

January 21st, 2025

Notice Of Meeting

You are requested to attend the meeting to be held on Monday, 27th January 2025 at 6:00 pm in Council Chamber, Downshire Civic Centre.

Committee Membership 2024-25

Councillor C Galbraith **Chairperson**

Councillor A Mathers **Deputy Chairperson**

Councillor L Devlin

Councillor D Finn

Councillor A Finnegan

Councillor M Gibbons

Councillor R Howell

Councillor J Jackson

Councillor D Lee-Surginor

Councillor A Lewis

Councillor O Magennis

Councillor L McEvoy

Councillor D Murphy

Councillor K Murphy

Councillor H Young

Agenda

1.0 Apologies and Chairperson's Remarks

2.0 Declarations of Interest

3.0 Action Sheet arising from Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on 16 December 2024

📄 *Action Sheet from AHC 2024 12 16 - updated vf.pdf*

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Community Development

4.0 District Electoral Area (DEA) Forums Update Report

For Decision

📄 *1. AHC DEA Report January 2025 - vf.pdf*

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📄 *1a. App1 -Newry DEA Forum Action Sheet 3 December 2024 - vf.pdf*

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📄 *1b. App 2 - Slieve Croob DEA Action Sheet 10 December 2024 - vf.pdf*

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📄 *1c. App 3 -Downpatrick DEA Action Sheet 10 December 2024 - vf.pdf*

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Items deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014

5.0 Recognition of Achievement for High Performance Athletes

For Decision

This item is deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

📄 *2. AHC report - Recognition of Achievement 2024 - For decision, restricted - vf.pdf*

Not included

📄 *2a. Amended Recognition of Achievement for High Performance Levels in Sport 2024 - vf.pdf*

Not included

6.0 Digi-hub project

For Decision

This item is deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act

(Northern Ireland) 2014 - information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

📄 3. AHC - Digi-Hub - For decision, restricted.pdf Not included

📄 3a. Appendix 1 - SEUPB Letter Digi Hub project - vf.pdf Not included

FOR NOTING Items deemed to be exempt under Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014

7.0 NMDDC Good Relations Action Plan 2025/26

For Information

📄 4. Report - NMDDC Good Relations Action Plan 2025 26 - for noting, restricted - vf.pdf Not included

📄 4a. Appendix 1 -NMDDC Good Relations Action Plan 2025 26 - for noting, restricted- vf.pdf Not included

For Noting

8.0 Social Inclusion Update Report

📄 5. Social Inclusion Report January 2025 - for noting, open - vf.pdf Page 16

9.0 Ending Violence Against Women and Girls Update Report

For Information

📄 6. AHC EVAWG Update - for noting, open - vf.pdf Page 20

Invitees

Cllr Terry Andrews
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Cllr Callum Bowsie
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Fionnuala Branagh
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Cllr Jim Brennan
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Cllr Pete Byrne
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Mr Gerard Byrne
.....
Cllr Philip Campbell
.....
Cllr William Clarke
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Cllr Laura Devlin
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Ms Louise Dillon
.....
Cllr Cadogan Enright
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Cllr Killian Feehan
.....
Cllr Doire Finn
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Cllr Aoife Finnegan
.....
Ms Joanne Fleming
.....
Cllr Conor Galbraith
.....
Cllr Mark Gibbons
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Cllr Oonagh Hanlon
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Cllr Glyn Hanna
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Cllr Valerie Harte
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Mrs Laura Higgins
.....
Cllr Roisin Howell
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Cllr Tierna Howie
.....
Ms Catherine Hughes
.....
Cllr Jonathan Jackson
.....
Cllr Geraldine Kearns
.....
Miss Veronica Keegan
.....
Mrs Josephine Kelly
.....
Mrs Sheila Kieran
.....
Cllr Cathal King
.....
Mr Harry Korkou
.....
Cllr Mickey Larkin
.....
Cllr David Lee-Surginor
.....
Cllr Alan Lewis
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Cllr Oonagh Magennis
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Mr Conor Mallon
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Cllr Aidan Mathers
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Cllr Declan McAteer
.....
Cllr Leeanne McEvoy
.....
Cllr Andrew McMurray
.....
Maureen/Joanne Morgan/Johnston
.....
Cllr Declan Murphy
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Sinead Murphy
.....
Cllr Kate Murphy
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Cllr Selina Murphy
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Cllr Siobhan O'Hare
.....
Mr Andy Patterson
.....
Cllr Áine Quinn
.....
Cllr Henry Reilly
.....
Cllr Michael Rice
.....
Ms Alison Robb
.....
Cllr Michael Ruane
.....
Cllr Gareth Sharvin
.....
Donna Starkey
.....
Nicola Stranney
.....
Sarah Taggart
.....
Paul Tamati
.....
Cllr David Taylor
.....
Cllr Jarlath Tinnelly
.....
Cllr Jill Truesdale
.....
Mrs Marie Ward
.....
Cllr Helena Young
.....

