

Title of Report:	Update on Progress - Causeway Coast and Glens Community Plan
Committee Submitted To:	Corporate Policy and Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	26 November 2024
For Decision/For Information	For Information
To be discussed In Committee YES/NO	No

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

Estimated Timescale for Completion	
Date to be Completed	

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

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

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

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

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

2.0 Progress on Delivery Plan - Quarterly Summary of Progress Report (copy attached)

- 2.1 The monitoring and reporting process used by the Partnership requires quarterly reports to be submitted by Action Leads and these are then reported on by the four thematic leads to the next Partnership meeting.
- 2.2 A summary report is circulated to all Partnership members on progress in relation to the 31 actions contained in the Delivery Plan and a copy of this summary report for the period July to September 2024 is attached for your information.
- 2.3 A new on-line system for reporting progress has been developed in-house by the Community Planning Team in conjunction with the Council's ICT Department and a new format is now being used for the summary report.

3.0 Presentation on Programme for Government

- 3.1 Gavin King from The Executive Office was to attend to present on the consultation on the Programme for Government but unfortunately was unable to attend at the last minute.
- 3.2 However, Bebhinn McKinley, Community Planning Officer, took the Partnership through the main priorities identified within the Programme for Government and a discussion took place on issues the Partnership believed were essential for the Northern Ireland Assembly to address.
- 3.3 Primarily this concerned the provision of housing in the Causeway Coast and Glens area with associated issues such as lack of infrastructure to support housing (particularly water and sewerage services), lack of social housing in certain areas of the Borough and the need for the Local Development Plan to be finalised.
- 3.4 It was agreed that Gavin King would be asked to facilitate a specific session for Partnership members to enable them to give their views on the proposals in the Programme for Government. It was also agreed that the Chair of the Partnership would write to the Executive outlining the concerns expressed by members.

4.0 Other Business

4.1 Update on Implementation of Integrated Care System NI:

Members were advised that the development and implementation of the Integrated Care System for Northern Ireland was progressing. Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council area would be represented on two AIPB's, the Northern and the Western.

4.2 **Dementia Safeguarding Initiative:**

Members were advised that Age Concern Causeway had now launched the Dementia Safeguarding Arm Bands scheme which was led by Age Concern Causeway working in partnership with PSNI, the Community Planning Team, PCSP and the Age Friendly Coordinator along with assistance from the Public Health Authority (PHA).

This scheme is based on the provision of wristbands to people diagnosed with dementia, each wristband containing a QR code which can be scanned to provide contact details for relatives of the individual should they become lost or need assistance in some way.

The Health Minister, Mike Nesbitt MLA, attended the launch of the Dementia Support Scheme on 16th October 2024 at Coleraine Town Hall. If you know someone living with dementia that would benefit from a wristband band, please contact Age Concern Causeway office on 02870357966 or their webpage at www.accauseway.org

4.3 **Meeting of Thematic and Action Leads:**

A meeting of the Action Leads for the Delivery Plan took place in October in the Bushtown Hotel, Coleraine. Aidan McPeake, Thematic Lead for Infrastructure & Environment, and Maurice Meehan, Thematic Lead for Health & Wellbeing, outlined their roles and responsibilities as a Thematic Lead and provided an insight to their personal linkages to the Community Planning process.

The role and responsibilities of an Action Lead were outlined to the group by Gary Mullan, Community Planning Officer, with an emphasis on the benefits of adopting a shared partnership approach in the delivery and progress updating of actions. Bronagh McCrory (Northern Health and Social Care Trust), Children and Young Persons Action Lead, and Des Gartland (Invest NI), Level of Innovation Action Lead, provided examples of collaborative, partnership working in helping to achieve positive outcomes for their respective actions. Pat Mulvenna, Thematic Lead for Education, Tourism and Economy, and Bebhinn McKinley, Community Planning Officer, also provided a session on creating connections.

Round table discussions were also held asking how action leads could be best supported through the community planning process and a wide range of suggestions were forthcoming including more connecting events like this and holding six monthly Thematic Working Group meetings.

4.4 **Review of Community Planning:**

The Community Planning Team in the Department for Communities (DfC) have advised that the Community Planning Working Group (CPWG) Report

was presented to the PSG/SOLACE Engagement Forum at its meeting on 15 October 2024.

The Working Group and associated actions stemmed from the Dr Johann Gallagher “Towards a Programme of Support for Community Planning” (2019) review. The final report of the Community Planning Working Group noted that of the 35 actions, 29 are now Green indicating they are complete, 5 are Amber with 1 action currently Red: Action 22 (*TEO, share feedback and best practice based on OBA experience*) this has been delayed due to the work on the Programme for Government.

The Co-Chairs of the CPWG and DfC secretariat functions, which supported the Community Planning Working Group, will continue to monitor these areas and follow up on outstanding actions via the PSG/SOLACE Forum.

4.5 NICS Collaboration Test and Learn Initiative:

The Department for Communities has been working across all central Government Departments to find ways to test, learn and improve collaboration and two pilot areas were used to implement a Collaboration Strategic Framework to identify barriers restricting collaboration.

The findings from this pilot work has been evaluated and a Test and Learn Evaluation report was presented to the NI Civil Service Board. A copy of this report was circulated to the Partnership for information, and, following discussion, it was agreed by the Partnership that they should explore how the findings of this report and the work on the review of community planning could help further develop collaborative work within Causeway Coast and Glens.



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

Quarterly Reports Update

Quarter 3

July – September 2024

Health and Wellbeing Actions

Action: 1. Participation in Physical Activity

- **Action Lead:** Roger Downey
- **Lead:** Roger Downey
- **Select Quarter:** 3. (Jul to Sept)
- **Partners:** • Causeway Coast and Glens BC (Sport & Wellbeing) • Sport NI • Disability Sport NI • Public Health Agency • Northern Healthy Living Partnership • Northern & Western Health and Social Care Trusts • Local Sports Clubs • National Governing Bodies of Sport • Community & Voluntary Sector • Disability Groups & Clubs • Mae Murray Foundation • Autism NI
- **How Much (Quantity):** Summer Recreation Programme The Summer Recreation Programme is an annual Council initiative specifically for young people aged 5 to 14 years, organised by the Sports and Wellbeing Development Unit. The programme comprises of 3 main elements:
 - 1. Sports Coaching Camps
 - 2. Community Summer Schemes
 - 3. Inclusive Family Play Events
- This year's extensive programme ran from Monday 2nd July until Friday 16th August.
- Moyle Walking for Health Group Moyle Walking for Health Group was re-established working in partnership with the AHCP / MDT Social Worker based in Ballycastle Medical Practice and Dalriada Family Practice.
- The Walking Group re launch took place September 9th, 2024. Volunteer Led walks are open to anyone who wants to become more physically active. Particularly tailored to individuals new to physical activity and to those with long-term medical conditions. One walk weekly Ballycastle based Active Life Class (recommenced September 2nd, 2024) This class is growing in popularity. Numbers are increasing and more service users with co morbidities are starting to take part confident that they can exercise in a supervised and safe environment. No judgement. Average class attendance 10 service users
- **How Well (Quality):** Summer Recreation Programme The total number of camps/schemes on offer
 - • 23 Sports Camps
 - • 8 Community Summer Schemes (including 1 inclusive scheme)
 - • 4 Free Inclusive Play Family Events
 - Moyle Walking for Health Group Led by a local AHCP, small groups with the capacity to develop volunteer walk leaders when required Ballycastle based Active Life Class The number are currently manageable. With the age and health profile of the service users a smaller number gives the instructor the opportunity to deliver an effective, progressive and safe program
- **Better Off (Impact):** Summer Recreation Programme 2024 saw a breakdown of

- 541 participants across sports camps,
- 156 participants across community summer schemes and
- 124 inclusive attendees
- totalling 2985 opportunities realised.
- There were multiple repeat participants across the range of activities providing proof of fun enjoyable programme which attracted returners.
- Moyle Walking for Health Group Tackling Health Inequalities in service users with Health Conditions, encouraging people with Health Conditions to be suitably active in a safe environment. Tackling Social Isolation Ballycastle based Active Life Class Service users report feeling physically stronger, have more stamina and increased confidence. They also report feeling “better” having taken part in the physical activity
- **Progress Level:** Green
- **Examples during this Quarter of: Good Practice, Good News Stories, Case Studies:**
- Summer Recreation Programme • Council linking with the following National Governing Bodies of sport to deliver the Summer Coaching Camps – Netball NI, NI Volleyball, Swim Ulster, Ulster Table Tennis, Ulster Squash and Olympic Handball Ireland.
- From Council’s Road to the Open golf programme to promote golf with The Open Championship coming to Royal Portrush in 2025 – Council’s Mini Open event for primary schools in June encouraged local young people to sign up for the Summer Golf Camps at Ballyreagh Golf Course and then have the opportunity to play golf on a local course. 6 Community Golf Leaders have been trained as part of Council’s Road to the Open Programme.
- Moyle Walking for Health Group The group meet in Shesburn Recreation Centre for a cup of tea and a welcome chat after the walk is complete. This gives service users an opportunity to socialise and learn about other suitable community run programs. Most importantly they get to know other people within their community, creating acquaintances and friendships Ballycastle based Active Life Class. Quite a few service users now stay on for and partake in the second part of the Active Life Classes “Pickle Ball”. Three service users have reported that they would not have had the confidence to take part in pickle ball was it not for how the two activities are structured

Action: 2. Age Friendly Strategy

- **Action Lead:** Liam Hinphey
- **Lead:** Liam Hinphey
- **Select Quarter:** 3. (Jul to Sept)
- **Partners:** • Causeway Coast and Glens BC (Sport & Wellbeing) • Public Health Agency • Age Friendly Network NI • Community & Voluntary Sector • WHSCT and NHSCT • Causeway Older Active Strategic Team COAST • Age Friendly Partnership (Working group with statutory & 3rd sector partners) • Alzheimer’s Society
- **How Much (Quantity):** Stage 2 of the Age-Friendly Programme Management Life Cycle 'Plan Strategically' completed in Q2 2024.

