



3 December 2021

Chairman: Councillor R Lynch

Vice Chairman: Councillor M Stewart

Committee Members: Aldermen - J McGrath and P Michael
Councillors – J Archibald-Brown, M Cooper, P Dunlop,
J Gilmour, M Goodman, R Kinnear, N McClelland,
V McWilliam, V Robinson, S Ross, and L Smyth

Dear Member

MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY PLANNING COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Community Planning Committee will be held in the **Council Chamber, Mossley Mill on Wednesday 8 December 2021 at 6.30 pm**

You are requested to attend.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jacqui Dixon".

Jacqui Dixon, BSc MBA
Chief Executive, Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council

For any queries please contact Member Services:

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AGENDA

1 APOLOGIES

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3 PRESENTATIONS

- 3.1 NIHE Cavity Wall Insulation
- 3.2 Draft Rates Estimates Update 2022/23

4 ITEMS FOR DECISION

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- 4.2 Good Relations Grant Aid 2021-22
- 4.3 Community Development Grant Aid Programme Small Grants Funding Recommendations 2021/2022
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- 4.5 Platinum Jubilee Working Group
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- 4.7 Whiteabbey Community Group Project With Translink
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Community Redevelopment Group

6.2 Enchanted Winter Garden Update

7 ANY OTHER RELEVANT BUSINESS

REPORT ON BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE COMMUNITY PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING ON MONDAY 8 DECEMBER 2021

3 PRESENTATIONS

3.1 NORTHERN IRELAND HOUSING EXECUTIVE – CAVITY WALL INSULATION

Members will recall that the Northern Ireland Housing Executive provided a presentation to the October Council Meeting on the Housing Investment Plan and at the request of a Member agreed to provide a further presentation to a Council Committee on Cavity Wall Insulation.

3.2 FI/FIN/11 DRAFT RATES ESTIMATES UPDATE 2022/23

An update on the 2022/23 Estimates for the Community Planning Department will be presented at the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION: that the presentation be noted.

Prepared by: Richard Murray, Management Accountant

Agreed by: John Balmer, Head of Finance

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

4 ITEMS FOR DECISION

4.1 CP/CD/390 MRS JOAN CHRISTIE CVO, OBE LEGACY BURSARY SCHEME AND SPIRIT OF VOLUNTEERING AWARDS 2022

Members are reminded that the Antrim and Newtownabbey Spirit of Volunteering Awards were held in Theatre at the Mill on Thursday 27 September 2018 to highlight and recognise the valuable commitment of those who volunteer their time within the Borough. The Spirit of Volunteering Awards are scheduled to take place once during each Council term.

At the May 2021 Community Planning Committee the theme, categories, programme, budget and panel for the Spirit of Volunteering Awards 2022 were approved with the event scheduled to take place on 24 March 2022 in Theatre at The Mill.

Members are also reminded that it was agreed at the August 2018 Council meeting to establish the Mrs Joan Christie CVO, OBE Legacy Bursary Scheme to be delivered on an annual basis.

At the Council meeting in February 2019 the detail of the scheme was approved to include the following categories to be awarded:

- Two bursaries of £1,000 to be awarded to talented young musicians from the Borough to further their career
- Two bursaries of £1,000 to be awarded to young volunteers who play an active role in a group in the Borough
- Two bursaries of £1,000 to be awarded to the groups in which these two young people volunteer
- Two bursaries of £1,000 to be awarded to special schools for horticulture projects

The first Mrs Joan Christie CVO, OBE Legacy Bursary Event was held in Theatre at The Mill on 30 January 2020, when recipients were presented with their awards at a Civic Event. Members are advised that this Bursary Scheme was suspended during the pandemic given the challenges facing the arts, culture and education sectors.

As part of ongoing recovery of services It is proposed to open the Mrs. Joan Christie CVO, OBE Bursary Scheme in the new financial year with assessments to take place in June and awards to be presented in the autumn.

It is also proposed to combine presentation of the Bursary Awards into the Spirit of Volunteering Awards and to reschedule the Volunteering Awards to Autumn 2022. A further report will be brought to a future Committee Meeting detailing the arrangements for the combined Bursary and Spirit of Volunteering Civic Event in autumn 2022.

