

Agenda

Agenda

Copy attached.

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1. **Apologies**
2. **Declarations of Interest**
3. **Deputation War Years Remembered**
4. **Community & Wellbeing Directorate Budgetary Control Report September 2023**

Report attached.

[📄 4. Community & Wellbeing Directorate Budgetary Control Report September 2023.pdf](#)

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5. **Lough Neagh Derry City & Strabane District Council Notice of Motion**

Report attached.

[📄 5. Lough Neagh DCSDC NoM.pdf](#)

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[📄 5.1 Appendix Letter DCSDC 15th November 2023.pdf](#)

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6. **Performance Report Q1 and Q2 Environmental Health Protection & Development**

Report attached.

[📄 6. Performance Report Q1 & Q2 Environmental Health Protection and Development.pdf](#)

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7. **Consultation Smoke Heat & Carbon Monoxide Alarms & Section 10 Electrical Safety Standards**

Report attached.

[📄 7. Consultation Smoke Heat & Carbon Monoxide Alarms & Section 10 Electrical Safety Standards.pdf](#)

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[7.1 Appendix 1 Smoke Heat and Carbon Monoxide Alarms Regulations.pdf](#) Page 18

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8 Performance Report Q1 and Q2 Community & Culture

Report attached.

[8. Performance Report Q1 and Q2 Community & Culture.pdf](#) Page 25

9 Performance Report Q1 & Q2 Leisure Services

Report attached.

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10 Ards and North Down Sports Forum Grants (WG November 2023)

Report attached.

[10. Ards and North Down Sports Forum Grants \(WG November 2023\).pdf](#) Page 33

[10.1 Appendix 1 - Successful Coaching Report for Noting.pdf](#) Page 36

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11 Soccer Development Transition Update

Report attached.

[11. Soccer Development Transition Update.pdf](#) Page 58

[11.1 Appendix 1 Soccer Development Programme and proposed transition outcomes.pdf](#) Page 66

12 Leisure Pricing 2024-2025

Report attached.

- [!\[\]\(6302aad5aed157b291fddf37b4870784_img.jpg\) 12. Leisure Pricing 2024-2025.pdf](#) *Page 67*
- [!\[\]\(a9ca2c237943a6d0a9f22252f295b6f3_img.jpg\) 12.1 Appendix 1 Pricing Table for Leisure Ards 2024-2025.pdf](#) *Page 69*
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13 Community Centres & Halls Charging Policy 2024-2025

Report attached.

- [!\[\]\(aca6fcc8bd95e8255b9ea1b1d08ef300_img.jpg\) 13. Community Centres and Halls Charging Policy 2024-2025.pdf](#) *Page 99*

14 Performance Report Q1 and Q2 Parks & Cemeteries

Report attached.

- [!\[\]\(67ff022fd78f943b679992c2874bbfd1_img.jpg\) 14. Performance Report Q1 and Q2 Parks & Cemeteries.pdf](#) *Page 103*

15 Campaign Pledge: Go Peat-Free this Spring

Report attached.

- [!\[\]\(d27edc55493507da2f9b8c7a52b3b96f_img.jpg\) 15. Campaign Pledge Go Peat-Free this Spring.pdf](#) *Page 107*
- [!\[\]\(9bf7a72a60a57323fa980b9b0338593f_img.jpg\) 15.1 Appendix Peatlands4LIFE Leaflet.pdf](#) *Page 110*

16 Display Bed Applications

Report attached.

- [!\[\]\(e1bdc70a9006e3802acd56af7aa337d8_img.jpg\) 16. Display Bed Applications.pdf](#) *Page 114*
- [!\[\]\(6ae057bca7ac6a248ab7813081463b17_img.jpg\) 16.1 Appendix 1 Display Bed Designs.pdf](#) *Page 116*

17 Notice of Motions

Report attached.

17.1 Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Creighton and Councillor Irwin

This Council recognises the importance of Bangor Sportsplex for athletics, football and community leisure facilities in the Borough and notes with concern the deteriorating conditions of the site rendering several pitches unusable, and therefore tasks council officers with producing a report regarding the future of

Bangor Sportsplex, including addressing maintenance and structural issues and exploring options for the long term provision of track and field athletics facilities in the Borough.

17.2 Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor McCracken and Councillor Blaney

This Council recognises the importance of Bangor's early Christian heritage in the story of our city, and its role in local tourism strategies. This Council requests that officers bring back a report which evaluates how the physical link between two main sites, Bangor Abbey and the North Down Museum, could be improved, to include the renovation and potential remodelling of Bell's Walk, with consideration for improved wayfinding and lighting. The motion also requests that officers consider how Bangor Castle Gardens and The Walled Garden could be better incorporated into the walking route, and how the overall attraction could be packaged to create a more complete tourism and placemaking experience.

17.3 Notice of Motion submitted by Alderman McIlveen and Councillor Kennedy

That this Council notes the importance of this Borough as the birthplace of the Ulster-Scots community from 1606 onwards and the role of those settlers in the development of the lands known as the Hamilton-Montgomery Estates which make up the majority of this Borough;

Notes the rich heritage of the Borough in relation to Ulster-Scots language and literature;

Notes that 19,685 people in the Borough registered a level of ability in the Ulster-Scots language in the most recent census, representing 12.4% of the population;

Notes the significant potential of Ulster-Scots language, heritage and culture as a catalyst for social and cultural development in the Borough;

Notes the thriving interest in the Ulster-Scots language, heritage and culture within the Borough;

Notes the Council's responsibility under the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages to take resolute action to promote Ulster-Scots;

Notes the recent recognition of the Ulster-Scots community as a National Minority of the United Kingdom under international law:

Notes the weakness of this Council's engagement with Ulster-Scots Language Week this year and in previous years;

And tasks officers to develop a budget to ensure and encourage participation in future Ulster Scots Language Weeks; and to develop an action plan, with advice from the Ulster-Scots Agency, to develop all aspects of the Borough's rich Ulster-Scots heritage.

18 Any Other Notified Business

*****IN CONFIDENCE*****

19 PEACEPLUS Partnership Minutes

****IN CONFIDENCE****

Report attached.

 19. PEACEPLUS Partnership Minutes.pdf	<i>Not included</i>
 19.1 Appendix 1 PEACEPLUS Partnership Minutes 26 October 2023.pdf	<i>Not included</i>
 19.2 Appendix 2 PEACEPLUS Partnership Minutes 9 November 2023.pdf	<i>Not included</i>
 19.3 Appendix 3 PEACEPLUS Partnership Minutes 16 November 2023.pdf	<i>Not included</i>

20 Extension of Advice Service Contract by one year

****IN CONFIDENCE****



Report attached.

 20. Extension of Advice Service Contract by one year.pdf	<i>Not included</i>
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21 Northern Community Leisure Trust Quarter 2 2023-2024

****IN CONFIDENCE****

Report attached.

 21. Northern Community Leisure Trust Quarter 2 2023-2024.pdf	<i>Not included</i>
 21.1 Appendix Q2 2023-2024 Trust Report.pdf	<i>Not included</i>

22 Response to Notice of Motion - Cemetery Maintenance

****IN CONFIDENCE****

Report attached.

 22. Response to Notice of Motion- Cemetery Maintenance.pdf	<i>Not included</i>
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23 Tender for Sports Turf Drainage Scheme at Cromellin Park, Donaghadee

****IN CONFIDENCE****

Report attached.

 **23. Tender for Sports Turf Drainage Scheme at Cromellin Park, Donaghadee.pdf**

Not included

24 Sports Pitch Tender Extension 2024

****IN CONFIDENCE****

Report attached.

 **24. Sports Pitch Tender Extension 2024.pdf**

Not included

25 Floral Container Tender Extension 2024

****IN CONFIDENCE****

Report attached.

 **25. Floral Container Tender Extension 2024.pdf**

Not included

ARDS AND NORTH DOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL

1

5 December 2023

Dear Sir/Madam

You are hereby invited to attend a hybrid meeting (in person and via zoom) of the Community and Wellbeing Committee of Ards and North Down Borough Council in the Council Chamber, 2 Church Street, Newtownards on **Wednesday, 13 December 2023** commencing at **7.00pm**.

Yours faithfully

Stephen Reid
Chief Executive
Ards and North Down Borough Council

A G E N D A

1. Apologies
2. Declarations of Interest
3. Deputation War Years Remembered
4. Community & Wellbeing Directorate Budgetary Control Report September 2023 (Report attached)
5. Lough Neagh Derry City & Strabane District Council Notice of Motion (Report attached)
6. Performance Report Q1 and Q2 Environmental Health Protection & Development (Report attached)
7. Consultation Smoke Heat & Carbon Monoxide Alarms & Section 10 Electrical Safety Standards (Report attached)
8. Performance Report Q1 and Q2 Community & Culture (Report attached)
9. Performance Report Q1 & Q2 Leisure Services (Report attached)
10. Ards and North Down Sports Forum Grants (WG November 2023) (Report attached)
11. Soccer Development Transition Update (Report attached)
12. Leisure Pricing 2024-2025 (Report to follow)
13. Community Centres & Halls Charging Policy 2024-2025 (Report attached)

14. Performance Report Q1 and Q2 Parks & Cemeteries (Report attached)
15. Campaign Pledge: Go Peat-Free this Spring (Report attached)
16. Display Bed Applications (Report attached)
17. Notice of Motions

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And tasks officers to develop a budget to ensure and encourage participation in future Ulster Scots Language Weeks; and to develop an action plan, with advice from the Ulster-Scots Agency, to develop all aspects of the Borough's rich Ulster-Scots heritage.

18. Any Other Notified Business

ITEMS 19 to 25 * IN CONFIDENCE*****

19. PEACEPLUS Partnership Minutes (Report attached)
20. Extension of Advice Service Contract by one year (Report attached)
21. Northern Community Leisure Trust Quarter 2 2023-2024 (Report attached)
22. Response to Notice of Motion - Cemetery Maintenance (Report attached)
23. Tender for Sports Turf Drainage Scheme at Cromellin Park, Donaghadee (Report attached)
24. Sports Pitch Tender Extension 2024 (Report attached)
25. Floral Container Tender Extension 2024 (Report attached)

MEMBERSHIP OF COMMUNITY AND WELLBEING COMMITTEE (16 MEMBERS)

Alderman Adair	Councillor Douglas
Alderman Brooks	Councillor Holywood
Alderman Cummings	Councillor Irwin
Councillor Ashe	Councillor S Irvine
Councillor Boyle	Councillor W Irvine
Councillor Chambers	Councillor Kendall (Vice Chair)
Councillor Cochrane	Councillor Martin (Chair)
Councillor Creighton	Councillor Moore

Unclassified

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ITEM 4**Ards and North Down Borough Council**

Report Classification	Unclassified
Exemption Reason	Not Applicable
Council/Committee	Community and Wellbeing Committee
Date of Meeting	13 December 2023
Responsible Director	Director of Community and Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Finance
Date of Report	20 November 2023
File Reference	FIN45
Legislation	Section 5 Local Government Finance Act (NI) 2011
Section 75 Compliant	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If other, please add comment below: N/A
Subject	Community & Wellbeing Directorate Budgetary Control Report September 2023
Attachments	None

The Community & Wellbeing Directorate's Budgetary Control Report covers the 6-month period 1 April to 30 September 2023. The net cost of the Directorate is showing an underspend of £568k (9.7%) – box A on page 3.

It should be noted that the 2023/24 Leisure income budget was prepared with the assumption that VAT status for Leisure income would change from 1 April 2023 as a result of HMRC accepting that leisure activities should be considered as outside the scope of VAT. This has not happened yet. An estimate of VAT on Leisure income for the first 6 months is £200k (the Council will receive this back when its claim is settled) so, if the VAT status had changed on 1 April 2023, Leisure's budgetary performance would be approximately £200k better than shown in this report.

Not Applicable

5

Explanation of Variance

Community & Wellbeing's budget performance is further analysed on page 3 into 3 key areas:

Report	Type	Variance	Page
Report 2	Payroll Expenditure	£524k favourable	3
Report 3	Goods & Services Expenditure	£62k adverse	3
Report 4	Income	£106k favourable	3

Explanation of Variance

The Community & Wellbeing Directorate's overall variance can be summarised by the following table (variances over £25k): -

Type	Variance £'000	Comment
Payroll	(524)	Mainly due to a number of vacant posts across the entire Directorate which should be filled as the year progresses.
Goods & Services		
Community & Culture	(36)	Small underspends within Externally Funded Projects and Arts & Museum
Parks & Cemeteries	77	Parks & Cemeteries operating costs- £85k – areas such as hired equipment, hired services and hired vehicles. Mostly offset by increased cemeteries income (see below)
Leisure	42	Mainly due to new leisure system costs which were not budgeted.
Income		
Parks & Cemeteries	(54)	Increased cemeteries income.
Leisure	(28)	Leisure Centres income ahead of target (as mentioned on page 1 this favourable variance would be approximately £200k higher if the Leisure VAT status had changed on 1 April 2023).

Not Applicable

6

REPORT 1 BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT					
Period 6 - September 2023					
	Year to Date Actual	Year to Date Budget	Variance	Annual Budget	Variance
	£	£	£	£	%
Community & Wellbeing					
100 Community & Wellbeing HQ	105,814	106,600	(786)	211,800	(0.7)
110 Environmental Health	1,008,484	1,164,800	(156,316)	2,336,900	(13.4)
120 Community and Culture	983,991	1,170,400	(186,409)	2,495,000	(15.9)
140 Parks & Cemeteries	2,047,876	2,192,900	(145,024)	4,466,700	(6.6)
150 Leisure Services	1,119,299	1,198,700	(79,401)	2,692,400	(6.6)
Total	5,265,463	5,833,400	A (567,937)	12,202,800	(9.7)
REPORT 2 PAYROLL REPORT					
	£	£	£	£	%
Community & Wellbeing - Payroll					
100 Community & Wellbeing HQ	84,733	84,400	333	168,400	0.4
110 Environmental Health	1,211,797	1,347,800	(136,003)	2,679,100	(10.1)
120 Community and Culture	785,772	912,100	(126,328)	1,768,300	(13.9)
140 Parks & Cemeteries	1,778,319	1,947,100	(168,781)	3,863,100	(8.7)
150 Leisure	2,173,247	2,266,900	(93,653)	4,576,300	(4.1)
Total	6,033,868	6,558,300	(524,432)	13,055,200	(8.0)
REPORT 3 GOODS & SERVICES REPORT					
	£	£	£	£	%
Community & Wellbeing - Goods & Services					
100 Community & Wellbeing HQ	22,642	23,800	(1,158)	45,000	(4.9)
110 Environmental Health	92,242	111,600	(19,358)	265,200	(17.3)
120 Community and Culture	709,588	746,200	(36,612)	1,725,800	(4.9)
140 Parks & Cemeteries	545,634	468,300	77,334	1,062,600	16.5
150 Leisure	564,252	522,000	42,252	1,320,200	8.1
Total	1,934,357	1,871,900	62,457	4,418,800	3.3
REPORT 4 INCOME REPORT					
	£	£	£	£	%
Community & Wellbeing - Income					
100 Community & Wellbeing HQ	(1,560)	(1,600)	40	(1,600)	2.5
110 Environmental Health	(295,555)	(294,600)	(955)	(607,400)	(0.3)
120 Community and Culture	(511,369)	(487,900)	(23,469)	(999,100)	(4.8)
140 Parks & Cemeteries	(276,077)	(222,500)	(53,577)	(459,000)	(24.1)
150 Leisure	(1,618,200)	(1,590,200)	(28,000)	(3,204,100)	(1.8)
Totals	(2,702,761)	(2,596,800)	(105,961)	(5,271,200)	(4.1)

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council notes this report.

Unclassified

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ITEM 5

Ards and North Down Borough Council

Report Classification	Unclassified
Exemption Reason	Not Applicable
Council/Committee	Community and Wellbeing Committee
Date of Meeting	13 December 2023
Responsible Director	Director of Community and Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Environmental Health Protection and Development
Date of Report	23 November 2023
File Reference	CW166
Legislation	N/A
Section 75 Compliant	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If other, please add comment below: N/A
Subject	Correspondence from Derry & Strabane District Council
Attachments	Appendix 1 - Letter DCSDC 15 th November 2023

The Chief Executive has received a letter from Derry City & Strabane District Council (DCSDC) dated 15 November 2023, see appendix 1.

The letter is in relation to a Notice of Motion agreed by DCSDC in September 2023.

The Chief Executive of DCSDC is asking if ANDBC would be willing to attend a meeting in relation to exploring the potential of legally recognised Rights of Nature for Lough Neagh and if there are any other existing forums that are dealing with Lough Neagh at which this matter could be explored.

Although ANDBC does not border Lough Neagh, the Head of Environmental Health, Protection and Development has agreed to represent ANDBC at these meetings in case of any potential parallel issues concerning similar scenarios in the Ards and North Down Borough, and if there would therefore be any value in the Council being represented on such a forum going forward.

Not Applicable

8

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council approves the Head of Environmental Health Protection and Development to attend the initial meeting to ascertain if there is any value in Ards and North Down being represented, and subsequent meetings, a report will be brought back to Committee for consideration.



Derry City & Strabane
District Council
Comhairle Chathair
Dhoire & Cheantar
an tSratha B ain
Derry Cittie & Str abane
Destr ick Council

9

15th November 2023

Stephen Reid
Chief Executive
Ards and North Down Borough Council

Stephen.Reid@ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk

Dear Chief Executive

I am writing to advise you of a Notice of Motion that was passed by Derry City and Strabane District Council at it's meeting in September 2023.

This Council agrees that the current management of Lough Neagh is unsustainable and has led to significant damage to this culturally, socially, environmentally and economically significant resource. The Lough itself and the surrounding communities are now suffering the consequences of this failed management system.

This Council agrees that the environmental disaster happening in Lough Neagh is unprecedented and calls for unprecedented action. This Council understands that a rights of nature approach may be used to inform the design of governance frameworks that are capable of producing better outcomes for the environment and communities of Lough Neagh.

This Council will call an urgent meeting of all Councils in the North with QUB School of Law and FOE NI to explore the potential of legally recognised Rights of Nature for Lough Neagh.

"That this Council calls on NILGA to immediately establish a working group made up of DAERA and its respective agencies, representatives from Councils that border Lough Neagh, NI Water and the Public Health Agency and the Food Standards Agency in order to establish a time bound targeted strategy to address the ecological issues ongoing at Lough Neagh and calls for the Lough to be brought into public ownership."

Our Chief Executive has asked that I write to you in order to establish if you would be willing to attend a meeting in relation to exploring the potential of legally recognised Rights of Nature for Lough Neagh and/or if there are any other existing forums that are dealing with Lough Neagh at which this matter could be explored.

I would be grateful if you could respond with your views in relation to this matter.

Yours sincerely

Karen Phillips
Director of Environment & Regeneration

Cc Karen Smyth, NILGA

ITEM 6

Ards and North Down Borough Council

Report Classification	Unclassified
Exemption Reason	Not Applicable
Council/Committee	Community and Wellbeing
Date of Meeting	13 th December 2023
Responsible Director	Director of Community and Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Environmental Health, Protection and Development
Date of Report	28 th November 2023
File Reference	CW22
Legislation	Local Government Act (NI) 2014
Section 75 Compliant	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If other, please add comment below: Performance Report
Subject	Performance Report Q1 and Q2 Environmental Health Protection and Development
Attachments	None

Context

Members will be aware that Council is required, under the Local Government Act 2014, to have in place arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the exercise of its functions. To fulfil this requirement Council approved the Performance Management Policy and Handbook in October 2015. The Performance Management Handbook outlines the approach to Performance Planning and Management process as:

- Community Plan – published every 10-15 years
- Corporate Plan – published every 4 years (Corporate Plan Towards 2024 in operation)
- Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) – published annually in September
- Service Plan – developed annually (approved April/May 2023)

The Council's 18 Service Plans outline how each respective Service will contribute to the achievement of the Corporate objectives including, but not limited to, any relevant actions identified in the PIP.

Reporting approach

The Service Plans will be reported to relevant Committees on a half-yearly basis as undernoted:

Reference	Period	Reporting Month
Quarter 2 (Q2)	April – September	December
Q4	October – March	March

The report for H1 (1 April 2023 – 30 September 2023) is attached.

Key points to note:

Two targets in relation to Health and safety and pollution control have not been met for this half of the year, it is anticipated that these targets will be met for the final reporting period.

Key achievements:

The general performance across the Environmental Health protection and Development Service has been good for the first half of the year with the majority of KPI's being met or exceeded.

The work on the whole systems approach to obesity has progressed, moving into phase three of the project which will involve the development of a detailed and complex causal map with the support of an expert. A causal looks at the sub-system within the geographical area and consider all the potential influences over the demographics weight. It is likely that this part of the project will look at poverty, housing, assets, lifestyle, deprivation, infrastructure and education.

Work on becoming dementia friendly has been progressing with the SE Trust leading on a Dementia Friendly Partnership and action plan. A series of consultation exercises have been undertaken using Ards and North Down's Big Game. On Monday, 12 June 2023 Ards and North Down Borough Council in partnership with Dementia NI, the PCSP and the PSNI hosted a special event to raise awareness of the Herbert Protocol in the Borough. The Herbert Protocol is a UK wide initiative to help trace those living with dementia if they get lost or go missing. The Council is working in partnership with Dementia NI and the Alzheimer's Society to produce a short e-learning course for staff. The aim of the course is to raise awareness of the challenges faced by those living with dementia, raising awareness about how front line services can recognise potential signs of dementia, put forward suggestions on how staff can help support residents with dementia and signpost staff in need of advice and support within their own personal circumstance.

Emerging issues:

The new appraisal scheme opened at the end of September therefore it was not possible to meet this KPI in the first half of the year. Appraisals in the service are now well underway and it is anticipated that this target will be met by year end.

The project to upgrade the data base is being addressed centrally by digital services in line with a number of other services as an efficiency exercise rather than through a business case.

Action to be taken:

Further recruitment of Officers and administration staff is underway and will help to address the KPI'S which have not been met in the first part of the year, particularly around spending and response time targets.
















RECOMMENDATION








It is recommended that Council notes the report.

