



Lisburn & Castlereagh
**Strategic Community
Planning Partnership**

Statement of Progress 2021



Full Report



Lisburn & Castlereagh
**Strategic Community
Planning Partnership**

Statement of Progress 2021

Full Report

Contents

Foreword by Chair	4
Introduction.....	5
Carnegie UK Trust Embedding Wellbeing in Northern Ireland Programme.....	6
Overview of The Lisburn & Castlereagh Community Plan	7
The Action Plan.....	8
COVID-19 Response	9
Theme 1: Children and Young People	13
Theme 2: The Economy.....	22
Theme 3: Health and Wellbeing.....	27
Theme 4: Where We Live.....	33
Theme 5: Our Community.....	39
Good News Stories, Achievements and Good Practice.....	44
Collaborative Working Across Boundaries.....	53
Community Plan and Local Development Plan.....	53
Abbreviations.....	54



Aidan Jennings, Assistant Chief
Fire & Rescue Officer, NIFRS,
Chair of the Strategic Community
Planning Partnership

Foreword

Welcome to the second Lisburn & Castlereagh Community Planning Partnership Statement of Progress.

No one could have predicted how different a world we would be operating in when we last produced a Statement of Progress in November 2019. Since then Brexit has happened and we all have endured the many and widespread impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Without doubt this has been a challenging period professionally and personally for us all. However amongst the difficulties we have faced, we have seen significant success and progress.

It is on these successes of partnership working, relationship building, increased collaboration and the kindness I have witnessed that I would like to focus. This Statement of Progress also documents some of the challenges we have faced. Most importantly it highlights how we have worked together to ensure we continue to improve the wellbeing of our citizens through unprecedented difficulties. I would like to put on record that the impacts of COVID-19 were reduced in some part as a result of the relationships which were already in place because of our community planning collaborations.

Over the last two years our Partnership has benefitted from participating in the Carnegie UK Trust Embedding Wellbeing in Northern Ireland programme. Throughout the programme we were given support to improve our shared leadership skills, participate more effectively with the community and voluntary sector and learn from best practice in other jurisdictions. I thank the Carnegie UK Trust for its support.

I took over the role of Chair in May 2020 amidst a steep learning curve of zoom calls, working from home and lockdowns. I would like to pass on my thanks to Heather McKee, the past Chair for all the work she had done with the Partnership. Heather's support has been invaluable to me in ensuring a smooth transition and the continuity of the delivery of the Community Plan. I would also like to thank all of our partners and everything they have whole-heartedly given to the Lisburn and Castlereagh community planning process over the last two years.

Please enjoy our Statement of Progress.

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "A Jennings". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Introduction

Community Planning has been developing since April 2015. The Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 provides the legislative context for the operation of community planning and outlines the roles and responsibilities of the council and the community planning partners.

The statutory partners listed in The Local Government (Community Planning Partners) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016 have a duty to participate and assist the council in its obligations.

The partners named in legislation are:

- Belfast Health and Social Care Trust
- Council for Catholic Maintained Schools
- Education Authority NI
- Health and Social Care Board
- Invest NI
- Libraries NI
- Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council
- NI Fire and Rescue Service
- NI Housing Executive
- Police Service of NI
- Public Health Agency
- South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust
- Sport Northern Ireland
- Tourism NI

In Lisburn and Castlereagh they are joined by a number of support partners including:

- Department for Communities
- Department of Education
- Department for Infrastructure
- Northern Ireland Prison Service
- South Eastern Regional College
- Translink
- Volunteer Now

Since its inception the Lisburn & Castlereagh Community Planning Partnership has improved the wellbeing of its citizens. This second Statement of Progress celebrates these successes. The Partnership recognises there is still a great deal to achieve and is aware of the challenges that lie ahead.



Carnegie UK Trust

Embedding Wellbeing in Northern Ireland Programme

Lisburn & Castlereagh Strategic Community Planning Partnership was one of three participants in the Carnegie UK Trust Embedding Wellbeing in Northern Ireland Programme. Over the last three and a half years our partners engaged proactively with the programme, which provided financial and in-kind support to the Community Planning Partnership to implement a wellbeing approach in our practice.

The programme provided the Community Planning Partnership with support on co-

production and shared leadership. It identified ways of working that are key to the success of the Community Planning process: improving wellbeing outcomes and strengthening the 'golden thread' between the tiers of government.

The project supported the Community Planning Partnership to overcome challenges in implementing the priorities identified in the Community Plan. As part of this three-year programme, a peer-to-peer support model was developed to allow the Community Planning

Partnership to learn from other partnerships and experts. International best practice in addressing similar challenges was looked at and how to share this with the other Community Planning Partnerships. The overall approach was to co-design the programme with local partners.

Included in the programme were study trips to New York and Wales, opportunities to learn from practitioners and experts and tap into the huge resource and wealth of experience so generously shared by the Trust.

The programme has been invaluable to the development of Community Planning across a range of sectors in Northern Ireland. The Trust continues to champion the benefits of Community Planning with central government and the NI Assembly. The programme has supported the development of our relationships and the implementation of our plan.

Our sincere thanks go to the team in the Carnegie UK Trust for all of the support, patience and encouragement it has given over the last three and a half years. The final report may be seen here.



Participants in the Carnegie UK Trust Embedding Wellbeing in Northern Ireland Programme study visit to Wales.

Overview of the Lisburn & Castlereagh Community Plan

The Lisburn & Castlereagh Community Plan **vision** is:

An empowered, prosperous, healthy, safe and inclusive community.

The **mission** for the Partnership is:

Working together to deliver better lives for all.

The Community Plan has five themes with associated outcomes:



Theme 1: Children and Young People

Outcome: Our children and young people have the best start in life



Theme 2: The Economy

Outcome: Everyone benefits from a vibrant economy



Theme 3: Health and Wellbeing

Outcome: We live healthy, fulfilling and long lives



Theme 4: Where We Live

Outcome: We live and work in attractive, resilient and environmentally-friendly places



Theme 5: Our Community

Outcome: We live in empowered, harmonious, safe and welcoming communities

The Action Plan

The Action Plan details some of the ways to achieve the outcomes in the Community Plan. The first Action Plan was reviewed and in 2019 a new streamlined Plan was subsequently agreed by partners. This resulted in the actions reducing from 26 to 13 with the benefit that partners were able to focus on priority issues acknowledged by all partners. The Action Plan can be found at: www.lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk/community-action-plan

Soon after, the COVID-19 pandemic hit and normal business was massively impacted. The actions, while still being implemented, were amended to be responsive to local needs and fast changing conditions.

The Action Plan also recognises there are many other projects being delivered in partnership that will help to achieve the outcomes in the Community Plan but are not the focus of the current Action Plan.



The Ravarnet community group planting winter/spring bedding with plants and other material provided by LCCC Parks & Amenities.



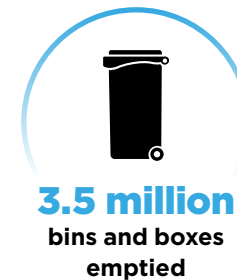
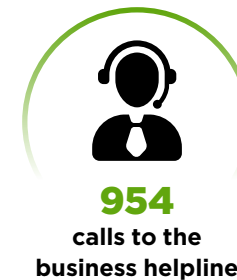
COVID-19 Response

Since March 2020 everyone had to find new ways to deliver services and to adjust to an ever changing environment caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The council reacted by setting up a structure across the council area based on District Electoral Area (DEAs) boundaries. Officers were appointed to be the main point of contact in each DEA for local communities, members of the public, elected representatives,

statutory partners and other council officers. The DEA Coordinators were able to ensure a free flow of information and were immediately responsive to issues on the ground. The success of this system was in part due to the firm relationships already developed through the Lisburn Castlereagh Community Planning Partnership.

The pandemic impacted on the Partnership's usual business, and while most of the actions continued to be implemented (see Outcomes on page 13), new actions were developed to address immediate needs and mitigate against the new circumstances impacting on wellbeing.

March to September 2020



Examples of the community response to COVID-19

Food Parcels

The volunteers from Drumbo Area Action Committee were active in addressing the emerging needs of local residents by developing a food parcel programme to provide essential items to those who were shielding, vulnerable and/or isolated.



Entertainment Parcels

Through funding from LCCC, the volunteers and committee of Ballybeen Women's Centre provided entertainment parcels to isolated residents. This programme was to try and reduce the loneliness felt by so many during lockdown by introducing activities and treats for residents to enjoy in their own home.

Slow Cooker Project

In early 2021, Community Planning provided 50 slow cookers to residents who were older, living with a disability, vulnerable, carers, isolated or whose income had been affected during COVID-19. The project was funded by the Department for Communities and was run in association with the Healthy Living Centre. Referrals were made by community group leaders who submitted an application form on behalf of someone they knew was in need.

Belfast Health Trust provided slow cooker recipe files with nutritional information about the meals while some recipients used Vimeo links for new recipes.

