

Title of Report:	Correspondence Report
Committee Report Submitted To:	Leisure & Development Committee
Date of Meeting:	16 December 2025
For Decision or For Information	For Decision
For discussion In Committee	NO

Linkage to Council Strategy (2021-25)	
Strategic Theme	Healthy and Engaged Communities
Outcome	
Lead Officer	Director of Leisure & Development

Estimated Timescale for Completion	
Date to be Completed	N/A

Budgetary Considerations	
Cost of Proposal	n/a
Included in Current Year Estimates	YES/NO
Capital/Revenue	n/a
Code	n/a
Staffing Costs	n/a

Estimated Timescale for Completion	
Date to be Completed	N/A

Legal Considerations	
Input of Legal Services Required	N/A
Legal Opinion Obtained	N/A

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 Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:

1.0 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to present Correspondence for Members consideration.

2.0 The following items are listed:

2.1 Correspondence from the Northern Ireland Assembly regarding fireworks at Council events (Dated 17 November 2025).

Mr Jon Burrows MLA is requesting a review of the use of fireworks at council events followed by an update on whether alternative options can be incorporated.

2.2 Correspondence from The Mary Peters Trust (Dated 03 December 2025)

Lady Mary Peters LG CH DBE DL DStJ OLY has written to Council requesting a financial contribution to assist in their endeavours to support athletes within the Causeway Coast and Glens area for 2026-27.

3.0 Recommendation

The Leisure & Development Committee are asked to consider the request contained within the attached correspondence.



Mr. David Jackson
Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council
166 Portstewart Road
Coleraine
BT52 1EY

17 November 2025

Dear Mr. Jackson,

Re: Review of Fireworks Use at Council Events

I am writing to ask that Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council review its current use of fireworks at council-organised events and give full consideration to the use of silent fireworks and/or drone shows as alternatives.

Traditional fireworks, while popular, can cause significant distress to pets, livestock, and wildlife, as well as to individuals who are sensitive to loud noise. This is an issue that has been raised increasingly by constituents and animal welfare organisations. Other councils across the UK are already beginning to explore these more considerate alternatives, recognising the benefits they bring to both animal welfare and community inclusivity.

It is my view that Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council should lead by example in promoting celebrations that are enjoyable for all, while minimising unnecessary harm or distress. Silent fireworks and drone displays offer innovative and visually impressive options that align with these goals.

I would appreciate if the Council could review its current practices and provide an update on whether such alternatives could be incorporated into future events. Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

Jon Burrows MLA
Ulster Unionist Party
North Antrim

76 Church Street, Ballymena, BT43 6DF
 jon.burrows@mla.niassembly.gov.uk
 028 2548 7100



3rd December 2025

Mr David Jackson
Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council
Cloonavin
66 Portstewart Road
Coleraine BT52 1EY

Dear Mr Jackson,

Over the years you have assisted the Mary Peters Trust, a local charity administered voluntarily by Directors, to provide encouragement and financial assistance to over 150 athletes every year. We invest our capital, and the interest is distributed in the form of sporting awards to upcoming athletes. Annually we add to this amount with extensive fundraising and support from commercial businesses, organisations and individuals. This assists us in growing the number of annual beneficiaries and retaining the value of the awards we make in the face of increasing training, equipment, and competition costs for the athletes in pursuing their sporting ambitions.

As a charity we are committed to supporting our young athletes and as such we have in the last year given awards to a number of young people in your Council area, whose names are listed in the attachment to this letter.

In the coming year we are seeking your support to help maintain a level of funding to ensure the number and value of awards continues to grow. Each year we receive many more applications than we have the funds to support. We need the support of your organisation more than ever this year as we face another year of families struggling to support athletes in fulfilling their sporting ambitions and becoming the role models of achievement that motivate the next generation.

This year the Trust is delighted to say that at some point in their sporting journey we funded every athlete from Northern Ireland that medalled at the Paris Olympics.

We recognise that many local councils either directly, or through local voluntary sports advisory committees or councils, have established grant assistance schemes for sports participants from their own area. However, we believe the Mary Peters Trust can provide further benefit to aspiring athletes from your area, either through additional financial assistance, or through access to a network of specialist advice and support utilising the experience of the many former beneficiaries of the Trust who have successfully developed sporting careers, including at the highest levels.

We would ask you to forward this letter to the relevant Council Committee and respectfully request the Council consider joining in our work of helping young people

achieve excellence in sport, by making a contribution to the Trust for the financial year 1st April 2026 to 31st March 2027.

It would be wonderful to have the support of the Council. If it assists, a representative (Director) of the Trust would be happy to meet with an appropriate member of your staff and/or Elected Member/Members to explain in more detail the work of the Trust, and how we could work together in the interests of aspiring young athletes in your area.

Best wishes, and we would really appreciate the support of your organisation in keeping local sporting talent thriving.

Yours faithfully,



Lady Mary Peters LG CH DBE DL DStJ OLY
President

Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council Awardees 2025

	Motorcycling		
Lennox Dickinson	MRA	Awarded	500
Rachel Bradley	Rowing (GB)	Awarded	1000
Ellie-Kate			
Hutchinson	Rowing (GB)	Awarded	1000
Timothy Oland	Wrestling	Awarded	500
Anna McGookin	Athletics	Awarded	500
Alexander			
Calderwood	Cycling	Awarded	100
Niamh Hassan	Football	Awarded	500
Timothy Oland	Judo (Ulster)	Awarded	500
Zoe Maynard	Netball	Awarded	300
Eimear Nicholls	Triathlon	Awarded	500