Half yearly Performance Report - Environmental Health, Protection and Development

Generated on: 28 November 2023

Last Update H1 2023/24

Performance Data Traffic Light Icon	PI Short Name	Performance Data Current Value	Performance Data Current Target
	% spend against budget	86.58%	100%
	Host an allergen awareness seminar for all catering businesses in the borough	1	1
	To work towards becoming a Dementia Friendly Council and Borough	Yes	Yes
	To become the first council in NI to adopt a Whole Systems Approach to Obesity	Yes	Yes
	% service requests responded to within 2 working days	91.5%	94%
	% of Planning comments made within 15 working days	90%	90%
	% of quantitative quarterly targets achieved as determined by Service Level Agreements	100%	97%
	% of customers satisfied with service upon completion of service request	96.5%	90%
	Create Senior EHO in Consumer Protection	1	1
	% staff attendance	95.01%	93%
	% employees in whom time invested in team briefings	100%	100%
	Implement Service Improvement plan following Heads Together session	Yes	Yes
	% of completed Employee Appraisals in the period September 2023 to March 2025	0%	100%
	Develop business case to upgrade Tascomi database	No	Yes
	Market surveillance programme for construction projects	Yes	Yes

Performance Data Traffic Light Icon	PI Short Name	Performance Data Current Value	Performance Data Current Target
	Complete three CP Market Surveillance exercises (cumulative)	1	1
	Complete three H&S targeted inspection initiatives (cumulative)	2	1
	% of PTO applications completed within 180 days	96%	90%
	% of high risk (H&S) premises inspected	22%	40%
	% of caravan and petroleum sites inspected annually and licenses issued where appropriate	55%	40%
	% of premises permitted under the Pollution Prevention and Control legislation inspected	0%	20%
	% of high risk food premises inspected	92.6%	50%

Unclassified

15

ITEM 7**Ards and North Down Borough Council**

Report Classification	Unclassified
Exemption Reason	Not Applicable
Council/Committee	Community and Wellbeing Committee
Date of Meeting	13 December 2023
Responsible Director	Director of Community and Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Environmental Health, Protection and Development
Date of Report	22 November 2023
File Reference	CW145
Legislation	Private Tenancies (Northern Ireland) Act 2022
Section 75 Compliant	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> If other, please add comment below:
Subject	Department for Communities consultation on Section 8 (Smoke, Heat and Carbon Monoxide Alarms) and Section 10 (Electrical Safety Standards) of Private Tenancies (Northern Ireland) Act 2022
Attachments	Appendix 1 Smoke, Heat and Carbon Monoxide Alarms Regulations Appendix 2 Electrical Safety Regulations

Council Environmental Health Officers are heavily engaged in the regulation of the private rented sector through the Council's statutory duties under the Private Tenancies (Northern Ireland) Order 2006 (as amended by the Private Tenancies Act and Housing Amendment Acts) as well as through statutory nuisance investigations. Council is also the enforcing authority for provisions to regulate landlord registration, security of tenancy deposits and licensing scheme for Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO).

Not Applicable

16

Members were updated at the Community & Wellbeing Committee Meeting in February 2023 regarding the implementation of Sections 1-6 of the Private Tenancies (NI) Act 2022, which came into effect on the 1 April 2023.

The introduction of the Private Tenancies (NI) Act 2022 Act brought about amendments to The Private Tenancies (NI) Order 2006, the main legislative framework for the regulation of private rented sector housing. The overarching objectives of the Private Tenancies Act were to make the private rented sector a safer and more secure housing option for a wider range of households, to ensure better regulation of the sector and offer greater protection to private renters.

Not all requirements of the Act were implemented in April 2023. The creation of further regulations is required to bring the remainder of the Act into effect. This is the case for Sections 8 and 10 pertaining to smoke, heat and carbon monoxide alarms and electrical safety.

The Department for Communities has launched two consultations on the out-workings of the Private Tenancies Act (Northern Ireland) 2022 in shaping the technical regulations relating to:

Section 8 – Smoke, heat, and carbon monoxide alarms.

<https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/dfc/the-fire-smoke-and-carbon-monoxide-alarms-northern>

Section 10 – Electrical Safety Standards

<https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/dfc/electrical-safety-standards-northern-ireland-202x>

The purpose of the consultations is to assess whether the regulations deliver a sound legislative framework (in context of boundaries in the 2022 Act) to improve health and safety standards in private rented properties, and that the accompanying Guidance Notes are easy to follow and provide the necessary information for all stakeholder groups.

Section 8 – Smoke, heat, and carbon monoxide alarms

The proposed Smoke, Heat and Carbon Monoxide Alarms Regulations (Northern Ireland) set the standards for the number and type of smoke, heat and carbon monoxide alarms to be installed in private rented properties and aim to reduce the risk of fire related incidents.

It is anticipated these Regulations will come into operation early next year and will apply to all private tenancies. There will be a lead in time of 2 months for landlords to comply.

It will be an offence for a private landlord to fail to comply with the duty to keep in repair and proper working order sufficient appliances for detecting smoke, heat and carbon monoxide.

Not Applicable

17

Section 10 – Electrical Safety Standards

The proposed Electrical Safety Standards Regulations (Northern Ireland) aim to reduce the risks of death and injury due to electrical faults in private rental properties.

The regulations introduce the requirement for electrical safety standards to be met during the period the property is let and electrical inspections will be required to be completed by a qualified electrician at least every 5 years. The landlord must provide proof the testing has been carried out and if a repair/further investigation is required it must be completed within a specific timescale. It will be an offence for the landlord not to comply with their duties.

There is no indication of an implementation date yet. Once commenced, it is anticipated there will be a lead in time of 12 months for all tenancies to comply.

The Act creates new offences for which the Council will have powers to issue fixed penalty notices. The fixed penalty payable in respect of an offence is an amount determined by the Council, being an amount not exceeding one-fifth of the maximum fine payable on summary conviction of that offence, which is a maximum of £500 for smoke, heat and carbon monoxide alarm offence and £1000 for electrical safety offence.

Members will be provided with a further update prior to implementation of the new legislative powers to agree fixed penalty levels.

A proposed response to the technical matters of the consultations is set out in Appendix 1 & 2.

Financial and Resource Implications

The introduction of the Private Tenancies Act provides Councils with new enforcement powers to deal with tenancy issues in the private rented sector. This will increase the duties and demands on the Council's resource. The Department for Communities is aware of local authority concerns in terms of resources, however there is no financial support available currently to assist Councils with these additional powers. The proposed response to the consultation has requested the ability to charge for enforcement action with regards to electrical safety like that contained in Part II of the Private Tenancies (NI) Order.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council agree to the submission of the proposed response (Appendices 1 & 2) relating to technical matters of the Department for Communities consultation on Sections 8 and 10 of the Private Tenancies Act (Northern Ireland) 2022.

Appendix 1

Consultation on Private Tenancies Act 2022 Section 8 Smoke, Heat and Carbon Monoxide Alarms

Summary

The Regulations relating to Section 8 pertain to the installation of sufficient smoke, heat, and carbon monoxide alarms and aim to reduce the risk of fire related incidents in private rented properties.

Section 4: District Council Environmental Health Officers

The Regulations and Guidance Notes have been attached to the consultation for reference.

1. Did you find the regulations/guidance notes easy to follow with regard to Council enforcement responsibilities?

Yes
 No

If you answered NO to this question, please explain below what was not clear.

2. Is the information regarding the enforcement process correct?

Yes
 No

If you answered NO to this question, please explain below what was incorrect.

The Council largely agree the enforcement process is correct and makes the following comments:

- In the absence of provision to issue a notice requiring the landlord to carry out works to repair or provide alarms, the enforcement process commences with the decision to prosecute for the offence under Article 11B(4) or offer discharge of liability of conviction by payment of fixed penalty notice, maximum £500. The Council highlight we will have regard to the General Enforcement Policy in determining the most appropriate course of action.
- With reference to Regulation 4(3), there appears to be typing error. i.e. Landlords must install sufficient alarms as specified in accordance with regulation (1) and (2). Should read regulation 4(1) and 4(2)
- With reference to Guidance point 9.1 and 10.1, there appears to be technical error. The offence is created under 11B(4) of the PTO and not Art 68 (1) which relates to the prosecution of offences including that created under Article 11B(4) for failing to comply with duties under 11B(1)

3. Do you think we have got the landlord and tenant responsibilities right in the Regulations/Guidance?

Yes
 No

If you have answered NO to this question, please comment below on anything that we have missed or got wrong.

Council largely agrees with the responsibilities for each party and acknowledges it is the tenant responsibility to test to ensure in proper working order and report to the landlord.

However, we seek further clarification and guidance regarding Article 11D of the PTO: Landlord's duties: private tenancy of part of a building, ie where a dwelling-house let under a private tenancy consists of a part of a building, the duties imposed on the landlord by Article 11B may require the landlord to position appliances in a part or parts of the building not comprised in the tenancy.

Given there are many incidents of fires in blocks of flats and high-rise buildings with potentially serious consequences, Council seeks clarity either within the regulations and/or guidance in relation to position, numbers, types of alarms required for common parts of buildings and the enforcement process.

4. Is there anything else you would like to add or comment on in respect of the introduction of these new Regulations/Guidance Notes?

X Yes
No

If you have answered YES, please comment below.

- With reference to Guidance point 8.9, the Council seeks further clarification regarding the extra protections considered necessary for flue transferring through bedrooms. It is suggested an example of the circumstances would be appropriate.
- Council highlights the provision of sufficient alarms and the specification of interlinked alarms in private rented properties will be a significant change for landlords. It is acknowledged the specification deviates from the current building control requirement which is to be 'hard wired' however Council agrees the requirement to provide smoke and heat alarms interlinked either hard wired or battery sealed or combination of both is a significant step forward to reduce the risk of fire related incidents.
- It is also highlighted the NIFRS current scheme of installing smoke alarms may not be compliant with the requirements and therefore unable to provide service to the private rented sector.
- The introduction of the Private Tenancies Act provides Councils with new enforcement powers to deal with tenancy issues in the private rented sector. This has increased the duties and demands on the Councils enforcement resource which has already experienced an increase demand on housing and statutory nuisance services over recent years, coupled with competing priorities on other duties with the Environmental Health Department. The Council reiterates the concerns in terms of resources in the absence of no financial support available to assist Councils with these additional powers.
- The Council agrees the regulations should not apply to HMO properties as they are already well regulated. The Department has made to clear the regulations will also not apply to single lets. The Council is not aware of any specific legislation/guidance in relation to single lets and require clarification on how private tenancies provided as emergency housing accommodation by NIHE intend to be regulated. It is our view single lets should be afforded the same protections and safeguards as private rented and social tenants and avoid creating a two-tier system.

Appendix 2

Consultation on Private Tenancies Act 2022 Section 10 Electrical Safety Standards

Summary

The Regulations for Section 10 introduce certified 5-yearly checks of a private rented property's hard-wired electrical installation by a qualified electrician.

Section 4: District Council Environmental Health Officers

The Regulations and Guidance Notes have been attached to the consultation for reference.

1. Did you find the regulations/guidance notes, which explain the enforcement process, easy to follow?

X Yes
No

If you answered NO to this question, please explain below what was not clear.

Council welcomes the mandatory requirement to ensure periodic electrical safety checks in private rental properties conducted by suitably qualified professionals, as currently there is no such legal requirement. This is in contrast with regulation of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO's) properties and private rented sector in other jurisdictions.

The Council largely agrees the regulation and guidance clearly sets out the enforcement process and makes the following comments:

- Council considers the regulations clearly set out the duties of private landlords to ensure electrical safety standards are met and set an interval of periodic testing every 5 years by a qualified person, with the first inspection to take place before tenancy commences or by 1st January 2025 if existing tenancy.

The guidance clearly states the electrical standards to be met are set out in the 18th Edition of the Wiring Regulations.

- With regards to Regulation 3(4) and 3(5), Council is of the opinion, upon completion of further investigative or remedial works, this should necessitate a duty to provide a copy of the final 'report' ie Minor Electrical Installation Works Certificate (MEIWC) to the tenant and council, as opposed to 'written confirmation'. A **report** (MEIWC) would clearly demonstrate the specific works completed and provide assurances the electrical installation is safe. For example, in the past officers have experienced receipt of scant written notes deeming electricians are safe and meet the standards without evidence to demonstrate the required investigation has been carried out or nature of repairs completed.
- Council considers clarification is required in the guidance with regards to the service of a remedial notice. Regulation 4(1) details the council must serve a remedial notice where there are reasonable grounds to believe the landlord failed to comply with *one or more duties under Regulation 3(1)(a)(b)(c), 3(4), 3(5), 3(6)*. Omitting the duties set out in Regulation 3(3). In contrast the language used in the Guidance, point 8.1, states *"if council believes a landlord is in breach of one or more of their duties set out in the Regulations, they must serve notice.."* The guidance should be consistent with the requirements of the regulations. We think the duties contained in Regulation 3(3) should be included, like other duties specified in Regulation 4(1). This would provide

an option to serve a remedial notice, for example, requiring the landlord to supply of copy of report to tenant within 28 days. This would be in addition to the option of prosecution and offering a fixed penalty notice for the offence failing to comply with duty under Regulation 3.

- It is the Council's view the requirement to suspend the remedial notice upon written representation from landlord to allow the council to consider for 7 days and then allow a further 21 days from the date notice upheld, allows for the potential for the process to be delayed, and perhaps could be used to the advantage of the landlord to stall the process, at the detriment of the occupants.

2. Do you agree the process outlined within the Regulations and Guidance is in line with what you currently progress under the Private Tenancies (NI) Order 2006 in respect of enforcement action?

Yes

No

If you have answered NO to this question, it would be appreciated if you could comment below on what should be amended.

The Council is already heavily involved in the regulation of the private sector under the legislative framework of the Private Tenancies (NI) Order 2006 (PTO). Officers have considered the proposed enforcement processes in comparison to those within the PTO:

- Under Part III of the Order, the district council may serve a Notice of Unfitness (NOU) or a Notice of Disrepair (NOD) on the *'owner'*, defined as *the person who for the time being receives or is entitled to receive the rent of the dwelling-house or building, whether on his own account or as agent or trustee for any other person.*

In contrast, The Electrical Safety Regulations place the duty on the *'landlord'* and remedial notice to be served on the same. There is no definition of 'landlord' in the regulations or the guidance therefore it is assumed it will be the same as that defined in the Private Tenancies (NI) Order 2006, ie *"the landlord" as includes any person from time to time deriving title under the original landlord and also includes, in relation to any dwelling-house, any person other than the tenant who is, or but for Part III of the Rent Order would be, entitled to possession of the dwelling-house;*

It is the Councils view the guidance and/or the regulations should provide clarity on the definition of the landlord for the purpose of enforcement.

- Under Article 26 of the PTO, there is the ability for council to charge for expenses incurred in respect of service of NOU and NOD.

The expenses are those incurred in–

- (a)determining whether to serve the notice,
- (b)identifying the works to be specified in the notice, and
- (c)-serving the notice.

It is expected there will be cases that officers will be required to seek the expert advice of a qualified electrician to determine whether to serve a remedial notice and specify the works required. This will be at a cost to the ratepayer. It is the Council's view the regulations should make provision for the ability to charge for enforcement action,

similar to that associated with the service of notices under Part III of the Private Tenancies Order.

- Under Article 27 of PTO there is the provision of powers of entry to persons authorised by council, having given the appropriate notice to the occupier and the owner, for the purpose of survey and examination and for carrying out work in default as required by NOU or NOD. Article 28 also provides an offence for obstruction of an officer under Part III. This differs to Regulation 6, in that there is no power of entry for authorised persons for works in default/urgent works which may be carried out by the council. The council may only carry out works with consent given by the tenant. It is our view; some vulnerable tenants may not consent fearing retaliation eviction by the landlord.
- It is clear within Regulation 5(3) if the landlord is prevented from entering the dwelling by the tenant/s, the landlord will not be considered to have failed to have taken all reasonable steps to comply with the notice solely by reason of a failure to bring legal proceedings to secure entry.

The Council seek clarification on whether Article 12(2) of the PTO is applicable for landlords attempting to secure entry to the dwelling for the purpose of electrical repairs. And if so, the guidance should clearly state if the landlord is expected to utilise this provision to demonstrate reasonable steps have been taken to gain entry to carry out repairs specified in any remedial notice.

- Council highlight there are difficulties encountered following prosecution of offences alongside the continuation of the offence. The regulations differ to the PTO in that there is no process for further prosecution of continuing offence. It is our view this should be included in the regulations to avoid protracted process of serving another remedial notice and going through the entire process again.

3. Do you think there is a step missing that could help you with the Enforcement process (if permissible for us to work in under the powers in the primary legislation)?

X Yes
No

If you have answered YES to this question, please detail below so we can give that consideration.

Within the regulations provisions to deal with urgent works are; the discretionary power for council to arrange to carry out works; prosecute the landlord for failing to comply with duties, or; offer discharge of liability to conviction by the payment of Fixed Penalty Notice, maximum £1000

The Council considers it beneficial to make provision to allow councils to require the landlord arrange urgent inspection/testing in the intervening period of testing and to obtain and supply report to the council, thereafter, following the enforcement process.

It is our view the onus should always be on the landlord to ensure and demonstrate the electrical safety standards are met and installation is safe.

4. If the council has reasonable grounds to serve a remedial notice the tenant should receive a copy as per Regulation 4(4). Do you believe the tenant needs to get a copy of the remedial notice at this stage?

Yes
 No

This is consistent with service of Notice of Unfitness and Notice of Disrepair under Part III of the PTO

5. Is there anything else you would like to add or comment on in respect of the introduction of these new Regulations/Guidance Notes?

Yes
 No

If you have answered YES, please comment below.

- With reference to Regulation 3(3) & 3(4), the Council wishes to acknowledge the demands placed on the industry to produce reports in a timely manner and to carry out remedial works within the specified 28 days. The Department should carefully consider if the specified time periods are practically achievable or what other measures can be taken across other Departments to ensure sufficient trained and qualified persons are available to carry out regular testing and provision of reports.
- It is acknowledged the necessity of an appropriate lead-in period for all existing tenancies to obtain first inspection. In our view one year is considered reasonable.
- The additional duties placed upon landlords will require appropriate communication by the Department to landlords, agents and tenants.
- The Council agrees the regulations should not apply to HMO properties as they are already well regulated. The Department has made to clear the regulations will also not apply to single lets. The Council is not aware of any specific legislation/guidance in relation to single lets and require clarification on how private tenancies provided as emergency housing accommodation by NIHE intend to be regulated. It is our view single lets should be afforded the same protections and safeguards as private rented and social tenants and avoid creating a two-tier system.
- The Council seeks clarification and guidance how the regulations apply to common parts of buildings, outside flats etc.
- To avoid any misinterpretation, the Council suggests the guidance should be clear that an ECIR is the minimum standard required and expected.
- The introduction of the Private Tenancies Act provides Councils with new enforcement powers to deal with tenancy issues in the private rented sector. This has increased the duties and demands on the Councils enforcement resource which has already experienced an increase demand on housing and statutory nuisance services over recent years, coupled with competing priorities on other duties with the Environmental Health Department. The Council reiterates the concerns in terms of resources in the absence of no financial support available to assist Councils with these additional powers.
- The Council request the Department provide or arrange for the training of council officers prior to the commencement of the regulations.

Unclassified

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ITEM 8**Ards and North Down Borough Council**

Report Classification	Unclassified
Exemption Reason	Not applicable
Council/Committee	Community & Wellbeing Committee
Date of Meeting	13 December 2023
Responsible Director	Director of Community & Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Community & Culture
Date of Report	1 December 2023
File Reference	CW22
Legislation	Local Government Act NI (2014)
Section 75 Compliant	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other X If other, please add comment below: Performance Report
Subject	Performance Report Q1 and Q2 Community & Culture
Attachments	None

Context

Members will be aware that Council is required, under the Local Government Act 2014, to have in place arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the exercise of its functions. To fulfil this requirement Council approved the Performance Management Policy and Handbook in October 2015. The Performance Management Handbook outlines the approach to Performance Planning and Management process as:

- Community Plan – published every 10-15 years
- Corporate Plan – published every 4 years (Corporate Plan Towards 2024 in operation)
- Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) – published annually in September
- Service Plan – developed annually (approved April/May 2023)

Not applicable

26

The Council's 18 Service Plans outline how each respective Service will contribute to the achievement of the Corporate objectives including, but not limited to, any relevant actions identified in the PIP.

Reporting approach

The Service Plans will be reported to relevant Committees on a half-yearly basis as undernoted:

Reference	Period	Reporting Month
Quarter 2 (Q2)	April – September	December
Q4	October – March	March

The report for April 2023 – September 2023 is attached.

Key achievements:

- The north Down Museum achieved accreditation status.
- There have been some key achievements including the Community Safety multi agency meetings that have been held, including the standing forums for Ards Blair Mayne, Aurora and multi-agency meetings in relation to ASB at Helens Bay beach. These meetings have been extremely beneficial for the collective engagement of key stakeholders including the PSNI, Community Safety, Youth Services and Street Pastors, working together to reduce ASB.
- Increased engagement in a number of schools in the Borough with partner agencies in relation to asb issues.
- Community consultation and engagement in preparation for the PEACE PLUS programme has concluded and 891 people have been involved to date.
- A number of new candidates have been recruited to Youth Voice (AND Youth Council) and members will be invited to join them for an event in due course.

RECOMMENDATION










It is recommended that the report is noted.

Not applicable














Half yearly Performance Report - Community and Culture

Generated on: 01 December 2023

Last Update H1 2023/24

Performance Data Traffic Light Icon	PI Short Name	Performance Data Current Value	Performance Data Current Target
	% spend against budget	84.07%	100%
	% staff attendance	93.42%	93%
	% staff receiving team briefings	100%	100%
	No of people volunteering within the service	6	10
	Create a one stop shop for Community Volunteers	0%	100%
	No of Creative Class sessions delivered (cumulative)	21	14
	No of Council community-based summer schemes delivered	7	7
	Number of Community Safety Education programmes delivered to Schools/Community Groups	4	10
	Number of Community Safety multi-agency meetings attended (cumulative)	6	10

Not applicable

Performance Data Traffic Light Icon	PI Short Name	Performance Data Current Value	Performance Data Current Target
	Support 2 Social Supermarkets within the Borough	2	1
	Carry out a review of the Council's Summer Schemes Programme	0	100%
	ANDBC will become a Council of Sanctuary	0	100%
	Establish and develop the new AND Arts Networks	75	75
	Develop a co-designed PEACE PLUS Plan for the Borough by October 2024	0	100%
	Number of people consulted in the codesign of the AND PEACE PLUS Plan	891	900
	% of completed Employee Appraisals in the period September 2023 to March 2025	10%	100%
	Create a cost of living scheme for the most vulnerable within our Borough	1	1
	Number of community based Arts programmes delivered	2	2
	Number of grant programmes delivered	8	9
	Public art mapped across the borough	0	100%
	Increase numbers engaging with Museum/Heritage Education Services	18	40
	No of young people recruited into the Ards and North Down Youth Voice	20	20

Unclassified

29

ITEM 9**Ards and North Down Borough Council**

Report Classification	Unclassified
Exemption Reason	Not applicable
Council/Committee	Community and Wellbeing
Date of Meeting	13 th December 2023
Responsible Director	Director of Community and Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Leisure Services
Date of Report	24 th November 2023
File Reference	CW22
Legislation	Local Government Act NI (2014)
Section 75 Compliant	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other X If other, please add comment below: Performance report
Subject	Performance Report Q1 & Q2 Leisure Services
Attachments	None

Context

Members will be aware that Council is required, under the Local Government Act 2014, to have in place arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the exercise of its functions. To fulfil this requirement Council approved the Performance Management Policy and Handbook in October 2015. The Performance Management Handbook outlines the approach to Performance Planning and Management process as:

- Community Plan – published every 10-15 years
- Corporate Plan – published every 4 years (Corporate Plan Towards 2024 in operation)
- Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) – published annually in September
- Service Plan – developed annually (approved April/May 2023)

Not applicable

30

The Council's 18 Service Plans outline how each respective Service will contribute to the achievement of the Corporate objectives including, but not limited to, any relevant actions identified in the PIP.