- Launch of first Age-Friendly Strategy & Action Plan for Causeway Coast & Glens scheduled for Tuesday 5th November.
- Programme moves to Stage 3 of the World Health Organisation life-cycle 'Act & Implement.' Implementation includes actions under 4 high level outcomes: - Older people in the Borough have opportunities to improve health and wellbeing and can access appropriate services; - Older people in the Borough can access suitable forms of transport; - Older people in the Borough are supported to live independently, safely and efficiently; - Older people in the Borough can access relevant knowledge and information. All Age-Friendly Strategy outcomes linked to WHO Age-Friendly domains and Causeway Coast and Glens Community Plan outcomes. Reporting on implementation to begin in Q4.
- **How Well (Quality):** Stage 2 of the Age-Friendly Programme Management Life Cycle 'Plan Strategically' completed in Q2 2024. Launch of first Age-Friendly Strategy & Action Plan for Causeway Coast & Glens scheduled for Tuesday 5th November. Programme moves to Stage 3 of the World Health Organisation life cycle 'Act & Implement.' Implementation will include actions under 4 high level outcomes: - Older people in the Borough have opportunities to improve health and wellbeing and can access appropriate services; - Older people in the Borough can access suitable forms of transport; - Older people in the Borough are supported to live independently, safely and efficiently; - Older people in the Borough can access relevant knowledge and information. All Age-Friendly Strategy outcomes linked to WHO Age-Friendly domains and Causeway Coast and Glens Community Plan outcomes. Reporting on implementation to begin in Q4.
- **Better Off (Impact):** Stage 2 of the Age-Friendly Programme Management Life Cycle 'Plan Strategically' completed in Q2 2024. Launch of first Age-Friendly Strategy & Action Plan for Causeway Coast & Glens scheduled for Tuesday 5th November. Programme moves to Stage 3 of the World Health Organisation life-cycle 'Act & Implement.' Implementation will include actions under 4 high level outcomes: - Older people in the Borough have opportunities to improve health and wellbeing and can access appropriate services; - Older people in the Borough can access suitable forms of transport; - Older people in the Borough are supported to live independently, safely and efficiently; - Older people in the Borough can access relevant knowledge and information. All Age-Friendly Strategy outcomes linked to WHO Age-Friendly domains and Causeway Coast and Glens Community Plan outcomes. Reporting on implementation to begin in Q4.
- **Progress Level:** Green
- **Examples during this Quarter of: Good Practice, Good News Stories, Case Studies:** Age-Friendly Coordinator attended the online workshop: 'Launch of the new global estimates of physical inactivity in adults' delivered by the World Health Organisation Age-Friendly Coordinator attended the online workshop: 'A deep dive into the development of new WHO global comparable estimates of physical inactivity in adults' delivered by the World Health Organisation. As a Steering Group member of the UK Network of Age-Friendly Communities, the Age-Friendly Coordinator participated in the Centre for Ageing Better Impact Report Focus Group accessing best practice for monitoring and evaluation. Age-Friendly Coordinator attended the WHSCT

Community Dementia Service Improvement group Age-Friendly Coordinator attended and provided an update on Age-Friendly work at LGNI's Autumn Network Meeting - F&O, DCS and CCG Area's. Age-Friendly Coordinator was part of steering group for the development of the WHSCT PAM Small Grants Programme Derry, Strabane, Limavady. This included assisting with development of guidance notes and application process and for assessment of applications (update on successful applications to be submitted in Q3). Age-Friendly Coordinator led on the development of the annual Positive Ageing Month calendar of events for 2024. This was developed through co-design with PAM steering group members WHSCT, NHSCT, Causeway Loneliness Network, Alzheimer's Society, Linking Generations NI, Ag-Friendly Network NI, Age Concern Causeway, Libraries NI, U3A and internal Council departments. Over 100 events developed and included in PAM 2024 booklet. Procurement undertaken for the design and print of Causeway Coast and Glens Age-Friendly Strategy & Action Plan. Final design approved for print in Q2. Delivery of hard copy versions of document due in Q3 in advance of launch of new plan. Age-Friendly Coordinator attended the online Steering Group meeting of the UK Network of Age-Friendly communities in September. Age-Friendly Coordinator chaired the Age-Friendly Network NI meeting in September 2024.

Action: 3. Loneliness Network

- Action Lead: Leah Glass
- Select Quarter: 3. (Jul to Sept)
- Partners: • Northern Health & Social Care Trust • NI Fire & Rescue Service • Department of Health • Northern Regional College • Praxis Care • Simon Community • Education Authority • Causeway Older Active Strategic Team (COAST) • Age Concern Causeway • Causeway Rural and Urban Network (CRUN) • Mae Murray Foundation • Radius Housing • Deafblind • Northern Area Community Network (NACN) • Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council • Libraries NI • Linking Generations NI • Community & Voluntary Sector of Causeway Coast and Glens • Community Network Organisations • Building Communities Resource Centre (BCRC) • Salvation Army • REACH, Portrush • Causeway GP Federation • SVP • BCW Training • Culture, Arts and Heritage Organisations
- **How Much:** Throughout the quarter correspondence with members continued via email. A further two Human Libraries sessions were held on the 16 and 19 September to coincide with Good Relations Week. The Network was also represented at the Connecting Communities event on the 27 September in order to continue to raise awareness and increase participation.
- **How Well** Increased exchange of information and knowledge along with increased opportunities for participation.
- **Better Off** : Increased recognition of loneliness activity in the Causeway Coast and Glen's area. Voluntary, community and statutory organisations working together to address loneliness across all age groups. Increased awareness and knowledge of loneliness across Causeway Loneliness Network members and increased knowledge including access to current research, webinars etc. More

organisations have increased access to information, services, activities and training for their service users. Causeway Loneliness Network provides a supportive environment for members and increased confidence to source information and services. The Northern Area Loneliness Framework is used for reference and as a guide for the Network.

- **Progress Level:** Green

Action: 4. Anti-Poverty Initiatives

- **Action Lead:** Louise Scullion
- **Lead:** Louise Scullion
- **Select Quarter:** 3. (Jul to Sept)
- **Partners:** • Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council • Department for Communities (DfC) • Community Advice Causeway • 4 established foodbanks (Ballycastle, Ballymoney, Causeway and Roe Valley) • St Vincent DePaul, Salvation Army • Other Community & Voluntary Sector Organisations • Other CC&G Community Planning Partners
- **How Much (Quantity):** Continued development of Anti-poverty Stakeholder Steering Group (APSSG) with 10 community and voluntary sector partners and 8 statutory partners with the aim of connecting the service providers whose core services are supporting people experiencing financial difficulties and collaborating to deliver support.
- Housing Poverty; Impact and Solutions event organised in September in association with NI Anti-Poverty Network to bring together housing practitioners and policy influencers to look at solutions to the current housing crisis.
 - Speakers included Housing Rights, Chartered Institute of Housing and Housing Executive. 45 people attended and a report will be made available with follow up action planned.
- Programme of support delivered with various strands through the Hardship Fund monies from Department for Communities (Sept 23 – Sept 24)
 - Fuel support – St Vincent DePaul (10 local conferences), Salvation Army (Ballymoney & Causeway area and Limavady)
 - Food and fuel support - 4 established foodbanks (Ballycastle, Ballymoney, Causeway and Roe Valley) and 2 social supermarkets (Reset at Vineyard and LCDI)
 - Family Support Programme – Save the Children
 - Food Hardship Grant for smaller/ local community food projects Social Supermarket Support Programme funding of £97K received from Department for Communities. Contracts for service delivery have been awarded to Reset Social Supermarket operated by Vineyard Compassion in Coleraine and Limavady Community Development Initiative.
 - To date 90 households have benefitted from a social supermarket service. Council's Community Development team are working with 3 organisations in Ballymoney, Ballycastle and Cushendall to test the feasibility and support the set-up of social supermarkets in these areas.

- Council's Energy Efficiency team continue to provide information and advice on energy efficiency measures and promote the uptake in energy efficiency initiatives for target households and Council has contracted LCDI to deliver an Oil Savings Stamp Scheme.
- **Cumulative Totals** : Hardship Fund Beneficiaries (Sept 23 – Sept 24):
 - 4,601 vulnerable households supported
 - 11,694 vulnerable people supported
 - £297,611 financial support provided, broken down as follows:
 - 1,001 vulnerable households receive financial support for fuel.
 - 2,678 vulnerable people receive financial support for fuel.
 - £153,015 value of financial support provided for fuel. • (& £4,000 on administration - 3,542 vulnerable households receive food support.
 - 8,896 vulnerable people receive food support.
 - £116,632 value of food support provided - 58 families/ households that receive support with household and baby items.
 - 122 vulnerable children that receive support with household and baby items. £23,964 value of support received with household and baby items.
 - Energy Efficiency activity from April- Sept 2024: 13 talks/events 167 households have had one to one support 139 home visits (either bespoke energy efficiency advise, thermal imaging camera or boiler or insulation check) 120 households were referred on for heating or insulation grants and 577 contacts regarding energy efficiency
- **How Well (Quality)**: Feedback from APSSG partners shows a strong benefit from the peer support nature of the steering group as well as improved links and increased cross-referrals between the partners. Initial feedback from service delivery organisations that the funding is much needed in light of reducing donations, increased cost of products and above all the increased demand for services
- **Better Off (Impact)**: Increased awareness of the poverty services that are available. Increased coordination between organisations working with those most in need in the Causeway Coast and Glens area Service delivery organisations are supported with resources to meet the additional demand. Providing direct support with fuel in the form of oil, electric and gas top ups through delivered through well established and trusted charity partners – St Vincent DePaul (10 branches), Salvation Army, Vineyard Compassion, Limavady Community Development Initiative and Ballycastle Foodbank; in this way fuel support was delivered to those most vulnerable and isolated particularly in Neighbourhood Renewal areas and rural areas. Providing food to people who are on low incomes and experiencing financial difficulty through the 4 established foodbanks in Ballycastle, Limavady, Ballymoney and Coleraine as well as the 2 social supermarkets in Limavady and Coleraine.
- In addition, grants were also awarded to 18 community groups operating existing community food projects with an established process to identify those in need, and in some cases are able to reach people that might not access the main foodbanks.
- Poverty is highest among children - around one in four children in Northern Ireland are living in poverty (JR Foundation) and lone parents are the family type to most likely experience poverty. In an effort to address this one of the

strands of the Hardship Fund was the Family Support Programme delivered by Save the Children in partnership with Community Advice Causeway. This allowed families with children under 5 that were referred to CAC to receive support with supermarket vouchers, early learning packs and essential items for babies and young children.

- **Progress Level:** Green
- **Examples during this Quarter of: Good Practice, Good News Stories, Case Studies:** Case Study from Community Advice Causeway re Save the Children Family Support Programme:
 - Client with two children under 6, one of whom had additional needs and separated from her partner. She had her own health problems to deal with, as well as her child's, and no family near hand to support her. She was forced to take a career break to nurse her child through treatment, and she was not permitted to take up any work during that time. Her UC claim was cancelled by the department when she informed them of her career break.
 - UC said that she was not eligible to claim as she had deliberately made herself unavailable for work. To claim UC, she had to resign from her full-time job which she had from 2003, so that she could take up a temporary position.
 - We appealed the decision to cancel her appeal at tribunal and won. She simultaneously appealed the later decision to award only LCW (when she reapplied after resigning from her job), and she was awarded LCWRA.
 - To date she has been awarded £6,851.07 as back payment and is now in receipt of the correct regular award. When the client first came to us, she did not have anything coming in and was unable to cover the basics.
 - It took time for Universal Credit to be reinstated after she resigned from her permanent position, and she would not have been able to afford essentials for her children without this support through Save The Children. Things improved a little when she began doing occasional shifts as bank staff, and her benefits were corrected.

