

# Coleraine

**Future Town Fund**  
Connecting People and Places



Project Newsletter June / July 2025

## CFTF Community Engagement Programme Launched at Northern Regional College

The Programme of public engagement events for the Coleraine Future Town Fund was formally launched by the Chair of the CFTF Board Prof. Gerry McKenna and Cllr Oliver McMullan, Mayor of Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council at the Coleraine Campus of the Northern Regional College on Wednesday 18th June.

Guests included a range of stakeholders from businesses, community/voluntary organisations, statutory services, NRC students and Coleraine residents.

CFTF Board Chair Prof. Gerry McKenna outlined to attendees the importance of community engagement in identifying the priority projects that would receive investment from the fund.

Attendees were led through an interactive engagement process to identify their feelings about Coleraine, what works well about the town and what would be areas of improvement for the town.

This was the first in a series of engagement events to be held from June–September 2025. Events will be targeted towards a range of communities to ensure that as many people who live, work and visit Coleraine can have their say in how the CFTF investment plan is developed.



(From L-R) CFTF Chair Prof. Gerry McKenna, Mayor of Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council Cllr Oliver McMullan and Deputy Mayor Alderman Richard Stewart



CFTF Chair Prof. Gerry McKenna welcomes guests to the launch of the public engagement programme

### What is the Coleraine Future Town Fund?

The UK Government's Plan for Neighbourhoods selected 75 towns to receive up to £20 million each to invest in their local areas.

Coleraine has been allocated this funding to revitalise the town and make changes for the future.

The CFTF Board is tasked with engaging the community to identify key priorities for a 10 year Regeneration Plan.



**Funded by**  
**UK Government**



**Causeway**  
**Coast & Glens**  
**Borough Council**





CFTF Board Members take a riverboat tour of Coleraine



On their walkabout tour of Coleraine CFTF Board members stop near St. Patrick's Church, the oldest standing building in Coleraine



CFTF Board Members visit the Coleraine Market Yard



CFTF Board Members outside Coleraine Town Hall



CFTF Board members on their walkabout tour of Coleraine

## CFTF Board Members Draw Inspiration for Investment During Town Walkabout

CFTF Board Members are no strangers to Coleraine but sometimes when you are used to travelling about a town, you miss out on details that you never noticed before.

Departing the Causeway Coast and Glens Council offices at Cloonavin, CFTF Board members toured the town via the River Bann to learn about the experiences of river-users and see how the development of Coleraine has been shaped by the river.

Upon their arrival at the Millenium Footbridge, Board members left their boat and started a walking tour of the town hosted by Coleraine's Town and Village Manager, Julianne Elliott.

Walking along the Circular Road, members discussed the juxtaposition of the newly-built Coleraine Campus of the Northern Regional College facing over to St. Patrick's Church as the oldest standing building in the town.

The tour also brought the members to the old Market Yard where they learnt about its history and discussed all the different purposes that a space like this could be used for regenerating Coleraine. This was a particularly special location because so many members had been past this space before without knowing that it was there.

Lastly, members walked along Church Street towards the Town Hall where they discussed how the walking tour had been an invaluable experience to learn more about the town and its history.

Have your say on the investment priorities by scanning the QR code and register to attend an engagement meeting





# CFTF Business Breakfast held in the Lodge Hotel

Business owners are key stakeholders for the CFTF community engagement programme. Businesses are employers, service providers and investors.

They are uniquely attuned to what is happening in the town where they operate. They understand the drivers of economic growth for the town and can identify barriers to investment and growth.

The CFTF held a business breakfast in the Lodge Hotel for a diverse range of business leaders from across Coleraine.

After an introduction from CFTF Board Chair Prof Gerry McKenna, business leaders were led through a presentation of the background and priorities for the CFTF.

Facilitated by CFTF Board members, business leaders participated in an engagement workshop where they provided their views on the positives and negatives of Coleraine as well as the potential assets that could be maximised by CFTF investment.

These insights will be built into the overall funding plan for the CFTF.



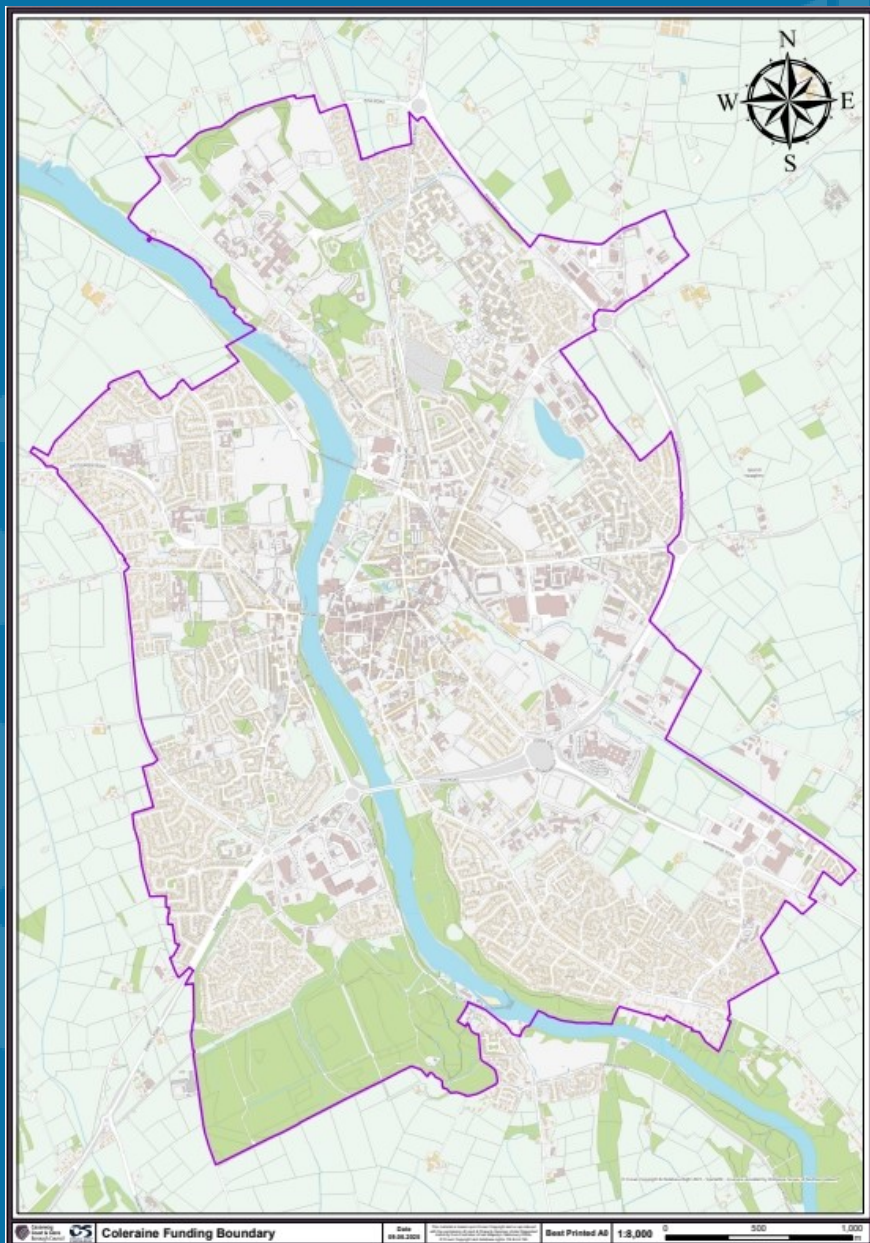
## Young People share their priorities with CFTF

Young people from the primary and post-primary schools of Coleraine were invited to attend a special engagement session specifically about how the CFTF investment can improve the experiences of children and young people across Coleraine.

After a presentation about the fund and how it has been set up, young people worked in groups to identify what they like about Coleraine and what they would change. They came up with creative ideas about what changes they would make to Coleraine to make it an inclusive town for young people







## **CFTF Funding Boundary Agreed with Government Department**

The UK Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage has approved amendments to the funding boundary that were proposed by the CFTF Board.

Engagement with Board members and other community stakeholders identified that the original boundary would have excluded significant areas of interest for the project.

By expanding the boundary to include Mountsandel, the Cutts, Somerset Forest and the Cranagh the CFTF will be able to identify funding projects that will maximise the impact of the funding package for the people of Coleraine and boost the tourism potential for the town.

## **Complete the Engagement Survey**

Community engagement as at the heart of the plans that will be developed for the Coleraine Future Town Fund. The people of Coleraine know their town the best and their views will be central to the projects that will be supported by the CFTF.

In addition to the in person community engagement events which continue to be provided across the town, an online survey has been developed for people to share their views on Coleraine and their hopes for its future.

To complete the survey go to [www.surveymonkey.com/r/cftf2025](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/cftf2025)

Or scan the QR Code:



If you have any questions about the Coleraine Future Town Fund please email: [cftf@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk](mailto:cftf@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk)