



**LEISURE & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY 16 JUNE 2026**

No	Item	Summary of key Recommendations	Estimated Timescale for completion
1.	Apologies	Councillor Bateson and McGurk	N/A
2.	Declarations of Interest	None	N/A
3.	Minutes of Leisure and Development Committee meeting held Tuesday 19 th May 2026	Confirmed as a correct record	N/A
4.	Members will receive a presentation from the Head of Sport & Wellbeing	Received	-
5.	Boardwalk Repair and Replacement, Benone Duneland	To recommend to Council Option 2: Complete removal and replacement of Marram Way in its entirety and replacement of sections of Longboard Way and Kestrel Way, with new Larch wooden path, providing a durable, low-maintenance, and accessible route that aligns with current best practice in sustainable path construction within natural and recreational environments.	2026/27

		<i>Estimated cost with full anti-slip provision (if included) across all boardwalks £368,647</i>	
6.	PEACEPLUS Local Action Plan Capital Projects – The Altnahinch Dam Project	<i>To recommend to Council that the Capital Infrastructure Team will work within the agreed budget of circa £178k to deliver elements that will form the initial phase of opening up the wider site. Works will include at least one bridge and sections of pathway extending the existing boardwalk</i>	<i>-</i>
7.	Accelerated Approval Pathway for Externally Funded Project	<i>To recommend to Council</i> <i>The following pathway:</i> <i>1. Stage 1 reports brought to L&D Committee for approval.</i> <i>2. Funding Unit progresses these projects under delegated authority, proceeding to complete all Capital Project Stages through to completion.</i> <i>3. Tender Assessments and Reports to be taken to Capital Projects Working Group (CPWG) for review and approval prior to progressing to the next stage.</i>	<i>-</i>

		4. Information reports, including tender reports will be presented to the L&D committee as each stage is progressed. 5. Should the funding situation change a report will be brought back into Committee requesting any necessary approvals	
8.	HMRC Summer VAT Reduction	To recommend that Council note the rule change on VAT charges which are being implemented by HMRC for the period 25 June to 01 September and approve the implementation of this reduction, within the Council services affected for the period outlined	1 September 2026
9.	Ulster History Circle	To recommend to Council that the Community & Culture team, working with the UHC, installs a blue plaque for Sam Henry in 2026	End of September 2026
10.	USA 250 Revised Signature Event	To recommend to Council approval to proceed with the amended USA 250 Signature Event and associated funding requested of £41,000 as	December 2026

		presented within the report	
11.	USA 250 Working Group Minutes	<i>Noted</i>	December 2026
12.	Dark Hedges	<i>To recommend that Council write to the Department for Infrastructure and Department for the Economy separately to determine what strategy is in place in relation to the Dark Hedges and Bregagh Road to include:-</i> <i>-What works have taken place;</i> <i>-What money has been invested;</i> <i>-What are the immediate and future plans?</i>	-
13.	Council Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2026-2032	<i>Information</i>	-
14.	Ballycastle Environmental Improvement Scheme	<i>Information</i>	-
15.	Sports Grant & Bursary Programme 2025/26	<i>Information</i>	-
16.	Health and Wellbeing Grants Programme 2025/26	<i>Information</i>	-
17.	Consultations	<i>Information</i>	26 June 2026

	In Committee (Items 18 – 22 inclusive)		
18.	Metropole Project	Information	-
19.	Request for Funding COAST	<i>To recommend to Council</i> <i>Approval to enter into a financial agreement with Community Planning partners, to financially support the provision of COAST core services for the remainder of the 2026-2027 period;</i> <i>This will ensure continued delivery of support programmes for the older residents across the Borough, as the designated Age Sector Network provider and as detailed within Council's Age Friendly Strategy and Action Plan;</i> <i>To further recommend to Council that the outcome of Community Planning agreement and associated cost to Council be brought back to Council in September.</i>	September 2026

20.	Legal Pursuance & Construction Update Jim Watt Sports Centre, Garvagh	<i>To recommend that members note the content of the report and recommend that the Director of Leisure and Development is given delegated authority to instruct Council's solicitors TLT NI LLP, to accept any mediated agreement reached between the parties, if deemed acceptable based on legal advice</i>	September 2026
21.	Armed Forces Day Update	Information	June 2026
22.	Growth Deal – Supplementary Deal Documents	<i>To recommend that:-</i> <i>Council approve the Growth Deal – Supplementary Deal Documents following the Growth Deal signing event with the Northern Ireland Executive and UK Government on 29th April 2026. These documents may be subject to further non-material edits and any significant changes will be brought back to Council for consideration;</i> <i>Council note that an opportunity to revisit budget allocations and overall programme affordability will be brought back for decision later this year. The final investment</i>	-

		<i>decision to progress all projects to Stage 3: Construction and appointment of contractor will be subject to final Council agreement and confirmation of capital affordability at that time.</i>	
23.	Any other relevant business notified in accordance with Standing Order 12. (o)		
23.1	Safety of electric scooters and similar devices in pedestrianised areas and town centres. (Councillor Elder)	Information	-