



Derry City & Strabane
District Council
Comhairle
Chathair Dhoire &
Cheantar an tSratha Báin
Derry Citty & Strábane
Destríck Cooncil

Directorate Delivery Plan 2023/24

Health & Community Directorate

Derry City and Strabane District Council

Contents

Section One: Directorate Profile/Summary

- 1.1 Purpose of Directorate
- 1.2 Services Provided
- 1.3 Summary of Resources

Section Two: Achievements 2022/23

- 2.1 Highlights and Progress Update

Section Three: Improvement Planning and Service Delivery

- 3.1 2023/24 Directorate Improvement Objectives
- 3.2 Improvement Objectives
- 3.3 Mainstreaming the Equality and Disability Duties, Rural Needs and Climate Change
- 3.4 Improvement Delivery Plan
- 3.5 Measures of Success and Performance

Section Four: Risk Management

- 4.1 Risk Register

Section Five: Key Contacts

- 5.1 Staff Contacts
- 5.2 Facilities/Office Details

Section One: Directorate Profile / Summary

1.1 Purpose of Directorate

The Health and Community Directorate comprising the Community Development and Leisure and Health and Community Wellbeing services is responsible for working collaboratively with partners across the statutory and third sector to support and develop core service delivery:

- Promoting and protecting the health of the public and the environment through enforcement and advisory activities
- Placing health and social wellbeing at the core of service delivery using cross sectoral and inclusive community development approaches across Directorate services
- Leading and supporting partnership approaches to address the underlying causes of poor health and reduce health inequalities
- Developing more resilient, engaged and sustainable communities who are supported and resourced to address disadvantage and inequalities
- Provision of people focused services and facilities which sustain vibrant communities through quality community services including embedding provision for Good Relations, Community Safety, Children and Young People's activities
- Supporting collaborative working and partnership with Government Departments, the statutory and the third sectors to ensure the benefits that arise from community planning are realised and opportunities for local engagement in shaping these outcomes is maximised.
- Sustaining and increasing participation opportunities for sport and physical activity by ensuring places and spaces are increased, modernised and of sufficient quality to maximise the delivery of sports and physical activity programmes for performance and participation to achieve wider societal and cross sectoral benefits
- Leading on all aspects of social, community regeneration and wellbeing initiatives alongside partners to support the shared and interlinked objectives of economic development, the environment and regeneration across the Council.

The social pillar of the Strategic Inclusive Growth Plan sets out the challenges that our service delivery must respond to:

- A changing age profile with a projected 66% increase in our over 65 age group and a 12% reduction in the under 16 age group by 2039;
- A continued trend of health inequalities in comparison to the NI average;
- Significant issues with drug and alcohol addiction;
- Higher levels of deprivation in our urban and rural areas;
- The legacy of the conflict and continued community tensions.

While the immediate impact of Covid 19 has alleviated the community remains significantly impacted by both the outworking's of Brexit and the Cost of Living Crisis. Delivering services in this environment has seen an ongoing pressure resulting from sustained demands on services including the need for immediate and new crisis responses; regulatory activity; and civic responses such as to the resettlement of Ukrainians and the dispersal of asylum seekers.

The strategic Community Planning outcomes arising from the Local Strategic Growth Plan have been reviewed during 2022 and a series of place based priority actions defined. These include:



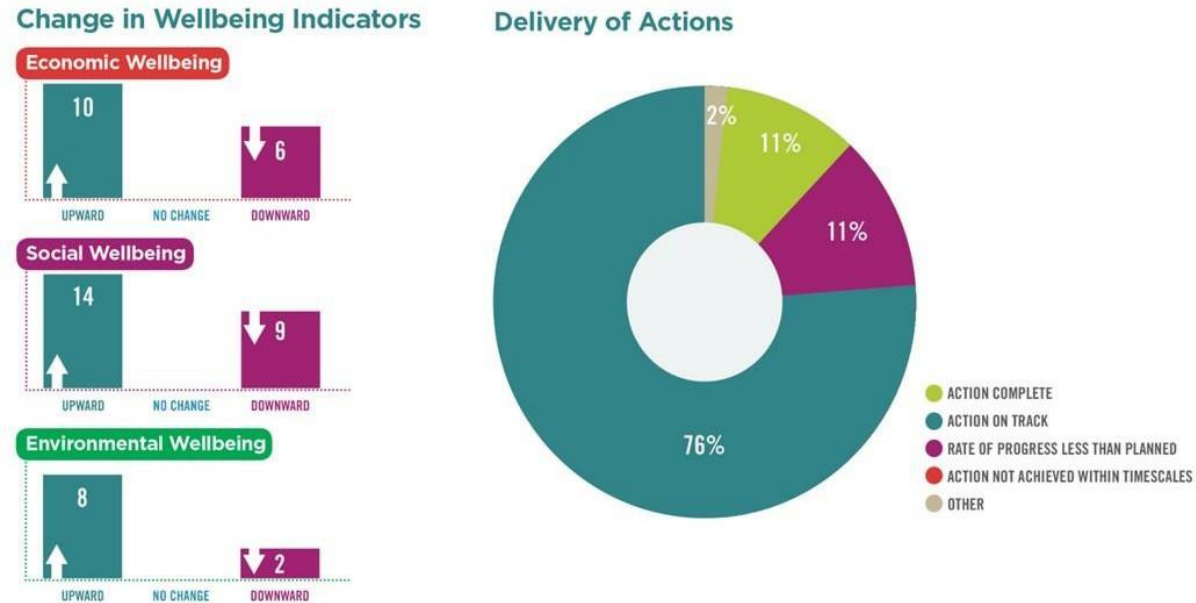
Community Plan Outcome	Actions
Community Development We live in shared, equal and safe community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are more actively engaged and can influence decisions which affect us • We have safer communities • We have access to quality facilities and services • Our community and voluntary sector is more resilient and sustainable

<p>Health and Wellbeing</p> <p>We live long, healthy and fulfilling lives</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have improved physical and mental health • Health inequalities are reduced • We are more physically active • We are active and more independent
<p>Children and Young People</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our children and young people are safer, healthier, more respected and included
<p>Our Children and Young People have the best start in life.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our children and young people are better able to fully realise their potential and become active, responsible citizens

Progress towards achieving outcomes at a strategic level is set out in the statement of progress for the Inclusive Strategic Growth Plan 2017-32.

<https://growderrystrabane.com/performance-monitoring-2/>

Overall the indicative change in population indicators by social wellbeing domain show:



1.2 Services Provided

The Health and Community Directorate outcomes support and align with the Derry City and Strabane District Council Corporate plan:

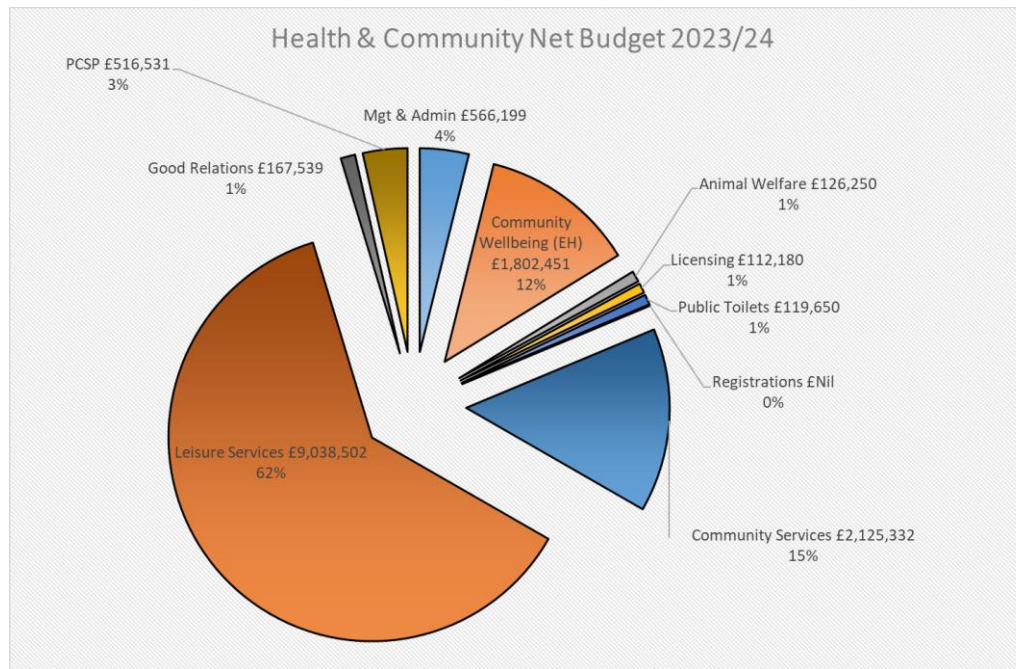
‘Deliver improved social, economic and environmental outcomes for everyone ‘by growing our business and facilitating cultural development; protecting our environment and delivering physical regeneration; and promoting healthy communities and providing effective and facilitative cross functional support services.



1.3 Summary of Resources

Financial Resources

The Directorate has a net budget of £14,574,634 representing 19.6% of the Council's overall net expenditure budget of £74,309,737 for the 2023/24 year. A breakdown of these resources by service area is provided in the diagram below. The allocation of this budget across Directorate services is set out below.



