

Our Performance Looking Back, Going Forward



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

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

The Local Government (NI) Act 2014 sets out a general duty of improvement for local government, whereby all District Councils must put in place arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the exercise of their functions.



Looking Back

Assessment of Performance 2022-23

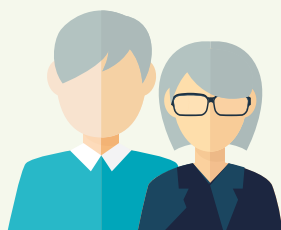
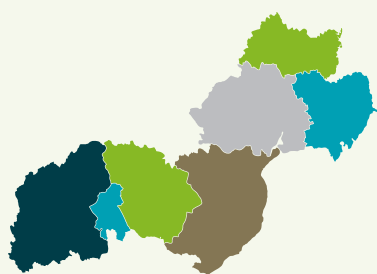
Every year, we are required to publish an Assessment of Performance to demonstrate whether planned improvements have been achieved. The Assessment of Performance sets out progress against the current 'measures of success' within the:

- **Corporate Plan 2021-23**
- **Performance Improvement Plan 2022-23**
(including the statutory performance indicators and standards)

Our performance has been tracked against set targets and trends over time, using the legend below.

Status	Trend
 Target or objective achieved / on track to be achieved	 Performance has improved since the previous year
 Target or objective partially achieved / likely to be achieved / subject to delay	 Performance is similar to the previous year
 Target or objective not achieved / unlikely to be achieved	 Performance has declined since the previous year

Our District, Our Organisation, Our Performance



District

Population: 182,074

Households: 68,398

7 District Electoral Areas

41 Elected Members

1,000+ employees

88% of residents are
satisfied with the Council

Community

Life expectancy:

Male: 78.9 years /

Female: 82.7 years

Age Profile: 0-15 years:

22% / 65+ years: 17%

87% of residents agree
that their local area is a
place where people from
different backgrounds get
on well together

100% of residents feel safe
during the day, 78% of
residents feel safe after dark

115 Neighbourhood Watch
Schemes

18,407 food parcels
delivered to vulnerable
households

£9.6m awarded through
the Financial Assistance
Scheme since 2015

Tourism

Between 2018 and 2019:

15% increase in visitor
numbers, to 516,203

21% increase in visitor
spend, to £83.7m

Three Areas of Outstanding
Natural Beauty

5 'green flag' parks and
3 'blue flag' beaches

CROTLIEVE

NEWRY



Newry
Town Hall



Newry Leisure Centre





Health and Wellbeing

82% of residents feel they are in very good or good health

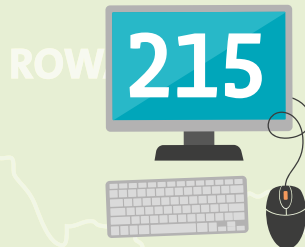
83% of residents are physically active at least once a week for 30mins

73.5% of customers are satisfied with the Council's six leisure facilities

225k recorded visits at community trails

226K recorded visits to Warrenpoint Municipal Park

THE MOURNES



Economy

Employment rate (age 16 to 64): 68.5

9,175 VAT Registered Businesses

23% of the population aged 16 years and over have no qualifications

187 new jobs promoted through business start activity

359 businesses supported and 1,108 mentoring days delivered through economic development programmes



Environment

Recycling is important to 91% of residents

Top perceived problem for residents: Dog mess and fouling

Recycling rate: 49.6%

360 community clean ups supported since 2018

Second lowest level of waste to landfill across all NI Councils



patrick

Down Leisure Centre

Down Arts Centre

St Patrick's Monument

Performance at a Glance

A snapshot of the past year

Performance Improvement Objective	Progress	Status Trend
 We will encourage local people to lead healthy and active lives by improving the quality of our parks and open spaces	79.8% increase in recorded attendances at Council leisure centres	△
	132% increase in recorded visits to Carlingford Lough Greenway	△
	A further 6% increase in recorded visits at Warrenpoint Municipal Park bringing the total recorded visits to 226,153 in 2022-23.	△
	6.6% increase in recorded visits at community trails	△
	3 'blue flag' beaches and 5 'green flag' parks	😊
	83% of visitors are satisfied with the Council's forest parks	😊
	2 new play parks built and 2 play parks upgraded	😊
 We will grow the economy by supporting local businesses and creating new jobs	187 new jobs promoted through business start activity	😊 ▼
	12 new social enterprise businesses supported and 12 new social enterprise jobs created	😊 ▶
	347 businesses supported and 187 jobs created through 'NMD Growth', 'Digital Growth', 'Tender for Growth' and 'Sales Accelerator' programmes	😊 ▼
	Increase in the number of VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses, birth rate of new businesses and employee jobs	😊
	'Make it Local' campaign rolled out	😊
 We will improve the cleanliness of our District by addressing littering, fly tipping and dog fouling incidents	110 fixed penalty notices issued and 91 paid	😞 ▶
	39 community clean ups supported	😞 ▼
	Decrease in the rate of recycling, to 49.6%*	😊 ▶
	One of the lowest levels of waste sent to landfill across all NI Councils*	😊 △
	10 'Live Here, Love Here' environmental projects supported	▼
	Anti-littering and responsible dog ownership campaigns rolled out	😊

