



Causeway Coast and Glens
**Community Planning
Strategic Partnership**

A BETTER FUTURE TOGETHER



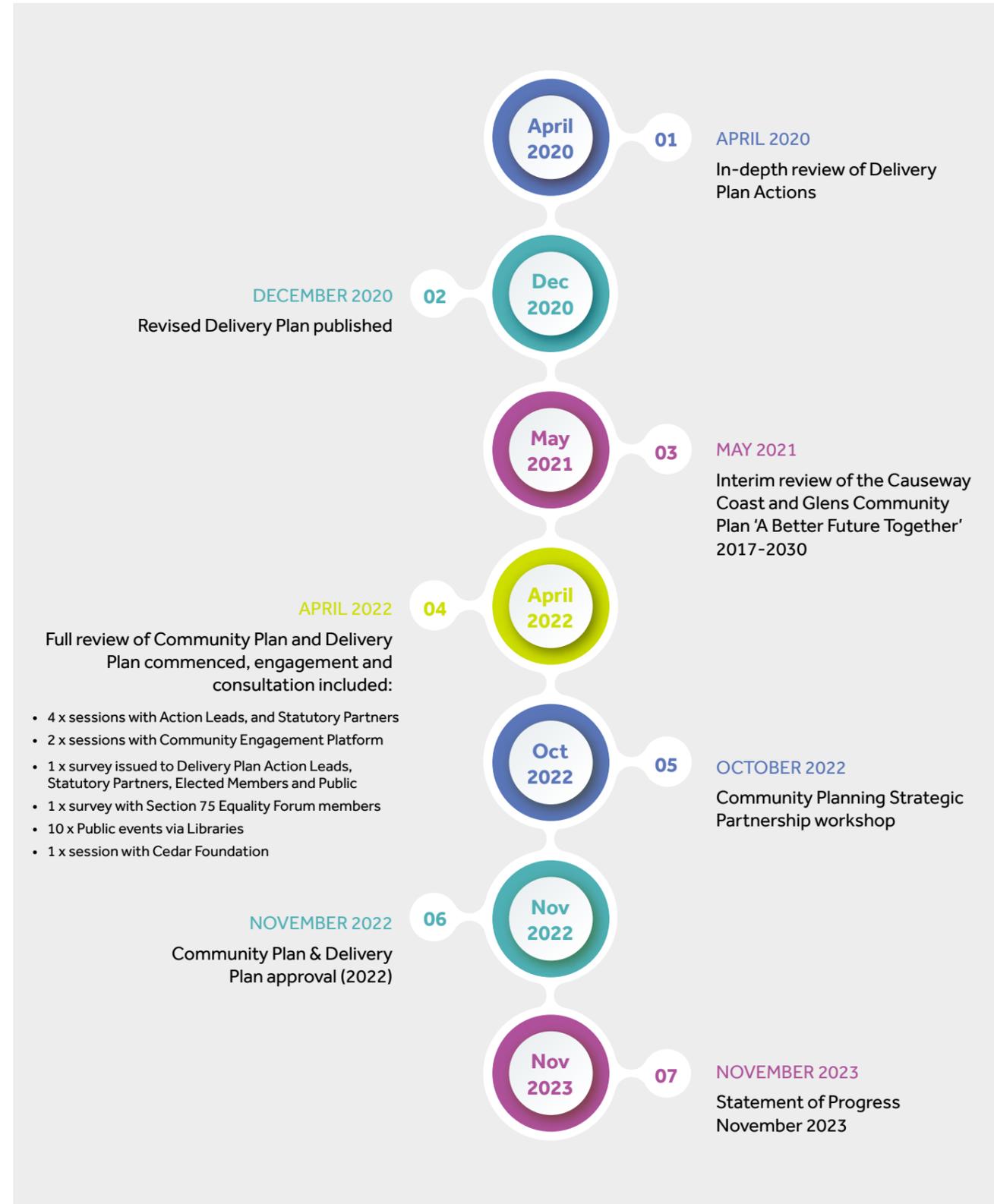
STATEMENT OF PROGRESS

Review

November 2023



Engagement Pathway

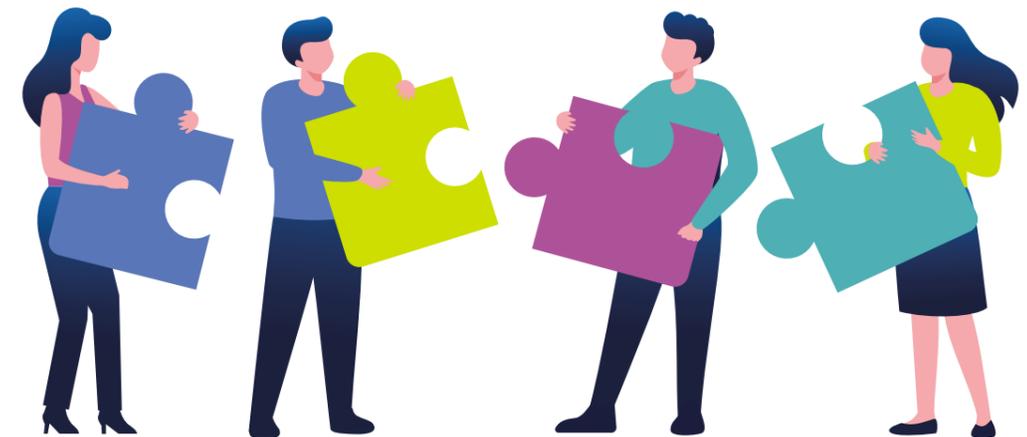


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We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who contributed and helped to develop the 'Actions' contained within the Causeway Coast and Glens Delivery Plan 2022. Your dedication and pro-active participation throughout this process has enabled us to produce our newly revised Delivery Plan 2022.

The Causeway Coast and Glens Delivery Plan can be downloaded from the Council's website. All requests for the document in another format or language will be considered. If you would like a copy in an alternative format, please contact the Community Planning Team.



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Welcome

Causeway Coast and Glens Community Planning Strategic Partnership welcome you to our third Statement of Progress. This is a local partnership of statutory and community partners all working together to improve people's lives across the Causeway Coast and Glens area.

In November 2022¹, the Partnership completed a review of the Community Plan 2022. This document presented the strategic framework and direction for the continued implementation of community planning within our area. In order to achieve successful outcomes, we once again revisited and revised our Delivery Plan 2022² to ensure that it is fit for purpose.

This Statement of Progress 2023 report provides an update of the thirty-one actions contained within our revised Delivery Plan 2022. We hope that you will be encouraged at the many successful outcomes achieved over the previous two years. Community engagement and collaborative working with a range of statutory and community partners is at the heart of what we do. Within this context we have included a selection of 'Good News Stories' to illustrate the impressive programmes and services being delivered within the Causeway Coast and Glens area.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those organisations and people who have been involved in our community planning work and we hope to enjoy your continued valued support.

Councillor Dermot Nicholl

Chair of the Community Planning Partnership

Chief Inspector Louise Cummings (PSNI)

Vice Chair of the Community Planning Partnership

November 2023

Introduction

The purpose of this new 'Statement of Progress 2023' is to provide the public with an overview of the thirty-one actions contained within the Delivery Plan and the achievements to date. Since our last update the Strategic Partnership have completed a review of both the Community Plan (Nov 2022) and Delivery Plan (Nov 2022).

This document provides an evidence-based review of the achievements accomplished throughout the Causeway Coast and Glens area by our Statutory Partners and those within the Community and Voluntary sectors with collaboration and partnership working being a central focus.

A selection of 'Good News Stories' have also been included within this update report demonstrating the successful achievements made through the hard work and dedication of all those involved in delivering the Community Planning process within the Causeway Coast and Glens area.

¹ Community Plan Review 2022 https://www.causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk/uploads/general/Review_Plan_2022_WR.pdf

² Delivery Plan Revised 2022 https://www.causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk/uploads/general/Delivery_Plan_2022_WR.pdf

Section 1 - Our Vision

Our Values and Underpinning Principles

Our Causeway Coast and Glens Community Planning Strategic Partnership continues to work to meet the needs of the people who live, work and visit our area. Our values and underpinning principles are the driving force behind the changes in services required over the coming years to successfully deliver better outcomes for all.

Our Partnership treats the principles as a single set of shared values which, taken together as a whole, will span every activity contained within our Community Plan.

Values

Our Partnership is committed to achieving better outcomes and we will demonstrate this through the following values:

RESPECT - WE WILL ENCOURAGE FAIRNESS, MAKING DECISIONS BASED ON EVIDENCE, NEED AND EQUALITY.

PARTICIPATION - WE WILL INVOLVE AND ENGAGE ALL OUR COMMUNITY, BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS AND CONNECTIONS, PARTNERSHIP WORKING, CO-OPERATION AND COLLECTIVE OWNERSHIP OF THE COMMUNITY PLAN.

INNOVATION - WE WILL BE AMBITIOUS AND IMAGINATIVE IN ALL THAT WE DO.

INTEGRITY - WE WILL BE OPEN, TRANSPARENT AND ACCOUNTABLE IN OUR ACTIVITIES AND IN OUR DECISION MAKING.

SUSTAINABILITY - WE WILL PROMOTE RESPECT FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT, A PROSPEROUS ECONOMY AND A RESILIENT COMMUNITY WITHOUT COMPROMISING THE ABILITY OF FUTURE GENERATIONS TO MEET THEIR OWN NEEDS.

A BETTER FUTURE
TOGETHER


A SUSTAINABLE ACCESSIBLE
ENVIRONMENT


A HEALTHY SAFE
COMMUNITY


A THRIVING ECONOMY



Section 2 - Our Outcomes

The key outcomes contained within the Community Plan **'A Better Future Together' 2017-2030** 2030 identified three overarching long-term strategic Population Outcomes together with twelve Intermediate Outcomes in-line with the proposed Programme for Government⁴ as outlined below:

Three Strategic Population Outcomes



⁴ At the time of printing (November 2023) - The Programme for Government (PfG) has yet to receive Ministerial approval from the Northern Ireland Assembly.

Twelve Intermediate Outcomes

outcomes 1-4

A Healthy Safe Community

- 1 All people of the Causeway Coast and Glens benefit from improved physical health and mental wellbeing
- 2 Our children and young people will have the very best start in life
- 3 All people of the Causeway Coast and Glens can live independently as far as possible and access support services when they need it
- 4 The Causeway Coast & Glens area feels safe
- 5 The Causeway Coast and Glens area promotes and supports positive relationships

outcomes 6-8

A Sustainable Accessible Environment

- 6 The Causeway Coast and Glens area is widely recognised and celebrated for its unique natural and built landscapes
- 7 The Causeway Coast and Glens area has physical infrastructures and facilities that further growth, access, and connections
- 8 The Causeway Coast and Glens has a sustainably managed natural and built environment

outcomes 9-12

A Thriving Economy

- 9 The Causeway Coast and Glens area provides for all to contribute to, engage in and benefit from a prosperous and inclusive economy
- 10 The Causeway Coast and Glens area attracts and grows more profitable businesses
- 11 The Causeway Coast and Glens area drives entrepreneurship and fosters innovation
- 12 All people of the Causeway Coast and Glens will be knowledgeable and skilled

Indicators at a Glance

		HEALTHY SAFE COMMUNITY					SUSTAINABLE ACCESSIBLE ENVIRONMENT				THRIVING ECONOMY				
Outcomes	Improved physical health and mental wellbeing	Children and young people will have the best start in life	Independent living and access to support services	Causeway Coast and Glens area feels safe	Area promotes and supports positive relationships	Area is celebrated for its unique natural & built landscapes	Structures and facilities that further growth, access and connections	Causeway Coast and Glens area is a sustainable environment		Causeway Coast and Glens area provides opportunities for all to contribute to and engage in a more prosperous and fair economy		Area attracts and grows more profitable businesses	Area drives entrepreneurship and fosters innovation	All people of the area will be knowledgeable and skilled	
	Indicators	No. of preventable deaths of the population	% of children at Year 1 who are obese	% of population aged 75 or older living in own home	% of people reporting fear of crime has minimal impact on quality of life	Respect Index	% of total NI visitors to visit	% of journeys by walking, cycling or public transport	% of household waste that is reused, recycled or composted	% of water bodies at 'good/high' status	Employment rate	Earnings	Total Entrepreneurial Activity (TEA)	Total Entrepreneurial Activity (TEA)	Qualification Levels
% of people who participate in sport/physical activity		% of babies born at low birth-weight	No. of adults receiving personal care	No. of accidental dwelling fires	% of population that think public areas are 'shared and open'	Expenditure per visitor	Housing and household growth	Air quality	No. and condition of protected / listed built heritage	Jobs by sector	Better jobs index	Approx. GVA per employee	Rate of innovation activity	% of school leavers achieving Level 2 or above	
% of population engaging in leisure / arts / cultural activities		% of school leavers achieving Level 2 or above	% of homeless acceptances	Area based recorded crime rates	% of active volunteers	% of Blue Flag for Beaches and Resort Seaside Awards	% of premises with broadband at or above 30Mbps	Air quality monitoring statistics	No. and condition of Environmental Designations	No of businesses by industry group	% of total NI visitors to visit	No. of PAYE / VAT registered businesses	Business survival rates		
Prescription rates for mood and anxiety disorder drugs				Police recorded road traffic collision casualties		Annual litter offences / no. of fly tipping incidents	House Condition Surveys	% of low carbon homes	Amount of leisure time spent outdoors	Expenditure per visitor	Town centre vacancy rates	Business start-up rates	Business start-up rates		
% of population in poverty before housing costs						LEAMS Cleanliness score	Availability of 'Supported Housing'	Greenhouse Gas Emissions		Better Job Index		Export activity			
% of frequency of loneliness							Greenways, walking routes, canoe trails and cycle paths								

**Please note that further statistical analysis of the indicators will be completed in early 2024.

Good News Stories

A Healthy Safe Community

Age Friendly Dementia Awareness Week

One of the elements within the Public Health Agency funded Age Friendly action has been focussed on reconvening the Dementia Working Group which had been established prior to COVID -19. To reinvigorate the work of group, a collaborative approach was taken to mark Dementia Awareness Week 2023. As part of this Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council's headquarters at Cloonavin were lit up blue. A social media campaign jointly by Council and The Alzheimer's Society ran during Dementia Awareness Week was aimed at encouraging those who might be concerned that they or a someone close to them may be experiencing signs of dementia to use their online symptom checker, which is accredited by Royal College of GPs.



Speaking during Dementia Awareness Week Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council's Age Friendly Officer, Liam Hinphey who coordinates Dementia Working Group, highlighted the importance of bringing together organisations and agencies to explore how they can collectively to support those living with, and those caring for someone with dementia.

Mayor of Causeway Coats and Glens, Councillor Ivor Wallace said:

"Through Dementia Action Week, we want to raise awareness of dementia and to encourage those who might be living with undiagnosed dementia to understand and recognise potential symptoms, seek guidance and support, and feel empowered to take their next step."

Aoife McMaster from Causeway Alzheimer's Society said:

"The theme of this year's Dementia Action Week is diagnosis. We chose the theme of diagnosis this year as there has been a sustained drop in dementia diagnosis rates. Our research found that misconceptions around memory loss, being in denial, and specialist referral times are the biggest barriers to getting people to seek a diagnosis."

"We also offer guidance and practical advice on what next steps to take, what to expect during and after the diagnosis process, and what support Alzheimer's Society can offer throughout."

If you are worried about yourself, or someone close to you, then check your symptoms now at www.alzheimers.org.uk/about-dementia/symptoms-and-diagnosis/symptoms-checklist

Support and more information about a diagnosis is just a phone call or click away. Visit alzheimers.org.uk/memoryloss or call 0333 150 3456.

You can also contact the local Dementia Advisor at causeway@alzheimers.org.uk or 028 7035 8887.

Loneliness Network

Making connections, valuing our volunteers, and working together to address loneliness and isolation

Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council, Northern Health & Social Care Trust through the Causeway Coast and Glens Loneliness Network as well as the Causeway GP Federation Multi-Disciplinary Team and Limavady GP Multi-Disciplinary Team recently collaborated to enhance and develop a Social Connections Grant. The Social Connections Grant seeks to recognise the important role that community groups and voluntary organisations play in creating connecting opportunities reaching out to people who are experiencing loneliness in our communities.



This small grant has enabled groups to address loneliness and related mental health problems which can affect anyone, at any stage in life. It is focussed on combatting of the impact being socially isolated or feeling lonely can have on people's physical and mental health.

Over 2022/23, 68 grants of £500 totally almost £33,000 through collective resourcing were awarded to a diverse range of local community groups and organisations.

Speaking about one of the projects Maureen Duffy, GP Social Worker, Limavady Health Centre PCMDT (Western Health & Social Care Trust), added:

"Ballykelly Parent Teacher Association's Intergenerational Gardening Project is a positive example of how funding like this can make a difference. From grass roots to family roots, what a great way for parents/grandparents to connect with the children in their school environment. All learning together and sharing skills in the lovely season of Spring."

In June 2023 members of Causeway Loneliness Network joined a mayor's reception in Ballymoney to mark Volunteer Week and Loneliness Awareness Week to celebrate and thank volunteers in the Borough, especially those volunteer members of the Network.

Tribute was also paid to the community organisations who continue to work addressing loneliness, making connections happen with the support of the Social Connections Grant.

Mayor of Causeway Coast and Glens, Councillor Steven Callaghan praised the great work being done by volunteer led organisations, stating: "This Loneliness Awareness Week it's especially important to highlight the support available to people who are feeling lonely.

"I commend the community groups within our Borough who work tirelessly creating innovative support tools to ensure those who are vulnerable can access help when they so desperately need it."

Chair of the Causeway Loneliness Network, Thelma Dillon added: "People who volunteer in their communities often provide essential support and create connections, for those who feel lonely and isolated, across the age spectrum. I would like to commend you all for all that you do".

Causeway Loneliness Network has and continues to provide a range of innovative initiatives aimed at prioritising opportunities for individuals and groups to connect - such as The Kindness Post Boxes, Chatty Cafes, Chatty Benches, Chatty Carriages and Human Libraries.

For further information or should your organisation wish to become a member of Causeway Loneliness Network please contact: heathandwellbeingteam@northerntrust.hscni.net

Children and Young People

Mae Murray Inclusive Beach at Portstewart & an 'All Ability' Christmas

Mae Murray Foundation launched the inclusive beach at Portstewart in May 2022 this has created the opportunities for children with disabilities and their families to gain access to the beach on a regular basis. A free equipment loan scheme is operational every day – on an advance booking basis - through until the end of the bathing season and includes access to beach wheelchairs and beach walking frames.

Partners involved in the delivery of this project included Crowdfunding supported by the influencer Blossoming Birds matched by Sport NI Project Reboot Activate and National Emergency Trust, National Trust who look after the beach also received key funding from DAERA to create an essential Changing Places toilet which offers hoisting and adult changing bench facilities - ensuring dignified toileting for all. Funding from Causeway Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Locality Planning Groups small grants purchased a wheelchair to support access to the beach.

"No matter your age or perceived ability, you should be able to enjoy the thrill and beauty of our beaches across the province, and we are working hard to make that a reality. Mae Murray Founder Alix Crawford

"Portstewart Strand is now one of four beaches in Northern Ireland where we offer these wonderful facilities through partnership with beach operators."

Alix set up the Mae Murray Foundation to help bring solutions that would enable all ages and abilities to take part together within society – recognising one another to be of equal and inseparable value. Following the Launch Causeway CYPSP part funded the 'All Ability Christmas' event which turned the beach into an inclusive Winter Wonderland for all. This was an inclusive Christmas experience held at Portstewart Beach for people of all ages and abilities. The event allowed families to get into the festive spirit giving them an opportunity to participate in an event they may not have been able to attend without Mae Murray



Support. In addition, dignified toileting for everyone was provided, there were age-appropriate activities for all attendees. Those who attended felt the event broke down barriers to participation, gave people a sense of community and tackled loneliness in the festive period providing respite, socialisation, and fun. Activities included everything from marshmallow toasting, to a visit from Santa and his alpacas.

One family said, "This event really got us in the festive spirit. Most outdoor Santa experiences are not suited to my family and this usually means we miss out. This event really took our needs into account - Changing Places toilets on site, support from volunteers, activities suited to all and much more! It was a joy to see other families and for the

children to meet their friends outside of school." Partnership work continues between the organisations involved in these initiatives and we look forward to future projects based at the beach. This event like many others at MMF has given myself and many other children and adults the opportunity to go to the beach and try something new as a family without limitations. This means myself and many other wheelchair/powerchair users have full and unlimited access to the beach and all it has to offer with our loved ones, something which is invaluable. It was such a memory making day having ice cream on the beach together in winter – and we have the confidence now to get on the beach all year, something we never knew was possible! I had never been able to take all 3 of my children to the beach before, but by coming to an event with so many friendly staff I knew the support would be there to try out the equipment – and to meet Santa, listen to the choir and have ice cream under the hailstones was something we still talk about! It has meant we have gone to the beach on our own this summer, which we would never have had the confidence to do before.

As an adult wheelchair user, I have never been able to get on the beach with my child before – we loved this event so much we even tried surfing together this summer! I would never have thought to even try it, but by coming to this fun event I was able to see the manual use chair in action, and then had the confidence to try it another day. To have the same access as every other family means the world to me as a Mum.



Childhood Obesity

Causeway Healthy Kids - Fuel an active body and mind

Council's Sport and Wellbeing Development Unit in partnership with Northern Healthy Lifestyles Partnership and Northern Health and Social Trust and Sport NI developed a programme to offer an 11-week pilot project to local primary schools across the borough. The sessions include a both a physical activity element, a nutritional component (eat well to be well) plus emotional health and wellbeing component (Take 5).

The partnership worked towards developing a programme with a holistic overview of "Healthy Lifestyles" to educate key stage 2 children in nutrition, emotional wellbeing, mental health, and exercise and their benefits to their daily lives. The project links closely with key objectives within the Causeway Coast and Glens Community Plan:

- a healthy community by addressing improved health and mental wellbeing
- lifelong opportunities and lead healthy and fulfilling lives
- Increase uptake of obesity prevention programmes and encourage active participation by school aged children

The pilot project was delivered between January and March 2022 to pupils attending 12 Primary Schools identified within 2017 NISRA deprivation measure within the Causeway Borough. In total 132 sessions to 320 unique participants. Following a successful review and development of additional resources Causeway Health Kids 2.0 was launched in January 2023. The additional resources enabled the project to be scale up and enabled 24 schools identified on the NISRA index to be involved. A further 264 sessions were delivered to 730 unique participants taking total participation to 1050 children from 36 primary schools across the Borough. Phase 3 commenced in October 2023.

The growing success of the programme has saw this collaborative approach be adopted by Mid Ulster District Council, Mid and Easter Antrim Borough Council, and Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council. The staff within CCGBC Sport and Wellbeing Development Unit have been working closely with their counterparts in these councils to ensure their staff are trained to sufficient level to ensure the standards of delivery are maintained.

Causeway Healthy Kids Project was runner-up 2023 Chairmans Award at the Team North Leadership Conference and Awards in the Northern Trust Partnership and Integrated Care Category. The Project also won the Partnership Working in Public Health category and Overall Project of the Year in the Advancing Health Care Awards 2023.



Positive Mental Health

Take 5 Schools Accreditation Success



Take 5 steps to wellbeing is an evidence based public health message. Based on the Five Ways to Wellbeing developed by the New Economics Foundation (NEF), these simple and effective messages are grounded in solid evidence and draw on psychological and economic literature from interdisciplinary work. These simple 5 steps to wellbeing contribute to improving wellbeing in its fullest sense, both physically and emotionally, where people can feel good and function well.

The Take 5 Schools model originated from the Take 5 Working group, a community planning group which cover the NHSCT area, supporting work in schools, workplaces and the community. The key goal was to identify what could be created and delivered collectively that could not be done in isolation. The model launched March 2020, is now in its third year and continues to grow and go from strength to strength, celebrating many achievements along the way.

The Take 5 Schools model is also part of the Northern Health and Social Care Trust's Emotionally Healthy School's package.

On 6th June 2023 the second annual celebration event was held where schools across the Northern Trust area received accreditation for their achievement for the 22/23 school year.

Twelve schools within in the Causeway Coast and Glens Council area, plus the Northeastern Guidance Centre received accreditation at this event.

If you are interested in finding out more about how you become a Take 5 School contact
Selena.ramsey@northerntrust.hscni.net

Chronic Homelessness Homelessness Awareness Week



In early December 2022 the Causeway Homelessness Local Area Group lead by the NIHE and Homeless Connect hosted an awareness event at Vineyard Compassion's Hope Centre in Coleraine showcasing the work they do. Homelessness Awareness Week is extremely important in raising awareness of homelessness and educating the public in what homelessness is, the circumstances that can lead to homelessness and how it can affect individuals and households. The theme for Homeless Awareness Week 2022 was 'Have the Conversation' and the week was used to discuss ways to prevent homelessness and support those who are homeless and threatened with homelessness. The Causeway event allowed for a presentation on the Homelessness Strategy 2022-27 to be delivered outlining the Housing Executive's approach to addressing homelessness and supporting some of the most vulnerable households across Northern Ireland, along with a detailed update on local issues. There were powerful testimonies provided by people who have experienced homelessness but have now found permanent homes, with the help of the Housing Executive and partner agencies. Attendees also heard that all Health Trusts in Northern Ireland now have dedicated health and

homelessness nurses to ensure forward health planning for the homeless community. Homelessness is not only about people sleeping rough but includes other issues such as relationship breakdowns, living in accommodation that does not meet their physical needs, and having to make temporary arrangements by staying with friends and family. It also involves wider problems like the lack of temporary accommodation and social housing. Homeless Awareness is also about prevention, with multi-agency partnership working being vital to reduce the number of households that are homeless or are threatened with homelessness. Events like this allow for active listening to those who have experience of homelessness so that those involved can improve the delivery of their services. These issues need to be continually discussed as it is crucial to helping the Housing Executive and others in the sector respond effectively and bring about eventual change. The Causeway Homelessness Local Area Group continue to work to ensure that we provide the appropriate support and assistance for those who need it and the awareness event was a great success in showing the great work that continues to be done.

Primary and Voluntary Community Safety HUG (Helping You Grieve)

The loss of a life partner at any age can have a severe impact on an individual's emotional and physical wellbeing. This need was identified, and a new group was formed in late 2021 by Cathy Watson (Multi-Disciplinary Team, Social Work Assistant) who is based in the Mountsandel Practice. The aim of the group was to offer support, friendship and understanding to men and women who have lost their partners through bereavement. 'HUG has given me a reason to live' and 'HUG broke my isolation and gave me a new lease of life and purpose' are just two of the comments we received in the group's evaluation. This identifies that grief and bereavement are complex and can have a debilitating impact on all who experience this. The loss in confidence can see people become isolated and lonely with social isolation becoming a reality. The HUG group's innovative model assists individuals in their personal and collective journeys through grief by offering those with lived experience the opportunity to contribute towards personalised compassionate care and support for other widow/widowers. The group focused on supporting patients through these challenging times by promoting friendships and building confidence. It inspired and empowered their members to develop new ways of living and coping, it improved fitness and enabled individuals to make healthier choices while always celebrating and remembering the loved ones they lost. This warm and caring support group was highlighted on BBC Newsline recently and as a result of this publicity the Multi-Disciplinary Team Social Work team have been inundated with requests from other Trusts and communities with a view to commencing their own loss and bereavement type groups using the HUG model.



Bereavement: Coleraine support group aims to improve people's lives

A widows and widowers support group says it is helping to improve people's lives.

www.bbc.co.uk

Bereavement: Coleraine support group aims to improve people's lives - BBC News
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-65543626>

Multi Agency Support Hub

The Multi -agency support hub is a collective initiative across a number of partners which enables effective information sharing, focused decision making for early intervention and appropriate actions to reduce vulnerability of individuals and at risk victims and their families. Since February 2018, around 150 people have been helped in a number of ways. Some have been supported directly by agencies in the Support Hub others have been signposted to local support groups. In some cases, the statutory bodies have worked together to prevent perpetrators from getting access to vulnerable individuals. The Support Hub is partnering, where appropriate, with other groups throughout Causeway Coast and Glens in order to help as many people as possible. Two specific examples demonstrate the positive impact and change that M.A.S.H makes.