RECOMMENDATION: that

- a) the delivery of the Mrs Joan Christie CVO, OBE Legacy Bursary Scheme in 2022/23 be approved**
- b) the presentation of the Bursary Awards be combined with the Spirit of Volunteering Awards event, which will be rescheduled to autumn 2022.**

Prepared by: Jonathan Henderson, Community Services Co-ordinator

Agreed by: Ronan McKenna, Community Planning Manager

Approved by: Ursula Fay, Interim Deputy Director of Community Planning

4.2 CP/GR/140 CP/GR/144 GOOD RELATIONS GRANT AID 2021-22

Members are reminded that the 2021/22 Good Relations Action Plan submitted to The Executive Office, includes a budget of £20,000 for the Good Relations Grant Aid Programme. The remaining budget available for the 2021/22 year is £15,000.

The aim of Good Relations Grant Aid Programme is to improve day to day relationships by encouraging everyone to treat others fairly and encouraging a society in which our own cultures and traditions as well as other people's cultures and traditions are understood, respected and accepted.

Members are advised that applications are required to score higher than 50% to be deemed successful. Two applications have been received scoring above the 50% threshold requesting a total amount of £5,000.

A summary of the application received and the proposed award recommendations, overview of the assessment and funding details are **enclosed** for Members' consideration.

RECOMMENDATION that the two Good Relations Grant Aid awards as outlined be approved at a total cost of £5,000.

Prepared by: Jen Cole, Good Relations Officer

Agreed by: Ronan McKenna, Community Planning Manager

Approved by: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

4.3 CP/CD/394 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANT AID PROGRAMME SMALL GRANTS FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS 2021/2022

Members are reminded of the Small Grants Programme which was agreed by the Council in October 2014 as part of the new Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council Community Development Grant Aid Programme.

The purpose of the Small Grants programme is to provide financial assistance to groups within the Borough of up to a maximum of £1,000 (revised and approved by Council in October 2021) towards seeding costs and/or insurance or a small activity and/or insurance. 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 2021/22 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 the receipt of a Group Constitution, List of Committee Members, Bank Statement, Annual Accounts and a signed disclosure from the group confirming that all other appropriate supporting documentation is in place and can be provided on request or the offer of funding will be withdrawn.

During the month of November one application totalling £1,000 has been received and assessed by Officers as outlined below.

Group Name/Project Promoter	Project Description/Title	Pass/Fail	Amount Requested	Amount Awarded
Mae Murray Foundation	Small Activity and/or Insurance Grant Insurance and First Aid Training	Pass	£1,000	£1,000
Total			£1,000	£1,000

The total budget available for the Small Grants Programme for the 2021/22 financial year is £10,000 however this has been exhausted.

The total amount of financial assistance requested by the application outlined above is £1,000 and if the applications is approved by Council then this will be funded by cost savings identified within the Community Planning Budget.

In the event that further applications are submitted before the end of this financial year these will be brought to Committee for consideration in January 2022.

RECOMMENDATION that the Small Grant application outlined above be approved at a total cost of £1,000 and be funded from cost savings identified within the Community Planning Budget.

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/PCSP/038 PCSP DISABILITY ACTION PLAN 2022

Members are advised of the requirement for Antrim and Newtownabbey PCSP to produce a Disability Action Plan under statutory duties arising from Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 and Section 49A and 49B of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.

The previous Disability Action Plan was developed in 2019; the Equality Commission have requested that an updated Disability Action Plan be submitted.

A draft Disability Action Plan is **enclosed** and the consultation is live via the Council Website. The 12-week consultation will close on 11 February 2022, before a final plan is submitted to the Equality Commission.

Equality Screening and Rural Proofing have been undertaken and further assessments are not required. The screening forms are **enclosed** for Members' information.

RECOMMENDATION:

- a) that Members respond to the consultation on an individual or party political basis; and,**
- b) the outcome of the screening exercises be approved.**

Prepared by: Amy Lynch, Community Planning

Agreed by: Ronan McKenna, Head of Community Planning

Approved by: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

4.5 CP/CP/182 PLATINUM JUBILEE WORKING GROUP

Members are reminded that the first meeting of Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Working Group was held in Mossley Mill on Tuesday 21 September 2021, with the minutes of this meeting approved at the October 2021 Committee Meeting.

A further meeting of the Working Group was held on Tuesday 16 November 2021 and the minutes are **enclosed** for Members' information.

RECOMMENDATION: that the minutes of Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Working Group meeting of 16 November 2021 be approved.

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

4.6 CP/GR/143 HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL 27 JANUARY 2022

Members are reminded that Holocaust Memorial Day is remembered annually on 27 January globally. The theme for 2022 is 'One Day'. Holocaust Memorial Day is 'One Day' that we put aside to come together to remember, to learn about the Holocaust and the genocides that followed in other parts of the world.

