

June 10th, 2025

Notice Of Meeting

You are requested to attend the meeting to be held on **Monday, 16th June 2025** at **6:00 pm** in **Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre.**

Committee Membership 2025-26

Councillor C Bowsie **Chairperson**

Councillor M Gibbons **Deputy Chairperson**

Councillor J Brennan

Councillor L Devlin

Councillor D Finn

Councillor C Galbraith

Councillor R Howell

Councillor J Jackson

Councillor D Lee-Surginor

Councillor O Magennis

Councillor A Mathers

Councillor L McEvoy

Councillor D Murphy

Councillor K Murphy

Councillor J Truesdale

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 19 May 2025

For Information

 *Action Sheet from AHC Committee Meeting 19 May 25.pdf*

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4.0 To agree dates and times for Active & Healthy Communities Committee Meetings 2025/26

For Approval

 *ACTIVE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS .pdf*

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5.0 Active and Healthy Communities Directorate Business Plan

For Decision

 *AHC Directorate Business Plan.pdf*

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 *Appx 1 - AHC Directorate Annual Assessment of Business Plan 2024-25.pdf*

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 *Appx 2 - AHC Directorate Business Plan 2025-26.pdf*

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6.0 DEA Forum Update Report

For Decision

 *AHC DEA Report June 2025.pdf*

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 *Action Sheet Slieve Gullion DEA Forum meeting 13 May 2025.pdf*

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 *Action Sheet Crotlieve DEA Forum Meeting 13 May 2025.pdf*

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 *Action Sheet Mourne DEA Forum Meeting 20 May 2025.pdf*

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7.0 Council of Sanctuary

For Decision

 *Council of Sanctuary Report June 2025.pdf*

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8.0 Event Support

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.

 **Event Support June AHC 2025.pdf**

Not included

9.0 Community Support Programme

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 Community Support Programme SLA Report June 2025.pdf**

Not included

10.0 Funded Programme Delivery

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.

 **Funded Programme Delivery.pdf**

Not included

For Noting

11.0 Summer Activity Programme

For Information

 **Summer Activity Programme.pdf**

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 **Appx 1 - 2025 Summer Programme.pdf**

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12.0 Policing & Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) and Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership (NRP) Report

For Information

 **PCSP NR Partnership Report.pdf**

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 **Appx 1 - Minutes of Newry NRP Meeting held 26 March 2025.pdf**

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 **Appx 2 - PCSP Policing Committee Minutes 25 March 2025.pdf**

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Invitees

Cllr Terry Andrews
.....
Cllr Callum Bowsie
.....
Fionnuala Branagh
.....
Cllr Jim Brennan
.....
Lorraine/Emma Burns/McParland
.....
Cllr Pete Byrne
.....
Cllr Philip Campbell
.....
Cllr William Clarke
.....
Cllr Laura Devlin
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Cllr Cadogan Enright
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Cllr Killian Feehan
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Cllr Doire Finn
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Cllr Conor Galbraith
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Sinead Geary
.....
Cllr Mark Gibbons
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Cllr Oonagh Hanlon
.....
Cllr Glyn Hanna
.....
Cllr Valerie Harte
.....
Mr Conor Haughey
.....
Cllr Martin Hearty
.....
Cllr Roisin Howell
.....
Cllr Tierna Howie
.....
Cllr Jonathan Jackson
.....
Cllr Geraldine Kearns
.....
Miss Veronica Keegan
.....
Mrs Josephine Kelly
.....
Mrs Sheila Kieran
.....
Cllr Cathal King
.....
Cllr Mickey Larkin
.....
Cllr David Lee-Surginor
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Cllr Alan Lewis
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Cllr Oonagh Magennis
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Mr Conor Mallon
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Cllr Aidan Mathers
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Cllr Declan McAteer
.....
Cllr Leeanne McEvoy
.....
Maureen/Joanne Morgan/Johnston
.....
Cllr Kate Murphy
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Cllr Selina Murphy
.....
Cllr Declan Murphy
.....
Sinead Murphy
.....
Ms Patricia Murtagh
.....

Cllr Siobhan O'Hare
.....
Mr Andy Patterson
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Cllr Áine Quinn
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Cllr Henry Reilly
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Cllr Michael Rice
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Ms Alison Robb
.....
Cllr Michael Ruane
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Mr Gary Scott
.....
Cllr Gareth Sharvin
.....
Conor Smyth
.....
Donna Starkey
.....
Cllr David Taylor
.....
Cllr Jarlath Tinnelly
.....
Cllr Jill Truesdale
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Mrs Marie Ward
.....
Cllr Helena Young
.....

ACTIONS ARISING FROM ACTIVE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING – 19 MAY 2025

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
AHC/040/2025	Action sheet of AHC Committee Meeting held on 28 April 2025	Noted	A Patterson	Noted	Y
AHC/041/2025	District Electoral Area (DEA) Forums Update Report	It was agreed to note the report and approve the actions in the action sheets attached for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rowallane DEA Forum Private Meeting held on 24 April 2025 • Slieve Croob DEA Forum Private Meeting held on 29 April 2025 • Newry DEA Forum Private Meeting held on 1 May 2025 	A Robb	Noted and actions being progressed	Y

ITEMS RESTRICTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 1 OF SCHEDULE 6 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (NI) 2014

AHC/042/2025	Funded Programme Delivery	It was agreed to proceed with delivery of the funded programme as detailed within the officer's report, pending receipt of a letter of offer from the Programme Funder.	A Robb	Actioned	Y
AHC/043/2025	Disposal of Assets	It was agreed to approve the disposal of AHC assets as set out within the officer's report.	C Haughey	In progress	Y
AHC/044/2025	Facilities Service Provision	It was agreed to approve the business case and appointment of a suitable supplier to provide the service provision as detailed within the officer's report.	C Haughey	In progress with procurement	Y
AHC/045/2025	Fitness Assets Service Provision	It was agreed to approve the business case and appointment of a suitable supplier to provide the service requirement as detailed within the officer's report.	C Haughey	In progress with procurement	Y
AHC/046/2025	Update Report – Digi-hub Project Bessbrook Community Centre	It was agreed to note the content of the officer's report.	A Robb	Noted	Y
AHC/047/2025	AHC Capital Project Delivery	It was agreed to note the contents of the officer's report.	C Haughey	In progress	Y

ACTIVE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

Date	Time	Location
16 June 2025	6.00pm	Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre
18 August 2025	6.00pm	Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre
15 September 2025	6.00pm	Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre
20 October 2025	6.00pm	Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre
17 November 2025	6.00pm	Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre
15 December 2025	6.00pm	Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre
26 January 2026	6.00pm	Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre
16 February 2026	6.00pm	Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre
16 March 2026	6.00pm	Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre
27 April 2026	6.00pm	Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre
18 May 2026	6.00pm	Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	16 June 2025
Subject:	Directorate Business Plan
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Andy Patterson, Director AHC
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Andy Patterson, Director AHC

For decision	X	For noting only	
1.0	Purpose and Background		
1.1	<p>Directorate Business Plans provide an overview of planned activity for the year ahead, and contribute to the delivery of the Community Plan, Corporate Plan and other key plans and strategies. They form an essential part of the Council's Business Planning and Performance Management Framework, which demonstrates how corporate objectives are cascaded across the organisation and provides assurance that they are being delivered.</p> <p>As Directorate Business Plans are directly aligned to the achievement of the Corporate Plan, they remain fairly high level, and do not necessarily capture the core, business as usual activity that is undertaken by individual departments. Alternatively, they provide an insight into the key, overarching objectives, supporting actions and measures of success for each Directorate in the year ahead, whilst setting the context for the development of departmental Service Plans which are operational in nature.</p>		
2.0	Key issues		
2.1	<p>Assessment of Directorate Business Plans 2024-25</p> <p>In order to improve transparency and accountability, and facilitate a performance led approach to business planning, each Directorate has undertaken an assessment of their Business Plan 2024-25. These assessments provide an overview of the performance of each Directorate and have been used to influence the development of the 2025-26 Business Plans. This exercise is an important part of the Council's statutory responsibility to strengthen the way performance is monitored, reviewed and reported across the organisation.</p> <p>The assessment of the AHC Directorate Business Plan 2024-25 is attached at Appendix 1.</p>		
2.2	<p>Directorate Business Plans 2025-26</p> <p>Directorate Business Plans 2025-26 outline the key objectives, supporting actions and measures of success each Directorate will work towards, which are aligned to the strategic objectives within the Corporate Plan 2024-27. Directorate Business Plans 2025-26 are also now aligned to the new organisational structure following completion of the planning for the future process.</p> <p>The AHC Directorate Business Plan 2025-26 is attached at Appendix 2.</p>		

2.3	It should be noted that further improvements to the business planning process are underway across the Council, particularly in relation to cascading corporate objectives in a meaningful way to employees through the introduction and roll-out of Service Plans and People Perform Grow. This process seeks to improve the use of performance measures at all levels of the Business Planning and Performance Management Framework and create a clear 'line of sight' between the work of individuals, teams and departments, and how they contribute to the achievement of Directorate Business Plans and the Corporate Plan.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	<p>To consider and approve the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of the AHC Directorate Business Plan 2024-25 • AHC Directorate Business Plan 2025-26
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	There are no financial resources implications within this report.
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>
5.3	<p><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p>

	<p><i>Rationale:</i> Consultation not required.</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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	Appendices
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix 1 – Assessment of the AHC Directorate Business Plan 2024-25 • Appendix 2 – AHC Directorate Business Plan 2025-26
8.0	Background Documents
	<p>Directorate Business Plans 2024-25</p> <p>Assessments of Directorate Business Plans 2023-24</p>

Active and Healthy Communities Directorate

Annual Assessment Business Plan 2024-25



Introduction

This report provides an overview of progress in delivering the Active and Healthy Communities Directorate Business Plan 2024-25 across the following service areas:

- **Leisure and Recreation**
- **Safeguarding**
- **Local Parks and Open Spaces**
- **Sports Development**
- **Community Planning**
- **Evidence & Research**
- **Engagement and Community Development**
- **Community Services, Facilities and Community Events**

The delivery of the Active and Healthy Communities Directorate Business Plan 2024-25 supports the achievement of the following corporate objectives, and performance has been tracked using the legend below.




Improve the health and wellbeing of everyone in the District

Empowering communities to play an active part in civic life

Represent the voice of the District with our partners

Deliver sustainable services

Legend

Status	
	Target or objective achieved / on track to be achieved
	Target or objective partially achieved / likely to be achieved / subject to delay
	Target or objective not achieved / unlikely to be achieved

Directorate objectives, supporting actions and measures of success

Key Directorate Objectives / Actions
<p>Healthy Living</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promote increased levels of activity and develop targeted programmes to support improved health and wellbeing outcomes. <p>Community Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create a strong community base to engage, empower and build the capacity of local communities, ensuring their views inform the work of the Council and its partners• Work with partners to lead the implementation of the Community Plan and deliver better outcomes for local people.• Develop a robust and reliable evidence base to underpin and inform future decision-making and policy development processes.

Healthy Living				
OBJECTIVE Promote increased levels of activity and develop targeted programmes to support improved health and wellbeing outcomes	ALIGNMENT WITH CORPORATE PLAN			
	Improve the health and wellbeing of everyone in the District			
AHC1 : Promote increased levels of activity and develop targeted programmes to support improved health and wellbeing outcomes				
Number of attendances at all indoor leisure facilities, including Newry and Downpatrick Leisure Centres	<div>Target</div> <div>Actual</div>	<div>425000</div> <div>334564</div>	<div>850000</div> <div>737439</div>	<div></div> <div>* 1</div>
Notes:	1 Year-end usage and attendance figures in Council's leisure facilities was 903,717 with 737,439 being paid users. Due to Newry pool closure Attendance figures are less			
Number of participants engaged in physical activity programmes and health and wellbeing initiatives	<div>Target</div> <div>Actual</div>	<div>10000</div> <div>9388</div>	<div>20000</div> <div>20421</div>	<div></div> <div>* 1</div>
Notes:	1 Year-end figure includes all health programs and Be Active camps.			
Number of recorded visits at community trails	<div>Target</div> <div>Actual</div>	<div>132500</div> <div>155659</div>	<div>265000</div> <div>196333</div>	<div></div> <div>* 1</div>
Notes:	1 Visitor numbers to community trails have been impacted by weather events, including storms Darragh and Eowyn. One trail remains closed with work ongoing to allow for the site to reopen.			

Customer satisfaction levels at indoor and outdoor leisure facilities	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div>Amber</div> <div>* 1</div>	<div>q4</div> <div>Amber</div> <div>* 2</div>
Notes:	<p>1 Customer satisfaction surveys to be concluded in Q4.</p> <p>2 The customer survey was launched in April 25 with results expected in Q1 2025.</p>		
Review and consolidate existing strategies and action plans into a single overarching 'Health and Wellbeing Strategy'.	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div>Amber</div> <div>* 1</div>	<div>Green</div> <div>* 2</div>
Notes:	<p>1 Work on this project is ongoing and will be finalised in Q4.</p> <p>2 Council's new Sport and Physical Activity Strategy has been adopted and launched for 2025 to 2030.</p>		
Deliver a range of targeted health programs, in collaboration with our Community Planning Partners, to encourage participation in physical activity and to improve health outcomes for all. (CPP)	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div>Green</div> <div>* 1</div>	<div>Green</div> <div>* 2</div>
Notes:	<p>1 There are a number of targeted health programmes ran in collaboration with our Community Planning Partners including PARS, McMillan Move More and Local Voluntary Sports Clubs</p> <p>2 There are a number of targeted health programmes ran in collaboration with our Community Planning Partners including PARS, cancer specific classes across the district and Local Voluntary Sports Clubs</p>		

Increase usage of all indoor and outdoor leisure facilities.		<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div></div> <div>Amber</div> <div>* 1</div>	<div>850000</div> <div>Green</div> <div>* 2</div>
	Notes:	<p>1 Attendances to indoor leisure facilities has increased in both Kilkeel and Downpatrick Leisure Centres but is down overall year-to-date due to the closure of Newry Pool. It is anticipated that attendances in NLC will increase again in Q4 when the centre fully reopens. Usage of community trails has increased to over 15.5k visits year-on-year.</p> <p>2 Year-end usage and attendance figures in Council's leisure facilities was 903,717 with 737,439 being paid users.</p>		
Review outdoor leisure and sports facilities in line with CWB and Council's asset management strategy to maximise participation by community stakeholders Q2-Q4 (CWB)		<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div></div> <div>Amber</div> <div>* 1</div>	<div></div> <div>Green</div> <div>* 2</div>
	Notes:	<p>1 Project to be concluded in Q4.</p> <p>2 A sports facility review was completed on the Council's previous Sports Facility Strategy and recommendations have been established for progression.</p>		
Continue to progress the delivery of key capital projects including: • Newry City Park • Warrenpoint Health and Wellbeing Hub • Newcastle Recreation Facilities • Kilkeel Leisure Centre • Multi Sports Hub • Community Trails • Dunleath Pump Track		<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div></div> <div>Green</div>	<div></div> <div>Green</div> <div>* 1</div>
	Notes:	<p>1 Progress is continuing on key Capital projects with support from Council's Estates and Capital Projects Team.</p>		

