

Title of Report:	Labour Market Partnership 2023-24 and 2024-25 DfC Annual Reports
Committee Report Submitted To:	Leisure & Development Committee
Date of Meeting	18 March 2026
For Decision or For Information	For information
To be discussed In Committee	NO

Linkage to Council Strategy (2019-23)	
Strategic Theme	Accelerating our Economy and Contributing to Prosperity
Outcome	Enhancement of skills and job creation opportunities
Lead Officer	Head of Prosperity & Place/ LMP Manager

Estimated Timescale for Completion	
Date to be Completed	March 2026

Budgetary Considerations	
Cost of Proposal	£543,843.19 (DfC 2023-24) £485,391.01 (DfC 2024-25)
Included in Current Year Estimates	Yes
Capital/Revenue	Revenue
Code	1142-30067
Staffing Costs	100% covered by DfC

Legal Considerations	
Input of Legal Services Required	NO
Legal Opinion Obtained	N/A

Screening Requirements	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	No	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	No	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	No	Date:
	RNA Required and Completed	No	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	No	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	No	Date:

1.0 Purpose of the Report

The purpose of this report is to update Members on the 2023-24 and the 2024-25 DfC Annual Report for the Labour Market Partnership.

The total budget for the 2023-24 Action Plan was £543,843.19 and the budget for the 2024-25 Action Plan was £485,391.01. LMP is 100% funded by the Department for Communities.

2.0 Background

2.1 Action 27 of the Causeway Community Plan aims to:

'Support the development of the Labour Market Partnership - supporting educational and skills initiatives within the Causeway Coast and Glens area to match current and future business needs.'

2.2 The Strategic Priorities in the 2023-24 and 2024-25 Action Plans were:

- SP1: To form and successfully deliver the functions of the local Labour Market Partnership for the area.
- SP2: To improve employability outcomes and/or labour market conditions locally.
- SP3: To support delivery of Employability NI.

2.3 Due to delays in receiving the Letter of Offer from DfC, some funding and delivery in 2023-24 was accrued into 2024-25. Similarly funding and activity in 2024-25 was accrued into the 2025-26 financial year. This has caused delays in the publishing of Annual Reports.

2.4 In summary, from April 2023 to March 2025 (which was in part accrued and completed in December 2025) the LMP in Causeway Coast and Glens has directly support 1,103 individuals on the key programmes with 630 candidates moving into new or better employment. Additionally, over 1,000 participants on LMP programmes achieved a qualification.

PROGRAMME	2023-24		2024-25		TOTAL	
	Participants	Jobs	Participants	Jobs	Participants	Jobs
Retrain Plus Academies	195	93	204	162	399	255
Business Seed Fund	66	56	60	53	126	109
Personal Learning Account	267	89	251	137	518	226
Work Ready	60	40	0	0	60	40
TOTAL	588	278	515	352	1,103	630

2.5 The Causeway Coast and Glens Labour Market Partnership 2023-24 DfC Annual Report is detailed in **Annex A**, and the 2024-25 DfC Annual Report Annual Report is detailed in **Annex B**.

Annex A

Causeway Coast and Glens
Labour Market Partnership

2023-2024 Annual Report

CAUSEWAY COAST
AND GLENS

Labour Market Partnership

Working Together



Department for

Communities

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Causeway
Coast & Glens
Borough Council

Chairman's Foreword

The second year of delivery for the Causeway Coast and Glens Labour Market Partnership (LMP) has been marked by significant activity, achievement, and momentum, particularly in Quarter 3 and 4, when the bulk of programme delivery occurred following the receipt of the Letter of Offer in July 2023.

The announcement by DfC of a pause in funding in May 2023 caused significant concern for LMP partners, stakeholders and beneficiaries in the Causeway Coast and Glens Council area and also across NI.

Fortunately, after nearly a 3 month delay £5.5million of funding was secured for all 11 LMPs, with £459,843.19 of funding confirmed for Causeway Coast and Glens.

Project delivery continued into in the 2024-25 financial year with expenditure being accrued, with some programmes concluding in December 2024. In Quarter 4 we secured an additional £84,000 from DfC to support more candidates in the Personal Learning Account and also on the Business Seed Fund, making the final 2023-24 DfC budget £543,843.19.

Causeway Coast and Glens Labour Market Partnership received nearly 800 enquiries for support across all of the LMP programmes and projects. From this the LMP achieved the following:

- 578 candidates were directly supported
- 326 achieving a qualification
- 285 securing new or better employment
- 3,000 local people attended LMP events
- 428 employers attended LMP events

These figures can be further examined in this report.

This has been an extremely successful year with targets exceeded significantly.

We look forward to implementing the 2024-25 Action Plan, and hope the role, value, and impact of the LMPs are continually recognised with funding decision makers.

The achievements and local opportunities delivered through the LMP would not have been possible without funding from the Department for Communities and the invaluable support of the LMP Team within DfC. Strong partnership working, both within the Council, LMP Members and with the local Jobs and Benefits Office, remains central to the project's success.

Luke McCloskey

Luke McCloskey, Chairman of Causeway Coast and Glens LMP.



Dearbháile Hutchinson, Marc McGerty and Chloe Stewart from the Causeway Coast and Glens Labour Market Partnership.

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1. Chairman's Foreword
2. Background
3. Membership and Secretariat
4. 2023-24 Action Plan Report

Strategic Priority 1: Establish a Labour Market Partnership

- LMP Delivery and Development
- Strategic Assessment and Action Plan

Strategic Priority 2: To improve employability outcomes and/or labour market conditions locally.

- Work Ready Programme
- Business Start and Seed Up Fund
- Retrain Plus Employment Academies
- Personal Learning Account

Strategic Priority 3: To support delivery of Employability NI

- Employability NI and LMP Engagement with Stakeholders
- Job Fairs
- Causeway Area Learning Partnership Careers and Industry Engagement
- Sustaining Lifelong Learning
- Apprenticeship Alert

5. Statement of Income / Expenditure

Background

Continuing employability support...

Employability NI is the Department for Community's approach to providing support services for unemployed individuals seeking to get back into to work. Rather than a stand-alone programme, it is a series of interventions that will evolve over time as legacy programmes end.

One of the key elements of the Employability NI programme design was the proposal to create "11 Local Labour Market Partnerships" in each council area. They intend to:

- Create a partnership to enable collaboration between key partners and services within the employability/skills ecosystem.
- Develop local Action Plans including setting targets for performance.
- Manage devolved funding and its delivery.
- Manage arrangements for the development, delivery and evaluation of local interventions focussed towards improving employability outcomes and labour market conditions locally.

Agile Responses to Local Needs: The Role of the Labour Market Partnerships

A key element of each LMP is the involvement of local stakeholders to ensure local issues are identified. That involvement was an essential part of developing this LMP Plan.

In considering the role of the Labour Market Partnership, consultees suggested the following:

- The LMP offers an opportunity to be more agile.
- Create a partnership with a primary focus on employability supports for the economically inactive and (in the near term) the newly unemployed.
- The LMP is a conduit through which local labour market intelligence is passed to ensure skills demand and supply are matched. Intelligence is therefore key, resulting in a need to maintain comprehensive labour market intelligence that will drive the work of the partners, particularly the linkages between employment/unemployment and barriers to accessing a job (e.g., childcare, skills).
- Engage employers/sector bodies to understand likely demand and to develop targeted interventions, focusing particularly on LTU/economically inactive.
- Explore how partner (e.g., Council) interventions can add value to the DfC offer.
- Co-design interventions that can help move people back into work as quickly as possible – this will be particularly important for the "newly unemployed".

- Review the progress of specific interventions regularly to understand what is working and to share insights with partners.

Funding secured ...

In 2023-24 Causeway Coast and Glens LMP secured £459,843.19 of funding from the Department for Communities. This 100% funding included £117,050.99 for secretariat and programme management support, and also £342,792.20 of funding for the delivery of strategic priority projects. Following an Easement programme in Quarter 4 Causeway Coast and Glens LMP secured an additional £72,000 for the Personal Learning Account, and £12,000 for the Business Start & Seed Fund, making the final 2023-24 DfC budget £543,843.19.

Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council provided essential leadership and operational support to the Labour Market Partnership, providing guidelines for secretariat duties, procurement, financial management, and audit oversight.

Using an Outcomes Based Approach...

The Causeway Coast and Glens Labour Market Partnerships uses the Outcomes Based Approach to measure impact and improve accountability. Every year, the Strategic Action Plan is completed using indicator and performance measure information. A project card template is utilized for each initiative, with thematic report cards completed quarterly to track impact and ensure that the right projects are being delivered to address identified needs.

Causeway Coast and Glens Labour Market Partnership Membership

2023-24 Membership of the Causeway Coast and Glens Labour Market Partnership included:

- Careers Service
- Causeway Chamber of Commerce
- Causeway Coast and Glens Council
- DfC Jobs & Benefits Office
- Enterprise Causeway
- Invest NI
- North West Regional College
- Northern Health and Social Care Trust
- Northern Regional College
- Roe Valley Enterprises

The LMP secretariat team in Causeway Coast and Glens consists of:

- LMP Manager
- LMP Project Development Officer
- LMP Project Administration Officer

All 3 members of the LMP secretariat team are agency.

The secretariat and members are also supported by several Council Departments including Finance, Grants and Funding, Audit and Risk, and HR. The team are managed by the Leisure and Development Department within the Prosperity and Place team.



Action Plan Report

This Annual Report refers to the full year of the Causeway Coast and Glens Labour Market Partnership and covers the funding period 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024, although budget was accrued and delivery of some projects continued into 2024/25 financial year.

These actions are consistent with the labour market activation proposals in the Borough's economic development strategy and reflect the key findings from the preceding statistical and consultative process, namely that the analysis and strategic context highlights the challenging circumstances of the Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council's labour market which is impacted by long standing issues such as high levels of economic inactivity, unemployment and a lower level of employment rates relative to Northern Ireland and other council areas.

In turn, these issues impact upon earnings potential for both residents and workplace employees. We considered how Covid-19 continues to impact the Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council labour market, as well as rising costs for businesses and consumers.

Reflecting on the analysis, the Strategic Priorities were:

- SP1: To form and successfully deliver the functions of the Labour Market Partnership for the Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council Area.
- SP2: To improve employability outcomes and / or labour market conditions locally
- SP3: To promote and support delivery of existing employability or skills provision (regionally or locally)

Strategic Priority 1 – To form and successfully deliver the functions of the Labour Market Partnership for the Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council Area

SP1.1 LMP Delivery and Development

Theme: LMP Delivery and Development.

Aims: Implementation of LMP Action Plan.

Description: LMP will operate under a defined term of reference. Membership will include a broad range of social partners providing local expertise. Integrated approach will elicit strong attendance at regular meetings, ensuring streamlined approach to LMP objectives.

Activities: Meetings of whole LMP.

Implementation of LMP Action Plan.

Capacity Building for Members.

Support LMP members in their role through, for example, training and case study visits, guest speakers, attendance at events and awareness raising of LMP activity.

Target Outputs:

- 6 LMP meetings held from April 2023 to March 2024. ✓ Achieved
- 65% attendance rate by LMP Members to LMP meetings. ✓ Achieved
- 90% of LMP members who felt supported by the LMP in their role. ✓ Achieved
- 70% of LMP members who feel they are contributing positively to the delivery of LMP. ✓ Achieved
- 70% of LMP members who think LMP is making a positive difference. ✓ Achieved
- 90% of LMP members reporting improved understanding of their roles. ✓ Achieved

SP1.2 Strategic Assessment and Action Plan

Theme: LMP Delivery and Development.

Aims: Carry out a strategic assessment and develop an Action Plan for 2024-25.

Description: Carry out a strategic assessment and develop an Action Plan for 2024-25.

Activities: Strategic assessment developed on time to inform LMP Action Plan 2024-25.

Co-design 2024-27 Strategic Assessment and 24-25 Action Plan developed to reflect needs of the LMP area.