Action: 5. Children and Young People

- **Action Lead:** Bronagh McCrory
- **Select Quarter:** 3. (Jul to Sept)
- **Partners:** NHSCT, CYPSP, CC&G, Surestart. Women's Aid, Education Authority, Family Support Hub, MDT Social Work, Community and Voluntary Groups
- **How Much (Quantity):**
 - 1 x Smoking Cessation Specialist and 1 x Smoking cessation Midwife employed in the Causeway locality
 - 1 x CYPSP Meeting held Tuesday 11th of September 2024 Zachary Geddis Break the Silence Trust, Coleraine - 16 People were present.
 - 1 x Action Planning Session held on Tuesday the 11th of September.

- 11 x CYPSP Newsletters sent
- 1 x presentation to the LPG from Cybersyd on their software to help pupils report bullying
- Issues highlighted by group members included –
 - Financial pressures in the run up to Christmas
 - Vaping
 - Travel costs
 - Physical activity
 - Online safety issues
- These gaps in services will be reported to the Northern Area Outcomes Group
 - 1 x Freshers Fair attended on the 17th of September in NRC Coleraine
 - 1 x CYPSP Standards report compiled
 - 1 x Report on 23/24 CYPSP Activities Funding compiled
- **How Well (Quality):** Support and intervention to promote Smoking Cessation in Young People and expectant mothers through the provision of Smoking Cessation Services. Group members increased their knowledge on local services and will promote to their service users through the use of the CYPSP newsletter. This also gives an opportunity for them to advertise their own services. Recipients have the opportunity to utilise resources promoted in the newsletter such as funding opportunities and training. The LPG meeting provided a valuable opportunity for joined up working and allowed for useful links to be made between partners.
- Students at NRC found the stand useful and were given information on relevant support services, students collected information which may be of benefit to them in future. In particular sexual health, mental health and vaping information was well received.
- The CYPSP Wellness Web also created great interest. Reports compiled will influence future work.
- **Better Off (Impact):** Networking and information sharing opportunities at events, meetings and via CYPSP weekly news have supported members to make best use of resources for children, young people and families.
- Members have greater knowledge of projects which may support and compliment their work.
- Direct link between smoking and low birth weight babies, better public knowledge of the risks around smoking and link to low birth weight and impact on child development. Parents have access to NRT and support services to quit smoking.
- Benefit to LPG members in supporting them to provide accessible health and wellbeing information to children, YP and families.
- Issues highlighted locally brought forward to regional CYPSP, NAOG, Community Planning and other partners which may impact the future of services, positive to have the voices of service users heard and potentially bring about change.
- NRC students who visited the stall now have the tools to access support services should they need them.
- Outcomes reported in 23/24 activities funding included - better resilience for children - the development of peer support networks for parents - connectedness for children taking part in activities such as the 'Sand Pit Project' and 'Music Therapy' - inclusivity for families with a disabled child

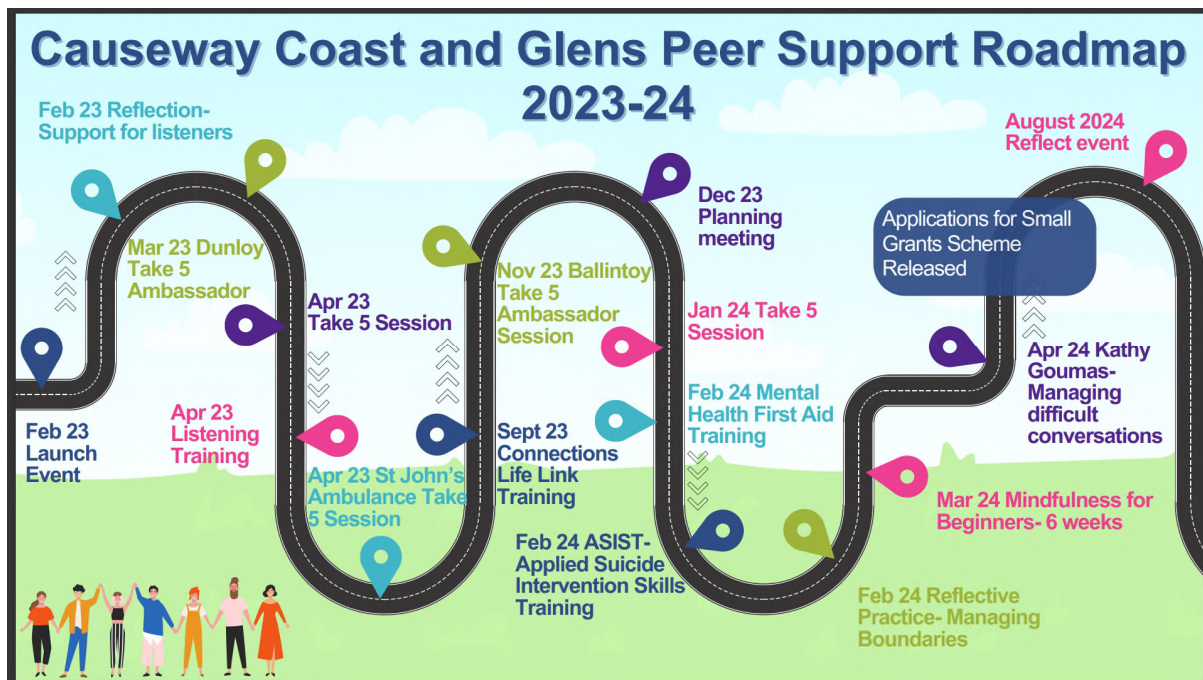
- **Progress Level:** Green

Action: 6. Obesity Prevention Programme

- **Action Lead:** Roger Downey
- **Lead:** Roger Downey
- **Select Quarter:** 3. (Jul to Sept)
- **Partners:** • Causeway Coast and Glens BC (Sport & Wellbeing) • Sport NI • CCMS / Education Authority / Local Schools • Northern Healthy Lifestyles Partnership (NHLP) • Public Health Agency • School of Nursing for Causeway • Northern Health & Social Care Trust • Western Health & Social Services Trust
- **How Much (Quantity):** This quarter served as a planning stage for phase 4 of Causeway Healthy Kids for delivery commencing in November 24.
 - 13 schools (including 2 Special Education School swill receive 11 weeks of sessions.
 - Once again using the NISRA index a wide variety school across the borough will receive this award-winning project for the first time affirming our commitment to obesity prevention and improving the physical and mental wellbeing of the children in the borough.
 - Anticipated 285 children will receive the 11-week programme in schools and all the benefits this project offers.
 - Statistics received in phase 3 included
 - 35% increase in the number if fruit and vegetables consumed daily
 - 23% higher awareness of hydration
 - 42% higher awareness regarding food labelling and its meaning
 - 8% positive increase regarding the foods we eat and the make-up of healthy plates
 - 276 participants were included in phase 3 across 11 schools
- **How Well (Quality):** What the participants told us:
 - I now know what things are healthy and what is not
 - I understand different types of food now and what a healthy plate looks like
 - I loved scanning food labels and learning about the traffic lights
 - I learned that I don't drink enough water each day
 - I loved the videos and worksheets each week
 - The coach was really fun, and I enjoyed the games each week
- **Better Off (Impact):** What the schools told us:
 - The children have loved every part of this programme, it is so vital to their development and assisting in making good decisions regarding their health
 - The videos really helped to assist the children with each topic and make it easy to follow
 - The children looked forward to the sessions every week and got excited to see the coach come in
- **Progress Level:** Green

Action: 7. Positive Mental Health (Take 5)

- **Action Lead:** Selena Ramsey
- **Lead:** Selena Ramsey
- **Select Quarter:** 3. (Jul to Sept)
- **Partners:** NACN/CRUN, EA, NHSCT- CAMHS, BITC.
- **How Much (Quantity):** Northern Area Community Network/Causeway Rural Urban Network - Supporting Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Project Proposals
 - Summer Dander (10 participant's)
 - Developed 'Take 5 Community' new initiative for Northern Area.
 - NACN/CRUN in partnership with Libraries NI and Fairy Thorn Festival created bunting for the festival over two sessions (children session - 43) (adult session - 8)
 - Community Sketch in Cushendun (10 participants)
 - SPDO attended Sheep sale spoke to over (60 farming families and gave out resources.)
 - Zumba and Hulu Hoop in partnership with Stranocum Community and District Association. (14 women)
 - SPDO worked in partnership with BRAKE young people ice cream making session. (4 young people)
- **Schools:** Following on from the schools celebration in June where 18, nursery, primary and post primary schools received their accreditation, there has been a spark in interest in schools in the local area, with 3 primary schools receiving their initial training. One local primary school has also just completed their Solihull whole school training.
- We have also completed the staff training for the Take 5 element of the Causeway Healthy Kids Project.
- **Workplaces:** One workplace in Causeway area currently completing their Take 5 workplace action plan and will receive accreditation at our event on 21st November.
- **Community** The Peer support model held a reflection event on Friday 9th August with 43 representatives in attendance.
- **How Well (Quality):** Community 100% of attendees at the reflection event on peer support reported positively on the initiative with all reporting that they enjoyed the time out, connecting with other people and learning new things. 'i have enjoyed being part of this project and love the idea of peer support, we are a very small informal group and were very grateful for our small grant which allowed us to build on and strengthen what we already do'
- **Better Off (Impact):** No Impact data available this quarter
- **Progress Level:** Green



Action: 8. Inter-Agency Cooperation Homelessness

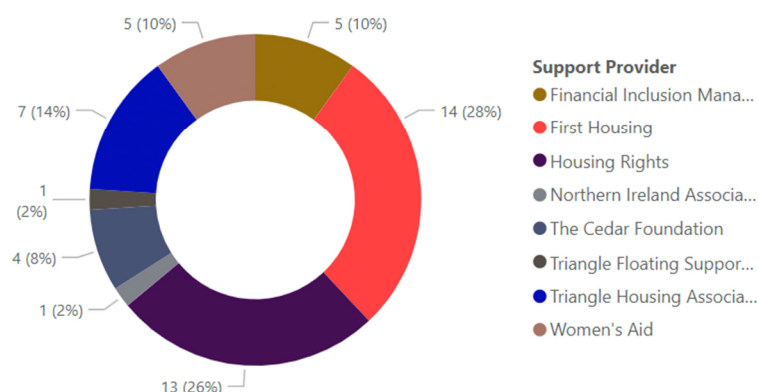
- **Action Lead:** Louise Clarke
- **Lead:** Louise Clarke
- **Select Quarter:** 3. (Jul to Sept)
- **Partners:** • Housing Executive NI • Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council • Northern Health & Social Care Trust • Western Health & Social Care Trust • Public Health Agency • Department for Communities (DfC) • PSNI • NI Fire & Rescue Service
- **How Much (Quantity):**

