

NMD Connect

Incorporating Annual Report 2020/2021

In this edition

RESPONSE TO COVID-19

WORKING TO KEEP YOU SAFE AND WELL
BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE

#STAYSAFE

#STAYSTRONG

#PROTECTEACHOTHER

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR RESIDENTS





In this issue...

2	Chairperson's Welcome
3	Chief Executive's Message
4	Response to COVID-19
10	Working to Keep You Safe and Well
14	Developments and Improvements Across the District
21	Great Outdoors
24	Building a Better Future
27	Supporting Businesses and Others
32	Our District Electoral Area (DEA) Forums
	Annual Report
34	What We Are Aiming to Achieve: Corporate Plan
35	Facts and Figures (Building Control, Licensing)
36	How We Performed: Performance Improvement Plan
37	How We Spend Your Money 2020/21
38	Your Councillors
40	Useful Numbers


Get in touch!


Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

T: 0330 137 4000

E: info@nmandd.org

newrymournedown.org

 [/nmdcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/nmdcouncil)

 [@nmdcouncil](https://twitter.com/nmdcouncil)



Councillor Laura Devlin
Chairperson

When I took on the role of your Chairperson in June 2020 I was aware that it would be a year like no other. However, the unique challenges of COVID-19 have been unprecedented.

As we come to the end of what has been a devastating winter for many, my thoughts are firstly with those who have lost a loved one to coronavirus, as well as with our health care workers who have touched the lives of so many with their dedication, care and compassion. We are indebted to you.

COVID-19 has also brought real hardship, stress and anxiety to many families. And in the difficulties faced it has been my privilege to witness the huge effort to support those most affected in our district.

From the volunteers in our sports clubs, community groups and those working in local hubs, to those who have helped in our foodbanks, I never fail to be impressed by the generous and compassionate spirit that exists in our community.

As Chairperson I had the opportunity to make donations to foodbanks across the district and to see some of the wonderful work undertaken by volunteers at first hand. I was in awe of their dedication and immensely proud of our community. Thank you to each and every one of you. The Council will continue to work together with its partners to help find solutions for those most impacted.

While COVID-19 restrictions meant many of the events I would normally have attended in person turned virtual, I am pleased to have been able to connect with so many of you from home, launching important schemes, engaging with groups and helping to reinforce the COVID-19 health messaging locally.

Thank you to those who shared these messages and did their best to follow the guidance. At times it has been challenging and frustrating, but I really do appreciate all those who contributed to Newry, Mourne and Down's COVID-19 response.

We hope we have come through the worst, but we face many challenges in the months ahead as work continues to unlock our tourism potential and support our local businesses. I will continue to do all I can as Chairperson to work on your behalf.



Thinking back to where we were this time last year, it is hard to contemplate just how much has changed and is now commonplace in our day-to-day lives.

COVID-19 has challenged all of us in ways we never could have imagined, and none have been more impacted than the families grieving loved ones, those fighting to keep businesses afloat, and the key workers who remain on the front line.

As a Council we moved quickly to make our services safe and work with community partners to get help to our most vulnerable residents, and we have continued to adapt as the public health guidance has demanded. I thank again the Council employees and elected members who have often gone above and beyond in their efforts to help.

You will see as you look through this magazine that aside from the initial response to the pandemic, COVID-19 has permeated the thinking across so many of our services. Whether it's how we guide and support businesses in a virtual world, help residents stay active during lockdown, or stay connected with the help of our District Electoral Area (DEA) Forums, I'm sure the new ways we have all found to work together will impact our thinking for years to come.

Ambitious thinking is required now more than ever, and I am pleased that progress continues to be made on major plans to regenerate the district. Over the past year the Council has progressed comprehensive Outline Business Cases for both the Newry City Centre Regeneration and Gateway to the Mournes projects, while working with our Belfast Region City Deal partners on progressing regional programmes that will deliver digital and innovation infrastructure and an employability and skills programme. Ahead of the Council launching its new Corporate Plan for 2021-23 in January, a new Regeneration and Economic Development Strategy was also launched, the core of which is to support local businesses and attract investment and jobs to the district.

There are challenging times ahead as we begin to emerge from the peak of this pandemic, but our plans remain intact.

We want our district to become one of the best places to live, work, invest in and visit.

In the post-COVID world, we will continue to advocate for the best outcomes for our citizens and businesses.



Marie Ward
Chief Executive



Community Coordination Hub at the heart of our COVID-19 response

2020 was a challenging year for all of us, but none more so than for those in our community who were advised to shield or self-isolate from March to the end of July.

In March the Council established the COVID-19 Community Coordination Hub to ensure help reached these most vulnerable people in our district. The aim was to ensure collective, coordinated and targeted action involving the Department for Communities (DfC), the two Health and Social Care Trusts, the Public Health Agency and representative bodies of the Voluntary and Community Sector.

To ensure they could access food and other services, the Council's District Electoral Area (DEA) team took on the role of supporting the Council's COVID-19 Community Coordination Hub at a local level.

Focusing primarily on organising the DfC-funded food parcel scheme, the DEA team managed referrals, oversaw triaging, and coordinated the delivery of food parcels to households via our voluntary and community partners and the individual volunteers who gave up their time to help. Distribution centres were established at Newry Leisure Centre, Down Leisure Centre and Kilkeel Leisure Centre throughout the process.

To get an idea of the challenges faced, during the 17 weeks of shielding,

a total of 18,407 food boxes were delivered with the assistance of 144 organisations and individuals throughout the Newry, Mourne and Down area. During the peak week, 1,902 food boxes were delivered to our most vulnerable residents.

In addition, the DEA coordinators and their support teams also dealt with many non-food referrals on issues such as fuel, medicine, transport and social contact. Working together, the Council and the community provided a valuable lifeline enabling those shielding or self-isolating to obtain what they needed.

The Council is responsible for coordinating the development of the district's Community Plan and working with its partners to deliver it. Much of the response to the crisis was built on relationships established or strengthened through Community Planning. Partners were well prepared to work together and make decisions quickly. We hope to bring the learning from this experience into future service development with our Community Planning partners.



COVID-19 shop enhancement grant scheme

As part of the COVID-19 recovery plan for businesses impacted by COVID-19, the Department for Communities and the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs made funding of £886,000 available to councils to implement a COVID-19 Shop Enhancement Revitalisation Scheme.

Funding for the implementation of measures necessary to comply with social distancing guidelines was made available.

There was a large response across the district to the call for applications and grants of up to £1,000 for equipment including sanitisers and screens.



Time capsule helps residents record pandemic experiences



What will those living 100 years from now make of COVID-19?

To help, the Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) created a time capsule competition for young people across the district. The competition invited them to tell their personal experiences of lockdown in art or print form.

As well as making young people feel heard during lockdown, it is hoped their experiences in the COVID-19 pandemic will be recorded for people to read for years to come.

Hundreds of entries were received, with the winner and runner-up receiving their prizes from PCSP Chairperson, Councillor John Trainor. All entries have been included in a special commemorative book so that each participant will have a lasting reminder of their contribution. A copy of this book has also been placed in a time capsule, which is now buried in a secret location within the district.

In a separate project, Newry, Mourne and Down PCSP also created a short video highlighting the challenges the people of our district faced during the initial lockdown period early in 2020. The video depicts images of empty streets and quiet tourist areas around the district.

Noting the significant public response to the video via social media, the Public Records Office NI (PRONI) requested that the piece be included in their Stay Home Archive, which is being created as a record of the current pandemic.

i The PCSP COVID-19 video is available to view now on the **PCSP's YouTube account** as well as on: **Facebook /newrymourneanddownpcsp** **Twitter @nmd_pcs**



Key workers on the front line

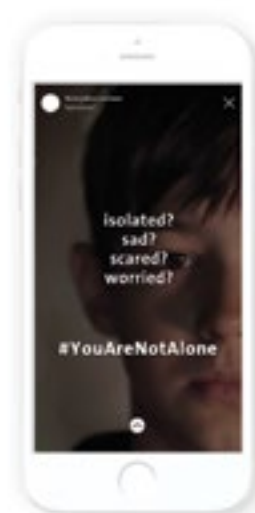
The Council's recycling and waste collectors were among the key workers on the front line at the outset of COVID-19. Thanks to those who left messages of support along the way in the form of friendly waves, notes, cards and gifts – heart-warming proof of how Newry, Mourne and Down residents cooperated during this challenging time.

Residents are also helping to do their bit by cleaning the handles of their bins before and after collections, maintaining good hygiene when handling recycling and waste and keeping their distance when collection crews are at work.



Reaching out to you during COVID

The coronavirus pandemic presented the Council with opportunities to find new and creative ways of reaching and supporting residents.



With people encouraged to stay at home as much as possible, this has included a renewed focus on digital technology, bringing communities together, albeit virtually, in celebratory events and activities and delivering key services online wherever possible.

The Council delivered over 20 social media campaigns for a range of key services since lockdown was implemented in March 2020. The campaigns focused primarily on public health awareness and were delivered across Instagram, SnapChat, Twitter and Facebook. The Council also worked in partnership with others such as local health trusts, the PSNI, the Northern Ireland Executive and the Public Health Agency in delivering its messaging.

Some of the key campaigns were:

- **One District, One Message ACT NOW Follow the Rules**
- **Coronavirus Loves a Crowd... You Can Make A Difference**
- **You Are Not Alone**

One District,
One Message

182,000
reach

Coronavirus
Loves a Crowd

286,000
reach

You Are
Not Alone

116,000
reach



Residents can see highlights of the year on the Council's YouTube channel as well as on:

Facebook /nmdcouncil

Twitter @nmdcouncil

Instagram @newrymouredowndc

Safeguarding through the pandemic

Assisting the 'You Are Not Alone' and 'There's No Excuse' domestic abuse digital campaigns, the Safeguarding team helped highlight how to provide support for those experiencing this abuse.

A Safeguarding page is kept up to date on the Council website with important advice on what to do if you think someone may be being harmed. This website also provides access to our Safeguarding leaflets, which contain important information on what to do if you have concerns about the safety of anyone while using any of our facilities.



www.newrymouredown.org/safeguarding



NMD Business: guiding, supporting, advising in a virtual world

In the first nine months of 2020, the Council's NMD Business programmes supported over 1,000 businesses and delivered 30 focused and tailored programmes and workshops. We continued to ensure that the support available was flexible and responsive so that it remained relevant to businesses' needs during 2020 and further into 2021.



Learning over Lockdown and Beyond

The Council's online learning portal was launched back in 2019 with a wealth of eLearning courses. However, as options for face-to-face staff training became limited with COVID-19, there was a significant uptake of online learning.

