



10 January 2024

Committee Chair: Councillor T McGrann

Committee Vice-Chair: Councillor R Lynch

Committee Members: Aldermen – L Boyle, J McGrath, P Michael and S Ross
Councillors – M Brady, P Dunlop, N Kelly, B Mallon,
V McWilliam, M Ní Chonghaile, A O'Lone, S Ward
and S Wilson

Dear Member

COMMUNITY PLANNING COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Community Planning Committee will be held in the **Council Chamber, Mossley Mill on Monday 15 January 2024 at 6.30 pm.**

You are requested to attend.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Baker".

Richard Baker, GM MSc
Chief Executive, Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council

PLEASE NOTE: Refreshments will be available in the Café from 5.20pm.

For any queries please contact Member Services:

Tel: 028 9448 1301

memberservices@antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk

A G E N D A

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2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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REPORT ON BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE COMMUNITY PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING ON MONDAY 15 JANUARY 2024

3 PRESENTATIONS

3.1 G/MSMO/142 DEPARTMENT FOR HEALTH INTEGRATED CARE SYSTEM

Members are advised that a request from the Department of Health Integrated Care System to make a presentation (**enclosed**) on the new Integrated Care System for Northern Ireland was approved by the Chief Executive, Mr Richard Baker GM MSc.

A copy of the presentation is **enclosed** for Members' Information and the presentation will be made in person by Mr Alan Marsden, Senior Planning Manager, Strategic Planning and Performance Group (SPPG) Department of Health.

RECOMMENDATION: that the presentation be noted.

Prepared by: Joanne Hamilton-Whyte, PA Director of Community Planning

Agreed by: Ronan McKenna, Head of Community Planning

Approved by: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

3.2 FI/FIN/11 DRAFT RATES ESTIMATE UPDATE 2024/25

An update on the 2024/25 Estimates for the Community Planning Department will be presented at the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION: that the presentation be noted.

Prepared by: Richard Murray, Head of Finance

Agreed by: John Balmer, Deputy Director of Finance

Approved by: Sandra Cole, Director of Finance & Governance

4 ITEMS FOR DECISION

4.1 AC/TOU/009 LOUGH NEAGH PARTNERSHIP

The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the continuation of a Service Level Agreement with Lough Neagh Partnership at an increased annual contribution of £24,200. The report also seeks approval for match funding of £6,666 toward a specific project for which the Partnership has secured £224,395 in funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

The Lough Neagh Partnership is a stakeholder organisation that was established in 2003 to help manage and protect Lough Neagh. The board of the partnership is made up of elected representatives, landowners, fishermen, farmers and local communities.

The Partnership is the primary organisation responsible for the sustainable development of Lough Neagh. Over the past twenty years, it has been instrumental in enhancing, preserving, and promoting the distinctive attributes of the Lough Neagh area. The Council works closely with the Partnership through a Service Level Agreement on a range of issues in particular marketing and promotion of the Lough as a tourism asset.

Members are reminded that the Partnership gave a presentation on their work to the Committee in December 2022.

At the December 2020 Council meeting it was agreed that a Service Level Agreement with Lough Neagh Partnership, including annual funding of £22,000, be approved for three years commencing 1 April 2021. The agreement was subject to satisfactory performance and budget availability.

As the existing arrangement ends in March 2024, Officers met with the Partnership to discuss future arrangements in the context of recent developments in relation to the future management of the Lough which the Council along with other key stakeholders will be involved.

The Partnership has requested that the Council agree to a further one-year Service Level Agreement from 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025 with funding of £24,200, an increased amount to take account of inflationary pressures. The request for just a one-year agreement recognises the current circumstances and potential for the Partnership to face a changed role in the future and a different relationship with the Council. Provision of this funding has been made in the 2024/25 tourism estimates.

In addition, the Partnership advised Officers that they have been successful in acquiring project development funding of £224,395 from the National Lottery Heritage Fund for the employment of a co-ordinator, the development of a new heritage landscape plan and the examination of options and business plan for the possible purchase of the bed and soil of Lough Neagh from The Shaffesbury Estate.

