



Living Well Together

**A Community Plan for
Newry, Mourne and Down**

**Statement of Progress
2019-2021**

Our Vision

"Newry, Mourne and Down is a place with strong, safe and vibrant communities where everyone has a good quality of life and access to opportunities, choices and high-quality services which are sustainable, accessible and meet people's needs."

Community Planning: Focusing on Outcomes

Newry, Mourne and Down's Community Planning process brings partner organisations, regional government agencies and local communities together to work in collaboration to deliver our vision. Community planning is built on the understanding that organisations and communities working alone cannot do what can be achieved in partnership. Our focus is on what we can do together to achieve our goals. Our vision defines the outcomes we want to achieve by 2030. Introduced in 2015 as a new statutory requirement in Northern Ireland, Community Planning is new way of working for organisations in the region, and these are still early days for our collective journey. This Statement of Progress charts our progress until 2021 towards realising these high-level overarching positive outcomes.



2019 Agreed Priorities

The need to streamline priority areas and actions was noted in the last statement of progress and since then the Board have reduced the number across all areas. The highlight report attached in **appendix 1** sets the priorities agreed prior to the pandemic and their progress to date. While many projects have advanced some have been delayed or suspended and may now be outdated or superseded by new actions.

Update on Indicators

The Community Plan identifies 21 key indicators, that are monitored to ensure our collective actions are promoting the positive outcomes we wish to see achieved for our community. In this way we can measure progress towards our outcomes and change what we are doing if it is not working. Under each indicator there are suggested measures, data sources that can be used to measure and compare the District performance within each of the identified indicators. **Appendix 2** highlights the progress made under each indicator. Data is not available for every suggested measure, and other data is not available due to the impact of the COVID pandemic, in these cases an alternative proxy measure may be used.

COVID-19 and Community Planning

The emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent lockdown response had a highly significant effect on existing and planned joint working. Cancellation of meetings and the diversion of staff across most partner organisations was necessary to address more immediate issues, such as providing food, medical and social support to those most vulnerable in our community. Emergency management of the response resulted in many planned actions being put on hold.

Response to the pandemic stimulated a high level of positive and effective collaboration not only on the activities proposed in the Community Plan, but also in response to the new challenges the pandemic caused within our community. Feedback from partners and the huge number of local groups who mobilised volunteers has showed that much of the positive response to the crisis has been built on relationships established or strengthened through community planning. Partners were well prepared to work together, and this was best demonstrated in the experience of the Community Coordination Hub (CCH). The CCH was made up with partners from Health Trusts, Council and other Statutory and Community Voluntary Sector organisations across the District and has been seen by many as community planning in action.

The CCH learned that existing partner relationships, mutual respect and complementary capabilities enabled issues to be addressed effectively.

The strong links between Community Planning partners showed that organisations faced with the threat of the COVID-19 virus were able to work together, decide quickly and act in a much more agile fashion to get support on the ground much more rapidly than is often experienced by citizens in 'normal' times.

Partnership Response to COVID Pandemic:

The initial focus of the Community Co-ordination Hub was to respond to calls for assistance from within the the community and provide support which included advice, signposting and distribution of food boxes to the most vulnerable. The hub provided a vital link between the DEA fora, Community and Voluntary Sector, Statutory Agencies and Council Officers, and allowed for information to be shared and responses to be harmonised across all stakeholders.

Local Coordination through District Electoral Areas (DEA) and Community and Voluntary Sector

The response was coordinated locally through the DEA officers who triaged calls from residents and utilised the strong networks established within each DEA forum to deliver a response that was appropriate to the needs of the local community. Each DEA officer liaised closely with the local community voluntary sector via the Strategic Stakeholder Forum (SSF) and in total over 60 community groups were mobilised across the 7 DEAs to assist with the distribution of food parcels. These groups were assisted by a number of individual volunteers from within the community.

As well as coordinating the distribution of food the DEA officers and SSF also provided advice and signposting to members of the public on a range of issues including fuel, medication and financial hardship. The local information collected by local DEA officers provided a valuable resource for the CCH to enable them to gain an understanding of the emerging needs and challenges within the community and design their responses appropriately. A scorecard for the initial CHH response can be found at **appendix 3**.

Food box Distribution

18,407 food boxes were delivered to our most vulnerable residents.

144 organisations and individuals assisted in Distribution

1,902 food boxes were delivered in the peak week

2,305 Referrals for Food, Medicine and Advice triaged by DEA officers

The CCH also provided an important forum to oversee the distribution of COVID relief funding. The input from the community/voluntary sector through the SSF, as well as front line officers within statutory agencies, allowed the hub to effectively identify emerging needs within the community and provide financial assistance to groups and individuals in most need of support.

Funding Distributed through the Hub (2020/21)

£76,143.92 of funding distributed

23,222 individual beneficiaries.

3,516 people received assistance with food/oil/electricity.

18,280 benefited from assistance with connectivity/mental health/ maintaining social contact

1,426 benefited from PPE equipment to help facilitate social contact and essential services to residents.

Community Coordination Hub Future Priorities

As we emerge from COVID, the Community Coordination Hub has identified further priority projects that will help to mitigate the impacts of the pandemic and also promote recovery within the district. These projects will be delivered through the 2021/22 financial year. A summary of the CCH priorities are shown in the table below.

Project Name	Project Lead	Description
Financial Assistance for Community Voluntary Sector	NMDDC Programme s Unit	Providing community/voluntary organisations with the opportunity to apply for funding to support actions in transitioning out of Covid. Targeting those on low income and at risk due to financial stress, those experiencing lack of access to services and those requiring support to access food.
Confidence Building Taster Sessions and Short Programmes	NMDDC Community Services Section	Series of Confidence Building taster sessions to build the confidence of residents who may have suffered from rural and self-isolation during the pandemic.
Slow Cooker Programme	NMDDC Community Services Section	Training sessions, delivered online to help and show people how to cook healthy, nutritious and sustaining food on a limited budget and in an economical way.
Participatory Budgeting Project	NMDDC Community Planning Section	Participatory Budgeting project aimed at support ingcommunity projects which promote positive mental health through increased social connectivity.
Energy Efficiency Advice and Energy Saving Equipment	NMDDC Health & Wellbeing Department	Provision of Energy Efficiency Advice and Energy Saving Equipment to those identified in fuel poverty
Sustainable Food Places Programme	NMDDC Health & Wellbeing Department	Creating a Sustainable Food Partnership to promote the transition to a healthy, sustainable, and more equitable food system. Working across all aspects of the food system and covering all social, environmental and economic issues
Youth Media Project	NMDDC District Electoral Areas (DEAs)	A media project to address pressing need for mental health programme delivery to support emergence from isolation.
Re-Connect Roadshow - Community Connections and Engagement Project	NMDDC District Electoral Areas (DEAs)	Bespoke programmes/events to help communities engage with health supports in their areas. To be tailored and delivered within each District Electoral Area (DEA).
Connect and Engage Media Project	NMDDC District Electoral Areas (DEAs)	Aims to reduce anxiety and support young people dealing with difficulties of interactions and engagement by hosting a high-profile media campaign in post primary schools to help young people talk about their experiences.
NMD Strategic Stakeholder Forum (SSF) Projects	NMD Strategic Stakeholder Forum (SSF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using an "Expression of interest" (EOI) and trusted partners scheme to enable trusted partners and community organisations to meet the needs of families and individuals in the community. Targeting issues of food, fuel and connectivity as well as addressing wider issues such as, Poverty, Debt, Mental Health & Wellbeing, Domestic Abuse, Employability,

		<p>Homelessness etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employing social prescribing methods to identify people in need due to COVID (referred from a variety of sources including GPs, Primary Care, Pharmacists and the CV Sector) • Financial Resilience programme to provide targeted advice and support to those attending foodbanks and at a number of trusted partners premise • To establish a Poverty Support Fund (with SHSCT and SEHSCT) accessed by referral and assessment by health professionals This will provide a responsive and flexible mechanism for meeting identified need. • VERVE Network: (With SHSCT) Establish a network of community organisations and local Community Health Trainers to enable them to provide accessible, one-to-one health coaching and group programmes in their community.
Addressing Digital Poverty in NM&DDC area Project	NMD Strategic Stakeholder Forum (SSF)	Providing assistance to individuals who our Community Voluntary Sector partners have assessed as experiencing disadvantage or exclusion due to lack of digital connectivity.
Re-opening of Community Facilities	NMDDC Community Services Section	Working with community groups to provide programmes that help get services back up and running.

Lessons Learned From The Pandemic

While the COVID 19 pandemic provided many challenges across the district, the emergency response provided an opportunity for the Partnership to reflect on how we can work together to achieve better outcomes for residents in Newry, Mourne and Down. In autumn 2020 a survey was circulated to all partners inviting them to suggest learning that could be drawn from the COVID response and also identify new and emerging priorities as we recover from the impact of the pandemic.

Examples of positive lessons from the coordinated COVID response include:

- The adoption of a 'can do' approach across all partners recognizing that key actions need to be taken by those best placed to do so
- Insuring relevant administration, protocols and safeguards are designed to support and facilitate rather than create barriers. Adapting best practice as necessary while ensuring guidance / legal requirements are met
- Mutual recognition and appreciation of respective organisation / sector capabilities and roles. For example, our community sector could respond quickly to community needs, with statutory sector providing coordination and support
- Utilising VCSE Community Networks on the ground knowledge and communication channels with local groups. This was vital to identifying community needs and in establishing a coordinated volunteer base for support services and food parcel delivery
- Building on the strength of the existing Community Planning working groups, Community Planning Partnership, Community Voluntary Strategic Stakeholder Forum, and the & DEA forums in providing a framework to coordinating the emergency response.

New Partner Priorities Identified: (grouped broadly under Community Planning themes)

Lifelong Health and Wellbeing

- Mental Health support / Promotion of Take 5
- Avoid spread of COVID-19
- Rebuilding Health and Social Care services with focus on Equity, Accessibility, and Skills
- Sport and physical recreation: Safe return and maintain participation levels

Prosperous Communities

- Investment in Digital Skills and online delivery
- FE student home internet access
- Mentoring support for students 'at risk'
- Tourism Recovery, incl. Marketing plan with a themed week for each Council area
- Business rebuild, re-skilling, re-training and identification of new opportunities in dual context of COVID-19 and Brexit

Safe and Vibrant Communities

- Safe re-opening of community facilities
- Safe re-opening of schools

Other / General

- Addressing tourism performance levels, which may not recover for 3-5 years
- Build on the experience of the Community Coordination Hub which demonstrated effective and agile working between partners and sectors

- Underlying principle of collaboration remains important, but it can be developed with a sharper focus
- Smarter and more effective working together designed to help vulnerable groups
- Need to review the community plan

Due to the ongoing impact of COVID priorities have changed, new structures have been formed and new partnerships have evolved therefore it was decided that a formal review process will take place in 2022 to review all actions and indicators in which partners and the community will be consulted.