Review and implement a preventative maintenance program in indoor leisure facilities to maximize customer usage and increase customer satisfaction, in partnership with Council's Facilities Management and Maintenance team Q2-Q4 (SCC)	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div>Amber</div> <div>* 1</div>	<div>Amber</div> <div>* 2</div>
Notes:	<p>1 Working with S&E to meet statutory compliance through their contracts for electrical and water. For plant maintenance a budget has been agreed through the AHC Committee for the next financial year until S&E have a gas maintenance and servicing contract in place.</p> <p>2 Progress is continuing with S&E/FM&M Team to meet statutory compliance through their contracts for FWT, EL and and legionella, etc. Tenders for pool plant maintenance and fitness equipment have been progressed, which have been tabled at AHC Committee in Q1.</p>		
Support and protect everyone in our District from harm by working in partnership with other bodies, to implement and promote broader prevention measures, thereby continuing to mitigate existing and emerging safeguarding risks, for both Council & Citizens	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div>Implement and promote</div> <div>Green</div> <div>* 1</div>	<div>Green</div> <div>* 2</div>
Notes:	<p>1 ongoing collaboration with partners (including TEO/SBNI/DASV) social media campaigns shared through Coms and Marketing, CSE event, eLearning Safeguarding training reviewed and updated for launch on Skillgate and wider liaison on NMD practice with the executive office.</p> <p>2 Ongoing collaboration with partners (including TEO/SBNI/DASV) social media campaigns shared through Coms and Marketing, CSE event, eLearning Safeguarding training reviewed and updated for launch on Skillgate and wider liaison on NMD practice with the executive office.</p>		

Community Development			
OBJECTIVE Create a strong base to engage, empower and build the capacity of local communities, ensuring their views inform the work of the Council and its partners	ALIGNMENT WITH CORPORATE PLAN		
	Empowering communities to play an active part in civic life		
AHC2 : Create a strong base to engage, empower and build the capacity of local communities, ensuring their views inform the work of the Council and its partners.			
Number of events and capacity building programmes, including attendance levels	<div>Target</div> <div>Actual</div>	<div>1980</div> <div>2875</div> <div>* 1</div>	<div>2000</div> <div>19800</div> <div>* 2</div>
Notes:	1 Youth and older people events and programmes - PCSP 2 As per recorded events / activities noted at CD1		
Number of contacts recorded through the Ethnic Minority Support Centre	<div>Target</div> <div>Actual</div>	<div>1000</div> <div>1253</div>	<div>2000</div> <div>2343</div>
Amount of external funding secured by Council for delivery of AHC programmes.	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div>No target set as new</div> <div>Green</div> <div>* 1</div>	<div>No target set as new measure</div> <div>Green</div> <div>* 2</div>
Notes:	1 PCSP £420,990; Good Relations £202,894; Community Festivals Fund £35,900; AAR £49,200; NR (Downpatrick) £31,208; NR (Newry - Technical Assistance) £77,420; NR (Newry - Community Renewal) £185,741; NR (Newry - Outdoor Activity Project) £71,442; Multiply £100,000; RIF £50,000 2 Additional £27,969 IEO funding for refugee and asylum seekers. UKSPF (Community Transport) £200,000. EVAWG £65,000		
PCSP/Good Relations events delivered and participation levels.	<div>Target</div> <div>Actual</div>	<div>1980</div> <div>2875</div> <div>* 1</div>	<div>>2000</div> <div>9200 (PCSP 7150 & GR 2050)</div>
Notes:	1 Youth and older people events and programmes		

Number of referrals to PCSP Home Secure & Social Alarm Schemes.	<div>Target</div> <div>Actual</div>	<div>115</div> <div>154</div> <div>* 1</div>	<div>230</div> <div>276 Home Secure & 30 Social Alarm</div> <div>* 2</div>
Notes:	<p>1 Actual - 140 Home Secure and 14 Social Alarms</p> <p>2 Total 306 across both Schemes</p>		
Number of cross-community safety events (minimum 2 per annum).	<div>Target</div> <div>Actual</div>	<div>2</div> <div>2</div>	<div>2</div> <div>2</div>
Develop a 'Community Development Strategy' to include the role of DEA Fora, PCSP, Good Relations, Neighborhood Renewal, Community Services, Community Planning, Community Funding, and Consultation/Engagement. (CPP)	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div>By Q4 to develop a</div> <div>Amber</div> <div>* 1</div>	<div>By Q4 to progress</div> <div>Amber</div> <div>* 2</div>
Notes:	<p>1 Draft brief being finalised prior to procurement. Update report provided to AHC Committee 21/10/24</p> <p>2 Terms of reference finalised. Procurement route being determined</p>		
Progress a model for the future delivery of Council's Community Facilities, aligned with CWB and Council's Asset Management Strategy (CWB) (SCC)	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div>By Q4 progress a</div> <div>Amber</div> <div>* 1</div>	<div></div> <div>Amber</div> <div>* 2</div>
Notes:	<p>1 Being undertaken as part of Community Development Strategy. Draft brief being finalised prior to procurement. Update report provided to AHC Committee 21/10/24</p> <p>2 Process has commenced - currently information gathering process and benchmarking against other Councils models</p>		

Development and delivery of the PCSP and Good Relations Action Plans.	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div>Q1-4</div> <div>Green</div> <div>* 1</div>	<div></div> <div>Green</div> <div></div>
Notes:	1 Both Plans delivered in full & targets met		
Proactively and positively engage through the Ethnic Minority Support Center for Downpatrick and Newry. Deliver the Social Inclusion Action Plan.	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div></div> <div>Green</div> <div>* 1</div>	<div></div> <div>Green</div> <div>* 2</div>
Notes:	1 Ongoing engagement with ethnic minority communities, including established communities, asylum seekers and refugees. Social inclusion programmes ongoing across the District 2 Further engagement with ethnic minority communities, including established communities, asylum seekers and refugees through advice and support clinics, integration projects and one-to-one support. Social inclusion programmes delivered across the District		
Progress the development of the All-Island Community Safety Network, with cross-border partners.	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div>Q1-4</div> <div>Green</div> <div>* 1</div>	<div>2 events held</div> <div>Green</div> <div>* 2</div>
Notes:	1 2 cross-border community safety events held 2 Two events held and regular contact maintained with partners		

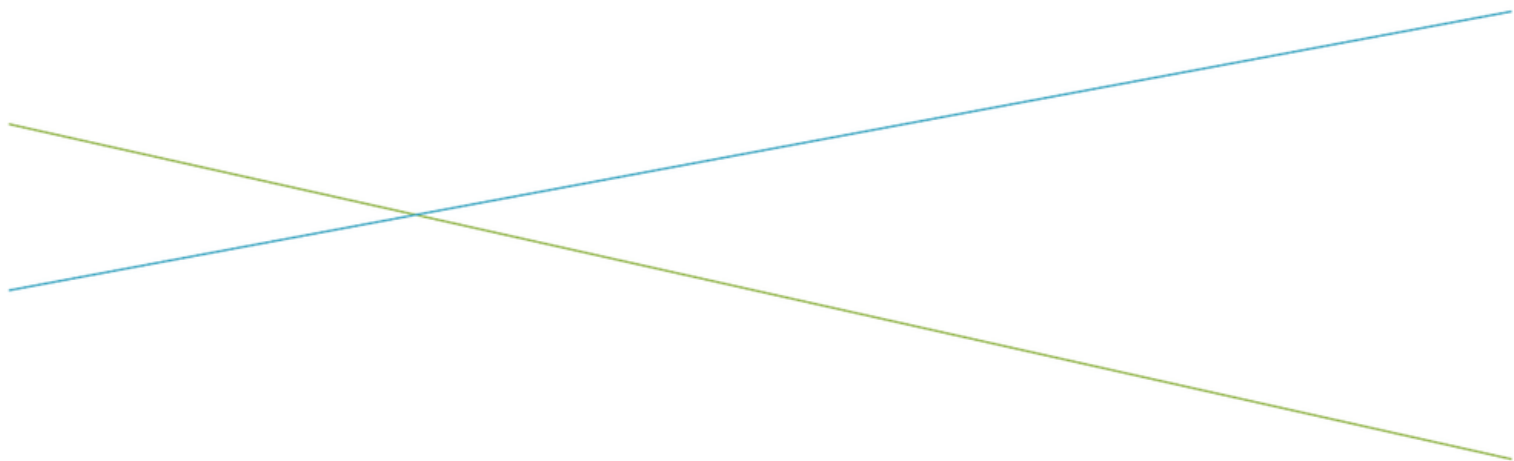
Community Development			
OBJECTIVE Work with partners to lead the implementation of the Community plan and deliver better outcomes for local people	ALIGNMENT WITH CORPORATE PLAN		
	Represent the voice of the District with our partners		
AHC3 : Work with partners to lead the implementation of the Community Plan and deliver better outcomes for local people			
Compliance with the statutory Duty of Community Planning.	<div>Target</div> <div>Actual</div>	<div>Yes</div> <div>Yes</div>	<div>Yes</div> <div>Yes</div>
Number of Community Planning Actions co-designed and delivered.	<div>Target</div> <div>Actual</div>	<div>2</div> <div>2</div> <div>* 1</div>	<div>2</div> <div>2</div>
Notes:		1 H & W summit Housing Needs Action Plan	
Review the Community Plan Document reflecting on existing good partnership working, including the stakeholder forum Q3 (CPP)	<div>Target</div> <div>Actual</div>	<div>Yes</div> <div>Yes</div> <div>* 1</div>	<div>Yes</div> <div>Yes</div> <div>* 2</div>
Notes:		1 Under continuous review 2 Evidenced in Health and Wellbeing Summit and will be further developed through Community Development Strategy	
Review and implement effective coordination between Community Planning, DEA Fora and other existing partnerships Q3 (CWB)	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div></div> <div>Amber</div> <div>* 1</div>	<div>Demonstrable</div> <div>Green</div> <div>* 2</div>
Notes:		1 Ongoing 2 Ongoing examples include TILT, Housing Action Plan, Health & Wellbeing Summit and DEA Workshops	

Co-deliver Community Planning Thematic Workshops in each DEA around the outcomes of the Health and Wellbeing Summit	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div></div> <div>Amber</div> <div>* 1</div>	<div></div> <div>Green</div> <div>* 2</div>
Notes:	<div>1 Progressing</div> <div>2 Rowallane Workshop to be held in June 2025 with rollout to other DEAs thereafter</div>		
Review "Accessible Housing" Action plan, report on progress and identify further steps to address emerging housing issues across the district. (CPP)	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div></div> <div>Green</div> <div>* 1</div>	<div></div> <div>Green</div>
Notes:	<div>1 Published on NMDDC website</div>		

Community Development		
OBJECTIVE Develop a robust and reliable evidence base to inform decision making, policy development and service provision	ALIGNMENT WITH CORPORATE PLAN	
	Deliver sustainable services	
AHC4 : Develop a robust and reliable evidence base to underpin and inform future decision-making and policy development processes		
Work in partnership with the Capital Projects team to update asset mapping, incorporating Partner assets where available. (CWB)	<div>Target</div> <div>Progress</div>	<div></div> <div>Green</div> <div>* 1</div>
Notes:	1 Review of Council assets has taken place with Capital Estates & Projects team to update the GIS base layer. Review ongoing. Continue to work with LPS (NI) to access other public sector data	

Active and Healthy Communities Directorate

Business Plan 2025-26



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

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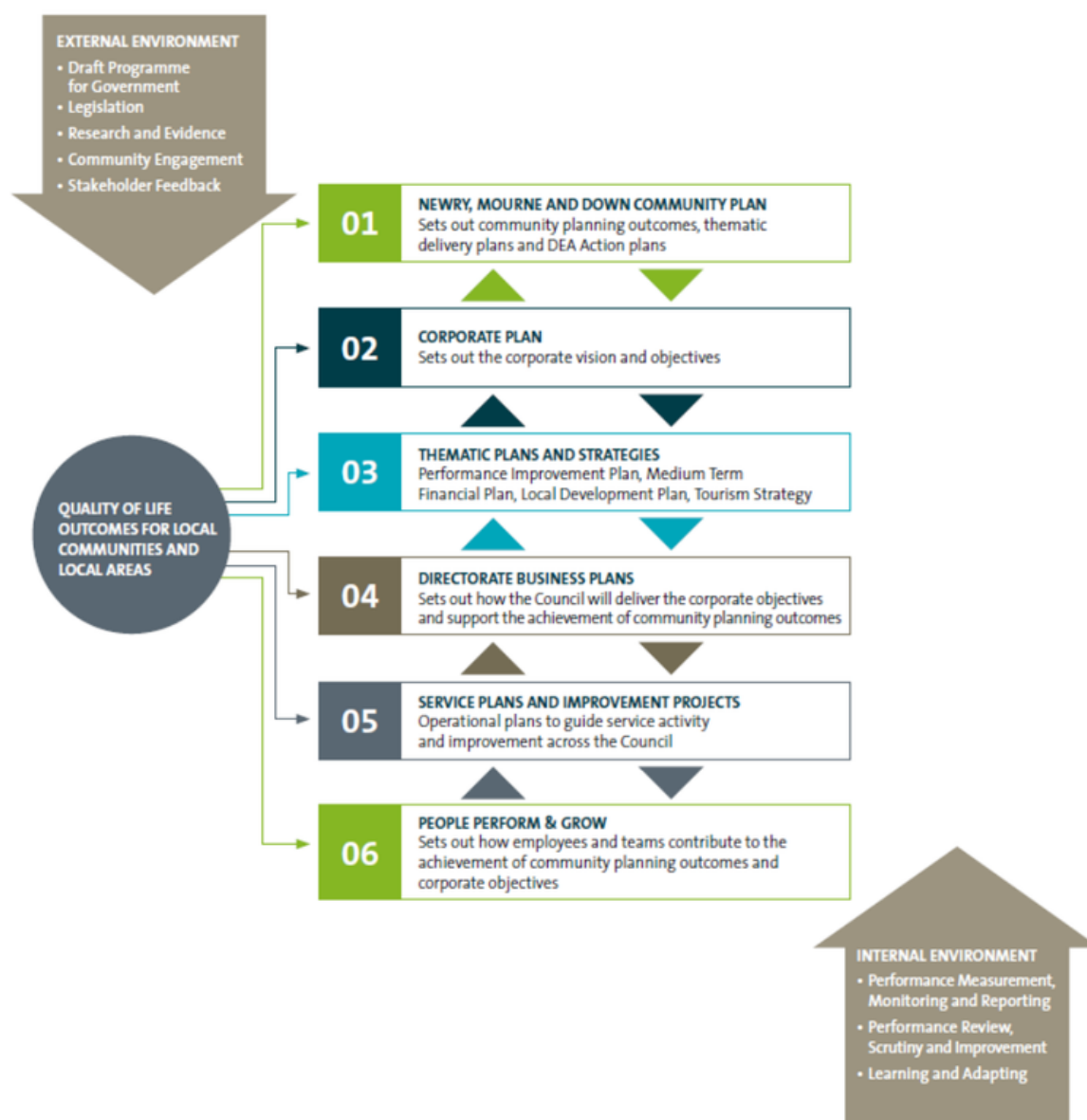
1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The Active and Healthy Communities Directorate (AHC) is responsible for leisure and sporting facilities, health and wellbeing programmes and community engagement structures across the district. The Directorate has overall responsibility for the management of Safety and Good Relations and performs a lead role in promoting Community Planning within the Council and across the district.
- 1.2 The core responsibilities of the Directorate are:
 - **Leisure and Recreation**
 - **Parks and Open Spaces**
 - **Sports Development**
 - **Community Planning**
 - **Evidence & Research**
 - **Engagement and Community Development**
 - **Community Services, Facilities and Events**
 - **Safeguarding**

