

## **Coleraine Future Town Fund Board Minutes**

**Date of Meeting:** Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2025

**Location:** NRC Union Street Coleraine      **Present and Absentees:** List of Attendees detailed below on pages 5-7.

<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome / Apologies / Minutes &amp; Matters Arising</b>	<b>Professor Gerry McKenna</b>		
	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
#1	CFTF Board members to complete and return their feedback surveys following the town walkabout and river event.	DD		
<b>2.</b>	<b>Planning &amp; Delivery of Engagement</b>	<b>Therese Hogg (SIB)</b>		
	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
#2.	DD to send out diary invitations to all Board and Sub group members for stakeholder engagement events.	DD		Completed.
#3.	GB to contact Mayor's office to check schedule of engagement with local community groups and scope for synergies as part of the wider CFTF engagement events.	GB		
<b>3.</b>	<b>CFTF Board Governance</b>	<b>Hazel King (SIB) &amp; Deputy Chairs</b>		
	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
#4.	PM to pass the DfI contact to follow up with regarding Active Travel plans for Coleraine.	PM		
#5.	HK to present an update report on the spend of the CFTF capacity funding to date at the next board meeting on 31 <sup>st</sup> July, with a Finance update at all future Board meetings.	HK		
#6	Draft Local Assurance Framework to be presented to the Board at next meeting.	HK/DW		

#7	The Board agreed to establish a dedicated budget of up to £30,000 to enable the Board to 'passport' some of the CFTF capacity funding to local organisations and community groups in order that they could host, coordinate and deliver engagement events in their local areas, as well as build capacity.			Online session to be held with local community leaders to explore in more detail.
4.	<b>DONM &amp; AOB</b>	<b>Professor Gerry McKenna</b>		
	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
#5.	Next meeting 31 <sup>st</sup> July @ 6.00pm via Teams	DD		

**Red**  Not yet commenced  
**Yellow**  In Progress  
**Green**  Complete

<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome / Apologies Matters Arising</b>
	<p>GMK chaired meeting and thanked the Northern Regional College for hosting the launch of the CFTF engagement programme and the Board meeting at their fantastic new Coleraine campus, noting that over 100 local residents, business and organisations had attended the launch earlier that day.</p> <p>The Chair also welcomed the representatives from The Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Governance ( Tom Unter, Alex Forster and Amy McWilliams) and thanked them for taking the time to attend the CFTF launch and the Board meeting.</p> <p>The Chair noted apologies and invited the other Board members to make the necessary roundtable introductions.</p> <p>The Minutes from the May board meeting had been shared and were agreed.</p> <p>GMK asked any board members who had not completed their feedback survey after the walkabout to do so, with DD to assist with paper copies if required by board members.</p> <p>GMK asked the board members if they had any conflicts of interests to declare for today's meeting. Nil response.</p>

	<p>Chairs Report: The Chair provided an update to the Board on a networking event for the other PfN Chairs which was held in Westminster on 10<sup>th</sup> June. He noted the emphasis given to community engagement and that community support which would be essential in shaping the 10 Year Regeneration Plans.</p> <p>AF reaffirmed the importance of Community Engagement by the Government, and confirmed that the MHCLG team would support the Board through the whole process.</p> <p>GMK thanked the team for their help.</p>	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Planning &amp; delivery of Engagement</b>	<b>Therese Hogg (SIB)</b>
	<p>The Chair noted that the Launch event for the CFTF Plan for Neighbourhoods had just taken place that day, with the online public survey also launched. The Chair asked TH to give the Board an update on the planned Community Engagement Programme. The Chair noted the positive feedback on the CFTF logo.</p> <p>TH noted the responses from the launch event, highlighting feedback on increased river focus, traffic, pedestrianisation, and safety &amp; accessibility issues which were raised. She advised that a school's workshop was being held in the Council Offices on 19<sup>th</sup> June, a Business Breakfast on 3<sup>rd</sup> July in The Lodge Hotel, and Community Conversation Events on 8<sup>th</sup> July &amp; 4<sup>th</sup> September aimed at the wider community and voluntary sectors, with a closing event on the 24<sup>th</sup> September.</p> <p>RW asked that diary events be sent out to all Board and sub group members to ensure they had dates in their diaries as early as possible, and could confirm availability to take on facilitator roles at each of the public session.</p> <p>MB asked re sports engagement had Coleraine Football Club and Harry Gregg Foundation been contacted. Confirmed by HK, with a workshop planned for local sports clubs.</p> <p>AF noted the importance of linking in with other sources of investment and potential funding.</p> <p>GB gave an update on the communications plan. Press release for launch event, communication plan to be sent through council networks. Surveys re walkabout sent to subgroup members and asked to complete.</p> <p>YB noted that the new Mayor and Deputy Mayor will be meeting with groups and suggested working with the Mayors department. GB agreed that he would contact the Mayor's office to progress.</p>	
<b>3.</b>	<b>CFTF Board Governance</b>	<b>Hazel King (SIB) &amp; Deputy Chairs</b>
	<p>GMK asked the Deputy Chairs of each sub group to update the Board on the subgroup meetings. All four sub groups had reviewed membership and agreed sub group ToR.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. BOB advised the board of 2 Safety &amp; Security Subgroup meetings where discussions had been held about inviting new members to the subgroup, with new members added from PCSP, Age Concern, &amp; Multifaith Groups.</li> </ol>	

2. LK advised the board of 2 subgroup meetings for the Community Engagement & Cohesion sub group with discussions on what the legacy of the funding might look like to document the journey of the funding. She advised of new members to the subgroup including Zoe Seaton from Big Telly.
3. DF gave the board an update on the 2 Transport & Connectivity sub group meetings. He advised that Waterways Ireland, Translink, Sea2it had been nominated to the group and advised that the Harbour Commission along with Waterways Ireland and the Honourable the Irish have proposed hosting an event to meet with the wider river users community.
4. KY gave the board an update on the 2 High Street, Heritage & Regeneration Subgroup meetings held, noting the emphasis on filling gaps in membership, especially housing and noted that the local football club have expressed an interest in supporting the work of the sub group. She noted the importance of being aware of the different boundaries within Coleraine town (eg BID, CFTF funding boundary).

TH suggested linking in with DfI regarding Active Travel plans for Coleraine, and PM to pass on details for Coleraine Active Travel contact in DfI.

The Chair noted that the board should assume the CFTF Boundary map as confirmed until told differently. AF advised that the board should have confirmation on the boundary soon.

The Chair requested an update on the CFTF spend of capacity funding to date. HK confirmed this would be provided at the next Board meeting.

Following the update on the stakeholder engagement programme, TH requested that the Board consider establishing a dedicated preapproved budget of up to £30,000 to enable the Board to 'passport' some of the capacity funding to local organisations and community groups in order that they could host, coordinate and deliver engagement events in their local areas.

GT replied that he would support this and asked if a breakdown of the overall budget could be given to the board at the next meeting.

HK replied that the budget would be added as a standing item from this meeting on, noting that the local assurance framework has been aligned and will share details before the next meeting. The guidance from MHCLG allows for the capacity funding to be utilised for delivery of community engagement activities and to support the running of the Board.

GMK asked for agreement from the Board to this proposal, and this was agreed.

GMK asked AF to update the board on the data pack and updated list of powers for NI. AF from MHCLG explained the metrics used to view Coleraine against the regional averages, noting that further information is to be added using NISRA statistics. AMW stated that the Government team were keen to assist the CFTF Board.

HK proposed an online Teams meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> July @ 6.00pm. The Chair agreed noting no further board meetings currently planned until August.

	<p>TU thanked the Board for the invitation to the meeting noting the importance of youth involvement and advised that other town boards had appointed shadow youth boards. KY advised that they were trying to start a Junior Causeway Chamber and CS noted young people are keen to get involved.</p> <p>The Chair brought meeting to a close @ 16.04.</p>	
<b>4.</b>	<b>DONM &amp; AOB</b>	<b>Chair</b>
	<p><b>Online meeting via Teams Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> July @ 6.00pm.</b></p>	

Contact Name	Code	Attendance 18/06/2025	Organisation
<b>Chair</b>			
Professor Gerry McKenna	GMK	1	Independent
<b>Board Members</b>			
Karen Yates	KY	1	Causeway Chamber Commerce
Rob Skelly	RS	0	Harbour Commissioner
Inspector Bjorn O'Brien	BOB	1	PSNI
Elaine Donnelly	ED	1	Coleraine Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership (Chair)
Ann McNickle	AMN	0	Causeway Rural & Urban Network,
Jonny McKane	AMK	0	Council of Churches
Ian Donaghey	ID	0	Chairman Coleraine BID, Harbour Commissioner
Jayne Taggart	JT	1	Enterprise Causeway
Duane Farrell	DF	1	The Honourable The Irish Society
Graham Thompson	GT	1	Causeway Coast & Glens Heritage Trust Board
Mark Lennox	ML	1	Northern Regional College

Contact Name	Code	Attendance 18/06/2025	Organisation
Victor Gault	VG	0	Ulster University
Mark Alexander	MA	1	NI Housing Executive (Teams)
Graeme Stevenson	GS	1	Arts Council NI
Caitlin Bond	CB	0	CCGBC Youth Forum
Charlie Smyth	CS	1	CCGBC Youth Forum
Henry Taggart	HT	1	Coleraine Town Team
Lynn Kane	LK	1	Coleraine Equality Forum
<b>Local MP</b>			
Gregory Campbell	GC	0	MP
<b>Elected Members</b>			
Councillor Philip Anderson	PA	0	Coleraine DEA
Councillor Niamh Archibald	NA	1	Coleraine DEA
Alderman Yvonne Boyle	YB	1	Coleraine DEA
Councillor Tanya Stirling	TS	0	Coleraine DEA (Teams)
Councillor Russell Watton	RW	1	Coleraine DEA
Councillor John Wisener	JW	0	Coleraine DEA
<b>MLAS's Observers</b>			
Caoimhe Archibald	CA	0	Sinn Féin Constituency: East Londonderry.
Maurice Bradley	MB	1	Democratic Unionist Party Constituency: East Londonderry
Cara Hunter	CH	0	<u>SDLP East Londonderry</u>
Claire Sugden	CS	0	Independent Constituency: East Londonderry
<b>Departmental Observers</b>			
Rhonda Williamson	RW	1	Department for Communities
Alan Keys	AK	1	Department for Infrastructure
Ann Marie Orr	AO	1	Tourism Ireland
Ciaran Doherty	CD	1	Tourism NI
Justine Daly	JD	0	MAG Advisor Department for Communities
<b>Council Officers</b>			-
Niall McGurk	NMG	0	Head of Prosperity & Place

Contact Name	Code	Attendance 18/06/2025	Organisation
David Wright	DW	0	Head of Finance
Pat Mulvenna	PMV	1	Director Leisure & Development
David Jackson	DJ	0	Chief Executive
Des Donnelly	DD	1	Secretariat to CFTF Board
Shane Mathers	SM	1	Principle Planning Officer
<b>SIB</b>			-
Hazel King	HK	1	CFTF PM
Therese Hogg	TH	1	Community Engagement (SSU)
Gavin Boyd	GB	1	Communications
<b>MHCLG</b>			
A McWilliams	AMW	1	
A Forster	AF	1	
T Unter	TU	1	
<b>Total</b>		<b>29</b>	