1. A young Polish single female suffering with mental health issues and alcohol addiction was accepted to M.A.S.H (Multi Agency Support Hub) via Social Services referral. This female was continually contacting Police reporting domestics and ASB incidents ,she would make duplicate reports and then become confused (under the influence of alcohol) as to what occurred or not make any formal complaint to Police. The area where this lady was residing was also a huge factor with numerous neighbours having addiction issues/ mental health problems. This female was in a vulnerable position at this time with potential to be exposed to further addictions/harm. She agreed to a move to a nearby town which would be a gateway to her being offered a new home with the assistance of NIHE and rehabilitation for her addiction through Social Services. Indications are that this lady has settled into her new life and managing her issues well. In the 365 days prior to the female coming under M.A.S.H she was involved in 54 PSNI calls for service. Since March 2023 she has been involved in 0 PSNI calls for service. The focus of M.A.S.H is to improve an individual's situation and whilst this is the case for this female, it is clear there has also been the outcome of significant reduction in demand for PSNI and external partners

2. A middle-aged single female with an alcohol addiction and wheelchair bound came through to M.A.S.H in April 2023 via Social Services referral. This lady had a mild footprint on Policing systems however it had been noted that she was causing issues where she resided with her behaviour of sitting by her window half dressed in view of a children's play area. Social Services explained to their client that this behaviour could lead to her getting a criminal record if this behaviour did not cease. The lady was a smoker and due to her alcohol addiction, a Home Fire Safety check was conducted due to concerns she may pass out and leave a cigarette burning. NIFRS fitted extra fire alarms with the consent of the lady around her home and in the communal area giving extra protection to all residents. The lady is also more respectful to her carers who attend her, as she is aware that without them, she may have had to move to residential care / assisted living as resources are at a premium. This lady now has a better quality of life after agencies involved in M.A.S.H worked together to provide relevant assistance.

Community Engagement Platform – host Health and Wellbeing Event

The Community Engagement Platform hosted a speed networking event on Health and Wellbeing thematic actions



Over 75 people attended the event in the Lodge Hotel Coleraine. Setting the scene for the event, Maurice Meehan Head of Health and Social Wellbeing Improvement Public Health Agency, and Causeway Coast and Glens Community Plan Action Steering Group Lead for Health and Wellbeing, gave an overview of the journey of community planning to date. Maurice highlighted this event was an opportunity for community and voluntary organisations attending to hear about the progress made to date in relation to the 9 Health and Wellbeing actions of the community plan delivery plan. The event was an opportunity for the action leads to hear from organisations working within communities and across the Borough that was currently being undertaken, and the issues around health and wellbeing on the ground. The session was also an opportunity for both action leads and community organisations to explore opportunities to support, assist each through collaborative working.

As Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Action Steering Group Maurice reflected "this event was a fantastic opportunity to enable community planning in action. Effective community planning can only be achieved through meaningful partnership and collaborative working with the community being at the heart of our approach."

Ann McNickle Causeway Rural Urban Network and Co-Chair of the Community Engagement Platform highlighted that the purpose of the Community Engagement Platform is to provide a meaningful mechanism for engagement between public service bodies, the community planning partnership and local community representatives working together to influence decision making and improve quality service outcomes. Ann said "It is by us all working together that we can achieve great things. This is our community, we all live here, and we want our area to be a healthy safe community for all."

Each table had the opportunity to hear from each of the action leads, discuss how health and wellbeing issues and initiatives and areas for potential future collaboration.

Youth Voice

Youth voice is a 2-year programme developed at aiming to create a space where young people can advocate for peers on issues relevant facing young people in the causeway coast and glens area. Have input and a voice within local decision making within council and other service providers. During this quarter, the aim was to develop a campaign based on findings from the successful youth voice conference. Members of the youth voice decided it would be the most impactful to do a social media take over through the Causeway Coast and Glens Youth Service Facebook page. This resulted in several posts where created each day looking at assorted topics around the findings of the conference. Members also developed an information pack based on the findings gleaned from groups discussions, surveys, and consultations of young people at the youth voice conference. This pack targeted the three main topic areas. These topics where, identity, mental health, and environment. This pack was designed to equip young people with knowledge and to create space to develop further discussion on a deeper level at school or in youth settings. The pack was designed to be used by both young people and adults engaging with young people in a variety of settings. This pack was sent to all schools that attended on the day of the conference. Throughout this time youth voice engaged in the Local Advisory group within the Education Authority and participated in focus groups around this

Our Voice / Our Space Conference 2022

What is youth voice?
Young People having their voice heard and advocating on behalf of their peers, towards what could be implemented for a better future. Highlighting issues and being listened to, at a Local Council level and being part of the decision making process on issues that affect them.

Stakeholders:
 - Youth Voice
 - Causeway Coast and Glens
 - Local Council
 - Schools
 - Community Groups
 - Environmental Groups
 - Health Services
 - Local Businesses
 - Local Media
 - Local Artists
 - Local Musicians
 - Local Sports Clubs
 - Local Clubs
 - Local Groups
 - Local Organisations
 - Local Charities
 - Local Voluntary Organisations
 - Local Religious Organisations
 - Local Trade Unions
 - Local Professional Bodies
 - Local Academic Institutions
 - Local Research Centres
 - Local Think Tanks
 - Local Policy Makers
 - Local Decision Makers
 - Local Influencers
 - Local Journalists
 - Local Photographers
 - Local Filmmakers
 - Local Writers
 - Local Artists
 - Local Musicians
 - Local Sports Clubs
 - Local Clubs
 - Local Groups
 - Local Organisations
 - Local Charities
 - Local Voluntary Organisations
 - Local Religious Organisations
 - Local Trade Unions
 - Local Professional Bodies
 - Local Academic Institutions
 - Local Research Centres
 - Local Think Tanks
 - Local Policy Makers
 - Local Decision Makers
 - Local Influencers
 - Local Journalists
 - Local Photographers
 - Local Filmmakers
 - Local Writers

Three Themes:

- Identity:** 17% of young people said they felt confident when talking to their friends about their identity. 30% of young people said they felt confident when talking to their friends about their identity.
- Mental Health:** 23% of young people said they felt confident when talking to their friends about their mental health. 30% of young people said they felt confident when talking to their friends about their mental health.
- Environment:** 85% of young people said change starts with themselves, we all hold personal responsibility to recycle and care for our environment. 23% of young people in attendance said that providing recycling bins in schools is the best way to encourage recycling in a school and community home.

Check us out:

- Local Advisory Group
- Identity
- Mental Health
- Environment



Young person quote

"The work you did and support you offered never went unnoticed or unappreciated. You know, I never saw myself joining a programme like this but the skills, knowledge and experience I have gained from it are invaluable to me and they are skills and memories I will carry with me for the rest of my life. Being involved in this programme has given me an insight into what it means to be an advocate and exactly why the work we do is so important, and without you none of that would be possible and I wouldn't be the person I am today- and I can't put into words how much that means to ... I am excited to see what the next year has to offer"



Young person quote

"In February of this year, I was successful in my application for the role of Fibre Ambassador in the Causeway Coast and Glens area, working for Hyperfast NI under Fibrus. I am really loving my new job, helping to connect rural communities, and earning an extremely competitive salary for people my age (I am nineteen now). To the best of my knowledge, I am the youngest employee in the company and have no doubt in my mind that it was my time in the Youth Voice and other opportunities it paved the way to (such as the climate group), which earned me this position. I really gained so much valuable experience engaging with communities and stakeholders, and other important teamwork, leadership and problem solving skills. Some of the skills I gained during my time in Youth Voice are ones I now use in my job every day as I speak to community groups and engage with councillors and MLAs. My time in the group has given me much more to talk about in interviews and allowed me to form a more impressive CV."



Shared Spaces

Information events for those seeking sanctuary

Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council hosted two welcome information events for newcomers who have recently been placed in the council area whilst they go through the Asylum process. The events aimed to support the provision of essential information that assists with local integration by bringing people together in a one stop shop type event with all the relevant organisations who provide a range of support services. Representatives from community and voluntary groups, churches, language training providers and statutory agencies were in attendance, helping to highlight what services are available. 25 newcomers attended the first event, and more than 50 newcomers attended the second event. These events provided an important opportunity to connect people and to begin to coordinate local support avenues using a collaborative multi agency response to address a range of needs.



Support Community and Voluntary Sector

The Sharkin Plan-It

The Sharkin Plan-It process commenced in December 2021, an exciting process taking place in the Rasharkin and surrounding areas. The process guided by a Community Working Group supported the wider community to come together to celebrate the many hidden treasures and assets within the village and surrounding area and to consider the 'little' and 'big' ideas that could help to make Rasharkin an even better place to live, work, play or learn.

The project was hosted by Northern Area Community Network in partnership with a 'Helping Hands' group consisting of the local Multi-Disciplinary Social Work Team (MDT Social Work Team), Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council, Northern Health and Social Care Trust, Community Places and Participatory Budgeting Works. The process has adopted an innovative approach combining a participatory budgeting and village place shaping process together to animate and support the local community, to consider and action what is most important to them and of benefit to the wider community.

The pot of £6000 which enabled a participatory budgeting process was provided through the Multi-Disciplinary Team Social Work Team. At every step, efforts have been purposefully made to reach out to, re-energise and work alongside the local community at a pace directed by them to shape and deliver 'Sharkin Plan-It'.

The Community Working Group at the outset agreed that the process would be about: new people working together for the community; encouraging community volunteering and partnership working; fostering renewed energy and enthusiasm; bringing people together and having fun; and sharing and having pride in the rich culture and heritage of the area. At the heart this process was a commitment to ensuring that local communities have a voice and a real say in decisions that matter to them. With this in mind, it was agreed that anyone aged 9 and over with an interest in or who lives, works, plays or learns in the Rasharkin area would be invited to:

- Come together to talk with their neighbours and put forward 'small' ideas which could make a positive difference to the community and could be delivered for £300 or less
- Consider the ideas put forward by the local community and vote for the top ten ideas, allocating a PB pot of £6,000, that they would like to see happen by December 2022
- Identify 'big' ideas which require more than £300 or the support of statutory or support services; and
- Prioritise which of these 'big' ideas the community should focus their energy and efforts on over the next 3-5 years to deliver long-term benefits for the community.

A massive 44 bids were submitted and over 300 people cast their votes in June 2022 at the Big Community Lunch and Voting event. Efforts have and continue to be made to connect the local community to key community planning partners to commence a new conversation about what is possible when projects and services are genuinely co-designed with the local community.

Sharkin Plan-It



September 2022

Good News Stories

A Sustainable Accessible Environment

New enhanced visitor experience for popular Banagher Glen



Mayor of Causeway Coast and Glens, Councillor Steven Callaghan has welcomed a new project designed to enhance the visitor experience at Banagher Glen.

Tucked away in the north Sperrins, a few miles south of Dungiven, Banagher Glen has become an increasing popular visitor attraction. Given the increase in visitor numbers at the site, work has been recently completed to install new welcome, orientation and interpretive signage and trail furniture to guide visitors through the site and advise on the natural heritage and civil engineering history associated with the area.

The project has been funded through the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) Forest Park Enhancement and Community Trail Development Scheme. The development was possible due to a partnership between NI Water, the Northern Ireland Environment Agency and Causeway Coast and Glens Brough Council, which recognised the increasing importance of the site.

Cllr Callaghan said: "The steeply sided Banagher Glen, leading to Altnaheglish Reservoir, is one of the oldest ancient oak woodlands in Ireland, designated as a Special Area of Conservation. The area is rich in not only natural heritage, but also provides an interesting history relating to the construction of the dam itself as well local folklore.

"I am delighted to see that the visitor experience has been enhanced with the installation of signage, way-marking, interpretive panels and trail furniture, providing a family orientated outdoor experience. I have no doubt that this will help to further increase the popularity of this area with visitors."

Limavady Fiver Fest 2022

In 2022, the Environmental Resource Officer (ERO) Team engaged with several local businesses in Limavady as part of an initiative to help reduce our carbon footprint by encouraging us all to spend part of our weekly shopping budget with our local and independent retailers.

To help highlight local, independent retailers, the ERO Team joined the national Totally Locally campaign supporting and encouraging Limavady's independent shops and businesses to run Fiver Fest, an innovative celebration of our independent high streets.

Spending with local and independent retailers boosts the local economy, creates local jobs and income, and helps our environment. Local and independent retailers generally buy from local suppliers thereby reducing packaging and transport costs, fuel, and impact on the environment. Money spent at a locally owned business stays in the local economy. Independently owned businesses generate substantially more economic impact than chain stores. For every £50 spent in a national chain, the local economic impact can be as little as £6.50. The same £50 spent in a local, independent shop can result in £22 boost to the local economy, three times the impact. Much of the reason for this is that local traders tend to spend their money locally with other independents, in fact each local retailer has an average of 12 local suppliers.

Buying local reduces your carbon footprint and helps fight climate change.

Supporting independent shops and businesses in our towns and villages has a positive impact across the Borough. Small steps by individuals can make a big difference collectively. There are now over 150 towns in the UK who have gone 'Totally Locally' with the full 'Town Kit' and has reached as far as New Zealand, USA and Australia.



Ballycastle Community Café serves up a storm using food destined for landfill

A pioneering new community cafe supported by Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council has opened its doors in Ballycastle – using a menu made up of food that would otherwise have gone to waste.

The volunteer led Ballycastle Community Café uses surplus or unwanted food donated by the community and local businesses, which would otherwise be thrown away. The venue provides a warm, welcoming environment for people to come together and enjoy affordable meals.

The cafe – one of the first of its kind in Northern Ireland – is run by Ballycastle Community Hub, a charity which works to support the environment and support the local community. Located within the grounds of Ballycastle garden centre on Castle Street, it provides a selection of hot meals and home-baked goods, with the menu varying depending on the food that has been donated.

The initiative spun out of the community fridge programme, which allows people to share fresh food to save it from going to waste. This surplus food can come from supermarkets, local food businesses, producers, households, and gardens.

Under the FoodSmart scheme, Council has assisted in the set-up of several community fridges across the Borough, including Ballycastle, Bushmills and Ballymoney. There are also community fridges operating in Cloughmills, Dungiven and Magilligan – more than any other Council area in Northern Ireland.



Identifying hidden or latent housing need in rural areas

The Housing Executive works with rural communities to identify hidden or 'latent' housing need through rural housing needs tests. These rural locations will be determined following the annual review of the Housing Need Assessment and consideration is also given to requests from community representatives. As a result, we collaborated with Community Planning Partners on the implementation of a joint rural housing needs test which encompassed the settlements of Garvagh, Kilrea, Moneydig, Glenullin and Boleran.

The event was successful and attracted local people from these areas to discuss their particular housing needs with our staff. Some applicants were added to the waiting list in housing stress. We are now in discussions with Registered Housing Associations to deliver new social and affordable homes for two of these areas.