ACTIONS ARISING FROM ACTIVE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING – 16 DECEMBER 2024

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
AHC/110/2024	Action sheet of AHC Committee Meeting held on Monday 18 November 2024	Noted	A Patterson	Noted	Y
AHC/111/2024	District Electoral Area (DEA) Forums Update Report	It was agreed to note the report and approve the actions in the action sheets attached for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slieve Gullion DEA Forum Meeting held on 12 November 2023. • Mournes DEA Forum Meeting held on 26 November 2023. 	A Robb	Noted	Y
AHC/112/2024	District Electoral Area (DEA) Independent Member Recruitment	It was agreed to approve proceeding with DEA Forum recruitment of Independent Members where a gap in representation had been identified.	A Robb	In Progress	N
AHC/113/2024	Notice of Motion – Raise Programme	It was agreed to ask the Minister to scrap the RAISE programme and to implement something that would target the objective need in areas of social deprivation.	A Robb	In Progress	N
AHC/114/2024	Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCPS) & Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership (NRP)	It was agreed to note the report and the following: Minutes of the Policing Committee & PCSP held on 24 September 2024, approved at the Policing Committee & PCSP Meeting on 26 November 2024. Minutes of the Newry NRP Meeting held on 11 September 2024, approved at the Newry NRP Meeting on 20 November 2024.	A Robb	Noted	Y
AHC/117/2024	Sports Awards	It was agreed to note the contents of the report	C Haughey	Noted	Y

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

AHC/115/2024	Leasing of Council Lands	It was agreed to approve to progress the Council land facilities through the various stages of Council's Sport and Leasing Policy contained within the officer's report	C Haughey	EOI was advertised and those clubs/groups which have replied have now progressed to the next stage within the council policy.	Y
AHC/116/2024	Leisure Facilities Direct Award Contract	It was agreed to approve the appointment of a contractor via Direct Award Contract to undertake essential servicing and maintenance in facilities as contained within the officer's report	C Haughey	Contract awarded and works carried out to date as per the STA	Y

+Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	27 January 2025
Subject:	District Electoral Area (DEA) Forums Update Report
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Alison Robb, Assistant Director: Community Development
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Martina Flynn, Head of Engagement (Acting)

Confirm how this Report should be treated by placing an x in either: -

For decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	For noting only	<input type="checkbox"/>
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1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	<p>Purpose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To note the report. To consider and approve the actions in the Action Sheets attached from the DEA Forum Private Meeting listed in 3.1 below. <p>Background</p> <p>The information in Appendix 1 attached is provided to update the Committee on recent DEA activity and on activity planned to be undertaken by the DEAs.</p>
2.0	Key issues
2.1	None.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	<p>That the Committee: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the report. Approve the actions in the Action Sheet attached for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Newry DEA Forum Private Meeting held on 3 December 2024 ➢ Slieve Croob DEA Forum Private Meeting held on 10 December 2024 ➢ Downpatrick DEA Forum Meeting held on 10 December 2024
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	Support and assistance from partners to deliver actions in the DEA Action Plans.
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i>

	It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
5.3	<p><i>Proposal initiating consultation – N/a</i></p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>	
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)	
.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7.0	Appendices	
7.1	<p>Appendix 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Newry DEA Forum Private Meeting held on 3 December 2024 ➤ Slieve Croob DEA Forum Private Meeting held on 10 December 2024 ➤ Downpatrick DEA Forum Meeting held on 10 December 2024 	
8.0	Background Documents	

