



Local Development Plan 2030

Technical Supplement 11

Health, Education, Community & Cultural Facilities

September 2019

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**Mid & East
Antrim**
Borough Council

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1.0 Introduction

Purpose of this document

- 1.1 This technical supplement brings together the evidence base that has been used to inform the preparation of the Mid and East Antrim Local Development Plan (LDP) 2030 draft Plan Strategy. It is one of a suite of topic based technical supplements that should be read alongside the draft Plan Strategy to understand the rationale and justification for the policies proposed within it.
- 1.2 This technical supplement builds upon and updates LDP Position Paper 9 which provides baseline information on Education, Health and Community Services and formed part of the evidence base for the Preferred Options Paper (POP). It provides an overview of the regional and local policy context and the public services profile of Mid and East Antrim. In addition, it demonstrates how the various strands of the evidence base have been considered in the formulation of Policy COM1: Education, Health, Community and Cultural Facilities in the draft Plan Strategy, including responses to the POP and ongoing consultee and councillor engagement.

Planning and Public Services

- 1.3 Education, health and community services play an important role in maintaining and creating sustainable and cohesive communities. There are a wide range of facilities spread throughout Mid and East Antrim Borough Council including schools, further education campuses, hospitals, surgeries, libraries and community centres.
- 1.4 Whilst it is not the role of the LDP to provide public services, it can allocate or zone sufficient land for such uses and can safeguard against the loss of such land. The LDP can also support the delivery of new and/or expansion of health, education, community and cultural facilities in locations that encourage sustainable development and active travel.
- 1.5 Within Mid and East Antrim, there is an established trend for an ageing population. In 2015 18.1% of the population in Mid and East Antrim was aged 65 and over. By the end of the plan period (2030) it is projected that this figure will have increased to 24%. Whilst many older people will continue to enjoy good health and a good quality of life, an ageing population will create additional demand for health and community services. Coupled with this, in 2015 17.9% of the population in the Borough were aged between 0 – 15 and by 2030 it is projected that this figure will have decreased to 17.4%. This may have implications for the provision of education facilities in some areas.

2.0 Policy Context

Regional Policy Context

Draft Programme for Government 2016 - 2021

- 2.1 At the highest level, the NI Executive has set out its priorities in the draft Programme for Government (dPfG) 2016 -2021. Its overall purpose is to improve wellbeing for all, by tackling disadvantage, and driving economic growth. It sets out 14 strategic objectives some of which have implications for the delivery of health, education and community facilities.

Regional Development Strategy 2035 (RDS)

- 2.2 The RDS sets out eight aims to promote sustainable communities. Of particular relevance to public services the aim (RG6) to strengthen community cohesion. The RDS envisages that the development of integrated services and facilities accessible to everyone will be an important part of the delivery mechanism.

Strategic Planning Policy Statement (SPPS)

- 2.3 One of the five core planning policies in the SPPS is improving health and wellbeing. It acknowledges that the planning system can assist in the delivery through policies which promote social cohesion and the development of social capital through the provision of health, education, community and cultural infrastructure and other local facilities. Specifically (paragraph 6.246) the SPPS states that LDP's should allocate sufficient land to meet the anticipated needs of the community in terms of health, education and other public services.
- 2.4 Under the strategic policy 'Telecommunications and other utilities', the SPPS states that Local Development Plans should allocate sufficient land to meet the anticipated needs of the community in terms of health, education and other public services.

Planning Policy Statements and Supplementary Guidance

- 2.5 Planning Policy Statement 7 Quality Residential Environments (PPS 7) highlights that in terms of residential developments, a range of facilities will be required depending on the size of the development, and that major schemes on greenfield sites will require an appropriate level of facilities to serve the new community. Policy QD 1 contains a specific criterion in relation to the provision of such facilities.
- 2.6 Planning Policy Statement 21 Sustainable Development in the Countryside (PPS 21) states that planning permission will be granted for a necessary community facility to serve the local rural population.
- 2.7 Planning Strategy for Rural Northern Ireland - Policy PSU1: Community Needs requires development plans to allocate sufficient land to meet the anticipated needs of the community in terms of health, education and other public facilities. It places emphasis on best possible use of existing sites.
- 2.8 Supplementary Planning Guidance is contained in Development Control Advice Note 9 'Residential and Nursing Homes' and Development Control Advice Note 13 'Crèches, Day Nurseries and Pre-school Playgroups'.

Other Relevant Strategies

- 2.9 A wide range of other strategies and documents are relevant to public service provision for local communities. These have been included in Position Paper 9 published at LDP POP stage and have not be repeated in this technical supplement.

Local Policy Context

Legacy Area Plans

2.10 The existing development or area plans that apply to Mid and East Antrim Borough are:

- **Ballymena Area Plan 1986-2001, adopted in 1989**
- **Larne Area Plan 2010, adopted in 1998**
- **Carrickfergus Area Plan 2001, adopted in March 2000**

The draft Plan Strategy (para 2.2.3) refers to the somewhat complex situation in regard to the status of the Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan 2015 (BMAP) which included the former Carrickfergus Borough Council area. Whilst the Carrickfergus Area Plan 2001 remains the extant statutory plan for this area, the draft BMAP (2004) as the most recent expression of local planning policy, has also been taken into account in developing the draft Plan Strategy.

2.11 Whilst the draft Plan Strategy has taken account of the existing Area Plans, it has also been necessary to consider their longevity and the fact that all pre-date even the original version of the Regional Development Strategy, published in 2001.

Ballymena Area Plan 1986 – 2001

2.12 The Ballymena Area Plan referred to the number of nursery and primary schools within the district and highlighted that the level of future primary school enrolments depended on a number of factors including birth rates and population movements. It identified land for a new primary school, which is now the site of Gracehill Primary School. It also indicated that the existing health facilities were considered adequate and did not make any provision for future developments. It also made reference to the provision of new libraries and community centres.

Larne Area Plan 2010

2.13 The Larne Area Plan does not contain any specific policies which relate to education, health or community facilities. However, within Larne town a site along Ballyhampton Road was zoned for school use adjacent to Housing Zoning HO4. To date no planning application for school use has been submitted on this site.

Carrickfergus Area Plan 2001/draft BMAP (2004) in combination with the Planning Appeals Commission Inquiry report

2.14 The Carrickfergus Area Plan zoned land at Oakfield for community facilities, which has since been developed as the Oakfield Community Development Centre. It also allowed for small scale community uses within housing zonings.

2.15 Draft BMAP contains a policy relating to the protection of land which is identified for education, health, community and cultural facilities. Such a site was identified at Edenvale in Carrickfergus, (although this was not subsequently brought forward).

