

Title of Report:	Update on Progress - Causeway Coast and Glens Community Plan
Committee Submitted To:	Corporate Policy and Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	23 September 2025
For Decision/For Information	For Information
To be discussed In Committee	No

Linkage to Council Strategy (2021-25)	
Strategic Themes	Local Economy; Healthy and Engaged Communities; Climate Change and Our Environment
Outcome	Establish key relationships with strategic partners to deliver our vision for this Council area
Lead Officer	Head of Policy and Community Planning

Estimated Timescale for Completion	
Date to be Completed	

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

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

Screening Requirements	<i>Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.</i>		
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 Introduction

- 1.1** The Community Plan is a long-term plan (from 2017 to 2030) based on sound, robust evidence with a focus on improving social, economic and environmental well-being and contributing to sustainable development.
- 1.2** The Community Plan is a strategic planning tool for the Causeway Coast and Glens area, and it is the key over-arching framework for partnerships and initiatives in the Council area. It is not seen as an additional or parallel process to structures already in place.
- 1.3** Phase 1 of the community planning process was the development of a Strategic Framework for the Community Plan. This document was finalised in April 2017 and officially launched in June 2017. It outlines the high-level outcomes identified for the Causeway Coast and Glens area based on an extensive public consultation process and a statistical analysis of the area.
- 1.4** Phase 2 of the community planning process was the development of a comprehensive Delivery Plan in 2018 which put in place 44 practical actions and activities to achieve the outcomes identified in the Strategic Framework. This Delivery Plan was reviewed in 2022 and now contains 34 actions covering four thematic areas:
- 1) Health and Wellbeing
 - 2) Community/Community Safety
 - 3) Infrastructure/Environment
 - 4) Economy/Education/Tourism.
- 1.5** Phase 3 of the community planning process put in place mechanisms to monitor and report on performance against the Community Plan objectives/outcomes. An Outcomes Based Accountability (OBA) process is utilised to monitor and report on performance with Action Leads using report cards to provide information on the following areas in relation to each of the actions within the Delivery Plan:
- What did we say we would do?
 - How much did we do?
 - How well did we do it?
 - Who is better off?
- 1.6** Reports on progress against the actions in the Delivery Plan are provided to the Community Planning Partnership using this process on a quarterly basis.
- 2.0 Progress on Delivery Plan - Quarterly Summary of Progress Report (copy attached)**
- 2.1** The monitoring and reporting process used by the Partnership requires quarterly reports to be submitted by Action Leads and these are then reported on by the four thematic leads to the next Partnership meeting.

- 2.2** A summary report is circulated to all Partnership members on progress in relation to the 26 actions contained in the Delivery Plan and a copy of this summary report for the period April to June 2025 is attached for your information.
- 2.3** A new on-line system for reporting progress has been developed in-house by the Community Planning Team in conjunction with the Council's ICT Department and a new format is now being used for the summary report.

3.0 Collaboration Workshop

- 3.1** A collaboration workshop for community planning partners took place in Portballintrae in May with input from the Department for Communities on the people and places review and the collaboration test and learn programme. A facilitated discussion took place on the challenges and barriers to further collaboration as well as the potential opportunities and actions under the key themes of:
- Collaborative Planning
 - Pooling of Resources
 - Relationships and Engagement
 - Delivering Shared Outcomes and Reporting
 - Commitments to Improved Collaboration
- 3.2** At the Community Planning Partnership Meeting, members took a detailed look at the feedback report on the workshop and, during a facilitated discussion, developed their thoughts on how to progress collaborative planning in Causeway Coast and Glens.
- 3.3** Members concluded that a pilot project should be developed in the first instance and, given the range of current initiatives in place or being proposed for Rathlin Island, that the island should be the focus of a locality-based plan which utilised collaborative planning and the pooling of resources.
- 3.4** It was agreed a Sub Committee of the Community Planning Partnership would be set up to carry out an initial scoping exercise and report back to the Partnership. There would also be engagement with Ulster University who were currently working on a report on Rathlin.

4.0 Other Business

4.1 Update From the Community/Voluntary Sector

A Volunteer Fair was being organised in Ballymoney Town Hall in order to provide advice to people interested in volunteering and therefore increase the number of Volunteers.

4.2 Update From the Community Planning Team

4.2.1 Delivery Plan Review and Statement of Progress

The focus of the Community Planning Team over the next few months will be on a review of the Delivery Plan, with the view to organising special sessions for partners and actions leads in the autumn. In addition, over the summer period, the Team will contact action leads and partners seeking good news stories that will support the next Statement of Progress due in November 2025.



Causeway Coast and Glens **Community Planning Strategic Partnership**

**Quarterly Reports Update
Quarter 2
April – June 2025**

Health and Wellbeing Actions

Action: 1. Participation in Physical Activity

- **Action Lead:** Roger Downey
- **Lead:** Roger Downey
- **Partners:** • Causeway Coast and Glens BC (Sport & Wellbeing) • Sport NI • Disability Sport NI • Public Health Agency • Northern Healthy Living Partnership • Northern & Western Health and Social Care Trusts • Local Sports Clubs • National Governing Bodies of Sport • Community & Voluntary Sector • Disability Groups & Clubs • Mae Murray Foundation • Autism NI
- **How Much:** Participation & Play • After schools Programme x 4 schools = 78 participants (Armoy PS, Model PS, William Pinkerton PS and DH Christie PS) • Shared education Primary schools x 4 (William Pinkerton / St. Ciaran's Cushendun x 2, Model / St Joseph's Lislagan / St. Josephs Dunloy 253 children) • Easter Camps x 5 (football golf 2 (Ballycastle & Ballyreagh), hockey, cricket) = 78 participants Performance & Coaching • Kwik Cricket Festivals x 2 (Boys and Girls) (200 children) • U14 Girls Cricket Festival (40 children) • 'Road to the Open' Primary Schools Golf Coaching Programmes x 4 (100 children) • 'Road to the Open' Mini Open Competitions x 3 (Bushfoot, Ballyreagh and Roe Park) (48) children • 'Road to the Open' Primary School Tours of Royal Portrush Golf Club x 4 (120 children) • Shared Education Primary Schools with NI Volleyball x 4 (Gorran and St Columba's / Portstewart and St Colum's, Castleroe and Crossroads) (180 children) Community & Inclusion Delivery of 6-week PAN disability programme – activity club for children with multiple disabilities age 5 to 12 years at Joey Dunlop LC. Nordic Walking Series – guided Nordic walking series delivered at outdoor locations Roe Valley Country Park, Moutsandel Wood, Mussenden Temple, Ballypatrick Forest and Garvagh Forest





How Well: Participation & Play • After School programme was a shorter programme in term 5 of the school calendar year due to sports days and other organised events in the school calendar year. Participating schools introduced new sports i.e., not part of their PE programme • Shared education programme is proving to be a big success annually, bringing schools together from different cultures & backgrounds and introducing pupils to non-familiar sports • Easter Camps were well attended and the participants had three good days of fun learning skills and playing small- sided games • Successful delivery of 39 sessions to 409 participants across the quarter for Easter camps / shared education and school programme • All sessions were designed to integrate with the Development Unit's key themes and priority delivery areas • Encouraging feedback received from parents & participants and looking forward to the active summer recreation programme Performance & Coaching • Kwik Festivals in conjunction with North West Cricket and Coleraine Cricket Club proved a success yet again – 10 schools engaged over the two events and 100 children taking part at each event. • U14 Girls Cricket Festival with three schools participating and introducing cricket to girls that had never played the game before. • 'Road to the Open' a ground-breaking initiative with the R&A and RPGC to promote and develop golf with young people through participation in schools coaching, moving to the opportunity to play in Mini Open Primary School competition and then school visits to the venue for the 153rd Open at Royal Portrush Golf Club Community & Inclusion Delivery of all sessions across both programmes in May and June 2025. Sessions were well received and attended in high numbers The Pan disability gives a structured weekly activity programme for children with disabilities delivered by qualified experienced instructors The 4th annual instalment of the spring Nordic walking series delivered

5 challenging walks across the borough to both newcomers and experienced Nordic walkers.



- **Better Off: Participation & Play** • Through delivery of Sport & Wellbeing programmes 409 participants have been actively involved in physical activity across the borough engaging with residents in all 4 main towns and rural areas. These sustained opportunities lead to multiple options for residents and healthier life choices through physical activity Performance & Coaching o Over 150 children had the opportunity to experience golf in weekly school coaching sessions – been made aware of golf clubs to go to in their locality and also Council Summer Golf Coaching Camps. o Children at the Kwik Cricket Festivals told of the opportunities for boys and girls to play at Coleraine Cricket Club – meeting South African professional Louren Steenkamp and Irish International Kia McCartney. o 5 Schools received primary school golf coaching kit bags for use in their schools. The schools had staff trained in the Golf Ireland Community Leader Award Community & Inclusion 90 participants attended across the Pan Disability programme, this 6-week session was delivered due to the high demand received following the Jan to March sessions. 66 participants averaging 13 per session was a great return as 2024 saw an average of 6 walkers per session
- **Examples during this Quarter of: Good Practice, Good News Stories, Case Studies:** The Road to The Open project A holistic programme to grow and develop golf in the lead to the 153rd at Royal Portrush Golf Club : • Training Teachers and Community Coaches to be Golf Ireland Community Leaders • Primary Schools Coaching programmes • Mini Open Tournaments for Primary Schools • Primary School Tours of The Open Venue



Action: 2. Age Friendly Strategy

- NB No update this quarter. Age Friendly Co-ordinator left post end January 2025. New AF Co-ordinator will hopefully be appointed after recruitment selection process towards end of Q2
- **Action Lead: Roger Downey**
- **Partners:** • Causeway Coast and Glens BC (Sport & Wellbeing) • Public Health Agency • Age Friendly Network NI • Community & Voluntary Sector • WHSCT and NHSCT • Causeway Older Active Strategic Team COAST • Age Friendly Partnership (Working group with statutory & 3rd sector partners) • Alzheimer's Society

Action: 3. Loneliness Network

- **Action Lead:** Leah Glass
- **Partners:** • Northern Health & Social Care Trust • NI Fire & Rescue Service • Department of Health • Northern Regional College • Praxis Care • Simon Community • Education Authority • Causeway Older Active Strategic Team (COAST) • Age Concern Causeway • Causeway Rural and Urban Network (CRUN) • Mae Murray Foundation • Radius Housing • Deafblind • Northern Area Community Network (NACN) • Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council • Libraries NI • Linking Generations NI • Community & Voluntary Sector of Causeway Coast and Glens • Community Network Organisations • Building Communities Resource Centre (BCRC) • Salvation Army • REACH, Portrush • Causeway GP Federation • SVP • BCW Training • Culture, Arts and Heritage Organisations
- **How Much:** One meeting of the Causeway Loneliness Network was held on the 7 May. Throughout the quarter information sharing continued with members via email. Addressing Loneliness Making Connections events took place including two sessions in Rathain Fold and Skerries Fold and a further session with a group of young people. Also to mark Loneliness Awareness Week members arranged a number of events including an Autism Friendly Walk, a Communities Connecting Summer Lunch, a Chatty Carriage event and a Human Library session. In addition, the civic building was also lit up yellow from the 9 – 15 June. Network members also delivered two further Human Library sessions. The first session was to mark Mental Health Awareness Week and was held in Ballycastle Library on the 12 May. The second session was held during Refugee Awareness Week in Ballymoney Library on the 16 June.



How Well: Increased exchange of information and knowledge along with increased opportunities for participation.

Better Off: Increased recognition of loneliness activity in the Causeway Coast and Glens's area. Voluntary, community and statutory organisations working together to address loneliness across all age groups. Increased awareness and knowledge of loneliness across Causeway Loneliness Network members and increased knowledge including access to current research, webinars etc. More organisations have increased access to information, services, activities and training for their service users. Causeway Loneliness Network provides a supportive environment for members and increased confidence to source information and services. The Northern Area Loneliness Framework is used for reference and as a guide for the Network.

Action: 4. Anti-Poverty Initiatives

- **Action Lead:** Louise Scullion
- **Partners:** • Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council • Department for Communities (DfC) • Community Advice Causeway • 4 established foodbanks (Ballycastle, Ballymoney, Causeway and Roe Valley) • St Vincent DePaul, Salvation Army • Other Community & Voluntary Sector Organisations • Other CC&G Community Planning Partners
- **How Much** Continued development of Anti-poverty Stakeholder Steering Group (APSSG) with 10 community and voluntary sector partners and 8 statutory partners with the aim of connecting the service providers whose core services are supporting people experiencing financial difficulties and collaborating to deliver support.

- Supermarket Support Programme funding of £169,566 received from Department for Communities. Contracts for service delivery were awarded to Reset Social Supermarket operated by Vineyard Compassion in Coleraine, Limavady Community Development Initiative, The Glens Social Supermarket in Cushendall and Ballycastle Community Group. Expression of Interest invited for organisation wishing to test the feasibility of a social supermarket in Ballymoney.
- Council's Energy Efficiency team continue to provide information and advice on energy efficiency measures and promote the uptake in energy efficiency initiatives for target households and Council has contracted LCDI to deliver an Oil Savings Stamp Scheme.
- **How Well:** Feedback from APSSG partners shows a strong benefit from the peer support nature of the steering group as well as improved links and increased cross-referrals between the partners. Initial feedback from service delivery organisations that the funding is much needed in light of reducing donations, increased cost of products and above all the increased demand for services
- **Better Off:** Increased awareness of the poverty services that are available. Increased coordination between organisations working with those most in need in the Causeway Coast and Glens area Service delivery organisations are supported with resources to meet the additional demand.

Action: 5. Children and Young People

- **Action Lead:** Bronagh McCrory
- **Partners:** NHSCT, CYPSP, CC&G, Surestart. Women's Aid, Education Authority, Family Support Hub, MDT Social Work, Community and Voluntary Groups
- **How Much:** 1 x Smoking Cessation Specialist and 1 x Smoking cessation Midwife employed in the Causeway locality 12 x CYPSP Newsletters with information on resources and services distributed 3 x CYPSP LPG meetings held. 3 x informative talks given at LPG meetings. 2nd of April Autism Café held in Joey Dunlop Centre Ballymoney to provide information on support services for families of children with Autism The LPG took part in planning for the RAISE initiative funding to increase educational attainment in areas of deprivation in Coleraine/ Ballymoney meetings 4th April, 4th June and 11th June. CYPSP represented at Statutory Partner Fair in Causeway area held by Community Planning 9th April. 8th of May took part in Community Planning workshop held by Causeway Coast and Glen Council. Unison Causeway Pride Health Fair 9th June.
- **Cumulative Totals :** 24 x CYPSP Newsletters 3 x CYPSP Meetings held. 4 x informative talks at CYPSP LPG Meetings Cybersafe, Careers Service, RAISE and CAMHS.
- **How Well (Quality):** Support and intervention to promote Smoking Cessation in Young People and expectant mothers through the provision of Smoking Cessation Services. Group members increased their knowledge on local services and will promote to their service users through the use of the CYPSP newsletter. This also gives an opportunity for them to advertise their own services.

Recipients have the opportunity to utilise resources promoted in the newsletter such as funding opportunities and training. The LPG meeting provided a valuable opportunity for joined up working and allowed for useful links to be made between partners. RAISE work promoted in the area members being kept informed on this work and up to date on funding opportunities for projects aiming to increase educational attainment in the targeted areas.

- **Better Off:** Networking and information sharing opportunities at events, meetings and via CYPSP weekly news have supported members to make best use of resources for children, young people and families. Members have greater knowledge of projects which may support and compliment their work. Direct link between smoking and low birth weight babies, better public knowledge of the risks around smoking and link to low birth weight and impact on child development. Parents have access to NRT and support services to quit smoking. Benefit to LPG members in supporting them to provide accessible health and wellbeing information to children. The LPG group has worked to highlight issues such as Emotional Based School Avoidance, Poverty – impact of school holidays, Parental support, Waiting list for ADHD/ Autism assessment, Access to MH services for both children and parents. These have been reported to the Northern Area Outcomes group. Evidence to be provided on outcomes from 2024/2025 funding (will be included when complete.)
- **Good News Stories:** Funding secured from Northern Healthy Lifestyles partnership of £1400 towards Autumn Family Fayre for families in the Causeway area aimed at supporting them to live a more healthy lifestyle and make the most of their finances over the Winter months and the Christmas period. The event will be held on the 4th of October 2025 in Coleraine Leisure Centre.

Action: 6. Obesity Prevention Programme

- **Action Lead:** Roger Downey
- **Partners:** • Causeway Coast and Glens BC (Sport & Wellbeing) • Sport NI • CCMS / Education Authority / Local Schools • Northern Healthy Lifestyles Partnership (NHLP) • Public Health Agency • School of Nursing for Causeway • Northern Health & Social Care Trust • Western Health & Social Services Trust
- **How Much (Quantity):** Causeway Healthy Kids Phase 4 delivery across 13 schools in the borough (including 2 special education schools) 11 weeks of 1 hour activity delivered in each school totalling 143 sessions 3113 participants across all sessions.
- **How Well (Quality):** All Physical activity sessions were designed with physical literacy in mind rather than traditional sport specific approach. Physical literacy is the motivation, confidence, physical competence, knowledge and understanding that enables a person to value and participate in physical activity throughout life. The feedback received from the schools was extremely positive and the programme well received. The pupils have engaged with the coaches throughout the sessions and shown a willingness to learn about nutrition and mental health. Development of a new at home resource for parents and children to complete together



Better Off (Impact): What the participants told us: • I now know what things are healthy and what is not • I understand different types of food now and what a healthy plate looks like • I loved scanning food labels and learning about the traffic lights What the schools told us: • The children have loved every part of this programme; it is so vital to their development and assisting in making good decisions regarding their health • The videos really helped to assist the children with each topic and make it easy to follow

- **Examples during this Quarter of: Good Practice, Good News Stories, Case Studies:** Causeway healthy kids continue to grow, and funding was secured in June 2025 for delivery of phase 5 to the final 10 schools in the borough and delivery of 2 special education programmes to commence in September 2025 External evaluation of the programme will be complete in August 2025, this paper will be produced by Sport and Public Health Department at University of Ulster Magee

Action: 7. Positive Mental Health (Take 5)

- **Action Lead:** Selena Ramsey
- **Partners:** NACN EA Local Schools BITC
- **How Much:** SPDO works in partnership with Libraries NI in Kilrea. • Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Community Development Project Proposals opening 1st April. • Take 5 Community Celebration Event in March. • SPDO working in partnership with Ballymoney Community Fridge, 'Share the Love in your Community' on 14th Feb • Village Wellbeing Days - Rasharkin 28th February. • SPDO worked in partnership with LiL Giants for Children's Mental Health Week. • Three Care for A Cuppa events (12 people) • Three schools have been in contact regarding Take 5 schools all forwarded onto the health and wellbeing team. • NACN staff team this year are taking part in Take 5

Workplace. • NACN worked in partnership with The Big Telly Theatre Company, two community based drama sessions (20 people) • Men's Health Week, this year the theme was 'So this Men's Health Week let's ditch the silence lets go shoulder to shoulder because one small conversation could be the start of a much bigger change.' SPDO had got 13 men who are part of a variety of groups across the Northern Area to hold up a couple of the words in the quote above. This post on Facebook had 27 shares and 18,791 views. • Mental Health Awareness Week (12th - 18th May) and the theme this year was 'COMMUNITY' this was a very fitting theme to the role of SPDO. We were able to do a variety of workshops/events. • SPDO worked with Glens Men in Stranocum and organised a nature and music event with 30 men attending. • SPDO worked in partnership with Mental Health Foundation and Libraries NI (cushendall branch) to host a COMMUNITY theme workshop for MHAW with 15 in attendance. . • Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Community Development Project Proposals opened on opening date Tuesday 1st April 2025 at 12 noon and closed on Wednesday 30th April at 12noon. • SPDOs attended the PHA Minding the Gap Tackling Health Inequalities conference and had our poster in presentation at University of Ulster Coleraine. • Working in partnership with Libraries NI there is a group of participants who made bunting for local shops to display within the village as well as mental health leaflets to over 20 businesses. • During Mental Health Awareness Week, SPDO did an interview with Causeway Hospital Radio Station. Schools - Mindfulness session delivered to 12 teachers in Sandalford School in April. Online Mindfulness session offered to all school teachers weekly on a Friday am. - Peer support if offered virtually for local primary schools and face to face for local post primary schools. Identify needs for support and work collectively to action. Currently developing lesson plans for Year 13/14 on wellbeing for teachers to deliver in school. - Schools accreditation event took place in June 2025 (OBA attached) 27 schools in CCG received Take 5 steps to wellbeing accreditation: - 14 Primary Schools: 1x Level 1, 4 x Level 2, 8 x Level 3, 1 x platinum - 10 Post Primary School: 2 x Level 2, 5 x Level 3, 3 x platinum - 1 x Special School - 1 x EOTAS - NRC Campus Workplaces Workplace- 10 workplaces completed training in May, 2 are based in Causeway Council Area, and 5 cover it as part of their business needs. Peer support continues to be offered for existing workplaces. Community- Heather Logan delivered a Take 5 Session with 25 participants, as part of the Take 5 Ambassador role out.

- **How Well:** Schools Mindfulness Increase knowledge from 2.1 pre training to 4.3 after session on average based on a negative weighted 1-5 scale. 100% would recommend the session to others. Schools- OBA attached Workplace- Training Day- Knowledge before 2.71 versus knowledge after 4.5 In a 0-5 negative weighted scale- score 4.43 on readiness to implement in work
- **Better Off:** Schools Mindfulness- 'Thank you so much for taking the time to encourage us to take some time' 'It is such a simple idea, i am really going to try and be more in the moment. Workplace Training: - A lot of others present had the same issues in the workplace as I have. Refreshing all the takeaways and CLANG. - Even the small gestures matter & enjoyed interacting with other companies - I really enjoyed the movement breaks and activities throughout the whole session! It made the day go really fast and you were learning without even knowing! For me it will be small steps to implement great well-being strategies for the team!



Action: 8. Inter-Agency Cooperation Homelessness

- Action Lead:** Carita Coulter and Christine O'Carroll
- How Much:**

Reporting Timeframe biannually as per DfC	No. of Homeless Presenters	No. of Presenters per 1,000 population	Households accepted as Homeless
CC&G Oct 2024- Mar 2025	490	3.5	372
NI Oct 2024 – Mar 2025	7,637	4.0	5,135

*The figures on the table above are published by DfC on a six monthly basis on the Homelessness Bulletin for the period October 2024 to March 2025 and therefore Q2

statistics are as per bi-annual publication and different timescales from Community Planning.

- **Better off:** There was a 10% reduction in the number of homeless presenters in the published data for the period October 2024 to March 2025 from period April to September 2024. This represented a reduction in percentage per 1,000 population from 3.9 to 3.5. There were 76% homeless households accepted in the same period.

Action: 9 – Primary and Voluntary Sector

- **Action Lead:** Sinead O’Kane and Elizabeth Craig
- **Partners:** CRUN Coast Age Concern Loneliness Network PSNI NIFS CC&G Women's Aid Causeway Loneliness Network EA Acacia Path
- **How Much:** 22 seed funded projects

Project	Aim	Practitioner	Surgery	Group Targeted and number of participants	Length of group in weeks months	Geographical Spread	Cost
1. Exam Stress	Assist teenagers who are feeling stressed due to exam pressures	Lyndsay Peden	Ballymoney Family Practice	Secondary School aged pupils. 15 participants for initial pilot	4 weeks	Causeway Federation wide	£724
2. Smart Recovery	Assisting with addictions	Lyndsay Peden	Ballymoney Family Practice	People who have addictions identified via the MDT practitioners. 16 for initial programmes	2 x 6 week programmes	Ballymoney area initially	£3168.00
3. Strength and Balance programme	Helping those whose mobility and physical health may be deteriorating.	Claire Reid and Jacqueline White	Lodge Health	People aged over 65 yrs. 20 people	2 x 12 week programmes	Coleraine area initially	£1025
4. Harbour Haven	To help males seeking asylum in Portstewart/Portrush area	Julieann Gamble	Portstewart Family Practice and Portstewart Medical Practice	Males who have come to NI as asylum seekers or refugees and who live in temporary accommodation. 15 participants	10 x monthly sessions	Ramblers’ Inn Portstewart where men are currently placed but potential for growth to wider area where men are placed and may consider wider remit after initial pilot	£2950
5. Healing Hearts	Helping people who have lost significant others	Julieann Gamble	Portstewart Family Practice, Portstewart Medical Practice and Portrush Medical Practice	Those who have lost family members and significant others. 15 + participants	10 x Monthly sessions	Portstewart and Portrush areas	£2500
6. Walking Group Ballycastle	Helping those who are socially isolated, struggling with mental/physical wellbeing, lonely or grieving.	Elaine Twaddle	Ballycastle Medical Practice and Dalriada Practice	Those who are isolated or alone 20 participants	1x 50 weekly sessions	Ballycastle/Moyle area	£580 + £3 pp for outing.
7. ASD Group Ballycastle	Young people with ASD and their families	Elaine Twaddle	Ballycastle Medical Practice and Dalriada Practice	Families and children experiencing ASD 20-40 participants		Ballycastle/Moyle area	£3035 + £3 pp for outing.
8. Living Well Moyle	Older people addressing holistic needs	Lyndsay Peden Elaine Twaddle	Bushmills Medical Centre Ballycastle Medical Centre Dalriada Health Practice	Older people and their general holistic wellbeing 25 participants	12 sessions throughout the year	Ballycastle, Moyle, Bushmills	£450
9. Wednesday's Woman	Ladies of all ages addressing social isolation, mental and	Paul Johnston	Garvagh Health Surgery	Women who are socially isolated in a rural setting	1 x 44 weekly sessions	Garvagh and the rural area around	£2584

	physical wellbeing, stress and anxiety.			20-30 participants			
10. Forest Families	Families who are struggling with deprivation and challenging issues.	Paul Johnston	Garvagh Health Surgery	Families under stress 12 families	3 sessions	Garvagh and the rural area around	£500
11. Warm Hub	People who are deprived, suffering from poverty and social isolation	Joe Mulholland	Rasharkin Medical Centre	People struggling with poverty and loneliness 30 + participants	1 x 22 weekly sessions	Rasharkin and the areas around	£2220 + £3 pp for outing.
12. HUG	Partners/Spouses who have been bereaved	Terry White Cathy Watson Jacqueline White	Mountsandel Surgery	People who are coping with grief 60 participants	20 sessions throughout the year	Coleraine area	£2115
13. More Aware	Advancing well-being in a restorative environment	Terry White Cathy Watson	Mountsandel Surgery	People struggling with anxiety, mental health, social isolation and stress. 12 participants	6 x bimonthly sessions	Coleraine and the surrounding area	£1,968
14. Connect Wednesday	Drop in coffee for anyone from Coleraine GP Practices	Terry White Cathy Watson	Mountsandel Surgery	It is a 'catch all' drop in open to everyone (those living on their own, carers, refugees, anyone who feels isolated or lonely).	60 sessions from September 24 – June 25	All GP Surgeries in Coleraine area	£1560
15. SIM	Senses Improving Mental-Health	Terry White Cathy Watson	Mountsandel Surgery	Build emotional resilience through equipping people with the skills to take control of their mental health by giving them the skills and resources to engage self-care 50 kits	Ongoing	Mountsandel Surgery as a pilot and then potential spread	£621
16. Dementia Safeguarding Scheme	Assist those with dementia and their carers	Marian Doherty	Killowen Medical Centre and Riverside Health Centre	The Dementia Safeguarding Scheme (Herbert Protocol) is a national scheme encouraging carers, family and friends to provide useful information which can be used in the event of a person living with dementia going missing or who is in need of assistance.	Ongoing	Causeway GP Federation	£2550
17. MEMES	Men empowering men emotional support group	Marian Doherty	Killowen Medical Centre and Riverside Health Centre	Assisting men struggling with anxiety, stress and mental ill health. 18 participants	Ongoing sessions over 10 months	All men open to GP practices across Causeway GP Federation	£2500
18. Chatty Chicks	Women from all religious, age and ethnic backgrounds	Marian Doherty	Killowen Medical Centre and Riverside Health Centre	providing women with a sense of belonging and connection, which is essential for good mental, emotional and physical health and well-being. 20 participants	Weekly 2 hour sessions for 10 months	Women initially in Waterside Coleraine but potential for federation wide remit.	£2290
19. ACDC	Age Concern Dementia Choir	Marian Doherty	Killowen Medical Centre and Riverside Health Centre	Music helps people with dementia express feelings and connect with memories. It helps them communicate and engage with others, and form and maintain relationships. 40 participants	Ongoing for a year	Causeway Federation wide	£2980

20. CARUS	Supporting carers	Marian Doherty	Killowen Medical Centre and Riverside Health Centre	Holistic support for carers of others Up to 130 participants	13 sessions from September 24 – June 25	Causeway GP Federation wide	£3735 and £3 pp for outings
21. Chatty Carriage	Supporting those who are socially isolated over 65 years	Marian Doherty Terry White Cathy Watson Claire Reid Jacqueline White	Killowen Medical Centre and Riverside Health Centre Mountsandel Surgery Lodge Health	Activities and social interactions via Translink, the Loneliness Network and Causeway SW MDT	4 trips throughout the year 100 participants	Causeway GP Federation wide	£2100
							£42, 155 without calculating outings

- How Well :** Projects are ongoing and are not all evaluated. New projects have been introduced with strength training for menopausal women, yoga4health and sensory equipment in a local primary school. Update for April - June 25 - 18 new seed funded projects have been funded which will commence in August-September 2025. These are addressing issues collaboratively and with the community regarding parenting issues, frailty, ASD/ADHD, mobility, challenging behaviours in children, social isolation, mental health, dementia, carers' stress, bereavement, social connection, sensory issues and those seeking international protection. In the past quarter MDT have been involved in both carers' week and loneliness week and have provided ongoing support to the socially isolated in our community. Please see below events from the Warm Hub in Rasharkin. The participants were treated to some song and dance from the sounds of the Ballymena Strummers in Rasharkin Community Centre. The Warm Hub also enjoyed a trip away to Colemans Garden Centre in Templepatrick, all organised by volunteer Sharon Robinson. They all had so much fun and enjoyed a lovely meal. A strength and balance programme took place for those with reducing mobility in Lodge Health Centre. It was ongoing for 12 weeks and had very positive feedback and results.



- Better off:** In 2025 1 x 12-week Strength and Balance programme took place in Coleraine with 20 participants. The course was delivered by a fitness instructor and Health and Wellbeing related talks were arranged from the NHSCT Health and Wellbeing Officer, Causeway Older Active Strategic Team, Home Accident Prevention, NHSCT Falls Screening Service and Connect North. Prior to the second course 7% of participants rated their mobility as Very Poor, following the course none of the participants rated their mobility as Very Poor. Prior to the course 8% of participants rated their mobility as Good and 18% of the participants rated their mobility as Good following the course. Prior to the course 3% of the participants rated their mobility as Very Good and following the course 10% rated their mobility as Very Good. 15% of participants rated the class as Good and 85% rated the class Very Good. Comments on the course included people saying that they enjoyed 'friendship and fun,' 'the

company' and also that the class made them more aware of falls prevention by 'teaching them to use muscles I didn't know I had' and 'making me more aware of how to get up and down off the chair.' The impact of the HUG group can be seen below. Assisting those who endured the death of a significant other. Approximately 60 participants attend and have formed enduring friendships benefiting their overall wellbeing and helping keep people from over reliance on medical supports.

HUG Evaluation July 2025

There are over eighty patients on the register for HUG group across the four GP Practices in the Coleraine area, with twenty seven new members in the 2024-2025 financial year. The group met a total of nineteen times during the 2024-2025 period (April – March).

Figure 1 depicts the age breakdown of participants and figure 2 depicts the gender breakdown.

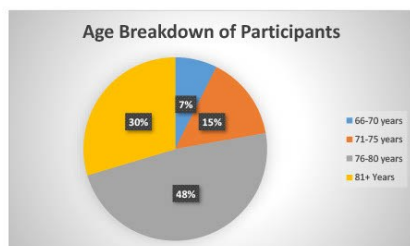


Figure 1: Age breakdown of participants

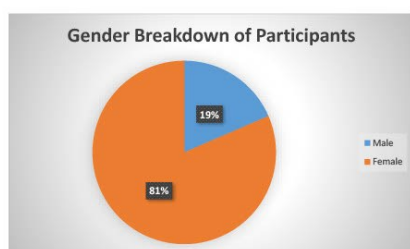


Figure 2: Gender breakdown of participants

Figure 3 depicts the breakdown of participants who consider themselves to have a disability or not.

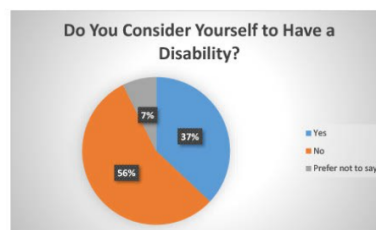


Figure 3: Breakdown of participants who consider themselves to have a disability

Brief summary of outcomes

The goals of HUG include the facilitation of the grieving process and, implicitly or explicitly, the prevention or alleviation of the detrimental consequences of bereavement.

Figures 4 and 5 depict the positive outcomes expressed by participants in the various areas of their life in terms of health and wellbeing:



Figure 4: Outcomes expressed by participants terms of feelings of worth and life satisfaction



Figure 5: Outcomes expressed by participants terms of feelings life satisfaction

Other comments:

- Great to meet up with different people
- It is such a friendly group of people and our leaders are great
- Great company and food friends are made
- Good company and meeting new friends gets you out of your apartment. A good way of meeting people who are in the same situation as you are.
- Has been very interesting, good fun, lovely company and a reason to come out of my own four walls. Lonely is not a good place to be and coming here gives us a new lease of life. Thank you girls and thank you Cathy
- Very good meetings. Well organised. Good for me to meet with others as I live alone. Varied programme and caring leaders. Well done
- Doing a good job - thanks
- Well run, very friendly and helpful
- Helps people living on their own to make friends
- HUG is excellent. It has given me a new outlook and I love all the things we do. All the girls are very good to everyone.
- Yes, it's good to talk when you are feeling down
- Very good for friendship and company. Some new ideas for pass time at home, interesting trips and speakers. The leaders are so friendly
- Very good, very helpful during a very difficult time in my life
- It has really helped me after the loss of my loved one
- Every week we have fun and meet someone new - all friendly
- Life changing place to come
- The best things I have joined since being on my own. Great activities, made new friends where we go places outside HUG. Would never have happened if I wasn't in HUG - all friends
- I think the world of Cathy and the girls

- I was newly widowed when HUG contacted me as it was lockdown. We couldn't meet but as life become more normal - we met. Wonderful to get out, make friends, a cup of tea or coffee & a chat. HUG has helped me - long may it last
- Thoroughly enjoyed meeting with people who have been bereaved. Very helpful
- Our group is so friendly - It's fantastic
- Everything is great



- **Examples during this Quarter of: Good Practice, Good News Stories, Case Studies:** As described the impact of social and practical support from MDT Social Work in Causeway locality has been significant as highlighted in the evaluations attached. The Chatty Carriage event in June 25 during Loneliness Week had 60 participants and has led to other initiatives being developed in other areas in the locality. MDT are also developing a Chatty Bus going forward and incorporating art classes into groups to help people express themselves and learn new skills.



Community and Community Safety Actions

Action: 10 – Multi Agency Support Hub

MONTH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
HOW MUCH DID WE DO			
# Support Hub Meetings	20	20	20
# Referred into hub (m/f)	1F	2F 1M	1M
Onward to multi hub (m/f)	1F	2F 1M	1M
No Consent	0	0	0
OTHERWISE SIGNPOSTED (mf)			
<i>of this # how many Male/Female/Other</i>			

HOW WELL DID WE DO (MONTH OF MEETING)			
% Of Partner organisations attending support hub meetings (JENNIFER PROVIDES)	90%	80%	50%
# of Support Hub Actions successfully completed (inlc organisation breakdown)	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
PSNI (ALL CALCULATED FROM JENNIFERS ACTION SPREADSHEET slow time not during meeting)	2	1	3
NHSCT	1 GP2	1 GP2	3 GP3
WHSCT	2	2	1
NIF&RS	1	1	0
NIAS	3	3	1
NIHE	0	0	1
PBNI	0	0	1
CC&GBC	2	0	0

NUMBER OF SUPPORT HUB COHORTS	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
LIVE (m/f)	8 4M 4F	12 7F 5M	12 7F 5M
WATCH LIST (m/f)	6 4M 2F	4 3M 1F	4 3M 1F
TOTAL	14	16	16
REMOVED AT THE END OF THE MEETING (m/F)	1F	1M	1M
CONSIDERED (m/f)	1F	2 F 1M	1M
ACCEPTED (m/f)	1F	2F 1M	1M
MOVED TO WATCHLIST 9m/f)	1M	0	1M
# discharged because their needs have been met (m/f)	1F	1 M	0

Good News Stories: Over the last 3 years Support Hub have been involved in assisting a young female with learning difficulties (In conjunction with Social Services and other relevant partners). She was previously involved in frequent domestic disputes resulting in assault and property damage to the extent whereby her family could no longer cope with her staying in the family home. She was arrested numerous times and spent a period in prison as she is deemed to have capacity despite the various diagnoses over the years and queries regarding her Mental Health. Alternative accommodation was sourced; however, she struggled to adjust to living away from the family home and often found herself in confrontation with neighbours as result of her behaviours. This continued for a period of time and despite support from multiple agencies her behaviours escalated and eventually culminated in another stay in prison for offending against neighbours. This ultimately culminated in her tenancy becoming unfeasible. As result of joint working, she has now been placed in suitable supported living, has started back into an educational program and is engaging in a number of external activities. She has not come to the attention of police in the last 5 months and appears to be settled and thriving for the first time in her adult life.

Action: 11 – Cyber Safety Partnership

- **Action Lead:** Jonny Donaghy/Michael McCafferty
- **Partners:** • Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council (PCSP) • Police Service NI • NI Ambulance Service • NI Fire & Rescue Service • Probation Board for NI • Youth Justice Agency • Western Health & Social Care Trust • Northern Health & Social Care Trust • NI Housing Executive • CCMS / Education Authority /Schools • Community & Voluntary Sector • NSPCC
- **How Much:** Cyber Safe - Information and awareness raising via various platforms and events specific to the target groups need. Based on the growing success of previous year's cyber safety events, plan and deliver symposium of talks about cyber safety including the dangers of sexting, grooming, cyber bullying, scams (financial, romance and emotional) and increase knowledge of the support that is available.
- **How Well:** CC&G PCSP are working with the Dry Arch centre in Limavady and Dungiven to meet any needs of schools right across the CC&G council area by funding facilitators to go into schools when needed to help educate students and tackle any emerging issues and concerns. Events for the year are still in the planning process. We hope to focus on Parents this year. Planning under way.
- **Better Off:** Cyber Safety lesson plans came runner up at the PSNI Problem Solving awards.

Action: 12. Community Engagement – Youth Voice

- **Action Lead:** Deirdre Bradley/Charlie Smyth
- **Partners:** EA Youth Service Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council Community & Voluntary Sector of CC&G Department for Communities (DfC) Community Networks All Community Planning Partners
- **How Much:** 30 x Registered participants. Coleraine x 13 (1 x new member) Limavady x 9 The Glens x 8 21 x Young people regularly attending meetings / activities. 3 x Youth Voice group meetings (1 in each of the 3 hub areas). Meeting frequency reduced due to young people have exam and other commitments 2 x Young people elected to the Coleraine Future Town Fund board (Whole group acting as advisory group). 3 x Coleraine Future Town Fund meetings attended 1 x Youth Voice member selected as Horizons Ambassador (EA leadership programme). 1 x Youth Voice member selected for regional voice programme. 9 x Young People engaged in an evaluation of the Youth Voice programme, in relation to the Lundy Model of Participation. 6 x Young people took part in focus group 3 x Young people engaged in one-to-one interviews
- **How Well:** Young people attending by DEA. Ballymoney - 3 young people (10%) Central - 9 young people (30%) Bann - 2 young person (6%) Limavady - 4 young people (14%) Benbradagh - 5 young people (17%) The Glens - 6 young people (20%) Causeway - 1 young person (3%) 21 of 30 young people actively engaged this quarter (70%).
- **Better Off:** "I would never get opportunities like this if it wasn't for Youth Voice." - Commenting on her election to the Coleraine Future Town Fund board. "In the past I would have just accepted things, now I know I can change them." - During evaluation. "I am more aware of my rights that I was before, and not just Article 12." - During evaluation. "I added being a member of Youth Voice to my CV, which really impressed my teacher." - Discussion at Area Hub Meeting, re. benefits of CC&GYV. "Being part of Youth Voice opens doors to other opportunities; I think our commitment is a big part of this." - Comment made at Area Hub Meeting. "I always feel included, even when we aren't meeting face to face. I feel like efforts are made to ensure we are still making the decisions." - Comment made at Area Hub Meeting. "Being asked to be part of the CFTF feels like we are being taken seriously. It's a big responsibility too." - Comment made re. Coleraine Future Town Fund.
- **Progress Level:** Amber

Action: 13. Shared Public Spaces

- **Action Lead:** Patricia Harkin/ Gerard McIlroy
- **Partners:** • Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council (Good Relations) • Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council (PCSP) • Housing Executive NI • PSNI • Education Authority • NI Fire & Rescue Service • Department for Infrastructure (DfI)
- **How Much:** Cohesion meetings took place on: 01/04/2025, 03/06/2025 and Bonfire Site Inspections took place on 08/07/2025 with Stat Community Agencies

- **How Well:** As before. Engagement work with partner agencies and local community groups looking at higher use of beacons hailed as the end product of reduce calls and health and safety issues. Site inspections took place with community reps and statutory agencies. Real progress made with complete reduction in tyres burnt this year. This shows large efforts in community related cohesion and successful collaborative working relationship with community and statutory agencies.
- **Better Off :** All agencies are working well together to ensure the safety and environmental impact of the activities. The Group will work collaboratively to ensure that public spaces within Causeway Coast and Glens are shared and accessible to all. Actions will include: • Facilitate interagency meetings online • Identify any additional interagency partners / members that should be represented • Encourage statutory agencies to continue to engage and share information • Identify specific issues where collaborative working will benefit group members and their services to the public • Continue to implement proactive and reactive methods for addressing identified issues • Provide collaborative support in local communities where groups are addressing local issues so that their area is safer and more welcoming to all • Develop and deliver projects that could be implemented through the inter-agency group that will contribute to safer and more cohesive communities.
- **Progress Level:** Green

Action: 14. CVS Support

- **Action Lead:** Louise Scullion
- **Partners:** • Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council • Northern Area Community Network • Causeway Rural & Urban Network • Building Communities Resource Centre • Volunteer Support Organisations • Other Community Planning Partners
- **How Much:** Shared training and networking schedule developed between Community Networks and Council Community Development to ensure community needs are supported and to avoid duplication. 3 x connecting events took place for community and voluntary organisations and statutory agencies in Limavady, Portrush and Ballymoney with information and learning shared. 48 people attended from 36 organisations. Collaboration meeting held with Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council Community Development & Community Planning, Northern Area Community Network, Causeway Rural & Urban Network, Building Communities Resource Centre; Causeway Volunteer Centre; Limavady Volunteer Centre; Supporting Communities to share information, discuss gaps in support and opportunities for collaboration.
- **Cumulative Totals:** 7 connecting events held to date this year; representatives from 64 organisations attended.
- **How Well:** Increased range of training offered to CVS organisations Feedback from organisations attending the connecting events shows that they are extremely valuable in terms of peer support, sharing learning, making new connections and increasing awareness of funding and connections with statutory and other organisations.

- **Better Off:** Peer support and learning provided across participating groups. New connection made between organisations and statutory bodies. Increased awareness of funding and other opportunities.

Action: 15. Road and Fire Safety

- **Action Lead:** Paul Morrow
- **Partners:** PCSP, PSNI, Road Safety Road Show.
- **How Much:** NIFRS completed 105 Home Fire Safety Checks which included fitting 119 free smoke alarms to People At Risk. NIFRS also delivered 36 fire safety initiatives in the form of talks, visits and attendance at a range of community events to an audience of 139. Due to ongoing issues with our Your Choice equipment there were no demonstrations delivered this quarter (we hope to have our new VR goggles up and running soon but are having some teething problems)
- **Cumulative Totals:** 244 people received some sort of intervention from NIFRS in relation to fire safety. Please note that in addition to fire safety we also delivered some safety advice on water safety and rural safety
- **How Well:** 96% of the Home Fire Safety Checks were completed within 28 day of the referral being made
- **Better Off:** Everyone who received a HFSC would have received safety advice which is tailored to them, their home and their behaviours as part of our Person-Centred Approach.

Infrastructure / Environment Actions

Action: 16. Explore/Develop/Maintain Public Spaces

- **Action Lead:** Richard Gillen
- **Partners:** • Causeway Coast and Glens Heritage Trust • Binevenagh & Coastal Lowlands Landscape Partnership Scheme • Community Voluntary sector • Dept. for Agriculture Environment and Rural Affairs • Dept. for Communities • Department for Infrastructure • Government Estate • Northern Ireland Housing Executive • Young Farmers Clubs of Ulster • Ulster Farmers Union • Landowners • Waterways Ireland • Sport NI • Sperrins Partnership • Outscape • Sustrans • National Outdoor Recreation Forum
- **How Much:** 1. Continued high levels of visitors to outdoor recreation sites. 2. Delivery of projects under umbrella of Binevenagh Landscape Partnership 3. Progression of Peace+ projects to delivery stage providing further opportunity to enjoy the outdoors and manage sites sustainably. 4. Council a supporting partner of Sperrins Partnership Project 5. Development of Core Path Networks at some small settlements 6. Developing in house skills for sustainable management of sites
- **How Well:** 1. Demand for outdoor recreation continues. Sites and trails continue to be well used. 2. Project planning and preparation for delivery ongoing. Trail development work completion with signage installation at Castlerock. Progression of trail development at Downhill North. Completion and launch of Castlerock Trails & Tales. 3. Benbradagh – Gateway to the Sperrins the Girona Programme and Causeway Path The Layd Path & Development Altnahinch Dam, Boardwalk Regenerate & Renew The Mountsandel Project Invasive Species Management 4. Development of Sperrin AONB Management & Action Plan 5. Delivery of way marking/signposting to allow for local awareness of off-road trails in Bushmills, Cushendall and Dungiven 6. Establishing a partnership to resolve anti-social behaviour at beach sites and deliver appropriate actions. CCTV installed at Benone Strand and Downhill Strand.
- **Better Off :** Continues to be difficult to measure but these projects aim to provide opportunity for the public to enjoy outdoor spaces. Anecdotally, outdoor spaces have continued to play an increasingly important role for the public. The public's attitude to the outdoors and activities has changed. Realisation of the value of these spaces and how they can be used for the benefit of health and well-being is very evident.
- **Examples of Good Practice, Good News Stories, Case Studies:** Completion of further element of Binevenagh & Coastal Lowlands Landscape Partnership Scheme. Completion of Swim Shelter and launch of Castlerock Trails & Tales.

Action: 17. Meet Local Housing Needs

- **Action Lead:** Carita Coulter and Christine O'Carroll
- **Partners:** Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council • Community Representatives • Relevant community group/s
- **How Much:** £47.69m was invested in new social housing stock • 458 new social homes under construction at end of March 2025. • 385 new social homes programmed for 2025-28 in the Social Housing Development Programme
- **How Well:** Housing growth and household growth - gap lessened between what we need and what we have (NIHE) (Source: DfI/ NISRA Household Projections) • House Condition Surveys completed by (NIHE) House Condition Survey Main Report 2016 • Availability of 'Supported Housing' (Source NIHE 2023 / Causeway Coast and Glens Housing Investment Plan 2023-2026) Causeway Coast and Glens Housing Investment Plan 2023-26
- **Better Off:** Better understanding of the scale of social housing need in both urban and rural locations • Delivery of the social housing development programme to meet identified need.

Action: 18. LiveSmart

- **Action Lead:** Nigel McKeown
- **Lead:** Nigel McKeown
- **Partners:** Business Community (e.g. Considered Co. - Zero waste and refill shop, Coleraine), Churches, Community and Voluntary Sector (including Community Fridge Network and local Mens Shed groups), Fairtrade, Keep NI Beautiful (i.e. participation in Eco-Schools programme), Schools & Internal Council Departments and Functions.
- **How Much:** Attendance and participation in annual Streetwise initiative - LitterSmart, ClimateSmart and recycling talks delivered to 22 primary schools (551 pupils) in both Ballycastle and Coleraine. Supported Eco-Schools event held in Ballymoney Town Hall - 50 schools and 170 pupils in attendance. Community engagement with Autism Information Cafe, Choice Housing, Mosside Community and Montra Club. Awarded 6 LiveSmart Environmental Grants. Joint working with Environmental Health on Litter Working Group. Hosted work placement student from Malawi as part of the Commonwealth Scholarship Scheme. Formally joined Northern Ireland Resource Network (NIRN) - NIRN aims to connect individuals, charities, organisations etc. with a network of community-led organisations and social enterprises such as repair cafes/tool libraries/charity shops to make reuse and repair as accessible as possible.
- **How Well:** Most recent available council recycling data: Household recycling and reuse - 46.57% (Jan-Mar '25) versus 42.79% (Jan-Mar '24). Municipal recycling and reuse - 45.15% (Jan-Mar '25) versus 42.02% (Jan-Mar '24).
- **Better Off:** LitterSmart - 414 participants and 676 bags of litter collected.
- **Good News Stories:** Created 2x PlasticSmart awards schemes to encourage reduction of single use plastics at events and clubs & groups. Devised new

PlasticSmart @ Home info to encourage reduction of single use plastics in the home. Partnered with MyEarth.org.uk to publicise LiveSmart initiatives.

Action: 19. Local Transport

No update this quarter.

- **Action Lead:** Liam Hinphey
- **Lead:** Liam Hinphey

Action: 20. Pride in Environment

- **Action Lead:** Noel Davoren
- **How Much:** A few beds have been transformed using wildflower mixes rather than bedding plants. The team has expanded the wildflower areas into other towns and villages such as Kilrea, Bushmills and Ballycastle. These continue to be added/rotated year on year. All wildflower beds are being prepared to accept the harvest wildflowers from the previous year. Work is continuing with DFI Roads to collect the grass cutting on the Ring Road, Coleraine. This lowers the fertility of the grass area and encouraging the growth of indigenous plants and flowers. In 2023 a planting project was introduced with local primary schools. Each school received hanging baskets with plants and green compost. The school children planted the hanging baskets, and the baskets were displayed in the town centre. Hanging baskets have been re-issued to the schools again. In summer 2025, it is planned to expand this scheme to Ballycastle seafront for Ballycastle primary schools. A living wall has been introduced to help improve the town centre where space is restrictive. Introduction of sensory planters to help with autism and better interaction with the Public and the environment Introduction of more perennial planting. Tree management – Inspection of high-risk trees and tree surgery works carried out prior to the bird nesting season. With a massive Golf Event in Portrush coming up. The Estates are planning to redistribute plants from other areas to Portrush for this event instead of purchasing additional plants.
- **How Well:** Coleraine won a Gold Award for the Large Town Category in Britain in Bloom 2023 and a horticultural Excellence Award, whilst also winning Ulster in Bloom 2023. In 2024 Coleraine was successful in Ulster in Bloom and are entered into Britain in Bloom 2025
- **Better Off:** Council continue to receive positive feedback on the introduction of wildflowers in place of bedding plants which has significant impact on pollinators. The winning of the Gold Award for Britain and Bloom and the Horticultural Excellence Award is recognition from our peers, that the work undertaken is of a very high standard. Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council and DFI Roads calibration has produced YouTube videos to help promote Biodiversity and the natural environment. Cut and Collect Pt1 <https://youtu.be/OkHSI8FCC9g> Cut and Collect Pt2 <https://youtu.be/vn95Vnfl47U> Wildflowers <https://youtu.be/xxWRnm30Zok>
- **Examples of: Good Practice:** Estates are continuing to engage locally with the Public and Councillors. For instance, in Portrush, the seating area was all

refurbished around Station square and West Bay Promenade. Within Bushmills, it was agreed the grass cutting would be extended to include DfI Roads areas and a general tidy up to improve the town. Council has sourced funding for replacement of certain playpark and sport grounds. Arcadia Playpark is example of this.



Action: 21. Natural Heritage

- **Action Lead:** Neil Rainey
- **How Much:** Conservation Management Plans (CMPs) have been initiated and several completed for SACs within the Council area (DAERA) (need to update data for next quarter); Landscape Monitoring: 3 CCGBC AONBs and WHS participating in DAERA Fixed Point Photography Project (DAERA) and all Spring 2025 were submitted; ; Monitoring of species and habitat condition assessment by DAERA NIEA NED Biodiversity and Wildlife Unit continues all year round; WHS Management and Action Plan 2020- 2027 in place and being delivered by CC&GHT on behalf of DAERA NIEA; Antrim Coast and Glens AONB Management and Action Plan; Causeway Coast AONB Management and Action Plan, Binevenagh AONB Management and Action Plans in place (to be updated 2026/27); CCGHT Public events regular and ongoing through the year CC&GBC Local Development Plan (LDP) 2035 - not published yet. DAERA's Environmental Farming Scheme (EFS) has been open since Tranche 1 in 2017, with the final tranche 8 having had their 5-year agreements commence in January 2025. There has been a total of 2,032 EFS Higher agreements. A total of 100,688ha of land in NI were under Agri-environment scheme agreement from Tranches 1 to 8 with a total of 59,707ha currently still in agreement. Tranche 8 Currently has 197 higher agreements with 11,530ha of land effective period 1st January 2025 – 31st December 2029). I will request a breakdown of CCGBC area for next quarter. The new Agri-environment scheme to replace EFS is the 'Farming with Nature (FwN) Package'. Farming with Nature – Transition (FwN-T) scheme 2025 (equivalent of EFS Wider scheme) is currently open for applications from 23 June 2025 and will remain open for a 6-week period, closing on 04 August 2025 at 5pm. Farming with Nature Landscape and Farming with Nature + (EFS Higher equivalent) are currently under policy development with no published timeframe. Focusing on Antrim Coast & Glens AONB this quarter:- Within the ACG AONB, the 2020-25

action plan activities undertaken by CCGHT teams contribute to management plan objectives in 5 key areas- conserving landscape character, natural and historic environment, encourage sustainable use, access and enjoyment of the AONB, fostering pride and awareness in the AONB , and pursuit of partnership approach to AONB management. These objectives align broadly with CCG CP delivery plan action 22 in daily activities but within specific activities as follows: -Collection of landscape data change through undertaking Fixed Point photography seasonally at designated landscape character areas (15/02 & 07/05) -Creation of promotional video media showcasing fixed point project LCAs across the AONB using drone footage and team interview for widespread social media release (02/07) -Continued volunteer supported conservation events- Ballycastle beach clean (04/07) & invasive Himalayan Balsam removal (23/06). -Ongoing planning and research to undertake bogland improvements around Orra using peat bunding techniques. -EF funded project 'Hedgerow Highways' hedgerow planting focusing on joining woodland areas with new biodiversity rich hedgerows. -Community events including offering Leave No Trace training and attendance at Heart of the Glens festival (07/09) with Beach Schools NI to increase awareness of biodiversity and leave no trace principals for juniors -AONB Management forum meeting undertaken June '25 on Rathlin Island, discussions re ongoing 25-30 AONB action plan, with visits to explore East Light project. Rathlin Island Environment Forum Since taking over the role of secretariat and Chair of the Rathlin Environment Forum in 2024, CCGHT has worked with community, NGO, local and central government representatives to develop a ten-point environment action plan to deliver a sustainable environment on Rathlin including, for example, through supporting efforts to reduce disturbance of marine mammals and other wildlife and encouraging support for nature-friendly farming. CCGHT continues to be a key partner in the LifeRaft project to eradicate predators, namely ferrets and rats, threatening the Island's unique seabird colonies, including supporting the embedding of biosecurity measures to prevent any return of predators. Other CCGHT work on Rathlin has included commissioning surveys to monitor the numbers of feral (Greylag) geese potentially impacting on grazing land; commissioning a Rathlin Geology Guide; and providing support for the Rathlin Visitor App to support the island's economy through sustainable tourism.

Conservationists hopeful over Rathlin ferret removal



- **How Well (Quality):** CMPs are progressing well e.g.: River Roe SAC CMP to improve water quality. 4 seasonal photos/p.a.: The 3 AONBs within the Council area & 1 x WHS Spring 2025 Fixed Point Photography sessions complete. 6 monthly analysis to requested from participants and is to be submitted by end

of July. A range of WHS activities being delivered including: Connection with CCGBC Growth Deal project Connected Causeway; continuing Research Advisory Group to progress vegetation research; successful funding bids to provide 6 x coastal clean ups (2 x clean ups previously delivered) and coin damage removal project (has received high press interest : see below). DAERA report to DCMS on matters relating to the WHS. A 'watching brief' is kept by the Steering Group with input from CC&GBC. All activities continue to be carried out to protect the Outstanding Universal Value of the WHS.: Delivery by CC&GHT for DAERA NIEA. Multiple activities delivered, underway or being planned. Re EFS : Farmland managed in an improved sustainable way - Monitoring techniques of Agri-environment schemes are being developed. Monitoring of species: Ongoing work. Priority Species and habitat management are assessed with a view to sustaining and improving species nos. and diversity where appropriate (DAERA NIEA) throughout Council area. CCGHT working closely and well with Rathlin Environment Forum. LDP Preferred Options Paper published in June 2018. Draft Plan Strategy is still in preparation - no change.

Home / News / Northern Ireland

'A giant issue': Coins to be removed from Giant's Causeway amid call for tourists to stop wedging tokens into cracks



Work is taking place to remove coins which have been left at the Giant's Causeway in Northern Ireland.

Sport Culture Lifestyle
Society Law Scotland Wales Northern Ireland

This article is more than 1 month old

Giant's Causeway visitors causing damage by wedging coins into cracks

National Trust asks public to end practice of leaving coins that rust and expand, harming world heritage site



- **Better Off:** Protection and improvements are made through regulatory protection activity, promotional and on-the-ground actions by landowners, land managers, a range of NGOs and other parties/organisations. Knowledge and expertise has been increased by engagement with the farming community, community groups, schools, universities on how to manage and further sustainable practice on the land and landscape. Also increase in disability resource access within the AONBs with council, CCGHT, NT, landowners and a range of interested parties making progress.
- **Good News Story:** Protection and improvements are made through regulatory protection activity, promotional and on-the-ground actions by landowners, land managers, a range of NGOs and other parties/organisations. Knowledge and expertise has been increased by engagement with the farming community, community groups, schools, universities on how to manage and further sustainable practice on the land and landscape. Also increase in

disability resource access within the AONBs with council, CCGHT, NT, landowners and a range of interested parties making progress.

Economic/Education/Tourism Actions

Action: 22. Delivery of new Causeway Local Economic Partnership (LEP)

- **Action Lead:** Niall McGurk
- **Partners:** • Department for the Economy • Invest NI • Enterprise Agencies • Further Education Colleges • Ulster University • Causeway Chamber • Third Sector Representative • Innovate NI/UK
- **How Much:** Develop LEP Action Plan • Continue to deliver business support to help both new and existing businesses. • Increasing the number of businesses being supported by Invest NI • Increase Investment in innovative activities including R&D • Examine all external funding opportunities • Develop ALEC into an attractive FDI proposition • Continued delivery of Council's Digital Strategy • Support a Smart Local Energy System (SLES) • Define roles of all key delivery partners
- **How Well:** 10% External consultant appointed to develop LEP Action Plan • 0% Working in tandem with Business Development Team, develop complimentary support programmes • 0% Deliver Growth Deal projects which will become economic drivers for the region • 0% Support the development of an eco-system that will enhance Growth Deal propositions • 0% Proactively source and develop funding applications for external opportunities • 0% Identify and develop projects focused on the priority sectors identified by Council • 25% Ensure partners have clear, deliverable objectives
- **Better Off:** the Local Economic Partnership (LEP) will be the function through which the DfE's priorities identified in their Sub-Regional Economic Plan (creating good jobs, delivering increased productivity, decarbonisation, and addressing sub regional disparities) will be delivered throughout the Borough. The primary objective will be to redress the inequalities and regional imbalance currently evident across Northern Ireland. The LEP will prioritise locally-driven initiatives that empower communities to identify and pursue their own economic goals – this will be achieved via a new coordinated, co-designed and optimised approach that will help maximise public and private resources to get better results. It is expected that the LEP Action Plan will be in place by September 2025.

Action: 23. Labour Market Partnership

No update this quarter.

- **Action Lead:** Marc McGerty

- **Lead:** Marc McGerty
- **Partners:**
- **How Much (Quantity):**
- **Cumulative Totals :**
- **How Well (Quality):**
- **Better Off (Impact):**
- **Progress Level:**

Action: 24. Tourism and Recreation support

No update this quarter.

- **Action Lead:** Peter Thompson
- **Lead:** Kerrie McGonigle
- **Partners:**
- **How Much (Quantity):**
- **Cumulative Totals :**
- **How Well (Quality):**
- **Better Off (Impact):**
- **Progress Level:** Green

Action: 25. Growth Deal Opportunities

- **Action Lead:** Niall McGurk /Louise Mullan
- **Partners:** UK Government • Relevant NI Executive Departments • Ulster University • FE Colleges • Business Community
- **How Much:** Executive Programme Board to provide approvals throughout development of Growth Deal • Programme Management Office to undertake work in support of the Growth Deal • Consultant Call Off Framework to be utilised throughout the development of SOC/OBCs/FBCs • Independent research/reviews in support of projects to be commissioned (as required) • Outline Business Cases to be commissioned following Heads of Terms • Growth Deal Portfolio Document to be developed
- **How Well:** 100% - One Executive Programme Board meeting held in April. • 100% Programme Management Office continually working on project development • 100% - Consultant Call Off List utilised for all Council-led projects. • 100% Catalyst appointed to undertake demand study for Business Innovation & Incubation Hub. • 100% OBCs commissioned following Heads of Terms (April 2024). Two OBCs expected in July (CFDD & FISC) • 0% Growth Deal Portfolio Document to be developed following completion of OBCs.
- **Better Off:** The Growth Deal outlines the approach Council will take to strategically improve the lives of all citizens within the borough through capital projects. The objectives of the Growth Deal are to: • Attract, support and grow more business, with a focus on export; • Position Causeway Coast and Glens as the 'go-to' region for both business and pleasure; • Regenerate some of our

smaller settlements into thriving and sustainable rural economies; • Improve key elements of the tourism transport network and tourism destinations; • Work with education and employers to raise aspirations and improve employability and skills. Detailed analysis of impacts will take place once capital projects have concluded.

Action: 26. Delivery of Coleraine Town Fund

No update this quarter.

- **Action Lead:** Niall McGurk
- **Lead:** Louise Mullan
- **Partners:** UK Government NI Executive Departments Causeway Chamber Coleraine Community Groups Within the Coleraine area: • Local education providers • Local skills providers • Local businesses • Local residents • Faith & community leaders
- **How Much (Quantity)**
- **How Well (Quality):**
- **Better Off :**