It is envisaged that eLearning will be the way in which the Council will deliver learning and development for the foreseeable period to support our employees and elected members, and ultimately improve the service we provide.

A priority for the Council is helping businesses to survive the impact of COVID-19 and prepare for growth beyond the pandemic. So, in direct response, all programmes provided virtual support to businesses, including starting, sustaining and growing a business, building a digital business, winning business from ongoing procurement opportunities, and planning for recovery. Support was delivered on a one-to-one basis and also through strategic workshops, events and virtual networking opportunities.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, a key focus was on the #reLaunch of businesses across the district. A key event was the hosting of a Leadership Summit for over 1,000 businesses on 30 June 2020, bringing together world-renowned business experts and strategists. The event featured Declan Kelly (advisor to world-leading CEOs and businesses) and Feargal McCormack from PKF FPM (advisor to leading businesses on the island of Ireland).

In addition, the Council led on the delivery of NMD Enterprise Week 2020 from 16 to 20 November 2020, engaging over 400 participants from budding entrepreneurs to well-established firms. Over 20 online events took place, focusing on the early stage of developing a business idea as well as economic support and recovery across key business sectors, delivered via virtual seminars, workshops, networking opportunities and mentoring sessions. All events were delivered online, both live and pre-recorded, to help support businesses.



For more information and to apply to any of the NMD Business programmes, visit nmdbusiness.org/programmes





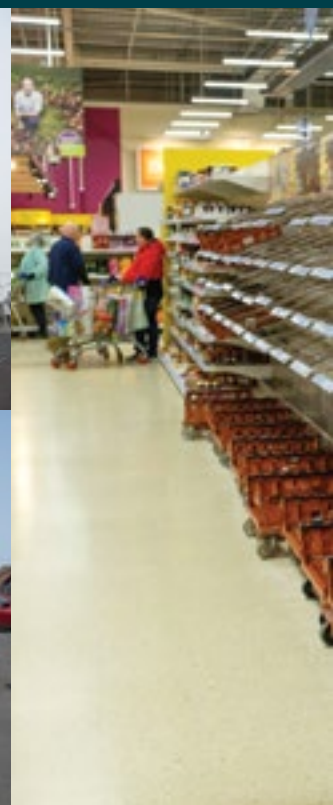
During the first lockdown our museums were asked to lead on a project aimed at recording for posterity how daily life was affected by COVID-19. We wanted to know what impact this would have on individuals, businesses, commerce, arts, culture, sport and religious life in Newry, Mourne and Down district.

LIVING IN LOCK DOWN

This took various forms, from commissioning drone footage of the entire Council area over the Easter weekend, to commissioning still photography, to inviting people to submit material in the form of written accounts, videos, poems and photographs.

Launched in April 2020, the project attracted over 200 submissions and there are still people expressing an interest in contributing to the project. The project also commissioned photographs of the end of the first lockdown, which illustrated pupils wearing masks in schools, COVID-19 test centres and the re-opening of sectors such as hairdressers.

Some of the submissions have been particularly poignant, such as a narrative of returning home to attend a family funeral. Others have



Photographs and permissions by Raphael Mason and Columba O'Hare



been very uplifting, including accounts of volunteering with the St Mary's High School, Newry and St Mark's High School, Warrenpoint Visor Project.

Groups as well as individuals have contributed to the project. These included Scouts holding 'virtual' den meetings and reflections from an early years playgroup in Newry. Primary schools also got involved and pupils have commented on a wide range of topics from gardening, cooking and baking, to their thoughts on home schooling.

Others have highlighted how they have missed celebrating important festivals such as St Patrick's Day. Local businesses also diversified to help out, with one video submission of a local distillery now making hand sanitisers.

The next step is to input all these submissions, as well as documents and artefacts donated, onto the Modes cataloguing database. This will form an important record of how local people have lived their lives during this very difficult and challenging year and will be accessible to future generations.





Everybody Active 2020

Our Everybody Active (EBA) programmes are a big part of our mission as a Council to lead and serve a district that is prosperous, healthy and sustainable.

When lockdown set in during March 2020 the Council quickly adapted to provide opportunities for residents across the district to 'Be Active' in the safety of their homes and gardens. Online Zoom classes were accessible to all and helped to provide people with a way to stay connected to others and improve their fitness and wellbeing. Activities included yoga, fundamental skills, Tai Kwon Do, strength and balance, dance and Chi Me.

Coaches also linked with community representatives to organise fitness sessions in public areas where participants could take part from their gardens and doorways.

Throughout the summer months as restrictions eased, outdoor classes and events were established. These included family fitness sessions, street dance classes, Tai Chi, chair-based exercise, bootcamps and walking groups.

As further restrictions were introduced at the end of 2020 and in to 2021 plans were once again changed and all activities were swiftly moved online. Over 200 children and young people across Newry, Mourne and Down took part in our Halloween Spooky Sports Camps where they developed skills in sports such as athletics, Gaelic football, soccer and martial arts. Family-friendly sessions and sessions for adults were also reconvened in yoga, bodyweight circuits and Chi Me.

During 2020 our EBA team also provided support and delivered sessions for our Health Referral Classes and Macmillan Move More, as well as delivering a range of programmes for community groups in Neighbourhood Renewal areas across the Southern Health and Social Care Trust.

Keep Warm Packs

With high fuel costs and colder weather, it can be difficult to heat our homes adequately to stay warm. For many people, living in a cold home can lead to illness and for others it can worsen existing health conditions, especially for those who spend a lot of time indoors or have restricted mobility.

Keep Warm Packs funded by the Public Health Agency (PHA) have been developed to provide immediate, short-term support to help those most at risk to stay warmer at home during cold weather. Additionally, some of the items can be worn under a coat for extra insulation when going outdoors.

In line with PHA criteria, the Council coordinated the distribution of 535 Keep Warm Packs in November 2020 to those residents in need. To determine if you are eligible for a fuel poverty grant for cavity/loft insulation or a new boiler, please contact the Affordable Warmth team on 0330 137 4024.



For information on fuel poverty visit **www.communities-ni.gov.uk/topics/housing/fuel-poverty**



Be Active for Health encourages residents to get moving!

Ready to get more active?

Be Active for Health is a free 12-week physical activity programme offering support to those wanting to move more.

The Council's Be Active for Health coordinators assess the needs and interests of those taking part and provide custom-made physical activity sessions at a time and location that suits. Full support is provided over a 12-week period.

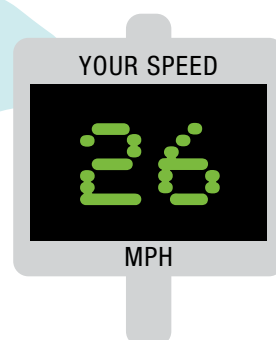
The programme is jointly funded by the Council and the Southern and South Eastern Health and Social Care Trusts.

The Be Active programme runs several group activities such as walking and beginners' circuits that take place indoors and outdoors. Throughout the pandemic the team adapted by providing online sessions, virtual walking challenges, safe outdoor exercise and weekly video challenges. Our focus is to help people who are inactive become active!



For more information please contact
beactive@nmandd.org

Watch your speed and **slow down** on our roads



Seven new Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) have been installed as part of our commitment to make roads safer for residents.

An awareness-raising tool, the SIDs detect and display the real-time speeds of passing cars and advise motorists to slow down to prevent serious injury and death on our roads.

Newry, Mourne and Down Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) worked alongside their partners in DfI Roads Service and the PSNI to identify sites for these signs, with a focus on locations that had been recorded as sites of community concern regarding speeding. The SIDs are located at the following sites: Newtown Road, Camlough; Forkhill Road, Newry; Strangford Road, Downpatrick; Shrigley Road, Killyleagh; Dublin Road, Castletwellan; Kilbroney Road, Rostrevor; and South Promenade, Newcastle.

In time, the PCSP and the Council are confident that the SIDs will help reduce speeding across the district and assist with the development of further road safety interventions across the area. An additional seven SIDs will be installed by the PCSP at various locations across the district in early 2021.



For further information please email
pcsp@nmandd.org



MOVE MORE



2020 was a difficult year for everyone and for those receiving and coping with a cancer diagnosis it was more isolating than ever.

The Macmillan Move More programme continues to offer support to anyone diagnosed with cancer to improve their fitness as well as build up their mental strength. The programme offers a range of cancer-specific indoor, outdoor and online classes across the district along with other incentives such as three-month free membership of leisure centres. Colleen Franklin, who worked with Move More Coordinator Laura McGrath, provided an insight into the Move More programme from a participant's perspective:

"In October 2018 my world fell apart when I was diagnosed with breast cancer at the age of 44 even though I always kept myself very fit and healthy. After one year and four months of treatment I had to face the world again and get back to normal life.

"The summer of 2019 I was given a Move More leaflet, all about getting back to exercise and meeting people like myself. I met up with the lovely Laura who, helped me so much to get back into the real world again. Every Tuesday I got to do exercises at my own pace, nobody pressuring me to keep up to a standard but motivating me to do the best I could. At this time, I still had a lot of bad days, but knowing I could still go to my Move More classes with my Auntie made a world of difference. I enjoyed having a cup of tea and a lovely chat after the circuits with all the other participants who knew exactly how I felt and offering each other tips and advice. I started to gain my confidence more and more every week and even went to a Christmas dinner party with my very short hair.

"In October 2020 I started back to work after two years off; only for Laura and the Move More programme giving me the confidence and support I needed I don't think I would ever have been able to return to work. I would like to say a huge thank you to Laura and the Move More team for all they do for everyone and for giving me my life back again. Keep up the brilliant work."



If you would like more information or would like to join the Move More programme, please contact Laura McGrath on **07769 285 574** or email movemore@nmandd.org

MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT



The NMD Be Active app now allows more online bookings than ever. During the pandemic, this has also enabled us to quickly manage capacity, ensure social distancing and aid contact tracing.

The NMD Be Active app now allows you to:

- View and book available gym and swim lane sessions at the click of a button.
- Book 'general swim sessions' for family fun swims (if you have a Main Pool ticket you can also use the kids and learner pools).
- View all available fitness classes easily and book via our Book Classes tile.
- View and book activities throughout the district such as squash and hand ball.
- Get instant, up-to-date information on leisure services including events, offers, promotions and swimming lesson programmes.



Please note: Some of our leisure and sports services may be subject to COVID-19 restrictions and may not be available. Please see our web page for latest information www.newrymournedown.org/leisure-facilities

Download the NMD Be Active app for free from the App store or Google Play.





