



26 November 2025

Committee Chair: Alderman J Smyth

Committee Vice-Chair: Councillor L O'Hagan

Committee Members: Aldermen – L Boyle, P Bradley and L Clarke

Councillors – J Archibald-Brown, R Foster, J Gilmour, N Kelly,
AM Logue, A McAuley, E McLaughlin, V McWilliam,
M Stewart and S Ward

Dear Member

MEETING OF THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Operations Committee will be held in the **Round Tower Chamber, Antrim Civic Centre on Monday 1 December 2025 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

1 APOLOGIES

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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- 3.1 Parks and Opens Spaces Sub Group Minutes
- 3.2 Proposed Changes to Parks, Leisure and Bereavement Services Charges and Review of Pricing Policy and Terms and Conditions
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5 ANY OTHER RELEVANT BUSINESS

6 ITEMS IN CONFIDENCE

- 6.1 arc21 Joint Committee Papers
- 6.2 Application for a New Licence to Operate a House of Multiple Occupation for 42 Durnish Road, Antrim, BT41 2TH

- 6.3 Application for a New Licence to Operate a House of Multiple Occupation for 60A Bush Manor, Antrim, BT41 2UA
- 6.4 Project Update on Capital Works at Craigmore HRC

**REPORT ON BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING ON
MONDAY 1 DECEMBER 2025**

3 ITEMS FOR DECISION

3.1 PK/GEN/035/VOL5 PARKS AND OPENS SPACES SUB GROUP MINUTES

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the most recent Parks and Open Spaces Sub-Group meeting held on 18 November 2025.

2. Summary

At the Parks and Open Spaces Sub-Group meeting on 18 November 2025, Members considered a detailed report which provided a range of updates from the Parks section. The minutes of the meeting are **enclosed** for Members' consideration.

3. Recommendation

It is recommended that the minutes of the Parks and Open Spaces Sub-Group meeting held on 18 November 2025 be approved.

Prepared by: Paula Robinson, Executive Officer to Director of Estates and Recreation

Agreed by: Paul Mawhinney, Head of Parks Operations

Approved by: Matt McDowell, Director of Estates and Recreation

3.2 L/GEN/005/VOL2, PK/GEN/180 PROPOSED CHANGES TO PARKS, LEISURE AND BEREAVEMENT SERVICES CHARGES AND REVIEW OF PRICING POLICY AND TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the Parks, Leisure and Bereavement Services Schedule of Charges, Pricing Policies and Terms and Conditions for 2026/2027.

2. Background

Members are advised that an annual review of pricing for Parks, Leisure and Bereavement Services is completed in advance of each new financial year.

In addition to this a review of the Leisure Pricing Policy was undertaken.

3. Pricing Changes

An inflationary rise of 3.5% has been applied across all prices.

In addition to the **enclosed** Schedule of Charges, Summary of Proposed Changes, Pricing Policies and Terms and Conditions, Members' attention is drawn to two key proposed amendments:

1. Introduction of a £10 per person Spa bolt-on at Antrim Forum, which reflects the facility's status as a premium, luxury service beyond the standard health suite provision available at Valley and Sixmile Leisure Centres. The Spa is currently heavily oversubscribed, resulting in a detrimental impact on overall member experience. The proposed bolt-on aims to manage demand and protect service quality.
2. Provide priority booking for sports clubs based within the Borough during the annual allocation process. This approach ensures that Council-owned facilities primarily benefit local clubs and communities.

The EQIA screening document has been reviewed and does not require amendment.

4. Recommendation

It is recommended that approval be granted for the changes to the Schedule of Charges, Pricing Policies and Terms and Conditions for 2026/2027 for Parks and Leisure 2026/2027.

Prepared by: Glenda James, Parks and Leisure Administration Manager

Agreed by: Deaglan O'Hagan, Head of Leisure Operations, Paul Mawhinney,
Head of Parks Operations

Approved by: Matt McDowell, Director of Estates and Recreation

3.3 L/GEN/056, PK/GEN/205, WM/RC/008 FACILITY CLOSURES AND OPENING HOURS – OPERATIONS 2026/27

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the proposed operating hours and closure schedule for Operations for the 2026/27 period.

2. Introduction/Background

Members are reminded that annually, in the last quarter of the year, proposed schedules of closure arrangements on Bank and Public Holidays for Council facilities are brought to the relevant committees for approval. A draft schedule of bank and public holiday closures is **enclosed** for Members' reference.

