



Mid and East Antrim **Community Planning**

Baseline report

October 2016



Table of Contents

1	FOREWORD	3
2	REPORT SUMMARY	4
3	EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....	6
3.1	REPORT AIMS AND OBJECTIVES	6
3.2	KEY FINDINGS.....	6
3.3	OVERVIEW OF THE COUNCIL AREA	9
3.4	REVIEW OF STRATEGIES.....	10
3.5	STAKEHOLDER AND COMMUNITY CONSULTATION	10
3.6	SOCIO ECONOMIC REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL	11
3.7	EMERGING ISSUES.....	11
4	INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND	13
4.1	INTRODUCTION.....	13
4.2	REPORT AIMS AND OBJECTIVES	13
4.3	REVIEW	13
4.4	STRUCTURE OF REPORT.....	14
5	DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY OF MID AND EAST ANTRIM	15
5.1	INTRODUCTION.....	15
5.2	NEW GEOGRAPHY	15
5.3	DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE	17
5.4	PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEPRIVATION	19
5.5	NEW POWERS	19
6	REVIEW OF KEY STRATEGIES	22
6.1	INTRODUCTION.....	22
6.2	SUMMARY	27
7	EXTERNAL CONSULTATION	29
7.1	INTRODUCTION.....	29
7.2	RESIDENT SURVEY.....	29
7.3	STAKEHOLDER AND COMMUNITY CONSULTATION	31
7.4	COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: THEMATIC WORKSHOP EVENTS.....	40

8	QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS	41
8.1	INTRODUCTION	41
8.2	SAFETY AND GOOD RELATIONS	42
8.3	HEALTH, LEISURE AND WELL-BEING	44
8.4	EDUCATION	48
8.5	ECONOMIC REGENERATION	50
8.6	COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL REGENERATION	56
8.7	ENVIRONMENT AND SPATIAL PLANNING	57
8.8	RURAL	60
8.9	SUMMARY	61
9	CONCLUSIONS	62
9.1	REVIEW OF STRATEGIES	62
9.2	STAKEHOLDER AND COMMUNITY CONSULTATION	62
9.3	SOCIO ECONOMIC REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL	63
9.4	EMERGING ISSUES	64

Appendices:

APPENDIX A: STRATEGIC REVIEW

APPENDIX B: SURVEY RESULTS

APPENDIX C: SECTION 75 FOCUS GROUP MINUTES

APPENDIX D: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT THEMATIC WORKSHOP EVENTS

1 FOREWORD

It is our privilege to introduce Mid and East Antrim Borough Council's first "State of the Borough" Baseline Report. This Report is our first step on the road to producing a Community Plan for the area. It provides an introduction to the new Borough for residents, employees, elected members and partner organisations.

Since 1st April 2015, the new Council has been initiating, facilitating and managing the community planning process in the area. This is a new function for Councils, not previously undertaken in Northern Ireland. The key opportunity offered by Community Planning is that public services will, for the first time, be able to take a truly joined up approach to service delivery, focussing on the specific needs of the area.

In order to assist in identifying these needs, Mid and East Antrim Borough Council commissioned a 'State of the Borough' report, which describes in detail the new Mid and East Antrim Borough Council area in terms of its geography, its people, the health and social factors affecting its people, the local economy, education and crime in the area.

This Report is an important document in the Community Planning process as it places a common marker down to enable all Community Planning Partners, both Statutory and Community, to measure and evidence improvements in services.

It was compiled using qualitative and quantitative data captured from a range of sources including Government statistics, Census information, the outcomes from the 'Putting People First' Community Planning Conference, targeted community workshops and various stakeholder interviews held in March 2015. It is acknowledged that the data presented is not complete and work will continue to gather statistical information to inform the development of the Community Plan.

Mid and East Antrim Borough Council are fully committed to developing and delivering the Community Plan as we believe it will create a better future for all. We look forward to working with all our Community Planning Partners and to developing strong linkages across all sectors to ensure the needs of our citizens are met in the best way possible.

Cllr Audrey Wales MBE

Mayor

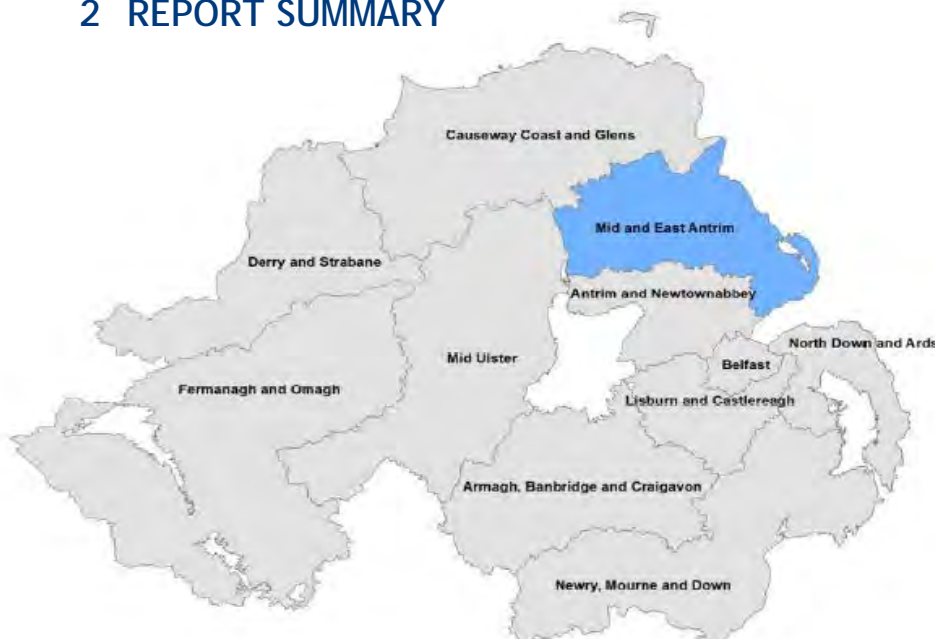
Mid and East Antrim Borough Council

Anne Donaghy

Chief Executive

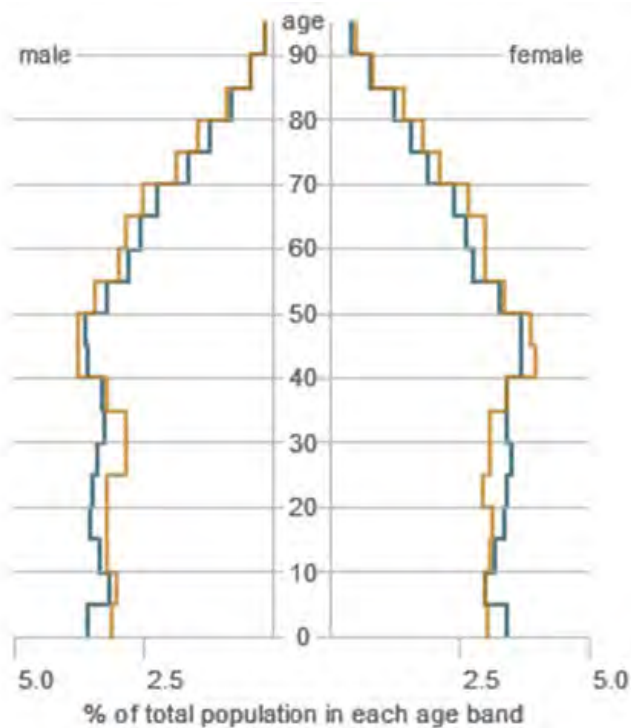
Mid and East Antrim Borough Council

2 REPORT SUMMARY



- The new Mid and East Antrim Council extends to 104,954 hectares (1,049.54 km²) from the Northern Channel in the East to the River Bann in the West; and
- It has a population of 137,223 (7.4% of the total NI population). This equates to a population density of 1.29 just below the NI average of 1.34.

- The population has increased 8% since 2001, against growth of 9.9% for NI. The birth rate (11.6) is higher than the death rate (8.5) but both are significantly lower than their respective NI figures 13.3 (birth rate) and 8.0 (death rate).
- In terms of the overall population profile, there has been a marginal decline since 2001 (-7.0% and -6.2%) for the 0-15 and 16-39 age groups. However, there has been significant growth in the 40-64 and 65+ age groups, (20.1% and 38.1% respectively). The comparative growth of the latter two age groups can be attributed to a 75% decline in deaths under 75; and
- The level of in-migration to the area has been lower than the NI average: 11.2% to 13.2%. It is projected that the overall population of MEA Council area will grow to 142,164 by 2030, with the 65+ cohort continuing to grow faster (40.9%) but with decline in the 0-15 (-4.5%), 16-39 (-4.5%) and 40-64 (-4.8%) age groups.



NORTHERN IRELAND **Mid and East Antrim (LGD 2014)**
Total population: 1,814,318 Total population: 135,338

Source: Department of Environment: Boundary Maps (2015)

- The present median age of 40 is higher than the NI average and that trend will continue in the medium term- an older age profile for residents than NI as a whole.



- The new Council area represents 7.4% of the NI population and 7.5% of the NI land mass;
- Its rural/urban split reflects the overall NI average. 60% of the population is concentrated in urban areas, primarily three main towns (Ballymena, Carrickfergus and Larne) with the remaining 40% located in smaller settlements or rural areas;
- The estimated rural population of Mid & East Antrim is 53,467 (40% of total population).

The chart above illustrates the seven District Electoral Areas within the Mid and East Antrim Council area, namely: Ballymena, Bannside, Braid, Carrick Castle, Coast Road, Larne Lough and Knockagh.

3 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

3.1 Report Aims and Objectives

It is the aim of the Council that the Baseline Report is:

A professional, robust document which will be a 'State of the Borough' report which describes the new Mid and East Antrim Borough Council area in terms of its geography, its people, the health and social factors affecting its people, the local economy, education and crime in the area.

The key objectives of the Baseline Report are:

- (a) To provide an introduction to the new borough for residents, employees, elected members and partner organisations;
- (b) To provide standard information that all partners can use in needs assessments, strategies, action plans and funding bids;
- (c) To act as a starting point for information requests relating to the new Council area;
- (d) To ensure all relevant qualitative and quantitative data is included which may not have been identified by the Evidence Gathering Sub Group; and
- (e) To ensure both quantitative and qualitative data is cross-referenced.

3.2 Key Findings

The new Mid and East Antrim Council extends to 104,954 hectares (1,049.54 km²) from the Northern Channel in the East to the River Bann in the West. This is illustrated in Figure 3.1:

Figure 3.1: Mid and East Antrim Borough Council



Source: Department of Environment (NI): Boundary Maps (2015)

The new Council has seven District Electoral Areas (DEAs) that are comprised of the electoral wards detailed in Table 3.1 below:

Table 3.1: Seven new District Electoral Areas (DEAs)

District Electoral Area	Composite Wards
Ballymena	Academy, Ardeevin, Ballykeel, Braidwater, Castle Demesne, Fair Green and Park
Bannside	Ahoghill, Cullybackey, Galgorm, Grange, Maine and Portglenone
Braid	Ballee and Harryville, Broughshane, Glenravel, Glenwherry, Kells, Kirkinriola and Slemish
Carrick Castle	Boneybefore, Castle, Kilroot, Love Lane and Victoria
Coast Road	Cairncastle, Carnlough and Glenarm, Craigyhill, Gardenmore and The Maidens
Larne Lough	Ballycarry and Glynn, Curran and Inver, Islandmagee, Kilwaughter and Whitehead South
Knockagh	Burleigh Hill, Gortalee, Greenisland, Sunnylands and Woodburn

Source: Mid and East Antrim Council

Figure 3.2 illustrates the configuration of the seven DEAs and their respective wards:

Figure 3.2: Configuration of New Council Area



Source: Mid and East Antrim Council (2015)

The new Council area represents 7.4% of the NI population and 7.5% of the NI land mass. Its urban/rural split reflects the overall NI average with 60% of the population concentrated in urban areas, primarily three main towns (Ballymena, Carrickfergus and Larne) and the remaining 40% located in smaller settlements or rural areas. In NI the urban/rural split is 63% and 37%, respectively.

3.3 Overview of the Council Area

The table below compares the new Council area to NI as a whole:

Table 3.2: Mid and East Antrim Council Demographic Profile compared to NI

Description	Northern Ireland	Mid and East Antrim
Population (2015)	1.85m	137,223 (7.4%)
Population (2030) Estimate	1.98m	142,164 (7.2%)
Geographical coverage	13,843 km ²	1,049.54 km ²
Population Density per hectare (2011)	1.34	1.29
Birth rate per 1,000 pop	13.3	11.6
Death rate per 1,000 pop	8.0	8.5
External In-migration per 1,000 pop	13.2	11.2
Median age (2011)	37	40
Population growth rate (2001 - 2015)	9.9%	8%

Source: Population and Migration Estimates: Statistical Report: NISRA 2014

Key issues arising from our analysis are as follows:

- It has a population of 137,223 (7.4% of the total NI population) and extends to 1,049.54 km². This equates to a population density of 1.29 just below the NI average of 1.34;
- The population has increased 8.0% since 2001, against growth of 9.9% for NI. The birth rate (11.6 per 1,000 pop) is higher than the death rate (8.5 per 1,000 pop) and comparable to the respective NI figures 13.3 (birth rate) and 8.0 (death rate);
- In terms of the overall population profile, there has been a marginal decline since 2001 for the 0-15 and 16-39 age groups (-7% and -6.2%). However, there has been significant growth in the 40-64 and 65+ age groups (20.1% and 38.1% respectively). The comparative growth of the latter two age groups can be attributed to a 75% decline in deaths under 75;
- The level of external in-migration to the area has been lower than the NI average: 11.2 per 1,000 population compared to 13.2 in NI. It is projected that the overall population of MEABC will grow to 142,164 by 2030, with the 65+ cohort continuing to grow faster (40.9%) but with a comparative decline in the 0-15 (-4.5%), 16-39 (-4.5%) and 40-64 (-4.8%) age groups; and
- As of 2011 the median age was 40 and the sex ratio was 48.7% male, 51.3% female. The religious breakdown was 19.3% Catholic and 72.8% Protestant/other Christian.

3.4 Review of Strategies

At the time of writing, most policy continues to take a NI/regional perspective and little if any account has been made of the new delivery powers for Councils and the pivotal role Councils will have in the Community Planning process (the latter point will be addressed in a Department of Environment Memorandum of Understanding which, at the time of writing, had not been published). However, there is a clear role for the Council in facilitating the delivery of regional strategies and using its local knowledge to focus interventions where they will have maximum impact. The strategic review identifies the following priorities for the Mid and East Antrim area:

- A focus on redeveloping town centres of key settlements as places not only to shop, but also to work, live and play;
- Promoting shared use of public spaces and also address the issue of proximity to services;
- Targeted interventions to address the lifetime opportunities of the most vulnerable within society by addressing constraints affecting health and educational achievement;
- A need to diversify the local economy, through three principal initiatives:
 - Enhancing local clusters through smart specialisation and the attraction of Foreign Direct Investment;
 - Encouraging business start-ups (including social enterprises) and addressing the high business death rate; and
 - Promoting the wider tourism proposition of the area.
- A need to ensure that the skillset of the (emerging) workforce reflects the needs of businesses.

3.5 Stakeholder and Community Consultation

The Stakeholder and Community Consultation exercise identified the following issues related to the implementation of Community Planning:

- Need to 'rural proof' any Community Plan, particularly the case where there is a perceived urban 'bias';
- There are challenges with working across new geographies, as Larne has traditionally worked with Moyle, Carrickfergus with Newtownabbey and Ballymena with Ballymoney and Coleraine;
- Need to ensure 'buy-in' for Community Planning through enhanced partnership working and community empowerment: utilising where possible 'bottom up' community clusters and shared goals/performance indicators with key Government Agencies. Progress must be measured;
- Recognition of the importance by all respondents of the following issues:

- The level of engagement by certain partners is reflective of the particular needs in a Council area (variable geometry);
- Where possible, Councils should consider clustering to address common strategic problems/attract funding;
- Council itself should have a variable role, but is principally there to provide the local perspective;
- Need to have a flexible (thematic) delivery structure, which allows for local and regional buy-in and involving a range of public and private partners;
- Need to have a clear focus on outcomes, which must reflect input of all active partners and the outcomes must be dynamic; and
- Need to have a senior responsible officer/lead partner for each theme.

3.6 Socio Economic Review of the Council

The Council either is close to the NI average or outperforms against five of the six Community Planning themes, the exception being education, where skills levels amongst school leavers and the wider workforce are slightly below the NI average. As would be expected, there is a greater variance between the performance of individual wards within the Council, than between the Council and wider NI performance. Although there are a significant number of wards which continue to outperform the NI average, there are a small number of wards which significantly underperform against a number of variables. Underperforming wards include:

- Ballykeel (Health, Leisure and Wellbeing);
- Ballee (Education);
- Castle Demesne (Housing), and;
- Kilcrotty (Community and Social Regeneration)

The socio economic review has reaffirmed all of the issues identified at the strategic review and stakeholder consultation stages, but has identified a small number of wards where there is a discernible concentration of multiple need.

3.7 Emerging Issues

The review has identified the following issues, which may inform any subsequent Community Plan:

- A focus on integrating Council delivery across both the new sectors and new geographies;
- A focus on redeveloping town centres of key settlements as places not only to shop, but also to work, live and play;

- Promoting shared use of public spaces and address the issue of proximity to services;
- Need to address negative perceptions of particular communities in the Council area in relation to specific issues (sectarianism and drug abuse);
- Need to ensure that the rural perspective is considered in all policy decisions, in particular:
 - Addressing rural crime and isolation;
 - Need to preserve the open countryside;
 - Addressing the decline in population (particularly amongst the young); and
 - Low farm prices impacting the wider rural economy.
- Need to ensure the roll out of the community clusters approach, which provides 'bottom up' solutions and can augment the delivery of Community Planning;
- Targeted interventions to address the lifetime opportunities of the most vulnerable within society by addressing constraints affecting health and educational achievement;
- A need to diversify the local economy, through three main initiatives:
 - Enhancing local clusters through smart specialisation and the attraction of Foreign Direct Investment;
 - Encouraging business start-ups (including social enterprises) and addressing the high business death rate; and
 - Promoting the wider tourism proposition of the area.
- A need to ensure that the skillset of the (emerging) workforce reflects the needs of business.
- A need to ensure there is sufficient business space for local companies and inward investment.

4 INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

4.1 Introduction

RSM McClure Watters (Consulting) Ltd was appointed by Mid and East Antrim Borough Council to produce a Baseline Report to inform the development of the first Community Plan for the Council. This report summarises the findings of the following consultative methods:

- Desk based research (Quantitative and Qualitative Analysis);
- Stakeholder Consultation;
- Community Engagement;
- Strategic Community Planning Conference held on 25th March 2015;
- Resident Survey; and
- Section 75 Workshops.

4.2 Report Aims and Objectives

The aim of the Baseline Report is:

A professional, robust document which will be a 'State of the Borough' report which describes the new Mid and East Antrim Borough Council area in terms of its geography, its people, the health and social factors affecting its people, the local economy, education and crime in the area;

The key objectives of the Baseline Report are:

- a) To provide an introduction to the new Borough for residents, employees, elected members and partner organisations;
- b) To provide standard information that all partners can use in needs assessments, strategies, action plans and funding bids;
- c) To act as a starting point for the information request relating to the new Council area;
- d) To ensure all relevant qualitative and quantitative data is included which may not have been identified by the Evidence Gathering Sub Group; and
- e) To ensure both quantitative and qualitative data is cross referenced.

4.3 Review

The Baseline Study involved a review of the 6 Community Planning Themes (Safety and Good Relations, Health, Leisure and Wellbeing, Education, Economic

Regeneration, Community and Social Regeneration and Environment) against the following criteria¹:

- Review of Strategic Guidance;
- Review of qualitative information sources (local primary and secondary research);
- Review of key statistics (where possible at the NI, Council and DEA level); and
- Preliminary Prioritisation of Issues and Opportunities.

4.4 Structure of Report

In line with the Terms of Reference, our report will have the following structure:

- **Section 3:** Description and History of the Mid and East Antrim Area;
- **Section 4:** Review of Key Strategies;
- **Section 5:** Results of External Consultation Exercise;
- **Section 6:** Quantitative Data Analysis; and
- **Section 7:** Conclusions.

¹ A number of the key performance indicators (particularly economic statistics) cannot be analysed below Local Government District Level, consequently they have been assessed as Not Applicable (N/A).

5 DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY OF MID AND EAST ANTRIM

5.1 Introduction

The 2014 Local Government Act, dramatically changed the map of Local Government in Northern Ireland (NI), reducing the existing twenty-six Councils to form eleven new Super Councils and specifically, the merging of the three former Councils of Ballymena, Carrickfergus (save for a small area of the existing Carrickfergus District in the vicinity of Greenisland which will be transferred to Antrim and Newtownabbey Council) and Larne to form the new Mid and East Antrim Council.

The vision for the eleven new Councils is to have:

“a thriving dynamic local government that creates vibrant, healthy, prosperous, safe and sustainable communities that have the needs of the citizens at their core”

Source: ‘Local Government Reform - Back to Basics - what are the benefits Department of Environment’ (DOE) (Feb 2013)

The following section identifies the characteristics of the new geography of the area and the new (formal and informal) powers which the Council now has.

5.2 New Geography

The new Mid and East Antrim Council extends to 104,954 hectares (1,049.54km²) from the Northern Channel in the East to the River Bann in the West. This is illustrated in Figure 5.1:

Figure 5.1: Mid and East Antrim Borough Council



Source: Department of Environment (NI): Boundary Maps (2015)

The new Council has seven District Electoral Areas (DEAs) that are comprised of the electoral wards detailed in Table 5.1 below:

Table 5.1: Seven New District Electoral Areas

District Electoral Area	Composite Wards
Ballymena	Academy, Ardeevin, Ballykeel, Braidwater, Castle Demesne, Fair Green and Park
Bannside	Ahoghill, Cullybackey, Galgorm, Grange, Maine and Portglenone
Braid	Ballee and Harryville, Broughshane, Glenravel, Glenwherry, Kells, Kirkinriola and Slemish
Carrick Castle	Boneybefore, Castle, Kilroot, Love Lane and Victoria
Coast Road	Cairncastle, Carnlough and Glenarm, Craigyhill, Gardenmore and The Maidens
Larne Lough	Ballycarry and Glynn, Curran and Inver, Islandmagee, Kilwaughter and Whitehead South
Knockagh	Burleigh Hill, Gortalee, Greenisland, Sunnylands and Woodburn

Source: Mid and East Antrim Council (2015)

Figure 5.2 illustrates the configuration of the 7 DEAs and their respective wards:

Figure 5.2: Configuration of New Council Area



Source: Mid and East Antrim Council (2015)

The new Council area represents 7.4% of the NI population and 7.5% of the NI land mass, its rural/urban split reflects the overall NI average. The estimated rural population in Mid & East Antrim is 53,467, as calculated by NINIS - LGD 2014: Usually Resident Population and Households classified according to Urban and Rural definitions (2015). This 53,467 rural population represents 40% of the total population of MEABC, (60% are therefore urban). The table below highlights the principal settlements in the new Council area:

Table 5.2: Principal Settlements

Settlement Hierarchy	Settlements
Main towns	Ballymena, Carrickfergus and Larne
Local towns	Greenisland and Whitehead
Villages	Ahoghill, Ballycarry, Ballygally, Ballystrudder, Broughshane, Cargan, Carnlough Clough, Cullybackey, Glenarm, Glynn, Kells and Connor and Portglenone
Small Settlements	Browns Bay, Carnageer, Carnalbanagh, Cairncastle, Crosshill, Deerpark, Drumcrow, Ferris Bay, Feystown, Garron Point, Glenoe, Grange Corner, Kilwaughter, Knocknagulliagh, Magheramourne, Martinstown, Mill Bay, Mounthill, Mullaghboy, Raloo, Straidkilly and Trooperslane.

Source: Mid and East Antrim Council (2015)

5.3 Demographic Profile

The table below compares the new Council area to NI as a whole:

Table 5.3: Mid and East Antrim Council Demographic Profile compared to NI

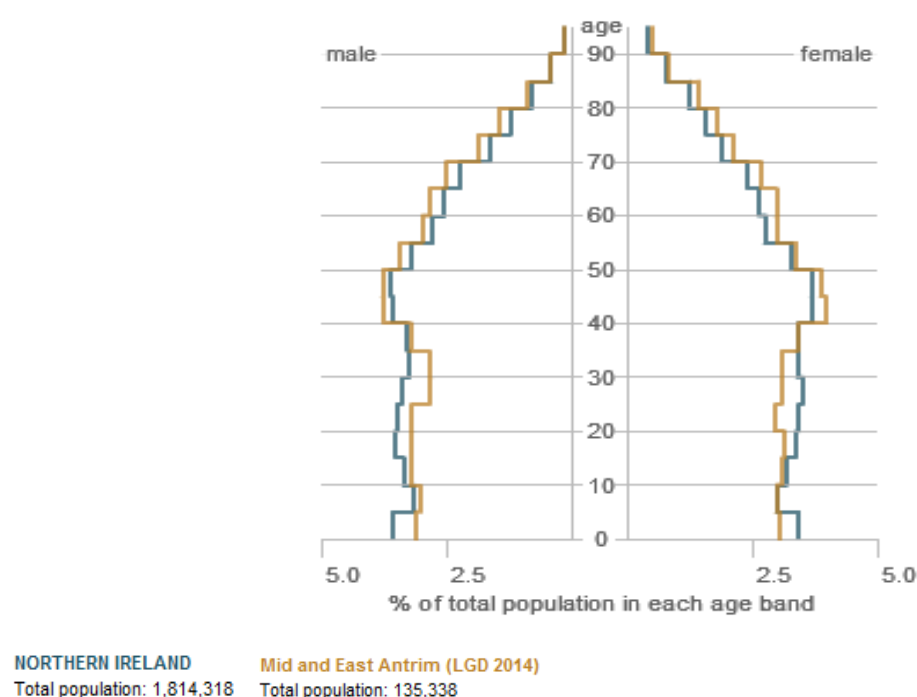
Description	Northern Ireland	Mid and East Antrim
Population (2015)	1.85m	137,223 (7.4%)
Population (2030) Estimate	1.98m	142,164 (7.2%)
Geographical coverage	13,843 km ²	1,049.54 km ²
Population Density per hectare (2011)	1.34	1.29
Birth rate per 1,000 pop	13.3	11.6
Death rate per 1,000 pop	8.0	8.5
External In-migration per 1,000 pop	13.2	11.2

Description	Northern Ireland	Mid and East Antrim
Median age (2011)	37	40
Population growth rate (2001 - 2015)	9.9%	8%

Source: *Population and Migration Estimates: Statistical Report: NISRA 2014 NI Neighbourhood Statistics*

Figure 5.3 illustrates the overall age profile of the Council area:

Figure 5.3: Age Profile of the Council Area Compared to NI



Source: *Population and Migration Estimates, Northern Ireland (2013), Statistical Report*

Key issues arising from our analysis are as follows:

- It has a population of 137,223 (7.4% of the total NI population) and extends to 1,049.54 km². This equates to a population density of 1.29 just below the NI average of 1.34;
- The population has increased 8.0% since 2001, against growth of 9.9% for NI. The birth rate (11.6 per 1,000 pop) is higher than the death rate (8.5 per 1,000 pop) and comparable to the respective NI figures 13.3 (birth rate) and 8.0 (death rate);
- In terms of the overall population profile, there has been a marginal decline since 2001 for the 0-15 and 16-39 age groups (-7% and -6.2%). However, there has been significant growth in the 40-64 and 65+ age groups (20.1% and 38.1% respectively). The comparative growth of the latter two age groups can be attributed to a 75% decline in deaths under 75;

- The level of external in-migration to the area has been lower than the NI average: 11.2 per 1,000 population to 13.2. It is projected that the overall population of MEABC will grow to 142,164 by 2030, with the 65+ cohort continuing to grow faster (40.9%) but with a comparative decline in the 0-15 (-4.5%), 16-39 (-4.5%) and 40-64 (-4.8%) age groups; and
- As of 2011 the median age was 40 and the sex ratio was 48.7% male, 51.3% female. The religious breakdown was 19.34% Catholic and 72.84% Protestant/other Christian.

5.4 Physical Infrastructure and Deprivation

Of the three large towns in the new Mid and East Antrim Council area, Ballymena has the largest town centre (132,490m²) and is the 4th largest² in NI (marginally behind 3rd place Newry [132,710m²]). Larne and Carrickfergus place 12th and 17th respectively (57,090m² and 48,270m²). However, the recent recession has had a negative impact on the local retail sector, with Carrickfergus having the highest vacancy rate by unit number (21%) in NI³, Ballymena was in 2nd place (20%) and Larne was in 11th place.

In terms of housing tenure, 72.2% of the housing stock in the Mid and East Antrim area is owner occupied compared to an NI average of 67.5%. The Council area has a rate of vacant stock approximately half that for NI (3.5% compared to 7.2%) however, there has been a 17% increase over the last three years compared to 2.3% increase for NI as a whole.

Using the NI Multiple Deprivation Measure 2010 (one most deprived and twenty-six least deprived), Ballymena was ranked in 11th place, Larne was in 13th place and Carrickfergus was in 14th place. Mid and East Antrim District is ranked 6th out of the eleven new Councils in terms deprivation, largely due to lack of access to services. This lack of access to services is particularly noticeable in rural communities including: Glenarm, Islandmagee, Carnlough, Glenravel, Grange, Glenwhirry, Dunminning and Slemish.

5.5 New Powers

In this section we identify the new powers and working relationships which the 2014 Reform of Local Government has instigated.

² Out of Twenty-six

³ Out of Twenty-six

The new Council will benefit from the expansion of existing powers regarding economic development and Good Relations and also the transference of the following functions from Central Government including:

Planning:

- Local Development plan functions; and
- Development control and enforcement.

Roads:

- Off street parking (except park and ride)

Urban Regeneration⁴ and Community Development:

- Functions associated with physical development (e.g. environment improvement schemes);
- Area based regeneration (such as Neighbourhood Renewal)
- Some community development programmes for the voluntary and community sectors:
- Local Economic Development (transfer from Invest NI);
- Local Tourism;
- Some of elements of the delivery of the EU Rural Development Programme;
- Authority to Spot List to enable Councils to add a building to the statutory list; and
- Provision of local sports facilities.

As well as the transfer of these formal powers and budgets, the Council will also have an enhanced facilitative role through the new Community Planning powers, providing a unique geographical perspective and thereby guiding local delivery in conjunction with a range of statutory bodies operating in the Mid and East Antrim area.

The 2014 Local Government Act also gave the new Council⁵ the statutory duty to lead, maintain and facilitate, in partnership with relevant statutory, support partners and the community, the Community Planning process.

Community Planning is defined in the Act as “a process whereby voluntary and community sector, statutory bodies and local councils come together to develop and

⁴ The transfer of urban regeneration powers and funding has been delayed. It will remain with the Department for Social Development until at least May 2016.

⁵ The new power of Community Planning has been introduced through the Local Government (NI) Act (2014), (*the Act*), placing upon the 11 new Councils a statutory duty to lead, maintain and facilitate, in partnership with relevant statutory and support partners and the community, the Community Planning process, to enhance the quality of life for the people of the district.

implement a shared vision for promoting the well-being of the area and to pave the way for the more efficient use of resources, in particular:

- Improving social, economic and environmental well-being (including promoting equality of opportunity, tackling poverty, exclusion and disadvantage);
- Contributing to achieving sustainable development across the region; and
- Planning and improving public service.

The new Community Plan will set out the long term vision for the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of the area. It will establish the priorities for the Mid & East Antrim area, including areas such as Health, Environment, Education, Economic & Social Regeneration, Good Relations and Safety.

The Council will lead the process, which is a statutory duty, by working with a wide range of statutory partners and local community representatives. The statutory partners will include:

- Education Authority;
- Northern Health & Social Care Trust;
- Public Health Agency;
- Health & Social Care Board;
- Police Service of Northern Ireland;
- Fire & Rescue Service;
- Northern Ireland Housing Executive;
- Invest Northern Ireland; and
- Tourism Ireland.

Council is currently developing a governance structure that will include a Strategic Alliance Operational & Monitoring Board, Thematic Groups and a Community Panel.

Finally the new Power of General Competence brings the greatest potential for innovative action by the Council, providing opportunities to develop more 'commercial methods' for managing assets and when used in conjunction with the new Planning powers can transform the Council into an 'enabling organisation', particularly in area regeneration, by being able to assemble, develop and actively promote sites for enterprise and the wider community.

6 REVIEW OF KEY STRATEGIES

6.1 Introduction

In line with the Terms of Reference, Table 6.1 identifies the key strategies which will potentially impact Mid and East Antrim:

Table 6.1: Review of Key Strategies

Relevant Strategies	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NI Executive's Programme for Government (2011-2015) ▪ Department of Regional Development (DRD): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Regional Development Strategy (RDS)(2010) ▪ Department of Agriculture and Rural Development: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Agri-food Strategy: Going for Growth (2014) ▪ Department for Education (DE) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Food in Schools Strategy (2013); ▪ Department for Employment and Learning (DEL): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 'Access to Success': An Integrated Regional Strategy for Widening Participation in Higher Education (2012) – Success through Skills (2011). ▪ Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment (DETI): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Economic Strategy (2012); – InnovateNI: Innovation Strategy for Northern Ireland (2014-2025) (2014); – Social Economy Strategy (2010-2011); ▪ Department for Social Development (DSD): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Fuel Poverty Strategy (2011); – Housing Strategy (2012); – NI Fire and Rescue Service; and – Road Safety Strategy to 2020 ▪ Northern Ireland Housing Executive: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment (DETI) Continued: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Strategic Energy Framework (2010); – Tourism Strategy (2010) ▪ Department for Health, Social Services and Public Safety (DHSSPS): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – A Fitter Future For All (2012-2022); – Families Matter Strategy (2009); – Stopping Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse in Northern Ireland 2013-2020; – The Suicide Prevention Strategy 2012-2014; and – Transforming your Care: A Review of Health and Social Care in Northern Ireland (2011) ▪ Department of Justice Northern Ireland (DOJNI): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 'Building Safer, Shared and Confident Communities' (2011); – Northern Ireland Organised Crime Strategy (2012-2014); – Reducing Offending Strategy (2013); – Victims Charter (2014); and ▪ Youth Justice Strategy (2013-2016) OFMDFM Continued: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – A Strategy to improve the lives of people with disabilities 2012-2015; – Child Poverty Strategy 2011; – Delivering Social Change (2010-2016); – Early Years Strategy (2010); and

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NIHE Mid and East Antrim Housing Investment Plan 2015-2019; - NIHE Corporate Plan; - NIHE Rural Action Plan; - NIHE Supporting People Strategy; and - Homelessness Strategy (2012-2017) ▪ Office First Minister, Deputy First Minister (OFMDFM): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Active Ageing Strategy (2014-2020); - A Sense of Belonging: Delivering Social Change through a Racial Equality Strategy for Northern Ireland 2014-2024; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Together: Building a United Community Strategy: 2013 ▪ Public Health Agency: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Making Life Better - A Whole System Framework for Public Health 2013-2023; ▪ Sports Northern Ireland (Sports NI): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sports Matters Strategy 2009-2019. ▪ Department of the Environment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Valuing Nature, A Biodiversity Strategy for NI to 2020 (2015).
---	---

A detailed analysis of each of the key strategies cited in Table 6.1 is contained in Appendix A.

The following section provides an overview of emerging priorities against the six Community Planning Themes identified by the Council:

- Safety and Good Relations;
- Health, Leisure and Well-being;
- Education;
- Economic Regeneration;
- Community and Social Regeneration; and
- Environment and Spatial Planning.

6.1.1 Safety and Good Relations

Mid and East Antrim Police and Community Safety Partnerships (PCSP) (2015-2018) and Action Plan (2015-2016) has been influenced by the NI Community Safety strategy 'Building Safer, Shared and Confident Communities', with a specific focus on the following issues within the Transitional Strategy:

- To form and successfully deliver the functions of the PCSP for the area;
- To improve Community Safety by tackling crime and anti-social behaviour; and
- To improve Community confidence in policing.

The joint DOJ/DHSSPS Strategy "Tackling Violence at Home" estimates that the cost of domestic violence in Northern Ireland, including the potential loss of economic output, could amount to £180 million each year. Domestic Violence is a crime. PSNI statistics for 2011/12 indicate that there were more recorded crimes with a domestic motivation (10,387) than the combined total of all the following crimes

(10,327) - all recorded sexual offences (1,836), shoplifting (6,201) and theft of a motor vehicle (2,290).

In May 2013, the 'Together: Building a United Community' Strategy was a reflection of Northern Ireland's Executive commitments for improving community relation and continuing the journey towards a more united and shared society.

This Strategy offers a clear and coherent vision for building a better future. Evidence of this is through the major announcements for new cross community initiatives around education, housing, sporting, sport, youth volunteering and interface barriers.

The United Community strategy outlines a vision on the grounds of equality through opportunity and the desirability of good relations and reconciliation. It provides the framework for the government to take action within cases of sectarianism, racism and various forms of intolerance while maintaining to address division, hate and separation.

6.1.2 Health, Leisure and Well-being

Making Life Better 2012-2023 is the ten year public health strategic framework. The framework provides direction for policies and actions to improve the health and wellbeing of people in Northern Ireland. It builds on the *Investing for Health* strategy (2002-2012) and retains a focus on the broad range of social, economic and environmental factors which influence health and wellbeing. It brings together actions at government level and provides direction for implementation at regional and local level.

The *Making Life Better* framework seeks to create the conditions for individuals and communities to take control of their own lives and move towards a vision of Northern Ireland where all people are enabled and supported in achieving their full health and wellbeing potential and to reduce inequalities in health.

The Strategy states that social gradient is the biggest determinant of lifetime opportunities and that there is a clear link between poverty and poor health. Achieving a healthier Northern Ireland will hinge largely on what is done collaboratively through both policy and practice to influence the wide range of factors that influence lives and choices. The framework is not just about actions and programmes at government level - it also provides direction for work at both regional and local levels with public agencies, including local government, local communities and others working in partnership.

Through strengthened co-ordination and partnership working in a whole system approach, the framework will seek to create the conditions for individuals and communities to take control of their own lives, and move towards a vision for

Northern Ireland where - **"All people are enabled and supported in achieving their full health and wellbeing potential."**

This drive to a patient focused approach is further promoted through the Transforming Your Care Strategy which seeks to engage with the wider community and voluntary sector including:

- More community based step up/step down and respite care to be provided by the community and voluntary sector;
- A shift between the balance of spend between hospitals and their respective community, with reinvestment in any hospital savings going into community services; and
- Greater involvement of the community and voluntary sector mental health organisations in the planning on Integrated Care Partners.

It is also recognised that the Environment has an important role within Health, Leisure and Well-being. Cognisance will be taken of 'The Good Practice Guidance for Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity' Town & Country Planning Association, The Wildlife Trusts (July 2012). This Guidance stipulates that **maintaining and restoring the natural environment will play a fundamental role in sustaining our collective future**. People's connection with nature can increase their health and well-being, one of the range of social, economic and environmental services provided by the natural environment without which society could not function. Planning for new and existing communities provides real opportunities to protect and enhance the intrinsic and practical value of the natural environment while responding to specific challenges posed by climate change. Thinking about nature should be the starting point of good planning, and is an essential component of delivering sustainable development.

6.1.3 Education

DEL's Strategy 'Success through Skills' aims to increase the number of students in higher and further education coming out with Level 6-8 qualifications in economically relevant STEM subjects. DEL's strategy, Access to Success goes further and specifically aims to ensure that talented individuals from traditionally under-represented groups such as students from low participation/high deprivation neighbourhoods, young Protestant males and adult learners can have access to Higher Education in economically relevant subjects.

Although Mid and East Antrim has a relatively well educated workforce, it has higher than the NI average of unskilled residents. There are also a small number of comparatively large communities, which have a high preponderance of low skills and intergenerational worklessness.

6.1.4 Community and Social Regeneration

At the core of urban regeneration and community development policy is the need to create a society which is socially connected, sustainable in its use of resources and economically prosperous. Policy then goes to stress the importance of bringing divided communities together by creating urban centres, which are sustainable, welcoming and accessible to live, work and relax in peace.

6.1.5 Environment and Spatial Planning

Ballymena and Larne are recognised as main hubs (with a specified range of services) in the Regional Development Strategy. In addition, Larne is identified as a gateway due to its strategic coastal location, natural harbour and second largest port in NI. The regeneration of Carrickfergus is seen as a priority, extending its employment and retail base. The Council's new Local Development Plan must take into account the Regional Development Strategy (RDS) and the Strategic Planning Policy Statement (SPPS) and should become the spatial expression of the Council's Community Plan. The RDS, is currently complemented by the DoE's Planning Policy Statements (PPSs) all of which are pertinent to Mid and East Antrim Borough. The following is a flavour of the policy direction from these PPS's in relation to Mid and East Antrim Borough:

- SPPS sets out the Town Centre First Principle for retailing and the need to maintain the integrity of the principal town centres of Ballymena, Carrickfergus and Larne;
- PPS6 provides guidelines in relation to Areas of Townscape or Village Character, for demolition of buildings, new development and has informed recent public realm and village renewal activities;
- PPS12 assists in the implementation of the RDS to guide the future pattern of housing by managing future housing growth and distribution, support urban renaissance and achieve balanced communities. The RDS has predicted the need for an additional, 6,400 houses for Ballymena, 3,900 for Larne and 3,700 for Carrickfergus. However, following the release of 2012 based household projections these figures are currently being reviewed by DRD. The NI Housing Executive 2015/2020 Social Housing Need Assessment identified a requirement for 935 social housing units.

The recently published Strategic Planning Policy Statement (SPPS) consolidates these separate policy publications (PPSs) into one document and sets out strategic planning policy for a wide range of planning matters. It also provides the core planning principles to underpin delivery of the two tier planning system with the primary aim of furthering sustainable development. It sets the strategic direction

for the new councils to bring forward strategic policy for their districts and detailed operational policies within future local development plans.

The Local Development Plan is a two-stage process. The first stage is the Plan Strategy and the second stage is the Local Policies Plan. Transitional arrangements for the retention of the PPSs will remain in place until the completion and adoption of the Plan Strategy, i.e. Stage 1 of the Local Development Plan, at which time these arrangements will cease to operate. During the transitional period, the Council as planning authority will apply existing policy contained within the majority of the existing PPSs together with the SPPS. Any relevant supplementary and best practice guidance will also continue to apply.

Until the Council's new Local Development Plan is in place the following extant area plans for the Borough are material considerations: Ballymena Area Plan 1986-2001, Larne Area Plan 2010 and Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan (BMAP) 2015.

The sustainable development strategy stresses the importance of creating more environmentally and economically sustainable locations to live and work in, specifically rethinking the use of town centres and brownfield sites. The strategy also identifies the role of the green economy in stimulating jobs, developing skills and the core need to sustain the voluntary and community sector through the development of social enterprises.

6.1.6 Economic Development

In common with the economic development strategies at both the European and National levels, there is recognition of the importance of enhancing productivity, innovation and exporting within the NI economy through the utilisation of a smart specialization approach i.e. focusing on key clusters/sectors in which the region has a unique strength. Mid and East Antrim has a number of such clusters including, agri-food, manufacturing and construction which can be further enhanced through the drivers of innovation, R&D and export support. Unlike other 'eastern' Councils, the area does not have a high percentage of public sector jobs, however there is an over-reliance on a small number of foreign owned manufacturing companies. Therefore, any rebalancing within the local economy must be focused on addressing a relatively weak level of business start-up and survival rates.

6.2 Summary

At the time of writing, most policy continues to take a NI/regional perspective and little if any account has been made of the new delivery powers for Councils and the pivotal role Councils will have in the Community Planning process (the latter point will be addressed in a Department for Social Development Memorandum of Understanding). However, there is a clear role for the Council in facilitating the

delivery of each of the aforementioned strategies and using its local knowledge to focus interventions where they will have maximum impact. The strategic review identifies the following priorities for the Mid and East Antrim area:

- A focus on redeveloping town centres of key settlements as places not only to shop, but also to work, live and play;
- Promoting shared use of public spaces and address the issue of proximity to services;
- Targeted interventions to address the lifetime opportunities of the most vulnerable within society by addressing constraints affecting health and educational achievement;
- A need to diversify the local economy, through three main initiatives:
- Enhancing local clusters through smart specialisation and the attraction of Foreign Direct Investment;
- Encouraging business start-ups (including social enterprises) and addressing the high business death rate; and
- Promoting the wider tourism proposition of the area.
- A need to ensure that the skillset of the (emerging) workforce reflects the needs of business.

7 EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

7.1 Introduction

This section details the results of consultations with key stakeholders and residents. The aim of the consultation was to test the validity of the initial findings derived from the desk based review (Section 5) and identify any other issues specific to the Mid and East Antrim Council area, or which have not been previously identified.

The external consultation exercise involved a number of activities:

- a) Resident Survey;
- b) Stakeholder Consultation;
- c) Community Engagement Thematic Workshops; and
- d) Themed Focus Groups.

7.2 Resident Survey

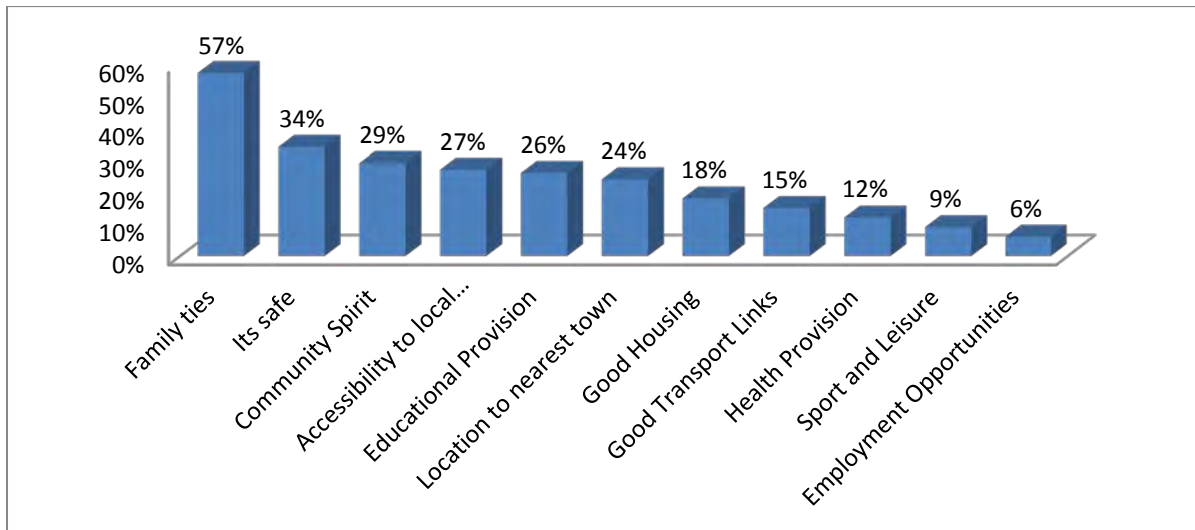
In July 2015, the new Council undertook an online survey of the views of residents. There was a total of 439 responses to the survey which covered all geographies and post primary age cohorts (See Appendix B for Survey Questions and Responses).

The key findings of the survey are summarised in the following section:

- 68% respondents stated that they were either very satisfied or satisfied with Mid and East Antrim as a place to live;
- 28% of respondents said the area was changing for the better, however 20% respondents stating that it was changing for the worse; and
- 27% of respondents stated that they were increasingly confident regarding emerging economic prospects however 42% thought local economic prospects were worsening.

Figure 7.1 identifies those issues which residents most liked about the area:

Figure 7.1: What do you like most about living in your area?

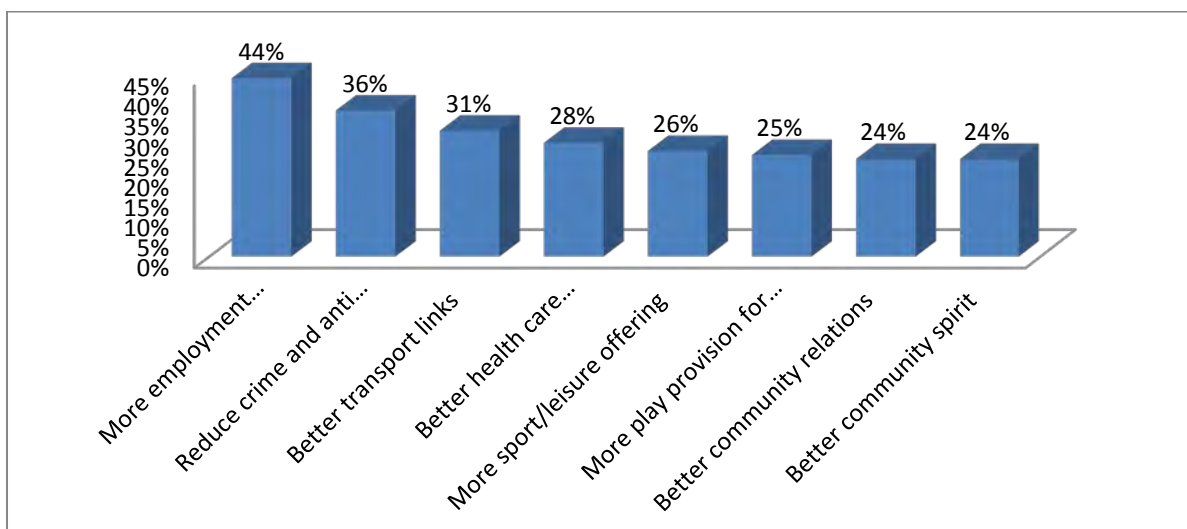


Source: Mid and East Antrim Council Area Resident's Survey 2015

Family ties are the most important determinant as to why people like living in the Council area and a review of population trends illustrates a highly stable, but maturing community who have existing ties to Mid and East Antrim. Although the area continues to be viewed externally as being economically vibrant, only 6% of respondents stated that employment opportunities were a positive factor.

Figure 7.2 identifies those issues which residents would most like to change about the area:

Figure 7.2: What, if anything, would you change about the local area to make it better?

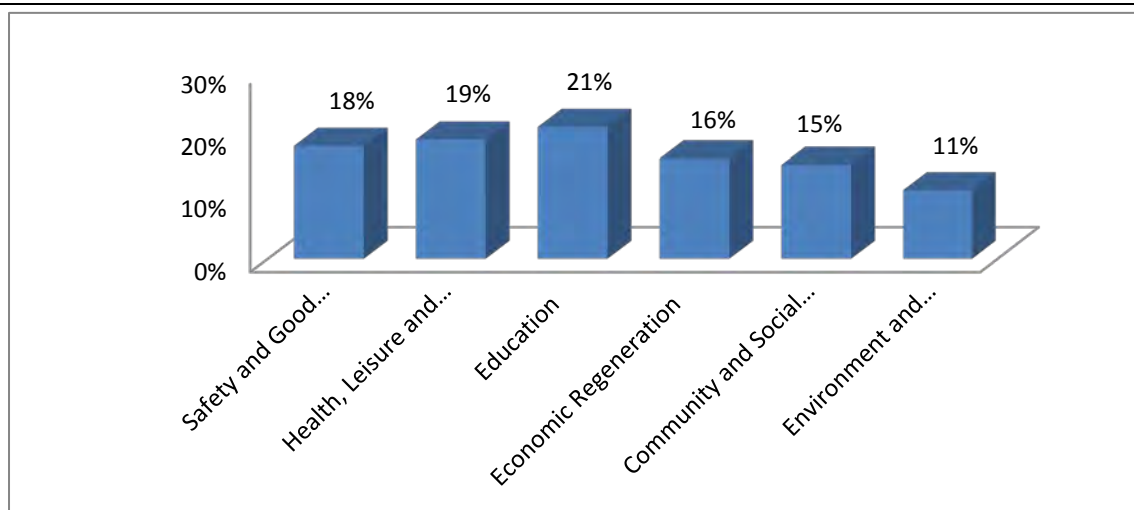


Source: Mid and East Antrim Council Area Resident's Survey 2015

Respondents most frequently reported that enhancing employment opportunities and reducing crime and anti-social behaviour would change the area for the better.

Using the Community Planning Themes, respondents were asked to identify the most important priorities for the new Council:

Figure 7.3: What is the most important priority for the Council?



Source: Mid and East Antrim Council Area Resident's Survey 2015

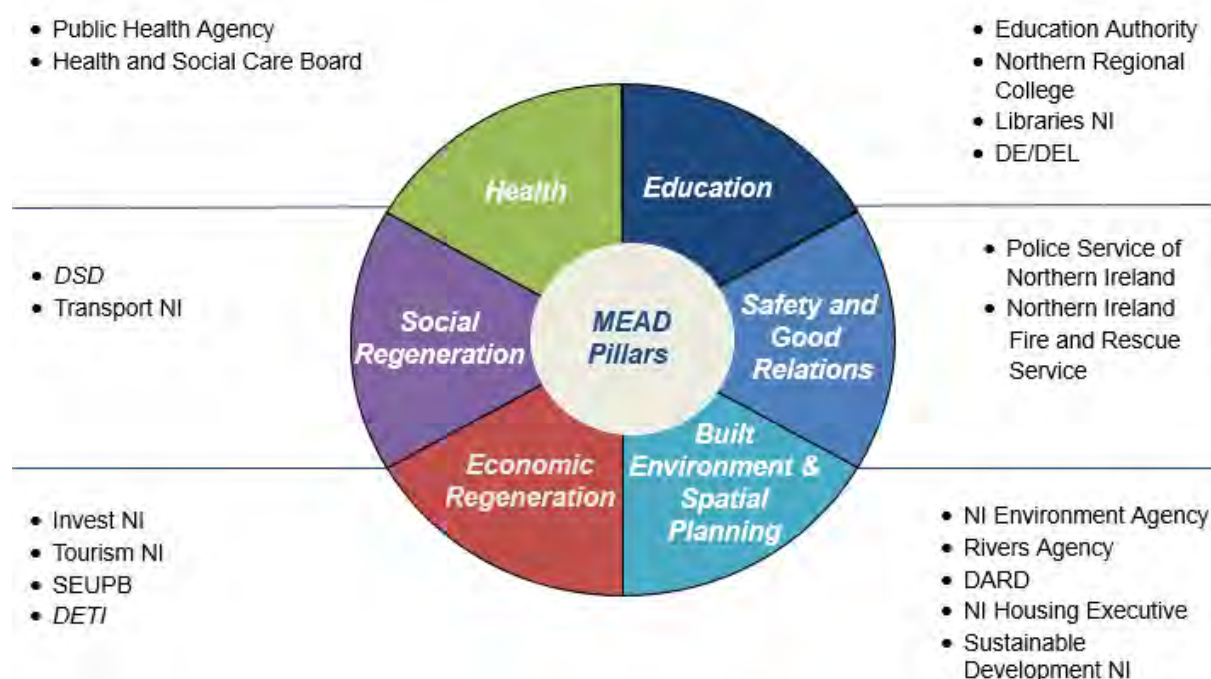
Figure 7.3 highlights that education is the most important priority for residents and reflects ongoing concerns about employment and training opportunities for young people.

7.3 Stakeholder and Community Consultation

In the following section, we compare the perceptions of Stakeholders who are outside of the area (See Figure 7.4 for list of Stakeholders) to the views of local residents (as expressed by attendees of x4 Section 75 Themed Focus Groups held by the Council in July 2015) (See Appendix C: Section 75 Focus Group Minutes).

Figure 7.4 maps each of the stakeholders against the 6 key themes for community planning:

Figure 7.4: Stakeholder Mapping



7.3.1 Interview Questions

The Stakeholder and Focus Group consultations were based on the following questions:

- What are the emerging challenges and opportunities facing the community in the Mid and East Antrim Council area over the next five years?
- What should be the key priorities for community planning in the district over the next five years?
- How should these key priorities be delivered? Is there a need for new delivery mechanisms?

7.3.2 Responses

The following section summarises the responses for each of the questions:

- What are the emerging challenges and opportunities facing the community in the Mid and East Antrim Council area over the next five years?

Environment	Stakeholder Perspective	Community Perspective
Concerns over the number of void commercial premises in town centres,	X	X

Environment	Stakeholder Perspective	Community Perspective
potential to diversify use by the community/voluntary sector		
Weak powers to deal with long term derelict properties. Very difficult to establish ownership of some properties and then to know what to do with that property	X	X
Provision of facilities and amenities for rural areas to be taken into consideration when planning applications are made	X	X
Need for protection of green countryside areas;	X	X
Village renewal schemes must provide an opportunity to improve the look and feel of the wider community and not just the centres of the important towns	X	
No major infrastructural investment into the area	X	
Principal (Central Government) health and education investment has been undertaken out-with of the Council area	X	
Need more sheltered accommodation, particularly in rural communities		X
More social housing, particularly in smaller settlements	X	X
Parking in town centres needs to be enhanced		X

Safety and Good Relations	Stakeholder Perspective	Community Perspective
Community tensions- a perceived rise in paramilitary activity in a number of estates	X	X

Community tensions- a perceived rise in racial incidents	X	X
Need for greater education and police crackdown on drugs (concern over distribution of legal highs)		X
Fear of crime, most evident amongst the elderly and women. Highest incidence of fear is at home and at night	X	X
Issues of rural crime and feeling of isolation	X	X
Build community infrastructure. There is a fear/lack of trust between groups and leaders. More partnerships are needed	X	
Opportunity to build on good practice in relation to cluster approach to community development (in particular ethnic forum approach)	X	
Recognise community development successes and hold celebration awards events. Also a good networking opportunity and can change perceptions of areas	X	X
Promotion of civic leadership		X

Health, Leisure and Well-being	Stakeholder Perspective	Community Perspective
Principal hospitals are out with of the Council area, there are continuing issues related to access to services	X	X
Perceptions of increased suicide in area. Need for emotional health and well-being support for young people	X	X
High incidence of mental health problems and feeling isolation	X	X
Potential to use more community based/out of hours health care solutions	X	X

Community and Social Regeneration	Stakeholder Perspective	Community Perspective
Continued need to develop the social capital/community capacity of groups and communities. Introduce/expand the community cluster model	X	
Need to ensure the integration of Council services across the new geographical area	X	
Need to consult with relevant communities to assess community provision ahead of any large scale physical development	X	X
High number of under-utilised premises/facilities, particularly in town centres and factory closures	X	X
Issues of rural exclusion, particularly in relation to 'Not Spots' and 'access to services'	X	X
Personal transport issues affect access to services. A situation exacerbated by core education and health provision being out-with of the Council area	X	X
Hidden deprivation, particularly in mature privately owned residential estates	X	
High incidence of homes assessed as being unfit	X	
Social exclusion, exacerbated by negative perceptions of estates: Lack of civic pride in certain areas	X	X
Relatively dispersed (rural isolation) settlements mean official statistics may underreport extent of deprivation in area		X
Need for greater engagement with elected officials: Councils need to engage not just at election time		X

More intergenerational work needs to be done within the area	X	
Appears to be a lot of duplication of community groups who are rather small, need to amalgamate and publicise them better.		X
Enhanced signposting of community support.	X	X

Economic Regeneration	Stakeholder Perspective	Community Perspective
Good tradition of manufacturing.	X	
Need to encourage more foreign direct investment to the area	X	X
There is limited support to attract foreign direct investment to the area: i.e. shortage of development space and identification of the area's unique selling point	X	
High GVA (a number of world class companies) opportunities for knowledge exchange/supply chain diversification	X	
Low level of business start-up and comparatively small business bases	X	
Continuing problems of loss population from rural areas (in particular youth migration)	X	X
Low farm prices hit wider rural economy	X	X
Need to address the impact of large scale job losses, by promoting entrepreneurship and foreign direct investment	X	X
Need for more business growth workspace, flexible planning and use of vacant land for enterprise. Develop sites from large scale closures into business incubators and sites for inward investment	X	
Need to develop the entire east coast of County Antrim as a tourism entity	X	X

Economic Regeneration	Stakeholder Perspective	Community Perspective
Possible opportunity for themed tourism trails, develop sea fronts and maximise the benefits arising from the Game of Thrones; and	X	X
Opportunity to develop an Integrated East Coast Tourism Proposition	X	X
Problem of matching the demands of businesses with the skillsets of young people		X
Fewer job opportunities for younger males		X
Increase in informal working (i.e. employing under 16s and pension age people)		X

Education	Stakeholder Perspective	Community Perspective
Significant proportion of school leavers with no or low qualifications;	X	X
Potential skills mismatch due to reduction of entry level jobs	X	X
Intergenerational underperformance prevalent in specific communities;	X	
Deliver foundation degrees in non-academic subjects;	X	
Business in the community style programmes to mentor entrepreneurship;	X	
Think smarter and consider the other models (e.g. Ayrshire Model);	X	
Address the lack of rural transport to schools;	X	X
More integrated posts for post primary schools	X	

Education	Stakeholder Perspective	Community Perspective
Community schools: use of facilities for weekend, evening and summer holidays.	X	X
Better use could be made of the libraries to promote non vocational/community led learning	X	
There is no specialist help for young people dealing with mental health issues.		X
Need for review of school placement policy for migrant children (More support for teachers and children)		X
Shortage of English lessons for parents at convenient times		X
Problems of accessibility for further education for young people in smaller settlements		X

In most instances the views of external stakeholders and the local community were in agreement, where variances occurred can be attributable to one of two reasons:

1. External Stakeholders identified a technical constraint to delivery of a service/missed target; and
2. Local community identified an issue which was specific to a specific community and therefore does not 'show' on official statistics.

The following solely relate to the findings of the Stakeholder Consultation exercise:

What should be the key priorities for community planning in the district over the next five years?

1. A focus on integrating Council delivery;
2. A focus on redeveloping town centers of key settlements as places not only to shop, but also to work, live and play;
3. Promoting shared use of public spaces and address the issue of proximity to services;
4. Need to address negative perceptions of particular communities in the Council area in relation to specific issues (sectarianism and drug abuse);

5. Need to ensure the roll out of the community clusters approach, which provides bottom up solutions and can augment the delivery of community planning;
6. Need to ensure that the rural perspective is considered in all policy decisions, in particular:
 - a) Addressing rural crime and isolation;
 - b) Need to preserve the open countryside;
 - c) Addressing decline in population (particularly amongst the young); and
 - d) Low farm prices impacting the wider rural economy.
7. Targeted interventions to address the lifetime opportunities of the most vulnerable within society by addressing constraints affecting health and educational achievement;
8. A need to diversify the local economy, through three main initiatives:
 - a) Enhancing local clusters through smart specialisation and the attraction of Foreign Direct Investment;
 - b) Encouraging business start-ups (including social enterprises) and addressing the high business death rate; and
 - c) Promoting the wider tourism proposition of the area.
9. A need to ensure that the skillset of the (emerging) workforce reflects the needs of business; and
10. A need to ensure there is sufficient business space for local companies and inward investment.

How should these key priorities be delivered? Is there a need for new delivery mechanisms?

1. There is a recognition that a joined up approach to delivery is essential but brings with it significant potential for policy overlap;
2. Uncertainty around roles and responsibilities of new/existing Government Departments. There should also be an opportunity to involve a wider selection of Department/Agencies in community planning so as to reflect local needs/opportunities;
3. Need to 'rural proof' any community plan, particularly the case where there is a perceived urban 'bias'. Rural issues should be considered as a cross cutting theme (i.e. involved in delivery);
4. There are challenges with working across new geographies, as Larne has traditionally worked with Moyle, Carrickfergus with Newtownabbey and Ballymena with Ballymoney and Coleraine;
5. Need to ensure 'buy-in' for community planning through enhanced partnership working and community empowerment: utilising where possible 'bottom up' community clusters and shared goals/performance indicators with key Government agencies. Progress must be measured;
6. Recognition of the importance by all respondents of the following issues:

- a) The level of engagement by certain partners is reflective of the particular needs in a Council area (variable geometry);
- b) Where possible, communities and Councils should consider clustering to address common strategic problems/attract funding;
- c) Council itself should have a variable role, but is principally there to provide the local perspective;
- d) Need to have a flexible (thematic) delivery structure, which allows for local and regional buy-in and involving a range of public and private partners;
- e) Need to have a clear focus on outcomes, which must reflect input of all active partners and the outcomes must be dynamic; and
- f) Need to have a senior responsible officer/lead partner for each theme.

7.4 Community Engagement: Thematic Workshop Events

Mid and East Antrim Borough Council's Community Planning Committee, through its Community Planning Directorate, organised a series of workshops facilitated by Community Places in Ballymena, Larne and Carrickfergus on 25th February, 11th March and 12th March, respectively. The quantitative responses from these thematic engagement events were collated into a report which will inform the Community Plan for the area. A copy of the report is attached to this document in Appendix D. The themes discussed at the events included:

- Education
- Built Environment and Spatial Planning
- Community and Social Regeneration
- Safety and Good Relations
- Health, Wellbeing and Leisure
- Economic Regeneration

Each event followed an identical format, asking participants the following questions:

- What is working well in your area re the specific theme?
- What is not working so well in your area re this theme?
- What are the top 3/5 priorities in your area re this theme?

Mid and East Antrim Borough Council's staff project team for Community Planning captured the discussion.

8 QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS

8.1 Introduction

In this section we assess the six themes (Environment, Safety and Good Relations, Health, Leisure and Well-being, Community and Social Regeneration, Economic Regeneration and Education) and the proposed cross cutting theme (Rural) against each of the following variables:

- The relative performance of the Council;
- National performance;
- Ward specific analysis;
- Any local constraints/opportunities highlighted by the statistics and which are not reflected in National/Regional Policy Development

8.2 Safety and Good Relations

Table 8.1: NI, MEABC and Ward Level Analysis of Safety and Good Relations

Indicator	NI	MEABC	Ward Range	Ward Analysis
<i>Safety & Good Relations</i>				
Total Road Casualties (2015)	9,737	587	0 – 40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Craigywarren is the ward with the highest rate of Road Casualties (40); ▪ Criagy Hill, Blackcave and Blackhead all reported 0.
Road Casualties per 10,000 (2015)	52.9	43.0	0 – 153.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Craigywarren is the ward with the highest rate of Road Casualties per 10,000 population (153.7); • Criagy Hill, Blackcave and Blackhead all reported 0 casualties per 10,000 population.
% Change in road casualties (2013-2015)	6.0%	3.5%	-100% - 500%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blackhead and Craigy Hill wards achieved a 100% reduction in road casualties from 2014-2015; • Clipperstown recorded the highest increase at 500% (0-5 casualties).
Total Road Collisions (2015)	6,147	370	0 – 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Criagy Hill, Blackcave and Blackhead all reported 0.0 collisions; • Killycrot ward reported the highest collision total of 24.
Road Collisions per 10,000 (2015)	33.4	27.08	0 – 92.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Criagy Hill, Blackcave and Blackhead all reported 0; • The highest rate per 10,000 population was recorded in the Castle Demense ward, (92.1).

Total Recorded Crimes (2014)	105,072	5,793	1,389 - 2,972	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Larne reported the fewest recorded crimes (1,389); Ballymena recorded the most (2,972).
Violence against the person, sexual offences & robbery (2014)	36.1%	35.9%	34.4% - 39.1%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ballymena recorded the lowest percentage of violence against the person crimes at 34.4%; Carrickfergus reported the highest rate at 39.1%.
Criminal Damage Offences (2014)	18.9%	20.1%	19.2% - 22.1%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ballymena reported the lowest percentage of criminal damage offences (19.2%); Carrickfergus reported the highest (22.1%).
Drug Offences (2014)	4.8%	4.6%	3.2% - 5.5%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Larne reported the fewest drug offences 3.2%; Ballymena reported the highest 5.5%.
Total Hate Crime Offences (2014)	2,173	90	10 - 62	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ballymena reported the highest number of Hate crimes (62); Carrickfergus reported the fewest (10).

Source - NINIS: Road Traffic Collision Casualties by Severity of Injury (administrative geographies); Recorded Crime (administrative geographies)

Note: Ward Range Crime Statistics are figures compiled for PSNI Areas; Ballymena, Carrickfergus and Larne as ward specific data was not available.

Key points to note:

- In every indicator (except Criminal Damages) the MEABC performance was better than the NI average,
- Of particular note was the 3.5% increase in road casualties (fatalities and serious injuries) from 2013 to 2015 in MEABC;
- This compares to a wider NI average which increased by 6.0% over the same period.

The findings run counter to perception surveys of residents/visitors and stakeholders⁶ who believe that urban areas within Mid and East Antrim Council area have a significantly higher crime (in particular hate crime) than NI as a whole.

The following information provided by Women's Aid, augments official statistics related to domestic violence produced by PSNI. In the last five years, Women's Aid has received the following total referrals for support to address domestic violence in Mid and East Antrim (including Coleraine and Antrim):

- 409 referrals from Children's Services NHSCT
- 518 referrals from Health Services which include Mental Health and Older People's Services
- 362 referrals from PSNI and 101 from MARAC
- 60 referrals from NIHE
- 23 referrals from PBNi
- 1496 self-referrals

In common with other Council areas, reported incidences of domestic violence (particularly against women) are on the increase.

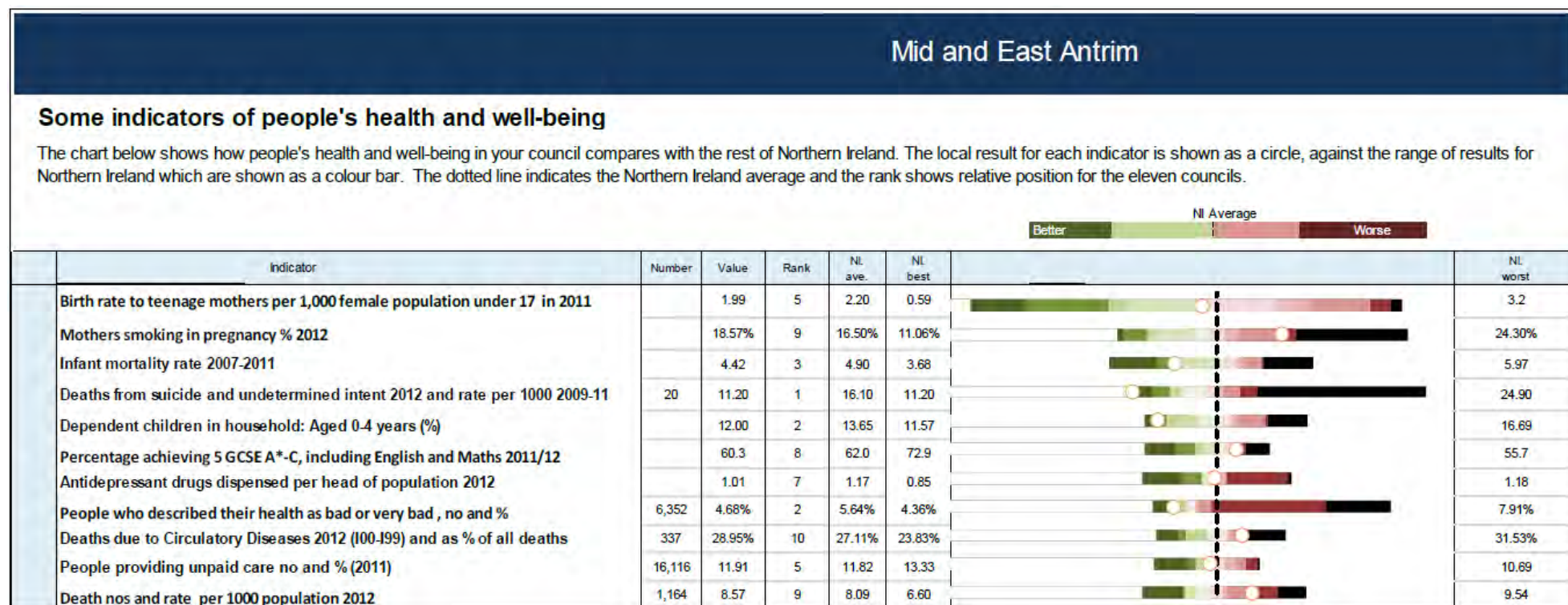
8.3 Health, Leisure and Well-being

8.3.1 Health and Lifestyle Profile

Figure 8.1 compares the performance of Mid and East Antrim to a number of key health performance indicators for NI.

⁶ Anecdotal evidence from Ballymena Inter-Ethnic Forum and the local PSNI confirmed that there is an under-reporting of racist hate crime in the area.

Figure 8.1: Indicators of people's health and well-being



Source: Public Health Agency and NISRA: Investing For Health Statistics: 2015

Table 8.2: NI, MEABC and Ward Level Analysis of Health, Leisure and Well- Being

Indicator	NI
<i>Health, Leisure & Well-Being</i>	
Median age at death (2014)	80
Deaths to under 75s (2014)	36.3%
Deaths due to malignant neoplasms (2014)	29.5%
Deaths due to circulatory diseases (2014)	25.3%
Deaths due to respiratory diseases (2014)	13.7%

Source: NINIS: Median Age at Death (administrative geographies); Deaths (administrative geographies); Public Health Agency and NISRA: Investing for Health Statistics: 2015

Key Points:

- MEABC performed better than the National average in most regards, except for deaths due to circulatory and respiratory diseases.
- Performance within wards however varied significantly, and key areas of concern are:
 - Ballykeel 80% rate of deaths to under 75s
 - Northland and Carncastle deaths due to malignant neoplasms is at 50%
 - Burleigh Hill deaths due to circulatory diseases is at 58.3%.
 - Whitehead deaths due to respiratory diseases is at 33.3%.
- These wards are significantly underperforming the National and MEABC average.

As noted above, Mid and East Antrim is 10th out of the eleven Councils in terms of deaths due to circulatory diseases, in addition the Council is in 9th position in relation to the number of deaths per 1,000 population.

However, the Council area is in the top quartile in NI in relation to:

- Lowest level of deaths from suicide;
- People who described their health as bad;
- Dependent children in household between ages of 0-4; and
- Infant mortality rate.

8.4 Education

Table 8.3: NI, MEABC and Ward Level Analysis of Education Performance

Indicator	NI	MEABC	Ward Range	Ward Analysis
Education				
% of working age population with no qualifications (2015)	16.5%	16.5%	15.1% - 49.7%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knockagh reported the lowest percentage at 15.1%; Ballee reported the highest percentage at 49.7%. <i>(based on 2011 census data)</i>
% qualified below NVQ Level 4 (2015)	53.6%	57.5%	34.5% - 55.5%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Castle Demense reported the lowest at 34.5%; Eden reported the highest percentage at 55.5%. <i>(based on 2011 census data)</i>
% of working age population qualified to NVQ Level 4+ (2015)	29.9%	26%	6.7% - 39.3%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ballee reported the lowest percentage at 6.7%; Knockagh reported the highest

				percentage at 39.3%. (based on 2011 census data)
Special Educational Needs Pupils (2014)	5,065	385	0 - 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multiple wards reported 0 enrolments; Eden reported the highest number of Enrolments at 20.
FE Professional & Technical Enrolments (2014)	269.4	143.93	68 - 317	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whitehead reported the fewest enrolments 68; Kilwaughter reported the most 317.
Full time enrolments (2014)	18.9%	19.4%	8.9% - 30.4%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Castle Demense reported the lowest 8.9%; Love Lane reported the highest 30.4%.
Part time enrolments (2014)	81.1%	80.6%	69.6% - 91.1%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Love Lane reported the lowest 69.6%; Castle Demense reported the highest 91.1%.

Further Education Achievements (2014)	173.9	88.04	44 - 213	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Antiville reported the least 44; Eden reported the highest number of achievements at 213.
---------------------------------------	-------	-------	----------	--

Source: NINIS: Qualifications and Students: KS501NI (administrative geographies); Further Education Regulated Enrolments (administrative geographies); Further Education Achievements (administrative geographies); Special Schools (administrative geographies)

Key points to note:

- In most indicators Mid and East Antrim underperformed the NI average, (except the % of full time Further Education Professional & Technical Enrolments);
- MEABC significantly underperforms the national level with regards to Further Education Enrollments and Achievements.
- Of particular note is the percentage of the working age population in Ballee with no qualifications is at 49.7% which is significantly higher than both the national and MEABC average of 16.5%.

These findings correspond with Stakeholder feedback and the policy review which highlight the link between areas of deprivation and low educational achievement, particularly in the Protestant, Unionist and Loyalist communities in the main urban areas.

The overall level of educational achievement is lower than the NI average (which in itself is negatively skewed by the impact of Belfast).

8.5 Economic Regeneration

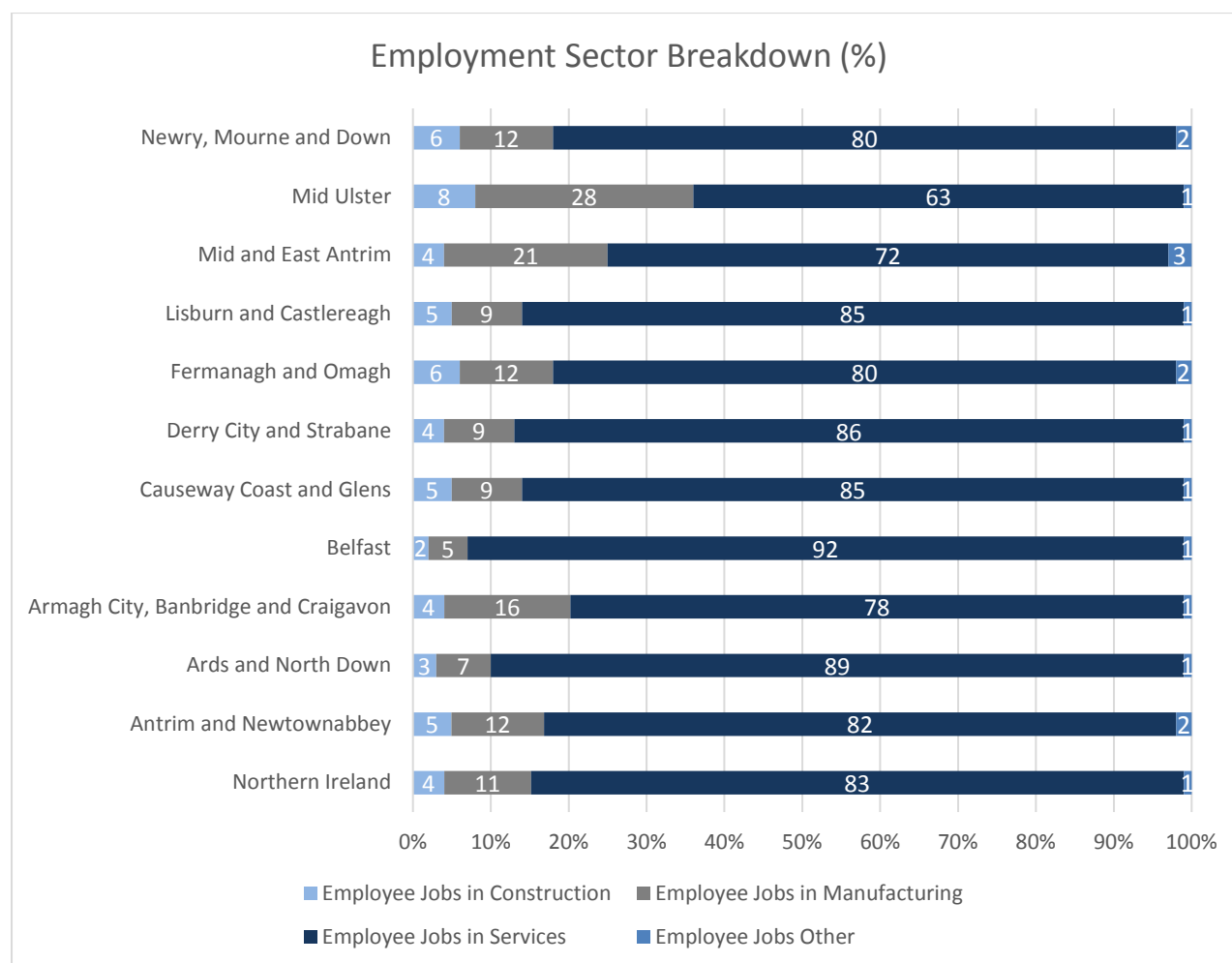
The following section provides a high level profile of the relative economic competitiveness of the Mid and East Antrim Council area compared to the NI average.

Table 8.4: Labour Market Composition

2013									
LGD2014	Employee Jobs in Construction	%	Employee Jobs in Manufacturing	%	Employee Jobs in Services	%	Employee Jobs Other	%	Total Employee Jobs
Northern Ireland	29,382	4%	75,031	11%	577,389	83%	9,699	1%	691,501
Antrim and Newtownabbey	2,562	5%	6,407	12%	45,187	82%	923	2%	55,079
Ards and North Down	1,182	3%	2,542	7%	32,967	89%	352	1%	37,044
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	3,039	4%	10,749	16%	53,260	78%	956	1%	68,004
Belfast	4,860	2%	9,890	5%	193,488	92%	2,185	1%	210,424
Causeway Coast and Glens	2,150	5%	3,519	9%	33,291	85%	373	1%	39,333
Derry City and Strabane	1,897	4%	4,616	9%	43,197	86%	543	1%	50,253
Fermanagh and Omagh	2,380	6%	4,463	12%	30,777	80%	825	2%	38,444
Lisburn and Castlereagh	2,654	5%	4,708	9%	43,549	85%	572	1%	51,483
Mid and East Antrim	1,736	4%	8,875	21%	30,668	72%	1,123	3%	42,402
Mid Ulster	3,808	8%	13,165	28%	30,185	63%	700	1%	47,858
Newry, Mourne and Down	3,115	6%	6,096	12%	40,819	80%	1,147	2%	51,178

Source: NINIS - Labour Market: Employee Jobs (Administrative Geographies)

Figure 8.3: Breakdown of employment by sector



Source: NINIS - Labour Market: Employee Jobs (Administrative Geographies)

Table 8.5 confirms key labour market statistics for NI and the Mid and East Antrim Council area:

Table 8.5: Labour Market Statistics

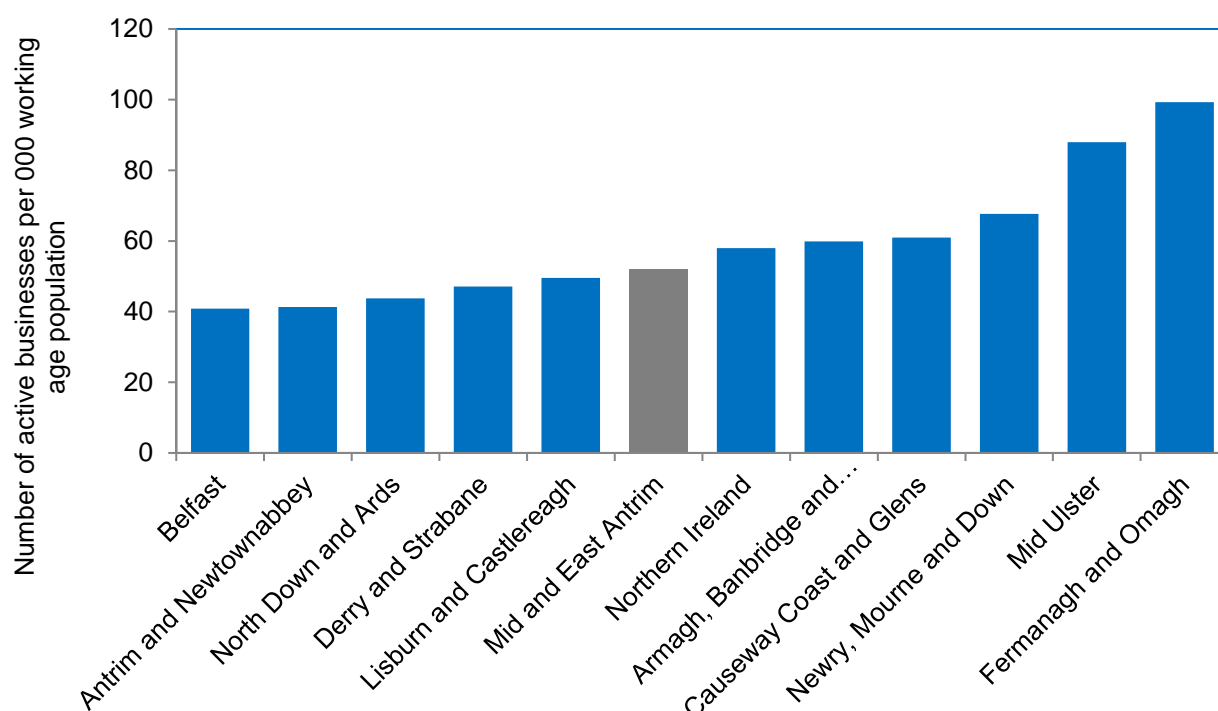
Indicator	NI Total	MEA Total
Economically active (and per 1,000 of population) (2014)	866 ,000 (482 per 1,000)	63,000 (511 per 1,000)
Full time employee (and per 1,000 of population) (2014)	614,000 (332 per 1,000)	43 ,000 (348 per 1,000)
Part time employee (and per 1,000 of population) (2014)	193,000 (114 per 1,000)	16 ,000 (103 per 1,000)
Economically inactive (and per 1,000 of population) (2014)	562 ,000 (311 per 1,000)	46,000 (281 per 1,000)
Unemployed (2014)	4.6%	3.7%

Indicator	NI Total	MEA Total
Average Weekly Wage (2015)	£442.9	£446

Source: NINIS - Labour Market: Economic Activity and Qualifications (administrative geographies)

The following table illustrates the comparative business density (number of firms per 1,000 of population) of the Mid and East Antrim Council area to both the NI average and the other councils:

Figure 8.4: Business Density



Source: DETI Economic Commentary 2015

Key issues arising:

- There is a high proportion of well-paid semi-skilled/entry level jobs in the manufacturing and construction sector, but construction only accounts for 4% of jobs in MEA;
- There is a degree of under-representation in employment in the services sector as only 72% of employees work in services compared to 83% nationally.

In terms of business density, the Council area is below the NI average, a position which will continue to weaken due two factors:

- A lower than average business start-up rate (6.4% compared to NI average of 7%); and
- A higher than average business death rate (9.75% compared to NI average of 9.4%).

In all labour force metrics (except jobs density), Mid and East Antrim Council area outperforms the NI average, this is principally due to a legacy of employment in the manufacturing sector.

In terms of job density (number of jobs in an area divided by the resident population aged 16-64 in that area) the Mid and East Antrim Council area has fewer resident jobs than the NI average, this may have two explanations:

- Lower business density; and
- The area is within commuting range for Belfast.

Mid and East Antrim has a twin track economy:

- 21% of the workforce employed by large (often) foreign owned manufacturing companies, employ a range of professional staff, semi-skilled and unskilled staff (usually local school leavers). Average salary and Gross Value Added (GVA) per head (i.e. productivity) is higher in Mid and East Antrim, due to the presence of this small number of high paying companies; and
- Remaining workforce are employed in sectors which have the following characteristics: small indigenously companies, comparatively low wages, perceived low requirement for skilled personnel and low level of Business Expenditure on Research and Development (BERD).

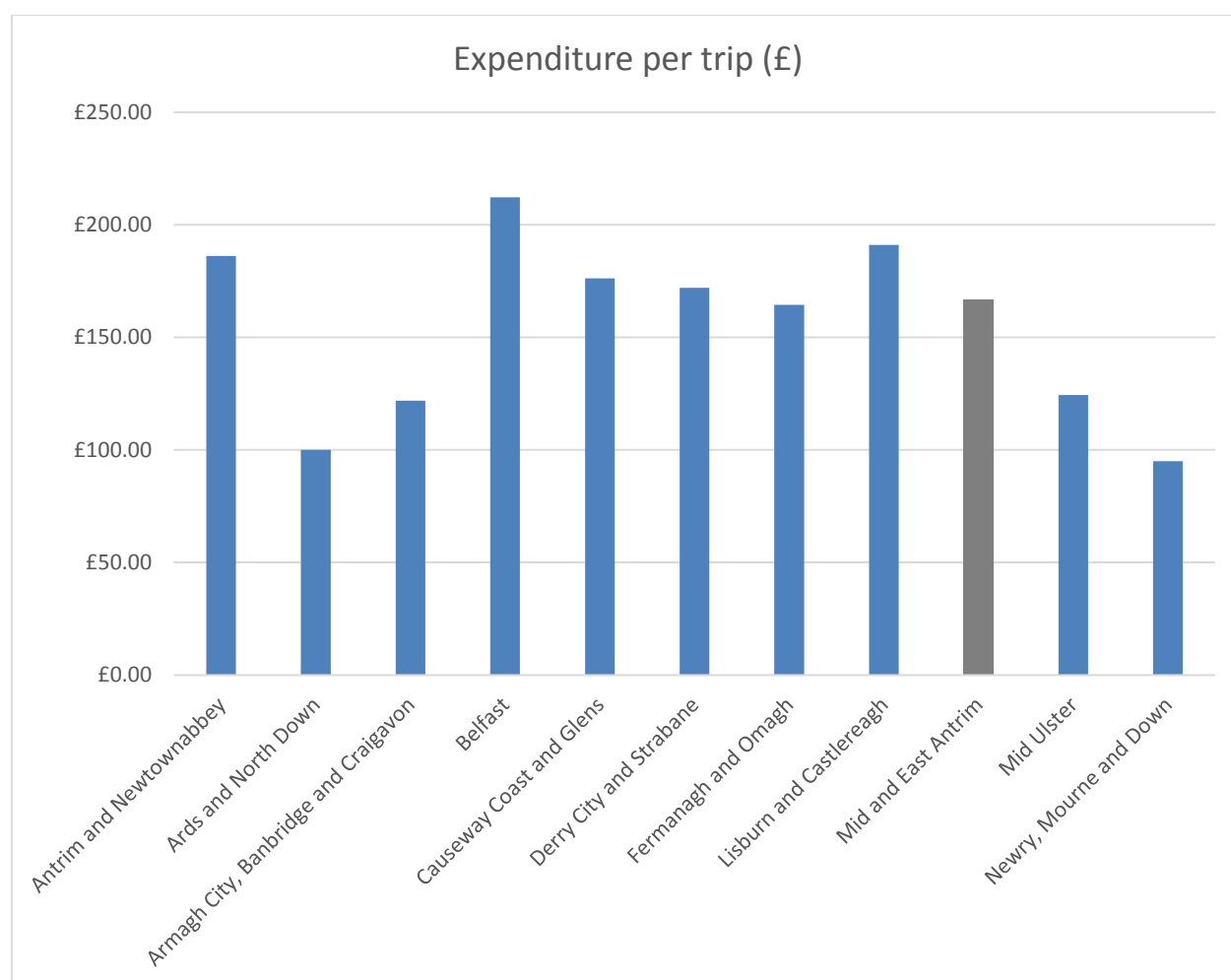
8.5.1 Tourism Profile

Table 8.6: Tourism performance of MEABC

Local Government District	2014		
	Trips by all visitors	Expenditure for all visitors (£)	Expenditure per trip (£)
Belfast	1,166,224	£247,497,836	£212
Causeway Coast and Glens	756,564	£133,288,227	£191
Newry, Mourne and Down	571,175	£54,282,767	£186
Ards and North Down	442,943	£44,333,737	£176
Fermanagh and Omagh	387,703	£63,748,956	£172
Mid and East Antrim	322,107	£53,784,132	£167
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	231,999	£28,279,314	£164
Derry City and Strabane	230,961	£39,738,714	£124
Mid Ulster	213,740	£26,589,691	£122
Antrim and Newtownabbey	199,940	£37,224,267	£100
Lisburn and Castlereagh	117,625	£22,470,853	£95

Source: NINIS - Tourism Statistics (administrative geographies) 2014

Figure 8.5: Expenditure per trip



Source: NINIS - Tourism Statistics (administrative geographies) 2014

Key Points:

- Mid & East Antrim ranks 6th out of 11 in terms of total number of visitor trips with 322,107 visits.
- Mid & East Antrim ranks 5th out of 11 in terms of total expenditure for all visitors to the region with £53,784,132.
- Mid & East Antrim ranks 6th out of 11 in terms of average expenditure per trip at £167.

8.6 Community and Social Regeneration

Table 8.7: NI, MEABC and Ward Level Analysis of Community and Social Regeneration

Indicator	NI
<i>Community and Social Regeneration</i>	
Disability Living Allowance Recipients (2014)*	337.6
DLA Recipients: Male (2014)*	163.1
DLA Recipients: Female (2014)*	174.5
Housing Benefit Recipients (2014)*	279.7
Fuel Poverty (2009)	44%
*Average per ward	

Source: NINIS: Housing Benefit Claimants (administrative geographies; Disability Living Allowance Recipients (administrative geographies)

Key points to note:

- In every indicator the MEABC performance was significantly better than the NI average;
- Disability Living Allowance Recipients and Housing Benefit Recipients were significantly fewer;
- Within ward level however there is cause for concern:
 - Kilcrotty reported 390 recipients of DLA, significantly greater than the MEABC average
 - Kilcrotty reported 470 of Housing Benefit recipients, significantly greater than the MEABC and NI averages.
- MEABC Fuel Poverty rate was in line with the national average, ward level data was unavailable.

8.7 Environment and Spatial Planning

Table 8.8: NI, MEABC and Ward Level Analysis of Environment and Spatial Planning

Indicator	NI	MEABC	Ward Range	Ward Analysis
<i>Environment</i>				
Owner Occupied Housing (2011)	67.5%	72.2%	40.3% - 91.9%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Castle Demense reported the lowest percentage of owner occupied housing (40.3%); The highest (91.9%) was reported by Bluefield.
Socially Rented Housing (2011)	14.9%	11.8%	0.5% - 47%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ballyloughan reported the lowest percentage of socially rented housing 0.5%; The highest 47% was reported by Ballee.
Privately Rented Housing (2011)	15.1%	13.5%	4.1% - 32.1%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Burleigh Hill reported the lowest percentage of privately rented housing at 4.1%; the highest was reported by Castle Demense at 32.1%
Lives rent free (2011)	2.5%	2.4%	0.8% - 4.3%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summerfield reported the lowest percentage at 0.8%; The highest was reported by Portglenone (4.3%).
One Person Household (2011)	27.9%	27.4%	16.2% - 51.4%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bluefield reported the lowest at 16.2%; Killycrot reported the highest level at 51.4%.
One Family Household (2011)	64.7%	67.1%	42.3% - 79.9%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Castle Demense reported the fewest at 42.3%; Bluefield reported the highest level at 79.9%.

Indicator	NI	MEABC	Ward Range	Ward Analysis
Lone Parent Household (2011)	14.3%	13.1%	7.1% - 26.1%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Academy reported the lowest rate at 7.1%; Northland reported the highest at 26.1%.
65+ Households (2011)	18.2%	20.2%	9.8% - 33.5%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kilwaughter reported the lowest level at 9.8%; Gardenmore reported the highest at 33.5%.
No cars or vans in household (2011)	22.7%	19.5%	4.5% - 48.3%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slemish reported the lowest rate at 4.5%; Central reports the highest percentage at 48.3%.
1 car or van in household (2011)	41.4%	41.7%	29.1% - 50.1%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Glenwhirry reported the lowest at 29.1%; Harbour reported the highest rate at 50.1%.
2 or more cars or vans in household (2011)	35.9%	38.9%	9.4% - 65.6%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Castle Demense reported the lowest percentage at 9.4%; Glenwhirry reported the highest rate of 65.6%.

Source: Census 2011

Key points to note:

- In every indicator, the MEABC performance was in line with the NI average, however:
- Mid and East Antrim has a higher proportion of owner occupied households than NI;
- Higher percentage of households with 2 or more vehicles; and
- Fewer single parent households.
- At ward level key areas of concern surround:
 - Percentage of Owner Occupied Housing in Castle Demense is 40.3% significantly lower than NI and MEABC average.
 - Lone Parent Households in Northland is 26.1%, significantly higher than both the NI and MEABC average.

Stakeholder feedback and the results of the strategic review state that there are concentrations of poor housing stock across the Mid and East Antrim area, however, it has not been possible to undertake a review of housing condition at a ward level.

8.8 Rural

The following section provides an overview of the rural composition of the local economy:

Rural Population: The estimated rural population in Mid & East Antrim is 53,467, as calculated by NINIS – LGD 2014: Usually Resident Population and Households classified according to Urban and Rural definitions (2015). This 53,467 rural population represents 40% of the total population of MEABC, (60% are therefore urban). Mid and East Antrim ranks 6th out of 11 Council areas, in terms of both; total rural population numbers and rural population as a percentage of total population.

Number of farms: Combined total of 1,750⁷. 1,132 in Ballymena, 92 in Carrickfergus and 526 in Larne. This represents the 7.23% of the 24,282 registered farms in NI;

VAT Registered Businesses: In Mid & East Antrim, the number of VAT registered businesses was 4,465⁸, 6.59% of the Northern Ireland total, placing Mid & East Antrim 8th amongst the 11 LGD2014 Council areas;

VAT Registered Farms: It is estimated that there are 982 VAT registered farms⁹ in Mid and East Antrim;

Start a Business Approvals per 10,000: There were 265 business births in Mid & East Antrim in 2013, which is 5.5% of the total business births in Northern Ireland in 2013.

Rural Service Deprivation: All of the rural Super Output Areas (SOAs) in Mid and East Antrim are classified as being in the top 50% of the most service deprived SOAs in NI.

Although the area has higher than the NI proportion of rural population and businesses, the new Council area is still predominantly urban. There is consequently a need to ensure that the distinct rural voice across the 23 Super Output Areas is

⁷ Agricultural Census 2014.

⁸ Data from the Inter Departmental Business Register reports the total number of VAT registered businesses in Northern Ireland in March 2014 stood at 67,710. In Mid & East Antrim, the number of VAT registered businesses was 4,465, 6.59% of the Northern Ireland total, placing Mid & East Antrim 8th amongst the 11 LGD2014 Council areas.

⁹ According to statistics published by the Department for Business Innovation and Skills in November 2014, there are 17,870 businesses in the Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing sector. Of that 17,870, there are 13,585 which indicate having no employees and being VAT registered. 13,585 is therefore the estimate for total VAT registered farms in Northern Ireland. Mid & East Antrim have 1,750 farms, 7.23% of the Northern Ireland total. The estimate for VAT registered farms in Mid & East Antrim is 982 (7.23% X 13,585).

heard, (Ahoghill 1, Ahoghill 2, Broughshane 1, Broughshane 2, Craigywarren, Cullybackey, Dunminning, Glenravel, Glenwhirry, Grange, Kells 1, Kells 2, Portglenone 1, Portglenone 2, Slemish, Blackhead, Whitehead, Ballycarry, Carnlough, Glenarm, Glynn, Islandmagee, and Kilwaughter 2).

8.9 Summary

The quantitative review of NI and Council level statistics has illustrated the following:

Against all Community Planning themes, except education, the Council is either close to the NI average or outperforms it.

The crime findings run counter to perception surveys of residents/visitors and stakeholders who believe the urban areas within Mid and East Antrim Council area have a significantly higher crime (in particular hate crime) than NI as a whole;

Although the area has higher than the NI proportion of rural population and businesses, the new Council area is still predominantly urban. There is consequently a need to ensure that the distinct rural voice across the 23 Super Output Areas is heard.

9 CONCLUSIONS

The previous sections have reviewed the performance of the Council and Northern Ireland from the following perspectives:

- Desk based review of strategies;
- Stakeholder consultation exercise; and
- Socio economic review of the Council.

9.1 Review of Strategies

At the time of writing, most policy continues to take a NI/regional perspective and little if any account has been made of the new delivery powers for Councils and the pivotal role Councils will have in the Community Planning process (the latter point will be addressed in a Department of Environment Memorandum of Understanding which, at the time of writing had not yet been published). However, there is a clear role for the Council in facilitating the delivery of regional strategies and using its local knowledge to focus interventions where they will have maximum impact.

The strategic review identifies the following priorities for the Mid and East Antrim area:

- A focus on redeveloping town centres of key settlements as places not only to shop, but also to work, live and play;
- Promoting shared use of public spaces and also address the issue of proximity to services;
- Targeted interventions to address the lifetime opportunities of the most vulnerable within society by addressing constraints affecting health and educational achievement;
- A need to diversify the local economy, through three principal initiatives:
 - Enhancing local clusters through smart specialisation and the attraction of Foreign Direct Investment;
 - Encouraging business start-ups (including social enterprises) and addressing the high business death rate; and
 - Promoting the wider tourism proposition of the area.
- A need to ensure that the skillset of the (emerging) workforce reflects the needs of business.

9.2 Stakeholder and Community Consultation

The Stakeholder and Community Consultation exercise identified the following issues related to the implementation of community planning:

- Need to 'rural proof' any community plan, particularly the case where there is a perceived urban 'bias';
- There are challenges with working across new geographies, as Larne has traditionally worked with Moyle, Carrickfergus with Newtownabbey and Ballymena with Ballymoney and Coleraine;
- Need to ensure 'buy-in' for community planning through enhanced partnership working and community empowerment: utilising where possible 'bottom up' community clusters and shared goals/performance indicators with key Government Agencies. Progress must be measured;
- Recognition of the importance by all respondents of the following issues:
- The level of engagement by certain partners is reflective of the particular needs in a Council area (variable geometry);
- Where possible, Councils should consider clustering to address common strategic problems/attract funding;
- Council itself should have a variable role, but is principally there to provide the local perspective;
- Need to have a flexible (thematic) delivery structure, which allows for local and regional buy-in and involving a range of public and private partners;
- Need to have a clear focus on outcomes, which must reflect input of all active partners and the outcomes must be dynamic; and
- Need to have a senior responsible officer/lead partner for each theme.

9.3 Socio Economic Review of the Council

The Council is either close to the NI average or outperforms against five of the six community planning themes, the exception being education, where skills levels amongst school leavers and the wider workforce are slightly below the NI average. As would be expected, there is a greater variance between the performance of individual wards within the Council, than between the Council and wider NI performance. Although there are a significant number of wards which continue to outperform the NI average, there are a small number of wards which significantly underperform against a number of variables. Underperforming wards include:

- Ballykeel (Health, Leisure and Wellbeing);
- Ballee (Education);
- Castle Demesne (Housing), and;
- Kilcrotty (Community and Social Regeneration)

The socio economic review has reaffirmed all of the issues identified at the strategic review and stakeholder consultation stages, but has identified a small number of wards where there is a discernible concentration of multiple need.

9.4 Emerging Issues

The review has identified the following issues which may inform any subsequent community plan:

- A focus on integrating Council delivery across both the new sectors and new geographies;
- A focus on redeveloping town centres of key settlements as places not only to shop, but also to work, live and play;
- Promoting shared use of public spaces and address the issue of proximity to services;
- Need to address negative perceptions of particular communities in the Council area in relation to specific issues (sectarianism and drug abuse);
- Need to ensure that the rural perspective is considered in all policy decisions, in particular:
 - Addressing rural crime and isolation;
 - Need to preserve the open countryside;
 - Addressing the decline in population (particularly amongst the young); and
 - Low farm prices impacting the wider rural economy.
- Need to ensure the roll out of the community clusters approach, which provides 'bottom up' solutions and can augment the delivery of community planning;
- Targeted interventions to address the lifetime opportunities of the most vulnerable within society by addressing constraints affecting health and educational achievement;
- A need to diversify the local economy, through three main initiatives:
- Enhancing local clusters through smart specialisation and the attraction of Foreign Direct Investment;
- Encouraging business start-ups (including social enterprises) and addressing the high business death rate; and
- Promoting the wider tourism proposition of the area.
- A need to ensure that the skillset of the (emerging) workforce reflects the needs of business.

Additional issues highlighted following public consultation include:

- The impact of the loss of funding, such as the Areas at Risk Programme, will significantly affect programmes currently working within local communities tackling social deprivation.
- The Local Enterprise Agencies within the Borough, through Enterprise NI, should be considered a key stakeholder in the community planning process.

- There is an existing shortfall in further education support in the area following the withdrawal of the DEL Learner Access and Engagement Programme. Adult learners aged between 25 and 50 are particularly disadvantaged.
- The absence of high speed broadband in parts of the Borough which would need to be addressed in order to attract STEM industries.
- There is a need to plan for and deliver more and better Domiciliary Care Packages to support older people wishing to remain independent and cared for at home.
- Mental health remains a key concern within the Borough, particularly in regard to children and adolescents.
- Given the Borough has an aging population, the role of carers and their contribution to the health and wellbeing within the Borough must be acknowledged and supported, alongside the challenges faced by this section of the community.
- Awareness needs to be raised around the challenges faced by dementia sufferers and their families and how services can be improved to support them.
- Issues around child abuse need to be considered within the community plan and define ways as to how this can be identified and addressed at an early stage.
- Cognisance needs to be given to the use of volunteering as a resource for the Borough and how to encourage participation and complement the DSD 'Join In, Get Involved: Build a Better Future' Volunteering Strategy and Action Plan for Northern Ireland.

APPENDIX A: STRATEGIC REVIEW

Title	Description
NI Executive's Programme for Government (2011-2015)	<p>The PfG identifies the macro strategic priorities against which public spending are allocated in NI. The Government's over-arching aim is to build a peaceful, fair and prosperous society in Northern Ireland, with respect for the rule of law and where everyone can enjoy a better quality of life now and in years to come. To ensure that Government is clearly focused on achieving that aim, the Executive has set out in the Programme for Government (PfG) with five key strategic and interdependent priorities as follows:</p> <p>Priority 1 - Growing a Sustainable Economy and Investing in the Future;</p> <p>Priority 2 - Creating Opportunities, Tackling Disadvantage and Improving Health and Well-Being;</p> <p>Priority 3 - Protecting Our People, the Environment and Creating Safer Communities;</p> <p>Priority 4 - Building a Strong and Shared Community; and</p> <p>Priority 5 - Delivering High Quality and Efficient Public Services.</p>
Department of Regional Development (DRD): Regional Development Strategy (RDS) (2010)	<p>This (revised) Strategy sets out the framework for the spatial development for NI up to 2035. The Strategy reflects the Programme for Government approach of balanced sub-regional growth and recognises the importance of key settlements as centres for growth and investment. The eight aims of the RDS are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support strong, sustainable growth for the benefit of all parts of NI; ▪ Strengthen Belfast as the regional economic driver and Londonderry as the principal city of the North West; ▪ Support our towns, villages and rural communities to maximise their potential; ▪ Promote development which improves the health and well-being of communities; ▪ Improve connectivity to enhance the movement of people, goods, energy and information between places; ▪ Protect and enhance the environment for its own sake;

Title	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take actions to reduce our carbon footprint and facilitate adaptation to climate change; and Strengthen links between north and south, east and west, with Europe and the rest of the world.
Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD): Agri-Food Strategy (2014)	<p>Agri-Food supply chain, focused on delivering the needs of the market." Industry, Government and the wider stakeholder base, working together, will focus on the following strategic priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grow sales by 60% to £7bn; Grow employment by 15% to 115,000; Grow sales outside Northern Ireland by 75% to £4.5bn; and Grow by 60% to £1bn the total added value of products and services from local companies. <p>By 2020 our industry will have profitably grown turnover by 60% to £7bn and employment by 15% to 115,000. The industry will have been transformed into an ambitious, outward looking and globally competitive sector. At the core of this transformation will be a world-class supply chain focused on exploiting the global opportunities that we have identified in the Going for Growth Strategic Action Plan. The integrated industry will have a customer-led focus on global market growth, supported by a single marketing organisation.</p>
DARD: Rural Development Strategy 2013-2016	<p>A move towards fewer but more strategic projects aimed at enhancing the competitiveness of the farming sector; and</p> <p>Continuing to invest in ensuring the sustainability of the rural environment.</p>
DARD: Rural Proofing Paper	<p>DARD held a public consultation exercise from 3 February to 16 March 2015 on proposals related to a Rural Proofing Bill. The proposed Bill would require policy-makers to assess whether proposed policy is likely to have a different impact in rural areas compared with elsewhere. Rural Proofing will support the equitable treatment of rural dwellers by requiring their needs and the impact on rural communities to</p>

Title	Description
	be appropriately addressed in the development and delivery of policy and public services. It is hoped to introduce the Bill to the Assembly, subject to Executive approval, before the end of June 2015.
Department for Education (DE): Food in Schools Strategy	<p>The Strategy is an overarching policy advocating a ‘whole school approach’ to all food provided and consumed in schools and developing knowledge and skills in relation to healthy eating and lifestyles.</p> <p>The Strategy can only be truly effective within the context of a school that addresses personal development and emotional health and well-being and will work best when linked closely to physical education and physical activity in schools.</p>
DE: Success through Skills	<p>The Report contains twenty recommendations grouped under four ‘imperatives’:</p> <p>Imperative 1 - Business must take the lead in promoting STEM;</p> <p>Imperative 2 - The key constraints in the STEM artery must be alleviated;</p> <p>Imperative 3 - There needs to be increased flexibility in the provision of STEM education; and</p> <p>Imperative 4 - Government must better coordinate its support for STEM.</p> <p>The principal constraints to the promotion of STEM are attitudinal: i.e. attitudes of parents, children (particularly girls and boys from disadvantaged backgrounds) and employers. Interventions are aimed at addressing each of this constraints.</p>
Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment (DETI):	The NIES sets out a Vision for 2030 to have an economy ‘characterised by a sustainable and growing private sector, where a greater number of firms compete in global markets and there is growing employment and prosperity for all’.

Title	Description
NI Economic Strategy (2012)	<p>The overarching goal of the Strategy is to improve the economic competitiveness of NI. It recognises that the economy has been overly dependent on the public sector. This has constrained economic growth and contributed to a very large fiscal deficit. There is therefore a need to rebalance the NI economy by growing the private sector.</p> <p>The Economic Strategy identifies five strategic themes required to achieve this change. Three of the five themes reflect an ambition to promote smart growth. They are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Stimulate innovation, R&D and creativity; ▪ Encourage business growth; and ▪ Compete in the global economy. <p>The key objectives of the NIES include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supporting £300m investment by businesses in R&D, with at least 20% coming from SMEs; and ▪ Supporting 500 businesses to undertake R&D for the first time and secure 120 Collaborative Projects in R&D.
InnovateNI: Innovation Strategy for Northern Ireland (2014-2025)	<p>InnovateNI, the Innovation Strategy for Northern Ireland 2014-2025, seeks to expand upon and refine the priority within the Economic Strategy to 'stimulate Innovation, R&D and Creativity'. InnovateNI sets out a vision for NI, by 2025, to be recognised as an innovation hub and to be one of the UK's leading high growth, knowledge-based regions which embraces creativity and innovation at all levels of society'. One of the anticipated tangible outcomes of the InnovateNI strategy is to achieve, by 2025, expenditure of over £1.2 billion per annum on Research and Development.</p> <p>The strategy seeks to achieve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ More firms engaged in innovation;

Title	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ More companies, particularly local SMEs investing in R&D; and ▪ Enhanced creativity and design in everything we do. <p>To achieve this, actions will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase the focus on those companies who are not innovation active; ▪ Encourage more businesses to innovate and carry out R&D; ▪ Prioritise support in areas which will have the greatest potential economic impact for NI; and ▪ Use foresight activity to inform government of emerging technologies and future markets.
Invest NI Corporate Plan	<p>In the Corporate Plan, Invest NI's aim is to increase business productivity, the means by which wealth can be created for the benefit of the whole community. Invest NI's mission is: <i>"To deliver expertise and resources to accelerate the creation and growth of business committed to and capable of, being entrepreneurial, innovative and international"</i>.</p> <p>To achieve this, Invest NI's objectives are to achieve: Improved competitiveness, increased skill levels and greater entrepreneurship amongst client companies; A more positive attitude towards enterprise that stimulates increased and better quality business starts; Increased levels of research and development (R&D), innovation and commercialisation of research; A more internationally focused economy with increased value-added activities stimulating increased export sales; and Levels of new inward investment and reinvestment proportionally greater than the UK average. The range of services Invest NI offer to client companies includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Advice on strategic development (e.g. Design Development programmes, financial assistance for potential exporters); ▪ People development (e.g. mentoring support, collaborative networking programmes); ▪ Technology and Process Support (e.g. process solutions, e-business solutions);

Title	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Technical and Sustainable Development (e.g. energy advice, environmental advice); ▪ Research and Development (e.g. knowledge transfer, industrial research); and ▪ Passport to Export (e.g. Market visits, Market research and advice). <p>In terms of enterprise and local economic development, Invest NI recognises the importance of SMEs to the economy, and consequently aims to work closely with DETI in developing an Enterprise Framework to map the wide range of support available to businesses across central and local government. This Framework will help set the direction of an Enterprise Strategy which will enable Invest NI, over time, to concentrate its efforts on innovative entrepreneurship and growing NI based SMEs with an export focus.</p>
Social Economy Strategy (2010-2011)	<p>In 2012 DETI funded a social enterprise programme which had the following aims:</p> <p>The aims of the work programme are aligned with Government strategies and setting out the mechanisms in which the Social Enterprise sector will contribute to redressing and rebalancing the economy for Northern Ireland.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote and raise awareness of the social economy sector across Northern Ireland and provide the impetus for collaboration to ensure the collective weight and capacity of the social economy sector and broader third sector are realized; ▪ Represent the collective interests of the social economy sector; ▪ Promote best practice both within the sector and about the sector; ▪ Communicate and promote the full breadth of existing support programmes/initiatives; and ▪ Develop new products to support the sustainable development of the social economy sector and pilot test product/service delivery to develop the social economy sector. ▪ The Action Plan is delivered by Social Enterprise NI and through a consortium of partners including Local Authorities, enterprise networks and in Mid and East Antrim the Northern Trust.

Title	Description
Strategic Energy Framework (2010)	<p>In 2010, DETI set out its Strategic Energy Framework (SEF) for Northern Ireland, which included a request for a Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP) to be produced. The SEAP is designed to incorporate all the current and planned Sustainable Energy actions and programmes, in one short & accessible document.</p> <p>Therefore, the SEAP is a holistic plan to assist with the implementation of the SEF and it is a combination of actions already in existence in various action plans and strategies, plus some which are new.</p> <p>The main targets in the SEAP are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fuel Poverty - to reduce fuel poverty in as many vulnerable households as far as is possible by 2016; ▪ Electricity - to create the relevant conditions for an increase to 40% electricity consumption from renewable sources by 2020; ▪ Heat - publish a Renewable Heat Map setting out key actions to achieve a 10% contribution from renewable heat by 2020, including opportunities for geo-thermal energy; and ▪ Transport - reduce greenhouse gas emissions, protect biodiversity and reduce air, water and noise pollution.
Tourism Strategy (2010)	<p>The Tourism Strategy sets out a framework for the delivery of tourism interventions in Northern Ireland with a key vision being to ‘‘Create the new Northern Ireland experience and get it on everyone’s destination wish list’’. The main aim of the Tourism Strategy is to double the income Northern Ireland earns from tourism by 2020. This will be achieved by the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increasing visitors from 3.2million to 4.5 million by 2020; ▪ Increasing earning from tourism from £536 million to £1billion by 2020; ▪ Progressively accelerating spend by visitors; ▪ Targeting specific markets and market segments;

Title	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supporting indigenous high quality businesses to grow; and ▪ Being visitor inspired in all actions.
DEL: 'Access to Success': An Integrated Regional Strategy for Widening Participation in Higher Education (2012)	<p>This Strategy seeks to ensure that talented individuals are given every opportunity to benefit from the higher education that is right for them, irrespective of their personal or social background. It targets individuals from traditionally under-represented groups such as students from low participation/high deprivation neighbourhoods; young Protestant males from areas of high deprivation; and adult learners, particularly work-based learners.</p> <p>The 2020 vision articulated within this strategy include:</p> <p><i>"there will be even stronger links between universities and employers. Higher education will be recognised as entrepreneurial, innovative, encouraging the growth of enterprise and providing strong, coherent services and support for businesses. Intermediate and higher level skills in the workforce will be significantly improved through the development of relevant professional and technical modular qualifications, taken mostly on a part-time basis".</i></p>
Department for Health, Social Services and Public Safety (DHSSPS): A Fitter Future for All (2012-2022).	<p>The key principles of Fit Futures are: providing leadership and leading by example; building on existing good practice; adopting an holistic and long term approach; focussing on environmental and lifestyle factors; being positive and encouraging to help people develop a sense of self-esteem and self-worth; adopting a population approach; reflecting the importance of early years and role of parents and carers; recognising schools fulfil a key role; recognising the importance of basic knowledge and skills in the community; and being evidence based.</p> <p>The Department established the cross-sectoral Obesity Prevention Steering Group (OPSG) in 2008 to oversee and drive forward Fit Futures, and to begin the development of a life course Framework to tackle</p>

Title	Description
	<p>obesity in the rest of the population. The OPSG has a supporting structure of four Advisory Groups to look at specific issues relating to obesity and these cover: Physical Activity; Food and Nutrition; Prevention, Education and Public Information; and Data and Research. Two objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ increase the percentage of people eating a healthy, nutritionally balanced diet; and ▪ increase the percentage of people meeting the CMO guidelines on physical activity. <p>http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/framework-preventing-addressing-overweight-obesity-ni-2012-2022.pdf</p>
Families Matter Strategy (2009)	<p>‘All children and young people are valued during childhood. Children and young people reach their potential and have the opportunity to lead full, healthy and satisfying lives by becoming active contributors to their community through participating socially, educationally and economically in the life of the community’. The levels of services are described as follows:</p> <p>Level 1: this represents services for the whole population, such as mainstream health care, education, leisure facilities, etc.</p> <p>Level 2: this represents support for children who are vulnerable, through an assessment of need and are targeted through specific services.</p> <p>Level 3: this represents support to families, or individual children and young people, where there are chronic or serious problems, provided through a complex mix of services across both the statutory and voluntary/community sector.</p> <p>Level 4: this represents support to families, or individual children and young people, where the family has broken down temporarily or permanently, levels 1-3 services having not met their needs</p>
Stopping Domestic and Sexual Violence and	<p>The Strategy is a joint strategy dealing with Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse in Northern Ireland led by the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (DHSSPS) and the Department of</p>

Title	Description
Abuse in Northern Ireland (2013-2020)	<p>Justice (DoJ) on behalf of the Northern Ireland Executive. It is about how the Northern Ireland Executive intends to work across departments, their agencies and in partnership with community and voluntary organisations to reduce the incidence of domestic and sexual violence and abuse, and provide the ongoing services for victims and their families. The Strategy has the following strands:</p> <p>Strand 1: Driving Change - This strand focuses on collaborative working and promoting a more cohesive approach to tackling domestic and sexual violence and abuse. The strand acknowledges that more can always be done to promote integrated working across all sectors. Driving Change Outcome - The Northern Ireland Executive will continue to recognise the adverse impact of domestic and sexual violence and abuse on society, and the need to promote change through leadership and partnership working.</p> <p>Strand 2: Prevention and Early Intervention - This strand focuses on primary prevention - that is aimed at preventing domestic and sexual violence and abuse from happening. This will be achieved through promoting better knowledge and understanding of violence and abuse, promoting healthy relationships, changing behaviours and attitudes in our society towards violence, and early intervention for those at risk - such as vulnerable individuals, children and older people. Prevention and Early Intervention Outcome - Reduce the incidence of domestic and sexual violence and abuse through, effective preventative educational programmes, a skilled and resourced workforce and promotion of a culture of prevention, and earlier intervention at societal, governmental and local levels.</p> <p>Strand 3: Delivering Change - This strand focuses on preventing further violence and abuse of those victims and families who are at risk of the violence reoccurring. It is about building more responsive services for those who need them. This is not just about statutory or community services but about everyone knowing their roles and responsibilities - from family members and co-workers, to professionals, community workers and faith leaders being able to recognise signs and symptoms and being able to access information and advice to assist individuals. To achieve this requires a greater focus on training, and</p>

Title	Description
	<p>expertise, as well as further development of specialist services. Safety planning, following disclosure of violence, is an integral part of this Strand. Delivering Change Outcome - Responsive services for individuals and/or groups at risk of, or subject to, domestic and sexual violence and abuse and its reoccurrence.</p> <p>Strand 4: Support - This strand reflects the provision of additional support for those who have been victims of domestic and/or sexual violence and abuse. It is about the support needed to come to terms with what has happened and to manage the longer term consequences of violence and abuse. Support comes in many forms and can include educational support services, housing support, outreach and advocacy services and improving access to more specialist psychological interventions. Support Outcome - Provision of appropriate support services that promotes equality of access and positive outcomes for all victims of domestic and sexual violence and abuse.</p> <p>Strand 5: Protection and Justice - This strand focuses on continually improving the protections and justice available to victims of violence and their families. It covers both civil and criminal justice. It also describes the victim's journey through the criminal justice system. Part of this strand is the recognition that the harmful and violent behaviour of perpetrators must be addressed. Protection and Justice Outcome - Provision of effective, engaged, supportive, responsive and timely protection and justice in relation to domestic and sexual violence and abuse.</p>
The Suicide Prevention Strategy (2012-2014)	<p>The aim of the original "Protect Life" strategy was to reduce the overall Northern Ireland suicide rate by 10% by 2008 and by a further 5% by 2011. "Protect Life" did not specify a baseline for these reduction targets. The baseline was set later in a public service agreement target for the 2008/2011 Programme for Government which sought a 15% reduction by 2011 from a baseline of 12.6 deaths per 100,000 of population annually over the period 2004 to 2006. The achievement of this target would see an average annual death rate of 10.7 per 100,000 of population over the three year period 2010 to 2012.</p>

Title	Description
<p>Working in Partnership: Community Development Strategy for Health and Wellbeing (2012-2017), Health and Social Care Board</p>	<p>The Health and Social Care Board (HSCB) alongside the Public Health Authority (PHA) have brought forward a Community Development Strategy which aims to improve community development approaches across Health and Social Care organisations in Northern Ireland.</p> <p>The key benefits noted in the strategy in relation to promoting a community development approach to address health needs are that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It seeks to address inequalities, local needs and build capacity and skills; ▪ It maximises the sharing of resources at the local level, thus enhancing effectiveness and efficiency; and ▪ It works in partnership with people, communities, and excluded groups. <p>The Board and Agency note that they wish to seek a reduction in inequalities which mean addressing the social factors which affect health and wellbeing. The HSCB and PHA state that they will through this strategy aim to identify and encourage models of health and social care that facilitate the transfer of resources to maximise community development. As a result they state they should see:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An increased focus on early intervention and prevention; ▪ Tangible differences to health and wellbeing outcomes; ▪ Decreasing incidence of major causes of ill health; ▪ Maximising independent living; ▪ Improving mental health scores of population; ▪ Reductions in the health inequalities gap; ▪ Support for and building sustainable communities and increased social capital; and ▪ Support for volunteering.

Title	Description
Transforming your Care (TYC): A Review of Health and Social Care in Northern Ireland, (2011)	<p>TYC makes ninety-nine recommendations in total, a number of which discuss the importance of increasing the involvement of the community and voluntary sector to provide support and care services. Some of these recommendations include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ (13) More community based step-up/step-down and respite care to be provided largely by the independent sector; ▪ (59) A shift between the balance of spend between hospital and community with reinvestment in any hospital savings into community services; and ▪ (60) Greater involvement of the voluntary and community sector mental health organisations in the planning of Integrated Care Partnerships.
Department of Justice, Northern Ireland (DoJNI) Building Safer, Shared and Confident Communities (2011)	<p>Building Safer, Shared and Confident Communities' sets the direction for reducing crime, anti-social behaviour and fear of crime in Northern Ireland over the next five years. It builds on the positive progress made in recent years in reducing crime and anti-social behaviour, both by continuing to focus on what works, as well as a stronger emphasis on the guiding principle that prevention is better than cure. The overall aim of the Community Safety Strategy, as endorsed during the consultation, is to help build:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Safer communities, with lower levels of crime and anti-social behaviour; ▪ Shared communities, where each person's rights are respected in a shared and cohesive community; and ▪ Confident communities, where people feel safe and have confidence in the agencies that serve them. <p>To build safer communities with lower levels of crime and anti-social behaviour we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Intervene earlier to reduce the risk of individuals being drawn into offending;

Title	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce the level of alcohol and drug related crime by supporting individuals who face addiction and substance misuse; ▪ Tackle domestic and sexual violence; ▪ Continue to reduce levels of anti-social behaviour in local communities through targeted programmes delivered regionally and locally; ▪ Increase safety in our town and city centres, and help make our rural communities safer. <p>To build shared communities where each person's rights are respected in a shared and cohesive community we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work closely with local communities and across government to address community safety issues at interfaces; ▪ Seek agreement with local communities to reduce the number of interface structures; ▪ Tackle all forms of hate crime through prevention, awareness and education and support victims and communities. <p>To build confident communities where people feel safe and have confidence in the agencies that serve them we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support PCSPs to enable local communities to identify the issues that matter locally and develop solutions; ▪ Reduce fear of crime and help people feel safer through regional and local programmes to increase trust and confidence; ▪ Give confidence to individuals to report crime to PSNI and others where appropriate, such as Crimestoppers.

Title	Description
	http://www.niassembly.gov.uk/globalassets/Documents/Social-Dev/community-safety-strategy/2-COJ-Draft-Community-Safety-Strategy.PDF
Northern Ireland Organised Crime Strategy (2012-2014)	<p>The three main objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ to tackle organised crime and put the perpetrators not only out of business but, where possible, before the courts; ▪ to highlight the successes of the OCTF, so that its work is known and supported and ▪ to help the various communities in Northern Ireland that have been affected by organised criminal activity. <p>Partners in the delivery of the plan include law enforcement agencies and statutory and non-statutory bodies.</p>
Reducing Offending Strategy (2013)	<p>The Strategic Framework has two key aims:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promoting timely interventions across Government to support people in achieving positive outcomes in life, thereby reducing the risk that they become involved in offending behaviour; and 2. Where people do offend, holding them to account for their actions, whilst providing the systems and support to bring them to the point where they can move on and do not reoffend in the future. <p>Rather than catalogue the discrete interventions by each agency, department, voluntary or community organisation, the Strategic Framework is a thematic approach, covering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prevention; ▪ Diversion; ▪ Reducing opportunities to commit crime; ▪ Effective delivery of justice; and

Title	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reducing reoffending.
Victims Charter (2014)	<p>The Victim Charter is a Charter for victims of crime. Most of the services and entitlements under the Charter will only be relevant where the crime has been reported to the police and there are criminal proceedings. Even if no one is brought to justice the victim will still have entitlements and be able to access services under the Charter. Generally victims are entitled to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ be recognised and treated fairly, professionally, and with dignity and respect; ▪ be understood and to understand - in their first language if necessary; ▪ be updated at key stages and given relevant information; ▪ have their needs considered by service providers; ▪ be told about available support and bring someone with them to give support; ▪ apply for compensation, if they were a victim of a violent crime; ▪ ask for a court familiarisation visit and be kept separate from the accused as much as possible at court; ▪ have the opportunity to tell the court how the crime has harmed them, where the case is to go to court; ▪ ask to be told how the offender's sentence is managed; and ▪ set service providers know if you are unhappy with the service provided.
Youth Justice Strategy (2013-2016)	<p>We have identified four priority areas around which services are based:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Making communities safer; 2. Faster, fairer justice; 3. Delivering effective youth justice; and 4. Managing resources.

Title	Description
	<p>Making communities safer to reduce offending by young people and build community confidence in the services we deliver faster, fairer justice to promote a faster, fairer system of youth justice by delivering our statutory responsibilities within agreed timescales and by meeting the needs of young people, families and victims.</p> <p>Delivering effective to develop, deliver and continuously evaluate our services youth justice to support the delivery of youth justice within communities and custody.</p> <p>Managing resources to develop a multi-skilled workforce which is flexible and capable of delivering a high quality service; and to use resources effectively, deliver best value and operate best practice in corporate governance.</p>
PSNI Policing Plan	<p>The Policing Plan is delivered across three principal themes:</p> <p>Personal Policing means dealing with local concerns and issues which have an impact on the quality of daily life. The aim is to provide a service which addresses the concerns of most individuals including burglary, antisocial behaviour, drugs and road safety. In particular addressing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hate Crime; ▪ Crimes with a domestic motivation; and ▪ The percentage of people who perceive the level of antisocial behaviour to be high in their local area. <p>Professional Policing means establishing trust and confidence with communities and partners through delivery of an excellent service. Specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Effective Community Engagement ▪ Effective Joint Problem Solving <p>Protective Policing means keeping people safe from harm, risk or threat. We do this by tackling the serious harm and threat caused by organised crime, violent crime and terrorism. In order to maintain and</p>

Title	Description
	<p>enhance public confidence, it is important that victims of crime, and in particular the most vulnerable in society, feel reassured by our response to crimes committed against them. In particular contributing to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduced levels of activity and harm caused by individuals or gangs involved in organised crime ▪ Reduced level of violent crime
<p>NI Fire and Rescue Road Safety Strategy</p>	<p>The scope of this Strategy is to focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prevention: The range of educational and engagement activities that NIFRS develops to prevent the occurrence of RTCs. ▪ Protection: How NIFRS will influence the design and development of vehicles and the built environment to improve road safety. ▪ Intervention: Improving how we respond to RTCs, and improving the intervention techniques and equipment we use to reduce the impact on individuals involved. ▪ Communication: How we will promote NIFRS Road Safety activity to both Internal (NIFRS Staff & Board Members) and External (Public, Media and Key Stakeholders) audiences. ▪ Interagency: How we work with our partners to ensure a cost-effective, intelligence led approach to further improving road safety in Northern Ireland. <p>The statistical analysis highlighted that the top six driver behaviours which caused collisions are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Excessive speed; ▪ Alcohol or drugs; ▪ Inattention or attention diverted; wrong course/position; ▪ Emerging from a minor road; and ▪ Overtaking on offside without care.

Title	Description
	<p>The analysis also highlighted that young drivers (17-24 years) were responsible for 38% of fatal collisions and 32% of fatal and serious collisions which involved a car or light goods vehicle even though they only accounted for 11% of licensed drivers.</p> <p>Key targets for the strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To reduce the number of people killed in road collisions by at least 60% by 2020; and ▪ To reduce the number of people seriously injured in road collisions by at least 45% by 2020.
<p>Department for Social Development (DSD) Fuel Poverty Strategy (2011)</p>	<p>Under the current Northern Ireland Fuel Poverty Strategy published in 2011, the problem is defined as a household which “in order to maintain an acceptable level of temperature throughout the home, the occupants would have to spend more than 10 per cent of their income on all household fuel use”.</p> <p>Northern Ireland has the highest prevalence of fuel poverty in the UK and one of the highest in the European Union, with the current official estimate indicating that 42 per cent of households are experiencing fuel poverty. This estimate has decreased from 44 per cent in 2009, meaning 14,000 fewer homes face the problem. The Department for Social Development proposed a warm homes scheme to be rolled out in 2014. The new scheme looks at targeting geographical areas. The pilot ran in 19 council areas in 2012 and surveyed 2,145 targeted homes while the fuel poverty average at the time was 42 per cent, it identified areas with an average of 78 per cent of homes in fuel poverty.</p>
<p>DSD Housing Strategy (2012)</p>	<p>In September 2013, the Department for Social Development (DSD) approved the Housing Strategy for Northern Ireland (Facing the Future 2012-2017). The Housing Executive is currently involved in a number of strategic initiatives emanating from the Housing Strategy, these include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Together Building United Communities (TBUC): Westminster funding for shared housing schemes 2014-2017;

Title	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Affordable Home Loans Fund: this local application of Get Britain Building (GBB) will provide up to 600 affordable homes in Northern Ireland by 2020; ▪ Community Asset Transfer: this is a change in management and/or ownership of land or buildings, from public bodies to communities to provide an additional means of investing in regeneration in local communities; ▪ Building Successful Communities: this initiative aims to use housing intervention as one of the main catalysts for local regeneration. Six pilot areas have been identified; ▪ A Housing Supply Forum: established by DSD, will identify ways of increasing housing supply; ▪ Fundamental Review of Social Housing Allocations: DSD has published this research which is currently out for consultation. In our response, the Housing Executive affirmed that the allocation of housing should continue to prioritise those in greatest housing need, with equality as a core principle. <p>Analysis of the new Council area identifies a number of housing issues which present significant challenges in the current economic climate. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Difficulty in accessing mortgage finance; ▪ Limited provision of intermediate housing; ▪ Ongoing requirement for investment in, and regulation of, the private rented sector; ▪ Homelessness; ▪ Fuel poverty; ▪ Low but rising unfitness levels; and ▪ The need for additional social housing in some locations.
NI Housing Executive	<p>The strategy has four strategic objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To place homelessness prevention at the forefront of service delivery;

Title	Description
Homelessness Strategy (2012-2017)	<p>2. To reduce the length of time households and individuals experience homelessness by improving access to affordable housing;</p> <p>3. To remove the need to sleep rough;</p> <p>4. To improve services to vulnerable homeless households and individuals. The Department for Social Development, through the Promoting Social Inclusion Partnership will be the vehicle by which the strategy will be progressed and monitored so that an integrated response to homelessness is delivered. The current terms of reference of the "Promoting Social Inclusion Partnership; are:</p> <p>" To consider how government departments, agencies, and non-departmental public bodies can best work together to firstly, ensure that the risk of homelessness is reduced and secondly, that the full range of appropriate services is available to those who find themselves homeless so that they can make the choices required to play a full part in society".</p>
NIHE Rural Action Plan	<p>http://www.nihe.gov.uk/index/community/rural_issues.htm</p> <p>Rural areas are defined as those settlements of less than 4,500 population. This definition is drawn from research undertaken by the Northern Ireland Statistical Research Agency (NISRA) and is in line with that adopted by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. 'Rural' therefore includes small towns, villages and open countryside, where issues - such as hidden need, more dispersed population, lesser access to services and a requirement for smaller scale provision - create particular challenges for service providers. The Rural Action Plan has four Corporate Objectives, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Delivering Better Homes: increasing the supply of social housing in rural areas, including the assessment of rural housing need and enabling the delivery of homes to meet that need; consideration of other affordable housing options in rural areas, including potential provision through mixed tenure and self-build; improving the fabric of existing housing in rural areas; and improving the energy efficiency of rural housing.

Title	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supporting Independent Living: addressing homelessness; and supporting vulnerable people, including support for older and disabled people to live independently if they wish to do so. ▪ Building Stronger Communities: actions are designed to ensure the continued vibrancy and sustainability of rural communities (housing led regeneration in rural areas). ▪ Delivering Quality Services: undertake research to better understand who will be affected by the housing related changes to welfare reform in rural areas.
NIHE: Corporate Plan	<p>http://www.nihe.gov.uk/index/corporate/plans/corporate_plan.htm</p> <p>The Corporate Plan provides a broad analysis of the environment in which NIHE deliver their services. It includes reference to the Programme for Government along with other Government policies relating to housing; the financial context; the circumstances of the housing market generally; and other developments which affect the business or the people they serve.</p> <p>The Plans are developed on foot of broad consultations with the community and voluntary sector, partner organisations within and without the public sector, NIHE staff and political representatives via the Northern Ireland Housing Council. The Board sets the scope of the plans following those consultations. A final draft is sent to consultees prior to final endorsement by the Board and subsequent submission to the Minister for Social Development for approval.</p> <p>The approved Plan effectively forms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Our commitment to the people we serve ▪ Our commitment to Government and a demonstration of how we will conduct our stewardship of the public funds which we manage ▪ A set of actions against which our performance can be measured and judged.

Title	Description
<p>NIHE: Supporting People Strategy</p>	<p>www.nihe.gov.uk/index/corporate/strategies/supporting_people_strategy.htm</p> <p>Supporting People funds a range of housing related support services for vulnerable people to improve their quality of life and attain independence. These services can be provided in their own homes or in hostels, sheltered housing or other specialised supported housing. In Northern Ireland the programme is administered by the Housing Executive.</p> <p>To commission and deliver high quality, cost effective and reliable housing support services through the Supporting People Programme NIHE work in partnership with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Health and Social Care Board ▪ The five Health and Social Care Trusts ▪ The Probation Board for Northern Ireland <p>Supporting People funds housing related support services that a landlord (such as a housing association for example) or other provider such as a voluntary organisation can provide. Support means advice and help to make it easier for vulnerable people to maintain their independence in their home. People can receive support in a hostel or in sheltered housing or other type of supported living. Support can also be provided to people in their own homes through floating support services. This can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Someone to support people to manage their money and pay their bills ▪ A Warden or Scheme Manager who is there in case people need help ▪ Someone who helps people to live independently ▪ Someone who helps people learn how to follow the rules in their tenancy agreement ▪ Someone who provides advice or assistance on a range of housing related matters

Title	Description
NIHE: Mid and East Antrim: Housing Investment Plan 2015-2019	<p data-bbox="517 357 1534 391">www.nihe.gov.uk/mid_and_east_antrim_housing_investment_plan.pdf</p> <p data-bbox="517 405 2018 486">The Housing Improvement Plan (HIP) for Mid and East Antrim is the Housing Executive's strategic objectives for the housing element of community planning.</p> <p data-bbox="517 507 1350 542">Key Issues affecting the Mid and East Antrim area include:</p> <ul data-bbox="517 566 2018 1329" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="517 566 929 601">▪ An increasing population; <li data-bbox="517 609 1637 644">▪ The forecasted rate of new household formation has significantly reduced; <li data-bbox="517 652 1653 687">▪ Requirement for smaller units particularly from existing elderly households; <li data-bbox="517 695 1205 730">▪ Reduction in the level of new housing starts; <li data-bbox="517 738 1167 774">▪ Negative equity levels in NI highest in UK; <li data-bbox="517 782 1312 817">▪ Demand is rising for private rented accommodation; <li data-bbox="517 825 1637 860">▪ Potential for Welfare Reform to impact on the social housing requirement; <li data-bbox="517 868 1615 903">▪ Unfitness is recorded at 5- 7% of dwelling in Mid and East Antrim District; <li data-bbox="517 911 2018 992">▪ Households living in dwellings with lower energy efficient ratings are most likely to be vulnerable people including older people or those on low incomes; <li data-bbox="517 1000 2018 1118">▪ The cost of fuel and low incomes remain important determinants of whether a household is in fuel poverty. Other issues linked to fuel poverty include older dwellings, households in isolated rural locations, households headed by older persons and unemployment; <li data-bbox="517 1126 1402 1161">▪ Identify a needs assessment model for supporting housing; <li data-bbox="517 1169 1541 1204">▪ Resettlement of clients from long stay hospital into the community; <li data-bbox="517 1212 1435 1248">▪ Tackle homelessness in line with the Homelessness Strategy; <li data-bbox="517 1256 1335 1291">▪ Develop a new Traveller Accommodation Programme; <li data-bbox="517 1299 1895 1334">▪ Implement recommendations of Inter-Departmental Review of Housing Adaptations Services;

Title	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regenerate areas to encourage economic investment and create opportunities for employment, skills development and capacity building; ▪ Improve the environment by creating vibrant urban and rural spaces; ▪ Promote mixed use and mixed tenure neighbourhoods which provide a range of housing options and a sustainable community; ▪ Support shared communities; ▪ Tackle crime and anti-social behaviour; ▪ Encourage local participation to engage in delivery of quality homes and places; ▪ Involving residents in tenant scrutiny panels and in implementing the Community Involvement Strategy; and ▪ Helping tenants remain independent in their homes through adaptation services. <p>The Vision for the HIP is to deliver sustainable communities, living in dwellings of a decent standard and in sufficient numbers to meet local needs in both urban and rural areas. The HIP contains five themes, with a number of related outcomes that will be measured annually. The five themes (and associated outcomes) are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identify and meet housing need and demand: ▪ Identify new housing requirements; ▪ Increase the supply of affordable renting to meet the needs of communities; and ▪ Assist home ownership. ▪ Improving peoples' homes: ▪ Improve the quality of the housing stock; and ▪ Develop low carbon homes and reduce fuel poverty. ▪ Transforming peoples' lives:

Title	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide suitable accommodation and support services for vulnerable residents; and ▪ Homelessness is prevented or is addressed effectively. ▪ Enabling sustainable neighbourhoods: ▪ Regenerate neighbourhoods; and ▪ Create safer and cohesive communities. <p>Delivering quality services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Deliver better services <p>The HIP will assist the community plan to target public resources more effectively. The Housing Executive budget for the council area is projected to be £11.76m in 2015/16.</p> <p>Outcome 1: Identify new housing requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DRD will review Housing Growth Indicators for local development plans as part of the ongoing review of the RDS; ▪ NIHE will carry out a 5 year social housing need assessment for the district for 2017-22; ▪ NIHE will inform council of affordable housing need for production of local development and community plan; ▪ NIHE will review Housing Market Geographies for NI and deliver Housing Market Assessments across NI; ▪ NIHE will carry out latent demand tests in rural areas in 2015/16; and ▪ NIHE will annually assess demand for intermediate housing for the district. <p>Outcome 2: Increase the supply of affordable renting to meet the needs of communities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NIHE will work with the council to identify sites for social housing in the local development plan;

Title	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NIHE with DSD and Housing Associations will formulate a Delivery Strategy for the SHDP ready for implementation in April 2016; ▪ DoE and DSD will publish PPS 22 Affordable Housing; ▪ DSD will continue to implement landlord registration and tenancy deposit schemes and analyse the data received; ▪ DSD will complete a fundamental review of the private rented sector in 2016; and ▪ NIHE have made £450k available to fund Smartmove private rented sector access scheme across NI for 2015-2016. <p>Outcome 3: Assist Home Ownership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NIHE and housing associations will implement the House Sales and Equity Sharing Scheme; ▪ DSD committed funding of £15m to Co-ownership for 2015/16 with a target of 300 approvals; ▪ DSD will pilot a number of initiatives across Northern Ireland using the Affordable Housing Fund to deliver affordable housing. These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ £19m to provide up to 600 affordable homes; ▪ £5m to date in Financial Transactions Capital (FTC) funding for a Rent to Purchase scheme (being delivered by Co-Ownership); ▪ £9.2m in FTC funding to an Empty Homes Scheme (being delivered by Clanmil); ▪ Developing intermediate housing on surplus NIHE land (Clanmil and Apex Housing). ▪ DoE and DSD will work to finalise PPS Affordable Housing to facilitate intermediate housing; and ▪ Along with Housing Associations, NIHE will investigate potential for community self-build products for home ownership. <p>Outcome 4: Improve the quality of the housing stock</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Funding for discretionary renovation grants in 2015/16 is 28k;

Title	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Funding for Home Repair Assistance Grant in 2015/16 is 89k; ▪ DSD and NIHE introduce a pilot loan scheme for private house maintenance in NI in 2015-2016 with funding of £1m; ▪ Repair notices issued by Councils on private rented landlords can be recovered through a mandatory grant of up to £7,500; ▪ The Housing Executive stock condition survey will complete in 2015 and inform Asset Management Strategy; ▪ Funding for all NIHE planned maintenance schemes in 2015-2016 is estimated at £7.21m for twenty-three schemes; ▪ Funding for NIHE Capital Improvement Schemes in 2015-2016 is estimated at £1.89m; ▪ Tranche 1 of the NIHE Stock Transfer programme includes 375 properties at Ballee, Ballymena, 110 at Doury Road, Ballymena and 129 at Ferris Park and Wellington Green, Larne. <p>Outcome 5: Develop low carbon homes and reduce fuel poverty</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NIHE will implement the Affordable Warmth scheme funding of £16,5 is available for 2015-2016 across Northern Ireland; ▪ NIHE will implement the Boiler Replacement scheme to 2016 with a budget of £2m; ▪ NIHE will manage the 2015-2016 energy efficiency programme which includes seven schemes for 590 units at a cost of £2.24m; ▪ NIHE funded energy efficiency awareness programme will be delivered annually to 160 schools across NI by Bryson House; ▪ Work until 2018 with Bryson House to develop a network of oil buying clubs across NI to negotiate lower fuel prices for club members; and

Title	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ During 2015-2016, 1,000 Photovoltaics panels will be installed in NIHE properties across Northern Ireland valued at £6m. <p>Outcome 6: Provide suitable accommodation and support services for vulnerable residents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The gross three year (2015-2018) SHDP contains three supported housing schemes for forty-two units at Elizabeth Avenue, Carrickfergus, Trostan Avenue and Carniny Court, Ballymena; ▪ £5.01m has been approved to deliver the Supporting People programme for 2015-2016; ▪ DSD and NIHE to complete a review of the Supporting People Strategy by 2016; ▪ Complete NIHE research to evaluate accommodation based Supporting People schemes; ▪ NIHE will monitor and review services through the contract management framework and take actions to remodel/realign services as needed; ▪ NIHE have a budget of approximately £465k for disabled facilities grants for the private sector in 2015-2016; ▪ NIHE will provide adaptations to its properties as needed; ▪ NIHE will assess need for wheelchair housing in the social sector; and ▪ 2015-2018 SHDP incorporates support for seven wheelchair units. <p>Outcome 7: Homelessness is prevented or is addressed effectively</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NIHE will work with organisations to deliver homeless services, in line with Homelessness Strategy 2012/17; ▪ NIHE will review the Homelessness Strategy in 2017; ▪ Widen homeless advice through a Housing Options Service to prevent homelessness; and

Title	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance the work in the pilot private rented sector access scheme to prevent homelessness. NIHE has made £450k available to fund the Smartmove private rented access scheme across NI for 2015/16. <p>Outcome 8: Regenerate Neighbourhoods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DSD have funded £405k for Areas at Risk, SPOD and Neighbourhood Renewal programmes for 2015/16; NIHE will implement an empty homes scheme to meet social housing need; NIHE will update and implement the Rural Strategy and Action Plans; DSD will review findings of a Social Enterprise Strategy and provide social investment finance; NIHE will transfer assets under the CAT framework to deliver community regeneration; Promote housing led regeneration through master planning proposals in urban and village centres; and DSD will review findings of Social Enterprise pilot to inform policy development. <p>Outcome 9: Create safer and cohesive communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement NIHE's Community Safety Strategy 2014-17. Update the Strategy in 2017-2018; The NIHE is currently considering a request from the Mid and East Antrim PCSP for £20k to jointly fund a Community Warden project; NIHE will continue to be a partner on Anti-Social Behaviour Forum and Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences; NIHE will work to prevent hate crimes through its Good Relations Strategy and Race Relations Policy; NIHE will continue to provide to victims of domestic abuse; NIHE will implement Building Relations in Communities (BRIC2). We will promote the good neighbour charter and the 5 cohesion themes of Race Relations, Communities in Transition, Interfaces, Flags, Emblems and Sectional Symbols; NIHE have £18.5k funding available for community grants and scrutiny/partnership panels during 2015/16

Title	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NIHE will continue to fund Supporting Communities Northern Ireland (SCNI) in their work with communities; and ▪ NIHE will implement the Community Involvement Strategy and update in 2017/18. <p>Outcome 10: Deliver better services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase rent collection to reinvest to improve services; ▪ Reduce arrears to maximise income; ▪ Maintain voids below 1% of total stock to make best use of housing stock and increase revenue from rents; ▪ Meet the Public Accounts Committee to establish a tenancy fraud baseline for future monitoring; ▪ Implement the Sustaining Tenancy Strategy; ▪ Implement the Welfare Reform Action Plan as required; and ▪ Continue to monitor tenant satisfaction through the Continuous Tenants Omnibus Survey (CTOS).
Office of the First Minister, Deputy First Minister (OFMDFM) Active Ageing Strategy (2014-2020)	<p>Vision: Northern Ireland is an age friendly region in which all people, as they get older, are valued and supported to live actively to their fullest potential; with their rights and dignity protected. Key priorities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To promote active independent living by older people; ▪ To promote the active participation of older people in all aspects of life; ▪ To promote equal access to high quality health and social care services; ▪ To support older people to develop to the fullest of their potential; and ▪ To promote and protect the human rights of people here of all ages.
A Sense of Belonging:	The Strategy aims to establish a framework for Government Departments and others:

Title	Description
Delivering Social Change through a Racial Equality Strategy for Northern Ireland (2014-2024)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To tackle racial inequalities and to open up opportunity for all; ▪ To eradicate racism and hate crime; and ▪ Along with Together: Building a United Community, to promote good race relations and social cohesion. <p>The Strategy also sets out six strategic aims that the Executive will pursue in eradicating racism and tackling racial inequalities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elimination of Racial Inequality; 2. Combating racism and hate crime; 3. Equality of Service Provision; 4. Participation; 5. Social Cohesion; and 6. Capacity Building.
Together: Building a United Community Strategy (2013)	<p>The Together: Building a United Community Strategy provides a vision on the grounds of equality through opportunity and the desirability of good relations and reconciliation. It provides the framework for the government to take action within cases of sectarianism, racism and various forms of intolerance while maintaining to positively address division, hate and separation.</p> <p>With the main aim to improve community relations, background work is placed on tackling issues of inequality. Improvement on equality of opportunity is vital. Similarly tackling sectarianism, prejudice and hate will contribute to removing and reducing the motivation for discrimination. The Strategy reiterates that all government policy is developed within the context of the equality of opportunity</p>

Title	Description
	<p>provisions set out in Section 75(1) of the Northern Act 1998. Particular relevance is paid to the good relations duty, recognising that the promotion of equality of opportunity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Between persons of different religious belief, political opinion, racial group, marital status, age or sexual orientation; ▪ Between men and women generally; ▪ Between persons with a disability and persons without; and ▪ Between persons with dependants and persons without. <p>The Strategy sets out headline actions that provide innovative approaches to building a united, shared and reconciled community and comprehensively demonstrate the Executive's commitment to realising change across the key priorities within this strategy.</p>
<p>A Strategy to improve the lives of people with disabilities (2012-2015)</p>	<p>The purpose of the Strategy is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Set out a high level policy framework to give coherence and guidance to NI Departments' activities across general and disability specific areas of policy; ▪ Drive improved performance of service delivery leading to improved outcomes for persons with a disability; ▪ Increase understanding and importance of the needs of persons with a disability and ensure these needs are recognised when policy is developed or when implementing initiatives which impact on disabled people; and ▪ Improve the opportunities for people with disabilities to contribute across all areas of society. <p>Key priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strategic Priority 1: Increase people with disabilities opportunity to influence policies and programme in Government including the delivery of this Strategy and the subsequent Action Plan;

Title	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strategic Priority 2: Improve interaction between all sectors to achieve the social inclusion of people with disabilities; ▪ Strategic Priority 3: Increase awareness among people with disabilities of their rights and opportunities through a range of communication activities; ▪ Strategic Priority 4: To develop, in partnership with people with disabilities, a range of awareness raising activities, including those aimed at the general public, to challenge the negative perceptions surrounding disability and to gain a better understanding of the range of diversity of disabilities particularly mental health ▪ Strategic Priority 5: Eliminate the barriers people with disabilities face in accessing the physical environment, goods and services so that disabled people can participate fully in all areas of life; ▪ Strategic Priority 6: Eliminate the barriers people with disabilities face in accessing transport ensuring necessary measures are in place to allow personal mobility for people with disabilities; ▪ Strategic Priority 7: Increase the level of accessible/inclusive communications so that people with disabilities can access information as independently as possible and make informed choices; and ▪ Strategic Priority 8: Increase the level of choice, control and freedom that people with disabilities have in their daily lives.
Delivering Social Change (2010-2016)	<p>It aims to deliver a sustained reduction in poverty and associated issues across all ages and is also seeking to secure an improvement in children and young people's health, well-being and life opportunities thereby breaking the long term cycle of multi-generational problems.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Delivering Social Change - Introduction: The Delivering Social Change framework was set up by the Northern Ireland Executive to tackle poverty and social exclusion. It represents a new level of joined-up working by Ministers and senior officials across Executive departments to drive through initiatives which have a genuine impact on the ground.

Title	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Delivering Social Change Signature Programmes: The six initial Signature Programmes were set up to improve literacy and numeracy levels, offer increased family support and to support job creation within local communities - all of which were identified as being key priorities. A seventh Signature Programme seeks to enhance play and leisure opportunities for children and young people whilst a further three Signature Programmes are aiming to deliver dementia services, early intervention services and expand the shared education system. ▪ Delivering Social Change for Children and Young People: Delivering Social Change for Children and Young People will provide an integrated policy framework encompassing policy on children and young people, including child poverty and children's rights. ▪ Social Investment Fund: The Social Investment Fund (SIF) was set up to deliver social change. It aims to make life better for people living in targeted areas by reducing poverty, unemployment and physical deterioration. The fund will run until March 2016 and has been allocated £80 million by the Northern Ireland Executive.
Public Health Agency – lead partner in delivering: Making Life Better: A Whole System Framework for	<p>Vision: All people are enabled and supported in achieving their full health and wellbeing potential. The aims are to achieve better health and wellbeing for everyone and reduce inequalities in health.</p> <p>The framework has been re-structured around 6 themes: Giving every child the best start; Equipped throughout life; Empowering healthy living; Creating the Conditions; Empowering Communities; and Developing Collaboration.</p> <p>For each of the six themes long-term outcomes have been set with strategic supporting actions and commitments over the current budgetary period to work towards these. They include actions which are</p>

Title	Description
Public Health (2013-2023)	<p>particularly relevant to influencing the determinants of health and wellbeing. It is intended that departmental commitments will be updated on a rolling basis over the period of the framework.</p> <p>The framework recognises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ the key roles of DHSSPS and the wider Health and Social Care system; ▪ importance of collaboration across government departments; and ▪ that inter-agency and inter-sectoral partnership working is vital. <p>It seeks to create a whole system approach across the various levels of the system at which work needs to be taken forward.</p> <p>http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/mlb-strategic-framework-2013-2023.pdf</p> <p>At strategic level a Ministerial Committee for Public Health will be established. Key functions will be to provide strategic leadership, direction and coherence with other key strategic programmes and structures such as Programme for Government (PFG), NI Economic Strategy and Delivering Social Change, agree shared goals and priorities and oversee implementation on behalf of the Executive. This group will be chaired by the Minister for Health, Social Services and Public Safety and supported and informed by the All Departments Officials Group (ADOG).</p> <p>The All Departments Officials Group (ADOG), chaired by the Chief Medical Officer, will comprise senior officials from all departments. It will inform and make recommendations to the Ministerial Committee; co-ordinate collaborative working at departmental level; connect with the Regional Project Board, directing, or supporting action as appropriate; and monitor and report on progress.</p> <p>The Regional Project Board, led by the Public Health Agency (PHA) will focus on strengthening collaboration and co-ordination to deliver on shared strategic priorities across sectors at a regional level, and on supporting implementation at a local level. Membership of the group will comprise the Chief</p>

Title	Description
	<p>Officers of relevant statutory agencies, and include representation from local government, the community and voluntary sector and the private sector.</p> <p>This Group will be informed by and will support Local Partnerships of key statutory, private, community and voluntary bodies, based on an agreed geographic coverage. These should be developed from existing local arrangements and include a balance of statutory and non-statutory partners. The initial focus will be to collaborate on the three areas of work outlined under “Developing Collaboration” (in relation to food, space/ environments and places, and social inclusion).</p>
Sports Northern Ireland Sports Matters Strategy (2009-2019)	<p>The Strategy for Sport and Physical Recreation 2009-2019’ articulates the Vision expressed and endorsed by respondents during the development of, and consultation on, the Strategy for Sport & Physical Recreation 2008-2018. In delivering against each of the 26 high level targets, this Strategy will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ increase the number of children and adults experiencing, enjoying and participating in high quality sporting opportunities; ▪ enable an increasing number of our most talented athletes to achieve at the highest level in their sport, including European, World, Commonwealth and Olympic/ Paralympic competition; and ▪ ensure that every person in Northern Ireland has access to a range of new, improved and shared world-class and locally available sports facilities.
Department of the Environment Valuing Nature, A Biodiversity	<p>The Strategy sets out how Northern Ireland plans to meet its international obligations and local targets to protect biodiversity and ensure that the environment can continue to support our people and economy. It builds upon the first Biodiversity Strategy published in 2002 but adopts the modern and internationally agreed approach that emphasises the management of biological systems to deliver the materials and services upon which people depend - the ecosystem services approach. While protection of individual</p>

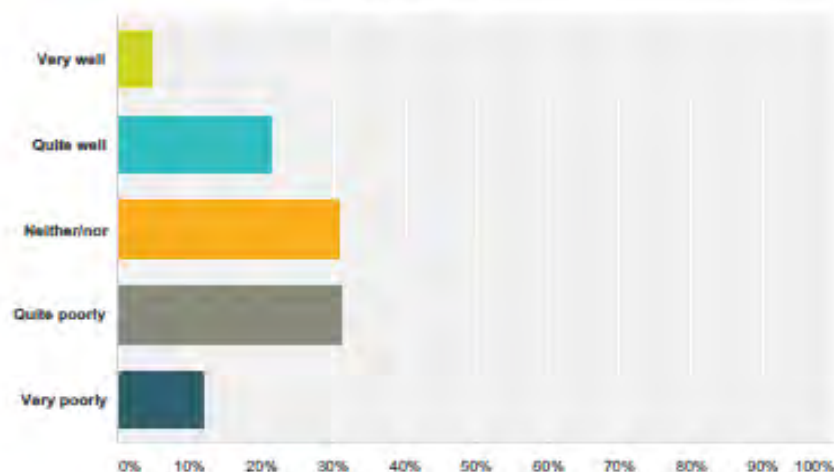
Title	Description
Strategy for NI to 2020 (2015).	<p>species and habitats is essential, the thrust of the Strategy is to manage natural and man-modified systems to deliver a multitude of outputs which support society and the economy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The Strategy focuses on four key strands:▪ Developing and maintaining healthy ecosystems▪ Addressing adverse pressure, for example Climate Change▪ Enhancing prosperity and wellbeing; and▪ Engaging society and developing partnerships.

APPENDIX B: SURVEY RESULTS

MEA Community Planning Survey Feb 2015

Q1 Community Planning is about working together to plan and deliver better services. Although it has not yet been finalised, it is likely that the following will be statutory partners working together as part of the Mid and East Antrim Community Planning Partnership - your Council, the Police Service for Northern Ireland, the Northern Ireland Housing Executive, the Northern Health and Social Care Trust, the Public Health Agency, the Health and Social Care Board, the Education and Library Board, Invest NI, the NI Fire and Rescue Service and the Northern Ireland Tourist Board. Overall, how well do you think these organisations work together at present to plan and deliver better public services?

Answered: 434 Skipped: 7

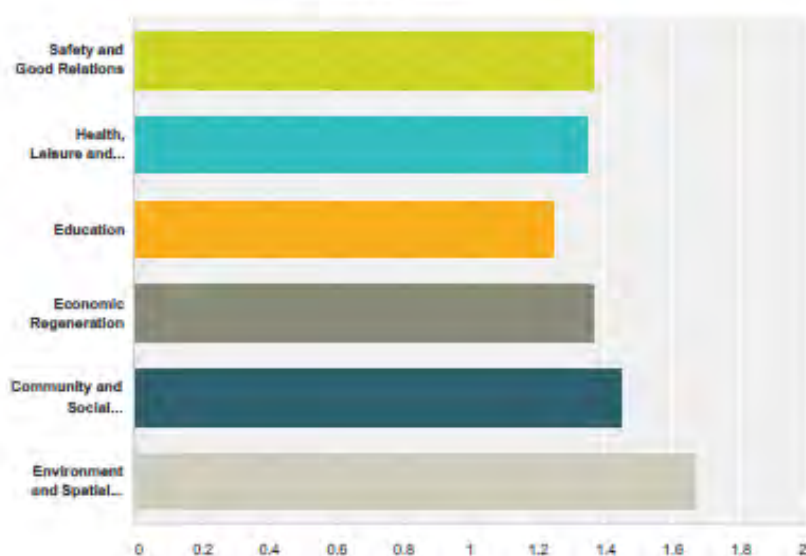


Answer Choices	Responses
Very well	4.61% 20
Quite well	21.43% 93
Neither/nor	30.88% 134
Quite poorly	31.11% 135
Very poorly	11.98% 52

MEA Community Planning Survey Feb 2015

Q2 Community Planning covers a number of broad themes. Please rate how important you feel each is to you.

Answered: 434 Skipped: 7

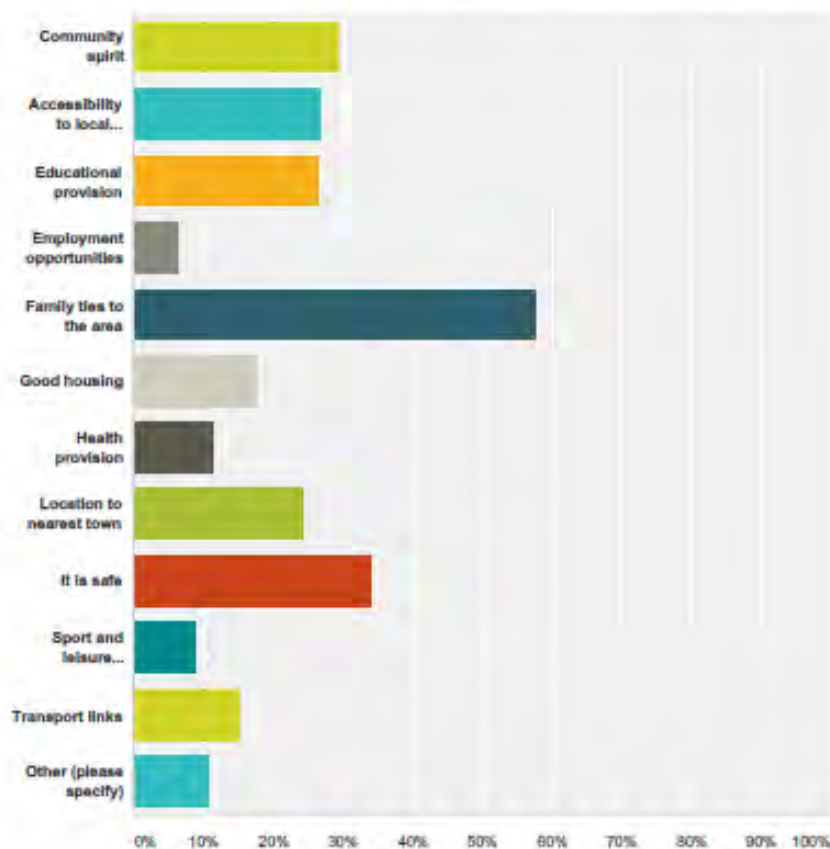


	Very Important	Quite Important	Not very Important	Not at all Important	Total	Weighted Average
Safety and Good Relations	66.82% 290	29.72% 129	3.23% 14	0.23% 1	434	1.37
Health, Leisure and Wellbeing	67.74% 294	29.95% 130	2.07% 9	0.23% 1	434	1.35
Education	78.80% 342	18.20% 79	2.53% 11	0.46% 2	434	1.25
Economic Regeneration	65.90% 285	31.80% 138	1.81% 7	0.69% 3	434	1.37
Community and Social Regeneration	59.68% 259	36.18% 157	3.46% 15	0.69% 3	434	1.45
Environment and Spatial Planning	42.86% 186	47.47% 206	9.22% 40	0.46% 2	434	1.67

MEA Community Planning Survey Feb 2015

Q3 What do you like most about living in your area? Please select your top 3.

Answered: 434 / Skipped: 7



Answer Choices	Responses
Community spirit	29.26% 127
Accessibility to local services	26.96% 117
Educational provision	26.50% 115
Employment opportunities	6.22% 27
Family ties to the area	57.60% 250
Good housing	17.51% 76
Health provision	11.52% 50
Location to nearest town	24.19% 105
It is safe	34.10% 148

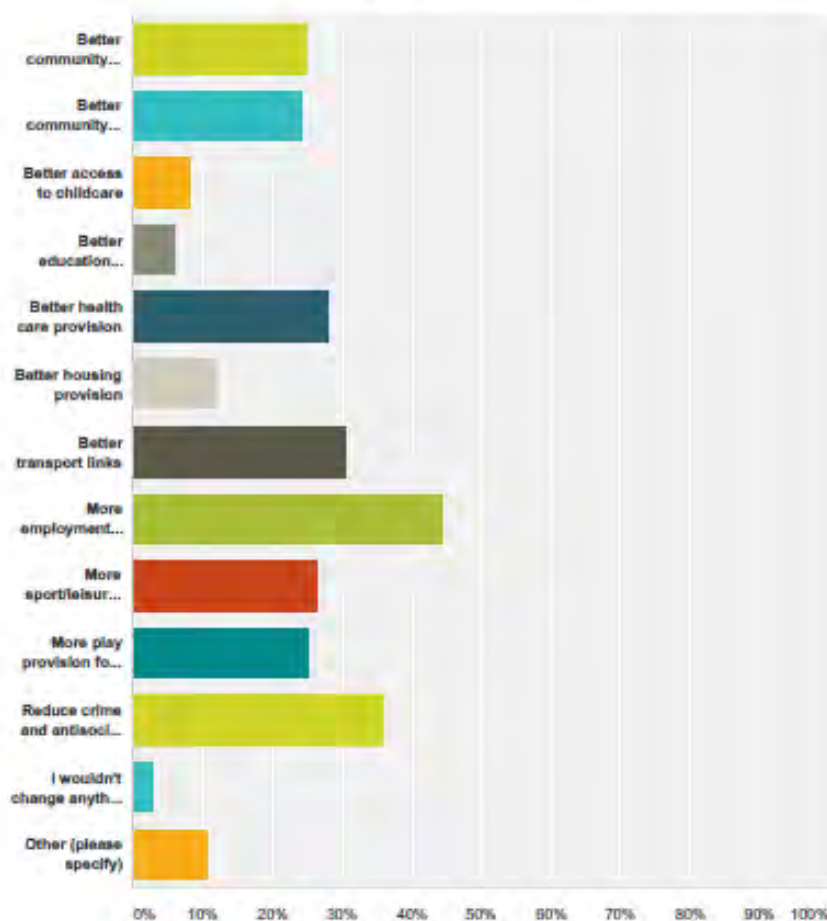
MEA Community Planning Survey Feb 2015

Sport and leisure provision	8.99%	39
Transport links	14.98%	65
Other (please specify)	10.83%	47
Total Respondents: 434		

MEA Community Planning Survey Feb 2015

**Q4 What, if anything, would you change about your local area to make it better?
Please mark your top 3 choices?**

Answered: 434 Skipped: 7



Answer Choices	Responses
Better community relations	24.58% 108
Better community spirit	24.19% 105
Better access to childcare	8.29% 36
Better education provision	5.76% 25
Better health care provision	28.11% 122
Better housing provision	11.98% 52

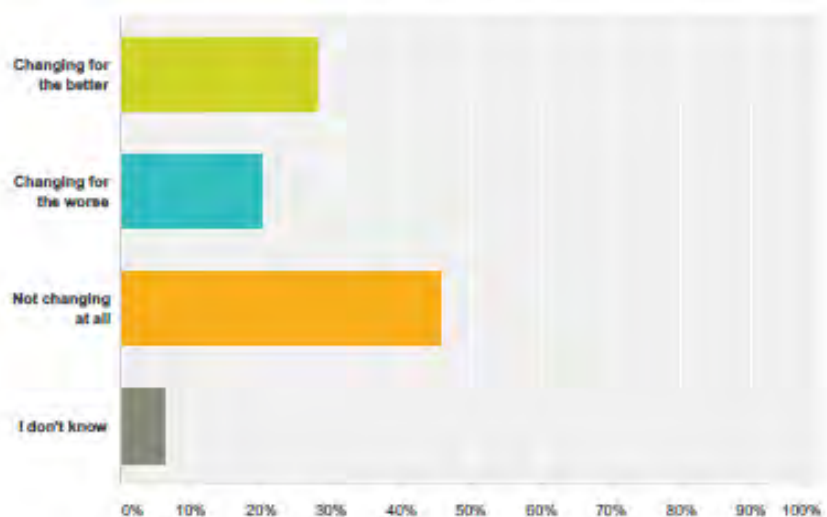
MEA Community Planning Survey Feb 2015

Better transport links	30.65%	133
More employment opportunities	44.24%	192
More sport/leisure offerings	26.27%	114
More play provision for children	25.35%	110
Reduce crime and antisocial behaviour in the area	35.94%	156
I wouldn't change anything about the area where I live	2.76%	12
Other (please specify)	10.83%	47
Total Respondents: 434		

MEA Community Planning Survey Feb 2015

Q5 Would you say that overall your area is...

Answered: 434 Skipped: 7

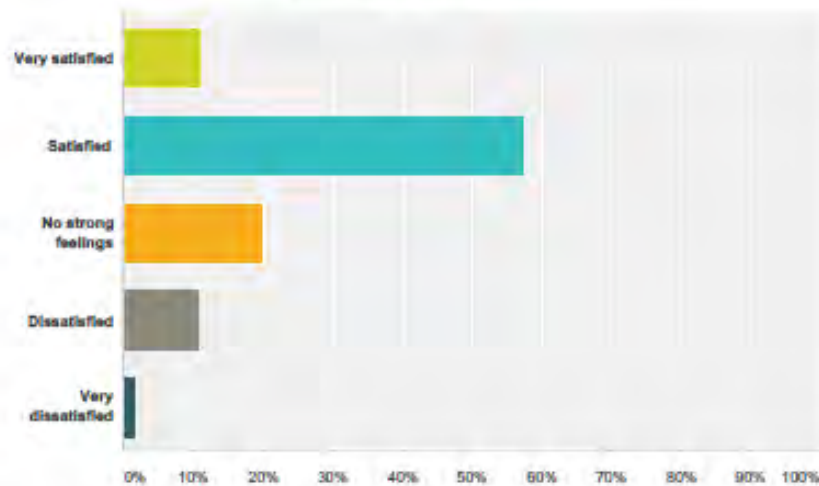


Answer Choices	Responses
Changing for the better	27.88% 121
Changing for the worse	20.28% 88
Not changing at all	45.62% 198
I don't know	6.22% 27
Total	434

MEA Community Planning Survey Feb 2015

Q6 Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the area as a place to live?

Answered: 434 Skipped: 7

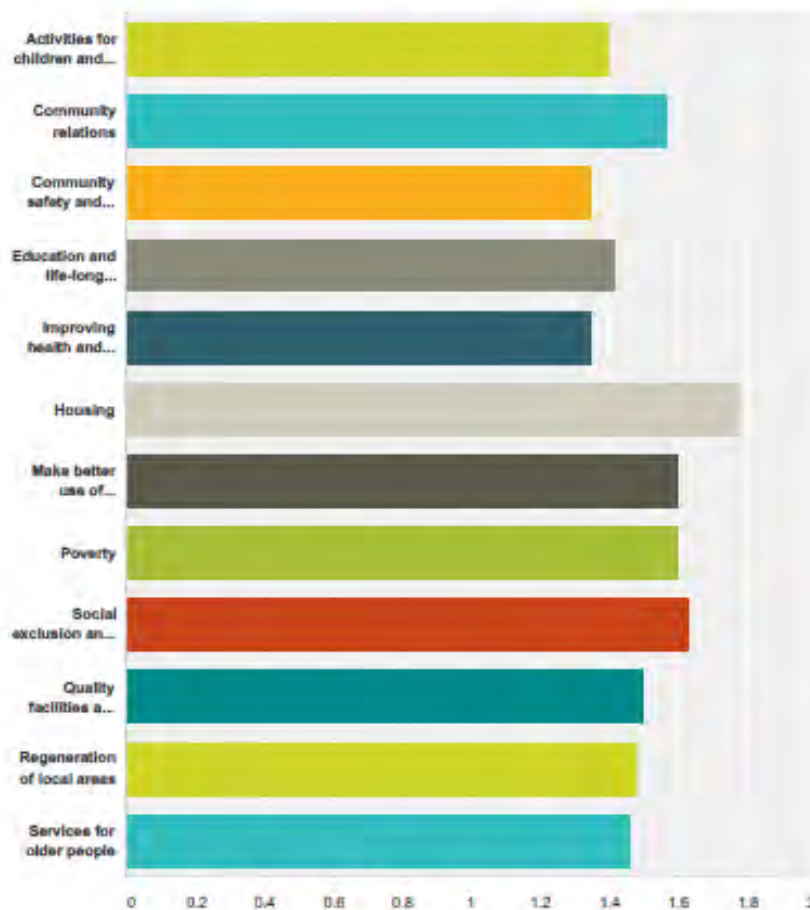


Answer Choices	Responses
Very satisfied	11.05% 48
Satisfied	57.14% 248
No strong feelings	19.82% 86
Dissatisfied	10.60% 46
Very dissatisfied	1.38% 6
Total	434

MEA Community Planning Survey Feb 2015

Q7 With regards to social wellbeing in the Mid and East Antrim area, please indicate the level of priority that you would give each of the following by indicating whether they are 'high', 'medium' or 'low' priority?

Answered: 387 Skipped: 54



	High	Medium	Low	Total	Weighted Average
Activities for children and young people	66.67% 258	26.87% 104	6.46% 25	387	1.40
Community relations	48.87% 193	43.15% 167	6.98% 27	387	1.57
Community safety and antisocial behaviour	70.03% 271	24.55% 95	5.43% 21	387	1.35

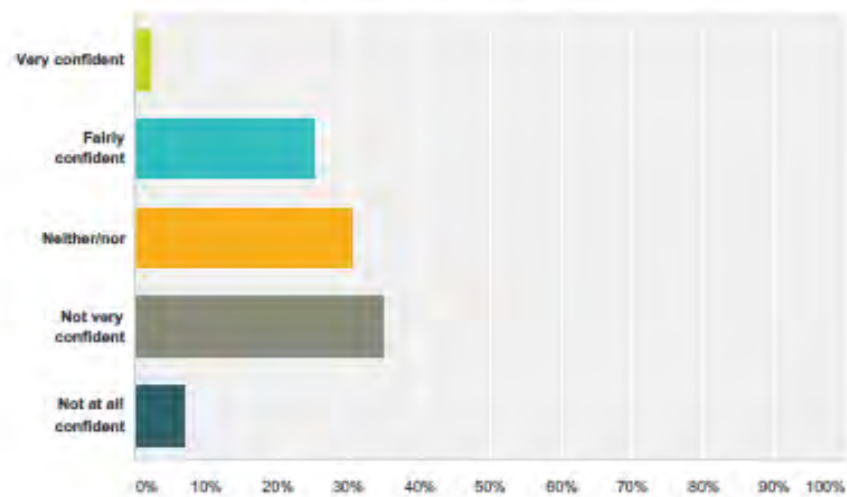
MEA Community Planning Survey Feb 2015

Education and life-long learning	61.76% 238	34.11% 132	4.13% 16	387	1.42
Improving health and wellbeing	68.48% 265	27.91% 108	3.62% 14	387	1.35
Housing	33.07% 128	56.07% 217	10.85% 42	387	1.78
Make better use of buildings for use by the community	49.10% 190	41.86% 162	9.04% 35	387	1.60
Poverty	50.13% 194	39.28% 152	10.59% 41	387	1.60
Social exclusion and isolation	45.99% 178	45.48% 175	8.53% 33	387	1.63
Quality facilities and activities for all	56.85% 220	36.18% 140	6.98% 27	387	1.50
Regeneration of local areas	58.66% 227	34.63% 134	6.72% 26	387	1.48
Services for older people	60.21% 233	33.85% 131	5.94% 23	387	1.48

MEA Community Planning Survey Feb 2015

Q8 How confident are you about the economic prospects of the area in which you live?

Answered: 387 Skipped: 54

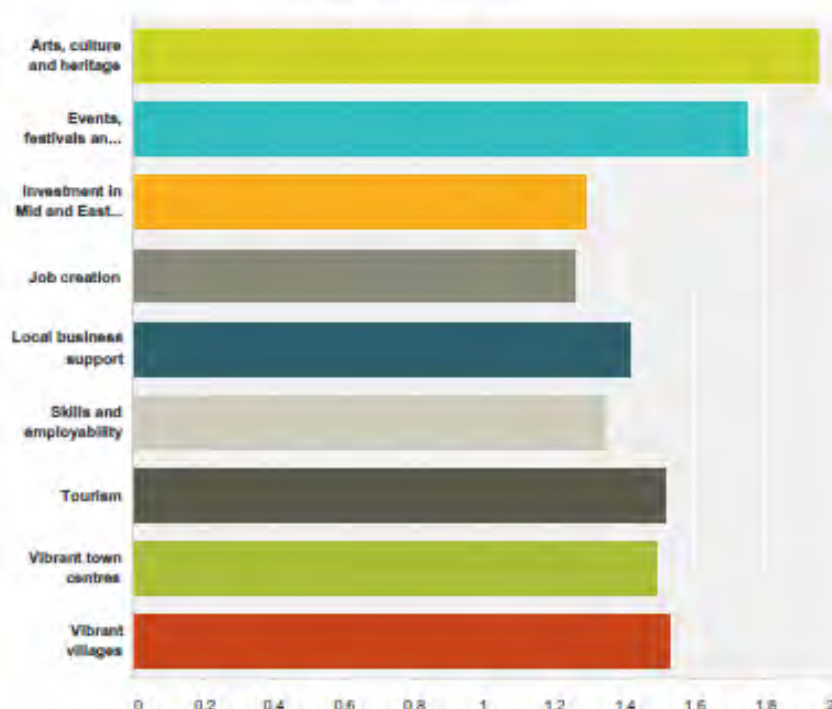


Answer Choices	Responses
Very confident	2.33% 9
Fairly confident	25.06% 97
Neither/nor	30.48% 118
Not very confident	35.14% 136
Not at all confident	6.98% 27
Total	387

MEA Community Planning Survey Feb 2015

Q9 In terms of economic wellbeing in Mid and East Antrim, please prioritise each of the following with regard to whether you rate them a 'high', 'medium' or 'low' priority;

Answered: 387 Skipped: 54



	High	Medium	Low	Total	Weighted Average
Arts, culture and heritage	24.94% 96	55.32% 213	19.74% 76	385	1.95
Events, festivals and cultural activities	37.14% 143	50.91% 196	11.95% 46	385	1.75
Investment in Mid and East Antrim	75.00% 288	20.57% 79	4.43% 17	384	1.29
Job creation	78.79% 303	16.36% 63	4.94% 19	385	1.28
Local business support	63.54% 244	30.47% 117	5.99% 23	384	1.42
Skills and employability	68.61% 268	25.45% 98	4.94% 19	385	1.35
Tourism	56.22% 217	35.49% 137	8.29% 32	386	1.52

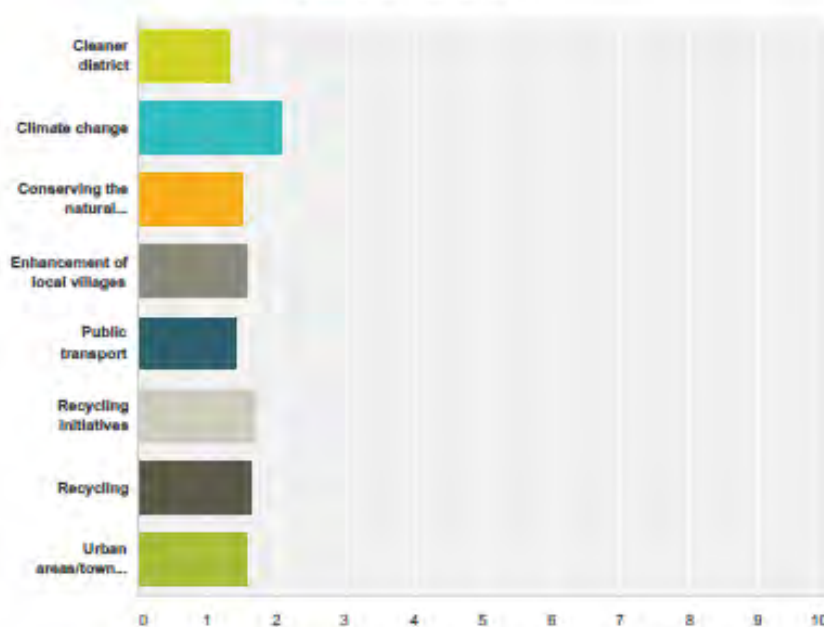
MEA Community Planning Survey Feb 2015

Vibrant town centres	59.11% 227	32.55% 125	8.33% 32	384	1.46
Vibrant villages	53.97% 204	39.15% 148	6.88% 26	378	1.53

MEA Community Planning Survey Feb 2015

Q10 Please prioritise the following with regard to environmental wellbeing in the Mid and East Antrim area;

Answered: 387 Skipped: 54

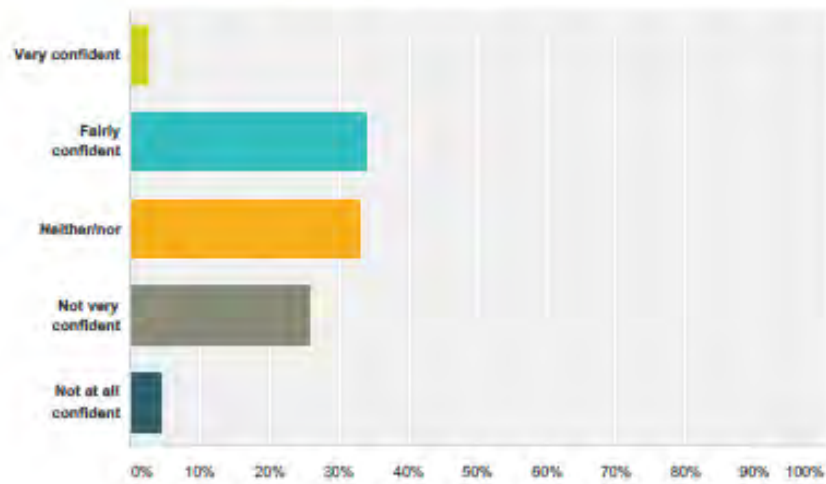


	High	Medium	Low	Total	Weighted Average
Cleaner district	68.49% 263	29.17% 112	2.34% 9	384	1.34
Climate change	20.83% 80	50.26% 193	28.91% 111	384	2.08
Conserving the natural environment	55.06% 212	39.48% 152	5.45% 21	385	1.50
Enhancement of local villages	51.97% 198	40.16% 153	7.87% 30	381	1.56
Public transport	60.47% 231	36.13% 138	3.40% 13	382	1.43
Recycling initiatives	38.95% 148	52.37% 199	8.68% 33	380	1.70
Recycling	44.50% 170	48.17% 184	7.33% 28	382	1.63
Urban areas/town centres	48.41% 183	43.92% 166	7.67% 29	378	1.59

MEA Community Planning Survey Feb 2015

Q11 How confident are you about the future health and emotional wellbeing prospects of the area in which you live?

Answered: 387 Skipped: 54

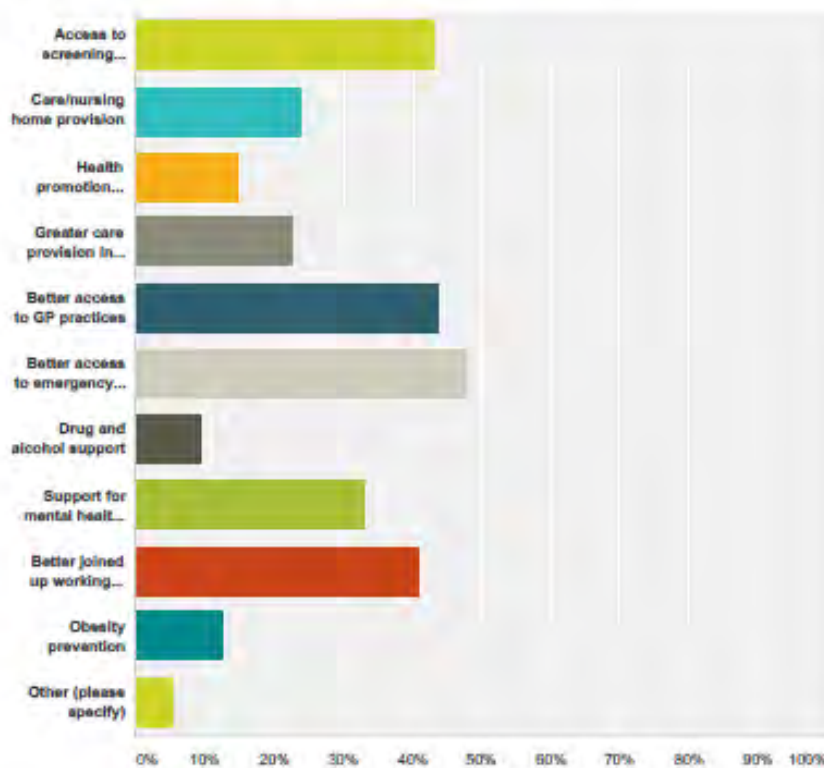


Answer Choices	Responses
Very confident	2.58% 10
Fairly confident	34.11% 132
Neither/nor	33.07% 128
Not very confident	25.84% 100
Not at all confident	4.39% 17
Total	387

MEA Community Planning Survey Feb 2015

Q12 Please outline your top 3 priorities for health and wellbeing

Answered: 187 Skipped: 54



Answer Choices	Responses
Access to screening services, e.g. for cancer	43.15% 167
Care/nursing home provision	23.77% 92
Health promotion services	14.73% 57
Greater care provision in the home	22.48% 87
Better access to GP practices	43.93% 170
Better access to emergency care and local hospital services	48.06% 185
Drug and alcohol support	9.30% 36
Support for mental health and emotional wellbeing	33.07% 128
Better joined up working between services	40.83% 158
Obesity prevention	12.66% 49

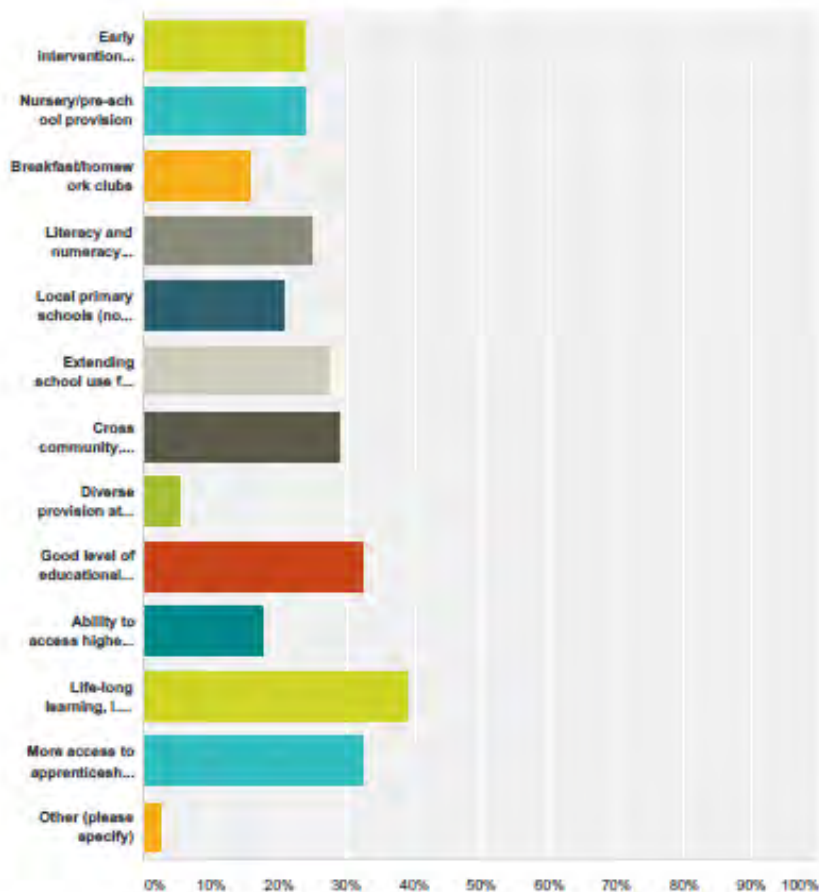
MEA Community Planning Survey Feb 2015

Other (please specify)	5.43%	21
Total Respondents: 387		

MEA Community Planning Survey Feb 2015

Q13 Please outline your top 3 priorities for education in this area.

Answered: 387 Skipped: 54



Answer Choices	Responses
Early Intervention, e.g. Sure start and parenting support	23.77% 02
Nursery/pre-school provision	23.77% 02
Breakfast/homework clubs	15.76% 01
Literacy and numeracy support	24.81% 09
Local primary schools (no greater than 5 miles from home)	20.93% 01
Extending school use for the benefit of the wider community	27.65% 10
Cross community, integration and mutual understanding programmes	28.94% 11

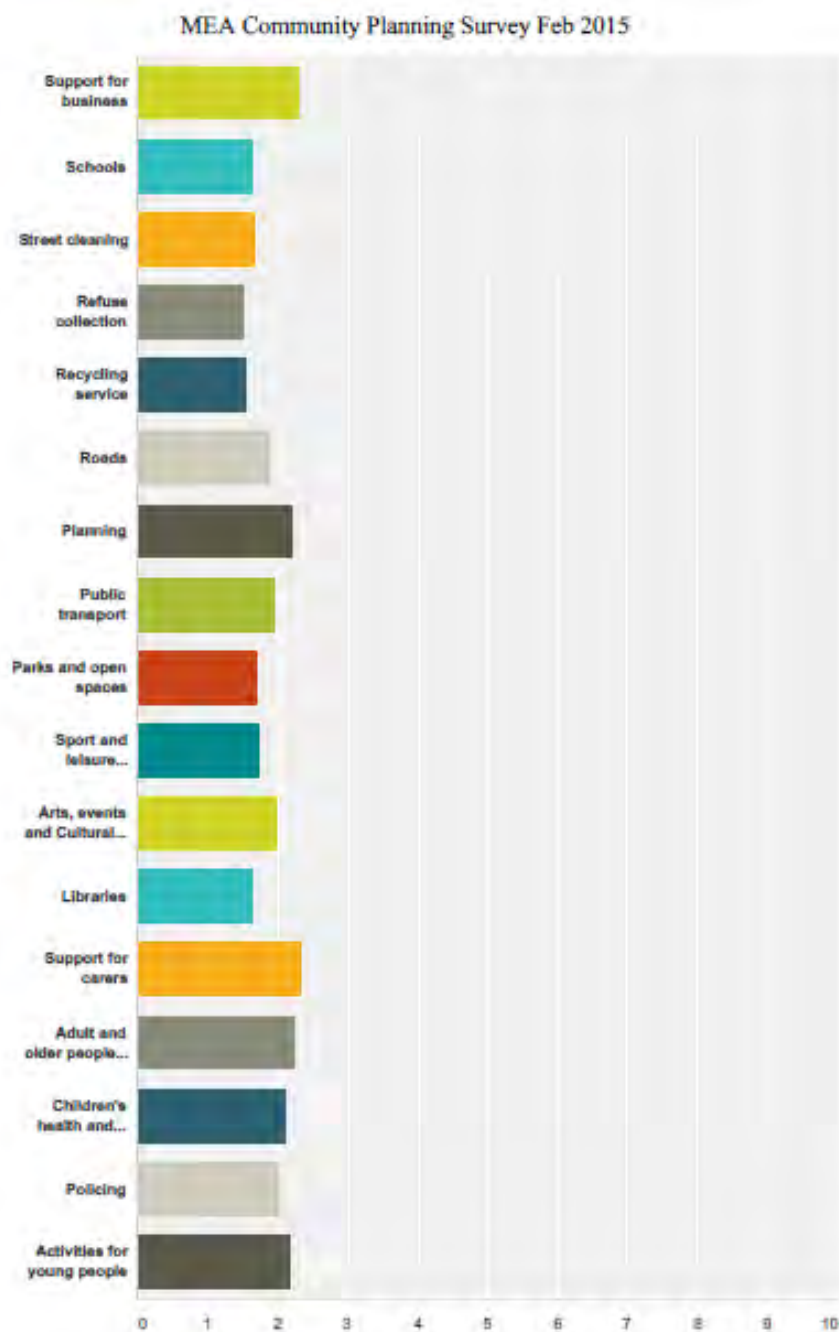
MEA Community Planning Survey Feb 2015

Diverse provision at post primary level	5.17%	20
Good level of educational attainment for school leavers	32.56%	125
Ability to access higher education	17.83%	69
Life-long learning, i.e. opportunities to return to education for additional courses, training etc.	39.02%	151
More access to apprenticeships within the area	32.56%	125
Other (please specify)	2.58%	10
Total Respondents: 387		

MEA Community Planning Survey Feb 2015

**Q14 How satisfied or dissatisfied are you
with each of the following public services in
your local area?**

Answered: 367 Skipped: 54



	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Total	Weighted Average
Support for business	21.19% 82	28.42% 110	50.39% 195	387	2.29
Schools	60.47% 234	17.31% 67	22.22% 86	387	1.62

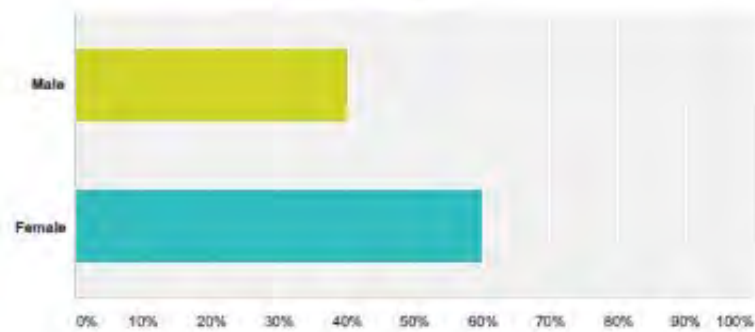
MEA Community Planning Survey Feb 2015

Street cleaning	51.16% 198	30.75% 119	18.09% 70	387	1.67
Refuse collection	63.31% 245	21.19% 82	15.50% 60	387	1.52
Recycling service	63.05% 244	19.64% 76	17.31% 67	387	1.54
Roads	31.01% 120	49.61% 192	19.38% 75	387	1.88
Planning	21.96% 85	34.63% 134	43.41% 168	387	2.21
Public transport	30.75% 119	42.64% 165	26.61% 103	387	1.96
Parks and open spaces	49.35% 191	31.52% 122	19.12% 74	387	1.70
Sport and leisure services (including leisure centres)	47.03% 182	31.78% 123	21.19% 82	387	1.74
Arts, events and Cultural activities/facilities	37.21% 144	26.36% 102	36.43% 141	387	1.99
Libraries	60.98% 236	13.95% 54	25.06% 97	387	1.64
Support for carers	13.44% 52	42.38% 164	44.19% 171	387	2.31
Adult and older people's health and social care	15.50% 60	45.99% 178	38.50% 149	387	2.23
Children's health and social care	29.97% 116	29.97% 116	40.05% 155	387	2.10
Polling	27.13% 105	45.74% 177	27.13% 105	387	2.00
Activities for young people	14.21% 55	54.26% 210	31.52% 122	387	2.17

MEA Community Planning Survey Feb 2015

Q15 Are you male or female?

Answered: 381 Skipped: 00

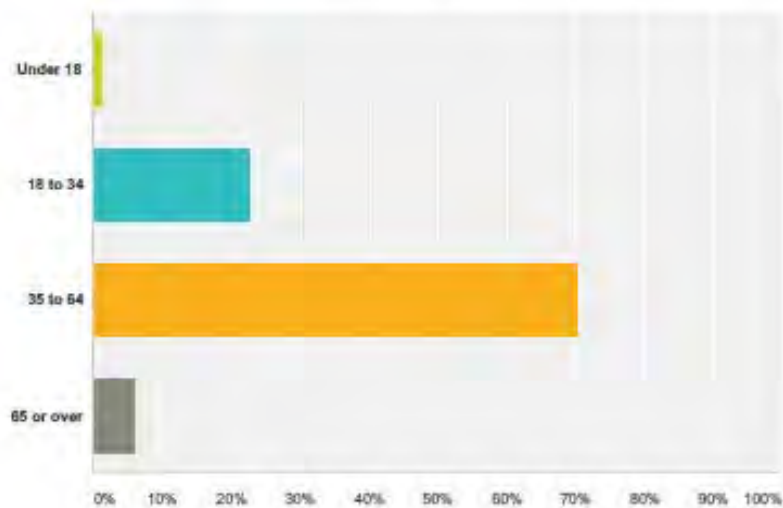


Answer Choices	Responses	
Male	40.16%	153
Female	59.84%	228
Total		381

MEA Community Planning Survey Feb 2015

Q16 What age are you?

Answered: 381 Skipped: 0

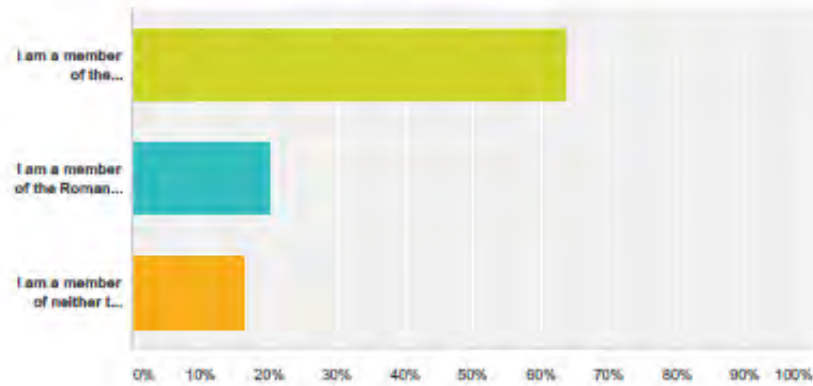


Answer Choices	Responses
Under 18	1.31%5
18 to 34	22.83%87
35 to 64	70.08%267
65 or over	5.77%22
Total	381

MEA Community Planning Survey Feb 2015

Q17 What would you describe as your community background?

Answered: 381 Skipped: 66

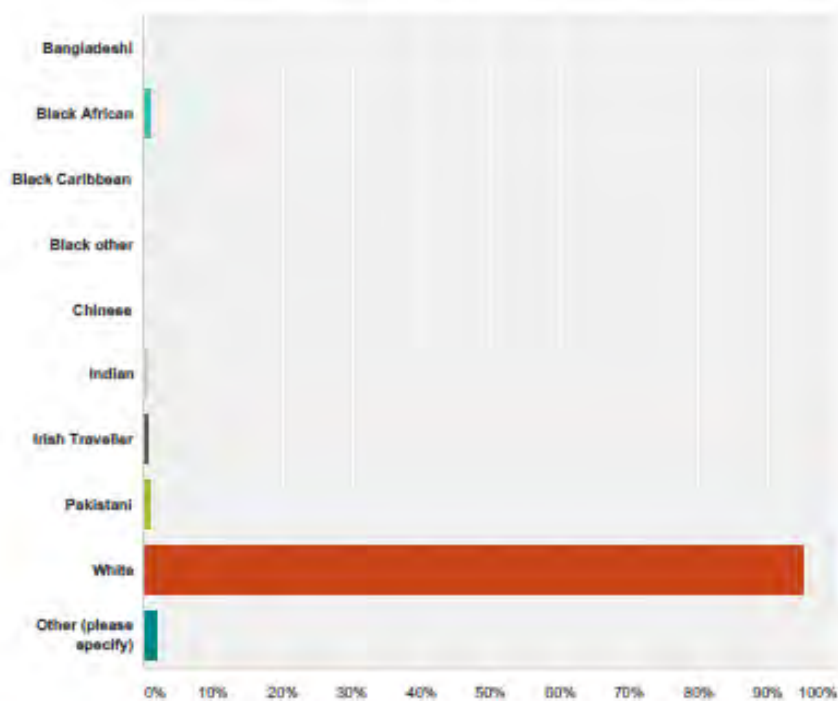


Answer Choices	Responses	
I am a member of the Protestant community	63.52%	242
I am a member of the Roman Catholic community	19.95%	76
I am a member of neither the Protestant nor Roman Catholic communities	16.54%	63
Total		381

MEA Community Planning Survey Feb 2015

Q18 What would you describe as your ethnic origin?

Answered: 381 Skipped: 58

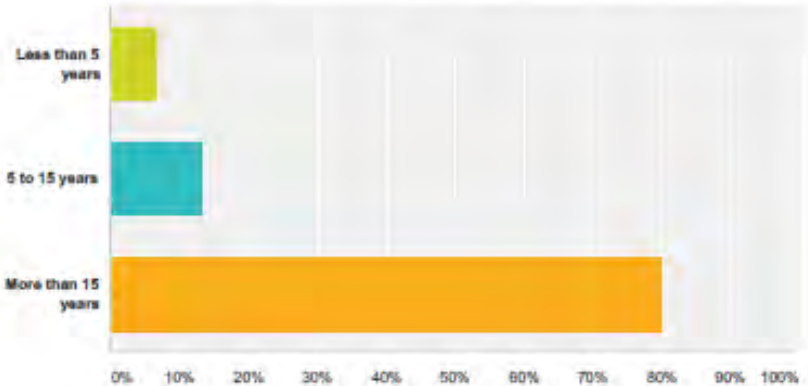


Answer Choices	Responses
Bangladeshi	0.26% 1
Black African	0.79% 3
Black Caribbean	0.00% 0
Black other	0.00% 0
Chinese	0.00% 0
Indian	0.52% 2
Irish Traveller	0.52% 2
Pakistani	0.79% 3
White	95.28% 363
Other (please specify)	1.84% 7
Total	381

MEA Community Planning Survey Feb 2015

Q19 How long have you lived and/or worked in the Mid and East Antrim area?

Answered: 381 Skipped: 66



Answer Choices	Responses
Less than 5 years	6.56%25
5 to 15 years	13.39%51
More than 15 years	80.05%305
Total	381

MEA Community Planning Survey Feb 2015

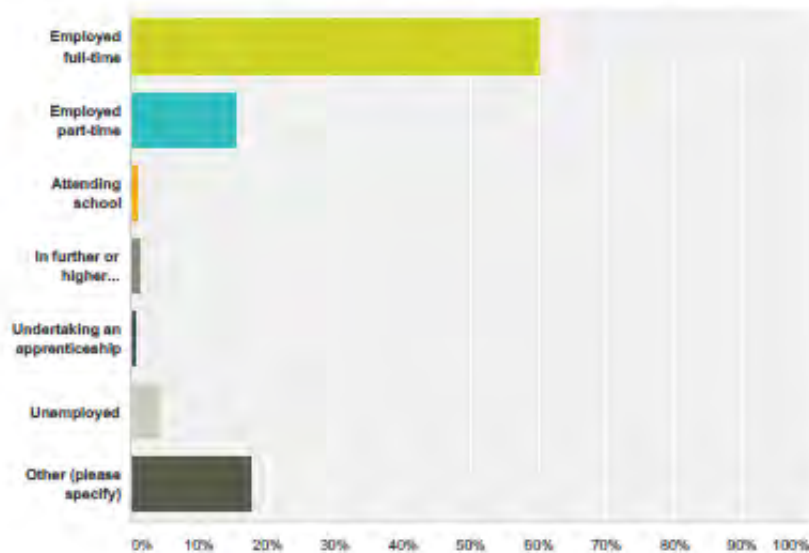
Q20 What is your postcode?

Answered: 381 Skipped: 60

MEA Community Planning Survey Feb 2015

Q21 Which of the following best describes your current employment situation?

Answered: 381 Skipped: 00

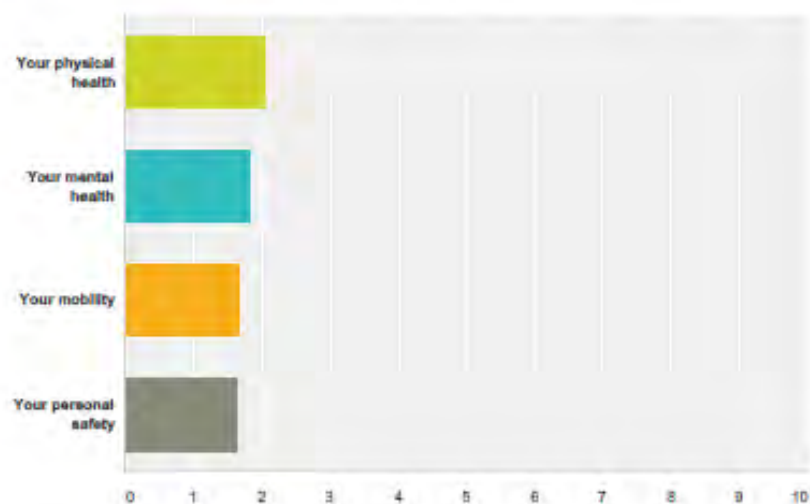


Answer Choices	Responses
Employed full-time	60.10% 229
Employed part-time	15.49% 60
Attending school	0.79% 3
In further or higher education	1.31% 5
Undertaking an apprenticeship	0.52% 2
Unemployed	3.94% 15
Other (please specify)	17.85% 68
Total	381

MEA Community Planning Survey Feb 2015

Q22 How would you rate the following?

Answered: 381 Skipped: 60

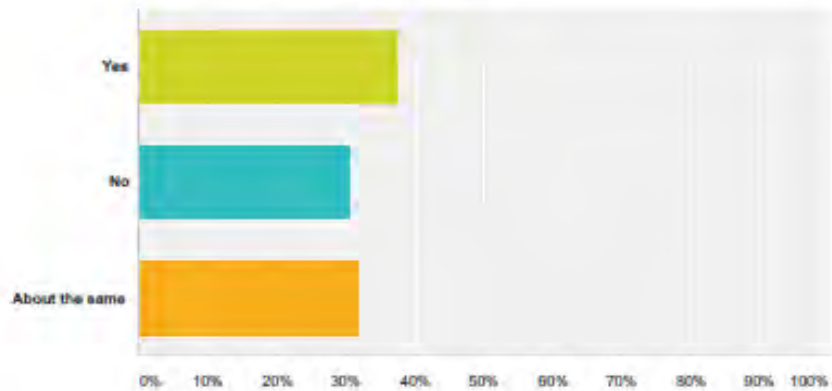


	Very good	Good	Average	Poor	Very poor	Total	Weighted Average
Your physical health	31.32% 119	40.00% 152	21.58% 82	6.32% 24	0.79% 3	380	2.05
Your mental health	42.74% 162	38.26% 145	14.25% 54	4.49% 17	0.26% 1	379	1.81
Your mobility	52.91% 200	32.28% 122	9.79% 37	3.97% 15	1.06% 4	378	1.68
Your personal safety	47.11% 179	42.89% 163	8.42% 32	1.05% 4	0.53% 2	380	1.65

MEA Community Planning Survey Feb 2015

Q23 Are you financially more secure than you were 5 years ago?

Answered: 381 Skipped: 60

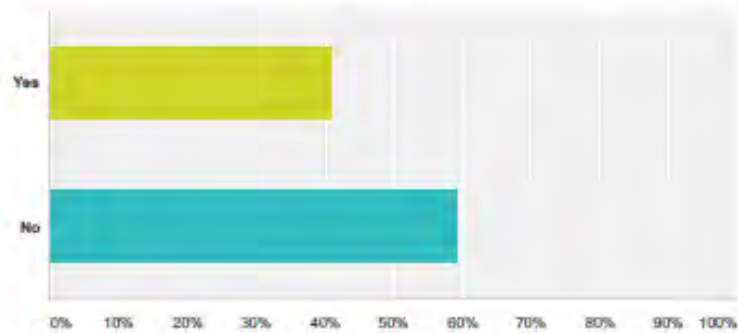


Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	37.53% 148
No	36.45% 116
About the same	32.02% 122
Total	381

MEA Community Planning Survey Feb 2015

Q24 Have you taken part in any training or learning experience in the last 2 years (e.g. college course or adult education class)?

Answered: 381 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	40.94%	155
No	59.06%	225
Total		381

MEA Community Planning Survey Feb 2015

**Q25 Please outline any additional
comments here.**

Answered: 86 Skipped: 345

APPENDIX C: SECTION 75 FOCUS GROUP MINUTES

Mid and East Antrim Borough Council

Notes from Focus Group Sessions : June 2015

Section 75 Group Elder Population

Facilitator's Name Claire Duddy Scribe's Name Karen Moore

Attendees :-

15 Volunteers; 1 Elected Member; 1 AgeNI member of staff and 1 NHSCT member of staff

Date of Focus Group 19/06/15 Venue

1. How do you want Council to communicate with your group?

- It was felt that the legacy Councils hadn't engaged particularly well with the older population
- It was felt that the best way to communicate with older people is through Council publications - Portview was mentioned (issued quarterly). Those present stated that they liked to be able to tear out and keep important sections such as phone numbers, who to contact etc
- Several stated that they have stopped buying local papers because they have become too expensive
- Only a couple of those present had access and the ability to use the internet, email etc
- The old Council websites were better than the new one
- Council Officers better informed than Councillors
- When asked how they preferred to give feedback to Councils, the majority agreed that focus groups were their preferred method. Most agreed that they would not complete online surveys. Questions pointed and no room for expansion

2. What issues are there in each of the following themes?

(a) Health, Wellbeing and Leisure

- Want better access to GP services
- Want more opportunities to socialise
- Want shorter waiting lists
- They like Health Fairs and Action Cancer bus - these need spread out to rural areas not just the towns. Not interested in getting leaflets - like practical health checks/screening
- Want more GP-based services rolled out into community pharmacy settings - eg cholesterol checks. Decentralisation of services
- Drop in facilities at Larne Health Centre very good
- Occupational Therapy (OT) waiting lists need to be reduced - money being wasted
- Want to see more age-friendly initiatives

(b) Community & Social Regeneration

- Want to see Councillors - not just at election time!
- Several present felt that their areas lacked civic pride
- Concerns raised about bonfires - especially at Craigyhill, Larne
- Concerns raised over pollution from burning tyres on bonfires
- Those present felt that if they weren't part of recognised structures then their views would be excluded (Community Voice)
- At risk of having nowhere to walk dogs (Dog Control Order Consultation exercise)
- More inter-generational work needs to be done within the area. Re-education needed and media needs to be more responsible over how it portrays young and old

(c) Built Environment

- Need more sheltered accommodation - especially in rural communities
- More social housing
- Scandalous that you should have to sell your own home in order to fund care home provision
- Want to remain in own home as long as possible but don't feel confident due to ill health or safety issues
- Older people don't like to make a fuss in case they are forced out
- Community transport important. Needs protected - especially in rural, isolated communities

(d) Education

- Cost of academic education should be subsidised for older people
- No adult learning centre in Larne (only Ledcom). Many enjoyed night classes when available but costs became prohibitive
- Very little variety available. Demand for crafts - only English, Maths and ICT available
- Could be better signposted so that people know what is available
- Better use could be made of libraries - need to be accessible. Opening hours need to be reviewed. Great new library facility in Carnlough

(e) Local Economy/Business

- Businesses need to be age-friendly and more aware of the needs of older people. Older people could be an untapped market
- Larne Town Centre very poor - too many charity shops and cafes. Improvement Scheme coming soon
- Not enough places to sit along streets - need to go into café for a rest and that costs money
- Need seating in changing rooms. Can't try on clothes. Have to take them home
- Funding for luncheon clubs in vacant shop units (social enterprise) could bring more older people to town centres
- Problems often down to greedy landlords

3. Top five priorities

- (i) Continue to support MEAPP/Good morning projects - these can lever in additional funding to support older people.
 - (ii) Health - reduce waiting times and improve access to services.
 - (iii) Less bureaucracy for those applying for funding.
 - (iv) More clubs/groups for socialising.
 - (v) Funding for inter-generational activities - like European model where students get subsidised accommodation for working in care home settings. Don't just want to see young people at Christmas when carol singing.
- *** Rural transport was late addition to list

Mid and East Antrim Borough Council



Notes from Focus Group Sessions/July 2015

Section 75 Group Youth

Facilitator's Name Jackie Patton Scribe's Name _____

Attendees :-

Reps from Ballymena, Carrickfergus, Larne Youth Councils - Sophie Whitehead, Neil - Youth Worker, Alec - Glynn Youth Council, Jess - Carrickfergus Youth Council, Kayleigh - Larne Youth Council, Rebecca - Larne Youth Council, Jordan - Larne Youth Council, Heidi Keenan, Amy - Ballymena Youth Council, Chloe - Ballymena, Jenny - Carrickfergus Youth Council

Date of Focus Group 02/07/15 Venue Carrickfergus Leisure Centre

1. How do you want Council to communicate with your group?

- Facebook - make it as user friendly - photos
- Interactive
- Twitter
- Sessions with elected members

2. What issues are there in each of the following themes?

(a) Health, Wellbeing and Leisure

- Lack of leisure facilities in Ballymena North - no cinema, leisure centre, Ballymena North Centre costs prohibitive, however Ballymena has good facilities
- Lack of promotion in all areas re mental health, sexual health, unplanned pregnancies etc, group were generally unsure if there were local facilities, were aware of regional facilities in Belfast
- Lack of facilities in Larne -very disappointed that there are no skateboarding facilities - Carrickfergus have excellent skateboarding facilities
- Larne Youth Council have dwelt on legal highs

(b) Community & Social Regeneration

- Appears to be a lot of duplication of community groups who are rather small, maybe better to amalgamate and publicise them well
- Carrickfergus Forte Group lobbied extensively until they achieved their goal of having a skateboard park, power of young people

(c) Built Environment

- No issues

(d) Education

- Larne Tech has closed necessitating students having to find ulterior provision
- Real issue with transport from Larne, Carrickfergus, Ballymena
- There is no specialist help for young people dealing with mental health issues

(e) Local Economy/Business

- Carrickfergus young people have to leave their area as there are few jobs or opportunities
- Real issue with young people getting the necessary qualifications that businesses require

(f) Safety & Good Relations

- General feeling there was a real sectarian issue in Carrickfergus
- Ballymena reps felt there was a good community infrastructure through Ballymena Inter Ethnic Forum to deal with race issues
- Racism in Ballymena still an issue
- One participant was very complimentary of the work of Catherine Black formerly of Larne Borough Council

3. What are the top 3-5 priorities

- Publicity, PR, Communications around young people not knowing about local facilities dealing with mental health issues
- Jobs, Qualifications, Opportunities
- Rural transport
- Communication - get it right

4. Were SurveyMonkey: Citizens Survey circulated to group?

Yes ☒ will complete on line

No ☐

5. Any Other Comments?

- Explore opportunities to have an MEA Youth Council
- They did not represent the views of all youth obviously
- Were keen to be involved
- No need to do individual sessions with the three youth councils
- Will feedback to me any further issues

Contacts

michael.crooks@eani.org.uk - Larne
conor.murphy@eani.org.uk - Carrickfergus
deirdre.bradley@eani.org.uk - Senior Youth Worker

Mid and East Antrim Borough Council



Notes from Focus Group Sessions/July 2015

Section 75 Group Ethnic Minorities

Facilitator's Name: Jackie Patton

Scribe's Name: Andrew Millar

Attendees:- Add in if appropriate:-

Date of Focus Group: 21/07/15 Venue: The Braid (Dry Arts Workshop)

1. How do you want Council to communicate with your group?

- e-mail
- Through Ivy/BIEF
- Facebook page
- Ballymena Blackboard
- Face to face , focus groups

2. What issues are there in each of the following themes?

(a) Health, Wellbeing and Leisure

- State of the swimming pool needs improved, Seven Towers Leisure Centre
- GP/Hospital appointments, difficult to get generally
- Lack of support/communication around mental health issues
- Accessing help for mental health issues for those who do not have English as a first language is an issue
- Access to mental health support in general
- Physio and psychiatrist appointments difficult to get
- Isolation among the older generation within Ethnic Minority communities

(b) Community & Social Regeneration

- Communication around what is available in the community, need project
- More focus groups/meetings to get people together/share information
- Little indoor activities for young people when weather is wet/poor
- Communication between groups

(c) Built Environment

- Easier parking around Ballymena, parking difficult
- Smithfield Park - anti-social behaviour/under-age drinking
- Anti-social behaviour in Dunclug
- Parking on busy days at the People's Park
- Floral displays on roads into Ballymena are fantastic
- Outdoor gym equipment is great as well - maybe could do with a shelter on it for wets days
- River path in Galgorm (opposite JTI) - grass is really long and needs cut. Could be hiding glass /needles, poses potential danger - Dans Road?? - Grange Rd

(d) Education

- Slemish Integrated College - should perhaps focus on giving priority to young people within the Borough area
- Take better look at placement of children coming in from other countries to the education system
- Need to look at what is provided on the curriculum re languages
- Lack of English lessons/communication about English lessons for parents
- Time of lessons needs to be looked at too as evening classes can class with a lot of people who work evenings
- Education in MEA is generally fantastic though

(e) Local Economy/Business

- Difficult to find work - job class from the job centre was deemed helpful
- Longer term help - grants to start bigger businesses etc
- Training for working in take-away businesses - few willing to work after 5pm and weekends, help to recruit
- Vacant properties in town centre, try to make use of them
- High rates put off new businesses from opening within the town
- JTI closing will not help unemployment in the area
- Lobbying MLAs/MPs/MEPs to bring more business/funding to the area - all seems to go to either Belfast/Derry
- Ex-patriots inviting businesses to Ballymena
- Political will at regional level is lacking

(f) Safety & Good Relations

- Funding/continuation of the work of BIEF is essential
- Sectarian/Racist Graffiti
- Fear of reporting Hate Crimes
- More could be done in dealing with race hate incidents - research of what works or is done in other places may be helpful
- More communities need to pull together to tackle racism
- Discrimination in the workplace
- Economic hardship seems to lead to blame being put on foreigners
- Lack of political leadership

- Education of local people to help integrate
- Civic leadership-essential
- Practical interventions
- Developing good community leaders
- Funding for places of worship - renovate some of the empty spaces within the town in community centre's/places to meet for EM communities - in a town centre location
- Community transport to places of worship

3. What are the top 3-5 priorities

1. Good Relations & Safety
2. Health, Leisure & Well Being
3. Better Communication and information sharing/Face to face communication with Councillors

4. Were SurveyMonkey: Citizens Survey circulated to group?

Yes ☒

No ☐

5. Any Other Comments?

None

Mid and East Antrim Borough Council



Notes from Focus Group Sessions/July 2015

Section 75 Group Young People 14 -18 yrs old

Facilitator's Name David McAllister Scribe's Name _____

Attendees:-

Carnlough Youth

Date of Focus Group Tuesday 21st July 2015

Venue Glenlough Community Centre

1. How do you want Council to communicate with your group?

- Social Media(7)
- e-mails(5)
- Meetings with Council Youth Worker(6)
- Newspapers(5)
- Questionnaire(3)
- Meetings with Councillors(4)
- Ask opinions through e-mails etc(1)
- Meetings with senior Council member(1)
- Meetings with Council Workers(2)

2. What issues are there in each of the following themes?

(a) Health, Wellbeing and Leisure

- **Health;**
 - Waiting times for treatment are too long
 - Private Healthcare is expensive
 - Waiting time is too long
 - No support for mental health
 - No counsellors in this area
 - No counselling
- **Wellbeing;**
 - No support for our age group mental or physical
 - Lack of meeting spaces
 - No places to go
 - More support services which are confidential are needed
- **Leisure;**
 - Limited Leisure Facilities(3)
 - Only available leisure facility is the MUGGA, although plenty of people like football not everyone does. No places for us to hang out in where we can feel safe and not pre judged in a bad way.
 - Limited facilities provided by the council(4)

(b) Community & Social Regeneration

- Somewhere to go and chill, and be out of the cold and rain. Possibly an old building done up
- Empty buildings converted to give us more opportunities
- Plenty of old buildings not being used in this area so they could be done up and used more
- Community centre has nothing for adolescents
- Turn empty buildings into ones that can give more opportunities to the community
- Involve us in doing up an old building to give us opportunities to volunteer
- Limited community facilities are not accessible to young ones
- Derelict buildings used for more activities eg drop-ins, youth centre
- Limited access to the community centre for our age group

(c) Built Environment

- More Housing facilities
- Not enough housing
- Not enough shared spaces/ parks
- Parks are not for our age so something else needs to be provided like a shelter
- There are no available houses in Carnlough
- Social housing goes to people who do not need it eg Belfast ones using them as a holiday home
- This means that local young people are forced to move out of the area

(d) Education

- Zero opportunities for further education/experience, meaning youths have to travel to different areas and this takes them longer to reach their chosen careers
- No further education programmes available
- No opportunities to learn and create a career
- No practical courses like first aid, catering - ICT offered
- Only opportunities is through the Youth Meetings. More practical courses like first aid and catering, cooking, sign language
- Have to travel to get any training which is no use

(e) Local Economy/Business

- Gender discrimination in getting a job, more females get the jobs than males
- There are no available jobs in Carnlough
- Shops are more willing to employ females than males
- You have to be 18 years old to do bar work
- Limited jobs in the hotel and lots of applications
- Easier for young people under 16 with no national insurance number to get a job than the rest of us

- Gender issues getting a job
- Some shops employ under age people and more older citizens which means we can't get a job when it's us who need it the most
- Limited job opportunities
- More difficult to get a job if you have a national insurance number
- Abuse of age groups in local businesses, ie employing people who are under age

(f) Safety & Good Relations

- High rates of boy racers
- Too much speeding in the area
- Illegal drivers, ie no insurance or licence
- Police ignore people who do wrong
- Too many drugs in this place
- Drugs/Drinking boy races and illegal drivers
- The speed of cars in the area makes it unsafe to walk about sometimes
- Police are only in this area when they are not needed
- People get done more for small offenses than those who do major ones
- Lots of people speeding - police don't catch them, some without a license
- Too many stuck up folk

2. What are the top 3-5 priorities

- Education
- Health Wellbeing Leisure
- Safety

3. Were SurveyMonkey: Citizens Survey circulated to group?

Yes ☒

No ☐

4. Any other comments?

None

APPENDIX D: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT THEMATIC WORKSHOP EVENTS



Community Planning Community Engagement Thematic Workshop Events

Wednesday 25th February 2015, Ballymena Showgrounds

Wednesday 11th March 2015,
Larne Town Hall

Thursday 12th March 2015,
Carrick Town Hall

Summary of Attendees Comments

Introduction

Community Planning in Mid and East Antrim Area

On Wednesday 1st April 2015, the new Mid and East Antrim Borough Council took responsibility for the delivery of Community Planning, for the new council area. Locally, MEA will lead the Community Planning process, which is a statutory duty, by working with a wide range of statutory partners and local communities to develop a shared vision for the area, which relates to all aspects of community life and involves people working together to plan and deliver better services which will make a real difference to people's lives.

The new Community Plan will set out a long term vision for the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of the area and will set out the priorities for the Mid and East Antrim area including areas such as health, education, economic and social regeneration, good relations and safety.

The Council has its structures in place with a dedicated Council committee and Community Planning Directorate established to lead the process together with a specific staff team to deliver the various components including:

Community Engagement: Over the last few months Council has delivered a number of community engagement events in order to begin the process of establishing the key themes for the new Community Plan.

Evidence Gathering: In addition a key component in the effectiveness of the plan is ensuring there is a robust evidence base developed and Council is working with an independent company to analyse a wide range of data to inform the new plan.

Best Practice Research : Council has organised a number of best practice visits and guest speakers to inform council staff, including forming a relationship with North Ayrshire Council, in Scotland, who are one of the leading councils in terms of delivering community planning.

Background

In order to ensure the evidence gathering process is robust Council has engaged a profession company to analyse a wide range of both qualitative and quantitative data.

This Report details the quantitative responses from three community planning thematic engagement events which were facilitated by Community Places and held on:

Wednesday 25th February, 2015 in Ballymena Showgrounds

Wednesday 11th March, 2015 in Larne Town Hall

Thursday 12th March, 2015 in Carrick Town Hall

The Themes discussed were:

- a) Education
- b) Built Environment and Spatial Planning
- c) Community and Social Regeneration
- d) Safety and Good Relations
- e) Health, Wellbeing and Leisure
- f) Economic Regeneration

The session's questions were:

- (i) What is working well in your area re the specific theme?
- (ii) What is not working so well in your area re this theme?
- (iii) What are the top 3/5 priorities in your area re this theme?

The sessions were facilitated by Mid and East Antrim Borough Council's staff project team for Community Planning.

The details contained in the report are the comments that came from each group and will assist in finalising the Community Plan for the area.

MID & EAST ANTRIM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENT BALLYMENA SHOWGROUNDS - 25TH FEBRUARY 2015

Community Planning Theme: Education

Facilitator - Jackie Patton
Scribe - Roisin Miller

What is working well for Education in your area?

1. Range of exceptional schools in Ballymena council area
2. Sure Start operating in the area preparing children for primary school
3. Post Primary, Ballymena Learning Together (BLT) which involves collaborative working with 7 post primary schools in the area is working very well with good integration and demonstrating civic leadership
4. Castle Tower Special Needs school which caters for preschool, primary and post primary ages getting "state of the art" new school
5. Good range of training programmes available for over 16s, e.g. NRC
6. Good relationships in the education field already established with health and special needs
7. Youth Enterprise Scheme which brings primary school and secondary school pupils together to consider business opportunities
8. Duke of Ed Scheme/Foreign Visits/ "Green" Policies and Principles within schools
9. In some areas youth clubs are working better than others for children of primary school age with the opportunity to develop their education and life skills
10. Good informal education facilities available from both uniformed organisations such as Scouts and army cadets and non-uniformed organisations such as young farmers
11. In Ballymena Neighbourhood Renewal (NR) Area there are a large number of volunteers partaking in adult education and good working relationships have been developed with the NR Education Sub Group
12. NR community based education project CALL working very well with a mixture of all age groups

What could be improved for Education in your area?

1. Lack of nursery places in rural areas
2. Rural issues in terms of accessibility
3. Places for all children required regardless of urban or rural

4. Accessibility and affordability issues of nursery/preschool and afterschool activities need to be addressed
5. Long waiting lists/ assessment process needs to be improved
6. Need to address issues preventing children getting into local nursery schools/ primary schools
7. Improved support for children with special needs
8. Need to move to "pupil centred" teaching enabling pupils to manage themselves
9. Selection process for secondary school and the number of transfer test examinations needs reduced.
10. Need to increase the number of places for integrated education as these are limited
11. Increase in placements for post primary pupils required
12. Need to address academic attainment in schools as perception is that there are still too many pupils leaving school with no qualifications
13. Need to address pupils leaving school not prepared for employment
14. Perception of pupils being failed as there are still a high number leaving school at 16 with no qualifications
15. Need careers teachers to tailor their advice specific to job vacancies in the local areas
16. Post 16 provision for special needs to be considered
17. Need to consider how pupils who have slipped through the net get a second chance and go forward with new opportunities
18. Delivery of campus style activities for all ages to be considered
19. Further Education - NRC need to align courses to what jobs are available in the local area and need to take account of vocational jobs and practicalities that go with these
20. Need improved Further Education opportunities
21. Concentrate on getting young people/adults to jobs in their local area
22. Introduction of job clubs to address educating the working age for jobs to include Interview techniques, writing CVs, etc.
23. Increased number of apprenticeship/vocational jobs required
24. More opportunities for self-employment and business start ups
25. Improved training places to suit the current job vacancies
26. Enterprise opportunities need to be improved as they are currently very weak
27. More Entrepreneur style skills and opportunities required
28. Need to showcase examples of good practice/ our own local champions/mentors
29. Return the ACE scheme - A4E (Action for Employment) Steps to work is ceasing and being replaced by 2 week placements which is not acceptable
30. Need to address the specific training needs of those JTI (Gallaghers) employees who will lose their jobs

31. Limited training opportunities available for 50+, e.g. recent training only provided 35 places for all Antrim and Ballymena residents
32. Schools and education need to be working collectively with Community & Voluntary Sector/Health Centres. Although it was recognised that there was an increase in counselling within schools it was muted that this was not enough and needed to increase
33. Need to introduce health education and long term issues looking at the mental well-being and pressures on post primary pupils such as teenage drinking and substance abuse
34. Need to look at how to provide support network in schools and the missed opportunities for peer support - Calms Service in Magherafelt was muted as an example.
35. Improve links between health and education to address social issues in schools such as self-esteem and confidence.
36. Need to establish how to access services and reduce the number of schools working in silos
37. Consider integrating the online "MindUp" programme (celebrity led) into schools and education
38. Traffic conditions/parking facilities to be improved at all local schools
39. PSNI/Fire Service need to participate more with schools
40. Encourage parents to get involved in their children's education
41. Need to address literacy issues for both pupils and adults
42. Need to encourage young people to volunteer in local community to enhance their CVs
43. Improved access to broad band and superfast broad band in both rural and urban areas but particularly in the rural areas
44. More use to be made of open university and online facilities through advertising/publicity to encourage people to take the first step to signing up
45. Need on line facilities to be more user friendly
46. Improved communications with schools reaching out to communities and forging links between schools & their local communities
47. Schools accessibility and the need to provide their facilities for the use of the community in the evenings/weekends and holiday periods.
48. Community outreach needs to be developed more with local schools
49. Need for targeted training in communities (not in a school setting) to address adult learning needs such as IT skills
50. Finance should be made available for preschool and after school activities
51. Lack of finance/funding for classroom assistants
52. Three Primary schools working together but Government need to make decisions on sustainability and employment issues - Ballymena County Primary declared unfit for purposes

- 53. Primary Schools in rural areas under pressure from the threat of closure needs to be addressed
- 54. Capital expenditure required as Post primary schools overdue minor works and refurbishment but still expected to deliver high quality standard of education
- 55. Ballee High School sitting empty - decision needs to be taken on its use

What are the top 3 - 5 key priorities within Education moving forward?

1. Preschool/after school places to increase to allow all children in the area the opportunity to attend these at rate friendly and viable rates
2. Encourage BLT to share opportunities with others
3. Implementation of primary/secondary/over 16 support for special needs
4. Introduce a health education and well-being programme into schools in the area
5. Increase teacher training for dealing with vulnerable pupils
6. Need for more programmes to be introduced for young people to avail off
7. Need for survey to identify obstacles to getting pupils and communities involved in education
8. Careers advice improved and targeted to the local area,
9. Greater links to be forged with schools and businesses/entrepreneurs
10. Greater emphasis on training/education to acquire employment, for e.g., job interview techniques/CV writing/skills
11. Careers guidance/information/provision to move to private sector and Careers teachers/advisors to be trained in jobs/vacancies that are available in the local area
12. Plant the seed of enterprise for pupils at an earlier age, i.e. primary school age
13. Promotion of local role models/ambassadors
14. Increased job shadowing/mentoring opportunities
15. Accessible adult learning/education in communities at any level
16. Need to retain over 18's as high level are going to Universities outside Northern Ireland
17. Need to address the increase in "brain drain" as more educated/professional people are moving outside Northern Ireland
18. Recognise the use of informal experiences/opportunities such as Scouts, Army Cadets, Young Farmers as further ways of education
19. Education costs as cost of primary school education is cheaper than secondary school but this can be lost when transferring to secondary school
20. Continuation of Youth Club funding in the area
21. Assistance with Digital Inclusion

MID & EAST ANTRIM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENT LARNE TOWN HALL - 11TH MARCH 2015

Community Planning Theme: Education

Facilitator - Jackie Patton
Scribe - Roisin Miller

What is working well for Education in your area:-

1. Excellent range of all ability schools in the area/ good grammar schools in the area
2. Larne Tec/NRC delivered good range of courses when it was opened
3. Good schools community
4. Good relationships between Primary Schools in the area
5. Environmental work initiated and ongoing in the Primary and Secondary schools
6. Good examples in the area of children being educated right from Nursery school age to post primary (3 - 18)
7. Schools/NRC - Entitlement Framework Programme for 14+
8. Women's Aid, as a preventative measure, delivering Domestic Violence Workshops in both primary and post primary schools
9. Larne YMCA delivering extra curriculum activities in schools, adding value by bringing schools together and taking pupils outside their comfort zone
10. Very good special needs provision
11. Community groups work well with the P7s in the area and e.g. given was the Group taking the P7s to visit to Stormont to see politics in action
12. NRCs Learner Access and Engagement Programme for 16+ which was a community led project but is now no longer operating due to budget constraints
13. Volunteer Now's Millennium Voluntary Programme complimenting education
14. Acceptable Enterprises Ltd, a Social Enterprise Company providing disadvantaged people with support to access further training and employment opportunities
15. Larne Skills Development, a training organisation based in Ledcom providing young people with the skills necessary to gain and maintain employment.

Whilst one table provided five bullet points below, these were questioned by further tables and the evidence to support them

- New skills/training being delivered within local businesses
- Good Research and Development skills
- Highly skilled workforce for those in employment - but it was further noted that these are not necessarily residents from the Larne area

- Local businesses/employers, both large and small, investing in schools and staff development by providing apprenticeships, skills development programmes, etc.
- Local businesses/employers, both large and small, are very good at employing people with disabilities

What could be improved for Education in your area?

1. Address geographic spread of facilities and the disparity and affordability around these
2. Protection for rural schools and more flexibility on numbers for small schools
3. Address the lack of rural transport
4. Better schools provision in Larne town at post primary instead of “busing” pupils out of the town
5. More integrated places for post primary
6. Need to accept everything cannot be centralised
7. Address social issues for young from primary school through to post primary
8. More collaborative working between primary and post primary schools
9. Closer collaboration between schools to deliver more/shared subjects
10. Need to increase educational attainment as 41% of school leavers are leaving school with no or low qualifications
11. STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) to be considered at higher level to address need
12. Tec/NRC - improve limited scope of programmes delivered in Larne
13. Address lack of apathy from 14+ as by 16 the pupil is lost to education
14. Need to recognise that not all students are academic and need more opportunities for these students
15. Vocational training/skills need to be introduced at a very young age possibly nursery/primary school
16. Vocational training/skills needs to be introduced as part of the weekly timetable in colleges five days per week for 14+
17. Introduce idea of self-employment/entrepreneurs from an early age and have a Plan B for those who want to follow this route
18. More opportunities for apprenticeships/enterprise/entrepreneurs
19. Embed enterprise opportunities at an earlier age
20. Primary school delivering Dragons Den every week, this needs to be encouraged throughout all schools and more introduced in all primary schools
21. Need more Princes Trust style projects, creating your own product for sale
22. Skills training provided does not address the employment vacancies
23. Need to address employers needs and establish as essential criteria for schools/careers

24. Need to recognise what employment/employer needs will be in the future and adapt training and development to suit these
25. Improve number of training/skills programmes for adults and the accessibility of these
26. Deliver training programmes for adults in community setting such as essential skills

What are the top 3 - 5 key priorities within Education moving forward?

1. Encourage parental responsibility
2. Establish more mixed ability schools
3. Integrate schools in the area to the new council area and sharing of resources
4. Schools/colleges to build relationships
5. Think smarter and consider other models, e.g. given - the Ayrshire model, German model and the Scandinavian model
6. Improved/better careers guidance
7. Deliver foundation courses in non-academic work, e.g., trades, hairdressing, secretarial work
8. Provide job tasters/samplers from 14+
9. Encourage self-esteem and address low self-esteem issues in primary schools
10. Concentrate on 14-16 year olds to address low self-esteem issues
11. More drugs education/prevention needed for teachers/pupils/parents
12. More/better liaison between schools and local business
13. Encourage partnership approach between schools and businesses
14. Increase volunteering opportunities for students
15. Business in the Community style programmes to introduce business volunteers to mentor pupils and increased number of volunteers working in schools
16. Research project, taking account of annual labour market study, to establish business requirements
17. Need to identify employers and their needs
18. Need to address youth unemployment and 2nd/3rd generation unemployment
19. More opportunities for 16+ as they are currently being let down, need for education opportunities to suit work needs
20. Opportunities for life/career long learning for all to include the STEM subjects
21. Reintroduction of ACE (Action for Community Employment) scheme
22. No benefits paid unless individual is volunteering or giving something back to the community
23. Lobby civic leaders re-education structure/process, e.g. transfer test, more integrated places
24. Lobby for changes to Access NI as currently child protection clearance has to be applied for every group a person is involved with and can be expensive

25. Larne Tec/NRC to be reinstated as there are no basic skills training available locally
26. Need to embrace, market and promote, Larne social enterprise business "Acceptable Enterprises"
27. Improve transport links between Larne and Ballymena
28. Introduce reduced rates/subsidised evening classes
29. More OCN accredited OCN level training for NEETS (16-24 year olds Not in Education, Employment or Training) as Larne YMCA worked with a group of NEETs to bring to OCN level but no accredited training was available so group was lost
30. More accredited trainers
31. Improved 16+/adult learners courses
32. Research need for adult literacy courses
33. Training/Programme for adult returners
34. More intergenerational opportunities for both young and old

MID & EAST ANTRIM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENT CARRICKFERGUS TOWN HALL - 12TH MARCH 2015

Community Planning Theme: Education

Facilitator - Jamie Withers

Scribe - Beth

What is working well in your area?

1. Four good schools in Carrickfergus
2. Learning community one of the most successful in NI
3. Resource Sharing
4. Pupils are local
5. Primary/Nursery - good
6. Numbers at primary schools are levelling out
7. Integrated schools provided with free transport
8. Good for sports/pitches and use of leisure centres for schools.
9. Good secondary/high schools (results)
10. One man in group took the decision to move to NI from England based 60% on the better education he would receive for his children.
11. Schools are more community and demand led, more people taking part in education
12. Positive exam result evidence.
13. Good 3rd level education available
14. Links with schools through Carrick learning community
15. Ready to learn organisation, but has short term funding
16. NRC- good range of courses
17. University/3rd level education (Jordanstown)
18. Both Greenisland schools very good
19. Belfast High School
20. Schools joint working
21. Surestart, Sunnylands
22. Good attitude of staff in local schools (Carrickfergus College and Ulidia)
23. Good Schools in area
24. Downshire School, good provision for pupils needs/pastoral care
25. Good partnerships with speech therapists, occupational therapists through the Northern Trust, could be more.
26. Multi agency support team (MAST)
27. Good older volunteers and training of volunteers

What could be improved in this area re this theme?

1. Under resourced
2. Would be nice to have a level playing field in Carrickfergus re education
3. Morale of teachers - effect on teaching
4. One large campus, University feel
5. Due to possible merger, schools are not prepared to invest in schools due to future visions of 'Campus' -limbo period
6. Some primary schools over subscribed
7. School boards need to have more input in own schools and how resources are used/money is spent.
8. Funding for resources
9. Funding for special needs/special requirement assessments
10. Funding for classroom assistants
11. Funding for schools trips
12. In some local areas education is not valued, more needs to be done within welfare.
13. Job advice-keeping skilled workers in the area after education
14. Making it easier for the community to be involved in local education
15. Gap between 11+ and transfer test not resolved
16. Level of non-grammar school education should be lifted
17. Support for special needs pupils beyond formal education
18. More knowledge for parents -example, SureStart in local areas
19. No nursery unit near Eden - based on postcode if you can attend
20. Linking education and community
21. Education programmes for parents in schools/community-support and upskilling parents
22. NRC under provision
23. Aspiration/jobs/careers/future development
24. Transport to schools to avoid pupils being dropped off by car
25. More further education within the community and local areas
26. Apprenticeship schemes
27. Aspirations for children in schools within socially deprived areas- mentoring scheme
28. Targeting deprived areas
29. Focus on children at risk
30. Community group access to sports halls and pitches when school is not in use.
31. Community facilities within school grounds to increase community hub/clubs setting in areas
32. School facilities used for needs of the community

33. NRC/University- Transport - outreach to community areas. People don't know enough about it
34. Focus on basic skills, Maths/English
35. NRC under subscribed
36. More intergenerational education-linking ages
37. Cuts to special needs education
38. Low school attendance in areas of deprivation
39. Facilities- new schools in some areas and not others within the borough
40. Tutor fees, divide between generations
41. University courses, better choice and content
42. Jobs after University, need experience /volunteering
43. Volunteering and experience from secondary schools
44. Pre-school provision, inner Carrick area, only one full-time pre-school
45. Engagement with parents, example, Special Olympics club at leisure centre
46. Learn from south and west Belfast service community network and roll out in MEA - looking at specific models in NI
47. Special needs post education gap, 18+ not enough engagement opportunities
48. Partnerships between schools and businesses.
49. Basic skills for employment
50. NEET- not enough provision in this area for non-attenders for other learning experiences.

What are the top 3-5 key priorities within education moving forward?

1. More resources for schools
2. Council's role- community involvement
3. Council working together/in partnership with other bodies
4. 'Community' schools. Use of facilities on weekends, evenings and summer holidays, more multi-purpose buildings
5. Lifting the bar of education for all
6. Pre-school facilities substitutions-less run by expensive companies
7. Transport
8. Resources
9. Funding
10. Parents-helping to encourage children in education
11. Wider view of education
12. Support informal lifelong learning (university of the 3rd age)
13. Business 'Starter Units' used for training up young people, using the facilities we have
14. Partnerships from council within primary schools
15. All children and ages having equal opportunities

16. Addressing stats from education departments
17. Bringing information about schools together and making it available
18. Concerns about cuts in school funding
19. Merge of schools, more clarity, big classes are a concern
20. Higher education in communities advertised more - campuses can be hard to get to
21. Good choice of primary schools, secondary schools and grammar schools
22. Facilities within Council may be too expensive for some
23. Lifelong learning, not much in area, more focus and resources needed in area.
24. Sustainable resources
25. Partnering needed to create mutual benefits
26. Rolling out services across MEA
27. Sharing resources
28. Encouragement/involvement
29. Skill sets match employment opportunities
30. Full time pre-school places.

Some concern from one group on why they were discussing the theme of education when councils are not involved in the decisions of formal education, it comes from higher government.

MID & EAST ANTRIM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENT BALLYMENA - 25th FEBRUARY 2015

Community Planning Theme: Built Environment & Spatial Planning

Facilitator - Claire Duddy

Scribe - Maire Clarke

What is working well in your area?

1. Character of Ballymena town
2. Braid centre
3. Showgrounds, ecos, Leisure centre, Ballymena North, People's Park
4. Free short-term car-parking
5. Fast-tracking of rural development fund applications
6. Current rural planning policy - protecting rural environment
7. Natural attractions - Slemish, Portglenone Marina, Forest etc.
8. Good recycling rates in Ballymena
9. Highway to Health - Ballee
10. Green gyms
11. Visual character, community spirit - Broughshane, Cullybackey, Ahoghill
12. Environmental Improvement Schemes - Dunclug
13. New social housing in Harryville
14. Graveyard at St Patrick's Church, Ballymena

What could be improved?

1. Commercial vacancy rates in Ballymena
2. Linkage of ecos centre to town centre
3. Connectivity between the town
4. ecos centre under-utilised
5. Dated leisure centre, accessibility issues
6. More social/affordable housing for young people across the district
7. Lack of public transport in rural areas
8. Environmental improvements required at bus/train station
9. Misuse of disabled spaces in town centre
10. Lack of centre/hub in small hamlets/villages
11. Improvements required to many public spaces, more public space required
12. Inappropriate development impacting on existing areas re conservation
13. Need for VAT relief on vernacular buildings
14. Need for spaces/re-use of buildings for small businesses

15. New models of working for small business needed
16. Lack of leisure facilities - Glenravel
17. Further PD rights for Council environmental improvements - easier change of use for different businesses/community uses
18. Improve red boxes for kerbside recycling - prefer blue bins/stacking system
19. More open space and green corridors, especially in rural areas
20. Improve quality of rural rivers/river banks
21. More cycle routes
22. Need scramble tracks to remove antisocial behaviour
23. Lack of enterprise parks to meet business needs
24. Impact of flooding on Harryville/Broughshane
25. Lack of green space in housing developments
26. Derelict housing - Dunclug/Doury Road
27. Private landlords in housing developments - lack of upkeep
28. Lack of commitment from partners/agencies to working together
29. Area-based approach needed
30. Social areas for dog walking
31. Dog fouling and dogs off leads in public areas
32. Lack of parking around rural halls

Top 3 - 5 priorities

1. Right to house/home for everyone
2. Reduced vacancy rates in town centre
3. Business units and enterprise parks for small start-ups and expanding businesses
4. Extended park and ride at train station
5. Allotments - potentially at ecos centre
6. Business units in villages
7. Fair and open planning system - streamlining of system
8. Up-to-date area plan
9. Strategy for re-use of buildings for small start-ups
10. Buildings for use by community groups
11. Social enterprise for renewable energy
12. Protection of architectural heritage
13. Connectivity between housing and schools
14. Greater flexibility around the use of buildings e.g. community use of buildings that are vacant (planning use classes)
15. Extend rail link to airport (long-term)
16. Ballymena town centre turns its back on the river - need to address so that river is used

- 17. Housing Associations and NIHE need to work together in a meaningful way
- 18. Amenities needed in rural villages, e.g. the Grange
- 19. Extension of green gyms to other villages
- 20. Management of natural assets to attract tourists

MID & EAST ANTRIM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENT LARNE TOWN HALL - 11TH MARCH 2015

Community Planning Theme: Built Environment & Spatial Planning

Facilitator - Michael Francey

Scribe - Sinead Kelly

What is working well in your area re this theme?

1. Houses are reasonably priced for the income and cost of living in the area, even well located properties
2. Housing needs generally fulfilled, no homelessness, enough social housing, locations of housing good
3. A8 development, cost effective
4. Carnlough Old Town Hall has been saved, space inside for community use
5. Gobbins
6. Parks across the borough, green spaces very good, rural areas of Larne beautiful
7. Carnlough Harbour repairs
8. Coast Road
9. Train route into Larne goes to the port once every hour
10. Accommodation available at a range of costs for various budgets
11. Fast tracking of rural development projects through planning has been a success
12. Role of volunteers in management of green spaces and the outdoor environment
13. Community centres are all being used well, plenty of facilities available and all in use
14. Larne leisure centre and Cinema big positives
15. Latharna retail area and Willow Bank business area were well thought of
16. Areas of special interest and protected areas in rural areas of Borough

What could be improved in this area re this theme?

1. Need more areas for sports and games within villages
2. Need more one bed dwellings and suitable for disability properties built - people are worried about Welfare Reform and Bedroom Tax. Reduce number of people likely to be displaced and so potential stop further deprivation in areas and dereliction of properties.
3. Need more investment in the Port
4. Need more investment in infrastructure and to maximize utilization of new potential for links created by development of A8

5. Coast road needs improved at Straidkilly
6. Tourism needs to exploit, promote and highlight the strengths of Larne Borough/area such as the Coast Road, a walking route all the way along the coast road was suggested, with street lighting on it
7. Would like a Tourism Strategy developed
8. Some felt that there was a shortage of social housing, issue with fact that the NIHE were unable to build any additional houses because there is such a large private rental sector in the area the need is being cancelled out so people in tenancies of properties not HIHE owned, no waiting list being created for housing so no ability to build social housing. (This was an area for improvement which was the cause and solution to the same problem, depended on which agency - which perspective was held)
9. Concern about Gas storage under Islandmagee, and leakage of brine into the coastal water
10. Coast line beaches have lost blue flag accreditation, now just have clean beach standard
11. Want more hotels and guest houses (the opposite was also thought, with priority to be given to promoting stock that exists and investing in development)
12. Lack of green spaces and communal parks in more recent developments, need to improve Victoria Park
13. Investment in town centres, encourage businesses back into them and people. Potentially allow change of use for properties which could be used as something else. Diversify services available in the c.b.d - not all greasy spoons.
14. Economic zooming - provision of land for industrial use to be made available for economic development
15. Social Isolation
16. Communication between government departments and local councils
17. Promote use of market yard

What are the top 3-5 key priorities within (theme) moving forward?

1. Coastal water quality, swimming facilities, tourism, river management and effluent management. Promote use of Inver River.
2. Promotion of and encourage infrastructure along the coast road route as a tourist area, develop Larne promenade
3. Develop beautiful, historical buildings in Borough, especially those relevant to town centre e.g. Citizens' Advice Bureau, Court house etc. and along the Coast Road, encouraging investment in leisure activities and the arts into the area
4. Diversification of the port and surrounding area
5. Improve the first impressions of Larne for visitors (regardless of from which direction you approach) and get commonality for the area. Get rid of eyesores.

6. Utilise planning tools available to Environmental Management & Tourism
7. Town centre redevelopment and diversification, need to keep it vibrant and attractive
8. Maximise investment potential brought by A8
9. To encourage people to stay in the area and invest rather than leaving. Encourage entrepreneurial skills in our local people and investment, creative employment potential
10. Maximise potential of Gobbins
11. Reduce number of wind turbines erected and remove ineffective ones
12. Public transport routes to be improved within and across the three areas, as well as to ensure the train route from Belfast to Larne is saved and Ballycarry Station is saved.

MID & EAST ANTRIM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENT CARRICKFERGUS TOWN HALL - 12TH MARCH 2015

Community Planning Theme: Built Environment & Spatial Planning

Facilitator - Claire Duddy

Scribe - Maire Clarke

What is working well in your area re this Theme?

1. Carrickfergus Castle
2. Town Hall & Listed Town Walls
3. Gasworks Museum - but not widely known about
4. New Play Park
5. Leisure Centre Facilities
6. Skate Park
7. Outdoor gyms
8. Allotments
9. Belfast/Carrickfergus Lough
10. Slemish
11. Forests above Carrickfergus
12. Species rich woodlands
13. Dams/wildlife parks/walkways
14. Coastal strip (but need to control development in this area)
15. Market
16. Harbour/Marina improvements - allow walks/accessibility to this area and promotes an evening economy
17. Area around Harbour
18. Pedestrianised area
19. Carrickfergus Town Centre Public Realm improvements
20. Whitehead improvements - particularly Railway Preservation Society and associated development
21. Greenisland Development Framework underway
22. Planning Policy has protected rural areas from development
23. Good provision of industrial zonings e.g. Troopers Lane
24. Effectiveness of development limits in Whitehead, preventing the spread of development
25. Good levels of household recycling in Carrickfergus district
26. Free car parking in Carrickfergus town centre
27. Eating Establishments good in Carrickfergus
28. Good hotel provision

29. Community Growing Schemes

What could be improved in this area re this Theme?

1. More social housing in Carrickfergus town centre - land needs to be zoned for it
2. Delivery of social housing
3. Toilet provision needs to be improved
4. Retail Planning Policy needs to be improved
5. Need for residential accommodation for elderly
6. Road network- albeit work is currently underway to address this
7. Need to enable vacant buildings to be developed
8. Concern that previously rural land that has been cut off following Shore Road realignment may now be developed
9. Restrict apartment development along Shore Road
10. Litter/debris on beaches/around cinema/local area
11. Dog litter around marina and streets in Carrickfergus
12. Could be more organized events in the existing public/open spaces/parks - such events need to be well publicized
13. Improve access to beach
14. Lack of good beach
15. Public/open spaces should be accessible to all including those with dementia/disabilities
16. Conflict between visitors/residential areas e.g. car parking
17. Carrickfergus Castle underused
18. More potential to link the Castle and Lough front to historic town centre core of Carrickfergus - need for guided walking tours around the town centre and to Knockagh
19. Cost of leisure facilities
20. Hockey pitch facilities not opened late enough
21. Room for more improvement to town centre despite DSD masterplan work
22. Public realm could be better- need for new Carrick in Bloom Group to follow example in Whitehead needed
23. Rates could be lower
24. Need for more coffee shops (some people disagreed with this)
25. Viability of Carrickfergus town centre poor
26. Need for all town centre parking to be free
27. Need to promote species rich protected natural heritage areas within the borough to locals and tourists
28. Cycle network needs to be improved
29. Rights of Way need to be maintained (including removal/control of dog dirt)
30. Improved access/lighting around hockey pitches

31. Recycling facilities could be improved
32. Signage needs to be improved
33. Room for more improvement to town centre despite DSD masterplan work
34. Public realm could be better- need for new Carrick in Bloom Group to follow example in Whitehead needed
35. Rates could be lower
36. Need for more coffee shops (some people disagreed with this)
37. Pedestrian areas not working well
38. Viability of Carrickfergus town centre poor
39. Need for all town centre parking to be free
40. Need to promote species rich protected natural heritage areas within the borough to locals and tourists
41. Cycle network needs to be improved
42. Rights of Way need to be maintained (including removal/control of dog litter)
43. Improved access/lighting around hockey pitches
44. Recycling facilities could be improved
45. Signage needs to be improved

What are the top 3-5 key priorities within (theme) moving forward?

1. Innovative and ambitious Local Development Plan
2. Planning Committee should embrace the spirit of the SPPS (Strategic Planning Policy Statement) and sustainable development
3. Zoning/Delivery of Social/Affordable housing (particularly in Carrickfergus town)
4. Protect the open countryside around Carrickfergus - prevent spread of development beyond existing development limits in Whitehead
5. Accountable and robust enforcement/planning system - plan led system to give more certainty
6. Effective town centre planning policy
7. Belfast-wide plan to include Carrickfergus
8. Make more use/improve tourist offer of the castle and link to town centre
9. Enable re-development of Carrickfergus Town Centre - LOTS (Living of the Shop)
10. Reduce vacancy rates in town centre to help attract tourists/locals
11. Improve design of new developments
12. Ensure enough facilities for a growing elderly population
13. Reduce dog litter/empty bins around the Marina car park/all areas of Carrick (improve design of bins)
14. Enforcement of dog fouling - Prince Andrew Way
15. All town centre parking free
16. Initiatives to remove paramilitary murals/flags
17. Prevent fracking in the area

MID & EAST ANTRIM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENT BALLYMENA - 25TH FEBRUARY 2015

Community Planning Theme: Social Regeneration

Facilitator - Rosemary McCormick

Scribe - Anna Morrison

What is working well in your area re social regeneration?

1. Strength of community working
2. Financial support from Council
3. Good facilities - Community Centres, Leisure Centre (free for over-60s), sports facilities, MUGA etc.
4. Allocation of resource to new facilities
5. Upskilling workshops/Capacity building opportunities
6. Arts/Sports Awards - showcasing successes
7. Community Clusters
8. Interest Groups
9. Unity of Community Groups
10. Good links between community and Councillors/Council Officers
11. Enabling funding
12. Men's Shed - similar projects
13. Events support
14. Council working with Inter-Ethnic Forum
15. Youth Groups - inclusivity/diversity/respect
16. Involvement with key statutory agencies

What could be improved in your area re social regeneration?

1. Lower cost of using facilities/Reduction in fees for retired groups
2. More Council support for rural groups/youth
3. Improvement of community centres - staging, storage etc.
4. Free use of community centres
5. More for young mums/young people
6. Community asset transfer
7. Recognition/Encouragement for volunteers/community recognition
8. Incentives for young people (Volunteer Now)
9. Interaction/accessibility to Councillors

10. Consideration in timing of events
11. Advertising of available funding/grants
12. Awareness for immigrants - contribution new communities can bring
13. Retired people could be used more in volunteering
14. Free transport for volunteering
15. Improved signage in The Braid
16. Get message across that volunteering is good for CV for young people
17. Coaching and mentoring support
18. Shared community facilities - Runners, Schools etc.
19. Council assistance for groups to link with others
20. Expansion of Cluster model to other groups not necessarily generic community groups
21. Financial support for groups - match-funding hard for groups
22. Training for community groups
23. Sharing information and knowledge through new boundaries
24. Avoid burnout of volunteers

What are the top 3-5 priorities in social regeneration, moving forward?

1. Support/recognition for communities
2. Consideration of funding levels/opportunities
3. Facilities, services and prices
4. Links with Councillors/Council Officers
5. Communication via various methods
6. Simplify forms (funding etc.)
7. Build on arts/creative side
8. Marketing - area
9. Advertise what's going on in town/area - Ballymena Blackboard
10. Use skills of young people/retired people
11. Council Officer liaison with communities on the ground
12. Childcare issues
13. Continuity of funding
14. Relationships between Good Relations and Inter-Ethnic Forum
15. Pooling of funding/support for groups
16. Work placements/volunteering
17. Training for community leaders
18. Expansion of cluster model
19. Reassessment of Cluster groups
20. Good Relations looks more at locals and needs to reach out to new people (immigrants)
21. Social enterprise

- 22. Regeneration of derelict premises for use for community activities
- 23. Build relationships with other two areas in new Council

MID & EAST ANTRIM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENT LARNE TOWN HALL - 11TH MARCH 2015

Community Planning Theme: Social Regeneration

Facilitator - Catherine Black
Scribe - Rachael McMaster

What is working well in this area re Social Regeneration?

1. Village linkages Programme
2. Local Villages informal linkages
3. North Antrim Community Network (support for rural groups)
4. Co-operation between local churches and community organisations
5. A strong volunteer base
6. Strong partnership of arts groups
7. Community development works well
8. Good sharing information - Catherine Black email network/circulation
9. Electronic Notice Board at Broadway in Larne
10. Churches work well - community activity/participation
11. Employment Schemes (some run by Ledcom)
12. LECOM (advance programmes, employment, opportunities for youth)
13. Social Economy Projects - e.g. Acceptable Enterprises Larne (AEL)
14. Proposed Community Allotment Project (AEL)
15. Larne Drama and Music festivals
16. Larne YMCA Junior Leader Programme (training leading to employment)
17. Training Opportunities for young people
18. Partnerships (council and community and sports)
19. Good volunteers - village forum e.g. Carnlough Community & Statutory
20. Inter village linkage (Carnlough and Glenarm - luncheon clubs)
21. Allotment scheme - Carrickfergus a good model
22. Health improvement - Departmental (PHA) funding targeted to local level thought Intermediate funding body (NACN)
23. Local networks as a conduit for funding opportunities (as above NACN)
24. Millennium Volunteer Programme and Volunteer Now support available locally
25. Social enterprise - LEDCOM (good facilities)
26. Social, volunteer, business - jobs and services in the community (could work well for entrepreneurs)
27. Good community/social venues - neutral/shared spaces

What could be improved in your area re Social Regeneration?

1. Improved connections across communities and sectors
2. Understanding/awareness of different groups needs to increase e.g. groups doing the same thing/working on the same thing - need communication between groups improved
3. More information to be made available to increase knowledge on support available (also guidance on how to access this support)
4. NACN
5. Improve communication
6. Creating opportunities for connections to be made and to support relationship building across communities and sectors
7. Facilities (need improving) - sporting etc. (Sandy Bay, Curran Bowling, Pavilion - poor)
8. More Big events bring community together
9. Electronic Notice Board at Broadway (PCSP) - need to tell communities how to access this for information sharing
10. Younger Volunteers
11. Sporting facilities could be improved particularly in outlying villages
12. More opportunities for young people (volunteering/training/employment)
13. Access to further education - transport an issue here
14. Access issues Larne - Ballymena FE
15. Infrastructure poor - physically as in transport and also community infrastructure as in connections between communities and sectors
16. Wider volunteer base (more training across board)
17. Retaining local identity is important
18. Land use - identifying sites for improvement (recreational)
19. Encourage and support social enterprise
20. Collaboration - creating opportunities
21. Potential for town centre markets (Ballycastle town market a good model to look at)
22. Improve Market at Market Yard site
23. Hobby groups - connections for
24. Weak community infrastructure community support - continuing funding/longer term funding
25. Areas of need still exist in Larne - pockets in need of investment of funding and support - (Larne has no Neighbourhood Renewal areas)
26. Areas of deprivation still needing support
27. Community facilities (improvements physically and in terms of access)
28. Rural community - isolation (transport/facilities/access to services)
29. Not enough sharing (information/resources)
30. More communication

31. Better connections
32. Keeping motivation
33. Need to learn best practice regionally and locally
34. Volunteers time put to good use
35. Volunteer capacity building
36. Need for linkages - villages
37. Softer skills need attention - e. confidence - increasing possibilities for people to engage in training and employment opportunities
38. Community education and access to this at a local level
39. Entrepreneurship - from young age more work needs to be done in schools to encourage this as a route for employment e.g. Young Enterprise do this well
40. Afternoon clubs needed (childcare)
41. Access to community education
42. Physical infrastructure - transport
43. Role models - highlight learn about them
44. Elderly population not necessarily a problem, utilise their expertise and experience - opportunities for intergenerational work

What are the top 3-5 priorities in Social Regeneration moving forward?

1. Communication - across the board
2. Directory of services/social activities/skills
3. Duplication/what is missing
4. Sharing Resources
5. Event and volunteering directory - online - who is who and what are they doing
6. Retaining Local identity
7. Infrastructure - transport
8. Sustaining a local community development officer at local level
9. Roots in the community
10. Access (to services)
11. Sport facilities (rural)
12. Tourism (skills development/e.g. Welcome Host training in school)
13. Target support to areas of need
14. Finding talents within community and maximising potential
15. Transport/Network/Community Forum
16. Collaboration
17. Community Education
18. Support for Social Enterprise
19. Collaboration rather than competition between groups
20. Sharing network - retaining sense of identity

21. Celebrate successes - Giro Italia
22. Tourism - sell what we have got
23. Education people - meeting together
24. Building confidence and capacity
25. Social regeneration through social enterprise
26. Sharing resources
27. Capturing knowledge and skills and experience of older generation
28. Risk taking
29. Silver volunteering/entrepreneurship
30. Intergenerational activity programmes

MID & EAST ANTRIM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENT CARRICKFERGUS TOWN HALL - 12TH MARCH 2015

Community Planning Theme: Social Regeneration

Facilitator - Christine Barnhill
Scribe - Janice Cherry

What is working well in your area?

1. Castlemara Community Association is working very well with hard working volunteers putting in 6-7 hours service daily. This particular Group was mentioned several times over the course of the night, by different tables.
2. Areas at Risk project in Northlands has worked well and has set up a constituted group in the area. As a result of the project worked, families are now engaging more in the area. However it was felt that the boundary is restrictive and needs to be widened to the outlying areas. Some vital residents are being excluded due to their postcode/street being outside the boundary.
3. Programmes such as Areas at Risk and BRIC - there is the fear in the community that when the paid community worker goes, the group folds and the good work is undone.
4. It was felt that collaborations and partnerships are strong between town centre dwelling residents and the traders, but not so much with residents on the outlying developments
5. Essential skills courses such as those being held currently in Sunnylands Primary School are working well. This is an area that should be continued particularly within the Larne and Carrick areas, as 41% of school leavers/adults have little to no education when they leave school.
6. In Greenisland churches are very involved in the community through foodbanks, Christmas activities and organising events - they all work very well together. It was felt that the excellent work carried out by the churches is unspoken of.
7. There are hundreds of volunteers in Carrickfergus - however, they go unnoticed Volunteering - through Volunteer Now
8. Carrickfergus Community Forum works well in keeping groups informed
9. Whitehead Regeneration Group works well in bringing the community together
10. Volunteers raising money for community development activities - Volunteers bring great positivity to the town and many services could not services without them
11. Volunteers are great - but there should be a central hub for them i.e. a forum or directly of who is recruiting volunteers, what other people have to offer etc.

12. The community is confident enough to take over a Council facility - WCA
13. The churches in Whitehead and Greenisland work well together locally
14. There is a Pastors Forum among the churches which should work well in theory, but it was felt that the information does not always filter down to grass roots level
15. Initiatives such as PAKT work very well and there are more programmes needed like this
16. Fearful that Carrickfergus will be left behind in MEA
17. The Community Centre in Eden is working well and has become a hub for the area - however, the question was raised as to whether other areas feel there is a lack of inequality as Eden now has a purpose built community centre while other centre in the borough need revamping/investment
18. Church groups work very well in Greenisland but it was felt that overall community cohesion in the area, in particular between the community groups, is done in isolation.

What could be improved in the area?

1. The question was raised as to how Mid & East Antrim Borough Council will reach the "hard to reach" communities and get people to participate? There is fear that elements of the community will be left behind.
2. Eden and Victoria areas need investment; there was the suggestion that the schools in the areas should become a community hub, however this then raised the question of who will pay the bill for the additional heating and staff required to facilitate this?
3. Groups in MEA with similar traits/counterparts in Carrick/Larne and Ballymena areas should all be signposted to one another as this will stand well for best practice.
4. There is a lack of knowledge of funding - i.e. sources, completion of forms etc. as groups are not confident in applying for it. There is a lot of reliance on Council for funding.
5. There needs to be more engagement from local residents to support projects and help the groups holding the activities meet their targets which in turn will assist with funding applications
6. Community Capacity is not good - groups start, then fall away. Too much red tape and bureaucracy.
7. There were complaints about the lack of shopping in the town centre and having to pay for parking when you do go into the town centre (when you can park for free at the Abbey Centre) There is also a high risk of getting a ticket as Wardens seem to be quite strict.

8. It was felt that there should be a community shared information space such as the electronic board in Broadway, Larne. Suggestions included space in the town centre or at the roundabout on which people can promote what is going on in the area (positive and negative) – similar to community board in Broadway in Larne.
9. Some groups felt that information is not well communicated – currently find out a lot through forms of social media operated externally from the Council, i.e. “Love Carrickfergus Facebook” page and “Carrickfergus Online”
10. Intervention programmes are a good idea – family nurturing projects
11. There is low community infrastructure in Carrickfergus along with lack of trust of leaders
12. Litter in Greenisland needs to be improved – Council stopped providing the skip that was used for bulky waste collection. If there was better cohesion between the groups this could be improved.
13. There are issues between groups in the social housing estates around the 12th July between paramilitaries, intra and inter tensions
14. There is a lot of graffiti at Tesco’s which needs to be addressed. Tesco is a major retailer in the area and gets a huge amount of footfall, therefore the graffiti does not look good.
15. There are gaps in Carrick that need to be filled – gaps left void from the closure of groups such as CCDAAG. Groups need a forum to enable them to communicate and see where the gaps are, where the skills lie and who holds the skills to fill the gaps.
16. A Community Workers’ Forum is badly needed to serve knowledge, improve communication etc.
17. Community workers in the area are undervalued and underpaid – when a better opportunity comes along they then move onto better paid jobs
18. There needs to be funding for RELEVANT initiatives for the community
19. Volunteers undervalue themselves and do not claim for volunteers expenses which they are entitled to – Reward volunteers
20. Funding should include salaries
21. Challenge apathy
22. Capacity in the local community
23. Reliance on our own transport over public transport – train service is good but the bus service is not
24. People are not sufficiently encouraged to participate in community activities
25. Outside people’s perception of Carrickfergus – one group described a friend arriving into Carrickfergus at night time when it was dark and seeing the tank at Marine Gardens! Locals know the link, but tourists do not.
26. There is some community spirit despite those who try to stop it

27. There is a social divide between the social housing estates and the outer housing developments - it was felt many in the outer developments do not integrate themselves in the town/borough; they work elsewhere, shop elsewhere, etc.
28. There is nothing to bring people to Carrickfergus - except pound shops, charity shops, banks and estate agents
29. There is a need to empower individuals to take on a leadership role
30. There is a need to regenerate areas such as Castlemara - to up-skill people to enable them to direct their own futures

What are the top 3-5 priorities?

1. Community Infrastructure and Partnership
2. Collaborations and partnerships are going to be key
3. Social housing estates need to be better engaged
4. Build community infrastructure. There is a fear/lack of trust between groups and leaders. More partnerships are needed.
5. Remove intra myths amongst communities, build trust and confidence to enable people to work together rather than fight with each other
6. More lobbying, networking initiatives
7. Moving groups together
8. Bring the community along - target resources
9. Bring people together to address intra tensions
10. Civic Pride
11. Community Development Pride - recognise success - hold celebration awards events, as also a good networking opportunity, make people feel valued and good promotion for the key area
12. Genuine sharing of community space
13. Develop Civic Pride - litter clean up
14. Community Development progression
15. Promotion and communication
16. Better communication as it is felt that it is fragmented at present - some were not aware of the CCF
17. Promotion of what is available within the area - sharing of information to ALL the community
18. Promotion of volunteering
19. Education & capacity building
20. Education and skills development is key - target smaller groups / hold classes in smaller groups to encourage more people to attend
21. Education for communities
22. Building of capacity without continued reliance on the state - self-reliance

23. Initiatives such as parenting skills, education fostering ethos of education to parents which will filter down through their children, community spirit, etc.
24. Share experience and best practices
25. Education toward social regeneration
26. Support communities - course capacity, develop skill / trade, workshops to help people do things for themselves instead of relying on government / council
27. Funding opportunities
28. Better funding - where is the money coming from, what streams, how to apply
29. More resources for the promotion of, and collaboration of various groups
30. Investment
31. Decrease rates on the shops to encourage more businesses into the town centre
32. Proper investment in social housing estates
33. Tackle social deprivation - take a focused realistic and proper approach
34. Tackle social deprivation
35. Physical and social regeneration of the outer periphery (social estates) of the borough

MID & EAST ANTRIM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENT BALLYMENA - 25th FEBRUARY 2015

Community Planning Theme: Community Safety & Good Relations

Facilitator - Karen Moore
Scribe - Andrew Millar

What is working well in your area re this theme?

1. Policing and Community Safety Partnership
2. Community Cluster/Networking
3. North/South Antrim Community Network
4. Ballymena Inter-ethnic Forum
5. Cohesion Committee - flags work
6. Good Morning Scheme
7. Luncheon Clubs
8. Walking Groups
9. Chat, Share, Think (programme to promote safe use of internet/mobile phones)
10. Community Safety Wardens
11. Clean Neighbourhood Scheme
12. DRD salt boxes
13. Waste Collection/Recycling
14. Town Centre Safety
15. Hope Centre
16. Women's Aid/Naomi Centre
17. Glenravel Oil Club/Community buy-in
18. Community pride building a sense of respect
19. Hygiene ratings for restaurants/eating facilities
20. Community Policing (in some areas)
21. Communities setting standards and taking lead with regard to work with agencies
22. Zebra crossing in Cullybackey
23. Mobile CCTV
24. Ecos Park Run
25. Community events e.g. 50 Shades of Pink, Youth Awards
26. Neighbourhood Renewal

What could be improved in this area re this theme?

1. Promotion of existing interventions
2. Communication
3. NIHE points system (with a view to the protection of communities from undesirables)/ however it's important to note that the rationale for this is objectivity and transparency
4. Equity for rural areas with regard to service delivery
5. Cohesion Forum could extend to fringes where sectarianism still an issue
6. More funding for Home Accident Prevention
7. Neighbourhood Watch - better provision and support
8. Better publicity around penalties for people convicted of e.g. noise nuisance
9. Better procedures for dealing with anti-social behaviour
10. Reporting of crime - increase awareness around reporting procedures and who to report to
11. Street Pastor programme could be extended
12. Council out of hour reporting system
13. Intercultural/inter-sport activity
14. Cohesion between organisations/bottom-up approach
15. Interaction between schools

What are the top 3-5 key priorities within (theme) moving forward?

1. Sustainable resources for organisations working in crime and community safety
2. Raising awareness of the work these organisations do
3. Better coordination of work in community safety to avoid duplication - see continuation sheet
4. Sustaining the work of the community clusters
5. Youth
6. Older people - social interaction to reduce fear of crime
7. Intergenerational work
8. Protection of vulnerable groups
9. Anti-social behaviour
10. Confidence in policing
11. Road/footpath safety (Cullybackey - Galgorm) gritting/speeding/legislation on enhanced exhausts
12. Domestic Violence
13. Substance abuse - addiction services
14. Adequate resources for care in the community
15. Mental Health
16. Street Lighting (at and on the way to train station)
17. Infrastructure in community to signpost people to help agencies (contact no card)

- 18. Address gap between perception of crime and reality
- 19. Dog fouling
- 20. Rural Crime
- 21. Sustaining MEAPP and Good Morning Project
- 22. Extension of community safety warden scheme
- 23. Organisations working better together to deal with Neighbourhood issues and disputes
- 24. Planned response to reduce PSNI resources
- 25. Roadshows by statutory bodies in local communities

MID & EAST ANTRIM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENT LARNE TOWN HALL - 11TH MARCH 2015

Community Planning Theme: Community Safety & Good Relations

Facilitator - ???

Scribe - Mary O'Boyle

What is working well in your area regarding Community Safety/Good Relations?

1. Spirit of Larne/Civic Pride
2. Excellent Neighbourhood Watch Schemes in Larne Borough
3. Policing & Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) doing great work, particularly with small grant funding for much needed community projects
4. NIHE Neighbourhood Wardens working well in Larne Estates
5. Electronic Noticeboard at Broadway is an excellent resource
6. Larne Community Development Project (LCDP) supports groups within the Borough
7. Development Workers Forum meet bi-monthly to share knowledge and help to promote the good work that is happening in the area
8. Good Morning East Antrim helps to relieve feelings of isolation and fear of crime
9. Gemma Lowry - PSNI Crime Prevention Officer does tremendous work particularly with victims of crime and those suffering domestic abuse
10. Local Churches work well together
11. Citizens Advice Bureau is an excellent service for Larne Borough citizens
12. Past PEACE funded projects
13. CRED scheme - Cross community project rolled out through local schools
14. Women's Aid working well in Larne
15. Locality Groups very active particularly in the Coast area
16. Small Grants have been an excellent way of delivering Community Safety/Good Relations events in the Borough
17. Excellent Volunteers
18. Very proactive Community Development
19. Good Relations Officer - Catherine Black maintains a database of community representatives and is an excellent conduit for the distribution of information through email
20. Schools in the Borough work very well together to tackle issues
21. Great networking of local groups and good examples of sharing good practice

What could be improved in your area regarding Community Safety/Good Relations?

1. Intergenerational Work
2. Community Transport
3. Combined Clergy Forum to include all Churches would be advantageous
4. Neighbourhood Policing Team is practically non-existent now and is greatly needed
5. A digital directory of all local groups would be a great resource
6. Better communication as a lot of good work is happening but not always publicised effectively for example; Here to help app is available but not a lot of people know this
7. Retail Crime needs to be tackled as shoplifters are stealing to order
8. Improve Community Infrastructure
9. Continuity in Policing & Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) in the transition period - disappointment that despite the Policing Board knowing that the Review of Public Administration in local government was coming, things have still been left on a cliff edge
10. More creative use of existing buildings, for example schools could be used for youth projects in the evenings
11. One Stop Shop for information
12. Maximise and grow the community economy by encouraging Social Entrepreneurism
13. Long term sustainability of projects as very often funding is removed just as a good project is developed
14. Continuity in police personnel, particularly higher ranked officers who seem to be constantly changed
15. Text Alert scheme to alert people to incidents of crime
16. More work with schools particularly around new and emerging drug issues
17. Community Wardens would be advantageous particularly with the lack of visible policing
18. During the summer months visitor numbers increase in seaside villages, this leads to the potential for more anti-social behaviour/crime therefore Seasonal Wardens would be helpful
19. Tackle hard issues like bonfires and paramilitary activity
20. Greater collaboration between agencies
21. Community job creation
22. Joined up approach to security for example; Caterpillar, Larne Harbour, Asda and other traders could develop a plan and share experience and best practice
23. Address the big problem of the legal highs shop in Larne town centre, elected representatives need to lobby MLA's and MP's to get the legislation changed
24. Anti-drug awareness and education work to continue

25. Community By-laws to reduce anti-social and inconsiderate behaviour
26. Traffic Wardens to sporadically visit villages as very dangerous and inconsiderate parking is a common occurrence
27. Community Forum would help with the sharing of information
28. Introduce the Community Cluster model like Ballymena

Key priorities within Community Safety/Good Relations moving forward

1. Bring cross community children together from a very early age
2. More resources for policing as the service is fast becoming a 'blue light' service
3. Greater education and police crackdown on drugs
4. Need strong leadership from Council to inform legislative changes on 'legal highs'
5. Tackle legal highs shop before someone dies
6. Mediation to be used to get the right people around the table as paramilitary tensions are rising. This is evident with unsavoury murals popping up in Antiville and Craigyhill
7. Job creation and security of existing roles
8. Community Wardens particularly at peak times
9. Strong community leadership to maximise the social economy
10. Better communication and information sharing
11. Multi-agency approach to tackle bonfires, flags and emblems
12. Sustainability of resources
13. Domestic Violence Officer locally to encourage victims of domestic violence to report offences
14. Community Forum and digital directory
15. Rural transport particularly for older people
16. Zero tolerance of graffiti
17. All Churches should work together
18. Important that the identity of the area is not lost when the Councils merge
19. Suicide prevention needs to be a priority

MID & EAST ANTRIM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENT CARRICKFERGUS TOWN HALL - 12TH MARCH 2015

Community Planning Theme: Community Safety & Good Relations

Facilitator - Neil Herron & Janet Shearer

Scribe - Alison Kane

What is working well in your area regarding Safety/Good Relations?

1. Boxing Club
2. Twilight Football
3. Cross community lunches
4. MEAAP - Feel Safe and Sound Project
5. YMCA - PAKT (Parents and Kids Together) - 4 estates in Carrickfergus (Glenfield, Castlemara, Sunnylands & Woodburn)
6. Carrickfergus Junior Council
7. Good Morning Carrickfergus
8. NIHE Neighbourhood Wardens
9. Carrickfergus PCSP (Policing and Community Safety Partnership) - Community engagement and working groups, Developing links with other agencies e.g. PSNI
10. Ballymena Bonfire Committee (B)
11. Carrickfergus Bonfire Committee has worked well in the past but currently in limbo following flags protests
12. Housing Community Network
13. IBUS - Mobile Youth Bus
14. Carrickfergus Learning Community (CLC) - links between 4 secondary schools
15. CRED - a NEELB funded Primary Schools Project between St Nicholas, Model and Sunnylands Primary School for P3 - P7 has recently had its funding withdrawn from NEELB
16. Whitehead Community Centre - a template for the future as it is a Company limited by guarantee.
17. Skate Park at Carrickfergus Amphitheatre
18. Carrickfergus Maritime area (Marina, Sailing Club etc.)
19. Good Relations projects - Chinese New Year etc.
20. Carrickfergus Amphitheatre (Leisure Centre) is a focal point
21. Belfast Lough Sailability
22. Flags and emblems programme
23. Diversity programme in Whitehead
24. Whitehead Victorian Street Fair
25. Castlemara Community Association

26. Carrickfergus Civic Empowerment programme – gave community a voice
27. Sunnylands Community Centre and Oakfield Community Centre
28. NIHE BRIC programme
29. Horizon Sure Start – relationships between communities e.g. Sunnylands and Woodburn Nurturing Programme
30. Family Worker (extended schools)
31. PCSP Priority Youth Interventions Programme at Carrickfergus Amphitheatre (Leisure Centre). Working with ‘at risk’ young people
32. Greenisland Library
33. Genesis Youth Club in Whitehead
34. Greenisland Football Club
35. Churches in Greenisland working together
36. Greenisland Train Station – Youth worker and detached youth workers

What could be improved in your area regarding Safety/Good Relations?

1. Projects work well with resources but they are always looking for funding and dependent on volunteers
2. Councils need to give community projects small amounts of financial support
3. Need to bring community groups together in Greenisland
4. Work in silos
5. Better communication
6. Community Forum – central contact point
7. Collaborative working
8. Local Community Strategy
9. Three MEA (Mid and East Antrim) areas are very different – distinctiveness and need for unique responses
10. Street Pastors
11. Drugs and alcohol project – gap in service provision
12. Link between education and underachievement
13. Early intervention
14. Sustaining Good Morning Services
15. Lack of collaboration with community
16. Wider definition of Good Relations/ Lack of definition for Good Relations in Northern Ireland
17. Limitations of opening hours of Police Stations
18. Sustainability of youth provision
19. Education programmes for young people on drugs and alcohol needed e.g. programmes in schools
20. Improving the sustainability of the CRED programme
21. Peace 4 – How Councils improve the delivery of this

22. Time bank
23. More Police - lack of presence.
24. Anti-social behaviour in Eden
25. Confidence in policing
26. Reduction in flags and emblems
27. Joined up approach to community work
28. Underlying issues for crime -m social deprivation. Need to be proactive
29. Limited opening hours for Police Station
30. Marina Play Park - bottles and litter, anti-social behaviour
31. Twilight Soccer - doesn't include girls
32. Opportunity for Twilight Hockey - lighting and safety at hockey pitch at night needs improved
33. More youth provision
34. Can Good Relations get involved in community activities (e.g. drugs awareness and sports) to act as an incentive to give young people a constructive message?
35. Existing organisations to be used to engage young people on wider issues
36. Signposting to other organisations
37. Community Centre at Eden - does not cater for young people and lack of accessibility
38. Coffee Bar needed for young people with Wi-Fi. Bringing in arts and culture
39. The plans to open up the subway at Greenisland will reduce anti-social behaviour
40. Within Council departments the need to work more closely
41. More transparency needed on real issues
42. More Police needed - visibility gives confidence
43. CCTV
44. Staggered closing times for licensed premises

What are the top 3-5 priorities regarding Safety/Good Relations moving forward?

1. Drugs and alcohol
2. Anti-social behaviour
3. Youth Interventions
4. Paramilitarism (sectarianism, intimidation, intra community tension)
5. Domestic abuse

Other issues identified

1. Isolation (people who are elderly, mental health and disabilities)
2. Lack of consistency of funding

3. Powerlessness, fear and distrust
4. Lack of connectedness, disparity
5. Graffiti and vandalism
6. Flags, murals, symbols
7. Bonfires
8. Safety at night - in estates and fear of crime
9. Safety in town centre at night
10. Lack of Police
11. Legal highs (L)
12. Information resources - what is happening in the area?
13. Lack of collaborative working. There is an opportunity for this within Community Planning
14. Zero tolerance to low level crime issues. This has an impact on wider issues
15. Dealing with small issues first
16. Issues depend on who you ask
17. Hub facility for young people

MID & EAST ANTRIM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENT BALLYMENA - 25th FEBRUARY 2015

Community Planning Theme: Health

Facilitator - Karen Hargan

Scribe - Mary O'Boyle

What is working well in your area regarding health?

1. Excellent community pharmacy projects through the Building the Community Pharmacy Partnership
2. Physical activities and well-being initiatives organised by local sporting clubs
3. Ecos Parkrun is an excellent model that encourages people to participate in weekly timed 5km runs
4. Ballymena Running Club has increased its membership from 50 to 300 and are now attracting all abilities and more female participants
5. ECHO - Enhancing Care for the Homeless supporting homeless people to access health provisions in GP practices
6. Reduced stigma around Mental Illness now branding this as Emotional Health and Well-being which is more socially acceptable
7. PHA community small grants allow communities to deliver very worthwhile projects
8. Community based Health Co-ordinators work well in Neighbourhood Renewal areas
9. Action Cancer - Big Bus offering cancer screening and other services locally
10. Mid and East Antrim AgeWell Partnership (MEAAP) great support for isolated and vulnerable older people with regular luncheon clubs, Good Morning and Befriending services
11. Hope Centre helping people in the Borough who are suffering with addictions
12. Active Communities programme and coaching at Ballymena Leisure Centre
13. Local networks for example North Antrim Community Network (NACN) administering small grants designed to improve physical and mental health and well-being
14. A & E working well under pressure
15. Excellent NHS staff particularly Nurses
16. Sure Start programmes
17. Dalriada Urgent Care - out of hours GP service
18. Diabetes care

19. Men's Shed addresses physical, emotional and social needs of men

What could be improved in your area regarding health?

1. More prevention
2. Health needs to be part of the school curriculum, particularly CPR training and building emotional resilience of young people
3. Medicine management/condition management - you do not need a pill for every ill
4. More use of generic drugs
5. More joined up approach to reduce duplication
6. Instead of controlling symptoms try to treat the causes
7. More financial resources
8. Better cancer services particularly earlier detection of male cancers
9. Empowerment of patients particularly those with special needs
10. Outreach clinics to triage patients to reduce the pressure on acute services
11. Better care in the community with more funding for Floating Support services
12. Improved transport for hospital appointments
13. Holistic approach to care with referrals to leisure centres etc.
14. Better communication between agencies and service users
15. Greater access to GP's through longer opening hours
16. More resources for Mental Health and elderly
17. More support for adults and children with special needs and their carers
18. Core funding for community based health initiatives
19. More accountability and control over Domiciliary care
20. Minor injury units locally
21. Expanding the minor ailments that can be treated at local pharmacies
22. Green gyms and better promotion of our environment as a means of improving physical and mental well-being
23. Key priorities within health moving forward
24. Greater investment in community based initiatives
25. Early intervention/prevention
26. Sustainability of resources
27. Person centred care with a greater emphasis on self-management of conditions for example Asthma or Diabetes
28. More resources for Mental Health
29. Go back to Matrons
30. Reduce waiting times especially when waiting for test results
31. More joined up approach with greater continuity of care
32. Stop bed blocking by improving discharge and availability of care in the community

- 33. Longer GP opening hours
- 34. Minor Injuries unit locally
- 35. More work on suicide prevention including building emotional resilience

MID & EAST ANTRIM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENT LARNE TOWN HALL - 11TH MARCH 2015

Community Planning Theme: Health

Facilitator - Karen Hargan
Scribe - Niall Curneen

What is working well in your area regarding health?

1. Volunteering- Through volunteer NOW there is a direct link providing mental health benefits to local people with social benefits/skills/capacity building provided through volunteer opportunities.
2. Sure Start, Cook It, Smoking Cessation- Preventative Programmes, which are prominent and accessible in the area.
3. Strong local GP Practices and a good service provided (with a reference made to Asthma support services)
4. Islandmagee First Responders - A group set up in response to the closure of A&E in Larne, who fill the gap left this gap by helping to reduce response times in an emergency for residents in the remote location of Islandmagee.
5. Schools- Promotion of healthy lifestyle from pre-school age and up - focus on mental health/stress/cancer awareness /smoking
6. PHA Grants scheme (reference made to mental health) - financial grants to support groups to run programmes to address the issue which is prominent locally.
7. PIPS Larne - It was felt that the work of this group has started to have a positive response locally, and helped to remove the stigma of mental health
8. It was noted that Antrim Area Hospital currently serves the region of MEA well (one response)
9. Support services from local pharmacies -popular and effective health and well-being outreach support provided to local community through special clinics and additional services such as prescription home delivery (Clinics are a mix of voluntary and externally funded)
10. GP Referral Programmes - Co-ordinated by NHSCT, physical activity programme delivered at local leisure centre with patients referred from local GP Practices.
11. Good Leisure facilities (Larne Leisure Centre and The Cliff)
12. Entrepreneurial activity to address local health issues (re: some local gyms, community groups, sports clubs, and pharmacies again)
13. Strong appreciation and awareness for older people- Good Morning East Antrim/Be-Friending

14. Proactive sports clubs, engaging young kids at an early age and exposing them to an active lifestyle/Local Curran Bowling Club which caters for older members of the community too.
15. Larne Foodbank- vital support that this service has provided over the last few months.
16. Walking Club/Dances - physical and social benefits that these clubs provide to older members of the community, which are prominent throughout the borough within many community groups.
17. High number of leisure activities- voluntary groups/council programmes and facilities/local sports clubs/ community associations and community groups
18. Strong local sports clubs
19. Community association activity programmes aimed at older people- in partnership with local council sports development through Sport NI's Active Communities Programme. Programmes aimed at under-represented groups (females, people with disability, people over 50) set up throughout the borough and easy to access.
20. CAP- Christians Against Poverty and the support that this programme provides locals.
21. CAB (Citizens Advice Bureau)
22. Overall it was commented that there was a 'good standard of living locally' - There are good opportunities to generate income, and good support to those in need of financial support.
23. It was felt that Larne has a strong 'community spirit'
24. Acceptable Enterprises Larne (AEL) - A local social enterprise set up to provide employment opportunities for those unemployed and individuals with mental health issues.
25. Larne High School and Roddensvale school relations - Strong support to the pupils and staff of the areas only special school from the neighbouring High School, and good integration between both sets of pupils.
26. Oxygen Therapy Centre - an alternative therapy centre, unique in Northern Ireland and based in Magheramorne.
27. Good Outpatient Clinics (mentioned at Waverley and Moyle Hospitals) - Breast screening service was accessible and effective.
28. Larne in Bloom - a positive programme instilling community pride in areas and villages throughout the borough, and giving residents the opportunity to engage with others.
29. Luncheon Club (specifically in Carnlough) - positive intergenerational work helping to include older members of the community in everyday life.
30. Antrim Coast Lions charity shop (based in Carnlough) - Provides Carnlough with social Benefits through the shop, while supporting local communities and

charities through monies raised. Also gives local young people the opportunity to volunteer in the shop

31. Libraries NI Programmes (Carnlough) - reference made to the importance of programmes delivered through Libraries NI, including Laughter Yoga/ other Mental Health Programmes

What could be improved in your area regarding health?

1. Provision for local A & E Services (to deal with minor injuries)
2. More collaborative work between agencies - Better connections created amongst service providers and therefore a better understanding of the support that each provides. This would create more opportunities to refer people to local support, and be the catalyst to create opportunities to work together.
3. A better awareness of local support and outreach services provided locally, and with this awareness better promotion of this locally (the opportunity to create an 'app' or a specific website was mentioned)
4. Waiting lists for some support services need reduced - particular reference made to mental health issues with kids and teens. It is felt that the time from referral to action is too long.
5. Withdrawn schools programmes (reference made to extended schools funding/healthy eating club funding). This is resulting in an increased cost to parents who are having to pay for after schools clubs or healthy eating clubs as a result. (raised by a local head mistress)
6. Better awareness from GP's of the local support services on offer - mental/domestic/abuse. This could help to reduce the time it takes to deal with local issues (reference was made to domestic abuse incidents and a lack of understanding of the support that Women's Aid can provide locally to women)
7. Opportunity to create smart phone 'Apps' to disseminate information - This could be a more effective and cost effective method of telling local people what is out there for them.
8. Lack of support to local GP's from hospitals and specialist staff. It was felt that specialists etc. were difficult to access directly by GP's and it took too long for GP's to get responses regarding local patients.
9. There are now a number of under-utilised hospital facilities locally - in particular, outpatients units as these have all been regionalised to AAH and Whiteabbey.
10. Legal high/drug awareness - It is felt that not enough people know where to go for support when having to deal with these issues.
11. Better GP Surgery hours - many felt that opening hours of practices were inconvenient, and more emphasis now on Dalriada Doctor out of hours services.

12. Travel by road to Antrim Area Hospital - It is worth noting that the main A8 is currently under reconstruction and new layout of road is in the process of being implemented.
13. Bus Service for Antrim Area Hospital - Current bus service is only operational during daytime visiting hours. There is no service in evenings and weekends and no service for rural areas.
14. Oxygen Therapy Centre (Magheramorne) is under-utilised by GP's - It was felt that GP's were reluctant to prescribe this as a method of treatment as it was viewed as an alternative therapy. People felt that a much more open minded approach from GP's is required as it is an extremely effective facility that should be supported.
15. Continuation of GP Referral Programme through local leisure centres.
16. Need for a local community directory - in order to provide better links to local groups and support services. This should be specific for the Larne area.
17. Transport to hospitals - for dependant patients it was noted that the service was extremely inaccessible and flexible. The alternative method was by taxi but the cost of this was extremely high. It was also added that the location of Whiteabbey hospital made it difficult for dependent patients to travel to.
18. Advice for health programme (CAB) - The current boundaries of this programme mean that Larne misses out on many opportunities to avail of this support. It was noted that consideration of new council boundaries would help to resolve this issue.
19. Better out of hours GP Service - longer hours to support local problems, especially with no A&E provision locally.
20. Local delivery of outpatient surgeries, to utilise empty facilities and make day surgeries etc. much easier to access for local residents.
21. Overall, a much more 'Patient centred approach' to all health services should be considered (particularly given the travel time and difficulty to Antrim Area Hospital)
22. Better in-home facilities to aid home carers (chair lifts, step aids etc.)
23. Standard of carers / reliability of carers- more governance and closer scrutiny of this work is required. It was felt that care in the community is not working effectively due to lack of management.

What Are the Top 3-5 Priorities Moving Forward Regarding Health?

1. Minor injuries Unit located locally
2. Creation of a local prevention strategy - referencing Lifestyle/smoking/obesity
3. Speech/language/psychology support in early years within schools
4. Improved Information gathering of local support services, and more effective dissemination of/signposting to these resources

5. Improved collaborative working between the community
6. Targeting of support services to people who are more in need of support.
7. Entrepreneurial opportunities- Apps etc. to gather and promote information more effectively.
8. Promotion and support for creation of more social enterprises to meet need of voluntary/private sector.
9. Use of technology to provide services/information/ impact
10. Better transport services to make the local 'Highway to Health' more accessible (Walk from Larne Leisure Centre to Carnfunnock Country Park)
11. Better GP hours
12. Retention of Lisgarel/Inver House homes.
13. More funding/ support for elderly in Larne (Larne has highest elderly population in the Northern Trust). Better support for elderly residents in rural locations.
14. Reduced waiting list for care homes
15. Improved drug awareness (Youth/parental education/teachers)
16. Better transport to hospitals

MID & EAST ANTRIM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENT CARRICKFERGUS TOWN HALL - 12TH MARCH 2015

Community Planning Theme: Health

Facilitator - Stephen Daye & Paul Mawhinney
Scribe - Alison Marsh

What is working well in your area?

1. Eden Community Centre is well utilised.
2. Leisure Centre - although too expensive.
3. Recreation facilities such as Skateboard Park, Sports Pitches.
4. Walking / Keep fit trails and local clubs such as Jog Carrickfergus, Park Run.
5. Allotments and community growing opportunities.
6. Groups such as Hearty Lives, Health Hub at YMCA.
7. Local Parks and outdoor gyms.
8. Good morning Carrickfergus, good support with health teams.
9. Horizon Surestart - although needs rolled out.
10. Local groups such as Sailability, University of the third age.

What is not working in your area?

1. Need more preventative health services. This is the area that has been cut the most.
2. More walking and cycling routes needed that are also joined up.
3. Lack of continuity of health care staff, they keep moving about.
4. Housing Density, lack of services such as shops, open space etc.
5. No hospital in Carrickfergus area.
6. Transport link are poor to local services, planning is not joined up.
7. Heath centres in Carrickfergus and Greenisland are a disgrace and need rebuilt- not fit for purpose.
8. Heath centres in Carrickfergus and Greenisland are too busy.
9. Provision of Nursing homes for elderly, special needs.
10. Availability of legal highs in local shops.
11. Poor drug, alcohol, eating disorder, and sexual health services.
12. Need to improve breast feeding rates in the Borough.
13. Poor nutrition, more education need on growing and cooking food.
14. Leisure centre is too expensive, for the rich only. Why is it more expensive than the private clubs in Belfast?
15. More awareness of suicide prevention.

16. Not enough NHS dentists.
17. Not enough joined up working, protecting silos.
18. Woodburn Forest is an excellent under used resource that is not maintained properly.
19. More resources for care in the community and health service.
20. Emotional wellbeing of kids need improved and services need expanded. This will stop drug and alcohol abuse.
21. Not feeling safe at night in walking routes, parks etc.
22. Disposal of prescription drugs, chemists will not take them.
23. Isolation of old people, need more activities and opportunities to get out and meet others. Intergenerational programmes needed.
24. Better community mapping required.
25. Lack of health education in some wards.
26. Rate of smoking is too high especially: among pregnant women.

Priorities

1. Transport - reinstatement of disbanded bus routes, more walking and cycling routes that are joined up - too disjointed at the moment.
2. New health centres for Carrickfergus and Greenisland
3. Promote awareness of existing services, need a one stop shop of all services.
4. More investment in local leisure facilities, better use of community centres, more park gyms and activity groups. Create Men's Shed groups
5. More preventative healthcare required
6. Health and wellbeing hub required.
7. More allotments, growing areas and community gardening.
8. Community pharmacy required.
9. Improve drug, alcohol, eating disorder, and sexual health services.
10. Longer opening hours for health and other community services.
11. Health needs of children need more consideration.
12. More open spaces and walking routes.
13. Start-up community health forum.
14. Build community resilience.
15. More cross generational projects.
16. More access to residential accommodation for elderly and special needs.
17. Increase early intervention programmes.
18. Create a minor injuries unit that is easily accessible and will reduce waiting times at the emergency hospital units.

MID & EAST ANTRIM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENT BALLYMENA - 25TH FEBRUARY 2015

Community Planning Theme: Economic Regeneration

Facilitator - Ursula O'Loughlin
Scribe - Carole Baillie

What is working well in your area re: Economic Regeneration?

1. Good Availability of Workspace: Good availability of workspace provision which encourages private sector and social enterprise growth -The workspace units are managed by successful social enterprises e.g. Ballymena Business Centre, Ballymena North, Gracehill, Portglenone Enterprise Group, Ahoghill, Village Garden Broughshane, Ballee & Harryville etc.
2. Strong Proactive Community Sector: The important role that communities and social enterprises play in Ballymena in encouraging and supporting economic regeneration e.g. community owned workspace and village regeneration initiatives. The importance of the four Ballymena Community Clusters in promoting Economic Regeneration and the future potential of the wind project in generating further sustainable income for the clusters to do more work in regenerating communities
3. Good Support Networks: An enabling approach adopted by Ballymena Borough Council in supporting communities to become self - sustainable thus promoting economic regeneration e.g. Broughshane PSNI station project. The importance of the Social Enterprise Hub at Ecos as a support network to encourage and develop new business ideas
4. Ballymena Business Centre and its premises in the town centre seen as important in supporting and encouraging business development
5. Importance of Chamber of Commerce and Town Centre Company in promoting Economic Regeneration. The importance of the Ballymena BID (Business Improvement District) and a successful vote by end March 15 as the catalyst for Economic Regeneration
6. Good Availability of Finance/Funding & Support Programmes : A lot of support for small businesses e.g. availability of business support programmes through Invest NI, Council and Others
7. Availability of Financial Resources and Importance of Capital Funding from Council and others seen as successful in Ballymena in promoting economic regeneration. The importance of the Michelin Development Fund as a catalyst to encourage and support business creation. Lack of resources limit ability to regenerate the area

8. Good Investment in Infrastructural Development: Environmental Improvements in town centre (Public Realm) and rural areas (village regeneration) recognised as important to encourage economic regeneration. If the area doesn't look well aesthetically then investors will not come
9. An integrated approach to promotion of Economic Regeneration e.g. Portglenone Marina Project with focus on tourism as a catalyst for economic regeneration.
10. Good Strategic Location for Business : Ballymena has the advantage of a Good Geographical Location
11. Ballymena has a Good Retail Mix- Independent and Large Multinationals
12. Importance of Cottage Industries in Ballymena and their role in promoting economic regeneration.
13. Availability of Good Entrepreneurial Skills and Local Role Models

What could be improved in your area re Economic Regeneration?

1. Education & Skills Development: It is crucial that the school curriculum is more focused towards developing entrepreneurial skills at an early age and for Careers advisors to promote self-employment as an alternative career option. Currently the Young Enterprise Programme in schools is only offered to students studying business studies - needs to be widened out to other pupils
2. Need to establish better links between education and business providers/ employers
3. Need to improve personal self-esteem, develop the practical skills required for work, and provide ongoing mentoring support to develop entrepreneurial skills
4. There is the requirement to understand what skills set industry requires and to match skills accordingly e.g. retraining / redeployment.
5. The importance of on the job training and work placements were noted as an important factor with the need to promote apprenticeships and programmes that develop manual skills
6. Business Support & Development: Good availability of business support programmes however providers need to work closer together so that the public are aware of who to go too. A first point of contact who can signpost to other providers would be useful
7. Whilst Ballymena has good business role models /champions it is important to highlight these better to inspire others. We need to exploit this expertise and use it to our advantage through peer mentoring with other businesses
8. Need to promote /support the development of local crafts and cottage industries to encourage business start/growth
9. Need to recognise the importance of our agriculture sector and its contribution to the local economy and work with agencies e.g. DARD to ensure ongoing financial support

10. Need ongoing funding to enhance social enterprise growth and development
11. Improvements in Infrastructure: Need to improve investment in Infrastructure e.g. the introduction of restricted car parking in villages e.g. Portglenone to encourage economic regeneration. Improved transport networks and investment to enhance broadband and mobile phone connectivity which is crucial for economic regeneration
12. Need to target investment in regenerating derelict sites/ empty shops with incentives to encourage business development
13. Need to Incentivise Investment to Encourage Business Growth: Need improvements in rates relief and other incentives to encourage business start especially in town centres. Examples were used to include the benefit of a 5 year rate relief scheme with gradual increase over the years.
14. Tourism Development & Promotion : In recognition of an enhanced tourist product there is a need for an organisation to lead the new branding that the wider MEA area can be promoted under for events, activities etc. Currently tourism promotion especially in rural areas is very piecemeal.

What are the Top 3-5 priorities in Economic Regeneration?

The top priorities relate to the improvements section above including:

1. Ongoing developmental support and financial resources
2. Good champions - identification of role models
3. Ongoing Environmental improvements in urban & rural areas
4. Incentives to promote Business Growth - rates relief, premises support
5. Investment in Infrastructure - parking, public transport, tourism and events, broadband / mobile apps, bed nights to promote tourism
6. Promotion of entrepreneurial skills at an early age through improved links between business and education to promote work placements and on the job training. Practical examples of factory / farm tours to widen horizons / and develop skills
7. More focus on developing apprenticeship skills
8. Tourism Branding and Promotion of the MEA area
9. Development of Grow on workspace through reuse of vacant/derelict buildings
10. Promotion / development of cottage industries
11. Identification of Unique Selling Points for the Area to promote the area as a favorable location for Foreign Direct Investment.

MID & EAST ANTRIM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENT LARNE TOWN HALL - 11TH MARCH 2015

Community Planning Theme: Economic Regeneration

Facilitator - Karen Moore
Scribe - Deborah Neill

What is working well in your area regarding Economic Regeneration?

1. Support services well established
2. Well established social enterprise
3. Good local employers e.g. Caterpillar, Port of Larne
4. Good partnership working
5. Work well when there is a need
6. Good understanding and knowledge within Larne about the needs
7. Good Initiatives
8. Technical response to job losses and excellent partnership working from stakeholder agencies such as Ledcom
9. Active community which 'buys in' to economic regeneration
10. New 'Start ups' higher than average
11. Variation in 'start ups' (Carrickfergus)
12. New A8
13. The Gobbins project which will have a knock on effect for tourism
14. Main Street face lift
15. Impending regeneration of Larne harbour
16. Ledcom - availability of units
17. Examples of good practice e.g. Carnfunnock, Larne Skills, Glenarm Castle
18. Library and Carnlough Harbour
19. Children's play park in Carnlough
20. Community Infrastructure in Carnlough
21. Economic regeneration in town centre e.g. old co-op site
22. Market Yard
23. Glenarm Master Plan
24. Larne Town Hall
25. The People of Larne

What could be improved regarding Economic Regeneration?

1. Further Education

2. Community Education - Basic Skills and recognised qualifications
3. Lack of opportunity (desire to learn)
4. Standard of qualifications could be improved
5. Rural transport
6. Development and uptake of broadband
7. Accessibility of support services
8. Links between stakeholders could be improved
9. External investment
10. Maximise the potential of the A8
11. Utilisation of Port of Larne (craneage)
12. Stick and spend
13. Understanding of what the economy is
14. Quality of retail units
15. E commerce
16. Coastal tourism
17. More industrial units
18. Infrastructure around 'The Gobbins'
19. Ballycarry train station
20. Better links between schools and employers - careers advice including using the Council/Councillors
21. Better understanding of what skills are required
22. More apprenticeships/Better management of apprenticeships /more marketing
23. Improve town centre
24. Prestige of 'Port of Larne' (back to 2nd place)
25. Tourism - e.g. Game of Thrones, Accommodation at Carnfunnock which could include log cabins
26. Environmental improvements e.g. flower baskets, railings
27. Coastal facilities
28. Disabled access to beaches
29. Drumnagreagh site to be developed
30. Southern coastal entrance into Larne needs improved
31. Better coastal paths
32. The problem of derelict buildings to be addressed
33. Strategic approach to tourism in partnership with Causeway Coast and Glens
34. Ensure current level of utilisation is maintained e.g. Smiley Building, Town Hall
35. Coast Road cycle/foot path
36. Instilling entrepreneurship among young people
37. Glenarm Masterplan

What are the key priorities for Economic Regeneration?

1. Maximise A8 (stick and spend)
2. Technology and E commerce
3. Support Services to be sustainable
4. Youth unemployment
5. For Larne to become a Research and Development Centre
6. More emphasis on private sector (Exporting and Entrepreneurship)
7. Business/Education Links
8. Tourism/infrastructure eg car parking, trains, transport links, good hotel, coast road sailing trips
9. More volunteering opportunities
10. Attracting investment (empty units)
11. Develop a marine leisure complex beside train station
12. Partnership between Council and Port of Larne
13. Vandalism
14. Promotion of job opportunities between careers advisors in Job Centre and Schools (more emphasis on what local employers are looking for rather than university as a goal)
15. Advise young people on what is needed for self-employment
16. Scottish links should be created
17. Subsidised travel to and from Scotland
18. Social enterprises
19. Civic pride

MID & EAST ANTRIM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENT CARRICKFERGUS TOWN HALL - 12TH MARCH 2015

Community Planning Theme: Economic Regeneration

Facilitator - Gail Kelly
Scribe - Sarah Davis

What is working well in your area re Economic Regeneration?

1. Kelly's Coal yard Redevelopment
2. Carrick Castle-Best tourist opportunity
3. Coastal Links-Larne, Carrickfergus
4. Transport links-A2 Shore road
5. LEAs and links with others
6. Coastal walks
7. Marine Gardens park-regeneration
8. Industrial businesses-Kilroot
9. Timeline-Market place -heritage
10. Local sports clubs
11. A2 Shore Road
12. Steam train-Whitehead RPSI
13. Local entrepreneurs
14. Marina
15. Play park
16. Amphitheatre-Skate Park
17. Heritage
18. Historical Sites-St Nicholas Church
19. Good restaurants
20. Infrastructure
21. Enterprise agency
22. Good Employers
23. Good Schools
24. Museum- Gasworks
25. Courtyard shopping
26. Industrial Land

What could be improved in your area re Economic Regeneration?

1. Tourism development-Castle, Partnership with DOE,

2. Game of thrones potential-bus/coaches-tourists, pre booking, coastal path, Gobbins, Blackhead pathway, signage
3. Hotels
4. Build on links to Belfast - ports, ships
5. Transport links/town centre access
6. Inward investment-employment opportunities, employers needs analysis
7. Facility improvement
8. Develop sea front-harbour developed, walk way
9. Town walls/linking historical sites
10. Confucius education
11. Investment in shops/businesses
12. Arts and crafts links eg second hand book shops
13. Links between Castle and town centre
14. Offering facilities for skills eg incubation units
15. Build contacts with big employers - Ryobi
16. Signage
17. Public Transport
18. Castle-community usage
19. Parking issues - free
20. Policing
21. Caravan site - for tourists
22. Develop coastal links
23. Courtaulds site
24. Developing enterprise agency
25. Accessibility
26. More shops small independent, tourism
27. More contacts
28. Apprenticeships
29. Assistance for SMEs/young/unemployed
30. Link schools and businesses-
31. Steps to work, YES /ACE scheme?
32. Absence of town centre management
33. E-Commerce
34. Free Wi-Fi - town centre
35. More local apps
36. Incentives for empty shops
37. Camp site
38. Improve coastal path
39. Art and craft businesses
40. Accommodation providers working together
41. Pop up restaurants

- 42. Market-town centre farmers
- 43. Progress MEA/NIEA PSHIP
- 44. Town centre
- 45. Whitehead tourism
- 46. Tourism partnerships-NITB

Priorities

- 1. Tourism-castle-links to town
- 2. Technological investment/digital/urban/rural
- 3. Support for SMES
- 4. Low carbon industry
- 5. Transport improvements
- 6. Link between for MEA attractions
- 7. Tourism signage
- 8. Linking businesses to schools
- 9. Job creation
- 10. Entrepreneurship
- 11. Rates and landlords
- 12. Vesting powers
- 13. Parking
- 14. Planning policy-town centre
- 15. Developing castle
- 16. Using council assets-cost issue
- 17. Incentives for local businesses
- 18. Tourism
- 19. Marketing
- 20. Boutiques
- 21. Build our heritage
- 22. Smaller shops-independent
- 23. Tours
- 24. Job creation
- 25. Cruise liners
- 26. Working with local enterprise agencies
- 27. Town centre
- 28. Plan for job creation, linked to education
- 29. Working together-partnerships
- 30. Castle promote, develop
- 31. Utilising council assets
- 32. Social enterprise develop
- 33. Regeneration town centre

- 34. Unique businesses
- 35. E-commerce broadband, free Wi-Fi
- 36. Planning wind farms
- 37. Evening economy
- 38. Pop up catering

For further information on Community Planning in Mid and East Antrim Area please contact:

Community Planning Officer
Mid and East Antrim Borough Council
Ballymena Office: Ardeevin
80 Galgorm Road
Ballymena
BT42 1AB

Tel: 0300 124 5000
Email: communityplanning@midandeantrim.gov.uk