

Title of Report:	Council Managed Tourism Events Programme 2025/26
Committee Report Submitted To:	Leisure & Development Committee
Date of Meeting:	17 December 2024
For Decision or For Information	For Decision
To be discussed In Committee	NO

Linkage to Council Strategy (2021-25)		
Strategic Theme	Promote our tourist offering locally and internationally	
Outcome	Improve prosperity.	
	To provide a balanced portfolio for major events across the Borough	
	and facilitate partnerships with other event promoters.	
Lead Officer	Head of Tourism and Recreation	
	Tourism Events Manager	

Estimated Timescale for Completion	
Date to be Completed	December 2025

Budgetary Considerations		
Cost of Proposal	£528,499	
Included in Current Year Estimates	For 2025/26	
Capital/Revenue	Revenue	
Code		
Staffing Costs		

Legal Considerations		
Input of Legal Services Required	NO	
Legal Opinion Obtained	NO	

Screening Requirements	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	Yes/No	Date:
, ,	RNA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Data Protection Impact	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Assessment (DPIA)	DPIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:

#### 1.0 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to seek Elected Members approval for the delivery of the schedule of the Council-led Tourism Event programme 2025/26 (ie tourism events directly organised and delivered in-house by Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council).

Details of proposed dates and budgetary requirements are provided for Elected Members' consideration, in advance of budget finalisation as part of the rates setting process.

### 2.0 Background

- 2.1 The Council's 10-year strategic approach for the Tourism Event remit recommends that the Council need to provide a balanced approach to event development, facilitation, and delivery. With an increasing number of external event providers, the role of Council is more important than ever in terms of being supportive and allowing other event providers to develop the sector. The strategic approach recognises that Council will still be an event provider but recommends that to achieve a balance, Council delivered events should be fewer, better resourced and promoted more effectively.
- 2.2 The 153<sup>rd</sup> Open Golf Championship will be hosted in Portrush in July 2025 and Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council will play a key supporting and delivery role to ensure that this event is a success. The November Leisure and Development Committee considered Council's role, and approval was given to resource allocation and involvement in the 153<sup>rd</sup> Open.
- 2.3 During the 2024/25 year the Council's Tourism Events team delivered on the agreed schedule of event programme and played a supporting role in the delivery of the Red Bull Cliff Diving International World Series for 2024. The Tourism and Recreation team will continue to work with key stakeholders to assess future opportunities for major and international events. In addition, ongoing assessment of the viability of Council's current portfolio of tourism events is an important consideration from a cost benefit point of view to the visitor economy. Opportunities for adjustment, growth and the introduction of new projects that fit with current market demand, whilst reflecting the key characteristics of our area will be factored for within the business planning process.

#### 3.0 Proposed Council Events for 2025/2026

- 3.1 A summary of the costs and the dates for each of the Council-led events proposed by the Tourism and Recreation service, based on the events schedule agreed in previous years by Elected Members, is shown in **Table 1** below. Further detail on each of the events is provided in **Annex A**.
- 3.2 Officers have made an assessment of the costs based on the requirements to deliver these events in 2024 with an uplift for 2025/26 due to the impact of inflationary pressures. (*The average CPI rate period based on twelve month period Nov 23 Oct 24 is 2.8%*). Officers have set the uplift against the 2024 budget at 2% and hope to achieve, where possible, efficiencies. Additional costs for programme delivery that is required for 2025 has been detailed.