2.0 Background and Context

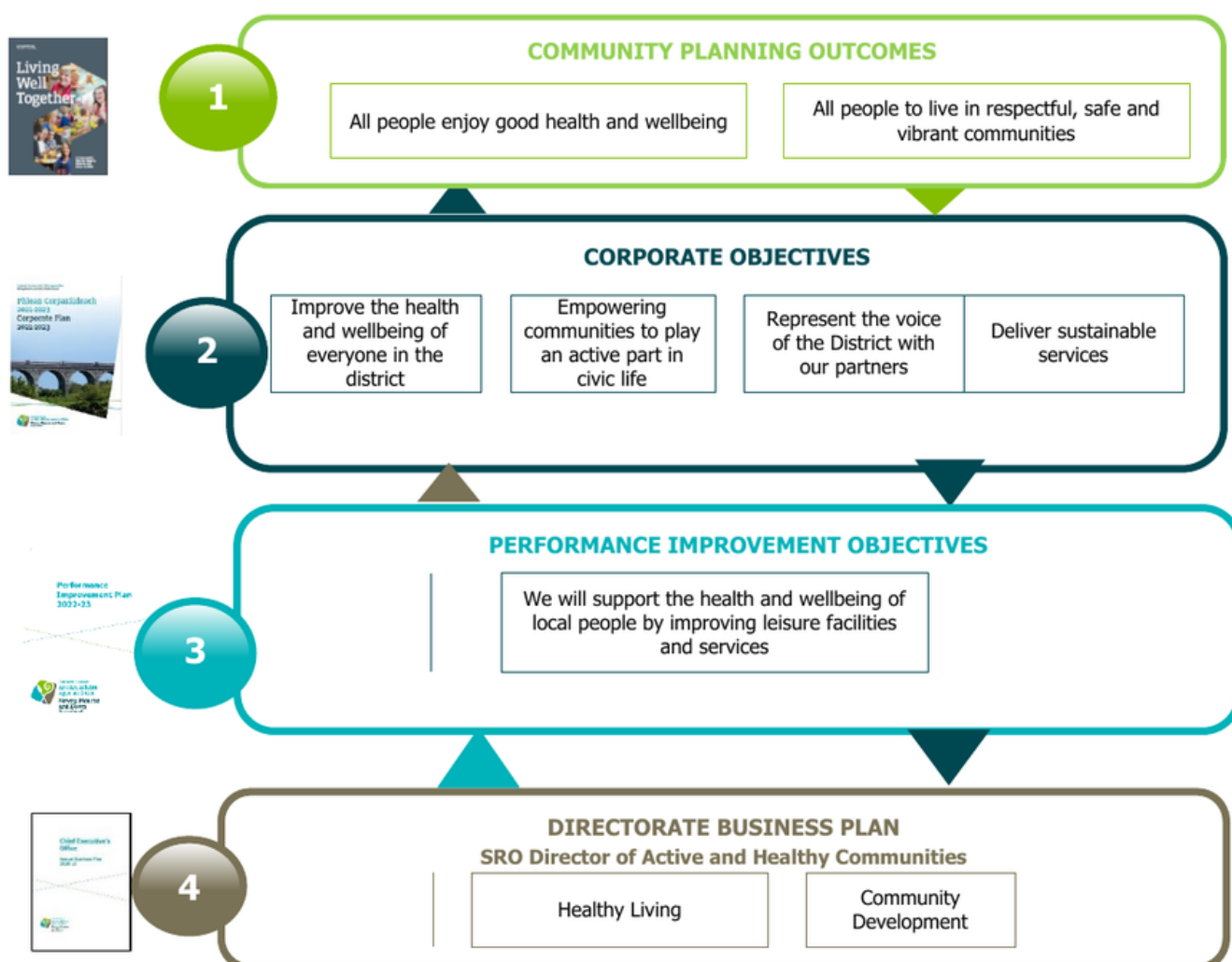
- 2.1 The AHC Business Plan is developed within the context of the Community Plan and Corporate Plan 2024-27. The Community Plan sets out the long-term outcomes for the District, based on the needs and aspirations of local people. The Corporate Plan sets out the key strategic objectives for the Council between 2024-27, and how it will contribute to achieving the community planning outcomes.
- 2.2 The Community Plan and Corporate Plan are cross cutting and strategic in nature. They guide all activity within the organisation, as well as the subsequent allocation of resources, and sit within a hierarchy of plans, as outlined in the 'Business Planning and Performance Management Framework' (Figure 1).
- 2.3 The Business Planning and Performance Management Framework drives and provides assurance that the Council is delivering its corporate vision and objectives, whilst securing continuous improvement in the exercise of functions. It provides a mechanism to join up and cascade the various plans and strategies across the organisation, demonstrating how employees contribute to achieving community planning outcomes and corporate objectives, for the ultimate benefit of the citizens we serve.

Figure 1: Business Planning and Performance Management Framework



- 2.4 Whilst the Corporate Plan focuses on issues which cut across the organisation and are strategic in nature, the AHC Business Plan provides an overview of the key operational activities for the coming year. These activities are explicitly linked to corporate objectives and coupled with 'business as usual' service delivery, provide clear direction for all employees within the Directorate (Figure 2). Directorate Business Plans are supported by Service Plans and the 'People Perform and Grow' initiative.
- 2.5 The AHC Business Plan is published annually and is the basis upon which performance is managed and reviewed by the full Council, Active and Healthy Communities Committee and Senior Management Team.

Figure 2: AHC alignment across the Business Planning and Performance Management Framework



3.0 Purpose and Values

3.1 Purpose

- 3.1.1 The primary purpose of the AHC Directorate is to develop, implement and monitor key strategic frameworks to support better leisure, sport, health and wellbeing outcomes and build community capacity and promote good relations at a local level.
- 3.1.2 The bulk of departmental activity is aligned to the following corporate objectives:
- Improve the health and wellbeing of everyone in the District
 - Empowering communities to play an active part in civic life
 - Represent the voice of the District with our partners

- Deliver sustainable services

3.2 Values

3.2.1 The Department adheres to the Council's values which are outlined in the Corporate Plan 2024-27:

	What This Means
Respect	We will demonstrate respect for all people in our attitudes, behaviours and working relationships.
Transparency	We will be transparent in how we make decisions.
Excellence	We will take pride in our work and be passionate about the standards we strive to achieve.
Integrity	We want the people of our district to trust us to do the right thing.
Accountability	We will be accountable to the public for our decisions and actions. We will be accountable for how we plan for and use resources sustainably

3.2.2 In accordance with the Section 75 requirements of the Northern Ireland Act (1998), the Chief Executive's Department is committed to carrying out its functions having due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity and regard for the desirability to promote good relations. All new and revised policies, procedures and programmes of work will be subject to an equality screening and rural needs impact assessment (where appropriate).

4.0 Challenges and Opportunities

- 4.1 The Active and Healthy Communities Directorate was established in December 2014. The Department continues to evolve in line with organisational change and remains committed to developing and embedding the necessary plans, policies and processes to deliver improvement across the organisation. Influences within the external and internal environment continuously present challenges and opportunities, which have an impact on the overall management and operation of the Active and Healthy Communities Directorate.
- 4.2 The various (internal and external) challenges and opportunities for the department are summarised as follows:

External Environment

- **Legislation:** Ensuring legislative compliance with The Local Government (NI) Act 2014 and subsequent Orders, specifically in relation to the Duty of Community Planning, Duty of Improvement and Political Governance, legislative changes as a result of potential EU Exit.
- **Strategic Alliances:** Collaborating with stakeholders to address the impact of Brexit and continue to operate amidst wider political uncertainty.
- **Community Planning:** Strengthening existing partnerships and progressing the implementation of the four Thematic Delivery Plans to support the achievement of the long-term community planning outcomes.
- **Local Government Reform:** Addressing legacy issues and successfully integrating the new powers and functions created by Local Government Reform.
- **Evidence Based Decision-Making:** Ongoing collation of national, regional and local datasets to inform and influence local decision-making, policy development and service provision.
- **Global trends:** Considering the impact of COVID-19, Brexit, cost of living crisis, climate change, complex social issues, the needs of a growing and ageing population, growing health inequalities, increased demand for public services, fluctuations in crime and rates of anti-social behavior and rising customer expectations on public service provision.

Internal Environment

- **Management:** Successfully establishing Directorate in terms of its structure, governance and internal processes.
- **Resources:** Identifying and securing the financial and non-financial resources needed for the Directorate to promote healthy and sustainable communities.
- **Structure:** Implementation of new departmental structure to ensure delivery of the corporate objectives and to meet the challenge of corporate restructuring and transfer of new or emerging services.
- **Legislation:** Ensuring corporate legislative compliance in respect of key statutory obligations, including Equality (Section 75), Performance Improvement as well as Community Planning which augments existing service delivery.
- **Community Planning:** Developing partnerships that will deliver local area-based plans to deliver on the Council's Community Plan.
- **Performance Management:** Continually monitoring and reviewing the department's performance, highlighting areas of high performance as well as identifying areas for intervention.
- **Transformation and Improvement:** Successfully developing and implementing a transformational programme of change that drives out the efficiencies and improvements that both members and the public demand.
- **Property and Land Assets:** Successfully developing and implementing the necessary frameworks, policies and processes to support the effective and efficient management of the department's estate.

5.0 Cross-Cutting Themes and Actions

There are a number of cross cutting actions aligned to the Community Planning Partnership priorities, Community Wealth Building and Sustainability and Climate Change that span across all Directorates and contribute to the fulfillment of Directorate Objectives, Corporate Objectives and ultimately Community Planning Outcomes.

Officers should indicate where their actions are contributing to the fulfillment of CPP, CWB or SCC actions by putting the relevant acronym in the column.

These actions should be identified in liaison with the relevant officers (CPP – Alan Beggs; CWB – Colin Moffett; SCC – Conor Sage) and relevant annual assessments of service plans forwarded to the above officers.

Acronym	Theme
CWB	Community Wealth Building
CPP	Community Planning Partnership priorities
SCC	Sustainability and Climate Change

Community Planning Partnership Priorities

While all actions will contribute to the delivery of the Community Plan, some actions may be considered appropriate to be contained within the Community Planning Partnership Priorities.

Relevant priorities should:

- Align to the outcomes of the Community Plan
- Involve collaborative working across statutory and community voluntary sector partners for both design and delivery.
- Report through the Community Planning Structures
- Measure and report impacts and outcomes

Community Wealth Building

Community Wealth Building is an approach to the way that economies function, retaining more wealth and opportunity for the benefit of local people.

Key actions in relation to CWB should deliver on the 5 recommendations and sub-recommendations contained within the CLES/DTNI report – Newry, Mourne and Down pioneering the potential of community wealth building.

Sustainability and Climate Change

Sustainability and the climate change emergency continues to be a key driver of Council with the key objective of improving the lives and livelihoods of the people who live and work here. Approval to develop a Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy was agreed in June 2023.

6.0 Directorate Objectives and Supporting Actions

Key Objectives
<p>Healthy Living – Promote increased levels of activity and develop targeted programmes to support improved health and wellbeing outcomes.</p> <p>Community Development – Create a strong base to engage, empower and build the capacity of local communities, ensuring their views inform the work of the Council and its partners.</p> <p>Work with partners to lead the implementation of the Community Plan and deliver better outcomes for local people.</p> <p>Develop a robust and reliable evidence base to underpin and inform future decision-making and policy development processes.</p> <p>Delivery of key projects on Council’s Capital Programme - £36 million.</p>

		Healthy Living	
Promote increased levels of activity and develop targeted programmes to support improved health and wellbeing outcomes		ALIGNMENT WITH CORPORATE PLAN	
		Improve the health and wellbeing of everyone in the district	
AHC1 : Promote increased levels of activity and develop targeted programmes to support improved health and wellbeing outcomes			
Implement the existing sports and well-being strategic themes and their action plans, including the Sports Facility Strategy Review, Play Strategy, and Physical Activity, Health and Wellbeing Strategy (CPP)	Target		
	Progress	—	—
Deliver a range of targeted health programs, in collaboration with our Community Planning Partners, to encourage participation in physical activity and to improve health outcomes for all (CPP)	Target		
	Progress	—	—
Sustain attendance figures in all indoor and outdoor leisure facilities in line with customer satisfaction levels.	Target		
	Progress	—	—
Continuing to progress the delivery of key capital projects, including opportunities for digital innovation and transformation within key projects: • Newry City Park • Newcastle Rock Pool • Newcastle Centre • Play Park strategy upgrades • Kilkeel Leisure Centre • Multi Sports Hub project delivery	Target		
	Progress	—	—
Continue to invest in community and sports facilities in line with Council's facilities management and maintenance objectives.	Target		
	Progress	—	—
Review and implement a preventative maintenance program including pool plant and gym equipment to maximize customer usage of centres.	Target		
	Progress	—	—
Support and protect everyone in our District from harm by working in partnership with other bodies, to implement and promote broader prevention measures, thereby continuing to mitigate existing and emerging safeguarding risks, for both Council & Citizens.	Target		
	Progress	—	—

Sustain attendance figures in all indoor and outdoor leisure facilities.	Target		
	Progress	—	—
Customer satisfaction levels at indoor and outdoor leisure facilities.	Target		
	Progress	—	—
Number of participants engaged in physical activity programmes and health and wellbeing initiatives	Target		
	Actual	—	—
Positive health outcomes reported from participants in targeted health programmes.	Target		
	Progress	—	—
Increase the play value of all Council play parks across the district	Target		
	Progress	—	—

Community Development			
Create a strong base to engage, empower and build the capacity of local communities, ensuring their views inform the work of the Council and its partners.	ALIGNMENT WITH CORPORATE PLAN		
	Empowering communities to play an active part in civic life.		
AHC2 : Create a strong base to engage, empower and build the capacity of local communities, ensuring their views inform the work of the Council and its partners.			
Number of events and programmes including attendance levels	Target		
	Actual	—	—
Number of contacts recorded through the Ethnic Minority Support Centre	Target		
	Actual	—	—
Value of external funding levered into Council	Target		
	Progress	—	—
PCSP/Good Relations events delivered and participation levels.	Target		
	Actual	—	—
Number of referrals to PCSP Home Secure & Social Alarm Schemes.	Target		
	Actual	—	—

