



February 11th, 2025

Notice Of Meeting

You are requested to attend the meeting to be held on Monday, 17th February 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 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 27 January 2025

For Information

📄 *Action Sheet from AHC 2025 01 27 - updated vf.pdf*

Page 1

Presentation

4.0 Physical Activity and Wellbeing Strategy Presentation

For Information

Tony Morrison from Otium Consultants in attendance.

Healthy Living

5.0 Sport, Physical Activity and Wellbeing Strategy

For Decision

📄 *AHC - Report -Physical Activity and Wellbeing Strategy - vf.pdf*

Page 3

📄 *Health and Wellbeing Strategy - vf.pdf*

Page 7

Community Development

6.0 District Electoral Area (DEA) Forums Update Report

For Decision

📄 *AHC DEA Report February 2025 - vf.pdf*

Page 43

📄 *App -Slieve Gullion DEA Action Sheet 14 January 2025 - vf.pdf*

Page 45

📄 *App -Mournes Action Sheet 21 January 2025 -vf.pdf*

Page 49

📄 *App -Rowallane DEA Action Sheet 30 January 2025 - vf.pdf*

Page 52

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

7.0 Be Active Programme

For Decision




Copy to follow under separate cover.

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.

8.0 Fuel Poverty Strategy NI

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.

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
|  <i>Response to Fuel Poverty Strategy NI Jan 2025 - AHC - Vf.pdf</i> | <i>Not included</i> |
|  <i>Appendix 1 dfc-consultation-on-draft-fuel-poverty.pdf</i> | <i>Not included</i> |
|  <i>Appendix 2- Response to Fuel Poverty Strategy NI Jan 2025.pdf</i> | <i>Not included</i> |

For Noting

9.0 Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) & Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership (NRP) Report

For Information

- | | |
|---|----------------|
|  <i>PCSP and Newry NRP Report for February 2025 AHC Committee - vf.pdf</i> | <i>Page 55</i> |
|  <i>App -FINAL PCSP Policing Committee Minutes 26 November 2024 - vf.pdf</i> | <i>Page 57</i> |
|  <i>App -Minutes of Newry NR Partnership meeting 20 November 2024 - vf.pdf</i> | <i>Page 65</i> |

Invitees

- Cllr Terry Andrews
-
- Cllr Callum Bowsie
-
- Fionnuala Branagh
-
- Cllr Jim Brennan
-
- Cllr Pete Byrne
-
- Mr Gerard Byrne
-
- Cllr Philip Campbell
-
- Cllr William Clarke
-
- Cllr Laura Devlin
-
- Ms Louise Dillon
-
- Cllr Cadogan Enright
-
- Cllr Killian Feehan
-
- Cllr Doire Finn
-
- Cllr Aoife Finnegan
-
- Ms Joanne Fleming
-
- Cllr Conor Galbraith
-
- Cllr Mark Gibbons
-
- Cllr Oonagh Hanlon
-
- Cllr Glyn Hanna
-
- Cllr Valerie Harte
-
- Mr Conor Haughey
-
- Mrs Laura Higgins
-
- Cllr Roisin Howell
-
- 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
-
- Cllr Oonagh Magennis
-
- Mr Conor Mallon
-
- Cllr Aidan Mathers
-
- Cllr Declan McAteer
-
- Cllr Leeanne McEvoy
-
- Cllr Andrew McMurray
-
- Maureen/Joanne Morgan/Johnston
-

Cllr Declan Murphy
.....
Sinead Murphy
.....
Cllr Kate Murphy
.....
Cllr Selina Murphy
.....
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 – 27 JANUARY 2025

1

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
AHC/003/2025	Action sheet of AHC Committee Meeting held on Monday 16 December 2024	Noted	A Patterson	Noted	Y
AHC/004/2025	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"> Newry DEA Forum Meeting held on 3 December 2024. Slieve Croob DEA Forum Meeting held on 10 December 2024. Downpatrick DEA Forum Meeting held on 10 December 2024. 	A Robb	Actioned	Y
AHC/008/2025	Social Inclusion Update Report	It was agreed to note the officer's report.	A Robb	Noted	Y
AHC/009/2025	Ending Violence Against Women and Girls Report	It was agreed to note the contents of the officer's report.	A Robb	Noted	Y

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

AHC/005/2025	Recognition of Achievement for High Performance Athletes	It was agreed to approve the updated Criteria and Processing Procedures for the Sports Development: Recognition of Achievement for High Performance Levels in Sport.	C Haughey	In progress	Y
AHC/006/2025	Digi-Hub Project	It was agreed that Council confirm the site for the funded project as detailed within the officer's report with the Managing Authority in order to secure the funding available.	A Robb	In progress	Y
AHC/007/2025	Draft NMDDC Good Relations Action Plan for 2025/26	It was agreed to note the officer's report and the attached draft of the NMDDC Good Relations Action Plan for 2025/26.	A Robb	Noted	Y

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	17 February 2025
Subject:	Sport, Physical Activity and Wellbeing Strategy
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Conor Haughey, Assistant Director Healthy living
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Conor Haughey, Assistant Director Healthy living

For decision	x	For noting only	
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1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	<p>Purpose The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the Council’s new Physical Activity and Wellbeing Strategy 2025-30.</p> <p>Approval will enable the public launch and implementation of the strategy, which is essential for advancing physical activity initiatives and enhancing community wellbeing throughout the Council area.</p>
1.2	<p>Background The Physical Activity and Wellbeing Strategy 2025-30 builds upon recommendations from previous strategic plans and consultations to address key gaps in service provision, demographic challenges, and the evolving needs of the community.</p> <p>Key milestones in the development of this strategy include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • November 2022: A business case was approved to develop the current strategy. • 2023: Stakeholder consultations and data analysis, including equality screening, ensured inclusivity in the strategy design. • Procurement Process: Tender awarded consultancy services. • Strategic Integration: Aligning the strategy with Council’s Sports Development and Facility strategies to maximise impact.
2.0	Key issues
2.1	<p>Strategic Goals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancing Participation: Increasing engagement in physical activity across all demographic groups. • Health and Wellbeing: Promoting the health benefits of an active lifestyle and reducing health inequalities. • Community Partnerships: Strengthening collaboration with clubs, schools, and external agencies to drive resource mobilisation.
2.2	<p>Financial Considerations The associated costs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion and public launch events. • Equality screenings and consultation processes.

3.0	Recommendations
3.1	Strategy Approval Approval for Council to adopt and launch the Physical Activity and Wellbeing Strategy 2025-30.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	Revenue: Cost relating to promotion and publication has been profiled within existing budgets.
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input 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 checked="" 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 – Consultation complete</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)
6.1	Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service

	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If no, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy / strategy / plan / public service is not influenced by rural needs <input type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	Appendices
	Appendix 1: Sport, Physical Activity and Wellbeing Strategy
8.0	Background Documents

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

Bí Gníomhach Be Active

Straitéis Spórt agus Gníomhaíocht Choirp A Sport and Physical Activity Strategy

2025-2030



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



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



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the Scene

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Introduction

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area, with a population of 181,000 works in partnership with local communities and organisations - including the public, voluntary, community and private sectors - to deliver a vision for the local area.

Stretching from Strangford Lough to South Armagh and taking in Newry city, Downpatrick and Newcastle, the district draws lovers of the outdoors with 150 kilometres of coastline, the glorious Mourne and Cooley Mountains and much more. Planned investment of around £200 million across the district is set to transform the lives of everyone in Newry, Mourne and Down. The Council's collaborative approach with partners and communities ensures the area has an exciting future, making the most of its multitude of assets.

Participation in sport and physical activity plays an important part in the lives of Newry, Mourne and Down's residents, whether in PE and sport at school, walking groups, formal sports participation, families and friends out and about and lots more. The district is unlike any other, offering exciting opportunities for recreation, both indoor and outdoor, on and off the water.

With new improved facilities and greater health promotion, more people take regular exercise than ever before, however, many people still don't make it a lifestyle choice. To a large extent we are responsible for our own health and wellbeing throughout our lives.

Living longer gives us the opportunity to improve the way we live, helping us to approach our later years physically fit and mentally sharp. This strategy aims to encourage us all to be more active whether through informal recreation activities or formal sport. We don't have to be Olympic athletes to see the benefits of being active – any amount of physical activity is better than none! At the outset it's important to realise that physical activity is not the only thing that benefits wellbeing but it is a great lifestyle habit that helps shape the quality of our wellbeing.

181,000
population

150km
coastline

£200m
planned investment



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



Setting the Scene

Be Active has sprung from the clear message that participation in physical activity and sport leads to significant health and well-being benefits. This message is found in every strategic approach put forward by government and its agencies.

Programme for Government

Office of First Minister and Deputy First Minister

The new Programme for Government will 'build on the outcomes-based approach that has defined strategic planning across the public sector'. Government departments and agencies are encouraged to work together to achieve more for everyone. The outcomes-based approach intends for departments and agencies to 'create, or co-design and co-produce strategies and plans that cut across departments and sectors to tackle societal problems and improve wellbeing for all'.



Active Living

A Sport and Physical Activity Strategy for Northern Ireland Department for Communities

Vision

'Lifelong involvement in sport and physical activity will deliver an active, healthy, resilient and inclusive society which recognises and values both participation and excellence.'



The strategy looks to achieve this vision by increasing the percentage of the population involved in sport and physical activity. Strategic themes include:-



Recovering from the impact of the pandemic on sport and physical activity.



Promoting participation, inclusion and community engagement.



Promoting partnership and integration.

The Power of Sport

Corporate Plan 2021-2026. Sport NI

Mission Statement

'We are passionate about maximising the power of sport to change lives. By 2026 we want the power of sport to be recognised and valued by all.'



Sport NI's focus is increasing participation in the wake of the pandemic, looking especially at people in our society who are presently under-represented in sport and physical activity. The Power of Sport has two strategic outcomes:-



1
People adopting and sustaining participation in sport and physical activity.



2
Our athletes among the best in the world.

Sport NI recognises that how people participate in sport and physical activity is changing, often not within a sports club, so their work in creating opportunities for participation strives to suit as many people as possible and in the way they choose to be active.

Living Well Together

A Community Plan for Newry, Mourne and Down to 2030

Vision

'Newry, Mourne and Down District 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.'