They advised that it is their intention to carry out a due diligence, risk and legal analysis of the Shaftesbury Business proposal in 2024/25 and are asking the Council as well as Mid Ulster District Council and Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council for £6,666 each to make up the required £20,000 in match funding needed in order for this project to progress. Provision of this funding can be made available from the 2024/25 tourism estimates. The Partnership believe that delivery of this project with the help of this significant investment from the National Lottery Heritage Fund meets some of the current requirements of not just the Councils but all interested parties who have already commenced a process of addressing the longer term future of the Lough and integration of its management.

RECOMMENDATION: that

(a) provision of £24,200 to Lough Neagh Partnership for a Service Level Agreement with the Council from 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025 be approved subject to satisfactory performance;

(b) provision of £6,666 to Lough Neagh Partnership as a 'one-off' contribution toward required match funding for their National Lottery Heritage Fund project due to be delivered in 2024/25 be approved.

Prepared and Approved by: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

4.2 CP/CD/457 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANT AID PROGRAMME SMALL GRANTS FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS 2023/2024

The purpose of this report is to seek Members approval in relation to the Community Development Small Grants Funding Programme awards being recommended.

The Small Grants Programme, was approved by the Council in October 2014 as part of the Council's new Community Development Grant Aid Programme. The purpose of the Small Grants programme is to provide financial assistance to groups within the Borough up to a maximum of £1,000 (revised and approved by Council in October 2021) towards seeding costs, public and employer's liability insurance, small items of equipment or an activity. Members are advised that groups who apply for a small grant are not permitted to apply for any other funding available under the wider Community Development Grant Aid Programme during the course of the 2023/24 financial year.

In December 2019 Members agreed that from 1 April 2020 all Small Grant requests of £500 (now £1,000) or less be assessed on the basis of Pass/Fail against eligibility criteria and not subjected to a scored assessment process. All proposed awards are subject to a signed disclosure from the group confirming that all appropriate supporting documentation is in place and can be provided on request or the offer of funding will be withdrawn. During the month of December one application totalling £960 was received and assessed by Officers with details **enclosed** for Members' information.

RECOMMENDATION: that the one Small Grant application at a total cost of £960 be approved.

Prepared by: Jonathan Henderson, Community Services Co-ordinator

Agreed by: Ronan McKenna, Head of Community Planning

Approved by: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

4.3 CP/GEN/048 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANT AID PROGRAMME RECOMMENDATIONS 2024/2027

The purpose of this report is to seek Members approval in relation to proposed financial awards under the Community Development Grant Aid Programme.

A call for applications under the Community Development Grant Aid Programme for the 3-year period 1st April 2024 – 31st March 2027 opened on Monday 23rd October 2023 and closed on Monday 4th December 2023. To support applications to this programme, Officers delivered two grant workshops and offered one-to-one support to all groups upon request.

Members are reminded that it was approved at the Community Planning Committee in September 2022 that the new Community Development Grant Aid awards would be made for up to three years. A pass threshold of 50% applies to applications to the Programme and groups are not required to demonstrate match funding. Members should also note that proposed awards are subject to the receipt of all relevant supporting documentation, or the offer of funding will be withdrawn.

The total estimated budget for the 2024/25 Community Development Grant Aid Programme is £643,448 as provided for in the 24/25 estimates, of which £50,428 (similar to the amount awarded in 2023/24) is anticipated from the Department for Communities (DFC) under its Community Support Programme for 2024/25 and the remaining £593,020 from the Council.

In total 8 applications were received and assessed by a panel of Officers with 6 applications achieving the required 50% pass threshold. A total of £35,200 of funding to the 6 successful applicants is proposed for award in 2024/25. Details are **enclosed** for Members information. In addition, financial assistance totalling £498,448 committed in 2023/24 for year 2 grants brings the overall total amount requested from the Community Development Grant Aid programme in 2024/25 to £533,648 leaving an estimated balance of £109,800 for a second call and to fund Technical Assistance (£50,000) and Small Grants (£15,000) submitted during the course of the 2024/25 financial year.