Recovery and Renewal: The Post COVID vision of the Strategic Stakeholder Forum

The Strategic Stakeholder Forum (SSF) was established in 2017 and forms part of the Community Planning Function within the district. The Forum is an independent collective representing the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise sector (VCSE) sector in Newry, Mourne and Down with membership of the Community Planning Partnership Board.

Since the outbreak of Covid-19, the SSF have played a leading role in providing an effective community response to the pandemic, working alongside NMD and other Statutory Partners in insuring a coordinated solution to meet the needs within the Community. As we emerge from the pandemic the SSF continue to provide an important forum for the VCSE sector, and seek to further enable this sector to play a vital role in our District as we recover from the impact of COVID and look towards the renewal of our communities.

In response to the COVID pandemic, the Community Planning Partnership have supported the SSF in producing a "Planning for Recovery and Renewal" document which sets out a vision for post COVID recovery within the District, where the VCSE, Public and Private sectors work together to put in place a Recovery and Renewal plan that benefits everyone living within the community.

The paper espouses a collaborative and partnership approach between all sectors, empowering communities to change from within by providing local solutions to local problems and by feeding into the wider collective to create a fairer and more just society with social inclusion for all.

The Key recommendations put forward are:

- **Health and Wellbeing Initiatives:** Promoting social interventions that can enable a wider range of our communities' needs to be met via a more holistic approach, reducing frequency of attendees to GPs & Emergency Departments and reducing social isolation.
- **Targeting Youth Unemployment:** Prioritising the reskilling and retraining of young people to jobs in growth sectors in sectors that are expected to become strong players in the regions labour market and thereby ensure longevity and security in their employment

- **Procurement:** Encouraging collaboration between organisation in the Public, Private and VCSE sectors to develop a community wealth building approach which redirects wealth back into the local economy, and places control and benefits into the hands of local people.

Next Steps

In June 2021 the SSF hosted an online workshop entitled "Procuring for Better". This workshop introduced delegates to the principles of community wealth building and presented practical examples of how progressive procurement using existing assets can develop social, local economic and environmental wellbeing through commissioning and procuring activity to achieve social value within the community. The Council is currently exploring opportunities to employ community wealth building approaches through undertaking a diagnostic exercise, this will provide valuable learning for the entire partnership.

Newry Mourne and Down Strategic Stakeholder Forum Additional Activity

- **Clanrye Group (Social Prescribing Project):** Using our current models of "social prescribing" already available in the Newry and Mourne area to identify people in need due to COVID We have currently actioned 22 referrals. Referred in by MDTs, Community Pharmacy and local GPs.
- **CDRCN (Social Prescribing):** - Additional hours to existing social prescribers in the Down area - Currently 20 no. individual Referrals to date from Social workers/ MDTs and Trusted partners. Social prescribing links primary care patients to non-medical solutions in the local community.
- **Social Supermarket:** A scoping and feasibility study is currently underway by Newry & Mourne Enterprise Agency. If the need and structures can be identified, it is anticipated that the first social supermarket in NMD may be created this year.

Community Planning Projects

Below are some positive examples of projects which have taken place in 2021 which show community planning in action. Multiple partners have been involved in these projects and have contributed to the success of them.

NMD Citizens Engagement Panel

Throughout 2022 the Community Planning partners wish to engage citizens through an online citizens panel called Speak NMD. The Citizens Panel will be a shared mechanism for partners to engage local communities on cross cutting issues, in a joined up and collaborative way.



This online engagement platform will be host to a range of consultations, surveys, polls, discussion forums and most recently the Communities Leading Change Participatory budgeting campaign where residents voted for projects they would like to see funded in their area. The consultations will be

varied and topics such as health, climate change, and education will be taking place. The platform will also be used conducted targeted engagement with residents on a variety of local issue specific to their communities. The site is visible at this link.

The Speak NMD platform is funded by the Community Foundation Northern Ireland (CFNI) through its Civic Innovation Programme and is managed by the Newry, Mourne and Down Strategic Stakeholder Forum.

Newry, Mourne and Down Housing Needs Conference 2021

The Community Planning Access to Quality Housing prioiry working group hosted a conference on Wednesday 10 November in The Burrendale Hotel, Newcastle to consider the key issues affecting the delivery of affordable housing in the district. This conference followed a very successful event that was held in 2019 in which a Housing Needs action plan was produced.

Over 90 representatives from across the district attended the event in person and virtually, including statutory agencies, housing professionals, MPs, elected members and the community and voluntary sector. The conference, facilitated by John Campbell, BBC Economic Editor aimed to consider how these issues could be addressed through effective collaboration across public/private and community & voluntary sector. Presentations were heard from Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Chief Executive, Marie Ward; Mark O' Donnell Deputy Secretary, Department for Communities; NIHE Chief Executive Grainia Long; Sinead Collins NIHE; Ruth Montgomery Rural Housing Association and Alice Charles World Economic Forum.

The feedback and discussion will now be considered by the housing sub-group and a review of the action plan completed to ensure alignment of priorities to support continued partnership working to addressing housing issues in the short, medium and long term.



Communities Leading Change Participatory Budgeting Project



Communities Leading Change is a Participatory Budgeting initiative which allows residents to decide how to spend part of a public budget by voting on which projects they think would be most beneficial and make the biggest impact in their community. Multiple partners are involved in delivery PB and have contributed funding; each year the funding available has increased so much so that in 2021 £57,500 was awarded to 39 community groups voted by the public.

In 2019 four-year plan outlining future arrangements for PB was agreed at the Community Planning Partnership Board. In 2022, a proposal will be put forward to pilot a mainstreamed PB.

2019/2020 Communities Leading change

In 2019 26 groups were successful in receiving £750 grants to deliver their projects which helped to build community connections and community safety. Two voting events were held, one in Newry DEA and one in Downpatrick DEA. More than 100 people showed up at each event to vote for the projects they wanted to see in their area. Newry DEA held a market stall event and the groups in Downpatrick DEA showcased their project in front of a packed community hall. Due to the impact of COVID groups were supported to change the way their projects were delivered- some had to be done online and some were given an extension in order to deliver. All groups submitted evidence of completion by September 2021. A scorecard for this project is included as **appendix 4**.

2021/2022 Communities Leading Change

Residents in Newry, Mourne and Down District have voted for a series of projects promoting positive mental health through increased social connectivity to receive funding of up to £1500 through the Communities Leading Change Participatory Budgeting (PB) campaign. This year's theme was chosen to address the reduced opportunity for social connection that has resulted from the pandemic, and has resulted in increased social isolation and negative impacts on residents' health and wellbeing.

A total of 39 projects have been funded through a new online voting platform Speak NMD. There was an enormous number of votes and participation in this year's PB project has been unprecedented.

Each group will now have until March 2022 to spend their funding and Council will be hosting events for the public to attend to hear and see how these projects have benefitted the area, they live in.

To see a list of the successful groups and their projects visit
<https://www.newrymournedown.org/communities-leading-change>

NMD Community Support Partnership

Newry, Mourne and Down Community Support Partnership is a multi-agency partnership which aims to support vulnerable adults who are known to a range of partner agencies including the PSNI, NIHE, NIFRS and NIAS. The Partnership is chaired by Council's Safer Communities & Good Relations Manager and other partners include the SHSCT, SEHSCT, the Education Authority, Probation Board and three voluntary sector partners – Bolster Community, County Down Rural Community Network and Community Advice Newry, Mourne & Down. Since its formation in late 2019 the Partnership has provided dedicated support to 30 individuals. This support has included help to access a range of services (including mental health, addiction and general health services), assistance with housing issues and return to education, employment and volunteering opportunities.

In other areas of NI these partnerships are known as Multi-Agency Support Hubs. NMD Community Support Partnership is the only group in NI to have substantive voluntary sector partners and this approach is now being considered as a model of best practice.

NMD Youth Council: Youth Voice

Young People aged 16 to 21 years who live in the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area are coming together to be part of the NMD Youth Council: Youth Voice Initiative.

Youth Voice gives young people the opportunity to:

- Engage with key decision makers
- Have their say on local issues
- Meet new friends
- Be a representative voice for young people in their area
- Be involved and pro-actively engaged with local decision-making processes



This two-year programme will be managed by Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Community Planning Partnership and the Education Authority Youth Service.

The Youth Council will meet on a weekly basis to identify and take forward common issues relating to young people in the local area along with opportunities for residential and to participate in study visits to UK or Ireland.

The young people are now beginning this programme of meetings and have a residential planned for the end of January 2022.

Physical Activity

The Be Active for Health Programme is a health referral programme delivered by NMDDC through partnership funding with NMDDC, the Southern Health and Care Trust, South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust. Primarily the programme provides ongoing support and guidance to referred participants and delivers a broad range of physical activity sessions including live online physical activity sessions, outdoor sessions including walking, cycling and chi me sessions, weekly online

challenges and pre-recorded videos to overcome barriers and support those who are referred to get and stay active.

The aim of the programme is to address the health inequalities in the NMDDC district, by introducing behavioural change strategies and introduce support, guidance and bespoke physical activity sessions to address low to moderate mental ill health and to redress the onset of diabetes. The programme involves referred clients participating in bespoke physical opportunities at an intensity and format that is right for them, organised by the Health Referral Co-Ordinators such as gentle circuits, yoga, walking, cycling and aerobics ranging in age from 18 to 85 from across the district. The programme runs for twelve weeks and the participants can participate in other activities to promote independent training. The aim is to eventually promote independent training and promote lifelong participation. Participants have their physical activity (WHO short version and their wellbeing (WEMHW) levels assessed at week one and week twelve.

While operating the program during COVID has provided challenges, those participating have reported an increase in their physical activity, both in the number of days a week they were physically active and for the duration of the exercise. In addition to this, participants who completed the programme also reported an improvement in their levels of self-confidence and optimism. I project scorecard for this program is include in **appendix 5**.

Digital Poverty

The COVID 19 pandemic and subsequent lockdown has highlighted our increasing reliance on technology as a society, as communities and as individuals; and many who are not sufficiently digitally connected have experienced disadvantage during the pandemic. The negative impacts of digital exclusion are felt in many areas of life, from our ability to access work and resulting impacts on income, quality of education, availability of healthcare, costs of goods or services, and even the ability to connect with loved ones during incredibly challenging times.

