motion – Leisure Centres
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Paul Tamati, Assistant Director: Leisure and Sport
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Sinead 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 for AHC Committee to note the response to the Notice of Motion (NOM) received by Councillor Hanlon as per the recommendations outlined in section 3.1 of this report.</p> <p>In July 2023 Councillor Hanlon tabled the following NOM at full Council Committee which was referred to AHC Committee for consideration:</p> <p>“This Council recognises that in the aftermath of Covid our local leisure facilities & services across the district are experiencing a number of significant challenges; Notes that residents and service users are not getting the services or access to the facilities that they are entitled to; And calls for an urgent and robust review of the planning; management; and delivery of Newry, Mourne & Down’s leisure services to be undertaken in order to sustain an operation model that meets the needs of service users, ratepayers, and supports council staff in their ability to deliver first class services”</p>	
2.0	Key issues	
2.1	<p><u>Current Staffing Challenges</u></p> <p>As outlined by Councillor Hanlon in her NOM, Council leisure facilities & services are facing a number of challenges which from time to time are impacting service users.</p> <p>However, a majority if not all of these challenges either directly or indirectly relate to staffing levels and capacities as opposed to the planning, management, or the operating model of Council Leisure Facilities.</p> <p>Furthermore, these staffing challenges are not a localised issue or even an industry wide issue. Staff resourcing is a major post pandemic issue for the public sector across Northern Ireland.</p> <p>In addition to this, post pandemic there has been a public sector wide increase in long term sickness absence. This combined with the cost-of-living crisis and attractive private sector pay scales has led to significant staff shortages of frontline and keyholder staffing positions which is subsequently impacting on leisure centre operations and services.</p>	

This has been further exacerbated by staffing challenges in Councils Human resources section which subsequently impacts on advertising and recruitment timelines.

A summary of the specific staffing challenges has been outlined in appendix 1 of this report which is in closed session due to paragraph 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.

In contrast to this and despite the post pandemic staffing challenges, management and frontline staff have made significant improvements in Leisure services and the provision of leisure including the following:

Leisure Improvements – Post Pandemic

COVID-19 Reopening Plan

During COVID-19 service closures significant work in relation activity programming of all leisure centres was completed in partnership with key bookings and stakeholders. The result of this has led to additional booking slots in a high demand area, increased capacity in Council swimming lessons district wide, improved timetabling for Council led swimming lessons and accommodation of Council's Be-Active Programme district wide.

New Summer Activity Programme

In 2022 Council replaced it's traditional 'Summer Schemes' with a new and more comprehensive and significantly more affordable Summer Activity Programme that adheres to industry standard guidance and best practice and included significant price discounts for all activities. Participation and attendance numbers under this new Summer Activity Programme model has exceeded expectations with 1178 children participating in Summer Sports Camps and almost 12,000 children participating in the £1 Summer promotion in 2023.

Establishment of new Be Active for Health Programme

In addition Councils regular Commercial Classes delivered at all sites as part of membership packages, leisure management secured internal funding and in 2022 fully launched a new Be-Active for Health programme across all leisure centres, targeting members of the community who are sedentary, beginners, or have low fitness levels with this programme also coupling as a pathway for health specific referral programmes. Furthermore, the membership for this programme is heavily discounted to ensure cost is a minimal barrier to participation in these activities. From April to September this year alone attendance figures reached 7917 outlining the popularity and success of this programme.

Extension of Referral Schemes

Prior to COVID-19 traditionally Council's Physical Activity Referral Schemes (PARS) were delivered solely in Newry and Downpatrick Leisure Centre with limited capacity and high waiting list levels. Managements review of the PARS delivery model to group-based delivery has addressed the waiting lists for PARS and allowed the programme to be extended to both Kilkeel Leisure Centre and the Newcastle Centre through securing of additional funding for the public health agency. Over 100 participants have completed the 12-week referral programme between April and September this year.

Improved Partnership Arrangements/Delivery of Rehab Programmes in Leisure Centre.

Prior to the Pandemic there was limited delivery of rehabilitation initiatives evident in Leisure Centres. During COVID-19 significant work and negotiations were completed with Health Trusts and the Public Health Agency to encourage clinical/hospital-based rehabilitation

programmes to be delivered in community settings (i.e. leisure centres). As a result of these negotiations, Cardiac Rehabilitation, Pulmonary Rehabilitation, Physiotherapy/Physical Rehabilitation along with Cancer Rehabilitation are now all being delivered in Council leisure centres, and this is in addition to the PARS schemes.

Improved Access to Council Gyms for those with a Medical Condition.

Prior to the Pandemic, those with medium to high-risk medical conditions such as diabetes, asthma or back pain were required to produce a G.P. Certificate or letter before they could attend a Council gym. This process negatively impacts those most in need of actually undertaking physical activity, puts many potential customers off undertaking physical activity, and added a further administrative burden to GP practices. During the pandemic management reviewed this process, sought alternatives linked to best practice and industry standard guidance and in 2021 introduced a new 'Health Commitment Statement' process which has addressed the above issues and taken away a number of barriers to Council gym access particularly for those most in need of this activity.

Recommissioning of National Pool Lifeguard Courses (NPLQ)

Due to the documented staffing challenges outlined above and in appendix 1, Council has not been able to release qualified members of staff to run NPLQ courses, which is the minimum requirement to become a lifeguard. This subsequently has impacted on the succession plan for potential future employees and when positions are advertised there can be a lack of suitably qualified applicants for a lifeguard post. In the past year Council has appointed an Aquatic Development and Training Officer and as a result in the past 6-month Council has delivered 5 NPLQ courses with over 50 having now achieved this qualification and many of them now on the leisure services casual register.

Future Leisure Improvements

Increasing the Number of Commercial Classes

Due to the staffing challenges outlined above and in appendix 1, the pool of internal coaches available to deliver classes has significantly decreased, impacting on the number and variety of classes available to customers, which varies from site to site. A new programme of class qualifications and training for internal staff who wish to become class instructors, has been proposed as part of the 2024/25 rates estimates process in an attempt to increase the stock levels of internal coaches available to deliver classes. In addition to this Council are in the process of procuring a programme delivery partner to assist in filling any gaps in class provision should internal staff provisions fail to accommodate what is considered a comprehensive class programme at any particular site.

Health Suite SPA/Jacuzzi Closures – Downpatrick Leisure Centre.

The current water quality management design for Downpatrick Health Suites spa/jacuzzi requires this area to be closed on a Monday, up until lunchtime on Tuesday to ensure adherence to best practice and industry standard guidance for water quality management. Management have explored a number of alternatives to attempt to address this issue to no avail. A further alternative is currently being explored; however this alternative requires approval by an independent water quality management assessor. The proposal is being drafted for submission at present. If successful, the Health Suite SPA/Jacuzzi in DLC will see a significant reduction in operational downtime.