The slow cookers helped people make more affordable meals, eat healthier food and cook more at home.

Participants completed a survey four weeks after being given the slow cookers and all said they would recommend the scheme to someone else. One participant commented: “Having the slow cooker has definitely encouraged me to cook more and try new things. Thank you.” Feedback showed that 74% of participants are now more aware of how to eat well and overall, 80% of participants found their mood had improved.

Thomas Lynn from Enler Community Centre in Dundonald assisted with the distribution of the slow cookers. Thomas is pictured holding one of the slow cooker recipe files.



‘Connecting You’ device scheme

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council launched a ‘Connecting You’ device scheme to help residents that needed access to the internet to connect with others, use online services or to continue their education.

Funded by the Department for Communities as part of its COVID-19 support, the scheme provided 80 tablets and some temporary data bundles to local residents as part of its commitment to address digital exclusion across all seven District Electoral Areas. This initiative also helps the council work towards its ambition of ensuring no one is left behind.

Feedback from the scheme was that almost 79% of recipients felt better-connected with friends & family and 13% said their confidence in using technology had improved. An 83 year old recipient commented, “I have really enjoyed watching video clips on YouTube and learning how to make different things. It helps me keep in touch better with the grandchildren who are very high-tech and if there is another lockdown, it will be very reassuring to know that I can email or Facetime people and order prescriptions online.”

South Eastern Regional College’s ‘FIX-IT team’ prepared the devices to be ready to use and also offered support to help recipients get started with their new tablet.

Alderman Michael Henderson MBE, former Leisure & Community Development Committee Chairman during the Connecting You device scheme.





Outcomes

Theme 1: Children and Young People

Outcome: Our children and young people have the best start in life

57% of young people feel that they definitely do not have any influence about what happens in NI.

NIYLT Survey 2020/21

Supporting the Outcome:

A hallmark of a good society is the priority it attaches to giving everyone the best start in life. This outcome is about ensuring all of our children and young people grow up safely and happily; that they receive the support they need to achieve their full potential and where they can express their views and have a say in decisions that affect them.

The Lisburn & Castlereagh Community Planning Partnership takes a whole-community approach in which schools, families, communities and statutory services work together. This plan is for all children and young people in Lisburn and

Castlereagh with a particular focus on those who currently have the most challenging start in life – children growing up in poverty, children with disabilities and children in care.

We know there is a strong relationship between what happens in the earliest years of life and future experience of health and wellbeing and other life outcomes. Foetal and neonatal health, the quality of parenting, family and community support, early years provision, education and, critically, poverty, are all key factors in determining life chances.

Population Indicators used to measure progress towards this outcome include:

% of babies born at low birth weight



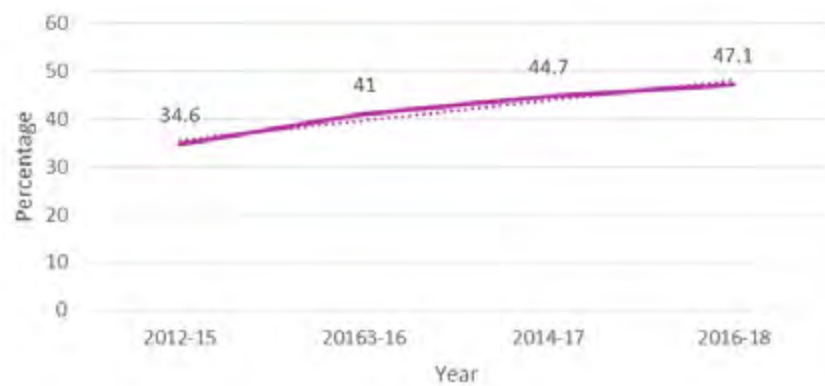
This graph shows that the percentage of babies born at low birth weight has remained quite steady over the last 7 years, with a peak in 2016. It has dropped a little since 2018 which is a positive trend.

Gap between % non-FSME school leavers and % FSME school leavers achieving at Level 2 or above, GCSE or equivalent, including English and Maths



The gap was highest in 2013 and lowest in 2015. It has increased over the last 4 years which is a negative trend.

% of care leavers who, aged 19, are in education, training or employment



There has been no updated data on this since the 2019 Statement of Progress



QUB generously donated Madlug School bags and stationary packs for all the Children on the Transition Academy transitioning from primary to post primary.

Theme 1: Actions

1a Looked After Children

1b Youth Council

1c Early Intervention

The outcome for Theme 1 is that our children and young people have the best start in life and the actions were generated to find innovative ways to achieve this outcome. All of the actions involve partnership working and new collaborations keeping children and young people at the heart of everything being done.

Some of the achievements to date are outlined below.

1a Looked After Children

Action Lead:



Collaborative partnership working has focused on creating conditions for the looked after children to achieve their full potential. This has been achieved through a pre-employment support model, supported work programmes, apprenticeships and traineeship opportunities being made available to support looked after children in the Health Trusts and with partner organisations. The Trust has worked with SERC to provide qualifications while on the apprenticeship schemes and offer taster sessions for various courses of interest.

The SE Trust has established an Education Service (primary school age) and a Learning and

Development (post 16) Service specifically for looked after children, developing a partnership working model with schools, the Education Authority, Youth Services and other external organisations. This new model was developed to implement strategies to ensure looked after children are supported to achieve their full cognitive potential and significantly improve their life chances. The Trust's H.O.P.E. (Holistic Outcomes through Positive Experiences) Service's partnership model ensures looked after children are supported through their full journey, using the holistic, multi-agency approach of the "team around the child."

H.O.P.E. Education's Transition Academy has worked in partnership with QUB to deliver a paired reading programme, "Reading Together", for looked after children in P6 and P7 to improve their literacy attainment. The Personal Education Plan project supports social workers and school professionals, ensuring that every child looked after, in primary school, has a meaningful personal education plan to support their educational attainment and social and emotional wellbeing.

H.O.P.E. Learning & Development and H.O.P.E. Works, has developed intensive pre-employment programmes which support care leavers to increase independence, developing their self-esteem and confidence. These

programmes focus on the development of key skills to progress into and sustain positive education, training and employment outcomes.

Some of the key developments over the last two years include:

- Wellbeing support was provided to 93 young people during the pandemic. Support was provided via phone, Zoom, online platforms, newsletters and outdoor settings.
- Eight care leavers received an OCN Level 2 Peer Mentoring Training on the Peer

Mentoring Programme and they went on to provide a valuable mentoring service to 30 other young care leavers.

- Two young people have been referred to and are active members of Lisburn Connected Minds.
- 24 young people within the last two year period have completed the Traineeship Scheme.
- Funding was received for six new laptops to be borrowed by young people for the

purpose of enhancing education, training or employment.

- 46 young people in the last two year period completed quality work placements in a range of occupational areas in-house and externally.
- There has been an overall increase in the annual average of care leavers in education, training and employment in the South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust from 74.2% in 2019/20 to 80% in 2020/21.



An outdoor wellbeing programme for care leavers aged 16+.



The Wellbeing Service provides both innovative and fun group workshops for children and young people from foster Care.

1b Youth Council

Action Lead:



The development of a Youth Council for the Lisburn and Castlereagh area demonstrates that young people are part of the community planning process and that their voices are heard at a strategic level. Children and young people have traditionally had a restricted voice and little influence over service delivery (in 2018, only 2% of young people in the Northern Ireland Young Life and Times survey felt they had influence over local decisions).

The Lisburn & Castlereagh Youth Council however has provided a formal process for children and young people to have their say on issues affecting their lives. This model of partnership working has been now in existence for four years. It has been held up as a model of good practice across NI resulting in similar youth council models being delivered within most council areas.

The past two years have been particularly difficult for young people in Northern Ireland with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. However despite the difficulties and challenges faced, core Youth Council business was able to be maintained through the periods of lockdown

due to the use of Zoom and other media platforms. The impact of the Youth Council to lobby and address youth issues, take forward key campaigns and act as a consultative group to many key partners was not affected, which is a credit to all the young people involved.

An LCYC member commented: “Having a formal Youth Council structure within LCCC has enabled young people’s voices to be heard within community planning. Our role within Lisburn and Castlereagh is now recognised and valued through the community planning process

and the opportunities created have made a difference to the lives of children and young people within our local council area.”

And another said: “LC Youth Council members are extremely proud of their achievements over the past two years despite dealing with the impact of COVID-19. Through these achievements we have been able to actively contribute to the community planning outcome ‘our children and young people have the best start in life’.”



The
2019-2021
Youth
Council.

Some of the key outputs over the recent two-year period included:

- Completion of a training residential to Delamont Outdoor Learning Centre. The young people were trained in committee roles and responsibilities and office bearers were elected.
- Supported the LCCC Halloween Event in 2019 through the provision of a pop-up shop by the Youth Council to raise awareness of its role.
- Attended regular meetings with The Mayor and Elected Representatives to learn more about political life and discuss and progress youth issues.
- Supported LCCC with the promotion of key COVID-19 messages by producing videos aimed at young people.
- Attended meetings with PSNI and PCSP to deliver presentations on the work of the Youth Council and to discuss key youth issues.
- Undertook a range of accredited and non-accredited training e.g. Good Relations, OCN Planning and Hosting an Event, presentation skills training, consultation skills training, Millennium Volunteer Awards etc.