Digitally excluded individuals risk losing their voice and visibility as government services and democratic engagement are increasingly moved online and digital exclusion impinges on children's rights to education, information and participation.

The digital poverty working group brings together representatives from the community voluntary, education and local government sectors with the aims:

- Utilise the knowledge and experience of members to better understand the nature of digital poverty across the District and identify where further initiatives are required.
- To understand current activity addressing digital poverty and identify "gaps" in provision as well as opportunities for better coordination and collaboration.
- To identify funding opportunities to support community-based short-term initiatives to address the identified needs
- To design, implement, monitor and report on initiatives assisting families in gaining access to online learning, adequate broadband or appropriate computer equipment.

Meeting in since October 2021, the working group have received funding from DfC and are currently working together to develop a plan that will provide IT equipment and support to those experiencing digital poverty.

Economic Forum

The Newry Mourne and Down Economic Forum exists to facilitate strong Partnership working across government departments, agencies, colleges, business support organisations and private businesses to promote the economic growth of the District. The forum is recognised as the Thematic Priority Group for the Prosperous Communities theme of the Community Plan. The forum meets twice a year, with smaller working groups meeting quarterly to focus on the 3 main pillars of the Districts Regeneration and Economic Development Strategy (Launched October 2020), these are:

- Supporting Entrepreneurship, Business growth and Innovation
- Improving Employability and Skills
- Investing in Regeneration and Modern Infrastructure

Each of these pillars are complex and cross-cutting and will require joined up, co-ordinated and concerted efforts by all partners, to deliver the economic growth that is aspired to across the District.

In delivering the vision set out in the economic strategy the Forum seeks to ensure the creation of a welcoming, successful region where enterprise flourishes, firms maximise their potential and achieve high levels of business growth. The strategy has been developed to complement, underpin and support the delivery of the strategic objectives of Council's Community Plan, and is closely aligned to the indicators contained within the plan.

Labour Market Partnerships

It was agreed at the February 2021 meeting of the skills and employability working group that this group should to assume the role of the NMD Labour Market Partnership (LMP). The LMP aim to help improve employability outcomes and labour market conditions locally by working through coordinated, collaborative, multi-agency partnerships, achieving regional objectives whilst being flexible to meet the needs presented by localised conditions and helping to connect employers with employees. It seeks to bring together, in a single body, the necessary local knowledge and expertise, to build on existing structures locally, operating in a holistic, streamlined and joined up way. LMPs sit as an initiative under DfC's Employability NI programme

During June and July 2021, the LMP undertook stakeholder engagement incorporating those directly involved in the local labour market both on the demand side as employers but also those shaping the supply of potential employees in schools, colleges and training/job-search organisations. This was supplemented with an audit of baseline data from the District, which highlighted the main trends and emerging challenges from within the local labour market. From this the LMP have identified three key priorities with appropriate indicator, these are:

- To form and successfully deliver the functions of the local Labour Market Partnership
- To improve employability outcomes and/or labour market conditions
- To support delivery of Employability NI

The Forum have adopted a OBA “turning the curve approach” to develop an interim action plan which will be delivered collaboratively by March 2022. This plan contains a range of initiatives from both supply side and demand side, which will help local people move closer to work and / or into work. A copy of the turning the curve exercise is included in **appendix 6**.

Sustainable Food Partnership

The purpose of the Sustainable Food Places (SFP) Partnership is to facilitate a strategic and collaborative approach to good food governance and action within the Newry, Mourne & Down District so that all people in the District will have access to healthy, affordable, sustainable food. Sustainable Food Places is an initiative of the Council’s Health & Wellbeing Department, and works across all aspects of the food system cover all social, environmental and economic issues, such as:

- Food Governance and Strategy
- Good Food Movement
- Healthy Food for All
- Sustainable Food Economy
- Catering & Procurement
- Food for the Planet

Funding has been received from DfC, which is overseen by the Community Coordination Hub (CCH), to assist with delivery of the Programme.

Activity to date

Consultation took place in July 2021 with 4 online workshops which involved a number of representatives whose remit connected them to sustainable food.

In total 24 people participated in the consultation representing NMDDC, community planning stakeholders, community voluntary sector, food banks, community growers and food retail, food awareness & food experience. They looked at what projects and initiatives are already happening around sustainable food and the emerging opportunities and priorities.

Future Activity

As a result of the consultation, an action plan is being created which will be overseen by a Partnership and delivered by 4 priority sub-groups under the following themes:

- Building public awareness, active food citizenship and a local good food movement
- Tackling food poverty and diet related ill-health and increasing access to affordable healthy food
- Creating a vibrant, prosperous and diverse sustainable food economy and transforming catering and procurement and revitalizing local and sustainable food supply chains
- Tackling the climate and nature emergency through sustainable food and farming and an end to food waste

The SFP has been endorsed by the Community Planning Partnership and will report progress through the Partnership. The SFP and sub-groups will consist of representatives from statutory partners, the community voluntary sector and other relevant stakeholders. Part of this work will build on and benefit from the Community Planning Asset mapping project.

District Electoral Areas 2020/21 Activity

DEA Forums continued to meet regularly during 2020 and 2021, albeit virtually since March 2020 due to Covid. During March – July 2020, the DEA Coordinators and Forums used their links with local Community Organisations to coordinate the delivery on the ground of the Department for Communities Food Parcel Scheme.

Following the easing of lockdown, the DEAs returned to programme activity under their action plans although some activity was carried out on a virtual basis and other events had to be postponed at short notice due to changes in COVID restrictions. A scorecard displaying the community engagement undertaken through the DEA for a is included in **appendix 7**.

In 2021, a significant proportion of DEA activity focused on reconnecting isolated individuals with their local communities and on addressing the mental health issues arising out of the pandemic and consequent isolation. Below are examples of projects which took place over the last few years.

The Pink Present Project

The Pink Present project was launched in several local schools in October to help combat period poverty. Supported by the Public Health Agency, the joint initiative between the Council's District Electoral Area Forums, Newry Larder, the Council's Health Improvement section and the Council's Women's Working Group aims to ensure pupils could access free sanitary products.

The project was developed in response to studies that highlighted the impact of period poverty on girls in secondary schools in terms of their education, health and self-esteem. By working with schools and other partner organisations, it is hoped the cost barrier can be removed, making it easier for young women to access the sanitary products they need.

Young Minds Matter

The Council's District Electoral Area (DEA) Forums partnered with the Education Authority to deliver a mental health event for young people in September. The event held in the Canal Court Hotel in Newry focused on the positive ways young people could look after their mental health as well as promoting key support agencies for those struggling. The event provided participants with an opportunity to engage with support services as well as share experiences through a play, talks and activities

Good Relations Animation Project

A suite of Good Relations themed videos and animations have been developed as a learning resource for primary and post-primary schools. COVID-19 meant the 'Shared Schools' programme normally delivered by bringing schools together did not take place. To keep schools communicating, the Council's District Electoral Area Forums and Good Relations Section developed seven videos and

animations as well as student/teacher resources to use as a long-term digital learning resource. Launched at Newry High School in October (photographed above), young people are challenged through a series of activities to explore their history, culture and heritage as well as that of others from different community backgrounds and religions. The new resources have since been distributed to all local post-primary schools

Adult Carers Reconnect through Pottery

For those caring for a family member at home during the pandemic, there have been few opportunities to connect with others in similar circumstances. Wanting to help, Slieve Croob District Electoral Area Forum worked with the South Eastern Trust Carers' Development Officer to put together a fun and relaxing four-week Pottery Programme for adult carers at the Preaching Pottery House in Killough. The September programme provided a much-needed break for those taking part as well as the chance to re-engage with other carers and form supportive new friendships.

Appendix 1: Community Planning Highlight Report			
Thematic Group Priority	Key objectives	Action to date	Future Work
Theme: Lifelong Health and Wellbeing			
Priority: Mental Health	Promotion of joint actions within Take Five Steps to Wellbeing framework:	<p>£10,000 Suicide Prevention and Mental Health-focused grant stream included in NMDDC Financial Assistance Call June 2020 – 11 awards made between £500 - £1000</p> <p>In 2021/22 £12,170 was provided to 13 projects under the suicide prevention and emotional wellbeing theme. Projects supported included delivery of training and awareness raising, therapeutic interventions, peer-based approaches to suicide prevention, befriending schemes and sports-based programs</p> <p>'Take 5 Steps to Wellbeing' Call to Action and social media campaign across all HSC Trusts and partners September – October 2020, Mapping exercise being conducted by the working group.</p> <p>Elected members workshops with community voluntary sector bodies held in Oct 2021</p> <p>DEA coordinators have designed a program of activity which will have a positive impact on participant's mental health and wellbeing as well as raising awareness of services available to those with concerns related to mental health and wellbeing. These include information events and schools events.</p>	<p>Continue to coordinate actions under the Take Five Steps to Wellbeing Frameworks, extending across all CPP partners where possible</p> <p>Promote collaborative working and support the initiatives being taken forward through the DEA fora.</p>

Priority: Physical Activity	Social Prescribing for people with long term health conditions	Key collaborative Social Prescribing pilot project, 'Transforming Health, Preventing Disease' developed between the two Health Trusts and Council (each funding 33%) providing new pathways for Sport and Physical Activity for people at risk from long term health conditions	Continue to promote and develop program, identify areas for further alignment with existing programs.
		2 Health Referral Coordinators appointed December 2019	
		224 direct participants were involved in the project aged between 18 - 85 years old (As of September 2021) So far there are 6 referral pathways from both Trusts including the Addiction Team, DPP, MDT, SPRING, Sure Start and Others	
		Physical activity and Warwick- Edinburgh wellbeing scores collected pre and post program. Project scorecard has been developed.	
Priority: Preventable Death	Community of Lifesavers Draft Action Plan	Priority sub-group to meet to agree / implement Action Plan	No meetings since 2019. Group Suspended until levels of COVID-19 restrictions allow work to be progressed effectively. Enabling work carried out by Council officers for example auditing and mapping of AEDs
		Additional elements of Preventable Death action plan to be developed with partners	

Theme: Sustainable Environment			
Priority; Sustainable Travel / Traffic and Congestion	Develop Action Plan for alternatives to car journeys including public / community transport, walking and cycling	<p>Pre-establishment meetings held with Dept for Infrastructure and Sustrans in August 2019</p> <p>Subgroup meetings in November 2019 and January 2020 to develop Action Plan postponed</p> <p>Council Officers and Sustrans have developed an Active Travel Master Plan.</p> <p>Bilateral meeting held August 2021 with DFI. Priority working group bringing forward the external elements of the master plan, with group extended to include DEA and CV representation.</p>	Once finalised the Active Travel Master Plan will provide an action plan for the group going forward.
Priority: Access to Quality Housing	Increase the availability of quality social and affordable housing in the district	<p>NIHE re-aligned Housing Investment Plans to districts</p> <p>Action Plan developed from conference proceedings, and launched as brochure in August 2019</p> <p>Ongoing meeting to deliver on the action plan since August 2019</p>	<p>Build on progress in joint partner working with a range of local initiatives and schemes.</p> <p>Develop updated action plan subsequent to findings of housing conference</p>