3. Recommendation

It is recommended that approval be granted for the proposed operating hours and closure schedule for Operations for the 2026/27 period.

Prepared by: Paula Robinson, Executive Officer to Director of Estates and Recreation

Agreed by: Deaglan O'Hagan, Head of Leisure, Paul Mawhinney, Head of Parks and Darren Purdy, Head of Waste Operations

Approved by: Matt McDowell, Director of Estates and Recreation and Michael Laverty, Director of Environment Services and Sustainability

3.4 L/LEI/002/VOL3 LEISURE GRANT AID PROGRAMME

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the recommendations set within the 3rd call of the Leisure Grant Aid Programme.

2. Introduction

Members are advised that for the period 1st August 2025 - 31st October 2025, 31 applications were received, 3 applications were deemed ineligible and 28 met the criteria for funding. Details of the grant programme criteria are enclosed.

A table setting out details and recommendations is enclosed for Member's reference. Upon approval of the listed grants, the remaining balances in each funding category are outlined below:

Category	Budget	No. of apps to date 25/26	Approved spend to date 25/26	No. of apps. Call: 3	Grants proposed (£)	Funding Balance remaining (subject to approval of application)
Capital Grants	£40,000	5	£39,750	0	0	£250
Grants to Clubs	£40,000	7	£36,585	3	£3,315	£100
Grants to Athletes Bursaries	£50,000	45	£37,876	16	£12,097	£27
Grants to Coaches and Officials Bursaries	£5,000	4	£720	4	£750	£3,530
Sports Event Grant	£30,000	10	£19,706	3	£2,126	£8,168
Defibrillator Grant	£5,000	2	£1,500	2	£2,982	£518
Allocation total	£170,000	73	£136,137	28	£21,270	£12,593
Fitness suite Gold Card	20 Applications	11	8 applications	3	3 eligible	9 applications

3. Financial Position/Implication

The overall budget for the 2025/26 programme is £170,000. £136,137 was previously approved for Call 1 and Call 2. Call 3 totals £21,270. Should approval be given for the grants listed; the total spend to date would total £157,407 with a remaining balance of £12,593. A further call for applications opened on 1 November and will close on 31 December 2025.

4. Recommendation

It is recommended that approval be granted for the Leisure Grant Aid Programme, covering the period from August 2025 - October 2025.

Prepared by: Anna Boyle, Funding Unit Manager

Agreed by: John Balmer, Deputy Director of Finance and Deaglan O'Hagan,
Head of Leisure Operations

Approved by: Sandra Cole, Director of Finance and Governance and Matt
McDowell, Director of Estates and Recreation

3.5 PK/BIO/001 INTERNATIONAL SWIFT CONFERENCE 2026 – IRELAND

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek approval for Council's nominated Swift Champion and a Council Officer to attend the 8th International Swift Conference, scheduled to take place in Castlebar, Co. Mayo, from 27 to 29 May 2026.

2. Background

The International Swift Conference will bring together a diverse community of global enthusiasts, including conservationists, researchers, ornithologists, and citizen scientists, all united by a shared commitment to Swift conservation. This year's event will provide a comprehensive platform for learning, collaboration, and the exchange of best practice. Attendees will engage with a broad range of topics central to Swift research and protection, including species conservation, biology, rehabilitation, migration patterns, citizen science initiatives, and updates from leading organisations and associations active in the field.

These sessions are designed to foster meaningful knowledge sharing and strengthen connections among individuals and groups working across different aspects of Swift conservation. Participants will have valuable opportunities to develop new partnerships, enhance their understanding of emerging research, and contribute to the advancement of conservation efforts worldwide.

3. Costs

Conference registration is €145 per delegate. This cost includes all tea and coffee breaks, lunch on each day of the event, and the closing buffet. Accommodation will be provided in single, bed-and-breakfast rooms at a rate of €130 per person per night. The total cost to the Council is €810.

4. Recommendation

It is recommended that approval be granted for Council's nominated Swift Champion and a Council Officer to attend the 8th International Swift Conference scheduled to take place in Castlebar, Co. Mayo, from 27 to 29 May 2026.

Prepared and Agreed by: Paul Mawhinney, Head of Parks Operations

Approved by: Matt McDowell, Director of Estates and Recreation

3.6 EH/EHS/LR/001 GRANT OF ENTERTAINMENT LICENCE – FIRST ANTRIM PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek Members approval for an Indoor Occasional Entertainment Licence for First Antrim Presbyterian Church, 82 Church Street, Antrim, BT41 4BA.

