

Title of Report:	Causeway Growth Deal Governance & Levelling Up Fund Programme and Project Development
Committee Report Submitted To:	The Leisure & Development Committee
Date of Meeting	16 November 2021
For Decision or For Information	For Decision

Linkage to Council Strategy (2019-23)	
Strategic Theme	Accelerating our Economy and Contributing to Prosperity
Outcome	The Council will work with partners to maximise investment funding opportunities from external sources.
Lead Officer	Director of Leisure and Development

Budgetary Considerations	
Cost of Proposal	£195k (£70k Council: £125k LUF)
Included in Current Year Estimates	Yes
Capital/Revenue	Revenue and Capital
Code	Not applicable
Staffing Costs	Yes

Screening Requirements	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	Yes	Date: 29 th October 2021
	EQIA Required and Completed:	No	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	Yes	Date: 29 th October 2021
	RNA Required and Completed	No	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	No	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	No	Date:

1.0 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to:

- **Update Members on the establishment of the Growth Deal Programme Management Office and Shadow Executive Programme Board;**
- **Consider and approve the Section 75 Screening of the Council agreed Growth Deal Themes and Projects;**
- **Consider some of the challenges and opportunities facing the Growth Deal Programme; and**
- **Update Members on the Levelling Up Programme development cost budget.**

2.0 Background

Causeway Coast and Glens is set to receive £72m capital funding for a Growth Deal after the NI Executive agreed to match fund the UK Government's Growth Deal allocation. The Growth Deal capital fund will be used to support digital and innovation projects. The Executive investment will focus additional funding on supporting infrastructure, tourism, and regeneration along with employability and skills.

The Growth Deal Working Group met on 13th October 2021 when it considered and agreed proposals for the governance of the Growth Deal Programme. Within these proposals the Working Group agreed to transition into a Shadow Executive Programme Board with the initial purpose of overseeing the development of the project-specific Strategic Outline Cases (SOCs) for the approval of the Council and ensuring collaboration between projects and partners. The minutes, actions and governance papers from the meeting of 13th October are available within the Member's Working Group portal.

Officers have undertaken a Section 75 Screening of the Growth Deal Programme, with individual screening of projects to be undertaken at Outline Business Case (OBC) stage. The Growth Deal Programme was screened out with no mitigating measures identified. See **Annex A** for a copy of the Section 75 Screening form for Member's consideration and approval.

3.0 Causeway Growth Deal: Timescale and Budget Challenges

3.1 Timescale

At the Shadow Executive Programme Board on 13th October 2021, Members noted that progress on the Causeway Growth Deal was behind that of both Belfast and Derry & Strabane's respective City Deals. Members were enthusiastic that all efforts should be made to accelerate the Causeway Growth Deal Programme.

The application process to the Government for Growth Deal funding requires that each Deal must submit all its SOC's jointly. When all SOC's within the Deal Bid are approved the Government will enter into a Heads of Terms Agreement which constitutes a 'statement of intent' to fund.

Outline Business Cases (OBCs) must then be developed and jointly submitted and approved for all surviving Deal projects before Government will enter into a Deal Agreement which is a formal Deal funding offer for all constituent projects (subject to FBC approvals).

In the final phase of the application process Full Business Cases (FBCs) must be developed and individually approved for all surviving Deal projects before Government will enter into individual Funding Agreements for each project which is a formal funding offer for each project.

Spend on individual projects can only begin when all projects have been successfully through SOC and OBC and each individual project has been through FBC. It is therefore important to note that speed of programme delivery will be limited by the progress of the slowest project to complete OBC approval and overall programme affordability.

3.2 Budget

The total estimated cost of the Causeway Growth Deal projects is around £157m, which significantly exceeds the anticipated budget of £72m (plus 10% partnership funding). Clearly the Council needs to consider reducing the number of projects, reducing the scale of some/all of the projects, sourcing additional external funding or a combination of some/all of the above.

The Government has announced that Councils across the UK will have access to a new Levelling Up Fund (LUF) and a new department of Government now has Levelling Up in its name: Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC). The Council recently received a payment of £125k for LUF project development costs and the associated letter of offer is attached at **Annex B**. There is the potential to use LUF capital funding to supplement the Growth Deal funding to help bridge the funding gap for relevant projects. The LUF development costs Letter of Offer sets no specific conditions in relation to project readiness or specification, creating the option to use the £125k LUF and the £70k, already agreed by Council, to get projects to a state of readiness for SOC and OBC.

The Government has also committed to a future Complementary Fund investment programme linked to the Growth Deal, but the details are not yet available.

3.3 LUF Constraints

LUF is limited to projects within the following three categories:

- Regeneration;
- Transport; and
- Culture (including sport and leisure).

Package bids will be considered but the guidance for the first tranche suggest that a maximum of three projects will be allowed per package and that the package elements must demonstrate complementarity. Package bids will be assessed as a whole; any low scoring project within a package will lower the likelihood of the whole package achieving a funding offer.

All bids must demonstrate a high degree of up-to-date community consultation and market research.

3.4 Opportunities

Officers have developed procurement documentation for the appointment of business case consultants to complete the four stages of the business cases for up to 14 projects.

All business case stages will require recent business consultation as well as up to date primary and secondary industry specific research. This research will be beyond the scope of the business case consultants and will need to be specified and commissioned separately for each project. Accelerating the business cases will rely heavily on early access to relevant and up to date information.

Some examples of the type of research required is detailed below:

Project	Information needed to support business case development
Foodovation Centre	Market research into need, demand, design, services, displacement and sustainability.
Connected Causeway Transport Project	Original study was 2017 and is now too out of date for economists to accept as a data source for a business case.
Dungiven/ Benbradagh Regeneration	A Master Plan needs to be developed and subjected to local consultation.
Bushmills Regeneration	Previous Village Plan and Master Plan need to be updated with a clear identification of project elements in a state of readiness for delivery and the proposals subjected to local consultation.
Local Digital Hubs: Grow The Glens East Light House Garvagh Hub	Feasibility studies need to be completed.