Quarter	No. of Homeless Presenters	No. of Presenters awarded FDA	No. of Repeat Presenters
Apr- Jun 2023	241	159	6
Jul – Sept 2023	215	132	8
Oct – Dec 2023	251	204	28
Jan – Mar 2024	250	192	10
Jul- Sept 2024	208	137	7
YTD	1,165	824	59

- **Cumulative Totals :** 1st July – 30th September 2024
- **How Well (Quality):**

Support Referrals

Count of Case ID by Support Provider



- **Better Off (Impact):** • Percentage of those identified as repeat Homeless cases who have been signposted to support services • Percentage of those identified as Chronically Homeless who have been signposted through Housing Solutions interventions • Percentage of those identified as chronically homeless who have not repeat presented within 1 year of Housing solutions intervention
- **Progress Level:** Green
- **Examples during this Quarter of: Good Practice, Good News Stories, Case Studies:** At the Housing Poverty: Impacts and Solutions in CC&G event on 24th September, Louise Clarke Head of North Place Shaping North with the Housing Executive presented on the 'Current Position and Challenges for the Housing Executive'.
 - Louise outlined role that the HE have as both the largest public sector landlord in Northern Ireland with 86,000 tenants.
 - As the Strategic Housing Authority, the Housing Executive also have statutory responsibility for the assessment of social housing need and management of the social housing development program with housing association partners.
 - The HE spent over £35.5m across the Borough during 2022/23. This included significant investment in new social homes and improvement to existing stock. Data was also presented on the current social housing waiting list in Causeway Coast and Glens and details of the proposed supply of new social homes over the next 3 years.
 - Example were provided of Housing Executive work with local organisations to address homelessness, improve financial inclusion and address fuel poverty. Finally, Louise concluded with the challenges faced by the organisation in the light of recent budgetary cuts and wider the implications concerning infrastructure capacity issues.

Action: 9 – Primary and Voluntary Sector

- **Action Lead:** Sinead O’Kane and Elizabeth Craig
- **Select Quarter:** 3. (Jul to Sept)
- **How Much (Quantity)**
 1. Following on from the success of the pilot Chatty Carriage event in December 2022, the Coleraine MDT Social Workers co-produced a joined-up project with Translink, the Causeway Volunteer Centre and MDT SW staff in Derry GP Federation to hold a second event on 12th June 2024. This formed part of the ‘Random Act of Connection’ theme of Loneliness Week 2024, encouraging people from different areas and walks of life to connect together in a meaningful way. It was a collaborative event to address social isolation and loneliness in both geographical areas. The ‘Chatty Carriage’ train journey was a huge success with almost 100 people taking the trip. Entertainment and refreshments were organised and provided by the respective Trust staff at suitable venues in close proximity to both Coleraine and Derry/Londonderry train stations. Participants were accompanied to and from the venue by MDT SW staff and volunteers. A local Ukulele band provided sing-a-long entertainment on the journey to and from Derry/Londonderry, which added to the joyous atmosphere throughout the trip.
 2. HUG (Helping U Grieve) There are a total of eighty patients on the register for HUG group across the four GP Practices in the Coleraine area. The group met twenty-two times during the 2023-2024 period (April – March).
 3. Connect Wednesdays. A six-week therapeutic painting workshop with 20 participants. Run in conjunction with CRUN, PHA, the Rural Support Network, Impact Network, Northern Area Community Network and the Health Alliance
 4. YFC (Young Fearless & in Control)- Coleraine Young Farmers’Club. 25 young people attended the club meeting focused on mental health and wellbeing along with 4 officer bearers. 50 individuals received self soothe kits when they were attending appointments within Mountsandel Medical Centre or through home visits. Everyone who received a kit was receiving support for mental health from a member of the MDT team within Mountsandel Medical Centre.
 5. AWARE (Advancing well-being in a restorative environment) will encourages participants to be pro-active in promoting their positive social, mental & emotional well-being through an organised group, every alternate month incorporating therapeutic workshops and principals of Mindfulness practice held within the Coleraine area. There were a total of fourteen participants on the AWARE project from the GP Practices in the Coleraine area. The group was run in conjunction with ‘Ashes to Gold’ community network.
 6. M-Power – Menopause Matters. M-power has been developed to support women before, during and after the menopause. It aims to empower women, raise awareness, encourage conversation around the topic

- without fear of judgement, provide support and promote wellbeing. An information event was held in March 24.
7. Forest Families-Studies have shown that when people immerse themselves in a natural setting this can reduce stress, increase relaxation and improve recovery (Cooper-Marcus and Barnes, 1999). Prior to the pandemic MDT SW had begun to form a relationship with Project Leader Karin Eyban (Garvagh Peoples Forest). After a very stressful few months following a global pandemic families were feeling overwhelmed, anxious and needing some connections. The effects of Covid have had an impact upon the patients and families within the health centre. We decided to initially take referrals from the health centre (GP, Practice nurse, MDT and the Health visitor). All referrals received came from the practice health visitor who had a relationship with a lot of the local families; she was able to refer the families that would benefit the most. Families included children on the child protection register, children receiving social work support, children recently placed in foster care, and a child who had been adopted. We had a child with a moderate learning disability and quite a few of the children who attended had ASD.
 8. Wednesday's Women Group in Garvagh NHSCT MDT offering support and wellbeing, Since the Covid pandemic, an epidemic of loneliness has swept Northern Ireland. Referrals came from the MDT where woman 18-65 were isolated and may have been presenting to there GP for support with pain, mood, disability or caring role. According to a wellbeing report from NISRA in 2022, nearly a fifth of people reported feeling lonely "at least some of the time". NISRA's statistics also revealed females reported significantly higher proportions of loneliness than males.
 9. Coleraine Walking Group- Mountsandel Medical Centre MDT and Lodge Health Centre MDT facilitated an eight-week walking for health programme aimed at addressing the social, physical, mental and emotional issues being experienced by many of the patients.
 10. Fifteen ladies expressed interest in the walking programme with eight ladies participating in the walking programme on a weekly basis along with four walk leaders.
 11. Equine assisted learning group based in Coleraine, a partnership project involving local Riding School, regional development of equine assisted learning, volunteers and MDT.
 12. CARUS -Carers support group in Coleraine in partnership with MDT SW & Causeway Older Active Strategic Team (COAST).
 13. Ukrainian Children and Parents support Group, Coleraine/Ballymoney. Ukrainian Emotional Wellbeing Group for female adults. Ukrainian Group for older people
 14. Ballymoney Coffee Mornings
 15. Reflecting Families – supporting parents and families with challenging behaviours and managing emotions. Works with both parents and children regarding managing behaviours.

How Well

- **Chatty Carriage** - All participants were asked to complete a feedback questionnaire on the return journey back to Coleraine. A total of seventy-six responses were received. Of the responses received
 - 21% were from male 79% female.
 - Age range was from sixty years old to ninety plus years old.
 - 30% stated they feel lonely daily,
 - 47% stated they feel lonely on a weekly basis weekly and
 - 23% percent stating they feel lonely on a monthly basis
 - 94% indicated that they would be interested in taking part in another chatty carriage.
 - 100% of participants indicated that they would recommend the initiative to other people.

Overall, the feedback was extremely positive with two main significant features:

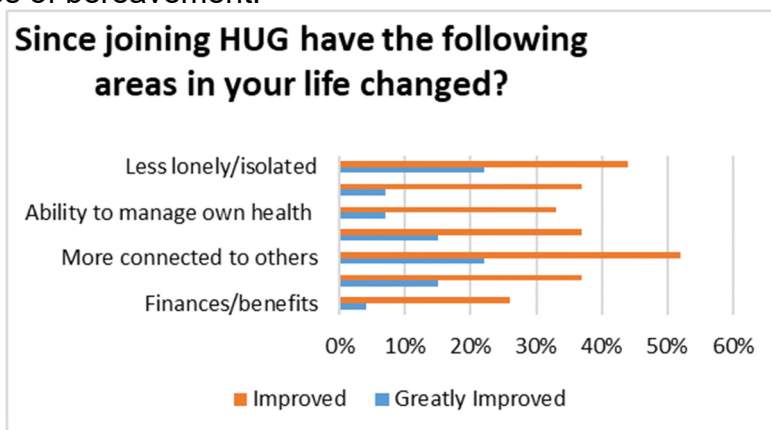
1. People reconnecting with old friends / acquaintances after several years
2. People making new connections and forming new friendships, as a direct result of the event

Participants were asked to comment on what else they would have been doing if they had not gone on the Chatty Carriage on 12th June 2024, the responses were as follows:

- Seventy-five percent stated they would have been sitting at home alone,
- Ten percent referred to “Groundhog Day”

The event attracted a lot of media attention in both the Northern & Western Trust areas and in NI in general, which allowed us the opportunity to promote MDT SW as well as raise the importance of addressing social isolation as part of an overall understanding of how this can affect mental health and wellbeing. Further seed funding has been agreed for 2024/25 and 4 more events are planned this year

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



- Connect Wednesdays: 100% of participants were surveyed, and all noted an increase in their knowledge, skills and experience. Feedback highlighted “ I’ve been made feel so welcome.” “This is the first time I have ever tried painting; I’m really enjoying it”. “I look forward to this all week”. There were 5 volunteers totally 99 hours of volunteer work.
- Young Farmers Evaluation highlighted a significant increase in their skills, knowledge and experience. You have helped me more with this kit than all my sessions with CALMS.
 - I can see a change in my daughter since she started using the self soothe kit.
 - I always keep one of the items in my pocket to fidget with when I am nervous.
 - These are great, it’s nice to get something practical rather than just being told what to do.
 - The kits have been received really well, it gives the control back to the individuals to do something practical to distract themselves when they start to get anxious.

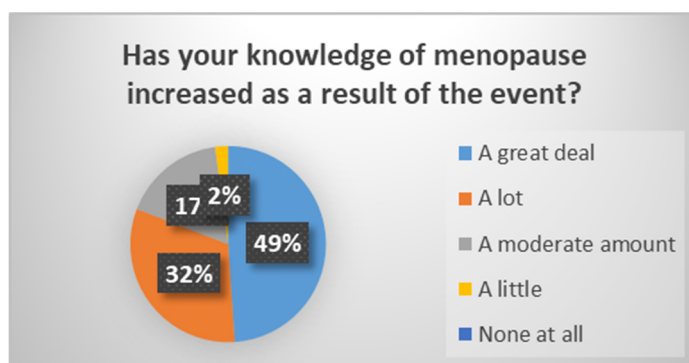
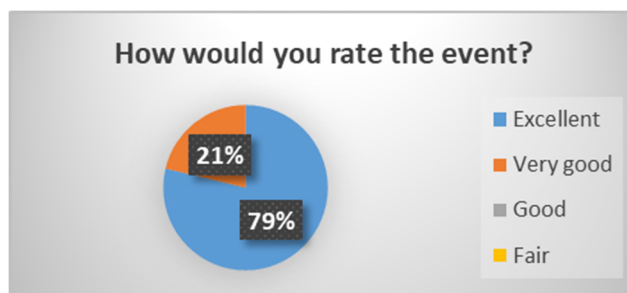
The kits were excellent and the ability to tailor them to individual needs was great. A practical session on mindfulness/relaxation would be good for a club meeting.