Mid and East Antrim Borough Council Corporate Plan 2019-2023

2.16 Our Corporate Plan sets out the Council's vision, themes and objectives that will shape our work and the services that we provide up until 2023. The aim of the Corporate Plan is to deliver the same long term vision and outcomes for the Borough that are set out in the Community Plan. The key objectives of the Plan are identified under five main themes all of which fall under the wider strategic theme to be a high performing council:

- Sustainable jobs and tourism.
- Good health and wellbeing.
- Learning for life.
- Community safety and cohesion.
- Our environment.

Mid and East Antrim Borough Council Community Plan

- 2.17 Our Community Plan – ‘Putting People First’ was published in April 2017 and covers the period from 2017 to 2032. The vision of the Community Plan is that: *“Mid and East Antrim will be a strong, safe and inclusive community, where people work together to improve the quality of life for all”*. The strategic priorities set out in the Community Plan have been identified through joint working with 12 statutory partner organisations and informed by extensive consultation with the public and community and stakeholder groups. The strategic priorities are developed around the five key themes that now inform the Corporate Plan.
- 2.18 The Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 sets out a statutory link between the Community Plan and the LDP, in that the preparation of the LDP must take account of the Community Plan. The strategic priorities of our Community Plan have therefore been taken into consideration in the preparation of the draft Plan Strategy. As work on the LDP progresses, we will seek to deliver on any community planning outcomes where there is an identified spatial land use or local planning policy solution.
- 2.19 Improving the health and wellbeing of communities in Mid and East Antrim is a key aim of our Council’s Community Plan. Addressing the needs of an ageing population and helping to tackle low educational attainment and health inequalities linked to deprivation are local challenges highlighted in our Community Plan. It also includes a number of outcomes that rely on good provision of education, health, community and cultural facilities. Accordingly, Council, in association with other statutory providers has a role in ensuring that all our residents have good access to these public services and facilities.

Mid and East Antrim Borough Council – A Strategic Approach to Community Development – June 2017

- 2.20 This report included an assessment of the adequacy of current community centre provision to identify areas of under and over provision. It set a vision for the Councils future Community Development Strategy, supported by strategic priorities, an analysis of the infrastructure needs and an action plan. This report highlighted five rural areas where there are gaps in Council community centre provision (Slemish & Glenwherry; Glenravel Ward; Dunminning Ward; Grange Ward and Northern Area of Islandmagee Ward).

Cross Boundary Policy Context

- 2.21 In considering the local policy context, it is important to take account of our three neighbouring councils:
- **Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council;**
 - **Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council Belfast City Council; and**
 - **Mid Ulster District Council.**
- 2.22 Neighbouring Council’s Preferred Options Papers, supporting evidence base and published draft Plan Strategies have been taken account of, as these are regarded as the most relevant documents when considering cross-boundary issues. Because Carrickfergus falls within the Belfast Metropolitan Area, there has also been engagement with Belfast City Council and other councils in the Metropolitan area.

Table 2.1 Neighbouring Councils Position on Public Services

Neighbouring Council	Position
Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council	ANBC published its draft Plan Strategy in June 2019. ANBC relevant policies: Strategic Policy 5 'Community Infrastructure' and Policy DM24 'Community Facilities'. The relevant draft Plan Strategy policies; support proposals that provide new or enhanced community facilities; and also protect existing facilities and support the development of specialist residential accommodation such as sheltered housing and nursing/residential care homes.
Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council	CCGBC published its POP in June 2018. CCGBC relevant key issue: Key Issue CO1 'Provision of Health, Education, Community and Cultural Facilities'. The POP preferred option is to review the existing policy framework in regards to public services to provide a flexible approach for the provision of these services.
Mid Ulster District Council	Mid Ulster published its draft Plan Strategy in February 2019. Mid Ulster relevant policy: Policy COY1 'Community Uses'. The relevant draft Plan Strategy policy allows for land to be reserved for community use and includes criteria to be used in the assessment of proposals for such use.

- 2.23 The Council has responded to neighbouring Council's POPs and the draft Plan Strategies for Antrim and Newtownabbey and Mid Ulster as they were published. In addition, the Council is also represented on a number of working groups to discuss cross boundary issues, for example the Metropolitan Area Spatial Working Group and Lough Neagh Forum.
- 2.24 Members of the plan team have also met with officials in the three neighbouring councils during preparation of the POP. In preparation for the draft Plan Strategy, members of the plan team met again with officials in the three neighbouring Councils in July 2019 to outline the various broad approaches of our draft Plan Strategy and to discuss cross boundary issues. No particular issues emerged from this engagement in regards to public services.
- 2.25 In consideration of neighbouring Councils development plan documents and discussions held with their officials, it is the opinion of this Council that no conflict is apparent with our draft Plan Strategy, insofar as it relates to public services.

3.0 Public Services Profile

Education Profile

- 3.1 The Department of Education's (DE) primary statutory duty is to promote the education of the people of Northern Ireland and to ensure the effective implementation of education policy. The Department's main statutory areas of responsibility are 0-4, primary, post primary and special education and the youth service.
- 3.2 On 1 April 2015, the Education Authority (EA) became operational and took over all the roles and responsibility of the former Education and Library Boards. It is responsible for ensuring that efficient and effective primary and secondary education services are available to meet the needs of children and young people, and support for the provision of efficient and effective youth services.
- 3.3 Schools in Northern Ireland fall under two categories - grant-aided and independent and the types of schools include controlled, voluntary maintained, voluntary non-maintained, integrated, irish-medium, special and independent. For further details of these types of schools refer to LDP Position Paper 9.

Pre School/Nursery Provision

- 3.4 There are 53 pre-school/units within Mid and East Antrim, the majority of which are either voluntary or controlled. In the 2018-19 academic year there were 1568 pre-school/nursery pupils in voluntary & private preschool education centres, nursery schools and primary school nursery classes.

Primary School Provision

- 3.5 There are 56 primary schools within Mid and East Antrim, and in the 2018-19 academic year there were 11,242 pupils enrolled in them. 41 (73%) of these primary schools are controlled, 11 (20%) are Catholic maintained, 1 (2%) is controlled integrated and three (5%) are grant maintained integrated. For the 2018-19 academic year there has been a decrease in total primary school enrolments of 4 pupils since 2017.
- 3.6 There are a number of new primary school buildings which have recently been completed or are currently under construction including Corran Integrated, Braidside Integrated and Woodburn Primary Schools.
- 3.7 The majority of these primary schools are located within towns and villages, with a small number located within the rural area either within small settlements or the open countryside.

Post Primary Education

- 3.8 There are 13 post primary schools within Mid and East Antrim, and there were 10,826 enrolled in these during the 2018-19 academic year. Eight of these are secondary schools and five are grammar schools. 13 (47%) are controlled, two (15%) are Catholic maintained, two (15%) are grant maintained integrated and three (23%) are voluntary. For the 2018-19 academic year in post-primary schools there has been an increase of 22 in the number available places compared to the corresponding figure in 2017. Nearly all of these are located within our main towns.