2. Introduction

An application has been received for the grant of an Indoor Occasional Entertainment Licence for the following location.

Licensee	Location of Premises	Type(s)and hours of entertainment	File Number	New Application or Renewal
Mr Robin Kirkpatrick	First Antrim Presbyterian Church, 82 Church Street, Antrim, BT41 4BA	<p>Singing, Music, Dancing or Entertainment of a like kind</p> <p>Indoor Occasional Entertainment Licence</p> <p>14 unspecified days within 12-month period</p> <p>Monday – Thursday 12:00hrs – Midnight</p> <p>Friday-Saturday 11:00hrs – Midnight</p> <p>Sunday 12:00hrs-Midnight</p> <p>Number of persons – no greater than 200</p>	EL051	New Application

In line with the Council Protocol for the hearing of Entertainment Licence applications, approved in December 2016, the application must be considered by the Operations Committee.

Council can decide the following:

- I. Grant the licence;
- II. Grant the licence with specific additional terms, conditions and restrictions;
- III. Refuse the licence;
- IV. Defer an application for further consideration or to obtain further information.

If Council makes a decision against an Officer's recommendation, then Members must state their reasons for doing so. In such circumstances, a recorded vote will be taken.

3. Main Report

An application has been received for the grant of an Indoor Occasional Entertainment Licence for the premises named above. In accordance with the Entertainment Licence Policy, Members approval is required before the licence can be issued.

Members are advised that the applicant previously held an Entertainment Licence for this venue but did not renew it due to renovation works at the premises. Consequently, the licence expired on 30 June 2022, and no entertainment has taken place there since.

4. Summary

An application for an Indoor Occasional Entertainment Licence has been received from Mr Robin Kirkpatrick for First Antrim Presbyterian Church, 82 Church Street, Antrim, BT41 4BA.

In accordance with Council protocol for the hearing of Entertainment Licence applications, a decision by Members is required on whether to grant the licence.

5. Recommendation

It is recommended that an Indoor Occasional Entertainment Licence be granted to Mr Robin Kirkpatrick, First Antrim Presbyterian Church, 82 Church Street, Antrim, BT41 4BA with the following conditions:

- a) That all relevant licensing requirements are met
- b) That statutory and public consultees have no objections to the approval

Prepared by: Katie Kinnear, Environmental Health Officer

Agreed by: Colin Kelly, Head of Environmental Health and Wellbeing

Approved by: Michael Laverty, Director of Environmental Services and Sustainability

3.7 EH/EHS/FC/022 SBS FOOD AND DRINK LTD APPROVAL OF PREMISES AS A COLD STORE

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek Member approval for the designation of SBS Food and Drink Ltd, Unit 2, Building 13 Central Park Industrial Estate, Mallusk Road, Newtownabbey, BT36 4FS as an approved cold store under Regulation (EC) 853/2004.

2. Introduction

Members are reminded that, since 1 June 2006, it has been a legislative requirement to approve product specific food establishments under regulation EC 853/2004.

All cold store premises which handle products of animal origin (including, meat, dairy and poultry products) require approval unless they operate in a way that is exempt under Regulation 853/2004.

3. Key Issues

An application for approval has been received from SBS Food and Drink Ltd, Unit 2, Building 13 Central Park Industrial Estate, Mallusk Road, Newtownabbey, BT36 4FS.

The Council's Environmental Health Section, as the relevant enforcing authority, has inspected the following premises in accordance with Regulation (EC) 853/2004 and other relevant regulations.

Premises	Address	Identification Number
SBS Food and Drink Ltd	Unit 2, Building 13 Central Park Industrial Estate Mallusk Road Newtownabbey BT36 4FS	UK(NI) ZJ 028

The premises have been inspected and fully comply with current legislative requirements. Full approval of these premises is therefore deemed appropriate.

4. Summary

SBS Food and Drink Ltd has submitted an application for approval as a cold store handling product of animal origin. Following an inspection by the Council's Environmental Health Section, the premises were found to be compliant with all relevant food safety legislation.

5. Recommendation

SBS Food and Drink Ltd, Unit 2, Building 13 Central Park Industrial Estate, Mallusk Road, Newtownabbey, BT36 4FS is designated as a cold store under current legislation.