Causeway Coast & Glens
Labour Market Partnership
Strategic Assessment 2024-27
Action Plan 2024-25



Target Outputs:

- Strategic Assessment developed on time to inform LMP Action Plan 2024/25. ✓ Achieved
- Action Plan drafted to address identified local needs and approved by Regional LMP. ✓ Achieved
- 70% of LMP Members who feel that their views have been taken into account with regard to the Action Plan. ✓ Achieved
- 70% of LMP Members who feel that their views have been taken into account with regard to the Strategic Assessment. ✓ Achieved
- 70% of LMP members reporting increased awareness of local employability and labour market issues. ✓ Achieved

Strategic Priority 2 - To improve employability outcomes and/or labour market conditions locally.

SP2.1 Work Ready Employability Programme.

Theme: Employability supports for the economically inactive (EI).

Aim: Develop and provide a support programme for the EI.

Description: Research and identify the issues affecting the EI. Co-design a programme to engage specifically with these groups, delivering employability advice, employability training (in CV Development, Completing Job Application Forms including JobApplyNI, Interview Techniques, Job Searching Skills), and employability opportunities, including job interviews.

Activities:

Co-design 6 x 4-week programme targeting EI, delivered Q1,2,3,4.

Combination of group and 1-2-1 mentoring.

Programme will deliver 4 practical group training sessions plus 6 hrs per person of 1-1 and group support. Participants have potential to gain Level 1 qualification in Employability Skills and develop key employability skills and increased confidence, clearer focus, higher motivation, enhanced life skills.

Summary: The Work Ready Employability Programme was delivered by North West Regional College and Northern Regional College. On this programme support was provided to people from across the borough who were looking to develop their employability skills to help them find employment.

The target for this program was to enrol 60 participants. The service was designed to support candidates participating in various employment academies to assist them in their work search and career journeys. Targets for this intervention were achieved.

WORK READY OUTPUTS:

ACHIEVED OUTPUT:

60 participants enrolled on the programme.

54 participants completed the programme.

47 participants reported satisfaction.

40 participants moving into employment.

47 participants achieved a qualification.

TARGET ON ACTION PLAN:

60 participants enrolling on the programme.

45 participants completing the programme.

34 participants reporting satisfaction.

27 participants moving into employment.

15 participants achieving a qualification



Catriona Sweeney from NWRC (L) pictured with Marie Donaghy from NRC, LMP Manager Marc McGerty, Causeway Coast and Glens Mayor, Councillor Steven Callaghan QPM, LMP Project Officer Dearbhaile Hutchinson and LMP Administration Officer Chloe Stewart at the launch of the Work Ready Programme for 2023-2024.

SP2.2 Business Start & Seed Fund

Theme: Employability supports for the economically inactive (EI).

Aim: To support and empower individuals who are economically inactive, enabling their progress into self-employment.

Description: Wraparound support for economically inactive who are looking to establish their own business.

Recruitment of participants who are assessed and potentially referred to regional programmes inc. GFI, ESS.

If eligible, participants will have opportunity to apply for a business start-up seed grant.

Grant applications will be managed by CCAG Funding Unit.

Activities: With enterprise partners, JBOs and other stakeholders co-design and host 8 enterprise outreach events across the borough.

Management of referrals for Seed Fund enquiries to Go for it, Enterprise Support Scheme etc.

Support at least 40 candidates to apply for the Seed Fund.

Seed Fund offers financial incentive up to £1,000 for costs / equipment etc.

At least 40 applications will be managed by CCAG Funding Unit.

Applicants may apply for Seed Fund on monthly basis.

Summary: Tangible Consulting were appointed in September 2023 to manage and deliver the Business Start & Seed Fund. Targeted outreach through local Jobs and Benefits offices and community centres significantly boosted interest and applications to the programme. Additionally, 16 individuals received support to apply for funding through the Exploring Enterprise programme, delivered by local enterprise centres. In total, 56 businesses were supported to start up with the grant, with 34 still actively operating six months later (out of 38 who responded to the 6-month feedback call).

The Council's Grants and Funding Unit played a vital role in the successful delivery of all 56 grants and were essential to the overall success of the project.



Dearbháile Hutchinson (L) pictured with LMP Manager Marc McGerty, Causeway Coast and Glens Mayor, Councillor Steven Callaghan QPM, and Chloe Stewart at launch of the Business Start & Seed Fund 23-24

BUSINESS START & SEED FUND OUTPUTS:

ACHIEVED OUTPUT:

- 56 participants completed the programme.
- 56 participants awarded a grant (up to £1000)
- 54 participants reported satisfaction.
- 56 commenced Self-Employment.
- 34 participants still in business – 6 months post grant award.
- 66 additional participants received support to explore self-employment.

TARGET ON ACTION PLAN:

- 48 participants completing the programme.
- 48 participants being awarded a grant.
- 38 participants reporting satisfaction.
- 46 participants commencing Self-Employment.
- 29 participants still in business – 6 months post grant award.
- 52 additional participants to receive support to explore self-employment.

Output comment: Monitoring surveys were completed December 2024 across the 56 businesses supported, 38 responded. Out of the 38 responses, 34 are still in business.

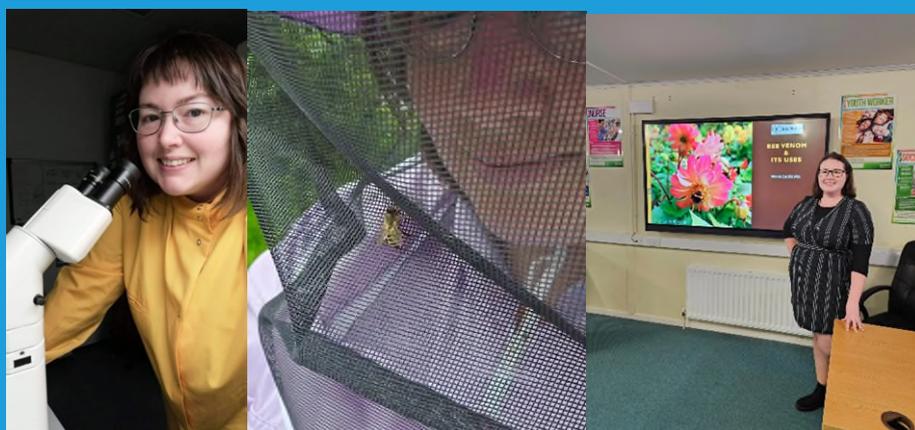
Case Study: Buzz Biolabs - Nichola Ejaz

"The concept for Buzz Biolabs was born while undertaking a MSc in Biotechnology Research at Ulster University. My research project title was "Methotrexate Resistance in Breast Cancer Cells and Chemosensitizing by Phytochemicals". Ultimately, I investigated curcumin and honey for their potential to overcome the issues surrounding chemotherapy resistance. While the project would benefit from further investigation, the impact of honey was undeniable in my laboratory results.

The journey to comprehend my research findings became my initial stepping stone into beekeeping and sparked my scientific interest in the field of biopharmaceutical sciences, specifically in "apiceuticals."

After completing my MSc, I enrolled in a preliminary beekeeping course with CAFRE. While honey seemed like an obvious next step, the prevalence of counterfeit honey in stores made me hesitant to promote it. This led me to explore other bee products with similar therapeutic potential in chemotherapy. I focused on propolis and venom. Bee venom is a key player in both medicine and in cosmetics. Though I didn't initially foresee becoming the first supplier of bee venom in the UK, I was aware that the NHS relied solely on imported bee and wasp venom, with no alternative sources. This dependency for medical grade bee and wasp venoms on one company had previously caused global shortages of medical-grade supplies when the supplier faced issues. Alas, I had found my gap in the market.

Starting out was challenging, especially with the significant impact of the pandemic on both my home and my work life. However, it was also the catalyst that pushed me to take the leap and transform the business from a mere concept into a reality. I am deeply grateful for the support provided by the Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council through the Labour Market Partnership in helping me pursue my ambitions. There's still plenty of work ahead, but I'm thrilled to be making a beeline for success!"



One of the beehives Nichola purchased with the grant money she received.

SP2.4 Retrain Plus – Employment Academies

Theme: Employability supports for the economically inactive (EI).

Aim: Support the economically inactive with the opportunity to retrain and learn new skills and secure sustainable employment.

Description: Focus will be to meet current labour market demands in key sectors, including higher value jobs and also entry level job academies.

Activities: Identify training and skilling opportunities to enable the economically inactive to secure sustainable employment.

Academies co-designed with employers to ensure sustainable labour market opportunities. Candidates guaranteed interview on completion.

Developing a Terms of Reference (ToR) for training providers to respond with accredited programmes of delivery.

Delivery programmes must address barriers to employment (i.e. care responsibilities, travel/mobility, rural, confidence, etc.).

Possible academies identified to be delivered with employers include:

- 40 participants will be enrolled on higher value academies.
- 80 participants will be enrolled on entry level academies.

Other academies developed to meet identified needs, with guaranteed interviews and guaranteed availability of jobs.

Summary: The programme exceeded all of its targets across key areas. A total of 195 participants enrolled onto the various academies, with 147 completing and 142 achieving a qualification, which were well above the action plan targets. Employment outcomes were strong, with 100 participants gaining jobs and 33 progressing into Further Education.

Academies that were planned by the Causeway Coast and Glens Labour Market Partnership included:

Chef, Cocktail Making, Health and Social Care, Lifeguarding (Pool and Beach), Children's Care, Non-Emergency Ambulance Care, Security, Taxi Driving and Transport Academies (HGV and Buis Driving).

Academies with the most interest from locals included Transport, Lifeguarding and Security.

Overall participant satisfaction was high, with 135 reporting positive experiences. Employer engagement also surpassed expectations, with 118 employers involved and 86 expressing satisfaction.

RETRAIN PLUS ACADEMIES OUTPUTS:

ACHIEVED OUTPUT:

TARGET ON ACTION PLAN:

195 participants enrolled onto academies.

128 participants enrolling onto academies.

147 participants completed academies.

97 participants completing academies.

142 participants achieved a qualification.

76 participants achieving a qualification.

93 participants gaining employment.

62 participants gaining employment.

33 participants moved into Further Education Education.

17 participants moving into Further Education.

135 participants reported satisfaction.

76 participants reporting satisfaction.

118 employers engaged with academies.

83 employers engaging with academies.

86 employers reported satisfaction.

68 employers reporting satisfaction.

Transport Academy

Summary: A Transport Academy was delivered in partnership with Transport Training Services, responding to significant local demand. The LMP observed a particularly high level of interest from residents eager to train as Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV) drivers, surpassing the interest shown in obtaining a bus driver licence. Many participants also expressed a desire to progress to larger vehicle licences, including Class C+E. The C+E licence opens a broader range of employment opportunities, and many individuals were funded to pursue this qualification. HGV driving roles are well-compensated, with an average salary of £33,017, and demand for qualified drivers is expected to continue growing across Northern Ireland.



Image source: Careers A-Z Ni Direct

TRANSPORT ACADEMY OUTPUTS:

ACHIEVED OUTPUT:

- 41 participants enrolled in the academy.
- 24 participants completed the academy.
- 17 participants gained a qualification.
- 21 participants gained employment.
- 3 participants moved into Further Education.
- 17 participants reported satisfaction.
- 12 employers reported satisfaction.

TARGET ON ACTION PLAN:

- 24 participants enrolling in the academy
- 19 participants completing the academy
- 17 participants completing a qualification.
- 17 participants gaining employment.
- 1 participant moving into Further Education.
- 17 participants reporting satisfaction.
- 12 employers reported satisfaction.



Chloe Stewart from the Labour Market Partnership (L) pictured with Clive Kenning who participated in the Transport Academy.

Case Study: Clive Kenning Transport Academy

Clive Kenning completed his Bus Licence (Category D) training in September 2024. Clive was economically inactive prior to starting the training.

'I really enjoyed the academy! It was very helpful to attend the classes in Coleraine Town Hall to prepare for the Theory Tests.

Transport Training Services and the Labour Market Partnership staff were fantastic.

I am hopeful to find work as a bus driver now.'

Clive was currently looking for work as a Bus Driver since last update in September 2024.

Lifeguard Academy

Summary: Both Pool and Beach Lifeguard Academies were delivered in 2023–24 as part of the Retrain Plus programme. The Beach Lifeguard Academy provided local residents with the opportunity to gain the National Vocational Beach Lifeguard Qualification (NVBLQ), with guaranteed interviews for RNLI positions offered to all who successfully completed the course.