Award success for Coleraine at Britain in Bloom and Ulster in Bloom 2023

Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council is delighted to announce that Coleraine has been recognised at the RHS Britain in Bloom 2023 UK Finals.

Coleraine won the overall award for horticultural excellence and was awarded gold in the 'Large Town' category, as well as receiving a certificate of achievement for sustainable gardening.

Mayor of Causeway Coast and Glens, Councillor Steven Callaghan, who attended the awards ceremony last night, said: "On behalf of the entire Borough, I want to congratulate all those involved with the preparation for Coleraine's entry in Britain in Bloom.

"Being recognised with three awards is a real accomplishment, especially as we were up against very strong competition from across the UK.

"Biodiversity and sustainable practice are high on the agenda for Council's Estates team, and we are pleased that our hard work has been so wonderfully recognised with the overall award for horticultural excellence, and also a certificate for sustainable practice.

Winners were presented with their trophies at the RHS Britain in Bloom 2023 awards ceremony, held in London, and unveiled to the public on BBC's The One Show.

Commenting on Coleraine's performance at RHS Britain in Bloom, the Judges said: "Coleraine, with its long and illustrious history of involvement in both Ulster in Bloom and RHS Britain in Bloom, never fails to impress.

"The team behind this from Causeway Coast and Glens, has to be congratulated."

Full results of the RHS Britain in Bloom 2023 UK Finals can be found at:

<https://www.rhs.org.uk/get-involved/community-gardening/news/articles/bloom-awards-results>

The announcement follows Coleraine's recent win in the 'Large Town' category of Ulster in Bloom for the second year in a row, with neighbouring Ballymoney also recognised with 3rd place for 'Best Town'.



Success for Coleraine and Ballymoney as winners announced in Ulster in Bloom 2023

Council's Estates Team is celebrating success once again this year as both Coleraine and Ballymoney scoop awards at the annual Translink Ulster in Bloom Awards.

The winners, announced at an event hosted in Lisburn's Civic Centre, were highlighted for their hard work and dedication to horticultural displays from towns and villages throughout Northern Ireland.

Coleraine, who already holds the large town award for 2022, once again took home 1st place in the same category, while neighbours Ballymoney were awarded 3rd place in the small-town category. Mayor of Causeway Coast and Glens, Councillor Steven Callaghan who joined Council's Estates team at the awards said: "This is a fantastic achievement for Coleraine and Ballymoney and I would like to personally congratulate every single person who has helped make it possible.

"Our staff take great pride in their work across the Borough, and it was wonderful this year to see our local primary school children help with town centre displays in Coleraine and of course Ballymoney's main street looked fantastic.

"The Borough's floral displays create a positive, welcoming environment for the enjoyment of

our visitors, shoppers and local community while increased use of wildflowers and partner working with DFI roads, has also helped provide habitat for our pollinating wildlife.

"As members of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan, this further recognition from the prestigious Ulster in Bloom competition is welcome news for our Borough as we continue to showcase our commitment to biodiversity and enhancing the local environment. Congratulations to all winners in Council's across Northern Ireland."

Noel Davoren from Council's Estates Team said: "We are absolutely delighted with these accolades for Coleraine and Ballymoney and would like to thank the judges from Ulster in Bloom.

"Our team works tirelessly in the background to ensure that all our towns and villages in the Borough look their best from our welcoming planting schemes to our work with local schools. We have also recently introduced wildlife corridors in conjunction with external partners DFI Roads to encourage pollinators and help with biodiversity.

"I am pleased, that on this occasion Coleraine and Ballymoney have been recognised but I would like to thank Council's estates team for all their work across our Council area."

Good News Stories A Thriving Economy

Growth Deal is Moving Forward

Over the next few years, it is envisaged that Northern Ireland will benefit from a package of investment from four City and Growth Deals. The combined funding from the Northern Ireland Executive and UK Government will total £1.3bn, which will be complemented by the private sector and other sources of funding. One of the four deals is the Causeway Coast and Glens Growth Deal. Our Growth Deal is anticipated to see Causeway Coast and Glens receive £72m capital funding after the NI Executive agreed to match fund the UK Government's Growth Deal allocation.

The following objectives have been established for the Growth Deal:

1. **Attract, support and grow more business, with a focus on export;**
2. **Position Causeway Coast and Glens as the 'go-to' region for both business and pleasure;**
3. **Regenerate some of the area's smaller settlements into thriving and sustainable rural economies;**
4. **Improve key elements of the tourism transport network and tourism destinations;**
5. **Work with education and employers to raise aspirations and improve employability and skills.**

The deal has identified three key themes/sectors to help grow the local economy and up to nine prospective projects, as follows:

- **Tourism and Regeneration;**
- **Infrastructure; and**
- **Digital & Innovation**

To assist Council with developing our Growth Deal, Officers have established a Critical Friend in Ambition North Wales, who are similar in geography and demographics. This relationship has involved reciprocal visits and enabled Officers to streamline processes whilst adhering to best practices, resulting in a better Deal for our Borough.

Further details on the projects will be published when Heads of Terms have been agreed with Government in Spring 2024.



Full Fibre Upgrades to Public Sector Buildings

Public Sector buildings benefitted from the success delivery of the Local Full Fibre Network (LFFN) and Rural Gigabit Connectivity (RGC) projects, funded by Department for Digital, Culture Media and Sport (DCMS).

The initiative was delivered by the Full Fibre Northern Ireland (FFNI) Consortium, which is made up of ten local authorities, the Business Services Organisation (BSO), and led by Newry, Mourne and Down District Council.

The Consortium, having successfully secured £23.1million of UK Government funding from DCMS in 2018, rolled out this ambitious project during 2021/22 with the aim of expanding the high-speed fibre broadband footprint in Northern Ireland.

The project has connected 887 public sector buildings to high-speed 'gigabit capable' broadband throughout Northern Ireland. This includes over 240 GP surgeries, 148 community centres, 90 council offices, 79 recycling centres, 69 fire stations and 63 leisure centres. These sites now have the infrastructure to access internet speeds at least ten times faster than their old mostly copper-based connections.

By connecting these public sector sites, it enables additional connections to be made to nearby residential and commercial properties through separate commercial investment plans and allows communication providers to extend the rollout of gigabit capable connectivity.



New craft trail tourism experience uncovers 'hidden gems' on the Causeway Coast and Glens

The launch of Causeway Craft Trail took place in March 2022. The trail is a new way to explore the stunning scenery of the region - through the eyes of the creative craftspeople and artists who draw their inspiration from the landscape. The Causeway Craft Trail is a fascinating immersive tourism experience that allows visitors to take in some of the hidden gems of the Causeway Coastal Route by visiting artists and craftspeople in the places that inspire them and observing them at work.

The Craft Trail begins in the north-west of the region, steering visitors from studios nestled in the rural farmscapes of Aghadowey to the endless beaches of Downhill, via workshops with views out to the Isle of Jura and up close to world-famous attractions such as Giant's Causeway and the idyllic Ballintoy Harbour. The skilled artisans who you will meet along the trail include potters working their wheel in renovated barns, boat makers building canoes in a workshop high above Castlerock, traditional basket-makers incorporating driftwood and pebbles in their work, as well as Northern Ireland's only artisanal glassblowing studio.

Places to visit will include intimate galleries where visitors can lose themselves in contemplation of the artworks, and social enterprises where they can explore the work of scores of creative designer-makers who work in the Causeway Coast and Glens. They will be able to observe working studios where craftspeople will share ancient techniques and the fascinating background stories associated with their arts.



The artists and craftspeople taking part in this unique 'Causeway Craft Trail' showcase are:

- Puffin Gallery, Ballycastle
- Benefield Spencer Glass, Ballintoy
- Valkyrie Craft boatmakers, Castlerock
- The Designerie Collective, Bushmills
- The Boathouse Collective, Giant's Causeway
- Stone Row Artisans Collective, Coleraine
- The Blackheath Pottery, Coleraine
- Fiona Shannon Ceramics, Flowerfield
- Atlantic Craft NI, Portrush
- McCall Gilifan Ceramics, Downhill
- Adam Frew Ceramics, Aghadowey
- Frankie Creith Art, Portrush

Causeway Coast and Glens Tourism Team and have been working in partnership with our colleagues in Mid and East Antrim Borough Council to promote and develop experiences along the Causeway Coastal Route (CCR).

The Causeway Coastal Route is a 120 mile driving route linking the cities of Belfast and Derry/Londonderry and was established in 2007 and was named Lonely Planet's global must see tourism destination in 2018. The route is seen as a 'driving route' with visitors stopping off to take photos of the scenery and not engaging with the local community or spending money in local businesses.

In order to address this issue both Councils have been working together on a number of joint initiatives to develop experiences along the route but also to promote the route as an 'Experiential Route' where there is lots to see, do and experience along the way. This will encourage visitors to get out of their cars and explore towns and villages, meet the locals and have a more immersive experience. The aim is to encourage visitors to stay longer and ultimately spend more across the route.

Initiatives to date include:

- Developing an updated Marketing Proposition for the Route
- Development of a new Causeway Coastal Route Map
- Development of joint sales presentations to take to market
- Development of new itineraries for the route
- Engage with Tourism Ireland to bring in Trade and Media Familiarisation to experience the new attractions and experiences along the route.
- Joint marketing campaign with Tourism Ireland GB
- CCR networking events for the trade
- Sharing attendance at key tourism trade and consumer shows.
- Development of Tour Operators Group Experience Guide.
- Joint training opportunities for the trade



Causeway Coast and Glens Labour Market Partnership

It has been a very exciting, busy and impactful inaugural year for Causeway Coast and Glens Labour Market Partnership.

Co-design and collaboration is at the heart of LMP planning at both a regional and local level. This joined up approach and support from LMP Member organisations has been really encouraging, fruitful and positive.

2022-23 Membership of the Causeway Coast and Glens Labour Market Partnership includes:

- Careers Service
- Causeway Chamber of Commerce
- Enterprise Causeway
- DfC Jobs & Benefits Office
- Invest NI
- North West Regional College
- Northern Health and Social Care Trust
- Northern Regional College
- Roe Valley Enterprises

The LMP secretariat and members are also supported by several Council Departments including Finance, Grants and Funding, Audit and Risk, and HR. The team are managed by the Leisure and Development Department within the Prosperity and Place team.



Work Ready Employability Programme Business Start and Seed Fund

Outreach, marketing and advertising took place in January and February 2023 including in community centres and in the 3 local Jobs and Benefits offices. This was really effective, and a very large volume of enquiries were received at outreach events.

Over 80 enquiries were received for the 48 spaces on the programme. As a result, the mentoring budget was increased from 48 to 80 candidates, and the Seed Fund budget was increased from £24,000 to £40,000.

The LMP team and Tangible Consulting worked with local Go For It providers to ensure candidates could be supported to complete business plans, also collaborating with Causeway Advice Centre to ensure participants were fully informed about benefits considerations.

The Grants and Funding Unit in Council coordinated the Seed Fund Grant Applications.

In April and May 2023, 44 candidates were awarded Seed funding via the CCAG Funding Unit Platform. Support is ongoing with these start-ups and is anticipated to conclude in December 2023.

Business Start & Seed Fund Achieved Output:

- 80 participants enrolled on the programme.
- 50 participants applied for the Seed Fund (up to £1,000).
- 46 successfully proceeded to grant award.
- 44 grant payments were completed.
- 3 additional clients started without LMP funding.
- 44 Applicants still in business by 30 June 23.

Business Start & Seed Fund Target on Action Plan:

- 80 participants enrolled on the programme.
- 40 participants proceed to grant award.
- 46 successfully proceeded to grant award.
- 44 grant payments were completed.
- 3 additional clients started without LMP funding.
- 24 applicants will still be in business by 30 June 23

Employment Academies

Theme: Programmes to be delivered in response to the rise in claimant numbers, due to redundancies caused by the COVID pandemic.

Aim: Support the newly unemployed with the opportunity to retrain and learn new skills.

Description: To meet current labour market demands in key sectors including transport (HGV and Bus), Hospitality and Social Care.

Activities: Pre-Employment Academies to including training, accreditation, licencing, work interviews and work placements.

Summary: A transport academy was delivered with Sandy Arthur Training Services and a Chef Academy was delivered with North West Regional College.

Case Study 1

Stephanie from Castlerock had previous career experience in the professional services sector, however, was not working due to caring commitments. When circumstances changed and Lorna was able to work again she participated on the Work Ready Programme.

On the programme candidates received help in a range of employability areas, including CV's, Job Application Forms, Interview Techniques and Job Searching. Candidates were also encouraged to apply for appropriate and suitable job vacancies.

Immediately after completing training on the programme, Lorna applied for a job and was called for interview. Within days she had a job offer and start date!

"The Work Ready Programme helped me to get my CV ready for distribution, and it helped me to source live job vacancies.

I was apprehensive about going for interviews and the programme and training gave me the confidence and self-belief that I needed to move forward and find employment."

Stephanie, Castlerock

Chef Academy

The 4-week Chef Academy was delivered by North West Regional College, commencing in March 2023. Training included essential kitchen and chef skills, knife work, food safety, allergen awareness, employer visits and chef masterclasses. Participants also undertook a short work placement.

Participants on the Chef Academy undertook placement in a number of locations across the borough including Ballycastle, Bushmills, Coleraine and Limavady.

Transport Academy

With over 200 expressions of interest for the Transport Academy additional stages of the recruitment and selection process were added. After selection, 35 clients were offered a place on the Transport Academy. This included 29 for the HGV route and 6 for the Coach route.



Case Study 2

"Having retired and found myself economically inactive after working 37 years in the NHS in paid employment I was totally clueless as to how to set up my own business. My ambition of developing a complementary service to clinically treat women from preconception, pregnancy and beyond was made a reality through the Causeway Coast and Glens business mentoring.

The Causeway Coast and Glen's Labour Market Partnership Teams start up programme has helped me get on my feet and without it I wouldn't have got off to the start I have. I learned some really important first necessary steps such as setting up my bank account and getting registered with HMRC, the importance of bookkeeping and how to start marketing my service.

I would recommend the start-up programme to anyone planning a business... it really does make dreams come true!"



Barbara Strawbridge, Caring Hands Midwife

Case Study 3

After completing the Chef Academy in March 2023 William Campbell from Limavady secured employment with The Corner Bar and Market Yard Restaurant in Limavady.

During the 4-week academy, which was delivered by North West Regional College in Limavady, the 8 candidates were trained on the key skills required to kick start their career as a chef including kitchen skills, knife skills, food safety, and health and safety.