- AWARE: Evaluations highlighted:
 - “It brought me out of the house, meeting new people, feeling at ease with everyone. I looked forward to our meeting every week. Not feeling judged by anyone.
 - “We have agreed to meet up ourselves on a weekly/monthly basis. I would never have seen myself doing this a year ago.”
 - “AWARE broke my social isolation. I met people with similar issues to me who offer me support. I am glad we are going to keep meeting up as it helps me to get out of the house.”
 - “A very good group with meaningful support. Helps me to get out and meet people and am trying to keep it going. I wish I could go every week.”
 - “AWARE was excellent and helped me to meet other people and I made items myself. It was relaxing, therapeutic and welcoming. Helped me to explore and make things that I would never got the opportunity to try, also meeting new friends.
 - “It got me out of the house and was teaching me breathing exercises. Meeting new people also helped. I learnt a new skill. We intend to keep meeting up.”
 - “It has given me a new release in my life. I enjoyed the different activities and also the different people I have met.”
 - “Since joining this group it has changed mine and many more people's lives for the better. We need more trips and get-togethers.”

This group is being developed further via seed funding into 2024/25 with further support for the 14 participants involved using a asset based approach to community development and a progressive strengths based holistic approach for participants.

- M-Power - Ninety-seven participants signed in at the event, which equates to a 77% attendance rate. Forty-seven participants completed the evaluation form, which equates to a 48% return. Of the seventy-eight, participants who indicated which GP practice they are registered with, fourteen participants are registered with Mountsandel Medical Centre. A further fifty-eight participants are registered with a GP practice within the Causeway Federation area.

Further menopause groups around being established around awareness and wellbeing in conjunction with CRUN commenced in September 24 and a physical wellbeing programme is being set up in August 24 with Studio 24.



- Forest Families:** The sessions went very well, and all 12 families appeared to relax, re-connect and receive some support. The adults and children all engaged in the sessions and benefited from increased knowledge regarding plants/trees/nature. Karin was able to share her expertise with everyone that attended, and the expansion of knowledge was reciprocated as Karin gained further insight into the role of the social worker. MDT SW learnt a lot about the forest and the benefits of outdoor engagement. The first family had a long history of involvement from social services however they had made changes and were glad of some time out. All of the kids thoroughly enjoyed the session, and the dad/stepdad engaged with Karin and later became a volunteer at the youth club. He had his own difficulties with confidence and self-esteem, so this was a remarkable outcome. Another benefit was that all the families were made aware of the support available in their local health Centre and a few of the families have since re-connected with MDT SW for further support. This has educated the mums/dads on what support is available in the HC and assisted with breaking down barriers. For example, one 8 year old boy with ASD attended and was very anxious about returning to school post Covid, resources given to mum to assist with this transition. Most of the families would have had some input from core social work teams which, often in quite difficult circumstances and their perception of social work would not always have been a positive one. Through MDT SW interaction with the families, by the end of their session their perception of the role of social work within the MDT and the support offered had changed, further promoting and enhancing the MDT service within the Health Centre.
- Wednesdays Women's Group:** This initiative is provided to specific individuals who are referred, directed (usually by a GP or other health / social care

professional or someone working in that field), or can self-refer to the service/initiative. This initiative is designed to meet the particular needs of a group or community who have known poorer health outcomes compared to other communities or areas-this aims to contribute to addressing inequitable health outcomes. Wednesday woman's group was started following the covid 19 pandemic- the groups members have a range of issues they need support with- physical disabilities, chronic pain, loneliness, isolation, mental health needs, carer stress and they all live in a rural area with limited access to transport. The group meet on Wednesdays 10.30-12.30 and activities vary from a coffee and chat to pottery/art projects. The group has went from strength to strength and the social work staff have been able to take a step back and a member of the group is now facilitating all the sessions. She will make contact if there is something of concern or if she needs support. They have developed a strong peer support group where they help/support and advise each other through life's difficult journeys for example one lady has had a mental health crisis and the woman took turns visiting her, texting her and brought her a thoughtful gift. The group will continue into 2024/25 with a focus on health and mental wellbeing.

- Coleraine Walking Group
 - 25% aged 41-50 years,
 - 13% aged 51-60 years and
 - 62% aged 61-70 years.
 - Some participants have anxiety, others have depression,
 - Some are carers whilst others have physical or mental illnesses, but they all experience loneliness.
 - 14% of walkers did not participate in any form of physical activity prior to taking part in the walking group,
 - 29% participated in physical activity once a week and
 - 57% participated 2-3 times per week in a physical activities.
 - 25% of respondents indicated they joined the walking group for physical activity reasons,
 - 33% joined for health reasons and
 - 42% joined the walking group for social reasons.
 - 25% of participants indicated that their physical wellbeing had improved,
 - 37% indicated that their mental wellbeing had improved and
 - 38% believed that their social networks and feelings of inclusion had improved.
 - 67% of participants indicated that they have increased their overall levels of activity as a result of taking part in the walking group.
 - 50% of participants have been encouraged to move on to other activities beyond the walking for health.
 - 67% of participants indicated that they think they will continue to take part in walking for health over the next twelve months. Overall experience has been very beneficial
 - I look forward to the email every week, which details the walk we are to participate in on Friday morning. The walk is the highlight of my week.
- Equine Programme 21 young 'difficult' to reach people with varying levels of M/H issues engaged with project now complete. Discussions with CAMHS

service to contribute financial support to level 2 CAMHS referrals for April '23 onwards. Evaluations highlight:

- 47% of evaluation feedback forms were returned.
- 100% of parents agreed that the programme had a positive impact on child's mood & behaviour.
- 100% of young people who returned their evaluations enjoyed the sessions, grew in confidence, felt an improvement in their mood and reduced anxiety
- 100% of parents agreed their child enjoyed the sessions, had grown in confidence, and it had been an appropriate intervention.
- 100% of the children who returned their evaluations enjoyed being able to work with and ride the horses.
- The RDA are being encouraged to seek further funding for this programme going forward as there is now a requirement for self-sustainability.
- CĀRUS group meetings are held monthly in Coleraine. They provide a range of information and support sessions, as decided by the carers themselves. Carers are also given the opportunity to attend a "Mindful Carers" 6-week Emotional Wellbeing and Resilience programme, facilitated by Action Mental Health.
 - This year CĀRUS has held 37 classes / support sessions and 2 larger events connecting with over 130 carers. In June 24, end of year evaluations were completed by 50 carers who regularly attended sessions. On reviewing the carers' responses, a draft calendar of sessions & workshops has been designed to detail the proposed plans for the next year.
 - Over the next year CARUS plans to deliver 13 different sessions, incorporating practical, physical, social & emotional wellbeing support. The sessions will offer up to 130 carers some much valued peer support Following very positive feedback on previously delivered AMH Mindful Carers programme, CARUS plans to facilitate 3 further blocks of 6 week sessions for up to 60 new carers and will consider using different venues, depending upon location of those referred.
- Chatty Dander This group is now self-sustaining and has around 25 participants, addressing loneliness and isolation and forging new friendships and support for each other. They continue to meet regularly and accept new participants via MDT. Evaluations have shown high levels of user satisfaction and the group has created interpersonal networks that have continued to develop and grown
- Ukrainian Children and Parents support Group: The Ukrainian support groups continue to offer support but again are largely self-sustaining and are developing their own networks and linking with appropriate community services. All the groups have been well received and are now reviewed periodically around how they are progressing
- Ballymoney Coffee Mornings Again this group is now self-sustaining and has been taken over by a local community church in the area. They continue to meet once a month. There are over 60 members, and the group has taken ownership of their activities and future plans. Success again highlighted by the sustainability and ongoing nature of the project.

- Reflecting families: 25 participants, supporting children with ASD and their families. This is an ongoing project that has now been taken over by the Zachery Geddis Trust to allow families to avail of much needed support in this area. We are awaiting final evaluations.

Better Off: The evaluations highlighted above underline and emphasise the ongoing positive impact of the work being carried out in Primary Care MDT Social Work however none of this is possible without the cooperation, co-partnership and collaboration of our third sector partners in the community, voluntary and spiritual sectors.

- This year 2024/25 we have been able to seed fund 21 projects across the locality. 12 of these are new projects in topics which have been identified by our communities and statistics from our practices. We are providing groups around dementia, mobility, social isolation, men’s mental health, an inter-racial women’s group, further grief supports, ASD assistance in the Ballycastle/Moyle area, support with trauma for those seeking asylum in our area, exam stress and general poverty, housing and wellbeing assistance.
- These groups will all be commencing in Autumn 2024 and will be in addition to our current groups around Grief, Carer’s Stress, Rural Women, walking and mental health supports. The aim as always is to empower communities to take ownership of their own groups which they have as needed, and our practitioners have evaluation and sustainability factored into all projects as appropriate. Previous projects highlighted in prior reports outline walking groups, luncheon clubs, coffee mornings that are now self-sufficient and independent evidencing increased confidence and ability of individuals to run their own groups. Evaluations of all MDT projects have been very positive and there are plans to address other presenting issues via groups and events in this year including dementia support, pet provision, trauma, further grief support, mobility and falls issues, teenage mental health and a multi-ethnic women’s group.