Prepared by: Lara Nelson, Environmental Health Manager (Food)

Agreed by: Colin Kelly, Head of Environmental Health and Well Being

Approved by: Micheal Lavery, Director of Environment Services and Sustainability

3.8 WM/WM/033 REQUEST FOR ECO SCHOOLS SUPPORT 2026/2027

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek approval for funding to continue the Eco-Schools Programme for the 2026/2027 academic year.

2. Introduction/Background

Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful co-ordinates the Eco-Schools Programme which aims to combine pupils' learning with action on improving the environmental performance of the school. The Eco-Schools Programme is extremely popular across the Borough with 74 schools now registered and 40 of these schools achieving the highest level, Green Flag accreditation. Ballyclare, Ballycraigy and Fairview Primary Schools are also recognised as Ambassador Schools for the Borough.

3. Previous Decision of Council

Last year, £10,942 in financial support was agreed for the 2025/26 academic year. The funding provides a vital environmental education role for Council and includes a dedicated Field Officer who supports schools through the Eco-Schools Programme and delivers workshops on waste and recycling, biodiversity and climate change.

A summary of the Eco-Schools engagement for the 2024-25 academic year is included for Members information (**enclosed**). As of June 2025, 54% of schools in Antrim and Newtownabbey have achieved Green Flag status, ahead of the current NI average of 50%.

Council has received this year's funding request (**enclosed**) from KNIB for the Eco-Schools Programme 2026/27 with two options available.

4. Financial Implication

The funding request for 2026/27 includes two funding options:

Option 1: Support of the Programme at a cost of £11,400, which includes Wheelie Big Challenge, Eco Schools and core running costs of the programme including a Field Officer in our Council area and top tier promotion of council campaigns and activities every month through Eco-Schools communication channels. An increase of £458 (4.2%) on last year's amount.

Option 2: Support from the Eco-Schools Programme at a cost of £3,100, which includes Eco-Schools communication, training and development to all schools in the Borough.

Officers recommend Option 1 as evidence shows this level of support has directly contributed to improved outcomes in the Borough. Increased Field

Officer involvement and tailored Eco-Schools engagement have helped raise Green Flag achievement from 49% to 54% and supported the development of three Ambassador Schools. Option 1 will allow targeted, high-impact support to continue through the Wheelie Big Challenge and other bespoke interventions, representing strong value for money at approximately 54 pence per pupil.

In addition, local schools will benefit from match funding from the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs for assistance with environmental issues.

Budget provision has been made for these costs in the 2026-27 estimates.

5. Recommendation

That funding in the amount of £11,400 for the Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful Eco-Schools Programme 2026/27 be approved.

Prepared by: Nicola Keown, Climate, Waste and Sustainability Officer

Agreed by: Lynsey Daly, Head of Waste Strategy and Sustainability

Approved by: Michael Laverty, Director of Environmental Services and Sustainability

3.9 PT/CI/066 BUSINESS PLAN 2025/26, PERFORMANCE REPORTING TEMPLATE QUARTER 2

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek Members approval for the Business Plan 2025/26, Performance Reporting Template for Sustainability and Estates & Recreation Directorates.

2. Background

Members are reminded that Part 12 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 puts in place a framework to support the continuous improvement of Council services.

Specifically, the duties in the Act relate to Section 84(1), 85(2) and 85(9) whereby the Council has a statutory duty to make arrangements to:

- Secure continuous improvement
- Secure achievement of its improvement objectives
- Exercise its functions so that any Departmental specified standards are met.

3. Previous Decision of Council

In June 2025 the Council approved a strategic performance framework as part of the Corporate Performance and Improvement Plan 2025/26.

4. Business Planning

Business planning plays a vital role in the Council's performance management and delivery processes. It offers a more efficient and cohesive approach to monitoring and evaluating performance while improving overall visibility.

The purpose of the Directorate Business Plans are to:

- Demonstrate how each of the Directorates are supporting and achieving Council's priorities.
- Provide a clear sense of purpose of the Directorate and the challenges it faces.
- Illustrate how it is aligning its resources to meet the challenges ahead.
- Measure performance and hold ourselves to account to ensure we deliver for the Council and its residents.

Business Plans Quarter 2 Performance Reporting Templates for; Sustainability and Estates & Recreation Directorates 2025/26 (**enclosed**) are included at Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 for Members Information.

5. Financial Position / Implications

As agreed as part of the Council's rate setting process.

6. Recommendation

It is recommended that the Business Plan 20225/26 Quarter 2 Performance Reporting Template for Sustainability and Estates & Recreation Directorates be approved.