Performance Improvement Objective	Progress	Status Trend
 We will build the capacity of local communities through the Financial Assistance Scheme	£1.26m awarded to 366 projects across 22 thematic areas	😊
	67% of applications to the financial assistance scheme were successful	😞▶
	£524k awarded towards major and minor capital projects	😊
	49,347 volunteers hours recorded to deliver projects and 256,025 beneficiaries of the scheme	😊
	5 capacity building sessions delivered to 208 participants	😊
	99% of applicants are satisfied with the support received from the Programmes Unit	😊
 We will improve the processing times of planning applications and enforcement cases by implementing the Planning Service Improvement Programme	The Council received and decided on the highest number of planning applications across the 11 Councils, approving the second highest number of cases regionally.	😊
	The processing time for local planning applications increased from 18.8 weeks in 2021-22 to 21.6 weeks in 2022-23	😞▼
	The processing time for major planning applications increased from 44.3 weeks in 2021-22 to 89 weeks in 2022-23	😞▼
	The number of planning applications in the system for 12 months or more increased from 187 in 2021-22 to 228 in 2022-23.	😞▼
	The number of enforcement cases in the system for 12 months or more has increased from 472 in 2021-22 to 503 2022-23.	😞▼

*The 2022-23 data in relation to the statutory performance indicators for waste management remains provisional, as the end of year validated data will be published by DAERA in Q3 2023-24.

Going Forward

Performance Improvement Objectives 2023-24



Every year, we are required to set performance improvement objectives for the services we provide, and to have in place arrangements to achieve these objectives. These objectives seek to address the issues which matter most to local people, and are:

Linked to the Community Plan, Corporate Plan and Directorate Business Plans	✓
Based on existing performance information	✓
Aligned to the seven strategic aspects of improvement	✓
Based on stakeholder consultation and engagement	✓



Objective 1

We will support the health and wellbeing of local people by improving our local facilities and services

What you will see:

- Increase in the number of paid attendances at our six leisure centres to 750,000 by the end of 2023-24.
- Increase in the number of people participating in targeted health programmes to 9,400.
- Increase in the number of young people participating in targeted health and wellbeing initiatives to 20,000.
- Increase in the number of memberships being taken out to 9,750.
- 225,000 recorded visits to community trails.
- A number of new build and/or upgraded capital leisure projects progressed.
- 'Mystery Visitor' Programme implemented and baseline established.



Objective 2

We will grow the economy by supporting local businesses and creating new jobs

What you will see:

- 300 business plans created for Start-Up businesses and employer enterprises
- 190 new Business / employer enterprises supported to start-up
- Support provided to 200 existing businesses to progress growth and scaling ambitions
- 155 new jobs promoted via business start-up activity.
- 12 social enterprise start-ups supported and 12 social enterprise jobs created
- More support for new and established local businesses and more employment opportunities across the District
- The economic recovery of Newry, Mourne and Down is underway, as the District becomes more economically active and prosperous



Objective 3

We will improve the cleanliness of our District by addressing littering, fly tipping and dog fouling incidents

What you will see:

- Increase in the number of fixed penalty notices issued and paid
- Responsible dog ownership and reduced levels of dog fouling, littering and illicit dumping
- Improved opportunities to report littering, dog fouling and illicit dumping
- Reduction in the disposal of paint from our Household Recycling Centre sites.
- Opportunities to engage in community clean ups and participate in the 'Live Here Love Here' campaign and 'Adopt a Spot' scheme
- Landfill and recycling targets are achieved
- A cleaner, greener District, with improved civic and community pride



Objective 4

We will improve our sustainability and reduce our impacts in relation to climate change

What you will see:

- Development of a climate change and sustainable development strategy
- Development of a climate change adaptation plan
- Development of the new Newry, Mourne and Down Biodiversity Strategy (2023-2028)
- New trees planted
- Carbon footprint of Council estate established
- 20 new Council supported EV charging points installed
- Increase in the percentage of younger, less polluting vehicles within the Council fleet
- 10 new electric vehicles ordered for use within the Council fleet.
- 5 new public drinking water fountains erected.



Objective 5

We will improve the processing times of planning applications and enforcement cases by implementing the Planning Service Improvement Programme

What you will see:

- A more efficient and effective planning service
- Improved processing times for local and major planning applications
- Improved processing times for planning enforcement cases
- Reduction in the number of live planning applications and enforcement cases in the system
- An empowered and motivated workforce
- Increased confidence in the Planning system
- Sustainable development and regeneration of the District

Have your say

We welcome your feedback and suggestions on how Council services can be improved in the future. Full copies of the following documents are available to download from our website www.newrymournedown.org as follows:

- Performance Improvement Plan 2023-24
- Assessment of Performance 2022-23

This document is available in alternative formats upon request.

For more information, contact:

Performance and Improvement
Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
O'Hagan House, Monaghan Row, Newry
Co Down, BT35 8DJ

0300 013 2233
performance@nmandd.org

T: 0330 137 4000
info@nmandd.org
www.newrymournedown.org

Oifig an Iúir
Newry Office
O'Hagan House
Monaghan Row
Newry BT35 8DJ

Oifig Dhún Pádraig
Downpatrick Office
Downshire Civic Centre
Downshire Estate, Ardglass Road
Downpatrick BT30 6GQ