Participants got to take part in Masterclasses with some of the Causeway Coast and Glens most creative chefs and also visited some local food producers. The candidates also undertook work placements in local restaurants.

"The Chef Academy helped me to get the core skills and knowledge that I needed to get a job in a busy restaurant. I am looking to continue to and further develop my skills further, progressing in my career as a chef."



William Campbell, Limavady

Community Involvement and Engagement

The Local Government (NI) Act 2014 (Part 10, Section 73) states that Council and all other Community Planning Partners must ensure community involvement in the development, implementation, and review of the Community Plan.

The review was due to be completed by June 2021. An extensive plan of engagement and consultation due to commence in early 2020 was not possible due to the pandemic, however, an interim review of the Community Plan was completed in May 2021.

As part of this process a series of community engagement activities were undertaken.

- 4 x sessions with Action Leads, and Statutory Partners
- 2 x consultation sessions via Community Engagement Platform were held to enable community and voluntary sector representatives to provide feedback and insights on the current Community Plan priorities and local needs.
- 1 x survey issued to public, statutory partners and elected members stakeholders to contribute views and opinions.
- 1 x survey with Section 75 Equality Forum members
- 10 x public events via Libraries
- 1 x session with Cedar Foundation

Following completion of the Community Plan and Delivery Plan Review a dissemination process was undertaken to raise awareness of the revised community plan and delivery plan actions.

This included dissemination of leaflets with associated QR codes to enable online access to the revised documents. Distribution of leaflets and hard copies of the revised documents to all libraries across the Borough, Council offices, action leads and statutory partners.

The Community Engagement Platform session on Health and Wellbeing actions within the Community Plan Delivery Plan (page 19) demonstrates the desire of those within communities, and the community and voluntary sector, to gain greater insight of the actions are being implemented by our statutory partners. It highlights the sector's desire to understand how these actions will positively impact on local communities, The session also demonstrated a high degree of willingness from the sector to explore how the community and voluntary sector can continue to support the implementation of actions, to work collaboratively with action leads, enable greater sharing of resources, avoid duplication, and cross sector sharing of good practice.

As a final aspect of the community engagement approach our community planning officers regularly attend networking opportunities such as the connecting communities sessions facilitated through our community development team and local community networks to enable a two way flow of information sharing and listening to emerging issues or needs.

It remains evident that locally Community Planning has a unique role to play in building relationships across the system which in turn builds resilience within our society. Continuing to engage directly with communities and individual citizens will be essential for future health and wellbeing, economic prosperity, and social cohesion.

Section 3

List of Delivery Plan Actions

A Healthy Safe Community

Health & Wellbeing Actions 1 - 8	42 - 50
Community/Community Safety Actions 9 -16	51 - 59

A Sustainable Accessible Environment

Infrastructure/Environment Actions 17 - 22	60 - 66
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A Thriving Economy

Economic/Education/Tourism Actions 23 - 34	67 - 76
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Health and Wellbeing Actions

- ACTION 1** Increase opportunities for participation in **Physical Activity and Wellbeing** initiatives, both indoor and outdoor, and to promote enjoyment of the natural environment of Causeway Coast and Glens.
- ACTION 2** Develop and deliver an **Age Friendly Strategy** and programme of actions for the benefit of the resident population of Causeway Coast and Glens.
- ACTION 3** Continue to develop the **Loneliness Network** for Causeway Coast and Glens to work together to increase opportunities for socialisation and to reduce the risk of and tackle loneliness across the generations.
- ACTION 4** Continue to implement and support **Anti-Poverty Interventions** which tackle food, fuel and financial poverty and respond to local need with a particular emphasis on vulnerable communities.
- ACTION 5** Continue collaborative working and locality planning across statutory and voluntary sectors for the benefit of **Children and Young People** of Causeway Coast and Glens.
- ACTION 6** Increase uptake of **Obesity Prevention** programmes and encourage active participation by school aged children in both school and community settings.
- ACTION 7** Promote and encourage **Positive Mental Health** through participation in the Take 5 Steps to Wellbeing initiative spanning schools, workplaces, and the community sector.
- ACTION 8** Enhance interagency cooperation to address and respond to the needs of those experiencing **Chronic Homelessness** in Causeway Coast and Glens.
- ACTION 9** Support **partnership working between primary care and the voluntary and community sector.**



Community/Community Safety Actions

- ACTION 10** **Multi- Agency Support Hub** to facilitate an interagency approach to reduce risks for vulnerable individuals within our society.
- ACTION 11** Operational actions to safeguard and address community concerns about online safety through the **Cyber-Safe Partnership.**
- ACTION 12** Provision of a borough wide inclusive, participative engagement platform - **Community Engagement Platform** to connect citizens' voices to local decision-making bodies, including **Youth Voice.**
- ACTION 13** Agencies working in partnership to promote and establish **Shared Public Spaces** across Causeway Coast and Glens.
- ACTION 14** Organisations working collaboratively to provide development opportunities and **Support to the Community and Voluntary Sector** on a borough wide basis.
- ACTION 15** Develop **Road Safety Partnerships** to work together with schools and communities to target those identified as most at risk of road traffic collisions and to deliver the 'Your Choice' Road Safety Programme.
- ACTION 16** **Accidental Fire Prevention** - targeted activity to individual dwellings across identified areas at more risk of accidental fire than others.



Infrastructure/ Environment Actions

- ACTION 17** Create opportunities to explore, develop and maintain **public spaces** throughout the Causeway Coast and Glens area.
- ACTION 18** To meet **local social housing need** and provide suitable accommodation.
- ACTION 19** Promote and deliver sustainability with individuals, partners and the wider community to promote and deliver the '**LiveSmart**' strategy.
- ACTION 20** Identify and respond to key **local transport** concerns around rural connectivity and access needs, and to consider/contribute to emerging proposals aimed at improving integration of transport services.
- ACTION 21** Promote and encourage local residents and visitors to take pride and enhance the **natural and built environment** within the Causeway Coast and Glens area.
- ACTION 22** Implement initiatives on protected **natural heritage** areas in the Causeway Coast and Glens area.



Economic/ Education/ Tourism Actions

- ACTION 23** Delivery of new **Economic Development Strategy** – 'Recovery and Renewal'.
- ACTION 24** Promote the unique offer of the **Enterprise Campus (ALEC) Enterprise Zone**.
- ACTION 25** Increase the level of **innovation** in the Causeway Coast and Glens area.
- ACTION 26** Develop a **Digital Infrastructure** Strategy for the Causeway Coast and Glens area.
- ACTION 27** Support the development of the Labour Market Partnership - supporting **educational and skills initiatives** within the Causeway Coast and Glens area to match current and future business needs.
- ACTION 28** Develop **Energy and Climate Strategy** incorporating an Action Plan for the Causeway Coast and Glens area.
- ACTION 29** Support **Town Centre Forums** to focus on developing and delivering collaborative town centre management projects.
- ACTION 30** Support and enable benefit from a **thriving and sustainable visitor economy** through delivery and enhancement of the Tourism and Recreation Services throughout the Causeway Coast and Glens area.
- ACTION 31** Develop **Growth Deal** opportunities for the Causeway Coast and Glens area.

Action 1 Physical Activity and Wellbeing

What Did We Say We Would Do?	Increase opportunities for participation in Physical Activity and Wellbeing initiatives, both indoor and outdoor, and to promote responsible and safe enjoyment of the natural environment of Causeway Coast and Glens.
How Much Did We Do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Everybody Active 5-year Programme implemented and completed. Development of accessible playpark at Roemill in Limavady completed. Inclusive family fun days delivered in Summer 2022. Neighbourhood Health Improvement programme delivered. National Governing Body partnership programmes with the Irish Football association 'Shooting Stars' to develop Girls Football and planned with British gymnastics 'Rise Gymnastics'. Co-ordination of 'Walking for Health' programme. Supporting walking groups & training new Walk leaders. Engagement with primary schools and early year's settings on the implementation of 'The Daily Mile'. Development after schools' sports activities in primary and secondary schools in sports which are not popular in their respective area. Continuation of Physical Activity Referral Scheme. Physical Activity sessions at Coleraine Leisure Centre for Asylum Seekers in partnership with Council's Good Relations Team. Olympic Handball Ireland and GAA Handball Ireland – Shared Education schools programme. Active Age programmes developed and implemented.
How Well Did We Do It?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 % of participants enjoying taking part in sport / physical activity. 10 % of participants becoming members of sports clubs. 50 % of participants engaging in sport / physical activity on their own / non-club setting. 1882 Children and Young People participated in Sports Development Winter Programme. 11 Athletes with current membership of Council's Elite Athlete Scheme. 24 participants in the football Street Soccer programme for Refugees. Increase in women and girls across all programmes. Increase in participants with a disability across, football, racquet sports, boccia and exercise sessions. Increase of participants from areas of greatest need.
Who Is Better Off?	All sessions provided participants with content to promote healthier lifestyles and to get active and remain active through inclusive games and boccia delivered across borough via DSNI activity coach. Groups included local schools, Can Can day opportunities and RNIB.

Action 2 Age Friendly Strategy

What Did We Say We Would Do?	Develop and deliver an Age Friendly Strategy and programme of actions for the benefit of the resident population of Causeway Coast and Glens.
How Much Did We Do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mapping of local baseline and existing Age Friendly assets against the eight WHO Age Friendly themes within the Borough with Community. Planning partners and others completed. Age Friendly Charter produced. Age Friendly Alliance and Forum established. Coordination and Promotion of Positive Ageing Month (100 + events). Community Planning Dementia Action Group re-established. Support and awareness raising as part of Demetia Awareness Week.
How Well Did We Do It?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Substantive consultation process undertaken to inform development of Age-Friendly Strategy. First draft of strategy due for completion late 2023
Who Is Better Off?	Age-Friendly Strategy & Action Plan will identify measures and targets for programme delivery in stage 3 of the Age-Friendly Programme Management Cycle.

Action 3 Loneliness Network

What Did We Say We Would Do?	Continue to develop the Loneliness Network for Causeway Coast and Glens to work together to increase opportunities for socialisation and to reduce the risk of and tackle loneliness across the generations.
How Much Did We Do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loneliness Activity Programme successfully delivered over last 2 years. • Strong ongoing progression on initiatives such as Chatty Benches, Chatty Cafes and Kindness post boxes. • 6 Chatty Cafés. • 3 Loneliness projects completed. • 9 schools involved in the Kindness Postbox 236 letters shared between schoolchildren and older people. • OCN in Photography for 12 participants. • Young People's Photography Exhibition.
How Well Did We Do It?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced partnership working. • Increased networking opportunities. • Knowledge exchange. • Promotion of support. • Reduction in feelings of isolation and better connectedness to community. • UTV/radio coverage of Chatty Carriages initiative. • Promotional video produced. • Improved links and wellbeing for schoolchildren and older people involved in these three new projects.
Who Is Better Off?	<p>Increased recognition of loneliness activity in the Causeway area including CC&G Council, NHSCT and Department of Health</p> <p>Voluntary community and statutory organisations working together to address loneliness across all age groups.</p> <p>Increased awareness and knowledge of loneliness across Causeway Loneliness Network group members and increased knowledge including access to current research, webinars etc.</p> <p>More organisations have increased access to information, services, activities and training for their service users.</p> <p>Causeway Loneliness Network provides a supportive environment for members and increased confidence to source information/services.</p> <p>The Northern Area Loneliness Framework is used for reference and guides our work.</p> <p>The Chatty Carriage sub-group will work in partnership with Translink with the hope of the initiative being rolled out across NI Railways. This initiative will facilitate outings for those at risk of loneliness via train journeys.</p> <p>Young people's Photography project - Young people's comments include:</p>

Who Is Better Off? Continued	<p>"I really enjoyed the photography project. I got to meet new friends and learn new skills"</p> <p>"I've been very isolated during Covid, it was a great way to interact with people again"</p> <p>"I found it extremely hard during lockdown as I had depression at the time. I started taking pictures during lockdown and it took my mind off things. I don't feel as alone as I used to and my depression has gone".</p> <p>"I like photography a lot more because of the project. I always felt part of the group, I never felt alone".</p>
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Action 4 Anti-Poverty Interventions

What Did We Say We Would Do?	Continue to implement and support Anti-Poverty Interventions which tackle food, fuel and financial poverty and respond to local need with a particular emphasis on vulnerable communities.
How Much Did We Do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wrap around support service provided linking 8 service providers – foodbanks, social supermarkets, and advice centres to provide tailored 1-1 support to assist people to regain financial security. • Fuel Support Scheme delivered – 230 households supported. • Collaborative working with Causeway Multi-Disciplinary Team enabled enhancement of Fuel Support Scheme to additional 50 households. • Of the households supported the percentage supported were in the following categories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Lone Parent - 26% o Benefit Income - 36% o Employed - 12% o Health related issues - 52% • Oil Stamp Scheme continues. • Warm Pack scheme continues. • Energy efficiency advice continues. • Warm Welcome Spaces initiative implemented. • 'Where to Turn' campaign rolled out with bus shelter and adshel promotion as well as information leaflet distribution. • Continuation of regular Anti Poverty Steering Group meetings.
How Well Did We Do It?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fuel Support Scheme recipients report satisfaction with impact on their immediate needs. • Feedback from community groups operating Warm Spaces projects shows how useful a small amount of funding was to allow for provision of refreshments, meals and activities; groups would have benefitted from financial support for operating costs particularly energy costs. • Feedback from Anti-Poverty Steering Group partners shows a strong benefit from the peer support nature of the steering group as well as improved links.
Who Is Better Off?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased awareness of the poverty services that are available. • Increased coordination between organisations working with those most in need in the Causeway Coast and Glens area. • People on low incomes or in financial crisis are supported to maximize their income and minimise their costs. • Improved links and capacity of the organisations that support those most in need. • Better information, signposting and communication about poverty intervention services. • Improved partnership working to tackle the causes of poverty.