Number of cross-community safety events (minimum 2 per annum).	Target	1	2
	Actual	—	—
Progress Community Development Strategy and DEA Fora review aligned to the Community Plan (CPP)	Target		
	Progress	—	—
Good Relations Success Stories Showcase Event – utilising the Café Conversations approach with community/voluntary groups hosting on various themes (Q3)	Target		
	Progress	—	
Host a Community Connect Event in each DEA area in partnership with public facing Council services/Departments eg Funding, Leisure, Age Friendly, Registration, LMPs (what we do and what we might do for you) (Q3)	Target		
	Progress	—	
Progress Capital Projects, including opportunities for digital innovation and transformation within key projects. (CWB) • Year 1 of the Mini-Digi Hub Project (Bessbrook Community Centre) • Annalong Community Centre • Cloughreagh Community Centre • Warrenpoint Health and Wellbeing Hub • Completion of Ballynahinch Community Centre	Target		
	Progress	—	—
Work with internal and external partners to deliver Capacity Building Events and Funding Fairs for Community Groups	Target		
	Progress	—	—
Increased awareness of Council services/the functions of Council	Target		
	Actual	—	—
Positive impacts reported via delivery of events and programmes	Target		
	Progress	—	—

Community Development			
Work with partners to lead the implementation of the Community Plan and deliver better outcomes for local people.	ALIGNMENT WITH CORPORATE PLAN		
	Represent the voice of the District with our partners		
AHC3 : Work with partners to lead the implementation of the Community Plan and deliver better outcomes for local people			
Compliance with the statutory Duty of Community Planning.	Target		
	Actual	—	—
Number of Community Planning Actions co-designed and delivered.	Target		
	Actual	—	—
Work in partnership with statutory/community/voluntary sector colleagues to progress Participatory Budgeting Events across the DEA Fora (CPP)	Target		
	Progress	—	—

Community Development			
Develop a robust and reliable evidence base to inform decision making, policy development and service provision.	ALIGNMENT WITH CORPORATE PLAN		
	Deliver sustainable services.		
AHC4 : Develop a robust and reliable evidence base to underpin and inform future decision-making and policy development processes			
Undertake a pilot to ascertain how we could utilise the concept of social value to measure our performance via the work we undertake (CWB)	Target		
	Progress	—	—

7.0 Performance

AHC Plans, Strategies and Policies

7.1 The AHC Directorate is responsible for leading the development, implementation and review of the following plans and strategies, which influence the work of both the Directorate and Council:

- Department Business
- Community Centre Effectiveness Review
- Play Strategy and Actions Plan
- Sports physical activity and wellbeing strategy
- Multi Sports Hub Review
- PCSP Action Plan
- NHR Action Plans
- 7 DEA Action Plans
- Indoor Leisure Business Plan – review and update
- Good Relations Action Plan
- Community Plan

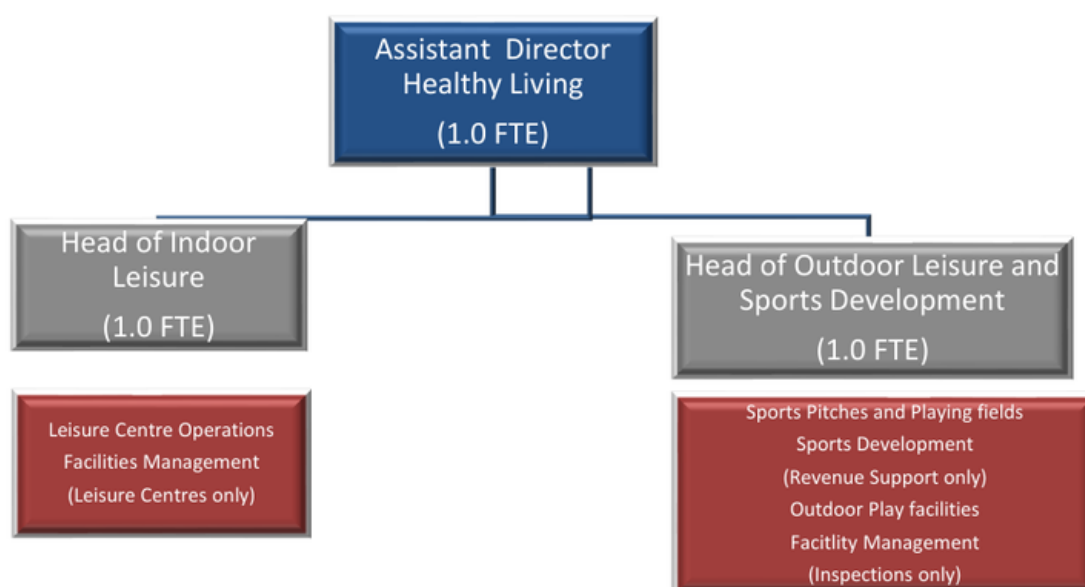
8.0 Organisation and Directorate Structure

8.1 The Active and Healthy Communities Directorate is one of four Departments, which together comprise the management structure of the Council. The Directorate structure is set out in Figure 4.

Figure 4 – Active and Healthy Communities

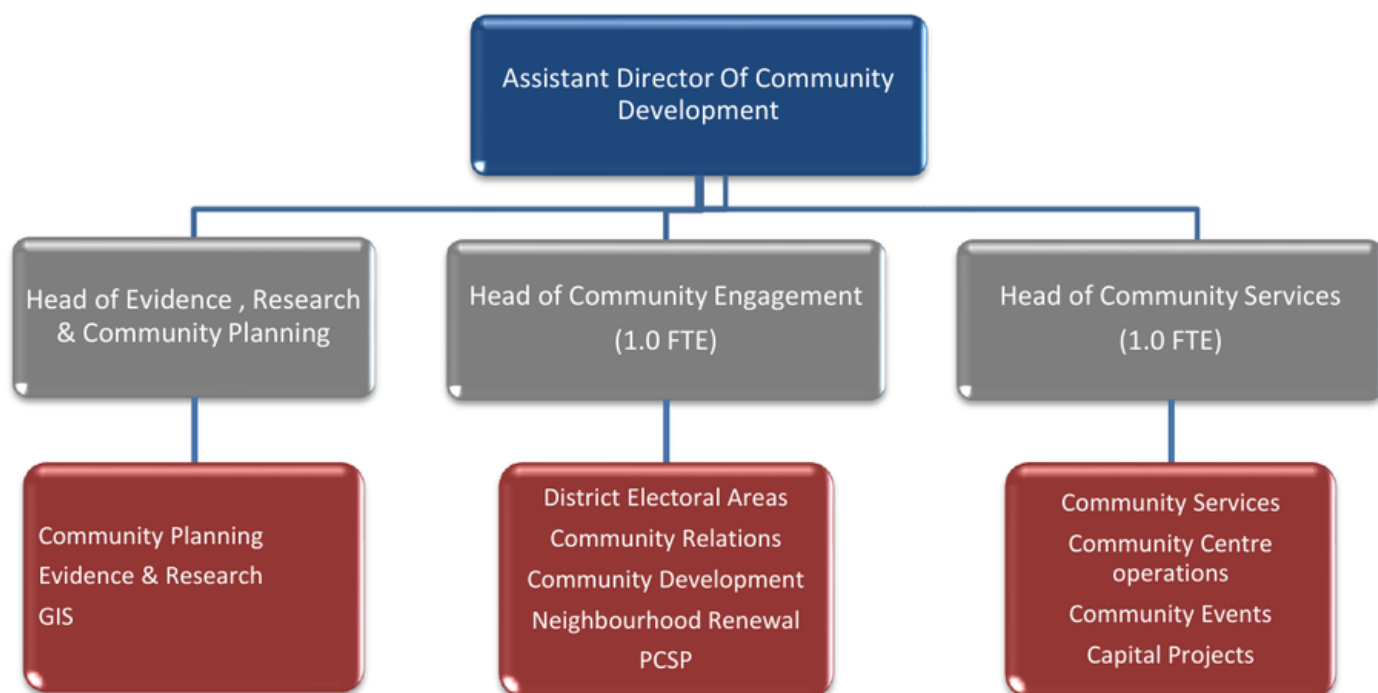


Healthy Living



Community Development

38



9.0 Financial Information

Net estimated expenditure (2025-26)	
Community Development	£393,276
Healthy Living	£2,767,019
TOTAL: Active and Healthy Communities Directorate	£

10.0 Governance Arrangements

- 10.1 Reviewing performance and reporting progress to Elected Members and other key stakeholders facilitates transparency, accountability and improvement in everything the Council does. The political and organisational governance arrangements to develop, monitor and report the Council's progress in implementing the AHC Business Plan are outlined below, and are supplemented by regular reviews by the Director and his team. The governance arrangements the Council has put in place to deliver continuous improvement are also subject an annual audit and assessment by the Northern Ireland Audit Office.

Figure 4: Governance Arrangements

Full Council

- Ratification of AHC Business Plan
- Ratification of the annual and bi-annual reviews of AHC Business Plan

Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee / Audit Committee

- Scrutiny and challenge around the Duty of Improvement
- Provide assurance that performance management arrangements are robust and effective

Active and Healthy Communities Committee

- Consideration, scrutiny and approval of AHC Business Plan
- Consideration, scrutiny and approval of the annual and bi-annual reviews of AHC Business Plan

Senior Management Team

- Development, consideration and approval of AHC Business Plan
- Development, consideration and approval of the annual and bi-annual reviews of AHC Business Plan



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

0330 137 4000 (Council)
0330 137 4036 (Planning)
council@nmandd.org
www.newrymournedown.org

Oifig an Iúir
Newry Office
O'Hagan House
Monaghan Row

Newry BT35 8DJ

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

Downpatrick BT30 6GQ

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	16 June 2025
Subject:	District Electoral Area Forums Update Report
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Alison Robb, Assistant Director: Community Development
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Martina Flynn, Head of Engagement

For decision	X	For noting only	
1.0	Purpose and Background		
1.1	<p>Purpose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To note the report. To consider and agree to approve the actions in the Action Sheets attached from the DEA Forum Private Meetings listed in 3.1 below. <p>Background</p> <p>The information in Appendix 1 attached is provided to update the Committee on recent DEA activity and on activity planned to be undertaken by the DEAs.</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 Action Sheets attached for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Slieve Gullion DEA Forum Meeting held on 13 May 2025 ➤ Crotlieve DEA Forum Meeting held on 13 May 2025 ➤ Mournes DEA Forum Meeting held on 20 May 2025 		
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 ☒</p>		

5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>
5.3	<p><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)
.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	Appendices
7.1	<p>Appendix 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Action Sheet Slieve Gullion DEA Forum Meeting held on 13 May 2025 ➤ Action Sheet Crotlieve DEA Forum Meeting held on 13 May 2025 ➤ Action Sheet Mourne DEA Forum Meeting held on 20 May 2025
8.0	Background Documents
8.1	None.

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

Action Sheet of Slieve Gullion District Electoral Area (DEA) Forum Private Meeting
held on Tuesday 13th May 2025 @ 5.30 pm in Cardinal O’Fiaich Heritage Centre, Cullyhanna

- Chairperson:** Councillor David Taylor
- In Attendance:** Councillor Oonagh Magennis
Councillor Aine Quinn
Councillor Martin Hearty
- Independent Members:** Cathy McMahon, Independent Member, Confederation of Community Groups
Teresa Nugent, Independent Member, Rural Health Partnership
Claire Convery, Independent Member, Clanrye Group
- Statutory Partners:** Maureen O’Gorman, EA Youth Services
Barry Trainor, Southern Health & Social Care Trust
Josephine Morgan ,NIHE
- Council Officials:** Aoife McComiskey, Slieve Gullion DEA Coordinator
Briege Boyle, NMDDC Facilities
Elaine Carr, Peace Officer
- Apologies:** Paul Connolly, PSNI

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed.
DEA/SG/40	Declarations of Interest	Cllr. Taylor declared a conflict as a member of the Peace Plus Partnership Board.	Noted.

DEA/SG/41	Matters arising from Action Sheet from meeting held 11 th March 2025	<p>Amendments required to include Ann Grant's attendance at previous meeting and correct Josephine Morgan's surname.</p> <p>Remainder of Action Sheet confirmed as true and accurate record.</p>	<p>DEA co-ordinator to amend.</p> <p>Approved.</p>
DEA/SG/42	Peace Plus Update	Elaine Carr provided an update on Peace Plus identified projects for the Slieve Gullion area. Additional project suggestions are welcome. Peace Update to remain on DEA Forum agenda.	<p>Noted.</p> <p>DEA Co-ordinator to circulate digital copy of the theme 2&3 identified projects list.</p> <p>Members to email Elaine Carr with additional project suggestions.</p>
DEA/SG/43	DEA Coordinator's Report	<p>DEA Coordinator delivered the Coordinator's Report including:</p> <p>Recruitment of Independent Members – No suggestions have been received. If members have identified gaps and there is a person / organisation you feel should be represented they can be referred to the DEA co-ordinator.</p> <p>Multiply Programme – Multiply programme has ended 31st March. Any evaluation/ outcomes to be shared with group at next meeting.</p> <p>Upcoming Events-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Working with several groups providing support including identifying funding sources/ linking them up with facilitators and speakers. ➤ SG Men's Health Week event in partnership with Clanrye will take place in Slieve Gullion Courtyard on 9th June Monday – 10:30-12:30pm followed by lunch. Match funding secured for this event and it will be run with support and input from SHSCT, PHA, HLC, Dunlewey addiction service. Activities inc. archery, guided walks, Boccia. Health info. stands. Heath checks inc. Rural Farm Families bus. <p>Booking is required and event requires promotion through social media / posters in centres etc.</p> <p>Members welcome to attend.</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Members to email nominations to DEA coordinator.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Approved.</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Number of smaller events for MHD happening in the area that week – inc. Lislea Men's Heath Day ➤ Working in partnership with Council H&W team to deliver sessions for Child Safety Week in June ➤ Working with Council colleagues and SHSCT to run a health and wellbeing stand at Newry Agri Show on 28th June. ➤ Participatory Budgeting – expected launch date in June with details of criteria and threshold. Likely to happen in Sept. ➤ Shared Schools programme – ongoing. <p>DEA Action Plan – Ony suggestions received were from internal Council departments re. collaborative working.</p> <p>Participatory Budgeting to be added in to Action Plan.</p>	<p>DEA co-ordinator to circulate MHW poster to members.</p> <p>DEA Coordinator to circulate participatory budgeting details when available.</p> <p>DEA Coordinator to liaise on a cross departmental basis to collaborate on projects where applicable.</p> <p>DEA Coordinator to action.</p>
DEA/SG/44	Community Facilities Update	<p>Teresa Nugent confirmed Wi-Fi issues ongoing in Cullyhanna CC. Briege advised that when connecting to NMDDC Public Wifi "SMS registration" should be used.</p> <p>Newtownhamilton CC maintenance issues ongoing. This has been reported to Community Services / maintenance team. It was agreed that Councillors would follow up.</p>	<p>Briege Boyle to follow up with IT to query if it is possible to extend "10 minute timer"</p> <p>Councillors to follow up.</p>
DEA/SG/45	Emerging Issues	<p>Health & Wellbeing – Community Development Workers meetings have recommenced (joint with Newry DEA).</p> <p>Barry Traynor SHSCT provided an update on the upcoming "Bend don't Break" self-compassion training for community groups. Verve trainers list available. TILT event in Canal Court (29th May) – theme "Unpaid Carers".</p> <p>Teresa Nugent provided an update for Rural Health Partnership and reminded the groups that they have local health trainers available for hire.</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Barry to send all details to DEA Coordinator for circulation.</p> <p>Noted.</p>

		<p>Education Authority Youth Services- Maureen O’Gorman provided an update on the youth provision for summer intervention and engagement projects across the Slieve Gullion area.</p> <p>DEA coordinator to represent the forum at future Youth Providers Forum meetings. Ruth Neary to be added to DEA Forum circulation list.</p> <p>Environment – Request for advice for support for local groups re. biodiversity.</p> <p>Community Update- Ann Grant provided an update on CDRCN work including supporting local Men’s Sheds.</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Agreed.</p> <p>DEA Coordinator to circulate relevant Council Officers details and link to resources “How to the Geopark Beautiful”.</p> <p>Noted.</p>
DEA/SG/46	Date of Next Meeting	Tuesday 1 st July 2025 @ 5.30pm – Jerrettspass Community Hall	Noted.