The Pool Lifeguard qualification was delivered by staff at the Joey Dunlop Centre in Ballymoney, where six local participants were funded and all successfully achieved their National Pool Lifeguard Qualification (NPLQ).

LIFEGUARD ACADEMY OUTPUTS:

ACHIEVED OUTPUT:

14 participants enrolled in the academy.

11 participants completed the academy.

11 participants gained employment.

11 participants gained a qualification.

1 participant moved into Further Education.

11 participants reported satisfaction.

5 employers engaged.

5 employer reported satisfaction.

TARGET ON ACTION PLAN:

15 participants enrolling in the academy

11 participants completing the academy.

6 participants gaining employment.

8 participants gaining a qualification.

1 participant moving into Further Education.

8 participants reporting satisfaction.

6 employers engaging.

5 employers reporting satisfaction.



Mayor of Causeway Coast and Glens, Councillor Steven Callaghan QPM, launches the Lifeguarding Academy with Carl Russell from Sub 6, Conard McCullagh and Michael Thompson from RNLI and Chloe Stewart from the Labour Market Partnership.

Children's Care Academy

Summary: The Childcare Academy was designed to support unemployed and economically inactive residents across the borough in gaining a Level 1 Certificate in Childcare (City & Guilds). The course covered key units such as health and safety, safeguarding children, partnership working, children's health and wellbeing, and an introduction to disabilities. Participants also received practical support, including help with completing Access NI checks, job applications, and interview preparation for roles within the childcare sector.

This academy served as an introductory step on the childcare career pathway, with the broader aim of re-engaging individuals who have been distanced from the labour market.

CHILDCARE ACADEMY OUTPUTS:

ACHIEVED OUTPUT:

10 participants enrolled in the academy.

9 participants completed the academy.

3 participants gained employment.

9 participants gained a qualification.

4 participants moved into Further Education.

9 participants reported satisfaction.

8 employers engaged.

10 employers reported satisfaction.

TARGET ON ACTION PLAN:

20 participants enrolling in the academy

15 participants completing the academy.

9 participants gaining employment.

7 participants gaining a qualification.

2 participants moving into Further Education.

12 participants reporting satisfaction.

9 employers engaging.

12 employers reporting satisfaction.

Taxi Academy

Summary: The Causeway Coast and Glens Labour Market Partnership aimed to address the shortage of taxi services in the borough by supporting local residents to upskill, with the goal of helping them secure employment or become self-employed.

North West Taxi Proprietors delivered the driving training, which is required for refreshing, reskilling, and preparing the candidates to achieve their Taxi Licence. Support was also provided for candidates to undertake medicals and complete TLM1 forms, taxi licence application submissions, and also taxi driver theory training workshops and tests.

Candidates also received guidance on setting up an NI Direct account to manage their taxi licence, applying for an enhanced Access NI check, and submitting all required supporting documentation.

TAXI ACADEMY OUTPUTS:

ACHIEVED OUTPUT:

17 participants enrolled in the academy.

11 participants completed Academies.

8 participants gaining employment.

11 participants achieved a qualification.

1 participant moved into Further Education.

11 participants reported satisfaction.

15 employers engaged with Academies.

15 employers reported satisfaction.

TARGET ON ACTION PLAN:

10 participants enrolling in the academy.

7 participants completing Academies.

4 participants gaining employment.

6 participants achieving a qualification.

1 participant moving into Further Education.

6 participants reporting satisfaction.

12 employers engaging with Academies.

9 employers reporting satisfaction.

Health and Social Care Academy

Summary: Northern Regional College delivered the Health and Social Care Academy for 2023-24. It enabled candidates to learn the key skills required for employment in a range of care assistant roles, including in the following settings:

- o Domiciliary care
- o Residential care
- o Nursing care
- o Adults with learning difficulties.

This sector is known to have vacancies throughout the borough and students were given the opportunity to undertake a placement with participating employers.

A celebration event was held to acknowledge the achievement of those in the borough who completed the academy.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE ACADEMY OUTPUTS:

ACHIEVED OUTPUT:

- 12 participants enrolled in the academy.
- 8 participants completed Academies.
- 5 participants gaining employment.
- 6 participants achieved a qualification.
- 5 participants moved into Further Education
- 8 participants reported satisfaction
- 12 employers engaged with Academies
- 12 employers reported satisfaction.

TARGET ON ACTION PLAN:

- 14 participants enrolling in the academy.
- 7 participants completing Academies.
- 5 participants gaining employment.
- 6 participants achieving a qualification.
- 1 participant moving into Further Education.
- 6 participants reporting satisfaction.
- 13 employers engaging with Academies
- 10 employers reporting satisfaction.



Gabrielle Quinn (NRC), with Health and Social Care Academy participants and The Causeway Coast and Glens Mayor, Councillor Ciarán McQuillan.

Security Academy

Summary: The purpose of the Security Academy was to supply and deliver training for employment opportunities in the private security industry.

This included training in the following areas:

- Level 2 Award for Door Supervisors.
- Level 2 Award for Door Supervisors (Top up / Refresher).
- Level 2 Award for Security Guards.
- Level 2 Award for CCTV Operators.
- Level 2 Award for Event Stewards.
- Level 3 Award in First Aid at Work.

The programme qualified candidates for job roles in security, door supervising, event stewarding and CCTV operations through relevant accredited courses (as above). Candidates were also supported by the Elite Connected to obtain their licences.

This academy proved highly popular within the borough, likely due to the short training period required for qualification, the abundance of local job opportunities, and the flexibility offered by roles in the industry.

This academy exceeded its targets with 59 people having enrolled, 49 participants achieving a qualification and 35 participants gaining employment.

A celebration and job fair event was held in Ballymoney Town Hall for those who had completed the academy.



LMP Manager Marc McGerty pictured alongside The Deputy Mayor of Causeway Coast and Glens, Councillor Tanya Stirling and Jane Lowry at the Security Celebration event.



LMP Manager Marc McGerty pictured alongside The Deputy Mayor of Causeway Coast and Glens, Councillor Tanya Stirling and Sean Ward at the Security Celebration event.

SECURITY ACADEMY OUTPUTS:

ACHIEVED OUTPUT:

- 59 participants enrolled in the academy.
- 53 participants completed Academies.
- 35 participants gaining employment.
- 49 participants achieved a qualification.
- 7 participants moved into Further Education.
- 47 participants reported satisfaction.
- 55 employers engaged with Academies.
- 22 employers reported satisfaction.

TARGET ON ACTION PLAN:

- 10 participants enrolling in the academy.
- 6 participants completing Academies.
- 4 participants gaining employment.
- 6 participants achieving a qualification.
- 1 participant moving into Further Education.
- 5 participants reporting satisfaction.
- 12 employers engaging with Academies.
- 9 employers reporting satisfaction.

Non-Emergency Ambulance Care Academy

Summary: The aim of the programme was to qualify candidates for job roles in Non-Emergency Ambulance Care work.

This includes accredited training in the following areas:

- Level 3 First Response Emergency Care (FREC 3).
- Level 4 First Response Emergency Care (FREC 4).
- Level 3 Award in Ambulance Patient Care: Non-Urgent Care Services.
- Level 3 Award in Patient Care Services: Ambulance Driving.
- Level 3 Award in Non-Emergency Patient Transport Support.
- Level 3 Award in Emergency First Aid at Work.
- Level 3 Award in Emergency Paediatric First Aid.
- Level 3 Award in Administering Emergency Medical Gases.

The contractor (Salus Medical) was required to work with other local employers to identify employment opportunities for participants and also offer candidates employability support (non-accredited).

So far, the fully funded programme has upskilled 22 people from the borough in FREC 3 and Level 3 Award in Administering Emergency Medical Gases and also in FREC 4.

First Response Emergency Care Course (Level 4)

Free 5 Day Course! Eligibility criteria applies.

FREC 4 provides in-depth training and hands-on skills, building on the foundations of FREC 3 to prepare you for more advanced roles in pre-hospital care.

- Advanced trauma management.
- Comprehensive patient assessment.
- Real-world scenario training.

This course is ideal for those in the private ambulance sector, event medics, or anyone pursuing a higher level in emergency care. Ready to take your training to the next level?



**Contact LMP for eligibility & sign up form:
LMP@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk
or Phone 028 7034 7034 and ask for LMP.**

CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS Labour Market Partnership Working Together

Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council

SALUS MEDICAL

First Response Emergency Care Course (Level 3)

Free 5 Day Course!
Eligibility criteria applies.

Gain the essential skills and knowledge required to pursue a job in the private ambulance sector. You'll gain a comprehensive understanding of the roles and responsibilities of a first responder, while learning how to assess and manage a wide range of medical conditions and injuries.



Contact LMP for eligibility & sign up form:
LMP@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk
or Phone 028 7034 7034 and ask for LMP.

NON-EMERGENCY AMBULANCE CARE ACADEMY OUTPUTS:

ACHIEVED OUTPUT:

- 22 participants enrolled in the academy.
- 22 participants completed the academy.
- 9 participants gained employment.
- 17 participants gained a qualification.
- 3 participants moved into Further Education.
- 18 participants reported satisfaction.
- 4 employers engaged.

TARGET ON ACTION PLAN:

- 15 participants enrolling in the academy
- 11 participants completing the academy.
- 9 participants gaining employment.
- 10 participants gaining a qualification.
- 1 participant moving into Further Education.
- 9 participants reporting satisfaction.
- 12 employers engaging.

Cocktail Academy

Summary: The cocktail academy was designed to support local people who were unemployed in the borough to Learn OCN Level 2 Cocktail Making and find a job in hospitality. All 6 candidates who enrolled achieved the qualification.

This was a short summer academy which drew in the most interest from under 25-year-olds in the borough.

Case Study: Cahal Doherty

Cahal Doherty completed the OCN Level 2 Cocktail Making qualification in August 2024. Cahal was unemployed prior to starting the training.

'The academy allowed me to learn hands on skills that would enable me to find work in local bars and restaurants.'

Ash at NRC was a fantastic tutor and we were able to hear about his own experience running the 'Kon Tiki' cocktail bar in Portrush.'

Cahal was able to find work in Ramore restaurants after completing the academy.



Pictured from left to right is Cahal Doherty, Ashley Douglas Hospitality lecturer in NRC and Chloe Stewart from the LMP.

COCKTAIL ACADEMY OUTPUTS:

ACHIEVED OUTPUT:

- 6 participants enrolled in the academy.
- 6 participants completed Academies.
- 2 participants gaining employment.
- 0 participants still in employment 6 months post academy completion.
- 6 participants achieved a qualification.
- 6 participants moved into Further Education.
- 6 participants reported satisfaction.
- 6 employers engaged with Academies.
- 6 employers reported satisfaction.

TARGET ON ACTION PLAN:

- 8 participants enrolling in the academy.
- 6 participants completing Academies.
- 4 participants gaining employment.
- 2 participants still in employment 6 months post academy completion.
- 5 participants achieving a qualification.
- 1 participant moving into Further Education.
- 5 participants reporting satisfaction.
- 6 employers engaging with Academies.
- 5 employers reporting satisfaction.

Chef Academy

Summary: A Chef Academy was delivered in October 2023.

The four-week Chef Academy was held in Ramore Restaurants in Portrush and provided local candidates to upskill and train to become a Chef. Culinary training was delivered by People 1st as well as the professional chefs working in Ramore Restaurants. Candidates gained kitchen experience on-site in Portrush in addition to industry recognised qualifications including Allergen Awareness and Food Safety. Employability support such as Interview Skills and CV Development were also offered.

Recruitment of candidates proved to be very challenging and only 14 candidates enrolled, however, due to family and other commitments only 10 candidates completed the Chef Academy.



Chef Academy launch photography. LMP Manager Marc McGerty (L) is pictured with Causeway Coast and Glens Mayor, Councillor Steven Callaghan QPM, Louise Boyle from Coleraine Jobs and Benefits Office, and the General Manager of Ramore Restaurants, Aaron Boreland.

CHEF ACADEMY OUTPUTS:

ACHIEVED OUTPUT:

14 participants enrolled in the academy.

10 participants completed the academy.

6 participants gained employment.

9 participants gained a qualification.

3 participants moved into Further Education.

8 participants reported satisfaction.

1 employer engaged.

1 employer reported satisfaction.

TARGET ON ACTION PLAN:

12 participants enrolling in the academy

9 participants completing the academy.

6 participants gaining employment.

7 participants gaining a qualification.

2 participants moving into Further Education

7 participants reporting satisfaction.

1 employer engaging.

1 employer reporting satisfaction.

SP2.6 Personal Learning Account (PLA)

Theme: Addressing the future skills deficit identified.

Aim: Enabling upskilling within priority sectors in CCAG.

Description: Participants can get new skills and qualifications that local employers need to find employment or help them progress in their current career.

Maximum grant of £500 towards course within priority sectors which demonstrates upskilling of participant.

Activities:

Using CCAG Funding Unit Platform individuals can apply for £500 bursary towards upskilling and accreditation.

FE Colleges, Uni, Libraries NI, and training organisations engaged to ensure accredited course can be accessed via a personal learning account (i.e. upskilling training only within priority sectors).

Funding Unit to administer part-funding grant associated with the personal learning account.

Targets: 200 participants, (open to the unemployed, economically inactive and under-employed) upskilled through completion of accredited course.

Summary:

The Personal Learning Account fund was widely utilized by residents of the borough in 2023–24. Open to individuals regardless of their economic status, the grant supported both employed and unemployed people in gaining new skills.

Residents can upskill with niche courses suited to the specific employment that they want to progress in.

Some courses that were funded included: Accounting, Classroom Assistant, Electrical Testing, Leadership and Management, Personal Training and Tree Felling.

PERSONAL LEARNING ACCOUNT OUTPUTS:

ACHIEVED OUTPUT:

- 267 participants enrolled on the programme
- 223 participants completed the programme.
- 89 participants gained employment.
- 142 participants achieving a qualification.
- 85 participants moved into Further Education.
- 151 participants reported satisfaction.

TARGET ON ACTION PLAN:

- 266 participants enrolling on the programme.
- 200 participants completing the programme.
- 120 participants achieving a qualification.
- 50 participants gaining employment.
- 40 participants moving into Further Education
- 50 participants reporting satisfaction.



Press release photography for PLA. Pictured Left to right is LMP Manager Marc McGerty, LMP Admin Officer Chloe Stewart, Causeway Coast and Glens Mayor, Councillor Steven Callaghan QPM and LMP Project Officer Dearbhaile Hutchinson.

Strategic Priority 3 - To promote and support delivery of existing employability or skills provision (regionally or locally)

SP3.1 Employability NI and LMP Engagement with Stakeholders

Theme: Increased Awareness of existing employability or skills provision (regionally or locally)

Aim: To ensure communication across the Borough of regional employability initiatives.

Description: To ensure communication across the Borough of regional employability initiatives.

Activities: Engage with business and community stakeholders to raise awareness and engagement with LMP and to promote Employability NI (ENI) and other regional programmes and initiatives.

Maintain a dedicated section within Council website containing accurate information and guidance on actions/ programmes of LMP and regional programmes.

4 skills and employability ezines sent to 1,000 businesses.

6 good news stories in local press.

24 posts on CCAG Council social media regarding LMP / ENI.

Summary:

The Skills to Propel Breakfast was a success, with over 100 entrepreneurs, employers, and business leaders gathering for the event aimed at supporting workforce development and economic growth in the Causeway Coast and Glens area. A press release was released after the event and the information from the event was available to download on the council website.

The staff team continues to update the council website with all relevant information that the LMP offer within the borough.



LMP Skills to Propel breakfast 2023-24 held in The Bushtown Hotel. Pictured Left to right is Ashley Hay from JKC BMW, Anna Egner from NRC, LMP Manager Marc McGerty, Causeway Coast and Glens Mayor, Councillor Ciarán McQuillan, Sean McAleese from NRC; Helen McGonigle and Luke McCloskey both from NWRC.

The CelebrateHER Conference, held in honour of International Women's Day 2024, took place on Friday, 1st March 2024 at The Diamond Hall, Ulster University, Coleraine, as part of the SP3.1 programme. The event was delivered in collaboration with Enterprise Causeway and Ulster University.

A key feature of the conference was the Support Partner Zone, which hosted 13 partner organisations alongside 3 local employers. This space served as an interactive marketplace, offering delegates access to a wide range of information and support.

Attendees were actively encouraged by host Caroline O'Neill and conference staff to visit the Support Partner Zone during the mid-morning break and again after lunch.

The zone was designed to assist individuals who were:

- Exploring new job opportunities.
- Seeking to upskill.
- Looking for business support.
- Interested in personal development.
- Accessing training.
- Discovering apprenticeship options.

The conference aimed to inspire, inform, and connect women across the borough with valuable opportunities for growth and advancement.

295 registrations were submitted in advance for the Celebrate Her Conference, with 250 attending the event.

Overall, SP 3.1 was a success with targets being exceeded in terms of events held, employers' participation and referrals to regional employability programmes.



SP3.1 EMPLOYABILITY NI AND LMP ENGAGEMENT WITH STAKEHOLDERS

OUTPUTS:

ACHIEVED OUTPUT:

- 3 Co-hosted stakeholder events
- 250 Employers participating
- 25 Support organisations attending
- 221 Employers reporting satisfaction with event.
- 23 Support organisations reporting satisfaction with event.
- 275 Stakeholders reporting increased awareness of Regional and LMP programmes.
- 99 Referrals to regional employability programmes.

TARGET ON ACTION PLAN:

- 2 Co-hosted stakeholder events
- 100 Employers participating
- 20 Support organisations attending
- 80 Employers reporting satisfaction with event.
- 16 Support organisations reporting satisfaction with event.
- 96 Stakeholders reporting increased awareness of Regional and LMP programmes.
- 20 Referrals to regional employability programmes.

SP3.2 Job Fairs

Theme: Increased Awareness of existing employability or skills provision (regionally or locally).

Aim: To ensure communication across the Borough of regional employability initiatives.

Description: To ensure communication across the Borough of regional employability initiatives.

Activities: Delivery of 12 job fairs across the borough where employers attend with job opportunities and create awareness of potential jobs.

Summary:

Throughout 2023–24, numerous job fairs were held across the borough, including dedicated ‘Youth Job Fairs’ targeting individuals aged 16 to 30. A total of 11 job fairs were delivered, just one short of the initial target of 12. However, feedback from employers indicated a sense of ‘job fair fatigue,’ prompting a review of the current approach and consideration of reducing the target number of job fairs in future years.

Satisfaction from employers however was above target in addition to the amount of employers who felt attendance at these events assisted with filling vacancies.



Department for Communities | An Roinn Pobal | Department for Communities | Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council

Youth Job Fairs 6-8PM

Age 16-30

Tuesday 19th March 2024
The Lodge Hotel, Coleraine.

Wednesday 20th March 2024
Roe Valley Arts and Cultural Centre, Limavady.

Thursday 21st March 2024
Ballymoney Town Hall, Ballymoney.

Monday 25th March 2024
The Marine Hotel, Ballycastle.

Live employment opportunities | Employment academies | Training & apprenticeship programmes | Career guidance | CV & interview tips

CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS Labour Market Partnership Working Together

LIVE JOBS - LIVE MUSIC - HOT FOOD



Coleraine Multi Sector Job Fair **Oct 04**

Wednesday 4 October 2023 - Coleraine Town Hall

Find job opportunities that will help employers and improve your employment prospects with practical advice and support.

Work Experience Fair
10.00am - 12.00pm
5 employers from various sectors will offer 5 job opportunities.

Employment Opportunities Centre
10.00am - 12.00pm
Offer a range of support opportunities including:
• CV, interview and job application tips
• Job search strategies and help
• Personal and professional development

CAUSEWAY COAST & GLENS Borough Council | Coleraine Chamber of Commerce | Department for Communities | An Roinn Pobal | Department for Communities



Limavady Mini Job Fair **Jul 27**

Thursday 27 July 2023, 10.00am - 12.30pm

Limavady Jobs & Benefits office

Find job opportunities, that with local employers from various sectors and improve your employment prospects with practical advice and support.

Department for Communities | An Roinn Pobal | Department for Communities



Ballymoney Multi Sector Job Fair **Mar 12**

Tuesday 12 March 2024, 11.00am - 1.00pm

Ballymoney Jobs & Benefits office

Find job opportunities and improve your employment prospects with practical advice and support.

CAUSEWAY COAST & GLENS Borough Council | Ballymoney Chamber of Commerce | Department for Communities | An Roinn Pobal | Department for Communities

SP3.2 JOB FAIRS OUTPUTS:

ACHIEVED OUTPUT:

11 Job Fairs hosted.
668 Attendees at events.
555 Attendees reported satisfaction.
467 Attendees reported increased awareness of LMP Regional Programmes.

102 Employers participated at events.
82 Employers reported satisfaction.
83 Employers reported attendance at these events assisted with filling vacancies.

TARGET ON ACTION PLAN:

12 Job Fairs to be hosted.
720 Attendees to attend events
188 Attendees reporting satisfaction.
150 Attendees reporting increased LMP Regional Programmes.

144 Employers participating at events.
40 Employers reporting satisfaction.
40 Employers reporting attendance at these events assisting to fill vacancies.

SP3.3 Causeway Area Learning Partnership Careers and Industry Engagement

Theme: Increased Awareness of existing employability or skills provision (regionally or locally).

Aim: To ensure communication across the Borough of regional employability initiatives.

Description: To ensure communication across the Borough of regional employability initiatives, careers and careers in STEM.

Activities: Co-Design of careers Action Plan with CALP and Careers Service Careers Convention: Delivery of a co-hosted careers convention to broaden the scope of jobs young people apply for and promote STEM careers. Attend STEM Events and promote STEM careers.

Summary:

In 2023–24, the Labour Market Partnership either hosted or part-funded a range of events aimed at promoting career development across the borough. These included STEM-focused initiatives such as the GemX Advanced Manufacturing Careers Event and the BRING IT ON Careers Event, both designed to inspire young people to explore careers in science, technology, engineering, and manufacturing.

Another key event was the Causeway Business Education Partnership Careers Conference, held in April 2024 at Ulster University, Coleraine.

The conference brought together 46 exhibitors and welcomed students from 14 schools within the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council area, with approximately 1,250 students in attendance.

Targets were overachieved for attendee number at events and the number of employers participating in these events, which is a success for the partnership.



Causeway Coast and Glens 'BRING IT ON' Event organised by Belfast MET and Causeway Coast and Glens LMP. Pictured Left to right is Alan Stirling from Alderhill Digital, Jim Campbell from Covernet, Mayor of Causeway Coast and Glens, Councillor Steven Callaghan QPM, Francesca Morelli from VAVA Influence, LMP Manager Marc Mc Gerty, Helen Mc Gonigal and Jennifer Liston from North West Regional College (NWRC) and Lisa McCaul from Bring IT On (Belfast MET).

SP3.3 CAUSEWAY AREA LEARNING PARTNERSHIP CAREERS AND INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT OUTPUTS:

ACHIEVED OUTPUT:

3 Action Plans developed.

1775 Attendees at events.

76 Employers participating.

180 Attendees reporting satisfaction with event.

49 Employers reporting satisfaction with event.

172 Attendees have increased awareness of Regional and LMP programmes.

46 Employers have increased awareness of support available through LMP and regional programmes.

TARGET ON ACTION PLAN:

1 Action Plan developed.

1,000 Attendees at events.

60 Employers participating.

375 Attendees reporting satisfaction with event.

45 Employers reporting satisfaction with event.

375 Attendees have increased awareness of Regional and LMP programmes.

45 Employers have increased awareness of support available through LMP and regional programmes.

Strategic Priority 3 - To promote and support delivery of existing employability or skills provision (regionally or locally)

SP3.4: Sustaining Lifelong Learning

Theme: Increased Awareness of existing employability or skills provision (regionally or locally).

Aim: Supporting communities, in the areas of most need, based on high deprivation, by developing formal and informal opportunities to encourage return to learning and workforce.

Description: Promotion of and engagement in lifelong learning within local communities, by developing in person and virtual learning opportunities which create a safe learning environment for those with apprehension about returning to learning.

Activities: Co-design of a lifelong learning strategy for the borough, creating a culture of lifelong learning.

Marketing and promotion of lifelong learning opportunities, targeting areas experiencing most deprivation, including ICT and Essential Skills.

Dedicated lifelong learning section on Council website.