Action 5 Children and Young People

What Did We Say We Would Do?	Continue collaborative working and locality planning across statutory and voluntary sectors for the benefit of Children and Young People of Causeway Coast and Glens.
How Much Did We Do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 x counselling sessions for children in Causeway funded by CYPSP and NHSCT funds as a response to gaps highlighted by the Locality Planning Group and family support hub. • Save the Children Family Support Programme: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 29 Families, 54 Children supported at council level between October 2022 –March 2023. o 64% children aged 11-15. o 23% 6-10years. • 600 Toys received for distribution before Christmas 2022 through Save the Children partnership and distributed by Community Advice Causeway 'Human Library' sessions held. • Activities Programme Funding for Causeway area with 4 projects funded.
How Well Did We Do It?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 200 + Responses to the Children and Young People's Mental Health Survey. • Top three main areas of need identified are emotional health and wellbeing, body image and loneliness. • Participants felt the best way for them to improve their Mental Health was through exercise, hobbies, and spending time in nature. • The Save the Children Family Support Programme supported by the Trust and coordinated through Community Advice Causeway has helped support families and their children with financial hardship and cost of living crisis. • Promotion of Smoking Cessation services, health promotion around smoking and 'Smoke free initiatives by NHSCT locally.
Who Is Better Off?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased Mental Health resources for a small number of children in Causeway. • Work on highlighting benefits of nature and growing. • Insight into the Mental Health needs of Young People in Causeway. • Access to free Solihull online resources for all. • Increased knowledge on training opportunities and resources for those supporting Children and Young People in Causeway. • Reduced number of families experiencing financial hardship in Causeway Coast and Glens • Direct link between smoking and low birth weight babies, better public knowledge of the risks around smoking and link to low birth weight and impact on child development.

Action 6 Obesity Prevention

What Did We Say We Would Do?	Increase uptake of Obesity Prevention programmes and encourage active participation by school aged children in both school and community settings.
How Much Did We Do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Causeway Healthy Kids Phase 1 and 2 delivered <p>Phase 1 12 schools selected via 2017 deprivation index.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 x Limavady area. • 6 x Coleraine area. • 2 x Ballymoney area. • 1 x Moyle area. • 320 unique participants. <p>Phase 2 24 Schools completed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 in Western Health Trust Area and 16 in Northern Health Trust area. • 730 unique participants. <p>Each phase incorporated 11 sessions across 11 weeks delivered in each school. Session content comprised of 5 sessions on nutrition, 6 sessions of mindfulness and take 5 and 11 physical activity sessions</p>
How Well Did We Do It?	<p>Programme ran in partnership with Northern Healthy Lifestyle Partnership and Northern Trust</p> <p>Causeway Healthy Kids Phase 2 survey results include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14% positive in number of children eating 3 + fruit and vegetables per day from week 1 to week 5 of programme. • 28% positive change in number of those checking colour of pee. • 39% of checking food labels. • 77% rated eat well, be well as good to very good. • Key learnings from programme for participants reported: learning about food labels, checking hydration levels and the food traffic light system. • Causeway Healthy Kids project was named as winner of the Partnership Working in Public Health category and Overall winner of Advancing Healthcare Awards. • Causeway Healthy Kids project was also runner up in Northern Partnership and Integrated Care Award category.
Who Is Better Off?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children participating in the Causeway Healthy Kids project provided with healthy nutrition information, emotional mental health and exercise across the Causeway Coast & Glens Council area. • Opportunity for Children and Young People to learn about mental health and nutrition and use the opportunity to help participants appreciate the role of mental health and nutrition in their daily lives. • Project links to Causeway Coast and Glens Community Plan, a healthy community by addressing improved health and mental wellbeing, lifelong opportunities and lead healthy and fulfilling lives.

Action 7 Positive Mental Health

What Did We Say We Would Do?	Promote and encourage Positive Mental Health through participation in the Take 5 Steps to Wellbeing initiative spanning schools, workplaces, and the community sector – a self-care approach to maintaining positive wellbeing – Connect, Keep Learning, Be Active, Take Notice and Give.
How Much Did We Do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take 5 promotional video for Causeway Coast and Glens produced and launched. • Partnership working with Causeway Healthy Kids Project. • Continuation of Take 5 workplaces and schools programme/accreditation • Take 5 Ambassador roll out underway. • 3 x Mens Shed Programmes completed. • Mental Health Connector initiative underway. • Sessions on Take 5 and positive mental health delivered in partnership with NACN, CRUN and Community Navigator.
How Well Did We Do It?	<p>Number of pupils benefiting from the 'We are a Take 5 school' project increased in 2023 year by 4 times in primary schools to 1376 pupils and post primary to 2725.</p> <p>Increase in number of community representatives who attended sessions feeling they had an increased understanding of what Take 5 is and how they could increase different activities in their lives.</p>
Who Is Better Off?	<p>Feedback from the Teachers completing the Take 5 schools programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The children enjoyed these lessons and were very aware of their mental health. • Lesson plans and animations are a great tool to start the conversation of mental health with our young people. • Pupils and staff are more focused on self-regulation and building resilience. I have found so many more males in particular are buying into the culture with a view to look after themselves more effectively.' <p>Feedback from the coaches delivering the Take 5 schools programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great programme and content, good fun and linked well with the physical activity. • All positive and other classes and year groups would be keen to access the programme. • Children engaged, participated fully and took great pride.

Action 8 Chronic Homelessness

What Did We Say We Would Do?	Enhance interagency cooperation to address and respond to the needs of those experiencing Chronic Homelessness in Causeway Coast and Glens. (Chronic Homelessness is defined as 'a group of individuals with very pronounced and complex support needs who find it difficult to exit from homelessness' (Ending Homelessness Together' Homelessness Strategy for NI 2017-22 c/o Housing Executive NI.)
How Much Did We Do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2021/22 baseline of homelessness established. • Number of homelessness presenting and awarded Full Duty Applicant (FDA) status is monitored and reported quarterly
How Well Did We Do It?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chronic Homelessness action plan (CHAP) is now completed. • Homelessness Strategy 'Ending Homelessness Together – Homelessness Strategy 2022-27' now published. • Tracking system launched to 'Identify chronic homelessness numbers collectable by the Housing Executive using standard indicators. • Signposting activity for homeless cases
Who Is Better Off?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of interagency cooperation to address chronic homelessness in Causeway Coast and Glens along with Community Planning partners • Improvement of the measurement and understanding of the scale of the problem of chronic homelessness in Causeway Coast and Glens in order to establish a baseline. • Identify and promote good practice and ensure that staff across all agencies has sufficient knowledge to ensure appropriate and timely signposting for individuals so they have access to the help they require.

Action 9 Primary and Voluntary Community Sector

What Did We Say We Would Do?	Support partnership working between primary care and the voluntary and community sector to identify gaps, agree priorities, provide innovative responses, and maximise opportunities to support the local community.
How Much Did We Do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support provided to address loneliness and reduce isolation via several projects. • 1758 patients referred to the Multi-Disciplinary Team SW staff. • 383 attended group work delivered in partnership with Community & Voluntary groups. • 666 face-to-face consultations. • 447 referred for Trust support services. • 418 referred to C&V partners. • 308 were signposted to benefits agencies for advice. • 272 to Housing Executive. • Two support groups continue to be partially delivered (in partnership with the Ukrainian people). • Multi-Disciplinary Teams provided support and assistance both practical and emotional to 101 in response to the Ukrainian crisis.
How Well Did We Do It?	Multi-Disciplinary Team linked to CC&G focus group looking at the needs of those seeking asylum and having temporary residence in Portstewart. Offering additional financial support to Portstewart men's Shed to offer opportunities to integrate with local community.
Who Is Better Off?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core of Multi-Disciplinary Team Social Work remit remains is to offer advice and assistance to patients presenting to GP practice. • Patients are empowered and supported to engage with statutory and non-statutory services to assist them. • Groups engaged, empowered and support provided to volunteers and community members to participate and deliver to their peers. • Self-sufficient and independent evidencing of increased confidence and ability of individuals to run their own groups.

Action 10 Multi-Agency Support Hub

What Did We Say We Would Do?	Facilitate a Multi-Agency Support Hub to monitor and evaluate effective information sharing, enable focused decision making for early intervention and appropriate actions to reduce vulnerability of individuals and the risk for victims and their families and as a result increase public safety in the Causeway Coast and Glens area.
How Much Did We Do?	To date over 170 people have been helped.
How Well Did We Do It?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90% of partner organisations attending Support Hub meetings • 100% of Support Hub actions successfully completed
Who Is Better Off?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those referred to Multi Agency Support Hub have been supported directly by agencies and/or signposted to local support groups. • In some cases, the statutory bodies have worked together to prevent perpetrators from getting access to vulnerable individuals. • Support Hub partnering where appropriate, with other groups throughout Causeway Coast and Glens to help as many people as possible.

Action 11 Cyber Safety

What Did We Say We Would Do?	Operational actions to safeguard and address community concerns about online safety through the Cyber-Safe Partnership – a range of cyber safety animations on mental health and self esteem in an online world, online bullying, sharing and receiving inappropriate images, gaming and gambling, and where to go for support.
How Much Did We Do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 cyber safety animation campaigns developed and launched. • 2000 Cyber Safety support packs circulated to parents, schools and public
How Well Did We Do It?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cyber safety toolkit completed and launched. • Training for both teachers, parents, and statutory agencies around Cyber Safety continues • CC&G PCSP funding facilitators through Dry Arch centre to educate students and tackle any emerging issues and concerns.
Who Is Better Off?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing target audiences include primary, post primary children, older people and disability groups . • On-going cooperation, engagement and partnership working between Council, Department for Communities, and other statutory Community Planning Partners. Support from the community and voluntary sector has enabled flexible and responsive initiatives for the benefit of vulnerable people of the Borough.

Action 12

Community Engagement Platform

What Did We Say We Would Do?	Provision of a borough wide inclusive, participative engagement platform – Community Engagement Platform - to connect citizens' voices to local decision-making bodies, including Youth Voice.
How Much Did We Do?	<p>Community Engagement Platform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 meetings of Community Engagement Platform on Community Plan and Delivery Plan review. • 31 people from 19 organisations attended. • Emerging themes: reconnecting with the Community Plan and reflecting on current Community Plan outcomes priorities and revitalising the Community Engagement Platform. • Co-Chairs of Community Engagement Platform continue to provide representation for C&V sector on the CC&G Community Planning Strategic Partnership. • 1 x Community Engagement Platform event on Health and Wellbeing actions 72 in total attended with 56 from C&V. <p>Youth Voice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 young people attending regular Youth Voice meetings • 1 Youth Voice conference 'Our Voice Our Space' held with 116 post – primary school children present. • Youth Voice Project Board continues to meet • Youth Voice members involved in a number of Statutory Partners consultations
How Well Did We Do It?	<p>Community Engagement Platform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Of the 72 attending, an evaluation response rate of 71% achieved. • Of this the age profile of those attending were mainly 26-55 yrs. (61%) and 56-64 yrs. (20%). • The DEAs from which most of the participants were drawn from was Causeway (27%), Limavady (20%) and Ballymoney (16%) • In response to as to whether participants felt the event had increased their knowledge of Community Planning – 86% rated this as 7 or more (out of 10). • 86% of participants felt that the event had increased their knowledge of the Health and Wellbeing actions in the Community Plan, Delivery Plan having rated 7 or above in response to this question. • The majority (92%) of participants felt the event was useful. <p>Youth Voice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 – 60 % attendance at weekly meetings • 100% satisfaction from participants who attended each of the events and feedback very positive. • 90% increase of those who have developed leadership skills • 80% increase of those who have developed Citizenship skills • 100% increase of those who have developed Communication skills

Who Is Better Off?	<p>Community Engagement Platform</p> <p>Qualitative feedback demonstrates that those attending felt the benefits of community planning in the main were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agencies can deliver and hear from community • A central approach to service delivery • Cohesive holistic approach • Collaboration sharing good practice and resources • Connecting • Involving community • Raising awareness <p>Youth Voice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback from young people indicated that they are satisfied with the process to this point. Young people are looking forward to new recruitment of young people into the programme. • Members have developed and designed packs for young people and stakeholders based on the 3 main themes of the youth voice conference. • Facebook take over on the causeway coast and glens youth service where each page of the booklet was published each day. • Overall, there was several posts each day which promoted to page to a reach an audience of 21.2 thousand. This figure was a 522.6% increase. This was a result in members and key stakeholders getting behind the campaign throughout the week. <p>Young People comments:</p> <p>"In February of this year, I was successful in my application for the role of Fibre Ambassador in the Causeway Coast and Glens area, working for Hyperfast NI under Fibrus. I'm really loving my new job, helping to connect rural communities and earning an extremely competitive salary."</p> <p>"I really gained so much valuable experience engaging with communities and stakeholders, and other important teamwork, leadership and problem-solving skills. Some of the skills I gained during my time in Youth Voice are ones I now use in my job every day as I speak to community groups and engage with councillors and MLAs."</p>
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Action 13

Shared Public Spaces

What Did We Say We Would Do?	Facilitation of a statutory Cohesion Group made up of a range of relevant agencies to work together in partnership to identify, monitor and proactively plan and address issues in areas where there may be heightened tensions in Public Shared Spaces throughout the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough. The Group will work collaboratively to ensure that shared public spaces within Causeway Coast and Glens accessible to all.
How Much Did We Do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 beacons provided to local communities. • Regular interagency meetings. • 6 x statutory agencies attended. • 60% attendance at meetings.
How Well Did We Do It?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% reduction in complaints at one bonfire site. • 75% reduction in NIFRS callouts per the same period last year. • NIFRS and PSNI confirmed that there were minimal calls in respect of bonfires and normal issues during the period.
Who Is Better Off?	Significant reduction in clean up requests and subsequently reduced costs to statutory agencies.

Action 14

Support Community and Voluntary Sector

What Did We Say We Would Do?	Collaborative actions to Strengthen and Support the Community and Voluntary Sector in Causeway Coast and Glens - facilitation of partnership working of community network / volunteer support organisations and others to work together to identify and meet ongoing support needs of the community and voluntary sector.
How Much Did We Do?	<p>Shared training and networking schedule developed between Community Networks and Council Community Development to ensure community needs are supported and to avoid duplication.</p> <p>The Glens DEA Healthy Places II – Northern Area Community Network (NACN) leading a partnership area-based approach to promote mental health and wellbeing. Series of programmes including Participatory Budgeting (PB). PB initiatives completed in Ballycastle (youth based), Ballintoy, Stranocum and Mosside, Glenariff, Cushendall and Cushendun. Delivered by NACN with support from NHSCT and Council.</p> <p>Regular connecting events continue to take place for community organisations in Coleraine, Limavady and Ballymoney organised by Council in liaison with BCRC, CRUN, NACN and Supporting Communities.</p>
How Well Did We Do It?	<p>Increased range of training offered to Community and Voluntary organisations</p> <p>Numbers attending the Participatory Budgeting community voting events (e.g. 90+ voters in Ballintoy; 120 voters in Mosside; 200 voters in Ballycastle) indicates that the communities have engaged well and embraced the process and important learning has been gained. Participatory budgeting has acted as a stimulus for further collaborative actions in these areas.</p> <p>Feedback from organisations attending the connecting events shows that they are extremely valuable in terms of peer support, sharing learning, making new connections, and increasing awareness of funding and connections with statutory and other organisations.</p>
Who Is Better Off?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peer support and learning provided across participating groups • New connection made between organisations and statutory bodies. • Increased awareness of funding and other opportunities. • Increased awareness of groups operating in communities participating in PB initiatives and new volunteers gathered through community voting days.