Prepared and Agreed by: Allen Templeton, Performance Improvement Officer

Approved by: Michael Lavery, Director of Environmental Services and Sustainability and Matt McDowell, Director of Estates and Recreation

3.10 L/LEI/SD/021 BAWNMORE MUGA PITCH

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide information on the current condition of the Multi-Use Games Area at Bawnmore currently owned and managed by the Education Authority and to seek Member's instructions on next steps.

2. Background

The Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) at Bawnmore is located on land owned by the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE). This land was leased on a long-term basis to the former Newtownabbey Borough Council, now part of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council. In 2006, the section of land on which the MUGA is situated was transferred by the NIHE to the North Eastern Education and Library Board (NEELB), now the Education Authority (EA) with Council's lease varied accordingly.

Council Officers have previously engaged with community representatives, including local Elected Members and members of the Bawnmore & District Residents Association, who expressed a strong interest in bringing the MUGA back into use for the benefit of the local community.

3. Previous Council Decision

In December 2024, Council approved that Officers review the current lease arrangements and commission a condition report for the facility. An external specialist was subsequently appointed to undertake this assessment, and the completed report is **enclosed** for Members' consideration. It is understood that the Education Authority has no current plans to refurbish the MUGA.

4. Key Issues and findings on Site

A condition report commissioned by Council confirms that the Bawnmore Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) has reached the end of its design life and is in a significantly deteriorated condition. Key defects identified include:

- Deteriorated tarmac surface, which can result in slips, abrasions and impact injuries.
- Damaged brick perimeter walls and loose copings, posing a risk of collapse or falling debris.
- Spalling brickwork and displaced flagstones, increasing trip and impact risks.
- Perimeter metal fencing and access gates beyond economical repair, with exposed sharp edges and structural weakness.
- Overgrown vegetation and inadequate drainage, leading to surface water accumulation and ice formation.

While short-term remedial works may temporarily improve safety, the report concludes that partial repair would not meet current standards, would deliver

limited life extension, and would not represent value for money when compared to full replacement.

The condition report provides two realistic options (excluding the “do nothing” approach, which is not viable due to serious safety risks):

Option 1: Remedial Repairs

- Estimated construction cost: £191,951.10
- Adding 10% professional fees: £19,195.11
- **Total Estimated Cost: £211,146.21**

This option would reduce some immediate health and safety risks but would not address fundamental issues with fencing, walls and surface performance. The facility would remain below modern standards and would still require replacement in the short to medium term.

Option 2: Full Demolition and Replacement with New Synthetic Facility

- Estimated construction cost: £359,380.18
- Adding 10% professional fees: £35,938.02
- **Total Estimated Cost: £395,318.20**

This option would provide a modern synthetic surface, compliant perimeter fencing and associated infrastructure, offering the safest and most sustainable solution, lower maintenance requirements and the potential for community and club use. It represents the most cost-effective long-term option

5. Conclusion

The report concludes that limited remedial works would be a short-term measure only and **poor value relative to full replacement**. A new facility offers the most sustainable and safest outcome but carries the highest cost. However, as the MUGA is currently neither owned nor managed by the Council, any capital investment at this stage would not be possible due to financial, legal and operational considerations. Members are therefore asked to provide direction on the preferred next steps.

6. Recommendation

It is recommended that Members provide direction on next steps.

Prepared and Agreed by: Paul Mawhinney, Head of Parks Operations

Approved by: Matt McDowell, Director of Estates and Recreation

3.11 PK/GEN/214 ROUNDABOUT SPONSORSHIP UPDATE

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to inform Members about the current roundabout sponsorship scheme and to outline potential improvements, including opportunities to generate additional revenue.

2. Background

Members are reminded that Council has operated a roundabout sponsorship scheme for several years across multiple sites across the Borough. This scheme provides local businesses with a unique, high-visibility opportunity to promote their services within the community.

The sponsorship scheme offers businesses several advantages, including:

- Increased visibility and presence within the local community
- Positive association with a scheme that enhances the local environment for residents and visitors
- Alignment with corporate social responsibility objectives
- Year-round exposure, operating 24 hours a day
- High traffic volumes providing extensive public visibility
- Additional PR opportunities through local media
- Cost-effective promotion compared with other advertising channels
- A rare opportunity to display an organisation's name on the public highway

To date all 39 sites have been successfully renewed, with contracts now secured through to March 2026.

3. Cost of Sponsorship

Under the current sponsorship process, there is no established cost matrix or structured pricing framework associated with each individual roundabout. As a result, the value assigned to sponsorship opportunities varies considerably from site to site, creating inconsistencies in how charges are determined and applied. This lack of a standardised approach has made it difficult to ensure fairness, transparency, and predictability for both Council and potential sponsors.

Moving forward, officers propose to establish defined values for each roundabout. These values will be determined based on several factors, including the roundabout's location, its size, and the traffic volume on the surrounding road network. In addition, each roundabout will be allocated two sponsorship signs as standard. Should a sponsor require more than the allotted number, an additional charge will be applied.

Average Daily Vehicle Count	Proposed Charges (Per 2 Signs)
0 -10,000	£600

10,001 – 15,000	£700
15,001 – 20,000	£800
20,001 – 25,000	£900
25,001 – 29,999	£1000
30,000+	£1200

The figures provided represent approximate average daily traffic volumes. The Department for Infrastructure (DFI) has advised that traffic counters are typically not installed directly on roundabouts. Instead, the data reflects the most accurate available averages derived from each approach to the roundabouts.

Roundabout Sponsorship				
Roundabout	Daily Vehicle Count	No of signs	Current Annual cost	Proposed New Annual Costs
Kilbegs, Carnbeg	20,000	3	£1,200	£1,350
Stiles Way, The Junction	20,000	4	£750	£1,600
Springfarm	20,000	4	£1,250	£1,600
Blackchapel	12,000/14,000	4	£1,400	£1,400
Fountain Hill, Belfast Road	12,000/14,000	3	£1,000	£1,050
Belmont Heights	9,000/10,000	4	£1,000	£1,200
Hospital South 1 (Antrim side)	12,000/14,000	4	£750	£1,400
Hospital North 2 (Belfast side)	12,000/14,000	3	£1,250	£1,050
Greystone	10,000/12,000	4	£1,000	£1,200
Templepatrick (Hilton)	16,000	4	£1,000	£1,600
Kilmakee, Templepatrick	16,000	?	£1,000	£1,600
Nutts Corner	25,000	6	£1,800	£3,000
Dublin Road	12,000/14,000	3	£750	£1,050
Killead, Int Airport	23,000	4	£1,250	£1,800
Templepatrick, M2 (can't be used, hard surface)	16,000	4	£1,000	£1,600

			£16,400	£22,500
Sandyknowes (Mallusk Playing Fields and A8)	35,000/40,000	2	£1,200	£1,200
Sandyknowes (M2 Southbound and Ballyhenry)	35,000/40,000	2	£1,200	£1,200
Sandyknowes (M2 Northbound & Mallusk)	35,000/40,000	2	£1,200	£1,200
Sandyknowes (Antrim Rd)	35,000/40,000	1	£1,200	£1,200
Corrs Corner	16,000	4	£1,000	£1,600
O'Neill Road	20,000	4	£1,000	£1,800
Whiteabbey	35,000	4	£1,700	£2,400
Cloughfern	15,000	3	£850	£1,050
Lindsay's Corner	10,000/12,000	4	£600	£1,200
Abbey Centre	35,000	4	£750	£2,400
Manse Road / Prince Charles Way	15,000/17000	3	£800	£1,200
Manse Road / Beverley Shops	15,000/17000	4	£1,000	£1,600
Coleman's Corner	10,000/12,000	4	£750	£1,400
Northcott Tesco	15,000/17000	3	£800	£1,200
Ballyhenry	15,000/17000	3	£500	£1,200
Houston's Corner	18,000	4	£750	£1,600
Hazelbank	35,000	4	£1,700	£2,400
Longlands	10,000/12,000	4	£1,000	£1,400
Prince Charles Way	18,000	3	£1,000	£1,200
Ballynure	10,000/12,000	4	£750	£1,400
Ollar Valley	10,000/12,000	4	£1,200	£1,400
Jubilee Road	10,000/12,000	4	£1,000	£1,400
NEW: UJJ (Shore Road)	30,000	3	£1,200	£1,800
NEW: Shorelands	30,000	3	£1,200	£1,800
			£24,350	£36,250

4. Conclusion

With the implementation of the proposed pricing matrix, it is anticipated that an additional £18,000 could be generated, subject to all sponsorships being renewed. As all current contracts are in place until March 2026, officers will

begin preparations for the next round of the sponsorship scheme in February, ensuring it is ready for rollout in the new financial year.

5. Recommendation

It is recommended that the new pricing matrix for roundabout sponsorships across the Borough be approved.

Prepared and Agreed by: Paul Mawhinney, Head of Parks Operations

Approved by: Matt McDowell, Director of Estates and Recreation

4 ITEMS FOR NOTING

4.1 EH/PHWB/012 POSITIVE AGEING MONTH 2025

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to advise Members of the Positive Ageing Month events held throughout the Borough by Environmental Health and Wellbeing Section.

2. Introduction

Members are reminded that the Environmental Health section leads the Age Friendly agenda, celebrating Positive Ageing Month in October in recognition of the contributions of those over 50 years old make to our Borough.

3. Key Issues

Seven "Tea & Treats" events were held across each District Electoral Area, focusing on the Take 5 steps to wellbeing. Activities included boccia, quizzes, groups discussion on key issues such as transport in the Borough. Attendees shared insights on ageing in the Borough. A total of 469 residents participated, with 99% finding the events beneficial and 96% valuing social connections most.

Feedback from attendees was overwhelming positive, with comments including:

- *"I enjoyed the treats and plenty of information given, keep up the good work"*
- *"I enjoyed being told of the support for older people that the Council are providing. It was well presented"*

A Positive Ageing Month Booklet, listing over 100 community groups and events, was distributed both online and through 1,000 printed copies. The booklet is available online at;

<https://antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk/residents/community-initiatives/age-friendly/positive-ageing-month/>

In addition to "Tea and Treats," several other events were held, including the launch of the Over 50s Council, Be Safe Be Well Antrim, Templepatrick Health Fair, a food program in Ballyclare for individuals living alone, and the "Hop Aboard" day trip, on the train to Coleraine.

To highlight Positive Ageing Month, four social media videos were created. These videos included the Councils "Take a Seat" campaign encouraging business to offer a seat for older people to rest when out shopping and an intergenerational project between Inniscoole Day Centre and Rathcoole Primary School. The videos showcased efforts to reduce isolation and loneliness among older adults and have received over 8,500 views.

Videos of the intergenerational project can be viewed at;

antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk/residents/community-initiatives/age-friendly/intergenerational-work/

For those unable to attend Positive Ageing Month events, the Council website provides an Age Friendly section with the "News For You" magazine and an "Ask the Age Friendly Officer" feature, where older residents can submit questions to the Age Friendly Officer. A link is below;

<https://antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk/residents/community-initiatives/age-friendly/>

4. Financial Position

The total expenditure for "Tea and Treats" events amounted to £701.50.

5. Equality and/or Rural Screening Requirements

A Section 75 Screening form and Rural Needs impact assessment in relation to this initiative is included (enclosed) with a full Equality Impact Assessment not required.

6. Summary

Seven "Tea & Treats" events were held in October to celebrate the contributions of older people to the Borough. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with 96% of participants highlighting social connections as the most valued aspect of the events.

7. Recommendation

It is recommended that the report be noted.

Prepared by: James O'Kane, Health and Wellbeing Manager

Agreed by: Colin Kelly, Head of Environmental Health and Wellbeing

Approved by: Michael Laverty, Director of Environmental Services and Sustainability

4.2 WM/WM/049 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM PERFORMANCE UPDATE

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to advise Members that Council has successfully maintained the Environmental Management System (EMS), accredited to ISO14001 standard.

2. Background

In order to reduce the organisation's impact on the environment, Council maintains an EMS to ISO14001 standards. The EMS is audited annually by an independent external auditor.

The EMS must meet specific criteria including a commitment by Council to meeting the requirements of environmental legislation and regulations, preventing pollution and striving for continued improvement in environmental performance.

The auditor completed the annual audit in October and confirmed that the Council has successfully maintained the ISO 14001 standard. The audit noted that high levels of compliance and the availability of documented information, demonstrating that the management system is well implemented and understood. It was also evident that the organisation is adhering to its key policy commitments.

3. Recommendation

It is recommended that the report be noted.

Prepared by: Nicola Keown, Climate, Waste and Sustainability Officer

Agreed by: Lynsey Daly, Head of Waste Strategy and Sustainability

Approved by: Michael Laverty, Director of Environmental Services and Sustainability

4.3 WM/WM/037/VOL2 SUPPLY OF CADDY LINERS UPDATE

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to update Members on the supply of caddy liners to residents.

2. Background

Members are reminded that in December 2024, changes to the current caddy liner scheme were approved.

It was recommended that residents would receive one free roll of caddy liners, distributed twice a year to residents' homes with further liners available for collection by residents from Council and community facilities.

