



**Causeway  
Coast & Glens  
Borough Council**

## **Leisure & Development**

### **Community & Culture Business Plan**

**April 2025 – March 2026**

# COMMUNITY & CULTURE ACHIEVEMENTS ~ 2024-2025



- Over **73,000** visitors to Councils Arts Centre
- **32,800** visitors welcomed across 5 accredited museum venues
- **250+** Community & Voluntary groups awarded **£480,000+** in funding
- **16,000+** advice sessions, securing **£2.89million** in additional benefits income



- **62** Projects delivered across the borough
- **100+** Key Performance Indicators
- **11,463** participants



**PCSP** - Developed a resource which raises awareness of Disability hate crime and received **RUNNER UP** in PSNI Problem Solving Awards 2025. The resource is the only one of its kind in Northern Ireland!!



Advanced stage 2 of the capital development for Ballycastle Museum



**First NI Council to Adopt and implement a memorial Policy; Staff & Stakeholders received training**



## ARTS

- Delivered **538** arts programme activities
- Provided **166** community arts activities,
- Supported **635** adult creative practitioners through employment, showcasing and bursary opportunities including **434** borough-based practitioners and supported **1098** young people experience arts/cultural programmes and develop their creative skills
- Developed **25** community partnerships and 11 Section 75 organisation partnerships to enable integrated working and widen arts accessibility.



Community & Culture operated within a net budget of circa **£1.9 million** with an anticipated grant income of **£1.5million** and **£186k** income generation



## MUSEUMS

- **5** Museums Maintained full Accreditation
- Educational workshops provided to **1,400** pre-school & school children across the Borough
- **16** local organisations supported to develop events and projects which increase engagement in culture, arts & heritage
- Partnership agreement with Community & voluntary sector to expand public access to Green Lane
- **8000+** visitors to Safari Tale exhibition



## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- **50** community development workshops, information events and shared learning opportunities were provided with 467 individuals representing **131** unique community and voluntary organisations.
- **133** grants were awarded to community organisations to a value of **£242,967**, part funded by the Department for Communities, to support the provision of community facilities and programmes of activity to address loneliness and isolation and to celebrate cultural and community identity.
- **63** community organisations received financial assistance towards operating costs, 50 of which operated community facilities, to a total value of **£166,084**
- **17** organisations attended dedicated funding clinics with **£438,955** of external funding secured as a result



- Northern Ireland's **1st** Cyber Safety toolkit for schools & youth groups developed
- **29** graffiti incidents removed, **100%** of local communities feel safer
- **1460** educated on Anti-Social Driving & Road Safety programme
- **1,298** school pupils awareness increased through Educations Safety programme
- **80** awareness sessions & **1,450** attendees increased knowledge on Teen healthy relationships programme



## GOOD RELATIONS

- **13** Ulster Scots & Irish culture initiatives delivered through the Hear Here project, enhancing mutual understanding
- **203** young participants took part in the Share Space project; 71% made new cross-community connections
- **300** school children participated in Pupil Voice
- Schools Diversity project delivered to **10** schools and **291** pupils gained cultural awareness and improved cross-community attitudes
- ESOL

## **COMMUNITY & CULTURE KEY PRIORITIES:**

- **Memorial Policy:** Expedite implementation of the Council's memorial policy and related projects.
- **Asylum Seekers, Refugees & Community Integration:** Coordinate a local response to support integration, in partnership with The Executive Office and local agencies.
- **Community Safety:** Tackle crime and anti-social behaviour through partnership-led initiatives.
- **Policing Confidence:** Build public confidence in policing through community collaboration and problem-solving.
- **Poverty Reduction:** Lead the Anti-Poverty Stakeholder Group and implement its Action Plan, providing advice and emergency support.
- **Social Supermarkets:** Address food insecurity and underlying poverty through borough-wide social supermarket initiatives.
- **Ballycastle Museum Capital project:** Advance Museum extension and renovation; secure NLHF funding for construction.
- **Ending Violence Against Women & Girls:** Manage grassroots initiatives aligned with the EVAWG Strategic Framework's prevention goals.
- **Community & Culture Strategic Framework** - Develop a Community & Culture Strategic Framework, including consultation for new community development and cultural plans.
- **Creative Industries:** Support artists and creative businesses, map activity, and build strategic partnerships to position the borough as a creative hub.
- **Arts Engagement:** Broaden access to arts and culture to foster healthy, engaged communities.
- **Supporting the C&V sector** - £300,000 to 200+ Community & Voluntary Groups for Community Development, Community safety, Good relations & Activities
- **Additional Income**— secure £2.1 million with an anticipated grant income of £910k and £200k income generation

*Additional Information within the tables below*

## COMMUNITY & CULTURE: BUSINESS PLAN OBJECTIVES AND WORKSTREAMS FOR 2025/26

<b>Service Area</b>	<b>Community and Culture, Good Relations</b>
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<b>Business Plan Objectives</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote positive attitudes among young people and support their active role within their community relations</li> <li>Foster an inclusive community where division does not limit opportunity</li> <li>Enhance community safety by supporting positive leadership and providing training, networking, and diversionary activities.</li> <li>Encourage mutual respect and celebrate diversity through active citizenship and cultural expression initiatives.</li> </ol>
<b>Lead Officer(s):</b>
Head of Service ; Good Relations Manager
<b>Link to Corporate Strategy:</b>
To develop meaningful partnership and collaborative working that will improve the quality of life for all those who reside in the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council area by contributing to the development and creation of healthy and safe communities.
<b>Link to Community Plan:</b>
Agencies working in partnerships to promote and establish Shared Public Spaces across Causeway Coast and Glens.
<b>Link to Performance Improvement Plan:</b>
Objective 2. develop and embed improvements to Council's Performance. Objective 5. increase our level of citizens engagement.

Work Stream/Priority themes	Actions	Financial Info/ Budget £ (net)	Timescale	Performance Indicator(s)  APSE Benchmarking Indicators	Progress	RAG Status
<b>Our Children and young people</b>  <b>Our Shared community</b>  <b>Our Safe Community</b>  <b>Our Cultural Expression</b>	<p>Deliver a diverse portfolio of projects aimed at fostering positive relationships withing and between communities. Emphasis will be placed on encouraging engagement and participation through training, networking, educational/ awareness raising programmes, and activities in the arts, sports, and culture.</p> <p><b>Asylum Seekers &amp; Refugees:</b> Coordinate a local response to support integration, in</p>	167,872.84	April 25 – March 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2,420 participants</li> <li>21 projects</li> <li>41 activities</li> <li>4 Community grants</li> <li>Multi agency meetings</li> <li># projects and interventions delivered by key service providers</li> <li>% increase in positive attitudinal change</li> <li>% increase in participation in GR activities who had not participated in GR before</li> </ul>		

	partnership with the Northern Ireland Office, local statutory providers and C&V sector			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># engagements with asylum seekers and with local community support 'networks'</li> <li>Increased access to support services</li> </ul>		
	<b>Memorial Policy:</b> Expedite the implementation of the Council's memorial policy and related projects			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># Working group meetings</li> <li>3 Memorial projects assessed</li> <li>1 Memorial completed</li> </ul>		

<b>Service Area</b>	<b>Community &amp; Culture, Community Development</b>
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<b>Business Plan Objective 1</b>
Develop and promote resourced, connected and inclusive communities that can sustain collective action, increase citizen participation and social connections, and tackle disadvantage, through the provision of financial resources and developmental support and the facilitation of partnership working.
<b>Lead Officer(s):</b>
Community Development Manager; Head of Community & Culture
<b>Link to Corporate Strategy:</b>
Healthy, Active and Engaged Communities The Borough comprises cohesive and stable communities which work collaboratively with a range of stakeholders to address issues and deliver on opportunities.
<b>Link to Community Plan:</b>
A Healthy Safe Community
<b>Link to Performance Improvement Plan:</b>
Objective 5 - We will improve and increase our level of citizens engagement.

Priority themes	Actions	Budget £ (net)	Timescale	Performance Indicator(s)	Progress	RAG Status
<b>Resourced &amp; Confident Communities</b>	Deliver a range of initiatives to build resourced, connected, and inclusive communities capable of sustained collective action, increased citizen participation, and stronger social ties - funding, developmental support, and partnership facilitation.	£545,318	April 25 – March 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>60 C&amp;V organisations supported</li> <li>Circa £250,000 in grants to over 100 groups</li> <li>4 events and 6 collaborative projects</li> <li>% of partners reported improved service delivery</li> </ul>		
<b>Connected Communities</b>	Reducing Poverty and addressing the underlying causes of poverty : Lead the Anti-					

<b>Fair and Inclusive Communities</b>	<p>Poverty Stakeholder Group and implement its Action Plan, providing advice and emergency support.</p> <p>Provision of an Independent Generalist Advice Service.</p> <p>Facilitate Neighbourhood Renewal Partnerships.</p> <p><b>Social Supermarkets:</b> Address food insecurity and underlying poverty through borough-wide social supermarket initiatives.</p> <p><b>Ending Violence Against Women &amp; Girls:</b> Manage grassroots initiatives aligned with the EVAWG Strategic Framework's prevention goals.</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Independent advice provided to 12,000 contacts</li> <li>• #£ additional income secured</li> <li>• 16 NR projects supported</li> <li>• 220 households assisted via the Social Supermarket Programme</li> <li>• 150+ groups engaged in consultation</li> <li>• # groups engaged in prevention initiatives (evawg)</li> <li>• # resources, training and awareness raising delivered</li> </ul>		
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Service Area	Community & Culture, Arts Service
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Business Plan Objective
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Deliver a diverse core programme of arts events and activities which increase access to and participation in the arts in our arts centres by local people and tourists.</li> <li>2. Invest in creative learning and skills development to both enhance the creative skills of individuals and strengthen the cultural sector</li> <li>3. Deliver a community arts programme to increase engagement in the arts, particularly for hard to reach Section 75 groups.</li> </ol>
Lead Officer(s):
Arts Service Development Manager; Head of Community & Culture
Link to Corporate Strategy:
Healthy & Engaged Communities; Local Economy.
Link to Community Plan:
A Thriving Community.
Link to Performance Improvement Plan:
Objective 5- We will improve and increase our level of citizens engagement.

Priority themes	Actions	Budget £ (net)	Timescale	Performance Indicator(s)	Progress	RAG Status
<b>Enhancing Cultural Venues and Assets</b>  <b>Investing in Creative learning and skills development</b>  <b>Participation, Inclusion &amp; Equality</b>	<p>Deliver a diverse year-round programme of exhibitions, performances, film, workshops, and community arts activities to increase access and engagement among residents and visitors.</p> <p>Manage council arts facilities to increase sustainability, access and participation</p> <p><b>Creative Industries</b> - Invest in creative learning initiatives to build individual artistic skills and support the growth and sustainability of the Borough's cultural sector.</p> <p><b>Arts Engagement:</b> Broaden access to arts through outreach programmes which increase participation, with a focus on underrepresented Section 75 groups.</p>	£865,166	April 25 – March 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 70,000+ arts venue visitors</li> <li>• 36,750 programme participants/attendees</li> <li>• 420 creative practitioners supported/employed</li> <li>• 105 community arts activities delivered</li> <li>• 1,575 community arts participants/attendees</li> <li>• Increased income generated</li> <li>• # grants awarded</li> <li>• # partnerships enabling community arts delivery</li> </ul>		

<b>Service Area</b>	<b>Community &amp; Culture, Policing &amp; Community Safety Partnership</b>
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<b>Business Plan Objectives</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ensure effective delivery in response to local need and improve the visibility and recognition of the work of the PCSP through effective consultation, communication and engagement.</li> <li>2. Improve community safety by prioritizing and addressing local community safety issues, tackling crime and anti-social behaviour.</li> <li>3. Support confidence in policing, including through collaborative problem solving with communities.</li> </ol>
<b>Lead Officer(s):</b>
Policing & Community Safety Partnership Manager ; Head of Service Community & Culture
<b>Link to Corporate Strategy</b>
Healthy and Engaged Communities
<b>Link to Community Plan: A Healthy Safe Community</b>
A Healthy Safe Community
<b>Link to Performance Improvement Plan:</b>
Objective 5 - We will improve and increase our level of citizens engagement

Priority themes	Actions	Budget £ (net)	Timescale	Performance Indicator(s)	Progress	RAG Status
<b>Consultation &amp; engagement</b>  <b>Monitor police performance</b>  <b>Tackle crime and address community safety issues</b>  <b>Support confidence in policing</b>	<p><b>Community Safety:</b> Tackle crime and anti-social behaviour through partnership-led initiatives, including initiatives to reduce anti-social behaviour, raise awareness on domestic and sexual violence, internet safety, mental health, personal and road safety.</p> <p>Activities to support monitoring local police performance, and ensure local accountability</p> <p><b>Confidence in local Policing:</b> Build public confidence in policing through community collaboration and problem-solving.</p>	£146,715	April 25 – March 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 22 projects/initiatives</li> <li>• Fund 50 community initiatives</li> <li>• Hold over 30 meetings to support the partnership and engage local communities</li> <li>• At least 5,000 participants</li> <li>• % participants feeling safer</li> <li>• % people more likely to report crime to the police.</li> <li>• % groups showing positive outcomes (grants).</li> <li>• % increase in reporting crime</li> <li>• % participants reporting changed attitudes and behaviours</li> </ul>		

<b>Service Area</b>	<b>Community &amp; Culture – Museum Services</b>
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<b>Business Plan Objectives</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Deliver a programme of temporary exhibitions, events, workshops and talks in our 5 Accredited museum venues which increase engagement with the museums and their collections.</li> <li>2. Deliver a museums community engagement programme (outside museum venues) which includes hard to reach and section 75 groups.</li> <li>3. Support heritage and creative practitioners and young people to develop their skills through employment, volunteering, work placements and training.</li> </ol>
<b>Lead Officer(s):</b>
Museum Services Development Manager; Head of Community & Culture
<b>Link to Corporate Strategy:</b>
Healthy & Engaged Communities
<b>Link to Community Plan:</b>
A Healthy Safe Community
<b>Link to Performance Improvement Plan:</b>
Objective 5- We will improve and increase our level of citizens engagement



Priority themes	Actions	Budget £ (net)	Timescale	Performance Indicator(s)	Progress	RAG Status
<b>Enhancing Cultural Venues and Assets</b>  <b>Investing in Creative learning and skills development</b>  <b>Participation, Inclusion &amp; Equality</b>	<p>Deliver temporary exhibitions, events, workshops, and talks across five Accredited museums to increase public engagement.</p> <p>Manage museum venues and collections to uphold national standards.</p> <p><b>Ballycastle Museum Capital project:</b> Advance museum extension and renovation - submit Stage 2 NLHF application and secure funding.</p> <p>Develop a temporary exhibition space and enhance engagement with the Coleraine collection.</p> <p>Implement a community outreach programme targeting hard-to-reach and Section 75 groups.</p> <p>Support heritage and creative practitioners, including young people</p>	<p>£433,884</p> <p>Plus £137,000 capital for Ballycastle Museum acquisition (no 57)</p>	<p>April 25 – March 26</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome 22,000 visitors across 5 accredited museums</li> <li>• 750 visitors engaged through outreach programme</li> <li>• Maintain Accreditation for five museums: - 100 days documentation; 50 days collections care &amp; management</li> <li>• Secure circa £2million NLHF for Ballycastle Museum capital project</li> <li>• Support local organisations to develop events and projects, increasing engagement in culture, &amp; heritage</li> </ul>		