Prioritise your health for the year ahead

The last 12 months have shown us that it has never been more important to prioritise your physical and mental health and really manage any pre-existing health conditions.

The Physical Activity Referral Scheme (PARS) is a 12-week programme aimed at those with existing health conditions associated with being overweight or obese. Various forms of indoor and outdoor activities include walks, group-based exercise classes and gym-based programmes of rehabilitation specific to an individual's condition. If interested in taking part, you can be referred from various clinicians such as GPs, physiotherapists, pharmacists, multidisciplinary teams and specialist nurses. One-to-one and small group-based exercise classes are still being delivered virtually and condition-specific programmes, such as for osteoarthritis and hypertension, have also been created.



For further information on the PARS scheme, contact James McCorry, Physical Activity Referral Coordinator, on **07920 783 586** or email **james.mccorry@nmandd.org**



Brave families give insight into the impact of dangerous driving

Dangerous driving has devastated many households in Newry, Mourne and Down.

With the help of Newry, Mourne and Down Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP), and the launch of their 'Paulie Project' road safety documentary, the Council has tried to raise awareness around the impact of dangerous driving.

The Paulie Project short film was initially launched in Newry Omniplex in January 2020 and has now had over 60,000 views online. This powerful documentary, produced in partnership with Road Safe NI, the PSNI and the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service, focuses on personal stories from local families impacted by road traffic collisions. The families explain the effects of road traffic collisions on their lives and provide an insight into the heartbreak and devastating legacy which dangerous driving can leave behind. The Paulie Project is available to view now on the PCSP Newry, Mourne and Down Facebook, Twitter and YouTube accounts.

Common threads lace across the border project goes virtual

The district's famous lace making tradition recently went virtual in a new cross-border project. The new partnership was between Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), South Armagh Lace Collective and Borris Lacemakers in County Carlow.

The project was funded by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht as part of the Co-operation with Northern Ireland Funding Scheme. It supported both groups to use technology to engage with each other during lockdown. This project has empowered both groups to learn new ways to promote lace making and the heritage story behind the lace to a wider community.



To find out more about this project, please visit the Ring of Gullion Partnership website **www.ringofgullion.org**



3G pitch development complete at Ballyhornan Family Centre

A major investment by the Executive Office's Social Investment Fund (SIF) and the Council has resulted in a new full-sized 3G pitch at Ballyhornan Family Centre.

SIF invested £1,102,007.56 and Newry, Mourne and Down District Council £125,000 in the development of the pitch, with changing facilities, floodlighting and fencing with adjoining car park at the community centre. We were delighted to hand over the new facility on 9 October 2020 to Ballyhornan Community Association who will put it to great use locally.

SIF is an £80m Executive intervention programme. The aim of SIF is to reduce poverty, unemployment and physical deterioration through strategic area-based interventions of a significant scale.



**Northern Ireland
Executive**

www.northernireland.gov.uk

**DELIVERING SOCIAL CHANGE
THROUGH THE SOCIAL INVESTMENT FUND**



Newry Tennis Bubble

Local residents may have noticed the new Tennis Bubble at Our Lady's Grammar School, Newry. The Tennis Bubble has been designed for residents to enjoy playing tennis while also being protected from the outside elements.

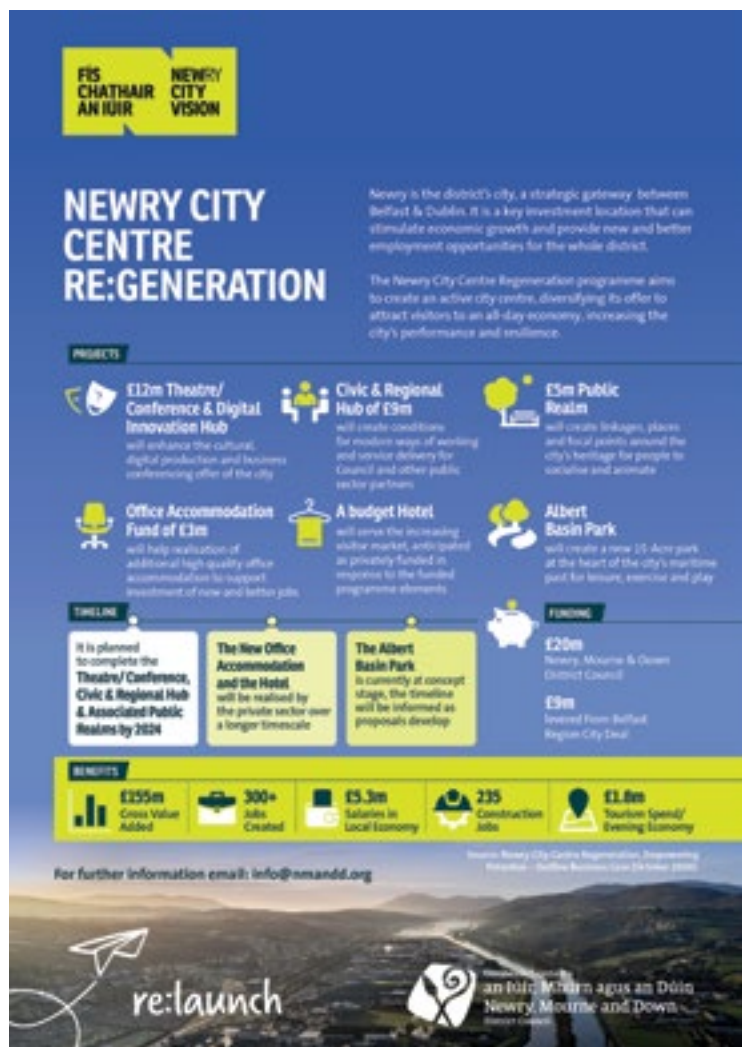
With improved links between the school and Newry Leisure Centre, and increased access to the tennis courts for the local community, the hope is that the enhanced facilities will encourage more people to play tennis locally and get fit.

The courts will provide extra capacity for local primary and secondary school tennis training sessions and events throughout the year. They can additionally be used as a satellite venue for tennis clubs to attract beginner players and members through park tennis schemes. Through Newry, Mourne and Down Everybody Active 2020 Strand 4 programmes this facility can also be used by key underrepresented groups, including people living in areas of high social need, women and those with disabilities.

This £250,000 project is funded by Newry, Mourne and Down District Council, the Department for Communities and Sport NI via the Your School Your Club funding initiative.



For more information on the Tennis Bubble please contact leisureandsport@nmandd.org or contact Newry Leisure Centre on **0330 137 4026**. Please note: Some of our leisure and sports services may be subject to COVID-19 restrictions and may not be available. Please see our web page for latest information www.newrymournedown.org/leisure-facilities



Ambitious Newry City Centre Regeneration scheme progresses

The Newry City Centre Regeneration programme is set to deliver transformative benefits for Newry City and the wider district.

The various regeneration projects will invest directly within the historic and maritime core of the city, leading to an increase in vibrancy and footfall, and stimulating further investment and regeneration. In addition to the Council's £20m investment, the project has secured a further £8m from the Department for Communities via the Belfast Region City Deal (BRCD). As the regeneration schemes develop we aim to lever additional public and private sector funding to aid delivery.

The Council's budgeted £12m theatre/conference and £9m Civic/Regional hub facilities are the cornerstones of the regeneration investment. BRCD funding of £5m will create Public Realm around the Council's projects, reinforcing existing links and creating new links that will make Newry City more open and permeable. A £3m office fund will enable the private sector to respond flexibly in provision of office accommodation suited to workplace changes brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Albert Basin Park project has recently been added to the regeneration programme, and this project will create a new 15-acre park at the heart of Newry's maritime past for leisure, exercise and play activities.

The Council is also progressing a business case as part of the BRCD Regional Innovators Network that seeks to create a £1m+ innovation space in Newry City Centre. This high-quality, digitally enabled space will provide a platform for education and skills development, offering local communities and businesses the space and equipment to pursue innovation projects, and access investments in innovation, digital capability and skills.



New trails and play facility at Derrymore House

Derrymore House in Bessbrook is an 18th-century cottage-style house standing in a picturesque demesne.

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council recently worked closely with its owners, the National Trust, and the Friends of Derrymore on regeneration plans to enhance the demesne's recreational offering. Works commenced in May 2020 and were completed in January 2021.

The site now offers a full range of new walking trails across the demesne, a children's play area, site interpretation, a new access road, visitor facilities and a car park.



Belfast Region City Deal and its transformative investment for the district

The Belfast Region City Deal (BRCD) is a 10-year investment, with a vision of creating 20,000 new and better-paid jobs and pushing the 'fast-forward' button on inclusive economic growth.

This investment will ensure that as a Council we can take forward and implement strategic priorities, which will position our district as a key investment location and visitor attraction, while providing stimulus for new and better employment opportunities for all.

Key projects include:

- Gateway to the Mournes
- Newry City Centre Regeneration, to include a 15-acre park at Albert Basin
- Southern Relief Road
- Innovation and Digital Capabilities

The City Deal investment in infrastructure, regeneration and tourism projects will also help the region's economic recovery from the effects of COVID-19. During 2020-21 the Council has progressed comprehensive Outline Business Cases for both the Newry City Centre Regeneration and Gateway to the Mournes projects, while working with City Deal partners on progressing regional programmes that will deliver digital and innovation infrastructure and an employability and skills programme. The City Deal package of investment will support next-generation digital capabilities, tourism, modern infrastructure and regeneration, and investment in skills that will connect people to jobs.

How much is being invested within the City Deal?

In total, £850m has been secured to deliver the investment. In May 2020 the NI Executive announced a £350m investment commitment to match fund the £350m already committed from the UK government. Together with an additional £150m from the Belfast Region City Deal partners, the total amount of £850m was achieved.



For more information on the City Deal partners see www.belfastcity.gov.uk/belfastregioncitydeal



**Belfast
Region**

New Regeneration and Economic Development Strategy

A new Regeneration and Economic Development Strategy was launched in November 2020, the core of which is to support local businesses and attract investment and jobs to the district.

The strategy focuses on three key pillars, namely, business development, regeneration and infrastructure, and improving employability and skills. The virtual launch event featured an engaging panel discussion on the key themes of the strategy, which include Business Growth and Innovation, Improving Employability and Skills, and Investing in Regeneration and Modern Infrastructure.



To download a copy of the strategy, visit www.newrymouredown.org/corporate-publications



The commitment to our tourism product continues with significant investment

Throughout COVID-19 our outdoor spaces have been invaluable in providing opportunities for exercise, recreation and spending time with family and friends.