Whilst the Council led the community planning process, Living Well Together was crafted by a range of sectors to address and improve the big issues that matter to the people of Newry, Mourne and Down, like:



Health



Education



Employment



Safety



Environment

The idea behind Living Well Together is that...

**by supporting
collaboration,
organisations can
work together
towards achieving
shared goals.**

Living Well Together has five outcomes, two of which are linked to Be Active



Outcome All people in Newry, Mourne and Down enjoy good health and wellbeing.

Indicator Level:

Why these matter?

Life Expectancy

Life expectancy is the standard measure of how long people can expect to live on average based on current age-specific mortality rates. It's important to note that life expectancy does not necessarily tell us about the quality of people's health and wellbeing.

Work Life Balance

Getting the right balance between work and private life largely defines people's lifestyle. The way people allocate and spend their time is partly determined by the cultural, social and policy settings in which they live. Committing to regular physical activity and/or sport helps achieve a healthy work life balance.

Preventable Death

Being more active is proven to help reduce the risk of certain conditions including heart disease, Type 2 diabetes, obesity, and some cancers whilst also improving mental health and wellbeing.

Health Status

People put their health along with employment at the top of what affects their living conditions. Here again, being involved in physical activity or sport makes a significant contribution to people's overall health status.

Outcome All people in Newry, Mourne and Down live in respectful, safe and vibrant communities.

Indicator Level:

Why these matter?

Social Connections

Sporting and recreational organisations provide material and emotional support as a matter of course and in times of need, as well as providing access to employment networks and other opportunities. Generally, we are happier when we engage with others.

Getting Started

The Council

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council is the biggest provider of facilities and services in the district for sport and physical activity, both indoor and outdoor. Here's the picture for just some of what the Council does: -

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council



Leisure centres each offering a range of facilities

5 leisure centres each offering a range of facilities, activities and programmes that encourage people to be active either as individuals or with friends and family or in organised groups and clubs – Downpatrick Leisure Centre, Newry Leisure Centre, Kilkeel Leisure Centre, Newcastle Centre, Ballymote Sports & Wellbeing Centre and over 80 outdoor sports pitches and facilities, both natural grass and artificial turf, accommodating a range of sports and activities for competition and training.



Be Active for Life programme

The Be Active for Life programme delivers over 200 physical activity opportunities across the district each week. Classes are very social but also help people to develop their physical literacy and improve their health and wellbeing. Cost is kept low to ensure it isn't a barrier to participation.



Be Active for Health initiative

Be Active for Health is a district wide initiative aimed at reducing health inequalities of residents targeting those with various chronic health conditions and those recovering from surgery. These include the physical activity referral scheme (PARS), Cardiac and Cancer rehabilitation. Be Active for Health is currently part funded by the Public Health Authority. This initiative is delivered across the district in Newry, Kilkeel, Newcastle and Downpatrick and includes indoor and outdoor group-based activities. Referred clients get access to Be Active for health classes, use of the Council's fitness suites and pools.



Summer Sports Camps

A key component of the Council's sports development annual budget is to provide financial assistance to sports clubs to deliver Summer Sports Camps during July and August. This assistance supports enriching experiences and opportunities for young people to engage in physical activity and sport with a focus on new participation and addressing areas of social need and under-represented groups.



Minor and Major capital grants

The Council's financial assistance to sports clubs also takes the form of Minor and Major capital grants. By supporting clubs to develop infrastructure which promotes a welcoming and accessible environment, the aim of the capital grants programme is to inspire individuals of all ages and abilities and from all backgrounds to embrace sport and physical activity.



Annual Sports Awards

In association with the Sports Association Newry, Down and South Armagh (SANDSA) the Council hosts the district's Annual Sports Awards. The award categories celebrate the remarkable achievements of teams and individuals who have made outstanding contributions to sport as well as paying tribute to coaches, volunteers, mentors, teachers and parents who are the backbone of the sports clubs and the community.



Generic training programme

The Council's popular generic training programme for sports clubs is delivered each year, offering a range of topics in response to expressed interest and level of demand. Topics include nutrition in sport, preparing a business case, mental health in sport and many others.



Elite Athlete Scheme

The Council's Elite Athlete Scheme helps amateur athletes in recognised sports participating at an international level by giving access to sports facilities for training prior to competition. Allied to this is the Recognition of Achievement for High Performance Levels in Sport, the aim of which is to promote and encourage high achievement in sport, so increasing participation at a local level.

Russell Gaelic Union Minor Capital Funding

The project has allowed teams, local schools/sports/community groups and under-represented groups to engage in outdoor basketball/netball at the club

'Confirmation of funding from Newry Mourne & Down District Council was received in 2022 and the Russell Gaelic Union development committee started work immediately in planning, monitoring, and evaluating this project, which opened in 2023. The 3G facility has allowed us to increase sporting activities for existing and new members and increase participation from under-represented groups such as females, people with disability and older people living in an area of high social need and growing population. The 3G facility allows the 30 teams within the RGU, local schools and local sports/community groups access to train and play in the autumn and winter.

Up until the facility opened there was only one 3G pitch in Downpatrick, based at a local school. The club is now able to involve other groups and sports clubs. We now host an after school's programme to increase numbers of young people engaging in sport. These primary schools are also able to use the facility during the day. Outdoor basketball and netball nets were purchased with Minor Capital Items funding and installed in the club's newly constructed 3G multi-sport court. The club linked with Down Netball Club to create a multi-sports facility which enhances the ways in which the site can be utilised.'

Sports Clubs

Newry, Mourne and Down

With around 25,000 sports club members in Newry, Mourne and Down, or 14% of the population, it's clear that formal sport is a big part of people's lives in the district. There are around 40 different sports on offer in approximately 250 clubs, everything from athletics to coastal rowing and from angling to Gaelic games, to mention a few. Some sports, such as Gaelic games have many more clubs than others, yet all clubs offer opportunities for people to enjoy physical activity at a level that suits them.

People say they join sports clubs in the district because they are *'welcoming and well run and it's good for mental health and wellbeing.'* Many people stay in a sports club throughout their life, becoming a volunteer in later years. This reflects the sense of belonging, friendship and community engagement found in sports clubs that is so important to our wellbeing. Mostly, people only leave sports clubs because of a change in circumstances, such as moving away from the area.

The district's sports clubs have fewer female participants than male, a ratio of 1.5 to 1. This picture is the same in sports clubs across the country, however, female membership of sports clubs in the district is rising faster than male membership, encouraged by the success of women's sports in recent years and their higher profile in the media. There's never been a better time for girls and women to take up sport.



Volunteers

4,000 +

Over 4,000 volunteers help to run the district's sports clubs, mostly motivated by having a child involved in the club but also because they love the sport and want to give something back to their community.

1,600

An estimated 1,600 people are coaches in the district's sports clubs, more than twice as many males as females. Only half of the clubs are happy with the skill level of their coaches.



60%

60% of clubs report it is difficult to recruit female coaches. Consequently, there are clear opportunities to make sports coaching attractive to females, perhaps by offering introductory coaching courses focusing on females.

79%

Whilst most - 79% - of the district's sports clubs focus on creating health and wellbeing opportunities for people of all abilities.

42%

Only 42% of the district's sports clubs have a health and wellbeing policy.



Support

The district's sports clubs get support from several organisations; for *financial support* and *facilities* they mostly rely on Newry, Mourne and Down District Council; for *training support* and *general advice* they mostly rely on their governing body. They also get support from Sport NI. The clubs work in partnership with local schools and community organisations.



Community Survey

Being Active in Newry, Mourne & Down



A major survey of the district's residents, attracting nearly 600 responses, revealed a good deal of information about how active they are, the importance they place on being active, the activities that are most popular and what motivates them or holds them back from being active. Respondents were asked to think about 'how many days are you physically active in a typical week and at what level?'

34%

of respondents are active on 5 days or more

58%

of respondents are active on 2, 3 or 4 days

80%

of respondents reckon they are **moderately active to very active**

20%

of respondents are either **inactive or mildly inactive**



The World Health Organisation

The World Health Organisation recommends doing 30 minutes of activity on 5 days a week to help towards good health and wellbeing.

34%

of survey respondents achieve this

12%

of respondents are only active on 1 day or not at all

99%

agree that *'being physically active can benefit and improve my general health and wellbeing.'* As a result, there's a big gap between the *knowing* and the *doing*.

Activities & Sports



Here's what respondents said about the activities and sports they take part in.

71%

take part in walking for recreation



39%

take part in swimming or diving



32%

take part in keep fit/aerobics/yoga



31%

take part in weight training



27%

take part in jogging/running



23%

take part in cycling



People can enjoy these activities either as individuals or in small groups. Given the district's easy access to inland and coastal waters, it's no surprise that water-based sports are also popular. More formal activities and sports returned much lower percentage results, eg 7% for Gaelic games, 6% for association football. Formal activities and sports generally take place within a club environment as part of a group. The results here show that less formal activities, especially walking, are easily accessible and enjoyed by many people.

Motivation



The survey quizzed respondents on their motivation for being active and reasons for not being more active. The top motivations for being active are to do with how people feel about themselves.

Top reasons for being active		
1	84%	to improve my overall health and fitness
2	66%	to make me feel better
3	54%	to maintain my mental health
4	49%	to help control my weight

Top reasons for not being active		
1	37%	I don't have time due to work and/or family commitments
2	29%	lack of facilities in my area
3	24%	I don't have enough money

Motivations linked to sports performance are much lower rated at around 5%.

Other lesser reasons mentioned; 'the weather often puts me off', 'don't know what's on in my area', 'I'm too tired to do exercise', 'I feel self-conscious', 'I feel my age – over 60 – is a barrier to participating more.' Only 1% said 'I'm just not interested in being more active.' This strategy will promote people's motivations for being active and work to challenge the barriers.

Education Survey

Schools, encouraged by the Education Authority, are increasingly embracing community use of their sports facilities outside curriculum time. When this happens it's a win-win for the schools and the communities they serve.

The education survey wanted to find out about the constraints facing schools regarding community use and their thoughts on working in partnership with the Council.

Council

Most schools – 88% - already work in partnership with the Council and all the respondent schools expressed interest in exploring new opportunities to help the Council deliver this strategy.

Community

All the schools surveyed either presently open their sports facilities for community use or would consider it in the future.

Barriers

There are several barriers to schools being able to open to community use; these include: -
Insurance concerns
Preparing a user agreement
Extra staffing and resource costs

Facilities

Some of the schools highlighted that community use of their premises outside curriculum time is not part of their remit, suggesting that third party involvement would be needed.