8.1	None.
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Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

**Action Sheet of Newry District Electoral Area (DEA) Forum Private Meeting
held on Thursday 3 December 2024 at 1.30pm in Boardroom, Monaghan Row**

Chairperson:	Councillor Aidan Mathers
In Attendance:	Councillor Cathal King Councillor Valerie Harte Councillor Killian Feehan
Independent Members:	Eamonn Connolly, Newry BID Colin Hanna, Newry and Mourne Enterprise Agency Raymond Jackson, CCG Thelma Thompson, Altnaveigh House Ltd Paul McGuinness, NR Partnership
Statutory Partners:	Sgt Warren Roberts, PSNI Josephine Morgan, NIHE
Council Officials:	Kerri Morrow, Community Engagement and Development Manager Martina Flynn, Head of Engagement (Acting)
Others in Attendance:	None
Apologies:	Councillor Doire Finn Councillor Geraldine Kearns Pauline McQuillan, Education Authority Youth Service Niamh McNamee, Education Authority Youth Service Ann Auterson, Frontier Network

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed
DEA/N/2024/1	Declarations of Interest	No declarations made.	COMPLETED.
DEA/N/2024/2	Matters arising from Action Sheet from meeting held 31 October 2024	Action Sheet confirmed as a true and accurate record.	Approved.
DEA/N/2024/3	Site at Patrick Street Newry	No further update given. Agreed item would remain on Action Sheet whilst process is ongoing.	Co-Ordinator to progress.
DEA/N/2024/4	Ending Violence Against Women and Girls	Martina Flynn provided an update on funding allocated to NMDDC to end violence against women and girls. She also advised that a Financial Assistance theme for funding supporting this priority would be included in Call 1 for 2025/2026.	Noted.
DEA/N//2024/5	DEA Co-Ordinator Report	Update from DEA Co-Ordinator on projects and programmes that have taken place and those planned for the remainder of 2024/2025.	Noted.

DEA/N/2024/6	Health and Wellbeing	DEA Co-Ordinator provided an update on the Tackling Isolation and Loneliness Together Initiative being co-ordinated through the Community Planning Partnership. Further details to be circulated when available.	Noted.
		Raymond Jackson provided an update on the Norbrook We Care Christmas Campaign including weekly meals, seniors lunch and Christmas Hampers.	Noted.
DEA/N/2024/7	Economic Development	Colin Hanna provided an update on the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enterprise sites at 100% capacity. - Go Succeed Programme 	Noted.
		Eamonn Connolly provided an update on the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consideration being given to location of sandbank store at North Street Car park. - Continues to request a business rate review for the Newry area through the Assembly. 	Noted.
DEA/N/2024/8	Environment	Members request street lighting be repaired at McCreesh Park	Co-Ordinator to refer to Neighbourhood Services.
		Eamonn Connolly provided an update on the North Street Underpass and the continued effort to maintain the garden area. Members agreed to approach the local community group to determine potential relocation of historical panels at this site.	Co-Ordinator to progress.

		Thelma Thompson referred to an ongoing consultation on environmental sustainability which she will circulate to members via the Co-Ordinator.	Noted.
DEA/N/2024/9	Safety and Good Relations	Members discussed ongoing ASB at various sites across Newry including Barcroft, Ballybot, Carnagat area.	Noted
		Warren Roberts provided an update on the following items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Retail Crime - Transport/Roads Safety - ASB - 	
DEA/N/2024/8	Multiply Project Update	DEA Co-Ordinator updated members on the Multiply Programme.	Noted.

The meeting ended at: 2.35pm

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

**Action Sheet of Slieve Croob District Electoral Area (DEA) Forum Private Meeting
held on Tuesday 10th December 2024 at 4.15pm via Microsoft Teams**

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Chairperson: Councillor Alan Lewis

In Attendance: Councillor Helena Young

Independent Members: Kenny Baxter, Frontier Support Network
Heather Holland, County Down Rural Community Network (CDRCN)
Richie Shilliday, Dundrum Village Association, Dundrum Cricket Club, RIOT Community Hub

Council Officials: Martina Flynn, Acting Head of Engagement
Priscilla McAlinden, Slieve Croob DEA Co-Ordinator
Sarah McClory, Programme Co-Ordinator
Heather Wilson, Land Management Officer