The quality of our parks and beaches across the district has provided an opportunity for all our residents to have easy access to an outdoor space. And with increasing numbers of people availing of these facilities, the need for ongoing investment is paramount.

The Council has been prioritising such investment with plans currently being finalised for new walks in Kilbroney Park and Rostrevor, outdoor performance and interpretative improvements with support from DAERA, new visitor facilities at Tyrella Beach, and design improvements to Delamont Country Park — just some of the key projects being planned with investment in the region of £1.75m.

A new tourism website

Newry, Mourne and Down's landscapes, thrilling experiences, myths and legends, and quality food and drink are just some of the factors which put us in the perfect position to bring Northern Ireland's 'Embrace a Giant Spirit' brand to life.

Research indicates that many of our visitors' first point of contact for information on our destination will be our website. With the visitor in mind, the Council is working along with a number of councils in Northern Ireland to deliver a new website for each of our destinations. The aim is to increase visitor numbers and ensure economic impact across all regions of Northern Ireland. Using engaging content, stunning imagery and videography, the new website will inspire visitors to book an experience, activity or stay in the region. It is hoped the website will be live for March 2021.



Supporting our tourism industry

We have been committed to supporting the tourism industry, working together to navigate the current COVID-19 pandemic.

To help combat some of the challenges, virtual workshops and webinars were arranged on communicating through the crisis, managing digital content and creating commercial plans during these unprecedented times.

With 2020 very much focused on holidaying at home, Visit Mourne ran a digital marketing campaign for summer/autumn. The campaign focused on **#GiantAdventuresAhead**, with the emphasis on experiences people could engage with locally.

Keeping our tourism product to the forefront of staycation and international buyers, we also attended virtual buyer events. Tourism Northern Ireland's 'Meet the Buyer' was an excellent platform to meet not only with international buyers but with operators who had a focus on staycations in the region, particularly important in 2020. However, it was also about preparing for a return to international travel and an opportunity for the Council to partner with tourism providers and showcase the destination and their experiences to international buyers.

Ongoing work is happening with industry partners, developing tourism experiences for the staycation market and preparing for the resumption of international travel.



Regeneration in Downpatrick's historic core has the potential to transform

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council is working in partnership with the Department for Communities (DfC) to develop an exciting regeneration project in Irish Street, Downpatrick.

The extensive development site includes the former police station building, which is owned by DfC, and a Council-owned adjacent car park to include a strip of land running between the two sites.

DfC and the Council have worked closely to facilitate the creation of a larger development scheme which presents a more attractive scheme for potential developers.

A consultation process was undertaken during the summer of 2020, which provided the opportunity for developers and the local community to engage in how this site should be developed. It is hoped that the development of the former police station and adjacent car park has the potential to transform the Irish Street area into a vibrant, attractive and cohesive place that is enjoyable for all – and act as a catalyst for the wider regeneration of the town centre.



Environmental Improvement Works breathe new life into our villages

The regeneration of seven villages in our district area has made significant progress with a series of environmental improvement works.

The extensive works at Annalong, Ballyhornan, Dundrum, Hilltown, Killyleagh, Newtownhamilton and Meigh include a combination of new paving, new street lighting, gateways, railings, shrubbery and landscaping, tree surrounds to existing trees, new tree planting, removal of overhead wires and coloured road coatings.

The villages received £3.2m of funding from the Mourne, Gullion and Lecale Rural Development Partnership (MGL).

Grant funding from the Village Renewal Scheme of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020, funded by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs and the European Commission administered by MGL's Local Action Group, is being provided to the rural villages in conjunction with Newry, Mourne and Down District Council.

All works are expected to be completed by early 2021, with all village businesses remaining open as usual throughout the project timescales.

New Streetscape Scheme for Hill Street and John Mitchel Place in Newry

In May 2020, streetscape scheme works commenced in historic parts of Newry City focused on improving and enhancing the lower end of Hill Street and John Mitchel Place, and the adjoining streets of O'Hagan Street, Mill Street and St Colman's Park.

The works were possible due to funding of £1.7m from the Department for Communities and Newry, Mourne and Down District Council. In partnership with its consultants the Council envisaged a high-quality finished scheme. Improvements included footpath and lighting upgrades, undergrounding of overhead cables, pedestrian access improvements, new street furniture and road resurfacing.

This investment complemented previous public realm works to improve the physical environment of one of Newry's most busy and vibrant places.





Cultural Heritage across the district and the Atlantic area

The Council is hosting new training sessions to help facilitate tourism clusters as part of the Atlantic CultureScape project.

It is hoped that 2021 will see emerging new 'Intangible Cultural Heritage' (ICH) experiences destined for the domestic and global tourism market. ICH experiences capture traditions inherited from our ancestors, such as oral traditions and performing arts.

Imagine singing the songs of our ancestors, walking in the footsteps of poets and pilgrims, and crafting using traditional skills passed down through the years!

The project is funded through the Atlantic CultureScape project which is co-financed by the Interreg Atlantic Area Programme through the European Regional Development Fund.



To find out more please visit the website, www.atlanticcultureescape.eu
Follow on www.facebook.com/ACultureScape or www.twitter.com/ACultureScape



New play parks in Hilltown and Kilclief

Hilltown and Kilclief have both seen the installation of new play park facilities.

Mourne, Gullion and Lecale Rural Development Partnership awarded funding of £150,000 from the Village Renewal Scheme of the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs' Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014–2020 to the Council for the development of the two play parks.

Working in partnership with the local communities assisted with the play parks' design, with features which would ultimately have a positive impact on people's overall health and wellbeing.

Kilclief village previously had no play provision and Kilclief Residents Association had worked for several years to source suitable ground. It now boasts a new play park on a site adjacent to Kilclief GAC, and children and young people of all abilities throughout the wider community are now availing of a range of interactive and challenging play equipment. Kilclief Play Park incorporated a maritime theme in keeping with its location on Strangford Lough. The design also included as much natural product as possible to fit in with the rural environment.

The village of Hilltown welcomed the significant redevelopment of its existing play park, located in Spelga Park, in March 2020. The all-encompassing play park offers play opportunities for all abilities with fun and engaging features.



A marine litter management project

A marine litter management project was started in 2020 by the Northern Ireland Fisheries Harbour Authority following approval by the South East Area Fisheries Local Action Group.

The two-year project is aimed at improving waste management in the three fishing harbours of Ardglass, Portavogie and Kilkeel. An action plan focused on marine litter includes the

re-purposing and recycling of end-of-life fishing gear and consideration of how fishery harbours control and recycle waste.

There will also be a focus on clean-up efforts to include coordinating local beach cleans, linking in with existing schemes and organisations. In addition, the project will promote and monitor the Fishing for Litter scheme and create simple messaging

to help those using the harbours to understand best practice in waste management.

The project was funded through Union Priority 4 of the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, which is co-funded by the European Union and the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs. It is also supported by Northern Ireland Fish Producers' Organisation and Seafish.

Landscape restoration in Delamont creates vision for the future

As part of our masterplan for Delamont Country Park we want to restore its historic natural landscape. Working with relevant stakeholders, including the tenant farmer and the Woodland Trust, the aim is to enhance and restore key natural features.

The future could see the agricultural land at Delamont developed as a 'model farm', which not only continues to conserve its existing natural resources but builds upon these, providing numerous agricultural and environmental benefits such as increased biodiversity, an improved animal husbandry environment, and the restoration and conservation of the cultural landscape.



The programme of native hedgerow creation and restoration, undertaken in winter 2020/21, will not only improve the aesthetics of the field boundaries but also provide excellent shelter and shade for livestock and enhance biodiversity.

Future plans to manage the wooded areas of Delamont will expand on woodland improvement work of previous years to remove non-native invasive tree species such as cherry laurel and rhododendron. Invasive species are recognised as one of the greatest threats to global biodiversity. It is therefore vital that the species are removed to enhance biodiversity and improve woodland habitat at Delamont Country Park.



To find out more about this project please visit www.strangfordlough.org



Inclusive play park accessible to all

The new Jim Steen Play Park is being enjoyed by the Newtownhamilton community after being officially opened last year prior to the pandemic.

An inclusive roundabout is the focal point in the centre of the play park with swings and multi-units for play and sensory equipment.

The Council would like to thank the local community group and residents for all their help in making this park possible, along with councillors, Northern Ireland Housing Executive and contractors who worked hard to deliver an extraordinary sporting and play venue for the entire community of Newtownhamilton.

Newtownhamilton Play Park is one of many projects that have been developed across the district this year, including Newtowncloughe, Carrickmaclone, Backfield in Newcastle, Mourne Gardens Play Park in Castlewellan, Spelga Park in Hilltown, Kilclief, and transformations in Carnbane Gardens in Newry, Drumilly in Belleek and Lisnalee in Whitecross. For more information on the location of all 117 play parks across the district, along with other sports facilities information and events, simply download the NMD Be Active app and add 'Outdoor Leisure' as one of 'My Clubs' on the top right navigation of the app.

Meadowlands makes accessible play possible

A new, fully accessible piece of play equipment suitable for wheelchair users has been installed in the Meadowlands Play Park in Downpatrick.

The Council secured funding for the equipment through the Department for Communities and consultation took place with local community representatives.

Accessible play equipment is beneficial to young people with a disability as it helps them to socialise and make new friends. It can also help develop gross motor skills including balance and coordination as well as fine motor skills such as gripping.

Warrenpoint Municipal Park Heritage Award Winner

Warrenpoint Municipal Park celebrated a Green Flag Heritage Site Accreditation by Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful.

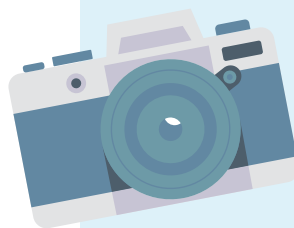


The Green Flag Award scheme recognises and rewards well-managed parks and green spaces across the United Kingdom and around the world.

Warrenpoint Municipal Park was restored in 2018 with financial assistance from the National Lottery Heritage Fund and the Council. The park was awarded Green Flag status in 2019 and Heritage Site Accreditation for 2020/2021, recognising its unique historic natural and built environment.

For over 100 years the park has been part of the local community in Warrenpoint. The pavilion building, dating from the 1930s, has also been restored along with a new children's play park and multi-use games area.





Protect our own dragons in the hills

Dragons in the Hills is a project aimed at conserving amphibians and reptiles and connecting communities with their natural heritage.

Based in the Ring of Gullion, Mourne and Strangford and Lecale Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs), the project is a partnership between the Council, ARG (Amphibian and Reptile Groups) UK and The Herpetological Society of Ireland. Funding has been secured from the National Lottery Heritage Fund and the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation.