			Table 1
Events 2025	Date(s)	Budget Requirement 2025/2026  (includes 2% for inflationary pressures) plus any additional costs detailed in adjacent Column	Rationale for additional expenditure over and above the 2% inflationary uplift
Ballymoney Spring Fair	Fri 11 <sup>th</sup> & Sat 12 <sup>th</sup> April	£30,049	Includes £4,100 for additional traffic management measures and expected rise in medical costs (pending new procurement)
NW200 Race Week Festival	Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> - Sat 10 <sup>th</sup> May	£35,245	Includes an additional £1,300 for expected rise in medical costs (pending new procurement) and possible traffic management measures at East Strand.
Rathlin Sound Festival	Sat 17 <sup>th</sup> – Mon 26 <sup>th</sup> May	£49,970	
Seasonal Summer Programme (Summer Theatre Programme)	July & August (exact dates TBC)	£16,180	
The 153 <sup>rd</sup> Open Golf Championship (Golf Animation Programme)	Sun 13 <sup>th</sup> – Sun 20 <sup>th</sup> July	n/a	The Tourism Event remit will be delivered in conjunction with the Golf 'Tourism & Promotion' Bronze grouping. Budget allocation awarded at Nov L&D, £365,000.
Summer Fireworks Evening Portstewart (Finale of Red Sails)	Sat 26 <sup>th</sup> July	£13,942	Includes an additional £500 for expected rise in medical costs (pending new procurement) & additional cleansing/toilet facilities.
Summer Entertainment & Fireworks Evening Portrush	Sat 9 <sup>th</sup> August (exact date TBC)	£13,825	Includes an additional £2,000 for additional hardware, medical and resources due to increased crowd attendance in recent years.
Ould Lammas Fair	Sat 23 <sup>rd</sup> - Tues 26 <sup>th</sup> August	£129,005	Includes an additional £400 for expected rise in medical

			costs (pending new procurement).
Bushmills Salmon and Whiskey Festival	Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup> - Sun 5 <sup>th</sup> October	£57,288	Includes an additional £200 for expected rise in medical costs (pending new procurement).
Seasonal Halloween Events x 4	Ballymoney - Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup> October Ballycastle - Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> October Coleraine - Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> October (tbc) Limavady - Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> October (tbc)	£84,438	Includes an additional £100 per venue (x4) for expected rise in medical costs (pending new procurement).
Atlantic Sessions	Thurs 13 <sup>th</sup> Nov – Sun 16 <sup>th</sup> November	£33,285	Includes an additional £5,000 increase to allow for expected increases in artist fees and associated sound & technical provision.
Seasonal Christmas Light Switch On's	Ballymoney Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> November Limavady Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November Ballycastle Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> November Coleraine Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	£65,272	Includes an additional £100 per venue (x4) for expected rise in medical costs (pending new procurement).
Total Request		£528,499	

#### 4.0 Stakeholder Involvement

- 4.1 Officers have continued to liaise and seek advice from various agencies in relation to the potential planning opportunities for Council managed events in 2025. This includes the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI), Northern Ireland Ambulance Service (NIAS), St John Ambulance and the Council led Safety Advisory Group (SAG).
- 4.2 For each event, Officers will continue to look at the type of delivery which is possible based on information, advice and timings, while considering both internal and external factors.

#### 5.0 Budgetary Position

- 5.1 In advance of the 2025 rate setting process, the Leisure and Development Committee is asked to consider the budget allocation for the delivery of Council led events (as detailed in **Table 1**).
- 5.2 The delivery of the proposed Tourism Event programme requires significant procurement, with numerous procurement exercises taking place throughout the year. Officers are requesting that, subject to adhering to Council's procurement guidelines,

approval is given for the total expenditure as detailed in **Table 1**, and rather than seeking individual procurement exercise approvals, officers be enabled to tender and spend up to the maximum detailed per event as shown in Table 1, with future reports presented to Committee confirming expenditure details.

#### 6.0 Recommendations

It is recommended that the Leisure and Development Committee approves the proposed schedule of activity for Council-led Tourism Events 2025/26 as detailed within the report:

The approach outlined for the delivery of Council led events as detailed in **Table 1** and **Annex A**, at a cost not to exceed £528,499, and subject to the Council rates setting process for 2025-26.

# Ballymoney Spring Fair - Fri 11th & Sat 12th April

Ballymoney Spring Fair is an annual event held in April each year to animate the town, support the local businesses/community and to attract visitors to the town. Traditionally this event is organised by the Council's Events Team supported by Ballymoney Chamber of Commerce and Fuse FM to include family entertainment to promote visitor and community participation where possible. The theme of the fair is aligned to the family fun segmentation of Tourism Events.