Reporting approach

The Service Plans will be reported to relevant Committees on a half-yearly basis as undernoted:

Reference	Period	Reporting Month
Quarter 2 (Q2)	April – September	December
Q4	October – March	March

The report for April to September 2023 is attached

Key points to note:

- Recycling figures are above targets.
- Footfall across both Leisure and Community Halls sites is significantly higher than anticipated.
- Active aging programme has been very successful across both Serco and direct managed sites.

Key achievements:

- The service is being delivered at a 10% reduction against budget in anticipated net cost to the ratepayer.
- Quest quality award was retained at all 4 sites.
- Almost double the anticipated sport forum grants were awarded during this period.

Emerging issues:

- Staff attendance levels are below the corporate target.
- Community Halls demands have returned and surpassed pre covid levels.

Action to be taken:

- Resolve Leisure Staffing issues.
- Realign funding for sport forum awards.
- Identify funding for Annual Sport Awards
- Consider the disparity between booking fee and cost of provision for Community Centres.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the report is noted.

Not applicable

31

Half yearly Performance Report - Leisure

Generated on: 24 November 2023

Performance Data Traffic Light Icon *	PI Short Name	Performance Data Current Value	Performance Data Current Target
	% sent to recycling rather than landfill for Community Centres	61%	55%
	% sent to recycling rather than landfill for Leisure Centres	60%	58%
	% spend against budget	91.3%	100%
	Net cost of all community centre sites to the rate payer	£2.17	£2.45
	Net cost of service per head of population across all leisure sites	£4.74	£9.03
	Net cost of service per each visit across all leisure sites	£0.70	£0.92
	Number of Community user forums set up (cumulative)	0	2
	% staff attendance	93%	95%
	% staff reporting receipt of team briefings	70%	100%
	Maintain Quest awards for all 4 leisure sites	4	4
	% of people who complete the PAR scheme	45%	30%
	% of people who take out a membership package at the end of a referral programme	64%	60%
	Number of fitness classes per week (Leisure Ards and Serco/NLT)	241	250
	Total footfall across all Leisure sites (including NLT, Serco managed sites)	1,038,377	780,000
	Total footfall at Community Centres (cumulative)	75,500	42,500
	Number enrolled in Learn to Swim programme (cumulative)	37,527	35,000
	Active Aging Memberships	3104	400
	Number of clubs affiliated with the Sports Forum	90	110
	Number of Sports Forum Grants awarded (cumulative)	149	83
	Number of views of online Sports Directory (cumulative)	1042	1250
	Number of individuals attending Sports Education Courses (cumulative)	0	25
	Participation in Sports Development Programmes (cumulative)	377	150

Not applicable

32

Performance Data Traffic Light Icon *	PI Short Name	Performance Data Current Value	Performance Data Current Target
	Number of Sports Capital Grants awarded to clubs (cumulative)	11	16
	Total hours booked in Community Centres (cumulative)	14,667	11,250

. * Note, due to a software issue the RAG status (Traffic light Icon) on the table was not autogenerated.

Unclassified

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ITEM 10**Ards and North Down Borough Council**

Report Classification	Unclassified
Exemption Reason	Not Applicable
Council/Committee	Community and Wellbeing Committee
Date of Meeting	13 December 2023
Responsible Director	Director of Community and Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Leisure Services
Date of Report	24 November 2023
File Reference	SD149
Legislation	Recreation and Youth Services Order (1986)
Section 75 Compliant	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> If other, please add comment below:
Subject	Ards and North Down Sports Forum Grants (WG November 2023)
Attachments	Appendix 1 - Successful Coaching Report for Noting Appendix 2 - Successful Equipment Report for Noting Appendix 3 - Successful Equipment Report for Approval Appendix 4 - Successful Schools/Club Pathway for Approval Appendix 5 - Successful Travel & Accommodation Report for Noting Appendix 6 - Unsuccessful Report

Members will be aware that on the 26th August 2015 Council delegated authority to the Ards and North Down Sports Forum, in order to allow it to administer sports grants funding on behalf of the Council. £45,000 had been allocated within the 2023/2024 revenue budget for this purpose.

Not Applicable

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The Council further authorised the Forum under delegated powers to award grants of up to £250. Grants above £250 still require Council approval. In addition, the Council requested that regular updates are reported to members.

During October 2023, the Forum received a total of 29 applications: 1 Coaching, 16 Equipment, 3 Schools/Sports Club Pathway and 9 Travel/Accommodation. A summary of the **28** successful applications are detailed in the attached Successful Coaching, Successful Equipment, Successful Schools/Club Pathway and Successful Travel & Accommodation Appendices.

For information, the annual budget and spend to date on grant categories is as follows:

	Annual Budget	Funding Awarded October 2023	Remaining Budget
Anniversary	£1,000	£0	£250.00
Coaching	£3,000	*£150.00	£1,453.75
Equipment	£14,000	*£9,303.83	-£6,984.77
Events	£6,000	£0	£1,468.00
Seeding	£500	£0	£55.01
Travel and Accommodation	£14,500	*£1,150.00	-£2,874.51
Discretionary	£1,000	£0	£1,000.00
Schools/Sports Club Pathway	£5,000	*£1,498.00	£3,002.00
*Goldcards proposed during the period October 2023 is 0 (15 Goldcards in total during 2023/24).			

*The proposed remaining budget for Coaching of **£1,453.75** is based on a proposed award of **£150** – for Noting.

*The proposed remaining award for Equipment of **-£6,984.77** is based on a proposed award of **£9,303.83** – for Approval/Noting.

*The proposed remaining budget for Travel and Accommodation of **-£2,874.51** is based on a proposed award of **£1,150.00** – for Noting and Withdrawn costs of **£450.00**.

*The proposed remaining budget for Schools/Club Pathway of **£3,002.00** is based on a proposed award of **£1,498.00** – for Approval.

The proposed funding for October is **£12,101.83** and the proposed remaining budget for 2023/24 is **-£2,630.52** (106% of the 2023/24 budget spent).

Funding for continuation of the Grants Programme

As noted above, the proposed funding relating to October 2023 Sports Forum Grants programme will see the programme overspent by £2,630.52 year to date. It is also noted that, with the grants programme due to run throughout the remainder of the financial year, further grant applications would see the level of overspend rise. Based on Quarter 4 figures from 2022/23, in which grant funding was 11.2% of the previous 3 quarters, it is forecast that a further £6,000 may be applied for if the grants scheme

Not Applicable

35

continues to operate in 2023/24. This would mean a possible total shortfall of circa £8,600 in the Sports Forum Grants Scheme budget in 2023/24.

Officers have considered Programme financing and identified the following potential opportunities to recode the shortfall from other sport development budgets:

- Utilise underspend of £5,253.25 from the now closed Sports Development Capital Grants programme.
- Utilise forecast underspend in Sports Development staffing budget of £5,000.

Approval of the above would allow for the continuation of the Sports Forum Grants programme throughout the remainder of 2023/24 financial year.

Alternatively, if the above proposal is rejected, Officers would apply a reduction in funding percentage to pending applications from October 2023 and would close the programme, with the immediate cessation of any further grants in 2023/24.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council approves the utilisation of identified underspend towards eligible grant applications from October 2023 to March 2024 and therefore approves the attached applications for financial assistance for sporting purposes valued at above £250, and that the applications approved by the Forum (valued at below £250) are noted.

APPENDIX 1 - SUCCESSFUL COACHING REPORT FOR NOTING

NAME	COURSE	BENEFITS	FACILITATOR	DATES	REQUESTED	PROPOSED	NOTES
Bangor Hockey Club	External Specialist Coaching	Increasing the strength of the 1XI team specifically who are playing in the EYHL (Ireland-wide league), improving performance, fitness and agility in addition to hockey skills training.	RYAN BURGESS - Burgess Performance Training - strength & Conditioning £200	Weekly from 7th August through to 27th May (approx.), 30mins at the start of each coaching session on a training night.	£150	£150	Our guidelines state that Clubs can apply for "Specialist/high performance coaching to a sports club and/or an organisation within the Borough" and the "training must be delivered by a recognised training provider". Recommend funding for Specialist coaching which is up to a maximum of £150. Coaching must be completed by end of financial year.
TOTALS						£150.00	

APPENDIX 2 - SUCCESSFUL EQUIPMENT REPORT FOR NOTING

NAME	TYPE	EQUIPMENT NEED	BENEFIT	COSTS	REQUESTED	PROPOSED	NOTES
Abbey Villa Football Club	Training Equipment	Our youth string, Abbey Villa Youth, has grown from 2 to 13 teams, across almost all age groups. That setup is now bearing fruit, with producers of the youth teams now playing in the adult teams and an emphasis on local talent. The Youth committee has advised that parents would be keenest to see improved training equipment for everyone. Our goal is to increase attendance by 15% in seasons 2022/23 and 2023/24, to increase community involvement.	This project will benefit Abbey Villa and its members by having enough equipment to see us through a season. Balls are the main ingredient in training and are susceptible to wear and tear; we are continually buying balls. Our premises are used on a daily basis by members of the community, schools and other sports clubs.	Match & Training Balls £240	£240.00	£240.00	All documentation provided. Recommend funding of £240.

Ards Ladies Hockey Club	Training Equipment	We have many barriers to expanding our current club memberships - pitch space and coaches. We want to be able to continue to expand, and remove one of the barriers (lack of sufficient equipment). Being able to run quality sessions for players will increase member enjoyment and experience.	We have been able to grow our Junior and Senior Section this year, taking in more players than we have ever previously had. We currently do not have enough hockey balls to support this growth. Being able to source more hockey balls will allow sessions to be delivered to a higher standard and benefit all those involved.	Shrey Dimple Hockey Ball Bag 12 Pink Balls £56 + Shrey Dimple Hockey Ball Bag 12 Orange Balls £56 + Shrey Dimple Hockey Ball Bag 12 Yellow Balls £56 + Grays Match Balls White x 18 £76 = £244	£244.00	£244.00	All documentation provided. Recommend funding of £244.
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Ards Ladies Hockey Club	Hockey	We have many barriers to expanding our current club memberships - pitch space and coaches. We want to be able to continue to expand, and remove one of the barriers (lack of sufficient equipment). Being able to run quality sessions for players will increase member enjoyment and experience.	Due to increasing levels of membership, we no longer have sufficient amounts of equipment to support all groups.	Hockey Ball Bag x 4 £80 + Green Training Bibs £20 + Yellow Training Bibs £20 + Red training Bibs £40 + Mini Cones £60 + Superdome Markers £23 = £243	£243.00	£243.00	All documentation provided. Recommend funding of £243.
TOTALS						£727.00	

APPENDIX 3 - SUCCESSFUL EQUIPMENT REPORT FOR APPROVAL

NAME	TYPE	EQUIPMENT NEED	BENEFIT	COSTS	REQUESTED	PROPOSED	NOTES
Bangor Chiefs Inline Hockey Club	Training and High Performance Equipment	Receiving this equipment will allow us to encourage more local teenagers into our various junior teams (from ages 13-18). This will help sustain participation and increase membership in two ways: equipment such as face cages and shin guards are essential for our sport - we could not safely allow participants to play without the appropriate equipment as this would put them in danger of getting hurt.	Supporting local disadvantaged young people is important to the club because we are aware of some of the areas locally where our participants derive from. For instance, we support a lot of young people from the Harbour 1 Super Output Area, which is within the top 19% of places in Northern Ireland for multiple deprivation statistics. Even more concerning is the fact it is located within the top 0.6% of places in Northern Ireland for crime and disorder, therefore it is imperative that we provide an outlet for young people locally to partake in our sport and to reduce the risk of them falling into crime and anti-social behaviour.	Alkali RPD Quantum Girdle £46.00 each x 6 = £276.00 + CCM Tacks AS 550 Hockey Gloves £52.00 each x 6 = £312.00 + Hejduk Face Cage £30.00 each x 6 = £180.00 + Hejduk XX Helmet £55.00 each x 6 = £330.00. Total: £1,098.00 (Bangor	£1,000.00	£300.00	Recommend funding of £300 for Fundamental Equipment, "subject to" updated Safeguarding Policy and valid Public Liability Insurance.

North Down Athletics Club	High Performance Equipment	In an event that is measured in hundredths of a second, this will provide a more 'professional' set-up that will encourage the better sprinters to stay with the group & may even entice sprinters from other groups to join.	This equipment will allow the sprints coach to accurately time multiple athletes over various distances in a straightforward & consistent manner that simply cannot be achieved using a stopwatch.	Freelap Sprint Pack 1 (Pro BT112) £565 + FXChip BLE £193.50 + Freelap Estarter £238.80 = £997.30	£997.30	£997.30	All documentation provided. Recommend funding of £997.30.
Comber Rec Youth FC	Training Equipment	Improved training sessions and an increase in drills that can be used in training, will improve player ability and the training experience as a whole.	This set will be for our youngest squad and will improve their training sessions, allowing coaches to tailor specific drills. As they are portable, coaches can use them at various venues.	1 x Set Samba Goals £336	£300.00	£300.00	All documentation provided. Recommend funding of £300.

Ballywalter Bowling & Recreation Club	Training Equipment	Having this equipment will bring us on the same par as neighbouring clubs. From an unofficial survey carried out within our local community, the main reason for locals choosing neighbouring clubs over ours is our equipment is sub standard in comparison.	Ballywalter Rec Youth are currently participants in the North Down small sided game. Regular match fixtures are played at Bangor Aurora Leisure Complex where the standard goals are 12ft x 4 ft. Playing/training in the same size of nets that are youth are expected to compete in will help develop their spatial awareness, develop distance awareness and allow them to progress at the same rate as other Clubs in the area., who already have the equipment in situ. Having access to competition size nets will allow us to host tournaments, inviting neighbouring Clubs to participate.	8ft x 6ft Aluminium Football Goals x 4 £928 + £232 VAT = £1,160.00	£1,000.00	£928.00	All documentation provided. Recommend funding of £928, as the Club intend to claim back VAT.
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Ballyholme Yacht Club	Support the Development of New Sections / Equipment to help Host Events / Training Equipment	We will be running additional training groups every Saturday that require additional buoys to help setup courses. Our current training buoys are no longer viable. These smaller buoys are quick to deploy and very easy to manage from 1 support boat	We have not run coaching on Saturdays over the winter months, these new buoys will provide additional time for children to sail over winter. In addition by offering winter training we have indications of sailors from the local community joining BYC for the opportunity to sail over the winter. Having access to good quality marks that are long lasting, easy to handle, deploy and recover. The current marks are not tall enough, so getting more visibility with better marks, yellow and height allows for safer on water training during winter months.	6 yellow Plastimo training marks £725 + £145 VAT and anchors & chain £100 + £20 VAT = £825 + £165 VAT = £990	£990.00	£825.00	All documentation provided. Recommend funding of £825, as the Club intend to claim back VAT.
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Portaferry Sailing Club	Training Equipment	Providing the sails will allow us to bring three of the Clubs Optimist Dinghies back into operation. These will then be used as the foundation for our Junior Sailing School which provides training for our junior members. Having GPS onboard your training/rescue boat is essential for the safety of the Coaches and the children.	Having a thriving and fully operational junior sailing school will help the Club maintain an interest in sailing by encouraging new members to the sport. Junior sailors are the future guardians of the Club and the sport. Having these sails to equip our boats will help us reach our objectives of introducing new members to the Club and sustain our future. Having GPS on the Coaching boat will give everyone, pupils and children, confidence in the safety of the school activities, and encourage membership and thus participation.	Three sets of Optimist Dinghy Sails £608.50 (plus £121.50 VAT) + Hemming bird Helix 5 G2 GPS including Maps £375 (plus £75 VAT) = £983.50 + VAT	£983.50	£675.00	All documentation provided. Recommend funding of £675; £300 for Fundamental Equipment (Optimist Dinghy Sails) plus £375 for GPS including maps. Forum discussion required.
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<p>Bangor Rugby Football and Cricket Club - Cricket Section</p>	<p>Enhance physical literacy for Junior Sections, Support the Development of New Sections and Training equipment.</p>	<p>The training equipment will allow women and girls cricketers to develop cricket specific skills of batting, bowling and fielding, with age/gender specific equipment such as bats, balls and training nets. Upon developing these skills the players will compete as teams in local leagues. The development of skills will encourage these players to remain members of the Club and find more fulfilment from the sport.</p>	<p>Our grant application is for training and protective equipment, to assist in the further development of our women's cricket. Numbers of women and girls playing cricket at Bangor Cricket Club has risen in recent years and in particular we wish to encourage more women to participate. The equipment needed for women's and youth cricket is a different size and weight than for men. We want to have appropriate equipment for these groups. Some equipment is expensive and we wish the Club to provide some items to prevent the cost being a barrier to entry.</p>	<p>Practice nets £55 x 2= £110 + protective helmets £44.95 x 2 = £99.90 + Women's cricket match balls £9.99 x 10 = £99.90 + Light bowling machine training balls £47.28 + Women's pads and gloves set £75.00 x 2 = £150.00 + Women's bats £100</p>	<p>£881.02</p>	<p>£410.00</p>	<p>Recommend funding of £410; £300 for Fundamental Equipment plus £110 for practice nets.</p>
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<p>North Down Hockey Club</p>	<p>Enhance Physical Literacy for Junior Sections</p>	<p>The new sports equipment will sustain participation and increase membership within the club by enhancing the training experience and generating positive word-of-mouth and reputation. By investing in quality equipment, the club creates an environment that fosters growth, development, and a sense of belonging, which are key factors in sustaining and expanding membership.</p>	<p>The acquisition of new sports equipment will benefit the club and its youth members by improving training and skill development, enhancing safety, increasing motivation and engagement, promoting equal opportunities, facilitating professional development and exposure, and enhancing the club's image and reputation.</p>	<p>Large training balls 40 x 6 = £240 + Mitre ladders (set of 4) x 2 £110 + Standard training balls 69 x £5 = £345 + Target set & skittles x 2 = £80 + Coloured training cones 2 packs £19.98 + Large training cones (96) £119.88 + Ball bags (2 reg 1</p>	<p>£998.86</p>	<p>£713.86</p>	<p>Recommend funding of £713.96; £300 for Fundamental Equipment (balls) plus ladders £110, target set & skittles £80 + Coloured training cones £19.98 + Large training cones £119.88 + Ball bags £84.</p>
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Holywood Ladies Bowling Club	Training Equipment	Correct size bowls will enhance the experience and learning the game.	Smaller bowls (00 - 0 size) designed for female hand sizes, to use for new players coming to our Try Bowls afternoon and evening club events.	Taylor Lazer set of 4 size 0 £252 + £63 VAT = £315. Requested £300	£300.00	£300.00	All documentation provided. Recommend £300.
Ards Rugby Club	Training Equipment	Having this equipment will sustain participation.	Rugby balls are needed for our mini and youth sections as player numbers increase. Training bibs in various colours will assist coaches in quickly identifying players of different abilities/ages whilst training. With a huge emphasis being placed on the height of the tackle, tackle bags will assist coaches in coaching the safe tackle height.	Rugby Balls £380 + Bibs £220 + Tackle Bags £350 + Ball Bag £23.99 + Ball Stirrup Pump £23.99 = £997.98	£917.98	£917.98	Recommend funding of £917.98; £300 for Fundamental Equipment plus Bibs, Tackle Bags, Ball Bag and Ball Stirrup Pump, "subject to" updated Child Safeguarding Statement (Policy says to be reviewed September 2023).

St Josephs Ballycran GAC	Support the development of new sections	This equipment will help sustain youth and encourage them to remain , help retain and assist in recruiting all who would like to participate in this programme as not solely aimed at GAA more at fitness.	This will be available to playing and non playing juveniles, but all youth must have membership, this should enable children and parents to take advantage of our club and facilities. New members and existing members will be included.	Weighted Vests £47.18 + Kettle Bells Weight Bags £148.68 + Dumbell storage rack £91.98 + Brush Shafts £88.97 + Dumbell Sets £449.35 + Balls indoor £220.00 = £1046.16	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	All documentation provided. Recommend £1,000.
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Ards Ladies Hockey Club	High Performance Equipment	Being able to record and analyse players will allow our Coaches to provide a high level of training and development for our players. Our Club prides itself in having a First X1 which compete at a high level, and being able to attract players through providing high level, professional coaching is a huge bonus.	This equipment will allow our First X1 to record, and analyse their matches and training sessions, to help improve their performance.	Sony Cam recorder £300 + 72 inch Camera Tripod £100 = £400	£400.00	£400.00	All documentation provided. Recommend £400.
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Bangor Rugby Football Club	Enhance Physical Literacy for Junior Sections/Equipment to help Host Events/Training Equipment	Our youth training bibs are former senior training equipment and therefore too large. Bangor RFC hosts the North Down Women's Team and the provision of post protectors will enable the women's team to train at the same time as senior men on a Tuesday, as well as enable greater pitch utilisation.	Additional match standard rugby balls are required to cater for expanding numbers in our youth section. We currently have 88 registered youth players at U12, U14, U16 & U18 levels, with the aim to expand this to 100.	Rugby Balls £252 + Training Bibs £77.70 + Post Protectors £479.99 = £809.69	£809.69	£809.69	Recommend £809.69, "subject to" updated Safeguarding Policy (Policy submitted dated February 2018). Forum discussion required regarding Bangor Rugby Football and Cricket Club - Cricket Section, also submitted this month.
TOTAL						£8,576.83	

APPENDIX 4 - SUCCESSFUL SCHOOLS/SPORTS CLUB PATHWAY REPORT FOR APPROVAL

NAME	SPORT	NEED	OUTCOMES	DETAIL	REQUESTED	PROPOSED	NOTES
Irish Olympic Handball Association	Olympic Handball	Olympic Handball is a growing sport in Northern Ireland. It's very inclusive, easy to coach, easy to learn and most of all enjoyable. Children that take part have the chance to compete in our Primary Schools All-Ireland Competition.	This programme will help highlight a minority programme and give the people and children in Ards and North Down the chance to compete and enjoy a new inclusive sport.	Sullivan Upper Preparatory Dept., Holywood Primary & St. Patrick's Primary, Holywood (Mitchell House in Belfast CC)	Coaching 16 X £25 = £400 + Venue Hire £50 + Transport £50 = £500	£500.00	Recommend funding of £500, "subject to" Updated Schools/Dates (Mitchell House not within the Borough), Updated Funding Details, Updated Insurance, Risk Assessments for each venue and a signed Declaration from each school.