	<p>Disability/Autism Swimming Tuition Council recently applied to Sport NI’s District Councils Community Planning 23/24 Investment Programme. This bid included and prioritised the establishment of a pilot disability/autism swimming tuition programme in Down, Newry and Kilkeel Leisure Centres. Officers recently received correspondence that this bid was successful and a subsequent letter of offer. Details of the disability/autism swimming tuition programme are now being finalised with further information hopefully available prior to the Christmas break with programme delivery anticipated to commence in the new year.</p> <p>Access and Inclusion Funding Management recently applied to the Department for Communities Access and Inclusion fund for the upgrade of internal doors in Newry Leisure Centre to allow push pad opening and enhance disability access within the centre. This bid has proven successful, a letter of offer has been received with the procurement of a contractor to complete this works the next step in the process. Furthermore, this work will assist in management achieving the Inclusive Sports Facility accreditation for Newry Leisure Centre.</p> <p>Extended Opening Hours Extending opening hours in Council leisure facilities can be challenging given the cost and resource implications associated with any extension to opening hours along with the negotiation of employee contracts and where required terms and conditions of employment. Given the ongoing industrial relation disputes progressing any extension of opening hours of leisure facilities will be subject to any current industrial relations disputes being resolved in the first instance.</p>
<p>3.0</p>	<p>Recommendations</p>
<p>3.1</p>	<p>That AHC Committee note the contents of this report which addresses the concerns outlined in the Councillors Notice of Motion.</p>
<p>4.0</p>	<p>Resource implications</p>
<p>4.1</p>	<p>Revenue: There are no anticipated financial implications associated with this report. Capital: There are no identified capital budget implications associated with this report.</p>
<p>5.0</p>	<p>Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)</p>
<p>5.1</p>	<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>
5.3	<p>Proposal initiating consultation</p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)
6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If no, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy / strategy / plan / public service is not influenced by rural needs <input type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	Appendices
	None
8.0	Background Documents
	None

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	20 November 2023
Subject:	District Electoral Area (DEA) Forums Update Report
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Alison Robb, Assistant Director for Community Development
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Aisling Rennick, Engagement & Development Manger Damien Brannigan, Head of Engagement

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	<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	None.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	<p>That the Committee: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the report. Agree to approve the actions in the Action Sheets attached for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Slieve Croob DEA Forum Special Meeting held on Wednesday 8 November 2023. ➤ Crotlieve DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 14 November 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)
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	<p>Appendices</p>
7.1	<p>Appendix 1: Update on the ongoing work of the DEAs. Appendix 2: Action Sheet of Slieve Croob DEA Forum Special Meeting, 8 November 2023. Appendix 3: Action Sheet of Crotlieve DEA Forum Private Meeting, 14 November 2023.</p>
8.0	<p>Background Documents</p>
8.1	<p>None.</p>

Appendix 1**Update on the ongoing work of the DEAs**

The following information is provided to update the AHC 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:***

Downpatrick, Mournes, Rowallane and Slieve Croob DEAs collaborated with CDRCN to host a Tea Dance in the Millbrook Hotel on Thursday 5th October 2023. This event was held as part of Positive Ageing month. Many older people across the district live in rural areas and feel isolated so this was an opportunity to connect with others, make new friends and enjoy an afternoon of music and dancing. The attendees were able to access information about groups in their area.

In October 2023 as part of the Ballynahinch Festival of Hope organised by the Ballynahinch Suicide Task Force several events took place including a Good Mood Foods session in the Market House. The session included dietary help on foods which enhance moods and keep the body healthy and outlined the importance of a varied and nutritional diet for continued health. On Saturday 7th October a Walk for Life was held in the Lough Park with over 70 participants attending to undertake the walk and enjoy other activities such as donkey therapy, arts/crafts and get helpful information on sources of help from agencies in attendance including Ballynahinch Counselling, Ballynahinch Community Collective and Papyrus. The Millbrook Hotel was the venue for healthy exercise sessions as part of the festival with attendees being able to try Pilates, Reiki, Yoga and Chi Mi to assist with their mental and physical health.

The Education Authority Youth Service, Slieve Gullion DEA and Council's Health Inequalities team are all working together to deliver a South Armagh Champions League Programme. Teams from across South Armagh will be transported to Killeavy every Friday night for 10 weeks in the winter months where they will compete in a football league. The programme also involves weekly off pitch tasks which have a Health and Wellbeing focus. 94 young people are registered from right across the area.

Crotlieve DEA in partnership with the Promoting Wellbeing Team at SHSCT are delivering Take 5 taster sessions to Rostrevor Men's Shed to mark November as Men's Health Month.

Crotlieve DEA are working in partnership with Education Authority to deliver health themed workshops for young men during November 2023 to mark Men's Health Month.

To celebrate International Men's Day in November 2023, the Mournes DEA in partnership with Mourne Matters will be delivering an event for men's sheds in the Kilkeel area. The event will feature a quiz night for all men and their families living in the area.

All People in Newry, Mourne and Down Live in Respectful, Safe and Vibrant Communities***Level of Civic Participation and Good Relations:***

To highlight Good Relations Week in September 2023, the Mournes DEA organised a coffee and connect event with the local community and residents currently in asylum accommodation. The event included a cultural exchange of foods and traditions.

The Mournes DEA supported the annual Heat and Eat event in Newcastle. The event was well attended and featured a range of supports to help with the cost of living crisis. Participants were provided with a free bowl of soup as well as ingredients and recipe to make at home.

Crotlieve DEA delivered funding clinics on Monday 6th November 2023 in Warrenpoint Town Hall. Community groups were able to book 30 minute slots with the Lottery Fund to discuss funding projects.

Downpatrick DEA supported the establishment of the new LGBTQIA+ Senior (17-24) Shout Drop In Centre. The project is managed by the local Education Authority (EA) and is the first of its kind in the area. Once per week in the Down Arts Centre the EA provide a safe and welcoming environment for our local young people to meet and socialise with their friends, as well offering support and signposting to additional support they may require.

The Slieve Gullion DEA Coordinator has been working with numerous groups across the area to access funding including Shared Island Funding, National Lottery Funding and Good Relations Funding.

Level of Personal Safety and Crime:

On behalf of the 7 DEA Coordinators the Rowallane DEA Coordinator was a key speaker at the Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS) launch of Fire Safety Week. During her talk she outlined the close working relationships with and projects undertaken by the NIFRS and all the District Electoral Area Forums.

In response to the rising road traffic accidents in the district, Slieve Croob DEA in partnership with the NIFRS, Drive Techniques Driving School, New Drive NI and the PSNI hosted a Young Drivers Initiative experience at Bishopscourt Racing Circuit on Wednesday 18th October 2023. 30 young people from St Malachy's High School, Castlewellan, had the opportunity to get behind the wheel with qualified driving instructors gaining practical tips on keeping themselves safe on the roads. Furthermore, the NIFRS provided an insight on what it is like being in a real traffic accident through Virtual Reality Experience and providing a car cut out after an accident. New Drive NI provided the young people with practical tips on keeping their car to appropriate standards showing them how to check oil, tyre pressure etc.

Crotlieve DEA in partnership with the Education Authority delivered a social action project in Warrenpoint Town Hall for Halloween. The young people involved produced Halloween decorations that were then used in other community events. Also, on Sunday 29th October 2023 the same young people then enjoyed a diversionary Halloween themed Bingo Loco event in Warrenpoint Town Hall.

In Slieve Gullion DEA, support was given to local community groups regarding reducing anti-social behaviour around the Halloween period and interagency meetings were attended by the DEA Coordinator especially in Crossmaglen and Newtownhamilton.

To help address anti-social behaviour issues in the Newcastle area over Halloween, the Mourne DEA in partnership with the YMCA, CDRCN, and PCSP supported a range of Halloween events and activities in the Newcastle area. The events included a Halloween disco, movie night for teens and materials for YMCA outreach work on Halloween.

In collaboration with St Oliver Plunkett Youth Club, Slieve Gullion DEA have planned a number of activities for young people in the winter months. These included activities over the Halloween Period, an Outreach programme in Silverbridge and an arts-based programme to design and paint a Bus Shelter in South Armagh.

Slieve Gullion DEA organised First Aid training in the Crossmaglen area for volunteers to attend. This course was provided by the local Crossmaglen First Responders and over 20 volunteers were trained in Basic First Aid.

The Mourne, Slieve Croob, and Downpatrick DEAs will be supporting the delivery of a Domestic Violence conference in November 2023.

