

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Ref: AHC/2025

Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 19 May 2025 at 6.00pm in the Council Chambers, Downshire Civic Centre

Chairperson: Councillor C Galbraith

**In attendance
in Chamber:**

Councillor P Campbell	Councillor L Devlin
Councillor R Howell	Councillor J Jackson
Councillor D Lee-Surginor	Councillor A Lewis
Councillor A Mathers	Councillor L McEvoy
Councillor D Murphy	

Committee Members in

attendance (via Teams): Councillor M Gibbons Councillor O Magennis
Councillor K Murphy

Non Committee Members

in attendance: Councillor T Andrews

Officials in Chamber:

Mr A Patterson, Director, Active and Healthy Communities
Mr C Haughey, Assistant Director, Healthy Living
Mrs A Robb, Assistant Director, Community Development
Ms S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager
Mrs F Branagh, Democratic Services Officer
Mr C Smyth, Democratic Services Officer

AHC/038/2025: APOLOGIES & CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Apologies were received from Councillor Young.

AHC/039/2025: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

**AHC/040/2025: ACTION SHEET ARISING FROM ACTIVE & HEALTHY
COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 28 APRIL
2025**

Read: Action sheet of the Active & Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 28 April 2025. **(Copy circulated).**

AHC/029/2025 – Action Sheet of AHC Committee Meeting held on 18 March 2025

Councillor Devlin asked that the issue of the running track remain on the action sheet until an update was provided.

AGREED: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Jackson, seconded by Councillor D Murphy, to note the Action Sheet of the Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 28 April 2025.

AHC/041/2025: DISTRICT ELECTORAL AREA (DEA) FORUMS UPDATE REPORT

Read: Report dated 19 May 2025 from Mrs A Robb, Assistant Director, Community Development regarding an update on District Electoral Area (DEA) Forums. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Howell, seconded by Councillor Devlin, to note the report and approve the actions in the action sheets attached for:

- 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.

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

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Mathers, seconded by Councillor D Murphy, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on the following items, which related to exempt information by virtue of para. 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.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Devlin, seconded by Councillor Howell, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

The Chairperson advised the following had been agreed whilst in closed session:

AHC/042/2025: FUNDED PROGRAMME DELIVERY

Read: Report dated 19 May 2025 from Mrs A Robb, Assistant Director, Community Development regarding funding programme delivery. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor D Murphy, seconded by Councillor Howell, 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.

AHC/043/2025: DISPOSAL OF ASSETS

Read: Report dated 19 May 2025 from Mr C Haughey, Assistant Director, Healthy Living Leisure and Sport, regarding disposal of assets. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Devlin, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, to approve the disposal of AHC assets as set out within the officer's report.

AHC/044/2025: FACILITIES SERVICE PROVISION

Read: Report dated 19 May 2025 from Mr C Haughey, Assistant Director, Healthy living Leisure and Sport, regarding facilities service provision. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Mathers, seconded by Councillor D Murphy, to approve the business case and appointment of a suitable supplier to provide the service provision as detailed within the officer's report.

AHC/045/2025: FITNESS ASSETS SERVICE PROVISION

Read: Report dated 19 May 2025 from Mr C Haughey, Assistant Director, Healthy living Leisure and Sport, regarding fitness assets service provision. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Mathers, seconded by Councillor Campbell, to approve the business case and appointment of a suitable supplier to provide the service requirement as detailed within the officer's report.

FOR NOTING

AHC/046/2025: UPDATE REPORT – DIGI-HUB PROJECT AT BESSBROOK COMMUNITY CENTRE

Read: Report dated 19 May 2025 from Mrs A Robb, Assistant Director, Community Development, regarding Digi-hub project at Bessbrook Community Centre. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor D Murphy, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, to note the content of the officer's report.**

AHC/047/2025: AHC CAPITAL PROJECT DELIVERY

Read: Report dated 19 May 2025 from Mr C Haughey, Assistant Director, Healthy living Leisure and Sport, regarding AHC Capital Project Delivery. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Devlin, seconded by Councillor Lee-Surginor, to note the contents of the officer's report.**

The Chairperson reflected that this was his last meeting as chairperson of the Committee stating that he had found it to be a real privilege. He stated that the role had given him the opportunity to work closely with a fantastic team of people and was truly thankful for the support he had received throughout. He extended his thanks and appreciation to Council officers Mr Patterson, Mrs Robb, Mr Haughey and Mr Scott, all of whom had who provided him with consistent advice, support, expertise and patience throughout his term as Chairperson.

Councillor Galbraith gave special mention to Democratic Services staff for their knowledge, professionalism and support. Councillor Galbraith highlighted that whilst this is not at all times visible, it was always essential and readily available when needed. He thanked the Committee members for their professionalism, contributions and the respectful way committee discussions have been conducted.

Councillor Galbraith concluded by offering his best wishes to the next chairperson of the AHC committee and expressed hope that they find the role as rewarding as he had.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 6.24pm.

For adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 2 June 2025.

Signed: Councillor Galbraith
Chairperson

Signed: Andrew Patterson
Director Active and Healthy Communities