- Engaged with the EA Youth Service and provided feedback on key youth issues.
- Planned and facilitated local RAG/LAG Stakeholder event on 'The Needs of Children and Young People after COVID-19'.
- Facilitated and/or led four youth consultation events for key partner organisations.
- Carried out Youth Council led consultations directly with young people.
- Planned and delivered a school's conference (Connect for Change) involving eight schools from across the Lisburn and Castlereagh area.
- Represented young people on a number of panels e.g. The Mayor's Innovation Award,

Green Growth Strategy and Climate Action Plan.

- Worked on four key themes/subgroups to develop campaigns on: COVID-19, Safe Spaces for Young People, Environment and Mental Health.
- Presented the four campaigns to the Chief Executive and Director of Leisure & Community Wellbeing in LCCC for further development and action.
- Developed a 'Just Breathe' wellbeing journal to support young people maintaining positive mental health. Over 1,000 copies have been distributed to local schools for Year 12 students.



The Youth Council meeting the PSNI.

1c Early Intervention

Action Lead:



Help Kids Talk is an award-winning project and a priority for the Early Intervention Lisburn Partnership, a locality planning group led by the Resurgam Trust since 2012. It comprises of community, voluntary, statutory, and private partners who collectively plan to improve outcomes for children and young people up to 18 years old.

Help Kids Talk was co-designed following the extensive research report ‘the Best for Every Child’, 2012 which highlighted the issues children and young people faced growing up in Lisburn. At that time 74% of young people were leaving the post primary sector (excluding Wallace and Friends) without 5+ GCSE’s (including English and Maths). In 2013, 32% of children entering primary one in nine schools in Lisburn had a mild to severe speech, language, and communication problem of which 74% were boys from disadvantaged areas.

Help Kids Talk is led jointly by the Resurgam Trust and the SEHSCT speech and language team and is based on the successful ‘Stoke Speaks

Out’ model of delivery. Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council has funded the project since 2019.

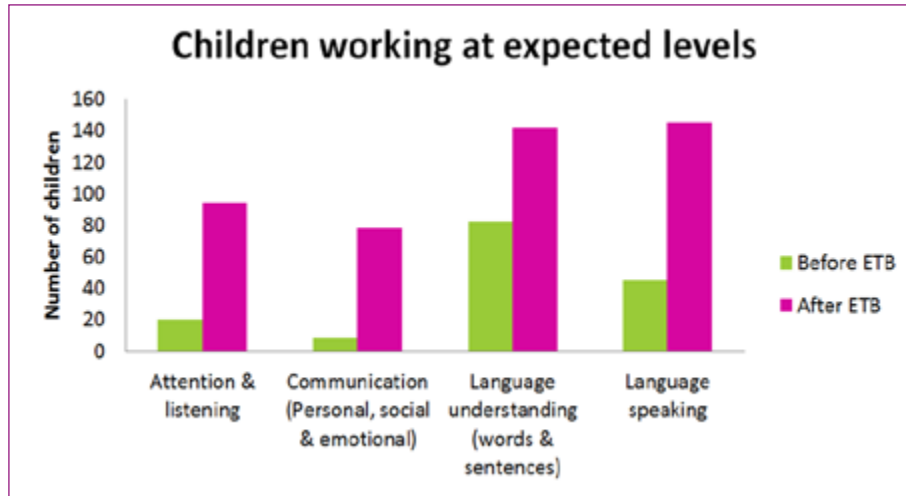
The project aims to give every child the best start in life by prioritising speech, language, and communication development. There are connections with parents/carers through 37 partners (early years’ settings, playgroups, nurseries, and primary schools), social media, training, and a parent representation group.

Outcomes achieved include:

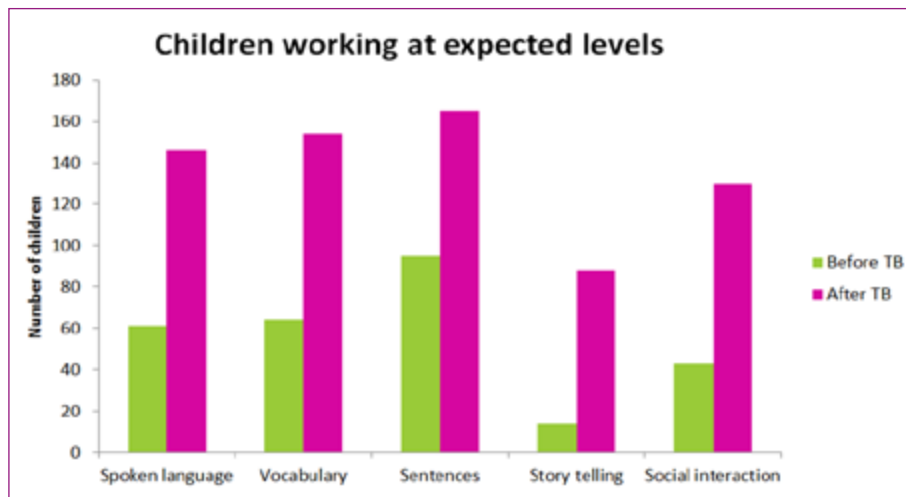
- Just under 400 children have received targeted support to support their speech, language, and communication development since 2015.
- 597 individuals (90% practitioners, 10% parents) have attended basic awareness training since January 2020, with a pre-score highlighting 49.5% participants rated themselves as mostly confident/confident supporting speech, language, and communication, with a post-score raising to 81.5% (based on a 62% response rate from 422).
- One of the parents who attended the basic awareness training said “I can now show these slides to hubby to show him I haven’t completely lost it when I sing about her nappy as we change it.”

Research undertaken across the UK since lockdown has highlighted the following:

- There is growing evidence that the past year of lockdowns has had a negative impact on children’s speech, language and communication skills (BBC report, July 2021). Lockdown has affected children and young people’s education, social life and friendships and mental health (Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists, 2021).
- Limited or no contact with extended family members, no play dates, social distancing, school closures and the wearing of face coverings has meant children have been deprived of social contact and experiences which are important for developing speech, language and communication skills.
- An estimated 1.5 million children and young people could be left behind, if more action is not taken to support them with their speaking and understanding of language, after missing school due to the COVID-19 pandemic (ICAN, 2021).
- Following on from a year of lockdowns, it is more important than ever that we act early and work together to provide appropriate and effective intervention to protect the future of children and young people.



This graph is based on 203 children who have completed the Early Talk Boost project. Following intervention, the number of children working at expected levels increases.



This graph is based on 179 children who have completed the Talk Boost project. Following intervention, the number of children working at expected levels increases.



Help Kids Talk partner with BookTrust NI and local authors Kathleen McPolin.



Outcomes

Theme 2: The Economy

Outcome: Everyone benefits from a vibrant economy

Supporting the Outcome:

We want to develop the economy of Lisburn Castlereagh so that it offers work to everyone, provides access to goods and services that we value, and shares economic benefits in ways that reduce inequality, and has a positive impact on our environment.

A skilled workforce is central to the health of the economy as businesses increasingly need well qualified people. For employees, the acquisition of new skills can open up new opportunities.

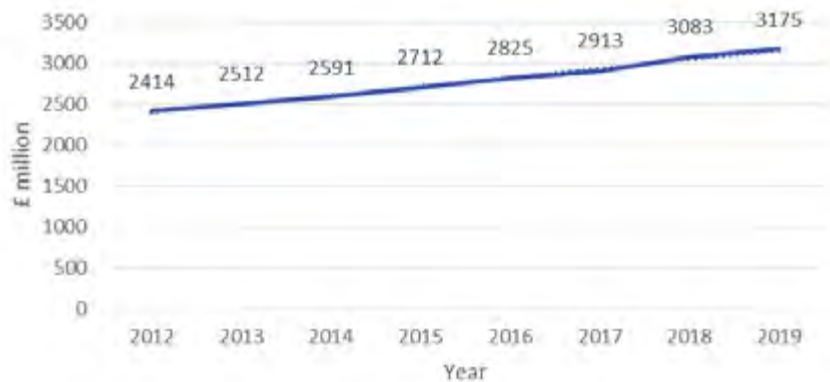
We also need to improve both our physical and digital infrastructure and to make the council area an attractive one for new businesses to locate in and for existing businesses to grow. Maze Long Kesh, for example, offers exciting new opportunities.

Other opportunities include growth in international visitors based on the opening of Hillsborough Castle and Gardens; tourism based on our wealth of historic assets; and promoting sustainability through an economy designed to eliminate waste from manufacturing by recovering and reusing materials to make new products, otherwise known as a circular economy.

Furthermore, there are significant opportunities relating to the current Belfast Region City Deal multi-million pound 'Destination Royal Hillsborough' tourism capital project, which aims to re-develop Hillsborough as an internationally appealing heritage village experience.

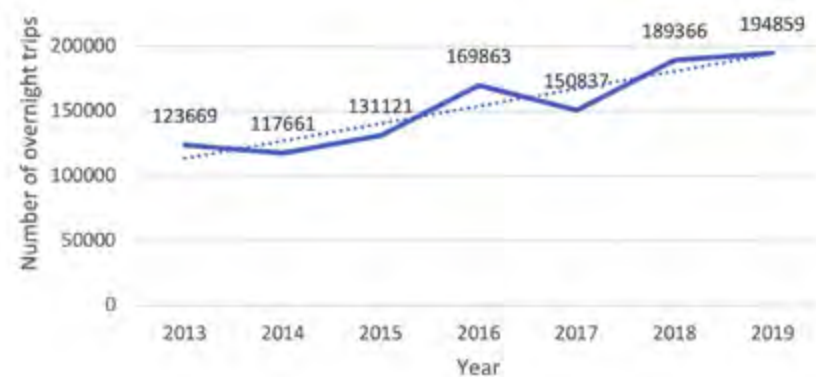
Population Indicators used to measure progress towards this outcome include:

Economic activity measured by Gross Value Added (GVA)



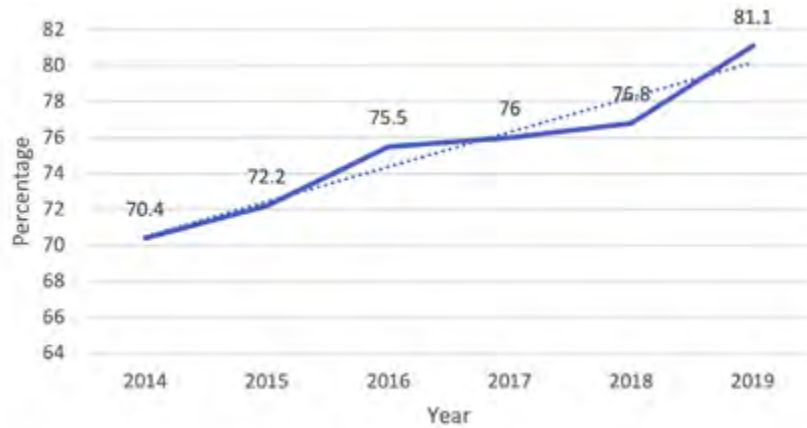
The graph shows a steady increase in the GVA which is a positive trend.

Number of overnight trips



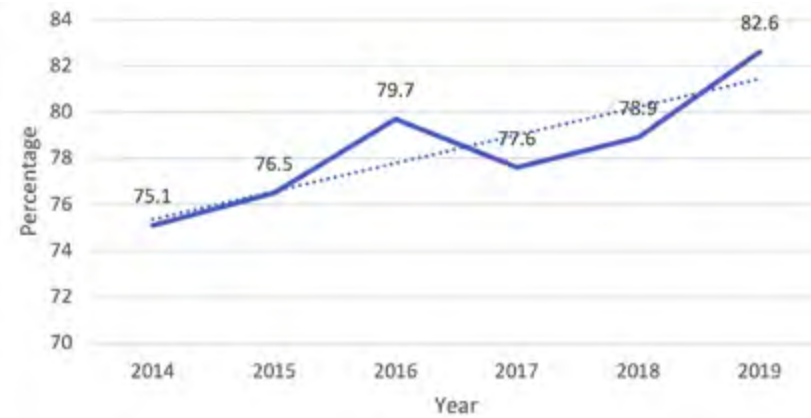
The number of overnight trips has been steadily increasing over the last 7 years. They dipped in 2017 but have increased over the last two years which is a positive trend.

Employment rate (16-64 years)



This has been steadily increasing over the last six years which is a positive trend.

Economic activity rate (16-64 years)



There was a dip in 2017 but over the last two years it has been increasing which is a positive trend.

Theme 2: Actions

2a Business Development

2b Social Economy

The outcome for Theme 2 is that everyone benefits from a vibrant economy and the actions were generated to find innovative ways to achieve this outcome. All of the actions involved partnership working and new collaborations keeping the economy at the heart of everything being done.

Performance measures have allowed the delivery partners to track the achievements to date.

2a Business Development

Action Leads:



Since March 2020 the council's Economic Development Unit has adapted its range of Business Support initiatives to digital delivery to ensure ongoing virtual access to critical mentoring support and training through online meetings and a popular series of webinars. Most general contact with local businesses comes from a dedicated Business Support helpline and newsletter.

The council has continued to deliver the Business Start-Up programme, commonly known as Go for It through a contract with Enterprise NI and local enterprise agencies. In 2020/2021 the programme

reported that 182 new businesses plans were completed and 112 jobs were created. 20 new start-up businesses who had completed the programme were further supported by a £1,000 COVID-19 support start-up grant from LCCC.

NISRA's Inter Departmental Business Register noted that since 2015 there has been a 14% increase in the number of businesses in Lisburn Castlereagh and there are currently 5,170 registered businesses for VAT or PAYE.

The key business development programmes delivered by the Economic Development team are Mentor Growth, Digi Growth and Bid 2 Win. A total of 532 businesses have gone through these programmes to date: 300 businesses on Mentor Growth; 193 businesses on Digi-Growth and 39 businesses on Bid2Win.

They have also delivered over 40 informative business support webinars since March 2020, and the recordings are now hosted on the LCCC website for future reference. These include:

How to Use Video To Grow Your Business:

Video Marketing & Strategy – 66 attended live on 16/9/21.

Marketing Your Website: How to get Customers to your Website with Wix – 43 attended live on 20/09/2021.

A Labour Market Partnership Initiative is underway to develop an action plan that will target interventions in the changing labour market, to equip the workforce with new skills and abilities, and facilitate engagement with those not currently participating in the workforce through under or unemployment, redundancy etc. There are no outputs to report at this stage.

SERC continued to offer business support through Skills Focus and Innovate Us Programmes as well as Flexible Skills and a Skills Intervention programme.

In the LCCC area the Skills Focus programme supported 61 businesses in 2019/20 and 72 business in 2021/21, while the Innovate Us programme supported 38 local businesses in 2019/20 and 28 during 2020/21.

2b Social Economy

Action Lead:



LCCC undertook several actions to support social enterprise over the last year including taking on a corporate membership of Social Enterprise NI.

In November 2020, the council hosted a Spotlight on Success in Social Enterprise webinar during Global Entrepreneurship Week to highlight the sector and outline the support available locally with 30 people in attendance. Two successful local social entrepreneurs shared their experience of developing successful enterprises.

The council's Interreg funded Social Enterprise programme, SuNSE, went out to tender and is currently offering support to both existing social enterprises and aspiring individual social entrepreneurs.

The Mayor of Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council also offered his support to the sector through the Mayor's Innovation Fund Award for Social Enterprise in May 2021. An award of £5,000 was given to Stepping Stones in Lisburn to develop their 'Sow, Grow and Eat' initiative. Stepping Stones plan to strengthen and diversify their offering by growing herbs and vegetables for use in their Courtyard and 2nd Avenue cafes and for resale.



Amy McCoy launched a unique veterinary physiotherapy service for animals with support from the Go for It Programme, in partnership with Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council



Council launches Support Network for Social Entrepreneurs in Lisburn Castlereagh



Outcomes

Theme 3: Health and Wellbeing

Outcome: We live healthy, fulfilling and long lives

31% of young people think their physical health has been affected during the Coronavirus lockdown.

NIYLT Survey 2020/21

Supporting the Outcome:

Healthy, fulfilling and long lives depend much more on the capacity that individuals have to live well than on a healthcare system that, no matter how good it is, can only help once things have gone wrong. Excellent healthcare is important for this community plan but our focus is on:

- empowering people to lead healthy lives,
- preventing physical and mental illness,
- helping people to cope with disability,
- intervening in those crucial early years, and
- helping people to age actively.

We have an ageing population and one of the most effective means of improving quality of life for older people is to encourage physical activity and healthy lifestyles in middle age.

The plan will promote healthy lifestyles for everyone through improved diets, a clean and green environment and opportunities to participate in society through, for example, volunteering, arts, culture and sport.

One of the greatest injustices of our society is that the poorer you are, the worse your health and the shorter your life. A priority for this plan will be tackling health inequalities.

Population Indicators used to measure progress towards this outcome include:

Preventable deaths



The number of preventable deaths dipped to its lowest in 2011-15. They have been steadily increasing over last four years though which is a negative trend.

% of population living in absolute and relative poverty (before housing costs)



The absolute poverty has remained the same over the last three years, while the relative poverty dipped in 2016/18 but increased significantly in 2017/20.

% of mothers smoking in pregnancy



The percentage of mothers smoking in pregnancy peaked in 2014. It has been up and down over last four years and was at its lowest in 2019 which is a positive trend.

% of Primary 1 and Year 8 children who are overweight or obese



The percentage of Year 8 children dipped in 2014-16 but has been increasing since which is a negative trend. The percentage of Primary 1 children peaked in 2014-16 & 2015-17 & has been decreasing over last two years which is a positive trend. However, the percentage of children overweight or obese is not reducing quickly.

Theme 3: Actions

3a Be Active Lisburn Castlereagh

3b Age Friendly

3c Good Mental Health

The outcome for Theme 3 is that we live healthy, fulfilling and long lives and the actions were generated to find innovative ways to achieve this outcome. All of the actions involved partnership working and new collaborations keeping health and wellbeing at the heart of everything.

Performance measures have allowed the delivery partners to track the achievements to date.

3a Be Active Lisburn Castlereagh

Action Lead:



A Sport and Physical Activity Group was established to complete an audit of existing services and facilities in the area and develop an action plan to encourage greater participation in a range of activities.

A Sport NI investment of £216,476 for 19/20 and 20/21 to LCCC was used to encourage an increase in the number of people in the council area adopting and sustaining a physically active lifestyle in line with the Community Plan.

For example, Online Pilates is an LCCC Every Body Active 2020 class for all abilities focusing



Children enjoying tennis coaching.

on different themes each week. Classes take place on Zoom and began in November 2020. A participant quoted: “This class has really helped me cope with lockdown stresses especially with work and teenagers’ home schooling. I really look forward to each class and find it’s a great length and very good variation each week.”

- The COVID-19 Sports Hardship Fund allowed clubs to apply for up to £3,000 in grants to pay bills etc. due to income loss during COVID 19. 61 clubs based in LCCC received funding, totalling £110,000 (55 distinct applicants).
- The COVID-19 Safe Sports Packs Fund allowed clubs to apply for COVID Safe Sports Packs containing masks, sanitiser, signage

etc. 76 clubs based in LCCC received 132 packs valued at almost £50,000.

- The most recent EBA 2020 figures showed that 39% of adults indicated that taking part had made their health and fitness ‘much better’ with 61% also reporting that their health and fitness is ‘slightly better’ after taking part.
- 97% of adult participants in LCCC also reported that taking part has given them ‘slightly more’ or ‘a lot more’ self-confidence.

3b Age Friendly

Action Lead:



Lisburn & Castlereagh’s population is projected to grow 7% by 2025 and 11% by 2030 (from 2018). Much of the growth will be concentrated in the 65+ age group: 17.6% by 2025 and 36.1% by 2030. Thus by 2030, of the projected 160,367 residents, 33,967 will be over 65 compared with 24,952 in 2018.

To address this and as part of the World Health

Organisation’s Age Friendly Community, LCCC has agreed structures and mechanisms to support the ageing population in a more coherent way. Partners in the Age Friendly Alliance provide updates on the agreed actions from the Age Friendly Action Plan.

Highlights over the past year include:

- A pilot was set up for a Community Toilet Scheme targeting six businesses to open their facilities. This has now been evaluated and plans are in place to scale up the scheme across LCCC.
- A Senior Information Network Group (SING) was launched and meets quarterly to discuss the issues of older people and what resources are available to address these issues.
- Over 100 podiatry talks for older people have taken place along with three talks in Staying Active At Home for older people where 100 people attended.
- 25 Dementia JAM (Just a Minute) cards were distributed to people living with dementia in the council area in 2020. Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council is currently rolling out training for all staff to become more aware of the JAM card project.



A meeting of the Dundonald Women’s Institute with the Age Friendly Coordinator.



Community toilet scheme participants, The Daily Apron and Smyth Patterson.

- Positive Ageing Month took place in October 2021 via Zoom with well attended activities online. A steering group has been established to highlight Positive Ageing month regionally.
- The first Age Friendly Survey for people aged 50 and over in the council area was completed and results and a report along with a workshop to address the issues arising were presented to the Age Friendly Alliance and local community groups.

3c Good Mental Health

Action Lead:



Over the 18 months partners have focussed on the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic which continue to manifest in different ways in our communities and workplaces, often showing as anxiety, depression and stress. It is also being reported that there is an increasing demand on agencies and organisations providing mental health support. Partners continue to develop and provide a range of support and access to different services and resources to help citizens and work colleagues stay safe and well. However, there is a need for more collective support to open up conversations around good

mental health and appropriate signposting.

The Public Health Agency (PHA) and both the South Eastern and Belfast Trusts continue to provide a wide range of resources and services to support people with poor mental health. This includes the Minding Your Head website (www.mindingyourhead.info) which is regularly updated and provides links to many other resources.

The CovidWellbeingNI online hub provides a comprehensive range of information, self-help guides and ways to access help to support mental health and wellbeing. It was created by CovidWellBeingNI, a partnership of 15 leading mental health and wellbeing charities and the Healthy Living Centre Alliance, representing 28 Healthy Living Centres alongside the Public Health Agency, Department of Health and the Department for Communities. The focus is on promoting positive mental health and wellbeing during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

The PHA commissions a range of services (30) under Protect Life 2 in the South Eastern area which are accessible to everyone - including the LCCC area. Specifically, under Protect Life 2, PHA has invested more than £718,000 in services providing support for individuals and family members affected by suicide and self-harm in the LCCC area, in which 2,014 people have

benefited in the last three years.

They also commission many other services which address the social determinants of health in other thematic areas such as Physical Activity, Obesity, Sexual Health, Community Development, and Tobacco. These other services also contribute to promotion of wellbeing and good mental health.

There are many organisations which exist to support people's mental health and partners continue to promote their services. The Community Planning Partnership will continue to develop this issue and try to coordinate and promote services, and support those people most in need.



Outcomes

Theme 4: Where We Live

Outcome: We live and work in attractive, resilient and environmentally-friendly places

Supporting the Outcome:

The physical world that surrounds us is a vital component of our wellbeing. Many places are clearly disadvantaged and would benefit from regeneration. Other more prosperous areas may lack a focus for community life as people retreat behind gates and high hedges.

Libraries, workplaces, shops, places for leisure, transport, the built heritage and wild and green spaces all make vital contributions to creating better places to live.

Good housing is fundamental and this plan envisages a supply of suitable housing suited to a range of needs with diversity of tenure, appropriate size, accessibility and energy

efficiency. This outcome is about ensuring all these elements come together in a way that helps build strong and resilient communities.

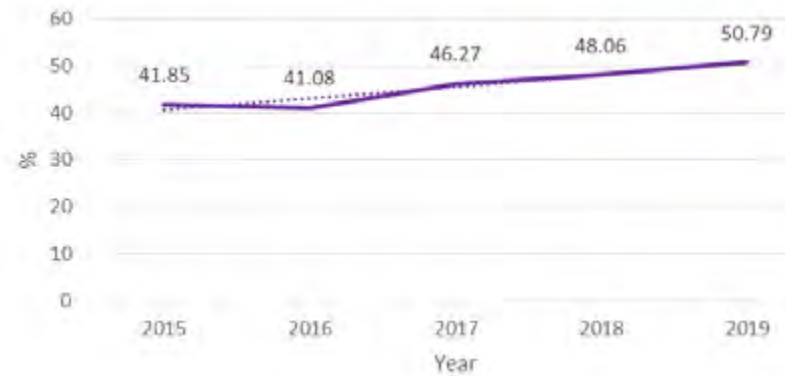
While our environment is vital to our wellbeing, the wellbeing of our environment relies on our sense of stewardship so that both the local and global environment is enhanced and protected both now and in the future. The plan will help tackle a wide range of issues from local biodiversity to climate change.

The Local Development Plan is an important means of realising the vision and achieving the outcomes of this physical dimension of the Community Plan.



Population Indicators used to measure progress towards this outcome include:

% household waste reused, recycled or composted



The percentage of household waste reused, recycled or composted was lowest in 2016. It has been steadily increasing over last three years though which is a positive trend.

Theme 4: Actions

4a Housing

4b Sustainable and Active Transport

The outcome for Theme 4 is that we live and work in attractive, resilient and environmentally friendly places. The actions were generated to find innovative ways to achieve this outcome. All of the actions involved partnership working and new collaborations keeping where we live at the heart of everything being done.

4a Housing

Action Lead:

Housing Executive

There continues to be a need to identify enough appropriate land to deliver the housing growth requirement. As the population of Lisburn Castlereagh increases, the need for appropriate housing will change - this should continue to be factored in to the housing policies in the emerging LDP. Growth will be concentrated mainly in the children and working age profiles, but the older people population is expected to grow by 32.9% in the years to 2029. So whilst the need for small family accommodation remains strong, there will be an increased requirement to design and construct suitable accommodation for older persons.

Housing need has remained at a consistently high level in Lisburn Castlereagh and is focussed

in the main urban settlements - future housing mix in new build developments will need to cater for singles, small families and older persons along with any potential changes associated with Welfare Reform.

There is an increasing need for two and three bedroom wheelchair units that remain flexible to meet the needs of a wider range of applicants. Numbers in housing stress have remained high in the area and the number of allocations remains inadequate to meet demand.

There is a projected housing need between 2021-26 of over 1,000 units in Lisburn and over 200 units in Castlereagh; the Social Housing Development Programme (SHDP) had 260 units onsite in 2020/21 with close to 100 completions.



Avonmore community garden (Old Warren)



Ballybeen Phase 2 housing (30 social units and two bungalows)

Over 600 units are programmed across LCCC for the next three years.

The NIHE Lisburn & Castlereagh Area Office will continue to invest significantly in its current stock. The recent global pandemic and also Brexit has brought about a number of challenges particularly in relation to the supply and cost of materials. However it is envisaged in excess of 20,000 jobs will be completed during 2021/22 within a response maintenance budget of £3.35 million for the year.

The same pressures referred to above will equally apply to the delivery of planned maintenance schemes. However, despite the various challenges and constraints the following planned schemes have been programmed for 2021/2022:

Scheme Type	Units
Bathroom / Kitchen / Rewire	218
Bathroom only	207
External Cyclical Maintenance	1244
Double Glazing	190
Heating	763
Incremental improvements	4

Further enhancements to the area will be made through the Grounds Maintenance programme which invested over £140,000 last year in Lisburn Castlereagh.



The council worked alongside Choice Housing to relocate the Dungoyne Play Park to its new location adjacent to the Ballybeen Sport & Wellbeing Hub.

NIHE continues to promote community support funding within the area. To date in this financial year they have provided over £9,000 of funding through community cohesion. There is also the potential for funding through community cohesion for another three projects which may total an additional £9,500. It has once again provided £6,000 to Lisburn SAFE through community safety and intends to provide a total of £20,000 funding to a number of groups in support of community based activities.

4b Sustainable and Active Travel



Given the recent pandemic there have been positive and negative outturns in various areas of Sustainable and Active Travel. There has been a significant uptake in walking and cycling activity, however public transport numbers decreased considerably during the pandemic and are slowly recovering. Public transport across all services is currently around 65% of pre-COVID levels. Park and Ride numbers would have been impacted to a greater extent as it is more focused on the commuter market. Given this downturn passenger numbers are not comparative with previous years.

A recent addition to public transport is the Lisburn Buscentre to Colin Connect which provides a link to the East West Belfast Glider route.

A consultation on the 400+ park and ride site at Moira Station was carried out in early 2021 and work progresses to a completion in the 2023/24 financial year.

The most significant addition to active travel has been the opening of the final section of the Blaris Greenway. This latest phase of the scheme will bring the total length of the Greenway to 2.8 kilometres from Halftown Road out to Sprucefield Retail Park and also to Blaris Road where it connects with Union Locks, Lisburn and the Lagan Towpath, providing a virtually traffic free route of 20 kilometres on in to Belfast. This latest facility also incorporates a series of passing bays along the route to allow local access for agricultural vehicles.

Blaris Greenway will provide a valuable connection for those who wish to walk, cycle or wheel, for either leisure, shopping, or their daily commute. This greenway provides a link to Sprucefield Park and Ride which will go some way to removing motor vehicle traffic from the M1 and local roads.

In the past year there has been significant

resurfacing schemes – one of which has upgraded the path from gravel to tarmac along the towpath beyond Moira Station.

A consultation has been carried out on the lighting of the Comber Greenway from the Beersbridge Road in Belfast to Comber. The greenway passes through Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council area from the Ice Bowl Bridge to beyond Billy Neill MBE Country Park. There were over 1,700 responses to the consultation but the outcome of the consultation has not yet been finalised.

Active Travel Counters were placed on the Comber Greenway in April 2017 and there is now reliable data available. Since 2018, the first full year of counting the count shows that the two counters, on either side of the LCCC boundary have shown over 70% increase from 2018 to 2020. This significant increase is an obvious result of lockdown but shows the potential for active travel that people will walk and cycle if the conditions are right. The combinations of the two counters was over 240,000 for 2018 rising to 450,000 in 2020. Around 55% of the journeys are by bicycle.





Outcomes

Theme 5: Our Community

Outcome: We live in empowered, harmonious, safe and welcoming communities

45% of young people said they feel very safe living in their area.

NIYLT Survey 2020/21

Supporting the Outcome:

The previous outcome 'Where we live' was all about the physical environment – the 'hardware' of community. This outcome is about the 'software' of community: the things that contribute to building everyday relationships based on respect, solidarity and working for the common good.

Much of this is about empowering people to participate in decisions that affect them, to be actively engaged with community planning partners in delivering services such as care or leisure facilities, for example.

It is also about participating in the everyday life of the community: in health, sport, the arts and or simply spending time with friends and neighbours.

Feeling safe is vital for wellbeing including for people from minority ethnic groups who can be more vulnerable than most. It is important that everyone is welcomed in a place where diversity is celebrated and everyone belongs. Good relations across traditional divides cannot be taken for granted either, so the plan aims to actively support harmonious communities.

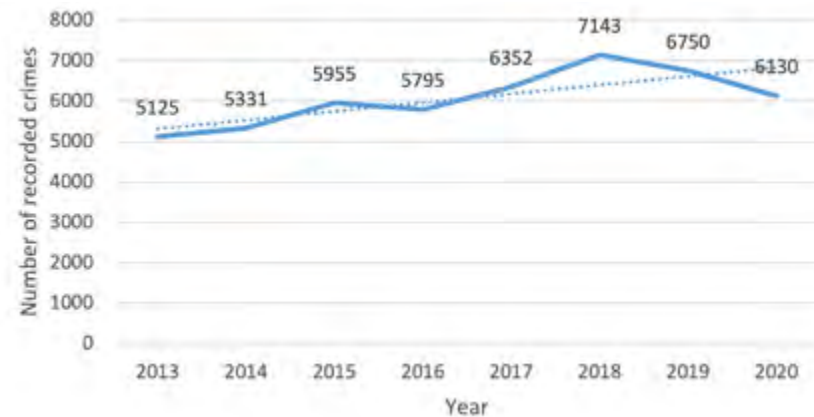
Population Indicators used to measure progress towards this outcome include:

% engaging in arts/cultural activities in the past year



There has been no updated data on this since the last Statement of Progress.

Number of recorded crimes



The number of recorded crimes has steadily increased from 2013 to the peak in 2018. It has decreased over the last two years though which is a positive trend.

Theme 5: Actions

5a Support Hub

5b Establish a Community Network

5c Volunteering

39% of young people agree that there is a strong sense of community in their area.

NIYLT Survey 2020/21

The outcome for Theme 5 is that we live in empowered, harmonious, safe and welcoming communities and the actions were generated to find innovative ways to achieve this outcome. All of the actions involve partnership working and new collaborations keeping our community at the heart of everything being done.

5a Support Hub

Action Lead:



The Multi Agency Support Hub (MASH) has been supporting vulnerable people for almost three years and has commitment from a range of partner agencies such as LCCC, PSNI, NIFRS, SEHSCT, BHSCT, EANI, NIAS, NIHE, Probation Board and the community and voluntary sector. Agencies work together to develop a package of support for people who are known to each agency individually but who have not previously had coordinated interventions. Many people and their families received help to cope with a range of issues including mental health and addictions, housing, education, hoarding and disability. To date 32 people have been referred to the MASH and feedback from individuals being helped has been very positive.

5b Establish a Community Network

Action Lead:



As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council set up a community and voluntary sector infrastructure based on DEA boundaries in order to plan and programme the emergency response at the grassroots level. This system gave elected members, council officers and partner agencies an organised structure to operate within. It built on the relationships with existing CVS groups as well as supporting new groups which were conceived in response to the emerging crisis.



Launch of the Christmas Crime Prevention Campaign.



Hydebank Wood College thanked Lisburn Road Fire & Rescue Service for their tireless efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Additional support was given to the Lisburn Castlereagh Community Planning Partnership from Carnegie UK Trust, as part of the Embedding Wellbeing in Northern Ireland Programme to further develop a network of communities across the council area. Anna Clarke from Prospect Awards, worked with the partnership, community and voluntary sector representatives, elected members and council officers to explore ways to make the DEA CVS infrastructure sustainable and responsive to local needs. This work is continuing and has support from partner agencies as well as local CVS groups.

5c Volunteering

Action Lead:



The face of volunteering has changed over the last year with a rise in informal volunteering. For many organisations there was a change in how they delivered their services but involved volunteers as a result of the pandemic. Over the last six months, as many groups have begun to re-open/re-evaluate/resume activity and others have taken a breath after a manic period in order to maintain their invaluable support. There has been a focus on highlighting the

tremendous impact that volunteers have made, the need for new volunteers to engage and the promotion of the opportunities that exist within the council area.

Six groups have been supported to develop and promote their opportunities in the last six months and a further 16 groups have worked with Volunteer Now to promote their existing opportunities. The partner groups have continued to involve and support volunteering with many developing and reimagining their offer as they have opened up their services to involvement once again.

Intensive support has been provided to a number of groups in relation to their volunteering practice and management and three businesses in the council area have been supported to encourage their employees to volunteer through facilitating employer supported volunteering with local groups.

Volunteer Now has facilitated networking meetings for groups throughout NI with guest speakers discussing and sharing their thoughts and practice on a range of areas, e.g. diversity

and volunteering; investing in volunteers and recognition and reward. They supported organisations to recognise more than 540 volunteers as part of Volunteers Week this year within LCCC area. One participant said: “Thank you for the Volunteers Week merchandise! Great to have certificates, badges, bunting and banners so that we can thank all our wonderful volunteers.”

Volunteer Now has continued to offer an extensive training programme that included volunteer management and safeguarding (adults and children) with online availability and now face to face as well as a hybrid approach.



Volunteers from Atlas Training Centre dedicated their time and efforts, during the pandemic to making scrubs for Health & Social Care Staff.

Good News Stories, Achievements and Good Practice

The Lisburn & Castlereagh Community Planning Partnership is proud of its successes. The following illustrates a few of the good news stories, noteworthy achievements and examples of good practice that have led to impactful and sustainable change and improvement. They have all originated from collaborative working, through engagement using co-production principles and more innovative ways of working with each other.

- In October 2020, members of the Lisburn & Castlereagh Youth Council met the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, The Rt. Hon. Brandon Lewis MP.
- The Youth Council met the former Mayor, Councillor Nicholas Trimble in December 2020 and asked him questions based on the themes of their sub-groups, i.e. COVID-19, Mental Health, Safe Spaces for young people and the Environment.
- The young people collected items and put together two large hampers for the Lisburn Food Bank and Dundonald Food Bank. The hampers were presented to the former Mayor who had chosen the Food Banks as his charity of the year.
- 12 new trees were planted within the Lisburn area. Community residents will benefit from local green spaces and they will have an impact on more positive mental health and environment.

Case Studies:



Youth Council

The Youth Council continued to meet, making necessary adjustments, during lockdown. Meetings continued on Zoom during the first lockdown and were then held in the venues of Laurelhill College and Brooklands Centre when restrictions eased, complying with social distancing.

The Youth Council at their end of term celebration evening.



Parks and Amenities

- Pumpkin carving workshops were held for primary school children at Bell's Lane Allotments, Derriaghy in October 2020.
- Over 20,000 trees were planted at Billy Neill MBE Country Park in Dundonald by June 2021 in partnership with the Woodland Trust.
- Older people's groups enjoyed regular walks at Billy Neill MBE Country Park during summer 2020.
- A new Park Watch scheme was launched in September 2021 covering Billy Neill MBE Country Park and the nearby area by Lisburn & Castlereagh Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) in collaboration with the local Dundonald Neighbourhood Policing Team and the council's Parks & Amenities and Environmental Health Service Units.

**Pumpkin
workshops
at Bells Lane
Allotments,
Lambeg**





NI Housing Executive

- A community garden scheme was completed at Avonmore, Old Warren in Lisburn which included seating, planting, hard and soft landscaping.
- Phase 2 of Ballybeen Square was completed which is a new build housing scheme, delivered by Choice Housing Association on NIHE transferred land. It provides 30 social units, including two complex needs bungalows.
- There are now several NIHE community lets adjacent to Ballybeen Square, with tenants including Ballybeen Women's Centre (including a nursery facility) and Dungoyne Football Club offices.
- A new build housing scheme on Upper Newtownards Road (Dundonald Village) provided 30 units delivered by Habinteg Housing Association, CAT1 accommodation for older persons (active over 55s).

Prison Service

- Recycling and horticultural projects by staff and prisoners at Maghaberry during the COVID-19 pandemic raised £5,100 for the Air Ambulance NI in October 2020.
- Young men and female prisoners at

Hydebank Wood College during the COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated new ceramic design and baking skills. They made tea and coffee mugs and baked buns for local hospital nurses, shop and charity workers and firefighters.



Maghaberry Christmas food bank donations.



PSNI

Lisburn City NPT:

In the second half of 2019 a new social housing development opened in Lisburn City Centre. The development, an apartment block consisting of one and two bedroom apartments, was designed to meet the changing housing needs of people. Shortly after its opening police, council and partners began to receive numerous calls with regards to anti-social behaviour, criminality including criminal damage and drug taking as well as reports of domestic violence.

This became a matter of concern for the local council, business community, and other residents living in the area and the housing provider, as they had never faced this situation with previous developments and it was resulting in reputational damage to all parties concerned. The matter was further compounded as the location of the apartment block is a main thoroughfare through the centre of Lisburn and many other incidents taking place in the location

were being attributed as having come from the apartment block, which was not the case.

In response to this representatives from PSNI, Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council, local PCSP, the housing provider, NIHE, CityWatch (local CCTV provider) and the local chamber of commerce commenced work under two main strands:

1. Community Development Subgroup

- a. A Neighbourhood Officer was assigned to the development and visited every tenant in order to build relationships with those who were experiencing ASB being caused by a small number of other residents.
- b. LCCC's Art & Community Development teams engaged with residents in regards to developing community and art based initiatives which included a focus on parents and pre-school children at the Island Arts Centre (this was cut short due to COVID-19 restrictions).
- c. The housing provider opened a dedicated support office in the block and worked with

residents in a sustainability initiative. This was developed in order to help new residents make their apartments a home and involved the local social supermarket, the local Credit Union and a local social enterprise which sold donated home improvement items at reduced cost.

2. Community Safety

- a. PSNI alongside the housing provider and council obtained funding for the installation of a fixed CCTV camera which was monitored by CityWatch. This additional criminal justice tool allowed for ongoing monitoring to detect issues early and gather evidence of any offences.
- b. The council engaged with central government to have any broken street lighting fixed in order to reduce the residents' concerns around fear of crime.

Lisburn City
Neighbourhood
Team cycling in
the city centre



c. Police took robust action with regards to any reported offences and gathered intelligence which led to several success crime related searches, which ultimately resulted in prosecutions.

Whilst incidents in the area still occur they are greatly reduced on previous levels. As a result community confidence within the area and the quality of life of residents has improved. The lessons from this initiative have been shared with other partner organisations across the area.

Castlereagh NPT:

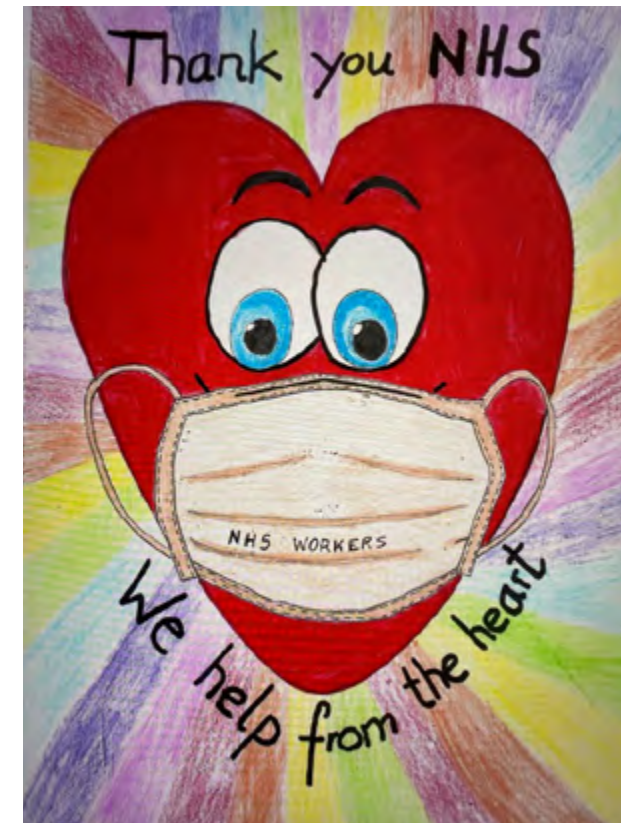
1. In May 2020 Dundonald Neighbourhood Officers worked with local primary schools in the area as part of a home art project to celebrate the work of NHS colleagues during the pandemic. Pupils from Brooklands Primary School and Dundonald Primary School were asked to create a sign in their honour. The winning design from Brooklands Primary was chosen by Head Nurse in the UHD Jennifer Nicholson. The design was made into single-use adhesive stickers which was distributed to staff in the hospital to be worn. The Neighbourhood team recognised that most pupils were working from home and felt it was a good way to engage with the young people at a time when they could

not visit local schools, plus it was a great way to recognise the great work of the health care workers at that time.

2. In late 2019 Castlereagh Neighbourhood Policing Team received funding to run a programme of activities in Ballybeen in 2020 to help increase community confidence in policing, enhance community engagement and assist with a reduction in crime and anti-social behaviour. There was an increase in patrols in the area and police 'drop in' surgeries were offered. ASCERT ran a course in relation to the five steps to mental health and prescription abuse, giving participants a basic understanding of how to recognise and address mental health problems.

12 residents undertook Suicide Prevention Training which enabled them to recognise mental health problems and respond to a suicide situation on a first aid basis. 10 attendees received Construction Skill Training and upon successful completion received Construction Skill Registration accreditation, which will assist with finding future employment.

Engagement also took place with local youth groups where police attended and engaged with young people about topics such as anti-social behaviour, drugs and internet safety. A gaming bus company attended and provided an alternative activity for the local young people. Due to the pandemic a final away day for those who successfully completed the courses was postponed but recently took place. At the request of the group, the neighbourhood team organised karting and football at Eddie Irvine Sports in Bangor with some food afterwards.



Artwork designed by a local primary school child to celebrate the work of the NHS during the pandemic.

This provided a great opportunity for police to thank those who participated and engage with the group again after the lockdowns when face to face contact with groups could not take place.

3. If ever there was a need for NPT it was shown during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Moneyreagh and Carryduff communities worked tirelessly together to ensure everyone was as safe as they could be with various types of engagements, albeit socially distanced and where that was not possible i.e. delivering food parcels, the appropriate PPE was worn.

NPT Officers for these areas continued to engage, however taking a different approach in how this was done - raising their social media footprint and letting the community know they were still out and about keeping the local community safe, by posting pictures patrolling their communities. They received many private messages via Facebook and the Nextdoor App asking advice on the current guidelines, as well as messages from vulnerable individuals, many of whom were supplied Crime Prevention advice and equipment.

They assisted with Food Bank work, identifying local residents that they felt would benefit from these supplies.

As soon as restrictions relaxed slightly they took

the opportunity to get back into the community on a face to face level, still socially distanced and they planted some flowers with the local community in Moneyreagh to brighten the area up.

In Killynure, with the kids having missed a lot of school and ASB starting to rise they took a number of local youths to Lets Go Hydro following various talks on local issues (ASB, drugs, alcohol and the effects all these have on their community).

Their engagement throughout the communities over the 12 to 18 months has strengthened, with many new regular engagement meetings taking place.

4. During the summer, Neighbourhood Officers from Dundonald worked in partnership with the youth organisation Dreamscheme, PCSP, the sports development team from LCCC and with Lough Moss Leisure Centre to plan and deliver a three day summer football initiative for local youths from Newtownbreda. The main objective of this initiative was to engage with the youths in a fun way, building relationships to allow the youths to readily speak with police, regarding local issues, both now and in the future. This, with other ongoing youth initiatives, is being continually built upon by local NPT team to engage with the youth of their community - and

working collaboratively with these organisations promotes and enhances the local Policing profile within the whole community - all organisations working together for the one aim, to keep people safe.

To promote local policing confidence and community safety, Castlereagh NPT is presently working in partnership with the Breda Community Café, managed by Newtownbreda Baptist Church. This café is situated in the hub of Newtownbreda Village, open for local residents, yet inviting all, to pop in for a quick coffee and chat.

On police collaboratively working with the church and café it has been agreed and welcomed that NPT can avail of the café to hold regular police surgeries to allow residents to raise their concerns regarding their own local areas, and more importantly it allows Police to support these local residents by giving anti-crime / burglary / ASB advice as and when needed. On police continuing to meet with residents in this informal way it is building police / community interaction, communication, trust and ultimately giving a face to the police allowing residents to know "their local Bobby".

South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust

- During the COVID-19 pandemic the South Eastern Trust developed its own unique shielding service to support the most vulnerable in the community. This shielding service, in partnership assisted over 1,100 people at a very difficult time.

Medication was delivered to 125 patients, 330 food boxes were delivered to patients, 393 shielded patients were supported with shopping and delivery arrangements and 253 patients were provided with regular emotional support.

- The new Cancer Prehab programme helps people to prepare for cancer treatment and feel better, physically and emotionally. Cancer Prehab is an exercise, nutrition, emotional and wellbeing programme designed by health professionals. Part of the Cancer Prehab programme was delivered virtually or in leisure centres across the South Eastern Trust area.

In March 2021 there were 12 patient referrals for this programme.

Kite design kits
were supplied
to Maghaberry
Community
Association
through LCCC
COVID-19 funding



Lisburn & Castlereagh PCSP

‘Grand Choice’ Participatory Budgeting:

In November 2019 Lisburn & Castlereagh PCSP in partnership with the Council, SE Health Trust, PSNI, Sport NI and the NI Housing Executive offered up to £1,000 to the most popular community projects in the Killultagh District Electoral Area that addressed Policing and Community Safety; Mental Health and Well-Being or Youth Engagement.

A Community Decision Event took place in Maghaberry Community Centre on 1st February 2020 as a marketplace type occasion, where each project set out their proposals at stalls. Over 1,000 residents came through the doors to vote for their favourite ones. 26 applications were received and 17 were successful with £15,000 being awarded between them.

Another round took place in April 2021 in the Castlereagh East and Castlereagh South DEAs. This time projects had to relate to one or more of the Take 5 themes of Connect, Be Active,

Take Notice, Keep Learning and Give. Due to COVID restrictions, it was all done online. 39 applications were received, 32 were successful and £30,000 was awarded.

Councillor Michelle Guy, Chair of the Lisburn & Castlereagh PCSP, said: “The variety of projects being funded will see a healthier Castlereagh community both physically and mentally. Grand Choice will support the development of sports and education programmes, investment in

shared spaces and the learning of new skills and knowledge. I look forward to seeing these projects in action. I would like to commend all the groups who submitted entries and thank the Castlereagh community for using their voice to vote for the projects they want to see happen.”

The council and its partners intend to undertake the next rounds of Grand Choice in the remaining DEAs in the near future.



‘Grand Choice’
Participatory
Budgeting partners

Collaborative Working Across Boundaries

Lisburn & Castlereagh Community Planning Partnership shares boundaries with five other Community Planning Partnerships – Antrim and Newtownabbey; Ards and North Down; Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon; Belfast and Newry Mourne and Down.

The Community Planning teams in each council work together to share ideas and exchange relevant information and all are members of the Community Planning Officers' Network (CPON), a regional organisation for collaboration and sharing of good practice. The Department for Communities, as the overseeing body, is also a member of CPON.

Community Plan and Local Development Plan

The local development plan system aims to move away from a narrow land use focus towards a 'place shaping' approach which incorporates a spatial analysis and visioning process. Therefore, it provides the spatial strategy for the Community Plan, flowing from the vision for the council area and its communities, and linking public and private sector investment through the land use planning system.

The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) illustrates how the Community Plan influences the content of the LDP and its policies and provides information to the public as well as encouraging their participation in the Local Development Plan process.

The Lisburn & Castlereagh Community Plan and Local Development Plan share language as well as the vision for the area. Sound policies in both Plans were derived from joint consultation sessions and sharing common information. This has resulted in both plans being more robust and more receptive to the needs of the local community.

Abbreviations

ASB	Anti-Social Behaviour	LCYC	Lisburn Castlereagh Youth Council
BHSCCT	Belfast Health & Social Care Trust	LDP	Local Development Plan
CCTV	Closed-Circuit Television	MASH	Multi Agency Support Hub
CPON	Community Planning Officers' Network	NFU	National Farmers Union
CPR	Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation	NHS	National Health Service
CVS	Community Voluntary Sector	NHW	Neighbourhood Watch
DEA	District Electoral Area	NIAS	NI Ambulance Service
DfC	Department for Communities	NICVA	Northern Ireland Council for Voluntary Action
DOJ	Department of Justice	NIFRS	NI Fire & Rescue Service
EANI	Education Authority NI	NIHE	NI Housing Executive
EBA	EveryBody Active	NIPB	Northern Ireland Policing Board
ETB	Early Talk Boost	NISRA	Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency
FSME	Free School Meals Entitlement	NIYLT	NI Young Life and Times Survey
GCSE	General Certificate of Secondary Education	NPT	Neighbourhood Policing Team
GB	Great Britain	OCN	Open College Network
GVA	Gross Value Added	PAYE	Pay As You Earn
HOPE	Holistic Outcomes through Positive Experiences	PCSP	Policing and Community Safety Partnerships
ICAN	The children's communication charity	PHA	Public Health Agency
JAM	Just A Minute	PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
LCCC	Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council	PSNI	Police Service NI

QR	Quick Response
QUB	Queen's University Belfast
RAG/LAG	Regional Advisory Group/Local Advisory Group
ROI	Republic of Ireland
SCI	Statement of Community Involvement
SEHSCT	South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust
SERC	South Eastern Regional College
SHDP	Social Housing Development Programme
SoP	Statement of Progress
SuNSE	Support Network for Social Entrepreneurs
TB	Talk Boost
UHD	Ulster Hospital Dundonald
VAT	Value-Added Tax
WI	Women's Institute



Lisburn & Castlereagh

**Strategic Community
Planning Partnership**