Community use of schools outside curriculum time has been increasing in recent years and the schools' survey evidences a willingness on the part of the district's schools to embrace the communities they serve in this way. Several schools plan to develop their outdoor sports facilities in the future to assist in delivery of curriculum and community activity. Here's a flavour of what they say: -

'We would need help to develop our facilities to bring them to a level where they can be used by the local community. We are regularly asked by local clubs as we have the space to provide sporting facilities but at present do not have them in place.'

'We have big ambitions to develop our facilities to improve the community links and improve our existing facilities for our students and the people of the surrounding area. We would love the opportunity to develop links with the Council.'

'The Council could have an event to meet PE staff and gather information on sports and activities played in each school. Children are more likely to engage in activities outside of school if they have a link; more opportunities for Council-led activity initiatives within schools could help.'



Activity Provider's Survey



50

sports and activity providers representing responded to the survey

14

different activities represented in the survey

These providers are mostly sports clubs, but they also view themselves as a social enterprise, providing physical activity, sports, and wellbeing activities to benefit local communities.



have already delivered activities in partnership with the Council



are interested in exploring opportunities to help the Council deliver Be Active



Organisations offering physical activity and sports opportunities to local communities are clearly a key resource in taking the strategy forward

These organisations deliver their activities in many different facilities, including:



Public parks



Green spaces



Beaches



Rivers



Lakes



Greenways



Countryside



Hills

However, the need for facilities and other challenges often hold activity providers back from doing more. Here's what two of them said:-

'Providing free information/talks/demonstrations for how to eat and exercise, specifically tailored for individuals who are over-weight, could be beneficial.'

'Tell us what support is available to us for us to work together in advertising and offering activities to young and old.'

Living Longer

Most of us want to live as long and as well as possible. To achieve this, we must be active throughout our lives, from an early age into our later years. The idea of our working life ending when we hit 60 or 65 years of age is ill-suited to long lives, but we need to change how we think about how we approach living longer.

Our quality of life at all ages – physical and mental – benefits from being active, helping to keep us well and able to participate in society and our communities to the level of our choosing.

IT'S UP TO US!

‘We don’t stop being active because we grow old, we grow old because we stop being active.’

Newry, Mourne and Down’s Health

- 1 Life expectancy at birth in Newry, Mourne and Down is 78.9 years for men and 82.7 years for women, both slightly higher than the average for Northern Ireland.

- 2 In the district’s most deprived areas men can expect to have a shorter life by about two years and women by about six months.

- 3 Hospital admissions in the district’s most deprived areas are higher than for across the district.

- 4 Prescription rates for mood and anxiety are also higher in the most deprived areas.

- 5 The Department of Health Inequalities Annual Report for 2023 shows that of the 53 health outcomes measured in Newry, Mourne and Down, 15 are worse than the Northern Ireland average.



Be Active for Life Rena's Story

'I am a 77-year-old widow lady. I attend the Be Active programme because I am a firm believer that exercise can strengthen bones, muscles and help improve your memory. It increases the release of endorphins leaving you feeling uplifted. This can be a great benefit to people who are suffering from depression and mental health issues.

The classes are so much fun and everyone who goes truly enjoys them. The music, the laughter, the companionship and at the same time getting a good workout, this all helps towards a healthy body and mind. The coaches are very respectful of all ages and take stock of people's health issues.'



Be Active for Life Ana's Story

After a heart attack, Ana joined the Cardiac Rehabilitation Programme in Newry Leisure Centre. 'In a weird way, having a heart attack was one of the best things that ever happened to me because it gave me the opportunity to reassess my life and gave me the tools to maintain a healthy lifestyle. The programme at Newry Leisure Centre played a vital role in this transformation. It made me enjoy exercise again, something I never thought I'd say.

The programme not only helped me regain my physical strength but also taught me what exercise can do for my mental health. I came to realise that the combination of physical and mental wellbeing is essential. I can confidently say the rehabilitation programme has changed my life. It has given me the knowledge to help me lead a healthier and happier life. I'm grateful for the opportunity to be a part of this programme and for the positive impact it has had on my overall wellbeing.'

What are the Benefits of Being More Active?

Being Active

1

By the time we reach 60, many of our health outcomes have already been determined. So, staying active throughout our lives really helps us stay mobile and independent in later years.

2

Staying active helps improve sleep and boosts our self-esteem. It helps us feel happier by reducing feelings of stress and it encourages a sense of achievement.

3

Being active with other people in family or community groups encourages a sense of wellbeing and makes children feel good about themselves whilst reinforcing family bonds.

4

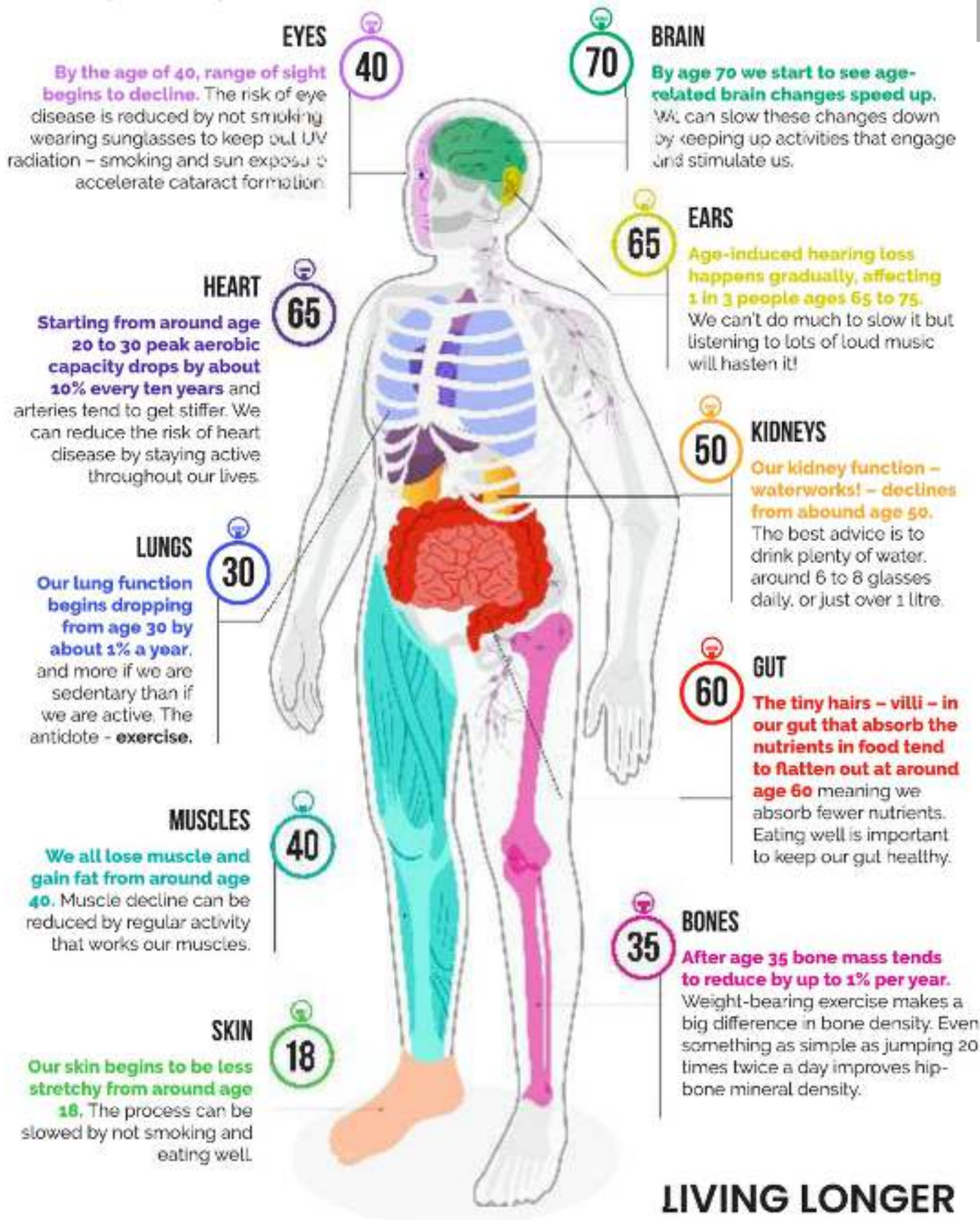
We can reduce the risks of many chronic diseases by being active, including heart disease, some cancers, Type 2 diabetes, stroke, and osteoporosis.

5

Whatever our age or ability, even small changes to our active lives will make us feel good, give us more energy, and help us live longer and better.

6

Making fitness a habit can help with breathing difficulties, high blood pressure and bone health.



LIVING LONGER

Age when body part begins to falter

As suddenly as aging can feel, no-one wakes up in an old body without getting some warning signs first, yet if we know what's coming, we can plan to give certain parts some extra care to help us live longer and better. Perhaps we need to know a bit more about how putting on the years affects our body parts and what we can do about it. We're never too old to help our body and our mind!



Vision, Objectives and Themes

Vision



Choice

The vision for Be Active

Being Active is a Lifestyle Choice for everyone in Newry, Mourne and Down.

Objectives The vision will be achieved through these objectives



Fitness

Activity and Sport

Activities and sports suited to all ages and abilities for fun, fitness and competition.



Lifestyle

Active lifestyle

Organisations working together to promote active lifestyles and deliver programmes in partnership.



Support

Programme Support

Supporting the district's sports clubs and activity providers in delivering activity programmes that suit everyone's needs.



Themes Consultation helps inform these four themes and the outcomes expected through their delivery



Theme 1

Community

Encouraging individuals, families and community groups to take responsibility for their own physical activity and wellbeing profile, especially thinking of those who are less active than others.

Outcome

More people enjoying physical activity and sport at the level of their choosing and making it a lifestyle choice.



Theme 2

Sports Providers

A focus on the district's sports clubs and activity providers, encouraging them to embrace physical activity and wellbeing alongside their primary sport.

Outcome

Sports clubs and activity providers welcome the whole community and promote athletes and officials development at all levels of participation.



Theme 3

Partnerships

Working together to make the best use of resources and influence more people to adopt active lifestyles, especially people who are mostly sedentary.

Outcome

Shared responsibility and commitment by stakeholder organisations.



Theme 4

Telling Everyone

With the help of role models and effective marketing we need to constantly put the benefits of an active lifestyle in front of everyone in such a way that they decide to have a go and keep at it.

Outcome

Everyone knows about the opportunities for participation in sport and physical activity.

Theme 1

Be Active – Community

Begin active with family and friends or in a group is a great way to encourage each other and benefit our physical and mental health. There's no better place to enjoy sport and physical activity as part of a community than in the district's sports clubs which between them offer around forty different sports.

Exercising regularly will benefit you the most. It doesn't have to be at a set time of day or in the same place. Make being active suit you and your lifestyle and you're more likely to keep it going. This approach will work for you regardless of where you live or your socio-economic status.

Sport and physical activity can be enjoyed as a recreational activity such as walking, as a group activity, perhaps Parent and Baby, as a structured sport in a sports club or in one of the Council's sports development and activity programmes.

Children should try to be active every day – any amount of physical activity is better than none. Adults too should be physically active every day, aiming for at least 150 minutes weekly of activity that makes you slightly out of breath.



Financial Assistance – Summer Sports Camps Tollymore United FC

Tollymore United FC used their award in 2023 to engage girls, ethnic minorities (refugees living in Newcastle) and children living with a disability, including autism in a range of activities. More than 150 young people enjoyed a week of fun activities, increasing their awareness of the importance of physical and mental wellbeing. The project was hailed as a 'win win' for the young participants and for the club, with volunteer coaches gaining valuable experience and the club's profile raised.

Strategic Actions – Community

01

BE ACTIVE FOR LIFE PROGRAMME

Promote and deliver Be Active for Life for all ages and abilities. Each Be Active for Life programme will focus on key groups, covering all ages and all abilities. The aim is for programmes to be as inclusive as possible.

02

BE ACTIVE FOR HEALTH INITIATIVES

Continue to deliver Be Active for Health initiatives, eg PARS, MacMillan Move More and others. The Physical Activity Referral Scheme (PARS) works with around 400 individuals each year across the district, shaping physical activity profiles to suit their needs.

03

COUNCIL-LED ACTIVITY PROGRAMMES

Grow Council-led activity programmes with schools across the district. Opportunities for regular physical activity in school settings have reduced in recent years. These Council-led programmes seek to re-introduce young people to physical activity in a way that encourages them to adopt it as a lifestyle choice.

04

MULTI-SPORT CAMPS

Deliver multi-sport camps for children and young people at various times of the year, eg summer, Halloween. School holiday periods, including half-term weeks, allow the delivery of daytime multi-sport camps offering indoor and outdoor sports and activities. These camps introduce young people to sports they haven't tried before and provide opportunities to continue the sport in local sports clubs and organisations.

05

COMMUNITY-BASED ACTIVITY PROGRAMMES

Build community-based activity programmes for individuals; upskill volunteers and coaches to deliver local programmes. Consultation evidence signifies potential within communities for individuals to become leaders and coaches in activities, eg walk leaders, that benefit their own communities. Local people delivering activities at a local level will help to engage with minorities groups and people for whom transport may be a challenge.

Strategic Objectives

Outcomes

Physical and Mental Health

More people of all ages and abilities take exercise on a regular basis, enough to benefit their health and wellbeing.

Equality of Opportunities

Regardless of where people live in the district, their socio-economic status or their time of life, everyone has the same opportunity to enjoy physical activities that benefit their health and their living experience.

Theme 2

Be Active – Sports Providers

Many community groups, sports clubs, and commercial operators all offer opportunities to be more active; they encourage people to take up sport, they develop people through sport, they imbue in people a love of sport and they gift people with an active lifestyle that becomes part of who they are, as a result, helping to shape and define local communities.

In short, they are part of the fabric of society, making a positive and valuable contribution both socially and economically. Sports on offer in the district mirror those on offer across Northern Ireland, a mix of land based and water-based, indoor and outdoor, team and individual, recreation and competition.

There is really something for everyone from Gaelic sports to soccer, from athletics to angling, from cricket to sailing, to mention a few. Sports providers in the district see themselves as part of the community; in a recent Sport NI survey here's how they described what they are about: -

- We are a community organisation looking to create health and wellbeing opportunities for people of all abilities.
- We are welcoming, well run and recognised in our community.
- People come to us because they want to be more active, and they want to make new friends.
- People volunteer to help because they want to give something back to their community.
- We are a club catering for adults and young people, women, and men, old and young.

Financial Assistance – Minor Capital Funding Dundrum Cricket Club

Dundrum Cricket Club secured Minor Capital funding to support their youth and women's cricket initiative. In the three years to 2023 youth membership increased from single figures to over 60 members and the club's first female team was established. The funding award was used to purchase training equipment for the growing youth membership and the new women's team. The club reported that the new equipment led to 'increased membership, more coaches, better overall skills and a positive trajectory; these things will make the club sustainable.'

Strategic Actions – Sports Providers

- 01** **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMMES**
Continue to develop and deliver financial assistance programmes to sports providers in line with need and evolving circumstances. The Council's range of financial assistance programmes presently covers Summer Camps, Minor Capital, Major Capital, Multi-sport, and recognition of high achievement for athletes.
- 02** **GENERIC TRAINING PROGRAMMES**
Provide a generic training programme for clubs, including governance needs to support clubs in their growth, development and planning.
- 03** **SPORTS ASSOCIATION NEWRY, DOWN AND SOUTH ARMAGH (SANDSA)**
Working with the Sports Association Newry, Down and South Armagh (SANDSA) forum, review its role, structure, and operation. Sports forums exist in most local authority areas, bringing together sports clubs and other sports providers to work for and represent the sporting family.
- 04** **NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN SPORTS AWARDS**
Continue to recognise clubs/individuals through the annual Newry, Mourne and Down Sports Awards. The review should also include an assessment of how the awards are operated, and where responsibility lies with Council departments, leading to a recommendation on its future operation. The Sports Awards programme is essential in supporting and recognising sporting achievement throughout the district.
- 05** **LEASING POLICIES**
Council to support clubs with available funds through a leasing policy for Council-owned ground/facilities and service level agreements. It is often the case that sports clubs deliver services to their local communities in areas where the Council has a limited presence. Supporting clubs in these areas by leasing ground and/or facilities and putting in place a service level agreement benefits the community and helps deliver on 'Living Well Together – A Community Plan for Newry, Mourne and Down to 2030'.

Strategic Objectives	Outcomes
Support for Sports Providers	The district's sports providers will continue to be supported to improve facilities and programmes, benefiting local communities socially and economically.
Connecting with Young People	Initiatives involving sports provider organisations and schools will increase participation in a range of sports.
Better Awareness	Through the annual Sports Awards residents are more aware of role models in sport and community pride is enhanced.
Improved Health Outcomes	In supporting sports providers to increase participation in physical activity and sport, the overall health and wellbeing of the district's residents will improve.
Better Quality Opportunities	Sports providers offer attractive services that assist in their own development and sustainability.

Theme 3

Be Active – Partnerships

Consultation for Be Active clearly points to the desire by all organisations with an interest in promoting physical activity and sport to work together to achieve better outcomes.

The Council already works with a wide range of organisations to promote and deliver physical activity and sport, including sports providers, sport's governing bodies, Sport NI, schools, the Public Health Agency, community groups, the Southern Health and Social Care Trust, the South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust and many more. Be Active is set to build on existing partnerships and create new ones with the objective of achieving more together.

Whilst the Council is the lead organisation, Be Active can only achieve its full potential through well-defined partnerships in which everyone plays their part. Physical activity and sport touches on every aspect of society. Investing in community sport and physical activity has an economic and social value including physical and mental health and wellbeing. Such investment has been shown to improve educational attainment, reduce crime and increase consumer expenditure, all leading to a healthier and happier society. Every £1 spent on sport and physical activity is estimated to generate £3.91 in value.

Clearly sport and physical activity is a powerful tool in changing society for the good. It is this recognition that leads government to encourage its departments and agencies to work in partnership and use sport and physical activity to help achieve their objectives. Investment must make a difference to the sections of society which generally don't get involved in sport and physical activity. Sport NI's recent 'Build Back Better' funding programme demonstrated that by thinking outside the box and working together, it is possible to achieve this.

Financial Assistance – Major Capital Funding Newry City Athletic FC

With the help of a Major Capital grant from the Council, Newry City Athletic FC will convert an existing grass pitch to 3G at Newry Showgrounds and carry out other improvements to the site. The club's objectives in this project are to increase participation in sport by young people, women and girls, those from socially disadvantaged backgrounds and those with physical and mental disabilities.

Strategic Actions – Partnerships

- 01

DEVELOP PARTNERSHIPS
Continue to work with existing partners and develop new partnerships to develop high quality sports and physical activity programmes across sectors.

- 02

COMMUNITY ACCESS
Work with the Education Authority to increase community access to local school sites outside curriculum time by addressing constraints such as insurance, user agreements and operational arrangements.

- 03

FUNDING PARTNERS
Continue to work with funding partners in the development of facilities and activity programmes for sport and physical activity throughout the district.

Strategic Objectives	Outcomes
Community Access	Sports facilities in all ownerships not usually made available for community access will be opened up and used to their full potential.
Partnerships	Partnerships involving existing and new groups and organisations are more equitable and supportive. District-wide programmes are delivered to a consistently high standard.
Evaluation	Partnership working is monitored and periodically reviewed to ensure sustainability. Responsibilities of each partner group are understood.
Together	There is a sense of stakeholder organisations working towards the same end goal as a collective and achieving more together.

Theme 4

Be Active – Telling Everyone

Exercise in the form of sport and physical activity is known to be good for us but we must constantly promote the message until it becomes a lifestyle choice for everyone. How we promote the benefits of sport and physical activity must be easy to understand.

Sport and physical activity are now promoted by government and its agencies as a single message: when we do sport we're also doing physical activity. The challenge is to get everyone to be more active more of the time. Government strategies such as Sport NI's 'The Power of Sport' highlight the benefits of being involved in sport and physical activity at all levels, as a player, a coach or an administrator.

The Department for Communities 'Active Living: Sport and Physical Activity Strategy' states that through its messaging it wants to:

- **Teach children in school about being active**
- **Help more people understand why taking part in sport and physical activity is a good thing**
- **Help people find new ways of becoming active**
- **See more people being active and staying active.**

Active Living goes on to say 'The benefits and transformational impacts of participation in sport and physical activity are well known and well documented.'