Special Education

- 3.9 There are two special educational needs schools in Mid and East Antrim, which are both controlled and cater for children from pre-school to post primary education and during the 2018-19 academic year there were 452 pupils enrolled in them. Castle Tower School in Ballymena opened in a new building on a new site at Trostan Avenue in September 2017.

Independent School

- 3.10 There is one independent school within Mid and East Antrim, which is located in Ballymena (Living Rivers Christian School). In the 2018-19 academic year it had four pupils enrolled.

Further Education

- 3.11 There are three campuses of the Northern Regional College in Ballymena, which offer a wide variety of full time and part time courses. The Northern Regional College also has one shared campus in Larne.

Future Education Proposals

Table 3.1 Future Education Proposals within Mid and East Antrim

School/College	Proposal
Ulidia College	Construct new build. (A proposal of application notice for a new 3 storey school building was submitted to planning in June 2019)
Islandmagee Primary School	5 class base, traditional build. (A business case for the new school has been approved and the funding released by the Department of Education in September 2019)
Carniny Primary School	Supply and build a school enhancement project. This may include refurbishment, extension or new build on school site.
Roddensvale Primary School, Larne	Supply and build a school enhancement project. This may include refurbishment, extension or new build on school site.
Mary Queen of Peace Primary School, Glenravel	9 class base design and build – economic appraisal approved.
Cullybackey College	Construct new build.
Dunclug College	Design and build of new school. (A planning application for development of a new school was submitted to planning in May 2019)
Northern Regional College, Ballymena	Construction of a new Further Education Campus to consolidate the three existing campuses (This project received planning approval in August 2019).

Source: Investment Strategy for Northern Ireland (ISNI) – Infrastructure Investment Pipeline – June 2019

- 3.12 It should be noted that the projects listed above are subject to funding and the eventual procurement and implementation of these projects will be dependent upon completion of business case and other approvals, and subject to change in the light of political and budgetary circumstances.

Health and Social Care Profile

- 3.13 It is currently the overall responsibility of the Health and Social Care Board, (HSCB) to assess the health and social care needs of the population and to secure the care to meet those needs in keeping with available resources. Provision of community health and social care services to meet those needs is the responsibility of the Northern Health and Social Care Trust. The Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety retains overall responsibility for policy and funding of major capital works.

Hospitals

- 3.14 There are two hospitals within Mid and East Antrim: Braid Valley Care Complex, Ballymena, and Moyle Hospital, Larne. These hospitals provide a range of community hospital and outpatient services. Neither of these hospitals have an Accident and Emergency Department, and therefore to access such facilities it is necessary to travel outside Mid and East Antrim. The nearest hospitals to Mid and East Antrim with A&E Departments are:
- Antrim Hospital, Antrim
 - Causeway Hospital, Coleraine
 - Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast
 - Mater Hospital, Belfast

Health and Care Centres

- 3.15 The Ballymena Health and Care Centre opened in 2016 at the Braid Valley Hospital site and it provides health care and social services to people in Ballymena and the surrounding areas including GP practices as well as a mix of locally accessible acute, primary and community care clinics.

Ambulance Service Station

- 3.16 A new Northern Ireland Ambulance Service Station in Ballymena opened in 2016. The new station at Ballee replaced the old station at the Braid Valley Hospital site, and incorporates the ambulance Divisional Headquarters from Coleraine. This facility will provide enhanced services and enable the ambulance service to respond effectively to current and increasing demands in services.

GP Practices and Dental Surgeries

- 3.17 There are 26 GP practices and 31 dental surgeries throughout Mid and East Antrim.

Nursing Homes

- 3.18 Transforming Your Care highlights that the proportion of older people in Northern Ireland living in a nursing home is 3.5 times higher than England and Wales and is increasing. This reflects the growing complexity of needs and high dependency levels particularly among some of the older sections of the population. Meanwhile the number of residential care places is slowly declining, reflecting growth in supported housing schemes provided by Housing Associations which are gradually replacing residential homes. Many of those using residential care are no longer permanent residents. The policy aim for some time has been to shift care from institutional settings to home and community settings.
- 3.19 Within Mid and East Antrim there are 20 Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority (RQIA) registered nursing homes, and in addition to this there are 17 RQIA registered residential homes.

Children's Services

- 3.20 Transforming Your Care highlights that in 2010 there were 2,606 Looked After Children in Northern Ireland, up by 6% from 2009. The greatest proportion (65%) was in foster care and approximately 11% were in residential care. There are two Northern Health and Social Care Trust Children's homes within Mid and East Antrim:
- **The Willows, Ballymena** – This facility provides high quality, focused residential support for young people aged between 12 and 18 with a complexity of needs for a maximum of 12 weeks and to work intensively with families for the duration of the placement.
 - **Barn Court, Carrickfergus** – This children's home provides physical, social, spiritual and educational support for children in care. It also provides aftercare support packages for children moving from placement to re-integration with family or with foster carers.

Future Health and Social Care Proposals

- 3.21 The following proposals have been identified by the Northern Health and Social Care Trust as intended capital developments within Mid and East Antrim. However, it should be noted that these are subject to approval on capital allocation by the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety which determines capital allocation regionally:
- Replacement of three Adult Centres
 - Replacement of Slemish House, Children's Centre
 - Replacement roof and refurbishment of Pennybridge stores

- 3.22 The Trust have also indicated they share a wider interest with communities in development of community hub facilities and the use of education buildings for community benefit. They also point to the need for additional supported accommodation given the increasing elderly population and notwithstanding the increasing proportion of older people who will receive care and support focused on them remaining in their own home. They note that such developments may be commissioned by both the health and care sector, and the private sector. The Trust also highlights that sufficient Nursing Home provision will be required in areas taking account of local needs and existing infrastructure.

Community and Cultural Profile

Libraries

- 3.23 The Northern Ireland Library Authority (Libraries NI) has the statutory responsibility for the provision for public library services in Northern Ireland. Within Mid and East Antrim there are nine public libraries, as listed below. In addition, there is a mobile library service which travels throughout several towns and villages within the district.

- Ballymena Central Library
- Broughshane Library
- Carnlough Library
- Carrickfergus Library
- Greenisland Library
- Kells & Conor Library
- Larne Library
- Portglenone Library
- Whitehead Library

Leisure Centres

- 3.24 Each of the three main towns within Mid and East Antrim benefits from a leisure centre which provide a range of facilities and classes.

Community Centres

- 3.25 There are 30 community centres located throughout Mid and East Antrim, and these are listed in Appendix E. These community centres are generally located within towns and villages, with the majority of these within easy walking distance so they are easily accessible. Activities in a community centre can vary from music/dance activities, sport activities, coffee mornings and social support activities to child care. They aim to bring together people from within the local community from a diverse range of backgrounds.

Cultural Facilities

- 3.26 Within Mid and East Antrim there are a number of museums and arts centres, including Council facilities such as the Mid Antrim Museum and the Braid Arts Centre, Carrickfergus Museum and Larne Museum and Arts Centre. The historic buildings, areas, parks, gardens and demesnes within Mid and East Antrim also form part of our cultural heritage.