The meeting ended at: 6.45pm

**Action Sheet of Crotlieve District Electoral Area (DEA) Forum Private Meeting
held on Tuesday 13th May 2025 at 18.00pm in The Boardroom Warrenpoint Town Hall**

Chairperson:	Councillor Micky Ruane
In Attendance:	Councillor Declan McAteer Councillor Kate Murphy Councillor Selina Murphy
Independent Members: Clonduff	Martina Byrne- Hilltown Community Association/Clonduff Development Enterprise/Women of Connaire McGreevy, Greater Newry Chamber of Commerce
Statutory Partners:	Annie Clarke - Southern Health and Social Care Trust Claire Shiels - County Down Rural Community Network Carrie Crawford, Area Youth Worker EA
Council Officials:	Nicola Whyte – DEA Co-Ordinator Crotlieve Kerri Morrow - Engagement & Development Manager Edel McGeeney – Peace Officer Theresa McLaverty, Peace Officer
Others in Attendance:	Sgr Conor Valentine, PSNI Crotlieve LNPT Colleen Dowdell, President WBR Chamber of Commerce
Apologies:	Martina Flynn - Head of Engagement Thelma Thompson Little - Altnaveigh House Trust Maureen Larkin, Area Youth Worker EA Councillor Mark Gibbons 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/15/2025	Welcome and Apologies.	Councillor Ruane welcomed Members and noted apologies. Councillor Ruane welcomed our guests, and they introduced themselves to the Forum.	Noted.
DEA/C/16/2025	Declarations of Interest.	There were no declarations of interest declared.	Noted.
DEA/C/17/2025	Matters arising from Action Sheet from meeting held on 25 th February 2025	Action sheet confirmed as a true and accurate record. Update on Kings Lane Bollards – DfI have confirmed keys have been made available to various emergency parties. If NMDDC would like to obtain keys, they should submit request to Senior Lands Team. Update of Christmas Lights in Hilltown – Aidan Mallon has confirmed that they are in the process of carrying out upgrades and are assessing the infrastructure and plan to replace the Lucy Pillar in Hilltown Square this summer. Coordinator to follow up after Summer period.	Noted.

DEA/C/18/2025	DEA Co-ordinators Report	<p>Nicola gave an overview of all the events which took place since the last meeting, highlighting the success of the Multiply Programme and the number of press releases that were released to showcase this.</p> <p>Nicola gave an overview of events that are planned for the Summer period including Summer Festivals, Youth Diversionary activities, Tidy Town nomination (Best Kept Awards NI) for Warrenpoint and the ongoing set up of working group in relation to same.</p>	Noted.
DEA/C/19/2025	Peace Plus Update	<p>Edel was introduced as the Peace Officer for the Crotlieve DEA and provided an overview of the Peace Plus Plan.</p> <p>All members to look at gaps in the Plan and report back through the DEA on findings.</p>	Coordinator to circulate to members
DEA/C/20/2025	P.S.N.I. South Down Neighbourhood Policing Team	Sgt Valentine gave an introduction to the Neighbourhood Policing Team. Asked to let all know to call 101 and report any issues directly to this service so all calls can be logged. An update was given on the ASB initiative planned which is being supported by DEA, Youth Service & PCSP to address ASB issues in Warrenpoint, Burren and Mayobridge.	Noted
DEA/C/21/2025	Warrenpoint Burren Rostrevor Chamber of Commerce – President, Colleen Dowdell	Colleen gave an overview of the Chamber since its relaunch in October and noted that there are currently 54 members. Colleen thanked the DEA for the welcome and noted that she would be interested to sit on the Forum as a representative for local businesses.	Noted

DEA/C/22/2025	Update from SHSCT	Annie Clarke gave an update on health and wellbeing services & provided information on Autism NI support to families, VERVE project and Take 5. They have several events planned for Volunteer Week 1-7 June 2025 and TILT for careers 26-30 June 2025.	Noted
DEA/C/23/2025	Update from Co Down Rural Community Network	Clare Sheils gave an update on the environmental project which CDRCN are part of with Carlingford Lough Keepers. A full update will be given at the next meeting	Noted
DEA/C/24/2025	Update from EA Youth Service	Carie Crawford gave an overview on the work that has been carried out with the Friday night drop-in in Hall 4 All, Warrenpoint. An overview of the Summer programmes was given working with DEA Crotlieve and PCSP on diversionary projects during local festivals. TBUC 2025 Mega Camp funding was secured.	Noted
DEA/C/25/2025	Date of Next Meeting.	The next meeting date: Tuesday 5 th August 2025 at 6pm in Warrenpoint Town Hall.	Noted

The meeting ended at: 7.20pm

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

Action Sheet of Mournes District Electoral Area (DEA) Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 20 May at 4.00pm Via Teams

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Chairperson: Councillor Glyn Hanna

In Attendance: Councillor Laura Devlin

Independent Members:

Statutory Partners: Annie Clarke, Southern Health and Social Care Trust
Paula Nixon, County Down Rural Community Network

Others in Attendance: None

Council Officials: Taucher McDonald, DEA Coordinator, The Mournes
Teresa McLaverty, PEACE Plus Officer
Edel McGeeney, Peace Officer

Apologies: Councillor Michael Rice
Lloyd Douglas, Independent Member
Kenneth Gracey, PSNI
Councillor Henry Reilly

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed
DEA/MOU/1/2025	Welcome/Apologies	Welcome by Cllr Hanna.	Noted.
DEA/MOU/2/2025	Declarations of Interest	None	Noted.
DEA/MOU/3/2025	Action Sheet 25 March	Brief update of the actions from the previous Forum meeting was given.	Noted.
DEA/MOU/4/2025	DEA Coordinator's Update	DEA Coordinator update on upcoming programmes and initiatives.	Noted.
DEA/MOU/5/2025	Agency Updates	Update on upcoming programmes and initiatives.	Noted.
DEA/MOU/10/24	Donard Carpark	Anti-social behaviour and traffic issues at Donard Park.	Multi-Agency Meeting to be organised to discuss options
DEA/MOU/11/2024	Kilkeel Feasibility Study	A Feasibility Study has been undertaken to look at possible potential redevelopment and utilisation of Kilkeel Square and its immediate environs.	Updates to be provided quarterly on progress.
DEA/MOU/13/2024	Business Representation on Forum	<p>A need for Business representation on the DEA Forum was identified.</p> <p>Forum members to put forward nominations for Kilkeel and Newcastle areas.</p>	<p>Cllr. Devlin to contact Newcastle Chamber of Commerce for nomination and update at next meeting.</p> <p>Kilkeel Chamber of Commerce has been elected on to the Forum. Representative has been notified and invited to attend July Meeting.</p>

DEA/MOU/14/2025	Kilkeel Leisure Centre	Update on Kilkeel works	Update provided. Noted.
DEA/MOU/15/2025	Donard Toilets & Newcastle Toilets	Closure of Toilets	Update on repairs to be given at next meeting. Update provided. Noted
DEA/MOU/16/2025	Newcastle Leisure Centre	Possibility of flexible opening times and courses for residents	DEA Coordinator to contact relevant Department and provide update.
DEA/MOU/17/2025	Kilkeel Surgery	Possible Closure of Kilkeel Surgery	Annie Clarke to update Forum at next DEA meeting.
DEA/MOU/18/2025	Trailer Marking for Kilkeel	Trailer Marking Event for Kilkeel	PCSP to provide update on next Event.

The meeting ended at 16:49pm

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	16 June 2025
Subject:	Council of Sanctuary
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Alison Robb, Assistant Director Community Development
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Justyna McCabe, Projects Coordinator

For decision		X	For noting only		
1.0		Purpose and Background			
1.1		Purpose To provide background on the City of Sanctuary movement and to recommend that Council commits to joining the City of Sanctuary Local Authority Network and works towards recognition as a 'Council of Sanctuary'.			
1.2		Background: The City of Sanctuary is a movement that began in 2005 with the aim of building a culture of hospitality and welcome for people seeking sanctuary. It supports communities and organisations to become places of safety and inclusion for refugees, asylum seekers and other vulnerable migrants. The movement has grown to include schools, universities, libraries, health institutions and local authorities. The Local Authority Network is a key part of this initiative, encouraging Councils to embed sanctuary principles into their policies, practices and public engagement. What is a 'Council of Sanctuary': A 'Council of Sanctuary' is a local authority that has demonstrated a commitment to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Embedding a culture of welcome and inclusion across its services.• Supporting and empowering people seeking sanctuary.• Working in partnership with local communities and organisations.• Sharing good practice and learning with other Councils. Benefits of joining the Network: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrates leadership in promoting social inclusion and human rights.• Enhances the Council's reputation as a compassionate and forward-thinking authority.• Provides access to a national network of support, resources and best practice.• Strengthens community cohesion and civic pride.			

2.0	Key issues
2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newry, Mourne and Down District Council has a long-standing history of supporting migrants, refugees and asylum seekers through the work of our Ethnic Minority Support Centre and a range of support services and integration projects. We have consistently demonstrated our commitment to fostering an inclusive and supportive environment for all residents, including newcomer families and individuals. Joining the City of Sanctuary Local Authority Network is a natural and timely progression of this work, reinforcing our values and building on the strong foundation already in place. It is a meaningful step towards ensuring that our district is a welcoming place for all. <p>It is proposed that Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Pledges its support for the City of Sanctuary movement, affirming its commitment to fostering a culture of welcome, inclusion and support for our new residents. Continues to engage with our local community/voluntary sector partners, local refugee and migrant support organisations and people with lived experience. Works to support newcomer communities embedding 'Sanctuary' principles across Council services and promoting inclusion and welcome across the wider community. Collaborates with other Councils in the City of Sanctuary network to exchange knowledge and promote best practices.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	Approval for NMDDC to join the Local Authority Network and work towards formal recognition as a 'Council of Sanctuary'.
4.0	Resource implications
	<p>Local Authority Network membership fee of £250.00 per annum, which will be met within existing budget.</p> <p>If approval is obtained to achieve accreditation at a later date, there would be a fee of approximately £1,500.00.</p>
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
5.2	<i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i>

	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>
5.3	<p><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>
.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>None.</p>
8.0	<p>Background Documents</p>
8.1	<p>None.</p>

Report to:	Active & Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	16 th June 2025
Subject:	Summer Activity Programme
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Conor Haughey, Assistant Director of Healthy Living
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Declan Crilly, Head of Outdoor Leisure

For decision		For noting only	x
1.0	Purpose and Background		
1.1	<p>Purpose The purpose of this report is for AHC Committee to note the planned Summer Activity Programme in July and August 2025 as per appendix 1.</p> <p>Background The Summer Activity Programme is developed annually to provide a range of inclusive and engaging leisure opportunities for children and young people across the district. It is supported through departmental resources and delivered across various leisure and community facilities.</p>		
2.0	Key issues		
2.1	<p>The Summer Activity Programme has several key themes with the details of each outlined in appendix 1.</p> <p>These themes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Multi Sports Camps• Teen Activity Week• Neurodiversity Camp• Physical Disability Camp• Summer Autism Swim Sessions• £1 Summer Promotion in Designated Leisure Facilities		
3.0	Recommendation		
3.1	<p>That AHC Committee note the planned Summer Activity Programme for July and August 2025 as per appendix 1.</p>		
4.0	Resource implications		

4.1	<p>Revenue: All revenue budget implications associated with the Summer Activity Programme have been included in 2025/26 Departmental budgets.</p> <p>Capital: There are no Capital Budget Implications.</p>
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input 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 – N/a</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>

	Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/>
7.0	Appendices
	Appendix 1 – Summer 2025 Programme
8.0	Background Documents
	Summer camp program

Clár an tSamhraidh Summer Programme



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www.newrymouredown.org/summer-programme



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



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

Déan réidh do Shamhradh lán Spraoi! Get Ready for a Summer of Fun!

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council is excited to launch this year's summer programme — packed with exciting activities to keep everyone active and entertained throughout the holidays.

Whether you're looking for fun family days out, sports and fitness sessions or ways to keep the kids engaged — there's something for everyone to enjoy.

Make a splash this summer with our fun water programme which includes swimming crash courses, junior lifeguard

courses or join us at Tropicana in Newcastle for fun days out in our heated outdoor pools.

Join the energy and adventure with our multi-sports camps and Teen Activity Week happening across the district!

You can also hire our halls and courts throughout the summer for lots of indoor sports and games like table tennis, basketball, 5-a-side football, handball, squash and more.

Check out what's available...





*Campaí
Samhraidh Ilspóirt
do Pháistí Bunscoile*
**Summer Multi-Sports
Camps for
Primary School
Children**

Our multi-sports camps are designed for primary school children enabling them to enjoy a wide range of fun, active and rewarding sporting activities. These sessions support each child's physical development, build confidence and most importantly, ensure they have fun.

They're also great days out with friends—and the perfect opportunity to make new ones!

Children will get to try a variety of sports, sparking new interests and encouraging a lifelong love of staying active.

Don't forget to bring a drink and lunch!

Key information, locations & dates

Age Range:

P1 – P7 (Children attending must have completed Primary 1 in 2024/2025 academic school year).

Locations:

Newry Leisure Centre

Down Leisure Centre

Mourne Esplanade pitch, Kilkeel

Newcastle Centre

Dan Rice Hall, Drumaness

Bridge Community Centre, Killyleagh

Length of camp:

Monday - Friday

Dates:

Weeks commencing

21 July (Newry, Downpatrick, Kilkeel, Newcastle & Killyleagh)

28 July, 4 & 11 August ((Newry, Downpatrick, Kilkeel, Newcastle & Drumaness)

Times:

10am – 2pm

Weekly camp cost: £22.00

Booking:

To book log into the NMD Be Active app - select Leisure Centre - select 'Sports Camp' tile, select link or call into your local Leisure Centre in advance.

Booking opens at 10am, 16 June

Spaces are limited.

Please see booking information & T&Cs on pages 15 & 16.



Seachtain
Ghníomhaíochta
do Dhéagóirí
Teen Activity
Week

Campa Samhraidh Ilspóirt do Dhéagóirí Teen Multi-Sports Camp

Our teen multi-sports camps are designed for young people aged 12 to 15 to 'Be Active', have fun and explore a variety of sports and activities - all in one place. From football and basketball to racquet sports, dodgeball and more, each session is packed with energy and variety.

Led by experienced coaches in a supportive and inclusive environment, these camps help teens build new skills, discover new interests and enjoy a healthy, active summer.