The Programme Management Office needs to develop Terms of Reference for all this work, manage the procurement process to appoint suitably competent contractors and manage the projects. It is proposed to use a combination of the £70k 2021/22 Council approved budget and the £125k LUF development cost funding (limited to projects that relate to: regeneration, transport and culture) to fund these development costs.

The Council's normal procurement process limits Director Delegated Authority to £10k. Clearly, with the value and number of contracts required to deliver a programme to a value of £72m - £157m this delegation limit has the potential to slow up Growth Deal delivery at a time when Members have requested acceleration.

Members may wish to consider giving Delegated Authority to the Shadow Executive Programme Board for up to £30k per decision for Growth Deal and Levelling Up Fund project development costs within agreed budget limits.

4.0 Recommendations

It is recommended that:

- a) The Section 75 Screening of the Causeway Growth Deal Programme Projects at **Annex A** is approved;
- b) The Project Management Governance Summary and appendices in the Members Working Group portal are approved;
- c) The Executive Programme Board Minutes of the meeting of 13th October 2021 in the Members Working Group portal are approved;
- d) Members agree Delegated Authority to the Shadow Executive Programme Board for up to £30k per decision for Growth Deal and Levelling Up Fund project development costs within agreed budget limits.



**S75 Equality And Good Relations
Screening Form**

General Information					
Service/ Function <input type="checkbox"/>	Policy/ Procedure <input type="checkbox"/>	Project <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Strategy <input type="checkbox"/>	Plan <input type="checkbox"/>	Guidance <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Is this an existing, revised or a new function, service, policy, procedure, project, strategy, plan or guidance?</p> <p>Existing <input type="checkbox"/> Revised <input type="checkbox"/> New <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>					
Operational Area	Prosperity and Place				
Title	Growth Deal				
<p>Brief Summary</p> <p>Causeway Coast and Glens is set to receive £72m capital funding for a Growth Deal after the NI Executive agreed to match fund the UK Government's Growth Deal allocation. The Growth Deal capital fund will be used to support digital and innovation projects. The Executive investment will focus additional funding on supporting infrastructure, tourism, and regeneration along with employability and skills.</p> <p>This is the initial Section 75 Policy Screening exercise and the project was screened out with no mitigating measures and the Screening Form is available to be circulated.</p>					
<p>What is it trying to achieve? (intended aims and outcomes)</p> <p>Growth Deals are models of economic growth which provide regions with the opportunity to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take charge and responsibility of decisions that affect their area. • Do what they think is best to help businesses grow. • Identify priorities for economic growth in the region. • Decide how funding should be spent to meet those priorities. <p>In May 2021, Full Council ratified the six key themes/ sectors and 14 projects to be taken forward for further assessment by way of Strategic Outline Cases (SoCs).</p> <p>Themes & Number of Projects Identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Innovation – 4 projects • Tourism & Regeneration – 5 projects • Infrastructure – 1 project • Employability & Skills – 1 project • Digital Connectivity – 2 projects • Energy/ Green Economy – 1 project 					

At this stage of the process, all 14 Growth Deal projects are considered to form one overall submission. As such, all projects have been considered when completing this Equality Screening.

Following agreement of final projects at Heads of Terms, individual Equality Screening and Rural Needs Assessment will be undertaken.

Who owns and who implements each element of the function, service, policy, procedure, project, strategy, plan or guidance?

Owners:

- Prosperity and Place Head of Service – overall coordination
- Programme Management Office – day to day Growth Deal activities
- Strategic Projects Manager – key strategic issues

Implemented by:

- Prosperity and Place Head of Service
- Programme Management Office
- Strategic Projects Manager

Other policies etc. which have a bearing on this function, service, policy, procedure, project, strategy, plan or guidance?

- Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council - Council Strategy 2015-2019
- Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council – Community Planning Strategy 2017-2030
- Draft NI programme for Government Framework 2016-2021
- New Decade, New Approach Deal 2020
- DoE Economic Strategy 2012
- DfI – NI Regional Development Strategy 2035
- DfC - Building Inclusive Communities Strategy 2020-2025
- Investment Strategy for NI 2011- 2021
- CCGBC Tourism Strategy 2015
- Lifetime Opportunities: Government's Antipoverty and Social Inclusion Strategy for NI
- Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998

Available Evidence

Evidence to help inform the screening process may take many forms. Public authorities should ensure that their screening decision is informed by relevant data.

What evidence/information (both qualitative and quantitative) have you gathered to inform this function, service, policy, procedure, project, strategy, plan or guidance? Specify details for relevant Section 75 categories.

The Growth Deal project has gathered evidence from:

- All relevant NISRA statistics which pertain to the Borough
- The elected members of Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council
- Direction has been taken from Belfast Region City Deal (BRCD) and Derry~Londonderry & Strabane Region City Deal (DSCD)