Friday of the Fair takes place at Castlecroft and consists of live music, Fuse radio and an artisan market. There is also a tea dance at the Town Hall.

Saturday has several aspects to the event over a number of locations, including Quiet Time, Vintage vehicle display, live music, amusements, children's activities and a multi-participant parade through the town.

The event typically attracts 3,000 – 5,000 visitors across the various event activities.

### **Synopsis of Event Activities includes:**

Activities	Locations	Budget
		Requirement 2025/2026
<ul> <li>Naturally North Coast Artisan Market</li> <li>Live Music – Local Acts</li> <li>Fuse Radio – Outdoor Broadcast</li> <li>Tea Dance</li> <li>Quiet Time for Children with Additional Needs including New Quiet area at COI</li> <li>Children's Craft Activities</li> <li>Flower Arranging Workshops for Adults</li> <li>Dog Agility Displays / Sessions</li> <li>Soft Play activities</li> <li>Children's Amusements</li> <li>Mobile Farm</li> <li>Vintage vehicle display</li> <li>Walkabout Entertainment</li> <li>Circus Skills</li> <li>Archery</li> <li>Traditional Games &amp; Horseshoe Toss</li> <li>Dance Groups</li> <li>Maypole Dancing</li> <li>Carnival Parade throughout Town</li> <li>New Exhibition, Crafts &amp; Trading Zone at Church Street</li> <li>Chamber of Commerce promoted discounts &amp; fashion showcase</li> <li>Biodiversity Outreach</li> <li>Recycling Team Outreach</li> <li>Ballymoney Museum exhibitions</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Castlecroft         Square &amp; Castle         Street Car Pk</li> <li>Ballymoney Town         Hall</li> <li>Seymour Street         Car Pk</li> <li>Railway Station         Car Pk</li> <li>Church Street</li> <li>Church of Ireland         Old Schoolhouse</li> <li>Animation &amp;         Parade also         throughout: High         Street, Main         Street, Meeting         House Street,         Union Street,         Queen Street         and Linenhall         Street</li> </ul>	£30,049  (Budget Requirement 2024/2025 £25,440)

\*NOTE: The activities above are an example of past events and are subject to change to allow for event development and emerging new content.

## NW200 Race Week Festival - Mon 5th - Sat 10th May

As part of North West 200 Race Week Festival, Causeway Coast and Glens BC, in conjunction with Coleraine and District Motor Club, stage Meet the Riders at the Event Space in Coleraine Town Centre on the Friday. This is a free, no-ticket event giving the public an opportunity to meet the riders and personalities at that year's NW200.

A NW200 Firework Display is held on the Friday of Race Week, at The Crescent, Portstewart. Entertainment will be live music at the Witches' Hat Band stand followed by the Firework Display from Atlantic Circle. Historically a crowd of between 3000 - 5000 is expected depending on the weather.

For 2025, Council and the organisers of the NW200 are exploring the options of showcasing additional non-competitive motorcycle races as part of the race week programme.

### **Synopsis of Event Activities includes:**

Activities	Locations	Budget Requirement 2025/2026
♦ NW200 Meet the Riders	<ul><li>Event Space at Coleraine Town Hall</li></ul>	£35,245
<ul> <li>Possibility of New non-competitive motorcycle races</li> </ul>	<ul><li>East Strand, Portrush</li></ul>	(Budget Requirement
<ul> <li>Firework Display (late evening approx.</li> <li>10pm)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The Crescent, Portstewart</li> </ul>	2024/2025 £33,279)
<ul><li>♦ Soft walkabout characters</li><li>♦ Live band from early evening</li></ul>		
Branding activation throughout course week and	promotion of race week	activities

<sup>\*</sup>NOTE: The activities above are an example of past events and are subject to change to allow for event development and emerging new content.