It's the perfect opportunity to keep moving and just have fun.

Key information, locations & dates

Age Range: 12 – 15 years

Locations:

Newry Leisure Centre

Down Leisure Centre

Length of programme:

Monday – Friday

Dates:

18 - 22 August

Times:

11am – 1pm

Weekly camp cost: £11.00

Booking:

To book log into the NMD Be Active app - select Leisure Centre - select 'Sports Camp' tile, select link or call into your local Leisure Centre in advance.

Booking opens at 10am, 16 June

Spaces are limited.

Please see booking information & T&Cs on pages 15 & 16.

Seisiúin Aclaíochta do dhéagóirí Teen Gym Sessions



Teen Gym sessions, available every week in Newry Leisure Centre, Down Leisure Centre and Ballymote Sports & Wellbeing Centre are specially designed for young people aged 12 to 15 who want to stay active, improve their fitness, and boost their overall physical and mental well-being.

Whether you're starting your fitness journey or looking to stay on track, these sessions offer a fun, supportive environment to develop healthy habits that can last a lifetime.

With a mix of guided workouts and access to a range of equipment, teens can build strength, improve confidence and enjoy staying active—either solo or with friends.

Every session is fully supervised by qualified fitness staff to ensure a safe and enjoyable gym session.

Each Centre will have a maximum number of slots. Teen gym sessions are bookable 8 days in advance and an initial induction is required with the first Teen Gym session.

Log into NMD Be Active app - select Leisure Centre - select 'Be Active for Life' tile - scroll across days to see session or call into your local Leisure Centre in advance.

Booking opens at 10am, 16 June

Spaces are limited.

Please see booking information & T&Cs on pages 15 & 16.



cláir
lonchuimsitheacha
agus cláir do dhaoine
faoi mhíchumas
All-Inclusive
and Disability
Programmes

Campaí Samhraidh lonchuimsitheacha

All-inclusive summer camps

As part of our commitment to inclusive sport and physical activity, the Council is delivering all-inclusive summer camps which are specially designed for children with additional needs or neurodiversity such as Autism and ADHD.

While our multi-sports camps are open and welcoming to all children, we understand that some may thrive better in a smaller, more structured setting.

Our all-inclusive camps offer a supportive, sensory-friendly environment with enhanced accessibility — ideal for children who may find larger camps overwhelming.

Key information, locations & dates

Inclusive Camps for children with neurodiversity such as autism and ADHD.

This camp for 4 to 13 year olds offers a calm, structured, and sensory-aware environment to support each child's comfort and enjoyment.

Locations:

Newry Leisure Centre

Down Leisure Centre

Length of programme:

Monday – Friday

Dates:

28 July – 1 August

Times:

Time: 2:30pm – 4:30pm

Cost £11 per camp

Booking:

To book log into NMD Be Active app - select Leisure Centre - select 'Sports Camp' tile - select link or call into your local Leisure Centre in advance.

Booking opens at 10am, 16 June

Spaces are limited.

Please see booking information & T&Cs on pages 15 & 16.

Important Information:

If a child requires additional support, a parent, guardian or carer is required to attend and remain on-site for the duration of the session.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss your child's needs, please contact Caoimhe.Byrne@nmandd.org



Campa do
Phaistí faoi
mhíchumas coirp
Accessible camp for
children with Physical
Disabilities

Key information, locations & dates

Accessible Camp for Children with Physical Disabilities

This camp offer accessible, adapted activities supporting children with physical disabilities to participate comfortably and confidently.

Locations:

Newry Leisure Centre

Down Leisure Centre

Length of programme:

Monday – Friday

Dates:

11 – 15 August

Times:

Time: 2:30pm – 4:30pm

Cost £11 per camp

Booking:

To book log into NMD Be Active app - select Leisure Centre - select 'Sports Camp' tile - select link or call into your local Leisure Centre.

Booking opens at 10am, 16 June

Spaces are limited.

Please see booking information & T&Cs on pages 15 & 16

Important Information:

If a child requires additional support, a parent, guardian or carer is required to attend and remain on-site for the duration of the session.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss your child's needs, please contact Caoimhe.Byrne@nmandd.org

Halla Spóirt agus Cúirt ar Cíos Sports Hall & Court Hire



Halla Spóirt ar cíos Sports Hall hire

Our halls are available to hire for **just £8.00 per session**, offering a great way to stay active and enjoy quality time with friends and family.

Choose from a variety of sports and games including badminton, table tennis, netball, basketball, volleyball, 5-a-side football and more! Whether you're planning a friendly match or just looking to have some fun, our indoor facilities are a great way to enjoy the day!

Cúirt Scuaise agus Liathróid Láimhe ar cíos Squash and Handball Court Hire

Our courts are available to hire for **just £2.00 per session**, providing a fantastic opportunity to play handball and squash.

Take on the challenge of playing on your friends and family or practise your skills solo!

Locations:

Newry Leisure Centre

Down Leisure Centre

Ballymote Leisure Centre - Hall hire only

Available to children under 16 years old
Monday to Friday, 9.00am - 5.00pm, pending availability.

Booking:

To book simply contact your local leisure centre on 0330 137 4026 or drop in.



Bogshúgradh £1 £1 Soft Play

Bogshúgradh (Ionad Fóillíochta an Iúir amháin) Soft Play (Newry Leisure Centre only)

Our vibrant indoor soft play area is designed for children up to 12 years old, offering fun and active play.

With a variety of play equipment, including slides, tunnels, and climbing walls, children can enjoy hours of fun and exercise, burning off energy, developing motor skills and making new friends.

No booking is required - simply drop in and pay on arrival!

Key information, locations & dates

£1 Soft Play - Monday to Friday,
9am - 5pm, pending availability.

For opening hours, see:

<https://www.newrymournedown.org/newry-leisure-centre-cecil-street>

Children must be supervised at all times by a responsible adult aged 16 years or over.

Soft play is perfect for kids under 12 years or under 4'9" (1.45m) tall.

Please keep in mind we have a limit on numbers, so entry may be restricted once we reach capacity.

Léim isteach
sa tSamhradh
le splais mhór!

Dive into summer
with a big splash!

Dive into our summer programme with our £1 swims, join a crash course in swimming lessons to quickly boost your skills or get involved in a junior lifeguard course to build water confidence and safety awareness.

Enjoy the calm of our autism swim sessions in a supportive and sensory-aware environment or don't miss the excitement of Tropicana, our heated outdoor pool complex and the ever-popular Tropicarama fun sessions—perfect for families.



Léim
isteach sa
tSnámh ar £1
Dive in for
a £1 Swim

Seisiúin Snámha do Pháistí - £1 Children's £1 swim sessions

Enjoy our £1 Summer Swims this July and August at Newry Leisure Centre and Down Leisure Centre! Available Monday to Friday, 9am - 5pm for children under 16 years old, it's a great way to stay active, kick back and have fun in the main pools or splash around in the leisure pools with fun play features.

Due to demand, pre-booking throughout the week is strongly recommended to avoid disappointment.

To book, log into NMD Be Active app - select Leisure Centre - select 'Book Swimming' tile or call into your local Leisure Centre in advance.



Blaschúrsaí Snámha do Pháistí Children's swimming crash courses

Make a splash this summer with our fun and focused swimming crash courses, running throughout July and August in Newry Leisure Centre, Down Leisure Centre and Tropicana outdoor swimming complex in Newcastle.

These week-long programmes offer 30-minute daily lessons designed to help children build confidence and improve their swimming skills quickly in a supportive environment.

Lessons available include:

Stanley swimming lessons –
for beginners aged 4–6 years

Octopus swimming lessons –
for beginners aged 7+ years

To secure your place on a swimming crash course or junior lifeguard course, log into NMD Be Active app - select Leisure Centre - select 'Sports Camp' tile - select link or call into your local Leisure Centre in advance.

Places are limited.

Please see booking information and T&Cs on page 15 and 16.

Cúrsaí Garda Tarrthála Sóisire Junior Lifeguard Courses

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Our junior lifeguard courses run throughout July and August, offering children aged 7 to 15 years the chance to develop important lifesaving skills in a fun and safe environment.

To join, participants should be comfortable swimming 50m (25m front crawl and 25m backstroke).

These courses are a fantastic way for young swimmers to build confidence, learn water safety, and gain valuable experience as part of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council's summer programme.



Seisiúin Snámha atá oiriúnach don uathachas Autism Swim Sessions

Seisiúin Snámha atá oiriúnach don uathachas Autism Swim Sessions

Dedicated autism-friendly swim sessions are available at Down Leisure Centre, Newry Leisure Centre and Tropicana, Newcastle, providing a welcoming and supportive environment for autistic individuals and their families.

These sessions are designed with sensory needs in mind — offering a quieter, more relaxed setting with reduced noise levels and fewer swimmers in the pool. The aim is to make swimming a positive and enjoyable experience for those who may find regular sessions overwhelming.

Whether its building confidence in the water, learning essential swim skills, or simply having fun as a family, our autism-friendly sessions offer a safe space for everyone to enjoy at their own pace.

Due to demand, pre booking is strongly recommended to avoid disappointment.

Locations & times:
Down Leisure Centre Thursday, 5pm – 6pm
Newry Leisure Centre Sunday 9.45am – 10.45am
Tropicana, Newcastle Friday 12.30pm – 1.30pm
Price:
Normal swim entry pricing applies
Booking:
To book, log into NMD Be Active app - select Leisure Centre - select 'Book Swimming' tile or call into your local Leisure Centre in advance.



Tropicana
Ionad Snámha
Lasmuigh,
An Caisleán Nua
Tropicana
outdoor
Swimming Complex
Newcastle

Spraoi Samhraidh i gcroílár an Chaisleáin Nua!

Summer Fun in the Heart of Newcastle!

Get ready to make a splash this summer at Tropicana Outdoor Swimming Complex, right in the centre of Newcastle! Opening on June 30, and throughout July and August, Tropicana offers heated outdoor pools perfect for sunny swim sessions and fun days out with family and friends.

The complex features two pools, heated for your comfort, including a toddler pool with a small slide available for children under 8 years old.

Weather

Please note, in the event of severe weather conditions, some facilities may need to close for safety reasons. For the latest updates, please see our NMD Be Active Facebook page.

Seasonal opening times (June 30 - August 31)

Monday	12pm – 5.30pm
Tuesday	12pm – 8pm
Wednesday	12pm – 5.30pm
Thursday	12pm – 8pm
Friday	12pm – 5.30pm
Saturday	10am – 5.30pm
Sunday	2pm – 5.30pm

Tropicarama (Fun sessions)

Every Tuesday & Thursday 6pm – 8pm

Swimming –

Casual Pay-As-You-Go prices:

Pay-As-You-Go 16+	£3.50
Pay-As-You-Go Concession	£2.70
Pay-As-You-Go Under 4	Free
Pay-As-You-Go Group Ticket (2 adults & 2 Children)	£10.50

Booking:

Due to demand, pre-booking is strongly recommended to avoid disappointment. To book, log into NMD Be Active app - select Leisure Centre - select 'Book Swimming' tile or call into your local Leisure Centre in advance

Swim sessions are added regularly throughout the summer and you can only book 8 days in advance. All bookings are non refundable and non transferable unless cancelled by Council.



Eolas Áirithinte

Booking Information

All activities are sold on a first come first serve basis.

You must have booked and paid for your activity to secure your place.

All bookings are non-refundable and non-transferable unless cancelled by Council.

Regarding our pools, each has a maximum capacity to ensure everyone's safety and comfort, so entry may be limited during busy times.

To avoid disappointment—especially during weekends and holiday periods—we strongly recommend pre-booking your swim in advance using the NMD Be Active app.

To book swimming, log into the NMD Be Active app, choose your preferred centre — Newry, Down, or Newcastle — and tap the 'Book General Swimming' for swim sessions or tap the 'Swimming lessons' tile for lessons and courses.

Booking can also be made by telephoning 0330 137 4026 or by calling into your nearest leisure centre.

For more information on any activities on the summer programme, please email your preferred leisure centre. Contact information is page 17.



Téarmaí agus Coinníollacha

Terms and Conditions

Children attending the multi-sports camps must have completed Primary 1 in the 2024/2025 academic school year.

Please arrive no more than 10 minutes before the activity is due to start and be prompt for collection times.

It is recommended all participants wear suitable footwear, casual clothing and should be prepared for indoor and outdoor activities.

Participants are advised to bring a refillable water bottle and bring a healthy snack or a lunch.

Parents/Guardians are responsible for applying sunscreen to participants before they arrive.

Please note we are unable to provide one to one personal care such as toileting and feeding.

All bookings are non-refundable and non-transferable unless cancelled by Council.

Pool admission policy

All children under 8 years must be accompanied by an adult aged 16 or over in the water at all times, who must stay in close proximity to supervise the child.

This person may accompany up to 1 child under the age of 4, or 2 children where at least one of which is aged over 4 years.

Any person under the influence of drugs or alcohol will be refused admission.

For swimming pool group bookings, the normal admission policy applies.

Additional Tropicana admission policy

When visiting Tropicana our normal admission policy applies, however children who are non-swimmers must wear a secure flotation device such as fitted armbands or a buoyancy aid.



CONTACTS

Ballymote Sports and Wellbeing Centre
 96 Glebetown Drive, Downpatrick BT30 6PX
 T: 0330 137 4026
 E: ballymotesportsandwellbeingcentre@nmandd.org

Down Leisure Centre
 114 Market Street, Downpatrick BT30 6LZ
 T: 0330 137 4026
 E: downleisurecentre@nmandd.org

Kilkeel Leisure Centre
 Mourne Esplanade, Kilkeel BT34 4DB
 T: 0330 137 4026
 E: kilkeel.reception@nmandd.org

Newcastle Centre
 10-14 Central Promenade, Newcastle BT33 0AA
 T: 0330 137 4026
 E: newcastlecentre@nmandd.org

Newry Leisure Centre
 60 Cecil Street, Newry BT35 6AU
 T: 0330 137 4026
 E: poolreception@nmandd.org



Please check the NMD Be Active app or
www.newrymournedown.org/leisure-and-sport
 for the latest information on timetables and opening times.

NMD Be Active App
 Download it NOW



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@nmdcouncil

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	16 June 2025
Subject:	Policing & Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) and Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership (NRP) Report
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Alison Robb, Assistant Director: Community Development
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Martina Flynn, 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To note the report. To note the attached Minutes of the Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership (NRP) Meeting held on 26 March 2025, and approved at the Newry NRP meeting on 28 May 2025. To note the attached Minutes of the Policing Committee & PCSP Meeting held on 25 March 2025, approved at the Policing Committee & PCSP Meeting on 27 May 2025. <p>Background The attachments referenced above are provided to update the Committee on the ongoing work of the PCSP and Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership.</p>
2.0	Key issues
2.1	None.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	<p>That the Committee note the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes of Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership Meeting held on 26 March 2025, approved at the Newry NRP meeting held on 28 May 2025. Minutes of the Policing Committee & PCSP Meeting held on 25 March 2025, approved at the Policing Committee & PCSP Meeting on 27 May 2025.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	None.
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i>

	It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>
5.3	<p><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)
.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	Appendices
7.1	<p>Appendix 1: Minutes of the Newry NRP Meeting held on 26 March 2025.</p> <p>Appendix 2: Minutes of the Policing Committee & PCSP meeting held on 25 March 2025.</p>
8.0	Background Documents
8.1	None.