Coordinating lifelong learning interventions and events in areas and groups experiencing most deprivation.

Weeklong Festival of Learning Programme developed.

Summary: The weeklong festival of learning was promoted across the borough, with many community groups taking part.

Working with the Grants and Funding Unit the LMP supported 23 projects for events held between Monday 18th March 2024 to Sunday 24th March 2024, with 466 people in total attending these events.



Celebrating and Promoting Lifelong learning in the borough. Photographed from left to right is Luke McCloskey (NWRC / LMP Chairperson), Mayor of Causeway Coast and Glens, Councillor Steven Callaghan QPM, LMP Administration Officer Chloe Stewart and LMP Manager Marc McGerty.

SP3.4 SUSTAINING LIFELONG LEARNING OUTPUTS:

ACHIEVED OUTPUT:

1 CCAG Lifelong Learning Strategy and Co-Design Action Plan developed.

559 Attendees at events.

22 Attendees reporting satisfaction with event.

168 Referrals to regional employability programmes.

82 Referrals to local LMP provision.

22 Attendees reporting increased awareness of Regional and LMP programmes.

TARGET ON ACTION PLAN:

1 CCAG Lifelong Learning Strategy and Co-Design Action Plan developed.

50 Attendees at events.

40 Attendees reporting satisfaction with event.

100 Referrals to regional employability programmes.

60 Referrals to local LMP provision.

40 Attendees reporting increased awareness of Regional and LMP programmes.

Strategic Priority 3 - To promote and support delivery of existing employability or skills provision (regionally or locally)

SP3.5: Apprenticeship Alert

Theme: Increased Awareness of existing employability or skills provision (regionally or locally).

Aim: Increase awareness of apprenticeships within the Borough.

Description: Maintain a virtual apprenticeship alert platform to promote opportunities and raise awareness of apprenticeships and vocational training. This will act as a one-stop-shop for potential apprentices, their parents/guardians and also local employers.

Activities: Maintaining and further developing apprenticeship alert platform and alert board. Engagement with careers; schools; JBOs; training organisations; recruitment agencies; Chambers of Commerce local employers; etc. to raise awareness of apprenticeship alert platform.

Co-design marketing campaign and events to promote platform to LUE/EI and school leavers.

Summary: The LMP staff team continued their work in updating the Causeway Apprenticeships website and Facebook regularly with new apprenticeship opportunities in the bough and in the travel to work area. Those who registered their emails also received these updates in email form. Some of these email recipients included those in the careers service and local teachers who could advise students of these opportunities as they came up.

In November 2023, the LMP staff team organised an Apprenticeship Awards Evening to celebrate local achievements and share the positive impact of apprenticeships. During the event, 25 apprentices and higher-level apprentices from across the borough were honoured with special recognition awards. The evening was a great success, receiving excellent feedback and attracting significant publicity, including a three-page feature in the local press.



Celebrating local Apprentices at the Apprenticeship Awards evening, photographed from left to right is Helen Mc Gonigal NWRC, Shea McIlwee, Timothy Gilmore, Carrie McClements, Mayor of Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council Councillor Steven Callaghan QPM, Michala Dougherty, Matthew Nicholl, Roisin McCloskey and Patrick McKeown NWRC

The LMP were represented on the judging panel for the Northern Ireland Apprenticeship Awards through Manager Marc McGerty and Marc also attended the prestigious awards ceremony, held at the Titanic Hotel in Belfast.

Notably, the winner of the Higher-Level Apprenticeship Award, Joanne, resides within the Causeway Coast and Glens area. This achievement was promoted by the LMP across the council area through social media and on councils' news page.



Pictured from left to right, celebrating Joanne's achievement is James Duke, Digital Lead at Manfreight Ltd, Joanne McCubbin Higher Level Apprentice Winner of NI Apprenticeships Awards 2024, Mayor of Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council Councillor Steven Callaghan QPM, and LMP Manager Marc McGerty.

SP3.5 APPRENTICESHIPS ALERT OUTPUTS:

ACHIEVED OUTPUT:

1 Apprenticeship alert platform maintained.
68 Apprenticeship opportunities promoted through the site.
860 Visitors to the site.
0 Employers using the apprenticeship alert.
0 Employers reporting satisfaction with the project.
0 Potential apprentices reporting satisfaction with the project
0 Employers participating reported the project would assist in filling vacancies.
0 Referrals to regional employability programmes.

TARGET ON ACTION PLAN:

1 Apprenticeship alert platform maintained.
100 Apprenticeship opportunities promoted through the site.
500 Visitors to the site.
100 Employers using the apprenticeship alert.
75 Employers reporting satisfaction with the project.
150 Potential apprentices reporting satisfaction with the project
75 Employers participating reported the project would assist in filling vacancies.
100 Referrals to regional employability programmes.

Output comment: 'How Well Did We Do It' PM's were difficult for CCG LMP to report on the LMP did not engage with employers directly to use the platform.

Participants are signposted and the LMP to date have not contacted to survey. This is a PM we would of removed under Change Control document but deadline had passed.

5. Statement of Income and Expenditure.

Statement of Income & Expenditure				
Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council				
Causeway Coast & Glens Labour Market Partnership				
Statement of Income & Expenditure				
Year to 31 March 2024				
	Total Funding	Expenditure Charged	Expenditure Accrued	Total Expenditure
	£	£	£	£
Funding from DfC (Administration)	117,050.99	107,236.72	4,000.00	111,236.72
Funding from DfC (Operational)	426,792.20	224,550.79	208,055.68	432,606.47
Funding from DfE	50,000.00		50,000.00	50,000.00
Contribution from Council				
Contributions from (Other Please state)				
Contributions from (Other Please state)				
	593,843.19	331,787.51	262,055.68	593,843.19
Payments	£	£	£	£
Salaries	99,437.13	96,719.80		96,719.80
Staff Costs	13,613.86	10,516.92		10,516.92
Telephones				
Printing and Stationery				
Audit Fees	4,000.00		4,000.00	4,000.00
Photocopying				
Total DfC Administration	117,050.99	107,236.72	4,000.00	111,236.72
Strategic Priority 1 (Operational)	11,000.00	9,807.15	540.00	10,347.15
Strategic Priority 2 (Operational)	375,850.09	192,159.45	189,575.18	381,734.63
Strategic Priority 3 (Operational)	39,942.11	22,584.19	17,940.50	40,524.69

Total DfC Operational	426,792.20	224,550.79	208,055.68	432,606.47
Payments - DfE (Admin)				
Payments - Council Contribution (Admin)				
Payments - xx				
Payments - (Other Please state) (Admin)				
Total Other (Admin)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Payments - DfE (Operational)				
Payments - Council Contribution (Operational)				
Payments - xx (Operational)				
Payments - (Other Please state) (Operational)				
Total Other (Operational)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	<u>543,843.19</u>	<u>331,787.51</u>	<u>212,055.68</u>	<u>543,843.19</u>
<p>Certificate of Chief Financial Officer</p> <p>Subject to the central charges shown above properly reflecting actual costs Incurred by the Council on 'behalf of' the Labour Market Partnership. I am satisfied that the expenditure shown has been wholly, exclusively and necessarily incurred by the Council on the Labour Market Partnership and that the grant receivable is in accordance with the regulations and conditions applicable.</p> <p><i>DWR Wjle</i> 06-Jun-24</p> <p>Chief Financial Officer Date</p>				

CAUSEWAY COAST
AND GLENS

Labour Market Partnership
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 Invest
Northern Ireland



Department for the

Economy

 ROE VALLEY
ENTERPRISES

Enterprise 
CAUSEWAY
GROW INTO GREATNESS

 Northern Health
and Social Care Trust

Causeway
Chamber 



Causeway
Coast & Glens
Borough Council



Annex B

**Causeway Coast and Glens
Labour Market Partnership**

2024-2025 Annual Report for the Department for Communities

CAUSEWAY COAST
AND GLENS
Labour Market Partnership
Working Together



Manager’s Foreword

As the third full year of the Causeway Coast and Glens Labour Market Partnership (LMP) concludes the LMP continued to achieve excellent labour market outcomes for the borough.

The 3 key LMP programmes attracted lots of interest from local residents who are unemployed or economically inactive, and also residents in employment who are looking to retrain and upskill to gain better employment. These 3 key programmes are:

- Retrain Plus Employment Academies
- Business Seed Fund
- Personal Learning Account

In 2024-25 the LMP directly support 515 individuals on the 3 key programmes with 352 candidates moving into new or better employment. 301 LMP participants also achieved a qualification.

	2024-25	
	Participants	Job Outcomes
Retrain Plus Employment Academies	204	162
Business Seed Fund	60	53
Personal Learning Account	251	137
TOTAL	515	352

Additionally, over 9,000 people attended LMP events including Job Fairs, School Careers and STEM events, and LMP Outreach events.

Funding for LMP projects was confirmed by the Department for Communities (DfC) in September 2024. This delayed the start of delivery until Quarter 3, however, DfC extended the delivery window by 3 months to June 2025. Despite the delay in funding, 2024-25 was another extremely successful year with targets being exceeded significantly. These figures can be further examined in this report.

The low skills base and low wage rates continues to be a major challenge for the borough, as is economic inactivity, unemployment and the disability employment gap.

Looking ahead, the LMP remains committed to addressing these long-standing challenges with ambition, collaboration and innovation. The achievements of 2024-25 demonstrate the impact that targeted, focused interventions can deliver, even in the face of funding delays and wider economic pressures.

By continuing to work closely with our partners, employers and local residents, we will build on this momentum and strive to create a more skilled, confident and resilient workforce across the Causeway Coast and Glens.

I am grateful to everyone who contributed to another successful year, and I look forward to further progress in the year ahead.



Marc McGerty
Causeway Coast and Glens LMP Manager.



Mayor of Causeway Coast and Glens, Councillor Ciarán McQuillan with Marc McGerty and Chloe Stewart from the Causeway Coast and Glens Labour Market Partnership.

CONTENTS:

1. Manager's Foreword
2. LMP Membership and Secretariat
3. 2024-25 Action Plan Report
 - Strategic Priority 1: To form and successfully deliver the functions of the Labour Market Partnership for the Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council Area
 - LMP Delivery and Development
 - Strategic Assessment and Action Plan
 - Strategic Priority 2: To improve employability outcomes and/or labour market conditions locally
 - Retrain Plus Employment Academies
 - Business Start and Seed Up Fund
 - Personal Learning Account
 - Strategic Priority 3: To form and successfully deliver the functions of the local Labour Market Partnership for the area
 - Employability NI and LMP Engagement with Stakeholders
 - Job Fairs
 - Causeway Area Learning Partnership Careers and Industry Engagement
 - Sustaining Lifelong Learning
 - Apprenticeship Alert
4. Statement of Income / Expenditure

Causeway Coast and Glens Labour Market Partnership Membership

2024-25 Membership of the Causeway Coast and Glens Labour Market Partnership included:

- Careers Service
- Causeway Chamber of Commerce
- Causeway Coast and Glens Council
- DfC Jobs & Benefits Office
- Enterprise Causeway
- Invest NI
- North West Regional College
- Northern Health and Social Care Trust
- Northern Regional College
- Roe Valley Enterprises

The LMP secretariat team in Causeway Coast and Glens consists of:

- LMP Manager
- LMP Project Development Officers x2

All 3 members of the LMP secretariat team are agency.

The secretariat and members are also supported by several Council Departments including Finance, Grants and Funding, Audit and Risk, and HR. The team are managed by the Leisure and Development Department within the Prosperity and Place team.



Member Organisations of Causeway Coast and Glens Labour Market Partnership.

Action Plan Report

This Annual Report refers to the full year of the Causeway Coast and Glens Labour Market Partnership and covers the funding period from the 1st of April 2024 to the 31st of June 2025, although budget was accrued and delivery of some projects continued until December 2025.

These actions align with the labour market activation priorities set out in the borough's economic development strategy. They also reflect the key findings of the statistical analysis and consultation process, which highlight the challenging conditions within the Causeway Coast & Glens labour market, including long-standing issues such as high economic inactivity, unemployment, low wage rates, low skills levels, and low employment rates that are lower than those of Northern Ireland overall and other council areas. In turn, these issues impact upon earnings potential for both residents and workplace employees.