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

**Action Sheet of Slieve Croob District Electoral Area (DEA) Forum Special Private Meeting
held on Wednesday 8th November 2023 at 5.15pm in Castlewellan Community Centre**

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Chairperson:	Councillor Roisin Howell
In Attendance:	Councillor Alan Lewis Councillor Andrew McMurray
Independent Members:	Kenny Baxter, Frontier Support Network
Council Officials:	Gail Kane, Head of Facilities Management Priscilla McAlinden, Slieve Croob DEA Coordinator Andrew Sweeney, Maintenance Officer (Facilities Management and Maintenance)
Others in Attendance:	None
Apologies:	Councillor Jim Brennan Councillor Siobhan O'Hare Damien Brannigan, Head of Engagement Heather Holland, County Down Rural Community Network (CDRCN) Richie Shilliday, Dundrum Village Association, Dundrum Cricket Club, RIOT Community Hub

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed.
DEA/SC/2/2023	Proposals for Enhancement of Castlewellan Fair	<p>Recommended that Head of Facilities Management prepare report to Sustainability and Environment Committee to request funding of £5,800 to enhance the Fair. Funding request to include security costs for the night before and day of Fair.</p> <p>Suggested the Fair includes a hiring quarter to link to historical roots including volunteer/social enterprise.</p> <p>Recommended that Head of Facilities Management liaise with ERT Department to request funding and support to enhance the Fair as it will attract visitors, promote tourism/employment and economic benefit.</p>	<p>Head of Facilities Management</p> <p>Head of Facilities Management</p> <p>Head of Facilities Management</p>
DEA/SC/3/2023	Date and time of next meeting	DEA Forum meeting scheduled on 12 th December 2023.	DEA Coordinator.

The meeting ended at: 6.30pm

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

**Action Sheet of Crotlieve District Electoral Area (DEA) Forum Private Meeting
held on Tuesday 14th November 2023 at 18.00 pm in The Boardroom Warrenpoint Town Hall**

Chairperson:	Councillor Michael Ruane
In Attendance:	Councillor Selina Murphy Councillor Mark Gibbons
Independent Members:	Connaire McGreevy – Greater Newry Chamber of Commerce Thelma Thompson Little - Altnaveigh House Trust Martina Byrne- Hilltown Community Association/Clonduff Development Enterprise/Women of Clonduff
Statutory Partners:	Carie Crawford – Education Authority
Council Officials:	Shirley Keenan – Crotlieve DEA Co-ordinator Shannon Creaney - PCSP Officer Michelle McKeown - Community Services Manager
Others in Attendance:	None
Apologies:	Councillor Jarlath Tinnelly Councillor Kate Murphy Councillor Declan McAteer Damien Brannigan – Head of Engagement Aisling Rennick – Engagement & Development Manager Deirdre Magill - Southern Health and Social Care Trust Claire Shiels - County Down Rural Community Network Richard McGaffin - Frontier Support Network Keith Parke - Ardarragh Accordion Band/Lisnamullion Rural Association/Drumlough & Ballygorian RDA

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed.
DEA/C/28/2023	Welcome and Apologies.	Councillor Ruane welcomed the Forum and noted apologies.	COMPLETED.
DEA/C/29/2023	Declaration of Interest.	There were no declarations of interest declared.	COMPLETED.
DEA/C/30/2023	Matters arising from Action Sheet from meeting held September 2023.	Action sheet confirmed as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Councillor Mark Gibbons and seconded by Martina Byrne.	COMPLETED.
DEA/C/31/2023	DEA Co-ordinator's Report.	Update from DEA Co-ordinator Ms S Keenan on projects and programmes that had taken place from the date of the last meeting and planned projects for the coming months including a new Good Relations Programme, Christmas activities and partnership working with the EA.	COMPLETED.

DEA/C/32/2023	Update from Community Safety and Good Relations.	Update provided by Ms S Creaney on the following: Rapid Bins/Community Safety Wardens/ Drug and Alcohol Projects/Funded Halloween activities.	COMPLETED.
DEA/C/33/2023	Update from Community Facilities.	Update provided by Ms M McKeown on activity in the Crotlieve DEA.	COMPLETED.
DEA/C/34/2023	Action Plan Update/New Projects.	Upcoming projects agreed by Forum Members along with associated budget. Spend for projects proposed by Councillor Mark Gibbons and seconded by Connaire McGreevy.	DEA Co-ordinator to continue with delivery and implementation.
DEA/C/35/2023	Update from Education Authority.	Update provided by Ms C Crawford EA.	COMPLETED.
DEA/C/36/2023	Halloween 2023 Mayobridge and Burren.	Issues of ASB raised by Councillors Ruane and S Murphy. Agreed the following: DEA Co-ordinator to contact relevant Council Department requesting details	DEA Co-ordinator to action.

		<p>of any clean up that was required this year and how this will be managed/ prevented next year due to received concerns from residents.</p> <p>PCSP to look at potential diversionary plan for next year.</p> <p>Item to remain on Agenda.</p>	PCSP.
DEA/C/37/2023	Date of next meeting.	<p>The next meeting date:</p> <p>16th January 2024 at 6pm in Warrenpoint Town Hall.</p>	DEA Co-ordinator to forward Agenda and papers in advance.

The meeting ended at: 18:45 pm

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	20 November 2023
Subject:	Community Coordination Hub (CCH) Update Report
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Alison Robb, Assistant Director for Community Development
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 of the Community Coordination Hub (CCH) Meetings listed in 3.1 below. <p>Background</p> <p>The information in the Action Sheets 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	<p>That the Committee: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the report. Agree to approve the actions in the Action Sheets attached for the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Community Coordination Hub Meeting held on Wednesday 18 October 2023. ➢ Community Coordination Hub Emergency Meeting held on Thursday 2 November 2023.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	Support and assistance from partners to deliver actions in the CCH action sheets.
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: Community Coordination Hub Meeting Action Sheet of Wednesday 18 October 2023. Appendix 2: Community Coordination Hub Emergency Meeting Action Sheet of Thursday 2 November 2023.</p>
8.0	<p>Background Documents</p>
8.1	<p>None.</p>

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Action Sheet of Community Coordination Hub (CCH) Meeting Wednesday 18th October 2023 @ 2:00pm via Teams

In Attendance: Chair: Damien Brannigan (Engagement)

Alison Robb (Assistant Director Community Development)

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

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

Laura Higgins (Admin Assistant AHC)

Justyna McCabe (Diversity and Inclusion)

Sonya Burns (Programmes Unit)

Aisling Rennick (DEAs)

Aidan McCabe (SHSCT)

Alan Beggs (Community Planning)

Apologies: Rosemary McDonnell (Community Advice Newry, Mourne and Down and Strategic Stakeholder Forum)
Sinead Trainor (Health & Well Being)
Brian Rankin (Sustainability)
Julie McCann (Community Services, Facilities and Events)
Lauren McMenemy (Community Planning)
Lynda Vladeanu (SEHSCT)
James Elliott (DFC)

	Agenda Item	Discussion and Action Agreed	Raised by/ Referred to
1.	Welcome & Apologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Everyone was welcomed to the meeting and apologies noted. 	All
2.	Actions from last CCH meeting held on Wednesday 20 th September 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actions from the last CCH meeting held attached. 	All
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.	Update on Refugees and Asylum Seekers Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Justyna advised that there has been no Ukrainian Support Centre (run by The Executive Office) in Newry for quite some time, the Belfast Centre is still operational. However, Artur is receiving approximately 20 telephone calls a week from Ukrainian people in Newry who are being supported across a range of issues. These support services include guidance on schools, settling into houses, Universal Credit, driving license advice and various other issues. The most recent Home Office statistics show that 16 dispersed families have been housed (37 service users) and that there are 32 service users in the Hotel. Quite a few families have been moved from the Hotel into housing and Sinead Bailie (Social Inclusion Support Officer NMDDC) is working with them to assess their needs, support them and to refer them to various stakeholders. There are monthly Stakeholder meetings held in Newry and Newcastle. Funding has been distributed across the community & voluntary sector for Asylum Services Programmes. These programmes include After School Drop Inn at YMCA, Zumba at the Hotel, Community Kitchen, ESOL at SERC, Befriending service at Downpatrick Presbyterian Church, and the Community Gardens at Castlewellan Community Association. There has been approximately £50k allocated to these projects. 	JMcC