**Minutes of the Newry NR Partnership Meeting
Wednesday 26th March 2025
At 7.00pm
Room 1, WIN Business Centre**

In Attendance:

Mrs Catherine O'Hanlon,	Area Manager Department for Communities
Mr Paul Magennis,	Barcroft CA
Ms Maeve McParland,	Newry and Mourne Enterprise Agency
Mr Sean Mc Kevitt,	Newry Mourne and Down District Council (minutes)
Mr Raymond Jackson,	Confederation of Community Groups
Mrs Janet Naughton,	Community Restorative Justice Ireland
Mrs Maureen Ruddy,	Martins Lane CA
Mr Aiden McCabe,	Southern Health and Social Care Trust
Ms Noreen Rice,	Meadow Armagh Road CA
Ms Maureen O'Gorman,	Education Authority NI Youth service
Ms Oragh Morgan,	Greater Linenhall area CA
Ms Diana O'Hanlon,	Greater Linenhall Area CA
Ms Kathleen Magee,	Derrybeg CA
Dr Conor Patterson,	Newry and Mourne Enterprise Agency

Others attending:

Seamus McCabe,	PIPS Hope and Support
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Apologies:

Mrs Paula McGuigan	Chairperson, NRP (Carnagat CA)
Mr Collie Hanna,	Vice Chairperson, NRP (Barcroft CA)
Mrs Joanne Markey,	Carnagat CA
Ms Kerri Morrow,	Newry Mourne & Down District Council
Ms Bernie Mooney,	EANI
Ms Josephine Morgan	Northern Ireland Housing Executive
Ms Heather Kavanagh,	Southern Regional College
Ms Francine Ruddy,	Martins Lane CA
Ms Shauna McCourt,	Drumalane Quayside CA

Matters Discussed

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Apologies
3. Baton of Hope Presentation – Seamus McCabe (PIPS Hope and Support)
4. Minutes/Matters arising.
5. Conflict of Interest.
6. Sub-group updates
7. DfC update.
8. A.O.B
9. Date of next meeting.

ITEM	SUBJECT	MATTERS ARISING/UPDATE	ACTIONS	By Whom
1	Welcome / Introductions	As both the Chair and Vice Chair were unable to attend Mrs Catherine O'Hanlon (DfC) chaired the meeting in their absence. Catherine welcomed everyone to the meeting and especially welcomed Seamus McCabe, PIPS Hope and Support		

2.	Apologies	Recorded as above.		
3.	Seamus McCabe Baton of Hope presentation	<p>Baton of Hope tour 3rd September</p> <p>The Baton of Hope is the UK's biggest suicide prevention initiative. It is a national movement aimed at breaking stigma, raising awareness, and supporting change. It symbolises hope, resilience, and action in the fight against suicide. It starts real conversations and empowers communities to take action. The Baton is coming to Newry & surrounding areas on Wednesday, September 3rd and PIPs are hoping to get as many community, voluntary and statutory groups involved with the tour.</p> <p>Suicide is the leading cause of death among people under 50 in GB & Northern Ireland. Northern Ireland has one of the highest suicide rates in Europe. Every suicide impacts families, friends, and entire communities. 1 in 4 people experience a mental health problem each year, yet 40% don't seek help due to stigma.</p> <p>As the Baton of Hope travels through our District, each community will host powerful and engaging events, such as: Remembrance Ceremonies – Honouring loved ones lost to suicide. Tree Planting Initiatives – Symbolising growth, healing, and resilience. Music & Cultural Performances – Bringing communities together through creativity and shared experience. Sport & Wellbeing Activities – Promoting mental and physical health. Community Gatherings – Safe spaces for reflection, connection, and conversation.</p> <p>The tour will finish at Newry Leisure Centre Opportunity for NR to get involved. Carry the baton - £20 per person to carry the baton. Celebrate in some way with an event in each area or a combined event.</p>		

		<p>The Communities will come together in some way to come up with ideas</p> <p>Members thanked Seamus for his presentation</p>	Circulate the slides of the presentation	Sean
4.	Minutes/matters arising.	<p>Minutes agreed as accurate. Proposed by Noreen Rice and seconded by Maureen Ruddy</p> <p>Matters arising: No Matters arising</p>		
5.	Conflict of interest	No Conflicts of interest declared		
6.	Subgroup updates	<p>Capital:</p> <p>NIHE – Carnagat Extension</p> <p>Work has commenced. Contractor on site working for a completion date of 30th June 2025</p> <p><u>Revenue:</u></p> <p><u>EANI:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Update <p>EA Youth service: <u>Newry High School Project-</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newcomer Programme- going well with 20- 25 young people <p><u>Derrybeg Youth Group-</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 young people participating in a Health and 		

		<p>Wellbeing Programme. Project completed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recruiting for new programme. <p><u>St Joseph's Boys HS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accredited leadership training <p><u>Newry Young Men's Group</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 12 young men, engaging in health and well-being programme. Moving to accreditation <p><u>Horizons</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 14 young people – 1 year programme, delivered in partnership with Magnet YAC. Young people going to France• Youth engagement programmes end 31 March – now at evaluation stage.• Mapping youth services for young people with additional needs - updating the resource.• EA - research with children and young people. Issues – poverty and the impact on their future, employment /housing/climate change and the impact on their well-being. Consult all children and young people across Newry area <p>Health:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reprofiled money into Cardiac screening – 16+ Booked out• Autism reality experience – evening session well attended• Physical activity completed		
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tackling Isolation and Loneliness initiative (TILT)<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Exploring a new webpage- Roll out banner campaign – raise awareness- Hundreds of triggers – Loneliness in the workplace / in relationships /18 – 25-year-olds / loneliness of carers / loneliness in schools. 1 in 4 people lonely-talk more about it• Walk leader training available <p>SRC: Tops 61 residents participated in the training</p> <p>Courses offered;-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cat C and Cat C+E• Level 2 Defib• SIA Door security• PSA Door security• CSR Card• Level 2 World Host/Customer services• Tipper / Dumper,• Forklift /Telescopic Forklift,• Street Works. <p>NMEA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Career pathways event in St Mary’s High School tomorrow• 1st session from 9.30am – 10.30am• 2nd Session 11.00am – 12.00pm – Photocall at 10.45am• S&W wholesale donated 350 goody bags for the event• Work placements for 30 pupils		
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study visits for St Mary's. • Confidence building session delivered to year 8 students <p>NMDDC: Community Renewal-Running costs programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarter 4 claims are now required. Ask groups to complete their claims and forward their reports ASAP. • All groups working to capacity. Delivering a wide range of activity within their respective communities. • We congratulate all the volunteers on their continued hard work in supporting others. <p>Community Renewal support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCG delivering ongoing support to all the groups (governance, funding, training etc.) • Preparing groups for any upcoming AGM's. • CCG community information event • Cathy taking over Laurance Bradley's role • Fiona Ferris will take on Cathy's role as NR Support Worker on 1 April • No recent meetings of 36 NRP forum • Waiting on confirmation of new programmes • Credit Union scheme for another month to help those in most need. Funding support for anyone who is severely impacted. Purely for utility bills. <p>Outdoor activity –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All targets met – Budget spent • All 9 NR Community groups/user groups and other organisations have availed of the programme 		
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• IFA NCC Level 1 course completed. <p>Safer Stronger Communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Janet informed members that this would be her last meeting, and thanked the members for their support in her time with the partnership and working in NR• OCN Level 2 in Restorative practices – 14 candidates• Fixing Things Programmes for St Malachy’s and St Patrick’s Primary Schools for 6 weeks rather than 4 weeks – 107 pupils took part• 7th February engagement event with ethnic minority communities. Held in Sticky Fingers. Very successful• Restorative cases ongoing <p>The members thanked Janet for all her hard work and support to NR communities and wished her every success in the future.</p> <p><u>Community updates</u></p> <p><u>Barcroft</u> Loanda house 40 years old this year Anniversary night 27th April – members of the original committee to attend. Applied for entertainment license – some issues. Distributed 150 Easter eggs to Parent and Toddler group and children and young people. We currently have low numbers of volunteers causing some difficulties. Look to try and address this</p> <p><u>Greater Linenhall Area</u> Recent AGM Rhoda McKevitt elected as chairperson Running health programmes with children</p>		
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		<p>Saturday club Planning our Easter programmes</p> <p><u>Martin's Lane</u> Awaiting on our accounts for our AGM Hopeful to recruit support from males in the area Fitness programme has finished Dance programme on Mondays Planning Easter activities</p> <p><u>Derrybeg</u> Working towards the AGM Easter trips planned- Fort Evergreen for children and a trip for older people. Weekly bingo Arts and crafts for children 8 – 11 years programme Live Here Love Here programme – planters are completed and ready for planting. Youth programme delivered by EA youth service.</p> <p><u>MARCA</u> Physical activities for children Monthly bingo Disco Management of the centre and our user groups</p> <p>Working with Cathy from CCG – provide utility costs for local people</p>		
7.	DfC Update	<p>OBA area report – agree 3 – 4 stories. Require this within 10 days. Application for additional money for groups running costs.</p>		

		Thanks all the community volunteers and agencies for their continued hard work.		
8.	A.O.B	<p><u>No More Business</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Everyone thanked for attending and NMEA and Sean thanked for the hospitality provided 		
9.	Date of Next Meeting	Wednesday 28 th May 7.00pm in WIN Business Centre	Circulate details and all information	Sean

POLICING COMMITTEE AND POLICING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

Minutes of the Newry, Mourne & Down Policing Committee and Policing & Community Safety Partnership Meeting held on Tuesday 25th March 2025 at 6.00pm at Council Chamber, Monaghan Row, Newry and remotely via MS Teams

In attendance in Chamber:

Michelle Osborne, *PCSP Independent Member (Vice Chair - Acting Chair for meeting)*
 Superintendent Norman Haslett, *PSNI*
 Chief Inspector Joe Tierney, *PSNI*
 Chief Inspector Adam Ruston, *PSNI*
 Cllr Oonagh Hanlon, *NMDDC*
 Cllr Aidan Mathers, *NMDDC*
 Cllr Declan Murphy, *NMDDC*
 Cllr Kate Murphy, *NMDDC*
 Cllr David Taylor, *NMDDC*
 Cllr Henry Reilly, *NMDDC*
 Joann Doherty, *DOJ*
 Aidan McCabe, *Southern Health Trust*
 Niall Lawlor, *PCSP Independent Member*

In attendance via Teams:

Aileen O Callaghan, *EANI*
 Inspector Paul Connolly, *PSNI*
 Inspector Kelly Gibson, *PSNI*
 Inspector Darren Hardy, *PSNI*
 Cllr Conor Galbraith, *NMDDC*
 Cllr Jill Truesdale, *NMDDC*
 Michael Heaney, *YJA*
 Josephine Morgan, *NIHE*
 Louise Kennedy, *PCSP Independent Member*
 David Vint, *PCSP Independent Member*
 William Slater, *PCSP Independent Member*
 Jacki Urey, *PCSP Officer*

NMDDC Staff Officials in attendance in Chamber:

Martina Flynn, Head of Engagement
 Shannon Creaney, Acting Safer Communities & Good Relations Manager
 Kaitlyn Hanna, PCSP Officer
 Amy McKeown, Monitoring & Evaluation Officer, PCSP and Good Relations

1 Welcome, Chairperson's Remarks and Apologies

Vice Chair Michelle Osborne welcomed Members to the Partnership meeting.

Apologies were received from Cllr Terry Andrews, Cllr Doire Finn, Alison Robb, Roisin Leckey, Gerard Kearney, Claire Crainey, Martina Byrne, Colleen McCreesh and Anne Sheridan.

The Vice Chair thanked members for attending the meeting. She welcomed Chief Inspector Adam Ruston to the district as the new Chief Inspector for engagement. She also welcomed Joann Doherty from DoJ who was in attendance.

The Vice Chair noted that it had been a busy period for events, with the Community Safety & wellbeing event in Newry Leisure Centre in particular being a great success with over 200 members of the public and schools in attendance.

The Vice Chair noted applications for PCSP Financial Assistance closed on the 24th of February and informed members that a list of successful applicants will be issued to members once letters of offers are issued to successful groups.

Vice Chair discussed housekeeping rules before the formal business of the meeting began.

2 Declarations of Interest

None recorded.

3 Draft Minutes of previous PCSP & Policing Committee Meeting held on 28 January 2025

Read: Minutes of PCSP & Policing Committee Meeting held on 28 January 2025 (copy circulated).

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor O Hanlon, seconded by Councillor K Murphy it was agreed to approve the Minutes of the Policing Committee and PCSP Meeting held on 28 January 2025 as a true and accurate record.

4 Matters Arising

None recorded.

Policing Committee Business

5 District Commander's Report – Period 5

Read: District Commander's Report – Period 5 (copy circulated)

Superintendent Haslett provided the District Commander's Report to the Partnership, highlighting the following points:

Engagement

Superintendent Haslett began by advising that the Chief Constable has gone on record to state that policing has been severely underfunded over the last number of years compared to

other public sectors to the extent that police numbers have been allowed to shrink to levels which he has described as being dangerously low. Superintendent Haslett provided context by stating that the local policing teams across Northern Ireland were approx. 260 officers short. And in terms of Neighbourhood policing teams were approximately 390 officers short. Superintendent Haslett advised that this is affecting how officers are deployed across the district. He advised however, that despite these shortages of numbers our policing team are holding their own in terms of performance across the district.

Superintendent Haslett stated to the partners that despite the cuts in numbers in the neighbourhood teams, there continues to be excellent engagement across the district and that this is captured in the report.

Hate Crime

Superintendent Haslett advised that incidents are down by 20% and the number of hate crimes are down by 34% in Newry, Mourne and Down within the last 12 month rolling period.

Anti-Social Behaviour

Superintendent Haslett stated that ASB levels in Newry, Mourne and Down have continued to remain at low averages, although there has been a slight increase over the last 12-month period by 1%, which accounts for approximately 30 incidents.

Mr Haslett advised that there are locations with 4 or more records of ASB from February 2025 which are: Ardmore Drive in Hilltown, Saul Street Downpatrick, The Mall Newry and Donard Park Newcastle.

Domestic Abuse

Superintendent Haslett provided an update on domestic abuse & ending violence against women and girls and advised that this continues to be a priority for the PSNI. He reported that there has been a decrease in incidents of domestic abuse and violence against women and girls by 12% over the last 12 months. Superintendent Haslett noted that domestic incidents have decreased by 129 incidents and the number of reported offences regarding domestic violence has decreased by 264 incidents.

Mr Haslett stated he believes there is a greater confidence in Domestic Abuse victims reporting incidents to the PSNI, Women's Aid, Men's Advisory Project, other charities, or via a third party. He advised that there was new legislation introduced a number of years ago regarding controlling coercive behaviour and stalking offences.