**Rathlin Sound Festival** 

Proposed Dates: Sat 17th - Mon 26th May in Ballycastle

Rathlin Island (exact dates TBC)

Rathlin Sound Festival, previously known as Rathlin Sound Maritime Festival, celebrates the local heritage through community organised events featuring music, song, talks, exhibitions, workshops and storytelling on Rathlin Island to commence the festival and culminating in Ballycastle with a showcase finale.

This Council-led event will be delivered with support from Rathlin Development Community Association and other voluntary organisations and external bodies. For 2025 the main themes will be:

- Island life
- Maritime heritage through storytelling
- Food and drink
- Music and cultural connections

#### **Synopsis of Event Activities includes:**

Activities & Planning considerations	Locations	Budget Requirement 2025/2026
<ul> <li>Rebranding to Rathlin Sound Festival Ballycastle – Rathlin</li> <li>Clear communication of marketing themes: Island life Rathlin; Maritime heritage through storytelling Rathlin, Ballycastle and surrounding areas.</li> <li>Cultural connections with Scottish Isles etc.</li> <li>Authentic local food and drink</li> <li>Traditional music festival elements with possible outdoor showcase, Saturday Bank Holiday weekend.</li> <li>Outdoor family activities over the Bank Holiday weekend</li> <li>Storytelling sessions in local establishments</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Ballycastle         Seafront &amp; Town         Centre</li> <li>Rathlin Island</li> </ul>	£49,970  (Budget Requirement 2024/2025 £48,990)

The proposed dates are subject to change.

#### **Seasonal Summer Programme – July & August**

The Summer Street Theatre takes place during July and August in various locations in Ballycastle, Portrush and Portstewart. The programme includes fire manipulators, Punch & Judy shows, unicyclists, stilt walkers and lively circus performers. This fun family entertainment is free to attend.

Activities	Locations	Budget Requirement 2025/2026
♦ Stiltwalkers	<ul><li>Amphitheatre /</li></ul>	
◆ Fire Manipulation	Kerr St, Portrush	£16,180
<ul><li>◆ Unicycists</li><li>◆ Kite Display</li><li>◆ Juggling</li></ul>	<ul> <li>The Crescent Portstewart</li> </ul>	(Budget Requirement
<ul><li>◆ Street Theatre</li><li>◆ Magic Shows</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Ballycastle Seafront</li> </ul>	2024/2025 £15,862)

<sup>\*</sup>NOTE: The activities above are an example of past events and are subject to change to allow for event development and emerging new content.

#### Summer Fireworks Evening Portstewart – Sat 26th July

The summer entertainment & fireworks evening held at The Crescent in Portstewart, is a brilliant free fun outdoor summer event. Live concert, family entertainment and Fireworks extravaganza. This is the culmination of the Red Sails Festival.

Activities	Location	Budget Requirement 2025/2026
<ul> <li>◆ Concert - Live Band</li> <li>◆ Fireworks</li> <li>◆ Walkabout Characters</li> <li>◆ Fire Poi</li> </ul>	■ Portstewart	£13,942  (Budget Requirement 2024/2025 £13,178)

<sup>\*</sup>NOTE: The activities above are an example of past events and are subject to change to allow for event development and emerging new content.

Summer Entertainment & Fireworks Evening Portrush – Sat 9<sup>th</sup> August (exact date tbc) The summer entertainment & fireworks evening held at Ramore Head, Portrush, is a brilliant free fun outdoor summer event. Live concert, family entertainment and Fireworks extravaganza.

#### **Synopsis of Event Activities includes:**

	Activities		Locations	Budget Requirement 2025/2026
* * *	Live music Walkabout Characters Fire Poi Fireworks	•	Lower Lansdowne Green, Portrush	£13,825  (Budget Requirement 2024/2025 £11,593)

<sup>\*</sup>NOTE: The activities above are an example of past events and are subject to change to allow for event development and emerging new content.