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is still a major challenge getting up to date statistics from the Home Office as there is currently no Data Sharing Agreement in place with MEARS, however a meeting has been arranged so hopefully a positive update will be provided soon. • There have been some issues regarding SERC and ESOL criteria but looking at a solution with community-based learning. • Nicholas asked Justyna if there were any indications on how many Asylum Seekers were expected to the local area, Justyna replied there were no indications and explained that people, when they arrive in Northern Ireland, present themselves to the Home Office and then MEARS are tasked with sourcing housing for them. • Currently 3 properties are being used in Newry and 16 properties across Downpatrick, Newcastle and Ballykinlar. 	<p>NMcC</p> <p>JMcC</p>
5.	Update from DfC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • James sent his apologies and will provide an update at November's CCH meeting. 	
5.1	DfC 2023/2024 Social Supermarket (SSM) Support Fund update on progression	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raymond advised that all last year's (2022/2023) Social Supermarket money has been allocated and spent. • Raymond met with the Strategic Stakeholder Forum (SSF) on the 12th October and discussed the 2023/2024 Social Supermarket (SSM) initiative and the referrals process, SLAs are in place. Clanrye Group have 2 full time and 3 part time staff in place until 31st March 2024 as well as assistance from Volunteer NI in terms of packing etc. Partners agreements are in place. 	RJ

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some feedback has been that some of the SSM food is very basic and there is a lack of fresh food available, however it is acknowledged that there is need for more fresh food so SSF have been speaking to FareShare to rectify. FareShare are exploring opportunities of linking in with retailers such as Sainsbury's, Tesco etc so further updates will be provided. • All referrals for the SSM for the first quarter have been filled which illustrates the strong demand in the local community. • Nicholas added that Clanrye Group are exploring the possibility of using physical space at the Quays in Newry and SERC Downpatrick for SSM locations. This would also be convenient for users of the SSM including young students from SERC. The SERC location is convenient to transport links with a bus station located directly across the road. • The first SSM wrap around support service sessions take place today in Downpatrick and people are being recruited and encouraged to attend. • Damien commended everyone on their hard work so far regarding the 2023/2024 SSM initiative. He added that the effort has been tremendous, and he asked for thanks to be passed on to Clanrye Group and all the relevant Partners. • Raymond added that more information on the SSM referral process can be found at Social Supermarket - Clanrye Group. 	<p>NMcC</p> <p>DB</p> <p>RJ</p>
5.2	DfC Hardship Grant Scheme Funding 2022/2023 update on progression	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In terms of the Hardship Grant Scheme Funding, partners agreements are in place (Bolster and Women's Aid have already started). Raymond is waiting on 2 invoices from partners and once received he will send in claim form for the first 50% of budget. 	RJ

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damien added thanks again to all concerned on the great progress being made. 	DB
6.	Updates from CCH Members:	<p><u>Community Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raymond advised that there is still approximately £8K to be spent as part of the Credit Union Utilities Fund, there has been a noticeable increase in demand over the past couple of weeks. • Raymond is meeting Norbrook regarding the annual 'We Care at Christmas' campaign, it is anticipated that the pensioner lunches will not occur this year but Raymond will provide an update when he has more information. • Nicholas highlighted that school absenteeism in NI (particularly in the Downpatrick area) is at a critical level. The EA are lobbying for additional resources to help tackle the problem and have also contacted Council seeking office space in the Downshire Civic Centre to accommodate this. <p><u>Trusts & PHA Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aidan reminded members about the SHSCT Community Engagement Session taking place on 25th October in the EA Youth Centre at Carnbane. People are encouraged to attend and to highlight this event to local groups. • Aidan also referred to the concerns regarding school absenteeism highlighted by Nicholas and referenced the work that is ongoing to address the issue. <p><u>Council Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aisling advised that the DEA Forums are operational again and there are some Independent Member positions available in some of the 7 DEA Forums. There is set criteria regarding recruitment that needs to be met as per DEA Forums' Terms of Reference. 	<p>RJ</p> <p>NMcC</p> <p>AMcC</p> <p>AR</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aisling advised that 2023/2024 Good Relations funding has been cut by TEO and there is no hope that this will change in 2023/2024. • Sonya stated that Call 1 Financial Assistance will be later this year and it is anticipated that this will happen post-Christmas. • Alan confirmed that the Health and Wellbeing Summit on 26th October is now fully booked, there will be good representation from the statutory, community and voluntary sectors. This is a 1/2 day conference and there will be afternoon breakout sessions. The 4 themes of the conference will be, (1) Community & Young People, (2) Older People, (3) Mental Health & Wellbeing and (4) Physical Activity. • Alan said that Rosemarie presented the Social Supermarket Pilot results to the Community Planning Partnership and the feedback was extremely positive. • Ali reiterated the need for more Independent Members in some of the DEA Forums and that Councillors have a responsibility to put names forward. • Ali also highlighted the impact that the funding cuts are having on projects and that there is ongoing collaboration with partners to focus on how to help deliver. • Nicholas confirmed that CDRCN are working hard on PeacePlus Partnership bids for next year. 	<p>SB</p> <p>AB</p> <p>ARobb</p> <p>NMcC</p>
7.	AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All business was discussed and noted through the other items on the agenda. 	
8.	Date of Next Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday 15th November 2023 at 2.00pm 	All

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Action Sheet of Emergency Community Coordination Hub (CCH) Meeting

Thursday 2 November 2023 at 2pm via Teams

In attendance: Chair: Ali Robb (Assistant Director Community Development)

Alan Beggs (Head of Evidence, Research and Community Planning)
Liam Devine (Clanrye Group)
Ray Hall (Resilience Manager Southern Area)
Raymond Jackson (Confederation of Community Groups and Strategic Stakeholder Forum)
Lea Karczewska (Red Cross)
Aidan McCabe (SHSCT)
Justyna McCabe (Projects Co-Ordinator Diversity and Inclusion)
Julie McCann (Head of Community Services, Facilities and Events)
Nicholas McCrickard (CDRCN and Strategic Stakeholder Forum)
Joanne McKenna (Red Cross)
Gareth Morgan (NIHE)
Sinead Murphy (Assistant Director Environment)
Rosemary McDonnell (Community Advice Newry, Mourne & Down and Strategic Stakeholder Forum)
Judith Poucher (Clanrye Group)
Aisling Rennick (DEAs)

Apologies: Damien Brannigan (Engagement)
Martina Flynn (PCSP)
Laura Higgins (Admin Assistant AHC)
Lynda Vladeanu (SEHSCT)

	Agenda Item	Discussion and Action Agreed	Raised by/ Referred to
1.	Welcome and Apologies	Everyone was welcomed to the meeting at short notice and apologies noted.	All
2.	Flooding	<p>Ali advised that the purpose of the meeting was to pull together the partners plus the Red Cross, Clanrye and NIHE to identify issues connected to flooding across the District and possible sources of support. She provided a brief overview of the current position and response. Impact greatest in relation to business premises but number of residential properties affected.</p> <p>Key discussion points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCG – limited community/voluntary scope for funding – potentially credit union or Hardship funding • Community Advice – limited number of queries, generally around sandbags, skips, floodline number as opposed to financial aid. Sinead agreed to flag Council's post in relation to SEFA funding to Advice NMD in order that it could be shared with its contact organisations • NIHE tenants not really impacted by current crisis. Awareness of a case regarding an offer of accommodation outside the District, but lack of NIHE accommodation in the Newry area was the problem • Red Cross (Joanne) – very detailed briefing provided on responding to emergency situations particularly around the need for a people centred and needs led approach. Recommended contact be made with Debbie Coffield in Eglinton and Denise McDonald in DCSDC to share their experience regarding an emergency response to flooding. Advised not to rush into crisis centres, everyone was impacted differently and had different needs and it was necessary to help navigate them through this. What was important was to initially reach out, particularly to marginalised or vulnerable people, establish 	<p>SM</p> <p>AR</p>