Others: None

Apologies: Councillor Jim Brennan
Councillor Roisin Howell
Kerri Morrow, Engagement & Development Manager
Councillor Siobhan O'Hare
Jacqueline Urey, PCSP Officer

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed.
DEA/SC/3/2024	Declarations of Interest	No Declarations of Interest were made.	Noted.
DEA/SC/4/2024	Action Sheet of meeting held on Tuesday 17 September 2024	Action Sheet of Slieve Croob meeting held on Tuesday 17 September 2024 was adopted as a true record.	Noted.
DEA/SC/5/2024	Blocked Bridleways at Clonvaraghan	The opening up of this PROW will be considered should Council funding become available at some time in the future.	Land Management Officer.
DEA/SC/6/2024	PCSP Update	Written report provided.	Noted.
DEA/SC/7/2024	Ending Domestic Violence Against Women and Girls	Martina Flynn provided an update on funding allocated to NMDDC to end violence against women and girls. She also advised that a Financial Assistance theme for funding supporting this priority would be included in Call 1 for 2025/2026	Noted.
DEA/SC/8/2024	PeacePlus Update	Update provided on PeacePlus programme. Online questionnaire to be distributed to Forum members so members have opportunity to provide project ideas for the local area.	Programme Co-Ordinator
DEA/SC/9/2024	Emerging Issues	Castlewellan Parking issue deferred to February meeting.	DEA Co-Ordinator
DEA/SC/10/2024	Action Plan Update	Forum members unanimously approved Action Plan programmes 2024/2025 and associated budget.	DEA Co-Ordinator
DEA/SC/11/2024	Multiply Programme	DEA Co-Ordinator updated members on the Multiply Programme. Members agreed proposed programmes.	DEA Co-Ordinator

DEA/SC/12/2024	Meeting Schedule 2025	Noted.	DEA Co-Ordinator
DEA/SC/13/2024	Date and time of next meeting	Next DEA Forum meeting scheduled to take place on Tuesday 25 February 2025 at R.I.O.T. Dundrum.	DEA Co-Ordinator

The meeting ended at 4.44pm.

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

**Action Sheet of Downpatrick District Electoral Area (DEA) Forum Private Meeting
held on Tuesday 10 December 2024 at 10.00am via Microsoft Teams**

Chairperson:	Councillor Phillip Campbell
In Attendance:	Councillor Oonagh Hanlon Councillor Gareth Sharvin Councillor Conor Galbraith
	Independent Members: Jenny Laverty, NI Housing Executive Housing Community Network Daniella McCarry, County Down Rural Community Network Jim Masson, Down Business Connect, Down Community Health Committee
Statutory Partners:	Aileen O'Callaghan, Senior Youth Officer, Education Authority
Council Officials:	Katrina Hynds, Downpatrick DEA Co-Ordinator Martina Flynn, Acting Head of Engagement Sarah McClory, Programmes Co-Ordinator
Others in Attendance:	None
Apologies:	Councillor Cadogan Enright Dan McEvoy, Downpatrick Housing Community Network Mel Murray, Education Authority

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed.
DEA/DPK/24/01	Apologies	As recorded above.	Noted.
DEA/DPK/24/02	Declarations of Interest	None declared	Noted.
DEA/DPK/24/03	<p>Action Sheet of Meeting held 8 October 2024</p> <p>Education Authority Update</p>	<p>The Senior Youth Officer advised members that the current four evening per week provision in the Ballymote Centre is to continue. The existing manager will be responsible for both Slieve Croob & Ballymote areas. Recruitment for a Support Officer is to commence in the New Year (following which the Ballymote facility will have a full complement of staff).</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Education Authority</p>
DEA/DPK/24/04	Update on PeacePlus Programme	<p>The Programmes Co-Ordinator gave members an update on the PeacePlus Programme. She advised that Council are currently waiting on the Letter of Offer from SEUPB. Programme is to be completed by September 2027.</p> <p>In relation to the Capital Projects, the Council will have responsibility for the procurement process. Therefore, those groups who have received their Letter of Offer should not commence their project.</p>	Programmes Co-Ordinator