Future Community and Cultural Proposals

- 3.27 The following proposals are subject to funding:
- A new leisure centre has been granted outline planning approval in March 2019 as part of the redevelopment of the St Patricks Barracks site in Ballymena.
 - Refurbishment of Larne Leisure Centre roof and façade.

4.0 Preferred Options Paper

- 4.1 Council published its Preferred Options Paper (POP) in June 2017. The main purpose of the POP is to inform the next stage in the LDP process, i.e. the Plan Strategy.
- 4.2 Building on the emerging evidence base¹, the POP identified some 36 key strategic planning issues relevant to Mid and East Antrim, set out alternative options for addressing most of these key issues, and highlighted Council's preferred option. The POP also included an initial policy review of the operational policies contained in the suite of Planning Policy Statements (PPSs) published by the former Department of Environment, now Department for Infrastructure (DfI), also taking account of the Strategic Planning Policy Statement (SPPS).
- 4.3 The POP was subject to 12 weeks public consultation which resulted in 132 responses from members of the public and statutory consultees. A public consultation report on the POP was published by Council in November 2017.
- 4.4 In the POP, our approach in regards to public services was for the draft Plan Strategy to set out criteria based policy to apply generally across the Borough to support the delivery of new health, education, community and cultural facilities, in locations that encourage active travel and sustainable development and also the extension of such facilities. It was also our intention that the LDP would protect specific sites for education, health, community and cultural facilities where a firm proposal is in place on the part of the service provider.
- 4.5 There was strong public support (85%) to the approach in the POP consultation. Statutory consultees provided positive responses to the proposed approach and the ambition to link such facilities to locations that encourage active travel. For full details of the main issues raised by respondents to the POP consultation and Council's consideration, refer to the POP Public Consultation Report November 2017, available at: https://www.midandeantrim.gov.uk/downloads/POP_Public_Consultation_Report.pdf

¹ A series of 14 topic based position papers informing the POP, plus our annual housing monitor and bi-annual industrial monitor are available on the Council website.

5.0 Consultee and Councillor Engagement

- 5.1 In order to meet the requirements set out in the Planning Act relating to the need for the Plan Strategy to take account of the RDS, other policy and guidance issued by the Department and other relevant government strategies and plans; Council has engaged key consultees representing relevant central government departments and agencies. Representatives from relevant Council departments have also been engaged to ensure that due account has been taken of Council's Community Plan, as well as other Council strategies and initiatives. This engagement was undertaken by way of a series of eight 'Project Management Team' meetings held between April 2018 and April 2019 and has had a significant influence on the development of the strategic policies and proposals.
- 5.2 The Planning Act requires the Plan Strategy to be adopted by resolution of the Council, following approval by the Department for Infrastructure (DfI). Accordingly, elected members have also been engaged in the development of the draft Plan Strategy, to ensure that the document is generally aligned with Council's strategic priorities. This engagement was facilitated through a series of six councillor workshops held between November 2018 and March 2019.
- 5.3 The draft Plan Strategy policy relating to public services was presented at the Project management team meeting held on 27 March 2019. NIHE raised some concern that the policy may restrict flexibility in terms of proposals for alternative uses on sites protected for education, health, community or cultural facilities.

6.0 Draft Plan Strategy Policy Approach

- 6.1 The approach proposed in the POP in regards to facilitating health, education, community and cultural facilities, has been brought forward in the draft Plan Strategy through Policy COM1 Education, Health, Community and Cultural Facilities. Appendix F illustrates how this policy has evolved through the outworking of the LDP process to date, including Sustainability Appraisal. This policy aims to meet the anticipated needs of the community in terms of health, education and other public services by taking a three pronged approach:
- To reserve land for such uses through zonings or key site requirements;
 - To support the development of new or enhanced facilities in accessible locations within settlements; and
 - To protect existing facilities and lands identified for such uses.
- 6.2 Due to our ageing population, there will also be an increased demand for new or expanded residential care homes and nursing homes and this policy will also be applied to this type of development. This policy will also safeguard against the loss of these valued facilities. Other types of specialised residential accommodation such as sheltered housing can be assessed against Policy GP1 General Policy for all Development (see Appendix F).
- 6.3 In regard to the concern raised by NIHE that the proposal could restrict flexibility for protected or disused sites, that could potentially be offered to the NIHE for housing development, the policy does allow for the development of such sites when it can be demonstrated that the existing facility/designation has become surplus to requirements and is not viable for an alternative community use. Policy COM1 therefore does allow for reasonable flexibility in such circumstances.
- 6.4 We will continue to liaise with the relevant public bodies throughout the LDP process. Where firm proposals are in place and are notified to Council, this will help to inform the next stage of the LDP, the Local Policies Plan.

7.0 Soundness




- 7.1 The draft Plan Strategy has been prepared so as to take due regard to meeting the tests of soundness as set out in the DfI Development Plan Practice Note 6: Soundness (Version 2, May 2017). The draft Plan Strategy insofar as it relates to Policy COM1 is regarded as sound, because it meets the various tests of soundness as summarised below:

Table 7.1 Consideration of Soundness

Procedural Tests	
P2	Policy COM1 has evolved from the POP and POP Public Consultation Report as described in section 4.0 of this document.
P3	Policy COM1 has been subject to Sustainability Appraisal. Further details are included in the Sustainability Appraisal Report.
Consistency Test	
C1	Policy COM1 has taken account of the RDS, particularly RG6. Refer to paragraphs 2.2 of this document.
C2	Policy COM 1 has taken account of the Community Plan which includes a number of outcomes that rely on good provision of education, health, community and cultural facilities to serve local communities. Refer to paragraphs 2.17 – 2.19 of this document.
C3	Policy COM1 has taken account of the SPPS and existing regional planning policies relating to community facilities and to other relevant government initiatives as detailed in paragraphs 2.3-2.9 of this document.
C4	Policy COM1 has had regard to the existing development plans within Mid and East Antrim and Council Strategies relating to community infrastructure facilities and the emerging proposals of neighbouring councils. Refer to paragraphs 2.10 – 2.25 of this document.
Coherence and the effectiveness tests	
CE1	Policy COM1 has taken account of the emerging LDP's of our three neighbouring Councils and it is not considered to be in conflict with them. Refer to paragraphs 2.21 – 2.25 of this document.
CE2	Policy COM1 is founded on a robust evidence base, which includes the baseline information assembled in LDP Position Paper 9 and subsequent consultation with the relevant service providers.
CE3	There is no need for annual monitoring as it is anticipated that service providers will make their land use needs known to the Council as they arise.
CE4	There will be flexibility up to Local Policies Plan stage to respond to the confirmed needs of service providers in regard to new sites or the re-zoning of facilities that are surplus to requirements. The same will apply at Plan Review Stage. Policy COM1 will be reviewed at Plan Review stage.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A Education Institutions within Mid and East Antrim