		<p>the issues and then build any support centres around this. Emphasis on providing a safe, warm, confidential space for people to talk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDRCN – financial assistance very limited, may be able to stretch Hardship Fund but would need DfC permission and would need to be clear on the terms. Mourne Rescue were available for support and had offered a vehicle to do a run to Killowen (or other areas) if required • Red Cross (Lea) – have volunteers who can go into communities but need to be clear on the areas and properties impacted. Main areas potentially Camlough, Killowen, Newcastle and Jonesborough but more clarity on this could be provided by SHEP and Sinead. To email Ali a few bullet points of the assistance which could be provided by the Red Cross • Southern Resilience – huge amount of damage caused, and strong co-ordination required. Insurance advice may be needed. Shared the Derry Model in respect of their response and Crisis Centre and emphasised the need for good communications – via Facebook, leaflet drops etc • SHSCT – shared detail of over 65s single point of contact service and to send on details of this together with Ethnic Support Service. A similar model is available from SEHSCT. Particularly if people were displaced it would enable them to access Trust services via a single point of contact • Clanrye – have a bank of volunteers but would require further information on the areas and details to assess how best they could help <p>Resume of discussion:</p> <p>Business seems to be most impacted and specialist support will be required there eg rate relief.</p> <p>In terms of the community, it was important to identify vulnerable areas and target for immediate support – are immediate ways to help eg. volunteers (Clanrye and Red Cross), skips, SEFA funding, signposting to support services</p> <p>Drop-in centres could be quickly established at a local level to provide a safe space and identify need</p>	<p>LK</p> <p>AMcC</p>
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		<p>Crisis Centres – needed to be people centred and needs led – and important to have the right agencies/organisations round the table.</p> <p>Ali thanked everyone for their time and contribution and to take discussions back to the next Emergency Planning and Flood Recovery Meetings.</p>	AR
3.	AOB	None	
4.	Date of next Meeting	Next scheduled CCH Meeting – 15 November 2023	

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	20 November 2023
Subject:	Service Level Agreement with the Education Authority
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Alison Robb, Assistant Director Community Development
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Alan Beggs, Head of Evidence and Research

For decision	X	For noting only	
1.0			Purpose and Background
1.1			<p>Youth Voice NMD (Youth Council) exists to provide young people in Newry, Mourne and Down ("NMD") District with the opportunity to engage with local decision making and increase levels of civic participation amongst young people. It was established in 2021 and replaced the previous Youth Councils as a single structure across the entire NMD area.</p> <p>At the Active and Healthy Communities ("AHC") Committee held on 16th August 2021 it was agreed that:</p> <p>"The Council endorse the new Youth Voice initiative and seek to provide support and assist to them with their goal of engaging with local decision makers around issues of importance to them".</p> <p>It was further recommended that the Community Planning team continue to work with the Education Authority ("EA") to consider any requirement for financial assistance for the Youth Voice initiative.</p>
1.2			<p>In November 2022 the AHC Committee agreed to provide EA with £5,000 from the Community Planning budget in order to facilitate the development of Youth Voice, support their social action project delivery and enable them to engage further with young people across the District. A Service Level Agreement was drawn up between NMDDC and EA to the value of £5,000.</p>
1.3			<p>Using the money awarded through the SLA, NMD Youth Council (Youth Voice) hosted a Youth Conference for the young people of the district on Tuesday 21st March 2023 in the Burrendale Hotel, Newcastle. The conference was planned, organised and run by young people from the Youth Council and attended by their peers from youth organisations across the District.</p> <p>The conference focused on their 3 themes for this year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education & Life Skills • Mental Health & Isolation • Environment <p>108 young people from across the District attended and engaged in a number of Workshop which were led by the young people supported by statutory or community partners.</p> <p>Full details of the event, including the key feedback from the young people, is attached as Appendix 1.</p>

2.0	Key issues
2.1	<p>The Youth Voice Project Board have requested that the SLA is provided multi-annually (depending on budgets), allowing the Youth Council to deliver an annual flagship event such as a conference, award ceremony or other event as co-designed by the young people. This event will enable them to engage with their peers around the Youth Council's key identified priorities.</p> <p>These priorities will align closely to the District's Community Planning Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All people in Newry, Mourne and Down get a good start in life and fulfil their lifelong potential. - All people in Newry, Mourne and Down enjoy good health and wellbeing. - All people in Newry, Mourne and Down benefit from prosperous communities. - All people in Newry, Mourne and Down benefit from a clean, quality and sustainable environment. - All people in Newry, Mourne and Down live in respectful safe and vibrant communities.
2.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The financial assistance provided will be used to facilitate the groups project development work and allow them to engage widely with young people across the District. • Youth Voice is overseen by a Project Board which is made up of Officer representation from across Council departments as well as statutory and community voluntary sector partners. • Youth Voice provides a quarterly scorecard to the Community Planning Partnership which highlights the activities they have undertaken and the outcomes they have achieved. • Youth Voice will continue to assist Council in fulfilling its statutory and legislative requirement to enable young people to have a say in the development of services and policies that affect their lives, as set out in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 ○ Statutory Guidance for Community Planning 2015 ○ Children's Services Co-Operation Act (NI) 2015 ○ United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child – Article 12 ○ Priorities for Youth (2013)
3.0	Recommendation:
3.1	To issue a Service Level Agreement (multi-annual depending on budgets) through the Council's Grants and Funding Unit, verified in line with Council procedures.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	Revenue/Payroll: Funding will be allocated from internal Council Budget and SLA administered by Council's Programmes Unit. Budget of £5,000 allocated and cost code provided.
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input type="checkbox"/></p>

5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input checked="" 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: Youth Council Conference Report 2023
8.0	Background Documents
	N/A



2023 Conference Report

**Burrendale Hotel
Newcastle
21st March 2023**



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Introduction

Newry, Mourne & Down Youth Council hosted a Youth Conference for the young people of the district on Tuesday 21st March 2023 in the Burrendale Hotel, Newcastle. The conference was planned, organised and run by young people from the Youth Council for young people engaging in Youth groups across the district of Newry, Mourne & Down.

The Newry, Mourne & Down Youth Council are a consultative group under the Northern Ireland structure of Youth Voice which gives young people the opportunity to engage with decision makers and have a say on local issues. This group has been set up in partnership with Newry, Mourne & Down District Council and the group work very closely with the District Council as the representative voice of young people for this district. This conference was kindly sponsored by the Newry, Mourne & Down District Council as part of our partnership work that we embark on over the course of the year.

This year the Youth Council choose to focus on 3 themes:

Education & Life Skills

Mental Health & Isolation

Environment

The Outcomes for the conference were:

- Having their voices heard and listened to
- Collaborating on themes and topic that are important to them
- Engaging with stakeholders and interested groups
- Having an opportunity to showcase their creativity
- Gain confidence in their own ability to carry out a project from its inception to final product
- Gain experience in public speaking and market research



Education & Life Skills Workshop

What happens after we leave school? How do I pay taxes? How do I even boil an egg?

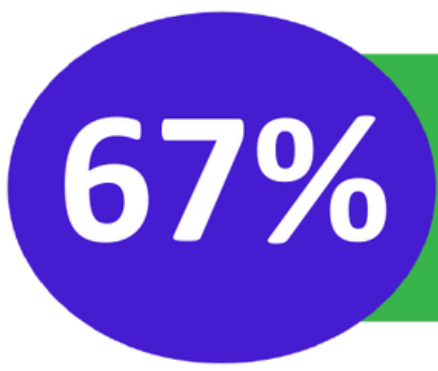
The life skills team have targeted this aspect of young people's lives as they feel it is something that is missing from our education system. During their workshop they taught young people some valuable life skills that can be easily taught to others such as their own family and friendship groups.

The Mourne First Responders delivered a workshop on lifesaving first aid teaching young people the skills they may need on a night out in order to keep themselves and others safe. They were taught skills such as the recovery position and how to treat a person going into cardiac arrest.

The Police Service Northern Ireland delivered a workshop on road safety supporting young people who are beginning to learn to drive, how to keep themselves safe and respecting our roads. PSNI also presented on speeding while driving and drink driving stressing the dangers this puts the driver, passengers and other road users in along with the repercussions of their actions.

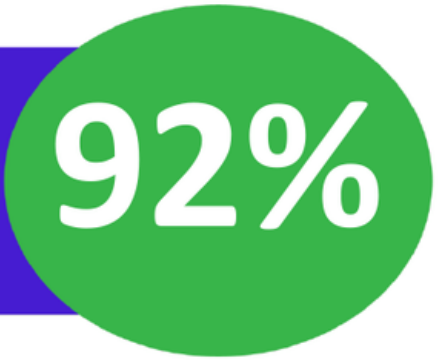


Education & Life Skills Feedback



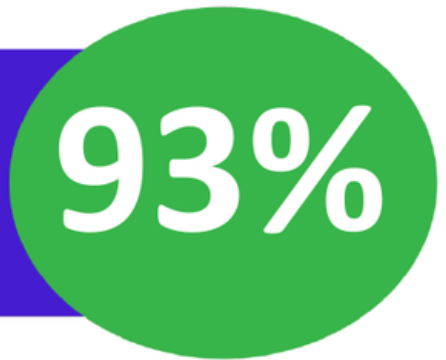
The majority of participants felt unsure about administering First Aid to a friend on a night out before partaking in the workshop.

The majority of participants felt fairly comfortable about administering First Aid to a friend on a night out after partaking in the workshop.



All participants felt completely uncomfortable with getting a lift from someone they know had consumed alcohol.

The majority of participants felt completely happy that their level of awareness of the dangers of drink driving had increased after partaking in the workshop.



Success Story

One participant reported back that after the workshop on an outing to Belfast they met a person who was having complications and they were able to put them into the recovery position while awaiting the arrival of paramedics



Education & Life Skills Case Study



The conference was an opportunity for our youth council to show how they could and would oversee an ambitious series of workshops. I was in the life skills group and thus my role was to help shepherd my particular group through the programme and make sure that everything 'went off without a hitch'.

I was very excited to plan this conference however I was also quite anxious on how everything would turn out as even the best laid plans can fall to ruin.

Some of the main positives were the event management from all the youth councillors, the overall buzz was very positive; the food at the end was nice however the menu was quite limited. The music played was too old and did not cater to the young crowd in attendance, more contemporary pieces of music would have been ideal. Communication between the guitar player and the person in charge of the music was lacking. Everything else went fine although a few young people showed poor behaviour and perhaps too many young people were invited to manage the level of behaviour.

I learned what it takes to run an event of this size and learned to rely on and trust my fellow youth councillors as well as how to act under pressure.

If I was to be part of running an event like this again I would have more of an emphasis on group organisation and increase communication. More time to prepare would also help to enhance a conference like this to increase the outcomes for young people attending.

Odhrán Farrell

Odhrán Farrell

Youth Councillor Newry Mourne & Down Youth Council

Mental Health & Isolation Workshop

Poor Mental Health is an important topic for Children & Young People particularly after the recent COVID pandemic and the strain that has been put on their emotional health and wellbeing.

The Mental Health team designed a workshop to identify the key causes of poor Mental Health for young people and how together we can build resilience and take better care of ourselves. They also want to see how they can influence decision makers to put in place better support for children and young people.

The workshop consisted of some yoga to help the young people unwind and learn useful techniques on dealing with stress especially coming into exam season. They learned some helpful breathing exercises and some simple meditation that they could do anywhere and anytime.

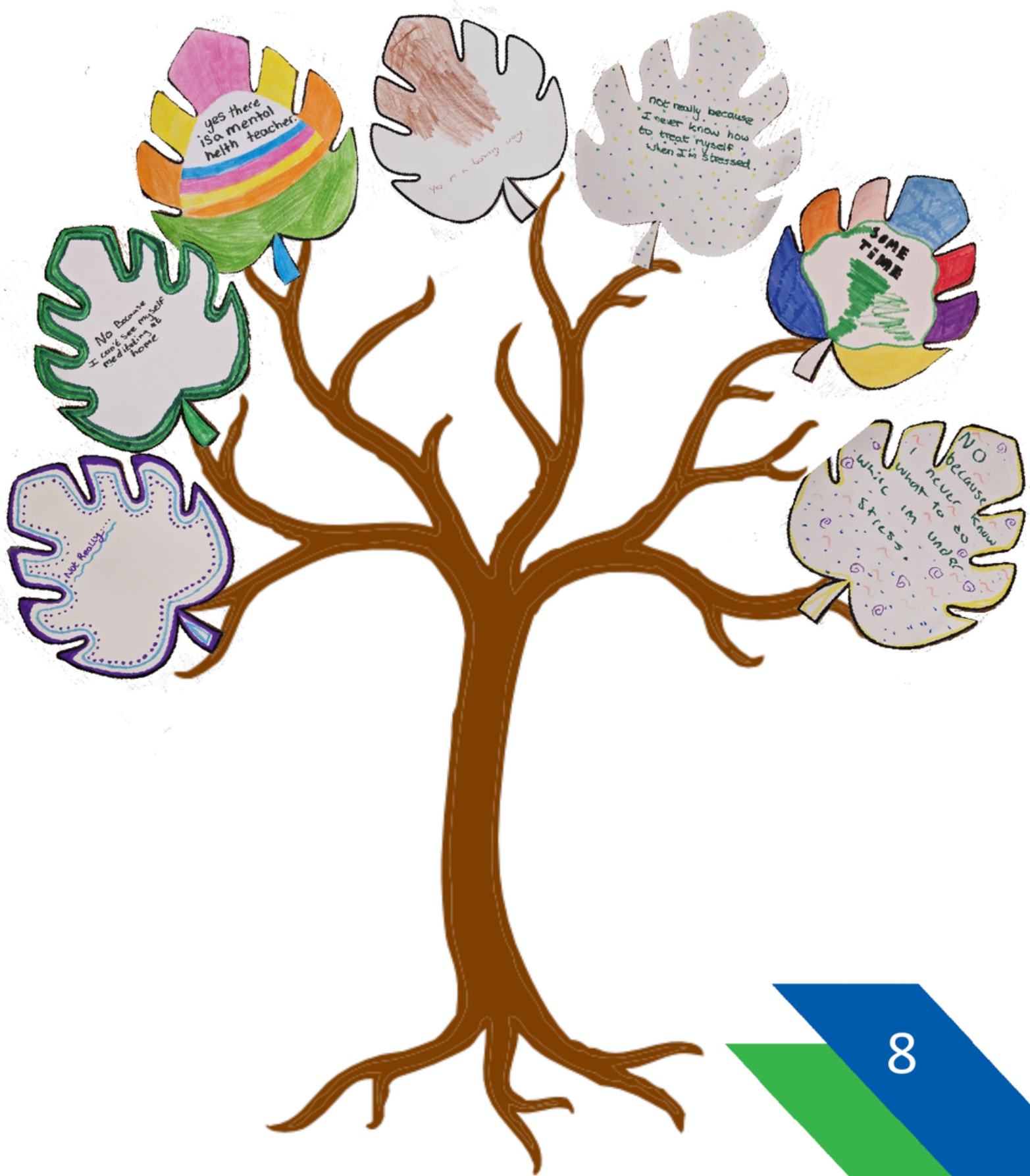
The Education Authority FLARE team (Facilitate Life and Resilience Education) held a pop up during the workshop on the services they provide using a Youth Work model and how they can support young people to improve their emotional health and wellbeing.