<p>North Down Hockey Club</p>	<p>Field Hockey</p>	<p>NDHC has approached Killinchy Primary School with the view to delivering a 6 week programme of hockey coaching for P4-P7s in Feb/Mar 2024. The programme will focus on the fundamental skills of hockey, learning the basic rules and focusing on teamwork and having fun within a rewarding and encouraging environment delivered by North Down Hockey Youth Coaches.</p>	<p>The School/Sports Club Pathway Programme is essential in addressing the need for increased sports participation among pupils especially sports they can not try at school due to a lack of appropriate space/facilities. By identifying talent, bridging the gap between schools and sports clubs, exposing pupils to different sports, providing expert guidance, facilitating networking, and offering continued support, the programme effectively signposts pupils to further sports participation opportunities.</p>	<p>Killinchy Primary School at Comber Leisure Centre. Feb/March 2024, 3-4pm. 2 Coaches & 30 Children</p>	<p>Coaching - 2 coaches x £20 x 1 hour x 6 weeks = £240 + Pitch Hire £31 x 1 hour x 6 weeks = £186 + Age appropriate hockey balls 12 x £6 = £72. Total = £498.</p>	<p>£498.00</p>	<p>All documentation provided. Recommend funding of £498.</p>
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Ards Rugby Club	Rugby Union	Rugby Outreach & Ards Rugby (ROAR)- Primary Schools in the Newtownards Area for P3 boys & girls. 3 x 45 minute taster sessions at Castle Gardens - 2 classes, West Winds & Loughries - 1 class. Approx. 70 children. 3 Coaches - Jude McKenna - Chris Allen - Stephen Nutt.	Ards Rugby wishes to promote the sport of rugby to both boys + girls in the P3 school group in local Primary schools. Ards Rugby currently runs a mini rugby section and the P3 age group is under represented.	West Winds PS, Castle Gardens PS & Loughries PS	Coaching costs £500	£500.00	Recommend funding of £500; "subject to" a Risk Assessment for each venue, a signed Declaration from each school and an updated Child Safeguarding Statement (Policy says to be reviewed September 2023).
TOTALS						£1,498.00	

APPENDIX 5 - SUCCESSFUL TRAVEL/ACCOMMODATION REPORT FOR NOTING

APPLICANT	SPORT	EVENT	DATES	LOCATION	REPRESENTING	REQUESTED	PROPOSED	NOTES
Claire McLarnon	Weightlifting	2023 Dutch International Masters Open	21/10/2023	Den Helder, Netherlands	Ireland	£170.00	£170.00	Email from Weightlifting Ireland confirms Claire is representing Ireland at the Dutch International Masters Open, 21 October 2023. Recommend funding of £170.
Hannah Dadley-Young	Sailing	2023 29er GP2 2023	14-15 October 2023	Plas Heli, The Welsh National Sailing Centre	Ni/Ireland	£150.00	£100.00	Letter from RYA NI confirms Hannah has been selected to represent N.Ireland at the 29er GP2, Plas Heli, 14-15 October 2023. Recommend £100, as maximum award of £500 reached for 2023/24.
Ryan Stirling	Taekwondo	2023 Battle of the Lowlands Masters Series Tournament ITF	14/10/2023	Netherlands	Northern Ireland	£170.00	£170.00	Letter from SCOT confirms Ryan is representing N.Ireland at the Battle of the Lowlands Masters Series Tournament ITF in the Netherlands, 14 October 2023. Recommend funding of £170.
Luke Stirling	Taekwondo	2023 Battle of the Lowlands Masters Series Tournament ITF	14/10/2023	Netherlands	Northern Ireland	£170.00	£170.00	Letter from SCOT confirms Luke is representing N.Ireland at the Battle of the Lowlands Masters Series Tournament ITF in the Netherlands, 14 October 2023. Recommend funding of £170.

Ryan Stirling	Taekwondo	2023 Open Taekyon Tournament	Northern Ire	Netherlands	26/11/2023	£170.00	£170.00	Letter from SCOT confirms Ryan representing N.Ireland at the Open Taekyon Tournament in the Netherlands, 26 November 2023. Recommend funding of £170.
Luke Stirling	Taekwondo	2023 Open Taekyon Tournament	Northern Ire	Netherlands	26/11/2023	£170.00	£170.00	Letter from SCOT confirms Luke is representing N.Ireland at the Open Taekyon Tournament in the Netherlands, 26 November 2023. Recommend funding of £170.
Anna Devany	Netball	2023 U19 European Competition	15-17/12/2023	Loughborough University	Northern Ireland	Flights £180	£150.00	Letter from Netball NI confirms Anna has been selected to represent Northern Ireland at the U19 European Competition, 15-17 December 2023, Loughborough University. Recommend funding of £150.

Alex Cree	Archery	GB Youth Compound Development squad training	28/10/2023	Lilleshall National Sport Centre, Pave Lane, Telford	Great Britain	Ferry £330 + Accommodation £69.30	£50.00	Email from Archery GB confirms Alex has been selected to attend GB Youth Compound Development squad training on 28 October 2023 at Lilleshall National Sports Centre. Recommend funding of £50 as guidance notes state "assistance towards costs involved in attending National Governing Body Selection Training Squads...up to a maximum of £50".
TOTAL							£1,150.00	

APPENDIX 6 - UNSUCCESSFUL APPLICATIONS REPORT

APPLICANT	APPLICATION	REQUEST	EVIDENCE REQUIRED	EXPLANATION
Lucie Young	Travel/ Accommodation Grant	To attend U21 Europe Netball Championships at English Institute of Sport, Sheffield, on 6 October 2023.	Under 'Applicant Eligibility', our guidelines state that applicants must "Be a resident of Ards and North Down Borough".	On the application form, Lucie advises that her Club is Bangor Netball Club but her address is outside the Borough.

Unclassified

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ITEM 11**Ards and North Down Borough Council**

Report Classification	Unclassified
Exemption Reason	Not Applicable
Council/Committee	Community and Wellbeing Committee
Date of Meeting	13 December 2023
Responsible Director	Director of Community and Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Leisure Services
Date of Report	24 November 2023
File Reference	SD150
Legislation	Recreation and Youth Services Order (1986)
Section 75 Compliant	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> If other, please add comment below:
Subject	Soccer Development Transition Update
Attachments	Appendix 1 Soccer Development Programme and proposed transition outcomes

Members will recall that a report on the future of Soccer Development was presented to Community and Wellbeing Committee in March 2023 with several recommendations. At that meeting, an amendment was agreed by Council as follows:

“That this Council allocates appropriate funding to deliver our Soccer Development programmes and throughout the incoming year it consults with all local clubs, the Irish Football Association, and the Education Authority to ease the transition from the Council's responsibility over to them for the following fiscal year and explores all revenue streams including funding to alleviate running costs going forward for all.”

In relation to this decision, Council Officers sought clarification from the proposer and seconder on the decision reached. Following further consultation with the proposer and seconder of the above amendment who confirmed that the intention was to continue with delivery of the programme for 2023/24 to allow Officers more time to

Not Applicable

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consult with local clubs and the IFA to ease the transition period into a new model from April 2024.

Since March 2023, Officers have continued to plan and implement transition of Soccer Development to the schools, clubs and NGB's by engaging with a range of stakeholders including the IFA, clubs and education sector. This report aims to provide members with an update on the ongoing work and details the proposals for future delivery of soccer within the Borough.

1. Transition Update & Review

Attached Appendix 1. details the current Soccer Development programme and proposed outcomes of the transition process.

In the sections below, an update is provided for each programme, detailing current performance, stakeholder communications and transition progression.

Afterschool's Programme:

Following the Council's report in April 2023, an online meeting with all schools was facilitated by the Council's Sports Development Officer to outline a new pricing policy in which the cost of the coaching was passed to the schools. The cost of after schools coaching was set at £40 per hour which was representative of the current cost of direct coach provision.

The objective set by the Soccer Development Officer for 2023/24 was to involve 20 schools in afterschool coaching. This would be split between mixed afterschool coaching and girls specific coaching. Currently, to date in 2023/24, there have been 12 schools that have taken up the programme, with six schools availing of afterschool programme (boys and girls) and six schools availing of girls only coaching.

It is proposed that delivery for afterschool's coaching would be undertaken directly by schools. This is a common delivery model and evidenced across a range of sports including hockey and athletics within the schools setting. It is planned to aid the transition of those schools who are currently provided for directly by the Council by providing an up-to-date database with all with all current coaches. By putting schools and coaches in direct contact and providing the links necessary, schools will be able to organise and deliver soccer afterschool's programmes directly, removing the requirement for Council involvement. This should also facilitate better linkages between the schools and local clubs which again is extremely important in pathway development for the children.

Market research has also revealed that there are several private operators delivering soccer afterschool's sessions across the Borough currently and this delivery option should be considered as part of the transition in line with similar economic considerations in other sectors across the Borough.

Not Applicable

Primary School's League:

Following the Council's report in April 2023, Officers met with the primary schools league committee and have developed a three year transition plan to ease the transition to the schools taking over the league financially.

This transition plan started in September 2023 and will move forward with support from the Council's Sports Development Team, facilitating the continued delivery of the League with schools delivering directly/independently by 2025/26.

Below is an outline of how the transition is taking place.

	Year 1 – 2023/24	Year 2 – 2024/25	Year 3 – 2025/26	Overview
Pitch/Facility Hire	100% paid from Sports Development	50% from Sports Development 50% from schools Cost as per 2024/25 Pricing Policy	0% from Sports Development 100% from Schools Recommendation to schools is to source an event sponsor.	Sports development financial commitment will extend to 100% facility costs in the first year (23/24), then drop to 50% in year two (24/25) and 0% from 25/26 going forward.
Coach/referee provision	Sports Development will provide one referee for the first year (23/24). The schools have requested a further two referees and this will come at their own cost. Schools to directly recruit their own coaches/referees. Details of current pool of coaches provided.	Sports Development withdraw the referee support. Schools are required to provide all three referees.	As per Year 2	Schools are to provide two referees in the first year (23/24) and three in the following years. Sports Development will contact all current coaches/referees and put them in contact with the schools as a database for hiring coaches/referees.
Soccer Officer Support	Sports Development will lead on this year's programme by: *Making facility bookings *Contacting all schools *Fixture creation	Schools to lead on Programme. Sports Development will provide any necessary guidance to schools on delivery of the Programme.	Schools to lead on Programme. Sports Development will provide any necessary guidance to schools on delivery of the Programme.	

Previously, ANDBC covered all costs associated with this programme, including facility hire, coach/referee provision and administrative support. Currently, in year 1 of the transition plan (2023/24), ANDBC are paying the cost of facility hire and one referee/coach, with schools paying the cost of the remaining two coaches/referees.

Into year two, ANDBC would pay 50% of the facility hire cost, with schools paying 50% of facility cost and the cost of all coaches/referees. In year three schools lead on the programme, with all costs are transferred to the schools. Council's Sports Development Officers will continue to provide any necessary support and guidance required to aid in the delivery.

Not Applicable

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It is to be noted that currently, there has been no Council provision for primary schools leagues in Bangor and therefore those schools in this area were already providing for their soccer needs without subvention from Council.

Holiday Schemes

Previously, the Soccer Development team has delivered Soccer Schemes at Halloween, Easter and Summer holiday periods.

In 2023 the Easter scheme did not run due to uncertainty over the programme. It is understood that some local clubs organised and delivered their own very successful schemes without competition from Council. These included Ards Academy, Portavogie FC Youth (in conjunction with Rangers FC Academy), Bangor FC (in conjunction with Supreme Sports) and Ballywalter Youth FC. The popularity and success of camps delivered by operators in the private sector can also be seen in the Borough. E.g. Local company Kickabout Kidz had a registration of 180 children across nine local pitches at their Easter 2023 camps.

The Councils summer skills weeks were held in the summer 2023 and a continuation to the trend of declining participation numbers has been noted. In 2022 there was a total of 364 registrations across seven schemes. In 2023 the number fell significantly again with a total of only 268 recorded. The drop in 96 children from the previous year was despite the leisure centres within the Ards not running summer schemes in 2023.

This decline in uptake was also evidenced in the Ballywalter summer holiday camp which had to be cancelled due to low numbers (seven registrations only) for a second year running. Provision for the children in the cancelled scheme was facilitated by offering a space in a scheme at different locations.

The Halloween scheme in 2023 was projected to attract 50 registrations, however, with just 21 children availing of the scheme, Sports development again noted a significant decrease in demand from 2022 registration figures.

It is theorised that the drop in demand for Council schemes is linked to the increasing availability of alternatives within the market and that further to this, the removal of Council schemes would have no net detrimental effect as demand could be fully met through the schemes offered by clubs, NGOs and private operators. Of note is the continued rise in the number of Soccer Clubs and private providers who are running soccer schemes across the holiday periods. In 2023, Non Council summer and easter schools were noted in many areas of the Borough, run both by football clubs including Ards FC Academy, Portavogie Youth, Abbey Villa, Greenwell Star Youth and Castle Juniors FC, and by private operators such as Kickabout Kidz, Galactico Soccer, Ultimate Soccer, Supreme Sports and First Touch Football.

In November 2023, Officers met with Rangers Academy who worked with football clubs in the summer of 2023 in Millisle and Portavogie to deliver football camps. It is hoped that Rangers Academy will be able to continue grow and develop their holiday

Not Applicable

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camp provision in partnership with local football clubs. Planning to facilitate this is ongoing.

It should also be noted that Easter 2024 is in March, this financial year, and Sports Development plan not to run a soccer development scheme at this time.

Football Development Centres

There have been two football development centres run in 2023, with sessions taking place on a Friday from 3.30pm to 5pm. The first course (March to June 23) reached its maximum registration numbers of 64. The second course (ongoing, September to December 23) has seen a reduction in demand to date with only 46 of the available 64 places taken.

In terms of the transition of this programme away from direct ANDBC delivery, preliminary discussion have been held with the IFA with the hope that IFA will take over this delivery in April 2024.

Market research has also demonstrated that demand for soccer development centres can also be met through private operators such as Galactico Soccer and Kickabout Kidz who currently offer development centres at various locations within the Borough (e.g. Bangor Aurora/Londonderry Park) across a range of age groups.

Disability Football for children and adults

The Adult Disability football programme was cancelled during the Covid-19 pandemic. Due to the lack of demand, this programme has not been restarted and subsequently, no additional planning is required to transition delivery. During the period of time since the Covid-19 closures, Sports Development have received no inquiries as to the programme restarting and has not received any complaints regarding its withdrawal. There are over 50 teams or clubs across the country that offer disability football. Within Ards and North Down, clubs such as Castle Juniors DFC (Bangor), Orchardville FC (Bangor), Ards Rangers and Ards FC (Newtownards) are working with the IFA to raise awareness and provide opportunities for participation within the club setting. Council will continue to support this more inclusive delivery initiative through the Clubs and determine this process to be a more sustainable beneficial model in line with I.F.A. inclusivity programmes.

The Children's Disability football programme has recently been re-introduced in November 2023 for the first time since 2020. Currently there are 11 children registered on the programme. The children's disability football programme is sponsored by Patton's Bakery. This sponsorship relates to the entry fees of the children, which is £5 per head, per week. This money covers the cost of hall hire. Currently, Council pays the costs of a casual coach to facilitate each session.

It is proposed that Council maintain direct delivery of this scheme post transition, with coaching being carried out by the Sports Development staff in order to aid with financial viability. Children will be signposted to local inclusive clubs but for many

Not Applicable

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children and their parents this first exposure to soccer is particularly challenging and Officers believe the Council is an appropriate delivery agent at this level.

Community Cup

The Community Cup is a cross community tournament for primary school children and including clubs from in Ards, Bangor and Belfast which is funded by Council's PSCP section.

Initial discussions have been held with PSCP and it has been indicated that continued funding is dependent on available budget in 2024/25. Should funding be available, it is intended to retain delivery of the Community Cup within the Sports Development department. It is hoped that availability of funding can be confirmed following the 2024/25 budget setting process. Should funding not be available, the IFA have indicated that they would be in a position to extend their current SSG programme on Saturday mornings throughout May and June to ensure continued provision for small sided games.

Borough Cup

In 2023 the entrance fee for the tournament was increased significantly to £100 in order to make the event financially viable. Nine teams took part in the tournament which ran across three weeks.

The Council's Sports Development section has proposed that this tournament could be made more financially viable, without the need for further significant price increases, by changing the format to a one day event from 2024 onwards. This change would allow the tournament to be maintained and delivered by Council, with proceeds from the event going towards the Mayors charity.

During recent discussions with Rangers Academy which took place in November 2023, the club has indicated that it would be keen to partner in this event moving forward, offering assistance and an opportunity to rebrand. With this event taking place annually, in June, Sports Development Officers plan to meet with officials from Rangers Academy again in coming months to further explore the possibility of this partnership through the development a service level agreement transition plan similar to that which was developed for the primary schools' league in conjunction with the primary schools committee.

2. IFA Restructure – Impact and Opportunity

The Irish FA Foundation, has recently undertaken a staff restructure, leading to the formation of six new departments operating in regional hub teams. The new structure will maximise and increase programming impact in schools, clubs and communities across Northern Ireland.

Strategically the Foundation will now become more aligned with the Irish FA's corporate strategy, A Roadmap for Football, with its work focusing on three of the

Not Applicable

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seven pillars within it: participation, women's and girls' football and corporate social responsibility and sustainability.

Each regional hub team will have six team members who will focus on the key areas of Game Development, Club Development, Post Primary Development, Primary School Development, Community Engagement and Coach Education.

With the appointment of these new Officers, the IFA will be working to build capacity and develop each specific area. Of particular note is the introduction of a dedicated primary school Development Officer who will work to increase football opportunities and school/club links within the regional area. Initial meetings have been held with the IFA to identify additional opportunities for the Council's Sports Development section to continue to partner with the IFA to ensure soccer development within the entire Borough continues to flourish without the need for a dedicated Council Soccer Development section.

Leisure Officers will continue to liaise with the lead officer within the IFA for our regional hub to maximise the benefits provided to the Borough by the IFA restructure.

3. Sport Development Funding opportunities available to Clubs/Schools

Elected Members will be aware of the fantastic work carried out by the Ards and North Down Sports Forum, working with local clubs to administer and provide a full grants programme which enables clubs to invest, grow and engage residents across the Borough. Several of these grants will be an essential aid to the proposed soccer transition plan as outlined above. An outline of the grants and opportunities they present are given below:

1. A new **School/club** pathway grant was introduced in 2023 to the Sports Forum Grants programme. This new funding pathway allows for clubs to avail of £500 a year to enable them to provide coaching opportunities within local schools. The aim of the grant is to provide opportunities for the school children to become involved in sport and build strong pathways for progression and development into local clubs.
2. **Event Grant** – The event grant is in place to allow clubs up to £1,000 to facilitate events in their club calendar. This has extended to enable club's to run summer camps and can be utilised in smaller amounts across the year for various other schemes.
3. **Equipment Grant** – This grant allows for clubs to purchase equipment up to the value of £1,000 to support current activities, schemes, and fundamental activities.

It is intended to seek additional grant funding through the Budget setting process to facilitate an increased demand on these funding opportunities in 2024/25.

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council continue to support the Sport Development delivery programme for Soccer transition as detailed above.

Appendix 1. Soccer Development Programme and proposed transition outcomes

Programme	Description	Proposed Outcome
Afterschool's' Programme & girls coaching	1 hr coaching session delivered on site at the registered school. Organised by SDO and delivered by Council employed coaches.	Direct delivery by schools
Primary Schools' League 9 aside Tournament 1 Day Tournament	2 hours per week at Londonderry Park, Newtownards over an 18 week period annually. Up to 18 schools take part and the SDO organises the fixtures, coordinates the schools and coaches/referees, with ANDBC paying all costs including facility hire and the coaches. This league provides only for Primary schools in Legacy Ards Area, with no provision for primary schools in Bangor. The 9 aside tournament and 1 day tournament are run at the end of the league with referee and facility hire funded by Council.	Schools' committee takes over the full running of the league. Council delivers a one-day tournament at the culmination of the league schools as part sports series and in line with delivery for other sports through the Sports Development section.
Holiday camps	Halloween – 3-day camp in ABMLWC Easter – Two 3-day camps held in Londonderry Park and Kircubbin. Summer – Seven 5-day camps held in Londonderry Park, Comber, Kircubbin, Portaferry, Ballywalter, Donaghadee ANDBC provides coaches, facilities, and administrative support with a portion of cost applied to the participants	Demand for provision met by football clubs, NGOs and private providers.
Soccer Development Centres	12-week course run at Londonderry Park and Comber Leisure Centre. £ courses run per annum. ANDBC provides coaches, facilities and administrative support with a cost applied to the participants	Soccer development centres delivered by IFA.
Disability Football for children and adults	Weekly session delivered at ABMLWC across a 30-week programme. Sponsored by Patton's Bakery. Sponsorship relates to the entry fees of the children, which is £5 per head, per week and covers the cost of hall hire. Currently, Council pays the costs of a casual coach to facilitate each session.	Council maintains direct delivery of this scheme through the Sports Development section. IFA and SDO work together to ensure coaches are provided and bookings are in place.
Community Cup	SSG tournament for primary school ages style run over 4 Saturdays. The scheme involves clubs from both sides of the community. Funded through Council's PSCP section.	Council maintains direct delivery of this scheme through the Sports Development section.
Borough Cup	Annual event, taking place over a 2-week period in June each year at Londonderry Park. Cost applied to teams registering.	Council maintain delivery through Sports development section. The format will change to a 1-day event, in which all proceeds go to the Mayor's charity.

Unclassified

ITEM 12

Ards and North Down Borough Council

Report Classification	Unclassified
Exemption Reason	Not Applicable
Council/Committee	Community and Wellbeing Committee
Date of Meeting	13 December 2023
Responsible Director	Director of Community and Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Leisure Services
Date of Report	22 November 2023
File Reference	LS/LA18
Legislation	Recreation and Youth Services Order (1986)
Section 75 Compliant	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> If other, please add comment below:
Subject	Leisure Pricing 2024-2025
Attachments	Appendix 1 Pricing Table for Leisure Ards 2024-2025 Appendix 2 NCLT Pricing Table 2024

Members will be aware that Council has recently agreed that annual price increases in line with inflation are brought to Committee for awareness and that only in the event of significant increase above this level is Council authorisation required.

This report brings to Members attention the price increase that will be applied by both Leisure Ards (appendix 1) and NCLT (appendix 3) for the coming year.

Appendix one details the process that will be applied to customers across the service at our directly managed sites at ABMWLC, Comber, Portaferry and Londonderry Park. As well as at our other outdoor tennis courts and bowling greens. Details of the price increase for Sport Development are also included. These prices detail an approximate 6.7% increase in line with inflation at the time of calculating charges and writing this report, rounded to a more workable figure in terms of cash handling and /or facility subdivision, i.e., if a hall is divided into courts etc.

Not Applicable

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Appendix two details the prices NCLT will be charging its customers from 1st January 2024. This is for information only as Elected Members will be aware that Council has no authority to set prices as per the current contract with NCLT. However, the majority of the proposals from NCLT are in line with Councils directly managed sites.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council:

1. Notes the price increases being applied by Serco from 1st January 2024.
2. Furthermore, Council notes the impact of the application of the inflationary price increases of approximately 6.7% being applied to charges across Leisure Ards directly managed sites from 1st April 2024.

Ards Blair Mayne, Londonderry Park, Comber and Portaferry Centres - Price Increases 1 April 2024						
Casual use Concession = Over 60, disabled, student, unemployed & 16 & 17 yr olds	2022-23 MEMBER	2022-23 NON MEMBER	2023-24 MEMBER	2023-24 NON MEMBER	2024-25 MEMBER	2024-25 NON MEMBER
SWIMMING						
Adult	£4.40	£5.50	£4.90	£6.00	£5.20	£6.40
Concession	£2.80	£3.30	£3.25	£3.75	£3.45	£4.00
Child 4 years & under	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
Active Ageing	£2.80	£2.80	£3.25	£3.25	£3.45	£3.45
Family	£13.20	£17.60	£14.80	£18.50	£15.70	£19.60
Schools (applied September 2024)		£2.80		£3.15		£3.30
SPLASH POOL						
7 years & under	£4.75	£4.75	£5.00	£5.00	£5.30	£5.30
Pool Hire/Party per hour	£75.00	£75.00	£78.00	£78.00	£83.00	£83.00
SWIMMING POOL HIRE - PER HOUR						
1 Lane	£11.00	£11.00	£12.00	£12.00	£12.80	£12.80
Hire of Gala Pool	£62.00	£62.00	£65.00	£65.00	£69.00	£69.00
Hire of Pool Commercial	£147.00	£147.00	£150.00	£150.00	£159.00	£159.00
1 Lane Commercial	£31.60	£31.60	£33.00	£33.00	£35.00	£35.00
Gala (short course - 25m)	£110.00	£110.00	£115.00	£115.00	£122.00	£122.00
Schools Gala (2 Hours)	£33.60	£33.60	£35.00	£35.00	£37.00	£37.00
Minor Pool Commercial Hire	£94.60	£94.60	£99.00	£99.00	£105.00	£105.00
Minor Pool Hire excluding lifeguard	£48.00	£48.00	£50.00	£50.00	£53.00	£53.00
Minor Pool Hire including lifeguard	£58.00	£58.00	£60.00	£60.00	£63.60	£63.60
Minor Pool Hire with swim teacher						

SWIMMING LESSONS - prices apply from September 2024						
Junior Swimming Lesson (30 minutes)	£6.80	£6.80	£7.00	£7.00	£7.50	£7.50
Junior DD monthly	£26.52	£26.52	£27.30	£27.30	£30.00	£30.00
Adult Swimming Lesson (45 minutes)	£7.35	£7.35	£7.50	£7.50	£8.00	£8.00
Adult DD monthly	£28.66	£28.66	£29.25	£29.25	£32.00	£32.00
Lessons Personal 1:1 (30 mins)	£26.00	£26.00	£27.00	£27.00	£28.60	£28.60
Lessons Personal 1:2/3 Siblings (30 mins)	£21.00	£21.00	£22.00	£22.00	£23.30	£23.30
NPLQ Over 16 yrs	£280.00	£280.00	£290.00	£290.00	£307.00	£307.00
SPA ARDS						
Adult (2hrs)	£15.75	£15.75	£17.00	£17.00	£18.00	£18.00
Junior/Concession/Active Ageing	£10.50	£10.50	£12.00	£12.00	£12.70	£12.70
Family (5 people 1 of whom must be 18 yrs or over)	£42.00	£42.00	£46.00	£46.00	£48.80	£48.80
Spa Hire (2 hours)... Limited availability			£150.00	£150.00	£159.00	£159.00
HEALTH SUITE COMBER						
Adult	£6.50	£6.50	£7.00	£7.00	£7.40	£7.40
Concession	£4.60	£4.60	£5.00	£5.00	£5.30	£5.30
Active Ageing	£3.60	£3.60	£4.00	£4.00	£4.25	£4.25
GYM - CASUAL USE						
Adult	£8.40	£8.40	£9.00	£9.00	£9.50	£9.50
Junior /Concession	£5.75	£5.75	£6.00	£6.00	£6.40	£6.40
Active Ageing	£2.60	£2.60	£3.00	£3.00	£3.20	£3.20
Fitness School Use	£3.75	£3.75	£4.00	£4.00	£4.20	£4.20
Induction Adult	£10.00	£10.00	£10.50	£10.50	£11.00	£11.00

Induction Concession/Junior	£5.00	£5.00	£6.00	£6.00	£6.40	£6.40
Induction Schools	£4.00	£4.00	£4.50	£4.50	£4.80	£4.80
CLASSES						
Fitness Classes Adult	£7.35	£7.35	£8.00	£8.00	£8.50	£8.50
Fitness Classes Concession/Junior	£5.25	£5.25	£5.50	£5.50	£5.80	£5.80
Fitness Classes Active Ageing	£3.95	£3.95	£4.50	£4.50	£4.80	£4.80
30 Minute Class	£3.95	£3.95	£4.50	£4.50	£4.80	£4.80
ACTIVITIES						
Badminton/Pickleball/Table Tennis Adult max. 4 people per court/hr	£11.00	£11.00	£12.00	£12.00	£12.70	£12.70
Badminton/Pickleball/Table Tennis Junior/Conc/AA max. 4 people per court/hour	£6.00	£6.00	£7.00	£7.00	£7.40	£7.40
Indoor Bowls per person	£2.50	£2.50	£3.75	£3.75	£4.00	£4.00
Creche per hour	£3.00	£3.00	£3.50	£3.50	£3.70	£3.70
SOFT PLAY						
Casual Use	£4.00	£4.00	£4.20	£4.20	£4.45	£4.45
Party and Private Hire Ards	£65.00	£65.00	£68.00	£68.00	£72.00	£72.00
Party and Private Hire Comber	£46.00	£46.00	£48.00	£48.00	£51.00	£51.00
Toddler Time Comber	£2.50	£2.50	£3.00	£3.00	£3.20	£3.20
Toddler Time Comber additional child	£1.50	£1.50	£2.00	£2.00	£2.10	£2.10
HALL HIRE - PER HOUR						
Main Hall (6 courts) Commercial	£132.00	£132.00	£138.60	£138.60	£147.00	£147.00
Main Hall (6 courts) Standard	£66.00	£66.00	£69.32	£69.32	£73.00	£73.00
Main Hall (6 courts) School/Junior	£33.00	£33.00	£34.60	£34.60	£36.60	£36.60
Main Hall seating 0 - 500	£120.00	£120.00	£126.00	£126.00	£133.60	£133.60

Main Hall seating 501 - 1000	£240.00	£240.00	£252.00	£252.00	£267.00	£267.00
Main Hall (4 courts) Standard	£44.00	£44.00	£46.20	£46.20	£48.80	£48.80
Main Hall (4courts) School/Junior	£22.00	£22.00	£23.00	£23.00	£24.40	£24.40
Main Hall (4 courts) Club Special Event Hire	£66.00	£66.00	£69.32	£69.32	£73.50	£73.50
Main Hall (3 courts) Comber/P'ferry	£33.00	£33.00	£34.60	£34.60	£36.60	£36.60
Main Hall (2 courts) Comber/P'ferry	£22.00	£22.00	£23.00	£23.00	£24.40	£24.40
1 court Standard	£11.00	£11.00	£11.56	£11.56	£12.20	£12.20
1 court School/Junior	£5.60	£5.60	£5.88	£5.88	£6.20	£6.20
1 court Schools Trampoline	£13.60	£13.60	£14.28	£14.28	£15.00	£15.00
1 court matted	£27.00	£27.00	£28.36	£28.36	£30.00	£30.00
Court & 4 x Trampoline	£33.00	£33.00	£34.60	£34.60	£36.60	£36.60
1 court gymnastics set up (Comber)	£16.00	£16.00	£16.80	£16.80	£17.80	£17.80
STUDIOS						
Studio 1 ABMWLC	£32.00	£32.00	£34.00	£34.00	£36.00	£36.00
Studio 2 ABMWLC	£32.00	£32.00	£34.00	£34.00	£36.00	£36.00
Studio 1&2 ABMWLC	£58.00	£58.00	£62.00	£62.00	£65.80	£65.80
Studio 1 & 2 Conference Half Day	£160.00	£160.00	£170.00	£170.00	£180.00	£180.00
Studio 1 & 2 Conference Full Day	£240.00	£240.00	£250.00	£250.00	£265.00	£265.00
Studio 3	£32.00	£32.00	£34.00	£34.00	£36.00	£36.00
Group Cycle in Studio 3	£50.00	£50.00	£52.50	£52.50	£56.00	£56.00
Virtual Spin Class per person	£4.00	£4.00	£4.50	£4.50	£4.80	£4.80
Energy Studio(Comber)	£21.00	£21.00	£22.00	£22.00	£23.00	£23.00
FUNCTION ROOMS						
Dusty Millar room	£27.00	£27.00	£28.00	£28.00	£29.60	£29.60
Dusty Millar room half day delegate package	£115.00	£115.00	£120.00	£120.00	£127.00	£127.00

Dusty Millar room full day delegate package	£175.00	£175.00	£184.00	£184.00	£195.00	£195.00
Function Room	£21.00	£21.00	£22.00	£22.00	£23.00	£23.00
Party Room 1 (with kitchen)	£20.00	£20.00	£21.00	£21.00	£22.00	£22.00
Party Room 1 or 2 (no kitchen)	£18.00	£18.00	£19.00	£19.00	£20.00	£20.00
Scrabo Room	£21.00	£21.00	£22.00	£22.00	£23.00	£23.00
Enler Room	£20.00	£20.00	£21.00	£21.00	£22.00	£22.00
Enler Room 45 minute party hire	£18.00	£18.00	£19.00	£19.00	£20.00	£20.00
Londonderry Pk Function Room 1	£8.00	£8.00	£8.50	£8.50	£10.00	£10.00
Londonderry Pk Function Room 2 (whole)	£16.00	£16.00	£17.00	£17.00	£13.00	£13.00
Londonderry Pk Function Room 2 (half)	£8.00	£8.00	£8.50	£8.50	£10.00	£10.00
Kitchen hire Londonderry Park (per hour)	£6.00	£6.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
DOME ARDS	Off Peak: Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm					
Multi Activity (Peak) 1/3	£26.00	£26.00	£27.00	£27.00	£28.60	£28.60
Multi Activity (Peak) 2/3	£52.00	£52.00	£54.00	£54.00	£57.20	£57.20
Multi Activity (Peak) All	£78.00	£78.00	£81.00	£81.00	£85.80	£85.80
Multi Activity (Off Peak/schools) 1/3	£21.00	£21.00	£22.00	£22.00	£23.00	£23.00
Multi Activity (Off Peak/schools) 2/3	£42.00	£42.00	£44.00	£44.00	£46.00	£46.00
Multi Activity (Off Peak/schools) All	£63.00	£63.00	£66.00	£66.00	£69.00	£69.00
Tennis (Peak) 1/3 max. 4 people per court	£11.00	£11.00	£12.00	£12.00	£12.80	£12.80
Tennis (Peak) 2/3 max. 4 people per court	£22.00	£22.00	£24.00	£24.00	£25.60	£25.60
Tennis (Peak) All max. 4 people per court	£33.00	£33.00	£36.00	£36.00	£38.40	£38.40
Tennis (Off Peak) 1/3 max. 4 people per court	£6.60	£6.60	£7.00	£7.00	£7.40	£7.40

Tennis (Off Peak) 2/3 max. 4 people per court	£13.20	£13.20	£14.00	£14.00	£14.80	£14.80
Tennis (Off Peak) All max. 4 people per court	£19.80	£19.80	£21.00	£21.00	£22.20	£22.20
Court per hour commercial hire	£15.00	£15.00	£16.00	£16.00	£17.00	£17.00
DOME COMBER						
Non tennis 1 Court (Peak)	£26.00	£26.00	£27.00	£27.00	£28.60	£28.60
Non tennis 2 Courts (Peak)	£52.00	£52.00	£54.00	£54.00	£57.20	£57.20
Non tennis 1 Court (Off Peak)	£21.00	£21.00	£22.00	£22.00	£23.00	£23.00
Non tennis 2 Courts (Off)Peak	£42.00	£42.00	£44.00	£44.00	£46.00	£46.00
Tennis 1 Court (Peak) max. 4 people per court	£11.00	£11.00	£12.00	£12.00	£12.80	£12.80
Tennis 2 Courts (Peak) max. 4 people per court	£22.00	£22.00	£24.00	£24.00	£25.60	£25.60
Tennis 1 Court (Off Peak) max. 4 people per court	£6.60	£6.60	£7.00	£7.00	£7.40	£7.40
Tennis 2 Courts (Off Peak) max. 4 people per court	£14.00	£14.00	£14.00	£14.00	£14.80	£14.80
Court per hour commercial hire	£15.00	£15.00	£16.00	£16.00	£17.00	£17.00
MUGA PORTAFERRY						
MUGA	£11.00	£11.00	£12.00	£12.00	£12.80	£12.80
Floodlights for MUGA	£8.00	£8.00	£8.50	£8.50	£9.00	£9.00
Soccer Party Hosted	£48.00	£48.00	£50.00	£50.00	£53.00	£53.00
PARTIES						
Football/Activity Party in Sports Hall	£40.00	£40.00	£42.00	£42.00	£44.50	£44.50
Football/Activity Party in Dome	£25.00	£25.00	£27.00	£27.00	£28.60	£28.60
Caterpillar Obstacle Run	£45.00	£45.00	£48.00	£48.00	£50.90	£50.90
Party Disco Dome & Bouncy Castle (Comber)	£45.00	£45.00	£48.00	£48.00	£50.90	£50.90

Party + Disco Dome + Trampoline (Comber)	£78.00	£78.00	£80.00	£80.00	£84.80	£84.80
Party Portaferry (1hr 30 mins) Full Hall	£40.00	£40.00	£42.00	£42.00	£44.50	£44.50
Party Soccer Hosted Portaferry (1hr 45 mins)	£50.00	£50.00	£52.50	£52.50	£55.65	£55.65
Party + Large Bouncer						
Party Soccer Hosted						
HOLIDAY SCHEMES ARDS						
Mini Scheme daily (4 to 7 yrs)	£11.00	£11.00	£12.00	£12.00	£12.70	£12.70
Mini Scheme weekly (4 to 7yrs)	£50.00	£50.00	£55.00	£55.00	£58.30	£58.30
Mini Scheme weekly (4 to 7yrs) sibling	£37.50	£37.50	£40.00	£40.00	£42.40	£42.40
Junior Scheme Half Day daily (8 to 14 yrs)	£11.00	£11.00	£12.00	£12.00	£12.70	£12.70
Junior Scheme Half Day weekly (8 to 14 yrs)	£40.00	£40.00	£55.00	£55.00	£58.30	£58.30
Junior Scheme All Day daily (8 to 14 yrs)	£25.00	£25.00	£26.00	£26.00	£27.60	£27.60
Junior Scheme All Day weekly (8 to 14 yrs)	£90.00	£90.00	£94.50	£94.50	£100.00	£100.00
Junior Scheme All Day weekly (8 to 14 yrs) 2nd sibling	£67.50	£67.50	£70.90	£70.90	£75.00	£75.00
HOLIDAY SCHEMES COMBER						
Half Day daily (4 to 11yrs)	£8.00	£8.00	£8.50	£8.50	£9.00	£9.00
Full Day daily (4 to 11yrs)	£18.00	£18.00	£18.90	£18.90	£20.00	£20.00
Half Day weekly (4 to 11 yrs)	£35.00	£35.00	£36.75	£36.75	£39.00	£39.00
Half Day weekly (4 to 11 yrs) 2nd sibling	£25.00	£25.00	£26.25	£26.25	£27.90	£27.90
Full Day weekly (4 to 11 yrs)	£60.00	£60.00	£63.00	£63.00	£66.80	£66.80

Full Day weekly (4 to 11 yrs) 2nd sibling	£50.00	£50.00	£52.50	£52.50	£55.65	£55.65
MEMBERSHIP						
Adult - 18 years and over Corporate - as agreed, 20% of adult rate Concession - over 60s, unemployed, disabled, 25% of adult rate Student - 16 & 17 year olds, 18 year olds in 3rd level, full time education, 30% of adult rate Junior - 15 and under, Fitness 11 to 15 years, 45% of adult rate						
AQUA						
Aqua Adult DD	£22.50	£22.50	£24.00	£24.00	£25.50	£25.50
Aqua Adult 6 Months	£135.00	£135.00	£144.00	£144.00	£153.00	£153.00
Aqua Adult 12 Months (x10)	£225.00	£225.00	£240.00	£240.00	£255.00	£255.00
Aqua Concession DD	£16.00	£16.00	£18.00	£18.00	£19.00	£19.00
Aqua Concession 6 months	£96.00	£96.00	£108.00	£108.00	£114.00	£114.00
Aqua Concession 12 Months (x10)	£160.00	£160.00	£180.00	£180.00	£190.00	£190.00
Aqua Student DD			£17.00	£17.00	£17.85	£17.85
Aqua Student 6 Months			£102.00	£102.00	£107.00	£107.00
Aqua Student 12 Months (x10)			£170.00	£170.00	£178.50	£178.50
Aqua Junior DD	£10.50	£10.50	£13.00	£13.00	£14.00	£14.00
Aqua Junior 6 Months	£63.00	£63.00	£78.00	£78.00	£84.00	£84.00
Aqua Junior 12 Months (x10)	£105.00	£105.00	£130.00	£130.00	£140.00	£140.00
SPA						
Spa Adult DD	£28.00	£28.00	£30.00	£30.00	£32.00	£32.00
Spa Adult 6 Months	£168.00	£168.00	£180.00	£180.00	£192.00	£192.00
Spa Adult 12 Months (x10)	£280.00	£280.00	£300.00	£300.00	£320.00	£320.00
Spa Concession DD	£21.00	£21.00	£22.50	£22.50	£24.00	£24.00
Spa Concession 6 months	£126.00	£126.00	£135.00	£135.00	£144.00	£144.00

Spa Concession 12 Months (x10)	£210.00	£210.00	£220.50	£220.50	£240.00	£240.00
Spa Student DD	£16.00	£16.00	£21.00		£22.40	£22.40
Spa Student 6 Months	£96.00	£96.00	£126.00		£134.40	£134.40
Spa Student 12 Months (x10)	£160.00	£160.00	£210.00		£224.00	£224.00
Spa Corporate	£22.00	£22.00	£24.00	£24.00	£25.60	£25.60
FITNESS AND SPA - all centres						
Fitness & Spa Adult DD	£40.00	£40.00	£42.00	£42.00	£44.50	£44.50
Fitness & Spa Adult 6 Month	£240.00	£240.00	£252.00	£252.00	£267.00	£267.00
Fitness & Spa Adult 12 Month (x10)	£400.00	£400.00	£420.00	£420.00	£445.00	£445.00
Fitness & Spa Concession DD	£30.00	£30.00	£31.50	£31.50	£33.40	£33.40
Fitness & Spa Concession 6 months	£180.00	£180.00	£189.00	£189.00	£200.40	£200.40
Fitness & Spa Concession 12 Month (x10)	£300.00	£300.00	£315.00	£315.00	£334.00	£334.00
Fitness & Spa Student DD	£22.00	£22.00	£29.00		£31.15	£31.15
Fitness & Spa Student 6 Month	£132.00	£132.00	£174.00		£186.90	£186.90
Fitness & Spa Student 12 Month (x10)	£220.00	£220.00	£290.00		£311.50	£311.50
Fitness & Spa Junior DD	£22.00	£22.00	£23.00	£23.00	£24.40	£24.40
Fitness & Spa Junior 6 Month	£132.00	£132.00	£138.00	£138.00	£146.40	£146.40
Fitness & Spa Junior 12 Month (x10)	£220.00	£220.00	£230.00	£230.00	£244.00	£244.00
Fitness & Spa Corporate DD	£31.00	£31.00	£33.50	£33.50	£35.60	£35.60
Fitness & Spa 6 week	£80.00	£80.00	£84.00	£84.00	£89.00	£89.00
Fitness & Spa 1 week	£25.00	£25.00	£26.00	£26.00	£27.60	£27.60
-						
FITNESS - all centres						
Fitness Adult DD	£31.00	£31.00	£33.00	£33.00	£35.00	£35.00
Fitness Adult 6 Months	£186.00	£186.00	£198.00	£198.00	£210.00	£210.00
Fitness Adult 12 Months (x10)	£310.00	£310.00	£330.00	£330.00	£350.00	£350.00
Fitness Concession DD	£24.00	£24.00	£25.00	£25.00	£26.25	£26.25

Fitness Concession 6 months	£144.00	£144.00	£150.00	£150.00	£157.50	£157.50
Fitness Concession 12 Months (x10)	£240.00	£240.00	£250.00	£250.00	£262.50	£262.50
Fitness Student DD	£17.50	£17.50	£23.00	£23.00	£24.50	£24.50
Fitness Student 6 Months	£105.00	£105.00	£138.00	£138.00	£147.00	£147.00
Fitness Student 12 Months (x10)	£175.00	£175.00	£230.00	£230.00	£245.00	£245.00
Fitness Junior DD	£17.50	£17.50	£18.00	£18.00	£19.25	£19.25
Fitness Junior 6 Months	£105.00	£105.00	£108.00	£108.00	£115.50	£115.50
Fitness Junior 12 Months (x10)	£175.00	£175.00	£180.00	£180.00	£192.50	£192.50
Fitness Corporate DD	£25.00	£25.00	£26.00	£26.00	£28.00	£28.00
Fitness Student 1 month	£26.00	£26.00	£27.50	£27.50	£29.00	£29.00
Fitness Junior 1 month summer	£20.00	£20.00	£21.00	£21.00	£22.00	£22.00
Fitness 16 & 17 yr old 1 month summer	£26.00	£26.00	£27.50	£27.50	£29.00	£29.00
Fitness 6 weeks	£62.00	£62.00	£66.00	£66.00	£70.00	£70.00
Fitness one week (gym only)	£16.00	£16.00	£17.00	£17.00	£18.00	£18.00
Child add on						
Child add on DD	£11.00	£11.00	£12.00	£12.00	£12.70	£12.70
Child add on 6 Months	£66.00	£66.00	£72.00	£72.00	£76.20	£76.20
Child add on 12 Months (x10)	£110.00	£110.00	£120.00	£120.00	£127.00	£127.00
FITNESS COMBER ONLY						
Fitness Comber Adult DD	£26.00	£26.00	£27.00	£27.00	£28.60	£28.60
Fitness Comber Adult 6 months	£156.00	£156.00	£162.00	£162.00	£171.60	£171.60
Fitness Comber Adult 12 month (x10)	£260.00	£260.00	£270.00	£270.00	£286.00	£286.00
Fitness Comber Concession DD	£20.00	£20.00	£20.00	£20.00	£21.45	£21.45
Fitness Comber Concession 6 months	£120.00	£120.00	£120.00	£120.00	£128.70	£128.70
Fitness Comber Concession 12 month (x10)	£200.00	£200.00	£200.00	£200.00	£214.50	£214.50

Fitness Comber Student DD	£15.00	£15.00	£19.00	£19.00	£20.00	£20.00
Fitness Comber Student 6 months	£90.00	£90.00	£114.00	£114.00	£120.00	£120.00
Fitness Comber Student 12 month (x10)	£150.00	£150.00	£190.00	£190.00	£200.00	£200.00
Fitness Comber Junior DD	£15.00	£15.00	£15.00	£15.00	£15.90	£15.90
Fitness Comber Junior 6 months	£90.00	£90.00	£90.00	£90.00	£95.40	£95.40
Fitness Comber Junior 12 month (x10)	£150.00	£150.00	£150.00	£150.00	£159.00	£159.00
Fitness Comber 6 weeks			£54.00	£54.00	£57.20	£57.20
FITNESS PORTAFERRY ONLY						
Fitness Portaferry Adult DD	£21.00	£21.00	£22.00	£22.00	£23.30	£23.30
Fitness Portaferry Adult 6 months	£126.00	£126.00	£132.00	£132.00	£139.80	£139.80
Fitness Portaferry Adult 12 Month Loyalty (x10)	£210.00	£210.00	£220.00	£220.00	£233.00	£233.00
Fitness Portaferry Junior DD	£12.00	£12.00	£12.50	£12.50	£13.25	£13.25
Fitness Portaferry Junior 6 months	£72.00	£72.00	£75.00	£75.00	£79.50	£79.50
Fitness Portaferry Junior 12 month Loyalty (x10)	£120.00	£120.00	£125.00	£125.00	£132.50	£132.50
Fitness Portaferry 6 weeks	£42.00	£42.00	£44.00	£44.00	£46.60	£46.60
Fitness Portaferry one week (gym only)	£11.00	£11.00	£11.50	£11.50	£12.00	£12.00
Fitness Portaferry Student one month	£17.00	£17.00	£18.00	£18.00	£19.00	£19.00
Fitness Portaferry Junior 1 month summer	£14.00	£14.00	£14.50	£14.50	£15.00	£15.00
Fitness Portaferry 16 & 17 yrs 1 month summer	£17.00	£17.00	£18.00	£18.00	£19.00	£19.00

ABMWLC CAR PARK (non members)						
0 - 3 hours	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
3 - 4 hours	£0.70	£0.70	£0.75	£0.75	£0.80	£0.80
5 hours	£1.20	£1.20	£1.25	£1.25	£1.30	£1.30
6 hours	£1.50	£1.50	£1.55	£1.55	£1.60	£1.60
7 hours	£2.50	£2.50	£2.60	£2.60	£2.80	£2.80
8 hours	£3.50	£3.50	£3.65	£3.65	£3.90	£3.90
9 hours	£4.50	£4.50	£4.70	£4.70	£5.00	£5.00
10 hours	£6.50	£6.50	£6.75	£6.75	£7.00	£7.00
11 hours	£7.50	£7.50	£7.80	£7.80	£8.00	£8.00
12 hours	£8.50	£8.50	£8.85	£8.85	£9.50	£9.50
13 hours	£9.50	£9.50	£9.90	£9.90	£10.50	£10.50
14 hours+	£10.50	£10.50	£10.95	£10.95	£11.60	£11.60
Lost Ticket	£12.00	£12.00	£12.60	£12.60	£13.00	£13.00
MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS						
Lost membership card replacement	£4.00	£4.00	£4.20	£4.20	£4.50	£4.50
Lost Spa band	£2.50	£2.50	£2.65	£2.65	£2.80	£2.80
Temporary Daily Membership/Shower	£1.50	£1.50	£1.60	£1.60	£1.70	£1.70
Payroll Charges Grade 1 (per hour)	£20.00	£20.00	£21.00	£21.00	£22.30	£22.30
Payroll Charges Grade 2	£26.00	£26.00	£27.30	£27.30	£29.00	£29.00
Payroll Charges Grade 3	£35.00	£35.00	£36.75	£36.75	£39.00	£39.00
Cryospa at Londonderry Pk 10 minute session (ind.)	£8.00	£8.00	£8.40	£8.40	£8.90	£8.90
Cryospa at Londonderry Pk 60 minute session (team)	£50.00	£50.00	£52.50	£52.50	£55.65	£55.65
Bouncy Castle hire at Londonderry Pk	£15.00	£15.00	£15.75	£15.75	£16.80	£16.80
SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS (SLA)						

GP Referral (PARS)					TBC	
Cardiac Rehab					TBC	
Cardiac Rehab Extension					TBC	
McMillan Rehab					TBC	
WHITESPOTS TRIALBIKE AREA						
Motor Trials NI Bookings - Wednesdays 5.30pm to 9.30 pm (April - September), Sundays 10am to 6pm (April - September) and 10am to 4pm (October - March) - Times, days subject to change	£1,000	£1,000	£1,000	£1,000	£1,060	£1,060
Hire per hour			£20	£20	£21	£21

ANDBC Outdoor Sports Grounds/Facilities - Price Increases 1 April 2024

AND Outdoor Facilities Off Peak: Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm	2023-24 MEMBER	2022-23 NON MEMBER	2024-25 MEMBER	2024-25 NON MEMBER
SYNTHETIC PITCHES				
Full Pitch Peak with floodlights	£72.40	£72.40	£ 76.80	£ 76.80
Full Pitch Peak	£60.80	£60.80	£ 64.40	£ 64.40
Full Pitch Off Peak with floodlights	£37.80	£37.80	£ 40.00	£ 40.00
Full Pitch Off Peak	£32.60	£32.60	£ 34.60	£ 34.60
Half Pitch Peak	£31.00	£31.00	£ 32.80	£ 32.80
Half Pitch Peak with floodlights	£37.40	£37.40	£ 39.60	£ 39.60
Half Pitch Off Peak	£16.80	£16.80	£ 17.80	£ 17.80
Half Pitch Off Peak with floodlights	£23.00	£23.00	£ 24.40	£ 24.40
Adult Full Pitch - Match (min 2 hours)	£84.00	£84.00	£ 89.00	£ 89.00
Adult Full Pitch - Match with floodlights (min 2 hours)	£105.00	£105.00	£ 111.00	£ 111.00
Adult Full Pitch - Intermediate Match (min 2 hours)	£132.00	£132.00	£ 140.00	£ 140.00
Adult Full Pitch - Intermediate Match with floodlights (min 2 hours)	£152.00	£152.00	£ 161.00	£ 161.00
3G 2/3 Peak	£39.00	£39.00	£ 41.40	£ 41.40
3G 2/3 Peak with lights	£51.00	£51.00	£ 54.00	£ 54.00
3G 2/3 Off Peak	£22.00	£22.00	£ 23.40	£ 23.40
3G 2/3 Off Peak with lights	£29.00	£29.00	£ 30.80	£ 30.80
3G 1/3 Peak	£20.00	£20.00	£ 21.20	£ 21.20
3G 1/3 Peak with lights	£26.00	£26.00	£ 27.60	£ 27.60
3G 1/3 Off Peak	£12.00	£12.00	£ 12.80	£ 12.80
3G 1/3 Off Peak with lights	£17.00	£17.00	£ 18.00	£ 18.00
Pay and Play	£1.00	£1.00	£ 1.00	£ 1.00
Pavilion Hire	£13.00	£13.00	£ 13.80	£ 13.80
GRASS PITCHES				

Adult Full Pitch - Match (2 hours)	£52.50	£52.50	£ 55.60	£ 55.60
Junior Full Pitch - Match (2 hours)	£39.00	£39.00	£ 41.30	£ 41.30
Intermediate Pitch (All day booking)	£73.50	£73.50	£ 78.00	£ 78.00
Grass Pitches Training Adult	£31.50	£31.50	£ 33.40	£ 33.40
Grass Pitches Training Junior	£27.00	£27.00	£ 28.60	£ 28.60
Schools (per hour)	£21.00	£21.00	£ 22.20	£ 22.20
Off Pitch training	£16.00	£16.00	£ 17.00	£ 17.00
Commercial use of facilities	£22.00	£22.00	£ 23.40	£ 23.40
Pavilion Hire	£13.00	£13.00	£ 13.80	£ 13.80
BOWLING				
Season Ticket Adult	£50.00	£50.00	£ 53.00	£ 53.00
Season Ticket Concession	£42.00	£42.00	£ 44.50	£ 44.50
Per session/per Adult per rink	£4.00	£4.00	£ 4.25	£ 4.25
Per session/per Concession per rink	£3.50	£3.50	£ 3.70	£ 3.70
Pavilion & Green Hire (per hour) Non-resident clubs	£24.00	£24.00	£ 25.40	£ 25.40
Season Ticket Synthetic Adult	£60.00	£60.00	£ 63.60	£ 63.60
Season Ticket Synthetic Junior/Concession	£50.00	£50.00	£ 53.00	£ 53.00
club night				
For all extended-let bookings = 4 bowling rinks, function room and changing rooms per hour, rinks must be left available for public use if needed (Per Hour)	£2.00	£2.00	£ 2.10	£ 2.10
Extended-let bookings charged per hour per rink at agreed price for all additional bookings	£1.00	£1.00	£ 1.10	£ 1.10
TENNIS - outdoor courts				
Season Ticket Adult	£65.00	£65.00	£ 68.90	£ 68.90
Season Ticket Concession/Junior	£40.00	£40.00	£ 42.40	£ 42.40
Season Ticket Family	£170.00	£170.00	£ 180.00	£ 180.00
Per Court/Per Hour Adult	£9.00	£9.00	£ 9.60	£ 9.60
Per Court/Per Hour Concession/Junior	£5.50	£5.50	£ 5.80	£ 5.80

Per Court/Per Hour Family	£8.00	£8.00	£ 8.40	£ 8.40
Schools (per court/per hour)	£4.50	£4.50	£ 4.80	£ 4.80
Court per hour commercial hire	£16.00	£16.00	£ 17.00	£ 17.00
club night				
For all extended-let bookings = 2/3 courts, function room and changing rooms per hour, One court left for public use	£2.00	£2.00	£ 2.10	£ 2.10
Extended-let bookings charged per hour per court at agreed price for all additional bookings	£1.00	£1.00	£ 1.10	£ 1.10
PITCH & PUTT				
Putting - Adult (The Commons D'dee)	£2.50	£2.50	£ 2.65	£ 2.65
Putting - Concession/Junior (The Commons D'dee)	£2.00	£2.00	£ 2.10	£ 2.10
CRICKET				
For all extended-let bookings = pavilion or compound, function room and changing rooms per hour	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Extended-let bookings charged for pitch per court at agreed price for all additional bookings	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
L/DERRY Pk Cricket Batting Cage per hour	£11.00	£11.00	£ 11.60	£ 11.60
Cricket Training Session	£11.00	£11.00	£ 11.60	£ 11.60
Cricket Evening match	£30.00	£30.00	£ 31.80	£ 31.80
Cricket All Day Match	£50.00	£50.00	£ 53.00	£ 53.00
The range	£25.00	£25.00	£ 26.60	£ 26.60
Function room (includes use of kitchen)	£11.00	£11.00	£ 11.60	£ 11.60

Ards and North Down Borough Council Sports Development - Price Increases 1 April 2024

	2022-23 MEMBER	2022-23 NON MEMBER	2023-24 MEMBER	2023-24 NON- MEMBER	2023-24 Price charged following April 23 Council ammendment	2024-25
Easter Football Camp (3-days)	£30.00	£30.00	£32.00	£32.00	£ 34.00	£ 36.00
Easter Football Camp (3 days) Sibling Rate			£21.00	£21.00	£ 27.50	£ 29.00
Summer Soccer course (weekly)	£45.00	£45.00	£48.00	£48.00	£ 50.00	£ 53.00
Summer Soccer Course (weekly) Sibling Rate			£30.00	£30.00	£ 45.00	£ 47.70
Football Development Centres 12 Weeks	£45.00	£45.00	£48.00	£48.00	£ 60.00	£ 63.60
Football Development Centres 12 Weeks Sibling Rate			£34.50	£34.50	£ 54.00	£ 57.25
Adult Walking Football Programme	£3.00	£3.00	£3.50	£3.50	£ 5.00	£ 5.30
Disability Football Programme	£3.00	£3.00	£3.50	£3.50	£ 3.50	£ 3.70
Borough Cup Entry Fee	Free	Free	£50.00	£50.00	£ 75.00	£ 80.00
Schools Football Per Hour	£17.50	£17.50	£20.00	£20.00	£ 40.00	£ 42.50
Sports Forum Affiliation Fee	£25.00	£25.00	£25.00	£25.00	£ 26.00	£ 26.50
Sports Directory Fee Forum Members	free	free	free	free	Free	Free
Sports Directory Fee Forum Non Members	£10.00	£10.00	£12.00	£12.00	£12.00	£ 12.70
SNI Safeguarding Children & Young People course Forum Members			£15.00	£15.00	£15.00	£ 16.00
SNI Safeguarding Children & Young People course Non Forum Members			£20.00	£20.00	£20.00	£ 21.00
SNI Designated Safeguarding Childrens Officers course Forum Members			£15.00	£15.00	£15.00	£ 16.00
SNI Designated Safeguarding Childrens Officers course Non Forum Members			£20.00	£20.00	£20.00	£ 21.00

Emergency First Aid in Sport Forum Members			£25.00	£25.00	£25.00	£	27.00
Emergency First Aid in Sport Non Forum Members			£30.00	£30.00	£30.00	£	32.00
AED (Defibrillator) Operator course Forum Members			£15.00	£15.00	£15.00	£	16.00
AED (Defibrillator) Operator course Non Forum Members			£20.00	£20.00	£20.00	£	21.00
Sports Forum Affiliation Fee			£25.00	£25.00	£25.00	£	26.50
Good Club Governance Workshop Forum Members			£10.00	£10.00	£10.00	£	11.00
Good Club Governance Workshop Non Forum Members			£15.00	£15.00	£15.00	£	16.00
Sports Nutrition for Performance Workshop Forum Members			£15.00	£15.00	£15.00	£	16.00
Sports Nutrition for Performance Workshop Non Forum Members			£20.00	£20.00	£20.00	£	21.00
Functional Conditioning for Sport Workshop Forum Members			£15.00	£15.00	£15.00	£	16.00
Functional Conditioning for Sport Workshop Non Forum Members			£20.00	£20.00	£20.00	£	21.00

Bangor Aurora - Price Increases 1st Jan 2024

FITNESS MEMBERSHIPS - BANGOR AURORA	2023 Residents Rate	2023 Non Residents Rate	2024 Residents Rate	2024 Non Residents Rate	
CASUAL FITNESS USE & HEALTH SUITE					
Adult	£8.60	£8.60	£9.50		
Junior/Concession	£7.10	£7.10	£7.10		
Fitness Class	£7.70	£7.70	£8.50		
Active Aging Fitness Class	£3.50	£3.50	£4.00		
Vitural Classes	£8.60	£8.60	£5.50		
DIRECT DEBIT 12 MONTH CONTRACTS					
Direct Debit 12 month contract	£38.00	£38.00	£39.90		
Direct Debit 12 month contract Corporate 30%	£27.00	£27.00	£28.45		
Direct Debit 12 month contract Corporate 20%	£29.20	£29.20	£30.75		
Direct Debit 12 month contract Corporate 10%	£32.50	£32.50	£36.75		
Direct Debit Junior Club Corporate 12-15	£15.75	£15.75	£17.00		
Direct Debit Student Corporate 16-18	£21.00	£21.00	£22.70		
Direct Debit 12 month contract Raquets	£43.50	£43.50	£45.70		
ADVANCE MEMBERSHIPS					
Advance 12 month membership	£380.00	£380.00	£399.00		
Advance 12 month membership Concession	£325.00	£325.00	£325.00		
Advance Student 3 Month	£96.60	£96.60	£96.60		
Advance Student 6 month	£170.50	£170.50	£170.50		
Advanced Student 12 Month	£270.00	£270.00	£270.00		
Advanced Corporate 30%			£280.00		
Advanced Corporate 20%			£312.00		
Advanced Corporate 10%			£359.00		
ROLLING MEMBERSHIPS (no contract)					
Direct Debit Rolling	£44.60	£44.60	£44.60		

Direct Debit Concession Rolling	£32.50	£32.50	£32.50		
Direct Debit Student Gym Rolling 16+ Full time Education	£27.00	£27.00	£27.00		
Direct Debit Teen Gym Rolling	£21.50	£21.50	£22.65		
Direct Debit Rolling contract Corporate 30%	£32.50	£32.50	£32.50		
Direct Debit Rollingcontract Corporate 20%	N/a		£35.50		
Direct Debit Rolling contract Corporate 10%	N/a		£41.00		
H2O MEMBERSHIPS					
Adult Swim Only 12 Month contract DD	£20.50	£20.50	£21.60		
Adult Swim Only Rolling DD	£32.50	£32.50	£32.50		
Adult Swim Only 12 Month Advanced	£225.50	£225.50	£237.60		
Aquatic Experience DD	£32.50	£32.50	£34.00		
Junior Swim Direct Debit plus LW	£20.50	£20.50	£21.60		
SOFT PLAY					
Soft Play Rate	£5.00	£5.00	£5.00		
Soft Play - Swimming Lesson DD	£2.50	£2.50	£2.75		
ALL SITES AURORA,QLC,BSP - ALL WEATHER PITCHES					
3 G PITCH					
Peak Full 3G Pitch September to April 6pm Onwards (Floodlights)	£74.70	£74.70	£76.80		
Peak Full 3G Pitch May to August 6pm onwards (no floodlights)			£64.40		
Off Peak Full 3 G Pitch Pre 6pm	£37.70	£37.70	£40.00		
Full 3 G Pitch - Match (min 2 hours)	£105.00	£105.00	£111.00		
Intermediate Full 3G Pitch - Match (min 3 hours)	£120.00	£120.00	£125.00		
Off Peak Full 3G Pitch - Match (2 hours)	£74.00	£74.00	£78.00		
Half 3G Pitch September to April 6pm onwards (Floodlights)	£37.80	£37.80	£39.60		
Half 3G Pitch May to August 6pm onwards (No Floodlights)			£32.80		

Off Peak Half 3 G Pitch / Off Peak	£22.00	£22.00	£23.00		
MUGA PITCHES					
Peak Full Muga Pitch	£74.70	£74.70	£74.70		
Peak 1/3 Muga Pitch	£37.70	£37.70	£37.70		
Off Peak Full Muga	£49.25	£49.25	£49.25		
Off Peak 1/3 Muga Pitch	£25.50	£25.50	£25.50		
HOCKEY PITCHES					
Peak Hockey Full Pitch September to April after 6pm	£74.70	£74.70	£76.80		
Peak Hockey Full Pitch May to August after 6pm			£64.40		
Peak Hockey Half Pitch September to April	£37.70	£37.70	£39.60		
Peak Hockey Half Pitch May to August			£32.80		
Off Peak Hockey Full Pitch	£37.70	£37.70	£39.60		
Hockey Half Pitch Off Peak	£19.50	£19.50	£20.00		
Hockey Match (2 Hours) Adult	£95.55	£95.55	£95.55		
Hockey Match (£40 per Hour) Off Peak	37.26	37.26	£40.00		
Off Peak Price Mon-Fri before 6pm for all pitches					
GRASS PITCHES					
Peak Match	£53.50	£53.50	£55.60		
Off Peak Match	£38.60	£38.60	£41.00		
Adult Training (1 hour)	£31.50	£31.50	£33.40		
Training (1 hour) / Off Peak	£23.00	£23.00	£24.25		
Commercial Price Per Hour			£26.00		
Schools Grass Per hour			£22.20		
SWIMMING					
Adult	£4.90	£6.00	£5.20	£6.30	
Adult Concession	£3.25	£3.75	£3.45	£4.00	
Junior	£3.25	£3.75	£3.45	£4.00	
Child Under 4	FREE	FREE			
Family	£14.80	£18.50	£15.70	£19.60	

Schools	3.15	£3.15	£3.30	£3.30	
Shower / Spectator	£2.00	£2.00	£2.00	£2.00	
LEISURE WATER					
Adult	£7.00	£8.00	£7.60	£8.60	
Junior	£5.00	£5.50	£5.50	£6.00	
Child Under 3	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	
Family	£22.50	£26.50	£22.50	£26.50	
Leisure Water Group Bookings (Exclusive)	NA	£275.00	£295.00	295.00	
AQUA CHALLENGE					
Adult	£9.90	£9.90	£9.90	£9.90	
Concession	£7.20	£7.20	£7.20	£7.20	
Family	£33.00	£33.00	£33.00	£33.00	
Group Bookings (Exclusive) Regular	£265.00	£265.00	£325.00	£325.00	
SWIMMING POOLS - PER HOUR					
1 Lane (25 M)	£16.00	£16.00	£16.00		
1 Lane (50 M)	£32.00	£32.00	£35.25		
Gala (short course - 25m)	£140.00	£140.00	£160.00		
Gala (long course - 50m)	£280.00	£280.00	£352.50		
Gala Equipment Hire PA/Timing Equipment (Daily Charge)	£110.00	£110.00	£115.00		
Commercial Price x 2					
SWIMMING LESSONS					
Swimming Lessons 10 Week Block					
Advance 10 Week Block Lessons	£70.00	£70.00	£73.70		
Direct Debit Rolling Swimming Lessons	£27.30	£27.30	£28.75		
Swimming Lesson Taster Sessions	£7.00	£7.00	£7.50		
1 to 1 Swimming Lesson 30 minutes Block 5	£100.00	£100.00	£100.00		
1 to 1 Swimming Lesson 30 minutes 1 session			£20.00		
NPLQ	£275.00	£275.00	£295.00		
HALL HIRE - PER HOUR					

Full Main Hall (8 courts)	£92.40	£92.40	£98.00		
Half Hall (4 courts)	£46.20	£46.20	£49.00		
Main Hall (3 courts)	£34.65	£34.65	£37.50		
Main Hall (2 courts)	£23.10	£23.10	£24.50		
Main Hall (1 court) MATTED	£28.00	£28.00	£30.35		
Main Hall (2 courts) MATTED	£53.55	£53.55	£58.00		
Main Hall (1 court)	£12.10	£12.10	£12.50		
Wellness Studio Group			£35.00		
Function Room x2 (Full Day)	£170.00	£170.00	£180.00		
Main Hall Seating 0-500	£126.00	£126.00	£140.00		
Main Hall Seating 500-1000	£200.00	£200.00	£225.00		
*Commercial Rate x2 *					
ACTIVITIES - PER HOUR					
Badminton, Pickle Ball, Table Tennis (Adult)	£12.15	£12.15	£12.70		
Junior U16 Badminton	£7.50	£7.50	£7.50		
Squash (Adult)	£11.00	£11.00	£12.00		
Squash Junior Rate (Under 16)	£7.50	£7.50	£8.00		
Squash Club (50 % Non Member)	£5.50	£5.50	£6.00		
Pay and Play kids 3 G Holidays and Off Peak	£3.10	£3.10	£2.00		
SPORTS HALL COURSES					
Sports Hall Courses	£6.75	£6.75	£7.10		
Sports Hall Courses DD	£25.50	£25.50	£26.85		
Sporthall Courses 10 Week Block	£67.50	£67.50	£71.00		
Holiday Programmes (Full Day)	£22.00	£22.00	£23.50		
Holiday Program Full Week	£100.00	£100.00	£107.50		
Holiday Programmes Sibling Discount			£0.20		
GYMNASTICS					
Levels (1 hr)	£25.50	£25.50	£26.85		
TRAMPOLINE					
Levels (1 hr)	£25.50	£25.50	£26.85		

PARTIES (2 hours and includes food/Party host)					
Aqua Challenge (min 10)	£13.95	£13.95	£14.95		
Aurora Splash (min 10)	£11.95	£11.95	£12.95		
Adventure World (min 10)	£11.95	£11.95	£12.95		
Football (min 10)	£13.95	£13.95	£12.95		
Bouncy Castle (min 10)	£11.95	£11.95	£12.95		
Soccer Challenge Inflatable			£14.95		
ACTIVE AGEING					
Strength & Balance	£3.50	£3.50	£4.00		
Sitless Circuits	£3.50	£3.50	£4.00		
Walking Football	£3.10	£3.10	£4.00		
Walking Netball	£3.10	£3.10	£4.00		
Senior Dance	£3.50	£3.50	£4.00		
Senior Pilates	£3.50	£3.50	£4.00		
Tai Chi	£3.50	£3.50	£4.00		
New Age Kurling	£3.10	£3.10	£4.00		
Boccia	£3.10	£3.10	£4.00		
				Average	6%

Queens Leisure Complex - Price Increases 1st Jan 2024		
	2023	2024 Residents Rate
HALLS - PER HOUR		
Queen's Hall (Holywood)	£27.00	£28.60
Studio Room (Holywood)	£22.00	£24.00
Committee Room	£18.00	£19.10
Full Sportshall	£36.30	£38.10
Matted court	£25.50	£27.50
ACTIVITIES - PER HOUR		

Badminton	£12.15	£12.70
Fitness Classes	£7.70	£8.20
1 Court (MATTED)	£25.50	£27.50
Sports Hall Courses	£6.75	£7.10
Sports Hall Courses DD	£25.50	£27.50
Bouncy Castle Hire (per hour)	£76.15	£80.00
HOLIDAY SCHEMES		
Holiday Programmes (Full Day)	£21.00	£23.50
Holiday Programmes (Half Day)	£11.00	£12.00
Full Week		£105.00
Taster Sessions	£6.40	£7.10
Active Ageing Classes	£3.70	£3.75
20% sibling Discount		
FITNESS MEMBERSHIPS QLC		
Direct Debit (min 12-months)	£25.75	£27.00
Direct Debit (no contract)	£34.15	£36.00
Direct Debit Concession	£23.60	£24.75
Direct Debit Teen Gym	£19.50	£16.50
Bangor Aurora, BSP and Queen's	£38.00	£39.90
Student Direct Debit	£23.50	£21.50
Student 3 Month Advance	£96.60	£100.00
Student 6 month Advance	£170.50	£178.00
Advance 12 Month Adult	£257.50	£270.00
Advance 12 Month Teen	£190.50	£165.00
Advance 12 Month Student	£235.00	£215.00
Advance 12 Month Concession	£236.00	£247.00
CASUAL FITNESS SUITE		
Adult	£8.60	£9.50
Junior/ Teen /Concession	£7.55	£8.00
TRAMPOLINE		

Levels (1 hr)	£5.64	£6.10
Block of Ten Price	£56.40	£61.00
ACTIVE AGEING		
Strength & Balance	£3.70	£4.00
Sitless Circuits	£3.70	£4.00
Walking Football	£3.10	£4.00
Walking Netball	£3.10	£4.00
Over 60 Gym	£3.10	£4.00
Senior Dance	£3.50	£4.00
Senior Pilates	£3.50	£4.00
Tai Chi	£3.50	£4.00
New Age Kurling	£3.10	£4.00
Boccia	£3.10	£4.00
ALL SITES AURORA,QLC,BSP - ALL WEATHER PITCHES		
3 G PITCH		
Peak Full 3G Pitch September to April 6pm Onwards (Floodlights)	£74.70	£76.80
Peak Full 3G Pitch May to August 6pm onwards (no floodlights)		£64.40
Off Peak Full 3 G Pitch Pre 6pm	£37.70	£40.00
Full 3 G Pitch - Match (min 2 hours)	£105.00	£111.00
Intermediate Full 3G Pitch - Match (min 3 hours)	£120.00	£125.00
Off Peak Full 3G Pitch - Match (2 hours)	£74.00	£78.00
Half 3G Pitch September to April 6pm onwards (Floodlights)	£37.80	£39.60
Half 3G Pitch May to August 6pm onwards (No Floodlights)		£32.80
Off Peak Half 3 G Pitch / Off Peak	£22.00	£23.00
GRASS PITCHES		
Peak Match	£53.50	£55.60
Off Peak Match	£38.60	£41.00
Adult Training (1 hour)	£31.50	£33.40
Junior Training (1 hour) / Off Peak	£23.00	£24.25

Commercial Price Per Hour		£26.00
Schools Grass Per hour		£22.20
Adult Grass with lights 1.5hrs	£71.15	£71.50

Sports Grounds - Price Increases 1 January 2024		
	2023	2024
BOWLING		
Season Ticket Adult	£52.00	£53.00
Season Ticket Concession	£44.00	£44.50
Season Ticket Junior	£44.00	£44.50
Per adult per hour	£4.10	£4.25
Per concession per hour	£3.15	£3.70
Locker Rental	£14.50	£15.30
Match Fee/extended lets	£1.05	£2.10
Equipment Hire	£2.30	£2.40
TENNIS		
Season Ticket Adult	£63.55	£68.90
Season Ticket Concession	£40.45	£42.40
Season Ticket Junior	£40.45	£42.40
Per Court/Per Hour Family	£6.95	£8.40
Per Court/Per Hour Adult	£9.25	£9.60
Per Court/Per Hour Concession	£5.25	£5.80
Schools (per court/per hour)	£4.10	£4.80
Commercial Rate	£16.50	£17.00
PITCH & PUTT		
Adult	£4.65	£4.90
Concession	£3.50	£3.50
Group Rate (10+)	£2.90	£3.10
Family Rate 2 adults up to 3 Kids		£15.00

Putting - Adult	£1.80	£2.00
Putting - Concession	£1.80	£1.90
Putting - Group Rate (10+)	£1.80	£1.90
CRICKET/Softball		
For all extended-let bookings = pavilion or compound, function room and changing rooms per hour	N/A	
Extended-let bookings charged for pitch per court at agreed price for all additional bookings	N/A	
Cricket Batting Cage per hour	£11.00	£11.55
Cricket Training Session	£11.00	£11.55
Cricket Evening match	£30.00	£31.50
Cricket All Day Match	£50.00	£52.50
Function room (includes use of kitchen)	£11.00	£11.55

Bangor Sportsplex - 1st Jan 2024		
	2023	2024
HALLS - PER HOUR		
Studio Room	£14.00	£14.70
Meeting Room	£14.00	£14.70
Changing Room Hire	£11.00	£11.60
FITNESS MEMBERSHIPS BSP		
Direct Debit	£16.55	£17.40
Advance 12 Months	£165.40	£173.70
Club Juniors	£14.80	£15.50
Advance Club 12 Months	£149.00	£156.50
Direct Debit Gym & Track	£25.75	£27.00
Advance Gym & Track	£259.50	£272.50
Bangor Aurora, BSP and Queen's	£38.00	£39.90

Student 3 Month Advance	£60.00	£63.00
Student 6 month Advance	£114.50	£120.20
Rolling DD	£20.45	£21.50
CASUAL FITNESS USE		
Adult	£8.60	£9.50
Junior/Concession	£7.10	£7.10
Active Ageing		£4.00
ATHLETICS MEMBERSHIPS		
Adult	£109.00	£114.45
Concession	£69.50	£73.00
Junior	£51.00	£53.55
Family	£231.55	£243.00
Casual Adult Track	£6.65	£7.00
Casual Junior Track	£4.35	£4.60
ATHLETIC TRACK		
Track Per Hour (Exclusive)	£41.75	£43.80
Track per hour (non exclusive)	£30.00	£31.50
Training Pitch	£17.30	£18.20
ACTIVITES		
3G Pitch Off Peak Casual use	£3.10	£2.00
Fitness Classes	£7.70	£8.50
Equipment Hire	£2.10	£2.20
Disability Bike (BSP)	£3.30	£3.50
ALL SITES AURORA,QLC,BSP - ALL WEATHER PITCHES		
3 G PITCH		
Peak Full 3G Pitch September to April 6pm Onwards (Floodlights)	£74.70	£76.80
Peak Full 3G Pitch May to August 6pm onwards (no floodlights)		£64.40
Off Peak Full 3 G Pitch Pre 6pm	£37.70	£40.00

Full 3 G Pitch - Match (min 2 hours)	£105.00	£111.00
Intermediate Full 3G Pitch - Match (min 3 hours)	£120.00	£125.00
Off Peak Full 3G Pitch - Match (2 hours)	£74.00	£78.00
Half 3G Pitch September to April 6pm onwards (Floodlights)	£37.80	£39.60
Half 3G Pitch May to August 6pm onwards (No Floodlights)		£32.80
Off Peak Half 3 G Pitch / Off Peak	£22.00	£23.00

Unclassified

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ITEM 13**Ards and North Down Borough Council**

Report Classification	Unclassified
Exemption Reason	Not Applicable
Council/Committee	Community and Wellbeing Committee
Date of Meeting	13 December 2023
Responsible Director	Director of Community and Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Leisure Services
Date of Report	16 November 2023
File Reference	CW66
Legislation	N/A
Section 75 Compliant	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> If other, please add comment below: This revised policy was Section 75 screened on 17 th October 2023
Subject	Community Centres & Halls Charging Policy 2024-2025
Attachments	Appendix 1 Examples Appendix 2 Current and Proposed Community Centres & Halls Charging Policy 2024-2025

Ards and North Down Borough Council operate 21 Community Centres and Halls located throughout the Borough. These Centres and Halls facilitate a vast range of activities for customers, charities, Health Trusts, and Council departments. These activities are crucial in providing customers and residents of the Borough with opportunities to improve and maintain their health and wellbeing and can be directly aligned to several Council aims and objectives.

For example, the Centres and Halls provide facilities that all users can achieve the Opportunity, Pride, and Life objectives of the Council's 'Vision', illustrated in the Corporate Plan 2020-2024. Similarly, the Community Centres and Halls positively contribute towards all people in Ards and North Down being able to fulfil their lifelong potential, enjoy good health and wellbeing, and live in communities where they are

Not Applicable

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respected, are safe, and feel secure (Outcomes 1, 2 and 3 in the Council's Big Plan 2017–2032).

Usage at the Centres and Halls has continued its upward trajectory after the Covid-19 pandemic, evidenced by positive 2023 KPI figures. The total hours booked figure for Q1 and Q2 is 41,593, significantly higher than anticipated. The Footfall Figure across all Centres and Halls over the same period is 75,692 and is currently 44% ahead of its target for the same period.

These figures illustrate the high usage of the Community Centres and Halls and how valuable these facilities are to customers, residents of the Borough, and Council.

The Community Centres and Halls management aim to efficiently and effectively manage all available budgets, particularly given the Council's and ratepayer's financial pressures.

The 2022-2023 financial year performance is summarised below –

- Total income was £318,992 = £97,000 above income target
- Actual net expenditure was £518,375 = £105,026 or 16.8% below budget of £623,400

The above illustrates a successful budget performance in 2022-2023.

The net expenditure estimate for 2023-2024 is £666,700. Due to cost pressures for 2024-2025 budgets each section of Council is initially tasked with identifying up to 10% of savings which equates to £66,670 of savings from the Community Centres and Halls budget being developed for 2024-2025.

The Community Centres and Halls budget has been significantly reduced, in real terms over the past five years following the introduction of efficiency measures by the management team. However, in continuing to improve the quality of the offering of enhanced facilities, introduction of the access to Wi-Fi and a significant focus on marketing the service an increased demand, as detailed above has occurred. With the ever-increasing gap between income, based on charges, and costs it is an unfortunate situation in that the more the service is utilised the more the burden on the Council's budget and ultimately the ratepayer. With the prospect of the Community Centres and Halls budgets being cut annually this position is untenable. With a reduced budget this may result in significant closures/ reduced service provision across the portfolio as staff hours will be more centrally aligned to bigger halls with multiple bookings during substantial periods of the 90+ hrs of operational availability Council currently provides.

One area to offset this pressure available to the management team is to increase charges by more than the 6.7% inflationary figures which are already taken account of before the application of the 10% proposed saving. This report proposes how that could be applied to the current service without, in the Officers view significantly detrimentally impacting on any specific demographic. This was affirmed when this proposal was equality screened and found to be compliant.

Not Applicable

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The management team would propose an above inflationary price rise being applied to the room bookings as detailed in Appendix 1 and 2 which detail the average proposed price increase of 12.2%. It is envisaged that by applying these proposals the Council will more fairly and equitably apply charges to customers rather than reducing services and/or increase the burden on the ratepayer. Over the course of the financial year, it is envisaged that the additional increase in charges will generate up to £38,000 of income which equates to approximately 5.67% of the net cost of the service and thereby make significant impact on the need to generate a potential saving of up to 10%.

Modernisation, transformation, and commercialisation processes have begun within the service with the aim of further increasing usage in each of the Centres and Halls in an attempt to ensure income targets are achieved. However, Appendix 1 illustrates that in the Centres with only a small room, higher usage results in an unsustainable payroll cost in comparison to the income received for the booking. For a broader context, an average room hire price is also illustrated and provides part of the rationale of this proposed revision of the charging policy. The variation in income from the suggested 6.7% increase and the proposed 12.2% price increase would make on 2024-2025 income and subsequent potential saving in net expenditure budget is also illustrated.

This charging increase, equal to £1 on all room and hall hire price per hour, is deemed the only feasible way of maintaining the current level of service provision within the much-valued Community Centres and Halls facilities on, in real terms, the reduced available expenditure budget.

It should be noted that some of the bigger Centres with multiple rooms and halls are more favourable in terms of income versus staff cost as these are still staffed by one Caretaker. Servicing more than one booking at a time.

Approval of this report will result in a more appropriately priced portfolio of Community Centres and Halls within the Borough without significantly impacting on its competitiveness within the marketplace. Additionally, approval of this report will contribute positively towards a 2024-2025 budget performance, rate setting process, and to the customers and residents of the Borough that use any of the Centres and Halls.

Members should note, all prices need to be divisible to facilitate pricing on the booking system and this accounts for part of the proposed percentage increase.

This report also details the proposed implementation of a new payment process for the Queens Hall (Appendix 2) which will assist greatly with the management of our bad debtors liability and meet our payment targets as detailed in previously approved corporate charging policy. In recognition of this no price increase is proposed for the actual hall booking unless bookings involving alcohol whereby it is proposed to increase this for the first time since 2015.

If approved, all user groups will be contacted to advise them of the new pricing policy details and a date for implementation, normally in line with the new seasons block booking process.

Not Applicable

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Summary

There are therefore two options detailed in this report regarding the proposed charging for Community Centres and Halls in 2024-2025.

Option 1: Implement the inflationary 6.7% increase rounded to facilitate cash handling and/or division for parts of hours bookings which will leave a potential £21,400 saving to be found from realignment of provision.

OR

Option 2: Implement the average 12.2% increase, £1 per hour to bookings as detailed in Appendix 2 and offset this level of savings without a potential detrimental impact on service provision.

Members should also note that the work on a specification for a transformation programme for the community centres service referred to on page 3 has been processed to a point but no further work has been done as the Head of Service reports that there are too many vacancies in the team and until that's resolved he cannot focus on such a project. For example, currently there are temporary supervisors in place who also from time to time have to operate as caretakers. Over recent months and in the near future the Head of Service is focusing on the Council decision with regards to the leisure transformation requirements. It is hoped that the Community centres initiative will be developed further in 2024.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council approve the Community Centres and Halls pricing policy proposal as summarised in option 2 above for implementation in the 2024-2025 financial year.

Unclassified

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ITEM 14**Ards and North Down Borough Council**

Report Classification	Unclassified
Exemption Reason	Not Applicable
Council/Committee	Community and Wellbeing Committee
Date of Meeting	13 December 2023
Responsible Director	Director of Community and Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Parks and Cemeteries
Date of Report	27 November 2023
File Reference	CW22
Legislation	Local Government Act (NI) 2014
Section 75 Compliant	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If other, please add comment below: Performance Report
Subject	Performance Report Q1 and Q2 Parks & Cemeteries
Attachments	None

Members will be aware that Council is required, under the Local Government Act 2014, to have in place arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the exercise of its functions. To fulfil this requirement Council approved the Performance Management Policy and Handbook in October 2015. The Performance Management Handbook outlines the approach to Performance Planning and Management process as:

- Community Plan – published every 10-15 years
- Corporate Plan – published every 4 years (Corporate Plan Towards 2024 in operation)
- Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) – published annually in September
- Service Plan – developed annually (approved April/May 2023)

The Council's 18 Service Plans outline how each respective Service will contribute to the achievement of the Corporate objectives including, but not limited to, any relevant actions identified in the PIP.

Director of Community and Wellbeing

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Reporting approach

The Service Plans will be reported to relevant Committees on a half-yearly basis as undernoted:

Reference	Period	Reporting Month
Half Yearly 1	April – September	December
Half Yearly 2	October – March	March

The report for Parks & Cemeteries is attached.

Key achievements and points to note:

- Local Biodiversity Action Plan Agreed at Council
- Appointment of design team for the Ward Park Project
- A volunteer programme in Bangor Castle Walled Garden attracts eleven volunteers and we have a waiting list to join our programme.
- Green Flag Awards retained for Castle Park, Londonderry Park, Kiltonga Nature Reserve, Linear Park and Ballymenoch Park.
- Cemetery Post Box Scheme agreed for Clandeboye and Movilla cemeteries.
- Donaghadee represented Northern Ireland in the Small-Town category of the 2023 Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) Britain in Bloom competition,
- Floodgates Park Business Plan created.
- Rewilding scheme extended to 90,000sqm.
- Schools Growing Club initiative was launched in September with six schools selected in Year One i.e: Towerview Primary (Bangor), Andrews Memorial Primary, (Comber), Loughries Primary (Newtownards), Hollywood Primary School, St Patricks Primary (Portaferry) & St Marys Primary (Kircubbin).

Action to be taken:

- Launch of Local Biodiversity Action Plan organised for November and implementation programme announced with New Year Roadshow.
- Agreement on new Orchard at Hollywood Nature Park, Kircubbin Pavilion & Laurel Bank Lane (Comber). Seven locations already planted up.
- Planning in place for a total of 15,000 trees to be planted this winter in multiple locations including Castle Park, Skipperstone Community Centre, Ballymenoch Park, Londonderry Park, Ballycran (Kircubbin).
- Planned programme of Winter Events including Tree Week and other **STAND4TREES** activities being planned.
- New Parks & Cemeteries Machinery Replacement & Utilisation Strategy agreed.
- Staff Business Planning Day being organised for December 1st with all staff involved in working on the Service Plan for 2024.

RECOMMENDATION
















It is recommended that the report is noted.

Director of Community and Wellbeing

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Half yearly Performance Report - Parks and Cemeteries Generated on: 27 November 2023

Last Update H1 2023/24

Performance Data Traffic Light Icon	PI Short Name	Performance Data Current Value	Performance Data Current Target
	Total hectares of Council maintained ground rewilded (m2)	90,000	45,000
	Managed ground with annual sowing (m2)	6,860	6,500
	Number of trees planted	3	0
	Amount of herbicide used (litres) (cumulative)	58.45	90
	% Spend Against Budget	93.39%	100%
	% staff attendance	92.32%	93%
	% staff reporting regular receipt of team briefings	100%	100%
	Organise Annual Business Planning Day	100%	0%
	Retain Green Flag Awards	5	5
	Best Kept Britain in Bloom and any other relevant award that highlights the excellence of the service offered by the Council	5	4
	% of available allotments utilised	100%	100%
	Overall funding for In Bloom projects	£18,448.24	£12,000.00
	Number of Friends Groups established	0	0
	Number of community events throughout the Borough (cumulative)	23	20
	Expand our Apprenticeship and Trainee opportunities	2	2

Director of Community and Wellbeing

Unclassified

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ITEM 15**Ards and North Down Borough Council**

Report Classification	Unclassified
Exemption Reason	Not Applicable
Council/Committee	Community and Wellbeing Committee
Date of Meeting	13 December 2023
Responsible Director	Director of Community and Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Parks and Cemeteries
Date of Report	24 November 2023
File Reference	PCA124
Legislation	N/A
Section 75 Compliant	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If other, please add comment below: N/A
Subject	Campaign Pledge: Go Peat-Free this Spring
Attachments	Appendix Peatlands4Life Leaflet

The purpose of this report is to propose a campaign 'Go Peat-Free this Spring'. Peat extraction is harmful to the environment and is destroying the UK and Ireland's countryside. Council does not purchase peat-based compost and actively prevents its use through our procurement processes. In addition, our Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP Action 55) states: Council will..."actively exclude all peat-based compost from council use and aiming for a ban on peat-based compost sales. Encourage other organisations and the community to adopt a peat free approach to growing."

Where Council has some containers already contain peat-based compost, we will top-up the compost levels in the towers, planters and troughs etc using only 100% peat-free product, resulting in a gradual shift to a completely peat-free operation.

The campaign 'Go Peat-Free this Spring' will be aimed at promoting Peat-Free Compost to our residents and highlighting the damage peat extraction is doing to our environment. Many of our most recognisable names in horticulture, such as Monty Don, The RHS and The National Trust, have already moved to peat-free growing.

Not Applicable

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This sample poster is for illustration purposes only



It is estimated that Peat is found in around half the bags of compost sold by garden centres. It is estimated that the retail gardening sector accounts for 70% of peat sold in the UK. Peat is sterile and has historically been the favoured growing compost for many gardeners. However, manufacturers have introduced 'Peat-Free' composts and where it still exists have reduced the amount of peat in bags of compost in recent years after pressure from environmental campaigners and the Government.

In England, Defra (Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs) has announced that sales of the amateur / retail bagged peat composts will be banned by 2024, and some peat-containing products will be banned from shelves in 2027, commercial horticulture growers will be permitted to use peat-based compost products until 2030. No ban is planned in Northern Ireland.

Not Applicable

109

Peat, also known as turf, is an accumulation of partially decayed vegetation or organic matter. It is unique to natural areas called peatlands, bogs and mires. Many peat bogs are classed as sites of Special Scientific Interest. This is partly due to their ability to capture carbon dioxide (CO₂) but also because peat bogs are home to plants and wildlife that cannot thrive in other environments. They are home to Britain's largest carnivorous plant. The Great Sundew and threatened birds including skylarks, curlews and snipe.

Peat forms at a rate of only 0.04 inches per year. A ten-metre-deep peat bed would take 9,000 years to form, peat extractors currently remove up to nine inches per year, and if this rate is maintained, a ten-metre bed could be completely cleared in fewer than 50 years. When peat is harvested, bogs are drained, and the top surface of the peat gradually stripped away. Not only does this destroy rare and endangered habitats and the flora and fauna that rely on them, but also allows the peat to react with the air, releasing vast quantities of carbon dioxide.

It is estimated by Natural England that exposed peat soils can release up to 38 tonnes of carbon dioxide per hectare each year. Draining, harvesting, or burning peat releases hundreds of years of stored carbon into the atmosphere accounting for 5% of global greenhouse gas emissions. In contrast, peat bogs in their natural state soak up around a tonne of carbon dioxide per hectare each year. The UK has 15% of all Europe's peatlands, and the creation of Britain's peat bogs removed 5.5 billion tons of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and locked it in the ground. Peat bogs cover just 3% of the earth's surface but store 30% of the world's carbon. They are the world's largest carbon sink, storing more than all other types of vegetation combined.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council support the 'Go Peat-Free this Spring' Campaign.



Peatlands for LIFE

Natural peatlands (mires) are unique ecosystems home to many highly adapted, rare and threatened species, found nowhere else. Globally, peatlands regulate climate by storing massive amounts of carbon. Regionally, they influence hydrology, ensure flood prevention and act as a buffer against pollution. Peatlands are also archives of the past, documenting valuable information on biodiversity, climate and pollution in their stratified peat layers. And for centuries, people have depended on peatlands for water, food, fuel and recreation.

View of a Natura 2000 peatland site in Finland.

In Europe, more than half of all pristine peatlands have been lost or converted with only a few currently in good ecological condition. Despite their high environmental, economic and social importance, coupled with their potential to help global efforts in the fight against climate change, peatland degradation continues. This has seen them becoming part of the EU's nature conservation and restoration management policies. The EU Habitats Directive and the Natura 2000 network of protected areas play a crucial role for peatlands' protection, as does the LIFE programme, which has funded numerous projects on peatland restoration and conservation.

Fast facts

- A natural peatland is a wetland ecosystem in which organic matter production exceeds its decomposition. Under conditions of almost permanent water saturation and a lack of oxygen, dead plants and mosses accumulate as peat.
- Peatlands are generally classified as bogs and fens. Bogs are fed mainly by rain and snow, while fens develop in landscape depressions and are fed with surface and/or ground water.
- Peatlands are found worldwide. Despite covering just 3% of the world's land surface, they store nearly 30% of all soil carbon. In Europe alone, peatlands store five times more carbon than forests.
- Peatlands occur across Europe, but they are mainly found in Fennoscandia and the Baltics. Almost one-third of peatlands is located in Finland and more than a quarter in Sweden. Large peatlands can however also be found in Belgium, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, and the United Kingdom.
- The total area of all peatlands in Europe covers roughly 594 000 km², of which 54% are natural peatlands. In the EU Member States (EU27), the total peatland area is 268 000 km², of which 51% are natural peatlands.

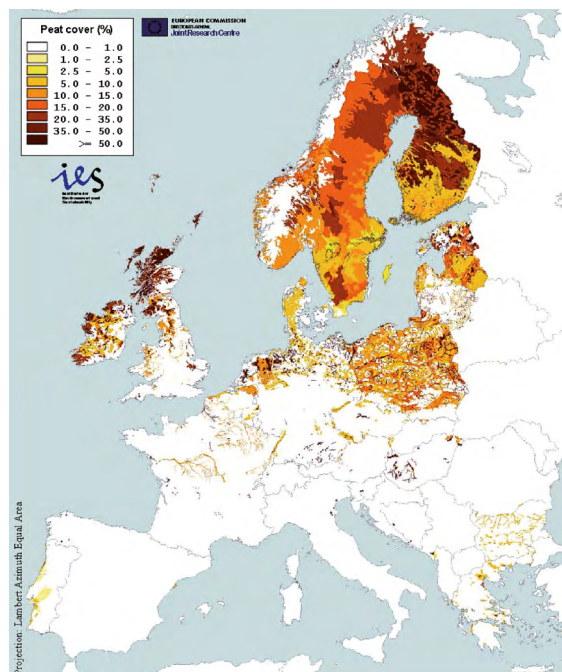


Figure 1. Peatland distribution in Europe (the map shows the relative cover (%) of peat and peat-topped soils in the soil mapping units (SMUs) of the European Soil Database)

The EU's Habitats Directive distinguishes twelve peatland habitat types. In addition, bog woodland, grouped under the so-called Forests of Temperate Europe, counts as a naturally forested peatland. In total, some 33 000 km² of these 13 habitat types are protected in more than 8 700 Natura 2000 sites. This area represents roughly 24% of all remaining natural peatlands.

- In all peatlands, plants, water and peat are intricately connected. Understanding these interrelations is key for their conservation and sustainable restoration.
- Peatlands have for centuries been converted into agricultural land or forest through drainage and fertilisation, causing a dramatic change in the ecosystem. Moreover, at the end of the 19th century, large-scale peat mining first started for fuel and later for horticultural purposes. This peatland degradation continues today.
- Degraded, drained and cultivated peatlands release huge amounts of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. After Indonesia, the EU is the second largest emitter of emissions from drained organic soils worldwide.
- In Europe, peat layers grow only 1-2 millimetres per year, meaning it takes thousands of years for peatlands to develop. Similarly,

degraded mire ecosystems, especially raised bogs and blanket bogs, react very slowly to restoration measures. If such measures are successful, it can take several decades for the ecosystem to improve its conservation status.

How LIFE and the EU are helping

On 20 May 2020, the European Commission adopted the new [EU 2030 Biodiversity strategy](#). The strategy is a comprehensive, ambitious and long-term plan aimed at putting Europe's nature on a path to recovery with benefits for people, the climate and the planet.

Having high biodiversity value and being natural carbon sinks, peatland ecosystems are featured in the strategy, which calls for their restoration and strict protection.

Since its creation in 1992, the LIFE Programme has played a very important role for peatlands in Europe. So far 363 projects to conserve and restore peatlands have been co-financed by LIFE, targeting the 13 habitat types of raised bogs, mires, fens and bog woodland. 28% of these projects focus primarily on peatlands, while others include peatland restoration and associated habitats as part of a larger landscape approach.

Commonly applied restoration actions focus on rewetting by blocking outflow in drainage ditches, installing bunds, removing dikes and fragmenting infrastructure. Other actions include halting the pumping in polders, top-spoil removal and the elimination of woodland to reduce trees competing with peat forming vegetation.

However, despite the large-scale restoration of degraded peatland habitats, their overall conservation status remains unsatisfactory. Out of a total of 62 assessments under Article 17 of the Habitats Directive reporting for the 2013-2018 period, including 13 peatland habitat types in eight biogeographical regions, only seven (11%) currently show a favourable status. This mainly relates to peatlands in remote or inaccessible areas in the Alpine, Boreal and Macaronesian (Azores) biogeographical regions, which are not impacted by human activities. Unfortunately, 31 assessments (50%) are deemed unfavourable bad and 24 (38%) unfavourable inadequate, demonstrating that much more still needs to be done.

Due to the very slow growth of peat layers, the real success and results of LIFE peatland restoration projects will therefore only be enjoyed by future generations. Nevertheless, the first signs of positive trends can already be seen in raised bog habitats in Denmark, the United Kingdom, Poland, and Belgium, where a series of LIFE peatland projects have taken place.

LIFE Nature projects have played a substantial role in large-scale peatland restoration. Over the years, substantial knowledge and experience has been gained on restoration practices for different peatland habitat types in various stages of degradation.

RELATIVE AREA COVERAGE (%) IN THE EU PER PEATLAND HABITAT TYPE

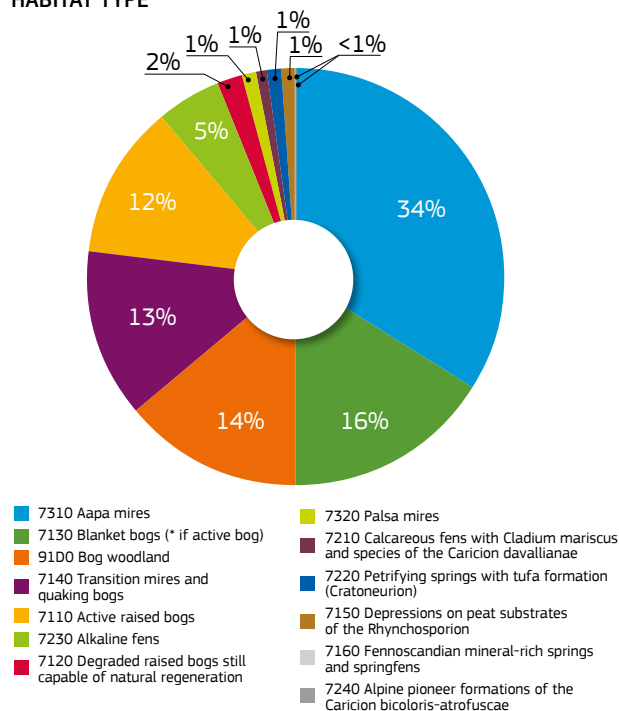


Figure 2: Relative area coverage of the different peatland habitat types in the Natura2000 network

A snapshot of LIFE's work

Reviving a fragile ecosystem in the Scottish Highlands

The 'Flow Country' – 140 000 ha Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands on the northern tip of Scotland - is the largest area of active blanket bogs in the United Kingdom. However, parts have been seriously damaged by hill drainage and forestry, causing both direct loss of habitat and hydrological changes.

The restoration efforts under the LIFE project **Blanket Bog - Restoring active blanket bog of European importance** (LIFE00 NAT/UK/007075) in North Scotland achieved ambitious goals including:

- Removing spruce afforestation and commercial forestry from over 1 500 ha of blanket bog.
- Raising the water level on more than 1 000 ha by blocking drains in peatlands.
- Holding awareness raising activities to boost tourist numbers.

While the project ran from 2001 to 2006, it also developed a management plan for the area until 2015, ensuring the long-term sustainable management of the peatlands.

This project is one of six UK LIFE Nature projects that has focused on blanket bogs since 1998. In fact, thanks to LIFE, more than 10 000 ha of degraded blanket bogs have



An excavator closing drainage ditches at the project site.

been restored and some 42 000 ha of unique blanket bog habitats have been positively impacted across the country. This corresponds to 11% of all blanket bogs protected in the UK Natura 2000 network.

Find out more:

<https://www.theflowcountry.org.uk/assets/Uploads/PeatlandsStrategy.pdf>

A small wild bog gets a boost



Part of the restored Lille Vildmose raised bog in Denmark.

Despite its name, Denmark's Lille Vildmose (Small Wild Bog) is the largest active raised bog in Northwestern Europe. Decades of peat-cutting and farming have left their mark on this area of outstanding natural beauty. Of its original 5 500 ha, only about 2 000 are in their natural state today.

Over ten years, numerous large-scale restoration measures were carried out to improve the conservation status of the bog habitats in the **LIFE Lille Vildmose** project (LIFE10 NAT/DK/000102), including:

- Restoring the bog's Lake Birkes to its former glory as a shallow lake with a surface area of 130 ha.
- Raising the water level on 770 ha of peatland.
- Cutting down 200 ha of trees.
- Reducing the numbers of racoon dog, American mink, and red fox to protect the existing breeding birds.
- Erecting two new observation platforms and installing information boards in eight key project areas to encourage tourism.
- Laying the foundations for further restoration on additional areas degraded by peat excavation.

The bigger wetland areas and lakes have vastly improved the living conditions for the resident black stork, wood sandpiper, hen harrier, white-tailed eagle, crane and short-eared owl, among others. Visitor numbers are up with the public keen to know more about this raised bog's ecology and conservation. Thanks to LIFE, Lille Vildmose is now one of the largest and popular nature sites in Denmark.

Beyond **LIFE Lille Vildmose**, six additional LIFE Nature projects have focused on raised bog restoration in Denmark. In fact, concrete restoration measures have taken place on 56% of all raised bog sites in the Danish Natura 2000 network.

Find out more:

<https://naturstyrelsen.dk/naturbeskyttelse/naturprojekter/life-lille-vildmose/>



Poland safeguards its alkaline fens

Restoring alkaline fens in Poland.

With almost 17 000 ha of alkaline fens in its Natura 2000 network, Poland protects the largest area of this peatland habitat in the Continental Region. The intensive drainage of wetlands has resulted in the loss of 80% of Poland's alkaline fens, which are home to a large number of endangered and protected species. But only 10-15% of these fens still possess their characteristic vegetation.

Two large LIFE projects targeted this unique and species-rich fen habitat: **AlkFens_PL - Conservation and restoration of**

alkaline fens in the young-glacial landscape of northern Poland (LIFE11 NAT/PL/000423) and **AlkFens_S_PLife - Conservation of alkaline fens in southern Poland** (LIFE13 NAT/PL/000024). Both projects aimed at halting this habitat's degradation and improving its ecological status by:

- Removing trees on some 240 ha and preparatory mowing on 346 ha for the extensive use of fens.
- Improving water conditions by installing valves, pipes and dams.
- Purchasing 66 ha of fens to ensure strict protection.
- Preparing comprehensive documentation and conservation plans.
- Designating five new nature reserves.
- Reintroducing a rare and endangered plant species, known as bog saxifrage, in the eight best preserved patches of the habitat.
- Monitoring water, vegetation and flora as well as carbon binding in restored fens and publishing results.

Find out more:

<http://alkfens.kp.org.pl/en/>

Photo: LIFE10 NAT/DK/000102

Photo: LIFE11 NAT/PL/000423

Photo: LIFE10 NAT/PL/000024

Photo: LIFE13 NAT/PL/000024

Restoring peatlands across five EU countries

The Baltic States, Poland and Germany have huge areas of peatlands, which are in urgent need of conservation and restoration. The LIFE Clima project **LIFE Peat Restore** (LIFE15 CCM/DE/000138) is coming to the rescue by reviving around 5 300 ha of drained and degraded peatlands in these countries. In addition, a method of standardised measurements and calculation of greenhouse gases is being developed and applied in all partner countries.

The project measures include:

- Rewetting degraded peatlands by filling ditches and building dams to stop water draining.
- Measuring greenhouse gas emissions before and after restoration to show policymakers the vital role peatland restoration plays in curbing climate change.
- Creating guidelines for peatland restoration and use, following EU climate policy and legislation.
- Organising field trips, scientific conferences, workshops, and other activities to raise awareness of peatlands among the wider public.

As well as restoring degraded peatlands in the five EU countries, **LIFE Peat Restore** will also input to climate change mitigation by providing scientists and policymakers with robust carbon data from peatlands. In addition, a handbook and set of guidelines will help politicians, authorities, and conservation



Black grouse (Tetrao tetrix) - a rare bog inhabitant at some project sites.

Photo: LIFE15 CCM/DE/000138 - ©Alvars Petris



Photo: LIFE15 CCM/DE/000138

managers to make the right decisions when it comes to peatlands' use. Awareness raising activities will enhance the profile of peatlands and their importance among the wider public.

Find out more:

<https://life-peat-restore.eu/en/>

A closed drainage ditch from the Augstroze Nature Reserve project site in Latvia.

Learn more

- ec.europa.eu/life
- LIFE programme
- @LIFEprogramme
- LIFE programme

EU 2030 Biodiversity strategy

https://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/biodiversity/strategy/index_en.htm

How to apply for LIFE funding

The European Commission organises annual calls for proposals. Full details are available at <https://ec.europa.eu/easme/en/life>

Contact

European Commission – Directorate-General for the Environment – B-1049 Brussels (env-life@ec.europa.eu).
 European Commission – Directorate-General for Climate Action – B-1049 Brussels (clima-life@ec.europa.eu).
 European Commission – Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME) – B-1049 Brussels (EASME-LIFE-ENQUIRIES@ec.europa.eu).

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Publications Office of the European Union

Unclassified

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ITEM 16**Ards and North Down Borough Council**

Report Classification	Unclassified
Exemption Reason	Not Applicable
Council/Committee	Community and Wellbeing Committee
Date of Meeting	13 December 2023
Responsible Director	Director of Community and Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Parks and Cemeteries
Date of Report	24 November 2023
File Reference	PCA5
Legislation	N/A
Section 75 Compliant	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> If other, please add comment below:
Subject	Display Bed Applications
Attachments	Appendix 1 Display Bed Designs

Members will be aware that Council has an agreed policy for the use of Display Beds in the Borough, this policy requires Officers to report to Council any applications received by external organisations.

The Council has received applications for use of multiple display beds, Officers have assessed the application and have determined that all requests meet the criteria in the policy and are recommended for approval. The applications were deemed by Officers to not require equality screening.

The applications are as follows and the proposed designs of the displays are included in the attached Appendices. The Parks team will endeavour to replicate the designs as far as possible, however detail design may alter to facilitate installation. If necessary, the Officer will liaise with the applicant if the installation may have to be significantly different from that proposed.

Not Applicable

Name of Group / Organisation	Display Bed applied for	Proposed dates of display	Reason for the display	Drafted Display image
North Down Samaritans	Bangor Post Office	22/07/2024 - 19/08/2024	Commemorate 50 Year Anniversary	See Appendix 1 Item 1
U3a Hollywood District	Ballymenoch Park	01/01/2024 - 01/04/2024	Mark the 10 th year anniversary of the group	See Appendix 1 Item 2
Comber Bowling Club	Comber Town Square	01/04/2024 - 06/05/2024	To commemorate 100-year anniversary of the Bowling club.	See Appendix 1 Item 3
RLNI	Bangor Post Office & Newtownards Court SQ.	04/03/2024 - 04/04/2024	200 th Anniversary	See Appendix 1 Item 4 & 5

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council approves the above applications for the displays.

Appendix 1. Item 1.



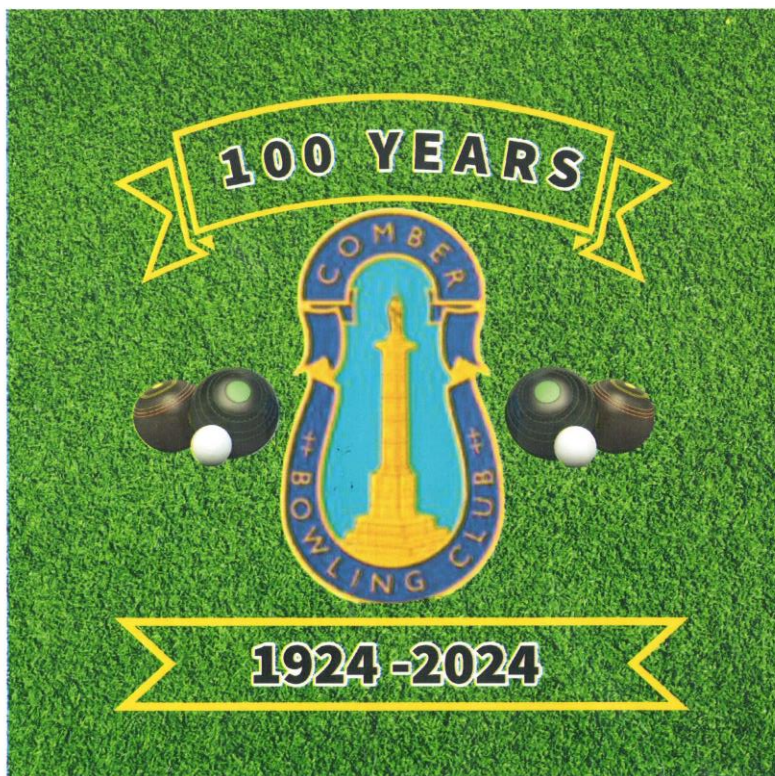
Appendix 1. Item 2.



*Text altered in lieu of "North Down & Ards".

It will read 'Holywood District 2013-2023'

Appendix 1. Item 3.



all ok!

Appendix 1. Item 4.

1824 - 2024



200 Years of Saving Lives

Appendix 1. Item 5.

Saving Lives Since 2001



Swim Between the Flags