### Ould Lammas Fair – Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> – Tues 26<sup>th</sup> August

The Ould Lammas Fair is Ireland's oldest recorded fair dating back for hundreds of years. This event takes place on the last Monday and Tuesday in August each year. The weekend has now been extended to a four day event for all to enjoy. The fair takes place in the beautiful seaside town of Ballycastle with traders lining the streets, selling traditional items, homemade arts & craft, food and more.

The agricultural element takes place on Fairhill Street just off The Diamond in Ballycastle and includes horse trading, farrier displays, pony rides and an animal petting farm. The event attracts hundreds of thousands to the town with many family members returning for this nostalgic event. There are new additions to the fair that have been added to, including family fun entertainment, live music and Agri zones.

The event typically attracts up to 130,000 visitors at various activities over the 4 days.

#### **Synopsis of Event Activities includes:**

Activities	Locations	Budget Requirement 2025/2026
<ul> <li>Horse Trading</li> <li>Pony Rides</li> <li>Horse Shoe Demonstrations</li> <li>Horse Farrier</li> <li>Activities on Ballycastle beach</li> <li>Heavy Horse Show</li> <li>Amusements</li> <li>Vintage Vehicle Display &amp; Parade</li> <li>Seafront Stage music entertainment</li> <li>Artisan Market</li> <li>Live Band on big stage</li> <li>New Stretch Tent Music stage at Seafront</li> <li>Fireworks</li> <li>Falconry</li> <li>Mobile Animal Farm</li> <li>Family entertainment/rest area</li> <li>Traditional market style street trading</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Clare Street</li> <li>The Diamond</li> <li>Castle Street</li> <li>Ann Street</li> <li>Fairhill Street</li> <li>Quay Road &amp; Quay Road Playing Fields (subject to Leisure Centre development)</li> <li>Seafront</li> <li>Sheskburn House &amp; Car Pk</li> <li>Harbour Area</li> <li>Marina Car Park</li> <li>Ballycastle Beach</li> </ul>	£129,005  (Budget Requirement 2024/2025 £126,083)

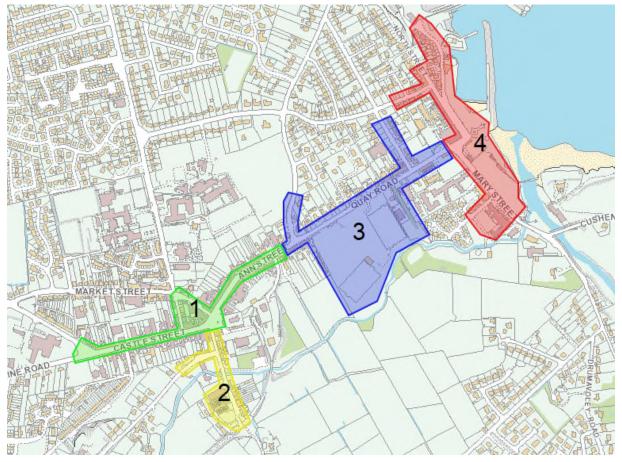
<sup>\*</sup>NOTE: The activities above are an example of past events and are subject to change to allow for event development and emerging new content.

Ould Lammas Fair is split into event zone spaces to indicate the various locations throughout the town.

Zones	Event Space - Proposed Activities & Zones
Zone 1 Clare Street, Diamond, Castle Street, Ann Street	Activity includes: Rest area, street traders, music concert and craft stalls.
Zone 2 Fairhill Street	Fairhill Street by tradition is the home of the agricultural elements of the fair, which in the main is a horse-trading area. Over the last few years this zone has expanded to include activities for children such as pony rides and animal farm. Additional horse related showcase activities have been developed including, horseshoe demonstrations and horse farrier.

Zone 3	Amusements and rest area. Family entertainment.
Quay Road & Playing	Relocation options for these activities will be explored by
Fields	Council Officers early 2025 due to Leisure Centre development.
Zone 4	Beach activities including Kite Display, Fireworks display at the
Seafront / Harbour /	seafront, Artisan Market, Non Mechanical Amusements, Artisan
Sheskburn/ Beach	market, hot food vendors.