Reflecting on the analysis, the Strategic Priorities were:

- SP1: To form and successfully deliver the functions of the Labour Market Partnership for the Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council Area.
- SP2: To improve employability outcomes and/or labour market conditions locally.
- SP3: To promote and support delivery of existing employability or skills provision available either regionally or locally



Strategic Priority 1 – To form and successfully deliver the functions of the Labour Market Partnership for the Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council Area

SP1.1 LMP Delivery and Development

Theme: LMP Delivery and Development.

Aims: Implementation of LMP Action Plan.

Description: Effective delivery of the LMP through the Members, appropriate structures and mechanisms.

Activities:

- Meetings of whole LMP.
- Implementation of LMP Action Plan.
- Capacity Building for Members and Staff.
- Support LMP members in their role through, for example, training, guest speakers, attendance at events and awareness raising of LMP activity.

Target vs Outputs:

• 6 LMP meetings held from April 2024 to March 2025.	✓ Achieved
• 80% attendance rate by LMP Members to LMP meetings.	✓ Achieved
• 80% of LMP members feel supported by the LMP in their role.	✓ Achieved
• 80% of LMP members feel they are contributing positively to the delivery of LMP.	✓ Achieved
• 80% of LMP members who think LMP is making a positive difference.	✓ Achieved

SP1.2 Evaluate LMP programmes and develop an action plan for the LMP for 2025-27

Theme: LMP Delivery and Development.

Aims: Develop Action Plan for the LMP for 2025-27

Description: Evaluate LMP programmes and develop an action plan for the LMP for 2025-27.

Activities:

- Co-design action plan developed to reflect needs of the LMP area.

Target vs Outputs:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 year Action Plan developed and submitted to DfC 2025-26 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 80% of LMP Members who feel that their views have been taken into account with regard to the Action Plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 70% of LMP members reporting increased awareness of local employability and labour market issues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Achieved



Strategic Priority 2 - To improve employability outcomes and/or labour market conditions locally.

SP2.1 Retrain Plus (Targeted Employment Academies)

Theme: Retrain Plus includes targeted employability supports for 3 themes:

- Economically Inactive and Unemployed (SP2.1.1)
- People with a Disability (SP2.1.2)
- Skilled Labour Supply (SP2.1.3)

Aim: Support the economically inactive, unemployed and low skilled with the opportunity to retrain and learn new skills and secure sustainable employment.

Description: Focus will be to meet current labour market demands in key sectors, including higher value jobs and also entry level job academies.

Activities:

- Identify training and skilling opportunities to enable the economically inactive to secure sustainable employment.
- Academies co-designed with employers to ensure sustainable labour market opportunities. Candidates guaranteed interview on completion.
- Developing ToR for training providers to respond with accredited programmes of delivery.
- Delivery of programmes must address barriers to employment (i.e. care responsibilities, travel/mobility, rural, confidence, etc).

Possible academies identified to be delivered with employers:

- 60 participants will be enrolled on Higher Value Academies.
- 60 participants will be enrolled on Entry Academies.
- Participants can avail of employability support to develop key employability skills and documentation. E.g., CV development, completing job application forms including JobApplyNI, interview techniques, job searching skills and employability opportunities, including job interviews.

Summary:

Retrain Plus surpassed all of its key targets. In total, 204 participants enrolled across the various academies, with 191 completing the programme and 187 gaining a qualification, significantly exceeding the action plan targets.

Employment outcomes were strong, with 162 participants gaining a new job or a promotion, and 34 progressing into further education or training after completing the academy.

Candidates that were participating on academies were broken into 3 categories:

- Unemployed and Economically Inactive (this also includes candidates who are not working and not on benefits)
- Disability (candidates who have a disability)
- Skilled Labour Supply (candidates who are working but looking for more secure or higher paid employment)

Academies that were delivered by Causeway Coast and Glens Labour Market Partnership in 2024-25 included:

Transport (HGV, Bus, Forklift)	Security	Taxi	Childminding
Non-Emergency Ambulance Care	Youth Work	Lifeguarding	Hospitality
Fibre Splicing*	Phlebotomy*	Hydrogen Academy*	Education & Training*

*In partnership with other LMPs.

Retrain Plus Total Target vs Outputs:

Indicator	Target	Actual
Number of participants recruited	126	204
Number of employers engaged	67	93
Number of completers	98	191
Number of completers satisfied	84	185
Number of completers received employment support	74	181
Number of employers satisfied	49	89
Number entering employment	71	162
Number sustaining employment	50	98
Number obtaining qualifications	71	187
Number entering Further Education	13	34

Unemployed / Economic Inactive	Disabled	Skilled Labour Supply
114	15	75
46	3	44
103	15	73
99	15	71
95	15	71
43	6	40
79	12	71
47	2	49
99	15	73
25	5	4

Transport Academy

Summary: A Transport Academy was delivered in partnership with LCD Driving Academy, Sandy Arthur Training Services and Transport Training Services, responding to significant local demand.

Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV) driving continues to offer strong career prospects, with an average salary of £33,017, and demand for qualified drivers is projected to grow further across Northern Ireland.



Transport Academy
2024 - 2025

Are you interested in HGV or Coach Driving?

Careers in these fields require a professional C,D and/or E License.

We are running a fully funded training academy for these career paths.

Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council

CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS Labour Market Partnership Working Together

Contact us to register your interest or find out more
Email: LMP@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk
Or Phone: 028 7034 7034

Yearly (Gross)
£33,017
Median salary based on full-time hours

Based on: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings - Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency. See "Further Information" for more details

10,215
Number of people currently employed (estimate)

Based on: Skills Barometer - Ulster University Economics Policy Centre
See "Further Information" for more details

Future Growth: High
Expected future demand is high compared to other jobs in Northern Ireland

*Image source: Careers A-Z Ni
Direct*

Transport Academy	Economic Category of Participants	
Achieved Output:	Economically Inactive	Skilled Labour Supply
28 participants enrolled in academy	3	25
26 participants completed the academy	1	25
26 participants gained employment	1	25
26 participants gained a qualification	1	25
2 participants moved into Further Education	0	2
26 participants reported satisfaction.	1	25
28 employers engaged	3	25
27 employers reporting satisfaction	2	25

Security Academy

Summary: The Security Academy was an extremely popular academy with many locals in the borough upskilling to work in this sector. Demand for licenced door supervisors and event stewards remains steady, offering candidates reliable and sustainable employment prospects. The Security Academy was delivered by Elite Connected in Ballymoney.

Security roles also offer a high degree of flexibility. Many positions operate on shift-based patterns, including daytime, night-time, and weekend work. This flexibility encouraged many to take part in the academy and upskill.

Training was delivered in Ballymoney in the following areas:

- Level 2 Award for Door Supervisors.
- Level 2 Award for Door Supervisors (Top up / Refresher).
- Level 2 Award for CCTV Operators.
- Level 3 Award in First Aid at Work.

Funding was also provided support to candidates in obtaining their SIA licences, which are legally required for anyone working in this sector in the UK. This allowed candidates to be fully job ready after completing this academy.

LOOKING FOR A CAREER IN SECURITY?



CAUSEWAY COAST
AND GLENS
Labour Market Partnership
Working Together



CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS LMP HAVE LIMITED FUNDING TO TRAIN RESIDENTS IN THE FOLLOWING COURSES:

- ✓ Door Supervisor L2
- ✓ L3 Emergency First Aid at Work
- ✓ CCTV Operator L2 Award
- ✓ Includes SIA Licence fees

**APPLY FOR FULLY FUNDED
TRAINING NOW!**

Eligibility criteria applies.
We welcome applications from
people with disabilities.

☎ 028 7772 2226

✉ LMP@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk



Security Academy
Achieved Output:
108 participants enrolled in the academy
107 participants completed the academy
95 participants gained employment
103 participants gained qualifications
16 participants moved into Further Education
101 participants reporting satisfaction
37 employers engaged
33 employers reporting satisfaction

Economic Category of Participants		
Economically Inactive	Disabled	Skilled Labour Supply
55	14	39
54	14	39
45	11	39
50	14	39
12	4	0
50	14	37
20	5	12
18	5	10



LMP Manager Marc McGerty pictured alongside The Deputy Mayor of Causeway Coast and Glens, Councillor Tanya Stirling and Sean Ward (participant) at the Security Celebration event.

Pool Lifeguard Academy

Summary: The Pool Lifeguard Academy was delivered in January 2025 by staff at the Joey Dunlop Centre in Ballymoney, where 5 local participants were funded and all successfully achieved their National Pool Lifeguard Qualification (NPLQ) which is required to secure work as a leisure attendant.

Pool Lifeguard Academy	Economic Category of Participants	
	Economic Inactivity	Skilled Labour Supply
Indicator		
5 participants enrolled in the academy	2	3
5 participants completed the academy	2	3
2 participants gained employment	1	1
5 participants gained qualifications	2	3
5 participants reporting satisfaction	2	3
2 employers engaged	1	1
2 employers reporting satisfaction	1	1

Taxi Academy

Summary: Following the successful first year of the Taxi Academy, Causeway Coast and Glens Labour Market Partnership approved the continuation of the academy for 2024–25. To obtain a professional taxi driver’s licence, candidates were required to complete Access NI checks, submit TLM1 forms and licence applications, and undertake both theory and practical training and assessments. All training and support was provided by the contractor, North West Taxi Proprietors.



Chloe Stewart (L) from the CCG LMP pictured with Padraig McElhinney (participant on the Taxi Academy) and Eamonn O’Donnell from North West Taxi Proprietors.

FUNDED TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

BECOME A TAXI DRIVER



Flexible working hours



Work for yourself or a local company



Grant towards costs of training and tests



No qualifications needed!



CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS Labour Market Partnership Working Together



ENQUIRE NOW



LMP@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk

Taxi - Retrain Plus Academy

Achieved Output:

10 participants enrolled in the academy

9 participants completed the academy

9 participants gained employment

9 participants gained qualifications

0 participants moved into Further Education

9 participants reporting satisfaction

6 employers engaged

6 employers reporting satisfaction

Economic Category of Participants

Economically Inactive	Skilled Labour Supply
7	3
6	3
6	3
6	3
0	0
6	3
3	3
3	3

Non-Emergency Ambulance Care Academy

Summary: The aim of the programme was to qualify candidates for job roles in Non-Emergency Ambulance Care work. This academy was also attractive for candidates who want flexible work with a strong variety of roles. This academy was delivered in Limavady by Salus Medical.

The following accredited training was undertaken by candidates:

- Level 3 First Response Emergency Care (FREC 3).
- Level 3 Award in Administering Emergency Medical Gases.
- Level 4 First Response Emergency Care (FREC 4).

First Response Emergency Care Course (Level 4) Free 5 Day Course!
Eligibility criteria applies.

FREC 4 provides in-depth training and hands-on skills, building on the foundations of FREC 3 to prepare you for more advanced roles in pre-hospital care.

- Advanced trauma management.
- Comprehensive patient assessment.
- Real-world scenario training.

This course is ideal for those in the private ambulance sector, event medics, or anyone pursuing a higher level in emergency care. Ready to take your training to the next level?



Contact LMP for eligibility & sign up form:
LMP@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk
or Phone 028 7034 7034 and ask for LMP.

Causesway Coast and Glens Labour Market Partnership  Causesway Coast & Glens Borough Council 

First Response Emergency Care Course (Level 3) Free 5 Day Course!
Eligibility criteria applies.

Gain the essential skills and knowledge required to pursue a job in the private ambulance sector. You'll gain a comprehensive understanding of the roles and responsibilities of a first responder, while learning how to assess and manage a wide range of medical conditions and injuries.



Contact LMP for eligibility & sign up form:
LMP@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk
or Phone 028 7034 7034 and ask for LMP.

Causesway Coast and Glens Labour Market Partnership  Causesway Coast & Glens Borough Council 

Non-Emergency - Retrain Plus Academy
Achieved Output:
11 participants enrolled in the academy
8 participants completed the academy
6 participants gained employment
8 participants gained qualifications
4 participants moved into Further Education
8 participants reporting satisfaction
5 employers engaged
5 employers reporting satisfaction

Economic Category of Participants		
Economically Inactive	Disabled	Skilled Labour Supply
5	1	5
3	1	4
3	1	2
3	1	4
1	1	2
3	1	4
2	1	2
2	1	2

Hospitality Taster Academy

Summary: The aim of this academy was to encourage people to consider and start a career in the hospitality sector. There was strong local participation from nearby hospitality businesses such as hotels, restaurants and serviced apartments and the candidates had the opportunity to engage directly with the employers in the college.

