

A BETTER FUTURE TOGETHER

Statement of Progress

November 2019





Our Community Plan...Where are we now?



Back in 2017, Causeway Coast & Glens developed a Community Plan for the Causeway Coast and Glens area.



Organisations from the public, private, community and voluntary sectors came together to develop the plan.

The Partnership is a group of 14 organisations including:

<p>Council</p> 	<p>Schools</p> 	<p>Health & Social Care Board</p> 
<p>Housing Executive</p> 	<p>Invest NI</p> 	<p>Library Service</p> 
<p>Northern Health & Social Care Trust</p> 	<p>NI Fire and Rescue Services</p> 	<p>Police</p> 
<p>Sport NI</p> 	<p>Tourism NI</p> 	<p>Western Health & Social Care Trust</p> 



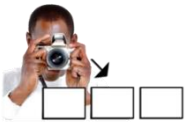
These organisations have worked together to plan and put in place services that make our lives better and meet our Community's needs.



We said we would measure what we did to make sure what we do has an impact on the people who live and work in the Causeway Coast and Glens area.



Our 'Statement of Progress' provides an outline of the types of things we have been doing to make a difference since we started.



This Easy Read version will provide a 'snapshot' of just a few of the successful activities that have taken place.



The full report is available on the Causeway Coast and Glens Council website:

[https://www.causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk/uploads/general/Final SOP Report Nov 2019.pdf](https://www.causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk/uploads/general/Final_SOP_Report_Nov_2019.pdf)



What did we say we wanted to achieve?

Working together, we want to make sure Causeway Coast and Glens Council area is:



A Healthy Safe Community where people can live and work and enjoy access to activities which benefit their physical and mental health.



A Sustainable Accessible Environment which attracts visitors and makes them feel welcome through accessible transport, good quality buildings and safe streets which are looked after for all those who live, work and play here.



A Thriving Economy where people can be the best they can be and have better jobs

Out of the 44 actions we set out to achieve, there have been lots of successes.



On the next few pages, we will give you some examples of the successes and good news stories to date.

A HEALTHY SAFE COMMUNITY



We said we wanted to develop projects to help people access activities which benefit their physical and mental health.

These are just a few examples of the many things which we have done:

Example 1 - Hands that Talk Pilates Project



In Action 1, we said we would increase opportunities to take part in Physical Activity and Well-being Initiatives for people who would not or could not normally take part.



Hands that Talk is an organisation which aims to improve the lives of deaf people and those who are hard of hearing.



We gave them a grant to enable them to employ an interpreter and run a 10-week Pilates course in a new community hub in Dungiven.



This meant that disabled and non-disabled people from rural areas were able to come together and enjoy physical activity they could not have accessed before.

Example 2 - Inclusive Cycling Project



In Action 2, we said we would develop initiatives which improved the range of Outdoor Activities, encourage physical participation and increase opportunities to enjoy our natural environment.



We hosted the first Inclusive Cycling Session in January 2019 in the Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre in Ballymoney.

We brought in coaches who could work with both disabled people and non-disabled people.

30 young people and their families were able to use specialist cycles.



We then helped deliver sessions in local cycling clubs so that this could continue into the future.

One parent said, “This was the first time my child had ever experienced the sensation of moving pedals when cycling”.

Example 3 – The Open Legacy



In Action 6, we said we would increase the uptake of Obesity Prevention programmes and identify and implement new ways to encourage active participation by school aged children.



Using the interest and publicity generated by The Open, we delivered a Golf Programme in 24 local primary schools between April and June 2019.

We involved 6 local golf clubs to lead the coaching in schools.

Two teachers from each school were trained to deliver the 'Short Golf' initiative with P5-P7 children.



864 sessions were delivered which will enable children of all abilities to take part and benefit from increased health & well-being outcomes.

Example 4 – **Dementia Friendly Initiatives**



In Action 10 we said we would develop Dementia Friendly initiatives to help people with dementia lead more socially connected lives.



We held 5 meetings of the Community Planning Dementia Group which is made up of people from the community and voluntary sector along with the PSNI, Sport NI and Causeway Coast and Glens.

We have provided Dementia Friendly training with 3 community groups so far.



As a result of training, there have been several different activities including 4 Dementia friendly church services with people staying afterwards for tea and coffee and to discuss ideas.

Example 5 – “Don’t Worry, Be #appy”



In Action 12 we said we would identify and prioritise local need through a Cyber-Safe Partnership.

We held an Online Safety Conference in February 2019. 13 primary schools attended with over 1000 pupils and teachers.



We enabled 9 digital champions to be training via Digi-PAL. Our champions will provide support to anyone from the community facing an online issue.



The website offers a range of resources, contacts and information to enable people to tackle issues of online safety and increase resilience.