Section Two: Achievements 2022/23

2.1 Highlights & Progress Update

Community Development

- Community Centre Venues fund supported 17 Venues with investment of £195,000 .
- 58 Community & Voluntary Sector groups provided with £214,499 of grants for Community Support .
- Good Relations Action Plan supported 18 programmes with £427,791 across the themes of Children and young people; Shared Community; Safe Community; Cultural expression
- 53 groups supported with Good Relations Core and Programme Support of £194,458
- Good Relations week – promoted in September 2022
- Consultation and Good Relations audit carried out to inform the development of the Good Relations Action Plan and Strategy for 2022 - 2025
- BAME project delivered programmes to ethnic minority communities including Irish Travellers and the Ubuntu Festival
- Training programme for staff, Elected Members, and the community on general Good Relations
- Advice Services budget £973,646 supporting Generalist Voluntary Advice £763,265.65; Tribunal/Appeals £94,353 and Welfare Reform £116,027
- Food & Essential Items Transition Fund of £129,096 was awarded to the 8 Local Community Growth Partnerships
- Social Supermarket funding of £107,051 allocated to support the co-design and partnership approach to developing a sustainable social supermarket model for the Council area. Consultation process with stakeholders to develop an outcomes-based framework and a 3-year action plan for Food Support including a Wraparound Service Model
- Consensual Grant Making - £120,000 allocated to the 8 Local Community Growth Partnerships to deliver on actions / needs emanating from the Local Community Growth Plans.
- Key Strategic SLA's in place to the total value of £147,500 per year.
- Rural Support – £70,000 SLA in place to support rural groups.
- Foyle Search & Rescue -£15,000 – A crisis intervention service focused on preservation of life in and around the River Foyle, delivering education and training programmes, promoting safety on the River Foyle, maintaining lifebelts along the walkways.

- Air Ambulance - £10,000 SLA in place with the Air Ambulance, in partnership with the NI Ambulance Service to provide Helicopter Emergency Medical Service.
- Developing Healthy Communities - £15,000 SLA – key objective to broaden and deepen engagement with the World Healthy Cities Designation
- Newtownstewart 2000 Centre - £37,500 SLA – to provide Leisure and Community facilities and programmes.
- Active Citizenship Through Sport programme - £49,562 allocated to 5 Urban DEAs to deliver a range of accredited sports and generic coaching courses
- Community Centre Capital Build – New state of the art Community Centre Completed - Galliagh Community Centre (approx £1.35million) completed 28th June 2022
- Waterside Shared Village (WSV) – has been completed in June 2022. A transformative shared space which is iconic in nature, not for its design, but in bringing two interface communities together to develop a shared community space, rather than duplicate facilities within their respective areas
- Pride of Place Awards – All Island Competition nominations successful:
 - Cities Competition – Community Wellbeing Initiative; Waterside Neighbourhood Partnership – Minding Mum Project
 - Main Competition – Community Resilience; Sion Mills Community Forum
- Age Friendly Strategy and Action Plan inclusive of persons aged 50+ years co designed and published with Public Consultation during February 2023.
- A total of £8,000 has been allocated to the 8 Local Community Growth Partnership Boards as a Pilot to support a specific project programme for older people
- Positive Ageing Month, with events and activities for Older People, celebrating the contribution that older people make to their communities.
- Donegal County Council and DCSDC have established joint working to explore options for further cross border Age Friendly initiatives across the North West Region.

Children and Young People

- UNICEF Child Friendly Cities and Communities Multi Agency Action Plan
- Budget secured for delivery of Councils revenue elements of the Unicef CFC Delivery Plan -£112,835 until March 2025
- 18 Governance meetings complete – successfully engaging a range of partners to co-design final actions, impact measures and start

delivery of multi-agency action plan.

- Cross departmental working groups launched in 3 lead organisations (Education Authority Youth Service, Western Health and Social Care Trust and Council)
- 4 cross departmental co-design workshops
- 7 cross departmental working group meetings in Council with strong representation from all services engaged with plan
- 3 Political Champions meetings with strong representation and engagement from all political parties
- 4 Youth Participation Board meetings with strong engagement from multi-agency partnership structures.
- Programme of Child Rights Training for Council Staff, External Partners, Elected Members and Children and Young People delivered
- Workforce development plan drafted for upskilling workforces and multi-agency partnership structures across the district over the next 2 years
- UNICEF CFC Short Series Webinars delivered with attendance by local professionals.
 - Informed Consent
 - Creative Consultation and Engagement
 - Youth Justice
 - Story of Change – capturing evidence
 - Road to Recognition
 - Developing Child Friendly Resources
 - Child Friendly Budgeting
- Child Rights Defenders Pilot commenced in partnership with NICCY (Northern Ireland Commission for Children and Young People)
- Child Rights Pilot with Northwest Regional College (NWRC) commenced in January 2023
- Funding confirmed for Child Rights pilot with Youth Justice Experienced Young People
- NW Ministry of Youth
 - Partnership arrangement with EA Youth Service sustained
 - 15 members + 2 ambassadors with co-design plan for future recruitment campaign
 - Bi-weekly meetings – resumed in Council Chamber once a month since December 2022
 - Ongoing engagement and consultations e.g. Climate Adaptation Plan, Peace Plus Action Plan, EA Small Grants Panel
 - 100% of those attending key events and meetings feel they have had an influence over decisions.

- Cross Community Schools Programme in progress with co-designed programme drafted for future delivery
- Local Democracy Week Events delivered, and World Children’s Day supported and promoted locally
- Good Practice / Strategic Links
 - Unicef CFC programme presented at the Regional Youth Participation Forum as an example of good practice (Chaired by the Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People)
 - Scoping in initial phase for partnership between Belfast (Queens University Child Rights Centre), Cork County Council and DCSDC.
 - Ongoing engagement with the Western Area Outcomes Groups (WHSCT led) and Local Advisory Board (EA led)
- Youth 19 Cross Border – A total of £278,805.60 funding accessed for sustainment of delivery beyond the initial £150,000 investment.
- Children Services Cooperation Act reporting complete in line with duties under the Children’s Services Cooperation Act

PCSP Achievements

- Financial leverage of almost 1.8/1 with £700,022 of external funding support secured. For every £1 provided to PCSP by Council an additional £1.80 was levered in
- £209,371 of Small Project Support allocated to 32 local groups to enhance the community safety of the city and district
- 8 Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) deployed at speeding hotspots across the district to raise awareness of speeding
- 147 homes fitted with additional home security equipment under the Safer Homes Initiative (to December 2022)
- Support for 44 Neighbourhood Watch schemes covering over 2,990 homes
- 10 Multi-Agency Support Hub meetings held with 27 of the most vulnerable individuals our community referred into the Hub (to December 2022)
- 13,884 anti-social behaviour (ASB) hotspot patrols carried out by the Community Safety Wardens (to December 2022)
- Community Safety Wardens received and actioned 1,541 ASB referrals (to December 2022)
- 95 CCTV cameras monitored independently dealing with 419 missing person reports, 127 attempted suicides and 273 general welfare concerns (April to October 2022)
- CCTV Tender advertised, assessed and awarded for another 5-year term
- 21 RAPID (Remove All Prescription and Illegal Drugs) Bins installed across the district with 82,385 tablets/pills removed from the bins since and subsequently destroyed (since October 2018)

Leisure & Sport Services

- Healthy towns partnership programme delivered across the district
- Gymnastics, Disability sport coaching, Couch to 5K/8K, cycling initiatives, Junior Sports programmes, Summer Scheme and various fitness initiatives delivered across Council
- Grant Aid - 2 separate funding programmes for clubs totalling £120,000.
- £30k secured from Irish FA / DCMS Multi-Sport Grassroots Facilities Investment Fund
- GP Referral Programme - 442 participants at Quarter 3
- MacMillan Move More Programme to assist people living with, and beyond cancer delivered 85 participants at Q3
- £351K works ongoing to improve the standard of Council pitches and pavilions.
- Coach education and CPD courses rolled out across the district
- Athlete Support Scheme supports 47 coaches at Q3
- Prehen Pontoon including provision of a disability hoist completed.
- District Sports Committee and Sports Forum meetings held – 7 at Q3
- Delivery of Active Citizenship funding to 5 Neighbourhood Renewal Areas, this included sport and activity programmes, targeting children, older people and small scale programmes.
- Ongoing delivery of “Get Wet” water safety programme
- Physical Activity, Wellbeing and Sport Strategy, ‘Be Active’ at final consultation stage
- Derg Active funding secured via Levelling Up Fund – to include a 4g multi-purpose pitch in Castlederg along with town centre environmental improvements
- Brandywell/Daisyfield funding secured via Levelling Up funding – to include a community hub and sports facilities
- Ongoing pitch and pavilion upgrade programme

Environmental Health Update

Delivery within Environmental Health has ensured the ongoing roll out of statutory functions alongside addressing the increasing demands and responses of regulatory requirements in the post pandemic environment with a key focus to:

Promote health, safety and well-being, and safeguard the environment by supporting communities and businesses through education and enforcement.

Food Safety (figures to December 2022)

- Provided support and guidance to 100% of all new food registered premises i.e. 129 new food business operators, before they opened.
- Adhered to and complied with FSA Guidance to District Council's for Food Control Work during the Pandemic, namely the Local Authority (LA) Recovery Plan issued in June 2021. This plan covers the period June 2021- March 2023/24.
- Participated in FSA Audit of 2 Councils in NI into the Implementation of the FSA Recovery Plan by Local Authorities in NI
- Achieved highest level outcome of FSA – no recommendations were made.
 - Completed 3 update returns to the FSA on team's progress in achieving compliance with the LA recovery Plan
- Completed trials on behalf of FSA for introduction of new reporting system on work of LAs in NI
- Undertook completion of first End of Year and Winter returns to FSA on work carried out by Food Safety Team.
 - Utilised council's social media channels to signpost businesses to the sector specific guidance developed by team on Allergen advice and other Food Safety messages
 - Updated Council website regularly with bespoke Covid Guidance and other Government agencies' advice and guidance.
- Mandatory Food Hygiene Rating Scheme with 95% of all premises having a 4 or 5 rating
 - Conducted 520 Food Hygiene inspections and 334 Food Standards Inspections – figures up to end Dec 22.
 - 149 New Premises inspected for Food Hygiene and Food Standards - figures up to end Dec 22
 - Conducted 100% of all requested revisits under Food Hygiene Rating Scheme.
 - Disseminated Prepacked For Direct Sale (PPDS) info on Natasha's Law to Food Business Operators, 324 emails sent out to relevant food businesses
 - Investigated 573 Requests for Service.