	Former Ballymena Borough
	Former Carrickfergus Borough
	Former Larne Borough

Pre School Education

Ballymena	Ballymena Nursery School	Controlled Nursery School	
Ballymena	Dunclug Nursery School	Controlled Nursery School	
Ballymena	Ballykeel Nursery Unit	Controlled Nursery Unit	Ballykeel Primary School and Nursery Unit
Broughshane	Broughshane Nursery Unit	Controlled Nursery Unit	Broughshane Primary and Nursery Unit
Cullybackey	Buick Memorial Nursery Unit	Controlled Nursery Unit	Buick Memorial Primary School and Nursery Unit
Clough	Clough Nursery Unit	Controlled Nursery Unit	Clough Primary and Nursery Unit
Ballymena	Gracehill Nursery Unit	Controlled Nursery Unit	Gracehill Primary School
Ballymena	Harryville Nursery Unit	Controlled Nursery Unit	Harryville Primary School and Nursery Unit
Ballymena	Braidside Integrated Nursery Unit	Grant Maintained Nursery School Unit	Braidside Integrated Primary & Nursery School
Portglenone	St Mary's Nursery Unit (Portglenone)	Maintained Nursery Unit	St Mary's Primary and Nursery Unit
Ahoghill	Ahoghill & District Community Pre-School Playgroup	Voluntary/Private Nursery/Playgroup	
Ballymena	Ballee Pre-School Playgroup	Voluntary/Private Nursery/Playgroup	
Broughshane	Broughshane Community Centre of Early Learning	Voluntary/Private Nursery/Playgroup	
Ballymena	First Steps Pre-School	Voluntary/Private Nursery/Playgroup	
Cargan	Glenravel Community Playgroup	Voluntary/Private Nursery/Playgroup	
Ballymena	Gracehill and Galgorm Community Playgroup	Voluntary/Private Nursery/Playgroup	
Cullybackey	Happitots Pre-school Centre	Voluntary/Private Nursery/Playgroup	
Ballymena	High Kirk Community Playgroup	Voluntary/Private Nursery/Playgroup	
Kells/Conor	Kells & Connor Pre-School	Voluntary/Private Nursery/Playgroup	
Ballymena	Kenbaan Community Playgroup	Voluntary/Private Nursery/Playgroup	St Brigid's Primary School
	Kirkinriola Early Years	Voluntary/Private Nursery/Playgroup	Kirkinriola Primary School
	Ladybirds Playgroup and Day Nursery	Voluntary/Private Nursery/Playgroup	
Portglenone	Portglenone Community Playgroup	Voluntary/Private Nursery/Playgroup	
Ballymena	St Louis' Pre-School	Voluntary/Private Nursery/Playgroup	
	Stepping Stones Playgroup	Voluntary/Private Nursery/Playgroup	St Paul's Primary School

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	The Country Pre-School	Voluntary/Private Nursery/Playgroup	
Grange Corner	Taylorstown CC Playgroup		
Carrickfergus	Sunnylands Nursery School	Controlled Nursery School	
Carrickfergus	Oakfield Nursery Unit	Controlled Nursery Unit	Oakfield Primary School and Nursery Unit
Greenisland	Silverstream Nursery Unit	Controlled Nursery Unit	Silverstream Primary School and Nursery Unit
Carrickfergus	Victoria Nursery Unit	Controlled Nursery Unit	Victoria Primary School and Nursery Unit
Whitehead	Whitehead Nursery Unit	Controlled Nursery Unit	Whitehead Primary School and Nursery Unit
Carrickfergus	Acorn Integrated Nursery Unit	Grant Maintained Nursery School Unit	Acorn Integrated Primary School and Nursery Unit
Greenisland	Alphabet Playgroup	Voluntary/Private Nursery/Playgroup	
Whitehead	Banana Bunch Playgroup	Voluntary/Private Nursery/Playgroup	
Carrickfergus	Greengables Pre-School	Voluntary/Private Nursery/Playgroup	Carrickfergus Central Primary School
Carrickfergus	Humpty Dumpty Pre-school	Voluntary/Private Nursery/Playgroup	Downshire School
Carrickfergus	Kilroot Playgroup	Voluntary/Private Nursery/Playgroup	
Carrickfergus	Mount St Nicholas Playgroup	Voluntary/Private Nursery/Playgroup	
Carrickfergus	Rainbow Playgroup	Voluntary/Private Nursery/Playgroup	
Carrickfergus	Woodburn Pre-School Playgroup	Voluntary/Private Nursery/Playgroup	
Larne	Linn Nursery Unit	Controlled Nursery Unit	Linn Primary School Nursery Unit
Larne	Moyle Nursery Unit	Controlled Nursery Unit	Moyle Primary School and Nursery Unit
Larne	Corran Integrated Nursery Unit	Grant Maintained Nursery School Unit	Corran Integrated Primary and Nursery
Larne	St Anthony's Nursery School	Maintained Nursery School	St Anthony's Primary
Carnlough	Carnlough Community Nursery Unit	Maintained Nursery Unit	St John's Primary School
Ballycarry	Laugh and Larne Pre-school	Voluntary/Private Nursery/Playgroup	
Glenarm	Glenarm Community Pre-School	Voluntary/Private Nursery/Playgroup	
Gleno	Gleno Pre-School	Voluntary/Private Nursery/Playgroup	
Glynn	Hansel & Gretel Pre School	Voluntary/Private Nursery/Playgroup	
Larne	Harbour Bears Pre-School	Voluntary/Private Nursery/Playgroup	
Ballystrudder	Playaway Pre-school	Voluntary/Private Nursery/Playgroup	
	Rainbow Private Day Nursery	Voluntary/Private Nursery/Playgroup	

Source: www.eani.org.uk

Note: This list solely refers to pre-school education facilities, and does not include childcare/day care facilities as these are not educational.