Below is a layout of the zones across Ballycastle.



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#### Bushmills Salmon & Whiskey Festival – Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> – Sun 5<sup>th</sup> October

The Bushmills Salmon & Whiskey Festival, which celebrates the local heritage and fine produce in the area, is held in October. Three days of fantastic entertainment and activities spread across Bushmills Main Street, Millennium Park, Bushmills Distillery, local businesses and recently The Courthouse.

This is a flagship food and drink event within Causeway Coast and Glens. The festival has been based on extensive research into other leading UK food and drink festivals such as Ludlow Food Festival.

The Programme will consist of cookery demonstrations, market stalls, whiskey tastings, musical acts, and entertainers across the weekend. Traditionally this is a busy street festival. The festival encourages smaller crowds through pockets of entertainment and frequent cookery demonstrations.

The Bushmills Salmon & Whiskey Festival typically appeals to food and drink enthusiasts and attracts an attendance of approx. 5,000 visitors.

Activities	Locations	Budget Requirement 2025/2026
<ul> <li>Cookery demonstrations by celebrity and local chefs, using local ingredients</li> <li>Opportunity for young upcoming chefs to showcase their talents</li> <li>A two-day artisan market showcasing local and NI food and drink produce and producers</li> <li>Salmon or whiskey inspired menus by local establishments</li> <li>Music entertainment will take place all weekend at various hospitality venues</li> <li>STEM related elements for children</li> <li>Bushmills Taste Trail throughout the village</li> <li>Circus skills workshop</li> <li>Arts and crafts</li> <li>Themed walkabout characters</li> <li>Musical walkabouts</li> <li>Community art projects i.e. barrel painting</li> <li>Fishing demonstrations</li> <li>'Have a go' fly fishing casting</li> <li>Artisan market</li> <li>Whiskey Hub (Sampling, Meet the Makers &amp; Purchase tent)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Main Street Bushmills</li> <li>Millennium Park</li> <li>Sharvagh House</li> <li>Designerie Car Park</li> <li>Main Street Car Park</li> <li>Bushmills Distillery</li> <li>VIC</li> <li>Community Garden</li> <li>The Courthouse</li> </ul>	£57,288  (Budget Requirement 2024/2025 £55,968)

\*NOTE: The activities above are an example of past events and are subject to change to allow for event development and emerging new content. The proposed dates are subject to change.

Seasonal Halloween Events x4 - 25<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> October

Ballymoney Saturday 25th October Ballycastle Monday 27th October Coleraine Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 30th October (tbc) Limavady Friday 31st October (tbc)

Halloween Happenings brings some spooky themes into the local towns of the Borough. These include parades, spooky characters, fire poi, live music, amusements, spooky trails and fireworks. These events are organised by Council and local voluntary organisations. Each event attracts over 4,000 visitors.

Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council and Ulster University have built a positive working relationship having delivered successful Halloween events in 2023 & 2024.

Due to visitor demand, Council are proposing to increase the number of days to host Halloween activity in Coleraine with the assistance of University departments.

The size and scale of the site, enables the Events Team to accommodate large numbers, both as an entertainment site and cater for an effective traffic & transport plan. This also includes a Park & Ride Service from Coleraine town centre in the evenings.

Similarly, the Limavady Halloween event has seen an increase in visitor numbers, therefore early consultation in 2025 will be required in order to review the current event site.