		The Officer to send out a questionnaire to be completed by Forum members	
DEA/DPK/24/05	Ending Violence Against Women & Girls	Martina Flynn provided an update on funding allocated to NMDDC to end violence against women and girls. She also advised that a Financial Assistance theme for funding supporting this priority would be included in Call 1 for 2025/2026.	Acting Head of Engagement
DEA/DPK/24/06	Tackling Isolation & Loneliness	The DEA Co-Ordinator informed members that the Community Planning Team are developing a Tackling Isolation and Loneliness Together Campaign and asking the Forum to support and promote delivery of same.	DEA Co-Ordinator
DEA/DPK/24/05	DEA Co-Ordinator Report	The DEA Co-Ordinator presented her report to members.	Noted.
DEA/DPK/24/11	Date of Next Meeting	A discussion ensued and members unanimously agreed that both the 10.00 am and 5.30 pm meetings revert back to online.	DEA Co-Ordinator

The meeting ended at: 10.40 am

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	27 January 2025
Subject:	Social Inclusion Update Report
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Alison Robb, Assistant Director: Community Development
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Justyna McCabe, Projects Coordinator

For decision	For noting only	X
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1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	<p>Purpose of the Report: The purpose of the report is to provide an update on the Council’s ongoing social inclusion work, highlighting key developments and emerging issues. The report is for noting.</p>
1.2	<p>Background: Newry, Mourne and Down District Council is committed to fostering an inclusive and supportive environment for all residents, including newcomer individuals and families. The Council's social inclusion initiatives and support programmes are delivered through the Ethnic Minority Support Centre and Social Inclusion Officers located in Newry and Downpatrick.</p> <p>NMD Ethnic Minority Support Centre The Newry, Mourne and Down Ethnic Minority Support Centre plays a crucial role in supporting minority ethnic residents. The centre offers free and confidential advice and support, helping individuals navigate various aspects of life within the Council area. Social Inclusion Officers work to ensure that all residents, regardless of their background, have equal opportunities to access services and participate in community life. They provide essential support to help newcomers integrate successfully into the community and develop and implement programmes addressing issues of discrimination and exclusion. The officers work closely with local organisations to foster an inclusive environment for everyone.</p> <p>Asylum Seekers and Refugees In recent years, the Newry, Mourne and Down Council area has experienced an increase in the number of refugees and asylum seekers. For the 2024/25 period, the Council has received £50,000 in Refugee Integration Funding and an additional £27,969 in Full Dispersal Funding from The Executive Office. These funds are used to develop support services and projects to meet the needs of asylum seekers and refugees who are accommodated in the Council area.</p> <p>NMD Traveller Forum The Council's inclusion and diversity work also extends to the Traveller community through the efforts of the Traveller Forum. The mission statement of the Forum is: 'To promote an</p>

	<p>inclusive and civil society in the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area by championing Traveller rights and addressing current provisions for the Traveller community within the District'. The Forum embraces a partnership ethos by collaborating with key stakeholders and ensuring a direct, sustainable link with Elected Members and the policy development and decision-making structures of the Council and the local area.</p>
<p>2.0</p>	<p>Key issues</p>
<p>2.1</p>	<p>Ethnic Minority Support Centre:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From April to December 2024, the centre recorded a total of 1,697 visits. Additionally, the centre handles between 30 to 40 phone calls daily, addressing various concerns and enquiries. • We provide essential support to the most vulnerable migrants who face challenges accessing mainstream services due to factors such as illiteracy, language barriers and other obstacles. • Recently, there has been a surge in demand for our services, driven by the need to update status under the EU Settlement Scheme and the introduction of e-visas. • It is challenging to deliver these services with the available funding to support one officer.
	<p>Support Provided to Refugee and Asylum Seekers in the District</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuous assistance is provided to individuals and families, including access to services, education and social engagement. • Weekly pre-ESOL classes are held in Newry, Newcastle, and Downpatrick for students who are not eligible for college and for those in college to enhance their learning. • Weekly Conversation Cafés in Newry and Newcastle offer opportunities to practice speaking English and to meet local people in a relaxed setting. • Weekly Support Hubs are available in Downpatrick and Newry. • Monthly meetings with statutory and community partners are held to collaborate, share information and resources, plan services and provide training. • There have been some recorded hate incidents by the PSNI but these were swiftly dealt with. Additionally, there was significant community support for the family involved. • The transition from asylum seeker to refugee is particularly disruptive. Refugees can be housed temporarily anywhere in Northern Ireland, severely disrupting children's education for an indefinite period. • NMDDC is one of four councils that are part of the TEO Baseline Model Working Group. The subgroup is identifying a model of practice with costs that will enable all councils to deliver a standardised level of service.
	<p>NMD Traveller Forum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recent discussions highlight concerns about the lack of transit sites for Travellers in the District where families could settle and provide stability for their children.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partners are working together to tackle issues related to illegal Traveller sites, while also making efforts to establish a legal site.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	That the Committee note the report.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	Funded by the Executive Office and through Social Inclusion budget.
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>
5.3	<p><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)
.1	Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service