Primary Schools

Ballymena	Ballykeel Primary School	Controlled Primary School
Ballymena	Ballymena Primary School	Controlled Primary School
Broughshane	Broughshane Primary School	Controlled Primary School
Cullybackey	Buick Memorial Primary School	Controlled Primary School
Ballymena	Camphill Primary School	Controlled Primary School
	Carnaghts Primary School	Controlled Primary School
Ballymena	Carniny Primary School	Controlled Primary School
Clough	Clough Primary School	Controlled Primary School
Ballymena	Dunclug Primary School	Controlled Primary School
Ahoghill	Fourtowns Primary School	Controlled Primary School
Ballymena	Gracehill Primary School	Controlled Primary School
Ballymena	Harryville Primary School	Controlled Primary School
	Hazelbank Primary School	Controlled Primary School
	Kells & Connor Primary School	Controlled Primary School
	Kirkinriola Primary School	Controlled Primary School
	Longstone Primary School	Controlled Primary School
	Moorfields Primary School	Controlled Primary School
Portglenone	Portglenone Primary School	Controlled Primary School
	The Diamond Primary School	Controlled Primary School
Ballymena	Braidside Integrated Primary School	Grant Maintained Integrated Primary School
Martinstown	St Marys Queen of Peace (previously Glenravel PS) (amalgamated with St Marys PS)	Maintained Primary School
Ballymena	St Brigid's Primary School (Ballymena)	Maintained Primary School
Ballymena	St Colmcilles Primary School (Ballymena)	Maintained Primary School
Cargan	St Marys Queen of Peace (previously St Mary's PS) (amalgamated with Glenravel PS)	Maintained Primary School
Portglenone	St Mary's Primary School (Portglenone)	Maintained Primary School
	St Paul's Primary School	Maintained Primary School
	Millquarter Primary School, Toomebridge	Maintained Primary School
Carrickfergus	Carrickfergus Central Primary School	Controlled Primary School
Carrickfergus	Carrickfergus Model Primary School	Controlled Primary School
Carrickfergus	Eden Primary School (Carrickfergus)	Controlled Primary School
Greenisland	Greenisland Primary School	Controlled Primary School
Carrickfergus	Oakfield Primary School	Controlled Primary School
Greenisland	Silverstream Primary School	Controlled Primary School
Carrickfergus	Sunnylands Primary School	Controlled Primary School
Carrickfergus	Victoria Primary School	Controlled Primary School
Whitehead	Whitehead Primary School	Controlled Primary School
Carrickfergus	Woodburn Primary School	Controlled Primary School
Carrickfergus	Acorn Integrated Primary School	Grant Maintained Integrated Primary School
Carrickfergus	St Nicholas' Primary School	Maintained Primary School

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Carrickfergus	Woodlawn Primary School	Controlled Primary School
Carnlough	Carnlough Integrated Primary School	Controlled Integrated Primary School
Ballygalley	Cairncastle Primary School	Controlled Primary School
Carnalbanagh	Carnalbanagh Primary School	Controlled Primary School
Glynn	Glynn Primary School	Controlled Primary School
Larne	Larne & Inver Primary School	Controlled Primary School
Larne	Linn Primary School	Controlled Primary School
Larne	Moyle Primary School	Controlled Primary School
	Islandmagee Primary School (previously Mullaghduh PS) (amalgamated with Kilcoan PS)	Controlled Primary School
Larne	Olderfleet Primary School	Controlled Primary School
Mounthill	Toreagh Primary School	Controlled Primary School
Larne	Corran Integrated Primary School	Grant Maintained Integrated Primary School
	Islandmagee Primary School (previously Kilcoan PS) (amalgamated with Mullaghduh PS)	Other Maintained Primary School
Glenarm	Seaview Primary School	Maintained Primary School
Larne	St Anthony's Primary School	Maintained Primary School
Carnlough	St John's Primary School (Carnlough)	Maintained Primary School
Larne	St MacNissi's Primary School (Larne)	Maintained Primary School
Ballycarry	Ballycarry Primary School	Controlled Primary School
	Upper Ballyboley Primary School	Controlled Primary School

Source www.eani.org.uk

Secondary Schools

Ballymena	Ballymena Academy	Voluntary Grammar School
Ballymena	Cambridge House Grammar School	Controlled Grammar
Cullybackey	Cullybackey College	Controlled Secondary School
Ballymena	Dunclug College	Controlled Secondary School
Ballymena	Slemish Integrated College	Grant Maintained Integrated Secondary School
Ballymena	St Louis' Grammar	Voluntary Grammar School (Denominational)
Ballymena	St Patrick's College (Ballymena)	Maintained Secondary School
Carrickfergus	Carrickfergus Grammar School	Controlled Grammar
Carrickfergus	Carrickfergus College	Controlled Secondary School
Carrickfergus	Downshire School	Controlled Secondary School
Carrickfergus	Ulidia Integrated College	Grant Maintained Integrated Secondary School
Larne	Larne Grammar	Voluntary Grammar School
Larne	Larne High School	Controlled Secondary School
	St Killian's College	Maintained Secondary School

Source: www.eani.org.uk

Special and Independent Schools

Ballymena	Castle Tower Special School including Pre-School	Controlled
Larne	Roddensvale Special School including Pre School	Controlled
Ballymena	Living Rivers Christian School	Independent

Source: www.eani.org.uk

APPENDIX B Enrolments and Available Capacity within Mid and East Antrim for 2018 – 2019

Nursery Schools and Units

School Name	Approved Enrolments	Actual Enrolments	Available Places
Ballymena Nursery School	104	104	0
Sunnylands Nursery School	104	104	0
Dunclug Nursery School	78	79	0
St Anthony's Nursery School	52	52	0
Clough Nursery Unit	26	26	0
Broughshane Nursery Unit	26	26	0
Gracehill Nursery Unit	26	27	0
Harryville Nursery Unit	26	26	0
Ballykeel Nursery Unit	52	52	0
Buick Memorial Nursery Unit	26	26	0
Braidside Integrated Nursery Unit	26	26	0
St Mary's Nursery Unit (Portglenone)	26	26	0
Oakfield Nursery Unit	52	52	0
Silverstream Nursery Unit	26	26	0
Victoria Nursery Unit	52	52	0
Whitehead Nursery Unit	52	44	8
Acorn Integrated Nursery Unit	26	26	0
Linn Nursery Unit	52	51	1
Moyle Nursery Unit	52	52	0
Corran Integrated Nursery Unit	26	26	0
Carnlough Community Nursery Unit	52	40	12

Source: <https://www.education-ni.gov.uk> (school enrolment – school level data 2018/19)

Note: Neither the Department of Education nor the Education Authority hold enrolment and available places information for voluntary or private nursery preschools.

Primary Schools

School Name	School Management Type	Approved Enrolments	Actual Enrolments	Available Places
Longstone Primary School	Controlled	73	36	37
Carnalbanagh Primary School	Controlled	58	31	27
Larne and Inver Primary School	Controlled	237	208	0
Carrickfergus Model Primary School	Controlled	406	409	0
Olderfleet Primary School	Controlled	198	161	0
Woodburn Primary School	Controlled	193	185	0
Buick Memorial Primary School	Controlled	472	279	199
Kirkinriola Primary School	Controlled	95	51	0
Harryville Primary School	Controlled	254	168	98
Eden Primary School, Carrickfergus	Controlled	213	213	7
Gracehill Primary School	Controlled	406	412	0
Glynn Primary School	Controlled	103	80	0
Ballycarry Primary School	Controlled	116	70	0