		Further housing conference was held in November 2021 to review progress to date of actions plan and develop further priority actions.	
Priority: Access to Natural and Built Heritage	Identify collaborative plan with environmental organisations to encourage greater access for improved personal / community health and wellbeing outcomes	First workshop for key environmental organisations held in October 2019	Group to coordinate campaign which engages with people to encourage and promote access to the Countryside. Group to create online map of outdoor recreation and heritage assets.
		Second meeting held 13 January 2020 – agreed in principle to establish group with 3 key functions: Engagement of local people; Act as the Environmental sub-group for the Geopark; Reference group for key strategies, e.g. NMD Tree Strategy.	
		Post COVID meeting held in October 2021 to review research in relation to recreational use of the countryside and the impact of the pandemic on patterns of use. New subgroup priorities agreed.	
Priority: Assets Mapping	Development of a shared database of land and property assets to assist better utilisation of the collective partners' estate Newry, Mourne and Down District Council	Community Assets Land Assets Data collected by Council from a number of stakeholders. While further mapping and validation is required, it is considered important to identify a practical use for the data.	Stakeholder Forum/ Community Gardens Project to identify settlements for pilot project utilising asset mapping for community benefit
Theme: Prosperous Communities			
Priority: Employability and Skills	Improving knowledge of work, employability skills and local opportunities	In October 2020, Newry, Mourne and Down District Council launched a new Regeneration and Economic Development Strategy 2020 –	Work to continue via the Economic Forum.

		<p>2025. This strategy is built around 3 key pillars of investment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting Entrepreneurship, Business growth and Innovation • Improving Employability and Skills • Investing in Regeneration and Modern Infrastructure <p>Early in 2021 DFC approached Council to take forward the establishment of a Labour Market Partnership (LMP). In order to achieve this, the Skills and Employability working group agreed to assume the role of the Interim LMP.</p> <p>LMPs sit as an initiative under DFC's Employability NI programme</p> <p>LMP Aim: Help improve employability outcomes and labour market conditions locally by working through coordinated, collaborative, multi-agency partnerships, achieving regional objectives whilst being flexible to meet the needs presented by localised conditions and helping to connect employers with employees Bring together, in a single body, the necessary local knowledge and expertise, to build on existing structures locally, operating in a holistic, streamlined and joined up way</p>	<p>Partnership to support the work of the Labour Market Partnerships.</p>
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Priority: Tourism		Business case for visitor attractions in the Mourne mountains as part of Belfast City Region Deal developed has been developed and currently undergoing appraisal	Forum has not met due to impact of COVID, however the identified actions are being taken forward by project working groups including representation from Statutory Partners, Community Voluntary Sector and Local Businesses.
		Application for Global Geopark status for the Mournes and Ring of Gullion submitted November 2019. Project progressing through assessment process in 2021/22	
		Consultation on the NMD Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategy completed Strategy being reviewed in light of COVID, to be relaunched q4 2021/22	
Theme: Safe and Vibrant Communities			
Priority: Community Support Partnership	Support vulnerable individuals making multiple demands on services through sharing of information	Community Support Partnership established May 2019, meeting monthly, dealing with first referrals	Continue to support the work of the Community Support Partnership.
		Partnership in NMD includes nominees from Community and Voluntary sector, via Strategic Stakeholder Forum	
		Since its formation in late 2019 the Partnership has provided dedicated support to 30 individuals. This support has included help to access a range of services (including mental health, addiction and general health services), assistance with housing issues and return to education, employment and volunteering opportunities.	

<p>Priority: Implement Participatory Budgeting:</p>	<p>Roll out 'Communities Leading Change' Participatory Budgeting across all DEAs</p>	<p>2019/20 Projects were postponed but all have been complete.</p> <p>Funding for 2022 confirmed by 4 Partners totalling £57500 to be spent by end of March 2022</p> <p>52 projects from across NMD were uploaded Online using the Speak NMD platform. The voting took place in October and 39 projects were awarded up to £1500 each. 6660 total votes were placed.</p> <p>Theme for projects was to "promote positive mental health through increased social connectivity and address emerging needs due to Covid".</p> <p>Eurasmus International Youth PB project - production of a toolkit to be available Spring 2022.</p> <p>Dept of Communities/PB works and DtNI working towards linking PB with Community wealth building</p>	<p>(In person) Celebration events to take place in Spring 2022 to showcase projects to the community.</p> <p>Working towards completing the 4 year plan in which year 4 is to – Mainstream PB.</p>
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Appendix 2

Living well
together :-)

Statement of
Progress
2017-2021

Indicators and
Measures

We identified 21 key indicators that we will work on and measure to ensure our collective actions are promoting the positive outcomes we wish to see achieved for our community. In this way we can measure progress towards our outcomes and change what we are doing if it is not working.

This document highlights the progress that has been made so far from 2017 to 2021. However, not every indicator has data available to measure progress within the past two years.

To summarise the findings, we have used the legend below and a brief outline of progress:



Positive Change



Little/ No Change












Negative Change











No baseline data to compare/ No data currently available











All people in Newry, Mourne and Down get a good start in life and fulfil their lifelong potential

Level of Early Years support	<div> <div> <p>Children aged 0-5 registered with dentist</p>  <p>From 2014 up to 2019 there had been a consistent rise in the number of children registered in NMDDC with a dentist, however Covid-19 may have had an impact in 2020 with a fall of 0.23% from 10.85% to 10.72%, figures close to those seen in 2016 at 10.71%.</p> </div> <div> <p>Birth weight rate</p>  <p>An average of 91% of babies were born at a healthy weight (2015 - 2019) compared to 90% in 2016.</p> </div> <div> <p>Level of pre-school nursery places</p>  <p>Funded places at pre-schools has remained steady, for the population from 2016/17 with 1821 places and 2019/20 with 1802 places in total reflecting approximately a 1% drop in places.</p> </div> </div>
Level of Educational Wellbeing	<div> <div> <p>Level of educational attainment</p>  <p>In the academic year of 2019/20, an average of 89% of students achieved at least 5 GCSE'S grades A*-C (or equiv), an increase of 4% from the 2018/19 academic year which was 85%.</p> </div> <div> <p>Level of literacy and numeracy</p>  <p>An average of 77% of students achieved at least 5 GCSE'S grades A*-C (or equiv) inc. English and Maths during the 2019/20 academic year, an increase of 5% on the 2018/19 figure of 72%.</p> </div> </div>
Level of Quality School Life	<div> <div> <p>Attendance levels</p>  <p>Primary and Post Primary students absenteeism was, 5.57% in 2015/16 2021 saw an average of 6.2% based on attendance level</p> </div> <div> <p>Engagement in extra-curricular activities</p>  <p>No data currently available</p> </div> <div> <p>Level of emotional support</p>  <p>The pupil teacher ratio has remained steady at around 18% (2020/21) for the last five years.</p> </div> <div> <p>Impact of area planning</p>  <p>In 2018/19, 22 primary schools had a >5% Deficit, this was an increase on the previous year and there were 12 post primary schools with a >5% Deficit, an increase from 6 in 2016/17</p> </div> </div>
















Level of Connectivity	<div>Level of infrastructure</div> <div>▲</div> <div>DFI Road Improvement Schemes have increased from 292 (2018/19) to 345 (2020/21) an increase of approximately 18%</div>	<div>Travel times</div> <div>▶</div> <div>No data currently available</div>	<div>Congestion levels</div> <div>▶</div> <div>Increase traffic count on key routes throughout the district of 5% from 2017 to 2019</div>	<div>Level of broadband connectivity</div> <div>▲</div> <div>The percentage of properties receiving superfast broadband has increased at 83% (2020) which is a rise from 73% (2016)</div>
Level of Lifelong-learning	<div>Increase in skills base</div> <div>▶</div> <div>Third lowest proportion (%) of those leaving school aged 16, 17 and 18 not entering Education, Employment or Training in NMD (2017)</div> <div>No comparable data</div>	<div>Overall numbers in education/further education</div> <div>▼</div> <div>The number of enrolments into further/higher education decreased to 1753 (2019/20) from 1907 (2015/16), an approximate 8% drop.</div>	<div>Skills in growth areas/growth sectors</div> <div>▲</div> <div>Higher Education Qualifications in 'maths, computing, engineering and technology' has increased to 260 (2018/19) from 210 (2015/16)</div>	
All people in Newry, Mourne and Down enjoy good health and wellbeing				
Level of Life Expectancy	<div>Life Expectancy</div> <div>▲</div> <div>Within the district generally, male and female life expectancy (2015-17 to 2017-19) has remained steady, however, within the districts most deprived areas, male life expectancy at birth has risen by 1.6 years from 76.5 to 78.1 and females by 0.8 years from 81.6 in 2015-17 to 82.4 (2017-19)</div>			
Level of Work Life Balance	<div>Employees working very long hours</div> <div>▼</div> <div>From 2013 figures of 32.3hrs the total mean hours worked in the district has risen by 1,3 hours to 33.6hrs in 2020, this represents a 4% increase in hours worked and is joint second highest district in Northern Ireland</div>	<div>Time devoted to leisure, arts, culture and heritage</div> <div>▶</div> <div>In 2013/14 - 2015/16, 89% of residents were engaged in culture arts and leisure</div> <div>No comparable data</div>	<div>Workplace health</div> <div>▲</div> <div>The total number of accidents reported to the council relating to work deaths, injuries or sickness has decreased to 29 incidents in 2020/21 from 44 in 2019/20</div>	

