



<b>Title of Report:</b>	<b>Consultation on Public Health Agency Draft Corporate Plan 2025-2030</b>
<b>Committee Report Submitted To:</b>	<b>Environmental Services Committee</b>
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> March 2025</b>
<b>For Decision or For Information</b>	<b>For Decision</b>
<b>To be discussed In Committee</b>	<b>No</b>

<b>Linkage to Council Strategy (2021-25)</b>	
Strategic Theme	Healthy, Active and Engaged Communities
Outcome	Provide a consultation response
Lead Officer	Head of Health & Built Environment

<b>Estimated Timescale for Completion</b>	
Date to be Completed	N/A

<b>Budgetary Considerations</b>	
Cost of Proposal	N/A
Included in Current Year Estimates	N/A
Capital/Revenue	N/A
Code	N/A
Staffing Costs	N/A

<b>Legal Considerations</b>	
Input of Legal Services Required	<b>NO</b>
Legal Opinion Obtained	<b>NO</b>

<b>Screening Requirements</b>	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	N/A	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	N/A	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	N/A	Date:
	RNA Required and Completed:	N/A	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	N/A	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	N/A	Date:

## 1.0 **Purpose of Report**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide a Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council response to the consultation.

## 2.0 **Background**

2.1 The Public Health Agency (PHA) has launched a consultation on its draft Corporate Plan for 2025 – 2030. The draft Plan sets out the strategic direction for the PHA over the next five years and where they will target their work.

2.2 The draft plan states that PHA endeavours to translate the Health and Social Care values into its culture by putting individuals and communities they at the heart of everything they do, acting with openness and honesty and treating people with dignity, respect and compassion; working together in partnership to improve the quality of life of those they serve, listening to and involving individuals and communities; valuing, developing and empowering their staff and striving for excellence and innovation; being evidence led and outcomes focused

2.3 The draft Plan sets out a framework for delivery which is based on the following thematic areas of focus:

### **Protecting health**

Protecting the population from serious health threats, such as infectious disease outbreaks or major incidents

### **Starting well**

Laying the foundations for a healthy life from pre-birth, infancy, early years, childhood to adolescent years

### **Living well**

Ensuring that people have the opportunity to live and work in a healthy way

### **Ageing well**

Supporting people to age healthily throughout their lives

2.4 For each of the focus areas, the draft plan sets out the PHA's ambitions, priorities for the years ahead and how success will be measured.

2.5 The full consultation document can be found at:  
<https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/about-us/consultations/current-consultations/draft-pha-corporate-plan-2025-2030-consultation>

- 2.6 Attached as Appendix 1 is a suggested response to the consultation.
- 2.7 The closing date for submission of responses was 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025. Due to the time constraints this response has been submitted as an officer response pending endorsement and approval by Council.

### **3.0 Recommendation**

It is recommended that Council endorses the response.

## **Public Health Agency Draft Corporate Plan 2025-2030 Public Consultation Questionnaire**

Welcome to the draft Public Health Agency (PHA) Corporate Plan 2025-2030 Preventing, protecting, improving; Better health for **everyone**. Our new draft plan is open for public consultation.

### **Overview**

The Public Health Agency (PHA) has developed a draft Corporate Plan for the period 2025-2030, setting out the strategic direction for the PHA for the next five years. This draft plan takes account of engagement and discussion with a range of stakeholders, the vision set out by the Minister of Health in Health and Wellbeing 2026: Delivering Together, Department of Health (DoH) priorities, especially the Making Life Better Public Health Framework and the Draft Programme for Government Framework 2024-2027 within the context of financial constraints and Health and Social Care (HSC) reform and restructuring.

### **Priorities and Approach**

The PHA's objectives apply to everyone in the population, aiming to address health outcomes across all demographics, including diverse backgrounds and needs. Achieving these outcomes will require determination, innovative thinking, and collaborative efforts across HSC, government and the community and voluntary sectors. We must make partnership, involvement and engagement central to our work, explore new and different ways of doing things and make the best use of our combined resources.

We recognise our work cannot be done in isolation and requires a whole system, cross government approach with robust engagement with the public. Cognisant of this, we have now published our draft corporate plan for public consultation from Thursday 28th November 2024 until Friday 28th February 2025.

## Respondent Information Form

Please use this questionnaire to share your views on the draft PHA Corporate Plan 2025-2030. You can email your response to [phacorporateplan@hscni.net](mailto:phacorporateplan@hscni.net) or return to us by post to PHA Corporate Plan Consultation, Public Health Agency, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor South, 12-22 Linenhall Street, Belfast, BT2 8BS.

### Here to Help

Please get in touch via contact details above if you require assistance, an alternative format or have any questions with regards to completing your consultation response. We would be happy to receive any other comments you feel do not fit into the questions set out in this survey.