The benefits accrue to individuals and to wider society. Despite this, a significant proportion of our population does not regularly participate in sport or physical activity. Research shows that across the island, women, those with disabilities, people on lower incomes and those from socially deprived urban and rural areas are less likely to engage in sport and physical activity. Inactivity or sedentary lifestyles can lead to physical and mental ill-health and to social exclusion. Encouraging those who are inactive to take the first steps to encouragement in sport and physical activity can be life changing. This is a key public health message but getting the message across to inactive groups can be challenging.'



Strategic Actions – Telling Everyone

01

SOCIAL MEDIA

Review and continue communicating with individuals, clubs and partner organisations via social media platforms and direct contact in accordance with the Council's IT strategy.

02

MESSAGING

Council will monitor, update and refresh their databases on a regular basis. With approximately 250 sports clubs in the district and around 25,000 members, messaging sports clubs about activities and programmes can be very effective.

03

ROADSHOWS

Council will host regular roadshows for clubs to raise awareness of funding opportunities and the support that is available from the Council's Sports Development team.

Strategic Objectives	Outcomes
Better Understanding	More people of all ages and abilities will better understand the benefits of being more active to their physical and mental health and wellbeing.
More Participation	Through better understanding more people, especially non-active people, will take the first step towards being more active, and participating in competitive sports.
Consistent Messaging	The same message is promoted across all organisations.
Broader Reach	Messaging the benefits and how to get started on the road to being more active reaches parts of society where it's most needed.

Sport and Physical Activity Strategy

The Council will work with key stakeholder organisations to prepare work programmes for each theme and share responsibility for delivering them.

This will involve partner organisations who work within the district. Many organisations have contributed to the Be Active strategy and it is essential that they get involved in its implementation.

The group of organisations tasked with delivering the strategy will create detailed action plans for each theme, identifying which organisation is responsible for their delivery as well as monitoring outputs and evaluating outcomes.

The objective is to deliver the strategy and ensure it is progressing the strategy vision and objectives. The Be Active strategy must now deliver regular reviews during the strategy period.



Themes and Outcomes Reviewed

Be Active will be delivered over a five year period from 2025 to 2030

Strategic Themes

Outcomes

- | | | |
|----------|-------------------------|--|
| 1 | Community | More people enjoying sport and physical activity at the level of their choosing and making it a lifestyle choice. |
| 2 | Sports Providers | Sports clubs and activity providers welcome the whole community and promote athletes and officials development at all levels of participation. |
| 3 | Partnerships | Shared responsibility and commitment by stakeholder organisations. |
| 4 | Telling Everyone | Everyone knows about the opportunities for participation in sport and physical activity. |

At the end of the 5 year strategy period the extent to which Be Active has realised its vision will be assessed by the group of organisations responsible for delivering the strategy. They'll address: -

-  **What did we do?**

-  **How well did we do it?**

-  **Is anyone better off?**

Strategy

This strategy once adopted by Council will transform how sports clubs and activity providers throughout the district engage with their communities. More people living in Newry, Mourne and Down will enjoy healthier lifestyles by taking up sport and being more active.



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

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Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	17 February 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 For noting only

1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	<p>Purpose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To note the report. To consider and agree to approve the actions in the Action Sheets attached from the DEA Forum Private Meetings 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. Agree to approve the actions in the Action Sheets attached for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Slieve Gullion Forum Private Meeting held on 14 January 2025. ➤ Mournes DEA Forum Private Meeting held on 21 January 2025. ➤ Rowallane DEA Private Forum Meeting held on 30 January 2025.
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</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 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	
7.0	Appendices	
7.1	<p>Appendix 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Slieve Gullion Forum Private Meeting held on 14 January 2025. ➤ Mournes DEA Forum Private Meeting held on 21 January 2025. ➤ Rowallane DEA Private Forum Meeting held on 30 January 2025. 	
8.0	Background Documents	
8.1	None.	

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

Action Sheet of Slieve Gullion District Electoral Area (DEA) Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 14th January 2025 @ 5.30 pm in Bessbrook Community Centre

Chairperson:

Councillor David Taylor

In Attendance:

**Councillor David Taylor
Councillor Mickey Larkin
Councillor Declan Murphy
Councillor Aoife Finnegan
Councillor Aine Quinn**

Independent Members:

Laurence Bradley

Statutory Partners:

**Ruth Neary, EA Youth Services
Maureen O’Gorman, EA Youth Services
Inspector Kelly Gibson, PSNI**

Council Officials:

**Claire Loughran, Slieve Gullion DEA Coordinator
Kerri Morrow, Engagement & Development Manager
Briega Boyle, Community Facilities Manager
Sarah McClory, Programme Coordinator**

Apologies:

**Councillor Oonagh Magennis
Teresa Nugent, Independent Member
Thelma Thompson, Independent Member
Martina Flynn, Head of Engagement (Acting)
Barry Trainor, Southern Health & Social Care Trust**

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed.
DEA/SG/23	Declarations of Interest	No Declarations of Interest were made.	Noted.
DEA/SG/24	Peace Plus Update	Sarah McCloy provided members with an update on the Peace Plus Draft Action plan for Newry, Mourne and Down District Council.	DEA Coordinator to email all Forum Members with the link to provide feedback and project ideas for Peace Plus Programme
DEA/SG/25	Election of Chair & Vice Chair of DEA Forum	Councillor David Taylor was elected Chair of Slieve Gullion DEA, on the proposal of Councillor Declan Murphy and seconded by Council Micky Larkin Councillor Aine Quinn was elected Vice Chair of the Slieve Gullion DEA, on the proposal of Councillor Declan Murphy and Seconded by Councillor David Taylor	Noted.
DEA/SG/26	Matters arising from Action Sheet from meeting held 12 th November 2024	Action Sheet confirmed as true and accurate record. Members requested that the relation of Culloville SID remains on the action sheet until PCSP Sub Group make a decision	Approved. Relocation of Culloville SID to remain on Action Sheet - update sent to DEA Co-Ordinator for issue to Members on 18/12/24. Item now closed.
DEA/SG/27	Ending Violence Against Women & Girls	Martina Flynn had apologised for the meeting, she updated via email to inform members that NMDDC Financial Assistance call had opened and included a theme on Ending Violence Against Women & Girls	Noted.

DEA/SG/28	DEA Coordinator's Report	<p>DEA Coordinator delivered the Coordinator's Report including</p> <p>Recruitment of Independent Members – Coordinator to send follow up email to all members</p> <p>Multiply Programme – delivery well on track and outcomes have been excellent</p> <p>Council Financial Assistance Currently open to applications for small grants</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>DEA Coordinator to Email all Forum Members regarding suggestions received and request additional suggestions</p> <p>Forum members to direct community groups requiring assistance with the grants forms to DEA Coordinator</p>
DEA/SG/29	Community Safety & Good Relations Update	<p>PSNI provided an update on recent PSNI activity and success in the Slieve Gullion Area.</p> <p>Updates were provided regarding Domestic Violence and Ending Violence Against Women and Girls</p>	Noted.
DEA/SG/30	Community Facilities Update	<p>Brieger Boyle updated members regarding Areas at Risk Funding (AAR), Brieger requested members forward ideas for projects which could be run under Areas at risk as the new action plan is currently being developed.</p> <p>Councillor Finnegan requested update on maintenance concerns in Crossmaglen Community Centre (The entrance doors were fixed today 14.01.15) and Newtownhamilton Community Centre</p>	<p>Forum Members to email Brieger Boyle with AAR project ideas for the Action Plan 2025-26</p> <p>Brieger Boyle to follow up with Council maintenance dept regarding Newtownhamilton Community Centre.</p>

DEA/SG/31	Emerging Issues	<p>Health & Wellbeing – Information provided on Social Supermarket and Clanrye Programmes</p> <p>Education Authority Youth Services Update provided on statutory Youth provision offered in Slieve Gullion area. New Youth Worker has been appointed to work in the South Armagh area.</p> <p>Community Update: Update on Good Morning Service provided</p>	Noted
DEA/SG/32	Date of Next Meeting	Tuesday 11 th March 2025 @ 5.30pm	Noted.

The meeting ended at: 6.35pm

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

**Action Sheet of Mournes District Electoral Area (DEA) Forum Private Meeting
held on Tuesday 21st January 2024 at 4.00pm Via Teams**

Chairperson: Councillor Glyn Hanna

In Attendance:
 Councillor Henry Reilly
 Councillor Jill Truesdale
 Councillor Laura Devlin
 Councillor Leeanne McEvoy
 Councillor Michael Rice

Independent Members:
 Paula Nixon, County Down Rural Community Network
 Claire Shiels, County Down Rural Community Network

Statutory Partners:
 Annie Clarke, Southern Health and Social Care Trust
 Wayne Morris, Education Authority Youth Service

Others in Attendance: None

Council Officials:
 Taucher McDonald, DEA Coordinator, The Mournes
 Kerri Morrow, Engagement and Development Manager
 Tom McClean, Head of Capital Projects
 Martina Flynn, Acting Head of Engagement

Apologies:
 Lloyd Douglas, Independent Member
 Kenneth Gracey, PSNI

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed
DEA/MOU/1/2025	Welcome/Apologies	Welcome by Cllr Hanna.	Noted.
DEA/MOU/2/2025	Declarations of Interest	None	Noted.
DEA/MOU/3/2025	Action Sheet 26 September 2024	Brief update of the actions from the previous Forum meeting was given.	Noted.
DEA/MOU/4/2025	DEA Coordinator's Update	DEA Coordinator update on upcoming programmes and initiatives.	Noted.
DEA/MOU/5/2025	Agency Updates	Update on upcoming programmes and initiatives. M Flynn provided an update on Council's EVAWG (Ending Violence Against Women & Girls) programmes. EVAWG Financial Assistance also currently open to applications.	Noted.
DEA/MOU/10/24	Donard Carpark	Anti-social behaviour and traffic issues at Donard Park.	Works on 3G pitch have begun for 25 weeks.
DEA/MOU/11/2024	Kilkeel Feasibility Study	A Feasibility Study has been undertaken to look at possible potential redevelopment and utilisation of Kilkeel Square and its immediate environs.	Head of Service to provide update.
DEA/MOU/13/2024	Business Representation on Forum	A need for Business representation on the DEA Forum was identified.	Cllr. Devlin to contact Newcastle Chamber of Commerce for nomination and update at next meeting.