Hospitality remains a strong and reliable employment sector, supported by the Causeway Coast's popularity as a major tourism destination.

Northern Regional College managed the delivery of this academy. A large portion of the employer engagement was provided by the JBO Employment Advisor in Coleraine.

Training within this academy included:

- City & Guilds Level 2 Principles of Customer Service and an introduction to Hospitality.
- Employability skills.
- Work Trials and Work Placement with local employers.

Hospitality Taster Academy

Want to work in the thriving hospitality industry?
Join our FREE upskilling course and learn the skills you need for a career in hospitality.

When?

3 Course dates to choose from in May and June 2025.
Monday 19th May, 16th June or 23rd June.
Each intake will run for 4 days, from 10am to 3.30pm.

Venue: Northern Regional College, Coleraine (Union St)

Achieve:

- Level 2 City & Guilds Principles of Customer Service and an Introduction to Hospitality.
- Employability Skills and Meet the Employer opportunity.

Entry requirements:

- Residents in Causeway Coast and Glens Borough.
- Unemployed or simply wanting to upskill.

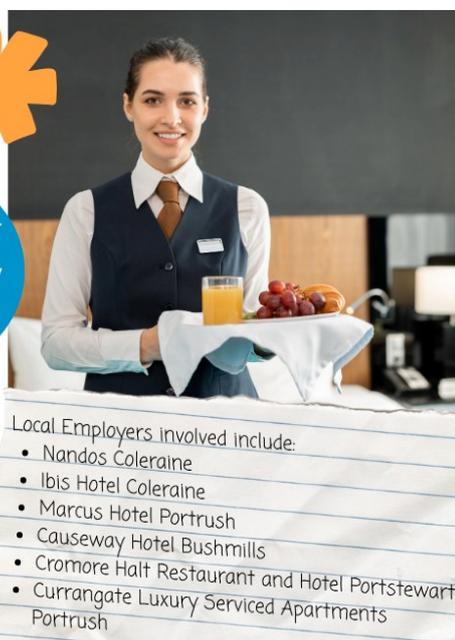
How to register?

Email Gabrielle Quinn at NRC

Gabrielle.Quinn@nrc.ac.uk

Tel: 02870441350

Costs incurred for Travel, Childcare and Uniforms may be claimed back from the college.



CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS Labour Market Partnership Working Together

Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council

NORTHERN Regional College

Hospitality - Retrain Plus Academy
Achieved Output:
24 participants enrolled in the academy
21 participants completed the academy
8 participants gained employment
21 participants gained qualifications
2 moved into Further Education
21 participants reporting satisfaction
12 employers engaged
12 employers reporting satisfaction

Economic Category of Participants
Economically Inactive
24
21
8
21
2
21
12
12

Youth Work Academy

Summary:

Roe Valley Residents Association delivered a structured 10-week programme that enabled participants to work towards the OCN Level 1 Award in Youth Work Practice. The sessions covered key areas including youth work principles and values, young people's development needs, communication skills, leadership, activity planning and delivery, safeguarding, and managing challenging behaviour.

The academy allowed the students to take part in work placements, learn interview skills and provided one to one support so candidates could progress into employment or further training to develop their careers in youth work.

Youth Work - Retrain Plus Academy	Economic Category of Participants
Achieved Outcomes:	Economically Inactive
16 participants enrolled in the academy	16
14 participants completed the academy	14
14 participants gained employment	14
14 participants gained qualifications	14
9 participants moved into Further Education	9
14 participants reporting satisfaction	14
3 employers engaged	3
3 employers reporting satisfaction	3

Childminding Academy

Summary: This academy was funded by the Department for Education (DE) and was designed to assist 15 people in becoming a registered childminder or approved home carer. Training included the following:

- Health & Safety
- Safeguarding
- Paediatric First Aid

This academy was delivered by NICMA who supported participants through the registration process and provided them with insurance and membership of their organisation for their first year. Some participants also went on to start their own businesses and avail of the Business Seed Fund Start Up grant.

This academy also helped address the shortage of registered childminders in the borough who were able to accept new clients, providing an essential service for many working families.

Additional training in Autism Awareness and Makaton, and was also available to existing Childminders from the borough.



LMP Manager Marc McGerty (left) pictured alongside the Mayor of Causeway Coast and Glens, Councillor Ciarán McQuillan and Fiona Clendinning and Paula McLaughlin from NICMA.

Childminding Academy

Achieved Output:

24 participants enrolled in the academy

16 participants completed the academy

9 participants gained employment

16 participants gained qualifications

16 participants reporting satisfaction

7 participants awaiting social worker allocation to finish off registration process



SP2.2 Business Start & Seed Fund

Theme: Employability supports for the unemployed.

Aim: To support and empower individuals who are economically inactive or unemployed, enabling their progress into self-employment.

Description: Support for economically inactive and unemployed who are seeking to start a business.

Recruitment of participants who are assessed and potentially referred to regional programmes including Go Succeed, SPF and EEP.

If eligible, participants will have the opportunity to apply for a business startup seed bursary of up to £1,000.

Provide opportunity for seed bursaries for 16 EEP participants.

Provide post start up mentoring support to bursary recipients.

Activities:

- With enterprise partners, JBOs and other stakeholders co-design and host 12 enterprise outreach events across the borough.
- Management of referrals for Seed Fund enquiries to Go Succeed and EEP for 64 candidates.
- Support at least 40 candidates to assess their business plan and apply for the Seed Up Fund.
- Liaise with EEP providers to enable additional 16 participants to apply for Seed Up Fund.
- Seed Fund offers financial incentive up to £1,000 for costs / equipment etc.
- At least 56 applications will be managed by CCAG Funding Unit.
- Applicants may apply for Seed Fund on monthly rolling basis.
- 40 successful bursary applicants will get 1-1 mentoring over the first 6 months to help them get established.

Summary: Tangible Consulting were appointed to manage this programme.

Tangible consulting held outreach sessions in the 3 local Jobs and Benefits Offices to engage with potential participants. Tangible also supported candidates to get a business plan and financial forecasts, also assisting them to submit their seed fund application. This included signposting clients to Go Succeed.

The Council's Grants and Funding Unit played a vital role in the successful delivery of all 55 grants approved.

This programme worked along side Go Succeed and provided many with the support needed to start new businesses.

4 of the 55 candidates supported with the Seed Fund were on other academies including the Taxi Academy and Childminding Academy.



Marc McGerty (L) from the Causeway Coast and Glens Labour Market Partnership and the Mayor of Causeway Coast and Glens, Councillor Ciarán McQuillan.

BUSINESS START & SEED FUND OUTPUTS:

ACHIEVED OUTPUT:

60 participants enrolled on programme

56 participants completed programme

55 participants state programme has removed a barrier

60 participants referred to other employability programmes

53 participants commence self-employment

TARGET ON ACTION PLAN:

40 participants enrolling on programme

38 participants completing programme

38 participants stating the programme has removed a barrier

60 participants referred to other employability programmes

36 participants commencing self-employment



REGISTER YOUR INTEREST NOW

SCAN HERE



Call: 028 7772 2226
or Email:
LMP@causewaycoast
andglens.gov.uk

ARE YOU UNEMPLOYED? DO YOU HAVE BUSINESS IDEA? SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE! WHAT DO WE OFFER?

- ✓ Seed Fund up to £1,000
- ✓ Advice on how to apply for the grant
- ✓ Referrals to other government programmes to support you on your new business journey!



CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS
Labour Market Partnership
Working Together



£1,000 BUSINESS START-UP SEED FUND

SP2.3 Personal Learning Account (PLA)

Theme: Skilled Labour Supply.

Aim: Enabling upskilling within key sectors in CCAG.

Description: Participants can get new skills and qualifications that local employers need to help them secure employment, retain employment or progress in their current career.

Maximum bursary of £500 towards course within priority sectors which demonstrates upskilling of participant.

Activities:

- Using CCAG Funding Unit Platform individuals can apply for £500 bursary towards upskilling and accreditation.
- FE Colleges, Uni, Libraries NI, and training organisations engaged to ensure accredited course can be accessed via a personal learning account (i.e. upskilling training only within priority sectors).
- CCG Funding Unit to administer PLA bursary.

Summary:

The Personal Learning Account fund had another successful year, with over 300 residents in the borough applying for the funding. This programme was also supported by councils Funding Unit team who supported payments and compliance. This programme works excellently as individuals choose the courses themselves to enrich their career prospects. A large variety of courses were approved for funding including fitness, lifeguarding, essential skills, electrical, leadership and management, beauty, wellness and plant operations.

“This was so helpful as the course was very expensive and I would not have been able to do it without this fund.” (PLA Participant).

251 candidates who were offered support were asked to complete a post-project survey. 181 candidates completed the survey, with 137 of these confirming they had secured new or additional employment.

PERSONAL LEARNING ACCOUNT OUTPUTS:

ACHIEVED OUTPUT:

251 participants enrolled on the programme

158 participants completed the programme.

137 participants gained employment.

147 participants achieving a qualification.

180 participants reported satisfaction.

TARGET ON ACTION PLAN:

150 participants enrolling on the programme.

122 participants completing the programme.

93 participants gaining employment.

93 participants achieving a qualification.

95 participants reporting satisfaction.



PERSONAL LEARNING ACCOUNT FUND



Starting a college course soon and not eligible for funding elsewhere?

**APPLY FOR FUNDING NOW ON
CC&GBC GRANT HUB**

For more information contact the LMP team by telephoning 028 7772 2226 or emailing LMP@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk

Strategic Priority 3 - To form and successfully deliver the functions of the local Labour Market Partnership for the area

SP3.1 Employability NI and LMP Engagement with Stakeholders

Theme: Increased Awareness of existing employability or skills provision (regionally or locally).

Aim: To ensure communication across the Borough of regional employability initiatives.

Description: To ensure communication across the Borough of regional employability initiatives.

Activities:

- Engage with business and community stakeholders to raise awareness and engagement with LMP and to promote Employability NI (ENI) and other regional programmes and initiatives.
- Maintain a dedicated section within Council website to promote regional programmes, good news stories and guidance on programmes.

Summary: Causeway Coast and Glens Labour Market Partnership continue to host and also attend events to promote LMP Projects, local programmes, regional programmes and provide awareness on what help and support is out there to residents and businesses in the borough.

This included breakfasts with employers and also outreach events with community partners across the borough.

SP3.1 EMPLOYABILITY NI AND LMP ENGAGEMENT WITH STAKEHOLDERS

OUTPUTS:

ACHIEVED OUTPUT:

10 LMP organised events
152 attendees at LMP events
124 Employers/Stakeholders participated at LMP events
124 Employers reported satisfaction with event
124 Stakeholders reported increased awareness of Regional & LMP programmes
132 Attendees reported increased knowledge of LMP work
18 Referrals to regional employability programmes

TARGET ON ACTION PLAN:

6 LMP events organised
200 attendees at LMP events
50 Employers/Stakeholder participating at LMP events
40 Employers reporting satisfaction with events
40 Stakeholders reporting increased awareness of Regional & LMP programmes
40 Attendees reporting increased knowledge of LMP work
10 Referrals to regional employability programmes



Chloe Stewart (L) from the Causeway Coast and Glens Labour Market Partnership and the Mayor of Causeway Coast and Glens, Councillor Ciarán McQuillan.

SP3.2 Job Fairs

Theme: Increased Awareness of existing employability or skills provision (regionally or locally).

Aim: To ensure communication across the borough of regional employability initiatives.

Description: To ensure communication across the borough of regional employability initiatives.

Activities: Delivery of 9 local job fairs and 1 regional jobs fair across the borough where employers attend with job opportunities and create awareness of potential jobs.

Summary:

The LMP team worked closely with local Jobs and Benefits Office staff to host and support job fairs across the borough. Targets were exceeded for both the number of events hosted and attendee numbers. Many employers were therefore supported to fill vacancies.