Details of in-person consultation events taking place in the new year will be announced in due course on the [PHA website](#).

The draft PHA corporate plan 2025-2030 aims to have wide reaching effects. We would welcome views on how delivering this plan may affect any particular groups in society. The draft Corporate Plan 2025-2030, an initial draft equality screening and rural needs impact assessment are available via the [PHA Website - Current Consultations section](#)

Have your say now by completing our consultation survey. Please make sure to share your thoughts before the consultation deadline **4pm, Friday 28 February 2025**.

Thank you for your contribution to this consultation and joining us in building a healthier Northern Ireland for all.

## Consultation Questionnaire

This questionnaire has been designed to help you respond to the Draft PHA Corporate Plan 2025-2030 'Preventing, protecting, improving: Better health for everyone. Written responses are welcome either using this questionnaire template, via [online survey](#) or in an alternative format which best suits your response.

Please answer the following questions and note your comments and views in the text boxes provided.

### About You

*(Please tick the relevant box)*

Are you responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?  
**(required)**

- Individual – Please complete Section 1, 2 and 4
- On behalf of an organisation – skip to Section 3 'Responding as an Organisation' – please complete section 3 and 4

## Section 1 - Responding as an individual

1.1 Please provide your contact details below:

Your name and email address are required for validation purposes.

Name: (required)

Email address: (required)

1.2 Can we contact you to discuss your response to this consultation?  
This may be to follow up any specific points we need to clarify.

(required)

Yes

No

1.3 Can we contact you in future about the draft PHA Corporate Plan 2025-2030? For example, to provide you with a link to the results of this consultation, to inform you of further consultations or provide update information on the plan. (required)

Yes

No

1.4 To support transparency in our decision-making process, we will publish a summary of the consultation feedback on the PHA website. This will sometimes include the responses themselves and may mention names of the responding organisation (if applicable). However, names of individuals responding on a personal capacity will only be published where consent has been given. Please note we will not publish contact details.

(required)

**Yes**, I consent to my name being published with my response

**No**, please remove my name before publishing my response

### [PHA Privacy Notice](#)

Feedback provided may be subject to publication or disclosure under access to information laws like the Data Protection Act 2018, the General Data Protection Regulation 2018, Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004. If you believe your input should be treated as confidential, please contact us by email, so that this may be considered should we receive a disclosure request.

Email: [phacorporateplan@hscni.net](mailto:phacorporateplan@hscni.net)



## Section 2 – (Monitoring Information for individual responses only)

The Public Health Agency (PHA) is committed to providing equal opportunities for everyone. This makes sure everyone has the chance to participate in our survey groups regardless of gender, marital status, disability, age, religion, political views, ethnic origin, caring responsibilities or sexual orientation.

By answering the following questions, you will help us understand who we are reaching and how we can better serve everyone in our community. Your response to these questions is **optional** and answers will be **anonymised**.

### 2.1 What is your sex? By sex we are referring to your current sex.

- Male
- Female
- Identify in a different way
- Prefer not to say

If you identify in a different way, please specify below:

### 2.2 What is your age?

- Under 16
- 16 to 24
- 25 to 34
- 35 to 44
- 45 to 54
- 55 to 64
- 65 to 74
- 75 to 84
- 85+
- Prefer not to say

### **2.3 What is your marital status?**

- Single, that is, never married and never registered in a civil partnership
- Married
- In a registered civil partnership
- Separated but still legally married
- Divorced
- Widowed
- Separated but still legally in a civil partnership
- Formerly in a civil partnership which is now legally dissolved
- Surviving partner from a civil partnership
- Prefer not to say

### **2.4 Which council area do you live in?**

- Antrim and Newtownabbey
- Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon
- Belfast
- Causeway Coast and Glens
- Derry City and Strabane
- Fermanagh and Omagh
- Lisburn and Castlereagh
- Mid and East Antrim
- Mid Ulster
- Newry, Mourne and Down
- Ards and North Down
- Prefer not to say

**2.5 Do you have any physical or mental health conditions or illnesses lasting or expecting to last for 12 months or more?**

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

If you answered 'Yes', does your condition(s) or illness(es) reduce your ability to carry-out day-to-day activities?