The project aims to find out more about Northern Ireland's own little dragons – our three native amphibians and reptiles: the common frog, common lizard and smooth newt. Members are keen to meet other landowners in the AONBs who would be interested in supporting native biodiversity.



To get involved in the project, contact Josh Twining at josh.twining@arguk.org

Can you snap the best nature shot for 2022?

The Ring of Gullion, the Mourne and the Strangford and Lecale Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) have launched their joint annual photography competition.

The theme for this year's competition is 'Nature in my AONB' and the competition is open until 30 September 2021. The winning prize for the overall photo is £100 with runner-up prizes also available. The winning entries will be promoted online, via social media and through the local press. The top 13 will also feature in the 2022 edition of the AONBs Calendar.



For more information visit www.ringofgullion.org/competitions

'Tree of the Year' winner 'Old Homer' saved!

The majestic evergreen Holm Oak tree which stands inside the main Fairy Glen entrance to Kilbroney Park in Rostrevor has been saved thanks to a unique Council preservation operation.



The tree was planted some 200 years ago by the Ross family on, at that time, their private estate and won the UK-wide 'Tree of the Year' competition in December 2016.

The impressive oak, with a girth of nearly 12ft (3.6m) and a typical snakeskin bark, is distinctive because of the 45-degree angle at which it leans, making it easy for children to climb.

However, one of the huge boughs had become enormously heavy with age and was in need of some assistance. The tree was showing large splits and cracks at the base of its trunk because of the overbearing weight it has had to contend with through the years.

Over the summer the tree had specialist reduction pruning as part of the initial preservation project, and without urgent action the tree would have failed. Crown reductions were undertaken to reduce branch oscillation and improve structural stability by 150%. Specialist frames were also designed by the Council and installed during December. Further ground work, such as fencing and screening, is to be undertaken to fully complete the preservation project.



Improving our outdoor spaces

Wildflower planting, improved grasslands and roadside landscaping improvement schemes continued over the past year.

A large district-wide project focused on the increasingly visible connections between the wellbeing of district residents, other living things and entire ecosystems. The project included the planting of trees, landscaping roundabouts and updating plantations in other areas to promote further integration with nature.

Wildflower and biodiverse grassland improvements will produce:

- improved air quality
- a tourism gateway
- carbon sequestration

- visual screening
- enhanced local character
- noise and air pollution buffer
- pollinator corridors
- enhanced biodiversity.

The sterile, neat-and-tidy ideal of verges and green spaces as manicured lawns is slowly being challenged, particularly on rural verges and urban highways. Species-rich verges enhance the local character and visual interest of the roadway for the user and help it blend into the wider landscape.

The works will enhance the environment and biodiversity, be pollinator friendly and reduce the consumption of non-renewable fuels where possible.



New nautical themed eco-garden proves a hit with children in Ardglass

St Nicholas' Primary School Ardglass Parents Group is one of the many successful projects to receive funding from the South East Area Fisheries Local Action Group (SEA FLAG), a programme supported by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs and the European Union.

SEA FLAG was delighted to see the transformation of the previously unused space into a nautical-themed educational play area and eco-garden. The area was designed to enhance children's learning through play, focusing on their cultural and marine heritage and enhance awareness of the local fishing industry in the village of Ardglass and surrounding areas.





Council's PEACE IV programmes lead the way with online community engagement



Newry, Mourne and Down District Council has been awarded £4.7m of EU funding to deliver the PEACE IV Local Action Plan – Beyond Tolerance. As the lead partner, we are responsible for delivering those elements of the PEACE IV Action Plan that will promote peace and reconciliation in three key areas:

- **Children and Young People**
- **Shared Spaces and Services**
- **Building Positive Relations**

COVID–19 restrictions on gatherings and the ability to bring people together from across the community have been a challenge since March 2020. The Council's PEACE IV Programme has responded by leading the way with online project delivery across a diverse range of projects, ensuring that cross-community engagement continues throughout the district in a meaningful way. The aim is to provide a welcome, enjoyable and worthwhile social and educational outlet for the community in these very challenging times.

Building Positive Relations

Two of these online projects under the Building Positive Relations theme have been the Women and Civic Leadership Programme and Growing Relations, a series of online TV programmes documenting the success of PEACE IV animation projects throughout the Council area.

The Women and Civic Leadership Programme was an Open College Network accredited civic leadership programme raising the profile of female voices throughout the district and equipping women with the knowledge and skills to enable them to take an active role in civic, community and political life.

The Growing Relations online TV programmes showcase PEACE IV cross-community projects and look behind the scenes at some so-called ordinary people in small communities across the district who build bridges and break down barriers in interesting and uplifting ways. The first of these, 'Border Stories', was broadcast in October 2020 and can be viewed via the YouTube channel 'Music of What Happens TV'. Please subscribe to this channel to see the Growing Relations online TV series develop over the coming months.

Children and Young People

The Cross-Border Arts Programme is a creative programme offering young adults the opportunity to gain skills in illustration, music and media. Working across the Newry, Mourne and Down district area and County Louth, participants use art to explore and understand cultural differences and enhance cross-community cohesion. The aim is to give young people a chance to socialise, take part in art workshops and meet creative professionals. After the initial group session took place in March 2020, COVID–19 restrictions have seen the programme continue virtually.

Welcoming newcomers and acknowledging the contribution of migrants

The Council has joined the Inclusive Cities Network, a knowledge exchange initiative supporting cities and their local partners to best include newcomers.

The aim is to develop a strong, inclusive narrative on migrants in the district, reflecting the contributions migrants have made and continue to make. Participating cities include Newry, Belfast, Bristol, Newport, London, Birmingham, Glasgow, Brighton, Liverpool, Sheffield and Cardiff.





Young men find their voice

Young men in Newry, Mourne and Down have been exploring the complexity of growing up male in today's world.

Using group work and discussion-based activities, they discussed the often-negative messages they receive about how they live their lives, as well as gaining the skills to avoid violence and build positive mental wellbeing. Prior to the introduction of COVID-19 restrictions, group sessions were held in person and the young people had the opportunity to take part in outdoor activities such as angling. Delivery of the programme subsequently continued online.



Action on the Climate Emergency

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council declared a climate emergency on 7 October 2019.

We are required to take dramatic steps to reduce our impact on the environment and on climate change, and all departments are required to adapt the way they carry out their activities and services.

In March 2020 the Council hosted a major conference at Killeavy Castle entitled 'Climate Change – Our Challenge'. Featuring speakers from across the UK, Ireland and Europe, the conference highlighted the real threat posed from climate change as well as case studies demonstrating the positive action councils and communities can take to reduce their impact. This includes the use of solar energy, low-carbon vehicles and electric vehicle charging, community energy schemes, the circular economy and eco-village lifestyles.

The Council has set up a working group on climate adaptation supported by Climate NI. An Action Plan will be drawn up of what is needed to adjust to the impact of climate change as we continue to deliver our services and activities across the district.

A Shared History Tour of Dublin

As part of their Shared Schools Education Programme, the Newry and Slieve Gullion District Electoral Areas organised a good relations-themed tour of Dublin in February 2020 with 30 secondary students from both areas. As part of the good relations focus of the programme, the students attended workshops and then had the opportunity to take part in a historical tour of Dublin where they visited Dublin Castle, Kilmainham Gaol, Glasnevin Cemetery and Collins Barracks.

The historical tour was facilitated by political historian and broadcaster, Dr Eamon Phoenix.

The Shared Schools Education Programme brings over 120 students from Newry and Slieve Gullion together each year to explore and challenge issues of sectarianism, racism, and engagement with the police.



Social Inclusion

Newry, Mourne and Down Intercultural Forum's mission is to work together towards an inclusive community creating opportunities that embrace diversity. The forum has successfully embraced online working, bringing statutory and voluntary organisations together to support our local minority ethnic communities.



For more information email besustainable@nmandd.org



Thank you for continuing to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle during lockdown

The Council extends a huge 'thank you' to the residents of Newry, Mourne and Down district for continuing to recycle throughout the pandemic.

Last year, statistics released by Recycle Now showed that people have become even more environmentally aware, with nearly 9 in 10 households saying they 'regularly recycle'. Research stated that 73% of people are prepared to change their lifestyles to help the environment — up from 68% in 2019. And an amazing 93% of households say they believe that 'everyone has a responsibility to help towards cleaning up the environment'.

Householders in the district continued to increase their recycling rate in 2019/20, improving the overall recycling rate by 2.3% on the previous year. Waste collected for composting increased by 6.5%. These are positive results; however, the total waste generated in the district increased by almost 2500 tonnes or 3%.

We are still producing too much waste, with the average household now producing 1.16 tonnes of waste each year. As we move through COVID-19 we would urge residents to continue with their recycling efforts by Reducing, Reusing and Recycling to reduce the amount of waste that each household disposes of each year.

With most of us now staying at home due to COVID-19 restrictions, this affects the levels of waste typically disposed of via residential bin collections. We must continue to follow the advice regarding waste and recycling to help keep our district clean, safe and protected.

The Council's HRC recycling and waste collectors were on the front line from the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic. They have been designated as key workers and need support and cooperation to continue to do their jobs safely.

This is how you can help:

- Check the Council's website, social media and local press regularly for the latest information on recycling and waste services.
- Minimise the amount of waste, recycling and food waste you produce.
- Flatten your recycling, such as cardboard boxes, cartons and plastic bottles, to save space in your recycling container.
- Do not burn waste at home. This creates air pollution.
- Please avoid doing big clear-outs while at home which create more recycling and waste for collection workers.
- Fly-tipping is illegal and impacts public health and our environment. It is a criminal offence to dump waste illegally.



Every bit we can reduce will make a real difference to maintaining a good service for everyone. Find tips for reducing food waste at www.lovefoodhatewaste.com and information on home composting at www.recyclenow.com/reduce-waste/composting

Please remember, when putting out bins you should:

- Put bins out the evening before collection is scheduled.
- Clean bin handles with disinfectant before and after collection.
- Put wipes, cloths, gloves etc used for cleaning into the general waste.



For more information about recycling in your area, visit www.newrymouredown.org

Newry, Mourne and Down recycles

Household Recycling Centres

All 10 Household Recycling Centres (HRCs) are now operating on a restricted basis across the district. During the current pandemic users of our HRC sites will have noticed changes in the way that we operate. We have worked to ensure our sites adhere to the latest government COVID-19 guidance and implemented social distancing measures, load limits, and traffic restrictions, installed hand sanitising stations, and ensured that

all sites are sanitised and cleaned daily to protect staff and users.

We need your help to ensure that our sites remain open and that sites can be used safely by all of our users. Please keep our site staff safe and do not come to our sites if you have any COVID-19 symptoms. Remember to wash/sanitise your hands before you access/leave our sites and please maintain social distancing at our sites and follow staff instructions.

Remember, fly-tipping is illegal and impacts public health and our environment. It is a criminal offence to dump waste illegally.



For a list of acceptable materials for disposal at our HRC sites and their restricted opening times, please visit www.newrymouredown.org/hrc



CHAIRPERSON'S ANNUAL RECOGNITION AWARDS 2020

David Meade co-hosts Chairperson's Annual Recognition Awards



Thirty inspirational individuals and organisations from across the Newry, Mourne and Down area were honoured in May at the Chairperson's Annual Recognition Awards. In a new virtual format, the ceremony was presented by the then Chairperson of Council, Councillor Charlie Casey, and popular mentalist David Meade. This entertaining evening shone a light on some impressive ambassadors for Newry, Mourne and Down who have helped or supported people across the district. This year there were six different award categories – Community/Voluntary, Sports, Arts, Human Endeavour, Fundraising and Lifetime Achievement.

Online Christmas Concerts marked festive season

With many of the traditional Christmas celebrations having to be set aside for 2020, the Council aimed to bring some 'Light and Hope' across the district with two concerts streamed online.

Curated by international violinist Joanne Quigley McParland, and hosted by radio presenter John Toal, the concerts were filmed on location in Down Cathedral, Warrenpoint Town Hall and Killeavy Castle. Homegrown and international talent featured.

Council Chairperson donates to local food banks and charities this Christmas

The vital work of food banks across the district was recognised by our Chairperson at Christmas.

Cllr Laura Devlin, who volunteered at one food bank to see the work at first hand, donated £500 to seven of them across the district as well as to two local charities. Cllr Devlin noted how COVID-19 had brought real hardship to many families and individuals worried about affording the basics of heat, light and food. She also paid tribute to the generosity and compassionate spirit of the food bank volunteers and other charity workers.

The food banks and charities that received donations were:

- Ballynahinch Foodbank
- Cornerstone Kilkeel – Annalong/Ballymartin/Kilkeel
- Fountain Foodbank – Downpatrick and surrounding areas
- Home-Start – Down
- Kilmore and Crossgar Foodbank
- Newry Christmas Charity Fund
- People in Need – Bessbrook/Camlough/Newry/Warrenpoint
- The Larder – Newry/South Armagh/Warrenpoint
- The Pantry Foodbank – Annalong/Castlewellan/Dundrum/Newcastle





Entrepreneur says 'I do!' to new business venture

Ann Pinkerton, the owner of Runaway Irish Weddings, is helping local couples say 'I do' after launching a unique wedding venue business with the support of the Go For It Programme in association with the Council.

When Ann moved to Northern Ireland she realised there were no small wedding or elopement venues and knew she had identified a gap in the market. She then discovered 'The Rocks', an intimate location just outside Crossgar and close to the shores of Strangford Lough. Ann knew this magical place would be perfect for intimate and romantic weddings and turned her business idea into a reality after taking part in the Go For It Programme. This is delivered free of charge by a team of experienced business mentors.

Humanist Celebrant Ann said: "Whilst I had run a similar business previously, I lacked the expert knowledge and deep understanding of the marketplace in Northern Ireland. I saw a social media post about the Go For It Programme and got in touch. I was put in contact with a business advisor at the local Down Business Centre and it all went from there.

"My business advisor, Joan, provided tailored business support and insights that I just wouldn't have been able to access on my own. I felt totally supported and having such a good sounding board in the early stages of the business was so helpful. The business plan really helped me understand the niche audience I wanted to target and the best methods of communication to reach them."

i If you have a business idea you'd like to develop or if you are thinking about starting a business, contact the Go For It Programme on 0800 027 0639 or visit www.goforitni.com

Apprentice Star Praises NMD Business Growth Programme

Local businesswoman and star of BBC show The Apprentice, Grainne McCoy, has hailed the support she received from the Council's NMD Business Growth Programme.

Even with a wealth of international business experience, Grainne recognised the importance of taking a step back, reviewing her plans and simply asking for help when it comes to business. She signed up to the programme, which provided her with a dedicated mentor and helped Grainne get her new business venture off the ground. In September 2020 she opened her new shop, Give Us Beauty, on Monaghan Street in Newry.

Grainne said, "With the programme support, I developed a robust plan and a new, thriving online shop, which allowed me to then take my business to the next stage. I couldn't have done that without the support of my mentor and now here I am, standing in my own store, with ambitious plans for next year too."

The NMD Business Growth Programme is part-funded by Invest Northern Ireland and the European Regional Development Fund under the Investment for Growth and Jobs Northern Ireland (2014–2020) programme.

The NMD Business Growth and Tender for Growth Programmes involve tailored one-to-one mentoring and targeted online workshops. Support is open to any small business located in the district with less than 50 employees, and registration is free.

i Businesses can register for business support via the programme by visiting the website: nmdbusiness.org/growing-your-business





Fishing workshops teach new skills and maritime heritage

Our fishing communities were able to take part in new fishing gear workshops in 2020.



This new initiative was delivered across all three fishing communities of Ardglass, Kilkeel and Portavogie. The project provided the local communities, existing and new fisherpersons the opportunity to obtain new skills of enhancing, maintaining and repairing trawl nets.

The net making profession has long been unknown to a large part of society, despite it being a fundamental auxiliary activity to fishing. There are no formal schools for this profession, so net makers treasure their artisanal knowledge, which has been passed down from generation to generation.

Those attending learnt about their maritime heritage and engaged in shared learning. The event also promoted interaction and encouraged social inclusion within the fishing communities.

The South East Area Fisheries Local Action Group (SEA FLAG) was delighted to approve the application for funding, supported by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs and the European Union, delivered in partnership with Anglo-North Irish Fish Producers Organisation, Northern Ireland Fish Producers' Organisation and Sea Fish Industry Training Association.



SHOPPERS ENCOURAGED MORE THAN EVER TO MAKE IT LOCAL

Ninety-eight per cent of businesses across the district are micro and small enterprises, many of them family businesses supporting local families, creating local jobs and growing our local economy.

To support local businesses during 2020 our Chairperson launched a Make It Local awareness campaign as part of the Council's COVID-19 recovery strategy following the relaxation of lockdown measures.

As businesses struggled to recover and become financially viable, it was vitally important that we supported them and continued to encourage residents to shop and promote local produce and services. And as we move forward it is more important than ever that people support their local industries and suppliers. All businesses have experienced severe difficulties over the last year and it is crucial that the community has the confidence and motivation to support them. Shopping local helps to ensure local businesses survive and once again thrive.

The Council recognises the challenges facing small businesses and will continue to promote Make It Local initiatives. Please show your support. Visit the local shops in towns across Newry, Mourne and Down and discover that there is something 'local' for everyone. Each town has a distinct offering and is open for your business.



Businesses urged to stay up to date following plans for life after Brexit

Following the UK leaving the EU and the end of the transition period, the Northern Ireland Protocol has now been in force since 1 January 2021.

Preparation for life after Brexit has been crucial for businesses; however, businesses need to stay updated with changes to trade agreements and negotiations and what that will mean operationally. NMD Business, the Economic Development division of the Council, provides advice, support and clarification on Brexit-specific resources. This is available to assist businesses throughout the local area to navigate their Brexit journey.

Businesses can receive support by:

- attending Invest Northern Ireland webinars
- registering for UK government's Trader Support Service
- applying for InterTrade Ireland planning vouchers.

A continuation of cross-border trade with limited disruption is significant to the success and growth of the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area business base. Take action now.



For updates follow us on
facebook.com/NMDBusiness or
twitter.com/NMDBusiness

New user-friendly Planning IT system

Along with the Department for Infrastructure and nine other councils we have jointly awarded a contract for a new regional Planning IT system.

Together we are investing £14m to help enable a more responsive and efficient planning service across both local and central government, including bringing key services such as the submission of applications online. This will be of significant benefit in supporting economic recovery in the context of COVID-19. It is expected that the new system will be phased in from late 2021 to early 2022.



ARTISAN MARKETS

Following the lifting of restrictions in July 2020, the Council, in partnership with delivery agents, recommenced the popular artisan markets.

Local food producers and crafters were able to sell their goods at a series of markets held in Downpatrick, Newcastle and Warrenpoint.

The markets attracted a significant number of shoppers, who were managed in line with COVID regulations. This provided the stall holders with valuable income during this difficult time.



Funding for help to improve your Irish Language skills

The Council's Irish Language bursary scheme assists people wanting to improve Irish Language skills with scholarships or bursaries for courses, including Gaeltacht colleges, intensive courses and third-level courses taking place within the Council's financial year (1 April – 31 March).

The bursary covers course fees only and applicants are eligible to apply for 50% of total fees for the course, up to a maximum of £300 in total.

All applicants must:

- be resident in the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area
- in the case of minors (under 18 years of age), have parental/guardian permission to attend the Irish Language course
- be registered to attend an Irish Language course
- not already have a scholarship from public funds (eg Liofa bursary)
- complete the Irish Language course by attending for its duration
- provide proof of full payment of fees and attendance at the Irish Language course.



The application form and guidance notes are available to download from the Council website www.newrymournedown.org/gaeilge or can be obtained by contacting the Irish Language Unit by telephone on **0330 137 4028** or email gaeilge@nmandd.org

Financial Assistance Programme

The Council now has an online funding system for Financial Assistance Grants and funding streams. This service can be accessed via www.newrymournedown.eformz.info

This has allowed COVID-19 Response and Recovery measures to be delivered across the district under a wide variety of themes. The Council's Programmes Unit also continues to support community grants for capital and minor works as well as Sports Capital Grants. Capital build projects have been ongoing throughout COVID-19.

Examples of projects supported include:

- refurbishment of community centres
- sports pitches upgrades
- extensions of community building
- multisport leisure projects
- community hub buildings
- repairs and refurbishments of sports facilities
- heating upgrades/repairs
- changing facilities
- recreation hubs.

In response to COVID-19, additional funding for COVID-19 Support was also provided through the Department for Communities for Community Advice Newry Mourne and Down, Confederation of Community Groups and County Down Rural Community Network.



For more information contact the Programmes Unit on **0330 137 4040**, or email programmesunit@nmandd.org

Reducing our carbon footprint

The Council holds a huge volume of information, both in hard copy and electronic form, following the Council mergers in 2015.