Greenisland Primary School	Controlled	401	405	3
Moorfields Primary School	Controlled	220	166	61
Carnaghts Primary School	Controlled	118	106	0
The Diamond Primary School	Controlled	138	140	0
Clough Primary School	Controlled	161	137	30
Kells & Connor Primary School	Controlled	203	190	21
Carrickfergus Central Primary School	Controlled	232	87	151
Upper Ballyboley Primary School	Controlled	100	41	0
Sunnylands Primary School	Controlled	290	185	118
Moyle Primary School	Controlled	322	362	0
Whitehead Primary School	Controlled	390	393	0
Ballymena Primary School	Controlled	369	314	65
Linn Primary School	Controlled	380	384	5
Fourtowns Primary School	Controlled	290	294	0
Broughshane Primary School	Controlled	319	314	10
Ballykeel Primary School	Controlled	406	375	43
Camphill Primary School	Controlled	406	399	13
Victoria Primary School, Carrickfergus	Controlled	575	378	0
Toreagh Primary School	Controlled	105	97	0
Silverstream Primary School	Controlled	225	127	0
Dunclug Primary School	Controlled	261	71	195
Carniny Primary School	Controlled	283	283	8
Woodlawn Primary School	Controlled	310	237	80
Oakfield Primary School	Controlled	369	265	0
Cairncastle Primary School	Controlled	137	95	0
Portglenone Primary School	Controlled	204	127	0
Hazelbank Primary School	Controlled	120	122	0
Islandmagee Primary School	Controlled	165	109	64
Millquarter Primary School	Catholic Maintained	145	143	10
St Mary's Primary School, Portglenone	Catholic Maintained	203	204	9
Seaview Primary School, Glenarm	Catholic Maintained	121	42	0
St Anthony's Primary School, Larne	Catholic Maintained	476	93	0
St John's Primary School, Carnlough	Catholic Maintained	192	126	0
St Nicholas' Primary School, Carrickfergus	Catholic Maintained	232	176	63
St Macnissi's Primary School, Larne	Catholic Maintained	261	211	55
St Colmcille's Primary School, Ballymena	Catholic Maintained	410	412	9
St Brigid's Primary School, Ballymena	Catholic Maintained	410	408	8
St Paul's Primary School, Ahoghill	Catholic Maintained	81	63	0
Mary Queen of Peace Primary School	Catholic Maintained	245	219	0
Carnlough Controlled Integrated Primary School	Controlled Integrated	62	27	0
Braidside Integrated Primary School	GMI	348	263	94
Corran Integrated Primary School	GMI	203	162	50
Acorn Integrated Primary School	GMI	203	187	25




Source: <https://www.education-ni.gov.uk> (school enrolment – school level data 2018/19)

Secondary Schools

School Name	School Type	School Management Type	Approved enrolments	Actual enrolments	Available places
Larne High School	Non-grammar	Controlled	750	635	139
Cullybackey College	Non-grammar	Controlled	700	681	54
Dunclug College	Non-grammar	Controlled	840	841	41
Carrickfergus Academy	Non-grammar	Controlled	1250	1190	86
St Patrick's College Ballymena	Non-grammar	Catholic Maintained	760	489	280
St Killian's College	Non-grammar	Catholic Maintained	800	810	13
Slemish College	Non-grammar	GMI	760	810	4
Ulidia Integrated College	Non-grammar	GMI	585	647	16
Carrickfergus Grammar School	Grammar	Controlled	800	783	27
Cambridge House Grammar School	Grammar	Controlled	900	896	0
St Louis Grammar School, Ballymena	Grammar	Voluntary	960	1089	0
Ballymena Academy	Grammar	Voluntary	1200	1214	0
Larne Grammar School	Grammar	Voluntary	735	741	0

Source: <https://www.education-ni.gov.uk> (school enrolment – school level data 2018/19)




APPENDIX C GP Practices within Mid and East Antrim 2018

-  Former Ballymena Borough
-  Former Carrickfergus Borough
-  Former Larne Borough

GP Practice	Address	Settlement
Maine Medical, The Health Centre	Portglenone Road	Ahoghill
The Health Centre	Cushendall Road	Ballymena
Cullybackey Health Centre	Tober Park	Cullybackey
The Surgery	77 Galgorm Road	Ballymena
The Health Centre	Cushendall Road	Ballymena
The Gables	45 Waveney Road	Ballymena
The Health Centre	Cushendall Road	Ballymena
Cushendall Road	Ballymena	Ballymena
The Health Centre	76 Main Street	Broughshane
Portglenone Health Centre	17 Townhill Road	Portglenone
The Health Centre	Cushendall Road	Ballymena
Smithfield Medical Centre	7 Smithfield Place	Ballymena
Kells & Connor Medical Centre	36 Church Road	Kells/Connor
Maine Medical Practice	Old Mill Park, Main Street	Cullybackey
Rockfield Medical Centre	Ballymena	Ballymena
Old Back Surgery	97 Mill Street	Ballymena
The Health Centre	Cushendall Road	Ballymena
Meadowbridge Surgery	Slaughterford Road	Whitehead
Old School Surgery	54 Station Road	Greenisland
The Health Centre	Taylor's Avenue	Carrickfergus
The Health Centre	Taylor's Avenue	Carrickfergus
Inver Surgery	Moyle Medical Centre, Old Glenarm Road	Larne
Corran Surgery (amalgamated with Blackarch Surgery)	Moyle Medical Centre, Old Glenarm Road	Larne
Victoria Surgery	Moyle Medical Centre, Old Glenarm Road	Larne
The Health Centre	Gloucester Avenue	Larne
The Health Centre	Gloucester Avenue	Larne

Source: NISRA GP's, Practices and Registered Patients 2018 (administrative geographies) and NI Direct




APPENDIX D Dental Surgeries within Mid and East Antrim 2018

-  Former Ballymena Borough
-  Former Carrickfergus Borough
-  Former Larne Borough

Dental Surgery	Address	Settlement
Bell & Thom Dental Surgeons	17 - 19 Main Street	Portglenone
Portglenone Dental Care	58 Main Street	Portglenone
Gardiner Dental Practice	6-8 Henry Street	Ballymena
Kennedy Orthodontics	43 Ballylesson Road	Ballymena
Broughshane Dental Practice	25 Main Street	Broughshane
B M Withers Dental Practice	25 Linenhall Street	Ballymena
Ballymena Specialist Dental Clinic	19 George Street	Ballymena
Orthoplus Orthodontic Centre	12 Ballymoney Road	Ballymena
Smiles Dental Care	14 Ballymoney Road	Ballymena
S D Manson BDS & Associates Dental Surgery	13-15 Duke Street	Ballymena
03 Dental Studio	29-33 Fountain Place	Ballymena
Jones Dental Care	20 Broughshane Street	Ballymena
Clear Dental Ballymena	73 - 75 Broughshane Street	Ballymena
Braid Dental Care	21-23 Castle Street	Ballymena
Ballymena Dental Care	38 Broughshane Street	Ballymena
Dalriada Urgent Care – Dental Clinic	20 Larne Road Link	Ballymena
Galgorm Dental	The Courtyard	Galgorm
Maine Dental Practice	14b Old Mill Park	Cullybackey
The DeCoursey Dental Practice	Unit 3	Carrickfergus
Harper Dental Care	22 North Street	Carrickfergus
Clements Dental Care	22 West Street	Carrickfergus
Deacon Hanna & Thompson	51 Victoria Road	Carrickfergus
Radiance Oral Healthcare	19 St Brides Street	Carrickfergus
Greenisland Dental Practice	50 Station Road	Greenisland
Aisling Lalor Dental	33 West Street	Carrickfergus
Whitehead Dental Practice	14 Marine Parade	Whitehead
Donnelly Dental	9 - 11 Glenarm Road	Larne
Moyle Dental Care	137 Old Glenarm Road	Larne
Morrison Dental Surgery	11 Thorndale Avenue	Larne
J Christie Dental Practice	14 Victoria Road	Larne
Clear Dental Care NI Limited	11 Victoria Road	Larne