Health and Wellbeing Actions

Action: 10 – Multi Agency Support Hub

MONTH	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
HOW MUCH DID WE DO			

# Support Hub Meetings	20	0	20
# Referred into hub (m/f)	0	N/A	2F
Onward to multi hub (m/f)	0	N/A	2F
No Consent	0	N/A	0
OTHERWISE SIGNPOSTED (mf)	0	N/A	0
<i>of this # how many Male/Female/Other</i>	0	N/A	0
# Not Accepted by Support Hub but signposted to other organisations			
<i>Of this # how many Male/Female/Other</i>			
# Support Hub organisations involved			PSNI

HOW WELL DID WE DO (MONTH OF MEETING)	JULY	AUG	SEPT
% Of Partner organisations attending support hub meetings (JENNIFER PROVIDES)	6	0	6
# of Support Hub Actions successfully completed (inlc organisation breakdown)	JULY	AUG	SEPT
PSNI (ALL CALCULATED FROM JENNIFERS ACTION SPREADSHEET slow time not during meeting)	1	N/A	1
NHSCT		N/A	
WHSCT		N/A	2
NIF&RS	1	N/A	1
NIAS			
NIHE			
PBNI			
CC&GBC			
% Reduction in calls to partner organisations from individuals helped by Support Hub			

NUMBER OF SUPPORT HUB COHORTS	JULY	AUG	SEPT
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LIVE (m/f)	3 1M 2F	N/A	4 1M/3F
WATCH LIST (m/f)	6 3M 3F	N/A	7 3M/4F
TOTAL	9	N/A	11
REMOVED AT THE END OF THE MEETING (m/F)	1 1M	N/A	0
CONSIDERED (m/f)	0		2F
ACCEPTED (m/f)	0		2F
MOVED TO WATCHLIST 9m/f)	4 2M 2F	N/A	1F
# discharged because their needs have been met (m/f)	1 1M		0
what % does this # equate to			
# who leave the hub of their own volition or through lack of engagement			0

Good News Story

- Support Hub have recently started to engage with a young male brought to Multi Agency Support by NIAS. This young male struggles with alcohol and drug dependency, mental health and gambling. He had come to the attention of NIAS through calls regarding his mental health and police when involved in domestic matters resulting from his behaviour whilst intoxicated. Since engaging with Support Hub he has shown a marked improvement in behaviour resulting in a decline in calls for service to partner agencies and has recently expressed an interest in becoming involved in work in the community.

Action: 11 – Cyber Safety Partnership

- Action Lead:** Jonny Donaghy
- Select Quarter:** 3. (Jul to Sept)
- Partners:** • Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council (PCSP) • Police Service NI • NI Ambulance Service • NI Fire & Rescue Service • Probation Board for NI • Youth Justice Agency • Western Health & Social Care Trust • Northern Health & Social Care Trust • NI Housing Executive • CCMS / Education Authority /Schools • Community & Voluntary Sector • NSPCC
- How Much** Cyber Safe - Information and awareness raising via various platforms and events specific to the target groups need. Based on the growing success of previous year's cyber safety events, plan and deliver symposium of talks about cyber safety including the dangers of sexting, grooming, cyber bullying, scams (financial, romance and emotional) and increase knowledge of the support that is available.
- How Well** How Well (Quality) CC&G PCSP are working with the Dry Arch centre in Limavady and Dungiven to meet any needs of schools right across the CC&G council area by funding facilitators to go into schools when needed to help educate students and tackle any emerging issues and concerns.

School sessions and training events are underway. A smaller version of our Cyber safety toolkit has now been produced and is available to residents and communities throughout the borough. The resource is also available electronically. <https://view.pagetiger.com/online-safety-and-mental-health>

- **Better Off** On-going cooperation, engagement and partnership working between Council, DfC, and other statutory Community Planning Partners and the community and voluntary sector has enabled flexible and responsive statutory and community & voluntary response initiatives for the benefit of vulnerable people of the Borough. The planned event will provide an opportunity to explore how the community and voluntary sector can engage with and support the action leads.
- **Progress Level:** Green
- **Examples during this Quarter of: Good Practice, Good News Stories, Case Studies:** We have just launched our Disability Hate Crime lesson plan. This is also available electronically and in the same format as the Cyber related lesson plans. See link below. <https://view.pagetiger.com/dhc>

Action: 12. Community Engagement Platform

- **Action Lead:** Deirdre Bradley
- **Select Quarter:** 3. (Jul to Sept)
- **Partners:** - Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council - Community & Voluntary Sector of CC&G - Community Networks - Education Authority - Youth Service - Department for Communities (DfC) - All Community Planning Partners
- **How Much –**
 - 29 young people registered with CC&G Youth Voice, across 3 cohorts.
 - 4 new expressions of interest received from young people this quarter (Recruitment in process).
 - 1 Project Group Meeting (Multi-cohort).
 - 1 CC&G Youth Voice 3-day Residential including visit from Esther Millar, Head of Local Youth Services & workshop led by NICCY (14 young people attended).
 - 1 Consultation with Department of Education, led by Young Peoples Reference Group (15 young people participated).
 - 1 Funding Application Submitted by CC&G Youth Voice Members (International Men's Day)
 - 1 Project Board Meeting.
 - 22 Project Board Members (Representing 10 Statutory & 4 Voluntary Organisations).
- **How Well (Quality):** Young People by DEA: -
 - Ballymoney: 3 young people (10%)
 - Bann: 1 young person (3%)
 - Benbradagh: 5 young people (17%)
 - Causeway: 0 young people (0%)
 - Central: 9 young people (31%)
 - Limavady: 5 young people (17%)

- The Glens: 6 young people (21%)
- 25 of 29 young people are repeat attendees (86%)
- **Better Off (Impact):** Feedback from Residential:
 - "NICCY raised our awareness of issues, they also listened to our concerns and offered advice."
 - "I enjoyed hearing and discussing viewpoints other than my own."
 - "We identified the issues that need addressing, allowing us to move forward."
 - "I learned how we can make changes to our communities."

Feedback from Dept. of Education Consultation:

- "I felt like they actually listened and cared about what we had to say."
- "I found it easy to share because they are young people too."
- "I think it is good that young people from this area are being listened to because our issues and concerns are not the same as those from other areas and need different solutions."
- "Without youth voice I wouldn't have had a chance to be part of this. I look forward to reading the report."
- **Progress Level:** Green
- **Examples during this Quarter of: Good Practice, Good News Stories, Case Studies:** During the 3-day residential, Causeway Coast & Glens Youth Voice members identified issues that they feel are important and would like to raise awareness around. However, in discussion, they themselves decided that it would be good practice to consult with other young people to confirm what issues and concerns are prevalent in the wider Causeway Coast & Glens Borough. They are currently planning this stakeholder engagement and hop to begin consultations in October.

Action: 13. Shared Public Spaces

- **Action Lead:** Gerard McIlroy
- **Select Quarter:** 3. (Jul to Sept)
- **Partners:** • Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council (Good Relations) • Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council (PCSP) • Housing Executive NI • PSNI • Education Authority • NI Fire & Rescue Service • Department for Infrastructure (DfI)
- **How Much (Quantity):** 1 Meeting with Partners and 1 Meeting with Community Leaders.
- **How Well (Quality):** Ongoing collaborative working to address issues in relations to bonfires via Statutory Cohesion and other groups. Implementing pro-active measures including tyre reduction. Also, looking at an increased use of beacons in some areas.
- **Better Off (Impact):** Engagement work with partner agencies and local community groups looking at higher use of beacons hailed as the end product of reduce calls and health and safety issues.

- Discussions taking place with regard to insurance and risk assessments on bonfire sites.
- Vast reduction in complaints this celebratory season, alongside minimal calls expressing concern for bonfire sites. This shows large efforts in community related cohesion and successful collaborative working relationship with community and statutory agencies.
- NIFRS report a relatively quiet 12th July celebrations in CCGBC area with mobilisations to bonfire material down by 25% from last year.
- As part of the cohesion groups work in the community and work with Good Relations Team have done with AIMS, PSNI reported that there were no issues reported, in relation to Anti-Social or Public Order, at any of the Bonfire or Beacon sites in the Causeway Coast and Glens District.
- **Progress Level:** Green
- **Examples during this Quarter of: Good Practice, Good News Stories, Case Studies:** Excellent working relationship between AIMS, PSNI and other council departments. Excellent response to illegal dumping from initial report from AIMS/Community to CCGBC and the speedy cleanup by Estates team.

Action: 14. CVS Support

- **Lead:** Louise Scullion
- **Select Quarter:** 3. (Jul to Sept)
- **Partners:** • Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council • Northern Area Community Network • Causeway Rural & Urban Network • Building Communities Resource Centre • Volunteer Support Organisations • Other Community Planning Partners
- **How Much** Shared training and networking schedule developed between Community Networks and Council Community Development to ensure community needs are supported and to avoid duplication.
 - 2 x connecting events took place for community and organisations in Dunloy and Glenariff with information and learning shared.
 - Representatives from 20 CVS organisations attended – talks from Loneliness Network and CCG Labour Market Partnership.
- **Cumulative Totals :**
 - 5 connecting events held; representatives from 55 organisations attended.
- **How Well** Increased range of training offered to CVS organisations Feedback from organisations attending the connecting events shows that they are extremely valuable in terms of peer support, sharing learning, making new connections and increasing awareness of funding and connections with statutory and other organisations.
- **Better Off (Impact):** Peer support and learning provided across participating groups • New connection made between organisations and statutory bodies. • Increased awareness of funding and other opportunities.
- **Progress Level:** Green

Action: 15. Road Safety Partnership

- **Action Lead:** Clive Lowry
- **Lead:** Clive Lowry
- **Select Quarter:** 3. (Jul to Sept)
- **Partners:** PCSP, PSNI, Road Safety Road Show.
- **How Much (Quantity):** NIFRS did not complete any Your Choice events during the reporting period however
 - 3 Road safety events were completed to mixed groups of adult and 6th year students.
 - Approximately 600 people attended these events which highlighted road safety including a Road Safety Road Show at Loretto School, Coleraine.
- **Cumulative Totals :** 3 events with approximately 600 in audience.
- **How Well** Audience members viewed RTC demonstrations and received road safety advice from NIFRS and PSNI Partners. RTC victim statements were delivered to audience members highlighting the impacts of road traffic collisions beyond the scene of the RTC.
- **Better Off (Impact):** 600 people received road safety information and advice to improve safety on NI roads.
- **Progress Level:** Amber
- **Examples during this Quarter of: Good Practice, Good News Stories, Case Studies:** Although road safety events took place Your Choice presentations were not delivered I would therefore consider this an Amber partial result. Road Safety road show at Loretto provided an example of a high standard, high impact event which would be welcomed again and supported again by NIFRS.

Action: 16. Accidental Fire Prevention

- **Lead:** Clive Lowry
- **Select Quarter:** 3. (Jul to Sept)
- **Partners:** CC&G Council, COAST, Vineyard Compassion, Over 50 Forum
- **How Much (Quantity):** There was no STAR initiative in this reporting period however NIFRS continues to provide Home Fire Safety Checks for people at risk across CC&G Council area. In this period NIFRS completed 110 Home fire safety checks in domestic premises for people at risk. 54 Smoke detectors were fitted in domestic premises 9 referrals made for Sensory support.
- **Cumulative Totals :** 110 HFSCs completed, 54 Smoke detectors fitted, 9 referrals to sensory support with detecting systems fitted for occupants with hearing impairment.
- **How Well** Fire safety advice given in 110 premises to enhance fire safety awareness, and 54 smoke detectors fitted (including 9 sensory detectors).
- **Better Off** Over the same reporting period in 2023 there were 10 accidental domestic house fires – for this reporting period there have been 6 accidental fires in domestic premises. A small reduction but a downward trend none the less.