Action 15 Road Safety Partnerships

What Did We Say We Would Do?	Develop Road Safety Partnerships to work together with schools and communities to target those identified as most at risk of road traffic collisions and to deliver the 'Your Choice' Road Safety Programme.
How Much Did We Do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 Your Choice events completed. • 132 participants. • 3 X Road Traffic Collision demonstration (Just One Life) along with PSNI Road Safety Team. • Approximately 500 attending.
How Well Did We Do It?	<p>Your Choice Events Positive feedback from schools / organisations involved, working with smaller group numbers made the delivery of presentation better.</p> <p>Just One Life Demonstration Feedback from school heads was very positive. This event was carried out in conjunction with Ballymoney Rotary Club and PCSP. Post event analysis was very positive. Northern Regional College staff reported that the demonstration had a positive effect on students (and staff) raising awareness of road safety and the consequences of RTCs.</p>
Who Is Better Off?	<p>Your Choice Participants in these events have provided written feedback that they would have a positive change in their attitude towards driving.</p> <p>Just One Life Seen as a practical and hard-hitting way of educating a large group of young people.</p>

Action 16 Accidental Fire Prevention

What Did We Say We Would Do?	Accidental Fire Prevention - targeted activity to individual dwellings across identified areas at more risk of accidental fire than others.
How Much Did We Do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Targeting of Areas at Risk (STAR) initiative targets the delivery of fire safety advice in the Super Output Areas (SOAs) of Northern Ireland identified as being at a greater risk from fire. • STAR areas have been identified from an analysis of operational risk data, an index of multiple deprivation, census data of people at risk descriptors and the response time of the nearest fire appliance. <p>Star 2 Initiative Limavady Area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coolessan (Limavady) - 524 Homes Targeted • Roeside (Limavady) - 561 Homes Targeted • Greystone (Limavady) - 576 Home Targeted <p>Coleraine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 349 Homes • 9 X Sheltered Dwellings visits completed to 280 dwellings.
How Well Did We Do It?	<p>Coolessan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24 Smoke detectors fitted to homes in the Coolessan Area. • Fire safety literature delivered to each house. <p>Roeside:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 Smoke detectors fitted to homes in the Roeside area. • Fire safety literature delivered to each house. <p>Greystone:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 145 People at risk identified in households in Greystone area. • 34 Home Fire Safety Checks Completed by NIFRS. • 71 Smoke Detectors fitted to homes in the Greystone Area by NIFRS.
Who Is Better Off?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1661 homes in the Coolessan, Roeside, and Greystone areas of Limavady attended by NIFRS personnel. Fire safety literature delivered to each of the • 1661 homes to enhance awareness of fire risks in the home. • 145 people at risk of fire were identified by NIFRS personnel at homes in the targeted areas. • 34 Home Fire Safety Checks were completed by NIFRS personnel to improve fire safety and reduce the risk of accidental dwelling fires. • 125 smoke detectors fitted to homes to enhance levels of fire safety for occupants and reduce the risk of injury through accidental dwelling fires. • Residents at 4 Sheltered Dwelling received a group Fire Safety Talk and Fire Safety literature.

Action 17 Public Spaces

What Did We Say We Would Do?	To create opportunities to explore, develop and maintain public spaces throughout the Causeway Coast and Glens area.
How Much Did We Do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued high levels of visitors to outdoor recreation sites. Delivery of projects under umbrella of Binevenagh Landscape Partnership. Roll out of Inclusive Beach Programme at East Strand, Portrush for Summer 2023. Retention of Blue Flag and Seaside Awards. Visitor enhancement works at Banagher Glen. Council a supporting partner of Sperrins Partnership Project. Development of Core Path Networks at some small settlements.
How Well Did We Do It?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demand for outdoor recreation continues. Sites and trails continue to be well used. Project planning and preparation for delivery ongoing. Work at The Moors and defence heritage complete. Further trail development work in completion with signage installation at Castlerock. Successful provision of inclusive beach at Benone Strand and East Strand. Retention of awards and roll out of beach management programme for 2023. Season complete. Planning for further phases to further enhance provision. Initialisation of development of Sperrin AONB Management & Action Plan. Delivery of way marking/signposting to allow for local awareness of off-road trails in Bushmills, Cushendall and Dungiven
Who Is Better Off?	<p>Continues to be difficult to measure but these projects aim to provide opportunity for the public to enjoy outdoor spaces. Anecdotally, outdoor spaces have continued to play an increasingly important part of daily life.</p> <p>The public's attitude to the outdoors and activities has changed. Realisation of the value of these spaces and how they can be used for the benefit of health and well-being is very evident.</p>

Action 18 Local Social Housing Need

What Did We Say We Would Do?	<p>To meet local social housing need and provide suitable accommodation.</p> <p>The Housing Executive will work with rural communities and community planning partners to identify hidden or 'latent' housing need rural locations through rural housing needs tests.</p> <p>The rural location/s will be determined through engagement with Community Planning partners through a subgroup workshop to look at social housing need in rural areas, select a target location and examine the possibility of piloting an online rural needs test through social media/email and the NIHE and community planning websites.</p>
How Much Did We Do?	<p>Ongoing work on the Housing Investment Plan (HIP 2023-26) to report on annual business activities, social housing development programme and waiting list figures amongst other financial and business objectives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver the Social Housing Development Programme (SHDP) as set out in Housing Investment Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 67 Units completed April 2022 – March 2023 176 Units on-site at March 2023 576 Units programmed on SHDP 2023-26 <p>Work continues on rural housing needs test in Benbradagh District Electoral Area (DEA).</p>
How Well Did We Do It?	<p>Internal collaboration between departments to deliver the annual HIP which will be presented to Council in Autumn 2023.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing meetings (1) with the Housing Executives Development Programme Group (DPG) and CC&Gs Planning team to review progress on planning applications for social and affordable housing schemes. <p>Collaboration with Community Planning partners on the Rural Housing Needs tests programme.</p>
Who Is Better Off?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better understanding of the scale of social housing need in both urban and rural locations. Delivery of the social housing development programme to meet identified need.

Action 19 Live Smart

<p>What Did We Say We Would Do?</p>	<p>To engage with individuals, partners, and the wider community to promote and deliver sustainability as part of the LiveSmart strategy.</p> <p>LiveSmart is an overarching campaign to inform and engage staff and the wider community in debate and actions which promote sustainability within our area. It draws together key actions which ultimately enhance the human, physical and natural resources which define our area.</p> <p>LiveSmart is a campaign which connects ideas, delivers practical action and is aimed at a broad cross section of internal and external stakeholders.</p>
<p>How Much Did We Do?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Litter collection support as part of LitterSmart. • Cushendall Development Group – Beeswax sandwich wrap workshop x2. • Working with Ballycastle Community Fridge/Courtyard Café. • Working with Hands that Talk, deaf support group, in Dungiven. • Environmental presentation to Ballymoney Women’s Institute. • LiveSmart Education Stand at Lark in the Park organised by Cushendall Development Group. • LiveSmart Education Stand at Over 50s Information Day, Lodge Hotel, Coleraine. • ClothesSmart – Reuse of school uniforms. • FoodSmart information and engagement stall at Cost-of-Living Event hosted by Limavady Jobs & Benefits Office.
<p>How Well Did We Do It?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistance provided to – AllState, Ashes to Gold, Fibrus, Kilraughts Presbyterian Church Youth Group, Lost and Found Café Portstewart, Loyal Orange Order (12th July Ballycastle) & various individuals. Over 90 businesses and groups now signed up to CafeSmart, ClimateSmart, FoodSmart, PlasticSmart and H2 on the Go.
<p>Who Is Better Off?</p>	<p>In 2022-23, over 1,500 individuals participated in LiveSmart activities, with the collection of 2,527 bags of litter.</p>

Action 20 Local Transport

<p>What Did We Say We Would Do?</p>	<p>To identify and respond to key local transport concerns around rural connectivity and access needs, and to consider/contribute to emerging proposals aimed at improving integration of transport services.</p>
<p>How Much Did We Do?</p> <p>Completed Action **Scoping exercise with previous Transport Working Group to be undertaken</p>	<p>The Department for Infrastructure agreed to act as interim lead for this action. A working group was established which initially agreed terms of reference and the group has met on a regular basis.</p> <p>The group has prioritised the gathering of evidence and data to inform discuss in relation to access and connectivity within the Causeway Coast and Glens area. A substantial amount of information has been gathered from stakeholders and the group was tasked to evaluate this data to draw out key points.</p> <p>The Working Group has completed evidence and data gathering in relation to connectivity access. This evidence has been formatted into a report document for the attention of the Strategic Partnership which highlights the key findings and will better inform policy development and decision making in relation to access and connectivity concerns within the Causeway Coast and Glens area.</p>
<p>How Well Did We Do It?</p>	<p>Full collaborative and partnership approach undertaken with Department for Infrastructure, Health Partners, Translink, Local Community Transport, Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.</p>
<p>Who Is Better Off?</p>	<p>Baseline data/information collated, key findings identified to better inform further policy development.</p>

Action 21

Natural and Built Environment

What Did We Say We Would Do?	To promote and encourage local residents and visitors to take pride and enhance the natural and built environment across the Causeway Coast and Glens area. Increase areas given over to biodiversity. This includes reducing the amount of plants which are not insect friendly and replacing with native wildflowers.
How Much Did We Do?	A number of beds around main town centres have been transformed using wildflower mixes rather than bedding plants. These continue to be added/rotated year on year. Work continues with Roads Service to convert their verges to encourage wildflowers in support of biodiversity. DFI Roads have provided funding to purchase appropriate equipment for verge maintenance.
How Well Did We Do It?	Coleraine has been entered into Britain In Bloom 2023 on the back of winning Ulster In Bloom 2022.
Who Is Better Off?	Council continues to receive positive feedback on the introduction of wildflowers in place of bedding plants which has significant impact on pollinators. It should also be pointed out that this approach to biodiversity is applied throughout the Borough with supporting partners.

Action 22

Natural Heritage

What Did We Say We Would Do?	To implement initiatives on protected natural heritage areas in Causeway Coast and Glens to support the maintenance of the area's special features and sensitively manage the landscapes outside these special areas. To improve where possible the condition of designated sites and encourage a sustainable and sensitive approach to all landscapes within the Council area.
How Much Did We Do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation Management Plans (CMPs) have been initiated for 12 Special Areas of Conservation (SACs). • 7 no. tranches of the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) Environmental Farming Schemes (EFS) have been opened since 2017, with tranche 7 opened in May 2023. 900+ EFS Higher agreements with 59,840h. of land in NI were under Agri-environment scheme agreement. • Monitoring of species and habitat condition assessment by DAERA Northern Ireland Environmental Agency (NIEA) Natural Environment Division (NED) Biodiversity and Wildlife Unit. • World Heritage Site (WHS) Management and Action Plan 2020- 2027 in place and being delivered by CC&GHT on behalf of DAERA NIEA. • WHS NIEA funded In Year Projects include coin lodgement project, resilient farms project and WHS marine cleans. <p>WHS Periodic reporting: Work ongoing on periodic reporting to UNESCO World Heritage Centre), Causeway Coast and Glens Heritage Trust (CCGHT) co-ordinating this task with the Steering Group.</p> <p>CCAONB Action Plan 2019-2023 being delivered by CC&GHT. Work includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital AONB biodiversity education, Causeway Coast Way and Uncharted Histories of the Causeway Coast community project. • Antrim Coast and Glens • AONB Management Plan developed including engagement with 52 partners/stakeholders. • 23 Actions ongoing. • Binevenagh AONB and Binevenagh Coastal Lowlands LP. 21 farm resilience plans completed. <p>WORK ONGOING Landscape Monitoring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 CCGBC AONBs participating in DAERA Fixed Point Photography Project. • CC&GBC Local Development Plan (LDP) 2035: • Suite of projects undertaken on behalf of CCGBC to evaluate 35 walks across the borough plus extensive research on signage, CC Way perception and best trail practice.