- Investigated 27 notifications of Infectious Diseases.
- Procured 155 chemical food samples and 288 micro food samples including participation in 2 national surveys.
- Calorie Wise Awards initiated in 5 Food Businesses.
- Undertook National Food Hygiene Rating Scheme Consistency exercises
- Investigated 2 food allergen incidents resulting in the issuing of 2 formal cautions.
- Undertook cross-departmental work with Business section in planning and operation of Clipper Festival, Legenderry, Halloween carnival and Christmas Markets.
- Undertook 69 Food Safety Inspections at Clipper festival and Legenderry Food festival and 22 inspections at Halloween and Christmas events.
- Participated in FSA new Achieving Business Compliance (ABC) work regarding the new Food Standards Delivery model.
- Represented NI on ABC working group on data validation for the entire UK.

EU exit and the Northern Ireland Protocol Activities

- Undertook EU Exit implementation work, meetings with DAERA, FSA, Defra.
- Participated in Border Control Post (BCP) planning Work with, DAERA, FSA, Planners and Foyle Port in application to EU for designation of Foyle Port as a BCP for importation of frozen fishery products.
- Undertook 13 Certificate of Inspection (COI's) Organic SPS checks at Foyle BCP when it was designated by EU as BCP in Feb 21 for Importation of Organics.
- Engaged with Food Business Operator's to provide info re changes to Health Marks, export and import of Products of Animal Origin.
- Responded to all verification queries from DAERA regarding Approved Premises.

Service Delivery

- 3977 Environmental Health service requests investigated and actioned in accordance with Council enforcement policies. (01 April 2022 – 31 January 2023)

Health & Safety/Consumer Protection (figures to 31 December 22)

The team continue to carry out compliance visits and provided support and advice to all business within the Council's enforcement sector as below;

- 610 health and safety inspections/visits carried out. (April – Dec 22).
- 237 health and safety complaints and requests for service were received.
- 39 workplace accident notifications were received and investigated in accordance with relevant guidance.
- An additional 119 consumer protection requests for service were received and responded to by the team.
- As part of the regional Gas Wise initiative officers have carried out 150 visits to premises that use gas, most premises were found to be compliant with up to date Gas Safe certificates.
- A range of Health and Safety guidance was also made available for accessing on the council website and promoted via council social media channels.
- All childcare premises within the Council area were provided with guidance and resources on potential strangulation hazards within such premises, such as blind cords, button batteries and small high powered magnets.
- A test purchase exercise was carried out in 50% of sunbed premises within the Council area and all premises were found to be compliant
- A butane test (lighter refills) purchase exercise was also undertaken and 25% of premises were visited, 2 premises made sales to a minor.
- Work continued with Cancer Focus NI and the PHA regarding the Be UV Aware Campaign focusing this year on the proper selection and use of sun cream. Information was provided on a regular basis via the Council website and social media platforms including YouTube links on how to select and apply sun creams.
- During Sun Awareness Week 84 childcare premises were provided guidance on the selection and use of sun creams as well as general health and safety guidance on risk assessments.
- A range of non-compliant consumer products were withdrawn from retail sale and officers then provided assistance and guidance to these businesses to enable them to gain compliance with relevant consumer product legislation. The products ranged from e-cigarettes, cosmetics, children's costumes and toys

- Businesses that supplied Dihydroxyacetone (DHA) tanning products in a strength greater than 10% were provided guidance on the EU ban on this product due to its carcinogenic properties. 92 beauticians, 59 chemists and 6 manufacturers were provided guidance.
- The team continued to liaise closely with the Office of Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) regarding the provision of safe consumer products.
- The Department participated in the OPSS campaign Nil by Mouth by inspecting premises and providing regular social media updates on the dangers associated with button batteries and small high powered magnets.
- Currently 165 businesses that manufacture, import or distribute construction products have been contacted and offered advice and guidance on placing construction products on the market in Northern Ireland.
- 136 businesses were contacted following an urgent warning issued by OPSS regarding baby self-feed pillows and devices which gave rise to a choking risk if the child was left unsupervised.
- The team provided emergency assistance to the Public Health and Housing Team during incidents of serious flooding with visits completed to affected households.
- Proactively worked with councils Business Team, Safety Advisory Group and other agencies in relations to advising and supporting businesses regarding their consumer protection and health and safety obligations during key carnivals, festivals and events and large concerts throughout this period.

Health Development

- Civic Forum (Alcohol, Drugs, Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing and Homelessness) brings together a range of organisations to collaborate and share best practice, map current services and develop the scope of services, which may be required to support communities. 2 Meetings held to 31 January 2023 and Homelessness Heroes Awards Ceremony held in December 2022.
- Member Led Working Group established and a council response to the DoH Mental Health Strategy 2021-2031 Consultation
- £107,215 external funding secured to support Affordable Warmth, Home Safety and Tobacco Control programmes (to 31 March 2023).
- Promotion of the Food Standard Agencies Calorie Wise Award Scheme and MenuCal tool to encourage the display of calories in food businesses.

- Partnership Agreement in place with Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service and 24 eligible households referred for a Home Safety Fire check and to have smoke detectors installed where necessary. (to 31 January 2023)
- The Home Safety Service attended the schools' education programme - Youths Educated in Safety (YES) Programme 15-17th November 2022 and 31st January to 2nd February 2023: 22 Primary Schools – 1,024 P6-P7 pupils and 97 school staff members in attendance.

Housing

- Participated on the Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) Regional Monitoring Group regarding the delivery of the HMO function.
- 169 HMO's licenced in the DCSDC area to date (31 January 2023).
- 220 homes referred to NIHE under the Affordable Warmth Scheme in line with the service level agreement for 2022/23 with 14433 related actions to enable the applications to be referred to NIHE successfully and 356 onward referrals for ineligible applicants to Northern Ireland Sustainable Energy Programme (NISEP), Boiler Replacement Allowance and NI Energy Advice Line. (to 31/01/23)
- 386 Home Safety visits undertaken (to 31/01/23) with a resultant 118 signpostings to other schemes/services, and referrals to other services such as PCSP, NIFRS, Social Services, Occupational Therapy and assisted bin lift in council.
- 208 service requests related to the private rented sector investigated and 2,842 related actions taken in response (to 31/01/23).
- Service Level Agreement in place with the Drinking Water Inspectorate for Northern Ireland in relation to private water supplies. Samples and risk assessments of registered supplies undertaken in accordance with the SLA.
- Data Sharing Agreement in place with the Make the Call Team in DfC to enable referrals to be made to Make the Call and for Make the Call to refer into the Home Safety and Affordable Warmth teams.
- Response to flooding incidents and assessment of homes in accordance with the Department for Communities Scheme of Emergency Financial Assistance.

Environment and Neighbourhoods

- Continued monitoring of local air quality throughout the Council district as part of Local Air Quality Management framework which includes 5 continuous air monitoring sites and 50 fixed diffusion tubes. Calibrations undertaken in accordance with Technical Guidance to achieve data capture of 90%.
- Implementation of Council Motions on Air Quality including the provision of air quality monitoring equipment at Jon Clifford Bull Park and operational practice introduced so that for anyone facing fuel poverty, the fines to control domestic particulate emissions in smoke control areas will be waived.
- Information provided to solid fossil fuel retailers and suppliers in smoke control areas on their legal obligations.
- Media response to high air pollution alert in the Council area in December 2022.
- Feedback on 2020 Progress Report, 2021 Updating and Screening Assessment and 2022 Progress Report received from DAERA and amendments made to the report. Recommendation accepted to revoke Spencer Road Air Quality Monitoring Area.
- £31,050 funding offered including for staff costs from DAERA to support Councils Air Quality duties. Included funding for continued maintenance of air quality monitoring stations at Brooke Park, Dales Corner, Newtownstewart, Strathfoyle and Springhill.
- Continue to support the Northern Ireland Radiation Monitoring Group's (NIRMG) continuous Argus gamma monitoring network and environmental radiation sampling programme.
- Continued response to service requests in relation to noise and air quality from commercial and industrial premises.
- Planned inspections of Local Air Pollution Prevention and Control (LAPPC). 43 installations permitted with associated annual subsistence fee income. Four applications for permits being considered.
- 390 planning consultation responses received between 1st April 2022 and 30th November 2022 prior to the introduction of the new Consultee hub on the planning portal.
- Ongoing discussions with NIEA on Industrial Pollution Control transformation which is reviewing how Local Air Pollution Prevention and Control is regulated in Northern Ireland.
- Continued engagement with NIEA on the remediation of the Mobuoy Road illegal waste site and assessment of quarry waste sites in the Council area.

- Engage with NIEA on a regulatory Forums in relation to Pesticides and F-Gases
- Continued delivery of 'Life Project' (tree sapling to be planted for each life event) through Registration Service. Local oak sapling growing initiative with North West Regional College Horticultural Unit and Creggan Country Park continues.
- Assist the wider Environmental Health Service in relation to response to flooding incidents.

Port Health

- Inspection of vessels on request for Ship Sanitation Certificates as required under the Public Health (Ships) Regulations (NI) 2008.
- Checking the quality of water provided to and stored on ships.
- Engagement with the Public Health Agency on the implementation of their Port Health Plan and monitoring Maritime Declarations of Health submitted by vessels arriving at Foyle Port.
- Work with the Maritime and Coastguard Agency on mutual areas of interest so as to protect the welfare of crew and ensure vessels are safe.
- Provide training for additional staff to undertake or assist with inspections.

Licensing/Safety Advisory Group (SAG) for events (figures to 31 January 2023)

- Provision of advice and guidance in support of 46 planned public events.
- 202 Licences/permit/registration applications received.
- 188 licences/permits/registrations issued.
- 324 responses to consultations under the Licensing (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 and Betting, Gaming, Lotteries & Amusements (Northern Ireland) Order 1985

Animal Welfare (figures from 1st April 2022 - 31st December 2022)

- Animal welfare service through lead Council Fermanagh and Omagh District Council (FODC) ongoing.

- Approximately 257 animal welfare cases investigated with 435 visits, 11 Improvement Notices, 2 Formal Cautions issued, and 4 cases with seizures in Derry City and Strabane District Council. There were no prosecutions in the Derry City and Strabane District Council area.

Dog Control Service (figures to 31st December 2022)

- 5,562 dog licences issued (including 154 block licences) achieving approximately £31,445 income.
- Schools' education programme - Youths Educated in Safety (YES) Programme 15-17th November 2022 and 31st January to 2nd February 2023: 22 Primary Schools – 1024 P6-P7 pupils and 97 school staff members in attendance
- £1,550 in Fixed Penalty payments (Dog Licensing/straying/fouling).
- Over 20,000 dog foul bags were issued to dog walkers during dog fouling patrols and during the Foyle Maritime Festival.
- Cross departmental Dog Control Working Group - including dog fouling Initiative implemented.
- 3 Dog Control Orders implemented (Dogs on Leads; Dogs on leads by direction; Dog exclusion) – all new signage installed throughout Council area with QR codes detailing areas and location of dog foul bins.
- 2,500 keyrings with QR code for new Dog Control Orders circulated during health initiatives, including school's education programme.

Registration Service (figures to 31st December 22)

- 1381 births registered within the District
- 2 still births registered
- 862 deaths have been registered
- 611 Marriages registered – religious 388, civil 198, belief 25
- Officiated at 198 Civil Marriage Ceremonies
- 485 Marriage Notices and 1 Civil Partnership notice administered
- 0 Civil Partnership Ceremonies have taken place (new legislation introduced same sex Marriage and opposite sex Civil Partnership, most couples deciding to be married)
- 14 Approved Marriage/Civil Partnership venues inspected

Section Three: Improvement Planning and Performance

The Directorate has set a number of improvement objectives for 2023/24 which aim to bring about improvement in one or more of the following improvement criteria:

- Strategic effectiveness (SE) Service quality (SQ)
- Service availability (SA) Fairness (F)
- Sustainability (S) Efficiency (E)
- Innovation. (I)

An overview of these objectives and the work we will be undertaking in 2023/24 is set out in paragraphs 3.1 – 3.3 below, under the headings of:

- 2023/24 Directorate Improvement Objectives (Outcome Improvement Objective, and Other Service Improvement Objectives)
- Mainstreaming the Equality and Disability Duties, Rural Needs and Climate Change

Details of how we will deliver these commitments and monitor and measure progress/success are set out in paragraphs 3.4 and 3.5.

3.1 2023/24 Directorate Improvement Objectives

An overview of the outcome and/or service improvement objectives and how they relate to the Community/Corporate Plan is set out in the table below.

Community/Corporate Plan Objective	Directorate Outcome / Improvement Objective / Service Objective 2023/24	Link to Improvement Criteria **
<p>Social Wellbeing Pillar Community Plan priority outcome areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Development – We live in a shared, equal and safe community: • More actively engaged and can influence the decisions that affect us; • Have safer Communities; • Have Access to quality facilities and services; • Community and voluntary sector is more sustainable and resilient. <p>Corporate Plan objectives: Promote healthy outcomes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To increase participation in local planning, engagement and communication processes by developing collaborative approaches. • To create opportunities to improve, extend and maximise access to facilities and services which deliver increased safety and cohesion within the community. • Establish innovative practices which develop more sustainable rural communities and increase the capacity to engage rural, disengaged and excluded communities. • Implement directorate cost savings for 2023/24 of £858,900. 	<p>SE, F, SA, SI</p> <p>F, SQ, SA, I</p> <p>I, F, SA, SQ</p> <p>SE, SQ, E</p>

<p>Social Wellbeing Pillar Community Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and Wellbeing – We live long healthy and fulfilling lives: • We age actively and more independently; • Health inequalities are reduced: • We are more physically active; • We have improved physical and mental health. <p>Corporate Plan objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote healthy outcomes 	<p>Outcome Performance Objective</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To assist a return to healthy lifestyles through regrowing participation in leisure sports and physical activity: • To re-engage and achieve user numbers of the Council’s leisure facilities (HC1A) with a target of 100% of baseline user numbers • through retention and growth strategies achieve net gain within membership base; • To target under represented groups through inclusive leisure, sport and physical activity participation to lead more active lives (HC1B); • Maintain current high levels of customer satisfaction/net promoter score (HC1D); • To improve participation rates for those living in deprived areas (HC1E). • To promote health, safety and wellbeing and safeguard the environment by supporting communities and businesses. 	<p>SA, SQ, E, F, I</p> <p>SQ, SA, SE, F</p>
<p>Social and Wellbeing Pillar Community Plan</p> <p>Children and Young People – Our children and young people have the best start in life; our children and young people are safer, healthier, more respected and included; our children and young people are better able to fully realise their potential and become active, responsible citizens.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Embed a Child Rights Based Approach in the design, delivery and review of policy, strategy and services within the Derry City and Strabane Council area. The principle of participation will be the primary focus • Establish cross-organisational support for the Youth Voice (NW Ministry of Youth) including the development of a pathway of support for seldom heard voices, enabling all young people to have their voice heard in local and regional decision-making. 	<p>F, SQ, SA, E1</p>

Corporate Plan objectives: Promote healthy outcomes.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross cutting Community Plan and Corporate Plan themes: • Addressing inequality and promoting inclusive growth; • Good Relations; • Sustainability; • Rural Development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make effective arrangements for the delivery of cross cutting community planning and corporate plan themes. 	F, I, E, S
Improved service delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase service cost effectiveness and corporate compliance 	E, SE

3.2 Outcome Improvement Objective To assist a return to a healthy lifestyle through regrowing participation in leisure, sports and physical activity (HC1)

- To consolidate and increase overall user numbers of Council leisure centres to achieve pre Covid levels of 1.1million paid user visits
- To implement retention and growth strategies to achieve a gym membership baseline of 6,000 paid members (includes direct debits, advanced payments, corporate and staff membership schemes)
- Introduce a pilot physical activity programme to assist females during menopause with exit surveys confirming a minimum of 80% completed the programme saying they have mental and physical health benefits from attending the programme
- Develop the Water Safety Programme to engage a minimum of 500 participants across all leisure sites at different levels of the programme. Complete exit surveys confirming a minimum of 80% completed the programme saying they had in improved understanding of how to deal effectively with a water based emergency.
- To target under represented groups through inclusive leisure, sport and physical participation which lead to more active lifestyles:

Achieve Sport & Physical Activity targets of 5,000 participants per year for targeted programmes including

- 500 'Disability' participants
- 2,500 'Female' participants
- 2,000 'Area of High Social Need' participants
- Maintain current levels of satisfaction/net promoter score of 50.
- To target participation by those living in deprived areas (target above of 2,000 participants from areas of high social need)

The World Health Organisation (WHO) sets out a global Action plan which includes a focus on physical activity as a leading factor in health and wellbeing. According to the WHO, 4-5 million deaths per year could be averted if the global population was more physically active. Estimates indicate that 27.5% of adults and 81% of adolescents currently do not meet the 2010 WHO recommendations, with almost no improvement seen during the last decade. The key target is to reduce world physical inactivity by 10% in 2025 and 15% by 2030 through delivery of Active societies.

There are also inequalities, with girls and women being less active than boys and men in most countries. And there are significant differences in levels of physical activity between higher and lower income groups, and between countries and regions.

The WHO's guidelines for staying fit and healthy are broken down by age group. For example Who recommends 150- 300 minutes of moderate aerobic activity per week for all adults; and an average of 60 minutes of moderate aerobic activity per day for children and adolescents.

The World Economic Forum has developed a messaging strategy which summarises the key benefits of physical activity as seen in diagram overleaf:

1 Physical activity is good for hearts, bodies and minds.

Regular physical activity can prevent and help manage heart disease, type-2 diabetes, and cancer which cause nearly three quarters of deaths worldwide. Physical activity can also reduce symptoms of depression and anxiety, and enhance thinking, learning, and overall well-being.

2 Any amount of physical activity is better than none, and more is better.

For health and wellbeing, WHO recommends at least 150 to 300 minutes of moderate aerobic activity per week (or the equivalent vigorous activity) for all adults, and an average of 60 minutes of moderate aerobic physical activity per day for children and adolescents.

3 All physical activity counts.

Physical activity can be done as part of work, sport and leisure or transport (walking, wheeling and cycling), as well as every day and household tasks.

4 Muscle strengthening benefits everyone.

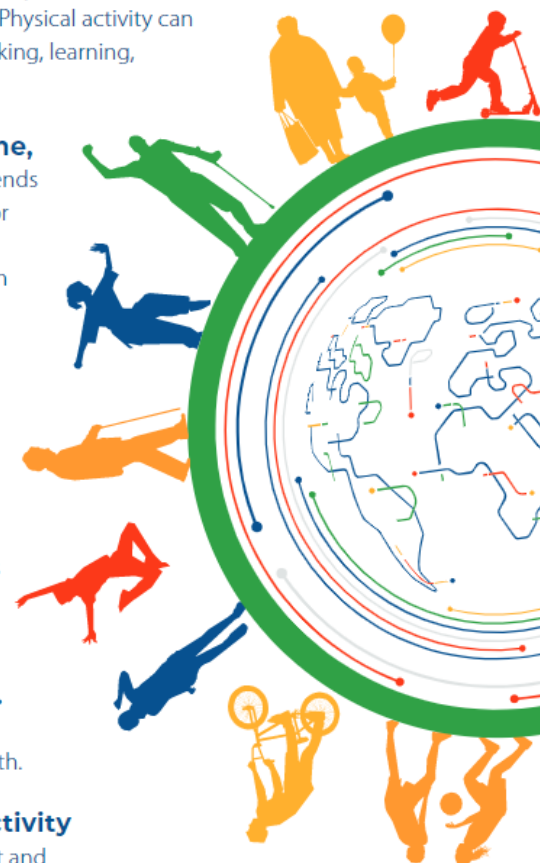
Older adults (aged 65 years and older) should add physical activities which emphasize balance and coordination, as well as muscle strengthening, to help prevent falls and improve health.

5 Too much sedentary behaviour can be unhealthy.

It can increase the risk of heart disease, cancer, and type-2 diabetes. Limiting sedentary time and being physically active is good for health.

6 Everyone can benefit from increasing physical activity and reducing sedentary behaviour,

including pregnant and postpartum women and people living with chronic conditions or disability.













Source:

<https://who.canto.global/pdfviewer/viewer/viewer.html?share=share%2Calbum%2CMIG8P&column=document&id=0n9h8bi7bhIvf553v935rujI3j&suffix=pdf>

Physical Activity Guidelines as Set Out by Chief Medical Officer

The UK Chief Medical Officer activity guidelines sets out an exemplar on how commonly delivered sports and physical activity can improve muscle function, bone health and balance. These range from pre-natal swim classes; creché facilities; swimming lessons; holiday school clubs; teenage activities; multi sports clubs and fitness classes; fitness for well-being and older people; plus exercise programmes for long term conditions, cancer patients and overweight individuals. The below diagram provides a diagrammatic representation on the types of activities that can deliver these benefits and contribute to meeting the physical activity guidelines.

Type of sport, physical activity or exercise	Improvement in muscle function	Improvement in bone health	Improvement in balance
 Running	★	★★	★
 Resistance Training	★★★	★★★	★★
 Aerobics, circuit training	★★★	★★★	★★
 Ball Games	★★	★★★	★★★
 Racquet Sports	★★	★★★	★★★
 Yoga, Tai Chi	★	★	★
 Dance	★	★★	★
 Walking	★	★	☆
 Nordic Walking	★★	②	★★
 Cycling	★	★	★

★★★ Strong effect ★★ Medium effect ★ Low effect ☆ No effect ② Not known

Securing the future of public sport and leisure (published on behalf of APSE, CLOA, LGS) stated that:

‘Although the word leisure can conjure up images of optional activities, public sport and leisure services are in fact a service that fundamentally supports the health of the nation, enabling people to live longer, prevent and manage health conditions and boost mental health. The more deprived an area is the more dependent the community is on public sports and leisure provision.’

Council has a specific role in providing a range of publicly accessible, universal and targeted services and activities. We provide significant sports infrastructure to include leisure centres, community buildings, outdoor sports facilities including pitches and water based access. This is augmented by the very substantial provision by the voluntary sports sector and sports Governing bodies along with schools and higher education providers.

The NI Programme for Government (PFG) has moved to an outcomes focused delivery based approach which encourages cross departmental working to deliver on 9 key themes, including ‘We all enjoy long, healthy, active lives’ which most closely aligns to the outcomes for lifelong participation and engagement in sport and physical activity. However, the strategy will also contribute to the PFG outcomes of ‘Children and Young people have the best start in life’ and ‘Everyone can achieve their potential.’

The Department for Communities in March 2022 published Active Living, the new strategy for Northern Ireland, which ‘through its vision and associated key themes and goals, seeks to create a vibrant, welcoming, enjoyable, inclusive and successful sector for everyone, contributing significantly to a healthier and more resilient society.’ The Active Living strategy overall vision is to have More people, More Active, More of the Time.’ The strategy framework sets out this overall vision and the interconnectedness of the cross cutting themes of anti-poverty, wellbeing and inclusion, sustainability and inclusive growth, agility and innovation. The strategy themes include Recovery from the impact of the pandemic on sport and physical activity; promoting participation, inclusion and community engagement; promoting excellence in sport; promoting partnership and integration, providing inclusive and shared spaces and places and promoting the benefits of sport and physical activity.

The Sport and Physical Activity Framework

Programme for Government Outcomes and Indicators

VISION

‘Lifelong involvement in sport and physical activity will deliver an active, healthy, resilient and inclusive society which recognises and values both participation and excellence’

KEY THEMES



CROSS-CUTTING PRINCIPLES



DEPARTMENTAL CROSS - CUTTING THEMES



The Sport NI Corporate Plan 2021-2026 sets out in its mission its commitment to the development of sport, ‘We are passionate about maximising the power of sport to change lives. By 2026 we want the power of sport to be recognised by all.’ This acknowledges that the power of sport individually and societally has become more important as a result of the pandemic. The emotional, physical, mental wellbeing derived from participating is seen as an important element of Covid recovery and Regrowth. The plan recognises the need for increased participation in sport across the wider community and the need to focus on parts of society that are underrepresented. Two outcomes have been defined:

- People adopting and sustaining participation in sport and physical activity
- Our athletes are among the best in the world

The key supporting strands which will support the achievement of these outcomes include accessible quality infrastructure and safety; physical literacy development; supporting clubs and governing bodies; developing people to include coaches and referees; strategic partnership collaborations; promoting culture and good governance; delivery of events programme; and supporting high performers.

The **Levelling Up paper** notes the contribution of sport to delivering on 4 of its 6 capital areas including physical, human, social and institutional where investment is needed to address inequalities and restore local pride. It recognises that sports can:

- Contribute to individual health and wellbeing including a broad range of physical and mental benefits
- Public facilities provide a place based infrastructure through which services can be delivered across the most deprived communities
- Sport and leisure facilities are seen as a significant factor in determining a local community’s sense of belonging and pride of place

Council has recently benefitted from LUF funding (total of £16m) for 3 significant infrastructural projects within the District:

Daisyfield Community Sports Hub

This project will see the regeneration of the Daisyfield pitches with the development of: a single storey sports centre with facilities for fitness classes, boxing, snooker and a social area; six block changing room facility; upgrade to the existing natural 100m x 50 m grass pitch; a FIFA 1 Star synthetic multi use games area; and car park and associated supporting infrastructure.

Derg Active

The project is an integrated economic, health and well-being, social and environmental project focused on the rural town of Castlederg incorporating the following elements: high quality public realm scheme in the Diamond; upgraded pitches at Mitchell Park for local Gaelic and soccer teams; outdoor gym equipment; new play facility enhancing the heritage site at Castle Park; upgrade to event space at Castle Park; upgrades to outdoor events space at Castle Park; upgrades to Greenways connecting Castle Park & Castlederg town centre; and the creation of two parklets including one in the Diamond in the town centre.

Acorn Farm St Columb's Park

The regeneration of St Columbs Park was endorsed by Council. The project will see the regeneration of the former Ministry of Defence site off St Columbs Park into an urban growing space (Acorn Farm) within the city, a new gate lodge, enhanced car parking, wider environmental improvements to include play provision, enhanced biodiversity signage and landscaping. The focus will be to develop a high quality innovative urban food growing hub; learning and skills development centre (Green Skills Academy); sustainable food events venue; high quality sustainable visitor infrastructure and experience; and support infrastructure.

Integrated Care Systems

The planned development of Integrated care systems (ICS's) within Northern Ireland with the Partnership structures to be developed by 2024 provide the opportunity for increased health collaboration. Over recent years there has been a growing importance of the need for collaboration with health partners and the introduction of ICS's provides a new mechanism to focus on addressing inequalities and maximising prevention. Councils and the community sector have already shown that they can play their part in this by successfully collaborating on initiatives such as GP referral, Couch to 5K walking and running initiatives and the Macmillan Move More cancer rehabilitation programme which supports those with chronic conditions; and additionally by a range of secondary prevention programmes which support people with different health and wellbeing needs. There is an imminent opportunity to transition both perception and the delivery of sport and leisure activities to those of an active wellbeing service. Among such examples might include the co-location of services perhaps to leisure and community venues to increase accessibility, increased provision of existing partnership programmes to target a specific neighbourhood, step up programmes as part of preventative care and more social prescribing. These opportunities will evolve as the outcomes of the Integrated Care Partnerships become established over the coming year requiring a focus on systems, behaviours and places.

Healthier Choices Campaign (Obesity Framework)

Derry City and Strabane District Council has been selected by the Department for Health and Public Health Agency as one of the early adopter sites exploring a Whole Systems Approach to Obesity Prevention which is being developed in Northern Ireland. This follows the publication of a report: A Whole Systems Approach to obesity prevention; a rapid synthesis of evidence to inform the Northern Ireland Strategy Project Board which focuses on improving the systems within which we are born, grow, live , work and age. The latest data shows that one in four adults (27%) and around one in sixteen children (6%) are living with obesity in Northern Ireland. Official data shows that the development of obesity is strongly linked to deprivation status. There has been a 12% increase in child obesity between 2011/12 and 2018/19 within primary one children living in the most deprived areas (36%) by comparison to those living in the least deprived areas. It is recognised that obesity increases the risk of developing chronic diseases, such as colon cancer, high blood pressure or type 2 diabetes, and is linked to substantial direct and indirect costs- estimated to be £370m in NI.

Council by participating in the early adopter site will have the opportunity to work with Government and health bodies to influence policy change, work together on local interventions at community level, provide and make available facilities to support healthier food, dietary choices and enhance opportunities for physical activity.



Source: <https://research.hscni.net/sites/default/files/WSA%20Poster%20final.pdf>

DCSDC Be Active Strategy

The development of the Derry City and Strabane District Council 'Be Active' strategy was informed by a consultation process which sought views about participation in sport and physical activity including barriers to participation with residents, schools and activity providers. Among the findings of the study the following are issues Council along with partners need to address:

- Only 29% of respondents indicated that they achieved the WHO daily physical activity guidance of 30 minutes on 5 days per week; and some 19% indicating that they achieved this on one or no days
- All respondents agreed with the statement that 'being physically active can improve my general health and wellbeing'
- 71% indicated they participated in walking for recreation; 34% in jogging; 31% in aerobics; 29% in weight training and swimming; and 26% in cycling
- The top three responses as to why residents take up physical activity were. 75% to improve health and fitness; 67% to make me feel better; 61% to maintain my mental health
- The top reasons for not being physically active were 42% due to lack of time or family commitments; and lack of facilities in my area. Other lesser rated reasons were poor weather, cost, being self-conscious, bored with what's on offer; and 1% just not interested
- 71% of schools have delivered sport and physical activity in partnership with Council
- A high % of schools would consider making schools available for community use if the barriers of insurance and staff costs were met
- Nearly half of schools have plans to expand their sports estate, with a strong interest in artificial turf pitches
- 53% of sports providers had delivered activity in partnership with council e.g. local sports clubs, community groups, disability groups have used Council leisure facilities and coaches
- 78% of providers had a willingness to deliver more activity; however, the need for more qualified instructors including those with skills to deliver to disability groups was noted as a need
- There is a network of facilities used for delivery including their own facility, community centres, green spaces

The overall health status of the District with life expectancy lower than the NI average- men living in the top 20% deprived areas have life expectancy nearly 6 years less and women nearly 3 years less; prescription rates for mood, anxiety disorders, obesity and cancer are 13% higher; in school Year 8 obesity is significantly more prevalent; and 26 of the 52 health outcomes in the DOH 2022 report on health inequalities are worse than the NI average. The WHO state that physical inactivity is one of the risk factors in non-communicable diseases and death

worldwide. It increases the risk of cancer, diabetes, heart disease and stroke by 20-30%. It is estimated that 4-5 million deaths per year could be averted if the global population was active.

As a result, the delivery of the Council strategy will focus on the vision of 'more people, more active, more often' with associated objectives around participation across all ages and abilities; supporting the sports clubs as key delivery partners; and developing further partnership working to grow participation and promote the role of sport and physical activity as a key part of a healthy lifestyle.

Developing Healthy Communities (DHC) Northern Ireland, has over 30 years' experience improving peoples' lives. The innovative programmes focus on improving mental, physical and social wellbeing. DHC supports communities, families and work places through mentoring, training and funding programmes, and champion healthcare needs with decision makers. Part of a global wellbeing initiative, DHC connect people and facilitate conversations in order to share best practice.

As part of the World Health Organisation's (WHO) initiative, Derry City & Strabane District Healthy City & District project brings health, housing, transport, education, environment and community together to collaborate on a holistic health and wellbeing approach within the district. Derry and Strabane first joined this global network of cities in 2009 and remains one of only a handful of areas in Ireland and the UK to be leading the way through participation in this political movement which is designed to make health and wellbeing a central strategic approach.

Looking beyond the traditional approach, the Healthy Cities framework looks beyond statutory services and care providers as the sole means to deliver health. It brings together the concepts of:

- **People**
- **Place**
- **Participation**
- **Planet**
- **Prosperity**
- **Peace**

From this, active lives made easy has been developed:

Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NI and Council level sports strategies are shifting to embrace a more inclusive attitude to physical activity. Let's make sure it benefits those who need it most.
Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Influence sport and physical activity strategy towards creative and innovative ideas that recognise physical activity is more than sport alone. • Amplify the benefit and grow the economy by encouraging enterprise.
Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish mentoring scheme for physical activity enterprises. • Identify specific lessons for rural and underprivileged groups. • Convene small group meetings with relevant stakeholder to develop and advocate for innovative and collaborative approaches to physical activity. • Support employers to integrate physical activity into their employee wellbeing strategy.

3.3 Mainstreaming the Equality and Disability Duties, Rural Need, and Climate Change

The Directorate will carry out the delivery of its functions and services taking cognisance of Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 which requires public authorities to carry out their functions to promote equality of opportunity and good relations across those with protected characteristics within the Act.

Our work will positively reflect:

- The promotion of opportunities for all
- Take cognisance of equality screening and equality impact assessment processes
- Engaging with elected members and wider stakeholders through consultation processes to shape and plan our service delivery
- Actively participate in internal groups such as the good relations panel, equality scrutiny panel, poverty and rural working groups

In 2022/23 the Directorate will have given consideration to the following issues pertinent to our mainstreaming objective:

- Council Motion-May 2022- Dying in poverty- Marie Curie
- Council motion – June 2022- Disability Equality Group NI
- Council Motion-July 2022 – Funding for rural groups
- Council motion- July 2022- Care Home Top Up fees
- Residents welcome pack produced for Ukrainian refugees
- Council motion -September 2022 -Children and Adult learning Services- lack of respite beds for disabled children
- Council motion- Sept-2022 – Foyle Family Justice Centre
- Presentation by Developing Healthy communities
- Council motion- disability access audit City Baths
- Whole Systems Approach obesity pilot participation approved
- EQIA process – free use of leisure for over 65.s/ 75s ongoing
- Equality screening survey to identify good relations needs as part of our 3 year planning process for service delivery
- Leisure survey of users and non-users – complete April 2023
- Continued work via the sports forum to promote the role of Women in Sport with a further event planned for March 2023
- Delivered targeted programmes which focus on women, ethnic communities, LGBTQ+, older people and the socially deprived
- Developed a draft Age Friendly strategy and action plan which is now open to public consultation
- General Register Office policy- Life events can be recorded in Irish language
- Continuing the delivery of sport and physical activity through the sports disability hub
- Lobby DFI re. disabled parking bays
- Promoting participation in GP Referral, MacMillan cancer and wellbeing programmes
- Engaging with community/voluntary parties and others to ensure inclusive access to the services we deliver
- Co ordinating the participation of the community and sports sectors in the accessibility and inclusion scheme.
- Continued engagement with Local Growth Partnerships to build engagement and inclusivity around directorate services

Climate Change

The majority of Council's leisure facilities developed from the 1970s onwards are in need of significant reinvestment and replacement and largely rely on traditional energy sources. Whilst Council has commenced a strategic reinvestment programme, a number of leisure facilities, pitch upgrades have been undertaken and City Baths has been closed for urgent repairs. It will take some time for this to complete as leisure facilities produce a significant proportion of direct carbon emissions and replacing/upgrading the leisure estate will be a crucial contributor in meeting our net zero targets.

As the Council plans the shape of its future leisure estate there is the opportunity to rethink what our communities will need from facilities and services and design more efficient and impactful solutions to help our communities to be active and stay healthier for longer. Equally the learning from Covid-19 has shown the increased propensity of our citizens to engage in outdoor based activity, including active travel and the shift to choices of walking, cycling or running to destinations. In addition to contributing to healthier lives it promotes benefits of improved air quality and reduced carbon emissions along with realising a more equitable, sustainable and prosperous world.

There is an increased understanding and value being placed on sport and leisure and recognition of their contribution to wider objectives of improving health and addressing health inequalities; lowering levels of obesity and cutting carbon emissions.

Sustainable Development Goals

The activities of the Directorate contribute to sustainable development goals such as good health and wellbeing, reducing inequalities and supporting and improving standards of life, enhancing access to quality education and the conditions for decent work and economic growth.

3.4 Improvement Delivery Plan

In order to deliver our Directorate outcome and/or service improvement objectives we have identified a number of key activities, as set out below. These actions represent part of the work that will be progressed by the Directorate during 2023/24.

Ref	Directorate Outcome/ Service Improvement Objective	Key Activities/Actions/Sub-actions/milestones	Target Date	Lead Officer
1	To assist a return to healthy lifestyles through regrowing participation in leisure, sport and healthy living activities (HC1)	<p>Publish physical activity, wellbeing and sport strategy</p> <p>Develop the Water Safety Programme to engage a minimum of 500 participants across all leisure sites at different levels of the programme. Complete exit surveys confirming a minimum of 80% completed the programme saying they had in improved understanding of how to deal effectively with a water based emergency</p> <p>Introduce a pilot physical activity programme to assist females during menopause with exit surveys confirming a minimum of 80% completed the programme saying they mental and physical health benefited from attending the programme</p> <p>Deliver 'Healthy Town's Programme' including 10 partnership led programmes and 8 Council led programmes</p>	<p>March 2024</p> <p>March 2024</p> <p>March 2024</p> <p>March 2024</p>	HCDL

	<p>Deliver 'MacMillan Move More Support Programme' –100 participants living with, or beyond cancer</p> <p>Deliver 'Let's Get Moving' physical activity programme</p> <p>Roll out of 'Coach Education Programme'</p> <p>Achieve Sport & Physical Activity targets of 5,000 participants per year for targeted programmes including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 500 'Disability' participants • 2,500 'Female' participants • 2,000 'Area of High Social Need' participants <p>Achieve 550 participation completion rate for 'Physical Activity Referral Programme' (PARP) targeting those with health risks relating to obesity, diabetes or musculoskeletal conditions</p> <p>Achieve 'Athlete Support Membership' target of 60 participants.</p> <p>Achieve pre Covid-19 leisure user visitor numbers (paidvisits) of 1.1m visits per year, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7,500 participants in centre-based 'Learn to 	<p>March 2024</p> <p>December 23</p> <p>March 2024</p> <p>March 2024</p> <p>March 2024</p> <p>March 2024</p>	
--	--	--	--

		<p>Swim' programme over a one-year period.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20,000 children achieving the school's swimming standard as set out in the National Key 2 Curriculum. • 10,000 participants in fitness classes. <p>Achieve paid membership base of 6,000 customers per month (includes direct debit, advanced payers, corporates and staff)</p> <p>Increase the % of bookable activities being booked via the leisure app by 10% *does not include gym usage or swims</p>	<p>March 2024</p> <p>March 2024</p> <p>March 2024</p>	
2	To Increase participation in local planning, engagement and communications processes by developing collaboration processes (HC2)	<p>Continued Cross departmental representation on Local Community Growth Partnership Boards.</p> <p>Local Community Growth Plans to be reviewed and updated.</p> <p>Consensual Grant Making Model – 2023/24 – to support the LCGPB's to deliver of programmes aligned to the local community plans for the DEA.</p> <p>Cross Departmental Working within Council and across Statutory Agencies to deliver on the Age Friendly Strategy & Action Plan for the DCSDC area.</p>	<p>March 2024</p> <p>March 2024</p> <p>March 2024</p> <p>March 2024</p>	HCDL

		Implementation of the Good Relations Action Plan 2022-25	March 2024	
		Continuation of secretariat support to be provided to 3 Rural DEAs by external facilitator.	March 2024	
		Continued engagement with, including officer representation on, all 8 Local Community Growth Partnership Boards.	March 2024	
		Support the establishment of the Integrated Care System (Lead DoH/WHST)	March 2024	
		Lead the early adapter obesity pilot programme for the district (Lead PHA/DCSDC)	March 2024	
		Support the partnership establish development of the Lifespan health initiative (Lead UU)	March 2024	
		Implement Leisuresafe practices across key sites and achieve Leisuresafe accreditation.	March 2024	
		Deliver 10 district wide 'Sports Forum' meetings.	March 2024	HCDL
3		Leisure & Sport Pricing Policy EQIA, ongoing consultation and annual reviews	March 2024	HCDL

4		<p>Deliver PCSP Action Plan for 2021/22 with the following outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide PCSP support to community based forums • Provide a PCSP Small Project Support Fund for each of the 7 DEAs and Strabane Town. 	March 2024	HCDL
5		<p>To improve community confidence in policing by delivering joint awareness/engagement activities with PSNI through the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road safety initiatives • Youth engagement initiatives • Marking initiatives – bikes/trailers/farm equipment • Joint anti-burglary awareness campaigns • Neighbourhood Watch meetings and support • PCSP Policing Committee meetings, support Local Community Safety Forums Monthly Support Hub meetings. 	March 2024	HCDL
6	<p>Improve services for Children and Young People (CYP) by embedding a Child Rights based approach across partnership structures; creating formal structures and informal opportunities where CYP can be supported to</p>	<p>Develop and deliver a PCSP small project support programme with a focus on youth engagement promoting respect for the law and for each other.</p>	<p>March 2024</p> <p>March 2024</p>	HCDL

	be involved in decisions which affect them (HC3)	<p>Review needs/resources required by DCSDC to effectively deliver on Children Services Cooperation Act requirements.</p> <p>Review needs/ resources required to sustain youth voice governance arrangements to ensure the best interests of the child</p> <p>Continue to deliver the UNICEF Child Friendly Communities Multi Agency Action Plan in partnership with lead partners EA Youth Service/WHSC and a range of statutory and CVS partners by 2025</p>	March 2024	
7	To create opportunities to improve, extend and maximise access to facilities and services which deliver increased safety and cohesion within the community. (HC4)	<p>Continue to Implement the Council's Bonfire Action Plan.</p> <p>Deliver a Good Relations Grant Aid Programme.</p>	<p>March 2024</p> <p>March 2024</p>	
8	Establish innovative practices which develop more sustainable and resilient communities and increase the capacity to engage rural, disengaged and excluded communities. (HC5)	<p>Continued Community Development and Good Relations support to the 7 DEA's and Strabane Town.</p> <p>Continued Community Development support to the 3 rural DEA's of Sperrin, Derg and Faughan DEAs through the appointment of a Rural Support Service Contract.</p> <p>Allocate Community Support Fund Grant Aid funding to the 7 DEA's and Strabane Town.</p>	<p>March 2024</p> <p>March 2024</p> <p>March 2024</p>	HCDL

		Delivery a Community Venues Fund 4 to support non Council Owned Community Centres to avail off.	March 2024	
		Allocate Advice Services Programme to deliver generalist advice services in the Council area.	March 2024	
9	Promote health, safety and well-being, and safeguard the environment by supporting communities and businesses through education and enforcement (HC6)	1. Continue to promote/support and participate in range of health and wellbeing initiatives linked to collaborative actions identified within the Strategic Growth Plan (2017-2032), Health 2020 and the Making Life Better Strategy (2013-2023).	March 2024	HHCWB
		2. Support the delivery of the Community Crisis Intervention Service and liaise with Government Departments and partner agencies to sustain the service going forward	March 2024	HHCWB
		3. Support the local economy and businesses through clear advice, guidance and good regulation.	March 2024	HHCWB
		4. Work with stakeholders to monitor, manage and Improve Local Air Quality.	March 2024	HHCWB
		5. Promote and support responsible dog ownership	March 2024	HHCWB
		6. Provide a quality statutory function promoting compliance through risk based inspection and sampling programmes and where necessary carry	March 2024	HHCWB

		out enforcement activities in accordance with statutory provisions and council policies.		
		7. Provide high quality and accessible registration services within legislative framework and Council policies.	March 2024	HHCWB
		8. Contribute to the development of the Local Development Plan and respond to planning consultations to ensure sustainable development.	March 2024	HHCWB

3.5 Measures of Success and Performance

During 2023/24, we will continue our work to establish baseline and benchmarking information in order to promote continuous improvement. The following performance indicators/measures and targets have been identified for 2023/24.

Outcome / Service Improvement Objective Reference	Performance Measure/Indicator	2019/20 Performance	2020/21 Performance	2021/22 Performance	2022/23 Performance	Target 2023/24
HC6 (1)	Continue to promote/support and participate in range of health and wellbeing initiatives linked to collaborative actions identified within the					

	Strategic Growth Plan (2017-2032), Health 2020 and the Making Life Better Strategy (2013-2023).					
	Participate in the Health and Wellbeing Outcome Delivery Partnership and facilitate and support any partnership groups and / or agency, to deliver on the collaborative actions identified.	4 meetings held	No meetings held during Covid	No meetings held during Covid	No meetings held	TBC
	Support community, voluntary, statutory and business partners tackle issues affecting vulnerable members of our society through the Civic Forum (Alcohol, Drugs, Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing, Suicide Prevention and Homelessness) which is led by the Mayor. Hold 3 Civic Forum (Alcohol, Drugs, Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing and Homelessness) meetings/year	3 Meetings Held	No meetings held during Covid	2 Meetings Held	2 Meetings & Homeless Heroes Event Held	3 Meetings Planned
	Continue to promote/support and participate in range of health and wellbeing initiatives linked to Making Life Better Strategy: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home Safety • Affordable Warmth • Smoke Free/Tobacco Control 	8 2 2	8 1 1	8 1 1	8 1 1	8 1 1

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air Quality • Nutrition <p>Obesity/Health at Work</p>	1	2	2	1	1
	Work towards obtaining Compassionate Communities Cities Charter-develop and support the 13 social changes within the action plan	Support provided to steering group	Continue to support the social changes	Continue to support the social changes	Continue to support the social changes	Continue to support the social changes
	<p>Work in collaboration with HSENI via the Health and Safety Liaison Group (HSLG) regarding the implementation of the targets set out in the 2023/24 workplan and to assist businesses in re-establishing themselves after the pandemic.</p> <p>Work plan targets 23/24: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asbestos Campaign • Transport Safety • Sunbeds safety • Sports Ground Safety • Fireworks safety • Legionella • Events safety • Serious Accident Investigation • Motor vehicle repairs • Tattooing and semipermanent inks 	Achieved 82%	Delivered on the Covid Restriction priorities as identified by HSLG	Delivered on the Covid Restriction priorities as identified by HSLG	100% of target achieved	Participate in at least 50% of the initiatives identified in the workplan

	Implementation of a Community Toilet Scheme	Community Toilet Scheme in Place (20 premises)	Continue to deliver scheme	Continue to deliver scheme	Continue to deliver scheme	Continue to deliver scheme
	Increase focus on Food Standards as a result of Food Fraud: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alcohol Sampling in Licensed premises No of premises inspected for Food Standards	22 550	None taken due to Covid pandemic 93 (due to Covid pandemic)	None taken due to Covid pandemic	22 300	22 373
	Support the delivery of the Community Crisis Intervention Service and liaise with Government Departments and partner agencies to sustain the service going forward	Pilot Crisis Intervention Service in place	Funding secured to continue service to July 2021	Service in place and funding secured to continue service for 3 years.	Crisis Intervention Service to continue in line with DoH funding.	Crisis Intervention Service to continue in line with DoH funding.
	Deliver affordable warmth scheme and promote other schemes to reduce fuel poverty within district.	Service delivered in line with DfC SLA	Service delivered in line with DfC SLA	Service delivered in line with DfC SLA	Service delivered in line with DfC SLA	Service delivered in line with DfC SLA

	Support the local economy and businesses through clear advice, guidance and good regulation.					
	Ensure new food, health and safety and consumer protection businesses receive advice and guidance upon registration.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	Produce bespoke guidance document to be used by business and/or consumer addressing specific initiatives as identified within Departmental service plans	100%	100%	100%	100%	Produce at least 4 documents
	Number of Safety Advisory Group meetings held to promote high standard of health, safety and well-being at public events	11	4 (Quarterly meeting schedule)	4 (Quarterly meeting schedule)	4 (Quarterly meeting schedule)	4 (Quarterly meeting schedule)
	Percentage of acknowledgements for licence, registration and permit applications sent to applicants within 5 working days of receipt	-	80%	90%	90%	90%
	Percentage of licences, registrations and permits processed within approved target timescales	N/A	N/A	90%	90%	90%
	Percentage increase in number of applications for licences, permits and registrations made online	N/A	10%	10%	10% (subject to suitable and effective)	10% (subject to suitable and effective)

					mechanism being in place)	mechanism being in place)
	Provide Port Health Service and Develop Service Plan	Service in place	Inspection of vessels on request	Inspection of vessels on request & Maritime Declarations of Health checked for all incoming vessels into Foyle Port	Inspection of vessels on request & Maritime Declarations of Health checked for all incoming vessels into Foyle Port	Respond to all requests for Ship Sanitation Inspections and undertake inspections within available work resources. Provide training for additional staff to undertake or assist with inspections.
	Work with stakeholders to monitor, manage and Improve Local Air Quality.					