Section 75 Category	<p>Details of Evidence/Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mid-year 2019 NISRA statistics detailed the usual resident population of Causeway Coast & Glens Local Government District to be 144, 838, accounting for 7.6 % of the N.I. total. Statistical information with regards to the Districts makeup and individuals therein was also reviewed. • It is also clear that the majority of our borough is rural in composition and therefore the specific needs of those individuals must to be considered during screening. Therefore these groups are impacted by additional economic and social factors. • The Council does not currently hold Section 75 monitoring data for businesses supported by the Economic Development team. However, it does hold numbers in relation to specific programmes e.g. Women in Business Programmes
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Religious Beliefs	<p>The 2011 Census outlined:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="488 837 1407 1178"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="488 837 895 949">Census 2011</th> <th data-bbox="895 837 1161 949">CC&G Borough Council</th> <th data-bbox="1161 837 1407 949">Northern Ireland</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="488 949 895 987">Roman Catholic</td> <td data-bbox="895 949 1161 987">36.97%</td> <td data-bbox="1161 949 1407 987">40.76%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="488 987 895 1099">Protestant & Other Christian (including Christian related)</td> <td data-bbox="895 987 1161 1099">48.44%</td> <td data-bbox="1161 987 1407 1099">41.56%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="488 1099 895 1137">Other Religions</td> <td data-bbox="895 1099 1161 1137">0.59%</td> <td data-bbox="1161 1099 1407 1137">0.82%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="488 1137 895 1178">None/Not stated</td> <td data-bbox="895 1137 1161 1178">5.64%</td> <td data-bbox="1161 1137 1407 1178">6.75%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>In terms of religion or religion brought up in the 2011 Census indicates that our resident's religious beliefs are comparable to those in Northern Ireland in that there are 2 predominant groupings ie Roman Catholic and Protestant. However, we also have a number of individuals (5.64%) who do not practice a specific religion or who do not wish to be grouped into a specific religion. In addition, we have a small number of individuals who practice other religions.</p> <p>No issues regarding religious beliefs were raised during process to identify potential Growth Deal projects. To date, current stakeholders have various religious beliefs and multiple identities.</p> <p>The team is flexible regarding meeting sites and times which supports their aim to reach as many individuals as possible and accommodate those with various religious and non-religious beliefs. The vast majority of project engagement was carried out remotely due to exceptional circumstances relating to Covid-19.</p> <p>In conclusion, Growth Deal projects identified should not impact upon any religious group and welcomes everyone who meets the relevant projects criteria eg a business owner, resident or tourist. To</p>	Census 2011	CC&G Borough Council	Northern Ireland	Roman Catholic	36.97%	40.76%	Protestant & Other Christian (including Christian related)	48.44%	41.56%	Other Religions	0.59%	0.82%	None/Not stated	5.64%	6.75%
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	date there is no evidence to show a detriment or benefit to any group within this Section 75 category.																				
Political Opinion	<p>The Northern Ireland Life and Times Survey (2019) provides the following information on the political parties people in Northern Ireland feel closest to (this information is not available at Council area level)¹:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="571 504 1382 1003"> <thead> <tr> <th>Party</th> <th>%</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>DUP/Democratic Unionist Party</td> <td>14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sinn Féin</td> <td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ulster Unionist Party (UUP)</td> <td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Social Democratic and Labour Party (SDLP)</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Alliance Party</td> <td>15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Party</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>None of these</td> <td>15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other answer</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Don't know</td> <td>15</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>This project does not relate to any political opinion and welcomes all individuals who meet the criteria e.g. those who live in a particular area. The selection of areas for improvement relate to set criterion such as levels of deprivation etc and although individuals living in close proximity may have similar political opinions, they are not considerations for the proposing of Growth Deal projects or their selection.</p> <p>As the Growth Deal projects identified are based on other factors they should not impact upon any political affiliation and therefore have a neutral impact on this Section 75 group.</p>	Party	%	DUP/Democratic Unionist Party	14	Sinn Féin	9	Ulster Unionist Party (UUP)	9	Social Democratic and Labour Party (SDLP)	10	Alliance Party	15	Other Party	6	None of these	15	Other answer	8	Don't know	15
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Racial Group	<p>On Census Day 27th March 2011 the resident population was:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="486 1594 1465 1854"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>N.I. (%)</th> <th>Rest of U.K. (%)</th> <th>ROI (%)</th> <th>Other Europe (%)</th> <th>Rest of World (%)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>N.I.</td> <td>88.84</td> <td>4.56</td> <td>2.09</td> <td>2.51</td> <td>1.99</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Causeway Coast &</td> <td>91.02</td> <td>4.99</td> <td>1.42</td> <td>1.45</td> <td>1.06</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		N.I. (%)	Rest of U.K. (%)	ROI (%)	Other Europe (%)	Rest of World (%)	N.I.	88.84	4.56	2.09	2.51	1.99	Causeway Coast &	91.02	4.99	1.42	1.45	1.06		
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¹ Northern Ireland Life and Times Survey (NILT), Queen's University Belfast and the Ulster University [NI Life and Times Survey - 2019 : POLPART2 \(ark.ac.uk\)](http://www.ark.ac.uk/elections/nlgccg.htm)

⁵ <https://www.ark.ac.uk/elections/nlgccg.htm>

	<p>Glens Local Government District</p> <p>Documentation and communication materials will use plain English and relating pictorial formats. Communication materials may also be provided in other languages to support individual's needs. Officers can provide support by telephone or face-to-face (COVID restrictions permitting) for individuals who may find reading difficult for a variety of reasons.</p> <p>The Growth Deal project should not impact adversely upon any racial group as any individual in business will be supported. To date there is no evidence to show a detriment or benefit to any group within this Section 75 category.</p>																		
Age	<p>Age: (Mid-Year 2019)² (NISRA statistics)</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="488 909 1457 1227"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>CC&G Borough Council</th> <th>Northern Ireland</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Under 15</td> <td>26,671 (18.4%)</td> <td>373,042 (19.7%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15-44</td> <td>52,015 (35.9%)</td> <td>771,679 (40.8%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>45-64</td> <td>39,498 (27.3%)</td> <td>488,222 (25.9%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>65 and over</td> <td>26,654 (18.4%)</td> <td>314,724 (16.6%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL Population</td> <td>144,838</td> <td>1,893,667</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Growth Deal programmes will be bring benefits to all ages within the borough. As Growth Deal projects will bring benefits across all six themes identified, they will provide spaces and opportunities to support social and community interaction between all ages. Certain projects are aimed at specific groups e.g. Digital Connectivity to support the remote worker and local businesses.</p> <p>In conclusion, the project should have a positive impact on all ages.</p>		CC&G Borough Council	Northern Ireland	Under 15	26,671 (18.4%)	373,042 (19.7%)	15-44	52,015 (35.9%)	771,679 (40.8%)	45-64	39,498 (27.3%)	488,222 (25.9%)	65 and over	26,654 (18.4%)	314,724 (16.6%)	TOTAL Population	144,838	1,893,667
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Marital Status	<p>Marital Status:</p> <p>Marital status by former legacy Council area (most recent figures available from Census 2011):</p>																		