- Yes, a lot
- Yes, a little
- Not at all
- Prefer not to say

**2.6 What is your religion?**

- No Religion
- Catholic
- Presbyterian
- Church of Ireland
- Methodist
- Baptist
- Free Presbyterian
- Brethren
- Protestant - not specified
- Christian - not specified
- Buddhist
- Hindu
- Jewish
- Muslim
- Sikh
- Other
- Prefer not to say

If you have selected Other, please specify below:

**2.7 Which of the following options best describes how you think of yourself?**

- Heterosexual or Straight
- Gay or Lesbian
- Bisexual
- Other
- Prefer not to say

If you have selected Other, please specify below:

**2.8 Do you have responsibility for caring of any of the following groups?**

- Care of a child
  - Yes
  - No
  - Prefer not to say
  
- Care of a person with a disability
  - Yes
  - No
  - Prefer not to say
  
- Care of a dependant elderly person
  - Yes
  - No
  - Prefer not to say

**2.9 What is your ethnic group?**

- White
- Irish Traveller
- White and Black Caribbean
- White and Black African
- White and Asian
- Any other mixed/multiple ethnic background
- Indian
- Pakistani
- Bangladeshi
- Chinese
- Other Asian background
- African
- Caribbean
- Other Black/African/Caribbean background
- Arab
- Other
- Prefer not to say

If you have selected Other, please specify below:

**2.10 Do you think of yourself as a unionist, a nationalist or neither?**

- Unionist
- Nationalist
- Neither
- Other
- Prefer not to say

If you have selected Other, please specify

### Section 3 – Responding as an organisation

#### 3.1 Please provide your organisation contact details below

Organisation name and email address are required for validation purposes. (required)

Organisation name: Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council

Organisation email address:

[sharon.mcafee@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk](mailto:sharon.mcafee@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk)

#### 3.2 Which of the following best describes the sector you work in?

*(Please tick the relevant box)*

This will assist us in monitoring the range of respondents the consultation has reached.

- Statutory or Regulatory Body
- Arm's Length Body (ALB)
- Organised interest Group: e.g. Education, Health, Business, Creative Industries, Environment, Community, Voluntary & Third sectors
- Business operator
- Local Government
- Government Department
- Trade Union
- Church or faith group
- Media
- Academia
- Charity
- Political Party
- Other (please specify):

3.3 **Can we contact you to discuss your response to this consultation?** This may be to follow up any specific points we need to clarify. **(required)**

Yes

No

3.4 **Can we contact you in future about the draft PHA Corporate Plan 2025-2030?** For example, to provide you with a link to the results of this consultation, to inform you of further consultations or provide updated information on the plan. **(required)**

Yes

No

3.5 To support transparency in our decision-making process, we will publish a summary of the consultation feedback on the [PHA website](#). This will sometimes include the responses themselves and may mention names of the responding organisation (if applicable). However, names of individuals responding on a personal capacity will only be published where consent has been given. Please note we will not publish contact details. **(required)**

**Yes**, I consent to my organisation name being published with my response

**No**, please remove my organisation name before publishing my response

## Section 4 - Have your say

The following questions focus on the core elements of the draft PHA corporate plan 2025-2030.

Our purpose, vision, values and strategic outcomes are set out below and in the document.

**Purpose:** Protect and improve the health and social wellbeing of our population and reduce health inequalities through leadership, partnership and evidence-based practice.

**Vision:** A healthier Northern Ireland.

**Values:** The PHA endeavours to translate the Health and Social Care values into its culture by putting individuals and communities at the heart of everything we do, acting with **openness and honesty** and treating people with dignity, respect and **compassion; working together** in partnership to improve the quality of life of those we serve, listening to and involving individuals and communities; valuing, developing and empowering our staff and striving for **excellence** and innovation; being evidence led and outcomes focused.

Over the next five years, as we work to fulfil our purpose and advance towards our vision of a healthier Northern Ireland, we will focus on delivering a number of key public health priorities under the following strategic outcomes:

- **Protecting Health** - protecting the population from serious health threats, such as infectious disease outbreaks or major incidents
- **Starting Well** - laying the foundations for a healthy life from pre-birth, infancy, early years, childhood to adolescent years
- **Living Well** - ensuring that people have the opportunity to live and work in a healthy way



- **Ageing Well** - supporting people to age healthily throughout their lives

Each outcome sets out our ambition and a number of priorities for the years ahead. These are aligned with the draft Programme for Government Framework 2024-2027 and the strategic direction outlined in key departmental strategies.

Using the scale, please indicate using a cross (x) or a tick (✓) to what extent you agree or disagree with the content in each of the sections

**4.1 Do you agree with our purpose? If not, what alternative do you suggest?**

1 = Strongly Disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neither agree nor disagree; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly Agree

1	2	3	4	5
			x	

Please include any comments in the box below:

The defined purpose of the organisation includes the key elements of protecting and improving public health alongside reducing health inequalities. Recognition that this will be achieved through strong leadership, meaningful partnerships and evidence-based practice is critical to success.

When considering partnership working, recognition should be given to existing partnerships such as Community Planning, Children Services Plan, Civil Contingencies, Regional Age Friendly, HAPSIG etc and how these can be utilised with PHA support and where appropriate, leadership to achieve the aims and objectives of a healthier Northern Ireland.

Greater emphasis needs to be placed on collaborative working to make partnerships meaningful and successful in delivering outcomes.