#### **Synopsis of Event Activities includes:**

Activities	Locations	Budget Requirement 2025/2026
<ul> <li>Fireworks Displays</li> <li>Quiet Time for Children/Adults with Additional needs</li> <li>Balloon Modellers</li> <li>Amusements</li> <li>Circus Skills workshop</li> <li>Bushcraft workshop</li> <li>Live Music</li> <li>Fire Poi</li> <li>Halloween Performers within the event space</li> <li>Stilt walkers</li> <li>Fireworks Displays</li> <li>Spooky Trail with live animation, spooky characters, uplighters, sound and smoke</li> <li>Food Traders</li> <li>Magician</li> <li>Glow Poi</li> <li>Dance Displays</li> <li>Local school children artwork displays</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Ballymoney Showgrounds</li> <li>Roe Mill Playing Fields</li> <li>Seafront Ballycastle</li> <li>Ulster University Coleraine</li> </ul>	£84,438  (Budget Requirement 2024/2025 £82,390)
<ul> <li>Scarecrow workshops/ displays</li> </ul>		

\*NOTE: The activities above are an example of past events and are subject to change to allow for event development and emerging new content. The proposed dates are subject to change.

### Atlantic Sessions – Thurs 13<sup>th</sup> – Sun 16<sup>th</sup> November

The Atlantic Sessions Festival is a high-quality music event now well established on the NI Festival calendar, featuring a broad range of live original music performers in bars, hotels, music and hospitality venues across the seaside resorts of Portstewart and Portrush throughout the 4 days, with 30 + FREE gigs plus some showcase ticketed events. Council appoints an Event Music Promoter within the music industry to liaise with all artists

Council appoints an Event Music Promoter within the music industry to liaise with all artists and venues to deliver the Atlantic Sessions Festival Programme.

Activity	Locations	Budget Requirement 2025/2026
<ul> <li>Music trail</li> <li>Original artists music</li> <li>Emerging artists</li> <li>High profile artists</li> <li>Unique artists</li> <li>Local hospitality venue participation</li> <li>Various genres: traditional, contemporary, blue grass, electronic, indie, acoustic</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Portrush</li> <li>Elephant Rock Hotel</li> <li>Holy Trinity Church</li> <li>KIWI's Brew Bar</li> <li>Kelly's Complex</li> <li>Portrush Town Hall</li> <li>Portrush Yacht Club</li> <li>Safehouse Café Bar</li> <li>Springhill Bar</li> <li>The Atlantic Hotel</li> <li>The Playhouse</li> <li>The Station Bar</li> <li>The Quays</li> <li>Portstewart</li> <li>Flowerfield Arts Centre</li> <li>Me and Mrs Jones</li> <li>Portstewart Arms</li> <li>The Anchor</li> <li>Star of the Sea</li> </ul>	£33,285  (Budget Requirement 2024/2025 £27,730)

<sup>\*</sup>NOTE: The activities above are an example of past events and are subject to change to allow for event development and emerging new content.

### Seasonal Christmas Light Switch On's

Proposed 2025 Dates:

Ballymoney - Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November Limavady - Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> November Ballycastle - Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November Coleraine - Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November

Christmas switch ons and parades within the borough. These are a chance to kick-start your Christmas shopping with late night openings, parades featuring local children, walkabout characters, live music and meet Santa!

These events typically attract between 1,500 and 5,000 people.

Activities & Planning considerations	Locations	Budget Requirement 2025/2026
<ul> <li>Santa</li> <li>Mrs Claus storytelling</li> <li>Santa's Grotto</li> <li>Quiet Time with Santa</li> <li>Santa's Transport</li> <li>Children's gifts (selection boxes) from Santa</li> <li>Local children in parade</li> <li>Dance troops</li> <li>Parade items incl. Hire of Floats, Children's Costumes and Lanterns.</li> <li>Live Pipe Band performances</li> <li>Bubble Car and Elves</li> <li>Festive Walkabout Characters – soft</li> <li>Festive Walkabout Characters – stilt walkers</li> <li>Hire of DJs with Festive Music</li> <li>Compere for Council floats</li> <li>Balloon Modellers</li> <li>Snow Globes</li> <li>Christmas Photobooth</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Ballymoney         Town Centre</li> <li>Limavady Town         Centre</li> <li>Ballycastle Town         Centre</li> <li>Coleraine Town         Centre</li> </ul>	£65,272  (Budget Requirement 2024/2025 £63,600)

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