Members are reminded that Year 2 & Year 3 funding is subject to satisfactory monitoring and evaluation. All successful applications under this call are being awarded financial assistance for a 3-year period.

A summary of the successful applications for 2024/27 funding programme is shown below:

Summary of Community Development Grant Aid Requests 2024/27					
Grant Stream		Successful Applications (Scored 50% and above in 2024/25)	Total Requested Year 1 2024/25	Total Requested Year 2 2025/26	Total Requested Year 3 2026/27
Community Facilities and Programmes		4	£25,200	£25,200	£25,200
Community Programmes and Activities		2	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000
Total		6	£35,200	£35,200	£35,200
Financial Assistance Committed in 2023/24 for Year 2 Grants			£498,448		
Overall Total			£533,648		

Officers will arrange to meet with any unsuccessful groups to provide feedback on their applications and to signpost to other relevant funders.

A second call for applications to the Community Development Grant Aid Programme will open on Monday 1st April 2024 and close on Friday 3rd May 2024 at 4pm, subject to availability of funding.

Technical Assistance and Small Grants will open in March 2024 on a rolling programme with applications being reported to the Community Planning Committee on a monthly basis until the allocated budget is maximised.

RECOMMENDATION: that the 6 successful applications for funding under the Community Development Grant Aid Programme totalling £35,200 be approved.

Prepared by: Jonathan Henderson, Community Services Co-ordinator

Agreed by: Ronan McKenna, Head of Community Planning

Approved by: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

4.4 CP/CD/470 NEWTOWNABBEY MENOPAUSE CAFÉ

The purpose of the report is to obtain approval in relation to a request from the Newtownabbey Menopause Café for free use of a Community Facility, once a month throughout 2024 for two hours on a Friday evening.

Members are advised that the Newtownabbey Menopause Café was established as a safe space to provide discussion, guidance and support for women experiencing their own menopause journey. Meetings were previously held on the last Friday of every month in a local hospitality venue that is no longer available in the evenings due to increased running costs.

It is proposed that the Council provide free use of the Lillian Bland Pavilion once a month on Friday evenings, 6pm to 8pm, throughout 2024, for the Newtownabbey Menopause Café to continue meeting. The usual hire fee would be £21 per hour. Additional resource would be required to facilitate this request at a cost of approximately £40 each month.

In addition, Officers will work with the Café to build capacity and develop their governance arrangements, with the aim of enabling the Café to secure funding to sustain the group in the future.

RECOMMENDATION: that the request for free use of the Lillian Bland Pavilion by the Newtownabbey Menopause Café once a month throughout 2024 be approved.

Prepared by: Stef Buchanan, Community Development Manager

Agreed by: Ronan McKenna, Head of Community Planning

Approved by: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

4.5 CP/CP/188 GOOD RELATIONS ACTION PLAN 2024-25

The purpose of this report is to seek Members approval in relation to the submission of the Good Relations Action Plan 2024/25.

Members are advised that correspondence has been received from The Executive Office (TEO), a copy is enclosed for Members information, inviting the submission of the Good Relations Action Plan 2024/25.

An annual submission is made by the Council to (TEO) requesting financial assistance for the delivery of a District Council Good Relations Programme Action Plan, a copy of which is also enclosed in for Members approval.

The draft Good Relations Action Plan reflects the aims and objectives of the central government strategy Together Building a United Community (T-BUC). It outlines how Government, stakeholders, community and individuals will work together to achieve change against the following key priorities:

1. Our Children and Young People;
2. Our Shared Community;
3. Our Safe Community; and
4. Our Cultural Expression.

The draft 2024/25 Action Plan reflects the priorities identified through the Good Relations Audit and Strategy 2020-25.

The Executive Office requires match funding of a minimum of 25% from local Councils towards the overall Good Relations budget. The total amount required to enable implementation of the Good Relations Action Plan in 2024/25 is £193,161.66.

An amount of £144,871.25, equating to 75% of the Good Relations Action Plan budget has been requested from The Executive Office. Provision of the remaining 25% has been included in the 2024/25 Council estimates towards the delivery of the plan.

RECOMMENDATION: that the Good Relations Action Plan 2024-25 be approved.

Prepared by: Jen Cole Good Relations Coordinator

Agreed by: Ronan McKenna, Head of Community Planning

Approved by: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

4.6 AC/GEN/008 FREE USE OF MOSSLEY MILL MEETING ROOMS

The purpose of this report is to obtain Members' approval in relation to a request received for the free use of the Spinning Room and Linen Suite at Mossley Mill for a Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY) screening event for the general public on Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd March 2024.

The waiver of community hire charges for this booking represents lost income of £830 for use of both rooms over the two days. In addition, staffing costs of £141 will be incurred to support the event.

Over the duration of the weekend CRY would screen approximately 200 young adults aged between 14 - 35 for undiagnosed heart conditions. All registrants would receive an ECG and then if required, an echocardiogram. A doctor would be in attendance to discuss results. Medical personnel and equipment for this event are funded by the National Lottery, but no funding is available for room hire.

RECOMMENDATION: that the request for the free use of the Spinning Room and Linen Room at Mossley Mill for a Cardiac Risk in the Young screening event on Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd March 2024 be approved.

Prepared by: Jenna Collier, Theatre Bookings, Conference and Events Manager

Agreed by: Simon Goldrick, Head of Arts, Culture, Tourism & Events

Approved by: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

5 ITEMS FOR NOTING

5.1 CP/CD/465 CHRISTMAS FESTIVITY PROGRAMME 2023 - REVIEW

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the "Give Our Borough A Gift This Christmas" Switch On Programme which was delivered live in each DEA and streamed online from Saturday 18th – Saturday 25th November 2023.

Following a review of the 2022 programme the following changes for 2023 were approved at the September Community Planning Committee:

- One event per DEA to be delivered each evening from Saturday 18th – Saturday 25th November (excluding Sunday 19th November).
- All events, except those on Saturday 18th and Saturday 25th November to be delivered from 6-7.30pm. The Saturday events to be delivered from 4.30 – 6pm.
- The switching on of the Christmas Lights to take place during the first half of the 90 minute programme as opposed to the end in order to facilitate those attending with very young children.
- More children activities at each site to include fun fair rides and arts and crafts.
- Reintroduction of a Santa's Grotto/Santa Express Bus
- Market Stalls to be replaced by Food Traders and Confectionary Suppliers of a festive nature.
- A hybrid approach in delivery to continue in order to accommodate the number of online viewers. Live streams to be broadcast from three Switch On Events; Glengormley, Antrim Town, and Ballyclare.

The programme attracted in excess of 15,000 attendees and 103,632 online views as detailed below:

Total Facebook Views: (3 Switch On Events) 46,300

Total YouTube Views: (3 Switch On Events) 2,132

Total Facebook Views: (Promotional Videos) 55,200

Total Views: 103,632

Each event was hosted by a Cool FM presenter and included: school choirs, traditional music groups, bands and other local artists.

In addition, there was a range of family entertainment on offer to include Children's Fun Rides, The Santa Express, Street Entertainment, Festive Food Stalls and Eco Arts and Crafts. There was a short programme of Christmas readings, carols and music following which the Mayor was joined on stage by the school's competition winner and Santa to assist the Mayor light the Christmas tree.

Following the delivery of all 7 events an online evaluation opened on Friday 17th November and closed on Thursday 30th November 2023, providing valuable feedback for future event planning and areas for review in 2024. The survey found that 89% were satisfied with the Switch On Events.

Spirit of Christmas Awards 2023

Members' are also reminded of the 'Spirit of Christmas Awards' which were approved by the Committee in September 2023 and launched in November 2023.

In total 65 nominations were received and assessed by officers with the following groups were presented with an award at a celebration event held in Antrim Castle Gardens on Tuesday 19th December 2023:

Light Up Award – TIDAL, Toome

Rockin Around the Christmas Tree Award – Newtownabbey Women's Group

The Reason for the Season Award – The Bridge Association, Antrim

The Making an Entrance Award – Pots of Pleasure, Ballyclare

Traditional Christmas Award – Muckamore Parish Development Association

Eco Angels Award – Creavery Primary School

Mayors Award – Mr David McCrea

A report outlining proposals for Christmas 2024 will be brought to a future meeting of the Committee,

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.