Level of Preventable Death	<div>Illness</div> <div></div> <div>The standardised death rate- Circulatory U75 has decreased from 69 in 2011-15 to 63 in 2015-19, whilst Cancer U75 Deaths per 100,000 population have remained steady with 151 for 2015-19 compared to 154 in 2011-15</div>	<div>Accidents</div> <div></div> <div>9 Road Traffic Collision Fatalities were reported in 2020, an increase of 5 from 2018</div>	<div>Suicide</div> <div></div> <div>The suicide rate has decreased to 15.8 (2014 - 2018) from 16.1 (2013 -2017) representing a 2% drop.</div>
Level of Health Status	<div>People reporting good or very good health</div> <div></div> <div>79% of residents report generally good health (2018) No comparable data</div>	<div>Children who are overweight or obese</div> <div></div> <div>The rate of Primary 1 children classed as having an Obese BMI has remained consistent at 4.8% which is 0.5% lower than the NI average of 5.3 and the Year 8 rate of children with a BMI classed as Obese has dropped from 6.6% in 2016 to 5.5% in 2020.</div>	
	<div>People dependent on carers</div> <div></div> <div>The total claimants for carers allowance has remained consistent at 7630 (2020) compared to 7640 (2018)</div>	<div>Level of mental illness</div> <div></div> <div>Standardised Admission rate for self-harm has decreased to 112 (2015/16-2019/20) from 150 (2014/15 - 2016/17)</div>	<div>Addictions</div> <div></div> <div>The standardised death rate for smoking saw an approximate 6% drop from 153 (2011-2015) to 145 (2015-19). The standardised hospital admission rate for drugs related causes witnessed a 29% reduction from 228 (13/14 – 15/16) to 162 (17/18 – 19/20) and alcohol related illness' had an approximate 5% drop from 682 (13/14-15/16) to 646 (17/18-19/20)</div>

All people in Newry, Mourne and Down benefit from prosperous communities











Level of Jobs and Earnings	<div>Level of economically inactive</div> <div></div> <div>The economic activity rate has remained steady at 77.6% (2019) compared to 70.5% in 2015</div>	<div>Level of GVA per head</div> <div></div> <div>The Gross Value Added (balanced) per head of population at current basic prices has increased to £17,485 (2019) from £15,184 (2015)</div>	<div>Shift in sectoral spread of business</div> <div></div> <div>Services is the main business sector accounting for 82% of employees in NMD in 2020, a rise of 5% from 77% in 2016</div>
Level of Income and Wealth	<div>Level of average earnings</div> <div></div> <div>The mean annual wage for all persons has increased to £25,843 in 2020 from £24,216 in 2018 which represents an approximate 6% increase.</div>	<div>Level of skills development across population</div> <div></div> <div>Higher Education Qualifications in ‘maths, computing, engineering and technology’ has increased to 260 (2018/19) from 230 (2016/17)</div>	
Level of Economic Investment	<div>Level of economic investment</div> <div></div> <div>In relation to the Invest NI Supported Businesses Programme there has been an increase in the number of businesses supported from 114(2018) to 127(2019) and people employed from 8185(2018) to 9570(2019), this reflected in 18% increase in sales.</div>	<div>Size and quality of business base</div> <div></div> <div>The number of VAT or PAYE registered businesses has increased from 8, 745 (2019) to 9045 (2021) This represents a 3.4% increase</div>	
Level of Tourism Revenue	<div>Level of overnight visitors</div> <div></div> <div>The level of overnight visitors has increased from 449, 953 (2018) to 516,203 (2019) which represents 9% of all overnight visitors in Northern Ireland.</div>	<div>Average spend per trip by visitors</div> <div></div> <div>The average spend per visitor has increased from £154.12 (2018) from £162.09 (2019) an increase of approximately 5%.</div>	<div>Occupancy level</div> <div></div> <div>Hotel occupancy levels have remained steady at 60% (2019) compared to 62% (2016). Self-catering rates however fell from 42% (2016) to 28%(2019) and B&B’s rates have increased from 17%(2015) to 26%(2019)</div>

All people in Newry, Mourne and Down benefit from a clean, quality and sustainable environment

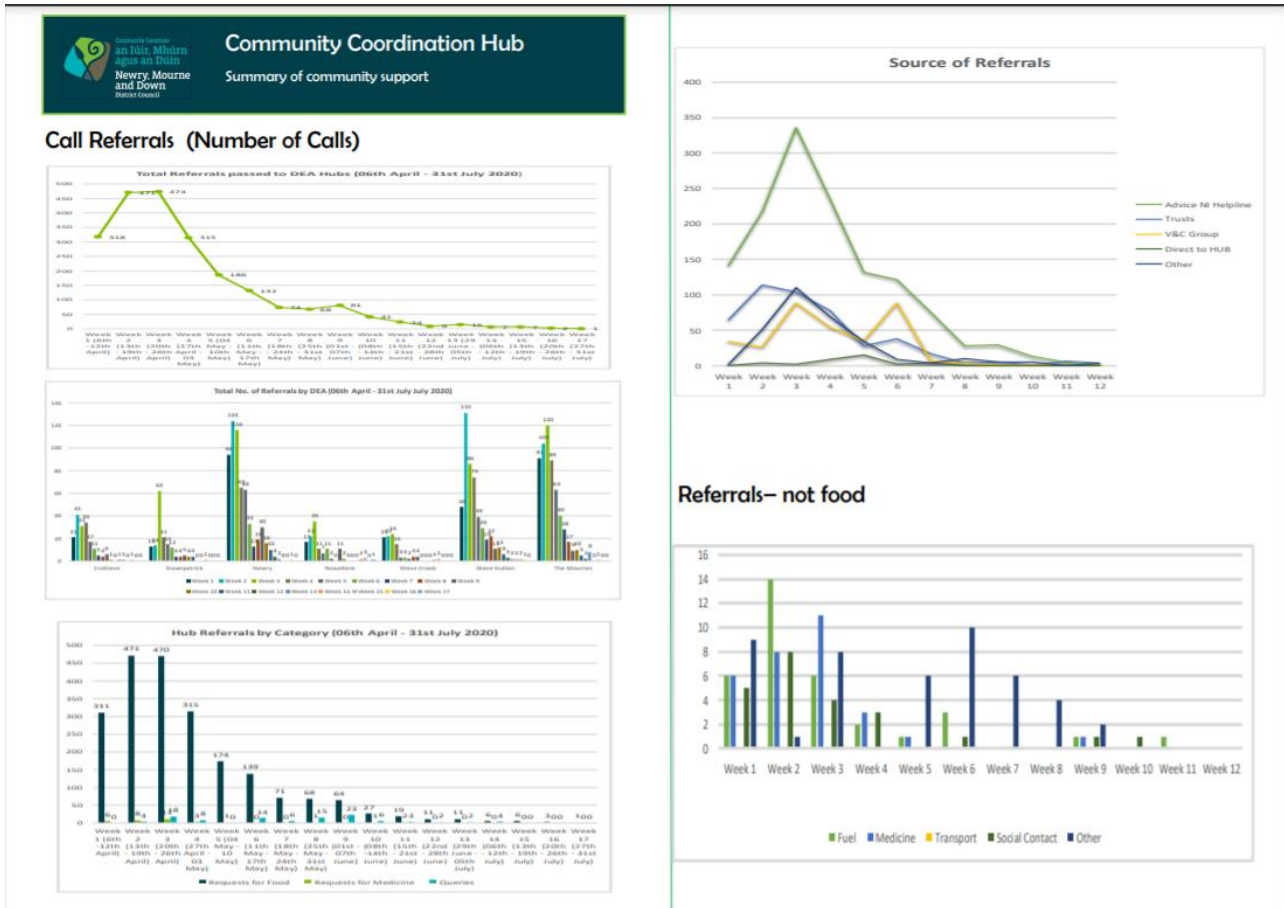
Level of Sustainable Energy	<p>Energy output from renewable sources</p> <p></p> <p>Renewable energy planning applications have increased from 7 in 2019 to 16 applications in 2021.</p>	<p>Sustainable energy installations</p> <p></p> <p>The total number of domestic sustainable energy installations and regularisations has decreased to 141 (2021) from 287 (2015)</p>	<p>Energy efficiency measures</p> <p></p> <p>The number of energy efficiency measures installed by the NIHE Affordable Warmth scheme has decreased from 457 (2019) to 218 (2020)</p>	
Level of Quality Housing	<p>Quality of social housing</p> <p></p> <p>The district ranks above the NI average for the percentage of domestic dwellings that are unfit and in a state of disrepair (2017)</p> <p>No comparable data</p>	<p>Housing need</p> <p></p> <p>Social housing need in the district has remained steady with NIHE identifying 1864 (2019-2024) individuals requiring social housing in relation to 1,884 for 2018-2023.</p>	<p>Level of mixed tenure developments</p> <p></p> <p>A mixed tenure development (Craigmore Way, Newry) is currently preparing to break ground for around 300 homes.</p>	<p>Level of affordable housing</p> <p></p> <p>The total number of those in housing stress has increased to 2,976 (2021) from 2,264 (2016) representing a 31% increase.</p>
Level of Quality Living Environment	<p>Properties at risk of flooding</p> <p></p> <p>A total of 3.2% of the houses in the district are at risk of flooding, above the NI average (2017)</p> <p>No comparable data</p>	<p>Urban air quality</p> <p></p> <p>Monthly Nitrogen Dioxide and Particulate Matter (PM10) measured in high motor vehicle traffic areas within Newry and Downpatrick by NMDDC have seen no significant change from 2017 to 2020</p>	<p>Incidents of litter, dog fouling, excessive noise, fly tipping and pollution</p> <p></p> <p>The Local Environmental Audit and Management System (LEAMS) score fell to 64 in 2020/21 from a score of 72 for 2017/18 and 2018/19. LEAMS monitors issues such as litter, dog fouling, fly tipping</p>	<p>Recycling rate</p> <p></p> <p>Since 2015-16 (38.9%), the district increased the overall rate of recycling by 13.7% to 52.6%(2020/21), exceeding the 50% target by 2020</p>
Level of Rich, Diverse, Natural Environment	<p>Water quality</p> <p></p> <p>From 2015 to 2018, 4 “moderate” surface water status’ within the districts</p>	<p>Access to green space</p> <p></p> <p>In 2015 52824 users accessed 2 walking trails within the district, this rose to 87854 accessing 4 trails in 2020. An additional 4 trails</p>	<p>Unauthorised developments</p> <p></p> <p>The number of open enforcement cases saw a reduction by 24% from 457 (2018) to 346 (2020), whilst</p>	<p>Quality of habitats</p> <p></p> <p>In the 2014-2020 reporting period 14 ASSI’s were reported to be in an</p>

	<p>have changed, 2 to “good” and 2 to “poor” No current Data</p>	<p>were completed in 2020 enabling a total of 126375 users access to green space (Jan-Sept) 2021</p>	<p>the number of cases concluded has increased by 141% from 191(2018) to 462</p>	<p>unfavourable condition, compared to 9 in 2002-2008 (No Comparable Data)</p>
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All people in Newry, Mourne and Down live in respectful, safe and vibrant communities