- **Progress Level:** Green
- **Examples during this Quarter of: Good Practice, Good News Stories, Case Studies:** Although there were no STAR initiatives scheduled NIFRS continues to provide tailored fire safety advice for people at risk across CC&G council area and NI. Working with partner agencies such as sensory support to help those with hearing impairment to remain safe from fire.

Infrastructure / Environment Actions

Action: 17. Explore/Develop/Maintain Public Spaces

- **Action Lead:** Richard Gillen
- **Lead:** Richard Gillen
- **Select Quarter:** 3. (Jul to Sept)
- **Partners:** • Causeway Coast and Glens Heritage Trust • Binevenagh & Coastal Lowlands Landscape Partnership Scheme • Community Voluntary sector • Dept. for Agriculture Environment and Rural Affairs • Dept. for Communities • Department for Infrastructure • Government Estate • Northern Ireland Housing Executive • Young Farmers Clubs of Ulster • Ulster Farmers Union • Landowners • Waterways Ireland • Sport NI • Sperrins Partnership • Outscape • Sustrans • National Outdoor Recreation Forum
- **How Much (Quantity):** Continued high levels of visitors to outdoor recreation sites. Delivery of projects under umbrella of Binevenagh Landscape Partnership Identifying projects for Peace+ funding application to create further opportunity to enjoy the outdoors and manage sites sustainably. Council a supporting partner of Sperrins Partnership Project Development of Core Path Networks at some small settlements Developing in house skills for sustainable management of sites
- **Cumulative Totals :**
- **How Well (Quality):** Demand for outdoor recreation continues. Sites and trails continue to be well used. Project planning and preparation for delivery ongoing. Trail development work completion with signage installation at Castlerock. Progression of trail development at Downhill North. Benbradagh – Gateway to the Sperrins The Girona Programme and Causeway Path The Laid Path & Development Altnahinch Dam, Boardwalk Regenerate & Renew The Mountsandel Project Invasive Species Management Development of Sperrin AONB Management & Action Plan Delivery of way marking/signposting to allow for local awareness of off-road trails in Bushmills, Cushendall and Dungiven Establishing a partnership to resolve anti social behaviour at beach sites and deliver appropriate actions.
- **Better Off (Impact):** Continues to be difficult to measure but these projects aim to provide opportunity for the public to enjoy outdoor spaces. Anecdotally,

outdoor spaces have continued to play an increasingly important role for the public. The public's attitude to the outdoors and activities has changed. Realisation of the value of these spaces and how they can be used for the benefit of health and well-being is very evident.

- **Progress Level:** Amber
- **Examples during this Quarter of: Good Practice, Good News Stories, Case Studies:**

Action: 18. Meet Local Housing Needs

- **Action Lead:** Christine O'Carroll
- **Lead:** Christine O'Carroll
- **Select Quarter:** 3. (Jul to Sept)
- **Partners:** • Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council • Community Representatives • Relevant community group/s
- **How Much (Quantity):** • Deliver the social housing development programme (SHDP) as set out in Housing Investment Plan. • 67 Units completed April 2022 – March 2023 • 176 Units on-site at March 2023 • 576 Units programmed on SHDP 2023-26 The rural housing needs test in Benbradagh DEA is now completed and there was a successful return of interest there. Next step is for a development brief to be sent to a nominated Registered Housing Association (RHA) to develop a scheme there. • Deliver the social housing development programme (SHDP) as set out in Housing Investment Plan. • 67 Units completed April 2022 – March 2023 • 176 Units on-site at March 2023 • 576 Units programmed on SHDP 2023-26 The rural housing needs test in Benbradagh DEA is now completed and there was a successful return of interest there. Next step is for a development brief to be sent to a nominated Registered Housing Association (RHA) to develop a scheme there.
- **Cumulative Totals :**
- **How Well (Quality):** Ongoing meetings (1) with the Housing Executives Development Programme Group (DPG) and CC&Gs Planning team to review progress on planning applications for social and affordable housing schemes. Collaboration with Community Planning partners on the Rural Housing Needs tests programme
- **Better Off (Impact):** • Better understanding of the scale of social housing need in both urban and rural locations • Delivery of the social housing development programme to meet identified need
- **Progress Level:** Green
- **Examples during this Quarter of: Good Practice, Good News Stories, Case Studies:** The Housing Executive is currently reviewing the Rural Needs Test (RNT) programme for 2024/25 and 2025/26 and we will notify the Community Planning partnership of the new RNT programme following the review.

Action: 19. LiveSmart

- **Action Lead:** Nigel McKeown
- **Lead:** Nigel McKeown
- **Select Quarter:** 3. (Jul to Sept)
- **Partners:** Business Community (e.g. Considered Co. - Zero waste and refill shop, Coleraine), Churches, Community and Voluntary Sector (including Community Fridge Network and local Mens Shed groups), Fairtrade, Keep NI Beautiful (i.e. participation in Eco-Schools programme), Schools & Internal Council Departments and Functions.
- **How Much (Quantity):** Presentation to Ballycastle Mens Shed (20 participants) on environmental projects and funding support, Recycling and Waste Prevention presentation to Ballycastle Community Fridge (80 participants), LiveSmart talk at Heart of the Glens Festival (64 participants), Engagement with first year UUC students (c.700 participants) on recycling/reuse/waste prevention.
- **Cumulative Totals :**
- **How Well (Quality):** Most recent available council recycling data:- Household recycling and reuse % - 54.14% (Apr-Jun '24) versus 53.27% (Apr-Jun '23) Municipal recycling and reuse % - 51.61% (Apr-Jun '24) versus 52.17% (Apr-Jun '23)
- **Better Off (Impact):** Bicycle Reuse Scheme - 92 bicycles diverted for reuse in collaboration with Bikes for Africa initiative. LitterSmart - 105 participants, collecting 130 bags of litter. LiveSmart Community Environmental Small Grant Programme - 5 awards made to local community groups.
- **Progress Level:** Amber
- **Examples during this Quarter of: Good Practice, Good News Stories, Case Studies:** Fairtrade Cafe Awards presented to local businesses as part of Fairtrade Fortnight 2024. Bushmills Inn assessed and approved for a StaySmart award. Setting up of a Carbon Sink project discussed with Magilligan Tree Nursery.

Action: 20. Local Transport

- **Action Lead:** Liam Hinphey
- **Lead:** Liam Hinphey
- **Select Quarter:** 3. (Jul to Sept)
- **Partners:** South West Age Partnership Ards and North Down Borough Council Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Easilink Community Transport Newry and Mourne Community Transport Translink Disability Action The Consumer Council Mid Ulster Agewell Blue Badge Unit, Department for Infrastructure Down Community Transport Disability Action Shopmobility Mid Ulster / Gobility Northern Area Community Network Inclusive Mobility and Transport Advisory Committee (IMTAC) Community Transport Association Sustrans
- **How Much (Quantity):** No update from previous quarter
- **Cumulative Totals :**
- **How Well (Quality):** No update from previous quarter
- **Better Off (Impact):** No update from previous quarter

- **Progress Level:** Red
- **Examples during this Quarter of: Good Practice, Good News Stories, Case Studies:**

Action: 21. Pride in Environment

- **Action Lead:** Noel Davoren
- **Lead:** Noel Davoren
- **Select Quarter:** 3. (Jul to Sept)
- **Partners:** Department for Infrastructure Department for Communities Department of Education Community/Voluntary Sectors Chambers of Commerce Local Business Sector
- **How Much (Quantity):** We continue to transform a number of beds using wildflower mixes rather than bedding plants. The team has expanded the wildflower areas into other towns and villages such as Kilrea, Bushmills and Ballycastle. These continue to be added/rotated year on year. All wildflower beds are been prepared to accept the harvest wildflowers from the previous year. Work is continuing with DFI Roads to collect the grass cutting on the Ring Road, Coleraine. This lowers the fertility of the grass area and encouraging the growth of indigenous plants and flowers. In 2023 a planting project was introduced with local primary schools. Each school received hanging baskets with plants and green compost. The school children planted the hanging baskets and the baskets were displayed in the town centre. Hanging baskets have been re-issued to the schools again. A living wall has been introduced to help improve the town centre where space is restrictive. Introduction of sensory planters to help with autism and better interaction with the Public and the environment Introduction of more perennial planting Tree management – Inspection of high risk trees and tree surgery works carried out prior to the bird nesting season
- **Cumulative Totals :**
- **How Well (Quality):** Coleraine won a Gold Award for the Large Town Category in Britain in Bloom 2023 and a horticultural Excellence Award, whilst also winning Ulster in Bloom 2023. Awaiting 2024 results
- **Better Off (Impact):** Council continue to receive positive feedback on the introduction of wildflowers in place of bedding plants which has significant impact on pollinators. The winning of the Gold Award for Britain and Bloom and the Horticultural Excellence Award is recognition from our peers, that the work undertaken is of a very high standard. Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council and DFI Roads calibration has produced youtube videos to help promote Biodiversity and the natural environment. Cut and Collect Pt1 <https://youtu.be/OkHSI8FCC9g> Cut and Collect Pt2 <https://youtu.be/vn95Vnfl47U> Wildflowers <https://youtu.be/xxWRnm30Zok>
- **Progress Level:** Amber
- **Examples during this Quarter of: Good Practice, Good News Stories, Case Studies:** As one of the many organisations which have signed up to the All Ireland Pollinator Plan, Council are committed to ongoing innovation in their ground maintenance approach. Also Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council has introduced a partnership with the local schools which we

transport the components of the hanging baskets such as flowers, compost and the baskets to the schools. The young children plant out the hanging baskets which are then displayed in Coleraine town centre with the school name on the basket stands. This increases the knowledge of horticulture for the children and improves environmental awareness and sustainability Increase calibration with DFI Roads with regards to grass cutting of towns and villages.