Prepared by: Jonathan Henderson, Community Services Co-ordinator

Agreed by: Ronan McKenna, Head of Community Planning

Approved by: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

5.2 CP/CD/433 CENSUS 2021 RESULTS

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the Census 2021 results.

At the June 2022 Community Planning Committee the first results from Census 2021 were reported following publication on 24 May 2022. The first release of data consisted of headline population statistics by age, sex, number of households with usual residents, and communal establishment population.

The following additional updates are now available on the NISRA website:

- Census 2021 main statistics tables for towns and villages (settlements) and Electoral Wards in Northern Ireland
- Census 2021 main statistics tables that include approximated social grade for people living in households in Northern Ireland

In addition to this, the Census 2021 Grid Square product for Northern Ireland was released on 14th December 2023. This product provides census statistics on a range of topics for populated 1 kilometre and 100 metre grid squares in Northern Ireland.

The new Grid Square product is available on the [NISRA website](#) in a range of formats.

The results and further information on Census 2021 are available on the NISRA website; www.nisra.gov.uk/Census2021

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.

Prepared by: Conor Cunning, DEA Engagement Manager

Agreed by: Ronan McKenna, Head of Community Planning

Approved by: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

5.3 CP/CP/231 SPORT NI FUNDING TO COUNCILS

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on Sport Northern Ireland (SNI), one of the Council's statutory Community Planning partners, funding to Councils.

Members are reminded it was reported at the July Council meeting that SNI invited Expressions of Interest from Councils for funding for sport and physical activity projects which promote increased participation from those who are most inactive including:

- Women and girls
- People with disabilities
- Children and young people (especially 11 to 18 years)
- Older people over 65
- Ethnically diverse communities
- People in areas of greatest need
- People in rural areas

An Expression of Interest was completed and submitted in July 2023. The proposed project aimed to strengthen partnership working with local sports clubs with a view to offering participants a pathway to continue their sporting journey well beyond the lifespan of the project.

Members are advised that correspondence **enclosed** has been received from SNI, advising that due to budget limitations the proposed project will not receive funding at this time.

The project met the programme objectives, and if additional funding becomes available in this financial year SNI will contact the Council. SNI will keep the project on file until such times as further funding becomes available.

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.

Prepared by: Conor Cuning DEA Engagement Manager

Agreed by: Ronan McKenna, Head of Community Planning

Approved by: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

5.4 CP/CP/18 HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY 2024

The purpose of this report is to provide Members with an update on Holocaust Memorial Day. Holocaust Memorial Day is remembered annually on 27th January globally and the theme for 2024 is 'Fragility of Freedom'.

The theme highlights what freedom means to different people, how genocide starts with the restriction or removal of freedom and highlights the ten stages of genocide, as identified by Professor Gregory Stanton which demonstrates that genocide never just happens. There is always a set of circumstances which occur, or which are created, to build the climate in which genocide can take place.

Members are reminded that as part of Holocaust Memorial Day 2021 a permanent memorial was created for the Borough, and placed within Northern Ireland Centenary Garden, Monkstown Jubilee Centre.

It is proposed that the Holocaust Memorial Programme for 2024 will include a remembrance service at Monkstown Jubilee Centre on Sunday 21st January 2024, 2pm - 5pm, and will include a screening of Belfast to Dachau, the Teddy Dixon Story. The event will conclude with a civic ceremony at the Holocaust Memorial followed by a light supper.

Provision for the Holocaust Memorial Day service has been made within the Good Relations Action Plan and budget 2023/24.

RECOMMENDATION: that the 2024 Holocaust Memorial Day Event be noted.

Prepared by: Jen Cole, Good Relations Coordinator

Agreed by: Ronan McKenna, Head of Community Planning

Approved by: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