This project won an Award for Excellence in Collaboration at the first ever Policing and Community Partnership Safety Awards 2019.



Example 6 – Fire & Water Safety Sessions

The Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS) and Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) came together to develop and deliver fire and water safety sessions for Primary School aged children across Causeway Coast & Glens.



50 schools received Safety Team talks while schools in Portrush also received joint talks with NIFRS & RNLI.



Over 1000 pupils are now more aware of the dangers of fire in the home and the hazards of open water.

There are plans to run more joint sessions each year.

Example 7 – Working Together to keep Bonfires Safe



Action 16 stated that we would work in partnership to reduce tensions in public or shared areas.

We have done this in a number of ways, including meeting on a regular basis, delivering training, engaging bonfire builders and piloting projects including replacing bonfires with beacons.



This has resulted in a reduction in community tensions, particularly around bonfires, safer bonfires and a significant reduction in the number of tyres put on bonfires.

Example 8 – Living Well Moyle



Dealing with ongoing health issues or loss can result in individuals becoming isolated and disconnected from the outside world.



We know that people are happiest and healthiest as active, valued members of their communities, irrespective of their health conditions.



Living Well Moyle (under the banner of Dalriada Pathfinder Partnership) created a project to help improve the mental health of people by connecting people with volunteers in their local communities.

A SUSTAINABLE ACCESSIBLE ENVIRONMENT



We said we wanted to create an area which attracts visitors and makes them feel welcome through accessible transport, good quality buildings and safe streets which are looked after for all those who live, work and play here.



Example 9 – More Walking & Cycling Routes



Action 21 said we would create spaces (including Greenways) which offered free walking and cycling routes across the Causeway Coast and Glens area.



Along with the Mae Murray Foundation, we were able to improve physical access for buggies and wheelchairs onto Benone Beach and the East Strand in Portrush.



We also increased the Garvagh Forest Trail to include 13km of walking trail and 10kms mountain bike trail. Local school children were invited to the project launch

and parents commented how they couldn't get their children out of the forest for all the right reasons.

Example 10 – **More Social Housing**



In Action 23 we said we would aim to meet the local housing need and provide suitable housing.

In 2018/19 more than 94 new homes were completed.



We worked with the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE), to improve the heating and insulation of homes.



This included putting in new heating systems and new windows and improving insulation, boilers and radiators.

Example 11 – **Managing our Waste Better**



In Action 28, we said we would improve how we manage our waste by working with the community.



We gave advice and guidance to everyone who lives in Causeway Coast and Glens through leaflets and the Council Citizens Newsletter.



We provided new kerb-side food and garden waste collection services (brown bins) and now have 65% (out of our target of 80%) of residents taking part in recycling.

We carried out 24 (out of our target of 80) audits on business waste.



We have 65% (out of our target of 85%) schools taking part in our Eco-Schools programme.



We also supported Cloughmills Community Action Team in developing a “Library of Things” to enable people to borrow DIY, household and gardening items instead of having to buy them. The project was the first Northern Irish winner of a European award.

A THRIVING ECONOMY



We want the Causeway Coast and Glens area to be a place where people can be the best they can be and have better jobs.

Example 12 – Alchemy Business Support



In Action 41, we said we would support businesses to get additional support to grow outside of Northern Ireland.

The Alchemy programme provides up to 5 days FREE support for businesses in the Causeway Coast and Glens area.



With our help, the businesses went on to create over 70 extra jobs.



The Alchemy Programme helped Coastal Care (Training & Ambulance Service) to develop a plan to grow their business and apply to Invest NI for financial support.



As a result, they were able to grow their business and buy 3 new ambulances, get a contract for work with the NHS and create 18 new jobs.

Example 13 – Exploring Work



In Action 43, we said we would set up a Workforce Development Group to encourage education and businesses to work together.



Amongst other things, The Education Authority, Health & Social Care Board and Ulster University worked together with careers departments in schools.



We brought together 1500 students from across the Causeway Coast and Glens Area Learning Community participated in a Health and Social Care Careers Fair.

Example 14 – Visitor Centre Collaboration



The Visitor Information Centres (VIC) in Causeway Coast and Glens currently work with visitor attractions and tour providers to offer a booking service to visitors.



This allows a visitor to arrive in any of our centres and see if there is space on a number of walking tours, food tours, boat trips and activities and book directly.

The Visitor Information Centres also showcases local craft and food producers as well as locally published books and maps.



Working with the businesses through offering these two services helps the businesses to show their products or tours to the visitors to our area.

How can I find out more?



You can get a copy of the Causeway Coast and Glens Community Plan and our full Statement of Progress from the council offices in Ballymoney, Ballycastle, Coleraine or Limavady.



You can find it online at

<https://www.causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk/council/community-planning>

You can also get in contact with us as follows:



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