		Forum members to put forward nominations for Kilkeel and Newcastle areas.	Clr. Hanna to contact Kilkeel Chamber of Commerce for nomination and update at next meeting.
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The meeting ended at 16:56pm

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

**Action Sheet of Rowallane District Electoral Area (DEA) Forum Private Meeting
held on Thursday 30th January 2025 at 6.30 p.m. Annexe Crossgar War Memorial Hall**

Chairperson: In the absence of both Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Forum Councillor Bowsie agreed to Chair the meeting.

In Attendance: Councillors Callum Bowsie and Jonathan Jackson

Independent Members: Raymond Cochrane, Frontier Support Network
Lise Curran, CDRCN
Gareth Gordon, Ballynahinch Community Collective
Robert Burgess, Rowallane & Slieve Croob Community Twinning Group, Saintfield Horse Show,
Saintfield Community Estates

Statutory Partners: Joseph Deegan, Community Services Manager (East)

Council Officials: Ellen Brennan, DEA Co-Ordinator

Others in Attendance: None

Apologies: Councillors Terry Andrews, Tierna Howie and David Lee- Surginor

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION – including actions taken /date completed or progress to date if not yet completed.
DEA/ROW/07/02/2025	Declarations of Interest	There were no declarations of interest.	No declarations of interest.
DEA/ROW/067/03/2025	Action Sheet of meeting held on 11 th September 2024	On the proposal of Councillor Jackson and seconded by Robert Burgess it was recommended that the action sheet from 11 th September, 2024 meeting be approved as a true record.	Agreed.
DEA/ROW/07/04/2025	DEA Coordinator Report	Members noted the change in format and content of the DEA Coordinator's updated report which had been circulated prior to the meeting.	Noted.
DEA/ROW/07/05/2025	Rowallane DEA Action Plan and associated budget 2025/26 for approval and award outlined budget	The DEA Coordinator outlined the contents of the 2025/26 Action Plan and associated proposed initiatives with indicative budgets which on the Proposal of Robert Burgess Seconded by Lise Curran were approved for action by the DEA Coordinator for the incoming financial year.	Members noted the verbal report presented and approved the indicative proposals and budget outlined.
DEA/ROW/07/06/2025	Overview of Call 1 of Council's Financial Assistance 2025	The DEA Coordinator updated members on the current position in relation the Financial Assistance Programmes for 2025. She advised the need to stress to groups that the format and required information had changed quite a lot. Recommended that groups contact Council's Grants & Funding Unit for further advice/guidance if required.	Members noted the overview provided and were concerned that the process was becoming increasingly difficult for groups seeking to make funding applications.

DEA/ROW/07/07/2025	Updates from PCSP, Education Authority and Community Services	<p>The DEA Coordinator advised that the PCSP would no longer be attending or providing a report to the DEA Forum going forward. She highlighted where members could access PCSP information on the Council Website and advised that as Councillor Andrews sits on the PCSP Committee he could act as conduit for two-way communication going forward.</p> <p>The DEA Coordinator advised that as the Education Authority representative was currently off on leave an update would be provided at a future meeting.</p> <p>The Community Centre Manager (East) provided a verbal update on the works being carried out to Ballynahinch Community Centre which would be completed by end of May 2025.</p>	Noted
DEA/ROW/08/08/2025	Progress on additional members to Forum	Members were advised that the minutes of AHC of 16 December 2024 were ratified at Council meeting on 13th January 2025 which had approved proceeding with DEA Forum recruitment of Independent Members where a gap in representation had been identified.	DEA Coordinator to liaise with Community Engagement Manager
DEA/ROW/08/09/2025	Update on review of Terms of Reference etc., for DEA Fora.	The DEA Coordinator advised that the Terms of Reference etc., for District Electoral Area Fora were currently being reviewed and updated.	DEA Coordinator to liaise with Community Engagement Manager
DEA/ROW/08/10/2025	Format of public meeting in March 2025	In view of the review of Terms of Reference etc., it was agreed that the format of the public meeting should be entitled Spring Forth representing a new beginning for DEA Fora. Members suggested that a short presentation could be prepared outlining the membership of the Rowallane DEA Forum and the planned projects/initiatives to be undertaken.	DEA Coordinator to progress this proposed meeting and organise the preparation of a short presentation at the opening of the meeting.

The meeting concluded at 8.05 p.m.

Report to:	Active and Healthy Communities Committee
Date of Meeting:	17 February 2025
Subject:	Policing & Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) and Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership (NRP) 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"/>	For noting only	<input checked="" 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 note the attached Minutes of the Policing Committee & PCSP Meeting held on 26 November 2024, approved at the Policing Committee & PCSP Meeting on 28 January 2025. To note the attached Minutes of Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership Meeting held on 20 November 2024 approved at Newry NRP held on 15 January 2025. <p>Background</p> <p>The attachments referenced above are provided to update the Committee on the on-going work of the PCSP and Newry NRP.</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. Note the attached Minutes of the Policing Committee & PCSP Meeting held on 26 November 2024, approved at the Policing Committee & PCSP Meeting on 28 January 2025. Note the attached Minutes of Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership Meeting held on 20 November 2024 approved at Newry NRP held on 15 January 2025.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	None.
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</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)	
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> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
7.0	Appendices	
7.1	<p>Appendix 1: Minutes of the Policing Committee & PCSP Meeting held on 26 November 2024</p> <p>Appendix 2: Minutes of the Newry NRP Meeting held on 20 November 2024</p>	
8.0	Background Documents	
8.1	None.	

POLICING COMMITTEE AND POLICING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP**Minutes of the Newry, Mourne & Down Policing Committee and Policing & Community Safety Partnership Meeting held on Tuesday 26 November 2024 at 6.00pm in the Downshire Chamber, Downpatrick and remotely via MS Teams****In attendance in Chamber:**

Councillor A Mathers NMDDC
 Superintendent Norman Haslett, PSNI
 Chief Inspector Tori Anderson, PSNI
 Chief Inspector Joe Tierney, PSNI
 Inspector Kelly Gibson, PSNI
 Inspector Darren Hardy, PSNI
 Sergeant Ryan Duffy, PSNI
 Glen Cleland, NIFRS
 Roisin Leckey, PBNI
 Niall Lawlor, PCSP Independent Member

In attendance via Teams:

Councillor T Andrews, NMDDC (Chair)
 Councillor K Feehan, NMDDC
 Councillor C Galbraith, NMDDC
 Councillor H Reilly, NMDDC
 Councillor D Taylor, NMDDC
 Councillor J Truesdale, NMDDC
 Tara Campbell, PCSP Independent Member
 Louise Kennedy, PCSP Independent Member
 Colleen McCreesh, PCSP Independent Member
 Michelle Osborne, PCSP Independent Member (Vice Chair)
 William Slater, PCSP Independent Member
 David Vint, PCSP Independent Member
 Michael Heaney, YJA

Officials in attendance in Chamber:

Martina Flynn, Acting Head of Engagement
 Shannon Creaney, Acting Safer Communities & Good Relations Manager
 Amy McKeown, Monitoring & Evaluation Officer, PCSP and Good Relations
 Jacqueline Urey, PCSP Officer
 Shane McGivern, Safer Communities & Good Relations Officer
 Sarah- Louise Taggart, Democratic Services Manager

1 Welcome, Chairperson's Remarks and Apologies

Councillor Andrews welcomed members to the Partnership meeting.

Apologies were received from Councillor Oonagh Hanlon, Councillor Kate Murphy, Anne Sheridan and Martina Byrne.

Councillor Andrews said it has been a very busy time recently with some excellent events taking place. Councillor Andrews thanked the PCSP team who have worked with the PSNI, An Garda Síochána and other agencies to deliver events. The events included the cross-border Road Safety event in Mullingar held on 2 October. Councillor Andrews thanked the Vice Chair Michelle Osborne for representing the PCSP at the Youth Safety and Wellbeing Conference in Newry on 10 October with over 400 secondary school students in attendance. Both of these events were a great success.

Councillor Andrews discussed the PSNI Road Safe Road Show which took place at St. Pauls High School Bessbrook on 7 November and noted the impact that this had on those in attendance.

Councillor Andrews thanked members for attending the recent PCSP Planning Sessions and for their input into the development of the PCSP Action Plan for 25/26. The Action Plan is tabled for approval at this evening's meeting. Surveys have been issued to PCSP members and also to the wider community to inform the PCSP Strategic Assessment for 25/26. Councillor Andrews asked that all members complete the PCSP Members Survey and forward the Community Survey to groups, agencies or individuals who may wish to have an input into this important exercise. This will help the partnership to understand the key community safety issues across the district.

2 Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

3 NIFRS presentation - Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) 2025-2030

Councillor Andrews welcomed Glen Cleland, District Commander (Downpatrick District) with the NIFRS who joined the meeting to present on the NIFRS Community Risk Management Plan 2025-2030 which is currently out for consultation.

Mr Cleland gave an overview and background to the CRMP and advised that the public consultation for the CRMP closes on 9 January 2025. Mr Cleland added that feedback on the plan is important and that it will help to shape the future of the Fire and Rescue Service. The consultation can be completed online, via email or by post.

Councillor Reilly commented that the presentation was very impressive and thanked Mr Cleland. Councillor Reilly added that it would be good to get as many responses as possible.

Mrs Leckey thanked Mr Cleland for the presentation and asked in relation to safety of the area if there are any planned cutbacks in the NIFRS. Mr Cleland advised that the NIFRS don't know if there will be any future cutbacks as the budget is set on yearly basis. Mr Cleland advised that the point of the CRMP is improvement and not cutbacks.

Mrs Leckey also asked if there was any difficulty in recruiting staff. Mr Cleland advised that staff numbers haven't decreased in this District during his tenure of 12 years.

4 Draft Minutes of previous PCSP & Policing Committee Meeting held on 24 September 2024

Read: Minutes of PCSP & Policing Committee Meeting held on 24 September 2024 (copy circulated).

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Truesdale, seconded by Louise Kennedy, it was agreed to approve the Minutes of the Policing Committee and PCSP Meeting held on 24 September 2024 as a true and accurate record.

5 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

PCSP Business

6 PCSP Officer Report

Read: PCSP Officer Report (copy circulated)

Ms. Creaney advised that the PCSP Officer Report is for noting. Ms. Creaney added that some of key PCSP events are highlighted within the report. Ms. Creaney discussed the previously mentioned Community Safety surveys and advised that she will be circulating these to members and asked that everyone completes the Member's Survey and also circulate the Community Survey with the wider public.