CYPSP (Children & Young People Strategic Partnership) also held a pop up during the workshop to promote their services including their very useful and helpful website the Wellness Web which offers informative and practical support for children and young people on how to improve their emotional health and wellbeing.



Mental Health & Isolation Feedback

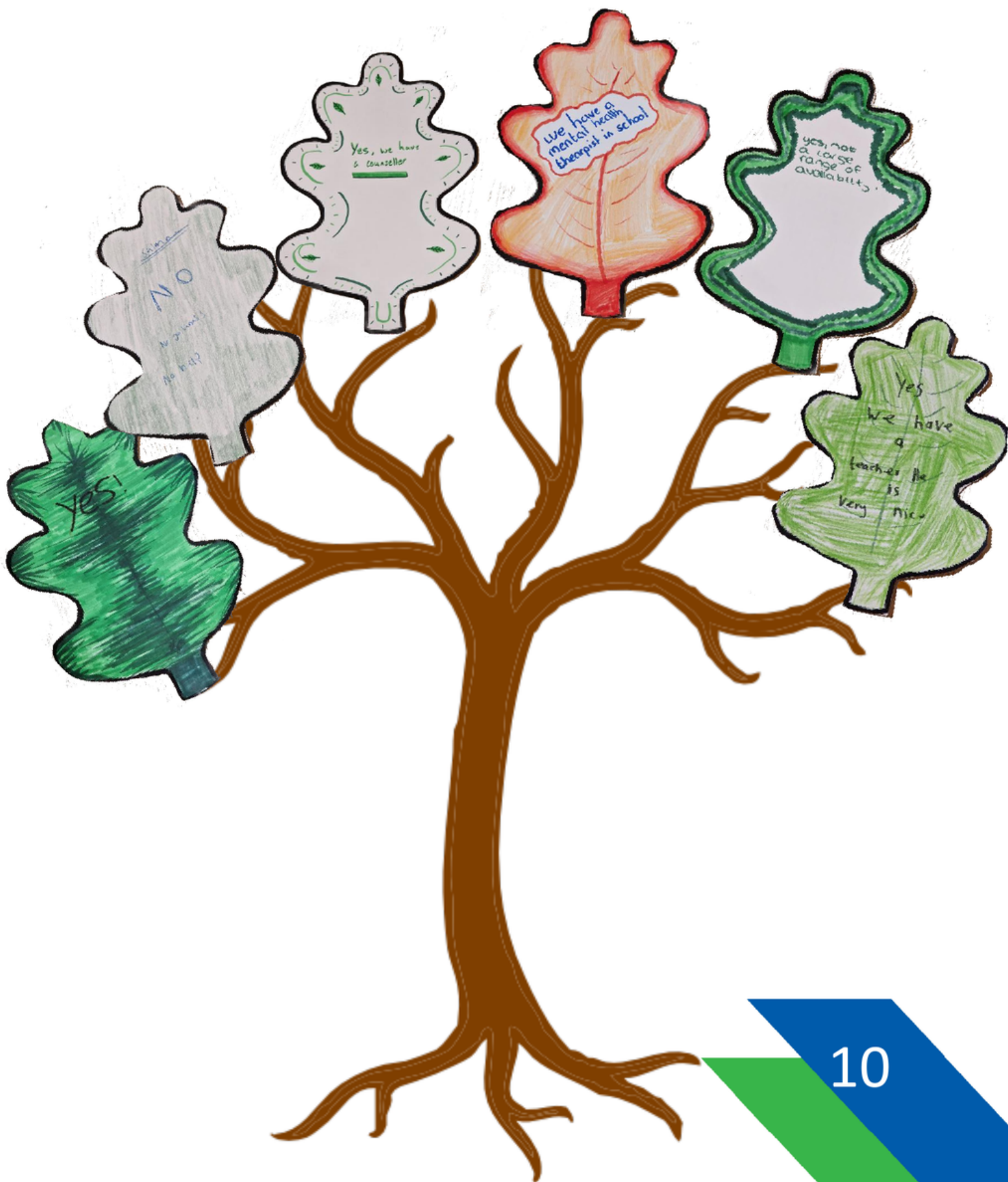
Do you feel educated on how to deal with stress?



Could schools do more to support you in your mental health?



Do you have access to mental health support at school?



Mental Health & Isolation Case Study



The conference consisted of three different workshops that we had to create ourselves; one was life skills, second was environment and third was mental health. The conference was proposed to reach young people from across Newry, Mourne and Down to inform and educate them on these topics. The workshop I was involved in was the mental health group and my role was planning and on the day, I was monitoring the groups and helping them to complete the activities (yoga and art which on the leaves had questions for a survey we want to create and the people attending had to draw and answered them then attach it to the tree) and getting feedback from the group. I wanted people to come away from the event educated that if they need help they know who they can turn to and to educate them on different types of mental health issues.

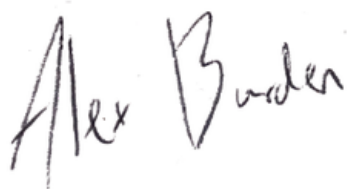
When planning the conference, I was pretty confident that we had everything under control and knew what activities to make it fun and interesting from the youth attending and I was confident in my abilities and my role to talk and get feedback. I was happy that we had to work in teams because if we had to do it alone it would have taken a lot of confidence to do so and working in a team made the whole conference less stressful. It felt scary knowing the responsibility we had to educate the right thing to everyone but I believe everything came off as good so we were satisfied.

Some things didn't go to plan such as the other workshops music was playing over the speakers throughout the entire room and it disrupted, they yoga which was meant to be in a quiet setting but after a while we got that resolved. Good things happened with the art, I think everyone enjoyed it and we got loads of feedback because of our questions that were on the leaves. The concept of that was fun and the pop-up stand was great because it had all the information that we needed to give out.

The things that went well, went well because everyone was working together and communicating with each other and had everything planned out perfectly so that on the day it went smoothly and most of it did. The activities went well because of all the planning beforehand when explaining everything properly to the people attending so they understand what to do. I don't think the meal went the best but only a few people had problems with the food, everyone else loved it and dessert was amazing.

I learnt a lot from this experience like how to educate people about the problems that occur around them and I learnt and developed my communication and confidence skills during this conference. If I could have made the experience better for everyone, I'd have each group in a room of their own so it's a lot quieter and everyone can hear the people speaking better which would have been less stressful.

If this all happened again, I would try work on confidence skills a lot, I was already confident enough that I wasn't nervous, but maybe next time I will be able to have even more confidence to work on my communication skills with the other people there and seem more friendly. Next time I'd also see if putting questions that you can draw your feelings too would be interesting and have a different concept like maybe instead of leaves on a tree, have everyone draw something and put it all together as one large drawing to educate people on mental health, and also try a different type of yoga instead of sound, which was amazing, perhaps laughing yoga would be interesting. Other than that it was a great learning experience that will help enhance future workshops and perhaps help me in my future career.



Alex Burden

Youth Councillor Newry Mourne & Down Youth Council

Environment Workshop

The environment in our community is a growing concern among children and young people who can sometimes feel helpless in trying to stop the decline in our environment.