Level of Social Connections	<div> <div> <p>Opportunities to connect with others</p>  <p>Good Morning/Good Neighbour services supported 224 users in 2021</p> </div> <div> <p>Social network support</p>  <p>72% of residents think their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together (2018)</p> <p>No comparable data</p> </div> <div> <p>Level of attitudinal change</p>  <p>49% of residents felt that relations between Protestants and Catholics are about the same as they were 5 years ago (2020)</p> </div> </div>
Level of Social Capital	<div> <div> <p>Level of volunteering</p>  <p>The total number of new volunteers since Jan 2020 in the Newry Mourne and Down District area with Volunteer Now is 233</p> </div> <div> <p>Level of community networks/infrastructure</p>  <p>78% of residents do not regularly participate in local groups or activities</p> <p>No comparable data</p> </div> </div>
Level of Civic Participation	<div> <div> <p>Voter turnout</p>  <p>Comparing voter turnout for government elections from 2001 to 2014, it is evident that turnout has decreased. However, from 2014-2019 the 2019 voter turnout has increased by 4%</p> </div> <div> <p>Inclusive engagement in decision making</p>  <p>31% of residents feel they have influence when it comes to any local decisions made</p> <p>No comparable data</p> </div> </div>
Level of Personal Safety and Crime Rate	<div> <div> <p>Crime rate</p>  <p>The total number of crimes has fallen by 4% from 8792 in 2015 to 8450 in 2020</p> </div> <div> <p>Fear of crime</p>  <p>Most residents feel safe in their local area during the day (94%) and after dark (87%)</p> <p>No comparable data</p> </div> <div> <p>Number of Neighbourhood Watch schemes / Farm Watch schemes</p>  <p>Neighbourhood watch schemes within the district have dropped to 114 from 150 in 2016/17 which represents a 24% decrease</p> </div> </div>

Appendix 3 CCH – COVID response



Food Parcel Delivery

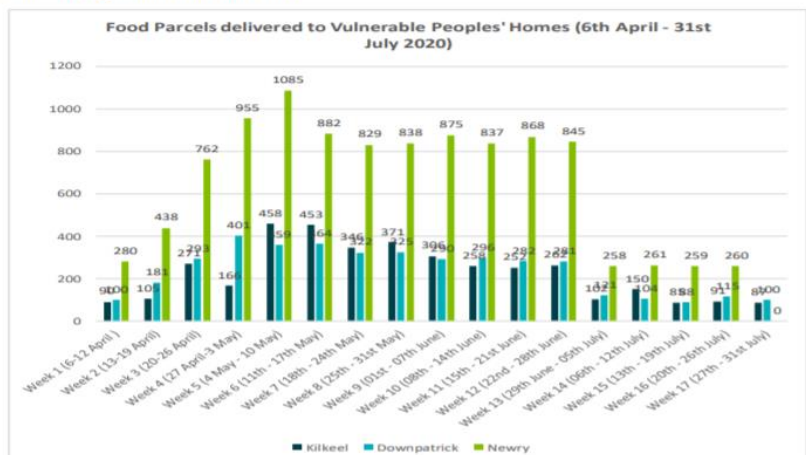
By Wards

	Parcels Delivered
CROTLIEVE	1733
Burren	22
Derryleckagh	204
Hilltown	357
Mayobridge	300
Rostrevor	478
Warrenpoint	372
DOWNPATRICK	1974
Cathedral	486
Knocknashinna	312
Lecale	447
Quoile	301
Strangford	428
NEWRY	4250
Abbey	533
Ballybot	1560
Damolly	1036
Drumlane	472
Fathom	361
St. Patrick's	288
ROWALLANE	795
Ballynahinch	236
Crossgar and Killyleagh	217
Derryboy	208
Kilmore	52
Saintfield	82
SLIEVE CROOB	1024
Ballydugan	486
Ballyward	71
Castlewelfan	193
Drumness	84
Dundrum	190
SLIEVE GULLION	4374
Bresbrook	563
Camlogh	316
Crossmaglen	737
Forthill	403
Mullaghbane	612
Newtownhamilton	1504
Whitecross	239
THE MOURNES	3578
Annalong	551
Binnian	861
Donard	219
Kilkeel	957
Lisnacree	625
Murlough	230
Toilymore	135

Onward Referrals



Delivery by Distribution Hub



Appendix 4



OUTCOME: ALL PEOPLE IN NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN LIVE IN RESPECTFUL, SAFE AND VIBRANT COMMUNITIES

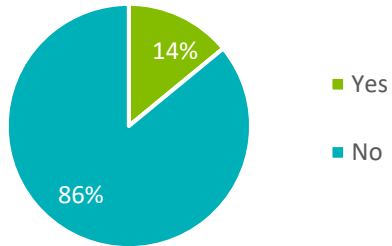


INDICATORS: Level of Social Connections
Level of Social Capital
Level of Civic Participation

The Baseline- Newry DEA

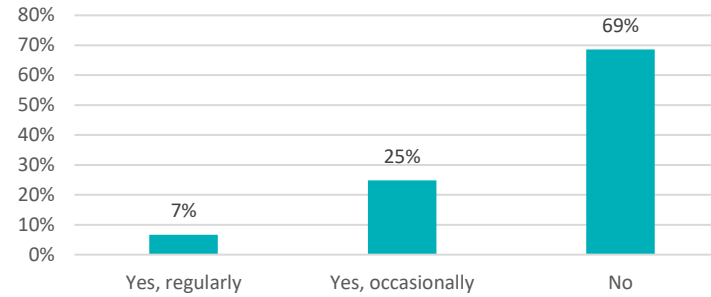
Social Connections

Participation in Local Groups or activities
(2018)



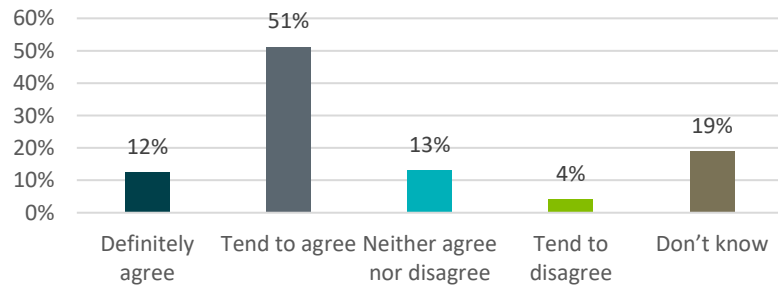
Volunteering

Volunteering within the last 12 months
(2018)

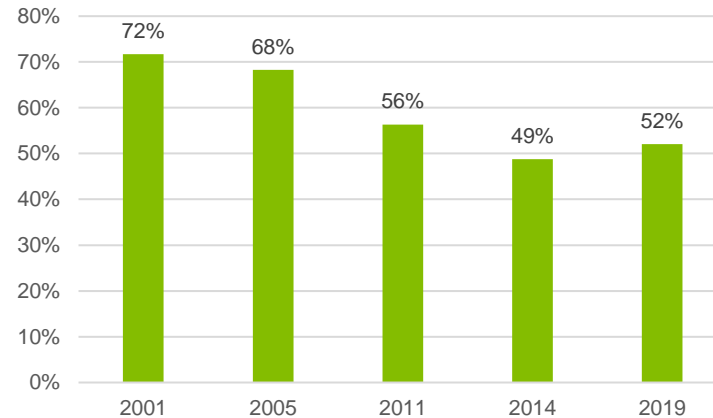


Social Capital

To what extent do you agree or disagree that
your local area is a place where people from
different backgrounds get on well together?



Voter Turnout



About Participatory Budgeting:

Participatory Budgeting (PB) can be described as “Local people deciding how to allocate part of a public budget”. It is a way for citizens to have a direct say in how public funds are used to address local needs. With a focus on community engagement PB can create an innovative means of engaging and supporting groups that may normally be excluded from traditional and more bureaucratic means of accessing financial support. PB allows for oversight of process by the relevant authority. It is far from a ‘free for all’ and is recognised as a means of supporting representative democracy.

Within the context of Community Planning in Northern Ireland, PB is one form of a more ‘deliberative’ democratic approach with the potential to assist people to learn about local needs, to prioritise issues and to extend decision making on resource allocation directly to local communities.

The Newry community were invited to have their say on how funding is spent in their area. At an event, which took place in The Bank Bar and Bistro on Saturday 16th November, the community groups pitched their project ideas and at the end, everyone attending voted to decide on their favourite projects which would help to build community connections in the area.

This event was supported both financially and in kind by a range of community planning partners including The Council, Department for Communities, Northern Ireland Housing Executive, South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust, Southern Health and Social Care Trust, the PSNI, Confederation of Community Groups and County Down Rural Community Network.

OUTCOME: ALL PEOPLE IN NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN LIVE IN RESPECTFUL, SAFE AND VIBRANT COMMUNITIES

Reporting Period: Nov 2019

How much did we do?



21 groups submitted expression of interest forms



17 groups presented their ideas



1734 votes were cast with over **300** people attending the event



13 got funded and **£9,750** given out to local groups / organisations



How well did we do it?

91% of respondents agreed they found the process easy.

96% of respondents agreed the process was worthwhile and they would likely do it again.

89% of respondents agreed there was adequate information and communication provided about the process and the event.

98% of respondents agreed the process promoted increased participation from group / organisation members.




94% Of respondents agreed that the process helped them feel more involved in decision making in their area.

100% of respondents thought this method of financial assistance would be useful in the future and for bigger amounts.

"Community lead- great platform for engagement."

Is anyone better off?

A number of before and after questions were asked at the event to ascertain if anyone was better off in relation to their knowledge and understanding of key PB themes.