Members however were advised in May 2025 that due to a change in legislation, local authorities in England were required to introduce food waste collections. This had a significant increase in demand for caddy liners and led to a delay in the supply of caddy liners. Members agreed that as a result of the delay the first delivery of caddy liners would be postponed until October 2025 and in the meantime, caddy liners will continue to be distributed by the contractor when residents present their red tag.

Since approval was granted, the harmonisation of waste collection across the Borough has been implemented, including changes to bin collection dates. As a result of this disruption Officers felt it was prudent that rolling out the new caddy liner deliveries should be delayed.

With the harmonisation project now complete, it is proposed to allow residents time to adjust to the new collection arrangements before beginning the revised caddy liner delivery method. Therefore, it is proposed that the first delivery of liners be deferred until April 2026.

3. Recommendation

It is recommended that the report be noted.

Prepared and Agreed by: Lynsey Daly, Head of Waste Strategy and Sustainability

Approved by: Michael Laverty, Director of Environmental Services and Sustainability

4.4 WM/WM/037/VOL2 HARMONISATION OF WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES UPDATE

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to update Members on the progress of the Harmonisation of Waste Collection Services in the Borough.

2. Background

Members will be aware that Officers are actively working on the Harmonisation of Waste Collection Services across the Borough along with key stakeholders including, third party waste companies, the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) and dedicated consultants. Officers have continued to provide Members with a monthly update on how the project is progressing.

3. Key Information

Delivery of wheelie boxes and black bins, along with the uplift of blue bins and the legacy 240L black bins, was completed as scheduled by the week commencing 17 November. The distribution phase was undertaken over an 11-week period, with contractors remaining on site for an additional two weeks to complete outstanding mop-up activities.

Implementation of the communications plan is ongoing. Further social media activity, including the use of influencers, targeted messaging, and the production of informational videos, continues to be developed and delivered. Additional education and awareness sessions for schools, community groups, and housing associations have been completed, with further sessions scheduled.

Both the Bin Checker and the Chat Bot are now live on the Council website, providing residents with access to collection calendars, service information, and other relevant details.

In November, Council reported delays in the daily collection of containers across the Borough. These delays were not related to the roll-out programme but were the result of staffing shortages impacting overall collection operations. Unfortunately, these challenges continued for several weeks, necessitating the use of overtime and weekend working to ensure completion of scheduled collections.

External monitoring of the roll-out and collection service has been completed by WRAP, supported through funding from the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA). WRAP officers undertook assessment and monitoring activities, with Council officers actively participating throughout the process.

Council officers continue to engage proactively in contract management, including ongoing monitoring of the collection service. This work is focused on

ensuring high standards of service delivery and maintaining robust and effective contract compliance throughout the programme.

4. Recommendation

It is recommended that the report be noted.

Prepared and Agreed by: Lynsey Daly, Head of Waste Strategy and Sustainability

Approved by: Michael Lavery, Director of Environmental Services and Sustainability

4.5 WM/WM/047 ANNUAL NORTHERN IRELAND ENVIRONMENTAL BENCHMARKING SURVEY 2025

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to update Members on the submission to the Annual Northern Ireland Environmental Benchmarking Survey 2025.

2. Introduction

Business in the Community's Northern Ireland Environmental Benchmarking Survey is NI's principal benchmarking exercise that helps businesses to examine, review, compare and improve their environmental performance, and champions organisations who are demonstrating action for real change.

The survey is open to all organisations in Northern Ireland and is widely recognised as NI's principal environmental benchmarking exercise.

Since 1998, the Northern Ireland Environmental Benchmarking Survey has pushed the environmental agenda to the fore and in 2025 more than 150 organisations of all sizes and from a range of industry sectors took part, including, construction, education, engineering, and food and drink.

Participating organisations are ranked by level: Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze or Green. The higher the overall score, the higher the organisation will rank. There is no limit on the number of organisations that can fall into any one 'band'.

This year Council secured the prestigious Platinum Award in the Northern Ireland Environmental Benchmarking Survey. As the only Council in Northern Ireland to attain this highest level of recognition, this achievement underscores our unwavering commitment to environmental excellence and sustainability leadership.

3. Recommendation

It is recommended that the report be noted.

Prepared and Agreed by: Lynsey Daly, Head of Waste Strategy and Sustainability

Approved by: Michael Laverty, Director of Environmental Services and Sustainability

5 ANY OTHER RELEVANT BUSINESS

Any Other Relevant Business (AORB) may be taken at this point.