Councillor Truesdale asked if more specific detail on locations could be provided on the Community Safety Warden Report. Ms. Creaney advised that further detail will be added where possible in future reports.

Ms. Kennedy asked about the work that is being done on Ending Violence Against Women and Girls and whether the partnership approach (with ABC Council and Women's Aid) will be applied to the work that's being done with South Eastern Domestic and Sexual Violence Partnership as well and if that will feed into EVAWG funding which is being granted.

Mrs Flynn advised that the work that is being done with ABC PCSP and Women's Aid is to support a staff officer who is working with children and families who have come to police attention through Op Encompass. Mrs Flynn added that there is funding coming from The Executive Office through the Ending Violence against Women and Girls Strategy. NMDDC have been awarded £65,000 to spend in the 24/25 year under the Momentum Fund and £135,000 from the Change Fund which will go out through small grants. In terms of partnership working under EVAWG, Mrs. Flynn advised that Council is looking at bringing together a Working Group on this. A number of proposals have been brought to Council Committee for approval including some joint work with the Education Authority and a conference in March 2025. Within the working group, Council will be looking for representation from both Domestic Violence Partnerships in the Southern and South Eastern Trusts. The funding under the EVAWG strategy will consolidate the work that the PCSP and Council has carried out to date with partners and allow us to look at new opportunities for partnership working.

Councillor Reilly discussed the recent event in Mullingar adding that it was an excellent conference and gave his thanks to Mrs Flynn for her work on organising this. Councillor Reilly stated that he hoped learnings from this conference could be widely implemented.

7 PCSP Action Plan 2025/26

Read: Draft Newry, Mourne and Down PCSP Action Plan 2025/26 (copy circulated)

Ms Creaney advised that the 2025/26 Action Plan was for approval and thanked all Members for their attendance at recent planning sessions and contributions to the Plan, either in person or with comments via email.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Reilly, seconded by Tara Campbell it was agreed the Committee:

- **Note the report**
- **Approve the attached draft Action Plan for the PCSP for 2025/26**

8 ASB Sub Group Report

Read: ASB Sub Group Reports (copies circulated)

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor Truesdale it was agreed the Committee:

- **Approve the report**
- **Approve the Action Sheet for the ASB Sub Group 1 meeting held on 24th October 2024 and the Action Sheet for the ASB Sub Group 2 meeting held on 8th October 2024.**

9 SIDs Sub Group Report

Read: SID Sub Group Reports (copies circulated)

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Reilly, seconded by William Slater it was agreed the Committee:

- **Approve the report**
- **Approve the Action Sheet for the SID Sub Group meeting held on 27th September 2024 and the Action Sheet for the SID Sub Group meeting held on 6 November 2024.**

10 District Commander's Report – Period 3

Read: District Commander's Report – Period 3 (copy circulated)

Superintendent Haslett provided the District Commander's Report to the Partnership, highlighting the following points:

Engagement

Superintendent Haslett advised that resourcing continues to be an issue of concern within the PSNI, with officer numbers at lower levels than needed. Mr Haslett stated this is impacting on the ability of local officers to engage with the public.

Although Superintendent Haslett expressed that where possible, engagement with the Neighbourhood Teams continues. This was highlighted by examples given such as events and meetings attended by Newry City Neighbourhood Team, South Down Neighbourhood Team and Slieve Gullion Neighbourhood Team.

Social Media

The total number of Facebook followers of PSNI NMD is over 75,000 with a fortnightly post reach of almost 600,000 which is significant number.

The PSNI have over 900,000 followers on Twitter and over 15,500 members on the NextDoor App, with 83 posts on this app during 2024 to date.

Hate Crime

Superintendent Haslett advised that all types of hate crime has reduced in Newry Mourne and Down within the last 12 month rolling period and levels on a downward trend. Superintendent Haslett expressed that racially motivated hate crimes account for almost half the hate crimes recorded within the NMD District, followed by sectarian hate crimes.

Anti-Social Behaviour

Superintendent Haslett stated that ASB recorded crimes in Newry, Mourne and Down has reduced, with a fall of 4% from November 2023. There was a slight increase in ASB recorded Crimes in October 2024, which Superintendent Haslett explained is seen annually in respect of the Halloween period. Many of these recorded ASB incidents involved young people and Fireworks.

Superintendent Haslett advised that the Ballybot Ward, followed by the Cathedral Ward and Killeel saw the highest number of recorded ASB incidents in Newry Mourne and Down in October 2024.

Domestic Abuse

Superintendent Haslett provided an update on domestic abuse crimes and incidents and advised that these incidents continue to decrease in Newry, Mourne and Down from the last rolling 12-month period. Superintendent Haslett also stated that violence against women and girls in the District continues to decrease, with a reduction of 21% over the last 12-month rolling period. Additionally, Mr Haslett advised that in Newry Mourne and Down, domestic incidents have decreased by 230 incidents and domestic offences have decreased by 402 incidents. Mr Haslett stated he believes there is a greater confidence in Domestic Abuse victims

reporting incidents, and that local PSNI Officers have been trained by Women's AID to deal with Domestic Abuse incidents appropriately.

Superintendent Haslett also commented on PSNI participation in the new "One Stop Shop" initiative in Newry, and also stated that Op Encompass remains active, with Police attending 148 domestic incidents where the Op Encompass criteria has been met and referring 286 children to schools or colleges as a result so far in the 2024/25 school year to 31st October 2024.

Road Safety

Superintendent Haslett provided an update on the number of fatalities in Northern Ireland due to Road Traffic Collisions, which currently was 59 this year to date. 32 of these fatalities were in the Southern area. Mr Haslett stated that there have been 6 fatalities in Newry, Mourne and Down so far this calendar year, with one of these incidents occurring since the last PCSP meeting.

Superintendent Haslett advised that recorded RTC's with injury has increased, and that based on the last 4 months Thursdays between 2pm and 7pm appear to be a time of higher risk on the roads.

Superintendent Haslett stated that his officers have worked on enforcement events during this reporting period including a road safety day with colleagues in An Garda Siochána, and that the PSNI continue to use the Mobile Road Safety Cameras in Newry, Mourne and Down.

Drugs

Superintendent Haslett informed the Partnership that in a rolling 365-day period, by the end of September 2024 Newry Mourne and down Police Officers had made 568 drug seizures, the 4th highest performing in Northern Ireland, with 207 drugs arrests made.

Superintendent Haslett also advised that his officers had 2 days of action against drugs during this reporting period on the 14 and 15 of October 2024, where officers made a number of successful arrests and seizures of drugs.

General

Superintendent Haslett advised that from September to November 2024, 28 Officers in NMD District were assaulted whilst responding to 22 Police incidents. Superintendent Haslett provided a description of some circumstances around these assaults, highlighting a number of recent ramming incidents in the District which left the responding PSNI Officers injured.

Superintendent Haslett also highlighted an assault on a female Police Officer which took place in the Fisher Park area of Newry on the 15th of November. Mr Haslett advised that this female Police Officer was assaulted multiple times whilst responding to an incident, and as a result sustained serious injuries to the face and head. When being arrested, the same offender assaulted another Police Officer, before he was brought to Police Custody for the weekend. On Monday the 18th of November, this offender attended Newry Magistrates Court, and was granted bail, despite the offender being homeless and the offences which occurred. Superintendent Haslett expressed his frustrations around this outcome and advised that he

recently attended an event where the Chief Constable announced that he was seeking a meeting with the Lord Chief Justice to bring to their attention the apparent leniency which the courts are treating assault on police officers in Northern Ireland. Superintendent Haslett added that he has previously gone on record before stating his abhorrence at this sort of thing happening because it is not acceptable to assault a nurse, a doctor, a member of the Ambulance Service or indeed the Fire Service so likewise it should be unacceptable to assault a police officer. Superintendent Haslett wrote to the Chief Constable personally in respect to this particular incident and has an assurance that he will be bringing this incident forward as a case study to the Lord Chief Justice when they meet in due course.

South Armagh Policing Review

Superintendent Haslett discussed the South Armagh Policing Review which was published in August 2021 with 50 recommendations to improve policing in the South Armagh area/ Slieve Gullion DEA. 47 of these recommendations fall within the remit of Superintendent Haslett as the local District Commander. Of the 47 recommendations, 45 have now been completed. One of which has not is recommendation 44 which talks of cross border accountability, the recommendation says that a cross-border accountability mechanism should be established at a local level with bi-annual reporting by PSNI and An Garda Síochána on joint cross-border performance priorities. This should be incorporated formally under the auspices of the PCSP and Joint Policing Committees. The Joint Policing Committees have now been stood down and replaced with Community Safety Partnerships in the Republic of Ireland. Superintendent Haslett advised that himself and then Chief Inspector Lynn Corbett visited the JPC in Dundalk in March of this year and were very warmly received and able to report jointly with colleagues there (Superintendent Charlie Armstrong) on what PSNI have been doing to establish a cross-border partnership with AGS and how they are tackling organised crime groups which work across the border.

Superintendent Haslett proposed that he will write to the PCSP Chair to formalise this as per the Recommendation with a bi-annual reporting structure where PSNI and An Garda Síochána can present to both the PCSP for Newry, Mourne and Down and to the Community Safety Partnership in Louth.

Councillor Andrews thanked Superintendent Haslett for his report and advised that he would be happy to support what was being proposed in relation to cross-border bi-annual reporting.

Councillor Andrews discussed his concerns about the police officer who was assaulted on the 15th of November and concurred with Superintendent Haslett that this was simply not good enough. Councillor Andrews added, if possible, the PCSP Partnership should write to the Department of Justice or whomever is responsible to state the shared concerns about what has happened and ask for that type of assault to be reviewed and that it be treated on the same level as assaults to other professions.

Councillor Andrews welcomed the highlighted work in the District Commander's report and all the work that has been done since the last meeting to deliver what is a very important service.

Councillor Mathers thanked Superintendent Haslett for the detailed report and welcomed the recent drug seizures and would encourage more of the same. Councillor Mathers added that drugs and drug dealers continue to cause a blight on communities and needs to continue to be a priority for police in the time ahead. Councillor Mathers discussed the assault on the female officer and added that this incident does not reflect the people of Newry and hopes

that she makes a full recovery. Cllr Mathers advised that people are working more and more alongside police in Newry and this type of behaviour is unwelcomed.