We have recently been modernising our records management, reducing the Council's carbon footprint and digitising records where possible. A 'data cleanse' project throughout the Council has also so far resulted in the disposal of 13 tonnes of paper records. The Council's records management work helps us fulfil our statutory obligations in relation to requests for information.



During October, Slieve Croob DEA Forum joined forces with County Down Rural Community Network to organise Outdoor Reconnect with Coffee initiatives to help people reengage with others after lockdown.

Members of the public were able to come along and have a walk in their bubble and enjoy a cuppa afterwards. During lockdown many people experienced rural and social isolation which has an impact on emotional health and wellbeing. As well as showcasing the stunning outdoor space in our district, these walks aimed to support people coming outdoors again safely and boost mental health.

Supporting BME residents in our district

Slieve Gullion DEA Forum and the Ethnic Minority Support Centre organised two information sessions for BME communities living in Newtownhamilton.

The aim was to help Black and Minority Ethnic communities connect with key services and information about support in the area. The event in February 2020 provided information on how to register with the Home Office, as well as assisting people with accessing Advice NI. Also included was a workshop on the Universal Credit system.

The information sessions on the night were facilitated by The Migrants Centre and Advice NI. Over 60 participants attended the sessions that were held in the Newtownhamilton Community Centre.

One punch can kill, young people are warned

The increased risk of violence brought about by drugs and alcohol was the focus of a 'One Punch Can Kill' workshop in the Mournes.

The workshop was part of a programme of events run by Mournes DEA Forum in partnership with the PSNI, Police and Community Safety Partnership and local groups. In addition, the programme addressed the impact of abuse on individuals, families and communities, and identified pathways for support.

Community Dementia Awareness Campaign

It can be difficult to imagine what life is like for those living with dementia. So with its specialist equipment and simulated environment, a Virtual Dementia Tour Bus aims to help.

The bus stopped off in Warrenpoint in an event organised by Crotlieve DEA Forum in partnership with the Promoting Wellbeing division of the Southern Health and Social Care Trust. Targeted at those caring for loved ones with dementia, participants were expected to carry out simple tasks during the tour to help them empathise with the challenges that people living with dementia may experience. Public information sessions were also held in the run-up to the event in February 2020 and referrals made to follow-up support services.





Online creative art photography course connects residents

Residents in the Downpatrick DEA got the most out of their smartphone during a four-week Creative Art Photography programme.

An experienced photographer interacted with participants virtually to help them develop new skills and make effective use of their smartphone to take photos. They were encouraged to take photographs covering several thematic areas including Personal Identity, Being at One with Nature, My Family and Me and Our Shared History. Participants then shared these experiences with each other.

This initiative also provided an opportunity for those involved to interact online and develop new friendships during the COVID-19 pandemic. A follow-up two-hour event is planned where the participants can showcase their work alongside work from other DEAs.

More than just street football

Football, making new friends and learning new skills were among the 'Community Kicks' in Newry this autumn.

Newry DEA Forum, in partnership with the Policing and Community Safety Partnership and RESPECT Project, hosted the successful outdoor activity programme in September and October last year. Community Kicks activities were also held with the support of local community associations.

The street football programme engaged young people each week from across the Newry City area, providing a fun activity in safe, shared spaces. Sessions also provided opportunities to chat about important messages on safety, pride in the community and good health and wellbeing.



Drive with care and make accidents rare

Congested roads on the school run can be a familiar problem, especially at drop off and pick up points.

In partnership with the PSNI, Rowallane DEA Forum visited St Joseph's and Glasswater primary schools in Crossgar in October to talk about road safety travelling to and from school.

These two schools had been identified by the PSNI as experiencing congestion issues at drop off and pick up times and were therefore chosen to participate in the project. Double parking at the school gates, crossing the road safely and wearing bright clothing to be seen were among the issues discussed and the pupils engaged in making suggestions to keep themselves safe on the road.

As part of the initiative the children were asked to prepare posters, with the top four selected to appear on a weatherproof banner to be displayed at the school. The pupils who had their poster chosen to be included in the banner received a voucher for a local cinema visit with their family. The banners are currently displayed on the school railings, providing a daily reminder to everyone to drive with care and make accidents rare.



www.newrymournedown.org/corporate-publications

Corporate Plan 2021–23

The Council has published its second Corporate Plan, which covers the two-year period from 2021-2023.

Building on the progress and achievements of its first five years, the Plan will shape the future direction of the work and services it provides going forward.

The Plan sets out the Council's ambitious vision and strategic objectives. Informed by an intensive engagement process, it highlights what the Council wants to achieve during the next two years to make the district one of the best places to live, work, invest in and visit.

This new Corporate Plan will guide the Council's core activities and its allocation of resources going forward. In doing so, the Council will work closely with all its partners in government north and south, as well as the private, voluntary and community sectors, and strive to provide staff with the development support and resources they need to achieve better outcomes and deliver high-quality services.

Our Vision as a Council is that:

We are ambitious and want our district to become one of the most desirable and best places to live, work, invest in and visit.

We want to:

- create opportunities for local people and our communities to thrive by supporting economic development which is sustainable and helps them lead fulfilling lives
- enable our district to grow to be a place which is attractive and welcoming to visit and do business in
- promote and facilitate healthier and more active lifestyles
- support communities to be cohesive and safe and people to be actively engaged in civic life
- protect and develop our environment for the enjoyment of today's residents and visitors and for the benefit of future generations
- provide modern, affordable and accessible facilities and services which offer a better quality of life for all – especially those people and places which need more support than others.

Our Mission as a Council is:

"To support and advocate for a welcoming district which is progressive, healthy and sustainable, providing better economic, environmental and social outcomes for all."

To enable us to achieve our Mission and realise our Vision we will focus on eight strategic objectives for the next two years:

We will:

- 1 Invest in and support new and growing businesses, job creation and employment skills.
- 2 Continue to improve the health and wellbeing of everyone in the district and reduce health inequalities.
- 3 Enhance, protect and promote our environment.
- 4 Support sustainable forms of tourism which value our environment and cultural heritage.
- 5 Enable and support people to engage in inclusive and diverse activities in their communities.
- 6 Promote the revitalisation of our city, towns, villages and rural communities.

- 7 Provide accessible, high-quality and integrated services through continuous improvement.
- 8 Advocate with others for the benefit of all people of the district.

By the end of this two-year period we aim to see:

- an increase in infrastructure investment that enables the future economic growth of the district
- enhanced investment in the sustainable tourism offering
- more people participating in targeted health programmes to encourage healthier lifestyles
- an ongoing reduction in biodegradable municipal waste sent to landfill
- new conferencing and enhanced theatre facilities
- empowered communities influencing local services and development
- a transforming Council in terms of service provision and delivery
- a powerful and influential Council which continues to advocate for all its citizens.



Delivering on the needs of rural residents

The Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016 was introduced with the aim of helping to ensure consideration of the needs of people in rural areas became more firmly embedded within public authorities. This comes into play when developing, adopting, implementing or revising policies, strategies and plans, and designing and delivering public services.

In September 2019, Newry, Mourne and Down District Council was one of two councils invited by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) to be part of a small working group with representatives from government departments and the statutory and voluntary sectors to undertake a review of the implementation of the Rural Needs Act (2016) to date. The purpose of the review was to evaluate the effectiveness of the support measures in place by DAERA to assist public authorities with implementing the Act and to identify any potential improvements. The review identified 25 recommendations, including further training programmes and the introduction of a Rural Needs Network.



Our Rural Needs Annual Monitoring Report for April 2019 to March 2020 is available for download from our website www.newrymouredown.org/equality



Census 2021 is Coming Soon

House 2021 Census.

The Census happens only once every 10 years and gives us a picture of all the people and households in Northern Ireland. The last census was in 2011 and counted 1,810,900 people living here.

Most households receive a letter with a unique access code, allowing them to complete the questionnaire on their computers, phones or tablets. Paper questionnaires will also be available.

The information collected in the census is used to help make decisions about how vital services such as education, transport and health are planned and funded, including how millions of pounds are invested in emergency services, school places, houses and roads across the Council area.

Census day is on 21 March 2021, but households across Northern Ireland will receive letters with online codes allowing them to take part from the beginning of March.



For more information, visit census.gov.uk/ni or follow on Facebook and Twitter [@NICensus2021](https://twitter.com/NICensus2021). You can also find more census facts from 2011 and earlier years at nisra.gov.uk/statistics/census

The Building Control and Licensing Service

Last year the Building Control department:

- received 3,026 applications
- carried out 12,956 site inspections
- processed 2,593 property certificates
- inspected and resolved 11 dangerous structures.





Building Control also introduced a new online service for the submission of Building Notice and Regularisation applications. Visit www.newrymouredown.org/making-an-application

The Licensing section is responsible for enforcing the licensing legislation. It issued 260 Entertainment Licences and 2 Cinema Licences, 71 Petroleum Licences, 13 Amusement Permits, 29 Street Trading Licences, 18 Places of Marriage Licences and 39 Lotteries Licences. It also issued 4,738 Dog Licences. The Licensing section is also responsible for processing new postal numbers and development names. It issued 484 new postal numbers and 24 new development names, as well as 24 dual language nameplates.



Performance Improvement Plan 2019/20

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council is committed to continuously improving the way services are delivered to everyone across the district. A snapshot of our progress in delivering the performance improvement objectives 2019–20 is outlined below.

Performance Improvement Objective	Progress	Status Trend
Encourage healthy lifestyles through increased participation in leisure, sport and recreational activities. 	1.7% increase in attendances at Council leisure facilities	△
	55% increase in attendances at Down Leisure Centre	△
	Customer satisfaction rating of 73.5% across six Council leisure facilities	😊
	1 new play park open, 3 play parks transformed and 5 play parks upgraded	😊
	2,365 children and young people took part in Community Play initiatives and Summer Schemes*	😊
	10,793 participants took part in Everybody Active, exceeding the target set by 30%	😊
Improve economic growth by creating new business starts, supporting the growth of existing businesses and promoting Newry, Mourne and Down as a premier tourist destination. 	183 new jobs promoted and 203 new business starts supported through business start-up activity	😊
	29 businesses supported and 133 jobs created through the Rural Business Investment Scheme	😊
	198 businesses supported and 24 new jobs created through the 'NMD Growth' programme	😊
	NMD Social Economy Programme awarded the best enterprise initiative in NI 2020	😊
	Economic Development Strategy for Newry, Mourne and Down developed	😊
	Our Giant Adventure Festivals attracted 116,120 visitors and generated an estimated £3.2m for the local economy	😊
	73,138 visits by pedestrians and cyclists recorded at the Greenway Victoria Lock and Dublin Bridge	😊
Deliver urban and rural regeneration initiatives that will create a district where people want to live, work and invest. 	Delivery of the AONB Action Plans for the Ring of Gullion and Strangford Lough and Lecale under way	😊
	205,126 visits recorded at Warrenpoint Municipal Park	😊
	The 7 environmental improvement schemes identified in Village Plans under way	😊
	Decrease in the percentage of planning enforcement cases processed within 39 weeks	▽
	Increased processing times for local and major planning applications	▽
Encourage and empower local communities to participate in Council engagement structures and initiatives. 	Significant representation from the community, voluntary and business sectors on Council engagement structures	😊
	Over £1.25m awarded to 498 projects through the Financial Assistance Scheme	😊
	5,741 devices fitted to 727 homes through the 'Home Secure' Scheme	😊
	94% of residents feel safe during the day and 87% feel safe after dark	😊
	£20k allocated to 26 community projects through 2 participatory budgeting schemes	😊



Create a cleaner, greener, more attractive district.