The environmental team designed a workshop that would challenge young people with an interactive debate that would really test their knowledge on all things environmental and give them a better understanding and insight into how our environment can be protected. By making a small change in our lives can have a big impact in the world we live in.

The workshop consisted of a Kahoot quiz that enabled young people to measure their carbon footprint and how they are affecting the environment in their daily lives and to gain a better understanding of how they can improve the environment by making small changes in their lives and reduce their carbon footprint.

The workshop also consisted of a walking line debate which enabled the young people in attendance to think about factors that are affecting the environment such as transportation and the release of carbon emissions into the earth's

atmosphere, deforestation and the impact of industrial meat on climate change. They also talked about the use of more efficient sources of energy that go into our homes and businesses such as wind and solar power.



Environment Feedback



Carbon Footprint Results

71.43% of the results from individual participants whom took part in the workshop show that their footprint is lower than the UK average for 2023 which is 9,300Kg however this reduces to 50% when compared to the world average of 6,300Kg according to the World Wildlife Fund.

Most of these scores can be attributed to four factors

<p>HOME Our energy sources and wasteful use of energy</p>	<p>FOOD The food we eat on a weekly basis and where it comes from</p>	<p>TRAVEL Our modes of transportation and the amount of times we travel</p>	<p>STUFF The items we buy such as electronics and how often we replace them</p>
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Ideas that could improve your Carbon Footprint

Environment Case Study



The conference happened on 21st March where we welcomed young people from different areas and groups across Newry, Mourne & Down. The environment workshop was about young people views around issues we face with the change in our environment. It was my role to help set up for the workshop and during the workshop I had to try and keep everyone entertained, engaged and focused on the task.

I hoped that the event might help educate young people on the issues facing our planet due to climate change and the ever growing impact we are having on it.

During planning it was quite stressful sometimes because guest speakers we had planned cancelled on us and there was not enough time to get another guest speaker to stand in however we remained hopeful that our workshop would remain successful and we took the decision to use our own knowledge and deliver the workshop ourselves. Our team all helped each other and it was easy to share new ideas which added to the workshop I thought. The responsibility of delivering the workshop was great because we knew we had full control and we could ensure that the important messages around the environment were given.

At the start of the planning process everything was going wrong as we could not secure an expert in the environment to deliver the key messages we wanted to share but despite this our team worked well together and we were able to overcome this and deliver a great workshop.

From this experience I learned that teamwork is very important and you just have to try and keep calm under pressure. If we had of got a guest speaker who was an expert in the environment I think the workshop could have been more successful.

I need to develop on public speaking and interacting more. If we were to do a conference again I would work more on the planning and also work on my own development to be more interactive with my team and with the young people attending.



Ruby Campbell

Youth Councillor Newry, Mourne & Down Youth Council

Evaluation

Each of the three sub-groups in Education & Life Skills, Mental Health & Isolation and Environment reflected on their experience of planning, organising and delivering a conference of this size for other young people with their feedback noted below.

Positives	Negatives	Feelings	Future
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The wristbands worked well; • Most of the group said they enjoyed the meditation; • Talking to people and getting feedback on their views and overall experience of our workshop; • Getting the chance to inform people about the environment; • First aid was very interactive; • Youth Council participation; • Youth Council communication; • Overall experience was enjoyable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker above where we did the meditation made it difficult to focus; • A few members of the group were disruptive during one of the meditations; • We felt as though we needed more space and equipment; • It felt crowded and could become rowdy; • Merchandise distribution issues; • Tech problems with laptop; • Problematic wristband distribution to split into groups. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stressful setting up in a short space of time, which probably contributed to our nerves; • Stressful trying to navigate where and how to lay-out/set-up in the room; • The number of people in the group seemed a bit overwhelming; • We are proud of how we worked together on the night; • We felt nervous for the event; • We were worried about tech problems; • Nervous about speaking in front of so many people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set some ground rules if we did a meditation session again and make sure the area for meditation is more separate and quiet; • We could have separated the groups and made each activity longer; • Hand out Youth Council leaflets in case anyone wanted to join; • Report feedback better; • Interacted with the groups more; • Better accounting for group size; • More communication with youth work staff.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the 108 young people who attended on the night from the nine groups across the district namely:

- Horizons, Newcastle
- Horizons, Newry
- Cloughreagh Community Group
- Newry Youth Forum
- Kingdom Youth Club
- YMCA Newcastle
- Mourne Youth Forum
- Ballymote Youth Groups

We would also like to thank our funder for this event Newry, Mourne & Down District Council along with all those who helped make the conference a huge success namely:

- Youth Councillors Newry, Mourne & Down Youth Council
- Education Authority Staff
- Newry, Mourne & Down District Council Staff
- EA FLARE Team
- Mourne First Responders
- PSNI Community Policing Team
- Willowtree Yoga
- CYPSP





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 Newry, Mourne & Down Youth Council

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Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	20 November 2023
Subject:	All Island Community Safety Network (NMD PCSP)
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Alison Robb, Assistant Director for Community Engagement
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Martina Flynn, Safer Communities & Good Relations Manager Damien Brannigan, Head of Engagement

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

For decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	For noting only	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	<p>Purpose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To note the report. <p>Background</p> <p>Since late 2021 Newry, Mourne & Down Policing & Community Safety Partnership (NMD PCSP) has been working with Longford County Council to support the development of the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) in that area – the CSP in Longford is one of three pilot Community Safety Partnerships in the Republic of Ireland (RoI), with the two other Partnerships in Waterford and North Inner-City Dublin.</p> <p>These local Community Safety Partnerships will build on and replace the existing Joint Policing Committees (JPCs) in the RoI and will provide a forum for agencies and local community representatives to work together to address local community safety concerns. In developing the CSPs significant consideration has been given to the role – and success – of the Policing & Community Safety Partnerships in Northern Ireland.</p> <p>In November 2022, the NMD PCSP and cross-border partners came together to organise the first All Island Community Safety Conference – Beyond Borders – which was held in the Carrickdale Hotel, Dundalk. Over 300 people attended and the event created many opportunities for networking and collaborative working across the community safety sector.</p> <p>Since then, NMD PCSP has continued to work with cross-border partners and recently joined with Longford County Council and Drogheda Implementation Board to submit an application to the Department of Justice (Republic Of Ireland) Community Safety Innovation Fund – €30,000 has subsequently been awarded to establish an All Island Community Safety Network (including a Community Safety Practitioner Network).</p> <p>This Network will create opportunities to share ideas, good practice and develop projects around community safety, community / police engagement and also provide networking opportunities across all bodies, North & South. The Network will build on the success of the 2022 Beyond Borders Conference and will create further opportunities for the development of practitioner relationships and shared learning opportunities.</p>

2.0	Key issues
2.1	<p>Longford County Council agreed to be the Lead Partner for this funding application so the Letter of Offer is with them and the Department of Justice (RoI) – NMD PCSP will not receive any additional funding in respect of this application / initiative. Funding has been awarded to support a series of cross-border community safety events over the next two years. Each event will have a different theme (e.g., Domestic Violence, Road Safety) with guest speakers, workshops and opportunities for best practice / resource sharing. The first event is planned for March 2024.</p> <p>The Network provides NMD PCSP with an excellent platform to further raise awareness of its work as well as creating opportunities for new partner / programme development. Crime does not know borders and so initiatives aimed at keeping communities safe – and reducing crime and the fear of crime – across the island of Ireland are particularly valuable.</p> <p>The project has the full support of the Department of Justice (NI), the NI Policing Board, the Police Service of NI (PSNI), An Garda Siochana and other stakeholders.</p>
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	<p>That the Committee:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the report.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	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>

	<i>Rationale:</i>
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: Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	Appendices
7.1	None.
8.0	Background Documents
8.1	None.