	Improve Local Air Quality through continuance of Local Air Quality Monitoring/Action Plan and inspect permitted Industrial Installations enforced by Council – 1 initiative	(NO2 levels as PfG indicator)	(NO2 levels as PfG indicator)	(NO2 levels as PfG indicator)	(NO2 levels as PfG indicator)	(NO2 levels as PfG indicator)
	1 initiative	1	1	1	1	1
	4 Air Quality Monitoring Stations and diffusion tube network maintained (24 sites)	4	5	5	5	5
	Air Quality Action Plan/Progress reports	-	Progress Reports Completed	Progress Reports Completed – feedback awaited	Review Air Quality Action Plan in light of clean Air Strategy for NI	Review Air Quality Action Plan in light of Clean Air Strategy for NI
	PPC Inspections	100%	100%	Limited inspections during Covid 19. High risk premises inspected	100% programme of inspections based on risk	100% programme of inspections based on risk
	Promote and support responsible dog ownership					

	Investigate straying complaints Implement rehoming policy	100%	100% Policy implemented	100%	100%	100%
	Dog attacks investigated within 1 day	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	Dog Control Orders created by cross departmental/multi-agency working group	3 dog control orders developed	Dog control orders implemented	Dog control orders implemented	Dog control orders implemented	Promote Dog Control Orders and support compliance
	Education talks – Schools/Community Groups	30	30	Subject to Covid restrictions	30 (subject to any covid restrictions)	30
	Increase number of new dog licences	20% increase	20% increase	10% increase	10% increase	10% increase
	Provide a quality statutory function promoting compliance through risk based inspection and sampling programmes and where necessary carry out enforcement activities in accordance with statutory provisions and council policies.					
	100% of programmed high risk premises inspected	88% (HS/CP) 81% (FH) 100% (PPC)	100% FH Targets were not met for H&S and CP	80% FH due to covid pandemic.	100% All "A" risk category	98% FH 100% H&S

			due to coronavirus pandemic	Targets not met for H&S and CP, resources devoted to coronavirus restrictions	inspected and 81% B1's for H&S	
	80% of service requests responded to within 3 working days	92%	89.6%	88%	90%	80%
	80% of accident notifications responded to within response times. (Respond to all fatal accidents immediately and respond to all other accident notifications within 5 working days)	100%	100%	100%	97.5%	80%
	Adhere to targets set out in the following Service Level Agreements or contract with Statutory Partners:					
	DfC Affordable Warmth	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	PHA – Home Safety	100%	11.5%	39.8%	100%	100%
	PHA Tobacco Control/Smoke Free	100%	48%	95%	100%	100%
	NIEA – Drinking Water Inspectorate	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

	DoJ – Storage of fireworks and explosives	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	Achieve 80% compliance with the targets as set out in the Health & Safety and Consumer Protection Service Plan	82%	Targets were not met due to Coronavirus pandemic	Many of the targets were not relevant due to the covid pandemic.	86%	80%
	Participate in test purchase exercise in at least 25% of premises offering the use of selected products as identified in the H&S and CP service plan	11% 39%	No visits due to coronavirus pandemic	No visit due to coronavirus pandemic	25% for butane and 50% for sunbeds	25%
	Food Safety/Nutrition/Infectious Disease Control – Ensure the continued operation of the Mandatory FHRS in a fair, consistent and transparent manner:					
	% of FHRS notifications sent out within 14 days	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	% of revisits undertaken	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	Planned consistency exercises undertaken	2	0 planned in NI	1	1/1	1/1 =100%
	Provide high quality and accessible registration services within legislative framework and Council policies.					

	The publication of a new guide to the Registration of Marriage and Civil Partnership:	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	Number of local businesses making application for Approved Venue status	8	8	14	14	14
	Service Delivery and Customer feedback from Funeral Director and bereaved family.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	Contribute to the development of the Local Development Plan and respond to planning consultations to ensure sustainable development.					
	Engage with Environment and Regeneration Directorate on strategic planning and the development of the Local Development Plan				Local Development draft Plan Strategy submitted to DfI on 26th May 2022 as part of the Independent Examination (IE) process	Assist LDP Team when necessary following outcome of Independent Examination of the draft LDP Strategy

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve response times to planning: 15 working days response time for local applications 	78%	78%	52% impacted by Pandemic and staff resources	Performance impacted with introduction of new Planning Portal and staff resource	70% plans responded to within 15 working days
--	--	-----	-----	--	--	---

Appendix A provides details of the performance measures we have identified for all our services, along with the targets for 2023/24.

Section Four: Risk Management

4.1 Risk Register

Each area of the Directorate has a risk register and measures have been put in plan to mitigate identified risks. The risk register is reviewed regularly throughout the year.

Section Five – Contact Details

5.1 Staff Contacts

Karen McFarland – Director of Health and Community

Email: karen.mcfarland@derrystrabane.com

Work Direct Line: 028 7138 1319

Work Mobile No: 07912 120 850

Lorraine Shields – PA to Director of Health & Community

Email: lorraine.shields@derrystrabane.com

Tel No. 028 71 253 253 ext. 4291 or 6401

Work Direct Line: 028 7138 1319

Heads of Services

<p>Barry O’Hagan – Head of Community Development and Leisure Email: barry.ohagan@derrystrabane.com Tel No. 028 71 253 253 Work Mobile: 07709 457 730</p> <p>Hazel Best Business Services Officer Email: hazel.best@derrystrabane.com Tel No 028 71 253 253 ext. 6989</p>	<p>Seamus Donaghy – Head of Health and Community Wellbeing Email: seamus.donaghy@derrystrabane.com Tel No. 028 71 253 253 Work Mobile: 07824469500</p> <p>Caroline McKittrick Business Services Officer Email: caroline.mckittrick@derrystrabane.com Tel No 028 71 253 253 ext. 4441 or 6952</p>
<p>Service Managers & Officers (Community Development and Leisure)</p> <p>Service Manager – Community Development Telephone: 028 71 253 253</p> <p>Service Manager - PCSP Tel No. 028 71 253 253</p> <p>Community Services - Good Relations, Grant Aid, Advice Services, Children and Young People Community Development Officer Tel No. 028 71 253 253</p> <p><i>Community Services- Local Community Planning, Community Centres</i> Teresa Bradley Community Development Officer</p>	<p>Principal Officers (Health and Community Wellbeing)</p> <p><i>Food Control and Infectious Diseases</i> Genevieve McWilliams Email: genevieve.mcwilliams@derrystrabane.com Tel No. 028 71 253 253</p> <p><i>Environmental Protection & Neighbourhoods</i> Paul McSwiggan Email: paul.mcswiggan@derrystrabane.com Tel No. 028 71 253 253</p> <p><i>Health & Safety and Consumer Protection</i> Barry Doherty Email: barry.doherty@derrystrabane.com Tel No. 028 71 253 253</p>

Email:

teresa.bradley@derrystrabane.com

Tel No. 028 71 253 253

Leisure & Sports

Steve Setterfield

Area Manager – Leisure

Email: steve.setterfield@derrystrabane.com

Tel No. 028 7137 6555

Cathy Farren

Area Manager – Leisure

Email: cathy.farren@derrystrabane.com

Tel No. 028 7137 6585

James Moore

Area Manager – Leisure

Email: james.moore@derrystrabane.com

Tel No 028 7138 2672

Ryan Deighan

Area Manager - Sport

Email: ryan.deighan@derrystrabane.com

Tel No. 028 7137 6555

Licensing & Public Events Safety

Paul Rafferty

Email: paul.rafferty@derrystrabane.com

Tel No. 028 71 253 253

Health, Housing and Public Conveniences

Alan Haire

Email: alan.haire@derrystrabane.com

Tel No. 028 71 253 253

5.2 Facilities / Office Details

Leisure Centres

<http://derrystrabaneleisure.com/>

Community Centres & Facilities

[https://www.derrystrabane.com/Subsites/Community-Development-\(1\)/Community-Centres-Facilities](https://www.derrystrabane.com/Subsites/Community-Development-(1)/Community-Centres-Facilities)

Dog Pound

<https://www.derrystrabane.com/Subsites/Health-Community-Wellbeing/Dog-Control-Animal-Welfare/Report-a-Lost,-Stray-or-Stolen-Dog>

Registration Service

<https://www.derrystrabane.com/district-registration>