Superintendent Haslett discussed Op Encompass which was pioneered in this district from September 2021 whereby PSNI refer young people who have had adverse childhood experience in witnessing domestic incidents in their homes. In this reported period, this school year up to 28th February, Police in this district have attended a total of 427 domestic incidents where the Op Encompass criteria has been met. A staggering total of 818 children have been referred to schools or further education colleges as they have been exposed to these adverse childhood experiences.

Mr Haslett touched on the One Stop Shop initiative by Armagh & Down Women's Aid whereby partner agencies who may be a support to victims of Domestic Abuse set up a shop in Newry Library for a few hours once a month. Superintendent Haslett noted the parties involved in this initiative as, Women's Aid, Citizens Advice, Solicitors, Housing Executive, PSNI & the PSNI Crime Prevention Officer. The scheme began in Autumn of last year and the next session is scheduled for 3rd April. So far in total this year there has been 24 attendees at this initiative.

Road Safety

Superintendent Haslett provided an update and announced that there have been 0 fatalities on our roads in the Newry, Mourne and Down District since the previous PCSP Meeting. Superintendent Haslett noted a total of 6 fatalities in the district in the last financial year. This compares to 11 fatalities in the previous financial year to date.

Superintendent Haslett confirmed that Road Safety continues to be a priority for the PSNI. Superintendent Haslett advised that during the reporting period there were 62 speeding detections, 59 detections for careless & dangerous driving, 38 arrests for drinking or drug driving and 22 detections for using a mobile phone or not using a seatbelt. Officers detected a further 83 vehicles being driven with no insurance.

During January, the Road Safety Partnership speed camera van was deployed in the district 33 times with 301 speeding detections made. In January & February 2025 it was deployed 39 times with 396 speeding detections.

Superintendent Haslett advised that there has been progress on the Kids Court scheme. Mr Haslett spoke with colleagues within their operational support department, and it has been agreed that the Kids Court's will be re-established and piloted in Newry, Mourne & Down from the end of April. A neighbourhood team in Newcastle will be used, and one neighbourhood team from either Newry or South Armagh to pilot this scheme.

Drugs

Superintendent Haslett informed the Partnership that in a rolling 365-day period the drugs statistics have overall decreased in Newry, Mourne & Down.

Superintendent Haslett noted a spike in suspected drug deaths in the district. He noted that there have been 5 deaths since January, of which 2 were in the month of January 3 in the Month of March. 3 incidents in the Downpatrick area and 2 in Newry. As these incidents are still under investigation Superintendent Haslett could not comment on the detail but advised that the deaths are suspected to be due to prescription drugs.

Superintendent Haslett advised that today he has written to colleagues in the Public Health Authority to arrange a meeting regarding future steps. Mr Haslett advised that arrests will not rectify this issue but instead they will attempt to approach this issue with a preventative angle. He stated that he would be keen to explore preventative education with the partners in the health agency in the near future.

South Armagh Policing Review

Superintendent Haslett discussed the South Armagh Policing Review. He advised that the partnership would know that of the 50 recommendations within the review, 47 lie within

Superintendent Haslett's remit as the local district commander to implement. Of those, 45 have now been implemented and closed or are ongoing in terms of actions on the ground, Mr Haslett advised this will be evident to the community within South Armagh.

Superintendent Haslett also added that recommendation 43 of the report discusses cross border accountability and the setting up of cross border accountability mechanisms through the PCSP in the North and community safety partnerships in the South. Mr Haslett advised that he had written to the Chair on the 2nd of January proposing that once a year we would invite colleagues from An Garda Síochána from Louth and Monaghan to a PCSP event where PSNI and the Gardai could do a joint presentation to the partnership on how they have tackled cross border crime. Likewise, PSNI would once a year participate in one of their community safety partnership events.

General

Mr Haslett informed the partnership that as of Monday 3rd February, because of the issues regarding numbers of neighbourhood officers in the district, they have merged the 2 Slieve Gullion teams into one single team. This is for the purposes of effectiveness and efficiency.

Superintendent Haslett stated that there has been a 15% decrease in overall crime in the district over the past 12 months. The district clearance rate is 33% with the service average at 31%. Mr Haslett clarified that essentially 1 in every 3 victims is receiving a positive justice outcome when they report an incident to the PSNI.

Mr Haslett noted that almost all crimes are down from last year. Violence against the person is down by 10.5%, violence with injury down by 11.9%, sexual offences are down 3.2%, robberies are down 21.4%, theft down 15.8%, burglaries down 1.2%, criminal damage down 18.8% and shoplifting down by 11.4%.

Superintendent Haslett returned to the subject of assaults on police officers. In the last reporting period officers have attended 11 separate incidents in 13 officers having been assaulted. These assaults range from kicks, punches, officers having been spat on and 2 separate incidents involving the ramming of police vehicles. These happened on the 24th January in Newry and the 25th January in Bessbrook.

Superintendent Haslett touched on one incident which took place in Downpatrick which was an attempted murder on the 14th March, whereby 2 females were attacked in Downpatrick. One male was arrested, charged and is currently remanded in prison. Mr Haslett added that this was a particularly horrific attack and would like to pay tribute to the officers who were first on the scene who rendered first aid to the victims, established the scene and rapidly located and arrested the suspect.

Mr Haslett discussed changes to the senior management team. Chief Inspector Adam Ruston has joined from Armagh & Banbridge District on promotion as the new Engagement Chief Inspector for the District. Chief Inspector Joe Tierney has been promoted into the district and is the new Performance Chief Inspector. There are also some changes to the local neighbourhood teams, Inspector Kelly Gibson has now reverted to her Newry Neighbourhood post. Temporary Inspector Paul Connolly will be taking over in Slieve Gullion. In Newcastle, Inspector Shiela Loughran has retired after 30 years of admirable service to the Police Service, and she has been replaced by Inspector Paddy Heatley. These changes will be emailed to partners this week.

Superintendent Haslett noted that partners will have in their meeting papers a draft of the proposed Local Policing Plan for 2025-2026. This Local Policing Plan is based on the Northern Ireland Policing Plan which will be launched by the Chief Constable at the next sitting of the Northern Ireland Policing Board. The 3 main themes that the Chief Constable wishes to focus on is victims of crime, the community and the PSNI workforce.

This concluded Superintendent Haslett's report.

Cllr A Mathers commented on the recent death of a lady in the Meadow area last week, he thanked Superintendent Haslett and Inspector Ruston for responding to his calls in relation to this. He advised that family members from Belfast of the deceased had reached out to him in relation to the death. Because of the information sharing he was able to offer some comfort to the family in terms of rumours that were circulating at that time.

Cllr O Hanlon thanked Martina Flynn and her Team for the Ending Violence Against Women & Girls conference, she noted that it was very well organised and that the speakers were very good. She noted that the attendance reflected the importance of the subject and its need to educate the community. Cllr Hanlon also noted her thanks to Jacqui Urey in regards to setting up the One Stop Shop in Downpatrick, she thanked Louise Kennedy for also supporting this initiative. Cllr Hanlon stated that there were numerous people who approached her to state how they welcomed this programme in the area. Cllr Hanlon added that it was important to note the domestic incidents that have taken place in Downpatrick in regards to the fatality in Saul Street and the knife crime incident. She asked Superintendent Haslett to clarify what support families received after these incidents. Superintendent Haslett replied to advise that generally for these incidents a family liaison officer would be appointed, and the investigating officers would have an obligation under their service policy and procedure to give very regular updates to the victims of crime in terms of changes or updates during the investigation.

Louise Kennedy referred back to Cllr O Hanlon's question and advised that if there were a victim of crime that they would get a referral to Victim Support Northern Ireland. She also commented on the attempted murder case to note the prevalence of violence against women and girls. She also commended the officers involved for their response and hoped that they would also receive adequate support.

Louise Kennedy also noted the Local Policing Plan and the violence against women, she noted that one of the measures is repeat victimhood. She asked if the police have considered repeat perpetrators in terms of moving from one victim to another. She also reiterated her request in terms of statistics for multiple offences and only the most major offence being reported and if this is affecting the statistics.

Superintendent Haslett thanked Louise for her questions. He noted that victims will be automatically referred to Victim support and Women's Aid and that this is being reminded to officers to push this referral. Superintendent Haslett Commented on repeat offenders and added that they have a specific repeat offenders unit based in Ardmore & Downpatrick specifically looking at offenders who offend regularly. He noted that they are very aware of this, and that information sharing is in place with other partners including social services and Victim Support. He noted as an action to ensure information on the statistics is sent to Louise Kennedy.

Inspector Kelly Gibson noted that for repeat victims of domestic abuse, this is something that the PSNI and PPU are very aware of and monitor and that through the DASH assessment they would identify this as an issue. She added that they wish to push the domestic violence and abuse disclosure scheme, where someone can apply for disclosure on a new partner or family

members partner. This mechanism allows individuals to make enquiries about individuals that they, a family member or a friend are in a relationship with and if a sufficient risk is identified then a process to notify the person in a relationship with the offender.

Cllr H Reilly thanked the partnership for the Ending Violence against Women and Girls Conference, he noted how horrific some of the experiences being shared were. He also noted that the fear to call the police is shocking. He commented on the fact that a perpetrator receiving a quick bail after being arrested for such an incident can make it worse for the victim in some cases.

Cllr C Galbraith commended officers for their efforts in Downpatrick recently, he noted his concerns that it is accompanied with a similar rise in drug and alcohol related offences. He noted the serious effect of these crimes on the victims and on their families as well as the effect on the local community. Cllr Galbraith asked if a letter could be written from the PCSP asking the Minister of Justice to work collaboratively with the Minister of Health and Minister of Education to bring forward an action plan and resource implementation plan to reduce violent offending and the risk of re-offending.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Galbraith, seconded by Cllr Taylor it was agreed to compose a letter to the Minister of Justice asking to work collaboratively with the Minister of Health and Minister of Education to bring forward an action plan and resource implementation plan to reduce violent offending and the risk of re-offending.

Aidan McCabe echoed the comments from others regarding the EVAWG Conference and congratulated Martina and the PCSP team. He noted to the other males on the committee to ensure that they attend in numbers for future similar events as he stated there is a responsibility for men to encourage other men to attend and raise awareness of the dangers associated with being a woman.

Cllr D Taylor sent his apologies for not being able to attend the conference and asked if the presentations or material could be distributed to PCSP Members.

Cllr J Truesdale commended the conference and the information that was shared during it. She asked if the videos could be shared for distribution on social media. She thanked Martina and the PCSP team for organising this event. She suggested the idea of mini conferences with the same message to go out across the district.

Cllr J Truesdale commented on the horrendous figures coming from Op Encompass and noted that there is room for work from PCSP on what exactly an adverse childhood experience is and how it affects a child for the remainder of their life.

Aileen O'Callaghan spoke on the EVAWG conference and commended the team. She agreed with Aidan McCabe that there is a need to increase attendance of young men at these types of events to get the message across. Aileen O'Callaghan noted that the EA have a local assessment of need that has been ongoing where they engage with young people across the district, and they have had substantial stakeholder engagement with the young people. She added that young girls are stating that they are fearful and that they do not feel safe or protected. She stated that it is an area for work for the PCSP to engage with the youth services and engage with young people on this topic.

William Slater noted his congratulations to the team for organising the EVAWG conference and stated that the testimonials from the speakers were very powerful. He added that he hopes

to see further similar events where the issues are covered such as promoting of positive male role models and responsible use of social media.

Martina Flynn thanked members for conveying their thanks and noted that it was very much appreciated. She noted the large amount of work that went into organising this conference and passed on her thanks to all members of staff that assisted with this. She noted that there are a number of events planned over the next year and another large conference is being organised in partnership with Women's Aid as today's conference was the start of the conversations on this topic. She added that they will take away all information gathered from this conference and create an EAWG Action Plan for the Council, with some very clear actions that will be taken forward on a corporate level. Mrs Flynn also added that training awareness sessions took place with the elected members, business engagement events with local businesses and that financial assistance for EAWG closed in February. She noted that the budget is only £135,000 and they received applications totalling £280,000, she added that unfortunately not all projects can be funded because of the limitations in the budget. She noted that they have approached The Executive Office to see if there is any potential for further allocation to this council area that we would be considered in order to maintain the momentum that has been created. Mrs Flynn added that presentations and videos from the conference can be circulated with members.

Cllr O Hanlon noted the ratio of women to men at the conference and added that if a future event takes place more young men could be invited.

Niall Lawlor followed on by praising the EAWG Conference and noted the importance of male presence at these events. Mr Lawlor added that the participation from school aged males in his workshop at the conference should be noted as they spoke very eloquently and engaged with the subject very well. He noted that their perspective was really important.

Superintendent Haslett apologised that he could not attend the conference. He asked that in future planning for these events that the police from both sides of the border could present as they could add important inputs.

Martina Flynn responded to say that last year they did organise a cross-border event on domestic violence. Mrs Flynn noted that while PSNI are one partner there are many other partners in terms of addressing EAWG in a meaningful way from a corporate perspective. She added that today's conference was focused on hearing from the victims, it was important to hear their input to understand the impact of EAWG and domestic abuse. She added that all stakeholders will be involved in planning going forward, but she maintains that it is crucially important to maintain the victim at the centre of everything that we do. She also clarified that there was young male representation from local schools, Youth Voice and the EA. She added that there may be space to organise a male only event, but that also through the support of financial assistance projects, some of these will focus on working with young males.

Kelly Gibson noted that Women's Aid and PSNI have been involved in a school's programme working with young males and females in relation to domestic violence and abuse. She added that PSNI will attend and discuss the consequences of these offences. She stated that this is a very successful programme and would be keen to see it rolled out across other schools across the district.

Cllr A Mathers apologised for not being able to attend the conference but noted that during the conference he was dealing with a young vulnerable woman in his Political Office.

PCSP Business

6 PCSP Officer Report

Read: PCSP Officer Report (copy circulated)

Shannon Creaney advised that the PCSP Officer Report is for noting. Ms Creaney noted that it has been a busy period of events, notably the Community Safety & Wellbeing event that took place in Newry Leisure Centre with over 200 people in attendance. She also noted that 4 schools across the district have received the DSM Foundation Play which is a Drug awareness play for schools based on a true story. She added that PCSP hope to bring this to further schools in future. Ms Creaney thanked members for their comments and those that attended and supported the EVAWG conference today. Ms Creaney also reiterated her thanks to PCSP Officer Jacqui Urey for her work on the One Stop Shop in Downpatrick and also to Louise Kennedy for supporting this initiative.

Cllr D Taylor thanked Shannon Creaney for her work on the DSM Plays. He noted that he worked with Shannon to ensure that the play would be shown in Newtownhamilton High School and that he was able to attend also. He added that the play has a local context, and it was important to show this play and promote the message. He added that the local schools have provided feedback and showed their appreciation from staff and pupils.

Kelly Gibson commented on the One Stop Shop and added that from this there has been 3 arrests from Autumn to present based on disclosures that have been made.

7 ASB Sub Group Report

Read: ASB Sub Group Reports (copy circulated)

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor D Taylor, seconded by Councillor A Mathers it was agreed the Committee:

- **Approve the report**
- **Approve the Action Sheet for the ASB Sub Group 1 & 2 meetings held on 18th February and 6th March 2025**

8 Date of Next Meeting

The next PCSP & Policing Committee Meeting will be held Tuesday 27 May 2025 at 6pm.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 6:52pm