**4.2 Do you agree with our vision and values? If not, what alternative do you suggest?**

1 = Strongly Disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neither agree nor disagree;  
4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly Agree

1	2	3	4	5
				x

Please include any comments in the box below.

The vision is clear, concise and easy to understand.

The values are as would be expected of an organisation.

**4.3 Referring to the draft plan, do you agree with Outcome 1: Protecting Health and the priorities listed? If not, what alternative do you suggest?**

1 = Strongly Disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neither agree nor disagree; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly Agree

1	2	3	4	5
			X	

Please include any comments in the box below.

The importance of a collaborative approach to infection control cannot be underestimated. Clear roles and responsibilities are necessary for all delivery partners in this area. The recent Department of Health consultation on an updated Public Health Act was lacking in this area. It should be considered that should roles of individual partners change further specific consultation is necessary.

Consideration could be given in this area to link into existing structures such as Climate change Emergency Planning forums.

**4.4 Referring to the draft plan, do you agree with Outcome 2: Starting Well and the priorities listed? If not, what alternative do you suggest?**

1 = Strongly Disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neither agree nor disagree; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly Agree

1	2	3	4	5
			x	

Please include any comments in the box below.

In addition to the priorities listed, specific mention of families where English isn't a first language should be included along with a recognition of the impact of poverty on children's early years.

It should highlight not only the prevention of deaths but also the reduction of injuries. Additionally, specific mention should be made of home accidents, given their significant impact on children under five.

Consideration should be given to the impact of violence (particularly against Women and Girls) and perhaps the priority should be updated to state: support families to take care of their physical and mental health, *including protection from domestic violence*, with a particular focus on the first 1,000 days.

**4.5 Referring to the plan, do you agree with Outcome 3: Living Well and the priorities listed? If not, what alternative do you suggest?**

1 = Strongly Disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neither agree nor disagree; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly Agree

1	2	3	4	5
			x	

Please include any comments in the box below.

There is no mention of workplace health, working with businesses and the value of places of employment as “settings” to improve public health.

Previous work done on a “healthy settings” base e.g. hospitals, prisons, universities, schools and workplaces may be lost in this change of approach rather than built on if not included.

Again, the impact of violence (particularly against Women and Girls) is relevant to this section.

Where there are dual or multiple work areas involved e.g. a dual diagnosis of mental health & addiction problems, there is often little coordination and engagement between teams. A priority to engage collectively with other workstreams to tackle issues would be beneficial.

There is no mention of concerns around health and homelessness which is an ever-growing problem in today’s society. A priority should be to work with homeless agencies and support services to address the health implications as part of the overall care.

**4.6 Referring to the plan, do you agree with Outcome 4: Ageing Well and the priorities listed? If not, what alternative do you suggest?**

1 = Strongly Disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neither agree nor disagree; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly Agree

1	2	3	4	5
			x	

Please include any comments in the box below.

The inclusion of Home Accident Prevention, Active Ageing and Age Friendly is welcomed however the omission of a priority specifically related to dementia in ageing is disappointing. The inclusion of a priority to support those living with dementia to age well would be of benefit to the strategy.

Indicators – falls and frailty measures:

Data collected by Councils during home safety checks to households with people over 65 and or vulnerable adults (18-64) could be used as an indicator. For example, % of households that had a home accident in the 12 months before their home safety check. % of accidents that were falls etc.

**4.7 Referring to the plan, do you agree with our organisation ambition and priorities listed? If not, what alternative do you suggest?**

1 = Strongly Disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neither agree nor disagree; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly Agree

1	2	3	4	5
			x	

Please include any comments in the box below.

In considering the value of staff, this must not be a lip service approach. There is an expectation that this will be delivered with clear targets, measurables and continuous improvements. Employee health and wellbeing should be one of the highest priorities for PHA and they should be an exemplar organisation in this regard. If “health is your wealth” then PHA should be setting this example from within.

**4.8 Is there an outcome you feel is missing or is not sufficiently reflected?**

Yes [  ]

No [  ]

Please include any comments in the box below:

Reduction in inequalities needs to be more prominent in stipulated priorities.

The statistical evidence presented should be more closely aligned with the priorities to clearly show the evidence base from which these priorities have emerged.



**4.9 Have you any other comments or suggestions to improve the document as a whole? If so, please outline these in the box below.**

Whilst the statistics are well presented, they should be more clearly linked to the priorities.

**Consultation process and [PHA privacy notice](#)**

The PHA will publish a summary of responses following completion of the consultation process on the PHA corporate website. The responses will be used to amend and further develop the draft Corporate Plan 2025-2030. Your response, and all other responses to the consultation, may be disclosed on request, in line with Freedom of Information legislation.

**Thank you for taking the time to complete and return this questionnaire. We very much value your input.**