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 2022 will include a series of events held from Monday 24 January 2022 and conclude on Holocaust Memorial Day Thursday 27 January 2022 with a remembrance service at Monkstown Jubilee Centre. Activity will include;

- Engagement with local schools to create art and literature to be exhibited throughout the programme
- Educational showcases/activity
- Remembrance Service

Provision for Holocaust Memorial Day has been made within the Good Relations Action Plan and budget 2021/22.

RECOMMENDATION: that the 2022 Holocaust Memorial Programme be approved.

Prepared by: Jen Cole, Good Relations Officer

Agreed by: Ronan McKenna, Community Planning Manager

Approved by: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

4.7 CP/CP/189 WHITEABBEY COMMUNITY GROUP PROJECT WITH TRANSLINK

Members are advised that Translink are currently developing a major engineering project in Whiteabbey called the Shore Road (Dark Arches) to Whiteabbey Track Renewal Project.

This £19m project involves the full renewal of approximately 840m of track along the 'Dark Arches' to Whiteabbey including track drainage, new cable routes and retaining wall structures. Works have been ongoing since June 2021 with a line closure required between 25th December 2021 - 4th January 2022 to facilitate day and night time working.

Associated with this project, Translink has carried out significant community engagement in the Whiteabbey area with residents, community groups and local schools, as part of this consultation, the project team have met with the Whiteabbey Community Group and have been asked to support a community initiative for two new park benches and a notice board displaying information on the nearby bleach green viaducts, which form part of the local railway network. A sketch of the proposal is **enclosed** for Members' consideration.

The intention is for this to be outside the existing Whiteabbey Community Centre on the Glenville Road and for the board to detail historical information and images of the Bleach Green viaducts. Draft board display **enclosed** for Members' consideration.

Translink has agreed to fund this initiative subject to Council approval. Members are advised that the installation, maintenance and all associated costs of the initiative will be the responsibility of Translink. It is requested that Council grant permission for the initiative to be installed on Glenville Road Whiteabbey.

RECOMMENDATION: that permission is granted for two benches and information board to be installed on Glenville Road as part of the Whiteabbey Community Group Project with Translink

Prepared by: Amy Dunlop, Community Planning

Agreed by: Ronan McKenna, Head of Community Planning (Interim)

Approved by: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

4.8 AC/GEN/071 DfC CULTURE, ARTS AND HERITAGE TASKFORCE

Members are advised that the Minister for Communities, Deirdre Hargey, announced the establishment of a Culture, Arts and Heritage Recovery Taskforce on 17 May 2021. An update on the DfC Culture, Arts and Heritage Taskforce which included the final report of the Taskforce along with its recommendations, was noted at the October Committee meeting and it was agreed that a further update to be brought back to a future meeting.

The purpose of the Taskforce was to consider measures to support re-opening and recovery in the immediate term and to identify long term actions that should be considered in the development of a new Culture, Arts and Heritage Strategy.

Correspondence has been received from the Minister for Communities, advising that she accepts the recommendations contained in the report, which was published on 23 November 2021. Work on a number of recommendations is already underway and the Ministers full response to the report is enclosed for Members' information. Members are advised that the Minister intends sharing the report with Executive colleagues to seek their support for the next stage of implementation.

Specifically, in relation to the Taskforce recommendations relating to Councils the Minister has responded as follows:

- It should be noted that there are a number of strategic partnerships and programmes with a focus on place-making already in place, including the High Streets Task Force. The place of culture, arts and heritage in the context of place-making will continue to be an important factor in this work.
- The Department will meet with senior council officers to consider the Culture, Arts and Heritage Recovery Taskforce's findings, review existing Culture, Arts and Heritage partnerships and consider the need for creation of new collaborative partnerships in the context of the current work to review high streets and a wider place making agenda.
- Officials will meet with the network of council culture, arts and heritage officials to establish an ongoing forum to build on the ad hoc meetings that had begun in the course of the pandemic.

RECOMMENDATION: that the Ministerial Response to the DfC Culture, Arts and Heritage Taskforce report be noted with a further update to be brought back to a future meeting.

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

4.9 CP/CP/188 COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS PROJECT – OPEN UNIVERSITY

Members are advised that a request has been received from the Open University seeking the Council to participate in the Open University Community Partnerships Project. The Community Partnerships Project (CPP) is a widening access initiative to encourage people into higher education by offering Open University study in a local community setting. The project is part funded by the Department for Economy with an aim to bring learning to local communities.

A Community Partner, usually a local community organisation will take the lead and provide a community setting for the learning to take place. Council will provide support to Community Partners through identifying cluster groups of learners, support to register and claim student finance support with Open University and to manage the learning programme alongside the OU Community Partnership Team.

The CPP offers a range of benefits both for local communities such as;

- Encourages community engagement.
- Encourages learning and personal development within your local community.
- It offers participants a pathway to higher education that they may not have had access to or realised existed before.
- The cost of the People, Work and Society module will be fully funded for Northern Ireland residents aged 18 or over who:
- Have a household income of less than £25,000 (or be in receipt of qualifying benefits)
- Have not completed one year or more on any full-time undergraduate programme at NQF Level 4 or above, or have completed 30 credits or more of OU study

Participants will learn about 'People, Work and Society' through the Open University's 30-week Access model to help build study and digital skills and develop confidence to progress in education (degree level) and employment. The programme is fully funded and provided free to all participants who enrol.

Key elements of the programme are as follows:

- Minimum group size of 10 - 12 participants - Maximum 17 participants
- 30 week course - 30 credit module
- Face to Face Support Tutorials each month
- Peer support
- Online resources
- Based in areas of social need
- Additional individual grant funding support available (up to maximum £250)
- No formal qualifications needed to enrol

- Open to All

Interested individuals / organisations must commit to the programme for 30 weeks and register themselves and individuals with the Open University.

It is proposed to participate in the Open University Community Partnerships Project, to engage with local community partners in areas of social need and promote this opportunity to enrol in the Open University Project.

An information session will take place in December and it is hoped to have all participants enrolled by 13 January 2022. The Open University programme will commence in February 2022.

The unique nature of this programme will be the level of face to face tutorial and peer support provided to learners as an integral element of the Open University programme. The programme is specifically aimed at supporting learners from areas of educational underachievement.

Community New Students guidance and Community Partners Guidance Documents are **enclosed**.

RECOMMENDATION: that participation in the Open University Community Partnerships Project be approved with a further update to be brought to Committee in February 2022.

Prepared by: Stefanie Buchanan, Tackling Deprivation Officer

Agreed by: Ronan McKenna, Head of Community Planning (Interim)

Approved by: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

4.10 AC/HE/034 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT FUND – COUNCIL'S HERITAGE DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT

Members are advised that correspondence was received from the Historic Environment Division of Department for Communities about a short grant scheme being opened for Councils. The scheme is providing up to £10,000 to each Council to carry out heritage development work. The underlying aim of the scheme is to support and encourage work to increase the understanding, protection, conservation and celebration of built heritage and the wider historic environment.

Successful applications will be required to deliver against the following Historic Environment Fund criteria:

- Conservation and enhancement of the historic environment
- Contribution to tourism and supporting communities
- Supporting the construction and associated industries
- Creating broader and deeper understanding of heritage
- Enhancing public engagement with the historic environment.

In addition it is a requirement of the fund that all projects must be completed by 31 March 2021.

The deadline for submission of applications was 29 November 2021.

Members are advised that having considered the funding criteria and project completion deadline an application has been submitted to the fund for £10,000 to purchase and install five 'corten' decorative panels along the Boardwalk wall in Antrim at the Castle Gardens end. These panels will be bespoke and carry historical information about the local area, image **enclosed** for information. Members should note that the panels will compliment future improvement works planned for the Boardwalk.

Given the timescales involved, it is proposed that if the application is successful officers can accept the funding and commence delivery of the project ahead of a report back to Committee seeking retrospective approval.

RECOMMENDATION: that

(a) the submission of an application for £10,000 to the Historic Environment Fund be noted;

(b) should the application be successful acceptance of the offer and commencement of project delivery be approved, subject to a further report to Committee seeking retrospective approval.

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

4.11 AC/GEN/066 CENTENARY OF NORTHERN IRELAND

A meeting of the NI Centenary Working Group was held on 23 November 2021 and the minutes of this meeting are enclosed for approval, having been circulated to the Working Group for their approval as they are not scheduled to meet again until January 2022.

RECOMMENDATION: that the minutes of the NI Centenary Working Group meeting of 23 November 2021 be approved.

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

4.12 CP/P4/047 PEACE PLUS ACTION PLAN UPDATE

Members are reminded that at the April Council meeting the Council's draft response to the PEACE PLUS Public Consultation was approved and at the Council Meeting in August it was agreed that the existing Recovery Governance Structure be used to develop the Council's Peace Plus Action plan.

Members are advised that the Summary of Consultation Responses has now been received from the SEUPB and a copy is enclosed. The conclusion of the consultation and publication of the summary report is an important milestone for the Peace Plus Programme. The overall responses to the consultation demonstrate a very high level of support for all six themes and accompanying investment areas of the proposed Peace Plus Programme.

Further correspondence enclosed has been received from SEUPB regarding Local Authority PEACE PLUS Action Plans. Members are advised that the PEACE PLUS Programme has now been approved by the Irish Government, the Northern Ireland Executive, and the North South Ministerial Council. It will now be submitted to the European Commission for approval.

A Consortium of consultants have concluded a comprehensive consultation process in recent months, and have prepared a report to SEUPB outlining recommendations to support and guide the development of the Local Action Plans. This marks the end of stage one. Stages 2 and 3 will involve development of PEACE PLUS Partnerships and Co-Designed Community Action Plans with the Consortium available to support Councils.

Members are reminded that each local authority can utilise up to a maximum of €100K to resource the development of the plan, eligible costs include staff costs, research and consultancy support. It is proposed to commence use of this funding to resource the Co-Design of the Council's PEACE PLUS Action Plan.

RECOMMENDATION: that use of the funding relocated to resource the Co-Design of the Council's PEACE PLUS Action Plan be approved.

Prepared by: Ronan McKenna, Head of Community Planning

Approved by: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

4.13 CP/CP/190 DIR/OPS/010 OUTCOME DELIVERY GROUP MINUTES

Members are reminded that the Outcome Delivery Groups are now a central part of the Community Planning engagement framework. Draft minutes for six of the Outcome Delivery Groups are **enclosed** for Members' information

Community Planning Section – Outcome Delivery Group Meetings		
File Ref	Date of Meeting	Name of Partnership
CP/CP/190	21 st August 2020	Our People Outcome Delivery Group
DIR/OPS/010	21 st August 2020	Our Place Outcome Delivery Group
DIR/OPS/010	14 th January 2021	Our Place Outcome Delivery Group
CP/CP/190	15 th January 2021	Our People Outcome Delivery Group
CP/CP/190	11 th May 2021	Our People Outcome Delivery Group
DIR/OPS/010	12 th May 2021	Our Place Outcome Delivery Group

RECOMMENDATION: that the minutes of the Outcome Delivery Groups be approved.

Prepared by: Ronan McKenna, Community Planning Manager

Approved by: Ursula Fay, Interim Deputy Director of Community Planning

4.14 CP/GR/145 REFUGEE INTEGRATION STRATEGY CONSULTATION

Members are advised that correspondence has been received from The Executive Office inviting participation in a 12-week consultation on a draft Refugee Integration Strategy, outlined below.

The Executive Office (TEO) have announced a 12-week consultation on a draft Refugee Integration Strategy. This is an opportunity for everyone to further inform the Strategy that has been developed through both research and engagement with key stakeholders across Government, Academia and the voluntary and community sector.

TEO are now seeking views from across society on this draft Refugee Integration Strategy to ensure the final strategy is focused on the priority issues and needs and sets out the most important actions required to support refugees and asylum seekers here.

The consultation opened on 30 November 2021 and will close on 21 February 2022.

How to Engage

- The **Citizen Space** platform on the NI Direct website is Government's preferred mechanism for consultation. Copies of the draft Strategy, including easy read and child friendly versions, along with a consultation document are **enclosed** for Members' attention.
- **Alternatively**, a number of virtual consultation workshops that will be delivered through the Webex platform. Tickets to these consultation workshops can be booked through Eventbrite with the Webex. Dates of these workshops and links to the associated Eventbrite ticketing are as follows;

Tuesday 7 December 2021 @ 10.00 am

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/refugee-integration-strategy-consultation-online-workshop-tickets-218696285477>

Tuesday 11 January 2022 @10.00am

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/copy-of-refugee-integration-strategy-consultation-online-workshop-tickets-218707268327>

Tuesday 8 February 2022 @ 10.00 am

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/refugee-integration-strategy-consultation-online-workshop-tickets-218707789887>

Members may wish to respond on a corporate, individual or party political basis.

The Council's instructions are requested

Prepared by: Jen Cole, Good Relations Officer

Agreed by: Ronan McKenna, Community Planning Manager

Approved by: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

5. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

5.1 CP/GEN/019 COMMUNITY PLANNING SECTION - PARTNERSHIP MINUTES

Members are advised that the quarterly update Partnership Minutes as listed below can be viewed in the electronic folder called "**Partnership Minutes for Members Information**" on your Ipads.

Community Development		
File Ref	Date of Meeting	Name of Partnership
D/Gen/91	14 Oct 2021	Antrim & Newtownabbey Citizens Advice Bureau
D/CSP/48	30 June 2021	Antrim & Newtownabbey Policing & Community Safety Partnership (PCSP)
D/DP/67	29 June 2021 14 Sept 2021	Rathcoole Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership
D/DP/67	6 Oct 2021	Grange Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership
	-	Joint Cohesion Group
CP/GR/43	-	Traveller Issues Local Government Partnership

RECOMMENDATION: that the Partnership Minutes be noted.

Prepared by: Wendy Donaldson, Business Support

Agreed by: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

Approved by: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

5.2 CP/GR/138 YOUTH ENGAGEMENT CELEBRATION EVENT

Members are reminded that Council hosted a Youth Celebration Event on 11 November 2021 at Theatre at the Mill to recognise and reward participants of the Council funded Youth Engagement Programmes. The Mayor Councillor Billy Webb MBE JP welcomed young people from across the Borough to Theatre at the Mill to take part in the Youth Engagement Celebration Event, with 85 guests attending the celebration from 8 youth and community groups. The evening was hosted by local comedian Shane Todd.

The event included key engagement with young people and youth group leaders, to seek their views on life in the Borough as a young person. Council Officers showcased the range of opportunities available to young people within the Borough and highlighted pathways to training and employment.

Groups attending included; Newtownabbey Arts and Culture Network (NACN), Rathenraw Youth Scheme, Ionad Teaghlaigh Ghleann Darach, Monkstown Boxing Club, Mayfield Community Association, Croi Eanna, Stoneworks Gym and Impact Network NI.

Guests took part in an interactive quiz and the Mayor Councillor Billy Webb MBE JP presented the winners with an iPad, and an Abbey Centre gift card.

A short report on the event is **enclosed** for Members' information.

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.

Prepared by: Jen Cole, Good Relations Officer

Agreed by: Ronan McKenna, Head of Community Planning

Approved by: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

5.3 CP/GEN/038 MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING PROGRAMME DELIVERY

Members are reminded of the motion that was agreed at Council in January 2020 which declared that ***'this Council recognises the problem of poor mental health which negatively affects many of our residents across all areas and walks of life within our Borough'***. It was agreed that Officers lead a campaign of events and public awareness to highlight support available to those experiencing poor mental health.

Various Council Departments have developed and delivered a wide range of internal and external Mental Health & Wellbeing focused campaigns and programmes **enclosed** to help create awareness, educate and support residents and staff.

Community Development Officers have also recently conducted a community survey targeted at Community and Voluntary Groups and including Elected Members across the Borough to identify current COVID-19 recovery needs in order to ensure that potential funding from DfC would be targeted at community needs.

There were 28 responses to the survey received and these indicated that the provision of mental health programmes was the top priority at present.

Taking into consideration the results of the Survey, the aims and objectives of Councils Corporate Recovery Plan and the Department for Communities Community Support Programme, Officers have developed a £147,416.48 COVID Recovery Community Support Programme agreed by Members at November Council that has mental health & wellbeing woven throughout all strands of the fund.

Council Officers continue to work alongside Community Planning partners including Northern Health & Social Care Trust, The Public Health Agency and Sport NI to amplify Mental Health & Wellbeing campaigns and ensuring access to education and services for staff and residents of the Borough.

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.

Prepared by: Amy Dunlop, Community Planning

Agreed by: Ronan Mckenna, Head of Community Planning

Approved by: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

5.4 CP/GR/119 YOUTH VOICE

Members are reminded that approval for the establishment of a Youth Voice Structure for Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough in partnership with the Education Authority was approved at August 2021 Council.

Youth Voice is a participation structure to allow young people in a Council area to voice their opinions and ideas, participate in consultations and ensure that key issues are brought to the attention of the Council. A legacy is provided to participants in relation to life skills, accreditation and training.

Work is underway in partnership with the Education Authority to recruit a Partnership Board and Youth Voice membership. Updated Partnership Board Terms of Reference are **enclosed** for Members' attention.

The Education Authority have developed a recruitment flyer for Youth Voice **enclosed** with representation being sought from young people across the Borough. Closing date for applications is 17 January 2022.

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.

Prepared by: Jen Cole, Good Relations Officer

Agreed by: Ronan McKenna, Head of Community Planning

Approved by: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning