

April 7th, 2022

Notice Of Meeting

You are requested to attend the meeting to be held on **Wednesday, 13th April 2022 at 7:00 pm** in **via Zoom**.

Agenda

Zoom Guidance

 *Zoom Guidance.pdf*

Not included

Agenda

(Attached)

 *13.04.2022 CWB Agenda.pdf*

Page 1

1. Apologies

2. Declarations of Interest

3. Sports Forum Grants

(Attached)

 *3. Ards and North Down Sports Forum Grants.pdf*

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 *3.1 Appendix 1 Successful Equipment Applications.pdf*

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 *3.2 Appendix 2 Successful Events Applications.pdf*

Page 6

 *3.3 Appendix 3 Successful (subject to) Goldcard Applications.pdf*


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 *3.4 Appendix 4 Unsuccessful Applications.pdf*

Page 9

4. Proposed Changes to Ards and North Down Sports Forum Grants

(Attached)

 *4. Proposed changes to Ards and North Down Sports Forum Grants Programme.pdf*

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5. Mary Peters Trust

(Attached)

 *5. Mary Peters Trust.pdf*

Page 13

 *5.1 Appendix Letter 5th February 2022 Mary Peters Trust.pdf*

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6. Sub Regional Stadia Programme for Soccer

(Attached)

- [!\[\]\(746d018fdf6ab02bf5fb7681133e8b29_img.jpg\) **6. Sub-Regional Stadia Programme for Soccer.pdf**](#) **Page 16**
- [!\[\]\(5daa6eee1904cb6b9d765700250de764_img.jpg\) **6.1 Appendix 1 Letter ANDBC to DfC Sub Regional Stadia Programme for Soccer.pdf**](#) **Page 18**
- [!\[\]\(d72e437c7cc5947bc0b147aba6602563_img.jpg\) **6.2 Appendix 2 Letter DfC response ANDBC Sub Regional Stadia Programme for Soccer.pdf**](#) **Page 19**

7. Ards and North Down in Bloom Annual Grants

(Attached)

- [!\[\]\(511a36c244659513b679df9c639945de_img.jpg\) **7. Ards and North Down In Bloom Annual Grants.pdf**](#) **Page 21**
- [!\[\]\(2c0783baf87a2728b2fe49eb1c34c456_img.jpg\) **7.1 Appendix 1 Table illustrating applications against set criteria.pdf**](#) **Page 23**

8. Ards and North Down In Bloom Update

(Attached)

- [!\[\]\(e492b5d52ab457a7a3c2826c4091dfee_img.jpg\) **8. Ards and North Down In Bloom Update.pdf**](#) **Page 33**

9. Display Bed Applications

(Attached)

- [!\[\]\(1e63609ed98a835f4eb8c01936fe5abe_img.jpg\) **9. Display Beds Applications.pdf**](#) **Page 36**
- [!\[\]\(894ed1eaf67f827f170900945f995ae3_img.jpg\) **9.1 Appendix Display Bed Designs.pdf**](#) **Page 38**

10. Down High School Motion Tree Planting

(Attached)

- [!\[\]\(a724a4a68298d6dff85fe378e838a60a_img.jpg\) **10. Down High School Motion Tree Planting.pdf**](#) **Page 39**
- [!\[\]\(e45f0f4def98e1246d9487bb157beff5_img.jpg\) **10.1 Appendix 1 Letter ANDBC to DAERA Down High School Motion Tree Planting.pdf**](#) **Page 41**
- [!\[\]\(88bfc90d98dd4d34739a3a724db7c68c_img.jpg\) **10.2 Appendix 2 Letter DAERA response Down High School Motion Tree Planting.pdf**](#) **Page 42**

11. Loughview Cemetery Signage and Flower Beds

(Attached)

 **11. Loughview Cemetery Signage and Flowerbeds.pdf**

Page 43

12. Litter Bin Rationalisation Response to NoM

(Attached)

 **12. Litter Bin Rationalisation response to NoM.pdf**

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13. Sea Swimming Response to NOM

(Attached)

 **13. Sea Swimming Response to NoM.pdf**

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14. Arts Project Grants

(Attached)

 **14. Arts Projects Grants.pdf**

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15. Heritage Grants

(Attached)

 **15. Heritage Grants.pdf**

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16. Arts Bursaries

(Attached)

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 **16.1 Appendix Background on Bursaries.pdf**

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17. NI Centenary Grants

(Attached)

 **17. NI Centenary Grants.pdf**

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 **17.1 Appendix Distribution of NI Centenary Grants throughout ANDBC.pdf**

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18. Ards and North Down Social Supermarkets

(Attached)

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19. Ards and North Down Youth Voice

(Attached)

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20. Good Relations Cultural Expressions Programme

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21. Queens Platinum Jubilee Grants

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22. Ukrainian Resettlement

 **22. Ukrainian Resettlement.pdf** **Page 81**

23. Notices of Motion

23.1 Submitted by Councillor Boyle and Alderman Carson

That officers bring back a report with reference to the provision of flood lighting and creation of a running track around the Council owned facility and home venue to Cloughey FC, located at Calhame Park, Cloughey.

23.2 Submitted by Councillor Adair and Councillor Edmund

To mark the 400th anniversary of the building of Kirkistown Castle, Council tasks officers to work with the Department for Communities (Historic Monuments Division), local community groups and schools, to deliver a community programme of events to mark this important milestone in the history of the village of Cloughey.

24. Any Other Notified Business

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

25. PCSP Minutes 13th September 2021

(Minutes attached)

 **25. PCSP Private Minutes 13 September 2021.pdf**

Not included

26. PCSP Minutes 15th November 2021

(Minutes attached)

 **26. PCSP Private Minutes 15th November 2021.pdf**

Not included

27. War Years Remembered

(Report to follow)

Any Other Notified Business

ARDS AND NORTH DOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL

6 April 2022

Dear Sir/Madam

You are hereby invited to attend a meeting of the Community and Wellbeing Committee to be held remotely via Zoom on **Wednesday, 13th April 2022** commencing at **7.00 pm**.

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. Sports Forum Grants (Report attached)
4. Proposed changes to Ards and North Down Sports Forum Grants (Report attached)
5. Mary Peters Trust (Report attached)
6. Sub Regional Stadia Programme for Soccer (Report attached)
7. Ards and North Down In Bloom Annual Grants (Report attached)
8. Ards and North Down In Bloom Update (Report attached)
9. Display Bed Applications (Report attached)
10. Down High School Motion Tree Planting (Report attached)
11. Loughview Cemetery Signage and Flower Beds (Report attached)
12. Litter Bin Rationalisation response to NoM (Report attached)
13. Sea Swimming Response to NoM (Report attached)
14. Arts Project Grants (Report attached)
15. Heritage Grants (Report attached)

16. Arts Bursaries (Report attached)
17. NI Centenary Grants (Report attached)
18. Ards and North Down Social Supermarkets (Report attached)
19. Ards and North Down Youth Voice (Report attached)
20. Good Relations Cultural Expressions Programme (Report attached)
21. Queens Platinum Jubilee Grants (Report attached)
22. Ukrainian Resettlement (Report attached)
23. Notices of Motion
- 23.1 Submitted by Councillor Boyle and Alderman Carson

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24. Any Other Notified Business

ITEM *25-27* *IN CONFIDENCE*****

25. PCSP Minutes 13th September 2021 (Minutes attached)
26. PCSP Minutes 15th November 2021 (Minutes attached)
27. War Years Remembered (Report to follow)

MEMBERSHIP OF COMMUNITY AND WELLBEING COMMITTEE (16 MEMBERS)

Alderman Carson	Councillor Johnson
Alderman Irvine (Vice Chair)	Councillor Kendall
Alderman Menagh	Councillor McArthur
Councillor Boyle	Councillor Mathison
Councillor Chambers	Councillor Smart
Councillor Douglas	Councillor T Smith
Councillor Edmund	Councillor Thompson (Chair)
Councillor Egan	Councillor McRandal

Unclassified

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ITEM 3**Ards and North Down Borough Council**

Report Classification	Unclassified
Council/Committee	Community and Wellbeing
Date of Meeting	13 April 2022
Responsible Director	Director of Community and Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Leisure and Amenities
Date of Report	07 March 2022
File Reference	SD109
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 February 2022)
Attachments	Appendix 1 - Successful Equipment Applications Appendix 2 - Successful Events Applications Appendix 3 - Successful (subject to) Goldcard Applications Appendix 4 - Unsuccessful Applications

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. £35,000 had been allocated within the 2021/2022 revenue budget for this purpose.

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.

Unclassified

During February 2022, the Forum received a total of 3 grant applications; 1 of which was for Anniversary, 1 for Equipment and 1 of which was for an Event. A summary of the 2 successful applications are detailed in the attached Successful Equipment Applications and Successful Events Applications.

A total of 1 of the applications failed to meet the specified criteria. The reason for the unsuccessful application is detailed on the attached Unsuccessful Applications.

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

	Annual Budget	Funding Awarded February 2022	Remaining Budget
Anniversary	£1,000	£0	£1,000
Coaching	£3,000	£0	£1,499.25
Equipment	£9,000	*£1,000	-£7,028.41
Events	£6,000	*£171	£3,499.52
Seeding	£500	£0	£58.57
Travel and Accommodation	£14,500	*£0	£12,422.82
Discretionary	£1000	£0	£1,000
Goldcards proposed during the period February 2022 is 5 ("subject to").			

*The proposed remaining budget for Equipment of -£7,028.41 is based on a proposed award of £1,000.00 as outlined in Successful Equipment Applications – for Approval. The proposed remaining budget for Events of £3,499.52 is based on a proposed award of £171 as outlined in Successful Events Applications – for Noting, and withdrawn costs of £171.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council approves the attached application for financial assistance for sporting purposes valued at above £250, and that the application approved by the Forum (valued at below £250) is noted.

Successful Equipment Applications - for Approving

March

2021/22

Applicant	Type	Equipment	Benefit	Cost	Requested	Proposed	Notes
Moto Trial NI	Host Events	Marker flags, section tape and course markers. To safely prepare adequate course and sections for new and beginner riders.	Allow Club to safely identify and mark out new sections and areas for existing and new members to the Club.	Section tape x 32 = £481.20 + Printed flags x 3 = £292 + Course markers 7 x 10 pk = £279.93 = £1,053.13 (NOT £984.73 as detailed on form)	£1,053.13	£1,000.00	Propose funding of £1,000.00 towards equipment, 'subject to' confirmation that the equipment will be 'securely stored' on own premises.
					Total Proposed	£1,000.00	

Successful Events Applications - for Approving

March

2021/22

Applicant	Sport	Event	Event Outline	Start	End	Requested	Proposed	Notes
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Total Proposed £0.00

Successful Events Applications - for Noting

March

2021/22

Ards Football Club	Association Football	Ards FC Disability Football Mini Tournament	Disability Football Tournament which brings selected Clubs within ANDBC and NI, in an inclusive and competitive environment.	19/03/2022	19/03/2022	£171.00	£171.00	Propose funding of £171.00 towards Londonderry Park Pitch Hire, "Subject to" signed and dated Risk Assessment.
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Total Proposed £171.00

Successful Goldcards - For Noting

Applicant	Representing	Sport	Event	Start	End	Gvm	Proposed	Notes
Charlotte Eadie	N Ireland	Sailing	All 6 ILCA Events			Ards Blair Mayne W&LC	Awarded	RYANI states Chalotte identified with potential for Laser class and a member of the NI Youth Performance Programme. Name of event training for is "All 6 ILCA events". "Subject to" the RYANI confirming selection for one of the ILCA events.
Emily Macafee	N Ireland	Sailing	Topper Worlds	25/07/2022	29/07/2022	Bangor Aurora	Awarded	RYANI letter states Emily was offered a place on the RYANI Topper Youth Performance Programme 2021/22, and an email congratulates her on being selected. "Subject to" the RYANI confirming selection for the Topper Worlds in Italy, 25-29 July 2022.
Hannah Dadley-Young	N Ireland	Sailing	ICLA (Laser 4.7) U18 Worlds	07/08/2022	14/08/2022	Bangor Aurora & Bangor	Awarded	RYANI letter states Hannah is a member of the NI Youth Performance Squad. Additionally, she is a member of the Performance Academy. "Subject to" the RYANI confirming selection for ICLA (Laser 4.7) U18 Worlds in Portugal 7-14 Aug 2022.

Henry Nelson	N Ireland	Sailing	Topper Worlds	25/07/2022	29/07/2022	Bangor Aurora	Awarded	RYANI states Henry is one of their young athletes campaigning with RYANI support and that he is required to attend and compete at key National events. "Subject to" the RYANI confirming selection for the Topper Worlds in Italy, 25-29 July 2022.
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Lewis Thompson	N Ireland	Sailing	British Youths	09/04/2022	15/04/2022	Ards Blair Mayne W&LC,	Awarded	RYANI letter advises that Lewis is a member of the Northern Youth Performance Programme made up of the best under 18 sailors in the province and. "Subject to" the RYANI confirming selection for British Youth National Championships Wales, 9-15 April 2022.
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Unsuccessful Applications Report

March

2021/22

08 March 2022

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Applicant	Application	Request	Evidence Required	Explanation
North Down Hockey Club	Anniversary	North Down Hockey Club submitted an application for their 125th Anniversary; a formal dinner dance on 12 March 2022. The application was submitted on 14 February 2022. The Club requested £700.	Our Guidelines state that “the Club request for a grant should be made six months prior to the anniversary year being commemorated” and that “the Council expects Clubs to undertake their own fundraising activities to cover expenses and the Council will only consider a grant contribution towards any short-fall in costs that arises.”	The club failed to meet the following criteria – the application was not submitted six months in advance of the event, the club did not provide any evidence of a short fall in costs for their event.

Unclassified

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ITEM 4

Ards and North Down Borough Council

Report Classification	Unclassified
Council/Committee	Community and Wellbeing
Date of Meeting	13 April 2022
Responsible Director	Director of Community and Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Leisure Services
Date of Report	29 March 2022
File Reference	SD109
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	Proposed changes to Ards and North Down Sports Forum Grants Programme
Attachments	None

Members will be aware that an increased budget of £40,000 had been allocated within the 2022/2023 revenue budget towards the Ards and North Down Sports Forum Grants Programme.

Following a review of the Grants Programme and feedback received from applicants and clubs; the following changes are proposed by Officers and the Sports Forum Working Group:

Individual & Club Travel and Accommodation Category

Award increase of £50 proposed (except for Northern Ireland)

Individual Travel and Accommodation	2021/2022	2022/2023
Northern Ireland	£50 (Minimum 50 miles)	£50.00
Ireland	£50.00	£100.00

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Great Britain	£100.00	£150.00
Europe	£120.00	£170.00
Outside Europe	£150.00	£200.00
NB: Max of £500 per year per athlete		
Club Travel and Accommodation	2021/2022	2022/2023
Northern Ireland	£50	£50.00
Ireland	£150.00	£200.00
Great Britain	£200.00	£250.00
Europe	£250.00	£300.00
Outside Europe	£300.00	£350.00
NB: Should the programme be oversubscribed and due to limited funds available, a reduction in funding percentage will be applied across all applications. Max of £500 per year per club		

Equipment Category

Grant Category	What is in place for 21/22	Proposed changes for 22/23	Rationale / Justification
Equipment Category	<p>Allowance of £1,000 towards sports equipment per club, per financial year.</p> <p>'Fundamental' equipment is currently ineligible for funding under the Equipment grant.</p>	Of this £1,000 equipment grant; £300 can be fundamental equipment.	Provides further flexibility to clubs to purchase their main sports equipment. However, Forum will use discretion and utilise eligibility criteria where necessary "Costs that are deemed to be unreasonable e.g. excessive goods/services"

Event Category

Grant Category	What is in place for 21/22	Proposed changes for 22/23	Rationale / Justification
Event Category	<p>Allowance of £1,000 towards event delivery per club, per financial year.</p> <p>'Fundamental' equipment is currently ineligible for funding under the Event grant.</p>	Of this £1,000 event grant; £300 can be fundamental equipment.	Enables clubs to put on more events in the borough knowing that if they need additional sports equipment, a contribution is available towards the costs.

Unclassified

		However, Forum will use discretion and utilise eligibility criteria where necessary <i>"Costs that are deemed to be unreasonable e.g. excessive goods/services"</i>
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Anniversary Award Category

Grant Category	What is in place for 21/22	Proposed changes for 22/23	Rationale / Justification
Anniversary	6-month stipulation as part of criteria. i.e. clubs had to submit an application 6 months prior to the year of their Anniversary.	Reducing this to 3 months prior to Anniversary.	More flexibility for clubs to apply for financial assistance.

Coaching / Seeding / Goldcard Award Category

No changes proposed.

School / Club Pathways Category

The Sports Development Team and Sports Forum Working Group are currently developing a new category to be included within the Sports Forum Programme and it is hoped that this category will be introduced in 2022/23. This category will provide financial assistance to clubs to provide sports coaching within the school environment and to increase club and school links and create further pathways for club participation. A further paper will be presented to Members once this award category has been developed.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council notes the above non-monetary changes and approves the proposed monetary changes to the Awards granted under the Sports Forum Programme to commence in 2022/23.

Unclassified

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ITEM 5**Ards and North Down Borough Council**

Report Classification	Unclassified
Council/Committee	Community and Wellbeing
Date of Meeting	13 April 2022
Responsible Director	Director of Community and Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Leisure Services
Date of Report	18 March 2022
File Reference	CW32
Legislation	N/A
Section 75 Compliant	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable <input type="checkbox"/>
Subject	Mary Peters Trust
Attachments	Appendix Letter 5th February 2022 Mary Peters Trust

Members will be aware that Council has previously, on an annual basis, provided support to the Mary Peters Trust in the form of a grant. The Mary Peters Trust do excellent work in helping to develop upcoming local athletes from a wide range of sports through the distribution of financial support that allows the athletes to train and compete at the highest levels.

In 2021 the Mary Peters Trust provided financial support to 8 local athletes from 5 different sports across the Ards and North Down Borough Council area, totalling £4,450 of investment.

Without financial support many of the athletes would struggle to do the training required or be able to afford to travel to events to compete and represent everything that is good about this Borough.

It is proposed to continue to support the work of the Trust through the award of this grant which can be paid from the existing allocation in the Sport Development Budget for 2021/22. In previous years, Council has provided £3000 to the Trust.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council approves an award of £3,000 to the Mary Peters Trust.



Mary Peters Trust

Funding Northern Ireland's Future Sporting Champions

marypeterstrust.org



5th February 2022

Mr Stephen Reid
 Chief Executive
 Ards and North Down Borough Council
 Town Hall
 The Castle
 Bangor
 BT20 4BT

Dear Mr Reid,

Over the years you have assisted the Mary Peters Trust by providing encouragement and financial support. We invest our capital, and the interest is distributed in the form of sporting awards to upcoming athletes. We fundraise throughout the year to add to this amount.

This year is a very special one as we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of my Gold Medal for Pentathlon at the 1972 Munich Olympics. We plan to support as many young athletes as possible as they prepare for the 2022 Commonwealth Games. We are also providing essential support for young people coming out of the pandemic and back into competition.

This past year in your area we have funded:

Troy McConville	Athletics	650
Ellie Mc Kibbin	Swimming	750
Grace Davison	Swimming	400
Adam Barnes	Swimming	400
Giselle Coulter	Rowing (Ireland)	500
Max Skelton	Table Tennis	500
James Skelton	Table Tennis	500
Erin McConnell	Triathlon	750

We are seeking your support to help ensure the level and value of the awards continue to grow. We need your support more than ever as we face a drop in our investments and building back our fundraising events.

We would ask that this letter could be forwarded to the relevant Council Committee, and they may consider joining us in our work of helping young people achieve excellence in sport.

Best Wishes and many thanks

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mary Peters', with a large, sweeping flourish underneath.

Lady Mary Peters LG CH DBE DL DStJ

Unclassified

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ITEM 6

Ards and North Down Borough Council

Report Classification	Unclassified
Council/Committee	Community and Wellbeing
Date of Meeting	13 April 2022
Responsible Director	Director of Community and Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Environmental Health Protection and Development.
Date of Report	23 March 2022
File Reference	LEI15
Legislation	N/A
Section 75 Compliant	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> If other, please add comment below: N/A
Subject	Sub Regional Stadia Programme for Soccer
Attachments	Appendix 1 Letter ANDBC to DfC Sub Regional Stadia Programme for Soccer Appendix 2 Letter DfC response ANDBC Sub Regional Stadia Programme for Soccer

At the Council meeting on 23rd February 2022 the following Notice of Motion:

That this Council writes to the Minister for Communities Deirdre Hargey calling on her to deliver the sub-regional football stadium funding that would enable Ards FC to fulfil their strategy and develop a new community stadium in Newtownards was discussed and it was agreed that a letter would be sent to the Minister for Communities (Appendix 1).

was discussed and it was agreed that a letter would be sent to the Minister for Communities (Appendix 1).

A response has been received from Shirley Chambers, Head of Sub Regional Stadia Programme (Appendix 2).

Unclassified

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The letter notes:

That the Minister met with representatives from Ards Football Club, along with local MP and an MLA. That the team also met with representatives from Bangor Football Club, along with another MLA.

That the Minister also met with the Irish Football Association and the Northern Ireland Football League to address their concerns and to provide assurances of her commitment. Finally the letter states that the Minister plans to meet again with both organisations to provide a further update on the programme.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council notes the response.

Ms Deirdre Hargey MLA
Minister for Communities
Department for Communities
Causeway Exchange
1-7 Bedford Street
Belfast
County Antrim
BT2 7EG

By email: private.office@communities-ni.gov.uk

4 March 2022

Dear Minister

SUB REGIONAL FOOTBALL STADIUM FUNDING

At a recent meeting of Ards and North Down Borough Council, the following motion was discussed and subsequently agreed:

“That this Council writes to the Minister for Communities calling on her to deliver the sub-regional Stadium funding that would enable clubs in the Borough to apply for improvements- such as Ards FC to fulfil their strategy and develop a new community Stadium in Newtownards, Bangor FC to fulfil its aspirations for a new modern grandstand and Community Hub at Clandeboye Park, and improvements for other eligible clubs in the Borough.”

The Council would be grateful for your consideration and response to the above motion.

Yours sincerely



STEPHEN REID
Chief Executive



Department for

Communities

An Roinn

Pobal

Department for

Commonitieswww.communities-ni.gov.uk

Stephen Reid
Chief Executive
Ards & North Down BC
Town Hall
The Castle
Bangor
BT20 4BT

Via email: stephen.reid@ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk
Cc: Gillian.Robinson@ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk
Graeme.Bannister@ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk

Level 7 Causeway Exchange
1-7 Bedford Street
Belfast
BT2 7EG
email:
subregionalstadia@communities-ni.gov.uk

Your ref: N/A

Our ref: CORR-0132-2022

18 March 2022

Dear Mr Reid

SUB-REGIONAL STADIA PROGRAMME FOR SOCCER

I am writing to advise you that your query to Minister Hargey in respect of the Sub-Regional Stadia Programme for Soccer, has been forwarded to my team to provide the appropriate information.

During the 'Refresh and Re-engagement' exercise the Minister and I met with representatives from Ards Football Club, along with local MP Jim Shannon and MLA Harry Harvey to discuss the proposed new stadium at the Floodgate site in Newtownards. Advice was given to liaise with the Council in relation to possible applications for the 'Levelling Up' and 'Peace Plus' funding streams.

My team also met with representatives from Bangor Football Club, along with local MLA Stephen Dunne, who presented plans about their proposed development of a new grandstand and other additional works. Discussion also included information about the club's academy, their work within the community, the appointment of a Mental Health and Wellbeing Officer and a proactive board that has worked diligently to ensure the club were financially secure.

Ards and Bangor like all clubs in your district are hoping to benefit from the programme, and the Minister recognises the importance that it can provide real opportunity for investment to not only address the needs for local football but also help contribute to wider Executive priorities for economic, social and cultural benefits for their respective communities.

Minister Hargey has continuously stated she was committed to progressing this programme within the current Assembly mandate. Unfortunately, without a functioning Executive there is an additional challenge to present her proposals on the way forward for the programme to Executive colleagues.

Minister Hargey understands this problem was not created by the football sector and is investigating how to navigate these difficulties. I can confirm that she has written to the Finance Minister to consider any impact of construction cost inflation on the programme. In addition she has written to the Ministers whom remain in post to ask for their support in her efforts to progress this Programme as a matter of urgency and has sought legal advice to explore her options.

The Minister has met with the Irish Football Association and the Northern Ireland Football League to address concerns and provide assurances of her commitment. The Minister plans to meet again with both organisations to provide a further update on the programme.

If you need any further information please contact Gary Knox at subregionalstadia@communities-ni.gov.uk.

I hope you find this response useful.

Yours sincerely,

Shirley Chambers

Shirley Chambers
Head of Sub Regional Stadia Programme

Unclassified

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

Report Classification	Unclassified
Council/Committee	Community and Wellbeing
Date of Meeting	13 April 2022
Responsible Director	Director of Community and Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Interim Head of Parks & Cemeteries
Date of Report	02 March 2022
File Reference	PCA85
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	Ards and North Down in Bloom Annual Grants
Attachments	Appendix 1 Table illustrating applications against set criteria

The purpose of this report is to consider the 14 applications from local community groups for the annual Ards and North Down in Bloom funding grants.

Ards and North Down Borough has a reputation for leading the way with our floral displays. The Borough has won regional and national competitions in recent years and the common theme throughout all the success is the incredible hard work and enthusiasm shown by our staff and the local communities they work with.

The grant scheme assists the Ards and North Down in Bloom initiative which has been developed with three overlapping objectives: horticultural excellence, community participation and environmentally sustainable practices. These are in line with objectives of Translink Ulster in Bloom and other regional awards schemes.

Ards and North Down Borough Council currently makes budget provision for the allocation of funding to community groups in order to assist with floral displays in the towns and villages throughout the borough, to assist with the council's commitment to the Translink Ulster in Bloom competition.

Unclassified

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The allocation for funding is intended to supplement floral display and amenity area maintenance currently carried out by the councils Parks and Cemeteries Service. This may be in the form of hanging baskets, planters, flower beds, sustainable wildflower displays etc. either on council or other statutory bodies land or privately owned non-domestic areas in public view.

The maximum limit for floral funding is £1,000 per annum per group. A further grant may be provided for funding, in whole or in part, appropriate liability insurance covering the floral display work over and above the group's normal insured activities. Funding will be allocated with 80% advance payment, with the further 20% paid upon the receipt of invoices.

Council wish to encourage a collaborative approach by groups, where there are more than one group applying in a town or village, consideration may only be given to one project.

The 14 applications were assessed against the following criteria :

- Meet the core objectives of Ards and North Down in Bloom
- Provide a vision as to how the funding will enhance the particular areas and how this will be sustained in subsequent years.
- Evidence of approval from relevant landowner where works are to be carried out.
- Where appropriate insurance liability cover is in place, copy of certificate and schedule to be submitted.
- How the works are to be carried out, and by whom.
- Detailed breakdown of how funding will be utilised, and receipts submitted accordingly.

Appendix 1 clearly demonstrates how each application met each of the criteria. In the assessment, all 14 applications were considered to have met the criteria.

Currently, there is a budget allocation of £17,000 for the In Bloom grant programme. The 14 applications amount to £ 12,395.00 in total.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council awards all 14 applications for funding.

Appendix 1

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CRITERIA							
	Provide a vision as to how the funding will enhance the particular areas and how this will be sustained in subsequent years.	Evidence of approval from relevant landowner where works are to be carried out	When appropriate insurance liability cover is in place, copy of certificate and schedule to be submitted.	How the works are to be carried out, and by whom.	Detailed breakdown of how funding will be utilised, and receipts submitted accordingly.	Amount of funding requested	Recommendation
Ballygowan and District Community Association	By receiving this funding BDCA will be able to create beautiful floral displays in different areas of the village, Flowers soften public spaces, they create lovely splashes of colour. In two of the areas where the floral displays will be, there are also summer seats-people can sit down, enjoy the floral displays and watch the world go by. Seeing a lovely array of flowers lifts everyone's mood, bringing pleasure to residents, visitors, and people just passing through. The floral displays will be sustained by applying for In Bloom Grants, our own fundraising. Our group will maintain the beds throughout the year.	We have approval from the owner of the land. Approval granted by ANDBC who own the land.	Insurance cover in place - yes	The works will be carried out by BDCA Committee and volunteers. At the appropriate times of the year we will clear old bedding and plant anew.	Total project cost: £200 1. Double Begonia bedding plants - 60 plants (£150) 2. Bedding compost - 8 bags (£50)	£150.00 (75%)	Approve
Ballywalter Community Action Group	As identified in the two recent village plans in which they state that: "Ballywalter community feel the village is	Approval from landowner gained in 2009. (NIE)	Yes	Works will be carried out by community volunteers, local primary school	Summer, Winter and Spring bedding plants, for rowing boat, gardens, twenty planters throughout the village, wall mounted floral	£995.00	Approve

Appendix 1

	<p>generally unattractive and it is important to improve the appearance using flowers and planters". Through the continuous development of the existing planted areas we aim to make the village more appealing to locals and anticipate that visitors will be encouraged to stop in the village, thus generating more business for the local traders.</p> <p>The Peace and Memorial Garden is situated on the Main Street which is a focal centre piece in the village. When the garden is fully in bloom contributes to enhancing the area and provides a very welcoming atmosphere promoting civic pride and fosters the development of a community identity and spirit. In addition, we have added 21 planters throughout the village and a new wall mounted floral row boat feature on entry to the village.</p> <p>Community gardens also increase a sense of community ownership and stewardship. Community gardening is a healthy, inexpensive activity for youth that can bring them closer to nature and allow them to interact with each other in a socially</p>	<p>Approval for planters gained in 2018 (DFI & ANDBC)</p>		<p>children and the over 50's club. Also input from NIHE staff.</p>	<p>rowboat, Removal of weeds and power washing.</p>		
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Appendix 1

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	meaningful and physically productive way. Ballywalter Over 50's Gardening Club contribute to the sustainability of the project by using their sessions to sow seeds etc to bring them on for planting out in the relevant seasons.						
Comber Regeneration Community Partnership	The purchase of 2 and 3 tier planters to replace some of the wooden planters in the town. Self-watering hanging baskets have been purchased which will be erected on Commercial Premises as part of the Ulster in Bloom.	N/A Approval in place from existing planters.	At present a risk assessment is being done and will be with Insurers within 7 days for work done from cherry picker.	Basket brackets will be fitted by an approved builder and baskets will be installed by same person with cherry picker. Planting on floral beds will be done by CRCPs volunteer team.	Plug Plants (Volmary 01945410411) £750 Compost (McCann's 02887748862) £250	£1000.00	Approve
Conlig Community Regeneration Group	To refurbish village planters and reuse them to create displays. In order to locate, service and collect the planters at the end of the season a hand truck and water tank will be purchased.	The planters will be located on property owned by the Council, NIHE and Road Services. Approval in place from previous years.	Yes	The Conlig Community Regeneration Group (CCRG) will form a working partnership with the PRAXIS group to deliver and maintain this project in the village of Conlig during the summer flowering season.	Plants - £300 Compost - £400 Hand Truck - £400 Water tank and hoses - £230	£1000.00 (75%)	Approve
Donaghadee Community Development Association	We require financial support for the period May - October to pay for the erection and	Each trader will sign an agreement agreeing to	Each trader will sign an agreement agreeing to the	Assuming this grant is successful we will seek quotations	May – erection of 55 baskets.	£1000.00 (50%)	Approve

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	dismantling of hanging baskets; Watering and maintenance of baskets. There is no "green space" in the town centre and narrow footpaths restrict the opportunity for pavement mounted displays. Hanging baskets and window boxes have proven highly popular and successful and we plan to repeat this in 2022. Traders will pay for their basket to be prepared by local garden centres. We are funding for watering etc not to be available we would revert to using volunteers	the erection of the hanging basket.	erection of the hanging basket and confirming they have public liability insurance cover of at least £5m.	and obtain the services of a suitably qualified and experienced contractor.	May – October – Twice weekly watering and maintenance. October – dismantling and disposal.		
Greyabbey and District Community Association	We wish to continue to enhance the Main Street and streets leading into Greyabbey with hanging baskets. We plan to build on the success of 2021, our best year to date, by hanging beautiful floral displays at highly visible thoroughfares in Greyabbey. We believe we can further enhance the beauty of this attractive historic village which attracts over 20,000 visitors per year to the Abbey alone. The funding will be used to plant and weekly water/feed 20 hanging baskets, which will be placed strategically along the most visible parts of	Approval for the placing of the baskets has been sought.	The Community Association has a comprehensive insurance policy which includes public liability.	The committee will co-ordinate the works on a voluntary	Flowers and compost. Millecross Nursery. £500 Weekly watering of the baskets x 20 weeks. Hannah's Nurseries. £750	£1000.00 (80%)	Approve

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	the village. Funding will also be used to facilitate the feeding and watering of the floral displays. Having this done professionally last year made all the difference.						
Groomsport Village Association	To further enhance the appearance of the village benefiting residents and visitors, striving to continue and improve our village's success in The Ulster in Bloom competition. We plan to replant the 18 GVA planters plus herb garden requiring soil, daffodil bulbs and assorted plants. This will complement planting provided by ANDBC further enhancing the "IN BLOOM" village experience.	We will gladly cooperate with the tremendous work undertaken by ANDBC Parks and Cemeteries, accepting advice where necessary.	Yes. Combined Liability Insurance & Management Liability Insurance.	The Groomsport Village Association will liaise with local business, householders and residents concerning location, planting and maintenance of planters. Never any shortage of volunteers concerning watering, weeding and other aspects of maintenance.	Replant 18 GVA Planters and herb garden. Groomsport Nurseries. £400 Soil, daffodil bulbs and assorted plants. Groomsport Nurseries. £300	£700.00	Approve
Helens Bay and Crawfordsburn Residents Association	Last year, for the first time, HBCRA received a Highly Commended Certificate for Best Community Planting Scheme in the In Bloom competition. This was hugely encouraging and recognition of our delivery of In Bloom improvement in recent years, using the Council grant, allied to our huge volunteer input. It is our vision to build on this. Community Planting Schemes were a priority	This is always obtained, and has never been a problem hitherto - from Translink, Clandeboye Estate, NIHE, and ANDBC, as well as local residents.	Yes	As above, by members of HBCRA, as Volunteers. It is hard to estimate the hours involved but in recent years it has amounted to 200-300 hours of the coordinator, with differing amounts of hours by other individual volunteers.	Insurance - McCarroll & McConnell = £576.72 Daffodil Bulbs - Walkers of Newtownards = £50 Other Seeds, Flowers and shrubs Walkers and Hannahs in Holywood = £50 Miscellaneous Local Suppliers = £20 Total = £696.72	£550 (80%)	Approve

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	<p>in the latest Village Plan (item 5.1.4) and are part of our implementation plan.</p> <p>The work in the Townswomen's Guild Wood, of two and a half hectares has hugely enhanced accessibility to a vital green lung and wildlife corridor at a time when residents were desperate for areas to walk safely. Discussions have begun on ensuring this legacy will be sustained with a community of local volunteers.</p>						
Portavogie Culture and Heritage Society	Our group has planted 110s of bulbs over the years + hop to continue to do so. These displays along with mangus, boats, tubs etc ensure the area is beautiful to see + a home for wildlife.	Council property	Yes	Ongoing planting and cultivation by the Lawson Learners of Portavogie Culture and Heritage Society	Bulb, compost, plants & shrubs. Harrison's, Walkers and D.Kerrs (all local) = £1000	£1000 (100%)	Approve
Lisbarnett and Lisbane Community Association	We will follow on from our success in 2020 and use the funding to plant up existing planters and pots at various locations around the village to help improve and brighten the village and encourage everyone who lives and works in the village to take pride in it. We plan to increase the number of planting	None required	Yes	We have a number of core volunteers who regularly water and maintain the containers in the vicinity eg local pharmacy and After School Club children. We will agree dates that are suitable and will extend an invitation to all residents to come	Summer Plants x {25 Geranium or similar Finlays Place = £297 Summer Plants x {25 packs of 6 bedding plants Finlays Place = £309 1280 litres of compost Finlays Place = £240 Sundries. planter fixings etc Hardvs Hardware= £825	£1,000 (73%)	Approve

Appendix 1

	volunteers and increase the amount of planting carried out each year with the aim of encouraging everyone in the village to get involved with 'Brightening Lisbane' and having a village to be proud of. We have had very positive feedback from local businesses who have all subsequently carried out planting on their premises which all adds to the overall look of the village. We would hope that in future years they also will add to this planting.			along and get involved in the planting phase of our 'Brighten Lisbane' project. Materials will be purchased, risk assessments carried out and a plan of activity will be created for all to follow. We will then arrange a team of volunteers to ensure that routine maintenance is ongoing.	<p>Winter planb,250 cyclamen and 250 pansies or similar Finlays Place = £238</p> <p>1280 litres of compost Finlays Place = £240</p> <p>Sundries. planter fixings etc Hardvs Hardware = £25</p> <p>Total = 1,374</p>		
Mill Village Gardening Club	Following our ongoing work supported by receiving the In Bloom grant for last 2 years, we will continuously improve the area by maintaining and replacing replanting in subsequent years.	Not required – Site owned by Mill Management Company Ltd – Shareholder control under leadership of democratically checked board.	Yes	<p>Through voluntary work by club members using equipment hire, as necessary.</p> <p>We seek to support the work of the communal garden through purchases.</p>	<p>Additional planters- Garden Centre = £200</p> <p>Peat/Soil/Compost – Comber Community Garden = £100</p> <p>New shrubs and climber = £200</p> <p>Summer planting – Garden Centre = £200</p> <p>Trees (including jubilee planting) = £300</p> <p>Total = £1000</p>	£1000 (100%)	Approve
Millisle Health and Wellbeing Group	Our vision is to supply a variety of colourful plants to the local area. We want to maintain the sense of pride in our village both for local residents and visitors.	We have a lease for the ground where the polytunnel is situated and we also have	Yes	Each year the Millisle Health & Wellbeing Group plant seeds and buy in plug plants to pot on and grow on in our	<p>Compost - Comber Community Garden = £250.00</p> <p>Plug Plants - Hanna Nurseries = £390.00</p>	£1,000 (100%)	Approve

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	We find our displays encourage locals to admire and talk about the plants and that this encourages friendship and mindfulness and on asking questions people learn some new skills and ideas for their own gardens..	a lease for the hall. We have permission from council to plant all the concrete planters round the village. We own some of the black planter boxes and the others were purchased by Millisle Community Association. Under the local Steering Group Committee we agreed to care for their planters at the Baptist Church which we been doing for the past 4 years.		polytunnel. The volunteers work tirelessly with the plants on a rota system. When plants are ready to transplant, we share them out around all the village planters and work hard to ensure a good floral show - as we have had over the past years	Plant stands – Argos = £105.00 Pots, plant food, seeds and labels - Amazon and local retail = £105.00 Plants - Asda and Groomsport Nurseries = £150.00 Total = £1,000		
Portaferry In Bloom	By publicly showcasing attractive and biodiverse schemes it is hoped members of the public will be inspired to replicate some elements in their own planting especially in the residential areas and thus enhance areas not managed by Portaferry In	Long standing approvals from all landowners are in place ie Transport NI, NIHE, BT, St Columba's	Yes	Portaferry In Bloom volunteers will undertake all work in relation to the project, including project management and supervision ie purchasing plants and materials,	Equipment & repairs – F Watson = £100 Soil enrichment - F Watson = £100 Weed killer, slug control - F Watson = £100 Fuel – Centra = £100	£1,000 (100%)	Approve

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	Bloom. We will also promote the personal and community benefits, both mental and physical, of engaging with nature and our environment. PIB organise workshops and seasonal activities for residents to raise our public profile and opportunities to volunteer thus increasing our pool of volunteers to continue the valuable community contribution of Portaferry In Bloom in future years.	College and Portaferry Regeneration Ltd		planting, pruning, grass cutting and weeding generally on a weekly basis from Spring to Autumn.	Compost & soil - F Watson = £100 Bark - C McDowell = £100 Plants - Dundonald Nurseries = £400		
Portavogie Regeneration Forum	<p>Portavogie is a historic village with much potential in terms of tourism and economic activity. Due to dereliction, parts of the village aren't as attractive as they could and should be. We want Portavogie to reach its full potential. By giving the famous New Harbour and Harbour Road a facelift. Our vision is that the rest of the village will follow suit.</p> <p>Following on from our previous projects this will now extend to planting throughout the Village. With recent Peace IV funding around the Community Square area, we want the village to be attractive to both visitors and residents.</p>	As previous years, we will receive approval from business and land owners, as this is very much a community partnership. This consent will be in writing. No hazards or obstructions will be created as a result of our initiative.	Yes	The resources will be ordered by the committee of PRF using our financial procedures. The practical work will be completed by our team of volunteers. If schools are open and Covid 19 restrictions allow, we will invite Portavogie Primary School to get involved with the preparation.	<p>M69B Ecoplanter - www.ecoplastic.net = £444.00 (includes VAT/Delivery)</p> <p>Bedding Plants - Homebase, Bangor = £360.00</p> <p>Compost- PO Chandlers, Portavogie = £75.00</p> <p>Fertiliser - B&M Bargains, Newtownards = £20.00</p> <p>Potato seeds - Homebase, Bangor = £36.00</p> <p>Wheelbarrow x1 - Homebase, Bangor = £65.00</p> <p>Total = £1,000</p>	£1,000 (100%)	Approve

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	<p>Young people from the primary school will be involved in the planting of tubs and baskets. This will involve two or three full sessions with young people.</p> <p>The benefits of our previous projects show that we can sustain the 'In Bloom' initiative. As years pass we need to replenish stock and extend the work throughout the village.</p> <p>We anticipate this project will bring a 'feel good' factor to the village and inspire others to get involved in future. We currently have a core group of volunteers and we hope this will grow in number.</p> <p>There is potential for the work to grow in future years, taking in other roads and potentially the full walking trail identified by Ards and North Down Borough Council.</p>						
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ITEM 8

Ards and North Down Borough Council

Report Classification	Unclassified
Council/Committee	Community and Wellbeing
Date of Meeting	13 April 2022
Responsible Director	Director of Community and Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Interim Head of Parks & Cemeteries
Date of Report	29 March 2022
File Reference	PCA85
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	Ards and North Down In Bloom Update
Attachments	None

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on 'In Bloom' community activities within the Ards and North Down Borough.

Ards and North Down Borough has a reputation for leading the way with or floral displays. The Borough has won regional and national competitions in recent years and the common theme throughout all successes, is the incredible hard work and enthusiasm shown by our staff and the local communities they work with. The Ards and North Down in Bloom initiative has been developed with three overlapping objectives which are: horticultural excellence, community participation and environmentally sustainable practices. These are in line with objectives of Translink Ulster in Bloom and other regional awards schemes.

Most recently, at the 2021 Translink 'Ulster in Bloom' Awards, Donaghadee was overall winner of the Town Category, Comber was placed third in the same category. Carnalea Rail Station placed third in the Floral Stations category. While this success is welcomed, the Parks Service recognise the opportunities for growth, through further community engagement and participation. In 2021 entries from the Borough to Ulster

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'In Bloom' grew to 14 towns and villages. This will provide an opportunity for feedback on each area and act as a starting point for future improvements.

To support communities on their entries, the Park Service invite annual application from village groups, community associations etc, within the Ards and North Down Borough for funding to enable the purchase of bedding plants, shrub and tree material, for planting within local villages or towns. The allocation of funding is subject to council budget approval and capped at £1,000.00 per application. Since 2019 the In Bloom Funding Scheme has awarded more than £42,000 supporting 50 projects (figures do not include the 2022 scheme).

The benefits of the wider 'In Bloom' initiative include: increased numbers of visitors who travel around the towns and villages to see the floral displays. Shops and businesses in the respective communities report considerable increase in their business for weeks afterwards. In addition, people perceive these floral places as attractive areas to live resulting in demand for properties, thus increasing property value.

Community Competitions

To further promote and support the 'In Bloom' initiative, the Parks Service launched the Ards and North Down in Bloom Community Competitions in 2020. The competitions are coordinated by Ards and North Down Borough Council. This community competition encourages everyone who lives or works in the Borough to think about their local environment and how attractive flowers, plants, trees and gardens can enhance it. By supporting this competition residents not only make their garden or business more attractive, but also contribute to the Borough's entry to the Translink Ulster in Bloom Competition and other regional awards.

The competitions are designed to attract a wide demographic to become involved in activities that promote horticultural excellence, increase environmental responsibility and encourage community participation. More than 1000 residents took part in the competition. The general categories for the Community Competition categories are:

- Best Kept Front Garden
- Gardening for Wildlife Award
- Volunteer of The Year
- Best Kept Commercial Premises
- Best Kept Community Planting Scheme.

Being a new initiative, a sustained media campaign was required to communicate the benefits of the competition and promote participation. The involvement of local community groups and schools in these media releases helped raise the profile of Council as a whole. As we learn to live with Covid-19, it is hoped that each year winners and runners-up will attend an awards ceremony in October, where they will be presented with prizes that can be used to further enhance their areas.

The structure of the competitions recognises the importance of educating young people on environmental responsibility, benefiting the Borough now and for future

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generations. The competitions include categories specifically aimed at entrants aged under 16. The Young People's Categories for the Community Competitions are:

- Best School Gardening Project
- Painting Competition
- Tallest Sunflower Competition
- Young Volunteer of The Year

The most popular Young Peoples category is the Tallest Sunflower Competition. The category was designed to engage young people in a fun horticulture activity, while learning about how to grow and care for plants. Parks Service have found many stories of children working with friends, neighbours and relatives to grow their sunflower as tall as possible. To support the scheme, free packets of sunflower seeds are distributed to schools across the borough. In 2021, the scheme saw the delivery of 6000 packets of seeds (approx. 60,000 seeds).

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council note the success of the Ards and North Down in Bloom initiative and continue to support it by encouraging local communities to participate the various ways outlined in this report.

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

Report Classification	Unclassified
Council/Committee	Community and Wellbeing
Date of Meeting	13 April 2022
Responsible Director	Director of Community and Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Interim Head of Parks & Cemeteries
Date of Report	16 March 2022
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 Display Bed Designs

Members will be aware that on the 27th February 2019 Council agreed a policy for the use of Display Beds in the Borough, this policy requires Officers to report to Council any applications received by external organisations. Through the pandemic the display bed application process has been suspended and these floral beds have been used to celebrate the excellent work carried out by NHS staff and other key workers. It is proposed that the display bed application process now recommences and that the NHS staff / key workers displays continue until new applications have been approved by Council.

The Council has received three applications for use of the display beds, Officers have assessed applications 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 design of the display is included in the attached Appendix 1. The Parks team will endeavour to replicate the design as far as possible, however detail design may alter in order to facilitate installation. If necessary, the Officer will liaise with the applicant if the installation may have to be significantly different from that proposed.

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Name of Group / Organisation	Display Bed applied for	Proposed dates of display	Reason for the display
Bangor Horticultural Society	Adjacent to Bangor Post and Sorting Office	24/04/2023 - 26/06/2023	To commemorate Bangor Horticultural Society reaching 100 years in the Bangor area
ANDBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjacent to Bangor Post and Sorting Office • Court Square, Newtownards 	20/06/2022 - 26/06/2022	To commemorate the Freedom of the Borough
ANDBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjacent to Bangor Post and Sorting Office • At the Bangor Road entrance to Ballymenoch Park, Hollywood • Court Square, Newtownards • East Street, Donaghadee • Comber Square, Comber 	30/05/2022 - 05/06/2022	To commemorate the Queen's Jubilee

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council approves the above applications for the display beds.

Appendix Display Bed Designs

1. Bangor Horticultural Society



2. ANDBC (Freedom of the Borough)

Please note, this image is currently undergoing computer design and may be subject to alteration.



3. ANDBC (Queen's Jubilee)

Please note, this image is currently undergoing computer design and may be subject to alteration.



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

Report Classification	Unclassified
Council/Committee	Community and Wellbeing
Date of Meeting	13 April 2022
Responsible Director	Director of Community and Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Interim Head of Parks and Cemeteries
Date of Report	24 March 2022
File Reference	PCA4
Legislation	N/A
Section 75 Compliant	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> If other, please add comment below: N/A
Subject	Down High School Motion Tree Planting
Attachments	Appendix 1 Letter ANDBC to DAERA Down High School Motion Tree Planting Appendix 2 Letter DAERA response Down High School Motion Tree Planting

At the Council meeting on 26th January 2022 Council agreed to support a motion from Down High School as follows.

That this Council should consider the Motion from Down High School to provide and support the planting of a tree for every pupil in Northern Ireland, and to write to the Minister for Department for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs in support of it.

A response has now been received from Edwin Poots, Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (Appendix 2).

The letter notes:

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"I commend your council for its proactive approach to recognising the importance of trees and woodland for people in Northern Ireland, not least to help mitigate climate change.

In March 2020, I launched a programme of afforestation called Forests for Our Future, which aims to plant 18 million trees to create 9,000 hectares of new woodland by 2030. I am pleased that to date 1.75 million trees have been planted under the programme, which is approximately 1 tree per person

You may wish to note that the Forestry Grant schemes are planned to reopen in summer 2022 which may provide important grant aid support for council led new woodland creation projects."

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council notes the response.

4 March 2022

Edwin Poots MLA
Minister for Agriculture, Environment & Rural Affairs
Dundonald House
Ballymiscaw
Belfast BT4 3SB

Via email: Private.Office@daera-ni.gov.uk

Dear Minister

DOWN HIGH SCHOOL MOTION RE. TREE PLANTING

At a recent meeting of Ards and North Down Borough Council, the Council considered the attached correspondence received from Newry and Mourne District Council outlining a Motion presented by pupils from Down High School regarding climate change and tree planting.

Ards and North Down Borough Council has recently published a Tree and Woodland Strategy that recognises the importance of trees, the many benefits they afford us and the critical role they can play in mitigating the effects of climate change. A project arising from the Strategy, STAND4TREES, is an ambitious yet achievable tree planting and promotion initiative that will engage local communities to help increase and enhance the level of tree cover on Council land and that of other agencies and private landowners. One of the actions within the STAND4TREES initiative is to plant a tree for every person in the Borough; that is approximately 160,000 trees.

It was therefore timely for the Council to consider the attached correspondence. The Council agreed that it supported the Motion brought by Down High School, including the call on the Assembly to provide a tree for every pupil in Northern Ireland, and that it would write to you in this regard to voice its support.

Yours sincerely,



STEPHEN REID
Chief Executive

**From the Office of the
Minister of Agriculture,
Environment and Rural Affairs**



Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**

www.daera-ni.gov.uk

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Stephen Reid
Chief Executive
Ards and North Down Borough Council
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Telephone: 028 9052 4140
Email: private.office@daera-ni.gov.uk

Our Ref: CORR-0141-2022
Date: 24 March 2022

Dear Stephen

DOWN HIGH SCHOOL MOTION RE. TREE PLANTING

Thank you for your letter dated 04 March 2022, informing me about your Tree and Woodland Strategy and tree planting initiative.

I commend your council for its proactive approach to recognising the importance of trees and woodland for people in Northern Ireland, not least to help mitigate climate change. I understand that Forest Service and the council's Parks and Cemeteries team are already working together on a proposal to present the Tree and Woodland Strategy to government and local council members at the next meeting of the Afforestation Forum.

In March 2020, I launched a programme of afforestation called Forests for Our Future, which aims to plant 18 million trees to create 9,000 hectares of new woodland by 2030. I am pleased that to date 1.75 million trees have been planted under the programme, which is approximately 1 tree per person. My Department is happy to continue to work with Ards and North Down Borough Council and other councils regarding promoting their interest in tree planting and in support of initiatives involving the younger generation.

You may wish to note that the Forestry Grant schemes are planned to reopen in summer 2022 which may provide important grant aid support for council led new woodland creation projects.

Yours sincerely

EDWIN POOTS MLA
Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs



If you are deaf or have a hearing difficulty you can contact the Department via the Next Generation Text Relay Service by dialling 18001 + telephone number.



*Sustainability at the heart of a living,
working, active landscape valued
by everyone.*

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

Report Classification	Unclassified
Council/Committee	Community and Wellbeing
Date of Meeting	13 April 2022
Responsible Director	Director of Community and Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Interim Head of Parks & Cemeteries
Date of Report	29 March 2022
File Reference	PCA20
Legislation	N/A
Section 75 Compliant	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> If other, please add comment below:
Subject	Loughview Cemetery Signage and Flowerbeds
Attachments	None

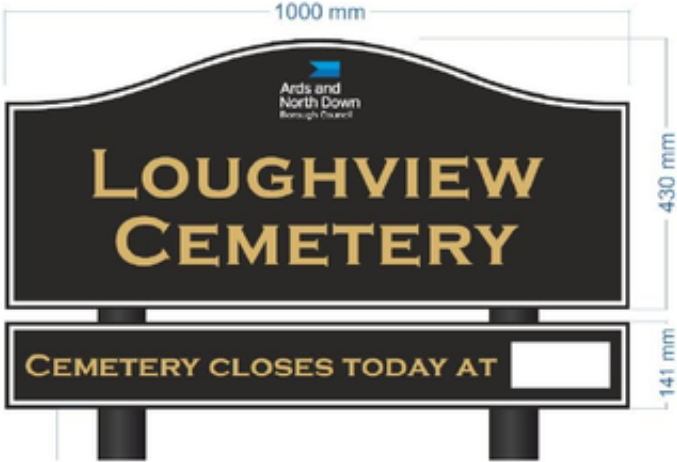
In October 2021, Council agreed to the following motion.

“Loughview Cemetery, Comber, was established in April 2014. It is disappointing to note that in the past seven years, the Council has not erected signage of significant quality and status at the entrance to the cemetery. Therefore, it is requested that officers bring back a report outlining a proposal for the design, costs and positioning of a sign that is comparable to other graveyard signs throughout the Borough. Furthermore, that the report also includes the option of planting flowerbeds or similar at the entrance to the cemetery on the Ballygowan Road.”

Officers can confirm that the cost to carry out the above will be £799.18 for the sign including installation and £216.76 for a floral display, therefore a total cost of £1,015.94.

The proposed sign is in the style as other cemetery entrance signs already in place including at Comber (Old), Redburn, Clandeboye Cemeteries etc. See graphic below.

Unclassified



The proposed location is on a greenspace off the Ballygowan Road (A21). See graphic below.



The floral display will be installed around this sign using an appropriate design to enhance the signage.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council agrees to progress the work as outlined above.

Unclassified

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ITEM 12**Ards and North Down Borough Council**

Report Classification	Unclassified
Council/Committee	Community and Wellbeing
Date of Meeting	13 April 2022
Responsible Director	Director of Community and Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Interim Head of Parks & Cemeteries
Date of Report	29 March 2022
File Reference	PCA98
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	Litter Bin Rationalisation response to NoM
Attachments	None

In September 2021, Council agreed a Notice of Motion asking:

"...That Environment Directorate Cleansing and Parks Officers work together to agree a draft plan for collaborating to ensure that waste management staff can be deployed to problem litter locations in a timely manner, having regard for severity and urgency. This should include consideration of need for a single, cross department out of hours contact to log issues and to facilitate the deployment of resource. That a report outlining the plan, complete with costings, is brought before the relevant committee."

In addition to the above Notice of Motion, a further Notice of Motion was submitted in November 2021 requesting:

"That officers bring back a report to consider the option of transferring responsibility for bins which are currently the responsibility of the Parks Section into the Environment Directorate."

Unclassified

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An initial report has been tabled at the April Environment Committee regarding the cross department out of hours contacts. That report also outlined that a report on the servicing of litter bins would be tabled at the Community and Wellbeing committee in April.

Following a transformation process for delivery of an improved out of hours service within Parks and Cemeteries in 2020, manpower resources within that service have been reorganised to provide 7 days per week cover – including supervisory cover for Saturdays and Sundays – throughout the year. A Ranger Service covers this and one of the duties is emptying of bins.

The following sets out the actions proposed by Officers in addressing the issues outlined in the above Notice of Motion with regard to a collaborative approach to the servicing of litter bins across the Borough. Currently there are a number of areas where both the Cleansing teams and Parks & Cemetery teams attend to service litter bins. Given the differing roles of each section, while there is occasionally an overlap in service, there is also a disparity in the frequency of visits due to the complexity of each service area and the roles different teams undertake on these visits.

In order to address the issues, the following work has been carried out:

- All litter bins across the Borough are now plotted on the Councils GIS system showing current area of responsibility.
- Heads of Service have commenced discussions to agree where greater collaborative work can be carried out and identify where the benefits of the transferring bins to the Cleansing Directorate would be feasible.
- Service Managers from both Directorates are meeting to review the responsibility of servicing across the Borough and create a more efficient operating model.
- Other considerations are being discussed within the group with regard to increasing litter bin capacities, additional seasonal deployment, and amended seasonal responsibility.

Once officers have concluded the discussions, a further report will be brought before members for consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council note this progress report.

Unclassified

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

Report Classification	Unclassified
Council/Committee	Community and Wellbeing
Date of Meeting	13 April 2022
Responsible Director	Director of Community and Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Interim Head of Parks & Cemeteries
Date of Report	29 March 2022
File Reference	PCA100
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	Sea Swimming response to NoM
Attachments	None

Council in February 2022 agreed

“That this Council recognises the health and wellbeing benefits of Sea Swimming and therefore will write to the DAERA Minister to ask him to increase the sites in our Borough where bathing water quality is tested and the time of the year which testing occurs and officers will bring back a report detailing how Council can promote and better facilitate safe sea swimming; including consultation and engagement with swimming groups to address their needs, and promote information on the activity on a central webpage.”

There are currently seven designated bathing water sites within the Ards and North Down area, which is the highest number for any Council in Northern Ireland. They are:

- Helen's Bay
- Crawfordsburn
- Ballyholme (Also part of the EU Swim Project)
- Groomsport

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- Millisle
- Ballywalter (Also part of the EU Swim Project)
- Cloughey

Sampling for water quality is undertaken by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA), from 1st June to 15th September and the Water Quality Results Data is published on the DAERA website at: <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/publications/north-down-bathing-water-quality>.

Northern Ireland has 26 identified bathing waters which must meet stringent water quality standards set under The Quality of Bathing Water Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2008. DAERA Officials are currently preparing for a full review of Bathing Waters in 2022/23 including public consultation which will not only look at the identification of new Bathing Waters but will also consider extending the length of the bathing season. The current consultation process has a closing date 08 April 2022.

Currently the Environmental Health Team print out the Water Quality results data, laminate them and then post them on the existing signs at the Designated Bathing Water beaches every week in our Borough, with the exceptions of Helen's Bay and Crawfordsburn, which are managed by DAERA, so they post the results at these locations.

The Environmental Health Team have advised that a better approach would be to update the signs at the Designated Bathing Water beaches by adding the details of the NI Direct website referred to above and/or by adding a QR code so that people can directly access the data themselves. This approach would also enable people to check the Water Quality results data before they travel to the locations. Council have also been developing a new Outdoor Recreation page on the Council's Leisure website and this went live week commencing 14th March 2022, having been in development for the last few months. This Outdoor Recreation webpage will have section on swimming and details of the Designated Bathing Water locations, and links to the Water Quality results data on the NI Direct website. This new Outdoor Recreation web page will be promoted over the Council's social media channels in the following areas.

Safe Sea Swimming: Council have begun a programme to promote safe sea swimming hosted by Swim Ulster and funded by Sport NI.

Webinars promoting general water safety ran on: 2nd and 9th November 2021. The webinars were advertised over social media and the local swimming groups were made aware of them, in total 45 people attended. Further webinars focussing on water acclimatisation, swim strokes and safety are due to be held on: 22nd and 29th March 2022.

Beach to Buoy Classes aimed at existing sea swimmers were held on the following dates: 13th and 14th November 2021 & 20th and 21st November 2021. There were 16 participants on each course, so a total of 32 people attended generally made up from members of the informal sea swimming groups in the Borough. Further Classes aimed at beginner sea swimmers are due to be held on: 23rd and 24th April 2022.

Unclassified

An Open Water Safety Awareness Booklet was written by Swim Ulster and funded by Sport NI and was/will be given to the participants of the Classes.

It is hoped, subject to funding, that a combination of Webinars and more Classes can be delivered in the future each year.

It is also hoped, subject to funding, that some additional infrastructure can be installed at the Designated Bathing Water beaches such as, external showers and benches to help changing etc. The feasibility of these types of infrastructure, costings, planning requirements etc will be explored over the coming year and then we can apply for funding when it becomes available.

Digital Signage

The digital EU Swim Project signage has had technical issues and suffered acts of vandalism in the past. The Council are however committed to continuing with the Project, but a longer-term replacement for signage has been proposed by Environmental Health, hence the suggestion to direct people to check the NI Direct Water Quality results data themselves via updated signage at the relevant beaches.

It is acknowledged that there are existing/informal groups regularly swimming at the following sites. However, there are Combined Storm Overflows (CSO) at these sites, so they would not be candidates for Designated Bathing Water areas as they would be unlikely to pass the ongoing stringent water quality standards:

- Donaghadee (2 CSO's within 400M)
- Brompton (right beside a Combined Storm Overflow CSO)
- Skipperstone (close proximity to the above CSO and the outflow at Bergen House)
- Seacourt (right beside a CSO)
- Bangor Bay (fugitive sewage effluent emissions much reduced since the construction of the storm overflow tank at Quay Street Bangor Under the carpark at Bregenz House))
- Seapark (issues with human E Coli coming from the river and they have yet to find the source despite extensive testing of properties)

NB: General advice is not to swim in open water following heavy rainfall, it is best to leave 2 to 3 days to allow for dilution of storm/sewage runoff and discharges.

Environmental Health consider that Knockinelder beach which is popular in the summer is a potential candidate for a Bathing Water Designation, based on usage and likely water quality, however it is managed by the National Trust so proposing it and issues such as the signage etc would have to be dealt with by the Trust.

It should also be noted that while there are many swimming groups around the coastline of the Borough, they are considered informal, in that they are not constituted formal clubs. The general reason why they don't formalise as clubs, may be that they don't want to take on the liability burden should incidents occur, therefore they simply

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have open/closed Facebook Groups which people can join and go along to swimming meet ups as advertised via these social media groups.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council

1. Notes this report and the work already being carried out by officers to promote and support sea water swimming, and support the continuation of this,
2. Writes in response to the current consultation to DEARA and the DEARA minister (as required by the notice of motion) highlighting the above details, and recommend that that the National Trust owned Knockinelder Beach is suggested as a new Designated Bathing Water

Unclassified

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

Report Classification	Unclassified
Council/Committee	Community and Wellbeing
Date of Meeting	13 April 2022
Responsible Director	Director of Community and Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Community and Culture
Date of Report	28 March 2022
File Reference	ART 05/R3/22
Legislation	Recreation and Youth Services Order NI (1986)
Section 75 Compliant	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> If other, please add comment below:
Subject	Arts Projects Grants
Attachments	None

The Arts Projects Grants for 2022-2023 opened for application on Thursday 27 January 2022, with a deadline of 9 March 2022. The grants were advertised in the press, on the Councils web site and groups were targeted by email.

An assessment panel met on Wednesday 26 March to assess 13 applications received by the closing date. The panel comprised of the following members of the Arts and Heritage Advisory Panel:

- Alderman Robert Gibson
- Dympna Curran
- Patricia Hamilton

The total Arts Project Grants budget was £11,000 and up to £1,000 could be applied for per application.

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Table 1 below provides a summary of the applications and the recommended awards.

Name of Organisation	Requested Amount	Project	Project	Amount Rec
AMH New Horizons	£1000	Ceramic skills – developing previous participant skills and teaching new clients	83	£1000
AMH Promote	£1000	Christmas Pantomime	77	£1000
Kilcooley Women's Centre	£1000	Wonderful watercolours – basic skills and improving techniques	76	£1000
Portico	£1000	Choral Training and creation of a CD of Gounod's Requiem in C	83	£1000
Decorum NI	£981.25	Drawing and painting skill development	82	£981.25
Portaferry Gala Festival	£1000	Flashmob dance during the Portaferry Festival	82	£1000
Valhalla Street Theatre	£994	Tales of Down – drama workshops and storytelling festival	77	£994
Portaferry Community Services	£1000	Selkies Women's Sea Shanty – radio podcasts & performance at Sails & Sounds Festival	83	£1000
Leonard Cheshire Disability	£1000	Art Attack for Inclusion – young adults with a disability to create an art piece which will be displayed to mark International Day for people with Disabilities	75	£0 On 31 March the organisation emailed to request the withdrawal of the application from the process.
Comber Brass	£675	Youth Brass Band – creation of a youth band aged 8-18	87	£675

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Big Hits Radio	£1000	Big Hits Radio Training Fund – to educate volunteers in radio broadcasting	58	£0
Bangor Speech Festival	£1000	Bangor Speech Festival 2023 – to provide a platform for young people to practice drama and public speaking	90	£1000
Ards Camera Club	£1000	A photographic journey through the seasons in the AND area. Capturing the lives, employment, leisure activities, festivals, flora and fauna, landscapes, sunsets and sunrises throughout the year.	75	£800 This amount is reflected due to the inclusion of invalid costings
Total	12,650.25			£10,450.25

The total value of applications received was £12,650.25 and the pass mark was 60%. Big Hits Radio application did not meet the required pass mark, as the application lacked detail and information on its wider benefits.

The applications received were of a good too high standard engaging with the arts across many genres from photography to dance, from music to art. There was enough money in the budget to fund all eleven projects that met the pass mark, leaving a remaining budget of £549.75 which will be used to offset an increase in bursary costs for this financial year.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council approves the 11 successful applications and awards detailed in table 1 above totalling £10,450.25 for the Council's Arts Projects Grants 2022-23.

Unclassified

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

Report Classification	Unclassified
Council/Committee	Community and Wellbeing
Date of Meeting	13 April 2022
Responsible Director	Director of Community and Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Community and Culture
Date of Report	30 March 2022
File Reference	HER 01 03/22
Legislation	Recreation and Youth Services Order NI (1986)
Section 75 Compliant	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> If other, please add comment below:
Subject	Heritage Grants
Attachments	None

Background

Following on from the success of the previous three years, applications to the Heritage Grant 2022-23 opened in February 2022 and closed at 4pm, 9th March 2022. Eight applications were received; a ninth application which arrived after the deadline was not included in the assessment. Two members of the Arts and Heritage Panel, Robin Masefield and Billy Carlile, assessed the applications on 28th March, along with Moira O'Rourke, Heritage Officer.

There is a total of £5,000 available in the grant budget with a maximum of £500 per application awarded. As shown in the accompanying Scoring Matrix, each application is scored out of 100. Recommendation for award of grant is based on a minimum score of 60.

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Table 1 Application Assessment Scoring

Organisation	Request ed	Project Title	Score	Award
Portavogie Culture & Heritage Society	£500	Booklet Publication	60	£500
Portaferry and Strangford Trust	£462	'A Wee Bit of Maritime History'	75	£462
Ards Historical Society	£500	Printing literature and publishing on our website, www.ardshistoricalsociety.com	65	£500
Donaghadee Heritage Preservation Society	£496	Sir Samuel Kelly anniversary booklet	60	£496
Friends of Columbanus Bangor	£500	Columbanus Revival Mark 2	70	£500
Donaghadee Historical Society	£500	Journal - 'A Light on the Past'	60	£500
Portaferry Community Services Ltd	£500	Tailored Community Tour Guide to Heritage	39	£0
Portaferry Sailing Club	£500	"Emerald Memories" Portaferry	60	£500
Inspiring Yarns CIC	£600	Heritage Yarn Skills for Beginners	Not assessed as missed the deadline	£0
Total	£4558			£3458

Robin Masefield abstained from voting on the application from Friends of Columbanus, Bangor as he is a member of that group.

Portaferry Community Services Ltd scored low as the project had an unclear heritage focus with vague outputs.

The total amount recommended for award is £3,458 leaving £1,542 available for the next round of funding in 22/23. Further applications will be invited in the coming months for the remaining balance of funding. Unsuccessful applicants above will be provided with feedback on their application

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council approve the recommendations detailed in Table 1, above.

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

Report Classification	Unclassified
Council/Committee	Community and Wellbeing
Date of Meeting	13 April 2022
Responsible Director	Director of Community and Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Community and Culture
Date of Report	29 March 2022
File Reference	ART04/TG/BG/22
Legislation	Recreation and Youth Services Order NI (1986)
Section 75 Compliant	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> If other, please add comment below:
Subject	Arts Bursaries
Attachments	Appendix Background on Bursaries

In May 2021, the Council offered creative bursaries to artists in the borough to the Tyrone Guthrie Centre, Co. Monaghan (four, one-week bursaries) and to Ballinglen Arts Foundation, Co. Mayo (one, two-week bursary).

These unique bursaries give an artist an opportunity to focus on a specific project or development in their work and further their artistic and professional practice.

The bursaries were advertised in an e-bulletin that was sent to artists and they were also advertised through social media (Council Facebook and Ards Arts) and other online visual artist reference sites e.g., Visual Artist Ireland.

The application process opened on Thursday 27 January and closed on Wednesday 9 March 2022.

Applicants were asked to clearly demonstrate their experience and how they would use the bursary to further their professional practice.

Unclassified

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Members of the Arts and Cultural Advisory Panel met virtually on Monday 14 March to assess eight Tyrone Guthrie applications.

The panel comprised the following Arts Panel Members:

- Shauna McGowan, independent artist
- Robin Masefield, heritage specialist
- Patricia Hamilton, Arts Officer

A second panel met on Monday 28 March to assess the Ballinglen Arts Foundation Bursaries applications.

The panel comprised the following Arts Panel Members:

- Craig Jefferson, independent artist
- Sharon Regan, independent Artist
- Patricia Hamilton, Arts Officer

Applications were scored against set criteria and the following highest scoring applications from residents of the Borough are recommended for approval by the assessment panel.

Name of Applicant	Bursary	Project Score	Recommendation
Clare Gallagher	Tyrone Guthrie Centre	79%	Unsuccessful *
Craig Jefferson	Tyrone Guthrie Centre	85%	Award one week
Joel Matthew Smyth	Tyrone Guthrie Centre	79%	Award one week
Laura McCamley	Tyrone Guthrie Centre	71%	Chris Ledger Award *
Marian Noone (Friz)	Tyrone Guthrie Centre	72%	Unsuccessful
Sara Brown	Tyrone Guthrie Centre	74%	Unsuccessful
Tim Dwyer	Tyrone Guthrie Centre	64%	Unsuccessful
Tim Millen	Tyrone Guthrie Centre	82%	Award one week
Georgina Heffernan	Ballinglen Arts Foundation	-	Didn't meet the criteria to assess

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Lauren McCullough	Ballinglen Arts Foundation	78%	Awarded two weeks
Marian Noone (Friz)	Ballinglen Arts Foundation	66%	Unsuccessful
Philip Mussen	Ballinglen Arts Foundation	75%	Unsuccessful
Rosy Ennis	Ballinglen Arts Foundation	67%	Unsuccessful
Sally Houston	Ballinglen Arts Foundation	77%	Unsuccessful

Although Clare Gallagher scored highly and achieved the same score as another applicant who has been recommended for support, the panel are recommending the bursary is awarded to the next ranked applicant, as Clare had recently attended a bursary to Ballinglen Arts Foundation supported by ANDBC.

Recommended Bursaries:

Tyrone Guthrie Centre Bursary, Co. Monaghan

One-week bursary:

*Laura McCamley, (writer) is the second recipient of the bursary made available to support an artist with a disability. The award was created in memory of Chris Ledger through the developments of the Arts and Disability Working Group.

One-week bursary: Craig Jefferson, visual artist, painter

One-week bursary: Joel Matthew Smith, visual artist, jewellery

One week bursary: Tim Millen, visual artist, painter

Ballinglen Bursary, Co. Mayo

Two-week bursary: Lauren McCullough, visual artist

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council approves the recommendations of the scoring panel as detailed in this report.

Appendix

Background information on Bursaries:

Bursary for Residency at the Tyrone Guthrie Centre

Value: £350 per Bursary week

Ards and North Down Arts is offering four weeks of artist residencies to the Tyrone Guthrie Centre, Annaghmakerrig, County Monaghan to practitioners in all art forms who are currently based in the Ards and North Down Borough.

The Lord Dunleath and Sir James Kilfedder Bursaries, aim to assist and encourage both established and emerging artists in, any medium, and to give them an opportunity to work intensively on a 'project' alongside others in a very unique environment.

The practitioners will be selected based upon their previous achievements and the project they intend to undertake during their residency.

The selected Artist Residency should take place within 12 months of receipt of their award.

Bursary for Residency at Ballinglen Arts Foundation

Value: €400 (£350 approx)

Ards and North Down Arts is offering a bursary for a two-week residency at The Ballinglen Arts Foundation. The Foundation is an Irish non-profit organisation located in the village of Ballycastle on the coast of North County Mayo in the Republic of Ireland.

The residency is aimed at visual artists and craft makers providing them the time to develop their artistic practice. Artists are provided with accommodation in a cottage as well as an artist studio to work in.

The practitioners will be selected based upon their previous achievements and the project they intend to undertake during their residency.

The selected Artist Residency should take place within 12 months of receipt of their award

Unclassified

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ITEM 17**Ards and North Down Borough Council**

Report Classification	Unclassified
Council/Committee	Community and Wellbeing
Date of Meeting	13 April 2022
Responsible Director	Director of Community and Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Community and Culture
Date of Report	30 March 2022
File Reference	35110
Legislation	Recreation and Youth Order (NI) 1987
Section 75 Compliant	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> If other, please add comment below:
Subject	NI Centenary Grants
Attachments	Appendix Distribution of NI Centenary Grants throughout ANDBC

As members are aware the Council decided at a meeting on 21 April 2021 to put in place a grants scheme to mark the NI Centenary. The scheme would enable locally constituted community organisations within the Borough to avail of grant assistance from the Council to commemorate / celebrate or otherwise explore the setting up of the Northern Irish state.

A total of £10K was set aside for the grant scheme. Groups could apply for up to £500 each for their NI Centenary event or activity. Grants were awarded on a 'first come first served' basis to applicants who met the following criteria:-

- Events / Activities to celebrate or commemorate the setting up of the state of Northern Ireland
- Events / Activities are open and inclusive to the wider community
- Benefits to the Community
- Value for money is demonstrated
- Covid 19 Public Health guidelines compliant

Unclassified

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All funding was to be expended by 31st December 2021.

A total of 15 groups applied for the funding. The groups that were successful in their application under the scheme, meeting the criteria set out are detailed in Table.1 below.

Table 1

Name of Group	Name of CENTENARY GRANT EVENT	Payment
Ballyhalbert Community Association	Exhibition of Important Events	£500
Ballywalter Community Action Group	Timeline Exhibition	£500
Bangor District LOL No.18	Parade to Tree Planting and Dedication	£255
Boyne Cultural Association	Evening with Guest Speakers and Music	£500
Cottown LOL 1029	Family Fun Day	£500
Kilcooley Womens Centre	Intergenerational Event #NI100	£500
Ladybird Childrens Services	Family Fun Day	£500
Loughries Men's Shed	Historical and Muscial Evening	£500
Portavogie PTA	Family Fun Day	£500
Ballygowan & District Community Association	Art & Photographic Competition	£500
Somme Memorial Flute band	Cultural Day, Historical talk and Barbeque	£500
Conlig Community Regeneration	Cultural & Historical Community Event	£500
Peninsula Healthy Living Partnership	Street Art Mural - Large Map Mural	£500
Redburn Loughview Community Forum	Family Fun Day	£500
Comber Regeneration Community Partnership	Tree Planting & Dedication	£500
Total		£7,255

Members will note that out of the original budget of £10k, a total of £7,255 was distributed to community groups throughout the borough with an underspend of £2,745. Annex 1 shows the distribution of NI Centenary grants within the Council area.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council note the report.

Appendix

ANDBC NI Centenary Grants 2021/22



Distribution of NI Centenary grants within ANDBC.

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ITEM 18

Ards and North Down Borough Council

Report Classification	Unclassified
Council/Committee	Community and Wellbeing
Date of Meeting	13 April 2022
Responsible Director	Director of Community and Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Community and Culture
Date of Report	31 March 2022
File Reference	CW142
Legislation	Local Government Act (NI) 2014
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 Social Supermarket
Attachments	Appendix Draft Pilot Social Supermarket in Ards and North Down

The third update report on two Social Supermarkets being established in Ards and North Down was considered by Council in March 2022. Further to Members consideration the following amendment to the report was approved:

That a report is brought back on the Bangor Social Supermarket pilot scheme outlining support (financial and other) to enable it to proceed, including timeframe, and what is expected from the organisation delivering it.

The initial report, presented to Council in September in 2021, went into significant detail outlining the strategic context that the Department for Communities (DfC) is working within to set up Social Supermarkets (SSM) in each Council area and SIB's evaluation of the five pilot schemes already supported by the Department. That report also clarified the purpose of a Social Supermarket, the anticipated budget, and initial thoughts on how the scheme could be rolled out within the Borough. DfC developed additional guidance on the methodology for the creation of Social Supermarkets via the establishment of local co-design groups.

Unclassified

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The initial update report presented to Council in September 2021 stated:

Meetings have also been held with Warehouse based in Ards and Kilcooley Women's Centre who would both be interested in becoming involved in any SSM pilot schemes for the Council area. DfC has also suggested that funding awarded to Council in March 2021, for "Food and Essential Supplies" could be used towards setting up a model.

Although funding is limited, it may be possible to support two SSM pilots within the Borough, one based in the Councils only Neighbourhood Renewal area, Kilcooley and one based close to the town Centre in Ards. The two pilot schemes could then be evaluated to determine which model works best for the Borough, taking into consideration learning and potential improvements, before devising a tender opportunity to formally test the market.

It is therefore proposed that officers, along with key stakeholders and DfC proceed on the basis of exploring the two pilot schemes outline above, keeping Members updated on developments.

Members will note that a tender process to establish a SSM was not progressed in September, as:

1. DfC had advised that a co-design approach to establish a SSM was to be adopted
2. The establishment of a SSM was a completely new venture therefore officers did not have sufficient expertise to draft a robust tender document
3. The budget for the scheme had not been confirmed by DfC, although the Department confirmed that when the budget was confirmed the funding had to be allocated within the 2020-2021 financial year

In September 2021, officers had been told that there could be up to £40,000 available from the Department for the establishment of a Social Supermarket (SSM) but there had been no formal offer. The only funding available at that time was through DfC's Covid Funding "Food and Essential Supplies" and in September Members agreed that £10,000 from that funding was allocated to Kilcooley Womens Centre (KWC) towards the establishment of a SSM in Kilcooley Square. This financial contribution was part of a cocktail of funding secured by KWC to establish a SSM for the Neighbourhood Renewal area. Capital works on the property in Kilcooley Square is ongoing and Council has been informed that there have been some contractual delays, therefore at this time a date for the opening of the SSM cannot be confirmed. The SSM in Kilcooley will follow the "My Pantry" model. The operating model for the Kilcooley SSM is still to be finalised, however it is likely to have limited opening hours and like all other SSM's membership will be limited.

Following discussions with DfC it was stipulated that Councils were required to establish a SSM using a co-design approach involving key stakeholders. Members will be aware that officers initially discussed the SSM with the Community Support Group, who agreed to progress the co-design approach through a SSM subgroup. The subgroup was comprised of representation from the 3 main food banks, Kilcooley Womens Centre, Ards and North Down Community Advice, SEHSCT and South Eastern Regional College. Most of these organisations were involved in providing

Unclassified

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wrap around support for the foodbanks during the Covid pandemic, with financial support from DfC's Covid -19 response funding, so had lived experience in supporting those coping with food poverty.

In January 2022 DfC indicated that a budget of £83,267.22 would be allocated to Ards and North Down for the establishment of an SSM. The Department indicated that a proportion of this budget should be used to buy in specialist support to assist in the process, as the Community Development team did not have the capacity to progress a project of this scale and within the defined timescale. It was also considered, by officer and the sub-group that this additional support would bring an independence to the process. A number of Councils are availing of similar additional/independent support. A budget of £15,000 was therefore ringfenced from the overall budget for this purpose and Blu Zebra were appointed in late February 2022. Their initial brief was to carry out a needs assessment by 24 March, to identify the preferred location and operator for a pilot SSM, so that an award could be made to the preferred operator in the 2020-21 financial year.

Following a procurement process Blu Zebra were appointed to project manage the establishment of the SSM. Blu Zebra were required initially to carry out an assessment of need which would identify a preferred location and operator. Blu Zebra consulted with all stakeholders represented on the Community Support Steering Group (and others) , and their summary report is attached at Appendix.

Members will note that the emerging SSM in Kilcooley, being developed by Kilcooley Womens Centre, was considered, however those consulted felt that its estate-based location and scale did not lend itself to being a viable and inclusive SSM to serve the entire borough and a SSM in the Ards area, but operating borough wide, was the preferred option. It was also acknowledged that whilst Kilcooley is currently designated as a Neighbourhood Renewal (NR) area, the top two Super Output Areas (SOA's) of multiple deprivation are in fact in the Ards area, Scrabo, and the Glen. Scrabo is the top ranked SOA in the Borough for both income and employment. The Departments "People and Place Strategy", which is a driver for Neighbourhood Renewal (NR) is currently under review and may change Kilcooley's current NR status.

Members of the co-design subgroup were very strong in their opinion that accessibility was one of the most important factors in selecting a physical location for the organisation who would be running the SSM. Easy transport links from the rural Peninsula and the Comber/Ballygowan area were highlighted as being an important factor.

The summary report also demonstrates that KWC was consulted as part of the needs assessment and they are represented on the Community Steering Group and will have a valuable contribution to make in developing the borough wide SSM in the Ards area. It is anticipated that both the larger borough wide SSM based in Ards and mini estate based SSM in Kilcooley will compliment and add value to each other (they are not competitors) and learning will be shared for the benefit of those living in food poverty. The report states "**All co-design subgroup members expressed their support and are prepared to collaborate with both providers in the delivery of the SSM**". Furthermore, officers will continue to work in partnership with Kilcooley Womens

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Centre to support the Kilcooley SSM and will, were possible, secure additional funding to support its operation going forward.

The report, received by Council officers on 24 March 2022, recommends that The Warehouse (its subsidiary North Down Community Works) is selected as the organisation to lead the pilot SSM in Ards and Down, given its current wide-ranging activity, its networks, and partnerships with other organisation across the council area and its accessible location in Newtownards. North Down Community Works is a large-scale operation, which currently provide food parcels, cooked fresh food for the vulnerable, and wrap around services Based on the reports independent recommendation and in order to meet the timeframe for the allocation of funding set by DfC, a Service Level Agreement (SLA), to the value of £68,267.22 has been issued to North Down Community Works to establish and operate a SSM in the Ards area. In order to move this project forward as quickly as possible, it is recommended that Council retrospectively approves this award.

The next phase of this project will be to map how the Social Supermarket to be run by North Down Community Works aligns with the Social Supermarket in Kilcooley and with the existing Food Bank infrastructure to ensure that all residents of the borough, no matter where they reside, have access to appropriate support structures to help them move out of poverty.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council retrospectively approves the award to North Down Community Works, to establish a SSM in the Ards area, as detailed in this report.

To: Ards and North Down Borough Council

Attention: Jan Nixey

Date: 24th March 2022

Re: Recommendation for initial phase of the design and implementation of a pilot Social Supermarket in Ards and North Down

Blu Zebra Ltd has been appointed to project manage the planning, research and engagement of a suitable operating organisation and location to establish a 'pilot' Social Supermarket in Ards and North Down.

This summary paper outlines the recommendation for Ards and North Down Borough Council for a suitable operating organisation and location to establish a 'pilot' of a Social Supermarket (SSM) for Ards and North Down Borough Council (AND).

An assessment of need and an in-depth consultation process was undertaken during February and March 2022. The following has been completed:

- Meetings with a sub-group/ co-design group of the Community Support Steering Group, which met three times over this period to assess need, discuss possible gaps and to ensure that geographic and demographic issues were fully considered in the choice of a pilot operator for the SSM. In these meetings the lived experience of those experiencing poverty was also explored. The operating principles of a pilot SSM were also considered and agreed at these meetings.
 - Members of this group include: Bangor Food Bank; Newtownards Food Bank; North Down Community Network; County Down Rural Community Network; Ards Bureau and Community Network; AND Community Advice; SERC; Kilcooley Women's Centre; NIHE; SEHSCT; Ards and North Down Borough Council and DfC in an observer capacity. This is not a definitive list and other stakeholders have already been identified who will be invited to join.
- One to one consultation meetings with each co-design group organisation member and other stakeholders not yet represented on the co-design group were undertaken. The purpose of these meetings was to identify the remit of each organisation, what they did and where they were located, with whom they worked, and the geographical reach of their services including the delivery reach of their anti-poverty and food poverty work across the Borough. The assessment of this helped increase the understanding of who would be best placed to act as a SSM in AND. In these meetings the lived experience of those experiencing poverty was also explored.
- Evidence gathering and statistical assessment on deprivation and the impacts of the COVID 19 pandemic were also undertaken based on data sourced from Council. This has also informed the decision.
- A mapping exercise of poverty related services and food provision across the Borough was undertaken – this included food, fuel and wraparound services including where collaboration and networks between existing suppliers was taking place
- Exploration of criteria to be used to identify the most suitable location for the SSM pilot

- Initial development of SSM model, including criteria and best practice visits to existing pilots in Northern Ireland including exploration of the learning from these site visits with others in the co-design sub-group.

Criteria to assist in choosing an organisation who could act as a pilot SSM in AND

The following criteria were used to assist with the choice of a pilot operator and were agreed by the co-design subgroup in advance of the process. These included:

- Accessibility - ability to access the facility from anywhere in the Borough by one bus journey
- Storage facilities - adequate storage facilities for food and other items
- Other rooms – availability of other rooms for break out discussions with clients
- Willing to accommodate a SSM and its processes including reporting to DFC and Council
- The ability to work with satellites or create mobile options for hard-to-reach geographical areas like the Ards Peninsula

What we found

The consultation demonstrated that two organisations were prepared to facilitate a SSM in the Ards and North Down area. The two organisations are:

- Kilcooley Women's Centre
- The Warehouse, Newtownards

Kilcooley Women's Centre is already developing a SSM in the Kilcooley estate and has received support from both NIHE and Council to progress this. While the co-design group members were supportive of this development and recognised that the Women's Centre had excellent contacts and networks in order to deliver a SSM in its local area, they did not believe that it met one of the key criteria - accessibility - ability to access the facility from anywhere in the Borough by one bus journey. The fact that Kilcooley is in Bangor and would require people from the Peninsula for instance to have to use two buses to access the facility deemed this option as a borough wide one less viable. As such, the co-design members, on balance, ruled this out as a borough wide option but were content to support it as an estate based SSM which could work in partnership with the borough wide SSM.

The Warehouse in Newtownards is a social enterprise and is located centrally within the borough which makes it more accessible to all parts of the borough. It operates several social / community businesses / charities including North Down CFC which encompasses The Warehouse, North Down Community Works, North Down Enterprises Ltd- Family Works and the Emmanuel Trust and has Christian links. It has a wide range of well-established support programmes conducive to a SSM. Its services include: the prevention or relief of poverty; the advancement of education; promoting the welfare of the aged and reducing social isolation; preservation and the protection of health through the provision of counselling; and provision of the facilities in the interests of social welfare through providing playgrounds, diversionary youth work, children's clubs and summer schemes. It works at reducing the impact of social deprivation including addressing poverty providing weekly well-balanced meals, improving educational outcomes, improving health and quality of life of older people, improving mental health and family relationships and improved physical and mental health outcomes. The Warehouse Newtownards is well respected across the area, collaborating with many community, voluntary and statutory providers sign posting and supporting people in need across the Borough. Its current location at 3 Glenford Way, Newtownards, is suitable for the SSM, however it is

exploring purchasing its own building to expand its provision further in a suitable location in Newtownards but this is subject to planning permission.

On balance, the co-design sub-group members believed that The Warehouse in Newtownards was a better borough wide location. All co-design subgroup members expressed their support and are prepared to collaborate with both providers in the delivery of the SSM. These include: Bangor Food Bank; Newtownards Food Bank; North Down Community Network; County Down Rural Community Network; Ards Bureau and Community Network; AND Community Advice; SERC; Kilcooley Women's Centre; NIHE; SEHSCT; Ards and North Down Borough Council.

Kilcooley Women's Centre is currently establishing a SSM and is in advanced stages of renovating its building with support from NIHE and ANDBC and works geographically mainly in the Kilcooley estate and in other parts of Bangor. It has been operating a Food Bank for the last 5 years and has been considering establishing a SSM over the last four years and has signed up to My Pantry. It has a wide range of well-established support programmes conducive to a SSM. However, the location is not ideal and therefore rules it out of a borough wide operational remit.

While a defined model for AND SSM is to be co-designed in the next phase of this project by the established co-design group, The Warehouse Newtownards is prepared to commit to a pilot and is best positioned from a location, size and integrated business perspective to facilitate and undertake the SSM pilot servicing the whole AND geographical area. More detail on the organisation can be found here. <https://thewarehousenewtownards.com/>

There are currently no organisations on the Ards Peninsula able to facilitate an integrated SSM Model. There are no providers which provide wrap around services including food on the Ards Peninsula. Indeed, a number of partner organisations on the codesign group operate satellites and mobile deliveries for food and service the Peninsula. In an integrated borough wide model, these organisations would be linked into the pilot ensuring all areas are covered. The borough wide model would also link with existing providers across the Ards Peninsula.

A range of current food providers use services for advice supported by Christians Against Poverty in Bangor and Newtownards.

Recommendation

We recommend that The Warehouse Newtownards is selected as the organisation to lead the pilot SSM in Ards and North Down given its current wide-ranging activity, its networks and partnerships with other organisation across the council area and its accessible location in Newtownards.

The Pilot SSM however, should link with the mini emerging SSM in Kilcooley, the existing two main food banks in Newtownards and Bangor and those key organisations operating food and other anti-poverty related provision across the borough and on the Peninsula. This will enhance the wraparound approach being taken.

While the Warehouse Newtownards is prepared to assume the role of a pilot SSM in AND area in its current location, it would prefer to commence this work in its new location. This recommendation assumes that all remaining planning issues can be addressed and that The Warehouse Newtownards can move to its new location in the Ards area.

This recommendation is subject to further due diligence being undertaken by Ards and North Down Borough Council of the Warehouse Newtownards financial standing and governance arrangements.

Unclassified

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ITEM 19**Ards and North Down Borough Council**

Report Classification	Unclassified
Council/Committee	Community and Wellbeing
Date of Meeting	13 April 2022
Responsible Director	Director of Community and Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Community and Culture
Date of Report	31 March 2022
File Reference	CYP 1
Legislation	The Northern Ireland Act (NI) 2014
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 Youth Voice
Attachments	Appendix OBR Scorecard Q4 Youth Voice AND March2022

In June 2021, Members were advised that the PEACE IV funded Ards and North Down Youth Council had come to a natural end, with the closure of the PEACE IV Programme and a new Youth Council, branded Ards and North Down Youth Voice, was being established in partnership with the Education Authority (EA) Youth Service, PSNI, and PHA.

Council promoted the establishment of AND Youth Voice on the Councils website [Ards and North Down Youth Voice | Ards and North Down Borough Council](#) and through Social Media and assisted with the recruitment exercise. To date 16 young people have been recruited to the programme and recruitment is ongoing.

Funding for Youth Voice is provided from a number of sources:

- Community Development - £24,000
- Councils Good Relations Programme - £3,000
- Policing and Community Safety Partnership - £4,000
- PSNI - £6,000

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- EA Youth Service also provide management and dedicated staff support for the project.

EA staff support also ensures a consistent approach to the Youth Voice initiative across Northern Ireland in relation to purpose and function, bringing an expertise and a broader voice across Northern Ireland. They also provide a standardised, accountable support function that enables the young people to quickly, and effectively, learn the skills needed to be a 'voice' for young people in their area. This consistent approach to training, sharing of resources and the opportunity to network across Council areas creates opportunity for shared practice. The regional participation team can provide a consistent, structured model, with opportunity for staff and council members to network across Northern Ireland, and an opportunity to provide consultations across the whole country. This link into larger structures and opportunities makes funding and accountability more feasible, and therefore gives young people a more powerful voice.

The project is managed by a Project Board with representation from each of the financial contributors and governed by a Partnership Agreement. The Project Board has been meeting on a bi-monthly basis to drive recruitment, training and programming, although the Young People also agree their own priorities and programming.

To date the young people have participated in:

- A consultation on the Children and Young Peoples Strategy on the 9th March
- Focus group as part of the Youth Independent Advisory Panel consultation for the PSNI on the 16th March
- A Regional Network Youth Voice Conference held in Belfast City Hall
- Two training sessions on identity and culture with Springboard, facilitated by the Councils Good Relations Team .
- A Small Worlds Café session, facilitated by Councils Good Relations Team. A Small Worlds workshops are café-style events hosted by members of Belfast Friendship Club, a meeting space for people from around the world (and locals too). The workshops provide a safe space for participants to encounter people from different backgrounds and parts of the world. They are carefully managed by an experienced facilitator.
- A "Meet the Councillor" event to be repeated in the next quarter
- Engagement with Youth Service including a consultation on the local area plan with SYO Esther Millar, attendance at the local stakeholder event and representatives have attended the LAG.

Videos have been produced of the Meet the Councillor event and the Regional Network Youth Voice Conference and these will be shared on social media in due course.

A number of young people are currently involved in exams at this time of the year, but it is hoped that a residential can be organised before the summer months so the group have an opportunity to better get to know each other and meet Members of the project board.

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A further update report will be provided in due course.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council notes progress in relation to the Youth Voice initiative and that a further update report will be provided to Council in due course.

Reporting Period: Q4 (January – March 2022). AND – Ards and North Down Youth Voice

Quarter 4

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What did we say we would do?	How much did we do?	How well did we do it?	So what? What difference has this made?
	Quantity of effort: i.e. <u>number</u> of local people who benefited from a project or programme or the <u>number</u> of activities carried out	Quality of effort: i.e. the <u>percentages</u> of activities delivered on time, levels of attendance, satisfaction, adherence to standards	Impact: i.e. anecdotal evidence; quotes; surveys etc What difference has this made to the individual young person, the community or both?
More young people are empowered to become active citizens	Total number of individual engagements – 136 Total number of participants engaged – 16 Number of sessions – 13 Number of training – 2 Number of consultations – 3 (PSNI - YIAG Consultation, CYPS consultation, EA SYO area plan) Number of participation events – 3 - Youth Voice conference - Local Stakeholder's engagement event - A day in the life of a Councillor	100% of 16 actively attending members engaged in programme 100% satisfaction from participants this quarter – 5 * satisfaction rating from members.	<i>Direct quotes from satisfaction survey for AND members for this quarter:</i> "It has given me an insight into councillor work through the meet councillors event and also has given me an insight into local issues". "It has opened my eyes up to certain issues that previously I was less aware of". "...Made more aware of particular issues such as safe spaces". "It has made me feel so empowered and appreciated- I'm encouraged to grow and to be confident in myself and my own abilities. It is one of my happiest decisions, joining this programme, and I can't wait to see the impact we have on the community and other young people".
More young people's knowledge, leadership, citizenship and communication skills are developed	Number of sessions to increase knowledge: 13 Number of sessions to support leadership: 7 Number of sessions to support citizenship: 9 Number of sessions to support communication: 8	% increase of those who have increased in: Knowledge 100% Leadership 80% Citizenship 80% Communication skills 100%	"I feel like as a group of young people we are in the right place to make some big changes". "I like being given the opportunity to share my experiences, views and opinions". "We are being given a space and the time to express our opinions to key stakeholder's that can help make a difference".
Increase the number of young people who complete training based on need and accredited where appropriate	14 young people completed 3 x sessions of training on the theme of "Good Relations".	100% satisfaction levels. 87.5% attendance to training. 100% of attendees increased knowledge on the topic of "Good Relations".	"I really enjoyed the training – it gave me a lot to think about". "The small world's café was really powerful – it is crazy to hear some of the truly terrible things people have been through – some of it is unimaginable".

Reporting Period: Q4 (January – March 2022). AND – Ards and North Down Youth Voice

Quarter __4__

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Quarterly Overview:

This quarter has been a busy and very successful time for the AND Youth Voice group – we currently have 16 registered members who attend (an increase of 4 additional young people from last quarter). We are aiming to keep recruitment live and expand our numbers where we can.

This quarter has seen the youth voice group being involved in a wide range of work including several consultations, stakeholder events, a regional youth voice conference event and events alongside council and local councillors for AND areas.

AND YV group activities and achievements:

- CYPs Consultation (giving feedback on the Children and Young People’s Services strategy for N.I.
- PSNI consultation for E.A Youth Service / PSNI.
- Good relations training with Springboard Learning x 2 sessions
- ‘Small World’s Café’ night – with Belfast Friendship Club – as part of their Good Relations training / learning activities.
- AND YV consulted with E.A Youth Service and the Senior Youth Officer for Ards and North Down Area on the upcoming area plan for year 22-23.
- Youth Voice attended a recent event in the Strangford arms hotel – “meet the councillors” with AND Borough Council and some elected members where they explored the role of a Councillor, their remit, and engaged with them on important issues for young people.
- Attended the first ever ‘Youth Voice’ conference in Feb 2022 at Belfast City Hall – coming together with youth voice groups from EAYS and across the N.I Province.
- Had a team building / social night in Ards Arena Youth Centre. This was really enjoyed by all!
- Attended a local EA stakeholder’s engagement event – on the theme of ‘safe spaces for young people’ – 30.03.22.
- Three representatives from AND YV sit on the LAG group for the area and attended 2 x meetings in Q4.

Feedback from the group has been very positive – they are enjoying each piece of work that comes to them as group and are keen for their views to be heard, as well as hearing the views of other young people. As a youth voice group they can see how the youth voice structure ideally places them in a position to be able to allow young people’s voices to be heard by key stakeholders in the AND borough – they are excited to build, develop and grow as they continue on their youth voice journey.

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ITEM 20

Ards and North Down Borough Council

Report Classification	Unclassified
Council/Committee	Community and Wellbeing
Date of Meeting	13 April 2022
Responsible Director	Director of Community and Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Community and Culture
Date of Report	31 March 2022
File Reference	GREL 415
Legislation	Section 75 (2) of the Northern Ireland Act 1998
Section 75 Compliant	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> If other, please add comment below:
Subject	Good Relations Cultural Expressions Programme
Attachments	None

Council will be aware that through the Councils Good Relations Cultural Expressions Programme, funding is provided to support community festivals associated with bonfires that positively celebrate local culture and family participation and encourage cultural/educational and diversionary activities;

Pre-Covid approximately 30 festivals, associated with bonfires are supported, this includes a bonfire located at Castle Gardens in Newtownards, which is on land owned by the Education Authority and the associated festival is held in the East End Estate in Newtownards.

The use of this site came under some scrutiny over the last couple of years and in particular in 2021, mainly due to:

1. Its proximity to Ards Fire Station and due to the large crowds gathering to watch the bonfire, access and egress for the Fire Engines, can be impeded, especially with the additional demands on the service on the 11th Night
2. Its proximity to local businesses and residential properties. The size and location of the bonfire has caused damage to local businesses and residential

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properties in the past and each year there are concerns that this damage could escalate, due to the size of the bonfire, exacerbated by prevailing winds and weather conditions. The bonfire has also negatively impacted on recent environmental improvements made to the canal paths.

3. The site is owned by the Education Authority (EA). Each year EA have attempted to secure the site, with fencing and a padlock, to deter the use of the site for this purpose, although these efforts have not been successful.

It is also important to note that each year officers have engaged with the builders at the site to encourage them to better manage their bonfire, particularly to limit the size of the bonfire to reduce its negative impact in line with the Councils Cultural Expression Programme.

Following the concerns raised in 2021, officers have been engaging both with EA and the bonfire builders to try to resolve the situation. EA have taken the decision to better secure the site, and have recently installed cement barriers to restrict access to the site. Officers have liaised with the builders to keep them informed of EAs intentions and had been assisting the builders to try to identify an alternative suitable site.

It has not been possible to identify an alternative site and given that EA have actively secured the site it would not be appropriate for the Council to support a bonfire on this site if it is subject to trespass.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council agrees that the Castle Gardens site is not supported under the Councils Cultural Expressions Programme.

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ITEM 21**Ards and North Down Borough Council**

Report Classification	Unclassified
Council/Committee	Community and Wellbeing
Date of Meeting	13 April 2022
Responsible Director	Director of Community and Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Community and Culture
Date of Report	01 April 2022
File Reference	CW150
Legislation	Recreation and Youth Services Order (NI) 1989
Section 75 Compliant	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> If other, please add comment below:
Subject	Queens Platinum Jubilee Grants
Attachments	None

Council decided at a meeting on 24 February 2022 to put in place a community grants scheme to mark the Queens Platinum Jubilee. The scheme would enable locally constituted community organisations within the Borough to avail of grant assistance from the Council to commemorate / celebrate the Queens Platinum Jubilee.

A total of £40K was set aside for the overall scheme. £35K has been set aside for the grant scheme with a further £5K set aside for providing official bunting, party wears etc. The latter will be made available to groups who were deemed ineligible to apply for more substantial funding for example, un-constituted community, resident and voluntary groups, and religious organisations.

Eligible groups could apply for up to £1000 each for their Queens Platinum Jubilee event or activity. Eligible grant applications were scored by an officer panel. Applications were measured against the following criteria:-

- Events / Activities to celebrate or commemorate the Queens Platinum Jubilee
- Events / Activities are suitably advertised and open and inclusive to the wider community

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- Value for money is demonstrated
- An evaluation is undertaken

All funding must be expended over the Queens Platinum Jubilee official holiday from 2nd June to 6th June 2022.

A total of 48 groups have applied for funding under the scheme. 39 were deemed eligible with 37 being deemed successful in their application under the scheme, meeting eligibility requirements and the criteria set out above. Applications deemed ineligible did not supply the required correct documentation; were not from a recognised 'constituted community, voluntary or residents group' or were from faith based / sporting organisations.

Below are tables of applications deemed successful / unsuccessful by the officer panel:-

Table 1. Successful Applicants

#	Name Of Group	Score	Eligible Amount	Amount Awarded
1	1st Newtownards Somme & Historical Society	60%	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
2	Ballygowan & District CA	55%	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
3	Ballyhalbert Community Association	75%	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
4	Ballywalter Community Action Group	70%	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
5	Bangor Ex Services Club	65%	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
6	Bowtown Community Development Group	80%	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
7	Breezemount CA	80%	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
8	Carrowdore & District CA	70%	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
9	Clandeboyne Village CA	70%	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
10	Cloughey & District CA	55%	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
11	Comber Regeneration Community Partnership	60%	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
12	Conlig Community Regeneration Group	70%	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
13	Decorum NI	50%	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
14	Donaghadee Community Development association	80%	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
15	Donaghadee Heritage Preservation Company	60%	£700.00	£700.00
16	Eastend Residents association	70%	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
17	Glen Ward Community Development Association	60%	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
18	Harmoni	75%	£983.32	£983.32
19	Hollywood District Guides	65%	£985.00	£985.00
20	Kilcooley Community Forum	60%	£1,000.00	£1,000.00

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21	Kilcooley Womens Centre	60%	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
22	Kirkistown Primary PTFA	55%	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
23	Ladybird Childcare Services	60%	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
24	Lisbarnett & Lisbane CA Ltd	65%	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
25	Loughries Men's Shed	70%	£995.00	£995.00
26	Millisle & District Community Association	65%	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
27	Millisle Health & Wellbeing Group	60%	£500.00	£500.00
28	Millisle Youth Forum	65%	£950.00	£950.00
29	Mothers Union Branch St Philip & St James	60%	£145.00	£145.00
30	Portavogie Historical Society	65%	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
31	Recharge CIC	60%	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
32	Redburn Loughview Community Forum	55%	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
33	Seahaven Park homes Residents Association	55%	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
34	St Mark's Drop In	60%	£660.00	£660.00
35	The Regimental Association of the Ulster Defence Regiment (Bangor Branch)	55%	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
36	West Winds Development Association	65%	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
37	Whitehill Community Association	65%	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
		Totals:	£34,918.32	£34,918.32

Table 2. Unsuccessful Applications

#	Name of Group	Score	Reason for unsuccessful application
1	Ards Rangers FC	Not Scored	Sports Club
2	Ballycrochan Presbyterian Church	Not Scored	Faith based organisation
3	Bangor District LOL No 18	Not Scored	Political / Faith Based organisation
4	Comber Methodist Church	Not Scored	Faith based organisation
5	Comber Recreational FC	Not Scored	Sports Club
6	Friends of Ravara Training Centre	Not Scored	No essential documents provided
7	Hollywood Shared Town	40%	Failed to reach pass mark
8	Newtownards Orange Hall Trustees Committee	Not Scored	Political organisation / Building Trustees
9	North Down Scout Centre	Not Scored	No constitution / Large Charitable organisation
10	Portavogie PTA	35%	Failed to reach pass mark

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11	The Beacon	Not Scored	No essential documents provided
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Members will note from the above table that a wide range of local community organisations have been successful in receiving funding under this grant scheme. £34,918.32 has been expended from the available fund. Each successful application has received 100% of the funding they applied for under the scheme.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council approve the recommendations detailed in Tables 1 and 2 above .

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ITEM 22

Ards and North Down Borough Council

Report Classification	Unclassified
Council/Committee	Community and Wellbeing
Date of Meeting	13 April 2022
Responsible Director	Director of Community and Wellbeing
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Community and Culture
Date of Report	31 March 2022
File Reference	CW151
Legislation	Local Government Act (NI) 2014
Section 75 Compliant	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> If other, please add comment below:
Subject	Ukrainian Resettlement
Attachments	None

At the March 2022 Council meeting, the following notice of motion was agreed.

That this Council expresses its solidarity with the people of Ukraine in light of Russian aggression and congratulates the residents of our Borough on their unprecedented support for charities which are assisting those affected by this terrible war.

Further, that officers are tasked with putting together a report which outlines how this Council could assist in the resettlement of Ukrainian refugees in our Borough, including how they may receive wrap around support from a range of statutory and voluntary agencies,

In response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine, officers have attended a number of meetings hosted by The Executive Office (TEO) and Department of Finance (DoF) who are working to develop, deliver and manage the operational arrangements required to support those arriving in Northern Ireland over recent weeks.

A Strategic Planning Group, chaired by the TEO Permanent Secretary, is leading the way to support Ukrainian arrivals. The Strategy Group is supported by a regional

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Operational Planning Group. The purpose of their work is to co-ordinate and develop the contribution of the NI Executive, public agencies, district councils, voluntary sector partners and local communities to the resettlement and integration of Ukrainian refugees coming to Northern Ireland.

The scope of their work includes putting place support for those who arrive through the formal UK routes – currently the Ukraine Family Scheme and the Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme (the 'Schemes') – and those who arrive through other routes, including through the EU and across the border with Ireland.

The scope of the Group's activities will also address the needs of Afghan refugees resettled in Northern Ireland through the Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy (ARAP) and the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme (ACRS).

The scope of the group does not include the development of a migrant/refugee strategy.

Membership of the regional Operational Planning Group includes Government Departments, PSNI, NIHE, Education Authority, Border Force, UK Immigration Enforcement, Bryson Intercultural, Extern, Barnardo's, Red Cross, Belfast Metropolitan College, Emergency Preparedness and all eleven Councils. The group is Chaired by Ian Snowdon (DoF) and meets on a weekly basis.

It is currently estimated there may be between 6,000 and 10,000 arrivals (based on between 200,000 and 300,000 people seeking refuge in the UK and 3% of those coming to Northern Ireland) through all routes. Officers are aware that there are four main Councils across the Province where families wish to resettle. Thirty-five families are seeking to resettle in the Ards and North Down area, through the recognised schemes. This number does not include those who may arrive through other routes.

In response to the Notice of Motion agreed by Council in March 2022 in relation to this issue, officers would recommend that any action taken by Council is commensurate with the regional arrangements that are being put in place and in harmony with what is being asked of Councils by the Operational Planning Group to deliver in relation to this important issue.

At present the establishment of a regional "**Welcome Centre**" is being considered, similar to the model used to resettle Syrian Refugees. The Welcome Centre may be residential or non-residential but will provide advice and support from a range of statutory agencies and where needs can be triaged. This would be a central location convenient to the point of entry into Northern Ireland and should not therefore be duplicated by any local Council.

However, the four main Councils identified to date are being asked to establish **Community Advice Centres (CAC)**, where those resettling can avail of wrap around support from a range of statutory and voluntary agencies. The four main areas are: Belfast City Council, Causeway Coast and Glen, Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon District Council and Newry Mourne and Down Borough Council. Belfast City Council is being requested to set up a CAC by next week. The Department has asked other

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Councils not to “run ahead” and establish a CAC, without input from the regional Operational Planning Group.

Notwithstanding discussions have been ongoing locally regarding how best to establish a CAC in partnership with other agencies and the Department has been asked to provide each Council with a single point of contact (SPOC) from the key statutory agencies who have the necessary expertise to provide the type of advice and support required locally. Officers have been in discussions with North Down YMCA, who have accessible premises in Bangor and have access to premises in Newtownards. North Down YMCA also have established links and provide support and advice to migrants and have access to translation services. It is recommended that Council in partnership with North Down YMCA work to establish a CAC initially in Bangor, but with an option to also operate out of a premises in Newtownards, if required. Council will also seek input from statutory agencies and others to allow connections to be made with health, education and benefits etc, and involving suitable translation services that will allow this to be transacted face to face and online in order to assist Ukrainian evacuees and sponsor families. It is envisaged that the CAC's will be managed by a “Local Planning Group” similar in make-up to the regional Operational Planning Group, detailed above.

Consideration will also have to be given to matters such as safeguarding and data protection and a data sharing agreement will have to be established for all partners involved. As the situation in Ukraine is evolving there is no indication of how long a CAC will be required or indeed the volume of support required.

Members should note that whilst the DoF have indicated funding will be made available to Councils to cover associated costs, there is no budget currently and no indication of what budget may be made available, so funding will have to be secured from existing budgets.

There may be a requirement for Council to inspect the property of those assisting resettlement though the Sponsorship scheme. Again, there is no further information on this at present

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council notes progress with this issue.