Increase of 2.3% in the rate of recycling



Waste to landfill: among top performing Councils in NI / slight increase in the amount of waste sent to landfill



1.1% reduction in black bin waste, 13.9% increase in blue bin waste and 6.5% increase in brown bin waste



Downpatrick Household Recycling Centre open



Street cleanliness (LEAMS) score reduced from 72 to 64**



Assistance provided to 94 community clean ups and 16 groups took part in the Cleaner Greener Communities initiative



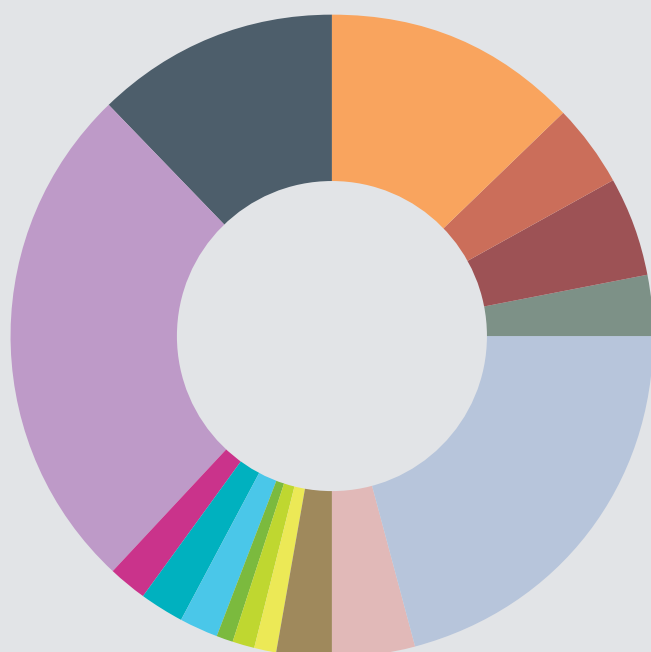
£9,935 awarded to 10 projects through the Local Biodiversity Enhancement Scheme



*Community Play and Summer Schemes may include repeat attendances.

**Local Environmental Auditing Management System which is carried out by Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful.

How we spend your money in 2020/21



Total budget
£59,302,000

Services	% of total	Cost per £'000
Recreation and sport	13%	£7,640
Community services	4%	£2,141
Tourism	5%	£3,102
Culture and heritage	3%	£1,693
Waste collection & disposal	21%	£12,224
Other cleaning & public conveniences	4%	£2,660
Environmental health	3%	£2,021
Cemeteries, minor works & licensing	1%	£580
Building control	1%	£543
Community planning	1%	£335
Economic development	2%	£1,218
Planning policy	2%	£1,005
Democratic representation & management	2%	£1,215
Other services	26%	£15,564
Loan interest and financing provision	12%	£7,362



Your Councillors



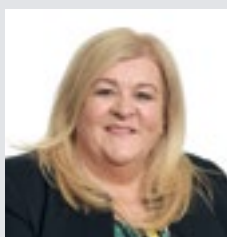
CROTIEVE

Mark Gibbons
Independent
mark.gibbons@
nmandd.org



CROTIEVE

Declan McAteer
SDLP
declan.mcateer@
nmandd.org



CROTIEVE

Karen McKevitt
SDLP
karen.mckevitt@
nmandd.org



CROTIEVE

Gerry O'Hare
Sinn Féin
gerry.o'hare@
nmandd.org



CROTIEVE

Mickey Ruane
Sinn Féin
michael.ruane@
nmandd.org



CROTIEVE

Jarlath Tinnelly
Independent
jarlath.tinnelly@
nmandd.org



NEWRY

Charlie Casey
Sinn Féin
charlie.casey@
nmandd.org



NEWRY

Valerie Harte
Sinn Féin
valerie.harte@
nmandd.org



NEWRY

Gavin Malone
Independent
gavin.malone@
nmandd.org



NEWRY

Roisin Mulgrew
Sinn Féin
roisin.mulgrew@
nmandd.org



NEWRY

Michael Savage
SDLP
michael.savage@
nmandd.org



NEWRY

Gary Stokes
SDLP
gary.stokes@
nmandd.org



THE MOURNES

Willie Clarke
Sinn Féin
willie.clarke@
nmandd.org



THE MOURNES

Laura Devlin
SDLP
laura.devlin@
nmandd.org



THE MOURNES

Séan Doran
Sinn Féin
sean.doran@
nmandd.org



THE MOURNES

Glyn Hanna
DUP
glyn.hanna@
nmandd.org



THE MOURNES

Leeanne McEvoy
Sinn Féin
leeanne.mcevoy@
nmandd.org



THE MOURNES

Harold McKee
UUP
harold.mckee@
nmandd.org



THE MOURNES

Henry Reilly
Independent
henry.reilly@
nmandd.org



SLIEVE CROOB

Hugh Gallagher
SDLP
hugh.gallagher@
nmandd.org



SLIEVE CROOB

Róisín Howell
Sinn Féin
roisin.howell@
nmandd.org



SLIEVE CROOB

Alan Lewis
UUP
alan.lewis@
nmandd.org



SLIEVE CROOB

Cathy Mason
Sinn Féin
cathy.mason@
nmandd.org



SLIEVE CROOB

Andrew McMurray
Alliance
andrew.mcmurray@
nmandd.org



DOWNPATRICK

Dermot Curran
SDLP

dermot.curran@
nmandd.org



DOWNPATRICK

Cadogan Enright
Independent

cadogan.enright@
nmandd.org



DOWNPATRICK

Oonagh Hanlon
Sinn Féin

oonagh.hanlon@
nmandd.org



DOWNPATRICK

Gareth Sharvin
SDLP

gareth.sharvin@
nmandd.org



DOWNPATRICK

John Trainor
SDLP

john.trainor@
nmandd.org



ROWALLANE

Terry Andrews
SDLP

terry.andrews@
nmandd.org



ROWALLANE

Patrick Brown
Alliance

patrick.brown@
nmandd.org



ROWALLANE

Robert Burgess
UUP

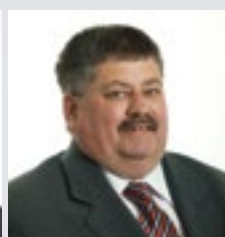
robert.burgess@
nmandd.org



ROWALLANE

Kathryn Owen
DUP

kathryn.owen@
nmandd.org



ROWALLANE

William Walker
DUP

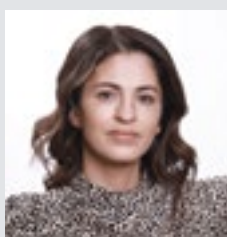
william.walker@
nmandd.org



SLIEVE GULLION

Pete Byrne
SDLP

pete.byrne@
nmandd.org



SLIEVE GULLION

Aoife Finnegan
Sinn Féin

aoife.finnegan@
nmandd.org



SLIEVE GULLION

Mickey Larkin
Sinn Féin

mickey.larkin@
nmandd.org



SLIEVE GULLION

Oonagh Magennis
Sinn Féin

oonagh.magennis@
nmandd.org



SLIEVE GULLION

Barra Ó Muirí
Sinn Féin

barra.omuirí@
nmandd.org



SLIEVE GULLION

David Taylor
UUP

david.taylor@
nmandd.org



SLIEVE GULLION

Declan Murphy
Sinn Féin

declan.murphy@
nmandd.org

This document can be made available on request in other formats, including braille, large print, audio-tape and other languages. Should you require access to these services, please contact the Communications and Marketing Office on **0330 137 4006** or email **marketing@nmandd.org**

0330 137 4000

www.newrymournedown.org

Getting in Touch Useful Numbers

Community Services

0330 137 4008

Indoor Leisure

0330 137 4026

Visitor Services & Attraction Information

0330 137 4046

Household Recycling Centres

0330 137 4047

Ballykine, Ballynahinch,
Bann Road, Castlewellan
Camlough
Cloonagh Road, Downpatrick
Crossmaglen
Drumanakelly
Hilltown
Kilkeel
Newry
Newtownhamilton
Warrenpoint

Planning Office

0330 137 4036

Waste and Enforcement

0300 137 4047

Bulky Waste Collection
Domestic & Trade Waste
Pollution Control
Public Conveniences
Recycling
Refuse Collection
Street Cleansing
Waste Disposal

Other Useful Numbers

Building Control
0330 137 4003

Cemeteries and Burials
0330 137 4005

Complaints
0330 137 4000

Dog Control
0330 137 4013

Health and Wellbeing
Pollution Control
0330 137 4024

Licensing
0330 137 4030

Policing & Community Safety
Partnership & Good Relations
0330 137 4038

Registration Office (Births,
Deaths and Marriages)
0330 137 4041

Useful Emergency Contact Numbers

Emergency Services
999 or 112

Daisy Hill Hospital, Newry
028 3083 5000

Downe Hospital, Downpatrick
028 4461 3311

Flooding Incident Line
0300 200 0100

Housing Executive
0344 892 0901

NI Electricity Networks
0345 764 3643

NI Gas Emergency Service
0800 002 001

NI Water
0345 744 0088

Out of Hours GP Service
028 9260 2204 (Downpatrick)
028 3839 9201 (Newry)

Police Non-Emergencies
101

Report a blocked road/
fallen tree
0300 200 7899

Southern Health
and Social Care Trust
0800 783 7745 (9am-5pm
Monday to Friday)

South Eastern Health
and Social Care Trust
0300 100 0300 (9am-5pm
Monday to Friday)

24 Hour Domestic and
Sexual Violence Helpline
0808 802 1414 (24 hours)