² Source : [2019 Mid Year Population Estimates for Northern Ireland | Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency \(nisra.gov.uk\)](https://www.nisra.gov.uk/2019-mid-year-population-estimates-for-northern-ireland)

Census 2011	Ballymoney BC	Coleraine BC	Limavady BC	Moyle DC
Single	32.68%	34.78%	36.64%	34.96%
Married	52.52%	48.88%	48.94%	49.03%
Civil Partnership	0.07%	0.06%	0.08%	0.08%
Separated	3.13%	3.15%	3.58%	3.66%
Divorced/ Civil Partnership Dissolved	5.23%	6.13%	4.99%	5.11%
Widowed/ Surviving Civil Partner	6.39%	7.00%	5.78%	7.15%

The Growth Deal projects are open to all regardless of their marital status, again officers hold meetings at a range of times and in a range of locations and venues to support the needs of individuals from all groups within this Section 75 category. The vast majority of project engagement was carried out remotely due to exceptional circumstances relating to Covid-19.

To date there is no evidence to show a detriment or benefit to any group within this Section 75 category.

Sexual Orientation

There are no specific figures available on how many people may be Gay, Lesbian, Bi-sexual or Trans-gender or Trans-sexual (LGBT) specific to the Council area.

The Northern Ireland Life and Times Survey (2019)³ provides the following information on the sexual orientation of people in Northern Ireland (this information is not available at local government level):

	%
I am 'gay' or 'lesbian' (homosexual)	2
I am heterosexual or 'straight'	90
I am bi-sexual	1
Other	1
I do not wish to answer	7

In addition, the NI Rainbow Project estimates between 6-10% of any given population could be considered as LGBT. The Growth Deal projects are open to all regardless of their sexual orientation. To date there is no evidence to show a detriment or benefit to any group within this Section 75 category.

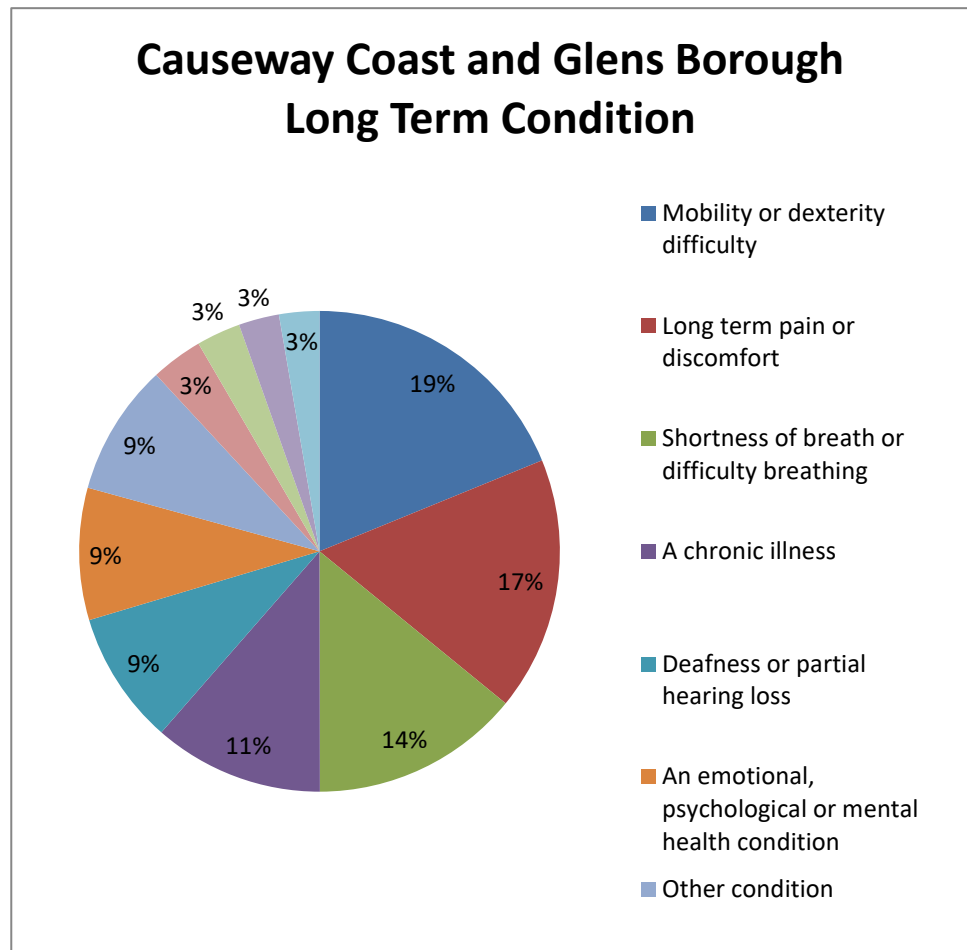
³ Northern Ireland Life and Times Survey (NILT), Queen's University Belfast and the Ulster University [NI Life and Times Survey - 2019 : ORIENT2 \(ark.ac.uk\)](http://www.orient2.ac.uk)

Men and Women Generally	<p>Gender: (Mid-Year 2019 Population Estimates)⁴</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="488 208 1434 432"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>CC&G Borough Council</th> <th>Northern Ireland</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Male</td> <td>71,742 (49.5%)</td> <td>932,717 (49.3%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Female</td> <td>73,096 (50.5%)</td> <td>960,950 (50.7%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The Growth Deal projects are open to all regardless of their gender, again officers hold meetings at a range of times and in a range of locations and venues to support the needs of individuals from all groups within this Section 75 category. The vast majority of project engagement was carried out remotely due to exceptional circumstances relating to Covid-19.</p> <p>To date there is no evidence to show a detriment or benefit to any group within this Section 75 category. Also, some supported sectors traditionally appeal to specific genders e.g. farming, hospitality, ICT and construction; therefore there may be a positive impact on this Section 75 grouping.</p>		CC&G Borough Council	Northern Ireland	Male	71,742 (49.5%)	932,717 (49.3%)	Female	73,096 (50.5%)	960,950 (50.7%)
	CC&G Borough Council	Northern Ireland								
Male	71,742 (49.5%)	932,717 (49.3%)								
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Dependants	<p>The Census information in 2011 showed:</p> <p>People With or Without Dependents:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="488 1133 1420 1395"> <thead> <tr> <th>Census 2011</th> <th>CC&G Borough Council</th> <th>Northern Ireland</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Number of households</td> <td>54,970</td> <td>721,860</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Households with dependent children</td> <td>15,597 (28.37%)</td> <td>261,251 (36.19%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The Growth Deal projects are open to all whether they have or have no dependants, again officers hold meetings at a range of times and in a range of locations and venues to support the needs of individuals from all of these groupings. The vast majority of the project engagement was carried out remotely due to exceptional circumstances relating to Covid-19.</p> <p>To date there is no evidence to show a detriment or benefit to any group within this Section 75 category.</p>	Census 2011	CC&G Borough Council	Northern Ireland	Number of households	54,970	721,860	Households with dependent children	15,597 (28.37%)	261,251 (36.19%)
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Households with dependent children	15,597 (28.37%)	261,251 (36.19%)								
Disability	<p>People with a Disability/People Without:</p>									

⁴ Source : Northern Ireland Statistics website: www.nisra.gov.uk
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People with a long-term condition/illness by former legacy Council area (most recent figures available from Census 2011):

Census 2011	Ballymoney BC	Coleraine BC	Limavady BC	Moyle DC
People with a long term condition/illness	30.6%	31.31%	31.05%	31.68%
People Without	69.4%	68.69%	68.95%	68.32%



Source: NINIS, Census 2011, KS302NI

Notes:

1. 'Communication difficulty' means a difficulty with speaking or making yourself understood.
2. 'A mobility or dexterity difficulty' means a condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities such as walking, climbing stairs, lifting or carrying.
3. 'An emotional, psychological or mental health condition' includes conditions such as depression or schizophrenia.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none">4. 'Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing' includes conditions such as asthma.5. 'A chronic illness' includes illnesses such as cancer, HIV, diabetes, heart disease or epilepsy.6. 'Long-term' refers to a condition which has lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months. <p>The Growth Deal projects are open to all ranges of ability. Again, officers hold meetings at a range of times and in a range of locations and venues to support the needs of individuals from all groupings. The vast majority of the project engagement was carried out remotely due to exceptional circumstances relating to Covid-19.</p> <p>Research has shown that individuals with a long-term condition may either lack ICT skills or be heavily reliant on technology. The provision of projects within the Digital Connectivity theme may create improvements for individuals within this Section 75 category.</p>
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Screening Questions

1. What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this function, service, policy, procedure, project, strategy, plan or guidance?

Section 75 Category		Positive impact (it could benefit)	Neutral	Negative impact (it could disadvantage)		Reason
Gender	Women	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Major <input type="checkbox"/>	Minor <input type="checkbox"/>	Impacts are determined to be neutral. Growth Deal projects will provide benefits to all sectors of society regardless of gender identification.
	Men	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Major <input type="checkbox"/>	Minor <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Transgender men/women	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Major <input type="checkbox"/>	Minor <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Other please specify	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Major <input type="checkbox"/>	Minor <input type="checkbox"/>	
Race The categories used in the Race section are those used in the 2011 census. Consideration should be given to the needs of specific communities within the broad categories.	Asian	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Major <input type="checkbox"/>	Minor <input type="checkbox"/>	Impacts are determined to be neutral. Growth Deal projects will develop improvements for all members of society regardless of race.
	Black	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Major <input type="checkbox"/>	Minor <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Chinese	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Major <input type="checkbox"/>	Minor <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Mixed race White	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Major <input type="checkbox"/>	Minor <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Other please specify	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Major <input type="checkbox"/>	Minor <input type="checkbox"/>	
Disability	Long term health impairment could include mental health problems, asthma, heart conditions, chronic fatigue etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Major <input type="checkbox"/>	Minor <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>No significant impact is determined at this point.</p> <p>Growth Deal projects includes the roll-out of digital connectivity programmes. There is potential for individuals to claim to suffer from Electromagnetic hypersensitivity (EHS), although this is not a recognised medical condition.</p> <p>Educational projects developed by the Growth Deal will, where possible be adapted to ensure delivery is available to all, regardless of ability.</p>

Sexual orientation	Heterosexual, lesbian, gay men, bisexual, others	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Major <input type="checkbox"/>	Minor <input type="checkbox"/>	Neutral impact on this section. Growth Deal projects will provide benefits to all sectors of society regardless of sexual orientation.
Age	Older People	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Major <input type="checkbox"/>	Minor <input type="checkbox"/>	Growth Deal projects will provide benefits to all citizens within the Borough regardless of age.
	Younger people and children	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Major <input type="checkbox"/>	Minor <input type="checkbox"/>	
Political Opinion		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Major <input type="checkbox"/>	Minor <input type="checkbox"/>	Neutral impact on this section. Growth Deal projects were identified by consideration of needs in the Borough.
Religious Belief		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Major <input type="checkbox"/>	Minor <input type="checkbox"/>	Neutral impact on this section. Growth Deal projects were identified by consideration of needs in the Borough.
Marital Status		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Major <input type="checkbox"/>	Minor <input type="checkbox"/>	Neutral impact on this section. Growth Deal projects will provide benefits to all sectors of society regardless of marital status.
Dependants		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Major <input type="checkbox"/>	Minor <input type="checkbox"/>	Neutral impact on this section. Growth Deal projects will provide benefits to all sectors of society regardless of dependants.

Screening Questions			
2. Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity for people within any of the Section 75 categories?			
Section 75 Category		If Yes, provide details	If No, provide details
Gender	Women	Welcome statements for under-represented groups where relevant.	
	Men		
	Transgender men/women		
	Other please specify		
Race <small>The categories used in the Race section are those used in the 2011</small>	Asian	Welcome statements in a variety of languages for under-represented groups where relevant.	
	Black		
	Chinese		

census. Consideration should be given to the needs of specific communities within the broad categories.	Mixed race White		
	Other please specify		
Disability	Long term health impairment could include mental health problems, asthma, heart conditions, chronic fatigue etc.	Welcome statements in a variety of accessible formats for under-represented groups where relevant. Adjustments made to delivery of educational courses or infrastructure, where possible.	
Sexual orientation	Heterosexual, lesbian, gay men, bisexual, others	Welcome statements for under-represented groups where relevant.	
Age	Older People, Younger people and children	Welcome statements in a variety of accessible formats for under-represented groups where relevant.	
Political Opinion			There is no significant impact on this indicator through Growth Deal project.
Religious Belief			There is no significant impact on this indicator through Growth Deal project.
Marital Status			There is no significant impact on this indicator through Growth Deal project.
Dependants			There is no significant impact on this indicator through Growth Deal project.

Screening Questions		
3. To what extent is the policy likely to impact on good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group?		
Section 75 Category	Details of policy impact	Level of impact major/minor/none
Religious Belief	Growth Deal projects will be inclusive by nature.	Minor

Political Opinion	Growth Deal projects will be inclusive by nature.	Minor
Racial Group	Growth Deal projects will be inclusive by nature.	Minor

Screening Questions		
4. Are there opportunities to better promote good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group?		
Section 75 Category	If Yes, provide details	If No, provide details
Religious Belief	Positive impacts are expected due to the increased digital connectivity and educational programmes developed throughout the Borough. Seeking to increase the potential for religious engagement and discourse online.	
Political Opinion	Positive impacts are expected due to the increased digital connectivity and educational programmes developed throughout the Borough. Seeking to increase the potential for political engagement and discourse online.	
Racial Group	Positive impacts are expected due to the increased digital connectivity and educational programmes developed throughout the Borough. Seeking to increase the potential for racial engagement and discourse online.	

Additional Considerations
Generally speaking people can fall into more than one Section 75 category. Taking this into consideration, are there any potential impacts of the function, service, policy, procedure, project, strategy, plan or guidance on people with multiple identities? (For example: disabled minority ethnic people, disabled women, young Protestant men, young lesbians, gay and bisexual people.)
The process of identifying Growth Deal projects was supported with input and feedback from individuals with multiple identities and no concerns were raised. The review process will aid the identification of considerations not already noted.
Provide details of data on the impact of the function, service, policy, procedure, project, strategy, plan or guidance on people with multiple identities. Specify the relevant Section 75 categories concerned.

The Growth Deal will develop projects that will have a positive impact in connecting individuals to others through the various themes identified.

- Innovation
- Tourism & Regeneration
- Infrastructure
- Employability & Skills
- Digital Connectivity
- Energy/ Green Economy

Disability Considerations

Is there an opportunity to better promote positive attitudes towards disabled people by altering this function, service, policy, procedure, project, strategy, plan or guidance?

Yes **No**

If yes, please give further information and examples:

Is there an opportunity to encourage participation by disabled people in public life by altering this function, service, policy, procedure, project, strategy, plan or guidance?

Yes **No**

Please give further information and examples:

Screening Decision

Likely Impact

Major **Minor** **None**

If the decision is to subject the policy to an equality impact assessment (i.e. likely impact – Major), please provide details of the reasons for this:

Not applicable

If the decision is not to conduct an equality impact assessment (i.e. likely impact = Minor) the Council should consider if the policy should be mitigated or an alternative policy be introduced:

Not applicable

If the decision is not to conduct an equality impact assessment (i.e. likely impact = None), please provide details of the reasons for this:

Prosperity and Place has considered concerns raised through the Growth Deals project engagement, and ongoing correspondence. The Growth Deal projects have been developed to positively impact the lives of every member of our society regardless of how they self-identify.

Any further concerns raised as a result of the ongoing dialogue with representatives of the Section 75 groups will be considered in full and further changes made, where possible, to mitigate any adverse impacts identified.

Mitigation

When the Council concludes that the likely impact is '**Minor**' and an equality impact assessment is not to be conducted, the Council may consider mitigation to lessen the severity of any equality impact, or the introduction of an alternative policy to better promote equality of opportunity or good relations.

Can the policy/decision be amended or changed or an alternative policy introduced to better promote equality of opportunity and/or good relations?

Yes **No**

Prosperity and Place has considered concerns raised through the consultations, and ongoing correspondence. The strategy has been developed to positively impact the lives of every member of our society regardless of how they self-identify.

Any further concerns raised as a result of the ongoing dialogue with representatives of the Section 75 groups will be considered in full and further changes made, where possible, to mitigate any adverse impacts identified.

If **YES**, give the reasons to support your decision, together with the proposed changes/amendments or alternative policy:

Timetabling And Prioritising

If the policy/decision has been 'screened in' for equality impact assessment, then please answer the following questions to determine its priority for timetabling the equality impact assessment.

On a scale of 1 to 3, with 1 being the lowest priority and 3 the highest, assess the policy in terms of its priority for equality impact assessment.

Priority Criterion	Rating (1 to 3)
Effect on equality of opportunity and good relations	N/A
Social Need	N/A

Effect on people's daily lives	N/A
Relevance to the Council's functions	N/A

Monitoring
Please outline proposals for future monitoring of the policy/decision: The strategy will be reviewed annually or following the end project if this timeframe is shorter. Any additional considerations will be noted and applied to future strategies.

Approval And Authorisation		
Screened By	Position/Job Title	Date
	Digital & Strategic Projects Officer	1 st November 2021
Approved By	Position/Job Title	Date
	Director of Leisure and Development	1 st November 2021

Note: a copy of the screening template for each function, service, policy, procedure, project, strategy, plan or guidance screened should be 'signed off' and approved by a senior manager responsible for the function, service, policy, procedure, project, strategy, plan or guidance. A copy should then be forwarded to the Equality and Diversity Officer, made easily accessible on the council's website as soon as possible following completion and made available on request.

Rural Needs Impact Assessment Template

SECTION 1 - Defining the activity subject to Section 1(1) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016

1A. Name of Public Authority.

Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.

1B. Please provide a short title which describes the activity being undertaken by the Public Authority that is subject to Section 1(1) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016.

Growth Deal

1C. Please indicate which category the activity specified in Section 1B above relates to.

Developing a	Policy <input type="checkbox"/>	Strategy <input type="checkbox"/>	Plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Adopting a	Policy <input type="checkbox"/>	Strategy <input type="checkbox"/>	Plan <input type="checkbox"/>
Implementing a	Policy <input type="checkbox"/>	Strategy <input type="checkbox"/>	Plan <input type="checkbox"/>
Revising a	Policy <input type="checkbox"/>	Strategy <input type="checkbox"/>	Plan <input type="checkbox"/>
Designing a Public Service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Delivering a Public Service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

1D. Please provide the official title (if any) of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service document or initiative relating to the category indicated in Section 1C above.

Growth Deal

1E. Please provide details of the aims and/or objectives of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service.

Causeway Coast and Glens is set to receive £72m capital funding for a Growth Deal after the NI Executive agreed to match fund the UK Government's Growth Deal allocation. The Growth Deal capital fund will be used to support digital and innovation projects. The Executive investment will focus additional funding on supporting infrastructure, tourism, and regeneration along with employability and skills.

In May 2021, Full Council ratified the six key themes/ sectors and 14 projects to be taken forward for further assessment by way of Strategic Outline Cases (SoCs).

1F. What definition of 'rural' is the Public Authority using in respect of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service?

Population Settlements of less than 5,000 (Default definition).

Other Definition (Provide details and the rationale below).

A definition of 'rural' is not applicable.

Details of alternative definition of 'rural' used.

N/A

Rationale for using alternative definition of 'rural'.

N/A

Reasons why a definition of 'rural' is not applicable.

N/A

SECTION 2 - Understanding the impact of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service

2A. Is the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service likely to impact on people in rural areas?

Yes No If the response is **NO** GO TO Section **2E**.

2B. Please explain how the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to impact on people in rural areas.

The Growth Deal will benefit all members of society regardless of how they self-identify. The Growth Deal has identified six key themes that will address a variety of needs, for all those individuals and businesses situated in rural areas.

- Innovation
- Tourism & Regeneration
- Infrastructure
- Employability & Skills
- Digital Connectivity
- Energy/ Green Economy

2C. If the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to impact on people in rural areas differently from people in urban areas, please explain how it is likely to impact on people in rural areas differently.

The Growth Deal will benefit all members of society regardless of how where they are located. Certain themes will provide more impact to those situated in rural areas.

For example, Digital Connectivity may enhance digital offerings within rural locations, as one project currently under consideration, could support the development of rural digital hubs.

Within Tourism & Regeneration, a project to develop greenways is under consideration, this has potential to bring more tourism opportunities to rural areas.

2D. Please indicate which of the following rural policy areas the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to primarily impact on.

Rural Businesses	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rural Tourism	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rural Housing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Jobs or Employment in Rural Areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Education or Training in Rural Areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Broadband or Mobile Communications in Rural Areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Transport Services or Infrastructure in Rural Areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Health or Social Care Services in Rural Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poverty in Rural Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Deprivation in Rural Areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rural Crime or Community Safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rural Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Agri-Environment	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (Please state)	<input type="text"/>

If the response to Section 2A was YES GO TO Section 3A.

2E. Please explain why the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is NOT likely to impact on people in rural areas.

Explain why – again consider social and economic factors

SECTION 3 - Identifying the Social and Economic Needs of Persons in Rural Areas

3A. Has the Public Authority taken steps to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas that are relevant to the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service?

Yes No If the response is **NO** GO TO Section **3E**.

3B. Please indicate which of the following methods or information sources were used by the Public Authority to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas.

Consultation with Rural Stakeholders	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Published Statistics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Consultation with Other Organisations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Research Papers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Surveys or Questionnaires	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other Publications	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Methods or Information Sources (include details in Question 3C below).			<input type="checkbox"/>

3C. Please provide details of the methods and information sources used to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas including relevant dates, names of organisations, titles of publications, website references, details of surveys or consultations undertaken etc.

Council has actively engaged with project 'champions' to fully understand the potential impacts that each of the Growth Deal projects could have on the Borough.

Throughout 2021, engagement has taken place with: Ulster University, NWRC, NRC, Bushmills Community Groups, Dungiven Community Groups, Girona Project, Grow the Glens, Rathlin Island's East Lighthouse project, Garvagh Innovation Hub project, Mountsandel Development, DfI, DfC and DfE.

3D. Please provide details of the social and economic needs of people in rural areas which have been identified by the Public Authority?

Economically:

- The only costs incurred by the Growth Deal project are to Council and other identified key stakeholders (project leads).

Socially:

- Population of the region currently stands at 144,838.
- Population by age – 18.4% are 0 to 14, 35.9% are 15-44, 27.3% are 45-64 and 18.4% are 65+.
- Gender – 49.5% of population are male and 50.5% are female.
- Dependents – 33% of population have at least one dependent.
- Labour Market – 66% economically active, with 61% of people employed and 26% self-employed. 3% of people are claiming unemployment of this 22% are aged 18-24.
- The median annual earnings for people living in the area is £19,900.
- Education – 16% have no qualifications, 56% have achieved a qualification below NVQ Level 4 and 28% have achieved a qualification higher than NVQ Level 4.
- Religious Beliefs – 40% are Catholic, 55% are Protestant, 1% have other religion and 5% have no religion.
- Political Opinion – 49% are Unionist, 35% are Nationalist and 16% are Independent
- Marital Status – 53% are married, 35% are single, 6% are divorced and 7% are widowed
- Racial Group – 91% identify as being from NI, 5% from rest of UK and the remainder from outside UK

If the response to Section 3A was YES GO TO Section 4A.

3E. Please explain why no steps were taken by the Public Authority to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas?

SECTION 4 - Considering the Social and Economic Needs of Persons in Rural Areas

4A. Please provide details of the issues considered in relation to the social and economic needs of people in rural areas.

For the Growth Deal project, Council has considered the geographical make-up of the Borough and the needs of those in remote, rural areas who will require:

Digital Connectivity - there are some areas within the Borough that have no digital connectivity leading to an increased sense of isolation.

Employability & Skills - there are some areas within the Borough that have few/no qualifications or job opportunities, the programmes developed in support of all Growth Deal projects will have a beneficial effect on these areas.

Energy – there are some areas within the Borough with poor energy supplies and high energy costs. Growth Deal is exploring an energy project that could improve energy supplies and reduce costs.

Tourism & Regeneration - there are some areas within the Borough that could be improved to encourage tourism in the area, through regeneration projects and/or greenway development.

Projects considered under the innovation and infrastructure themes will also bring benefits to the wider rural areas.

As the Growth Deal will not cost the residents of the Borough any money, the outcome following completion of all Growth Deal projects will only be beneficial to all the stakeholders.

SECTION 5 - Influencing the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service

5A. Has the development, adoption, implementation or revising of the Policy, Strategy or Plan, or the design or delivery of the Public Service, been influenced by the rural needs identified?

Yes No If the response is **NO GO TO Section 5C.**

5B. Please explain how the development, adoption, implementation or revising of the Policy, Strategy or Plan, or the design or delivery of the Public Service, has been influenced by the rural needs identified.

Throughout the Growth Deal process, Council has considered the needs of all citizens in the Borough and identified six key themes which will support the greatest benefits for everyone.

- Innovation
- Tourism & Regeneration
- Infrastructure
- Employability & Skills
- Digital Connectivity
- Energy/ Green Economy

Council will continually review the development of Growth Deal projects and if necessary, will engage with key stakeholders to ensure that all their needs are being fully catered for.

If the response to Section **5A** was **YES GO TO Section 6A.**

5C. Please explain why the development, adoption, implementation or revising of the Policy, Strategy or Plan, or the design or the delivery of the Public Service, has NOT been influenced by the rural needs identified.

SECTION 6 - Documenting and Recording

6A. Please tick below to confirm that the RNIA Template will be retained by the Public Authority and relevant information on the Section 1 activity compiled in accordance with paragraph 6.7 of the guidance.

I confirm that the RNIA Template will be retained and relevant information compiled.

Rural Needs Impact Assessment undertaken by:	Louise Mullan
Position/Grade:	Digital & Strategic Projects Officer
Division/Branch	Prosperity and Place
Signature:	
Date:	1 st November 2021
Rural Needs Impact Assessment approved by:	Richard Baker
Position/Grade:	Director
Division/Branch:	Leisure and Development
Signature:	
Date:	1 st November 2021



**Department for Levelling Up,
Housing and Communities**
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

www.gov.uk/dluhc

Date: 19 October 2021

David Jackson
Chief Executive
Causeway Coast and Glens

Dear Mr Jackson

Levelling Up Fund

Capacity and Resource Grant Determination Letter

Following the Government's announcement of the Levelling Up Fund at the Spending Review 2020, I am pleased to inform you that the Government transferred your authority a capacity funding (RDEL) grant of £125,000 on or around 31 August 2021. You have received this capacity funding payment on account of having been identified as an eligible category 1 local authority in the index of priority places, or a local authority in Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland. This payment has been issued in order to assist with the costs of developing a bid for future rounds of the Levelling Up Fund as highlighted in the Levelling Up Fund Prospectus¹ and subsequent additional documents.

This RDEL grant is awarded under a section 50 non-ringfenced transfer (United Kingdom Internal Markets Act 2020). A copy of the section 50 Grant Determination is attached to this letter.

Authorities are reminded of their responsibilities under the Public Sector Equality Duty as set out in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 or section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 (as applicable) and should have regard to these requirements when apportioning funding.

You should note that your authority will be responsible for any further or additional costs that may be incurred in the preparation of a Levelling Up Fund bid.

Yours sincerely

Johanna Howarth
Deputy Director – Funding Delivery

Enc. LUF Capacity Funding Grant Determination 2021.

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/levelling-up-fund-prospectus>

LEVELLING UP FUND CAPACITY FUNDING GRANT DETERMINATION 2021: No 50/001

The Minister of State for Housing, Communities and Local government (“the Minister of State”), in exercise of the powers conferred by section 50 of the United Kingdom Internal Market Act 2020, makes the following determination:

Citation

1) This determination may be cited as the Levelling Up Fund Capacity Funding Determination 2021 [No50/001].

Purpose of the grant

2) The purpose of the grant is to provide support to local authorities in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland towards expenditure lawfully incurred or to be incurred by them.

Determination

3) The Minister of State determines as the authorities to which grant is to be paid and the amount of grant to be paid, the authorities and the amounts set out in Annex A.

Treasury consent

4) Before making this determination in relation to local authorities in England, the Minister of State obtained the consent of the Treasury.

Signed by authority of the Minister of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government

Johanna Howarth
Deputy Director, Funding Delivery

30 August 2021