SP3.2 JOB FAIRS OUTPUTS:	
ACHIEVED OUTPUT:	TARGET ON ACTION PLAN:
<u>10</u> Job Fairs hosted.	<u>6</u> Job Fairs to be hosted.
<u>583</u> Attendees at events.	<u>300</u> Attendees to attend events
<u>533</u> Attendees reported satisfaction.	<u>220</u> Attendees reporting satisfaction.
<u>514</u> Attendees reported increased awareness of LMP Regional Programmes	<u>220</u> Attendees reporting increased awareness of LMP Regional Programmes.
<u>83</u> Employers participated at events.	<u>80</u> Employers participating at events.
<u>83</u> Employers reported satisfaction.	<u>64</u> Employers reporting satisfaction.
<u>83</u> Employers reported attendance at these events assisted with filling vacancies.	<u>64</u> Employers reporting attendance at these events will assist with filling vacancies

Coleraine Multi Sector Job Fair

Mar 12

Coleraine Town Hall
 Wednesday 12 March 2025, 10.00am – 12.00pm

Find job opportunities, meet with local employers from various sectors and improve your employment prospects with practical advice and support.

Jobs & Benefits staff will also be present and can provide information on local support services.




Coleraine Jobs & Benefits office presents

Wellbeing & Advice Event

Coleraine Town Hall
 Wednesday 12 March 2025
 1.00pm – 3.00pm

A variety of organisations will attend to provide information and support on:

- money and debt
- financial supports
- benefits
- housing
- wellbeing
- health
- career options
- training and more




SP3.3 Careers and Industry Engagement

Theme: Increased Awareness of existing employability or skills provision (regionally or locally).

Aim: To ensure communication across the Borough of regional employability initiatives.

Description: To ensure communication across the borough of regional employability initiatives, careers and careers in STEM.

Activities: Co-Design of careers Action Plan with CALF and Careers Service Careers Convention.

Delivery of a co-hosted careers convention to broaden the scope of jobs young people apply for and promote STEM careers.

Support students to attend STEM events and promote STEM careers.

Summary:

The CCG LMP continued to support the local Causeway Area Learning Forum. Targets were superseded this year due to a large number attending the STEM Village at the NI Air Show which was organised by CCG LMP team.

A total of 8,171 participants attended and engaged with the LMP. It was not possible to conduct surveys with attendees to measure awareness or satisfaction levels due to the large flow of people and nature of this event.

SP3.3 CAREERS AND INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT OUTPUTS:

ACHIEVED OUTPUT:

3 Action Plans developed.

8,171 Attendees at events.

40 Employers participated.

40 Employers reported satisfaction with event.

40 Employers increasing awareness of support available through LMP and regional programmes.

TARGET ON ACTION PLAN:

1 Action Plan to be developed.

900 Attendees at events.

45 Employers participating.

33 Employers reporting satisfaction with event.

33 Employers increasing awareness of support available through LMP and regional programmes.



Credit Photo from NI International Air Show 2024 Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council

SP3.4: Sustaining Lifelong Learning

Theme: Increased Awareness of existing employability or skills provision (regionally or locally).

Aim: Co-design of a lifelong learning strategy for the borough, promoting a culture of lifelong learning.

Description: Promotion of and engagement in lifelong learning within local communities, by developing in person and virtual learning opportunities which create a safe learning environment for those with apprehension about returning to learning.

Activities:

- Marketing and promotion of lifelong learning opportunities, targeting areas experiencing most deprivation, including ICT, Digital and Essential Skills.
- Dedicated lifelong learning section on Council website.
- Coordinating lifelong learning interventions and events in areas and groups experiencing most deprivation.
- Weeklong Festival of Learning Programme developed.

Summary: The weeklong festival of learning was promoted across the borough, with many community groups, schools and colleges taking part.

Working with the Grants and Funding Unit the LMP supported 6 projects for events held between Monday 24th March 2025 and Sunday 30th March 2025. 90 people in the borough attended lifelong learning events across Causeway Coast and Glens that week.

Additionally, work is ongoing to develop a 2 Year Integrated Skills Action Plan with public sector partners and skills providers in the borough.

SP3.4 SUSTAINING LIFELONG LEARNING OUTPUTS:

ACHIEVED OUTPUT:

1 CCAG Lifelong Learning Strategy and Co-Design Action Plan developed.

6 Community events delivered.

90 Attendees at events.

90 Attendees reported satisfaction with event.

32 Referrals to regional employability programmes.

32 Referrals to local LMP provision.

90 Attendees reporting increased awareness of Regional and LMP programmes.

TARGET ON ACTION PLAN:

1 CCAG Lifelong Learning Strategy and Co-Design Action Plan to be developed.

6 Community events to be delivered.

90 Attendees to attend events.

72 Attendees reporting satisfaction with event.

30 Referrals to regional employability programmes.

25 Referrals to local LMP provision.

72 Attendees reporting increased awareness of Regional and LMP programmes.



The Causeway Festival of Learning Week Fund

Festival Dates:

Monday 24th March to Sunday 30th March 2025.

The Causeway Festival of Learning Week Fund has been developed to promote lifelong learning across the borough.

The fund is only open to Community Groups, Social Enterprises and Voluntary Groups.

Applications will close on 12.00 noon on Tuesday the 11th of March 2025.

SP3.5: Apprenticeship Alert

Theme: Addressing the future skills deficit identified.

Aim: Increase awareness of apprenticeships and vocational training within the borough.

Description: Maintain a virtual apprenticeship alert platform to promote opportunities and raise awareness of apprenticeships and vocational training.

This will act as information source for potential apprentices, their parents/guardians and also local employers

Activities:

- Maintaining and further developing Causeway Apprenticeship website and social media.
- Developing localised content for marketing.
- Co-design events, activities and promotional campaign with local providers, schools and DfE.
- Engagement with careers; schools; JBOs; training organisations; recruitment agencies; Chambers of Commerce local employers; etc. to raise awareness of Causeway Apprenticeship website.

Summary:

The LMP staff team continued to maintain and update the Causeway Apprenticeships website and Facebook page with new apprenticeship opportunities across the borough and wider travel-to-work area. Individuals who registered their email addresses also received these updates directly by email. This mailing list included careers service staff and local teachers, enabling them to inform students of new opportunities as they became available.

LMP also supported the 'Unlock the Potential of Apprenticeships' event held in the Coleraine Campus of Northern Regional College in February 2025. The event encouraged local businesses to consider recruiting apprentices and provided employers with the opportunity to hear directly from both current apprentices and participating employers about their experiences.



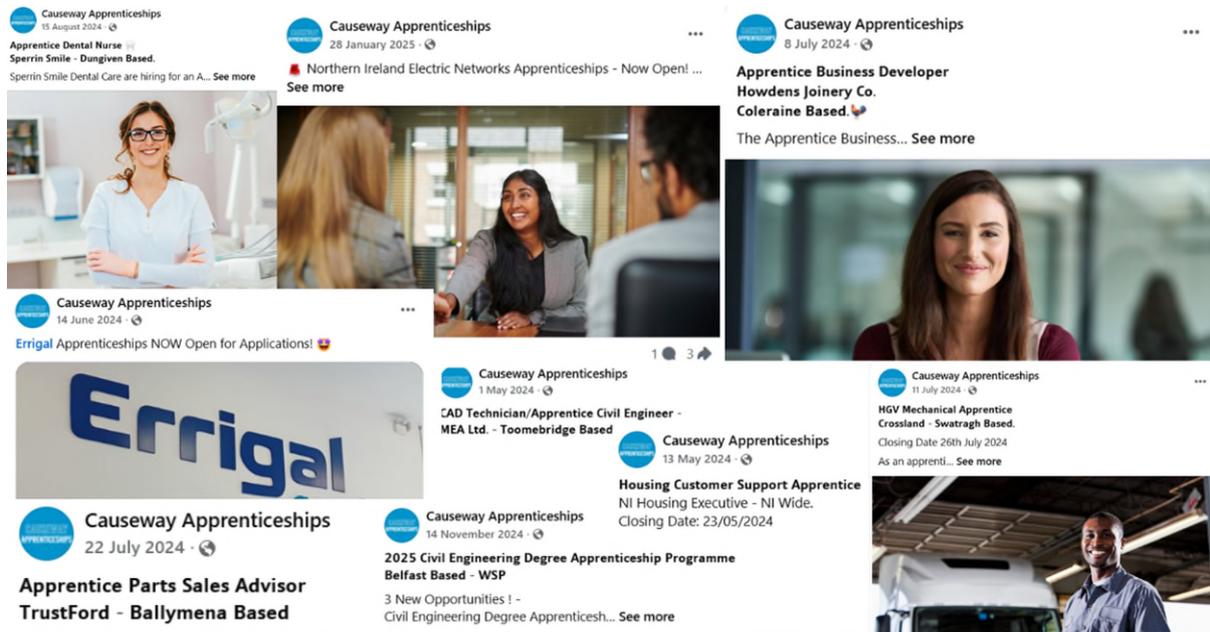
SP3.5 APPRENTICESHIPS ALERT OUTPUTS:

ACHIEVED OUTPUT:

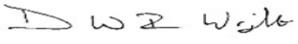
- 1 Apprenticeship alert platform maintained.
- 38 Apprenticeship opportunities promoted through the site.
- 41 Employers engaged.
- 1,316 Visitors to the site.

TARGET ON ACTION PLAN:

- 1 Apprenticeship alert platform to be maintained.
- 30 Apprenticeship opportunities to be promoted through the site.
- 30 Employers to be engaged with.
- 400 Visitors to the site.



5. Statement of Income and Expenditure.

Statement of Income & Expenditure				
Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council Causeway Coast & Glens Labour Market Partnership Statement of Income & Expenditure Year to 31 March 2025				
Overall Funding				
	Total Funding	Expenditure Charged	Expenditure Accrued	Total Expenditure
	£	£	£	£
Funding from DfC (Administration)	116,681.35	99,563.22	17,118.13	116,681.35
Funding from DfC (Operational)	341,709.66	169,264.56	172,445.10	341,709.66
Funding from DfE	50,000.00	0.00	50,000.00	50,000.00
Contribution from Council				0.00
Contributions from DE	27,000.00	15,398.67	11,599.54	26,998.21
Contributions from (Other Please state)				0.00
Total Overall Funding	535,391.01	284,226.45	251,162.77	535,389.22
DfC Administration				
Payments	£	£	£	£
Salaries	102,977.17	89,664.21	13,312.96	102,977.17
Staff Costs	9,704.18	9,899.01	0.00	9,899.01
Telephones				0.00
Printing and Stationery				0.00
Audit Fees	4,000.00	0.00	3,805.17	3,805.17
Photocopying				0.00
Total DfC Administration	116,681.35	99,563.22	17,118.13	116,681.35
DfC Operational				
Strategic Priority 1 (Operational)	7,000.00	788.29	6,211.71	7,000.00
Strategic Priority 2 (Operational)	314,909.66	163,723.57	151,186.09	314,909.66
Strategic Priority 3 (Operational)	19,800.00	4,752.70	15,047.30	19,800.00
Total DfC Operational	341,709.66	169,264.56	172,445.10	341,709.66
Other Funding (Admin)				
Payments - DfE (Admin)				0.00
Payments - Council Contribution (Admin)				0.00
Payments - xx				0.00
Payments - (Other Please state) (Admin)				0.00
Total Other (Admin)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Funding (Operational)				
Payments - DfE (Operational)	50,000.00	0.00	50,000.00	50,000.00
Payments - Council Contribution (Operational)				0.00
Payments - DE (Operational)	27,000.00	15,398.67	11,599.54	26,998.21
Payments - (Other Please state) (Operational)				0.00
Total Other (Operational)	77,000.00	15,398.67	61,599.54	76,998.21
	535,391.01	284,226.45	251,162.77	535,389.22
Certificate of Chief Financial Officer				
Subject to the central charges shown above properly reflecting actual costs Incurred by the Council on 'behalf of' the Labour Market Partnership. I am satisfied that the expenditure shown has been wholly, exclusively and necessarily incurred by the Council on the Labour Market Partnership and that the grant receivable is in accordance with the regulations and conditions applicable.				
 _____ David Wright - Chief Financial Officer			Date: 18th June 2025	

CAUSEWAY COAST
AND GLENS

Labour Market Partnership

Working Together



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