Action 22

Natural and Built Environment Continued

<p>How Well Did We Do It?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CMPs are progressing well eg: River Roe SAC CMP to improve water quality. • Farmland managed in an improved sustainable way. Monitoring techniques of Agri-environment schemes are being developed. • Ongoing work. Priority Species and habitat management are assessed with a view to sustaining and improving species nos. and diversity where appropriate. • DAERA report to DCMS on matters relating to the WHS. A 'watching brief' is kept by the Steering Group with input from CC&GBC. • All activities continue to be carried out to protect the Outstanding Universal Value of the WHS. • An essential piece of monitoring work – takes place every 7 years. Our WHS submission has been approved by DCMS (Sept 2023) and they will be sending on to UNESCO in due course. • Identifies tasks as per 2013-2023 CC AONB Management Plan. Increased education and community engagement benefit. • Delivery by CC&GHT for DAERA NIEA. The MP presents a vision, aims and objectives for the AONB over the next 10 years. • Landscape management of area e.g.:- fixed point photography, Magilligan prison tree nursery, farm resilience plans and invasive species monitoring and eradication: • 4 seasonal photos/p.a. • FPP continues with Summer 2023 session completed and submitted. Monitoring analysis is underway by DAERA NIEA. • LDP Preferred Options Paper published in June 2018. Draft Plan Strategy is still in preparation. • Continued strong engagement and involvement with local community through volunteers, students, and community groups.
<p>Who Is Better Off?</p>	<p>Protection and improvements are made through regulatory protection activity, promotional and on-the-ground actions by land owners, land managers, citizens, and other parties/organisations. Knowledge and expertise have been increased by engagement with the farming community, community groups, schools, universities on how to manage and further sustainable practice on the land and landscape. Also increase in disability resource access.</p>

Action 23

Economic Development Strategy

<p>What Did We Say We Would Do?</p>	<p>Delivery of new Economic Development Strategy – 'Recovery and Renewal'.</p>
<p>How Much Did We Do?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify at least one new key strategic priority. • Examine all external funding opportunities. • Define roles of all key delivery partners • Continue to deliver business support to help both new and existing businesses.
<p>How Well Did We Do It?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% - Growth Deal projects identified as key economic driver for next 10-15 years. • 100% - External funding opportunities have been identified including: Growth Deal, Complementary Fund, Levelling Up, Peace Plus
<p>Who Is Better Off?</p>	<p>Economic Development Strategy (EDS) has been developed under two themes, Recovery and Renewal, with the aspiration of improving the lives of every citizen within the borough through: Recovery – Labour Market Activation and Business Starts/ Survival Renewal – Business Evolution, Connected Borough, Green Borough, and Renewed Place Further analysis of impact of EDS will be assessed in future reports.</p>

Action 24

Atlantic Link Enterprise Campus

What Did We Say We Would Do?	To promote the unique offer of the Atlantic Link Enterprise Campus (ALEC.)
How Much Did We Do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify new strategic priorities. Identify Growth Deal opportunities. Number of information communication engagements.
How Well Did We Do It?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussions have been ongoing with the Department for Economy. Planning classification investigated. Discussions with potential tenants ongoing.
Who Is Better Off?	<p>The Atlantic Link site has received an initial expression of interest for a second site to be developed, the first one was the Data Centre. Discussions are currently ongoing between the Council, property agent and legal representatives.</p> <p>Work is also ongoing with regard to the Growth Deal project with the development of a strategic business case. This is a long-term project and no impact can be measured until after the capital project is completed and occupied.</p>

Action 25

Innovation

What Did We Say We Would Do?	Increase the level of innovation in the Causeway Coast and Glens area.
How Much Did We Do?	<p>Increasing the level of innovation is a key priority for successful delivery of DfE's '10X' Vision for Northern Ireland.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of businesses receiving Innovation Accreditations Investment in Innovative activities including Research & Development (R&D)
How Well Did We Do It?	Still too early to quantify.
Who Is Better Off?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The following Strategic Projects have been shortlisted to be progressed via the 'Growth Deal' funding mechanism: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enterprise Zone Digital Innovation Hub. Centre for Drug Discovery and Pharmaceutical Innovation. Food Innovation and Incubation Hub. Operationally our economic partnership action plan identifies a few innovation actions i.e.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working in partnership to improve innovation activity in the CCGBC area via the Innovation Accreditation Scheme / Innovation Vouchers etc. Delivery of the Digital Infrastructure Strategy for the Causeway Coast and Glen's area. Specifically, support businesses to adopt and exploit digital technologies to improve competitiveness & business resilience. Enhanced Digital Infrastructure in the Causeway Coast and Glen's area – Project Stratum and FFNI. Working with partners to encourage and support businesses in a drive towards a Low Carbon 'Green' Economy'. The recently published Invest NI Action Plan in response to the Independent Review (Lyons) will put a stronger focus on sub-regional productivity including innovation.

Action 26

Digital Infrastructure Strategy

What Did We Say We Would Do?	To develop a Digital Infrastructure Strategy for the Causeway Coast and Glens area.
How Much Did We Do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued delivery of Council's Digital Strategy. Identify and implement innovative urban and rural connectivity schemes. WAN Migration to Full Fibre following completion of Full Fibre NI (FFNI) installs. Exploration of Smart Technologies to support industry and residents. Continued promotion of broadband programmes/ consultations.
How Well Did We Do It?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% Council's Digital Strategy incorporated into all present and future projects. Project Stratum deployed across 67% of NI (6049 premises in CCG with 930 outstanding). 50% Project Gigabit Open Market Review completed. Public Review launched June 2023. 50% ICT Dept. leading on Wide Area Network (WAN) – engaging with EirEvo. To complete migration of all 47 FFNI sites. Benefits Realisation to take place once fully operational. 20%– Officers exploring if Smart Technology projects can be developed to support industry or residents. 100% Officers have promoted DfE's Project Gigabit Public Review and national Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme.
Who Is Better Off?	Council's Digital Strategy identified three key themes; Digital Infrastructure, Digital Skills, and the Digital Sector, all of which are considered when developing new projects. Council is currently developing a Growth Deal which is informed by this strategy. In addition, Officers are exploring a variety of opportunities to support the uptake of digital technologies across the Borough. The Business Development team are preparing to launch the Digital Transformation Flexible Fund, in conjunction with all other Councils – expected October 2023. Detailed analysis of impacts will take place in future reports.

Action 27

Labour Market Partnership (LMP)

What Did We Say We Would Do?	Support the development of the Labour Market Partnership (LMP) - supporting educational and skills initiatives within the Causeway Coast and Glens area to match current and future business needs.
How Much Did We Do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LMP Funding 2023/24 Work Ready Programme Business Start-Up and Seed Fund Retrain Plus Employment Academies Personal Learning Account Causeway Area Learning Partnership Jobs Fairs Making a Difference Event
How Well Did We Do It?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An improved Letter of Offer from DfC received in June 2023 to also cover project operational costs. Total DfC budget for LMP administrative and operational costs of £467k. 1 LMP members meeting took place in September 2023 in Cloonavin. 3 candidates on the Transport Academy completed their licence in Q2. 14 candidates commence on the Ramore Restaurants Chef Academy Procurement completed for 2023-24 Work Ready programme launching in October 2023. Applications opened for the Personal Learning Account grant up to £500 with 28 applications received in the first round of assessment. These are being scored in October 2023. CausewayApprenticeships.com website launched along with Facebook page. 20 apprenticeship opportunities promoted along with best practice videos of apprentices and employers. Website launch supported by radio and social media campaign. Mentoring with 44 start-ups supported from 2022-23 on the £1,000 Seed Fund now concluded. Monitoring is ongoing.
Who Is Better Off?	The Causeway Coast and Glens LMP Members and Partnership will work very closely with DfC and other LMPs / NI Councils in the delivery of their respective Action Plans. The focus of the CCAG LMP will focus on employability, skills, and education initiatives.

Action 28

Energy and Climate Strategy

What Did We Say We Would Do?	Develop Energy and Climate Strategy incorporating an Action Plan for the Causeway Coast and Glens area.
How Much Did We Do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a Terms of Reference (TOR) for a Net Zero Roadmap. Appoint a specialist advisor/team to assist with development of Net Zero Roadmap/LAEP. Engage with large scale energy users. Engage in soft market sounding. Environmental Services activities relating to energy/ climate. Form a local collaborative energy group. Support a Smart Local Energy System (SLES). Develop an energy application for Borough (Innovate UK/ DESNZ).
How Well Did We Do It?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% TOR developed for Net Zero Roadmap, consideration now being given to a Local Authority Energy Plan (LAEP). 0% Specialist to be appointed once path forward has been determined. 50% Council is now supporting INI Industrial Decarbonisation bid to IUK . 50% Business Survey launched Sept. 2023 which includes engagement in soft market soundings. 100% Environmental Services responded to the DAERA Climate Change Public Body Reporting Consultation. 0% - Local collaborative energy group to be formed. 0% - Council to identify SLES which will benefit from financial and promotional assistance within Borough. 0% - Energy application for borough yet to be developed.
Who Is Better Off?	<p>Council to develop an Net Zero Roadmap or Local Authority Energy Plan to assist with understand the energy opportunity within the Borough and provide justification for future interventions. Progress has been slow to date, as Officers determine the preferred way forward and seek funding support. Council has limited powers to influence DfE's priorities within their Path to Net Zero Action Plan. The lack of NI Executive has curtailed DfE's ability to deliver its own action plan and certain elements have been reconsidered due to uncertainty over budget.</p> <p>In the coming year, Council will need to adopt a more proactive approach to delivering energy security for it residents and to achieving Net Zero targets. Council is supporting Invest NI's bid to Innovate UK to develop an Industrial Decarbonisation Plan – outcome of bid expected in Autumn 2023.</p>

Action 29

Town Centre Forums

What Did We Say We Would Do?	<p>Support Town Centre Forums to focus on developing and delivering collaborative town centre management projects addressing safe, clean, and green ethos across the 6 urban towns Ballycastle, Ballymoney, Coleraine, Limavady, Portrush & Portstewart.</p> <p>Working with partner organisations to provide synergy with developing infrastructure plans and action plans to address active transport initiatives, masterplan proposals and the renewal and transformation of our town centres as places to be.</p>																					
How Much Did We Do?	<p>All 6 Forums operational on a bimonthly basis. Forums consist of Elected DEA Councillors for each town along with interested stakeholders.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Town</th> <th>No. Stakeholders</th> <th>No. of DEA councillors</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Ballycastle</td> <td>14</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ballymoney</td> <td>11</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Coleraine</td> <td>19</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Limavady</td> <td>8</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Portstewart</td> <td>5</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Portrush</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Town	No. Stakeholders	No. of DEA councillors	Ballycastle	14	5	Ballymoney	11	7	Coleraine	19	6	Limavady	8	4	Portstewart	5	7	Portrush	6	7
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How Well Did We Do It?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All 6 forums now established 100% 100% of scheduled meetings have taken place 																					
Who Is Better Off?	<p>Terms of reference for each location agreed with initial members. Meetings provide a two-way communication channel for stakeholders and council officers.</p>																					

Action 30

Thriving and Sustainable Visitor Economy

What Did We Say We Would Do?	<p>Support and enable benefit from a Thriving and Sustainable Visitor Economy through delivery and enhancement of the Tourism and Recreation Services throughout the Causeway Coast and Glens area.</p> <p>It will provide a welcoming, year-round, high quality visitor experience, generate opportunities for quality employment, protect its built and natural environment, and will aim to balance the growth of the economy without having a detrimental impact on the health and wellbeing of local communities.</p>
How Much Did We Do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trade Engagement. • Visitor Servicing. • Destination Marketing. • Trade and Consumer shows. • Product Development.
How Well Did We Do It?	<p>Ongoing trade engagement activity – weekly ezines/ monthly digital ezines, Face to face meetings, 1:1, Telephone/Team's meetings</p> <p>Fam trip organised for TNI Social media team to introduce them to number of our new experiences.</p> <p>Seasonal VIC's open in Bushmills & Portrush All remaining VIC's operational as normal. Continuing to support the trade through selling their 'experiences' and local food and crafts.</p> <p>Destination website</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Users, new users, site sessions and page views have increased significantly • Users are spending longer on the website and visiting more pages per session • Bounce rate has decreased significantly • The number of users from ROI has increased • Users are now visiting more 'valuable' sections of the website most frequently looked at is 'What's on' <p>Capitalising on free PR opportunities from TNI & TI. Hosted a Fam trip from TI New York office end of August. Ongoing work alongside TNI to develop a range of 'Embrace a Giant Spirit' and 'Local Spirit' experiences within the CCAG destination.</p>

How Well Did We Do It? Continued	<p>Marketing team have attended a number of consumer shows in the past number of months. Bloom in the Park Royal Highland Show in partnership with Tourism Ireland (TI) Phase 2 of The Experience Development Programme 'Developing Saleable Experiences' completed end of June 2023.</p> <p>Ongoing work alongside Tourism Ireland (TI) to develop a range of 'Embrace a Giant Spirit' and 'Local Spirit' experiences within the CCAG destination.</p> <p>Destination website update:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1878 810 2849 1083"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>2022</th> <th>2023</th> <th>% change</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Users</td> <td>179,058</td> <td>214,547</td> <td>19.82%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sessions</td> <td>226,052</td> <td>271,562</td> <td>20.13%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sessions from Organic Searches</td> <td>103,036</td> <td>158,525</td> <td>53.85%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Page Views</td> <td>681,808</td> <td>968,997</td> <td>42.12%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		2022	2023	% change	Users	179,058	214,547	19.82%	Sessions	226,052	271,562	20.13%	Sessions from Organic Searches	103,036	158,525	53.85%	Page Views	681,808	968,997	42.12%
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Who Is Better Off?	To be further assessed in January 2024.																				

Action 31 Growth Deal Opportunities

What Did We Say We Would Do?	All people of the Causeway Coast and Glens will contribute to and benefit from a thriving economy built on a culture of growth, entrepreneurship, innovation, and learning.
How Much Did We Do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Programme Board to provide approvals throughout development of Growth Deal. • Programme Management Office to undertake work in support of the Growth Deal. • Consultant call off framework to be utilised throughout the development of Strategic Outline Cases (SOC's)/Outline Business Cases (OBC's). • Independent research/reviews in support of projects to be commissioned (as required). • Outline Business Cases to be commissioned following Heads of Terms. • Growth Deal Portfolio Document to be developed.
How Well Did We Do It?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% - Two Executive Programme Board meetings held this quarter. • 100% Programme Management Office continually working on project development • 100% - Consultant call-off list utilised for all 10 projects. All businesses cases commissioned and approaching completion. • 0% No Independent research/reviews required this quarter. • 100% Business cases approved by Council (7 SOC's and 1 OBC) • 0/0% OBC's will be commissioned following Heads of Terms (expected March 2024).
Who Is Better Off?	<p>The Growth Deal outlines the approach Council will take to strategically improve the lives of all citizens within the borough through capital projects. The objectives of the Growth Deal are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attract more innovative and internationally focused companies. • Position Causeway Coast and Glens as the 'go-to' region for innovation and tourism. • Improve key elements of strategic transport, digital infrastructure, and digital skill. • Work with communities to raise aspiration and ambition. • Detailed analysis of impacts will take place once capital projects have concluded.

Local Development Plan

The Local Government Act (NI) 2014 and the Planning Act (NI) 2011 introduced a statutory link between the Council's Community Plan and Local Development Plan (LDP).

The LDP, a spatial reflection of the Community Plan, will set out what the Borough should look like and how land should be used and developed. It will form the basis of land-use planning and decision-making within the Borough.

The LDP Timetable sets out the indicative time frame for the key stages of Plan preparation.

The Council's 'Statement of Community Involvement in Planning' (SCI) details how the Council will engage with the public and other key stakeholders throughout the Plan-making process.

Further information is available at

www.causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk

Next Steps

The Causeway Coast and Glens Community Planning Strategic Partnership will oversee progress on implementation of the Delivery Plan 2022. The detailed actions set out in the Delivery Plan will be driven by the Action Lead Organisations who will work in partnership with identified individuals and organisations. This is an evolving process with actions maturing at different times given the wide-ranging nature of the proposed actions.

An evaluation process has already been developed together with a quarterly reporting mechanism in order to assess the successful delivery of the Delivery Plan.



Northern Ireland
Fire & Rescue Service





Causeway Coast and Glens
**Community Planning
Strategic Partnership**