Action: 22. Natural Heritage

No Change – Nil Return

Economic/Education/Tourism Actions

Action: 23. Recovery and Renewal

- **Action Lead:** Niall McGurk
- **Lead:** Niall McGurk
- **Select Quarter:** 3. (Jul to Sept)
- **Partners:** • Invest NI • Economic Advisory Group • Growth Deal Executive Programme Board • Local Enterprise Agencies • NI Government Departments • Existing project partners such as Chambers, Ulster University, etc. • Labour Market Partnership
- **How Much (Quantity):** • Identify at least one new key strategic priority • Examine all external funding opportunities • Define roles of all key delivery partners • Continue to deliver business support to help both new and existing businesses.
- **Cumulative Totals :** N/A
- **How Well (Quality):** • 100% - Growth Deal projects identified as key economic driver for next 10-15 years • 100% - External funding opportunities has been identified including: Growth Deal, Complementary Fund, Levelling Up, Peace Plus
- **Better Off (Impact):** EDS has been developed under two themes, Recovery and Renewal, with the aspiration of improving the lives of every citizen within the borough through: Recovery – Labour Market Activation and Business Starts/ Survival Renewal – Business Evolution, Connected Borough, Green Borough and Renewed Place
- **Progress Level:** Green
- **Examples during this Quarter of: Good Practice, Good News Stories, Case Studies:** Nothing to report this quarter

Action: 24. Promote Atlantic Link Enterprise Zone

- **Action Lead:** Niall McGurk
- **Lead:** Niall McGurk
- **Select Quarter:** 3. (Jul to Sept)
- **Partners:** • Department for Economy • Invest NI • Economic Advisory Group • Growth Deal Executive Programme Board. Ulster University Professional Property Agent
- **How Much (Quantity):** • Identify new strategic priorities • Identify Growth Deal opportunities • Number of information communication engagements.
- **Cumulative Totals :** N/A
- **How Well (Quality):** Discussions have been ongoing with the Department for Economy. • Planning classification investigated. • Discussions with potential tenants ongoing.
- **Better Off (Impact):** Council continues to promote the site to prospective investors. Post April 2024 Enhanced Capital Allowances will no longer be extended on the site. Council will continue to engage with Government and Treasury regards ALEC being considered as part of the new £150m Enhanced Investment Zone proposition for NI. Following the signing of the Growth Deal Heads of Terms, work will progress in the development of the £16.5m Business Incubation & Innovation Hub OBC (currently paused subject to positive outcome from autumn budget). This is a long term project and no impact can be measured until after the capital project is completed and occupied. Overall, no impact review can be carried out at this stage. If and when the site developments proceed, then an impact assessment can take place
- **Progress Level:** Amber
- **Examples during this Quarter of: Good Practice, Good News Stories, Case Studies:** Nothing to report in this quarter

Action: 25. Increase Level of Innovation

- **Action Lead:** Niall McGurk
- **Lead:** Niall McGurk
- **Select Quarter:** 3. (Jul to Sept)
- **Partners:** • Department for Economy • Innovate NI/UK • Ulster University • Further Education Colleges • Economic Advisory Group • Local businesses
- **How Much (Quantity):** Increasing the level of Productivity is one of the new DfE Minister's priority objectives. Innovation is a key driver in delivering higher levels of productivity. In addition to an increased focus on the number of businesses receiving Innovation Accreditations and Investment in Innovative /R&D activities generally, the Economy Minister recently launched a £46m Agri-Food Investment Initiative to support local agri-food and drink processors.
- **Cumulative Totals :** N/A
- **How Well (Quality):** The Department for the Economy has set the following innovation objectives for Northern Ireland in its 'Delivery Plan': • Increase total R&D expenditure by 55% • Increase the number of R&D performing

businesses by 450. • Increase number of innovation active firms to 55% of NI businesses 10% of NI businesses receiving Innovation Accreditation.

- **Better Off (Impact):** Too early to determine impact. A high-level Subgroup of relevant partners (Economic Advisory Group) has been set up to review strategic projects relating to the Innovation pillar of the Growth Deal (currently paused subject to positive outcome from autumn budget). Alongside this, in collaboration with partners, DfE and Invest NI will develop a new strategic approach to address the disparity in Northern Ireland's sub-regional economic performance. Operationally our economic partnership action plan identifies a few innovation actions i.e.: → Working in partnership to improve innovation activity in the CC&GBC area via the Innovation Accreditation Scheme / Innovation Vouchers etc. → Delivery of the Digital Infrastructure Strategy for the Causeway Coast and Glen's area. Specifically, support businesses to adopt and exploit digital technologies to improve competitiveness & business resilience. → Enhanced Digital Infrastructure in the Causeway Coast and Glen's area – Project Stratum and FFNI → Working with partners to encourage and support businesses in a drive towards a Low Carbon 'Green' Economy.
- **Progress Level:** Amber
- **Examples during this Quarter of: Good Practice, Good News Stories, Case Studies:** Nothing to report in this quarter.

Action: 26. Digital Infrastructure

- **Action Lead:** Louise Mullan
- **Lead:** Louise Mullan
- **Select Quarter:** 3. (Jul to Sept)
- **Partners:** DfE, DSIT, Local Businesses, FE Colleges, Ulster University
- **How Much (Quantity):** 1. Continued delivery of Council's Digital Strategy 2. Identify and implement innovative urban and rural connectivity schemes 3. WAN Migration to Full Fibre following completion of FFNI installs 4. Exploration of Smart Technologies to support industry and residents 5. Continued promotion of broadband programmes/ consultations
- **Cumulative Totals :** 1. 100% Digital Strategy is now embedded into Council's future planning 2. No update 3. 100% FFNI WAN migration completed at end of September 4. A 200% increase in the number of CCG applications received for DTFF Call 3 which closed to applications on 23RD August (6 applications received) 5. 50% DTFF programme promoted at a regional level (led by NMDDC), DfE's 5G awareness Event for NI Business promoted via Council's social media channels (event subsequently postponed)
- **How Well (Quality):** 1. Digital Strategy continues to be incorporated into all present and future projects. 2. Project Stratum deployment expected to conclude by late 2024/early 2025. Project Gigabit has experienced a slight delay in going out to procurement for a contractor to deliver the project. 3. Council's ICT Infrastructure Team have overseen the WAN migration. 4. Digital Transformation Flexible Fund is currently delivering capital support to local businesses who are seeking to introduce advanced technologies into

their businesses. In addition, Officers are exploring a number of different project proposals and searching for appropriate funding streams. 5.

Promotional activities around digital programmes continues to take place.

- **Better Off (Impact):** Council's Digital Strategy identified three key themes; Digital Infrastructure, Digital Skills, and the Digital Sector, all of which are considered when developing new projects. Officers are exploring a variety of opportunities to support the uptake of digital technologies across the Borough. The Business Development team continue to promote the Digital Transformation Flexible Fund, in conjunction will all other Councils, which targets advanced technological improvements within our local businesses. Call 3 applications were scored in this Quarter with Letters of Offer currently being issued to successful applicants. Detailed analysis of impacts will take place in future reports.
- **Progress Level:** Amber
- **Examples during this Quarter of: Good Practice, Good News Stories, Case Studies:** Nothing to report this quarter

Action: 27. Labour Market Partnership (LMP)

No Change – Nil Return

Action: 28. Develop New Energy/Climate Strategy

- **Action Lead:** Louise Mullan
- **Lead:** Louise Mullan
- **Select Quarter:** 3. (Jul to Sept)
- **Partners:** Ulster University, Queens, DfE, Local Businesses, Girona Limited, Utility Regulator NI, NIE Networks, SONI, INI
- **How Much (Quantity):** 1. Develop a TOR for Boroughwide Scoping Study 2. Appoint a specialist advisor/team to assist with development of Boroughwide scoping study 3. Engage with large scale energy users 4. Engage in soft market sounding 5. Environmental Services activities relating to energy/ climate 6. Form a local collaborative energy group 7. Support a Smart Local Energy System (SLES) 8. Develop an energy application for Borough (Innovate UK/ DESNZ)
- **Cumulative Totals :** N/A
- **How Well (Quality):** 1. 100% TOR developed for Boroughwide scoping study 2. 100% Specialists appointed to undertake scoping study 3. 80% Council supporting INI Industrial Decarbonisation Northern Ireland (IDNI) project funded by Innovate UK. 4. 100% Engagement with local businesses undertaken by Action Renewables as part of the energy baseline review and project scoping exercise 5. 100% Environmental Services – One report taken highlighting funding from the Small Business Research Initiative (Phase 2)

relating to the usage of persuasive technologies in increasing recycling 6. 0%
- Local collaborative energy group to be formed (this may be addressed if cluster is developed following IDNI project) 7. 0% - Council to identify SLES which will benefit from financial and promotional assistance within Borough 8. 0% - Energy application for Borough yet to be developed

- **Better Off (Impact):** Council has recognised the need to establish baseline data before commissioning the development of a Net Zero Roadmap or Local Authority Energy Plan. External supplier was appointed in March 2024 to undertake scoping exercise to establish baselines, report expected in October 2024. Ultimately the baselines and subsequent Roadmap/ Energy Plan will assist with understand the energy opportunity within the Borough and provide justification for future interventions. Council has limited powers to influence DfE's priorities within their Path to Net Zero Action Plan. The return of the NI Executive should enhance DfE's ability to deliver its own action plan. In the coming year, Council will need to adopt a more proactive approach to delivering energy security for it residents and to achieving Net Zero targets. Invest NI's successful bid to Innovate UK to develop an Industrial Decarbonisation Plan for Northern Ireland is approaching its conclusion.
- **Progress Level:** Amber
- **Examples during this Quarter of: Good Practice, Good News Stories, Case Studies:** Nothing to report this quarter

Action: 29. Town Centre Forums

- **No Change – Nil Return**

Action: 30. Tourism & Recreation Support

- **No Change – Nil Return**

Action: 31. Growth Deal Opportunities

- **Action Lead:** Niall McGurk
- **Lead:** Niall McGurk
- **Select Quarter:** 3. (Jul to Sept)
- **Partners:** UK Government, Relevant NI Executive Departments, Ulster University, FE Colleges, Northern Health & Social Care Trust, Business Community
- **How Much (Quantity):** 1. Executive Programme Board to provide approvals throughout development of Growth Deal 2. Programme Management Office to undertake work in support of the Growth Deal 3. Consultant call off framework to be utilised throughout the development of SOCs/OBCs 4. Independent research/reviews in support of projects to be commissioned (as required) 5. Outline Business Cases to be developed 6. Growth Deal Portfolio Document to be developed
- **Cumulative Totals :** N/A

- **How Well (Quality):** 1. One emergency Executive Programme Board meetings held this quarter due to the 'pausing' of Growth Deal. 2. 100% Programme Management Office continually working on project development 3. 100% - Consultant Call Off List utilised for all 7 Council-led projects. 4. 0% No Independent research/reviews required this quarter. 5. 25% All OBCs are now under development – halted due to Growth Deal 'pause'
- **Better Off (Impact):** The Growth Deal outlines the approach Council will take to strategically improve the lives of all citizens within the borough through capital projects. The objectives of the Growth Deal are to: • Attract, support and grow more business, with a focus on export; • Position Causeway Coast and Glens as the 'go-to' region for both business and pleasure; • Regenerate some of the area's smaller settlements into thriving and sustainable rural economies; • Improve key elements of the tourism transport network and tourism destinations; • Work with education and employers to raise aspirations and improve employability and skills. On 13th September 2024, the UK Government 'paused' the Growth Deal and as a consequence all work on the development of the OBCs has been halted until the outcome of the Spending Review. Detailed analysis of impacts will take place once capital projects have concluded.
- **Progress Level:** Amber
- **Examples during this Quarter of: Good Practice, Good News Stories, Case Studies:** Nothing to report this quarter