	Increased 	No Change 	Decrease 
Knowledge of groups in my area	79%	12%	9%
Confidence in applying for funding	52%	48%	0%
Level of Involvement with Council and other Public-Sector Agencies	63%	37%	0%
Experience of making decisions and planning events / programs	54%	43%	4%

OUTCOME: ALL PEOPLE IN NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN LIVE IN RESPECTFUL, SAFE AND VIBRANT COMMUNITIES



INDICATORS: Level of Social Connections

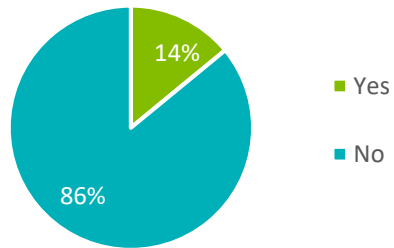
Level of Social Capital

Level of Civic Participation

The Baseline- Newry DEA

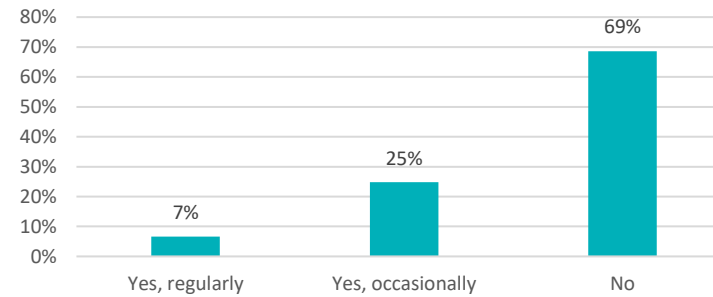
Social Connections

Participation in Local Groups or activities
(2018)



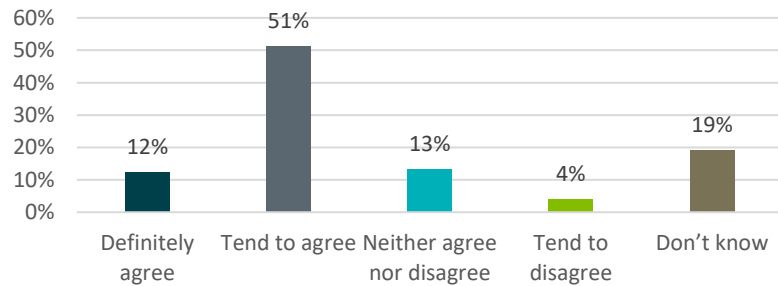
Volunteering

Volunteering within the last 12 months
(2018)

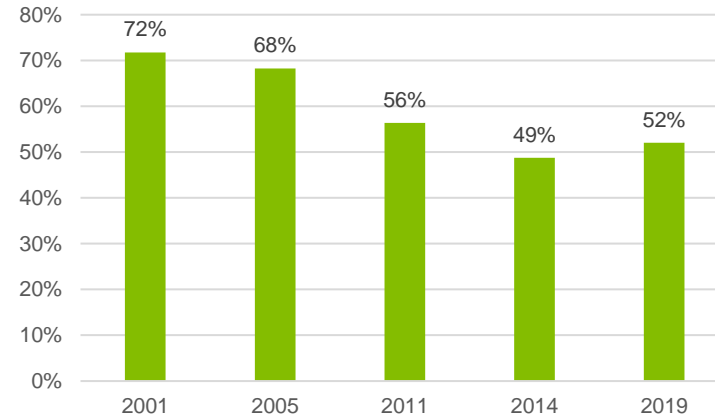


Social Capital

To what extent do you agree or disagree that
your local area is a place where people from
different backgrounds get on well together?



Voter Turnout



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Participatory Budgeting (PB) can be described as “Local people deciding how to allocate part of a public budget”. It is a way for citizens to have a direct say in how public funds are used to address local needs. With a focus on community engagement PB can create an innovative means of engaging and supporting groups that may normally be excluded from traditional and more bureaucratic means of accessing financial support. PB allows for oversight of process by the relevant authority. It is far from a ‘free for all’, and is recognised as a means of supporting representative democracy.
















Within the context of Community Planning in Northern Ireland, PB is one form of a more ‘deliberative’ democratic approach with the potential to assist people to learn about local needs, to prioritise issues and to extend decision making on resource allocation directly to local communities.

The Newry community were invited to have their say on how funding is spent in their area. At an event, which took place in The Bank Bar and Bistro on Saturday 16th November, the community groups pitched their project ideas and at the end, everyone attending voted to decide on their favourite projects which would help to build community connections in the area.

This event was supported both financially and in kind by a range of community planning partners including The Council, Department for Communities, Northern Ireland Housing Executive, South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust, Southern Health and Social Care Trust, the PSNI, Confederation of Community Groups and County Down Rural Community Network.

OUTCOME: ALL PEOPLE IN NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN LIVE IN RESPECTFUL, SAFE AND VIBRANT COMMUNITIES

Reporting Period: Nov 2019

<div><div><div><div></div><div>21 groups submitted expression of interest forms</div></div><div><div></div><div>1734 votes were cast with over 300 people attending the event</div></div><div><div></div><div>13 got funded and £9,750 given out to local groups / organisations</div></div></div><div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div></div>	<div><div><div>How well did we do it?</div><div><div><div>91% of respondents agreed they found the process easy.</div><div>96% of respondents agreed the process was worthwhile and they would likely do it again.</div><div>89% of respondents agreed there was adequate information and communication provided about the process and the event.</div><div>98% of respondents agreed the process promoted increased participation from group / organisation members.</div><div>94% Of respondents agreed that the process helped them feel more involved in decision making in their area.</div><div>100% of respondents thought this method of financial assistance would be useful in the future and for bigger amounts.</div></div><div><div><i>"Community lead- great platform for engagement."</i></div></div></div></div></div>
<div><div><div><div>Is anyone better off?</div><div>A number of before and after questions were asked at the event to ascertain if anyone was better off in relation to their knowledge and understanding of key PB themes.</div></div></div></div>	<div><div><div>Increased </div><div>No Change </div><div>Decrease </div></div></div>
<div><div><div>Knowledge of groups in my area</div></div></div>	<div><div><div>79%</div><div>12%</div><div>9%</div></div></div>
<div><div><div>Confidence in applying for funding</div></div></div>	<div><div><div>52%</div><div>48%</div><div>0%</div></div></div>
<div><div><div>Level of Involvement with Council and other Public-Sector Agencies</div></div></div>	<div><div><div>63%</div><div>37%</div><div>0%</div></div></div>
<div><div><div>Experience of making decisions and planning events / programs</div></div></div>	<div><div><div>54%</div><div>43%</div><div>4%</div></div></div>

Appendix 5 physical activity

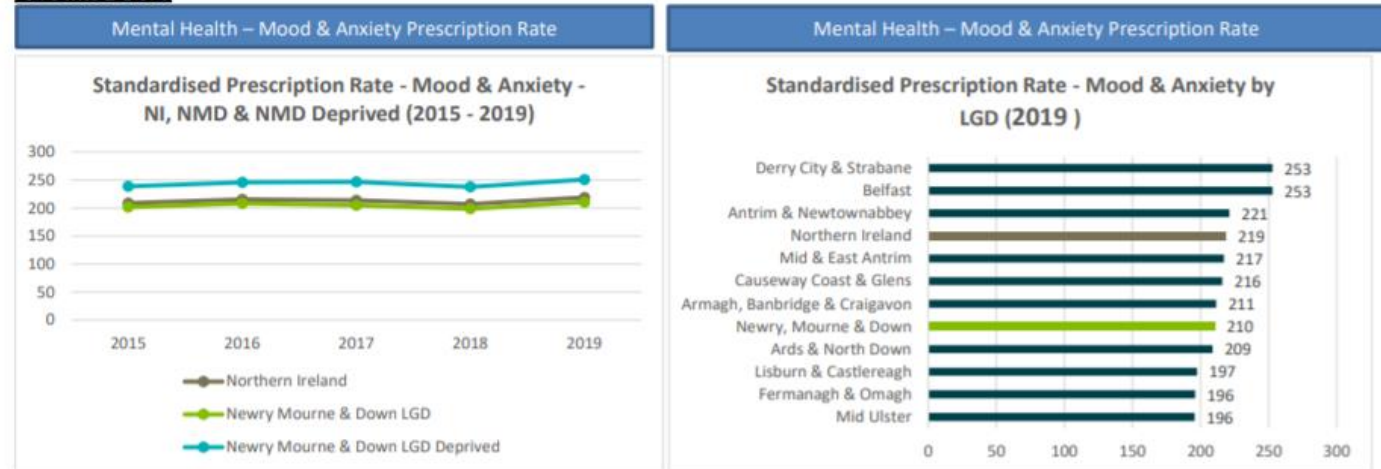
Be Active for Health Scorecard (September 2021)

OUTCOME: ALL PEOPLE IN NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN ENJOY GOOD HEALTH AND WELLBEING



INDICATORS: Level of Health Status

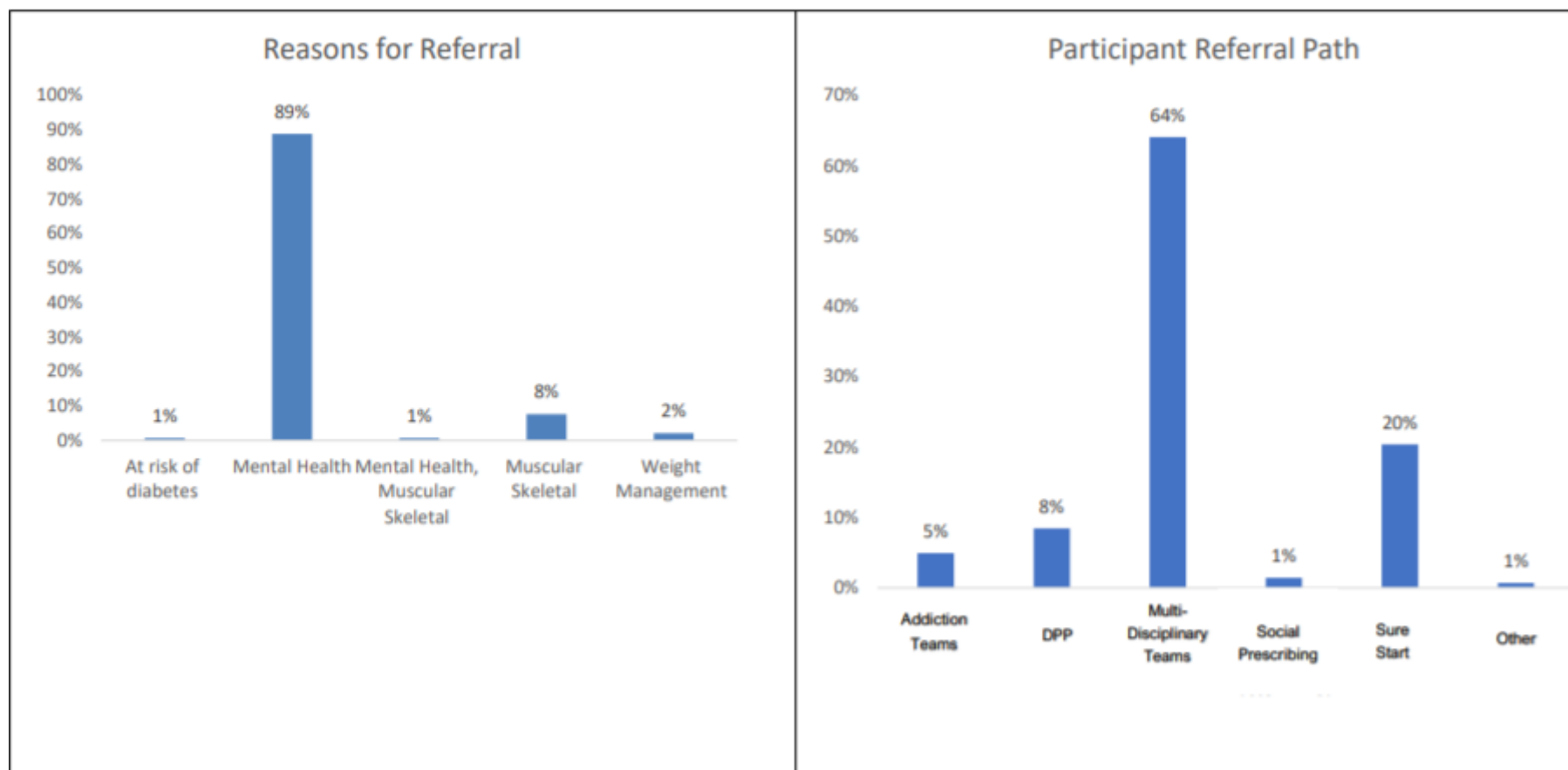
Baseline Data:



<p>How much did we do?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 224 direct participants were involved in the project aged between 18 - 85 years old ✓ So far there are 6 referral pathways from both Trusts including the Addiction Team, DPP, MDT, SPRING, Sure Start, Ward 15 and three partnerships. ✓ £150,000 of funding was used to employ two officers to deliver the programme in the two localities over a period of two years. 	<p>How well did we do it?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 62 participants completed the full 12 Week Be Active Programme. * Programme began January 20 due to lockdowns delivery was online only during this period. ✓ 78.57% of Participants who completed the 12 Week programme were females ✓ 89% of all participants were referred to improve their Mental Health
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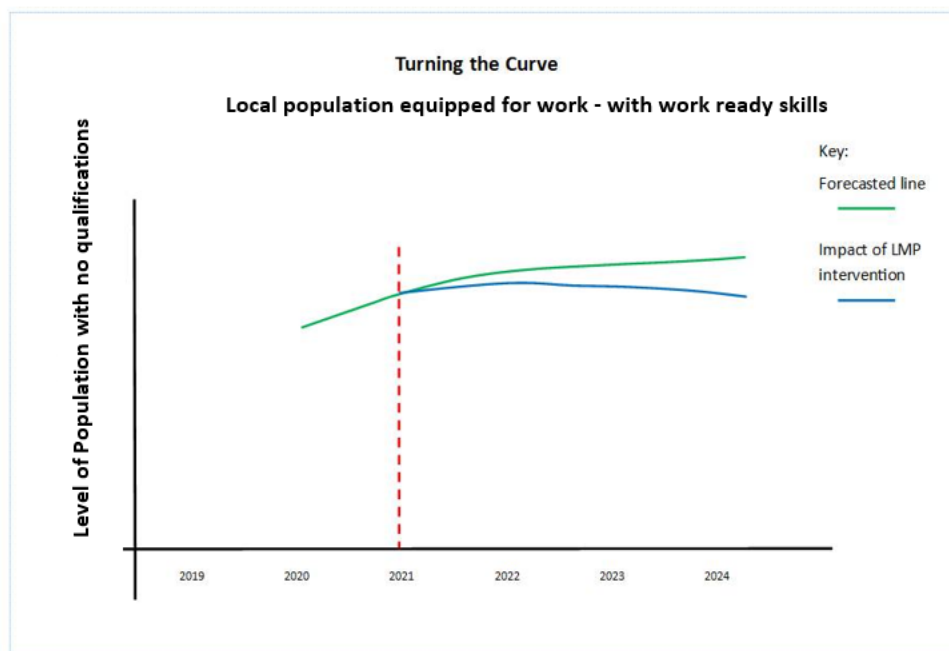
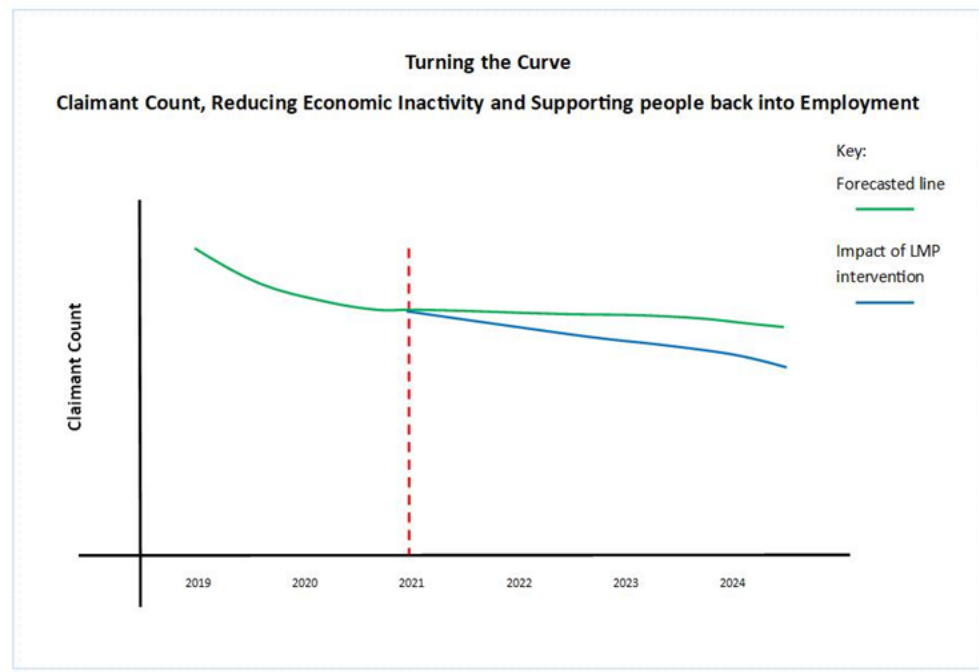
Is anyone better off?

All Participants who completed the 12 Week programme were asked a series of questions, based on the Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scales (scored on a scale from 1 – 5 with 5 being good). These questionnaires related to both their mental and emotional well-being and their levels and duration of vigorous activities. Participants who completed the programme reported an increase in both their Levels of Confidence and Optimism and an increase in both the number of days they undertook vigorous activity but the duration for which they undertook the activity.

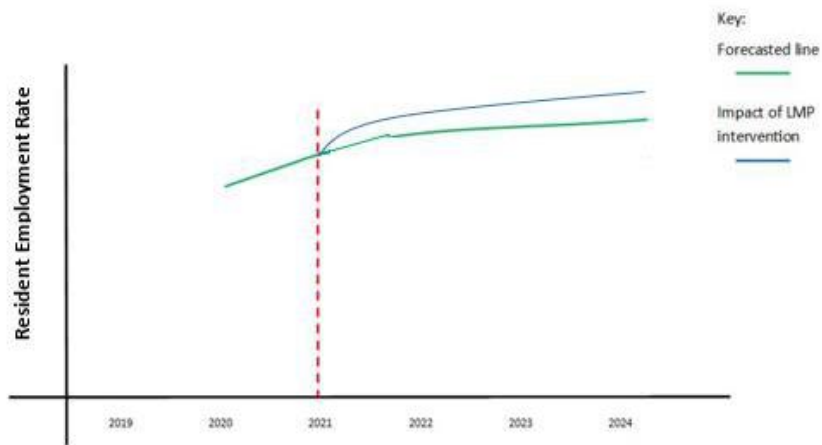




Appendix 6- Turning the Curve Themes, Labour Market Partnerships.



Turning the Curve
Employability Awareness – local population more aware of opportunities



Appendix 7

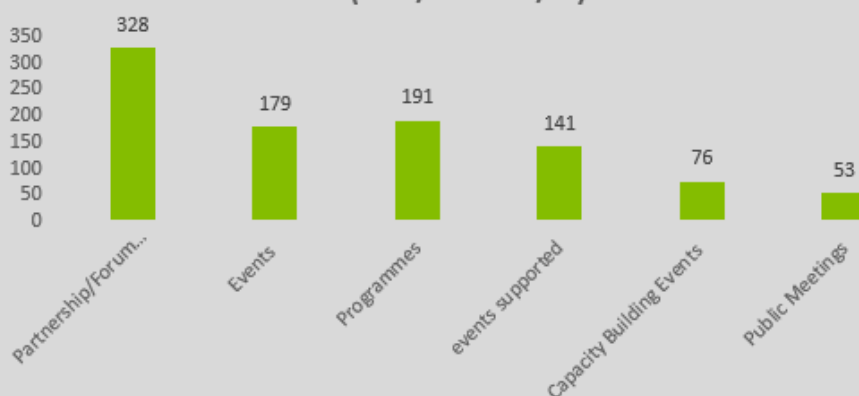
Newry, Mourne and Down

DEA Dashboard
2018/19 – 2020/21



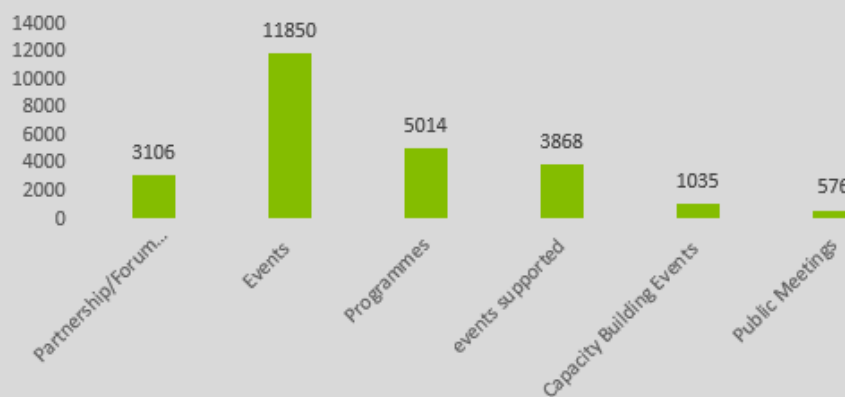
Newry, Mourne
and Down
District Council

**Level of Community Engagement Activities by DEA Forums
(2018/19 - 2020/21)**



	18/19	19/20	20/21
Partnership/ Forum Meetings	133	63	132
Events	97	63	19
Programmes	50	47	94
events supported	87	46	8
Capacity Building Events	30	24	22
Public Meetings	21	4	28

**Level of Community Engagement Attendance by DEA Forums
(2018/19 - 2020/21)**



	18/19	19/20	20/21
Partnership/ Forum Meetings	1090	736	1280
Events	4916	6253	681
Programmes	1269	1384	2361
events supported	2217	1308	343
Capacity Building Events	603	342	90
Public Meetings	163	180	233