	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If yes, please complete the following: Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7.0	Appendices
7.1	None
8.0	Background Documents
8.1	None

Report to:	Active & Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	27 January 2025
Subject:	Partnership with the Executive Office (TEO) to Help End Violence Against Women and Girls (EVAWG) – Update Report
Reporting Officer	Alison Robb, Assistant Director Community Development
Contact Officers	Martina Flynn, Head of Engagement Alison Robb, Assistant Director Community Development Gary Scott, Safeguarding Co-ordinator

Confirm how this Report should be treated by placing an x in either: -

For decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	For noting only	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	Purpose The purpose of this report is to update members on the EVAWG initiative.
1.2	Background A report was tabled at the Active & Healthy Communities Committee on 18 November 2024 regarding a proposed partnership with TEO to held end violence against women and girls. Members noted draft proposals put forward by Officers as to how funding might be utilised, including proposed partnerships with relevant partners.
2.0	Key issues
2.1	TEO has now confirmed that Council’s Local Change Fund Action Plan submitted in December 2024 has been reviewed and approved. It was confirmed that the initiatives outlined in the plan aligned with TEO’s shared objectives on prevention and Council’s commitment to addressing this critical issue was commended.
2.2	A Letter of Offer has been issued to Council offering financial assistance up to a maximum of £200,000 over 2 years.
2.3	In the current financial year, 2024/25, £65,000 of momentum funding will be used for a Youth Event in partnership with the Education Authority and Council’s Community Planning Partnership; a Stakeholder Conference; Training/awareness events with the business sector; funding to the Community & Voluntary Sector to provide training on EVAWG to build capacity; production, promotion and dissemination of a series of short video clips to

2.4	<p>raise awareness of EVAWG and production of graphics, marketing materials and promotional merchandise for use at events.</p> <p>In the 2025/26 financial year Council will administer a Change Fund in the amount of £135,000. Funding will be allocated through an open Financial Assistance Call which will open on 13 January 2025. There will be three tiers of funding (1) £1k-£5k; (2) £5k-£15k and (3) £15k-£25k. All projects must include a focus on Changed Attitudes, Behaviours and Culture. Activities might include:</p> <p>Tier 1: awareness-raising events or small projects</p> <p>Tier 2: more extensive and longer running projects and education courses/workshops</p> <p>Tier 3: significant programmes of activity which include collaboration with and/or mentoring/support to other community-based organisations.</p> <p>Further information on the Local Change Fund can be found on Council's website at Residents - Grants and Funding - NMDDC. The Change Fund will close to applications at 12noon on 24 February 2025.</p>
2.5	<p>Information workshops on Council Financial Assistance Programmes (including the EVAWG Local Change Fund) will take place as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21 January 2025, 7pm – Bagenal's Castle Newry • 23 January 2025, 7pm – Down County Museum, Downpatrick • 28 January 2025 12:30pm – online via Microsoft Teams <p><i>Registration for the information workshops can be booked via TicketSource – www.ticketsource.co.uk/call1grantsandfunding2025</i></p>
2.6	<p>Members are encouraged to raise awareness of the EVAWG events and Change Fund and encourage applications from relevant organisations.</p>
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	That the Committee note the contents of this report.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	£200,000 in grant funding, no match funding required.
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)

5.1	<p>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
5.2	<p>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>
5.3	<p>Proposal initiating consultation</p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided)</p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>
6.0	<p>Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)</p>
6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p>

	Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/>
7.0	Appendices
7.1	None.
8.0	Background Documents
8.1	None.