Superintendent Haslett thanked Councillor Mathers and added that he would pass his comments on to the officer.

Mrs. Leckey discussed the District Commander's report and added that it was great to see the decrease in all aspects of crime. Mrs. Leckey asked a question in relation to the domestic violence decrease and whether the figures presented included all cases or just cases that have gone to court.

Superintendent Haslett advised that the figures are a reflection that the number of incidents and offences have all decreased- this is the also the case across the South Area. Mrs Leckey added that the incident involving the female police officer was horrific and condemned this attack.

Superintendent Haslett highlighted that this assault also fell under the topic of Ending Violence Against Women and Girls, which PSNI are currently focusing on.

Councillor Truesdale expressed best wishes towards the Police Officer who was assaulted in Newry and sought clarification around the figures provided in the District Commander's Report around Operation Encompass, as she felt these figures were very concerning.

Councillor Reilly thanked Superintendent Haslett for his report and proposed that full Council also support what Superintendent Haslett has said and sends a supporting letter to the Chief Justice as it is totally unacceptable. This proposal was seconded by Councillor Truesdale.

11 Date of Next Meeting

The next PCSP & Policing Committee Meeting will be held Tuesday 28 January 2025 at 6pm, this will be held in Monaghan Row, Newry with a hybrid option available.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 7:29pm

Minutes of the Newry NR Partnership Meeting
Wednesday 20th November 2024
At 7.00pm
Room 1, WIN Business Centre

In Attendance:

Mrs Paula McGuigan	Chairperson, NRP (Carnagat CA)
Mrs Joanne Markey,	Carnagat CA
Ms Kerri Morrow,	Newry Mourne & Down District Council
Mr Paul Magennis,	Barcroft CA
Ms Maeve McParland,	Newry and Mourne Enterprise Agency
Mr Sean Mc Kevitt,	Newry Mourne and Down District Council (minutes)
Mr Raymond Jackson,	Confederation of Community Groups
Dr Conor Patterson,	Newry and Mourne Enterprise Agency
Mrs Janet Naughton,	Community Restorative Justice Ireland
Ms Diana O'Hanlon,	Greater Linenhall Area CA
Mrs Maureen Ruddy,	Martins Lane CA
Mr Aiden McCabe,	Southern Health and Social Care Trust
Mr Brendan Cranney,	Meadow Armagh Road CA
Ms Bernie Mooney,	EANI

Apologies:

Ms Noreen Rice,	Meadow Armagh Road CA
Ms Heather Kavanagh,	Southern Regional College
Ms Francine Ruddy,	Martins Lane CA
Mrs Catherine O'Hanlon,	Area Manager Department for Communities
Mr Collie Hanna,	Vice Chairperson, NRP (Barcroft CA)
Ms Maureen O'Gorman,	Education Authority NI Youth service
Mrs Patricia O'Gorman,	Threeways CA
Ms Orlagh Morgan,	Greater Linenhall area CA

Matters Discussed

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Apologies
3. Minutes/Matters arising.
4. Conflict of Interest.
5. Sub-group updates
6. DFC/Community updates.
7. A.O.B
8. Date of next meeting.

ITEM	SUBJECT	MATTERS ARISING/UPDATE	ACTIONS	By Whom
1	Welcome / Introductions	Paula McGuigan welcomed everyone to the meeting.		
2.	Apologies	Recorded as above.		
3.	Minutes/matters arising.	Minutes agreed as accurate. Proposed by Maureen Ruddy and seconded by Paul Magennis. Matters arising: No matters arising		
4.	Conflict of interest	No Conflicts of Interest declared		
5.	Subgroup updates	Capital: NIHE – Carnagat Extension Additional costs to be signed off and agreed No further updates		

	<p><u>Revenue:</u></p> <p><u>EANI:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education sub-group meeting held on 6th November • Extended schools funding - £500 for each group • Managed by St Joseph's High School • Youth engagement on schedule to meet all targets – budget spent. • Homework clubs :- • Derrybeg in the centre for 4 afternoons • Drumalane 4 afternoons – 2 in the Centre • Greater Linenhall in St Joseph's High School – would like this in the community house • 3 of the schools have submitted an EOI into the small capital grant scheme <p>Youth service:</p> <p><u>Youth Engagement Funded Programmes</u></p> <p><u>Newry High Project-</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newcomer Programme- going well with 12-15 young people attending weekly. Highest no. from Bulgarian background but also Chinese, Afghanistan, Lithuanian young people. Language barrier huge so programme has had to be adapted to meet needs of group. • More visual activities added as opposed to discussion groups. Young people use phones and iPads to translate. <p>Derrybeg Youth Group-</p>	<p>Updated contact details of groups, sent to Mr Declan Murray</p> <p>Sean</p> <p>Check if anyone within the community could support the Greater Linenhall Homework club</p> <p>Diana</p>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 young people are participating in Health Matters Programme. To date they have had workshops on body image and positive mental health, team building and cooking, and are just completing a three-week DJ/music programme with Wheel Works around the theme of positive mental Health. A residential is planned for February 2025. • Boys Zone -14 young men aged 11-13 years. To date they have participated in team building and Road Safety/Online safety workshops. They will be attending an EA event on Nov 23rd to celebrate International Men's Day and will also be attending an ice hockey game in SSE Arena Belfast on Nov 30th. • Girl power-Young Womens Group- 16 young women aged 13-16 are taking part. They have attended a young women's conference in UUJ as well as team building, cooking and body image workshops. It is hoped the group will start an OCN in Healthy Lifestyles in January and a residential is planned for February <p>Other Programmes</p> <p>St Joseph's Boys HS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supported some senior staff in the school in training on Ending Violence Against Women and Girls- going to roll out with all staff- agreeing dates. Request from school for additional support, very positive impact so far. • Peer mentoring – 20 young men are completing their level 1 in peer mentoring with the hope of moving to level 2 after Christmas. • Year 10 – A group of 18 young men are participating in 	
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	<p>a 6-week programme looking at racism and prejudice which should be complete before Christmas.</p> <p>Newry Young Men's Group- Age 14 plus.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 young men, engaging in health and wellbeing programme. They will also be attending an EA event on Nov 23rd to celebrate International Men's Day and will also be attending an ice hockey game in SSE Arena Belfast on Nov 30th. • Horizons Cohort 2- 21 young people from Newry, completing Leadership programme, graduating in Jan 25. Horizons Cohort 3- 14 young people, delivered in partnership with Magnet YAC. International experience Summer 2025. <p>Health:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruited Martin and Eileen to fill the vacancy left by Eimear • Health checks in Greater Linenhall – all spaces filled • Autism Reality Experience and Dementia Experience • First Aid training • Some physical activity programmes being completed • Waiting on response from Action cancer – may use another provider – Cancer Focus? • All programmes moving forward – on target to complete <p>SRC: Enrolments to date:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1166 712 1353 1592"> <thead> <tr> <th>Course</th> <th>Enrolments</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Cat C</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cat C +E</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Level 2 Defibrillator</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SIA Door Security</td> <td>7</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Course	Enrolments	Cat C	8	Cat C +E	2	Level 2 Defibrillator	12	SIA Door Security	7	
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Level 2 Defibrillator	12											
SIA Door Security	7											

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruitment ongoing for PSA door security – will run in January. • As part of the OCEANS project the GWO wind turbine sea survival course will run in February 2025. • It is a one-day course, students are staying in a hotel the night before. Coach travel and catering are provided - • 3rd Feb 25 - Hotel • 4th Feb 25 – Errigal Training GWO. • Jim Cunningham is getting a new flyer done up for the programme. <p>NMEA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chills Skills sessions for October and November for our Primary 7 pupils before the transfer. Prepare them for the transition from Primary to Secondary level • Attended the NR education meeting • Wellbeing programmes in St Joseph's and St Mary's High Schools • We are researching new Business Champions, new motivational speakers and new materials to be included in the E2E Career Pathways event in March 2025. <p>NMDDC:</p> <p>Community Renewal- Running costs programme:</p>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All claims up to date and all reports provided • Next claim due on 31 December <p>Community Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCG delivering ongoing support to all the groups (governance, funding, training etc.) • Preparing groups for any upcoming AGM's • The 36 NRP not able to secure a meeting with the Minister. • Report due to go to the Minister on the NR review <p>Outdoor activity –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All targets met – Budget on course to spend • IFA NCC course to be run with practical sessions on the 19th and 26th January 2025 in NLC and an online session to follow – 15 participants through NR and Kerri has also provided funding for some participants outside of NR. • Kerri has also provided the funding for the hire of the Leisure Centre. <p>DEA update Kerri updated the members on the Multiply project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can be delivered within your community – facilitation and venue costs - Speak to Kerri for further information/support. • DEA membership – require another nominee - Noreen unavailable. • Meeting once a month • Paula Magennis volunteered – nominated by NRP • Financial Assistance opens in January 		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue over nonpayment <p>Safer Stronger Communities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed successful safety event to older people through the PSNI • Choices and consequences youth programme to Threeways Youth Group • OCN level 2 in Restorative Practices – 14 candidates – Presentation in January • Programmes for St Malachy's and St Patrick's Primary Schools • Delivering crime prevention initiative with the Indian community • Restorative cases ongoing 	Follow up on this.	Kerri
7.	<p>DfC Update</p> <p>DfC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with the groups on Monday evening re small capital, • Working our way through the OBA reports and discussing findings with organisations to ensure that by 31.03.2025 we are aware of what needs to be noted. • Also, in relation to 25/26 applications we are currently testing out a new digitalised platform so while we have no formal notification, it would look like 25/26 with be a continuation of the current NR projects. • The paper re the People and Place Strategy is expected to be with the Minister within the next few weeks. 		

8.	A.O.B	<p>This will be Brendan's last NRP meeting. He is standing down as the rep for the Community Association. Brendan was a long-standing member of the Partnership and represented his community for many years. He will be missed as he brought a sense of humour and a true dedication to the Partnership.</p> <p>Ask Sean to organise a Christmas event to recognise the work of our volunteers and as a farewell to Brendan.</p> <p><u>No More Business</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Everyone thanked for attending and NMEA and Sean thanked for the hospitality provided 	Arrange a celebration event	Sean
9.	Date of Next Meeting	<p>Wednesday 15th January 2025 7.00pm in WIN Business Centre</p>	Circulate details and all information	Sean McKeivitt.