Source: RQIA register of private dental practices and NISRA - Dentist and Surgeries 2018 (administrative geographies)

APPENDIX E Community Centres within Mid and East Antrim

-  Former Ballymena Borough
-  Former Carrickfergus Borough
-  Former Larne Borough

Community Centre	Settlement
Ahoghill Community Centre	Ahoghill
Ballee Community Centre	Ballymena
Ballykeel 2000 Community Centre	Ballymena
Broughshane Community Centre and Playing Fields	Broughshane
Dunclug Community Centre	Ballymena
Galgorm/Gracehill Community Centre	Ballymena
Kells and Connor Community Centre	Kells/Connor
Tullygarley Community Centre	Ballymena
Clough Community Centre	Ballymena
Dr John McKelvey Community Centre	Cullybackey
Harryville Community Centre & Sports Pavilion	Ballymena
Portglenone Community Centre	Portglenone
Oakfield Community Development Centre	Carrickfergus
Sunnylands Community Centre	Carrickfergus
Woodburn Community Centre	Carrickfergus
Eden Community Centre	Carrickfergus
Castleview Community Centre	Whitehead
Whitehead Community Centre	Whitehead
Greenisland Community Centre	Greenisland
Greenland Community Centre	Larne
Dixon Hall, Drains Bay	Larne
Glynn Village Hall	Glynn
Glenlough Community Centre	Carnlough
Linn Road Community Centre	Larne
Ballycarry Community Centre	Ballycarry
Seacourt Community Centre	Larne
Millbrook Community Centre	Larne
Islandmagee Community Centre	Ballystrudder
Kilwaughter Village Hall	Kilwaughter
Ballygalley Community Hall	Ballygalley

Source: Mid and East Antrim Borough Council Community Development Report 2017
(with the exception of the removal of Glenarm and the inclusion of Ballygalley)

APPENDIX F Evolution of relevant draft Plan Strategy policy (General Policy and Policy COM1 Education, Health, Community and Cultural Facilities)

Current Operational Policy

PPS 1: General Principles	SPPS	POP Recommendation/Comment	POP Responses and Post Consultation Consideration	Final Wording for Draft Plan Strategy
<p>Paragraph 3 - The public interest requires that all development is carried out in a way that would not cause demonstrable harm to interests of acknowledged importance.</p>	<p>Under the SPPS, the guiding principle for planning authorities in determining planning applications is that sustainable development should be permitted, having regard to the development plan and all other material considerations, unless the proposed development will cause demonstrable harm to interests of acknowledged importance.</p> <p>The SPPS provides five core planning principles as well as strategic policy under 16 overarching subject matters. Across these principles and policies there are a number objectives such as good design and protecting amenity that apply to all development types.</p>	<p>It was recognised in the POP that there were a number of overlapping criteria across the various policies therefore it was suggested that these may be included within a General Policy in order to prevent duplication.</p> <p>It is recommended that consideration is given to bringing forward a General Policy in the LDP Plan Strategy.</p>	<p>No definitive comments received either for or against the inclusion of a General Policy.</p> <p>Post consultation consideration It is recommended that consideration is given to bringing forward a General Policy in the LDP Plan Strategy.</p>	<p>Policy GP1: General Policy for all Development</p> <p>New policy wording developed following the amalgamation of general policy criteria from across a number of existing policies such as PPS 3 AMP 1 and AMP 6, PPS 4 PED 9, PPS 7 QD1, PPS 16 TSM 7, PPS21 CTY 13, 14 &15, PPS 18 RE 2 as well as policies DES 2 and DES 10 in the PSRNI. The policy also takes account of planning principles included within PPS 12 and PPS 13.</p> <p>The proposed General Policy seeks to ensure that all development (except minor proposals) is sustainable, accords with the LDP and will not result in demonstrable harm to interests of acknowledged importance. This policy also provides operational policy for specific forms of development e.g. schools, which are not specifically catered for through other subject policies.</p> <p>The General Policy sets out criteria under five headings that all development (except minor proposals) must meet, where relevant. Development within the countryside must also meet a number of additional criteria which are particularly relevant to the rural context.</p> <p>Councillor & PMT Comments Some of the original policy criteria have been amended to take account of comments raised through Councillor workshops and meetings with consultees. However, this engagement did not change the overall shape or thrust of the General Policy.</p>

A Planning Strategy for Rural Northern Ireland	SPPS	POP Recommendation/Comment	POP Responses and Post Consultation Consideration	Final Wording for Draft Plan Strategy
Public Services and Utilities Policy PSU 1: Community Needs Requires development plans to allocate sufficient land to meet the anticipated needs of the community in terms of health, education and other public facilities. Emphasis on best possible use of existing sites.	SPPS does not directly deal with this topic however the following Core Planning Principles in the document are relevant: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide safe, secure, accessible age-friendly environments; Encourage and support quality, environmentally sustainable design; Better connect communities with safe pedestrian movements; Integrate land-use planning and transport. 	Feedback from consultees involved with health, education and community facilities provision indicated that strategic policy in the LDP Plan Strategy should allow identification and safeguarding of specific locations for health, education and community facilities where there is a firm proposal e.g. Planning permission will not be granted for alternative uses on lands identified for the provision of education, health, community use or cultural facilities. In addition, there was general consensus from consultees that the LDP Plan Strategy should set out criteria based policy to apply generally across the Borough which supports the delivery of new health, education and community facilities, in locations that encourage active travel and sustainable development and the extension of such facilities. It is recommended that Council bring the policy approach discussed above, in the LDP Plan Strategy.	See preferred approach to Education, Health, Community and Cultural Facilities. Post consultation consideration Bring forward POP recommendation.	Policy COM1: Education, Health, Community and Cultural Facilities New policy wording developed. Where necessary land will be reserved for the above uses either through zoning or KSR at LPP stage. Proposals for the above development types will be permitted where they meet Policy GP1: General Policy for all Development and accord with other provisions of the LDP. Proposals must be in appropriate and accessible locations. Proposals for alternative uses of any of the above facilities will only be permitted in exceptional circumstances. Councillor & PMT comments No changes further to above consultations. NIHE are supportive of the policy.



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